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the Montrose Mirror

© Issue No. 594 July 15, 2024

LOCAL PARTNERS LAUNCH NEW ON-AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT



Local businessmen Paul Panther and Tom Abbott plan to develop private and commercial aircraft hangars and buildings on Montrose Regional Airport land. The site, which encompasses up to 19.6 acres, is pictured above. Photo by B. Switzer.

By Gunnison Clamp

MONTROSE-A new airport development is coming to Montrose, as business partners Paul Panther and Tom Abbott have entered into a Development Agreement with Montrose County to develop up to 20 acres of land on the Montrose Regional Airport. The project will target private and commercial aircraft hangars and buildings. Paul Panther spoke extensively with me about the project, going over details on how they got here, and what the plans are for the future.

First, Paul gave credit to the people who made the project possible. He started by thanking Lloyd Arnold, the Montrose Regional Airport director, Airport staff, and the County attorney Martha Whitmore and her staff. "It would not have happened without them," he said. "They were very supportive, very creative, and very timely. And thanks to the Montrose County BOCC who gave the final approval

Continued pg 8

'I HERD IT AT THE FAIR'

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE- From the time projects begin to arrive on Friday, July 19 until the final show quilt is picked up ten days later, the 2024 Montrose County Fair & Rodeo will spotlight the valley's rich, agricultural heritage with a multitude of displays, shows, competitions, and performances that combine to make this the event of the year.

The theme for 2024 is, "I herd it at the Fair." Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) Vice Chair Keith Caddy serves as the direct link between the Fair Board and the BOCC. Raised on a ranch at Colona, Caddy took part in 4-H and FFA as a youth, "It teaches you responsibility," he said. The kids who participate in Junior livestock events are learning business skills, Caddy said, noting that the Montrose County Fair & Rodeo is the biggest event of the year in Montrose and appeals not only to longtime residents but to visitors and newcomers as well.

The Fair Board, which plans and executes the fair each year with the help of dedicated county staff, was created in 1952. The fair itself goes back more than 100 years, to the earliest days of Montrose County. And while there are plenty of events for adults and teens, the Montrose County Fair & Rodeo also includes opportunities and activities for people as young as three years old, allowing



A young contestant poses with her animal at the 2022 Fair. Courtesy photo Montrose County Fair & Rodeo.

Continued pg 6

New Leadership at Montrose GOP!
By Gail Marvel

Reader Photo Spotlight:
Linda Lake!

Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald: Personal Freedom Comes Through Forgiveness!

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Dear Readers:

We appreciate your letters! We like reading and hearing opinions from all perspectives. We are sharing herewith our updated guidelines: In the past we have had one rule, to be implemented at the editor's discretion. We are now including two more suggested "Rules" for letter writers.

RULE 1. The Dead Horse Rule has been in place from the start of the *Mirror*. This is somewhat self-explanatory, but there are times when something has been said so many times it can run afoul of the "Dead Horse Rule," in which case we will inform the writer.

RULE 2. While there are always exceptions, a letter can often say what needs to be said in one page or less. Our pages are 8.5 X 11, we use a 10 pt Calibri font; letters that are roughly 800 words fit well within this suggested guideline.

RULE 3. Please limit repetitive mud-slinging to avoid bumping up against Rule 1. Also, in the case of those writing to intentionally discredit a public official or candidate for public office, please provide a link to the source of your allegation if possible. Unsourced, unproven allegations are not credible, and could in fact be untruths.

Finally, opinions expressed in letters and commentary are those of the authors themselves, and do not reflect the views of the *Montrose Mirror* or editorial staff.

Thank you,
 Caitlin Switzer,
 Montrose Mirror Editor

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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

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

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VERA AND JOSEPH DRESNER FOUNDATION AWARDS SIGNIFICANT GRANT TO FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES TO SECURE NEW REFRIGERATED TRAILER

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION—In a committed effort to alleviate food insecurity in Colorado, the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation has awarded a generous grant to Food Bank of the Rockies. This funding enables the Food Bank to purchase a refrigerated trailer, now in use across the Western Slope.

The 53-foot trailer transports thousands of pounds of food from Food Bank of the Rockies' Western Slope Etkin Family Distribution Center in Grand Junction to Hunger Relief Partners and mobile pantries in 13 counties.

"This new trailer allows us to increase our capacity and provide more fresh produce to our neighbors across the Western Slope," said Sue Ellen Rodwick, Food Bank of the Rockies Western Slope Director. "We're grateful for the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation for supporting our mission, especially at a time when more individuals and families are turning to us and our network of Hunger Relief Partners for help."

Communities across the Western Slope continue to see the highest need for support in addressing food insecurity. From December 2023 to February 2024, there

was a 190% increase in mobile pantry attendance compared to the same period the previous year — nearly triple the number of neighbors seeking food assistance.

Since 2020, the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation has provided substantial funding to Food Bank of the Rockies, enabling the purchasing and distribution of over one million pounds of fresh produce to neighbors experiencing food insecurity in the Aspen-Parachute Corridor and Denver County. This most recent grant continues their commitment to supporting Colorado communities

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MONTROSE Business Times



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

I ADAMANTLY OPPOSE ESTABLISHING MORE CHARTER SCHOOLS IN THIS DISTRICT

Dear Editor:

Good Morning, Classical Charter School Advocates—I adamantly oppose establishing any more charter schools in this district...I taught at Montrose High School for 22 years and found that the fragmenting of funds to smaller groups of students impacted funds within the entire district. If you are interested in a classical education for your child, initiate a private school and fund it with attendees' registration tuition and tax the parents of those attending. The District RE-1J public is not obligated to pay for an elitist, exclusive, private classical education for a few children who live within our relatively poor school district.

Sincerely,

Marge Morgenstern, Montrose

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'I HERD IT AT THE FAIR' From pg 1

youth to get a head start on learning, planning, and growing successful projects.

Fairgrounds Director Matt Smith said that while kids and their projects are the heart of the Montrose County Fair, "There is a lot more going on."

"The Fair Board has done a really good job," Smith said. "Come and check it out—it's not only about agriculture. There's a lot to choose from."

"It's jam packed--and there's a little bit of something there for everyone."

The 2024 Montrose County Fair & Rodeo opens to the public on Monday, July 22, with the 2024 Fair Parade set for 7pm on Main Street.

Community Night will take place at 5pm on Tuesday, July 23, with food and refreshments followed by goat roping, Smith said.

The Antique Tractor Pull will be at the outdoor grandstand at 6pm on Wednesday, July 24, and the CPRA Rodeo will take place at 7pm on Saturday, July 27 in the Arena.

Kids age three to seven have a [full menu of events](#) to choose from, including the My Little Pony show on Saturday, July 20 and the Ferdinand & Friends Bucket Calf event on Thursday, July 25.

This year, the Open Show will take place in the Event Center, showcasing Floriculture, Horticulture, Living Arts, the Art Show, and Wood Craft. For information on [entry dates](#) visit the Montrose County Fair & Rodeo web site, where [livestock judges for 2024](#) are also named.

"I can't thank the Fair Board enough for all of their hard work," Smith said, "We're hoping for a really good turnout."



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LOCAL PARTNERS LAUNCH NEW ON-AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT *From pg 1*

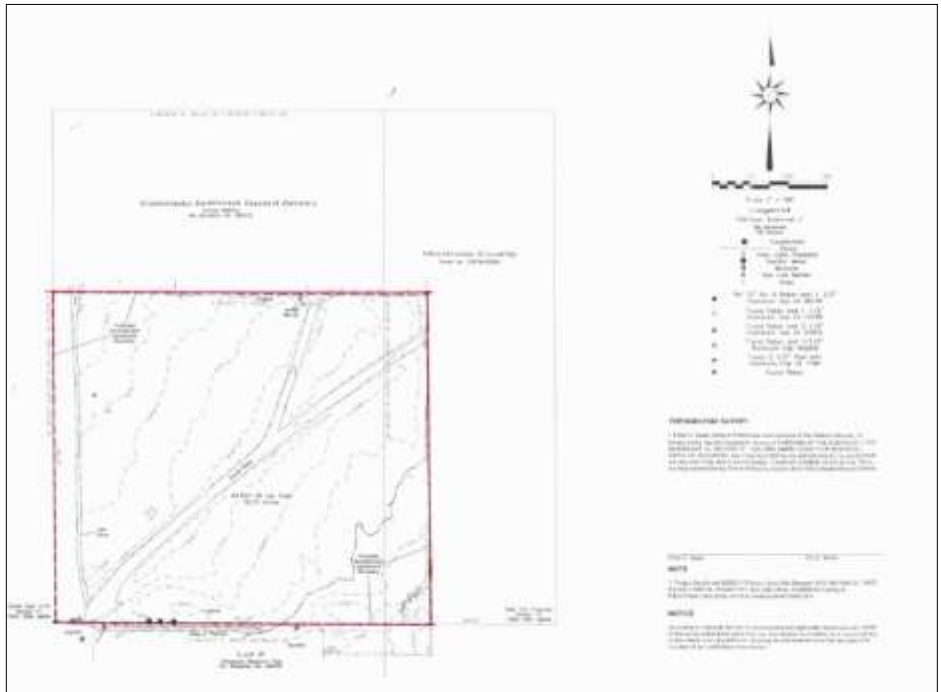
of our agreement.”

Panther talked about the challenges of getting the project started. “First there is the Airport administration and Montrose County who oversee the project. The City of Montrose Planning and Building Departments oversee the construction. Then you have the FAA and TSA approvals.”

Understanding the need for a project like this, the partners recognized Montrose as the perfect place for this multi-use, aviation-based development. “We approached Lloyd Arnold and he confirmed that the need is real. He told me that many times a month he gets called by people desiring hangar space,” Panther said. “We worked out the 20-acre site, which is on the west side of the main runway, for both private hangar owners and for aviation-related commercial businesses that need access to the runway. Examples such as an aircraft repair business or an aircraft paint shop.”

“Being local, Tom and I have the relationships with the engineers, designers, construction companies, and local governments. It’s going to be easier for us to talk to a private party or a commercial business, and ask the question ‘What do you need?’ Then we can develop a project outline for them. We just think with the opportunities available here in Montrose area, we should have more private and commercial activity on the airport,” Panther said.

As the Western Skyways engine shop moves out of Montrose, it leaves a local employment void. “The first goal is to try to get that void filled,” said Panther. “I’ve talked with Sandy Head with MEDC (Montrose Economic Development Corporation), and she has some potential businesses who have expressed interest to be



A survey plat for the proposed development, above.

at the airport. We’ve had several inquiries from other people also. We literally got this approved just a few weeks ago. Now we can start moving forward with more specific planning.”

Panther went on to discuss possible clients, industries, and the big effects those could have on local employment opportunities. “Potential maintenance shops, avionics shops, paint shops—those are going to bring jobs. And they are high paying jobs. The ability to attract skilled labor in the aviation industry here should be very good because of our very high quality of living.”

Both Panther and Abbott have long-tenured backgrounds in aviation. “Tom has been a pilot and aircraft owner for some time. I think he’s been flying for

probably 40 years,” Panther said. “I started flying briefly when I was a teenager. I picked up the habit again at 50, got my pilots license, and bought an airplane.”

Panther praised the Airport’s continuing development for keeping pace with quickly increasing demand. “I’m told we are the third busiest commercial airport in Colorado...that is huge for a community our size. Unbelievable. And for them (the Airport) to be able to keep up with the pace of growth is more of a testament to the Airport staff and County administration.”

Panther and Abbott plan on using the rest of this year to conduct planning and engineering, starting construction early in 2025.

Paul Panther can be contacted at panther.rms@gmail.com.



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Wed., August 7 - Sat., August 10

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

THE SAN MIGUEL BASIN FAIR: A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT 4-H projects culminate at the fair, July 12-20

Special to the Mirror

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY--- The San Miguel Basin Fair kicked off on Sunday, July 7, with the 4-H Shooting Sports Competition at the 10 Ring Gun Club. This annual event is more than a Fair — it's a celebration of community pride, youthful determination, and rural spirit. From the first rifle crack to the final auctioneer's call, expect a packed schedule of excitement and camaraderie. Makayla Gordon, the new Fair Board President, brings a wealth of experience and a deep connection to the Fair. As Executive

Director of the West End Economic Development Corporation and a member of the Friends of Norwood Schools Bond Committee, she has long been involved in the community. A former Fair participant herself, Gordon has steadily increased her involvement, joining the Fair Board in 2022.

Inspired by longtime former leader Regan Snyder, Gordon aims to expand events and enhance programs for youth, emphasizing the Fair's importance to the community.

"The Fair drives people to the area and highlights our heritage and traditions," Gordon said. "It teaches the importance of agriculture to both youth and the community."

Gordon is grateful for the community's support, noting the months of effort youth put into their projects. "It's an honor to help create an event that showcases their hard work."

The Fair is a lifeline for San Miguel Basin's West End, joining the generations through shared traditions. It fosters resilience, responsibility, and lifelong friendships in young competitors. The Annual San Miguel Basin Fair is hosted at the San Miguel County Fairgrounds each year in Norwood. Throughout the week, various exciting events will keep the community engaged and entertained.

Community support is key to the Fair's success. Volunteers are always needed to keep things running smoothly.

"As a youth participant, I loved learning from our community and stakeholders," Gordon said. "I hope to see this continue long into the future."

Support our 4-H'ers beyond applause! Buy livestock at the Junior Livestock Sale or sponsor a project with "add-ons," (link provided at the San Miguel County Website, listed below). New this year, general project items will be auctioned alongside livestock, unique items such as a hand-crafted wooden gun rack, and handmade leather goods.

Visit the 4-H Council concession stand for coffee from Walk-In Coffee in Naturita, smoked meats from the Weimers, and herb-infused lemonades from Juan. Proceeds benefit 4-H programs, ensuring the success of our local youth.

The San Miguel Basin Fair is a cherished tradition celebrating the spirit of Norwood. Join us in this community event filled with cheers, handshakes, and hugs. For more information, event schedules, and participant registration, visit <https://www.sanmiguelcountyco.gov/491/San-Miguel-Basin-Fair-and-Rodeo> or contact the Extension Office at 970-327-4393.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN RESORT PROPOSES CELL TOWER ON NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS

Special to the Mirror

GUNNISON—The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests is reviewing a cell tower proposal submitted by Crested Butte Mountain Resort (CBMR). The proposal involves developing a wireless network of six nodes in the ski area on National Forest System lands. These nodes will be connected by fiber and owned and operated by CBMR. Each node will include a 45-foot pole and an 8-foot x 12-foot shed to house equipment.

The proposed network will provide wireless service to staff and visitors at CBMR throughout its year-round operations. Although some areas of the resort currently have adequate wireless service, significant portions are used by guests and employees where the service is poor or nonexistent. The proposed infrastructure will be open for wireless carriers to utilize, benefiting their users. The project also includes expanding the fiber network (without additional construction) to support the current ski and mountain biking systems and accommodate future

wireless use by other operators.

CBMR has worked with Forest Service staff to design a new system. The goal is to reduce visual impact and disturbance. The design uses natural terrain and tree cover as much as possible and prioritizes visitor safety. It also uses existing utility, roads, and lift pole pathways to minimize further disturbance and visual impact from fiber and power installation. The project is confined to CBMR's permitted ski area boundary and private lands. The proposed node locations are Teocalli Lift Top, Uley's Cabin, Paradise Bowl, Paradise Warming House, East River Bottom and East River Top (planned).

"We have all experienced the spotty cell service at the ski area," said Gunnison District Ranger Dayle Funka. "Improving cell service will benefit safety operations on the mountain and may improve visitor experiences overall. Similar systems have been installed at other ski resorts in Colorado and beyond, providing effective wireless solutions for ski patrol, staff and the public as they travel to the resort," she added.



Photo Credit: Jon Diack, NeuComm Solutions. A sample photo from another location illustrates the appearance of the Nodes.

Additional project information and maps can be found on the website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/>

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CDOT HOSTS OPEN HOUSE TO SHARE UPDATED DESIGN FOR CO 92 ROGERS MESA RECONSTRUCT PROJECT

Special to the Mirror

DELTA COUNTY — The Colorado Department of Transportation invites Delta County community members and business owners to an open house to learn more about the Colorado Highway 92 Rogers Mesa Phase 1 Reconstruct project. The open house will highlight the updated design and safety improvements that will be constructed on CO 92 about four miles west of the Town of Hotchkiss from Mile Points 15.3 to 16.7.

Open House Details

This event is an in-person open house on Wed., July 17, at the Delta County Fairgrounds at 403 S. 4th Street in Hotchkiss. The event will take place from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. CDOT staff and technical experts will be available to answer questions and provide project details and next steps.

Date: Wednesday, July 17

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Location: Delta County Fairgrounds, Heritage Hall, 403 S. 4th Street, Hotchkiss

Project Background

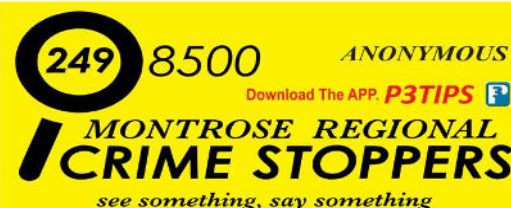
Phase 1 of the CO 92 Rogers Mesa Reconstruct project will include widening shoulders, drainage improvements, and access control. These changes will improve operations and safety along the CO 92 corridor.

Project Contact Information

For additional information about this project, contact the project team.

Phone: 970.683.6225

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MT. EMMONS LAND EXCHANGE DECISION MEMO SIGNED

Special to the Mirror

GUNNISON— The Mt. Emmons land exchange decision memo has been signed by Chad Stewart, Forest Supervisor for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests. This exchange authorizes the transfer of over 1,000 acres of private and federal lands in Gunnison and Saguache counties. The exchange involves three parcels of federal land, totaling 539.49 acres, adjacent to the Keystone Mine, located approximately 3 miles west of Crested Butte. In return, the Mt. Emmons Mining Company (MEMC) will provide four parcels of land, totaling 625.18 acres that they currently own in Gunnison and Saguache counties within the Gunnison and Rio Grande National Forests. As part of the agreement, MEMC will establish a conservation easement on

its patented claims and the newly acquired federal land. This easement will permanently prohibit commercial mining and commercial and residential development while allowing backcountry skiing and other non-motorized recreational activities. The Crested Butte Land Trust (CBLT) will hold the conservation easement. Additionally, MEMC will transfer a 25-acre parcel, which includes a one-mile segment of the Kebler Pass Road and the Kebler Pass winter trailhead, to Gunnison County. "I am very pleased to complete this land exchange in partnership with MEMC, the Town of Crested Butte and Gunnison County, as it accomplishes so much for the community and public at large," said GMUG Forest Supervisor Chad Stewart. "The town and county helped tremendously as cooperating agencies and

the willingness of MEMC and CBLT to establish a conservation easement will provide the protections sought by many. I appreciate the community's support and the great work done by contractors, Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management staff." The next steps are finalizing deeds, federal attorney review, executing a binding exchange agreement with MEMC, and closing the real estate transaction estimated this fall. For more information, visit the project website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61798>. For more information on current fire restrictions, conditions and recreation opportunities, visit the forest website or www.westslopefireinformation.com. Connect with us or follow us on social media ([Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)).



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Have you been ordered to complete mediation? Mediators with the Office of Dispute Resolution will be volunteering their time to conduct free mediation sessions. The mediators will be available during the week of October 21, 2024, and other days during the month of October. Please email us for more details regarding mediation sessions.

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VOTE FOR EXPERIENCE



My name is Kathleen Curry, and I am a candidate for Colorado House District 58. For the last six years I have worked at the State Capitol on behalf of West Slope water districts and agricultural interests and served previously in the Colorado House of Representatives for six years. (2005-2010).

I know how to actually get things done at the State Capitol. I have 25 years of experience working in the water profession in Colorado, and am part of a five-generation family ranch operation in Gunnison County. My commitment is to finding solutions to our challenges — not just talking about them — and my focus is on policy, not politics. If you send me back to the Capitol on your behalf, I will make a positive difference.

Thank you,
Kathleen



Curry for Colorado
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CELEBRATE 80 YEARS OF WILDFIRE PREVENTION THROUGH SMOKEY BEAR READING CHALLENGE

Special to the Mirror

DELTA—The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests have teamed up with our local community libraries to introduce the Smokey Bear Reading Challenge, commemorating Smokey Bear's 80th Birthday. These events are designed to encourage children and families to engage in reading and learn about wildfire prevention, forest conservation and Smokey Bear's legacy. The Smokey Bear Reading Challenge aims to engage youth in reading about careers in natural resources, environmental stewardship and how to prevent wildfires while exploring their local environment. Participants can read a [curated list of books](#), earn badges, receive prizes and meet Smokey Bear.

We invite young community members to join us at one of the upcoming local library events:

- July 23, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Montrose Library, 320 S. Second St., Montrose, Colorado.
- July 25, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Gunnison Library, 1 Quartz St., Gunnison, Colorado.
- July 30, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Crested Butte Library, 504 Maroon Ave., Crested Butte, Colorado.
- Aug. 6, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Crawford Library, 545 Highway 92, Crawford, Colorado.
- Aug. 7, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Hotchkiss Library, 149 E. Main St., Hotchkiss, Colorado.
- Aug. 8, from 11 a.m. to noon at the Ridg-

way Library, 300 Charles Street, Ridgway, Colorado.

-Aug. 9, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Paonia Library, 80 Samuel Wade Road, Paonia, Colorado.

-Aug. 16, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Delta Library, 124 E. Sixth St., Delta, Colorado.

Families can sign up for the Smokey Bear Reading Challenge at any participating local library or <https://smokeybear.com/reading-challenge>.

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



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This 4 bedroom home is spacious and enhanced with a fabulous gas fireplace in the living room, a separate formal dining area and a kitchen that opens to a multi use family room that is currently set up as a game room with pool table and great built-ins. The kitchen has updated appliances and it includes a washer & dryer. The home design is smart and iconic. You'll love the elegance of the walnut floors and the many solid wood pocket doors that allow a room or an area to be private if you desire. The primary suite has a built in dresser in the closet and a jetted tub for your relaxation in the en suite bathroom. The home is heated by hot water baseboard and cooled with an evaporative cooler.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CAMPGROUND TOILET REPLACEMENTS MADE POSSIBLE BY GAOA FUNDING

Special to the Mirror

DELTA—The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests announce construction beginning this week to replace toilets at the Spruce Grove and Mineral Creek campgrounds. This project is funded through the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA), which aims to benefit the American public through significant investments in recreation infrastructure, public lands access and land and water conservation.

The intent of this project is to replace old toilets at heavily used campgrounds. Once demolition begins, these sites will be closed and visitors should plan for restroom facilities not to be available during this time. Depending on the weather, this

project is scheduled to be completed by the end of July.


Contractors will replace two toilets at the Spruce Grove campground on the Grand Mesa National Forest. Demolition will begin July 9. Additionally, one toilet at the Mineral Creek campground on the Gunnison National Forest will be replaced, with demolition starting July 22. Construction will not occur on the weekends.

Visitors are advised to be aware of extra vehicle traffic, heavy equipment and construction noise in the areas when removing and installing these new facilities. Visitors should pay attention to and be alert to where heavy equipment is working when traveling in or near the area. Please be kind and patient with the contractors

working under the guidance of the Forest Service. While these areas are closed and facilities are under construction, please remember to recreate responsibly.

"We are excited to be able to implement this project with funding authorized by the Great American Outdoors Act," said Curtis Cross, GMUG Forest Engineer. "We appreciate the patience of our visitors while this work is being completed, which is allowing us to provide sustainable recreation and improve visitor experiences."

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




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

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

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

GAIL MARVEL
Montrose Author & Reporter

Where Wallflowers Grow is available online at Amazon.com and wingedpublications.com.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

KENNEDY SUBMITS DOUBLE SIGNATURES NEEDED TO GAIN COLORADO BALLOT ACCESS

DENVER—The Kennedy campaign has announced that it has submitted the required signatures to gain ballot access in Colorado. The campaign turned in more than 30,000 signatures on Thursday, more than double the 12,000 required.

"The volunteers in Colorado have gone above and beyond the call of duty to get Robert F. Kennedy Jr. on the ballot," said Colorado State Director Isaac James. "They have driven hundreds of miles and dedicated countless hours to ensure he's on the ballot in each congressional district."

Last week, the Kennedy campaign announced a partnership with the Libertarian Party of Colorado (LPCO) to disrupt the entrenched two-party system. Along with appearing as an Independent on the ballot in Colorado, the Kennedy campaign has

welcomed the opportunity to also appear as the nominee of the LPCO and is assessing the permissibility of listing both in recognition of this historic alliance.

"We hope to place RFK Jr. on two ballot lines in Colorado, where in the tradition of fusion voting, Coloradans will see him running as an Independent and with support from the Libertarian Party of Colorado," said LPCO Chair Hannah Goodman.

The campaign's aggressive ballot access operation has surpassed all its milestones to ensure the Kennedy-Shanahan ticket is on the ballot in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The ballot access operation is fully funded with more than \$15 million raised.

The Kennedy-Shanahan campaign has collected the signatures needed for ballot

access in 29 states, totaling 390 electoral votes, 72% of the 538 total electoral votes nationwide.

The Kennedy-Shanahan ticket is officially on the ballot in 9 states — California, Delaware, Hawaii, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Utah.

The campaign has submitted its signatures in 15 states — Alaska, Illinois, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, and now Colorado.

It has collected enough signatures for ballot access in five states — Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Mississippi, New Hampshire, and Nevada.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NEW NONSTOP FLIGHTS FROM ORANGE COUNTY TO MONTROSE/TELLURIDE WITH BREEZE AIRWAYS *Five Times Weekly Service Starting in December*

Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE/MONTROSE— Colorado Flights Alliance has announced new air service into the Montrose Regional Airport with Breeze Airways, offering flights this winter between John Wayne – Orange County Airport (SNA) and MTJ. Breeze is a premium leisure low-cost carrier offering point-to-point service from 58 U.S. destinations. Flights will operate five days per week during the winter season, providing seamless, non-stop access both for Western Colorado residents traveling to Southern California, as well as visitors coming to Telluride and the Montrose region.

The SNA/Orange County Airport is located 18 minutes from Disneyland, 22 minutes from Newport Beach, 45 minutes to downtown L.A., and just 1 hour 20 minutes from San Diego down the coast.

"Breeze has established itself as a premiere leisure carrier in just a short amount of time, and this winter service to Southern California will be a great addition for Montrose/Telluride and the region," said Colorado Flights' CEO Matt Skinner. "Breeze's MTJ-Orange County flights will provide much-needed nonstop capacity to one of our strongest markets, for both inbound and outbound traffic."

"Orange County continues to see great demand from our guests as it's a convenient airport with easy access to many of Southern California's amazing offerings, including Disneyland," said Breeze Airways' CEO David Neeleman.

"We see a huge opportunity with this route, allowing more guests to experience the amazing skiing that Montrose and Telluride have to offer, and locals to travel to all that Southern California has to offer."

"I am excited to welcome Breeze Airways to MTJ," said Montrose Regional Airport



Breeze offers an elevated experience featuring premium seating options and high-speed WiFi on its fleet of brand-new Airbus A220-300 aircraft. Courtesy photo.

Director of Aviation, Lloyd Arnold. "We look forward to the added connectivity and more convenient travel options for our passengers, and to add another carrier to our recently expanded and renovated terminal, now offering the most comprehensive terminal and flight services in Western Colorado."

Breeze is offering an introductory flash sale, the "Triple Threat" campaign offering 35%* off roundtrip base fares using the promo code 'TRIPLE' at checkout by Friday at 11:59pm PT on www.flybreeze.com or on the Breeze app, for travel through February 4, 2025.

Breeze, which celebrated its third birthday in May, has built a successful model centered around providing efficient and affordable flights to highly desirable destinations. Coupled with an elevated experience featuring premium seating options

and high-speed WiFi on its fleet of brand-new Airbus A220-300 aircraft, Breeze is defining what it means to be "Seriously Nice".

Breeze offers both bundled and a la carte options so travelers can customize an experience that fits their needs.

Breeze's fare bundles feature full flexibility along with other add-ons such as bags, seats, and inflight WiFi. Breeze doesn't charge change or cancellation fees up to 15 minutes prior to departure and offers other benefits such as free family seating and a la carte pricing.

To book the new MTJ-SNA flights, please visit www.flybreeze.com. For additional information on flights to the Montrose and Telluride airports, please visit www.coloradoflights.org/schedule. Additional updates on Winter 24-25 air service will follow in the coming months.



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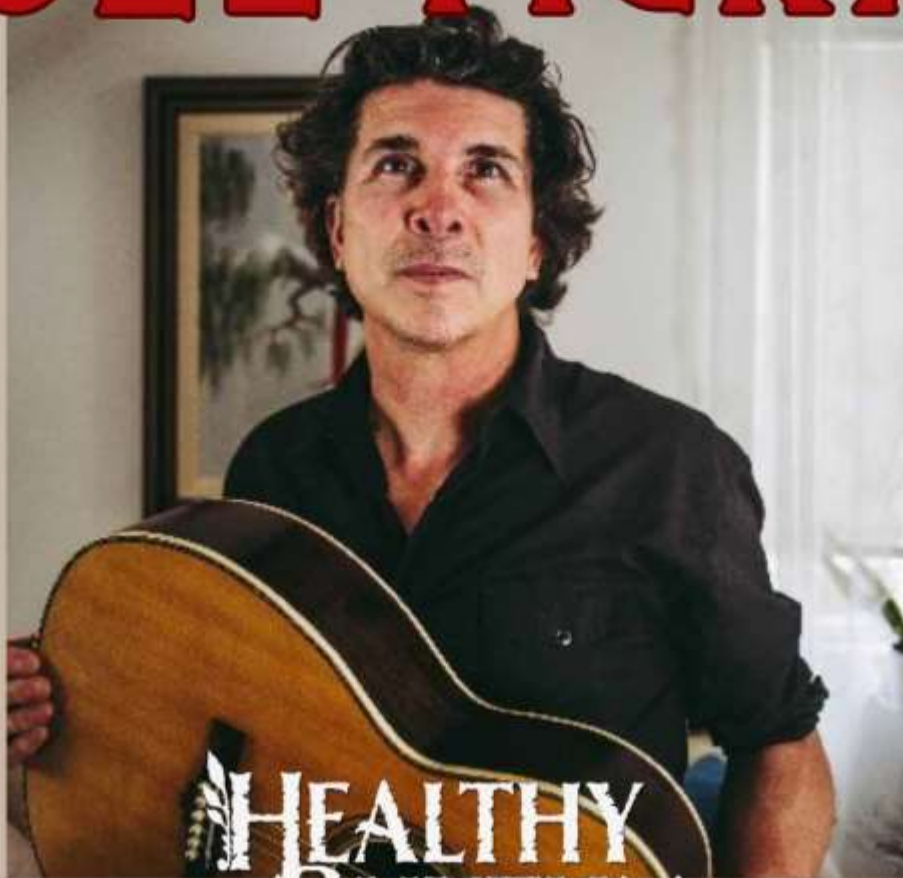
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

UNETHICAL, ANTI-AMERICAN, COUNTY CLERKS WILL BE THE ONES MAILING BALLOTS TO ILLEGAL ALIENS!!

Editor:

The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, explicitly prohibits noncitizens from voting in Federal elections. It is not legal in any state for a noncitizen to cast a ballot in any federal election. Therefore, it should be absolutely illegal for any county clerk to mail or give out a federal election ballot to a noncitizen. It makes sense, right? And if they make a federal election ballot accessible through the mail or otherwise, there MUST be legal consequences along with instant termination and removal. There are databases from DHS, the Federal juror pool, the FBI, the CIA, and other entities that every government official can ask and fight for "permission" to access in order to check if a person is a noncitizen. There really is no valid reason for leaving noncitizens on ANY of the voter rolls for any election in my opinion but, most definitely not for Federal elections. Just like there is no valid excuse for leaving dead people on voter rolls. As soon as someone is declared deceased the information is entered into a database. The information just has to be accessed by the clerk or

designated government employee. We should DEMAND that every county clerk does everything in their power to have absolutely clean voter rolls by checking status on EVERY single registered person in their county. Plus, we MUST demand that voter rolls be cleaned daily and, definitely cleared of all ineligible voters well before any ballots are to be mailed out for Federal elections.

For goodness' sake, why should any illegal alien, which by the way is the legal term for people coming into our country uninvited, be given the SACRED privilege and opportunity to vote in any of our elections? We know illegal aliens are being registered to vote in record numbers. They're being registered through just about every government agency, including the post office, the DMV, the Department of Revenue, the Department of health care policy and financing, and Medicaid just to name a few. This is happening because of the Motor-Voter Act of 1993 and more importantly because of Biden-Biden's executive order 14019. Plus, because of Colorado Democrat's Senate bill 19-235 that governor Polis quickly and

conveniently signed that went into effect July 1, 2020, called "Automatic Voter Registration". Notice the timing of the senate bill? It was perfectly put into place for president Biden to cancel all of president Trump's initiatives to secure the border and instead drastically open it up while inviting unvetted foreigners from all over the world to inundate our country and our voter registration system. There really are no coincidences regarding the Democratic party's timing. They strategize on everything.

Every American should agree that the right to vote in the United States MUST remain solely with American citizens!!

And we should agree that unethical, anti-American, unpatriotic County Clerks who mail ballots to foreigners MUST be held accountable for their treasonous behavior. Everyone knows if you mail someone a ballot, the likelihood of them voting goes up astronomically. Therefore, the ballot should NEVER be made available to noncitizens through the mail or otherwise. May God Bless America and its people who trust in God!

Kelly Ray, Montrose

249 8500 *ANONYMOUS*

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

IT IS TIME FOR ALL CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO REMEMBER THAT THEY REPRESENT CONSTITUENTS

Editor:

I have just a couple of observations on comments made at a recent city council meeting and the city council's handling of the request to pass a resolution declaring Montrose to be a non-sanctuary city.

My first comment is a question for "the climate guy" who spoke at a recent council meeting. If the United States reduced its carbon emissions to zero tomorrow, how much would that lower the temperature of the earth? I would hope that someone so engrossed in "climate change science" would have a ready answer to that question.

My second comment is in response to Dave Stockton's comments at a June city council meeting. He stated that the effort to declare Montrose a non-sanctuary city

was being driven by national politics and accused the individuals promoting a non-sanctuary city of "fears we are being invaded by an army of brown-skinned people."

First, the request to declare Montrose a non-sanctuary city is not driven by political motives, but by a concern for the physical safety and financial well-being of the citizens of Montrose – city and county. The so-called fear of being invaded by an army of brown-skinned people is Mr. Stockton's projection of his views and is not only nonsense, it is insulting to the individuals requesting non-sanctuary city status. The Hispanic community in Montrose has long been an integral part of Montrose. Mr. Stockton knows nothing of the motivations of the individuals re-

questing non-sanctuary status.

The reality is there are people from all over the world coming into our country illegally and our government is not vetting them properly. We don't know who is coming in and we don't know their motives. Declaring Montrose a non-sanctuary city will show solidarity with the county and will also send a signal that we will not welcome illegals or provide them with any services. It is time for all city council members to remember that they represent constituents, and their constituents are demanding that they declare non-sanctuary status for the good of the residents of the city as well as the residents of the county.

Thank you.

Ben Alexander, Montrose

STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER IN THE GUNNISON RIVER BASIN

Editor:

The Gunnison River Basin is a vital water source for agricultural and recreational activities in Colorado. However, these water features can pose significant dangers if proper safety measures are not observed. During the summer months, the Gunnison River experiences significant fluctuations in water flow. Typically, the river's flow can range from 1,000 to 3,000 cubic feet per second (CFS), with peaks reaching higher levels due to snowmelt and reservoir releases. Understanding these flow rates and their impact on safety is crucial for anyone engaging in water activities. First and foremost, it is imperative to respect all signage and barriers around these waterways. Signs and barriers indicate dangerous areas where the water may be deep, fast-moving, or where undertows are present. Ignoring these warnings can lead to severe consequences. Supervising children closely around water

is another critical aspect of safety enjoying our water. Kids are naturally curious and may not recognize the dangers associated with canals and irrigation ditches. Educating them about these hazards and keeping a vigilant eye on them can prevent potential accidents.

Swimming in canals and irrigation ditches is extremely hazardous and should be avoided. These waterways, especially with flows often exceeding 2,000 CFS in some areas, are not intended for recreational use and often contain strong currents, steep banks, and debris. It's safer to swim in designated areas where conditions are monitored and managed. Additionally, swimming in or floating on any canal is trespassing and can be prosecuted. For those engaging in water activities on rivers or reservoirs, wearing life jackets is a critical safety measure. Even experienced swimmers can encounter unexpected difficulties, and PFDs can be life-

saving.

Staying informed about water releases from upstream reservoirs is also crucial. Water levels in the Gunnison River and connected waterways can change rapidly, and checking local notices and river flow reports can help avoid getting caught off guard by rising waters.

Last, it's encouraged for everyone to learn basic water rescue techniques. Taking a local water safety or first aid course can equip you with the knowledge and skills to respond effectively in an emergency. By following these safety tips, you can enjoy the natural beauty and recreational fun of the Gunnison River Basin while keeping yourself and others safe this summer. For more water-related resources, please check out gunnisonriverbasin.org.

Sincerely,

Savannah Nelson

GBRT Public Education, Participation, and Outreach (PEPO) Coordinator



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

BOCC WOULD BE WISE TO APPOINT AN INTERIM COUNTY MANAGER

Editor:

The sudden pre-primary resignation announcement by County Manager Jon Washbush certainly seems puzzling. One can only think that with two new commissioners being elected in November a fresh look at county operations will be underway. Candidates for the November election may want to comment on this appointment process in the name of open, public input and transparency.

Washbush was elevated to County Manager in July 2021 at the rate of \$157,000. In July 2022 his compensation was increased to a whopping \$190,000. The pay rate increases in 2024 plus a bonus of \$7,980 comes to \$197,980.00.

Additionally, he receives \$450 per month for vehicle allowance for a total annual

amount of \$5,400. So, salary plus bonus, plus car allowance totals \$203,300. This does not include a very good benefit package.

By comparison, The Mesa County Manager salary is \$203,000, but keep in mind the population of Mesa is four times that of Montrose. Further, it's interesting to note that as of June 2024, the median salary for County Managers in Colorado was \$146,000. With the Montrose population at one quarter that of Mesa County it certainly seems that our County Manager compensation is far out of kilter.

With Washbush's departure set for early August, it now falls to the BOCC to begin the search for a new county manager. The selection of a new county manager is of great import to the general public,

and this selection of a new county manager should be conducted with the highest degree of transparency.

The previous two appointments for county manager have taken place with NO public input.

With the November election for two new commissioners just three months away from his departure, the BOCC would be wise to appoint an interim County Manager and begin a broad out-of-county search for a replacement. The top five candidates should then be invited to meet the public in October. No final decision should be made until after the new commissioners are sworn in and the public have actively been involved in the final hiring decision.

Dee Laird, Montrose

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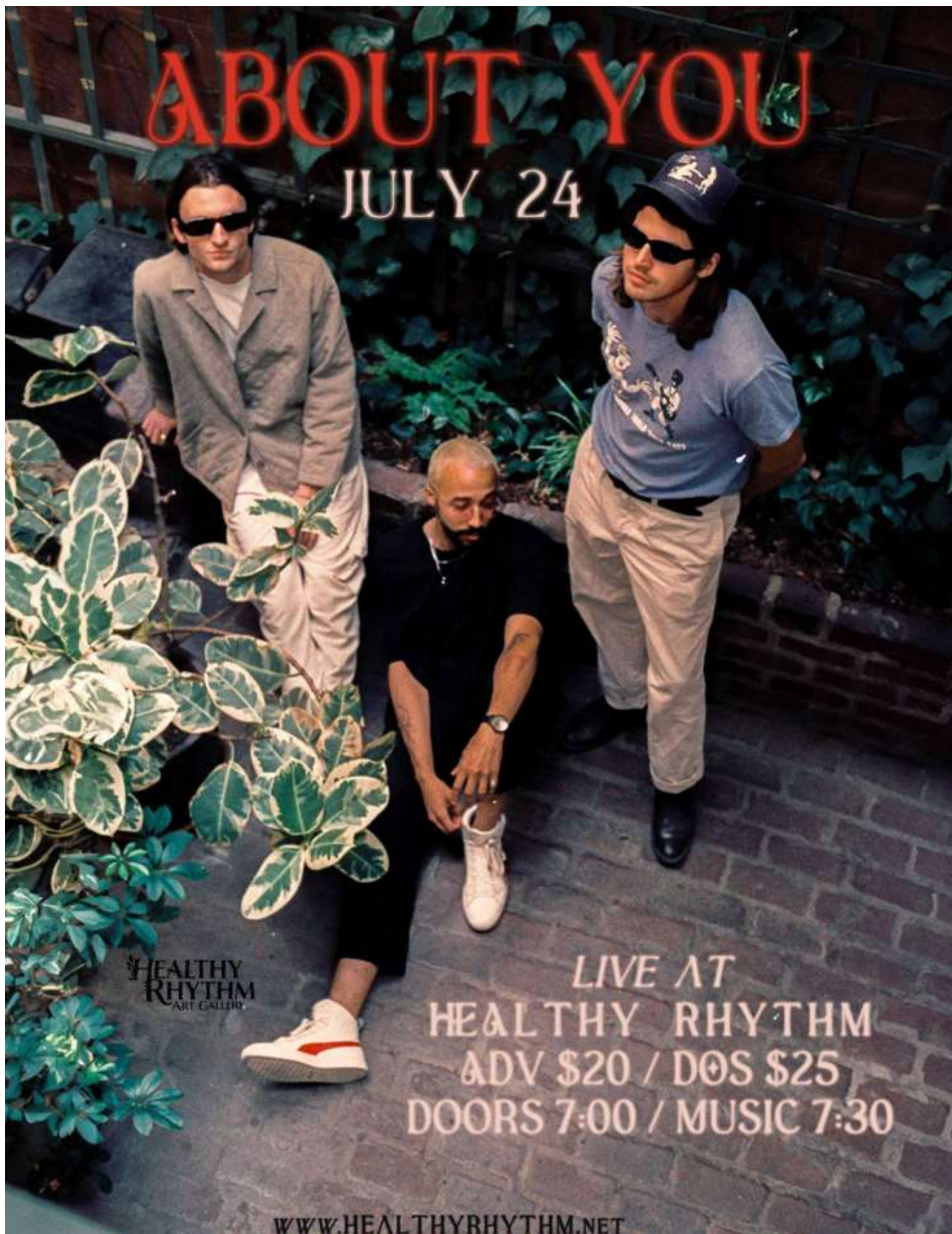
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

NEW CHARTER SCHOOL IN TOWN

Editor:

I suggest anyone interested in the promotion going on will do themselves a favor by investigating E. D. Hirsh:

E.D. Hirsch, Jr. is the founder of the **Core Knowledge Foundation** and professor emeritus of education and humanities at the University of Virginia.

He is the author of several acclaimed books on education in which he has persisted as a voice of reason making the case for equality of educational opportunity.

A highly regarded literary critic and professor of English earlier in his career, Dr. Hirsch recalls being “shocked into education reform” while doing research on written composition at a pair of colleges in Virginia.

During these studies he observed that a student’s ability to comprehend a passage was determined in part by the relative readability of the text, but even more by the student’s background knowledge.

James D. Parmenter, Montrose

SUPPORT INCREASED FEDERAL FUNDING FOR CULTIVATED-MEAT RESEARCH

To the editor,

Politicians who seek to reduce our greenhouse-gas emissions should support increased federal funding for cultivated-meat research. For those who aren’t aware, cultivated meat is grown from livestock cells, without slaughter. Animal agriculture is actually one of the leading causes of climate change.

Cultivated meat is still being developed, so it’s not clear how much greenhouse-gas emissions will ultimately be required to make the protein. However, there’s an expectation the climate impact will be significantly less than slaughtered meat. Our leaders should accelerate the growth of this nascent industry.

Jon Hochschartner, Granby, CT

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NEW LEADERSHIP AT MONTROSE GOP AFTER RIBA STEPS DOWN



Scott Riba, who was defeated in the Primary race for Montrose County Commissioner District 3, resigned as the Chairman of the Montrose County Republican Central Committee. Riba, who has been active in the Republican party for 10 years said, "I had overwhelming support for me to reconsider. I won't reconsider. I'm going to live a new life. It's time to take care of the ranch." Photo by Gail Marvel.



During the Montrose County Republican Central Committee July meeting Charli Oswald was elected as Chairman. Taking the reins Oswald said, "We have a lot to accomplish in a short amount of time. There's so much to do." Oswald will serve as Chairman until February 2025 when the Central Committee holds its organizational meeting. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Republican Central Committee held their monthly meeting at the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board Room on July 11 (6:30-8:30 p.m.). First Vice Chair Charli Oswald called the meeting to order, which was then followed by the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Approximately 80 members were in attendance. Oswald began by acknowledging the winning candidates in the recent election, as well as thanking all the candidates for running.

Tressa Guynes, Montrose County Clerk and Recorder, reported on the election. She said, "There was a 35 percent turnout in Montrose County; 10,520 voted in the past election. With HD 58 [House District] there is a mandatory runoff with a three vote difference between Roeber and Suckla. Montrose will begin the recount next Tuesday at 8 a.m."

Guynes explained the vote counting process, as well as the process for the recount. She said, "We had a lot of undervotes [no vote cast] for a lot of our contests. I've never seen such a low voter turnout in all my 10 years."

Attendee Wally Smith said, "Can you guarantee that all the votes in Montrose

County are legal? There were no illegals voting." Guynes assured Smith that only eligible voters were allowed to vote.

Background:

Scott Riba, a Republican candidate in the Montrose County Commissioner District 3 race, kept his position as Chairman of the Republican Central Committee Chair during his campaign. Riba was defeated by Rick Dunlap in the primary election.

Oswald called on Riba to address the audience. He said, "I announced in January that I was resigning as Chair [supporters encouraged him to stay]. When I announced a few days ago [that I was resigning] I had overwhelming support for me to reconsider. I won't reconsider. I'm going to live a new life. It's time to take care of the ranch." For 10 years Riba has actively served in the Republican Party. He encouraged attendees to support the current serving committee members. The audience gave Riba a standing round of applause for his service.

Following the resignation, Oswald announced that 2nd Vice Chair Andrew Neal had also resigned. Oswald said, "I understand that he is moving. It's four months before a major election. There is a lot to accomplish in a short amount of time. So much work to do."

A motion was made to elect Oswald as

Chair, Monte George as 1st Vice Chair, and Jodi Woodden as 2nd Vice Chair. The motion passed. These officers will remain in place until February 2025 when the organizational meeting will be held.

Newly-elected Chair Oswald said, "We've come through a lot. I was on Dr. Ben Carson's campaign, and I was horrified by Trump's attacks on Carson. I said I would never vote for Trump. Carson was the first to resign and he endorsed Donald Trump. Ben Carson changed my mind politically when he said, "It's not about me, it's about the country." Now I'm one of Trump's biggest fans!"

Oswald gave the audience a preview of the new 10-point Republican platform which is expected to be released soon. She said, "This is our mission, to get the message out."

Secretary Tammy Jolly gave her report. She said, "We will focus the next four months on the "Get the Vote Out Campaign". We will have a booth at the fair and we need volunteers." The treasurer was absent; however, it was reported that finances stand at \$24,600.

Brian White has worked on securing a location for the GOP election headquarters and he identified a facility on South Townsend that is affordable and will meet their needs.

Events & Fundraising Chair Lacy Sanchez

Continued next pg

NEW LEADERSHIP AT MONTROSE GOP From previous pg

reported on recent and upcoming events —social hours, recognizing small businesses, parades, and the Aug. 3 Lincoln Reagan Dinner (speaker Sheriff David Clarke).

Kay Alexander addressed the audience concerning the proposed new charter school, Montrose Classical Academy. She

said, "We have to submit an application to the school board, and we need more letters of support. Parents are having concerns on their kid's education."

Audience members who commented in support of the application said: "The schools need competition."

"Did you see the report on how the school board [recently] voted? Three to two, [approve of] transgenders using the girl's bathrooms."

"Kay presented this project at Rotary. We need to get behind this."

Other announcements included the Fiesta to be held at LaRaza Park on August 17th, and the opportunity to participate in Trump Force 47 (telephone canvassing of disengaged Republicans).

Republican party meetings are held every 2nd Thursday of the month at the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board Room, at 930 Colorado Ave.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND THE GMUG ISSUE PUBLIC SAFETY ALERT

Special to the Mirror

NORWOOD-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests and the San Miguel Sheriff's Office are issuing a critical safety alert to all residents and visitors following recent reports of dangerous wires being placed across local trails. This illegal and malicious activity poses a severe hazard to hikers, bikers and other trail users, risking serious injury or worse.

Over the past several days, incidents have been reported where wires were deliberately strung across the Wilson Mesa Trail between National Forest System Roads #645 and #623. These wires are often difficult to see, especially at high speeds or in low light conditions, making them extremely dangerous.

Physical barricades will be put in place and a Forest Closure Order will accompany it to temporarily prevent public access to the trail while law enforcement investigates the incident.

"We are committed to supporting the sheriff's office in its investigation and educating the public about the dangers and legal consequences of such actions. We encourage all trail users to stay vigilant and report any suspicious activity immediately," said Megan Eno, Norwood District Ranger.

"This despicable act is a severe public safety threat to our community. We are engaged in a rigorous investigation to catch this loser," said Bill Masters San Miguel Sheriff. "Meantime, we can't emphasize enough to have situational awareness when recreating in this area."

"On behalf of San Miguel County, we are shocked and dismayed that people would act in this way; intentionally endangering other residents and visitors and their ability to enjoy public lands. This type of vigilantism hurts everybody in our community and often has unintended consequences," said San Miguel County Manager, Mike Bordogna. "We're hopeful to get to the bottom of this matter and bring those responsible to justice to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all our citizens."

Safety Tips for Trail Users:

-Stay Alert: Always be aware of your surroundings and watch for any unusual objects or obstructions on the trail.

-Report Suspicious Activity: If you see anything suspicious or find wires or other hazards, contact the San Miguel Sheriff's Office immediately at 970-728-1911 or dial 911 in case of an emergency.

-Travel in Groups: When possible, use trails with others, as there is safety in numbers.

-Avoid Nighttime Use: Try to avoid using trails during low light conditions when visibility is reduced.

Setting up hazards like wires across trails is a serious criminal offense. Those found responsible will face severe legal consequences, including potential charges of reckless endangerment, assault, and other related crimes. The San Miguel Sheriff's Office is fully committed to pursuing and prosecuting any individuals involved in these dangerous activities to the fullest extent of the law.

We urge the community to remain vigilant and take proactive measures to maintain the safety of our shared spaces. Your cooperation and timely reporting can help prevent potential injuries and ensure that our trails remain safe and enjoyable for everyone. Anyone with information regarding these incidents, please contact the Sheriff's dispatch at 970-728-1911. A reward of \$1,000 will be given to the individual providing information that leads to an arrest. You may remain anonymous.

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

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CALLING ALL CLOSET MUSICIANS!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Is there a musical instrument lingering in one of your closets? Did you ever play an instrument, then as life got in the way (working, raising a family, etc.) did the music go to the back burner of your mind? Or, did you ever want to learn to play something - any instrument, to make the music inside of you to be released?

If any of these questions sound familiar, this coming August 2nd and August 3rd is the only Retreat of its' kind, to be held in Montrose. I am the one behind organizing the Harps and Hammer Dulcimers Retreat (with all other acoustic instruments welcome and invited). Perhaps you have seen us (myself plus some senior students) playing our harps at the Beacons, Garden Tour and Concerts throughout the year. . Sometimes people might have a stereo-type view of harps, seeing them usually in a formal symphony orchestra. But we all play folk harps which can play all types of music, and we delight

in sharing the experience with our audiences.

This is why we are planning the Retreat. With the theme, "Learning to Play Well Together", we want to share with anyone interested the opportunity and joy to play with others.

My own musical journey started in childhood with organ and piano lessons, followed by a 20 plus year hiatus from playing any instrument until mid-life. I have been playing harps and hammer dulcimers for over 22 more years starting as an adult beginner. My husband's uncle didn't begin the harp until age 75. We have a few harp duets on youtube (search for "Freed Harp Duets" to see us).

I occasionally get calls from people who have an instrument in their closet that has not been played in many years, if ever, and they are looking for someone to buy it. At one time, they were interested in playing but life and time passes. Many give up on the idea, thinking they are too old or busy, but there is so much evidence

that just learning something new benefits our brains, plus the added new friends. This is the best result I see from teaching others these past ten years. In playing together on a regular basis, wonderful, lasting friendships have developed.

This is what I hope the August Retreat will bring to all who attend, which can have a lasting impact on our communities. We have a few people who play every month in assisted living and nursing facilities, but the need is so great. We need more people to learn to play something, then go out and share their music with others.

If you want to know more, see the webpage at harp sandhammers.com or email me directly at robin-freed@harp sandhammers.com or call/text me at 970 275 8996.

Space is limited, for all three workshops, plus meals and a concert all included, so you can reserve a place and pay upon arrival. The whole weekend or Saturday only is an option. We hope you join us in Montrose!



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TELLURIDE VALLEY FLOOR WORK CONTINUES WITH BOOMERANG BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Special to the Mirror

NORWOOD—The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests, in partnership with Trout Unlimited, announce the replacement of the Boomerang Bridge over the Telluride Valley Floor. The project is expected to take approximately six weeks to complete and is part of the broader ongoing river restoration and revegetation work in the Telluride Valley Floor.

Previously, a temporary bridge structure, known as an ACROW, was installed to assist in the Environmental Protection Agency's tailings removal project. The project's

next phase involves removing the temporary bridge structure and the underlying boxcar and constructing a permanent bridge structure.

Recreationists will not have access to the bridge while it is under construction. To ensure trail access during the decommissioning of the Boomerang Bridge, the San Miguel River Trail will be redirected from both Telluride and Society Turn. Paddleboarders and river users must exit the river above the construction site and portage to a point below the bridge while floating on the San Miguel River. Signs have been placed to identify pullout locations. While

the construction activities occur, the San Miguel River Trail will remain open, but users should be aware that it will be an active construction site with heavy machinery. The public is asked to adhere to the construction closure area and closely follow all signage.

For more information, contact the Norwood Ranger District at 970-327-4261. [For more information on current fire restrictions, conditions and recreation opportunities, visit the forest website or www.westslopefireinformation.com. Connect with us or follow us on social media \(\[Twitter\]\(#\) and \[Facebook\]\(#\)\).](#)

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA COUNTY COMMISSIONER WENDELL KOONTZ HONORED WITH DR. JAMES A. PENDLETON MINED LAND RECLAMATION AWARD

Special to the Mirror

DELTA COUNTY—Delta County Commissioner Wendell Koontz was selected as the 2023 recipient of the prestigious Dr. James A. Pendleton Mined Land Reclamation Award.

This esteemed recognition celebrates Commissioner Koontz's exceptional contributions to coal mining and reclamation throughout the North Fork of the Gunnison River Valley, his commitment to excellence, and his unwavering integrity in his work with the division.

The award was presented at the Colorado Mining Association's 126th National Western Mining Conference & Exhibit, held at the Colorado Convention Center on June 19, 2024. This annual event brings together industry leaders, professionals, and stakeholders to celebrate achievements and discuss advancements in mining practices.

Commissioner Koontz's dedication to land reclamation and sustainable mining practices has significantly impacted the North Fork region. His efforts have not only enhanced the environmental health of the area but have also set a high standard for mining operations throughout Colorado. His work exemplifies the principles of responsible resource management and community engagement.

"I am deeply honored to receive the Dr. James A. Pendleton Mined Land Reclamation Award," said Commissioner Koontz. "This recognition is a testament to the hard work and collaboration of many indi-



The Annual Colorado Mining Association's 126th National Western Mining Conference & Exhibit was held on June 19, 2024. Courtesy photo.

viduals dedicated to improving our mining practices and ensuring the health and sustainability of our natural resources."

The Dr. James A. Pendleton Mined Land Reclamation Award is named in honor of Dr. Pendleton, a pioneering figure in the field of land reclamation. The award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and innovation in the reclamation of mined lands, ensuring that these areas are restored to a natural or economically usable state.

The Colorado Mining Association's National Western Mining Conference & Exhibit is an annual gathering that showcases the latest developments in mining technology, best practices, and policy discussions. It provides a platform for industry leaders to share knowledge, network, and celebrate achievements.

For more information about the award presentation and the conference, please visit the Colorado Mining Association's website at www.coloradomining.org.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

NO RESOLUTION OR PROCLAMATION WITHOUT MAYOR'S SUPPORT

Editor:

As noted in the previous Mirror several citizens spoke at the "call to the public" at the last City Council meeting expressing concern at councils unconscionable decision not to declare Montrose a Non Sanctuary City.

Councilman Doug Glaspell who introduced the original Non Sanctuary Resolu-

tion, has brought the issue up at work sessions two more times to no effect. He indicated to me that no Resolution or Proclamation can be brought forth absent the Mayor's support.

Citizens raising their concerns on this issue at councils "call to the public" are met with silence since council does not respond to concerns raised. Therefore it

seems to me that the best way forward might be for concerned citizens to contact Mayor Reed directly with concerns and politely ask for reconsideration on the Resolution.

Mayor Reed can be reached by phone at 970-252-4805 or by email at jdreed@cityofmontrose.org

Dee Laird, Montrose

SUPPORT THE MONTROSE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

Editor:

I attended a reception Wednesday evening for a progress update on Montrose Classical Academy: a TUITION FREE Charter School. I was amazed and I learned a lot. It is parent and child based, supported by parents and educators who want a better quality education for students. This is truly an alternative for parents and teachers to work together in the total process of educating students; a true coalition of parents, teachers and students;

where students once again are engaged to learn, participate, dream and achieve. They provide a structured curriculum for the teachers, building a learning pattern for the students as they move ahead each year.

The curriculum is based on "core teaching"--history, math, science, reading and writing skills and HOW TO THINK; not WHAT TO THINK--providing skills for success. The schools are funded by the taxes we currently pay to support our local

schools and those tax dollars follow the students. It is a tuition free school. Actually it's a win win; both for the Montrose Classical Academy and the other local public schools as it provides an opportunity for the other schools to "up their game." I truly hope and strongly urge parents, educators and the community to support the Montrose Classical Academy. As they say; a mind is truly a terrible thing to waste.

Carol McBride, Montrose

TOTAL FAILURE OF SECURITY

Editor:

Yesterdays assassination attempt on president Trump showed a failure by the security detail at that event. Democrats have been attempting to remove Trumps security detail. They are intentionally trying to put him at risk. Anyone with even a basic understanding of security knows that securing the roofs of any structure that would allow a potential shooter a direct line of sight to the primary target AKA president Trump. There has been no accountability of anyone in the Biden regime in 3.5 years. And the media is just as culpable as the bureaucracies running this

country in to the ground.

And now everyone is screaming dial back the rhetoric. Evil and crazy people are everywhere they need little or sometimes no incitement to do their dirty work. Secret service and all a of law enforcement know this. That is why the primary job of security at these events is to send an advance detail to the location days or even weeks ahead of the event. To address any security concerns. And the primary issues to address is securing any elevated structures that would give a shooter a clear line of sight to the primary target. The other issues to address is having a competent

counter sniper detail at the event. And obviously the counter sniper's failed to identify the shooter before he fired several shots. This kind of incompetence is inexcusable.

Because of the lack of trust in our bureaucracies and the vitriolic rhetoric that Trump has endured the past seven years it would benefit him to hire a private security professional to supervise all the security at his events.

This assassination attempt has proved that his current security is woefully inadequate.

Ray Langston, Montrose

OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

A "NEW" OLD DAY IS COMING IN THE WORLD OF MONTROSE EDUCATION *Montrose Classical Academy promises a return to Traditional Education*

By David White

Many of us have questioned the various outcomes being produced through our local public school system and have wondered why we aren't doing better in overall learning as evidenced by standardized testing and other methods that show Montrose and Olathe area schools aren't up to the job of educating our children and grandchildren. While the RE-1J School Board contemplates spending up to \$221,000,000 for updating or replacing Montrose High School, the fact of the matter is that there are serious issues that need to be dealt with soon and a new high school building isn't exactly at the top of the list.

Before getting too far into this subject, I must share a small but personal emblematic example of how some local educators see the world. One of my grandson's attends Montrose High School. We're raising him. Two weeks before school was out for the 2023-2024 year, I received an email message from one of his teachers stating the following: *"Spends too much time on his phone. If he listened to half of what I said in class, he would not be nearly as close as he is to failing."*

I couldn't believe what I was reading! My first reaction was disbelief. What teacher would have a classroom policy that allowed students to use cell phones in class? A call to the Guidance Counselor and then to the teacher confirmed that students in his class, could, in fact, listen to music (where every other word is an "F" word or worse) or watch their phones (TikTok & YouTube come to mind) while ostensibly completing homework or other class work. Typical of high school kids, given an inch, they'll take a mile. While not excusing my grandson's behavior, the teacher is, in fact, the ultimate authority in the classroom and allowed students to use cell phones in spite of what was a predictable outcome, i.e., low scores.

In early June, I attended the Montrose RE-1J School Board meeting and spoke during the public comment session. I told them of this situation. As usual, blank stares and no acknowledgement was made or given by the Board or District Staff. As of today, they've not contacted me or expressed any public interest in dealing with this serious problem that, including kids vaping in classrooms, rest rooms, etc., seems to plague Montrose schools. A standardized cell phone policy is sorely needed as well as discipline by the staff. Basically, the simple solution is to require phones to be checked in at the classroom door. The teacher keeps them until class is over. Isn't that simple enough? Of course, the bleeding-heart crowd will come up with every reason to continue with these insanely lax learning policies that are detrimental to what our kids are there for in the first place...an education.

In light of this experience, I began to do some research on public schools in Colorado as well as how our local schools rank on a statewide basis. Here are some interesting statistics:

Number of & Type of School Districts: Colorado is home to 179 public school districts of which 146 are rural school districts which only have 15% of the statewide student enrollment.

Number of Public Schools: 1,927

Enrollment: Colorado public school PK-12 enrollment in 2023-24 was the lowest in a decade at 881,464.

Graduation: The 4-year graduation rate in 2023 was 83.1%, the highest it has been in nearly a decade.

Charter and Online: In 2023-24, 135,223 students were enrolled in charter schools and 31,839 students in online schools.

Homeschool: In 2023-24 students counted as homeschooled full-time increased by 8.44% to 9,406 students.

Special Education: Colorado public schools educate over 113,992 students in special education.

English Learners: Colorado public schools educate over 114,509 English learners.

School Performance: 61.8% of schools are on a performance plan, 21.3% are on an improvement plan, 7.1% are on a priority improvement plan, and 1.8% are on a turnaround plan. (Emphasis added)

Citations come from: [SchoolView: School and District Data \(state.co.us\)](https://www.schoolview.org/school-and-district-data/state.co.us)

Closer to home, we find that the Montrose RE-1J School District has some troubling issues with some of their schools as you can see on the following chart which is based on test scores for the 2022-2023 school year (2023-2024 scores are not yet available). Of note are the rankings of our schools out of the 1,927 public schools:

Statewide Rank	School	District	English Language Arts	Mathematics
Statewide	All Schools	All Districts	43.2%	31.5%
325	Cottonwood Elementary School	Montrose County RE-1J	55.8%	45.5%
412	Peak Virtual Academy	Montrose County RE-1J	58.8%	34.1%
658	Columbine Middle School	Montrose County RE-1J	45.9%	24.9%
684	Oak Grove Elementary School	Montrose County RE-1J	41.1%	26.8%
1,033	Olathe Elementary School	Montrose County RE-1J	24.9%	16.5%
1,043	Olathe Middle/High School	Montrose County RE-1J	32.5%	8.3%
1,238	Northside Elementary School	Montrose County RE-1J	15.3%	10.1%

Montrose Classical Academy promises a return to Traditional Education From previous pg

While the School District will accurately tell you that some of these statistics are troubling and that they're working on them, solutions needed to resolve them are complicated. A new approach is long overdue.

These examples lead to the topic at hand, namely a movement by a well-organized group of community leaders to offer something better to the families and students of the Montrose RE-1J School District. A new charter school by the name of the Montrose Classical Academy ([Montrose Classical Academy | Charter School | Montrose, CO, USA](#)) that is proposed to open for the Fall of 2025 for grades K-5 pending approval by the School Board.

Led by former Colorado State Representative, Kay Alexander, retired teacher Becky Waugh, former Montrose County Commissioner Ron Henderson, Pastor Joe Fockler and Montrose natives Hannah McCall and Katherine Sharman, they've set about to bring to the Montrose area a classical learning program. Their mission is to offer a vibrant curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences, fostering a passion for knowledge, virtue, reason and an appreciation of our American heritage. The program will empower students in a supportive, creative atmosphere to achieve their full potential and become exemplary citizens ([About Us | Montrose Classical A](#)).

Informational meetings about MCA and the curriculum modeling that is proposed were held last week on July 10th and 11th. I attended one of these meetings and came away impressed by the speakers (Kim Gilmartin of Liberty Schools Initiative - [Liberty Schools Initiative – Empowering Parents. Enlightening Minds.](#)) and Casey Churchill, Principal of Liberty Common School in Ft. Collins - [Home - Liberty Common School](#))

The reader is encouraged to visit the above websites and discover what is possible in Montrose to “up” the level of education by returning to many of the tried-and-true standards of days gone by. For whatever the reason, traditional learning has taken a backseat to the progressive educational philosophy that is in place today with students not being equipped to face the real world of either post-secondary education (college, trade school or certificate programs) or that of the workforce. Math, reading and language skills are sorely lacking and often times many high school graduates face having to take remedial courses in these and other subjects as they are ill prepared for the college or university of their choosing.

Because Montrose Classical Academy will be a Montrose RE-1J District school, it will be tuition free, parent run, a place where parents are treated like customers, educators are treated like real professionals, where one size does not fit all and where academic excellence is expected. The principles taught will follow or be similar to the CORE Knowledge Sequence. “The Core Knowledge Sequence is a detailed outline of recommended content knowledge and skills to be taught in language arts, history and geography, visual arts, music, mathematics, and science from preschool through grade eight. The Sequence complements the general skills and objectives typically found in state and local curriculum guides.” ([Our Approach – Core Knowledge Foundation](#))

In a nutshell, Montrose Classical Academy will be a new “old” way of educating our children. They will be funded through the School District like other charter schools. Charter schools are typically 15% less expensive to operate than other district schools. Many currently home-schooled children would be potential students at MCA which would increase the district's enrollment as well as revenues from the State and Federal governments. Funding for public education in Colorado is currently in excess of \$6.5 billion dollars per year from those entities with local property taxes adding to the total dollars received by school districts. All in all, we need the Montrose Classical Academy. We them now but will have to wait until next year. We need the Montrose RE-1J School Board to support this effort in full. We need the public to support a return to learning in a way that will benefit our society in ways not currently being met. We need the right to school choice.

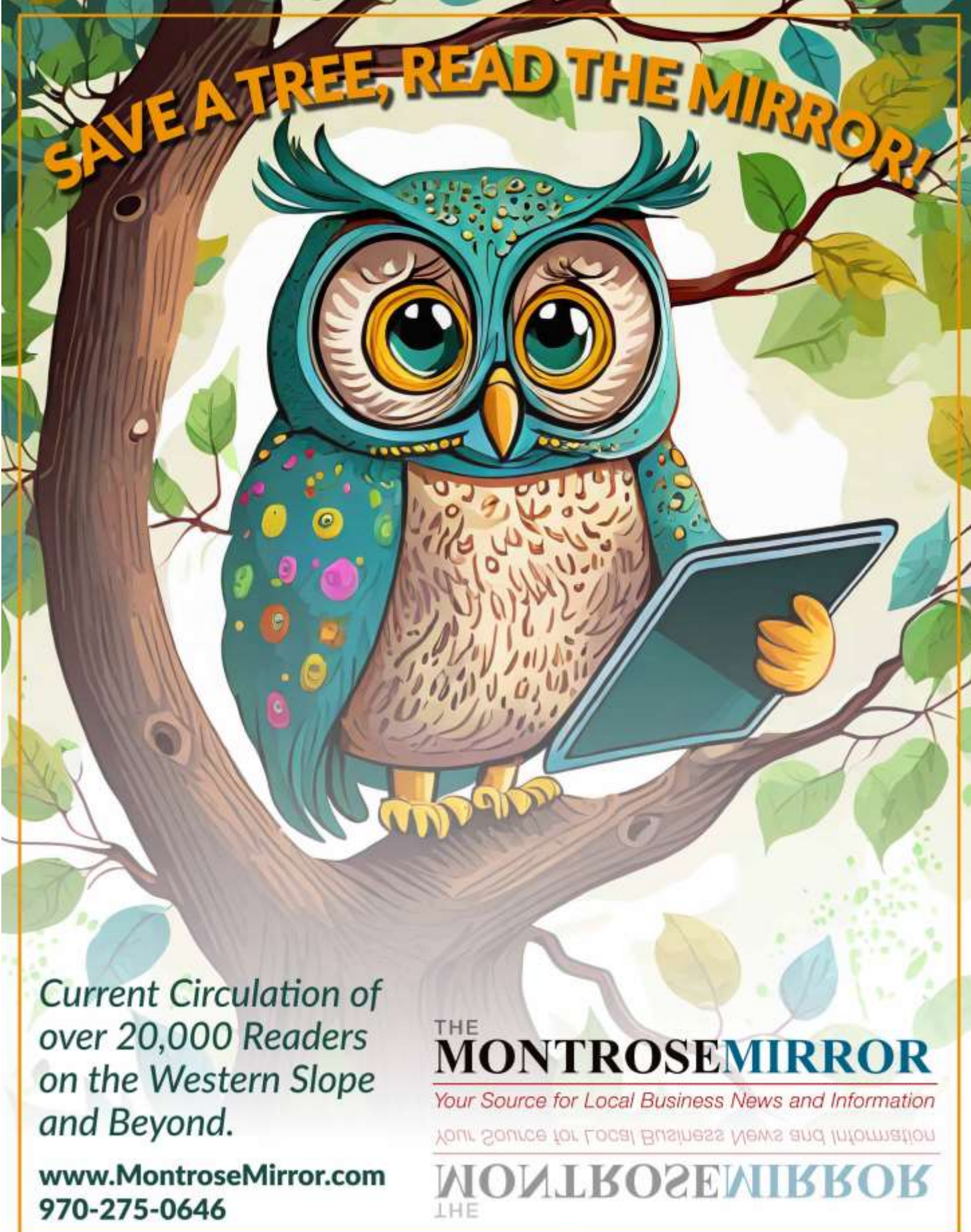
This quote taken from the Liberty Common School website sums things up nicely:

“Tradition means giving votes to the most obscure of all classes, our ancestors. It is the democracy of the dead. Tradition refuses to submit to the small and arrogant oligarchy of those who merely happen to be walking about.” — G.K. Chesterton



Courtesy photo David White.

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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READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: LINDA LAKE



Photographer Linda Lake captured this image at Telluride on Sunday, July 14.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WE NEED DESIGNATION OF NON-SANCTUARY CITY

Dear City Council Members,

Thank you so much for your service. I am writing to request that you bring up the vote again to declare Montrose a NON-sanctuary city. The people of Montrose have made it clear that a referendum declaring Montrose a NON-sanctuary city is what is wanted by the people who elected you to represent them. Initially the vote was 4 to 1. Why that did not stand, especially after the multitude of people who showed up to the city council chamber 3/19/24, is a mystery and goes against the wishes of the people of Montrose. We are at a Time in our country where many of us are worried about the future of America based on what we are seeing happen in other countries due to illegal immigration. The considerable destruction from illegal immigration is destroying cities all over the United States. Our little town of Montrose Colorado is now clearly at risk with the multitude of illegals being shipped in. It's alarming to the citizens who are aware and it should be alarming to all of you. It's terrifying to think of the possible increase in crime being witnessed all over the United States starting to happen here. Crime is only one problem that comes with inundating a town with illegal aliens. Because if that does happen, it will clearly be due to your action or lack of action to secure us to the best of your ability. We have a wonderful town that needs your protection at this time. The laws coming down from government do little to protect us. We need this designation of NON-sanctuary city to be as solid and as firm as you can legally make it to protect Montrose. Please re-vote to solidify the wishes of the city you represent. We appreciate your efforts to make this happen as soon as possible.

Thank you so much for all your efforts and hard work,
Maggie Muchmore, Montrose



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THIS IS AN ELECTION YEAR-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

Editor:

Surely it doesn't surprise true Americans that an assassin made an attempt on the life of the best President we have ever had.

I have been voicing my concerns to my family since his first term because President Trump loves to interact with the crowds.

But let's discuss the root cause of the evil that brought Thomas Crooks to a rooftop in an attempt to destroy America.

The evil contributors to this depth of hatred are the following ;

Madonna openly said she wanted to blow up the White House and I don't recall her being charged with a crime and serving time in prison.

Kathy Griffin who held up a severed head of President Trump.

She was never charged with inciting an assassination. She never served time in prison.

Snoop Dog who portrayed the act of himself assassinating President Trump. He was never arrested and charged and never served time in prison.

The actor Dinero who spewed the following hate filled dialog.

"He's a punk, he's a dog, he's a pig [...] a mutt who [...] doesn't do his homework, doesn't care. He's an idiot. 'It makes me so angry that this country has gotten to this point that this fool, this bozo, has wound up where he has, I'd like to punch him in the face'."

I can go on all day pointing out the

things the left has done under the blanket of the Democrats. I know it sounds like I am picking on "celebrities" but the truth is that a 20 year old assassin probably got all of his values from Hollywood one way or another. And he damn near destroyed democracy yesterday.

I close by saying that I lay the responsibility for the death of the victim yesterday right at the feet of the aforementioned evils and all other Trump haters who have developed Thomas Crooks.

God bless America

I say to all American Citizens...this is an election year.

What are you going to do about it?

Bob Stollsteimer, Montrose

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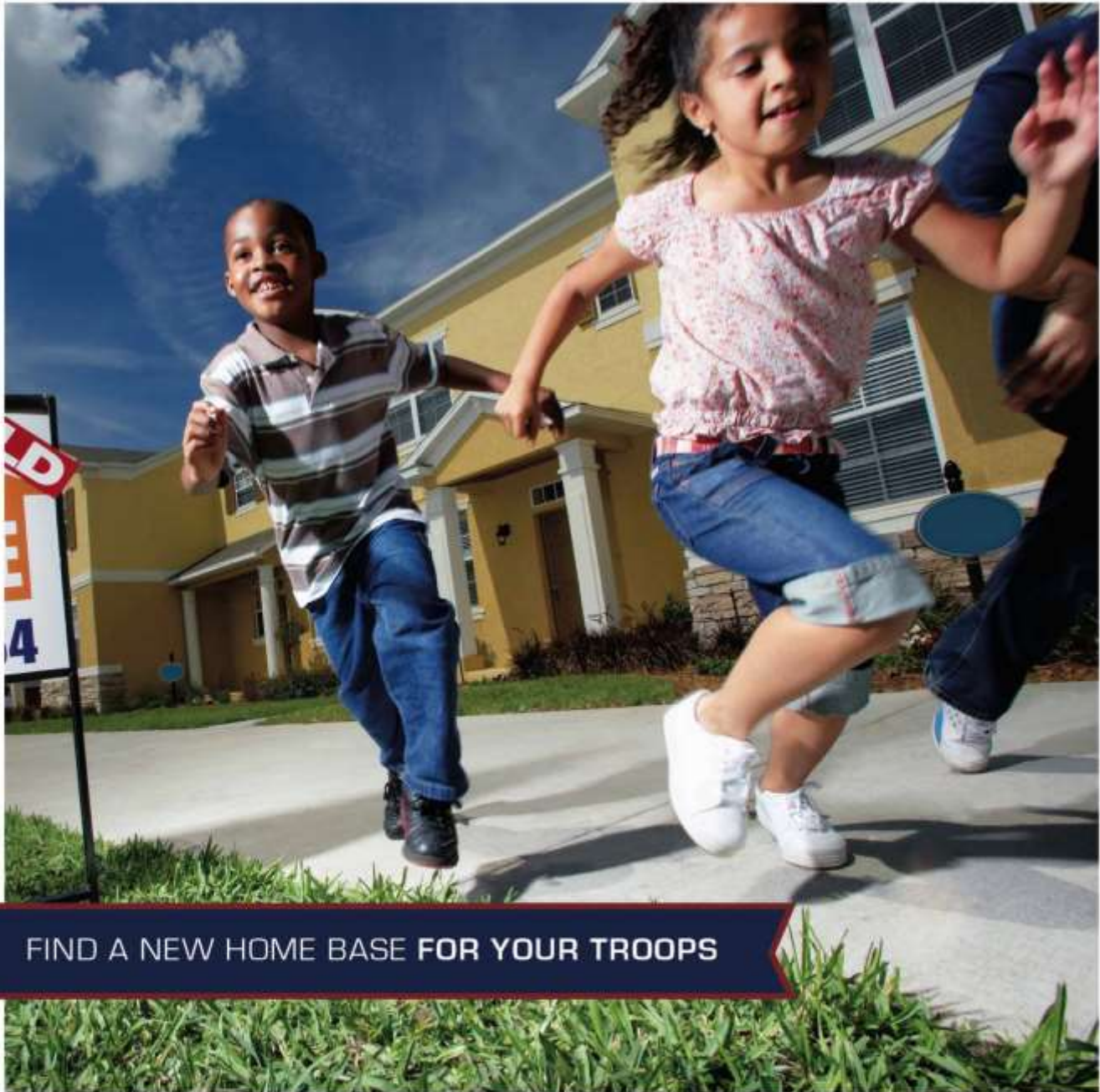
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THE MESSAGING THIS SENDS DOES MATTER

Dear City Council members,

I am writing to you today concerning a matter of great importance to the citizens of the City of Montrose and to me. You have heard from countless citizens of the desire for you to affirm what is already "on the books" concerning Montrose's non sanctuary status. Why is it so important that you affirm that we are a non sanctuary city? Because as you know the messaging this sends does matter to those who are looking at our city for ANY reason and, it does matter to the taxpayers of this city. Welcoming those who have come into the USA legally as well as the migrant workers is one thing, illegal law breakers are another matter... make no mistake that whether their intentions are for good or evil they have broken our law just by entering our country illegally. And those who have spent thousands of dollars, gone through endless red tape and waited years to become a citizen of the United States of America deserve a voice in this matter. Fairness matters. You have been entrusted to do the will of the people, not the will of those who seemingly have powerful positions within our state and country. I say seemingly because they are under the belief that they will stay in power. Not so. There should always be a moral obligation present for anyone in a leadership role to do what is right and just... otherwise correction is in order and will happen.

The United States of America was founded on Judeo-Christian values and principles and no matter how some try to root this out those efforts will ultimately fail. Why? Because God always wins.

You must remain mindful of who you serve, it is not for self interests or the interests of those who have no say whatsoever. The people will always have their voice heard and will until leadership actually speaks for the people.

Thank you,
Cindi Olinghouse

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

DISASTROUS DEMOCRAT POLICIES PROMOTED BY SOME WEST SLOPE NEWSPAPERS

Editor:

Democrats and our illustrious media have not suddenly discovered that Biden is senile, as they claim. They have known all along. Starting with hiding in his basement during the 2020 campaign, his serious cognitive decline was lied about, and those daring to raise questions were attacked. The current portrayals of Biden are even more laughable. One of the new narratives is that, while Biden is frail and incompetent, his character shows through standing next to Trump, who lied throughout the debate. (Trump's a serial liar you know). Incredibly, suddenly Joe is a good and honest man.

Framing Biden as good or honest fares no better than portraying the president of sound mind. Even during the debate, the Democrat dropped whoppers left and right --- from his lie that the Border Patrol union endorsed him --- something fact-checked in real time by the union itself --- to Biden's fabrications about inflation and military deaths, to his continued lie that Trump called Nazis very fine people. When he was uttering something coherent, he was lying. He even lied about Democrats' abortion radicalism.

Can you imagine what an uproar the media would make if it were Trump rather than Biden who continually fails to acknowledge one of his grandkids, or if it was Trump's daughter who wrote in her

diary wondering why she was "Super-sexualized @ a young age", and listing "showers with my dad (probably not appropriate)," as one of the reasons?

The other new refrain is that while Biden might be a national security risk, suddenly "Joe Biden is the most accomplished president in our lifetime?" Senator Tom Cotton's comments are more accurate, however: "But even if he were 20 years younger and spritely and energetic, he'd still be a failed, weak president because his ideas are failures." Yes, Biden is mentally unfit for office, but even if that were not so --- and the media have spent years pretending it wasn't --- his and his party's policies are disastrous to the American people. The people don't like his inflation and economic policies; his foreign policy is unpopular; his immigration policies are unpopular; his crime and policing policies are unpopular; and so on. Not only does Biden not know how to do his job, neither do the people actually running the country.

I have for some time been critical of the *Montrose Daily Press* because I think they are radically liberally biased. Francis Wick's 7/3 editorial confirms to me that the bias starts at the top. His comments were indistinguishable from any other liberal outlet. The CEO of the MDP parent company was only mildly critical of Biden ("showed himself an old man", "failed to maintain focus and composure", and scathingly critical of

Trump ("delivered a relentless arsenal of falsehoods, exaggerations, and outright lies"). No mention of Biden's blatant lies during the debate or any discussion of what exactly Trump lied about --- just the mantra "Biden nice old man. Trump liar".

Nowhere on the pages of most of our local papers will you read about Biden spending trillions and ensuring that inflation, stagnant wages, and high costs of living are now America's permanent nightmare.

Or his taking the DOJ, the FBI, and the very rule of law itself, and using those to target his opponents. Abortion. Economy. Crime. Lawfare. Foreign policy. All disasters. You won't read about the fact that these aren't just Biden's policies that are disastrous --- they're Democrat policies. Changing the figurehead is not going to magically secure the border and end the illegal alien crime wave. Replacing Biden won't wash away the stench of "Biden's" administration and all those who covered for it --- including some local western slope newspapers. And make no mistake, when the media and Biden's handlers dispose of him, they will start lying about how great whoever his replacement is, while continuing to trash Trump. That's what you do when you have absolutely nothing positive to offer the American people.

Ed Henrie, Montrose

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ANONYMOUS CALL

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS & CARTOON

NEW LEADERSHIP IN THE MONTROSE GOP

Editor:

Two new faces do not mean any significant changes in strategies. The first order of business at the Montrose GOP monthly meeting Thursday night was for Scott Riba to formally resign. And to that I say good riddance. His legacy was one of self-promotion and pushing good hard-working republicans out of the party to clear the way for him to corrupt the party. He corrupted the party by violating the by-laws that he himself was instrumental in changing. He ran for office while being chair, which is a violation of the by-laws. He allowed a non-republican to announce his candidacy at a monthly meeting, in violation of the by-laws. He allowed the party to publicly endorse candidates in contested primaries, in violation of the by-laws. He made the decision without putting it before the committee to stop doing business with Mesa storage because the owner was supporting his opponent. And these are the very reasons that there is a neutrality clause in the by-laws.

The next order of business was to discuss when will the party get its headquarters. They found a place on Townsend that depending on utilities would cost approximately \$5600.00 for four months. The decision was made to secure it starting August 1st. And then the discussion turned to staffing the headquarters. This has been a problem the past few years. It would not be a problem if the central committee had not allowed Riba to kick out the people who were volunteering the most to staff the headquarters (the republican women). Attacking your faithful volunteers is an effective way to get fewer volunteers.

But the biggest disappointment of the meeting was that most of the central committee still believes in the voting machine conspiracy. And this is why they will never accomplish a high voter turnout like we had in 2020. The voting machine conspiracy is the biggest red herring ever, but it is succeeding in destroying the republican party. Mike Lindell has bankrupted himself

because of his belief in this bogus conspiracy. He was sued by Dominion for 1.3 billion. Tina Peters is more than likely going to jail because of her criminal actions in trying to prove this bogus conspiracy. And the voters are sitting on the sidelines saying why bother.

Did some corruption take place in the 2020 election?

Absolutely, but it had nothing to do with the voting machines. Ballot harvesting by democrats, five states that changed their voting methods without going through their legislature.

The illegal FISA investigation of Trump that had Obama and Hillary Clintons fingerprints on it. The Russia, Russia collusion BS that was an intentional red herring to distract the voters. Dozens of people are in jail or going to jail because of their actions on January 6th, 2021. And one lady was killed. All because they bought in to the voting machine conspiracy that never happened.

Ray Langston, Montrose

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COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

GENE ALAN "AL" BECKER *August 28, 1948---July 4, 2024*

Genesis 3:19 (KJV)

AL BECKER, 75, of Montrose, CO went to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on July 4th, 2024. He passed away at Elk Ridge Health and Rehabilitation Center in Montrose, CO after a long, hard fought battle with COPD.

Al will always be remembered as a wonderful husband and father. He was kind, generous, hard-working, faithful and a man of integrity. He also had a great sense of humor and loved to tell stories about many things. He was an avid drag racing fan and a longtime member of the NHRA.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Vicki, of the family home in Montrose. He is also survived by his beloved daughter, Brooke, of Arabi, LA and his much loved cat, Annie, who also served as his nurse in his declining days. Also surviving are his sister-in-law Jackie, and her husband, Rick Eaton of Peyton, CO; and one nephew, Luke Pierce of Toledo, Ohio. Not to be

forgotten are Al's three wonderful cousins, all of St. Louis, MO: Lynn Isenberg, Laura May, and Dale Mara.

Al was preceded in death by his parents, Jane and Gene Becker of St. Louis, MO and his beloved cats Cricket, Kato, Lucinda and Arthur. (and many others, too numerous to name)

The family would like to thank all of the people who helped us on this journey:

Our primary care physician, Dr. Melinda Marzolf; Al's pulmonologist, Dr.

Marcella Abuid; the wonderful staff at Hope West Hospice; Al's hospice nurse, Tamara Anderson and our social worker, Andrea Thompson----both are very dear to us---they will both be life-long friends. We would also like to thank the staff at the Hospice Care Center in Grand Junction and the staff at Elk Ridge HRC. And a special thanks to Aerocare who provided Al's oxygen needs for many years.

The burial took place in Grand View Cemetery and per Al's request there were no



services. In lieu of flowers, the family would be greatly blessed if you would consider making a small donation in memory of Al, to Hope West Hospice, 725 S. 4th St., Montrose, CO 81401.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE: DAVID PRESTON ANDERSON

There will be a celebration of the life of David Preston Anderson on Saturday, August 3 at 10:30 am. It will be held at the Montrose Event Center, 648 S. 1st St., Montrose. He is survived by his wife Sandy and their sons Mark and Shane, and their families.



COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

WANDA FAYE BROWN *April 15, 1942 — July 3, 2024*

WANDA FAYE BROWN, 82, of Montrose, Colorado passed away peacefully in her home, surrounded by family, on July 3rd, 2024.

She was born April 5th, 1942 in Miami, Oklahoma, to Velma (Colvin) Stapleton and Delmar Faye Stapleton. She grew up in Commerce, Oklahoma, where she later met and married her husband of 64 years, Leon Brown. They later moved to Arkansas where they raised their family. Wanda worked at "The House of Webster" in Rogers, Arkansas for 28 years. After retiring she and Leon moved to Purdy, Missouri to be closer to family. There Wanda enjoyed doing part time work at various places, just to keep busy. When her family moved to Colorado, in 2018 Wanda and Leon moved with them. Her last place of employment was "Culvers" in Montrose, Colorado, where she enjoyed meeting and visiting with all the patrons.

She loved spending time with her family, playing games, embroidery, and coming together over a meal, especially Sunday dinner. She loved the Lord with all her heart and attended church faithfully.

Wanda is preceded in death by her parents and one sister, Vivian McAfee. She is survived by her husband, Leon Brown, of the home, her daughter, Melissa Fletcher and son-in-law, Charles Fletcher, of Montrose, Colorado, a son, Randy Brown, of Reeds, Missouri, one sister, Ilene Jones, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, two brothers, Raymond Stapleton, of Fairview, Missouri, and Harley Stapleton of Cassville, Missouri, four grandchildren, and six great grandchildren.



CARLA LOGAN



CARLA LOGAN, age 84 a beloved member of the community, passed away peacefully on April 3, 2024, in Highland California. Carla Logan lived her life with zest and enthusiasm.

Carla was a cherished member of various organizations including Rotary, PEO, and Eastern Star. She was also active with the Montrose Chamber of Commerce as a Montrose Red Coat and was named Red Coat of the Year in 1987. Her dedication and contributions were deeply appreciated by all who knew her.

Carla had a special place in her heart for dogs, often finding joy and comfort in their companionship. She was also known for her melodious voice and could often be found singing beautifully in the church choir, touching the hearts of many through her music.

Carla started her career in education, she taught fourth grade classes at Northside and Morgan elementary schools. In 1971 she started working as a teller at Montrose Savings and Loan, eventually working her way into management. Carla served as the Montrose County Treasurer, where her commitment to her work and the community shone brightly. Carla ended her career working with her brother David, at DeVinny Jewelers,

Her joy for the simple pleasures of life will be continued by her family: brothers David DeVinny, Doug and Lana DeVinny and niece Marcia and Tim Myers. Her four children, Randy and Dana Berryman, Curt Berryman, Candace and Chris Carmichael and Chris Berryman. Her heritage will also be passed on through 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

She leaves behind a legacy of kindness, generosity, and love that will be remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing her. Carla's presence will be dearly missed, but her spirit will live on in the hearts of those she touched.

A memorial service in loving remembrance and to honor and celebrate Carla's life will be officiated by Pastor Rick Hale on Friday, July 19, at 11 a.m. at the Celebration Church, 2900 Sunnyside Rd. in Montrose.

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

CHARLES EMMETT ANDERS *January 11, 1930-July 3, 2024*



CHARLES EMMETT ANDERS, 94, of Olathe, Colorado entered into his eternal rest peacefully and with his family of children, grandchildren, and one great grandson present to say their goodbyes before he passed on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, at Delta Health Memorial Hospital.

Charles was born January 11, 1930, to Pearl Mae (Crouse) and John Calvin Anders of Olathe, Colorado. He lived with his family of three brothers and two sisters on the family farm. He joined the Army in 1946 when he was 16 years old. He was sent to San Antonio for basic training and served in the Seventh Air Force at Wheeler Field on Oahu, Hawaii. He lived in Scofield Barracks and was trained as an Army medic and also as rescue crew on the airfield where his love for airplanes and flying started. Charles was Honorably discharged from the Army in 1949 and returned to Olathe to marry his high school sweetheart, Bonnie Jean Santorno. They were married July 30, 1950, at the Olathe Baptist Church and they celebrated 58 years

of marriage until her passing on September 9, 2008. On their 50th wedding anniversary their children took them to Hawaii where Charles went back to Scofield Barracks and pointed out bullet holes in the walls he remembered. It was a very memorable trip for him.

Charles worked numerous jobs in the area and was a man of many skills. He was a mechanic, heavy equipment operator, construction worker building roads, bridges and just moving dirt, but his dream after getting out of the Army was to fly, so he got his private and commercial pilots license on the GI Bill. Later he started Montrose Air Service where he gave flying lessons, chartered aircraft and grew a very active flying business in Montrose. He also managed Delta Air Service where he and Bonnie lived and worked together for many years and then moved to Nucla, Colorado for a year at that airport. Charles also was a crop duster, he worked for the Soil Conservation in Montrose and Montrose Valley Funeral Home. He liked helping people and was a hard worker.

He owned a boat for many years and camping in the outdoors and going to Lake Powell to fish and teach his grandkids how to waterski was one of his favorite activities. He rode motorcycles with his buddies and flew remote control airplanes with many pilots in the area. Snowmobiling was one of his favorite things, especially at night through the trees. He was a fantastic dancer. He owned many camp trailers, didn't camp so much in them as he just liked fixing them up, and he probably owned more trucks than anyone around. He liked to tinker and buy and sell. Charles could make any machine "sing" whether in the air or on the ground. Playing the piano by ear was a gift from God to Charles. He

could play the boogie woogie like no one else, all by ear. Every now and then he needed a trip to Cortez to gamble a little, but never told how much he had to pay in order to win some. Charles lived a rich, full life in the Olathe, Montrose area leaving for jobs temporarily, but always coming back to Olathe his home. He was responsible for creating the beautiful place they lived, excavating the dirt, planting trees, digging a pond and planting grass to make a park atmosphere. They lived there for 30 years. He was also the one to create the park for the first Olathe Corn Festival in 1990, 34 years ago. He worked magic with a dozer and Olathe Sweet Corn was his favorite food.

Charles was preceded in death by his beloved wife Bonnie and his parents Pearl Mae (Crouse) and John Calvin Anders. His brothers, Gene Anders, John Anders, and Lowell Anders, two sisters Beulah Carrico and Ruth Richards and great grandson Bryce Johnson. He is survived by his three children, Melody Anders Sumner (Gary) Sherry Anders Johnson (Shawn) and Jeff Mackey. Four grandchildren, Jarrod Bruce Sumner (Pamela) Jacy Leigh Bowers (Joe) Cade Charles Johnson, (Vidya) and Kenneth Allen Johnson (Marina), nine great grandchildren, Jordan Bruce Sumner (Kassie), Cheyenne Sumner Eisenhart, (Daniel), Trenton Sumner Bowers, Elena Lee Bowers, Ali Bowers, Bradley Johnson, Bailey Johnson, Surya Charlie Johnson and Caleb Pandi Johnson, three great great grandchildren, Sophia Eisenhart, Lucas Eisenhart and Loralie Sumner.

A graveside service is scheduled for Friday, July 19, 2024, at Olathe, Cemetery, 10 AM.

Arrangements under the direction of Crippin Funeral Home, Montrose, Colorado.

ISSUE 477 July 15, 2024



ART & SOL

PERSONAL FREEDOM COMES THROUGH FORGIVENESS

By Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald

At the most basic level, freedom is the right to choose. We can choose where we want to live, who we want to marry, what kind of education and career we want to pursue and our personal beliefs and spiritual practices. Our Founding Fathers and Mothers brought both their faith and their reasoning to provide the foundations for our freedoms, including religious freedom.

Many of our Founding Fathers, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, James Madison, James Monroe, and Thomas Paine were deists. They not only believed in a higher power, but also in the ability of human reason “to be a reliable means of solving social and political problems.”

They were firm in their belief that government should not intrude in a person’s faith and no religious doctrine should be written into government. They were united in honoring and respecting all religious faiths. They considered this to be a large part of personal freedom.

Personal freedom comes from forgiveness. Forgiveness has three parts: forgiving oneself, forgiving others, and asking for forgiveness from those who have hurt you.

His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, says, “All major religions carry basically the same message: that is love, compassion, and forgiveness. The important thing is they should be a part of our daily lives.” It is easier to love and be compassionate than it is to forgive. So much negative emotion

is caught up in hurts done to us by others in the past that it is often difficult to even think about forgiveness, let alone to actually forgive them.

Then there is the guilt we carry from hurts we have done to others and the shame we carry that prevents us from asking for forgiveness. Both of these kinds of hurts are in the past and the burden of carrying them keeps us from moving through the present into the future.

And then, as Joan Baez said, “As we know, forgiveness of oneself is the hardest of all the forgivenesses.” Often, we are harder on ourselves than on others, so forgiving ourselves becomes a priority in our forgiveness work. In order to be free, we must forgive ourselves, others, and ask forgiveness from those we have hurt.

When you forgive, you are able to release and move on. Desmond Tutu said, “Forgiveness says you are given another chance to make a new beginning.” That is a great way to think about forgiveness – another chance to make a new beginning. You start anew each day, so why would you want to carry the burdens of yesterday with you into the new day?

How do you ask for forgiveness for hurting another person? First, you acknowledge the hurt. Second, you go to that person and sincerely ask for forgiveness and promise to be more mindful in the future. If that person has already passed, you can pray to the Divine Spirit to forgive you and you can do a generous act of charity in their name.

How do you forgive a person who has

hurt you? Chances are the other person doesn’t even realize there was a hurt involved. Using “I” words, you explain to the other person about the actions that caused your hurt feelings and how it made you feel. Normally, the other person will offer you forgiveness. Take it graciously and then forget the hurt and move on joyfully in the relationship. If the other person doesn’t offer forgiveness, it is no longer your problem. You have acknowledged your feelings. Move on joyfully.

How do you forgive yourself? It is easier if you think of your emotions as coming from your Inner Child. Acknowledge the hurt, ask for forgiveness, and say “I love you.” Thank your Inner Child for being with you and helping you in so many ways. Ultimately, forgiveness is changing your perspective, making amends, and releasing.

Bernard Baruch said, “One of the secrets of a long and fruitful life is to forgive everybody everything every night before you go to bed.”

This is the daily practice of making things right. When practiced every day, your life becomes lighter, there is less stress because you have released negative thoughts and emotions, and the connections to others and your Source are strengthened.

As we practice forgiveness each day, our personal freedom opens our hearts to more connections, not only to others, but to ourselves and our Divine Source. Forgiveness is really for yourself and your personal and spiritual growth.



Save the Date

Please join us for the 2024 Jr. Livestock Sale
Saturday, July 27 at 1:00PM

Buyers Lunch will be served at 11:00AM
at the Montrose County Event Center
1036 N. 7th St.
Montrose, Colorado



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

TWO POETS FROM THE NAVAJO NATION TO READ IN NORWOOD

Special to the Mirror

NORWOOD ... The July 17th Stories & Poems series at the Lone Cone Library at 6 p.m. will feature Tina Deschenie and Michael Thompson of the Navajo Nation performing their work.

"This July marks the first complete year of Stories & Poems providing a platform for storytellers and poets at the library in Norwood," said Talking Gourd director Art Goodtimes. "We are delighted to have two Indigenous poets to mark this anniversary."

Tina earned a B.A. at Ft. Lewis College, a M.A. at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, and a Doctorate in Education at New Mexico State University focusing on Educational Leadership. She has served as Head Administrator at the Diné Charter School, Provost and Associate Dean at the Navajo Technical University, Editor of the *Tribal College Journal*, and freelance writer.

Her work has appeared in *Poetry* magazine and *The Diné Reader: An Anthology of Navajo Literature* edited by Esther Belin, et. al. (Univ. of Arizona Press, 2021) – winner of the 2022 Before Columbus Foundation American Book Award. Her important essay, "Why We Are Sticking to Our Stories" appears in the online Tribal College Journal <https://tribalcollegejournal.org/sticking-stories/>. Her Diné clans are *Ta'neezahnii*, *Tó'a-*

heedliini, and *Bit'ahnii*.

She grew up in the Navajo Nation, and still resides there.

Both Tina and Michael appeared in a visual art/poetry Ah Haa show in Telluride earlier this year and in several recent collections out of Cortez edited by the late Sonja Horoshko -- *Wet: An Anthology of Water Poems and Prose From the High Desert and Mountains of the Four Corners Region* (2021) and *Fertile: An Anthology of Earth Poems and Prose From the High Desert and Mountains of the Four Corners Region* (2023).

Michael Thompson (Mvskoke Creek) was born in Holdenville, OK, and raised on a south Georgia cattle ranch and row crop farm near the Flint River among pine trees, oaks, creeks, and swamp. He taught for 42 years at various levels of education in Georgia, Kansas, California, and New Mexico. For most of his life, he was a high school English teacher.

Currently he and his wife Tina Deschenie (Diné) are restoring her family homesite and raising cattle on the Navajo Nation in



Tina Deschenie and Michael Thompson will perform their work at the Lone Cone Library July 17.

Crystal, NM. They have four children and several grandchildren. Their family supports numerous Native American activities, traditions, and causes.

His work has been published in various journals, including: *Satchel: Story Objects* (Art Juice Studio Press, 2022), *Transforming Diné Education*, (Univ. of Arizona Press, 2022), *The Diné Reader: An Anthology of Navajo Literature*, (Univ. of Arizona Press, 2021), *Trickster* (a graphic anthology) "Rabbit and the Tug of War" (Fulcrum Books, 2010), and *American Indians and the Urban Experience* (AltaMira Press, 2001).

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



#montrosemirror

AUGUST 2nd & 3rd, 2024

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TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR
First Presbyterian Church
1840 Niagara Rd
MONTROSE, COLORADO



MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

Office Hours: By appointment.

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

 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
 112 Main 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:info@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: HCUCC welcomes all ages to worship with us. (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles)

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

MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Denomination Affiliation: United Methodist

Address: 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401

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

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

montroseumc.org

Current Senior Pastor: Rev. Kevin Young

Worship service times:

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual

9:45 a.m. Christian Education & Fellowship

11 a.m. Sanctuary

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

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

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

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

Affiliation: Southern Baptist

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

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

Contact information:

Phone: 970.249.4887

website: www.RosemontBaptist.org

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 worshipers 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

RIVER MEADOWS #148



Nestled in the heart of the Uncompahgre Valley, **Montrose River Meadows** is a manufactured home community offering affordable living and all that you would expect from a home in Colorado's San Juan Mountain region – spectacular mountain views with a comfortable moderate climate. Situated on the banks of the Uncompahgre River in Montrose, Colorado. **Montrose River Meadows** community provides a country setting with the conveniences of modern living. Extraordinary features and amenities such as landscaped greenbelts, park area and private gardens distinguish **Montrose River Meadows** as the area's prestigious planned community. After a day exploring nearby National Historic Districts, the Black Canyon National Park, Ouray, Crested Butte, Silverton and Telluride, Colorado, come home to **Montrose River Meadows**.



WWW.THERIVERMEADOWS.COM

WELCOME HOME!



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*Built in 1998

*\$70,000

*16 X 60

*860 SQFT

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*New Butcher Block Counter Top



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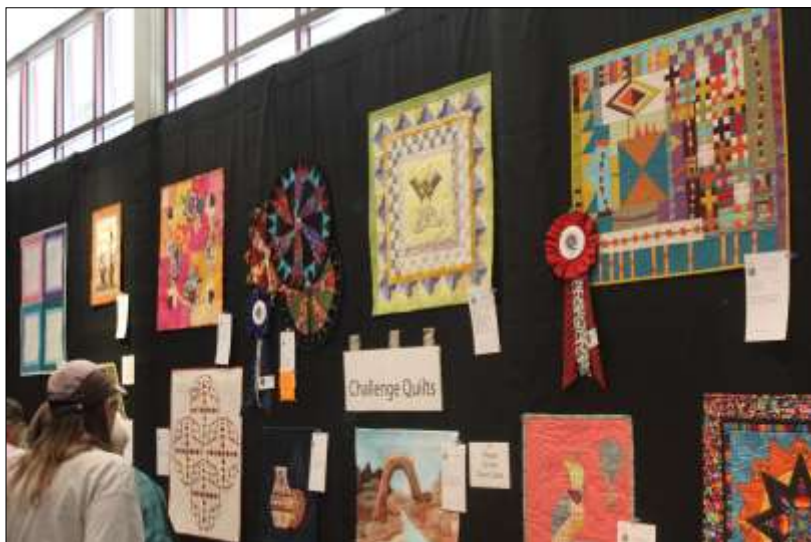
Call and make an appointment today!

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2024 BLACK CANYON QUILT SHOW



Photos from the 2024 Black Canyon Quilt Show are by Harry Switzer.



Tired of driving to the dispensaries?



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Indica · Hybrids · Sativa

Inquire About Medical Disability Program · Veteran Discounts

We are a licensed caregiver with 30 years of cultivation experience in Colorado who can deliver 100% all organic medical grade cannabis, tincture, extracts, and edibles to your door.

If you have any medical issues that prohibit you from driving, we would like to help.

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Magic Mountain



Mushrooms

Our company is proud to offer the residents of Colorado under Proposition 122 microdosing advice 24/7, and free Psilocybin with paid consultation.

We grow all organic Psilocybin that we are proud to say can help with symptoms like PTSD, depression, anxiety, and loss of sleep. Psilocybin is also great helping to detox from such drugs as opioids and alcohol.

Please reach out to us as soon as you have time and we will discuss options to help.

WANTED

AMERICAN PATRIOTS

HONORED SPEAKER



SATURDAY
AUGUST 3RD
MONTROSE PAVILION
4PM - DOORS OPEN

"AMERICA'S SHERIFF"

DAVID CLARKE

REPUBLICAN

LINCOLN REAGAN DINNER & AUCTION 2024

INFO & TICKET PURCHASE

WWW.MONTROSEREPUBLICANS.ORG

-SCAN QR FOR TICKET OPTIONS-
****INCLUDING TIX FOR SPEAKER ONLY****



SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING-

TRUE GRIT WALKING TOURS-June and August in Ridgway-Every Friday 3 pm guided free True Grit walking tour departs the gazebo in Hartwell Park. Arrive 15 minutes early. The one-hour tour covers downtown locations where True Grit was filmed. **July in Ridgway**-Every Friday 3 pm and Monday 10 am. Guided free True Grit walking tours depart the gazebo in Hartwell Park. Arrive 15 minutes early. The one-hour tour covers downtown locations where True Grit was filmed. Call 469.682.9710 to arrange a custom tour for \$10 per person at a time of your choosing.

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

July 17-Hot Dog Day in Centennial Plaza, 11am to 2pm. Free hot dogs! Sponsored by Turner Toyota and Our Town Matters.

July 19-Please join us. Friday, July 19 from noon to 130p when the Montrose Republican Women present a \$1500 Scholarship Award to our 2024 high school graduate recipient. This is the second of two awards MRW has presented for the 2024 school year. Friday, July 19-Hampton Inn Montrose Noon-130p Lunch and dessert will be served. \$5 donation accepted Call Kerri for info: 970-209-5170

Aug. 8-18-Mark your calendars for the return of Palisade Peach Days, a more than century-old tradition of celebrating the finest peaches in the Palisade area, Aug. 8-18! The Just Peachy 5k, Peach Days Parade, and Palisade High School Band Car Show will take place on Saturday, Aug. 10. The Palisade Peach Festival will be held the traditional 3rd weekend on Aug. 16 & 17. For a full schedule of events, please visit palisadepeachfest.com.

Aug. 24-Karaoke at Magic Circle Theatre-Saturday, Aug. 24 -- 7 PM 420 S 12th St, Montrose, CO. 970-249-8738

Sept. 22-Karaoke at Magic Circle Theatre Sunday, Sept. 22 -- 7:30 PM 420 S 12th St, Montrose, CO. 970-249-8738



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