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the Montrose Mirror

ACTING PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR RICK NICHOLS PRESENTS REVISED 2023 COUNTY ROAD MAP, BOCC APPROVES SUP WITH CONDITIONS

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All commissioners were present as BOCC Chair Roger Rash called the regular meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to order on Wednesday, May 1.

Rash asked all to stand and remove their hats; Commissioner Sue Hansen led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Karl Leuthauser of Grace Community Church delivered the invocation. Leuthauser shared a passage from 2 Corinthians 12:9, "...And he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, my power is made perfect in weakness,'...so Father I thank you so much for our leaders, I thank you for their wisdom...every decision that we make Lord, we will make mistakes, we will fail, and when we do Lord, would you just cover us with your grace. I pray that you would turn our failures into strengths...that you would bring happy circumstances out of the times that we fail..."

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President of the Citizens' Climate Lobby Tony Hoag

Continued pg 13



Above, Acting Public Works Director Rick Nichols presented the 2023 County road Map for approval on Wednesday, May 1. Meeting screenshot.

MAYDAY HEYDAYS



A group of children in the early 1900s get ready to perform a maypole dance, probably in a Cripple Creek or Victor, Colorado school room. The photo is without identifying marks and was part of the Anna Bielz collection. Mrs. Bielz is the grandmother of the author.

By Bob Cox

MONTROSE-In late April of 1922, a *United Press* article, datelined in Washington, D. C., announced, "MAYDAY IS NO LONGER A DAY OF BOMBINGS. The opening paragraph read:

The May Day anniversary bombing for revolutionists in many parts of the world, has lost its significance in America and the government and labor leaders have announced that extra measures will be taken to prevent demonstrations or staging of demonstrations on Monday.

Within a few years, the Bolshevik-style parades and demonstrations declined significantly. Americans, especially, began using the first day of May as a day of happiness and celebration. School children were among the best revelers. Montrose and the surrounding area enthusiastically adopted the new ideas. On May 1, 1924, the *Montrose Daily Press*, under the headline, *May Day*

Continued pg 19

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

[Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D.:](#)
[Your Brain on Nature!](#)

[Red Hawks Sports](#)
[By Cliff Dodge!](#)

[Op-Ed Commentary](#)
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CITIZENS CLIMATE LOBBY TO MEET MONDAY, MAY 6

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-On Monday May 6th at 5pm. Citizens' Climate Lobby meets at Montrose Safety Complex meeting rm(police)Non-partisan, national, environmental organization. All welcome.



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DMEA 2024 ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 6 IN MONTROSE

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Each June, Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) holds an Annual Meeting with Co-op Members. It is an opportunity for members to gather together and review DMEA's activities over the past year and also marks the conclusion of the annual board of directors elections. DMEA will host a member Q&A session where you have the opportunity to ask questions about your cooperative. This year's meeting will take place on June 6 at Columbine Middle School in Montrose (610 York Street), from 4:30 to 8:30pm.



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RED HAWKS GIRLS' SOCCER REMAINS UNDEFEATED

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-The Montrose Red Hawks girls' soccer team remains undefeated as the team hosted the Grand Junction Central Warriors on Tuesday and shut them out by the score of 5-0. Head coach Matt Imus was pleased with the jump start the offense displayed as they scored three quick goals to lead 3-0 at the end of the first half of action. Imus was pleased with the passing, the shot making, and the excellent defense displayed by his Red Hawks team.

The Red Hawks offense was led by the Duncan sisters as Senior Mia Duncan scored a pair of goals and had an assist. Junior Ellie Duncan contributed a goal and three assists while Sophomore Mayce Oberg chipped in with two goals. Freshman Liliana Almanza added an assist to the Red Hawks offensive total. The defense played a major part in the victory as they gave up only a single shot on their

goalkeeper Rachel Robuck, who was basically untested as the Red Hawks shut out the Warriors.

The final game of the regular season was played on the Red Hawks home pitch on a cold, wet, and windy Wednesday afternoon. The final hurdle to an undefeated season, the Bulldogs of Palisade High School came in sporting an 11-1-1 record

The two teams fought a first half of action with no scoring. The Red Hawks had several chances but were unable to put the ball in the back of the net. The second half saw Junior Ellie Duncan step up and score both Red Hawk goals. Junior Seri Wilson and Sophomore Mayce Oberg each added an assist to the scoring column to close out the victory by the score of 2-0. The Red Hawks annexed the league title with a

record of 6-0-2.

Coach Imus noted that this is the first league title the Red Hawks have captured in the past nine years. The overall record for the Red Hawks ended up with 13 wins, 0 losses and 2 ties. The playoffs begin next week, and the Red Hawks will learn Monday or Tuesday whom the team will host in the first round of the state playoffs. Stay tuned.



The Red Hawks and the Palisade Bulldogs line up prior to the kickoff on Senior Day in Montrose. Photo by Cliff Dodge.



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for DMEA Board

This DMEA Board Qualification Summary lists some of my qualifications for the DMEA District 2 Board position. By listing past accomplishments it will hopefully, give you insight into why I am the most qualified candidate for the DMEA Board Member position in District 2 and would serve you well. My goals are to provide a **low-cost, very reliable power supply, and a low-cost very reliable internet**. Here are a few of my **qualifications**:

- Montrose County Manager**—CEO of Montrose County for **seven years**
- Responsible for Design and Construction of Montrose County Event Center, Montrose County Public Works Campus, Montrose County Justice Center Annex—Cost \$24 Million.
- Vice President, DMEA Board**
- Acting President, Colorado-Ute Electric Association** (Former power supplier to DMEA and 13 other similar Colorado electric distribution coops.) Montrose.
- Project Engineer**—Design and Construction of Craig and Hayden electrical generating stations—cost \$1 Billion
- Vice President, Western Resources Independent Power Company, Rifle, Colorado
- DMEA Director**, Four consecutive three-year terms, for a total of 12 years
- Director on 17 other Boards of Directors
- Director, Montrose Emergency Telephone Service Authority (METSA)
- Public Service Company of Colorado—Engineer--Denver
- Alternate member, Inland Power Pool
- Engineering Manager, Russell Stove Candies**, Montrose
- Licensed Colorado Professional Engineer 13521**
- MBA degree from the University of Colorado** (Masters of Business Administration)
- BS degree in Mechanical Engineering from Colorado State University
- Paonia High School graduate, President of Junior Class and Senior Class
- Chairman, Engineering and Operating Committee, Craig Electrical Generating Station
- Chairman, Engineering and Operating Committee, Hayden Electrical Generating Station
- Task force member, Electric Power Research Institute—Renewable Resources—Palo Alto, Ca.
- Advisor, Solar One Generating Project**—Barstow, California
- Advisor, Southwest Solar Re-powering Project**, El Paso, Texas
- Advisor, Raft River Geothermal Project**, Raft River, Idaho
- Finalist for the top job at NREL (National Renewable Energy Labs) Golden, Co.
- Third generation North Fork Native**
- Director, MEDC (Montrose Economic Development Corporation)
- Director, WEEDC (West End Economic Development Corporation)

Please give me your vote in the upcoming DMEA Election! Ballots will be mailed on May 3rd. I would very much appreciate your vote!

Ken Norris, Montrose, Colorado, Native of Paonia, Colorado

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HOARY CRESS IS NOXIOUS WEED OF THE MONTH

Special to the Mirror

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY--- San Miguel County's Noxious Weed of the Month is an obvious choice. Hoary cress (*Lepidium draba*) also commonly known as whitetop, is a highly visible scourge, most notably in the Norwood area where countless fields have been overtaken.

This pernicious perennial reproduces vigorously both by seed and spreading roots. Seeds develop within heart shaped seed capsules, producing up to 4,800 seeds per plant that remain viable up to three years. Spreading roots can extend 12 to 30 feet per year. Whitetop can easily be spotted in pastures, disturbed sites, and rights of way, and prefers moist soil.

The plants, which can grow up to two feet tall, flower April through June. White flowers are a quarter-inch wide and four-

petaled and form in clusters at the end of branches. Hoary cress displaces desirable vegetation, as it forms in dense monocultures. It aggressively crowds out deep rooted native perennial species, reduces soil moisture and causes substantial losses on agricultural land. Insect populations thrive where whitetop is present, Additionally, it is mildly toxic to cattle. Native to western Asia and southeastern Europe, Hoary cress found its way to North America in the 1900s, likely in contaminated seed. It is now considered an invasive species. San Miguel County Vegetation Control & Management urges all County residents to manage any whitetop infestations with elimination in mind. This noxious weed is prevalent in the Norwood area and has taken over many fields. Noxious weed management and control is a



Whitetop. Courtesy photo.

community effort! Please do your part. For more information on this and other noxious weeds in the County, please contact Julie Kolb, Manager, Vegetation Control & Management, at ju- liek@sanmiguelcountyco.gov or 970-327-0399.

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MAY 11th 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

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Saturday, May 11th 10:30-11:30 a.m. Community Room - Montrose Police Dept., 434 S. First Street, Montrose



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CENTRAL WARRIORS CLUB RED HAWKS 10-0

By Cliff Dodge

GRAND JUNCTION-The Montrose Red Hawks baseball team traveled to Grand Junction on Tuesday and fell to an offensive onslaught by the Central Warriors 10-0 in a score-shortened 5-inning contest (the 10 run rule). The first inning was scoreless. The trouble started in the bottom of the second inning as the Warriors exploded for six runs to set the tone for the rest of the contest. The Warriors added runs in the second, third and fourth innings to complete the 5-inning 10-0 shutout. The 14-hit attack by the Warriors (2 doubles, 12 singles) doomed the Red Hawks.

The Red Hawks could not seem to get their offense jump-started. The Red Hawks managed to scratch out three singles, one each from Senior Joey Benitez, Senior Gage Wareham, and Senior Titus Weese. Red Hawks hurler Jackson Barnett pitched an inning and two thirds and gave up two earned runs while walking one batter and striking out two. Titus Weese threw two and two thirds in-nings, giving up 11 hits and eight runs.

RED HAWKS EXACT REVENGE ON WARRIORS



Kortlan Nelson (# 24) gets set to bat in the bottom of the 8th inning. Photo by Cliff Dodge.

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-The Montrose Red Hawks baseball team shrugged off the 10-0 pasting at the hands of the Central Warriors last Tuesday and played 8 innings of outstanding baseball on a sunny but windy Friday afternoon at the Red Hawks home field. The final score, 3-2 in favor of the Red Hawks, capped an outstanding display of defense by both teams with little offense to show for their efforts.

The Warriors scored first as they pushed across a single run in the top of the second inning. The Red Hawks responded with a run of their own in the bottom half of the inning. Both teams hung goose eggs on the scoreboard up until the sixth inning when, once again, the Warriors scored the go-ahead run. The Red Hawks again responded with the tying run in their half of the inning. All square through the regulation 7 innings at 2-2.

The Red Hawks saw the Warriors load the bases in the top of the 8th inning only to see Red Hawks pitcher Jackson Barnett (in relief of Gage Wareham) strike out the Warriors hitter leaving the bases loaded. The Red Hawks then rallied as Barnett hit a sharp single to open the inning. The Red Hawks worked the Warriors and advanced Barnett to third base with two out. Senior Kortlan Nelson stepped to the plate and with two strikes hit the ball into the hole between first and second base as Jackson Barnett raced home from third base to score the winning run.

RED HAWKS GIRLS LACROSSE FALLS TO FRUITA

By Cliff Dodge

FRUITA-The Montrose Red Hawks girls' lacrosse team traveled north to Fruita-Monument for their next-to-last league game as the season winds down. The Red Hawks gave it a good effort but fell to the Wildcats by the score of 13 to 5. The loss dropped their season record to one win and twelve losses. The Red Hawks league mark fell to 0 wins and 7 losses.

Junior Maggie Cross led the Red Hawks offense as she scored two goals and had three shots on goal. Other Red Hawk scorers included Junior Alexandra Sauer, Senior Savannah Kolb, and Sophomore Kacy Stewart. The Wildcats pressured the Red Hawks throughout the contest as sophomore goaltender Abby Siegal faced 41 shots, stopping 28. The Red Hawks had only 14 shots on the Wildcats goaltender.



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BOYS LACROSSE SPLIT TWO MATCHES

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-The Montrose boys' lacrosse team split a pair of matches last week, winning on Tuesday 12-5 over the Durango Demons at the stadium on the Red Hawks pitch. The victory broke a season-long losing streak as the team put together their most complete game of the season scoring 12 goals. The defense stepped up as well, holding the Demons to 5 goals.

Junior Eli Sauer carried the load for the Red Hawks offense scoring 7 of the 12 goals. Two seniors, Elliot Highland and Jayden Casias scored the other Red Hawk points. Red Hawks goal-tender, Sophomore Patrick Alvarez faced 22 shots on goal and made 17 saves while surrendering only 5 scores.

The Red Hawks took their show on the road on Wednesday as they visited the Fruita-Monument Wildcats as the season winds down and the playoffs loom. The Wildcats took no prisoners as they shut out the Red Hawks 16-0. Eight Wildcats hit the scoring column as Red Hawks goal-tender Patrick Alvarez faced 34 shots, stopping 18. The Wildcats captured 45 ground balls compared with 35 for the Red Hawks. The win and the loss moved the Red Hawks season record to one win and eleven losses and a league mark of one win and nine losses.

The Red Hawks have two matches remaining on the schedule. They travel to Eagle Valley and Summit High School to close out the regular season.



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DISCOVER UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY MAY 15 AT MUMC

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MONTROSE BOCC APPROVES SUP WITH CONDITIONS From pg 1

spoke to commissioners. Hoag said CCL is working on a Climate Action Plan.

"...Hopefully, we can partner with you in some aspect...in terms of a partnership we're looking for three different levels, first a commitment that climate change is happening...if climate change is a problem, and third, if climate change is a problem that we can do something about it...we would like to have a table at the C-JOLT Conference...We'll be looking forward to seeing you there..."

COUNTY MANAGER

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda items, with Resolution No. 24-2024 assigned to Item 3, Resolution No. 25-2024 assigned to Item 19, and Resolution No. 26-2024 assigned to Item 21.

MONTROSE COUNTY LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY

Also approved unanimously were the renewal of the Beer & Wine License for Billy Goat Hop Farm, 67181 Trout Road, and

the renewal of the Lodging & Entertainment License for La Familia Gardens LLC at the Montrose County Event Center.

GENERAL BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Acting Public Works Director Rick Nichols presented Resolution 27-2024, regarding the approval of the official 2023 County Road Map, as reviewed by Counsel. The resolution was continued from the previous BOCC meeting, at which Scott Riba had raised a concern about the closure of roads maintained by entities other than Montrose County. BOCC Vice Chair Keith Caddy asked whether Riba's questions had been addressed. County Attorney Marti Whitmore said that the language had been changed to note that roads may be closed seasonally or for other reasons. Commissioners voted unanimously to approve Resolution 27-2024.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ITEMS

Commissioners re-opened consideration of the **Haynes Excavation Inc Storage Area Special Use [SU23-006]** proposal to establish a gravel mining operation at Parcel 399317208001, 64583 RANGER RD.

The item had been continued from a previous meeting for deliberation and decision.

Planning & Development Director Tallmadge Richmond reviewed updated conditions on the special use and commissioners took public comment on the proposed conditions.

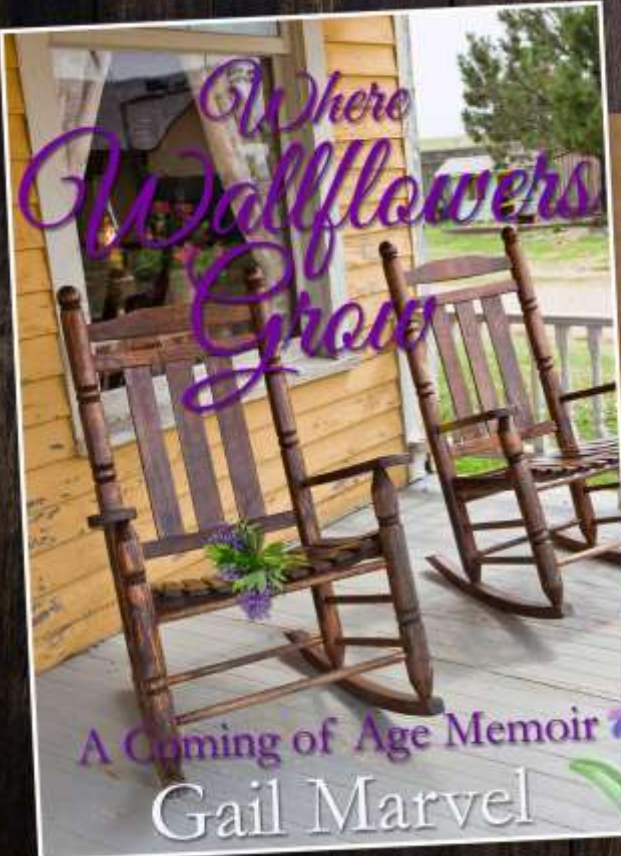
Mike Huston thanked commissioners for their thoughtful consideration and planning staff for the conditions. He suggested consideration of a shorter time period.

The BOCC voted unanimously to approve the Special Use proposal to establish a gravel mining operation at Parcel 399317208001, 64583 Ranger Road.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioners moved into Executive Session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b) for legal advice regarding possible participation in litigation challenging Bureau of Land Management regulations pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(a), potential acquisition of real estate.

Following the Executive Session the BOCC voted to adjourn. "This meeting is done," BOCC Chair Roger Rash said, "Thank you."




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GAIL MARVEL
Montrose Author & Reporter

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ARTIST NEEDED: MONTROSE VETERANS MEMORIAL DONOR UPDATE MAY 2024



Examples of black granite with engraving. Courtesy photos.



By Les Williams,
MVMC BOD president

by Les Williams, MVMC BOD president

MONTROSE-Are you an artist looking for an amazing project? The Montrose Veterans Memorial Coalition board of directors is looking for an artist to create a rendition of the redesigned Montrose Veterans Memorial.

On April 29 the MVMC met with our new team (now consisting of the City of Montrose, Montrose County and the MVMC) in the new Montrose City Police conference room. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss a memorandum of agreement (MOA) on how this team will be progressing toward creating the Montrose Veterans Memorial. The meeting went very well and the agreement will soon be approved, paving the way toward MVMC authorization to build the memorial on land adjacent to the Pavilion, 1800 Pavilion Dr.

During the meeting we gave the city our changes to the draft MOA, along with the updated memorial plans as requested. The original plans were adjusted to make sure the memorial, created for the Cerise Park location, will fit at the new location.

Our engineers, who also serve on the MVMC board of directors, did a stellar job making the necessary changes. Additional redesigning was done to eliminate the walls/hubs that surrounded the old plans due to high-cost estimates.

The new plans still have a five-pointed concrete base with black granite displays displaying murals and maps of WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and other features highlighting the War on Terror.

We also handed the city staff plans of a large sandstone rock which will give our bronze bald eagle named Freedom a place to welcome visitors.

The next step in the process is acceptance of the redesigned memorial by all team members. After necessary approvals, we believe the bidding process will start.

If you are interested in creating the artistic rendition, please contact Les Williams at boodawg1kw@gmail.com. The MVMC is also looking for a sponsor for bronze service seals. Please visit montrosevmc.us to donate for that cause, or stop by the Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans at 4 Hillcrest Plaza Way, Montrose CO 81401 to drop off a check.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DROP OFF DMEA BALLOTS BY JUNE 5, OR VOTE IN PERSON JUNE 6 AT ANNUAL MEETING

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-The Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) election opened May 3, 2024, with both online and mail-in ballots. All eligible voters will see a 'Vote Now' button in their secure SmartHub account. To access the electronic ballot, members must log in to their account, click the button, cast their vote, and submit.

Cooperative members with an email address registered to their DMEA account will also receive an email with a unique secure link. To access the ballot, members must click the link, enter the credentials provided in the email, and cast their vote.

Mail-in ballots will also be mailed on May 3. Members can cast their vote by completing and returning their ballot by mail or by bringing it to a local DMEA office and placing it in the secure ballot drop box in the lobby. The deadline to drop off ballots is Wednesday, June 5, at noon. In-person voting will occur at DMEA's Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 6, at Columbine Middle School, 610 York Street, Montrose, from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

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In addition to the elections, DMEA's Annual Meeting will include a recap of the co-op's accomplishments over the past year and a member question and answer session. The event opens at 4:30 p.m. and will feature a trove of local treasures, including food, community highlights, and entertainment. A short business meeting will take place from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. The free family fun begins at 4:30 and continues after the meeting, with tasty treats, music, booths, games, prizes, and kids' activities. More information about DMEA's election and Annual Meeting can be found online at dmea.com.

Candidates:

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Toby Romero Jr.
Ryan Sedgeley

District 2

Ken Norris
Steve Metheny
Jesse Haywood

District 5

Kevin Williams, incumbent running unopposed

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MAYDAY HEYDAYS From pg 1

Festival with Novel Stunts to be Interesting, described how the local school children, under the direction of M. S. Coarsen, would celebrate. The article described that the community was invited to attend a festival on Main Street. A platform erected between Cascade and Uncompahgre Avenues was to display a giant Maypole and the program included folk dances, umbrella dances, flower dances and butterfly dances, and a maypole dance performed by the Johnson and Central school children. Bill Nichols directed a 20-piece band and a calisthenics demonstration was to be presented by a group of boys.

On May 2, 1924 the paper did a follow-up, describing the efforts of the children as fine work. The description of the Maypole dance was especially appreciated:

The winding of the Maypole concluded the performance and it was a beautiful exercise. Thirty-two girls dressed in white, with red ties and using white and red ribbons wound and unwound the pole several times and did various stunts with the ribbons, not one error being made in the whole performance.

Nationwide, the American Child Health Association released articles dedicated to reminding people that May first had become a day associated with childhood, "in its happiest mood." President Calvin Coolidge and many state and local officials reiterated the association's mantra to "unite with parents in this great effort to curry before the public the gospel of child health." Herbert Hoover, who was then president of the ACHA, reminded all who would listen of his Child's Bill of Rights that would be the guideline for celebrating.

A custom of hanging baskets of flowers was revived in 1924. The Associated Press sent out an article from Washington, D.C that described what happened at the White House and is a poignant reminder of how times have changed:

The old custom of hanging May baskets in the early morning on May Day was revived at the White House when three small children hung a basket for Mr. Coolidge on the north door of the executive mansion. The children had fixed the basket to the door and were running down the steps of the portico when Mrs. Coolidge saw them. She called them back to thank them for their greetings. The youngest of the three,

a boy, was taken up by Mrs. Coolidge and kissed, with the reminder, "Once I had a little boy like you."

While children remained the focus of May Day celebrations, the adults, especially groups of women and young ladies also used the day as a special day to get together. On May 26, 1924, the *Delta Independent* ran an article dedicated to the wrap-up of the school year, that included this little tidbit:

On Saturday afternoon Miss Elsie Ault entertained the ladies of the Junior High faculty at a lovely 1:00 o'clock luncheon at the pretty home of Mrs. John Hazelett. The table was most artistic and beautiful in yellow and green color scheme, which was portrayed in pretty hand-painted place mats, May baskets and a center piece.

An article in the May 9, 1929 edition of the *Surface Creek Champion* epitomized the fact that these small intimate celebrations remained common for some time:


The Bridge Club was entertained at a May Day luncheon at the home of Miss Harriett Luellen Saturday. Pink and orchid was the color scheme carried out in the table decorations and menu and pretty May baskets of snapdragons held the dainty desert...

These notices and reports were buried in the social columns of an untold number of newspapers.

The articles called attention to the hanging of May baskets; attending May Day luncheons and witnessing the artistic dances around the maypole.

The efforts to remove the first day of May from the headlines of bombings and Russian revolution were largely successful and lasted for many years.

One prime example is the May, 1955 Ouray kindergarten class. Mrs. Azalia Nickel presided over a class of about 20 children. In the middle of her classroom was a structural steel post. Mrs. Nickel spent several days helping her students cut ribbons of crepe paper. She, probably with the aid of the school janitor, affixed the ribbons to the top of the pole and Mr. Nickel somehow successfully taught the students to perform the intricate task of winding the paper around the pole in a musical expose, which was enjoyed a few days later by the parents. The kids, including the young Bobby Cox, performed exquisitely and earned their accolades for the promotion of May Day as a day of beauty and peace.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GETTING GEARED UP FOR BIKE AND ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY MAY 8

Special to the Mirror

DENVER – Spring is in full bloom, adding even more flourish to the year-round invitation to explore Colorado from the freedom of two wheels. The Colorado Department of Transportation is encouraging schools to celebrate the many benefits of actively commuting to and from school by participating in Bike and Roll to School Day on Wednesday, May 8. This national annual event promotes and practices bicycle, pedestrian, and road safety among classmates, families, and caregivers.

Formerly known as Bike to School Day, the event name was expanded to Bike and Roll to School Day last year in acknowledgement of the numerous modes of active transportation on wheels. Not only does this day promote the benefits of active transportation, as well as bicycle and road safety for all, it highlights the im-

portance of establishing safe routes to and from school.

While Walk and Bike and Roll to School events have traditionally received the greatest participation among elementary schools, over the years momentum has steadily developed at the middle and high school levels, too. This year, CDOT provided free stickers on a first-come, first-serve basis that were specifically designed to appeal to all grades. “We are having a Bike and Roll to School Week at our school and will be passing out prizes throughout the week,” says Ben Mayer, 7th Grade Science Teachers and IB Coordinator of Leshar Middle School in Fort Collins. “We hope to show students they can safely roll to and from school all year, empowering our middle school students to find their wheels as a safe way to open the doors to all our community has to offer; we really appreci-

ate the free stickers from CDOT.”

Organizers are encouraged to register their school at walkbiketoschool.org as a way of tracking participation and showing support for active, healthy, safe transportation.

Registrations also assist Colorado’s ranking among other participating states. Those interested in celebrating Bike and Roll to School Day can find helpful resources and ideas, including downloadable posters in English and Spanish, on the CDOT’s Safe Routes to School website at <https://www.codot.gov/programs/bikeped/safe-routes>.

Colorado Safe Routes to School is a statewide program of the Colorado Department of Transportation. It works to create and promote safe, accessible, and fun opportunities for kids to walk and bike to and from school.



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The description of this home paints a vivid picture of a charming and well-appointed home! Four bedrooms and two baths allow for space for everyone. Use the fourth bedroom as a home office if needed. The combination of features such as the brick exterior, front and back porches, hardwood flooring, and stack rock fireplace create a warm and inviting atmosphere. The vaulted ceilings and arched doorways add character and elegance to the space. The convenience of the primary bedroom having access to the back porch is a thoughtful touch, offering a private retreat area. A lovely brick shed with a concrete floor is insulated and has 110- volt electrical exterior outlet as well as electricity inside. This great space allows for extra storage, or a workshop. There is a nice sized side yard with room for an RV. No hook up, but plenty of parking. Additionally, the proximity to amenities like the golf course, airport, and shopping adds practicality and convenience to the location. Overall, this a lovely property is meticulously maintained and would be a joy to live in.

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READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN



Photographer Deb Reimann shared this photo of a Marmot, a.k.a. Whistle Pig. "That fun name is due to the fact they make a whistling noise to warn others around them," Reimann said.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

APRIL 29 DROWNING DEATH UNDER INVESTIGATION

Montrose County Coroner Information Release

MONTROSE—At 11:37 a.m. on April 29, WestCO dispatch received a call from the 69000 block of Vernal Road about an unresponsive child. Despite life-saving measures performed by first responders, the 3-year-old boy was pronounced dead at the hospital. The child is identified as John Robert Gorsky, of Montrose, Colo.

The cause of death appears to be drowning. The cause and manner of death are still under investigation by the Montrose County Coroner’s Office of Medical Investigation and Montrose County Sheriff’s Office. An autopsy has been scheduled.

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YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – SPIRITUALITY PART ONE



By Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D.
Courtesy photo.



Photo Courtesy of Matteo Di Lorio.

Greetings Mirrorites!

When I was young, I was extremely religious. It served me well then, but as I grew into my adult brain, I found it less satisfying. When young adult friends would defer Sunday activities because they ‘had’ to go to church, I felt smug because I ‘got’ to go into nature instead of sitting inside an edifice. I felt it was good for my brain and spirit and their experience might not be as beneficial. Turns out I was both wrong and right all at the same time. There were benefits being reaped all the way around.

As that pious yet outdoorsy child who loved nature and animals, I was hearing from religious authority figures that I was inherently sinful. Not because of original sin, or something I had done wrong, but because I was inclined to ‘worship the creation, and not the creator.’ I distrusted and disbelieved this pronouncement and ultimately left organized religion behind me. I remain a very spiritual person, which has both pros and cons when it comes to mental health. Perhaps I need a religious community after all, or maybe I just have a very weak ‘God Gene.’

About two decades ago, a genetic researcher decided he had found a human gene that was heritable and would determine a person’s religious belief strength and practices. It’s been largely debunked, but there is still evidence of an inherited tendency towards religiosity. Perhaps if that author had referred to a ‘God Region’ he might have been on more solid ground. That some sort of self-transcendence occurs in discrete portions or networks in the brain is currently under intense scientific scrutiny.

In psychology, self-transcendence (ST) could be considered the red-headed step-child

of self-actualization, which I’m sure most readers are familiar with. Abraham Maslow was the father of self-actualization and spent most of his academic career defining and exploring that aspect of human well-being. But he did give the nod to transcendence, which helped pave the way for current scientific examination of the phenomenon. *“Transcendence refers to the very highest and most inclusive or holistic levels of human consciousness, behaving and relating, as ends rather than means, to oneself, to significant others, to human beings in general, to other species, to nature, and to the cosmos”*

(Maslow, 1971, p. 269).

He left out the divine, and you would expect a scientist of that day to do so. But here is where theology gets to jump in and lend a hand. Famed theologian Thomas Merton spake thusly...*“We do not detach ourselves from things in order to attach ourselves to God, but rather we become detached from ourselves in order to see and use all things in and for God”* (1972). Self-transcendence seems to be one area of scientific inquiry that does not conflict with religious dogma, but rather agrees with it and compliments it.

Elements of ST are found in several common psychological constructs. These include states of mindfulness (Kabat-Zinn, 1994), flow (Csikszentmihalyi, 1991), peak experiences (Maslow, 1964) and mystical states. Individuals who score highly on ST ability demonstrate three characteristic traits: a tendency to be super absorbed when performing engaging activities; a feeling of strong connectedness with the universe, nature, and other people; and a tendency towards spirituality and a belief in extrasen-

sory perception. Cool, so maybe my genetically gifted God Region is alive and well, whether or not there’s a God Gene that I probably don’t have, and doesn’t really exist!

Studies using the Minnesota Twins Registry have confirmed that religiosity is definitely a heritable trait, and that genes have a greater impact on this aspect of a person’s adult relationship with divinity than their natal environment. Interestingly, additional studies using a twin registry in Britain found that what was supposedly true about early access to nature always creating a love of nature without any genetic influence at all was erroneous. The researchers found that a strong and inherent connection to nature was inherited almost 50 percent of the time. So although childhood experiences are super important, it appears as though there is a genetic template for encoding and interpreting those experiences. Consider this... when my dad was a young father and English teacher scrambling for side gigs to pay the bills, he chose to drive a bus at the San Diego Zoo. He could have made more money teaching ESL classes, but he chose the zoo, because it had way more intrinsic appeal. I, his animal-crazy daughter who grew up at the zoo, was therefore sculpted both by nature and by nurture. Perhaps I was locked into being the person I am today, and not an astrophysicist or lawyer. Makes a body wonder about free will vs. predestination, doesn’t it?

Why does any of this matter? Because being religious is different than being spiritual and where those practices are, well, practiced, matters as well. This will be examined in Part 2 this month.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS



DELTA HEALTH RIBBON CUTTING

Special to the Mirror
DELTA- At left, Delta Health Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on April 16 for the new electric vehicle charging stations on the main hospital campus.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

7 BREW COFFEE ENCOURAGES CUSTOMERS TO BUY GIFT CARD FOR TEACHERS DURING NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— 7 Brew, the drive-thru coffee concept revolutionizing the coffee industry, is celebrating National Teacher Appreciation Week by offering promotions at its 200+ open stands. This initiative aims to recognize and honor educators for their incredible commitment and influence, emphasizing their crucial role in nurturing learning and motivation among students. “It has been incredible witnessing the level of growth we’ve seen since our founding and how cultivating kindness and offering a stellar product has brought so many people together,” said CeCe La-

Borde, president of 7 Brew corporate locations. “We wanted to show our appreciation for all of the hardworking teachers who shape their communities and share the same core values as our family here at 7 Brew.”

From May 6 to May 10, 7 Brew will offer a free drink card to any customer who purchases a \$25 gift card. The offer is available through June 16 to also celebrate Mother’s Day and Father’s Day, where on both holidays, 7 Brew will offer a 7 Brew Mom or Dad sticker that will be given out with the purchase of a drink. The free drink cards are eligible for redemption

until Aug. 1.

With Teacher Appreciation Week beginning on May 6, 7 Brew encourages customers to give a gift card to their teachers to show their support and appreciation for all they do.

7 Brew locations throughout the nation persist in promoting the idea of cultivating kindness within communities. 7 Brew was born in Rogers, Ark., in 2017 with seven original coffee-based drinks. The brand now offers more than 20,000 unique drink combinations, including non-caffeinated, milk alternatives and kids’ options. www.7brew.com

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

PUBLIC SAFETY – WHO WILL WIN THE BATTLE – CITY POLICE OR COUNTY SHERIFF? *Montrose County Law Enforcement – Political Hostages or Not?*

By David White

As the critical November 5, 2024 election draws ever closer, getting there (at least for the four County Commissioner candidates competing in the June 25th primary), is going to be riddled with a lot of questions concerning funding for the Montrose County Sheriff's Office (MCSO).

Several writers to the Montrose Mirror have commented on the County's Public Safety Sales Tax (PSST) and the County's accounting fund where the sales tax proceeds are deposited along with transfers from the County's General Fund (which was a stipulation in the resolution that enabled the ballot language in 2007 that brought the PSST to life) over the course of the last few months. A quick read of Dee Laird's editorial on page 41 of the January 29, 2024 Montrose Mirror ([MM570.pdf \(montrosemirror.com\)](#)) will cover that subject along with the use of the funds (which are to be determined by the sitting County Sheriff with approval of the County Commissioners) without me going over old ground in this writing.

For those interested in a bit of history, on November 6, 2007, the voters of Montrose County approved the imposition of a 0.75 (¾ of a cent) sales tax under Ballot Question 1B which reads as follows:

Ballot Question 1B

Shall Montrose County taxes be increased \$5,200,000 annually beginning in 2008 and by such amounts as are received in any year thereafter by the imposition of a 0.75% sales tax to be used exclusively for capital expenditures or operational costs associated with public safety organizations, as such term is defined in section 30-11-107.9, Colorado Revised Statutes, including the Sheriff's office, the Regional Dispatch Center, the Drug Task Force, rural medical clinics, the District Attorney's office, the Judicial District, the Coroner's office, or any other public entity dedicated to providing services related to public safety, public health, or emergency management at the county or local level,

with no less than 70% of the annual revenue of such tax being dedicated to the Montrose County Sheriff's office; shall such tax commence on January 1, 2008 and be imposed as follows: a sales tax at a rate of 0.75% on the sale of tangible person property of retail and services taxable in the county pursuant to the provisions of Section 39-26-104, Colorado Revised Statutes, provided that this question does not authorize the county to increase any other fee or tax, including property taxes; and shall this tax increase constitute a voter approved revenue change and exception to the limits that otherwise would apply to the county under Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution, commonly known as the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights or "TABOR"; all in accordance with the resolution adopted by the board of County Commissioners of Montrose County and set forth in Resolution No. 109-2007?

Although the City of Montrose didn't choose to go along with the County's bid for voter approval in 2007, they eventually felt the need to do something to improve public safety within the City and in 2018 the Montrose City Council created the Public Safety Citizen Advisory Committee (PSCAC) to critically analyze the operations and needs of the Montrose Police Department. From there, a sales tax of .58% was contemplated and a ballot question was put to the voters at the General Election in November of 2019 where it was approved. See this link to the ballot language which is too long to add to this editorial ([City-of-Montrose-Ballot-Issue-2A---Public-Safety-Sales-Tax \(cityofmontrose.org\)](#)).

Interestingly, their ballot language clearly states that ***"THE CITY (SHALL) CONTINUE TO FUND PUBLIC SAFETY FROM THE CITY GENERAL FUND IN AN ANNUAL AMOUNT NOT LESS THAN 43% OF ALL GENERAL OPERATIONAL EXPENSES."*** The County, on the other hand, established a "baseline," inflation adjusted General

Fund contribution to the Sheriff's budget using the 2008 budgetary year for that purpose.

While the Sheriff and the current County Commissioners argue about funding a pension plan for law enforcement officials as well as other funding that the BOCC has taken from the Sheriff's budget for what they determine is a valid use of the PSST, we learn that the attrition levels at the MCSO are increasing rapidly, and compensation and benefits are a primary cause of this loss of personnel. The MCSO is authorized to staff up to 100 "Full Time Equivalent" (FTE) employees and budgeting for that number is in place, however, they can't seem to keep what they have in the way of personnel to get close to the 100 FTE's.

The City of Montrose, faced with a similar dilemma after having had a tepid response to their job fairs and other recruiting efforts, has pulled out all the stops. Information received from a confidential source last week provides us with a dramatic change in how Montrose Police Department (MPD) uniformed personnel's salaries are being calculated (as of April 1, 2024, per the source).

New salaries for MPD personnel, as an example, range from ***\$125,086 - \$142,598 for Police Commanders; \$80,000-\$99,500 for Patrol Officers & \$104,500 - \$119,130 for Sergeants*** (all positions shown are based upon experience levels ranging from a low of zero years' experience to 7+ years of experience). They've even added more incentives to these salary ranges with monthly stipends for a variety of educational accomplishments (college degrees at several levels), extra duty assignments (SWAT, Drone Team, Recruiting Team, etc.) and bilingual capabilities ranging from \$20.00 to \$100.00 per month. All I can say is WOW!

While I am generally critical of the City's spendthrift ways, I must commend them, if the information received is accurate, for stepping up and taking the public safety of

PUBLIC SAFETY – WHO WILL WIN THE BATTLE – CITY POLICE OR COUNTY SHERIFF?

From Previous pg

of our citizenry quite seriously by putting our collective tax dollars in place of where lip service has traditionally been given when it comes to paying for quality law enforcement to go along with our state of the art Police Operations Center.

All this to bring us back to the County and where two new Commissioner's might either maintain the status quo or move budgeting for the Sheriff's Office in a new direction. Pointed questions have been asked by concerned citizens on these pages of the Montrose Mirror about funding for the MCSO. So far, as of this writing, candidates for BOCC District 1 (Scott Mijares & Big Lou Stark) have replied to questions asked of them. District 3 candidate Scott Riba has been forthcoming too with comments however, his opponent, former Sheriff Dunlap, has not been vocal on the subject which is of concern to many.

Through emails and phone call inquiries that I receive most weeks after an article of mine has been published, I typically receive comments related to them and this last week was no exception as it pertained to the overt campaigning and advocacy by the current BOCC for candidates Stark & Dunlap. It is not missed by many the coaching of these candidates by the incumbents especially in light of Big Lou's claim in last week's Mirror regarding his "perspective" on the aforementioned PSST and the Sheriff's desire to create a retirement plan for the MCSO through the Fire & Police Pension Association (FPPA) whereby he states that "if you are uncertain about what the Public Safety Sales Tax is, I encourage you to reach out and have a conversation with me." Really? I'm curious to know how Big Lou, a relative newcomer to Montrose County, came to be an expert on the PSST. More importantly, he, more than the other candidates, has been campaigning for the District 1 seat the longest yet still won't answer questions definitively. You can't be all things to all people, which is a mistake a lot of politicians make but is certainly one way to get through a campaign when an electorate doesn't know the difference. Getting some real answers is in order on this topic. Questions such as funding for

the Basin Clinic in Naturita (which was cut off by the current BOCC and then partially restored). Does Big Lou understand that the Basin Clinic is to be funded out of the PSST? Does he understand that the 2008 County budget for the MCSO was the BASELINE and primary funding mechanism for the MCSO and not the PSST? Does he understand "fund accounting" and how the two revenue sources for the MCSO are to be handled? He refers to the legalities of the pension plan and other items asked for by the Sheriff as they relate to the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR). Since when is he in a position to make such a determination? He can't answer why the MCSO payroll is, by all appearances, being siphoned off of the PSST and yet claims that the money involved is not the BOCC's or the Sheriff's but the taxpayers. Wrong. In this case, the voters approved, by a substantial margin, the right for the Sheriff to have these supplemental funds that are separate and apart from the General Fund revenue which is derived mostly from property taxes.

Former County Commissioners Bill Patterson and Gary Ellis have put together written statements attesting to what they (including then Commissioner Allan Belt) and the Citizens Committee 4 Funding our Future (CC4FF) (later MC4FF) proposed to assist the MCSO with their dire (at the time) financial needs and through BOCC Resolution 109-2007 which created the 2007 Ballot Issue 1B that has given us the PSST. A copy of these testimonials is available to anyone wishing to review them.

Now is the time to get all of the BOCC candidates on the record as to where they stand on this important issue. The voters in 2007 (of which I was one), do not want to see the interference by the BOCC in the Sheriff's business like we've been experiencing these last few years.

A solid debate between all four (4) is in order. An impartial moderator and venue operator to host such a debate can and should be found by the GOP as all candidates are representing that party. The primary election will see GOP and unaffiliated voters casting ballots that will determine our county's leadership direction for the next 4 years. Time is short. Don't vote

for a yard sign or political ad folks. Get to know who these candidates are for yourselves before you run out of time. And, of utmost importance, we need Commissioner's who won't hold our Sheriff hostage to their political whims!

Ballots go out for the June 25th primary start going out in less than a week. Here's the schedule from the Montrose County Elections Department:

2024 June Primary Election Dates

Sat. May 11: Ballots will be mailed to active Military/Overseas Voters (UOCAVA)

Thurs. May 16: Public Logic & Accuracy Testing @ 11:00 a.m. for voting system hardware

Mon. June 3 through Fri. June 7: Ballots will be mailed to ALL active, registered voters

Mon. June 17: Montrose Voter Service Polling Center (VSPC) opens

Mon. June 17: Last day for a voter to request a ballot be mailed to them

Sat. June 22: Nucla-Naturita VSPC opens at **Naturita Community Library**

TUES. June 25: ELECTION DAY – BOTH VSPC's open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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O Montrose Clerk & Recorder's Office at 317 South 2nd Street, Montrose, CO
Nucla Annex Clerk & Recorder's Office at 300 Main Street, Nucla, CO

Town Hall Drop Box: Opens **Mon. June 3** (*Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*)

Olathe Town Hall at 419 Horton Avenue, Olathe

Mr. White is an active citizen & community leader 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 & one great grandchild.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

FUTURE VIABILITY OF OUR SHERIFF DEPARTMENT IS AT RISK

Editor:

With four candidates competing in the June primary for two county commissioner seats, voters should be aware that the future viability of our Sheriff Department is at risk, specifically regarding the PSST and the FPPA retirement fund.

In his April 29 letter in the Montrose Mirror concerning the PSST and the FPPA retirement fund, as wanted by our sheriff for recruitment and retention, Big Lou Starks comments are void of reality. He has known for months that citizen complaints and concerns about the administration of PSST funds have been stacking up like cordwood yet all he can say is that the sheriff disagrees with him on these critical issues. He admits that he has yet, after

many months, failed to figure out the TABOR concerns he himself raised, yet after all this time he has the nerve as a laymen to disagree with what our duly elected sheriff sees as needed for the MCSO to remain a viable asset for Montrose County. It is no wonder to me that he has no support from the Sheriff Department with the exception of maybe two persons. It's become more apparent that Big Lou is one of two hand picked candidates recruited, as a "ringer" to maintain the county status quo, particularly in regard to the PSST and FPPA.

Aside from a less than impressive resume of life accomplishments, it has become public knowledge that Big Lou has racked up over \$83,000 in tax liens between Mesa

and Montrose county. It certainly seems like Big Lou's "recruiters" dropped the ball in vetting him in trying to foster him off on the unsuspecting electorate.

Considering the fact that the present county budget is around \$130 million and Big Lou has obviously been unable to handle his personal finances, voters must seriously question his ability to handle millions of our hard earned tax dollars. The answer to that should be immediately apparent. Past performance is a certain indicator of what can be expected in the future.

More to come on the PSST, the FPPA, the county attempt at electioneering and the second hand picked "ringer."

Dee Laird, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WHEN \$13,000,000 OF TAXPAYER FUNDS OR DEBT OBLIGATIONS ARE NOT HANDLED TRANSPARENTLY, THEN MANY MORE QUESTIONS WILL FOLLOW

Editor:

FROM WHERE I SIT: Opinion article: Former Montrose City Councilor and Mayor David White’s OPINION AND COMMENTARY article in the April 22, 2024 Montrose Mirror on pages 50 and 51 concerning the COLORADO OUTDOORS PROJECT IS A MUST READ.

Many questions remain as to what the Pearl Fund is and who if any citizens including city employees are involved in ‘Pearl’. Mr. White should be complimented in his investigative and journalistic abilities. He introduced us to the “Colorado Outdoors Pearl Fund LP in connection with MURA. MURA’S Board is made up of all five City Council members and is staffed by city employee’s whose salaries are paid by the City of Montrose. Mr. White has found that the PEARL FUND exists and is somehow involved with MURA but has been unable to determine the ownership and/or investors in that Fund. This alarming because there is significant city money involved in MURA. Since MURA’s inception, the city council has moved

MILLIONS (actually about \$13,000,000) from the City Bank Accounts and funds gained from loans taken by the city against its credit line to fund MURA. It seems all went well, or at least not outwardly badly until just recently. Well, it is a little late to voice concern about MURA’s profitability (a subject that I have been questioning for several years) both presently and in the future. In light of recent events at what I call the ‘run down prairie dog farm’ appears as if a new infusion of money may be requested to keep MURA afloat. But of course the City cannot go bankrupt as IT CAN ALWAYS RAISE YOUR TAXES to cover its incompetence. So it is time to ask for answers to several questions. Here they are:

1. Is the PEARL FUND a bona fide real organized fund or is it just a name of an account somewhere?
2. If PEARL FUND is a bone fide fund then where may we see the organizational papers?
3. Who are its officers and board of directors?

4. Was there ever an offering to the public to invest?
 5. Are any of MURA’s board involved in it or its operations?
 6. Where did its capital come from?
 7. How much was its initial capital?
 8. What determines how profits will be distributed (if any) and who guarantees the loans it makes, IF ANY, to the City?
 9. Who, by name, are the citizens who have invested in PEARL?
 10. Who, by name, are the citizens if any, who have received payouts from Pearl and how much?
 11. Has any MURA BOARD MEMBER, City employee (past or present) or any relative or close friend invested in or received payouts from the PEARL FUND?
- So far there does not appear to be any transparency to what is going on with MURA.

When \$13,000,000 of taxpayer funds or debt obligations are not handled transparently, then many more questions will follow?

Bill Bennett, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO STATE PATROL LAUNCHES SEAT BELT AWARENESS CAMPAIGN



Special to the Mirror

COLORADO— As temperatures warm, schools let out and road trips begin, the Colorado State Patrol urges drivers across Colorado to make one of the easiest and most important choices of all: take charge of your safety while traveling in a vehicle by using a seat belt. The “Buckle Like a Boss” campaign launched May 1, 2024, and reminds drivers and passengers that buckling up is a “no-brainer” and a “boss move” if they want to stay safe and stay alive.

With heavy traffic, construction zones, mountain passes, high-traffic rural roads and all kinds of weather, driving in Colorado is not a passive activity. In 2023, 81% of occupants who survived fatal crashes in Colorado were wearing a seat belt. By comparison, only 19% of unbuckled occupants survived.

Despite the proven benefit of reducing the risk of serious injury by 50% or death in a crash by 65% (NHTSA), Colorado’s seat belt usage rate is 88% – well below the national use average of 92%.

“While you can’t always control the speed or attention level of the drivers around you, Coloradoans can take control of their safety - just boss up and buckle up,” said Colonel Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. “Every ride, no matter how short or long, should start with a seat belt click. Make it a non-negotiable part of getting into the car for your friends and family.”

We often don’t celebrate those who are doing things well. So, the Colorado State Patrol wants to give a shout-out to those folks who are leading the way in seatbelt usage.

The Five Counties with the Highest Usage Rates in 2023:

- Arapahoe County (98.16%)
- Garfield County (97.38%)
- Douglas County (96.82%)
- Grand County (96.73%)
- Park County (95.82%)

For more information about the Colorado State Patrol’s seatbelt campaign, visit <https://csp.colorado.gov>. To learn more about the Colorado State Patrol follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

BILL TO PROTECT POTATO CROPS GETS SIGNED INTO LAW

Special to the Mirror

DENVER – On May 1, SB24-137, Planting of Uncertified Potatoes, sponsored by Representative Richard Holtorf (R-Akron) was signed into law by Governor Jared Polis.

“Potato growers are a big part of the agricultural landscape in House District 63,” said Rep. Holtorf. “This is a grassroots bill borne by potato growers to maintain a healthy and marketable product world wide. I am proud to be on this bill supporting agriculture,” added Holtorf.

The planting of uncertified potatoes can spread disease to certified potatoes and adversely affect harvests, which this bill aims to prevent. It adds certain testing requirements a potato grower must follow in order to protect certified potato crops.

The bill amends the Colorado Seed Potato Act, mandating that growers must submit non-certified potato seed stock to the certifying authority, the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA), for testing before any planting. The CDA must determine if the uncertified potato seed stock meets standards as established by the Commissioner of Agriculture.

\$ 83,487.01

This is the sum of 4 liens the IRS has levied against **Steven Louis Stark**, Candidate for County Commissioner in District 1.

The 4 Liens are filed and recorded by the County Clerks in Mesa and Montrose Counties. The liens show a record of non compliance and tax avoidance stretching from 2002 - 2024.

Montrose County deserves better.
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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

AUTO THEFT TRENDING DOWN IN 2024

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO— The Colorado State Patrol has been at the forefront of the battle against auto theft for some time, and while 2023 showed a substantial decrease, we are happy to report that 2024 is looking even better for our state. The first third of 2024 shows a significant decline of 30% in auto theft compared to this same time in 2023. Looking back two years to 2022, this is a total auto theft reduction of 45%.

While trending in the right direction, citizens and travelers across Colorado are urged to remain vigilant and never let their guard down despite the noted reductions. In fact, this is a great time to do more to protect your vehicle. Start by researching your vehicle’s potential vulnerability to implement additional safety protocols. If you are unsure what measures to take, contact CATPA for assistance by visiting lockdownyourcar.org. Change your defensive position to the offense, and join law enforcement in the fight to defeat auto theft in Colorado.

“The noticeable decline of auto theft is a testament to the resiliency of our citizens and the collaborative effort of many law enforcement and key partners across the State,” stated Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. “However, now is no time to relax your vehicle securities. That would be exactly what auto thieves are hoping for to make their crime easier. Stay in this fight with us and CATPA to reduce auto theft and overall crime in your communities.”

The Colorado State Patrol wants to remind you that auto theft is a catalyst crime that often sets off a chain reaction of other crimes. An auto theft can lead to a burglary or a series of smash-and-grab robberies. Auto thieves are notorious for reckless driving and eluding law enforcement, and many auto thieves have known associations with drug crimes, weapons offenses, and many times crimes against persons that pose many threats to Colorado. This current and continued reduction in auto theft is crucial to reducing all crime in Colorado. CATPA and the Colorado State Patrol advise all citizens on the best way to combat vehicle theft through a dynamic approach to vehicle security, beginning with the basics. Lock your car and take your keys - every time. This is simple, but vehicle owners and operators should habitually practice this basic vehicle security. CATPA recommends establishing a “Lock and Key” routine that has all vehicle operators remove spare keys from the vehicle, including

valet keys, then anytime the vehicle is not in use (including during quick trips inside convenience stores), to shut the vehicle off, take the keys out of the ignition and out of the car, then lock the car.

Owners of any vehicle on the [Top Ten Most Stolen Car](#) list, the [Auto Theft Hot Spot](#), or any vehicle over five years old are advised to implement additional security measures to protect their property. These proactive options should consist of any combination of basic “Lock and Key” routine and environmental changes (Parking the vulnerable vehicle in a garage or secured parking lot if possible), physical securi-

ty hardening products like [Steering Wheel Locks](#) and [Parking Boots](#), theft deterrent and immobilizing systems like kill switches, alarm systems and security systems that adhere to vehicle immobilizing standards (like the Canadian UL 338 standard).

Struggling to afford security measures? CATPA has a limited supply of steering wheel locks for vulnerable vehicles; they can provide them to owners who cannot purchase one or to citizens already victimized by theft. Other resources, such as security software updates for Hyundai and Kia vehicles, are another great step to take.

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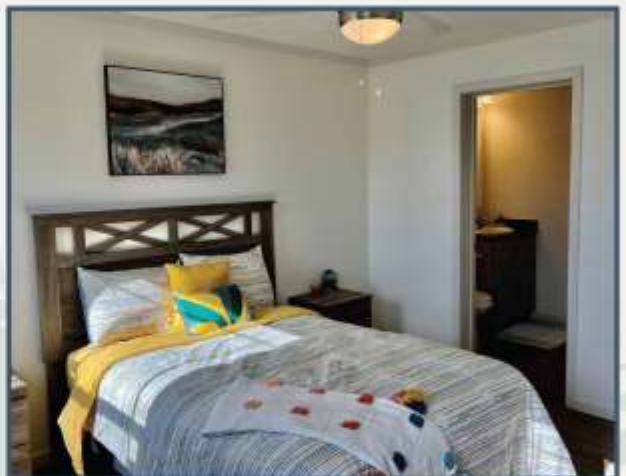
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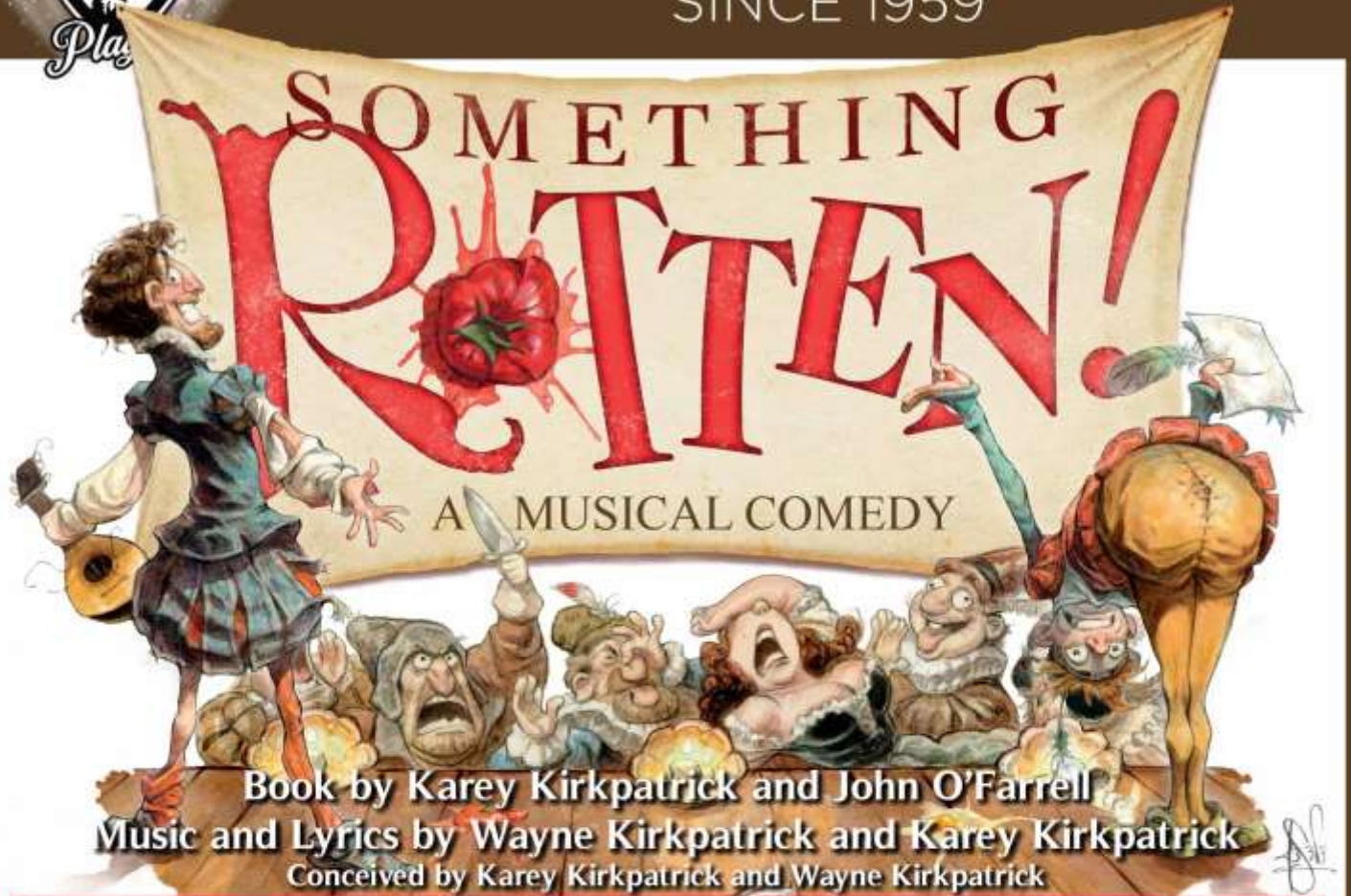
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THEIR DEMOCRACY IS MOB RULE

Editor;

The political disease which removes rational thought in people's minds is well underway. In today's world, there are thousands of serious cases of the walking wounded--those who have listened to so many lies and trash from the Democrat Left, that they have lost the reasoning portion of their brain. This disease is also known as BS, grown in the minds of madmen who want to rule the world. It infests the gray matter via an ear worm, called "talking points". The more you hear the same garbage, over and over, from the Left lame stream media, the more infected you become. Eventually, the victim loses all ability to think rationally. Sadly, the most gravely ill actually believe that enemies of the State, like Obama, Biden, Schumer, and we won't leave out Cacklin' Kamala, are doing a great job. Those are easily recognized by often screaming skyward or dressing as the wrong sex. They use infanticide as birth control. They hate the church. This year the Obama/Biden team announced Easter as the "Transgender Day of Visibility"! This is Luciferian activism hatched in the Democrat smoke-filled dungeons.

Zebigniew Brzezinski, who was the Senior Advisor to Barrack Husein Obama in 2008 said, "It is easier to kill a million people than to control them." Brzezinski felt that in 2008 with a Muslim in control of the White House, it was the perfect time to make the millions easier to kill than control. He feared the capacity to control the

masses had been "at a low". Then enter the election of Obama who announced openly he was going to "fundamentally transform America". His election captured the perfect scenario--the underlying modus operandi of everything we see today: stolen elections, the border invasion, the coordinated messages from the MSM. Then enter Obama's third term using the dimly-lit puppet Biden as a prop; now we see the unprecedented and despicable lawfare against American patriots; the insane attacks on our food and fuel supplies. Everything is now being set in place to accomplish their goal with artificial intelligence, digital currencies, and WHO control of your health.

Brzezinski goes on; "The technotronic era involves the gradual appearance of a more controlled society. Such a society would be dominated by an elite unrestrained by traditional values. Soon it will be possible to assert almost continuous SURVEILLANCE over every citizen and maintain up-to-date complete files containing even the most PERSONAL INFORMATION about every citizen. These files will be available to instantaneous retrieval by the authorities." Brzezinski continues on; "Shortly, the public will be unable to reason or think for themselves. They'll only be able to parrot the information they've been given on the previous night's Leftist news."

"We are killing mother earth" a mentally ill young Swedish woman shrieks. "We must bury all CO2!!----that, which allows

life on earth. CO2 is a key process of photosynthesis by which plants use it with water and sunlight to grow so that they may produce oxygen for all living things. Get the picture? Get rid of CO2, get rid of life! The quickest and best way to learn the truth is to believe exactly the opposite of what the Democrat Left tells you. And don't overlook the screaming and ranting the Democrats do about their phony love for democracy and freedom. They hardly knew the word democracy until this day and age of their constant attacks on democracy when they all say they are soooooo worried about democracy. And where does "democracy" play in to their nation-wide attacks on their political opponent, Donald Trump, taking away your right to your choice for president? That's Democrat/Communist-style democracy! Their democracy is mob rule. And what's this about "freedom"? They are determined to take away your right to defend your home, to choose the fuel you can use to cook your meals, the car you can drive, and to make your own health care decisions. The list is endless. And they love to holler "constitutional rights". What happened to constitutional rights when it is proven they stole the 2020 election by their ballot tampering and rule changes at the last seconds to allow room to add Biden votes? And they openly brag of doing it again in 2024 But notice that Biden supporters never post anything pro Biden? It's all just anti Trump!

Jerry Bartholome, Montrose



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see something, say something

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WEEKLY CARTOON

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by Tim Jones



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

VOTERS DESERVE THE FACTS ABOUT COUNTY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES

Editor:

The voters deserve the facts about County Commissioner Candidates Scott Mljares and Steven Louis Stark before they vote.

There has been plenty of scuttlebutt and innuendos about both candidates for Montrose County Commissioner District 1. As one of those candidates I thought it would be a good idea to address the misinformation that my opponent, his surrogates, and certain elected officials have been spreading to tarnish my reputation and harm my candidacy for your next County Commissioner. I hope this will help to inform our citizens in voting for the candidate that will best serve our community.

My critics have said that I was convicted of securities fraud 30 years ago. Here is the story.

Securities and Exchange Commission Civil Action - In 1992 I accepted a job from a college friend in Orlando, Wall Street Marketing. My job was to contact money managers, hedge fund managers, and brokerage firms about their clients. Five months later the firm was raided by the Justice Department out of New York. It was a devastating experience. Unknown to me, the Justice Department had been investigating Wall Street Marketing for over a year for allegedly bribing brokers. The SEC did not accuse me of "Bribing Brokers". Instead they filed a Civil Action against myself and other employees for violations of [Section 17\(a\) of the Securities Act of 1933](#) (sending out investment information without disclosing your firms compensation), [Section 17\(b\) of the Securities Act of 1934](#), (offer the sale of securities with intent to deceive - aka "Touting a Security"), and [Section 10\(b\) of the Securities Act of 1934](#) (manipulative and deceptive practices in securities trading).

If you examine the links above you will see that these are very broad accusations and certainly would not apply to a new employee sending out investment packages as directed by owners of the firm. In fact, these accusations could probably be brought against almost any licensed stockbroker or money manager by a disgruntled client. If you look at the final Content Agreement filed in 1998 you will see that I, Scott Mljares settled this matter without admitting or denying the allegations contained in the Amended Complaint. I agreed to pay back monies earned during that period of \$19,002.00 plus prejudgement interest of \$9,049.11. This resolution was the most

expedient, cost effective option to put this behind me.

In addition to paying the SEC I was enjoined from participating in any stock promotion activities that would violate Sections 17(a), Section 17(b) or Section 10(b) of the Securities Act of 1933 and 1934. I was not prohibited from trading or investing in stocks nor was I prohibited from being a Stock Broker as has been reported by my opponents and his supporters.

My critics say that I am lying about being a lifelong Republican and that I have been given special treatment by the Montrose Republican Party. Here is the story.

Party Affiliation - Juli and I moved to Ridgeway in 2019. When we applied for our Colorado Drivers License we were automatically registered to vote as unaffiliated. Prior to that I have always been a Registered Republican and have voted accordingly. It has been reported on Facebook by Stark supporters that I used my unaffiliated 2020 ballot to vote for Joe Biden in the Primary Election. I categorically deny this. However it is important to point out 2 facts 1) many unaffiliated voters vote the opposing party ballots to weaken the strongest candidate, 2) Who you vote for is not known or recorded by our County Clerk's office.

When I decided to run for the office of County Commissioner I contacted Scott Riba, Chairman of the Montrose Republican Party. I asked him what I needed to do to get on the ballot. Scott Riba told me he would have to confirm 2 things. 1) My party affiliation, 2) My physical address and length of residence. He verified both on the Republican Party database and told me I could come to the next Central Committee Meeting and announce my intention to run as a Republican Candidate in District 1. That meeting was on Thursday, February 8, 2024. On Monday February 12, 2024 I received a call from Tressa Guynes, Montrose County Clerk. She said that I was registered as a non-affiliated voter and was ineligible to run as a Republican in the County Commissioner race. I immediately called the Colorado Secretary of State and explained my dilemma. They walked me through the process of changing my registration to Republican and connected me with the Ballot Access Department in their office. I was assisted by Ballot Access in getting my paperwork filed with the Colorado Secretary of State and qualified under State of Colorado Republican Party Rules to run as a Republican Candidate in the Mont-

rose County Commissioners Race. Note, my candidacy did not become official until the paperwork was filed and approved by the Colorado Secretary of State. My critics claim that I was given preferential treatment by Scott Riba and other party officials. This is not true. The fact is that I did not accept the initial information given to me by our Republican County Clerk. Instead I researched the rules and investigated my options to get the job done.

I truly hope this helps to explain some of the misinformation being spread around by my opponents surrogates and supporters.

I now call on Candidate Steven Louis Stark to address important issues surrounding his candidacy. The voters deserve to know the truth. Why is it that you publicly proclaim that you only owe \$9,700.00 to the IRS for unpaid federal taxes when public records show [IRS 4 liens](#) totaling \$83,487.01? Why as a Licensed Bail Bondsman in Colorado [were Three Disciplinary Actions](#) filed against you by the State of Colorado? Why did you spend Five days in Jail in 1997 for a traffic violation? In 2004 you were charged with DUI and subject to 30 days in Jail. You plead guilty and your jail time was suspended. What happened there?

What were the circumstances surrounding your home foreclosure in 2005?

Why have you [moved 17 times](#) since 2020?

Who is your [campaign manager](#)? Does he have a criminal history?

As you can see, neither candidate is perfect. So now it is up to you Montrose. One of the two will be your next County Commissioner. I am available to speak with anyone who has additional questions about my experience and commitment to conservative principles. I look forward to a response from Steven Louis Stark AKA Big Lou.

To the *Montrose Press*: You did a great job of investigating my SEC Civil Action from 30 years ago. I am now calling on you to use the same effort in reporting on my opponent. The voters deserve your sincere effort in investigating and reporting on the history and background of my Steven Louis Stark, AKA Big Lou. I humbly ask that you do your job.

*Thank you, Scott Mljares,
Candidate for Montrose County Commissioner District 1*

www.scottm4montrose.com
scottm4momtrose@gmail.com
970-787-2460

**Montrose county deserves honest representation
on the board of county commissioners.**

Scott Mijares and Scott Riba are both dishonest men.

**Mijares on numerous occasions has publicly stated
that he was a lifelong republican. Mijares became a republican
for the first time in his life on February 12th 2024. Scott
Riba assisted with this lie by providing a letter dated Feb 5th
that he had verified Mijares's party affiliation, that letter
appears on Mijares's web site. Scott Mijares voted the
democrat ballot in the 2020 presidential primary. These
facts can be verified by a records request from the Montrose
county clerk's office and the Ouray county clerks office.**

**Both these men will lie to try to win an election to an
office that neither deserve.**

Vote for Louis Stark County commissioner district 1.

Vote for Rick Dunlap County commissioner district 3.

These men are honest.

Paid for by Ray Langston

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALPINE BANK CELEBRATES THE LEGACY OF WALLY DALLENBACH SR.

Special to the Mirror

GLENWOOD SPRINGS— We are saddened to hear of the passing of longtime Alpine Bank board director and former professional racecar driver Wally Dallenbach Sr. Though Dallenbach was a pioneer in the world of motorsports, his influence and legacy at Alpine Bank is just as impactful. “Wally’s character will forever be felt through our culture, brand, and values,” said Alpine Bank President Glen Jammaron. “He was instrumental to the success of this organization.”

Dallenbach, 87, had been a part of Alpine Bank for nearly five decades before his passing on April 29. He served on the Alpine Bank Board of Directors since 1977, helping to champion the bank’s commitment to philanthropy, community involvement, and the First-Generation Scholarship program.

His natural competitive streak, innate leadership skills, and ability to relate to a wide variety of individuals also made him a natural in the banking business.

“As a racecar driver, Wally understood the value of being part of a team that is driven to succeed,” said Alpine Bank Founder and Chairman Bob Young. “He inspired that

drive in me, and it helped me realize the vision I had for Alpine Bank.”

Dallenbach’s racing career began when he was just 14 years old, and he accelerated through the racing ranks learning the mechanics of the sport first by building cars and later by driving them in headliner events. In 1975, he nearly won the Indy 500, dueling with A.J. Foyt for many laps. The longtime Basalt resident would later serve as chief steward for CART (Championship Auto Racing Teams) for more than 20 years. In this executive role, he officiated 400-plus racing events and worked tirelessly to increase driver and car safety.

Dallenbach was inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame in 2004 and was a 2020 inductee into the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America.

But of his accomplishments, Dallenbach was especially proud of establishing the Colorado 500, the longest running motorcycle charity invitational event in the nation. To date, the Colorado 500 has awarded over 100 scholarships totaling more than \$800,000. The scholarships go to students who are academically promising but need some financial assistance.



Wally Dallenbach Sr. Courtesy photo.

For Dallenbach, the Colorado 500 was about giving young people a lifeline to pursue their passion. “In business and sport, if you put your heart and soul into something, you will win,” Dallenbach said during Alpine Bank’s 50th anniversary in 2023.

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



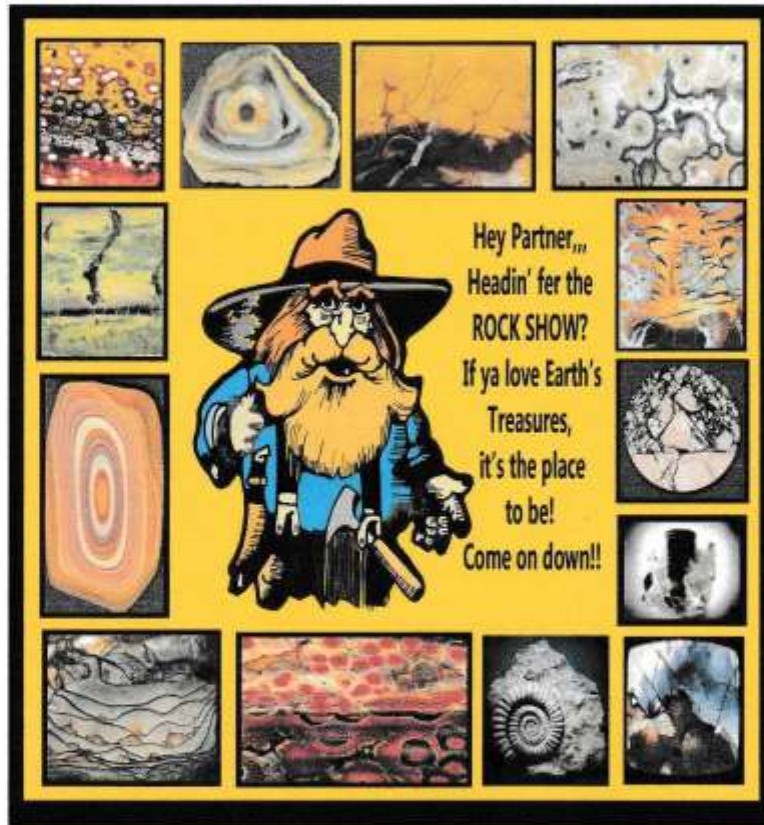
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

SCOTT MIJARES A TRUE CHAMPION FOR CONSERVATIVE CAUSES

Dear Editor,

Did you know this about Scott Mijares: He had the premier conservative radio talk show in Hawaii for two years. He champions our conservative causes whenever he can. He will continue to do so as your County Commissioner.

Rick Bleier, Montrose

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COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

JIMMIE DALE BOYD

December 13, 1945 — May 1, 2024



JIMMIE DALE BOYD passed away peacefully on May 1, 2024 at St. Mary's Hospital after a brief illness. He was 78 years old. Jimmie was born on December 13, 1945 to J D and Alpha Boyd in Austin, Colorado. He spent his childhood in the Austin area and attended Fairview School until the 8th grade. He graduated from Delta High School in 1964. He then attended Colorado State University and graduated

with a Forestry degree. He began working for the Soil Conservation office in Durango. He liked the Durango area and made that his home for a few years. He sold Farmers Union Insurance and later was co-owner of a parts store there before he returned to Austin and started a construction company with his Uncle Willard Demmer. They erected a lot of the onion sheds in the Delta and Montrose area along with several other metal buildings. He later went to work for the Division of Water Resources for 23 years until he retired. He married the Love of His Life, Neoma Anderson on Aug 19, 1978 in Austin and became father to Ken 10 and Keith 5. They enjoyed 43 years of marriage until her death in 2022.

Jimmie enjoyed the outdoors all his life. He enjoyed fishing and hunting with his dad, brother, uncles and cousins when he was young and teaching his nephews how to hunt when they were old enough. He also introduced them to the game of golf which they enjoyed together. He enjoyed ATVing and wildlife viewing when he was spending time at the property on 25 Mesa and made many friends and acquaintances over the years while exploring 25. He has

spent the last 10 years enjoying watching his Great Nephew Derek play baseball with the Delta teams. He loved going to the jeep rock crawling rallies in Moab with Neoma, her sister Virginis and brother-in-law Owen. The four of them also enjoyed a long extended vacation to Alaska and several National Parks when they retired. He was preceded in death by his parents and wife.

Jimmie is survived by his sons: Ken of Silverton and Keith and wife Mendy of Austin. Brother Lyndon and wife Jackie of Delta. Nephews Michael and wife Kari of Delta, Jon of Kenai Alaska and Chris and wife Joya of Grand Junction. Great nephews Derek Boyd, Tyler Garcia, Mason Garcia all of Delta, Kyzer and Tajge Boyd of Kenai Alaska, and Maverick and Cash Boyd of Grand Junction. Aunt Betty Stringer of Grand Junction and Sister-in-law Virginia and Owen Thomas of Kirtland New Mexico.

Jimmie served 2 terms as Trustee for Orchard City and on the board for the Delta County Fire Protection Dist #3 for 8 years. A Celebration of Life will be held at Taylor Funeral Service Delta Chapel, on May 13, 2024 at 10 AM.

Now more than ever...

Thank you for reading

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

KAREN BREWER WATSON

December 16, 1959 — April 22, 2024

KAREN BREWER WATSON passed away on April 22, 2024 surrounded by her family at her home in Montrose Colorado at the age of 64 after a long battle of liver failure. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend.

Karen was born on December 16, 1959, in Tooele Utah to Margene Breitgam and Jim Hartley. She spent her childhood in Grantsville Utah where she attended school with her brothers Robert and Tommy and sister Kristy. She participated in FFA and the Larietts drill team at Grantsville high school.

Karen married Jess Brewer in Tooele Utah and later had a son Travis Brewer in 1983. They later divorced and Karen worked two jobs to support Travis and herself. She was a very hard-working and dedicated loving mother. She married Jeff Watson in 1984 and they just celebrated their 40-year anniversary this past Easter. In 1987 they welcomed their daughter Holly and felt their family was complete. In 1999 the family moved to Mont-

rose Colorado and made it their home. Karen went to college and received her CNA degree and worked at several assisted living homes where she loved caring for and helping people. In 2013 she took in her mother-in-law and was her primary caregiver until 2020. Karen loved the outdoors. Fishing, camping, hunting, sitting on the lake at sunrise with her husband or in the mountains in all orange ready to hunt. She loved cooking in her dutch oven and sitting by the campfire. She took pride in her yard and loved planting and tending to her vegetable garden. She never missed an opportunity to be outside. She loved a beautiful sunset, the sound of rain on a metal roof and watching the geese land in the field next to the house. Her family was the most important aspect of her life. She loved being a grandmother. She loved all animals and especially her dog Tika Bean. Karen is survived by her husband Jeff Watson, daughter Holly Watson, son Travis Brewer Watson, mother Margene



Dudley, brothers Robert Rupp and Tom (Linda) Dudley, grandsons Jerrett and Brekken Reese, Trace, Gabriel and Ellis Brewer and best friend Randi Lewis. Crippin Funeral Home is assisting Karen's family. 970-249-2121

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

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

BARBARA ANNE THOMAS

December 8, 1949 — April 29, 2024

BARBARA ANNE REED THOMAS was born in Columbus, Ohio to John and Ruth Anne (Carnes) Reed on December 8, 1949. She passed away from complications of dementia at Colorow Care Center in Olathe, Colorado on April 29, 2024, at the age of 74.

Barb was a member of the national Honor Society, was a member and officer of many clubs, went to Girl's State, and graduated from Claymont High School in Uhrichsville, Ohio, class of 1968. She then went to Denver University, married her former husband, Bob Shaw, and raised their child Todd Shaw. She continued her education at Kent State University received her bachelor's degree as a single mother, and returned to Denver University, earning her master's degree.

In 1976, Barb began her teaching career in Montrose, Colorado where she also met her husband, Tom Thomas. She first taught at Columbine Junior High School, where she was affectionately called "hurricane" by other facility members because of her energy as a physical education teacher, and her ability to coach four sports, volleyball, basketball, gymnastics, and track. Barb would continue coaching and teaching Physical

education, Science and Health in the Montrose County schools for over thirty-five years. She also earned her "Type D" degree which allowed her to become an administrator and was nominated for "teacher of the year" several times. Barb Shaw and Tom Thomas were wed at the Methodist Church in Montrose, Colorado, on December 23, 1978. During their 45 years together, you could often see them on the sports fields and gyms, either coaching, playing, officiating or just watching their children and grandchildren. They also enjoyed seeing historical sites during their travels across the country, going to Rockies games, and the Thomas family reunions.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband Tom, his parents, Gordon and Marian Thomas, sons; Todd Shaw and his wife Carrie, Michael Thomas and his wife Amalia, grandchildren; Ethan, Elizabeth, Rhea, and Jove. She is also survived by her sister Jane, and her children, Reed and Carl Begley, Tom's sisters; Nancy (Walt) Horn, Janet (Chuck) Smith, Beth (Ron) McCaslin, April (Steve) Carver and Mary (Kirby) White,



and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews and their children. For those wishing to join in a celebration of Barb's life, please join us at Ted's Steakhouse in Montrose on Saturday, May 18th, to visit the family and share memories, anytime between noon and 2:30 pm. Refreshments will be served. Cremation has occurred and her remains will be returned to Ohio at a later date. No other services are planned at this time.



ISSUE 468 May 6, 2024

ART & SOL

THE BAREFOOT LAUREATE...*On Teachers, Mentors, and Guiding Stars...*



Western Slope Poet Laureate Wendy Vidlock.

By Wendy Vidlock

A Few Words on Teachers, Mentors and Guiding Stars

There's an old Buddhist saying that the teacher is always right in front of you. I find this to be true, that the

teacher appears in a million guises and that even the most awful of people that cross our paths are teachers — teaching us how not to behave, how not to operate, how not to move in this world.

I've had dozens of teachers, but for today I'll just focus on the three that came into my life early on and left a lasting impression.

My first real teacher was a neighbor friend named Liz. I met her when we were both five years old and we remained friends until she moved away at around the age of ten or eleven. Because everybody said we looked like twins it was especially disconcerting to me that we were profoundly different.

Liz was good at everything. She could groom and ride even a skittish horse at the nearby dude ranch without flinching or showing any fear. She could make friends with people effortlessly. She knew the names of plants and trees. She excelled in school and even sports. She spoke to adults the same way she spoke to kids—

with respect and confidence. Liz was clearly not beset with the same insecurity and anxiety as I (and just about everybody else I knew) was.

One day I told her she was lucky because she was good at everything. She was running a curry brush over the flanks of an old mare as and dust (and flies) filled the air, none of which seemed to bother Liz one bit.

She looked at me curiously for a moment and then said, "It's not that I'm good at stuff, it's just that I love learning stuff."

Now this may seem obvious but at the time it was a complete revelation to me. Until then I'd thought of learning as a chore and something I could one day put behind me— not a process one could love!

All these years later I look back and realize what Liz was demonstrating and what she said that day was that a love of learning is a gift we give ourselves—and is a beautiful way to live our lives.

Of course, I was still a clumsy, fearful creature, and not long after that, Liz and her family moved away and I remained, not just clumsy and fearful, but also bereft.

It wasn't long after that my brother suddenly seemed to take an interest in my education.

To my horror he told me all about the Vietnam war and about the corruption of a man named Nixon. He explained that the radio contained this thing called FM and that AM was no longer cool. He explained the dangers of big industry and the nature of pollution. He spoke fervently about

caring for the less fortunate. He turned me onto the Beatles and Aretha Franklin and then one day, he placed a book titled "Thus Spake Zarathustra" into my hands and simply walked away.

I'd always enjoyed books and stories, but this was an incomprehensible text, entirely over my head, entirely mysterious, entirely provocative— and ultimately thrilling.

Here was a person writing about the inner life — at that point in my young life I didn't even know the inner life was something we all had.

Though I had always been a reader, this was, I think, my first real introduction to the arts.

I set about blaring The Beatles during the day and curling up with philosophy as bedtime reading.

I should be clear that the Beatles and Aretha's lyrics completely escaped me and I had no idea what Neitzche was going on about, but I had entered the world of feeling— and feeling less alone.

All my life I'd been conditioned to believe that feelings were to be avoided like the plague.

To experience feeling as a positive thing was entirely new and I should say, entirely perplexing— and wonderful.

Thus the arts became, not just a consolation and a companion, but my teacher, as well.

Not long after that I experienced my first meaningful teacher in an actual classroom. It should go without saying I was a mess in high school

Continued next pg

On Teachers, Mentors, and Guiding Stars... From previous pg

school and had no connection with any of my teachers until my junior year when I decided to take a journalism class.

My teacher was the first true eccentric I had ever met. His name was Freeman and was an ex-deejay. I learned later he had conducted the final interview with Buddy Holly just before that fateful plane crash. Freeman was also a spelunker, an avid ghost townner, journalist, a creative writer, and a sensitive, empathetic human being.

He also had a physical challenge; one of his legs was much longer than the other. His walk was ridiculed regularly. Students were not kind to him and neither was I, until one day he looked me in the eye and asked, What sort of person do you want to be?

This was a question I had never really considered.

That same school year I had an art teacher whose primary teaching strategy was to yell at the top of his lungs. His name was

Mr. Wolfe. What sort of person did I want to be? I didn't know, but I knew I didn't want to be like Mr. Wolfe.

And so I replied, "I don't want to be like Mr. Wolfe."

It was pretty radical to say something negative about another teacher to a teacher, but Freeman didn't bat an eye.

"That's a start," he said.

Those three words helped me understand something about beginnings. "That's a start" may sound flippant, but it felt to me like permission to begin considering such things. I didn't know yet what sort of person I wanted to be but I knew what sort of person I didn't want to be.

From there, Freeman and I became friends. He took seriously my interest in words and encouraged my creative writing. He gave me my first real taste of confidence. I was beginning to see life as something in process, as something we

are all co-creating, and not as something that was happening to me.

Freeman and I wrote letters to one another until I was well into my thirties, when he passed.

It was Aristotle who said, "When the student is ready, the teacher appears."

He also said, "When the student is ready, the teacher disappears."

And aren't both of these things equally true?

Because this topic is of great interest to me, I've recently decided my next book will be on the subject. I would love to hear your stories of teachers, mentors, and guiding stars in your own lives. Please feel free to reach out to me at my email below.

In the meantime, I leave you with a poem on the subject of teaching, learning and parenting by another friend and mentor of mine, Tasmanian poet, Cally Conan Davies:

Learning Ukulele

Long as the latitude I allow love—

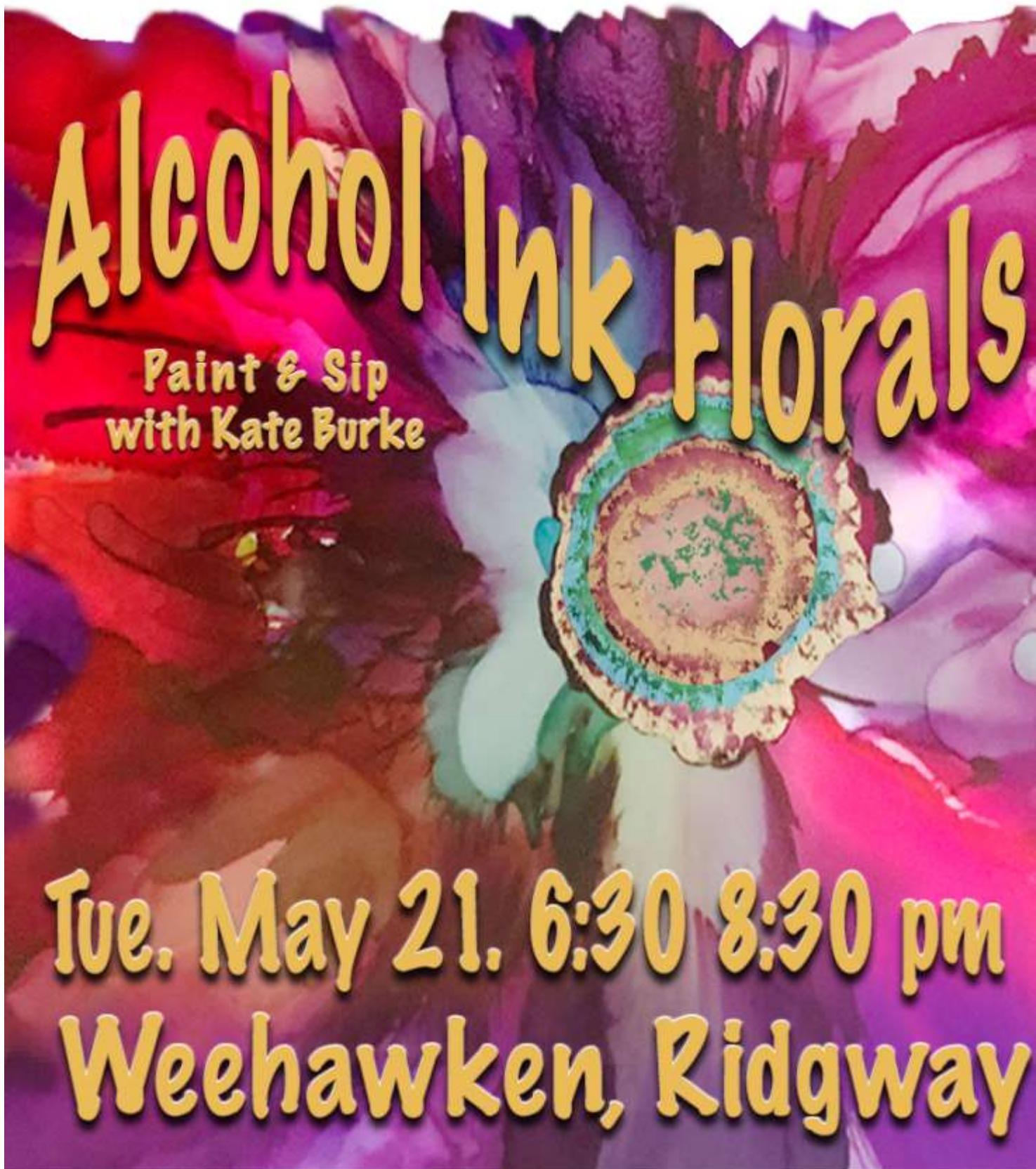
my one and only daughter sings along
the downstroke of her thumb strum
her head nodding to the ukulele neck.
I keep mum as mothers learn they must
who listen on the other side of window glass,

my other ear to the bush beyond
where the murder birds are bound
to turn in their coffin dreams.
Didn't all the angels weep
when a single angel wept,
wiping out the difference?
I make believe I could kiss
all the tears from all their baby faces
crooning nothing is amiss, nothing amiss
when the sweetest little bird voice
breaks from the minor chord she bumbled—

is how it dawns on me

there is no right way to do this.

Wendy Videlock of Palisade is the poet laureate of Western Colorado. Her books are available wherever books are sold. Reach her at westernslopeword@gmail.com



Alcohol Ink Florals

Paint & Sip
with Kate Burke

Tue. May 21. 6:30 8:30 pm
Weehawken, Ridgway

Everything included plus a drink. No experience necessary.

Sign up at Weehawken Adult Art Classes



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

UTE INDIAN MUSEUM HOSTS WATERCOLORIST SUSAN KIENHOLZ' EXHIBIT OF NATIVE AMERICAN ROCK ART

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-In honor of Archaeological and Historic Preservation Month, the Ute Indian Museum (17523 Chipeta Road) will host accomplished watercolorist Susan Kienholz' exhibit of Native American Rock Art. May 1-31. Twenty percent of all arts sales will fund the Friends of the Ute Indian Museum.

CHANGING NEEDS?

At a certain stage of life- many people are ready to make a change. To downsize their home, or simply choose a community that better suits their new lifestyle, interests, and needs. Sounds familiar? If you're ready to make a move, I invite you to call me today. I specialize in helping folks make the most from the changes and choices they have at all stages of life. I'd love to do the same for you.

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500 E. Main St. Montrose, CO 81401



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-

 don@allsaintsmontrose.org)

Worship Service Times: Sundays 9AM,

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

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

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

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

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Olathe, Co 81425

Tuesday-Friday Phone: 970-808-1021
www.biblebaptistchurcholathe.com

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

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

Worship Service Times: 9am and 10:45am

Senior Pastor:

Pastor Brandon Mathis

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

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

Demographics: Multi-generational

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

Student (middle & high school) at 9am.

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

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Denomination: Christ Lutheran Montrose
Affiliation: Lutheran Church Missouri Syn-
 od
Address: 1980 N. Townsend Ave., Mont-
 rose, CO 81401
Contact: 970-633-0226

Website: www.montroselutheran.org

Email: montroselutheran@gmail.com

Pastor: Tim Onnen

Worship: Sundays at 9 AM

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

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

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

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Denomination: Church of the Nazarene
Address: 705 South 12th Street
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 am-
 Noon and by Appointment
Contact Information: Office Phone 970 249
 -9213, mncfirst@gmail.com,
www.montrosenazarenechurch.org

Pastor: Buddy Cook

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

Wednesday: Prayer Boot Camp - 7 PM

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

*disciples in Montrose Colorado and around
 the world.*

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

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

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

 form@fpcmontrose.com),

www.fpcmontrose.com

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jesse G. Mabanglo

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

*support one another through spiritual
 growth, worship, and service in our com-
 munity, country, and world. We also en-
 courage children and youth to grow their
 relationship with Christ through our chil-
 dren and student ministries.*

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY *From previous pg*

HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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

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

MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

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

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

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

SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

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

Name of current pastor: Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, Senior minister; Rev. 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
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:

email:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com

website:

www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Senior Pastor: Interim Pastor.

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 ag-

es! 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 the first Sunday of each month for a potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by a prayer session at 6:30 p.m.

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

Denomination Affiliation: Independent Baptist

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

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-12pm

Contact Information: Phone (970) 249-

6874; email at info@vbcmontrose.org; website: vbcmontrose.org

Current Pastor: Roland Kassales

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

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

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

Church Directory

Mirror Editorial Staff

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

information to the Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

Local Immunization Providers

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

Questions? Call (970) 252-5011

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SURROUNDING COUNTIES



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

REGION 10 RSVP CELEBRATES THREE YEARS OF IMPACTING SENIORS' LIVES

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE— Since launching on April 1, 2021, the Region 10 RSVP program has noticeably impacted Colorado's Western Slope. Today, there are more than 330 volunteers serving the Region 10 area which includes Delta, Hinsdale, Gunnison, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel counties. In 2023, RSVP volunteers provided 25,690 hours of service and made delivering 26,000 meals to seniors possible.

Region 10 RSVP is made possible by AmeriCorps Seniors, a federal program that provides funds to recruit, retain, and recognize volunteers over age 55. The Region 10 program is relatively new, but RSVP is one of America's oldest and largest volunteer organizations.

"We provide mileage and meal reimbursement to minimize financial barriers to volunteering for RSVP," said RSVP Sen-

ior Volunteer Program Coordinator Kerry Franks, who began working in this role in January. The volunteer hours contributed add up to an annual value of approximately \$817,000.

Region 10 RSVP partners with more than 54 nonprofit organizations and local government agencies across the six counties to plug volunteers into local needs and to make volunteer stations a reality. Volunteer stations include museums, health care facilities, senior companion programs, senior meal deliveries, handy helpers, food pantries, youth mentoring, and All Points Transit. These stations have a large variety of volunteer opportunities available ranging from building ramps, installing grab bars, cooking and packaging food, to serving as senior companions, assisting with special events, and handling office and administrative tasks.

"Region 10 RSVP links a volunteer's skills, experiences and interests to match them with a needed service within their community," Franks said.

Franks became familiar with Region 10 RSVP through her work as executive director and office manager of The Shepherd's Hand, a nonprofit based in Montrose.

"During my time there, we implemented the volunteer management system for R10 RSVP. This is where I formed a relationship with the Region 10 team and became obsessed with their community outreach and mission," she said. "I am thrilled to be a part of Region 10 RSVP and be a small part of the very large effort."

For more information about Region 10 RSVP and volunteer opportunities, reach Kerry Franks at 970.765.3142 or kfranks@region10.net.





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- Large open common areas
- Scenic walking trails
- Quiet, peaceful atmosphere
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- Lending library
- Fenced in playground
- Pet friendly
- Soon- a dog park, and community garden

Our homes include (varies by home)

- Upgraded appliances
- 8x8 matching sheds
- Garden Tubs
- Electric Tile Fireplaces
- 8x16 patios with large awnings
- Beautiful lots with grass and landscaping



901 6530 RD #1000 Montrose, CO 81401 (970) 249-0493 Open Mon-Sat 8AM to 5PM

Christy@cimarroncreekcommunity.com www.cimarroncreekcommunity.com

Mosaic Montrose
21 N. Cascade Ave.



5:30-7:30 pm, Thur., May 9th

Spring Watercolor

with Kate Burke



Step-by-step instructions to paint a beautiful watercolor of American Basin with wildflowers. No experience necessary. Everything included plus a drink. \$45 (\$40 with discount).

Class Limit 20.

Sign up in store. Or online if eligible for discount.

<https://kathrynrburke.com/product/050924m>



SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING-

HEALING COLLECTIVE OF WESTERN COLORADO-Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 12-1pm the Healing Collective of Western Colorado meets at 220 N Stough Ave. It is open to all wellness providers in the area who would like to collaborate with and learn from other local practitioners.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE 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

May 1-31-In honor of Archaeological and Historic Preservation Month, the Ute Indian Museum (17523 Chipeta Road) will host accomplished watercolorist Susan Kienholz' exhibit of Native American Rock Art. Twenty percent of all arts sales will fund the Friends of the Ute Indian Museum.

May 6-Monday May 6 at 5pm. Citizens' Climate Lobby meets at Montrose Safety Complex meeting rm(police). Non-partisan, national, environmental. All Welcome. Info at 970-765-9095.

May 9-12-Montrose Lions Club Carnival-Thursday 5-11pm; Friday 5-11pm; Saturday 12-12; and Sunday 1 'til closing. Montrose County Fairgrounds & Event Center. For information [visit the Lions Club online](#).

May 10-Montrose County Historical Museum is now open for the season. A special open house on May 10 will feature the members of the Territorial Daughters of Colorado local Chapter and a special donation "All Roads Lead to Colorado" Quilt. Please join us for this special event, at 21 North Rio Grande Ave. from 3 to 6 pm.

May 16-Montrose Women's Giving Club to meet.at the Bridges, 5:30pm. Visit <https://www.montrosegivingclub.com> for information.

May 25-26-16-hour Wilderness First Aid certification. May 25 & 26 in Montrose. \$250 Colorado Mountain Club members, \$300 nonmembers. Register online before 5/23 and details at: https://www.cmc.org/groups-sections/cmc-state/course-templates/copy_of_wilderness-medicine-school-wilderness-first-aid/wilderness-first-aid-cmc-wsg-2024

June 1-Delta Rock Wranglers' Rock, Gem & Mineral Show. 9am to 5pm. Bill Heddles Rec Center in Delta. Free admission all ages.

June 6-DMEA Annual Meeting to take place on June 6 at Columbine Middle School in Montrose (610 York Street), from 4:30 to 8:30pm.

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*Clockwise from left, Division Award Winners L-R are Trevan Anstine, Karlie Mejia, Benjamin Meaker, Jack Carson, Indica Taylor, Jack White, Daniel Martinez, James Maunakea, Curtis Wright, Chase Omernick, Jady Wood, Illanucci Barrientos, Jazmin Gutierrez-Hernandez, and Charlie Thompson.
Top right, Perfect Attendance Award Winners - James Maunakea and Charlie Thompson.
Below right, Junior Award Winner Charlotte Hellyer - University of Rochester.*

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