



ONLINE NEWS ASSOCIATION



REMEMBERING OUR NATION'S FALLEN WARRIORS

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# the Montrose Mirror

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## CONSTITUENTS SPEAK OUT FOR PRIDE PROCLAMATION AT COUNCIL MEETING

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Mayor Michael Badagliacco welcomed all to the Montrose City Council meeting of Tuesday, May 19. He thanked all for attending and led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. All Councilors were present.

There were no changes to the meeting agenda.

### CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

First to speak was Kim Spangrude.

She thanked the City for having Spanish translators at the meeting and thanked the translators who were present. "...To quote a famous line from a beloved movie, 'If you build it, they will come.'

"There may not be many of the Spanish community who show tonight, but they watch Montrose City Council and see your intention," she said, "Invite the over 22 percent of the Montrose City Hispanic population to take part, and they will come. Arranging for a translator to be here was not just symbolic, it was a meaningful act.

"But if Montrose were to formally declare a non-sanctuary proclamation, that symbolic act would have potentially negative consequences," Spangrude said. "If the Hispanic population and the general population

*Continued pg 26*



During the regular meeting of May 19, Evelyn Greenman Baird, above, spoke in support of a Pride Month Proclamation. Meeting screenshot.

## MONTROSE HONORS THE FALLEN WITH NEW FLAG



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-On Saturday, May 24, the City of Montrose donated a new flag to replace a tattered flag flying above the Valley Lawn Cemetery. Councilor Ed Ulibarri was on hand as well as Mayor Michael Badagliacco.

Courtesy photo.



[The Satisfied Self:](#)  
Column By Gia Pirelli!

[Local Events Calendar!](#)  
[Area Church Directory!](#)

[Cartoon by Tim Jones!](#)

[My Mental Health Journey:](#)  
[Op-Ed By Christopher Larsen!](#)

[Letters to the Editor!](#)  
[Regional News Briefs!](#)



## Summer Library Adventure

Unearth A Story at the library this summer...

Summer Library Adventure begins June 1!



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MONTROSE REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## BLACK CANYON AUDUBON SOCIETY PRESENTATION JUNE 11

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Thursday, June 11-7 -8:30 pm Black Canyon Audubon Society will host Sue Riffe who will speak about a different way of learning bird sounds. Sue will explore musical vocabulary to analyze bird songs we hear and will introduce different ways to learn these songs. The next morning, you will have the opportunity to use your newly gained musical vocabulary to identify bird sounds on a field trip to Billy Creek SWA (please register for the field trip beforehand). The Montrose Field House Summit Room, 25 Colorado Avenue, Montrose. For more information about the speaker and topic go to programs at [blackcanyonaudubon.org](http://blackcanyonaudubon.org)

## PIANO NEEDS RE-HOMED!

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# UPDATED GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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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. This rule now includes requests to re-print letters that have already run.

**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,*

## the Montrose Mirror



*Fresh news for busy people*

*Serving Colorado and Beyond Since 2010!*

Published every Monday in Montrose, Colorado, the Montrose Mirror reaches a readership of more than 35,000 across the region and around the world

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*We welcome community contributions and commentary! Please note, submitted content does not necessarily reflect the views of the Montrose Mirror or its editorial team. In addition to the Online News Association, we hold memberships in the Colorado Press Association and Society for Professional Journalists.*



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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## FORUM TO HEAR PRESENTATION ON BEST PRACTICES DURING DROUGHT

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—On May 20, 2026, the Gunnison River Basin Snow Water Equivalent was 7.5% of the 30-year average!

What, you may ask, are the “Best Practices” during this drought???

Come to the Forum on Wednesday, May 27th, 8-9 A.M., and you will get answers. Our speakers will be:

-Jeff Pieper, Extension Professor for the Tri-River Area specializing in Commercial Horticulture and Natural Resources.

Jeff will discuss how drought impacts plants and water use in the home landscape during drought. This will include information on vegetable gardens, lawns, planting and xeric landscapes. And...

-Michael Arat, Urban Forester for the City of Montrose.

Mike will talk general turf and plant care regarding plant selection, good irrigation habits for a resilient landscape, and combating our saline/sodic soils with appropriate fertility. He is hoping to answer your questions.

We hope to see you on Wednesday, May 27th, 8-9 AM as we all learn more about surviving this drought.

### BLACK CANYON CLASSICS 31ST ANNUAL COLORFUL COLORADO CAR, TRUCK, AND ROD SHOW

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-June 12 and 13 - Car show. Black Canyon Classics 31st Annual Colorful Colorado Car, Truck, and Rod Show, Montrose CO. Friday downtown Main Street closed off for free car entry and public display at 4pm until dusk. Saturday show at Cerise City Park, 8am - 3pm, register your car online at [blackcanyonclassics.org](http://blackcanyonclassics.org). Kids events, pin-up girls, food vendors. Call 9705964523 for more information.

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# MEMORIAL DAY MONDAY MAY 25, 2026

REMEMBER AND HONOR

Montrose, Colo. Services

Valley Lawn Cemetery - 9 a.m. - 17769 US-550  
Grand View Cemetery - 11 a.m. - 16300 6450 Ct

*Please arrive a few minutes early to the services.*

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*Information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed.*



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT SECURES NEARLY \$6.2 MILLION BEST GRANT FOR NEW EARLY CHILDHOOD FACILITY

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— Montrose County School District (MCSD) has been awarded nearly \$6.2 million in Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant funding through the Colorado Department of Education, marking a major milestone in the district's long-term vision to strengthen and expand early childhood opportunities for MCSD families.

Combined with a required district match of approximately \$6.4 million, the award represents an estimated \$12.6 million investment in early childhood education and facilities.

The funding will support the creation of a new Early Childhood Center in Montrose, providing a dedicated, centrally located facility designed specifically to support children and families. The project will improve accessibility, strengthen connections between services, and create learning environments intentionally designed around the needs of young children. MCSD will continue serving families through its existing early childhood programming in Olathe while strengthening services and resources that support children and families across the district.

"I'm thrilled about the opportunities this BEST grant will unlock for our youngest learners and their families," said Dr. Carrie Stephenson, Superintendent of Montrose County School District. "This project has been five years in the making and was identified through our community-driven Master Capital Plan. It's incredibly exciting to see our community's shared vision become reality. This award represents an investment in children, families, and the future of our community."

BEST grants are highly competitive statewide awards that support school construction and facility improvement projects through partnerships between the State of Colorado and local school districts. MCSD's required match reflects the district's continued commitment to long-term planning and investing in facilities that support students and families.

"We know how important those early years are for children and families," said Emily Ploussard, Principal of MCSD's Early Childhood Centers. "Having a space intentionally designed for young learners gives us an opportunity to better support students and create environments that meet the unique needs of early childhood education. It's exciting to think about what this will mean for the families we serve and the opportunities it creates for our students."

The district plans to renovate the recently acquired Field House property at 25 Colorado Avenue to serve as the future home of the Early Childhood Center. Located near existing district facilities, the site provides an accessible location that supports MCSD's long-term vision for early childhood programming.

Following Board of Education acceptance of the grant award, MCSD will begin the next phase of planning and design. Additional project updates and timelines will be shared with the community as work progresses.



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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## TREASURY DEPARTMENT DESIGNATES SINALOA-CONNECTED MEXICAN NATIONAL INDICTED IN COLORADO

*U.S. Attorney's Office*

DENVER – The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Colorado announces that the Department of the Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has designated two distinct networks linked to the Sinaloa Cartel and its fentanyl trafficking activities. An OFAC designation means that an individual, entity, or organization is officially sanctioned by the United States Treasury, and their property and financial interests under U.S. jurisdiction are blocked from use or transfer. In the District of Colorado, a federal grand jury has indicted Rodrigo Alarcon Palomares, a Mexican national and associate of one of those Sinaloa linked networks, with three counts of laundering drug proceeds through cryptocurrency.

# 31<sup>st</sup> Annual

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**June 12th - 14th,  
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Saturday: 8 to 2 AT Cerise Park  
6 to start of movie at the Star Drive In**

# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

**REMINDER: U.S. POSTAL SERVICE WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 25**  
***Self-service options are available in many retail lobbies when Post Offices are closed***

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO — The U.S. Postal Service will observe Memorial Day on Monday, May 25. All Post Office locations will be closed. Regular mail delivery and retail services will resume on Tuesday, May 26.

Customers are reminded that when Post Offices are closed, they can still access many postal products and services through [usps.com](https://usps.com) and self-service kiosks available in select lobbies nationwide. These kiosks feature:

- Postage printing for Priority Mail, Priority Mail Express and international shipping;
- Stamps for purchase;
- Ability to weigh and mail packages; and
- Package tracking information.

As USPS modernizes its retail locations, more self-service options are becoming available at more locations and may include:

- Rapid Dropoff Stations for customers who have already created and printed labels online;
- An option for customers to print shipping labels from a merchant-provided QR code; and
- USPS Smart Lockers that allow customers to both drop off and pick up packages.

Many self-service kiosks are available 24/7, offering customers flexibility and convenience even when Post Offices are closed.

For more information on USPS services, visit [www.usps.com](https://www.usps.com).



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- 4 SOLAR RANCH - RIDGWAY**  
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- 5 411 N. LENA - RIDGWAY**  
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- 7 SOLAR RANCH LOT**  
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- 8 RIDGWAY GENERAL COMMERCIAL LOT**  
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- 9 243 S. LENA - RIDGWAY**  
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 MLS #834523 • \$890,000

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- 10 RESIDENTIAL LOT - RIDGWAY**  
 .25 Acre Solar Ranch Lot on Tabernash  
 Great Location, Backs to Open Space.  
 MLS #833070 • \$450,000

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- 11 IMMACULATE SOLAR RANCH CONDO**  
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 Huge Views of Mountains & Open Space.  
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- 12 SOLAR RANCH HOME - TABERNASH**  
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 Upstairs Studio.  
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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## THE CORE FLAW OF MODERN LIBERALISM

*Editor,*

The Core Flaw of Modern Liberalism:

Liberals love calling the Constitution "flawed" or "outdated." They use this as permission to treat it like a "living document" that activist judges and bureaucrats can endlessly rewrite to achieve their preferred outcomes. This is intellectual sleight of hand.

The Constitution isn't the main problem. It's an exceptionally strong framework designed by men who deeply understood human nature. The real problem is morally corrupt, power-hungry individuals who constantly seek to bypass its limits. Blaming the document instead of the flawed people abusing it is the perfect excuse for expanding government power while dodging accountability. The Founders built checks and balances because men aren't angels. Modern liberalism's solution? Remove the checks and trust the "right" people with more power. That's not progress. That's the road to tyranny wearing a smiley face. The Constitution doesn't need fixing. Fidelity to it does.

*Don Hemme, Redvale*

*DH/xai*

# The Mirror:

For coverage that never leaves  
our readers out in cold ...



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# May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Join us in shining a light  
on mental health all month long!



Find tips for daily wellness and  
having brave conversations



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# GOLF

*Scramble*



**SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026**

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## IGNITE MONTROSE RETURNS JUNE 2

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Enjoy an evening of free entertainment as your fellow community members present fast-paced five-minute presentations on their ideas, hobbies, travels, interests, passions and curiosities Tuesday, June 2. Ignite begins at 7:30 pm at the Canyon Creek Bed and Breakfast (Backyard patio, 820 East Main). Beverages will be available. Check [ignitemontrose.org](http://ignitemontrose.org) for a list of topics and presenters.

# Save The Date



FOR DELTA HEALTH'S  
**HEALTH FAIR**  
**06.18.2026**

**BLOOD  
DRAWS**

**HOTCHKISS**  
06.16.2026  
6:00 AM - 11:00 AM

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BEADWORK BY EDDIE BOX III - SOUTHERN UTE TRIBE



# UTE INDIAN MUSEUM

## COMMUNITY APPRECIATION FESTIVAL

**SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026 | 10 AM - 3 PM**

### CULTURAL LIVE PERFORMANCE

**12:00 PM**

**YELLOW BIRD DANCERS**  
World Champion Hoop Dancers | Flute  
Playing | Storytelling

### MOBILE BUS EXHIBIT

*"The Truth about 250-150"* - A Native created  
immersive gallery experience inside a renovated  
school bus, created to amplify a different facet of  
Indigenous history & expression

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- FREE MUSEUM ADMISSION
- Murdered & Missing Indigenous Women Hand Painting
- Ute Ethnobotany Garden Tours: 11 AM | 1:30 PM
- Native American Vendors
- Native Fry Bread
- Gift Shop Specials
- Silent Auction

### KIDS ACTIVITIES

- Native Cultural Arts Activities
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- Balloon Animals
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- Bookmobile
- Kids Naturescape Play Area

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**LIVE PERFORMANCE: MAY 30, 2026 | 12:00 PM**



# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## DELTA AND MONTROSE COUNTIES PARTNER TO STRENGTHEN WIC SERVICES ACROSS THE REGION

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE- Starting May 1, 2026, Delta County Public Health and Montrose County Public Health are coming together in a new partnership to enhance Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) services across both counties, improving access, efficiency, and quality of care for families throughout the region.

Delta County will serve as the WIC Local Agency Director for both Delta and Montrose counties. This partnership allows both communities to share resources and strengthen services, particularly in the area of high-risk nutrition counseling and coordination of services. WIC provides no-cost food assistance, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and referrals for pregnant women, new mothers, infants, and children up to age five. The program plays a critical role in supporting healthy pregnancies and early childhood development.

“This partnership is a win-win for both counties,” said Mirza Ahmed, Montrose County Public Health Director. “By working together, we can ensure continued compliance with state and federal requirements while improving services for families in our communities.”

As part of this collaboration, April Houk, a Registered Dietitian and experienced high-risk nutrition counselor, will step into an expanded leadership role overseeing WIC services across both counties.

“I’m incredibly excited to lead this partnership and support WIC families across Delta and Montrose counties,” said April. “Our communities are closely connected; people live, work, and travel between them every day.

This approach allows us to build a stronger, more coordinated program that is both high-quality and accessible, while giving families the flexibility to receive services where it’s most convenient for them.”

Through shared leadership and coordination, Delta County will provide oversight, compliance support, staffing coordination, and high-risk nutrition counseling coverage for both counties. Each county will continue to staff its own clinics for routine services while collaborating to ensure consistent standards and improved client experience.

“We’re really pleased to be able to partner with Montrose County to support and strengthen WIC services across both counties,” said Jacqueline Davis, Delta County Public Health Director. “At the end of the day, this work is about expanding access in our rural communities and ensuring families can receive services they need, when and where it works best for them.

This partnership ensures families across not only Delta and Montrose Counties have reliable access to the nutritional support they need to thrive.

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**\$456,000**



**PROPERTY DESCRIPTION**

This stunning brand-new Mesa Verde floorplan by Ridgeline Homes is complete and ready for immediate move in! Built with exceptional craftsmanship on a single-story, efficient 1,456 sq. ft. floor plan featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and a 2-car garage. Perfect for first-time homeowners, empty nesters, or families looking for low maintenance Colorado living with a smart, functional layout.

**PROPERTY HIGHLIGHTS**

**3 BEDROOM**

**2 BATHROOM**

**1,456 SQ. FT.**

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS BEEN HIJACKED BY MARXISTS

*Editor:*

As I do my research for these letters, I never cease to be amazed at the insane things Democrats say and do each week. California's Governor Newsom is usually at the top of the stupid list. This week he is crashing out because Chevron has been telling consumers the truth – California taxes and Newsom's policies are the reason Californians pay significantly higher gas prices than everyone else. Those policies drove out Chevron refineries and now hardworking Californians are having to choose between gas and groceries. Chevron is posting signs on their pumps correctly blaming Democrats. Newsom is calling for boycotting Chevron – incredible leadership from a guy who turned gas into a luxury item. Cambridge, Massachusetts is vying for idiots of the week. Tyler Brown, a career criminal with a violent history, opened fire on a Cambridge roadway. That criminal was previously given a slap on the wrist by a liberal judge who knew the guy was dangerous, but decided to “take a risk” on him anyway. Cambridge has a gunshot detector technology in place – their “Shotspotter” program. Now, the Cambridge city council has voted to disable the technology to protect black residents like Brown and illegal immigrants. You can't make this stuff up. Chicago Mayor Johnson also ended his city's Shotspotter program. Gunfire will now go undetected in the name of “equity,” or something. Try to find the logic of protecting violent criminals, regardless of their race or immigration status, at the expense of victims of those crimes – most of whom are black or immigrants? The change will harm the black community as well as innocent immigrants. Muslims and our illustrious media are vying for the most depraved this week. In Afghanistan, the Taliban has now codified child marriage into law – a practice that is common in many Islamic countries. The new law permits the forced marriage of girls as young as 9 years old. Afghan girls have been denied education, erased from public life, and stripped of basic freedoms, and will now have to deal with state-sanctioned sexual abuse of children. Not only does the international community remain silent, the western media is making excuses for the evil. The BBC covered Afghan fathers selling their child daughters into marriage – one

sold for \$3,200. The BBC wrote a story defending the fathers and blaming the West, with no discussion of the culture that lets this happen, just a portrayal of the father as the selfless victim. Minnesota is trying to stay at the top of the most oblivious list. With fraud running rampant in the state, the Minnesota Department of Human Services handed out bonuses to the staff in charge of the fraud-riddled programs.

This week I had the pleasure of attending my granddaughter's commencement ceremony with the San Juan Christian Home Educators “Class of 2026.” I felt elated, as if I had been somehow conveyed to a more sane world where normal people love their God and their country, don't tolerate a political party obsessed with an invasion of millions of unvetted illegals, or with defunding the police and the resulting lawlessness. A real world where showing a voter I.D. is normal, and men competing in women's sports is considered absurd. A world where the family includes an involved father who teaches his kids to study, get a good job, and work hard – versus being taught that liberals have the right to redistribute that hard earned money to someone who didn't study, work hard, and get a good job. The parents at the graduation ceremony recognized that nobody is born hating America. Nobody is born thinking there are 72 genders. Nobody is born wanting the government to run their grocery store, much less their lives. Those parents know that kind of insanity is taught, and that the public schools are doing the teaching. They have paid attention to what's in our public schools, and have logically said “Not on my watch”, and “not for my kids.” I have nothing but admiration for those parents.

For too long now, every day Democrats have been so brainwashed that even when their candidates promise to raise their taxes (and then steal a large percentage of those taxes), make it known that they fully intend to disarm them, and leave their borders open to invasion, they still vote for Democrats. Unfortunately for the Democrat party elite, moderate Democrat voters are waking up to a disturbing realization. They are going to have to choose between two difficult alternatives. Today's Democrat party is very close to being permanently captured by the American Marxist move-

ment. One choice for moderates is to continue on their present path of blindly allying themselves with those Marxists, and help bring democracy in America to an abrupt end.

The other is to reject the Marxists and everything they stand for. Most of the specifics of what that entails is not clear to me, but it would have to start with dropping their “stop Trump at all costs” obsession and their insane “wokeness.” Today's Democrat party is no longer the party of blue-collar workers, minorities, and moderates. It demonizes any hint of pro-Americanism and has abandoned any adherence to the Constitution or the rule of law.

They have abandoned the old Democrat party that believed in working with the opposition for the benefit of the country rather than destroying that opposition, especially when the opposing party wins elections. Rejecting Marxism would mean returning to the old-time Democrat party. Marxists around the world have a long track record of destroying those who disagree with them. Every day moderate Democrats are slowly realizing that if they abet the Marxist destruction of democracy in this country, the Marxists aren't going to somehow fade into the background and share power with anyone – especially moderate Democrats.

Those moderates would find themselves in the same boat with those awful pro-American conservatives.

Harvard law legend Alan Dershowitz, a lifelong Democrat, is one of a growing flood of Democrats who have seen the light and are warning America of the radical party they once called home: “I've been a Democrat for 70 years, and now am strongly opposed to the party. I am scared of them. They are against America..” Once home to JFK centrists and moderates, today's Democrats have surrendered to radicals, anti-Semites, and anti-American extremists.

The radical left didn't just drift – it hijacked the Democrats, turning universities into propaganda mills and policy into a danger to freedom. Dershowitz indicated that the party's tolerance and outright embracing of Nazi-linked candidates pushed him over the edge. He pulls no punches on the party's betrayal of its own: “I want them defeated.”

*Ed Henrie, Montrose*

# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## HISTORICAL WATERMARK AS FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AWARDS \$40 MILLION FOR SHOSHONE WATER RIGHTS

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER- Western Slope leaders are celebrating the release of \$40 million in federal funding for the Shoshone Water Rights Preservation Project. The Department of Interior award is a major milestone in the effort to permanently protect historic Colorado River flows and strengthen long-term water security across the Western Slope and the West.

The Colorado River District has now secured approximately \$97 million of the \$99 million needed for the purchase and protection of the project. The funding will support the River District’s effort to preserve the historic Shoshone call and protect flows critical to Western Slope communities, agriculture, economies, and recreation.

This is a watershed moment as we observe Colorado’s 150th and America’s 250th anniversaries. It marks what many Western Slope leaders view as one of the most significant water preservation achievements for the region in generations.

The Shoshone Water Rights Preservation Coalition includes more than 100 water providers, local governments, regional entities, and bipartisan elected officials from across Colorado working together to secure the long-term future of the Colorado River system.

“As President of the Colorado River District and Senator for Colorado’s 5th Senate District, I am proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with the many local, state, and federal leaders who worked tirelessly to move this effort forward,” said Senator Marc Catlin. “History will look back on this moment as a major milestone for the Colorado River Basin and for the long-term management of one of our most precious resources. From Western Slope ditch companies and reservoirs to leaders in Washington D.C., countless people came together to ensure this project became a reality for the next generation.”

Senator Catlin specifically praised CD3 Congressman Jeff Hurd for making the Shoshone Project a top federal priority and continuing to advocate for Western Colorado water issues throughout the funding process. Senator Catlin also thanked U.S. Senators Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper, along with the many Western Slope counties, municipalities, water users, and coalition partners who contributed support toward the project.

“It takes the Western Slope team working in the harness together to move mountains and water for our communities,” said Senator Catlin. “This project shows what can happen when rural Colorado communities speak with one voice about protecting our water, our economies, and our future.”

Colorado State Senator Marc Catlin represents the seven counties of Delta, Eagle, Garfield, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, and Pitkin. Senator Catlin serves on the Agriculture & Natural Resources; Transportation & Energy; and Business, Labor, & Technology Committees. Senator Catlin also serves as President of the Colorado River District Board and as a member of the Colorado Tourism Board.

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY



### Honoring My Oath

We have heard from many in our community, both in opposition and in support, regarding the decision not to issue a proclamation for Pride Month this year. With few exceptions, citizens have shared their input respectfully and cordially. I appreciate that and respect the sincerity of the views expressed on both sides.

The decision not to read an official proclamation rests on my obligation to uphold the Constitution and the 14th Amendment. These require equal treatment of all citizens.

Those who support a proclamation for Pride Month are, without question, well intentioned. However, Pride Month primarily recognizes one specific segment of the population based on sexual orientation, with the aim of drawing additional attention to the LGBTQ+ community. Issuing an official proclamation would grant preferential treatment to that portion of the community, treatment that other segments of our community do not equally receive. By its nature, this creates the very form of special treatment the 14th Amendment forbids.

There simply are not enough months in the year to extend comparable recognition to every group within our community. We must understand that officially highlighting our differences does not unite us. It divides us. Every segment of our population remains free to celebrate its own culture, identity, or cause, and I encourage that. Yet when government elevates one group through a formal proclamation, it crosses into preferential treatment that my oath to the Constitution does not allow, regardless of personal feelings.

You are free to agree or disagree, just as each of us is free to live authentically according to our own identity and values. I encourage everyone to do so. Thank you for your understanding.

Our next Work Session is June 1st at 10 am and our next Council meeting is on June 2nd at 6 PM at 107 S. Cascade. Sign up for email agenda alerts by [clicking here](#).

Thank you,  
Michael J. Badagliacco, "MJB"  
Mayor – Montrose, CO  
[mjb@cityofmontrose.org](mailto:mjb@cityofmontrose.org)

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## CITIZENS TAKE TO THE FLOOR AT COUNCIL MEETING from pg 1



**Constituents recite the Pledge of Allegiance during the regular Montrose City Council meeting of Tuesday, May 19. Meeting screenshot.**

believes that the proclamation means Montrose City government and law enforcement could actively cooperate with ICE beyond what the State law permits, it would directly conflict with Colorado's SB25-276, a law. And we just saw a demonstration of our law enforcement respecting and honoring the Colorado law, signed into law, May 2025...for a smaller city like Montrose that relies heavily on state grant programs, there's a meaningful, real-world cost, not just symbolic friction. It's sad, I hate to end on a negative note, but beware negative consequences. And I really do appreciate the positive consequences of having a translator. Thank you."

Next to speak was Bradley Switzer, who said that he was speaking as Treasurer-Secretary of Delta-Montrose Youth Services, commonly known as Partners. "...We're a 501-c3 organization, a mentoring organization...we have assisted thousands of at risk children and families...since 1986...on April 20, we received a letter from the City's Utility billing service, stating that Partners owes \$1,949.32, for water, sewer, and trash, due to an error by the City customer billing service...the error was that the City had classified our building, that we've been in for over 20 years, as residential. And now the City seeks to reclassify it as non-residential. Therefore, they want to collect \$1,949 dollars. That's a lot for us.

We're in tight times right now, and that 1,949 is supposed to represent two years of billing that the city failed to do, due to an oversight...that's almost \$2,000...so in accordance with your City Code Section 3-5-15(C) thru 3-5-15 (F) and Section 3-1-7 (3) through 3-1-7(6)...Partners is hereby requesting a hearing with the City Manager, that's what the provisions of your code state, we're asking for a meeting with the City Manager or his representative to resolve this billing error on the part of the...City customer billing service. The City Code also provides for an appeal of what the City Manager's decision may be, an appeal to the City Council, we hope that's not necessary, we really do...we would like to see this billing error rectified, but not to our detriment, because we made no errors; we paid all our bills when they were received. Thank you very much."

Next, Dave Stockton spoke. "...Mr. Mayor as I was reading your opinion piece in the May 18 edition of the *Montrose Mirror*, I surmised immediately you were setting the stage to declare Montrose a non-sanctuary city. My mother was an immigrant, my stepfather, a first generation American, was a descendant of Mexican immigrants. He went from working in the fields of Southern California to being a fighter pilot in the European theater in World War II.

"He fought the spread of Fascism. Fascism prioritizes the interests of race over

individual rights. Unfortunately, it's rearing its ugly head through the restrictive immigration policies across the country. As someone raised in a family of different cultures, I oppose the jurisdiction declaring itself as non-sanctuary, particularly if it does so under the premise of false fears such as an increase in violent crime or schools and hospitals being overrun.

"Crime in Montrose is down over 2024 numbers. Schools are not being overrun, as evidenced by the school board in Montrose wanting to shut down one of those elementary schools. Hospitals can't turn away people according to the Federal law.

"For those that say immigrants must assimilate into American culture, I ask, what is the American culture. We are a blend of European, African, Hispanic, Asian, and other cultures.

Again, what does the American culture look like. At the beginning of this meeting, each of you recited the Pledge of Allegiance. That Pledge allows for liberty and justice for all. Any jurisdiction that unnecessarily declares itself as non-sanctuary is stripping individuals of their civil liberties by imposing unreasonable government interference.

"Mr. Ulibarri, you are going to be the swing vote on this and other controversial issues. If you support making Montrose a non-sanctuary city, what kind of message are you sending to the kids you mentor? Will you be suggesting (that) the desire for

## CITIZENS TAKE TO THE FLOOR AT COUNCIL MEETING *From previous pg*

self-improvement, the promise of financial security through job opportunities, or simply the wish for better quality of life, are falsehoods?

"I ask that each of you look at your moral compass and ask yourselves, is denying the liberties promised in the Pledge of Allegiance the right thing to do. Is supporting non-sanctuary status being driven by National politics or is it something being embraced by all of Montrose? I say do the right thing, reject any consideration of declaring Montrose a non-sanctuary city through ordinance or resolution.

"Thank you, and I look forward to celebrating Pride Month with you."

Ulibarri responded to Stockton's comments directed at him personally.

Ulibarri said, "...I feel that as an instructor to kids, I teach 'em courtesy, self-control, focus and respect. And when I talk about respect, I am talking about respecting the law, ok. If you believe that breaking the law is something that you want to teach your kids, that's your thing.

"Mine is that the law, whether it's right, wrong, or indifferent, that's what makes this country this country. That's just my opinion sir."

Stockton responded. "Is there any law that requires a jurisdiction, a municipality to declares themselves non-sanctuary....I'm just saying it's a moral injustice to declare non-sanctuary. It sends the wrong message. You're denying someone hope, and the promise of a better life for the families they're trying to rear."

Ulibarri said, "But it also sends the message that the law is the law sir. That's how I feel, I teach that to the kids, that breaking the law is wrong. It doesn't make any difference whether the law is up here or down here, it's the law. If we're all just breaking the law like we want to, however people do, then what kind of a country are we going to have? Respect for the law, courtesy for other people...I was at the store not too long ago where a couple, I don't know whether they were legal or illegal...all I could tell you was they had the checker, who didn't speak Spanish, crying... it hurt my feelings. Because they had no right to disrespect her because she couldn't speak Spanish...I don't want to get into an argument with you..."

Stockton interrupted him and began speaking in a louder voice. "...there's law, and there's justice..."

He was informed that his time for speaking was up.

Next to speak was Evelyn Greenman Baird, the Founder and Executive Director of Montrose Pride. Greenman Baird spoke about the history of the Pride Month Proclamation, which has been read for the past two years but will not be read this year, asking that it be reconsidered.

"...I want to say plainly what this proclamation is and isn't. It changes no law, it shifts no budget, and binds no one to anything. It is the City of Montrose saying to over 1,400 residents...that you are a part of this community..."

"On May 5, this council read a proclamation for Mental Health Awareness month," Greenman Baird said. "I want to draw a direct line between that decision and this one. Research from the Trevor Project shows that queer youth in rural communities are already twice as likely as their peers in urban areas to describe their community as unaccepting.

"Civic recognition isn't just symbolic. For over 1,400 residents in Montrose, it is a mental health intervention, and one that costs this city nothing.

"When recognition is withheld, that too is felt. It lands on real people. The teenager sitting in an MHS classroom tomorrow morning, the senior citizen who has lived in this city for decades and wonders if their city government sees them. I know because I am one of these people...I intend to build something here, and I want to do that in a city whose government reflects the values that I believe most of us in this room share..."

Greenman Baird asked that the reading of the proclamation be approved. "...Our citizens are watching."

Councilor J. David Reed delivered a prepared statement in support of the proclamation. "I'm very disappointed by the decision not to issue a proclamation regarding Montrose Pride Month this year...such proclamations do not create rights, confer special treatment, or require agreement with every viewpoint represented by a group...a city government serves all of its citizens...we are entrusted with representing an entire com-

munity...I am concerned that refusing to recognize Montrose Pride Month sends a message, intended or not, that some members of our community are less worthy of acknowledgment than others...true leadership means ensuring that all residents understand that they have a place at the table. Our city is strongest when people know they are seen, valued, and welcomed...every resident belongs in the civic life of this community..."

Mayor Badagliacco said, "I think we can all agree that any government entity granting preferential status to any segment of the citizenry, whether by proclamation or other means, would undermine the fundamental fairness owed to every citizen of Montrose...my commitment...is to ensure that everyone is honored and everyone is able to live their life authentically...I just don't think it's government's place to make those proclamations."

Greenman-Baird said that government is exactly the place to ensure that all of its citizens feel welcome and feel at home here. "...We have a history of two years running of getting this proclamation read by the City Council...I think that the process should be made easier so that more citizens can be made to feel like they do belong here, and their personal beliefs recognized, their organizations, their values, their entities recognized by the City of Montrose."

Next to speak was Connie Pittenger, who said that she lived in the immediate neighborhood where there had been an officer-involved shooting on May 9. "I am wondering why the immediate neighbors did not receive a reserve 911 call to let us know that there was an active shooter in our neighborhood and tell us to shelter in place. I know that my cell phone is registered with the County of Montrose and their emergency system...neighbors were notified by the old fashioned method—one neighbor walked out, found out that our neighborhood was in siege, and then started calling other neighbors—neighbor by neighbor.

"It's a little bit disheartening that with all the modern technology that we were not notified to shelter in place, with an active shooter in our neighborhood," Pittenger said.

Former Mayor Dave Bowman spoke.

## CITIZENS TAKE TO THE FLOOR AT COUNCIL MEETING *From previous pg*

Bowman said that he has had the honor and privilege of sitting “in that chair.”

Bowman said, “So I’m kind of familiar with your rules, and I’m trying to understand. I watched the video from the work session, and Councilor Reed indicated that it was some kind of consensus decision to not allow the City Council to recognize the Pride Proclamation. My understanding is, you can’t really sit around and talk outside a meeting...I’m trying to figure out, without a vote, how a decision was arrived.

“My understanding, Mr. Mayor, is that you said it was consensus...what I’d like know right now, Mr. Mayor, can you please explain to me how this council, that’s not really supposed to communicate outside this chamber, came to the consensus that Mr. Reed wasn’t part of...I would guess that Mr. Frank wasn’t in favor either...so if you had some kind of three-two split, and I don’t know how you would get there, can you please explain to me, Mr. Mayor, that all five of you were not in favor of the Pride Proclamation being read.”

“I never said that it was unanimous,” Badagliacco said. “...Consensus means that we had a majority...”

“Whoa whoa whoa!” Bowman said, “that doesn’t work sir, you have to come in public and vote! What you did, in my opinion, and I guess Mr. Downey maybe can answer, I think you violated your own rules!

City Attorney Chris Dowsey said that proclamations are not voted on by anyone and are not an official act. “They’re more ceremonial than anything.”

Council members do not discuss proclamations among themselves; the proclamations go to the City Clerk, who asks council members individually, to see if there is a consensus in favor of the proclamation, he said. “That is how our proclamations are done...”

Bowman said that there is a fairly new council that doesn’t understand the rules and should go back and look at how decisions are made.

Bowman said that nobody works harder or better than City Clerk Lisa Del Picollo and he has nothing but respect for her skills. “But to hear that consensus ruled,

where actually consensus is not a vote! That’s a discussion and that discussion should have been held in public, not in private!”

City Attorney Chris Dowsey interjected. “This is how it was going while you were on Council...a proclamation isn’t going to be an official vote, it’s ceremonial.”

“I’m not concerned about that!” Bowman said. “I’m concerned about how the decision was arrived at!”

Dowsey said, “The exact same way as all proclamations were done while you were on council.”

Bowman continued, “I don’t ever remember being called and said, you do you agree with this. Not ever...You guys are violating your own rules! That doesn’t help democracy in Montrose!”

City Manager Bill Bell said that he is not taking sides on the proclamation as he is staff and does not decide political issues. Bell said that technically, the Mayor can issue proclamations all by himself and does not need the agreement of council. “The Mayor has the right to do that. So that’s why they don’t take votes on it...the authority still sits with the Mayor themselves. They can issue whatever proclamation they want. In this particular case, we did what we’ve always done through the clerk’s office...nobody voted on anything, in this particular case it was three to two...with the majority we decided not to do it. That’s the way we’ve done it for a long time.”

Next to speak was Ryan Sedgley. “...New Council, obviously a shift in tone...listening to these two subjects tonight...you all have an opportunity still to not go down that road...both only sends one message, that this council is bigoted and racist and makes it an unwelcoming place for everybody in this community...you have the choice to either send that message of hatred and unleash, open those gates, or you can choose to do the right thing and tell this community that you are inclusive, that everybody does matter...”

Phoebe Benziger spoke. She thanked Councilor Reed for his comments. “That was incredibly well spoken...” She asked how many proclamation requests the city receives.

To Mayor Badagliacco, Benziger said, “...I honestly can’t pronounce your name correctly. But you don’t welcome people by excluding them,” she said. “It doesn’t work that way...”

Mayor Badagliacco thanked all for being there. “Appreciate it very much.”

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council voted unanimously to approve minutes of the [May 4, 2026](#), special City Council meeting and the [May 5, 2026](#), regular City Council meeting as presented.

### QUASI-JUDICIAL ITEMS

#### COLORADO OUTDOORS AMENDMENT 3 FINAL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Council voted to approve the [Colorado Outdoors Amendment 3](#) Final Planned Development Plan expressly conditioned upon City staff ensuring that all policies, regulations, ordinance and Municipal Code provisions are met and that the Applicant adequately addresses all of staff’s concerns prior to execution of the Final Planned Development. The City staff is not authorized by this approval to execute the Final Planned Development prior to all conditions being satisfied.

#### ORDINANCE 2713 - SECOND READING

Council unanimously approved [Ordinance 2713](#) on second reading, amending the zoning district designation of 701 North Grand Avenue from R-3, Medium Density District, to I-1, Light Industrial District.

#### ORDINANCE 2714 - SECOND READING

Also approved unanimously was [Ordinance 2714](#) on second reading, an Ordinance of the City of Montrose, Colorado, amending the zoning district designation of Lot 13, Court Park Filing No. 1 from B-3, General Commercial District, to I-1, Light Industrial District.

#### STAR COURT LOT 7 TOWNHOMES FINAL PLAT

Council voted unanimously to approve the [Star Court Lot 7 Townhomes Final Plat](#) expressly conditioned upon City staff ensuring that all policies, regulations, ordinance and Municipal Code provisions are met and that the Applicant adequately addresses all of staff’s concerns prior to execution of the Final Plat. The City staff is not authorized by this approval to execute the Final Plat prior to all conditions being satisfied.

#### ORDINANCE 2715 - FIRST READING

# CITIZENS TAKE TO THE FLOOR AT COUNCIL MEETING *From previous pg*

Councilor Ed Ulibarri recused himself from the discussion and vote on Ordinance 2715, as he serves on the Board of Directors of the Mexican American Development Association (MADA).

The four remaining Council members voted to approve Ordinance 2715, authorizing the disposal of real property located at 931 and 939 North Park Avenue pursuant to § 1-9-2 of the Official Code of the City.

Following the vote, Ulibarri returned to Council chambers.

### HOTEL & LODGING TAX ALLOCATION GRANT RATIFICATION

After brief discussion, Council voted unanimously to ratify a Hotel and Lodging Tax Allocation Grant in the amount of \$55,000 to All Points Transit to assist with emergency needs resulting from state funding cuts.

### 6700 ROAD CEDAR CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT DESIGN CONTRACT

The final action item was consideration and possible approval of the award of a

contract to Goff Engineering in the amount of \$141,819, for completion of the 6700 Road Cedar Creek Bridge Replacement Design Project.

Constituent Bill Bottomly spoke during the time allotted for public comment, to encourage the addition of bike lanes in the North and South portions of the project.

City Engineer Scott Murphy said that bike lanes are included in the template for the design.

Council voted unanimously to award the contract to Goff Engineering in the amount of \$141,819 for completion of the 6700 Road Cedar Creek Bridge Replacement Design Project.

### STAFF REPORTS

Sales Tax Manager Leeanne Whittaker presented the Sales, Use & Excise Tax Report for March, broken out by fund and by area.

Senior Accountant Heather MacDougall presented the First Quarter Budget Report.

Councilor Dave Frank asked if there is a sunset date for the Montrose Recreation District fund; MacDougall said that she would find out.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Frank said that he attended a Water Summit hosted by Montrose County. City Engineer Scott Murphy presented at the Summit, Frank said. "The news is not awesome...it's going to be a tight water year...."

While the City of Montrose has adequate water and is not under any type of restrictions, Frank encouraged citizens to pursue careful and thoughtful water conservation.

"...No matter how much you water asphalt, it's never going to grow..."

Mayor Badagliacco thanked the public for attending. "It is dialogue that makes us all better," he said. "I appreciate it very, very much."

With no further business, Badagliacco adjourned the meeting.



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# OPINION/EDITORIAL:COMMENTARY

## WE ARE NOT “CUSTOMERS,” WE ARE “TAXPAYERS”-THERE IS A DIFFERENCE!

by Michael J Badagliacco, “MJB”

I recently had a conversation that brought a troubling reality into sharp focus. City, County, State and Federal governments routinely refer to the people they serve as “customers.” This is not a minor slip of language. It reveals a deeper confusion about the relationship between government and those who fund it.

### The Terminology Problem

When officials call us customers, they blur a line that should remain crystal clear. A customer walks into a store, evaluates options, and decides whether to buy. If the product or service fails to meet expectations, the customer can leave and take their business elsewhere. Taxpayers enjoy no such freedom. We pay our taxes because the law requires it. Staying in our homes and communities means complying with the tax obligations imposed by the jurisdictions where we live. There is no shopping around for a different government.

### Why the Distinction Matters

This difference in choice carries profound consequences for accountability. A business exists to generate profits for its own-

ers. It must satisfy customers or risk losing them to competitors. Government exists to serve the public using resources entrusted to it by the people. Those resources are not profits earned through voluntary exchange. They are taxes and fees extracted under the authority of law. When government adopts customer language, it subtly shifts the mindset away from stewardship and toward something closer to a commercial transaction where officials act as providers and residents merely consume.

### Government as Public Trust

Our system of government rests on the principle that public officials hold taxpayer money in trust. The services we receive, from roads and public safety to water and parks, are funded by the very taxes we pay. In many cases we pay twice: once through general taxation and again through specific fees for the services themselves. A private business builds its offerings with its own capital and assumes the risk of failure. Government assumes no such risk. It simply collects more when costs rise or priorities shift. This arrangement demands the highest level of trans-

parency and frugality precisely because the money is never truly the government's to spend as it pleases.

### Restoring Proper Perspective

Referring to taxpayers as customers may feel modern or businesslike to some administrators. In practice it weakens the essential understanding that government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed and remains accountable to them. We are not patrons of a municipal enterprise. We are the owners of the public trust. Elected officials and staff serve at our pleasure and with our resources. When that relationship is clearly understood, conversations about budgets, priorities, and performance take on a different character. Waste becomes more visible. Accountability becomes non-negotiable. And the true purpose of government, to protect rights and provide essential services efficiently, regains its proper place. The next time you hear an official describe you as a customer, remember who actually pays the bills. We are taxpayers. That word carries both obligation and authority. It is time our governments spoke with the same clarity.



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## OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS

### SEAN M. POND WITHDRAWS FROM UNITED STATES SENATE RACE FOLLOWING TWO YEAR JOURNEY THROUGH COLORADO PUBLIC LIFE

COLORADO-A year and a half ago, I knew absolutely nothing about politics. Nothing.

I was not a career politician. I was not someone who spent years preparing to run campaigns or navigate political systems. I was simply a guy from western Colorado fighting for land, liberty, and the way of life I love.

If people read my book *UNDERestimated: The Roads That Built Me*, then they already understand that I never planned for any of this. I stepped into public life because I believed I could make a difference, and somehow I found myself dropped directly into county government, statewide campaigns, party politics, assemblies, and political conflict all at once. What followed became the biggest crash course imaginable.

Being appointed county commissioner opened my eyes very quickly. I got to see firsthand how government works, how institutions operate, how relationships shape outcomes, and how influence affects decisions. Some of it I respected. Some of it challenged many of my assumptions. But all of it taught me something.

Then came the United States Senate race. Traveling Colorado, debating across the state, building momentum, meeting people from every walk of life, and hearing directly from everyday Coloradans reinforced something I already believed deeply. A lot of people feel disconnected from government and unheard by the institutions that are supposed to represent them.

Going through the Republican assembly process taught me another lesson.

I realized that passion, momentum, debate performances, grassroots energy, endorsements, relationships, organizational support, and long-established networks all play a major role in modern politics. Political parties are institutions built on trust, coalitions, influence, and relationships developed over many years. Whether people fully understand that or not, that is reality.

For someone coming completely from the outside, it was an eye opening experience.

When I walked out of assembly, I was honestly at peace. I was prepared to go home and move on from politics entirely. The only reason this campaign continued afterward was because so many people across Colorado asked me to stay in the fight.

Changing parties during the race opened my eyes even more.

It showed me firsthand how quickly politics can become tribal and how much political identity and party alignment shape relationships, opportunities, support, and access. It also taught me something important. You cannot fight everybody all the time and expect to build something lasting. That does not mean giving up your principles. It means understanding how the system actually works.

I do not look at politics the same way I did when this journey started.

I needed to go through all of this to truly understand it. I needed to experience the inside of the system instead of simply talking about it from the outside. Most people never get to see county government, statewide campaigns, party politics, assemblies, and outsider movements all within such a short period of time. Somehow, for whatever reason, I did.

And now I understand it at a level I never could have before.

After a great deal of reflection, I have decided to withdraw from the United States Senate race.

This is not about giving up on the principles that brought me into public life in the first place. I still believe Colorado is at a crossroads. I still believe everyday people deserve a voice. I still believe many Americans feel disconnected from institutions and systems that no longer reflect their lives or concerns.

What changed is my understanding.

I learned more over the last two years than I probably would have learned in twenty years standing outside the system criticizing it. I got to see campaigns, government, leadership, and party structures

from the inside. That perspective changed me, and it prepared me for whatever road lies ahead.

While I may have stepped into politics originally as an outsider who knew nothing about the political world, this Senate campaign was never something I did alone.

We had consultants, staff, volunteers, advisors, supporters, donors, friends, and countless people behind the scenes who poured their time, energy, talent, resources, and hearts into this effort. There were people who traveled with us, organized events, defended us, communicated for us, opened doors for us across Colorado, and stood beside us even when it was difficult to do so.

Some took criticism for supporting us. Some sacrificed time away from their families.

Some gave financially when they could barely afford to.

Some simply believed in what we were trying to do and refused to quit on us.

I learned a tremendous amount through this experience, and so did many of the people who walked this road beside me. Together, we grew through it.

I am deeply humbled and eternally grateful to every single person who believed in us and helped carry this campaign forward.

None of this happened alone.

I do not know exactly what comes next, but I do know this.

I care deeply about Colorado.

I care deeply about this country.

And I believe the people deserve leaders who understand both the frustrations outside the system and the realities inside of it.

This experience gave me perspective I could not have gained any other way.

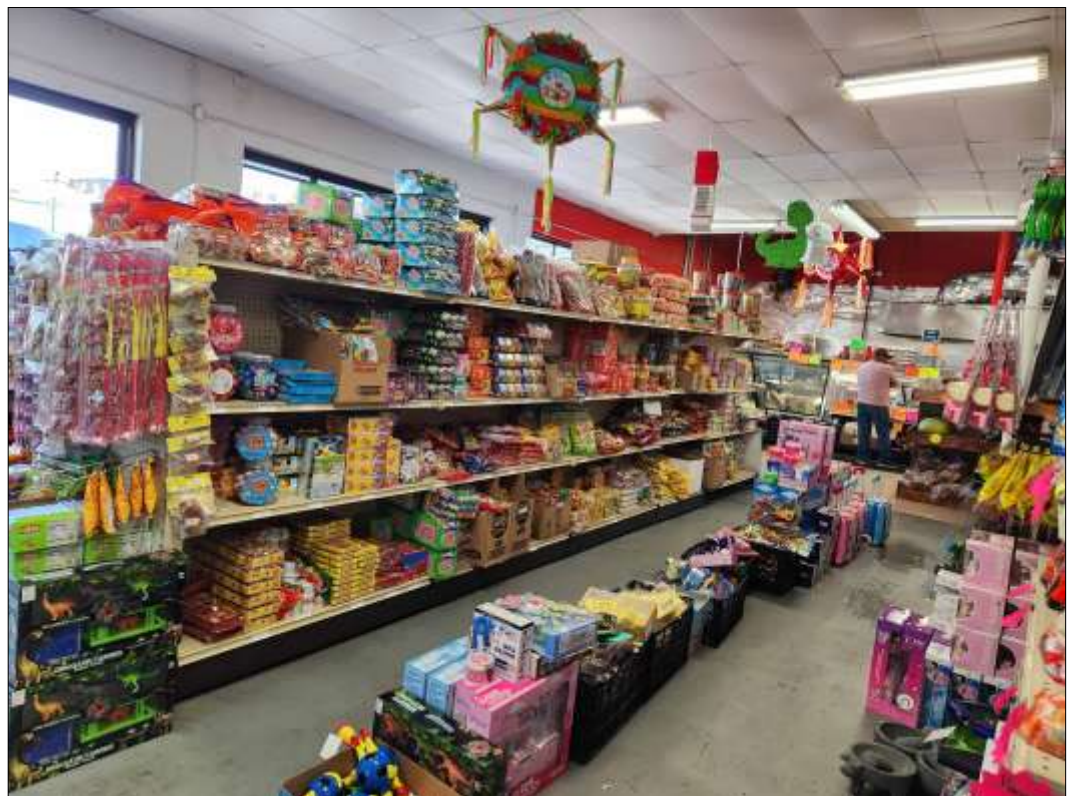
Wherever the road leads next, I now move forward with a far deeper understanding of people, institutions, leadership, and what it truly takes to create lasting change.

Sean M. Pond

# MIRROR IMAGES: OUT & ABOUT!



At right, the neighborhood at North First and Townsend is now a destination for local foodies! In addition to the long-time Carniceria Sonora Market at 347 North First Street, the newly-opened Carnicería Supermarket El Forastero (right) has opened at North First Street and Townsend Ave, and offers a wide selection of groceries, baked goods, tortillas and meats. Above left, The Bridges at Montrose offers entertainment on Friday evenings. On May 22, Singer/Songwriter Mark Seelbinder delighted the Happy Hour crowd with a rendition of Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the USA."



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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## DELTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PARTNERS WITH KBH CENTER TO ENHANCE PEACE OFFICER MENTAL HEALTH DURING AWARENESS MONTH

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA— In recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, the Delta County Sheriff's Office is proud to announce a specialized 16-hour behavioral health training in-service took place on May 19 and 20. This initiative is part of a broader commitment to supporting the wellness of those who serve our community and is made possible by the Peace Officers Behavioral Health Support and Community Partnership (POMH) Grant Program, awarded by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA).

The intensive two-day training event was conducted and coordinated by KBH Center, a leader in regional behavioral health services. To ensure the highest level of specialized instruction, KBH Center subcontracted a previous partner from Chicago and an expert outside trainer, Chief Kent Williams with Breechpoint Consulting, to deliver a curriculum specifically designed for the unique challenges faced by law enforcement professionals.

"Our officers and staff face high-stress situations every day, and providing them with the tools to manage their mental well-being is a top priority," said the Delta County Under-sheriff, Quinn Archibeque. "Partnering with KBH Center during Mental Health Awareness Month allows us to turn awareness into action, providing tangible support for our staff and their families."

The May training serves as the launchpad for a comprehensive support program. Following the initial in-service, KBH Center will provide follow-up behavioral health sessions for department members and their immediate families. This long-term approach ensures that the support offered is not just a one-time event, but a sustained resource available to officers throughout the year.



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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## KICK OFF A SUMMER OF SAFETY BY PLANNING A SOBER RIDE *Troopers Conducting a Multi-day operation focused on locating impaired drivers*

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER—A big holiday weekend deserves a big focus on safety. All Colorado State Patrol DUI Task Force Teams will join forces with the Operation I-25 State-to-State enforcement campaign announced yesterday to increase patrols along I-25 from Ft. Collins to Trinidad during the upcoming Memorial Day weekend. The three special DUI Teams will concentrate resources on May 22 and May 23 to address any driver showing signs of impairment. While the primary focus is to deter impaired driving, any dangerous driving behavior observed or reported will be addressed.

Last year, Memorial Day was the second busiest holiday for impairment-involved



**Troopers continue to take a low-tolerance approach to the top fatal crash factors, including impaired driving. The Colorado State Patrol reminds motorists to plan for a sober ride, drive at the speed limit, and maintain their lane position based on the current driving conditions. Colorado State Patrol courtesy photo.**

crashes investigated by the Colorado State Patrol across the State. Looking specifically at I-25 in 2025, troopers investigated 201 crashes involving impairment, with Saturday as the peak day of the week. Eleven of these crashes were fatal, and 52 caused injuries.

This special operation is dedicated to stopping impaired driving "in its tracks" to save lives. State troopers will focus on the detection and apprehension of drivers who may be impaired by or otherwise under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of these substances. The worst way to start the year is getting a DUI.

We are asking the public for assistance in reporting suspected impaired drivers. The driver should be avoided by getting out of the way. Then, contact the Colorado State Patrol after you pull over by calling \*CSP (\*277) or 9-1-1. Be prepared to provide the following information: vehicle description, license plate number, location and direction of travel, driver description, and the driving behavior being demonstrated. All emergency calls can be made to 9-1-1.



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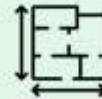
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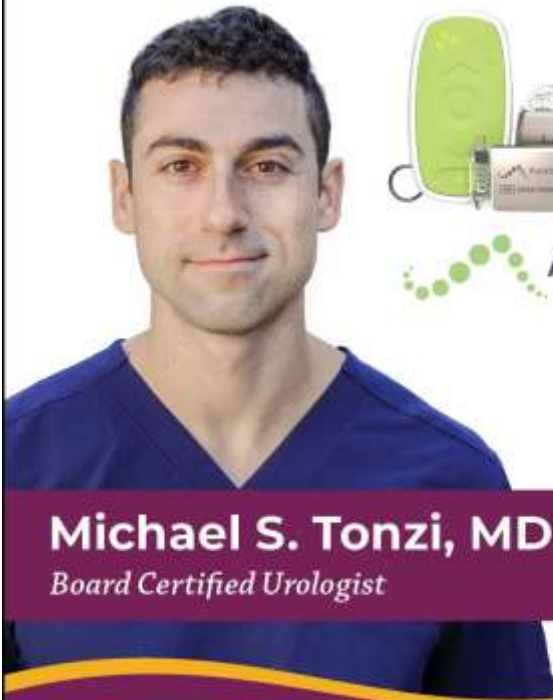
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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

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## MHS/OHS CLASSES OF 1976 50TH REUNION TO BE HELD FIRST WEEKEND IN JUNE

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The Olathe and Montrose High School Classes of 1976 will be holding a 50th class reunion the first weekend of June.

Festivities will start Friday, June 5 at the Cerise Park Pavilion at 5 pm to include the free concert in the park that evening.

Saturday, June 6 will start at 5pm at the Carver Farm - \$22 includes BBQ dinner, water, lemonade & tea.

Both events allow for bringing your own beverage but NO hard liquor or glass containers!

We invite members of other MHS classes, former faculty and staff members to join us on Friday evening.

Contact us via email by May 26: montrose-high1976@gmail.com or Facebook: 76 Reunion Page for more information.

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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## CDOT EXPANDS EFFORTS TO GIVE TEENS AND PARENTS FACTS ON CANNABIS IMPAIRMENT

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO— With graduation season and summer vacation approaching, the Colorado Department of Transportation is reminding young drivers and their families that underage use of alcohol or cannabis is illegal and that any cannabis products that cause impairment can result in a DUI for drivers of any age.

Colorado law prohibits non-medical cannabis use by anyone younger than 21 years-old. However, findings from the [2023 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey](#)—the latest data currently available—indicate 40 percent of teens say it would be easy for them to get marijuana.

Feedback from driving instructors throughout Colorado also indicates many students believe newer cannabis products that do not produce an odor—such as edibles or THC vapes—make it easier to mask use and impairment.

“It’s important for young drivers to understand the real risks of cannabis-impaired driving,” said Darrell Lingk, Director of Transportation Safety at CDOT. “There may be a belief that it’s easier to get away with, or that it’s not as dangerous as alcohol-impaired driving. We don’t want any young drivers, or their families, to experience an arrest or a crash to learn that’s not the case.”

CDOT is partnering with driving schools and driver license offices throughout the state to deliver the facts to drivers ages 15-20 on how cannabis-impaired driving can result in a DUI, and how a DUI can result in severe consequences for a young person. The latest materials include posters and videos that communicate both the risk and consequences of a DUI are real, no matter how cannabis is used.

“Something we focus on with students is that there are so many variables with cannabis,” said Joshua Rossi, Director of Business Development at Western Slope Driving Institute. “How it’s used and the strength or dosage of it. Especially in areas without a lot of retail cannabis shops, we see more homemade edibles. It’s going to be really hard for someone to know the potency of that and how their body will react to it.”

In addition to a DUI arrest, the biggest risk with any type of impaired driving is a serious, or even fatal crash. Cannabis impairment was suspected in 1,058 crashes throughout Colorado in 2025. That’s a fact that CDOT and driving schools are sharing not only with students, but their parents as well.

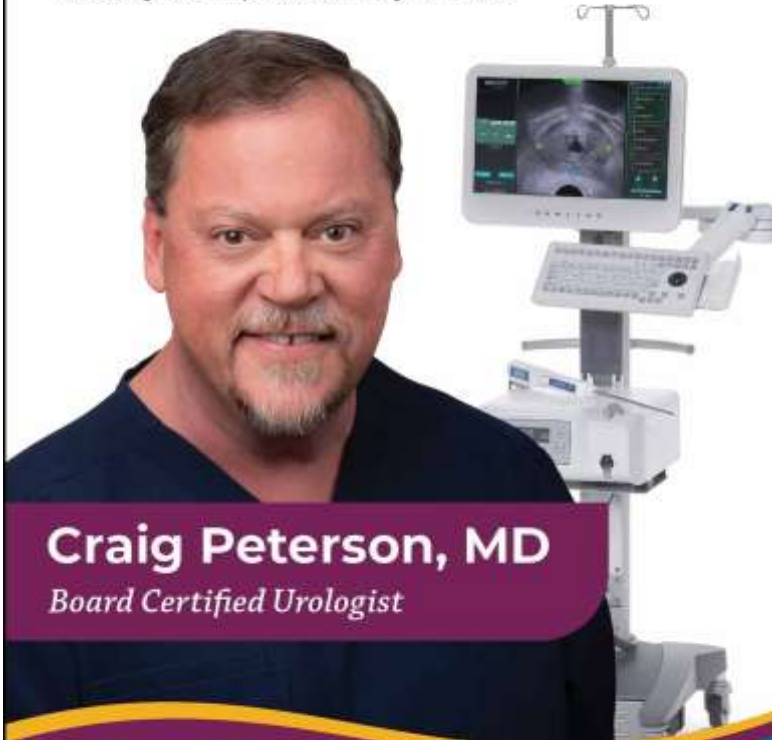
“We have a lot of parents send us feedback that they haven’t really thought about the consequences or setting parameters with their teen drivers when it comes to cannabis use,” said Matt Cabot, Driving Instructor at TopCops Driving School. “We encourage all our parents to have an agreement and expectations with their young drivers.”

“As parents it’s important to try to avoid judgement when our kids make the right decision,” said Steve Landrigan, a parent whose teen recently completed driving school. “My son and I have talked about what the backup plan is [if he tried cannabis], and that calling me for a ride home is going to work out a lot better for him than ever attempting to drive impaired or get in a car with an impaired driver.”

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## THE CITY OF MONTROSE & MONTROSE COUNTY – BORROWING MONEY BY LEASING IT! *“Certificates of Participation” Explained – Not for the Common Man*

By David White

I’ve been asked of late to discuss how it is that the City and County are able to afford the new buildings or projects that they’re involved in planning and constructing. As many of you know, over the course of the last few years, the City of Montrose (primarily) and Montrose County (to a limited degree) have been “borrowing” money (lots of it – in the millions of dollars) to pay for governmental projects such as the enormous City Public Works Facility currently under construction at the intersection of East Oak Grove Road and Rio Grande Avenue as well as the Colorado Outdoors development and the County’s new “North Campus” building (also under construction in front of the Justice Center). Just last week, Montrose County Commissioners approved \$6.5 million in new “debt” for this North Campus facility.

In order to finance these projects and avoid restrictions imposed by the Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) amendment to the State constitution, a work around financing instrument known as Certificates of Participation (COP) was developed years ago to finance public projects. Basically, the governmental entity borrows money from investors by using public buildings or assets as collateral in exchange for the money received to build a new building or complex which is then “leased” back to the governmental entity by the investors (purchasers of the COPs) for a specified period of time.

An internet search offers some straightforward explanations as to what these COPs are about and how they work. Here are some of the more easily understood explanations found on Investopedia.com:

-COPS are a lease-financing agreement used by a municipality or local government to acquire real property. Under the agreement, the local government makes regular payments over the annually renewable contract for the acquisition and use of the property. A lease-financing contract is typically made available in the form of a Certificate of Participation.

-The City and County usually use the proceeds from a COP to construct a facility that is leased to the municipality, ***releasing the municipality from restrictions on the amount of debt that they can incur***. The COP contrasts with a bond, in which the investor loans the government or municipality money in order to make these improvements.

-A certificate of participation is a tax-exempt agreement sold as securities that resemble bonds. In a COP program, a trustee is typically appointed to issue the securities that represent a percentage interest in the right to receive payments from the local government under the lease-purchase contract.

-Investors receive a certificate entitling them to a share of revenue from the lease-purchase of property or equipment tied to the COP. Lease payments go through the lessor to the trustee, who distributes them to certificate holders on a pro-rata basis.

***“Certificates of participation do not require voter approval and also can be issued more quickly than referendum bonds.*** COP financing is complex and generally mirrors bond financing, needing an underwriter and various fiscal agents.

***“COP debt is a certificate of participation debt.*** This type of debt is issued by state or local authorities and secured by revenues from leases; either equipment or property/facility. This allows state authorities or local municipalities to raise financing for projects within the jurisdiction without having to issue bonds/long-term debt.

You can find more information here: (<https://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/certificateofparticipation.asp>)

Because the “debt” is secured by a “lease” of a physical structure or real property, the governmental entity is allowed to incur more and more debt since COPs are seen more as a “lease-purchase” agreement and not a “loan” that would encumber their financial ability to borrow money. This is why the City of Montrose keeps going deeper into debt because the argument can be made that a lease obligation isn’t the same as an outright bank loan.

So, there you have it. A legal way to get yourself into hock up to your eyeballs and yet claim that you have more borrowing capacity than you technically do. Montrose City Manager Bell has made this argument on many occasions and while correct in the legal sense, the millions of dollars that have been borrowed through the issuance of COPs are still debt.

Someday, whether it be because of a recession or other calamity, this kind of borrowing will come back to haunt the City in particular. The County, with much less debt, may make it through, but not without a degree of pain.

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

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## MY MENTAL HEALTH JOURNEY



**Chris Larsen.**  
Courtesy photo.

By Chris "Topher" Larsen

ST. GEORGE, UTAH—It has been a year since I started taking the magic dose, it's the one that makes me the most normal. It's the one that makes my outward appearance more stable. It allows me to keep

a job and function like a normal person. It also helps me sleep soundly at night.

It astounds me how much more focused I am; it's almost like putting on glasses for the first time. Everything is sharp and in focus, but the true miracle is the suppression of anxiety. I have not suffered an anxiety attack in a few years. I also find it unnecessary to drink to suppress anxiety, which is truly a miracle in its own right. It would seem my journey to normal is well under way.

What exactly is normal? Google defines normal as *"what is ordinary, typical, or expected, conforming to a standard, regular pattern, or average within a group. It implies a lack of deviation from established rules, behavioral norms, or natural states, often representing what is considered "usual" or "healthy."*

For decades I chased this elusive state of mind as if it were nirvana, only to be disappointed time after time. No one ever explained to me what normal was or what it felt like. When I was younger the doctors just tranquilized me into behaving, so for years and years I thought normal was simply being stoned. To this day my friends prefer to deal with me after a joint or two. This link to addiction and acceptance was established early. When I was a child, I hated these drugs.

Now enter this new class of drugs. Powerful drugs like the one I am taking, Abilify. These drugs don't get you stoned. For me personally the drug has zero side effects. The biggest side effect most people complain about is lethargy, that feeling you

are walking through peanut butter.

This new class of drugs seems to have eliminated that dreaded side effect and at the same time the drug finally treats anxiety without sedation. That's huge. It means no more lost time due to anxiety attacks. Let there be no mistake, anxiety will kill you and cannot be ignored. It is the only component of my mental health diagnosis that needs legitimate professional help to deal with. There is nothing on this earth that horrifies me more than a runaway anxiety attack. My entire adult life can be chronicled by what means I was trying to manage my anxiety. When I first turned 21, I tried alcohol to calm my nerves. That led to disaster in my life and on my driving record. Alcohol made my mental problems worse and never better.

I went through a time where I thought seeking and finding true spiritual union with the cosmos or God would fix my anxiety problem. So off I went tripping through the tulips with and without the aid of powerful hallucinogens, to find this marriage of the spirit that would ease my anxiety. Almost without exception the people who start that type of journey find something way different than they expected. Although this enlightening path made me accept my fate and keenly aware of my future place in things, sadly, it cannot shield you from an acute panic attack.

The first true glimmer of hope for me was a devastating diagnosis. I was wrecked when I found out I was crazy. I am keenly aware of society's disdain for the mentally ill and the prejudice and fear society bestows upon America's weakest demographic.

The medicines they tried on me first made me sick, others broke me out in hives. The situation was bleak at best. Then a friend suggested Abilify. One pill a day and every symptom, mood swing, and most importantly anxiety... was gone. I now receive Abilify once a month in a depo shot insuring smooth delivery of the drug regardless of my situation. People simply don't know I am different now, and in a way, I am more stable than the "normal" people around me.

It's not all hearts and flowers I must admit. Although I now possess the requisite skills and mental stability to make it in this world, finding work is tough at my age. I manage with little side jobs. I live as modestly as possible and snowboard a few times a week when there is snow. While I am there, I am always humbled by an overwhelming sense of gratitude. The way I figure, with good coffee and herb I can manage for the rest of my life so long as my Abilify does not lose its potency in my system.

For now, things are pretty smooth for me personally; it's you normal people that have me worried.

I mean what a great time to have your mental faculties in order! America has clearly gone insane. As great as Abilify is, without charity from the drug company that manufactures it, I would have to go without. One of the unforeseen hurdles I had to jump this year was success. Literally two days after my family doctor increased my dose, I got a job. I worked steadily for four months, lifted myself out of homelessness, and had the eradication of poverty in my life dead in my sight when the bottom dropped out.

Because of my newfound success, the state cut my medical benefits. It did not take long. I lost that great job because of mania and a mouth that doesn't know when to shut up. Does it not seem insane to you as a taxpayer to go through the expense and trouble to get me stable, to then just cut the medication right when I respond the way you wanted me to?

It makes no sense to me. The citizenry will legislate for three bathrooms in every business across the country, but I still can't afford my medication. Now it may seem to you that I am being a little rough on the transgender people. But You have effectively catered to a very small vocal segment of the much larger mental health umbrella.

What precious little resources and political capital mentally ill people have had has been squandered and directed towards forcing people and corporations to add another bathroom to their businesses. It pains me to calculate the bed space you

# MY MENTAL HEALTH JOURNEY from previous pg

could have provided for the worst afflicted members of the mentally ill class.

The autistic and people with severe brain injury will have to wait until society deems you more fashionable. Schizophrenics and people with severe bipolar disorder, who simply need some medication and supervision to thrive, will also

have to wait. Still, despite my troubles my life is getting a little easier. A life without debilitating anxiety is a gift from Heaven--I would not trade it for anything but a new Corvette ZR1X.

*A carpenter by profession, Christopher Larsen is a former Army brat who has lived all over the world and around the*

*U.S. He spent time in Montrose years ago, where he worked to remodel the former Funeral Home at 505 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and alerted the media to cremains that he found in the basement.*

*Following the death of his beloved service dog, he returned to Utah, where he lives today.*

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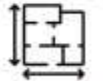
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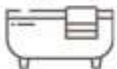
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## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### JOSEPH “JOE” TONEY BOSGAL SR.

*May 5, 1950- May 12, 2026*

JOSEPH “JOE” TONEY BOSGAL SR. of Montrose, CO passed away May 12, 2026 in Montrose. He was born May 5, 1950, to Pete and Evelyn Bosgal, in Montrose, CO. Joe’s formative years were in Montrose, CO. He graduated from Montrose High School in 1968. After graduating from high school, Joe enlisted in the US Navy. He served from 1968 to 1974.

Joe attended college in Florida for a year after being honorably discharged from the Navy. He left college to return home to Montrose and his family. He worked as a core driller and a small business owner. In his spare time, he enjoyed spending time with family, carpentry, repair work, yard work and oil painting.

Joe met the love of his life, Tammy, in 1975 and they were married on December 13, 1976.

Joe is survived by his wife, Tammy, daughter Brandy Bosgal (Chris Harrington), son Joseph Bosgal Jr (Annette), daughter Dani Bosgal (Kelly Turner), brother Bryan Pace (Cindy), sister Elaine Rooks (Jim), sister Roseanne Bosgal, brother Mike Pace, brother Jack Pace (Kris), sister Davine Bruno (Steve) and five grandchildren, Caitlyn, Alexandria, Jayden, Joel, and Tyler, and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents and sisters Marybeth Pace and Sue Ann Johnson.

A graveside service will be held at 10am, June 13, 2026 at Cedar Creek Cemetery, 2241 Miami Rd, Montrose, CO.

Condolences can be sent to 2136 Stratford Dr. Unit B, Montrose, CO 81401.



### MICHAEL BLAINE KELLEY

*December 15, 1952 — January 15, 2026*



MICHAEL BLAINE KELLEY of Montrose, CO, passed away Jan. 15, 2026, at St. Mary's Hospital, in Grand Junction. He was born Dec. 15, 1952, to William and Theo Kelley, in Lamar. Blaine's formative years were at La Juanta. He graduated from La Juanta High School in 1971. He served in the U.S. Army as a carpenter and as a percussionist from 1972 through 1975 at Ft. Mead, MD and at Ft. Carson.

Blaine received an associate’s degree from Colorado Mountain College, Glenwood Springs. He worked as a carpenter and other phases of construction for over 15 years throughout the Roaring Fork Valley. In the early 1990s he moved to Montrose where he was the owner of Sagebrush Books, with his wife, Alice. He also worked sales at local lumber yards. He retired from Colorado Yurt, working as a carpenter.

Blaine is survived by his wife, Alice, brother Quentin (Donna), sister Sara, nephews Dallas Kelley (Maria), Shawn Kelley (Jodi), Travis Fulton (Tiffany), and Jonathan Fulton, and niece Carole Sutton (Sean).

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Thurs., June 4, 2026, at Crippin Funeral Home Chapel, 802 E. Main, Montrose. Interment will follow at Cedar Creek Cemetery, Montrose.

**CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.**



# COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

## JERRY MARVIN GOODSON

*November 4, 1940 – May 13, 2026*



Jerry was a standout athlete at Derby High, where he played football, basketball, and baseball.

While playing football at the College of Emporia, he met the love of his life, De An (Alexander) Goodson, his wife of 64 years. The story goes, when they met, she asked, "where are you from"? He said Paris, later she would learn he was not from France, but Arkansas! It was probably his good looks she was mesmerized with, because anyone who met him did notice that Arkansas twang! Still, he did provide her with a lifetime of worldly memories, if it wasn't owning thoroughbreds and attending horse races, drag racing (multiple track championships), taking trips, RVing and boating around North America, later with his grandsons.

With heavy hearts and great sadness, we announce the passing of a loving husband, father, grandfather, and brother. Jerry Marvin Goodson left us on May 13, 2026, at the age of 85.

To those of us who loved him, he was a giant, not only in his love for us, storied life, love of sports, Elvis but also in his size, over 6ft 5inches. He never lost his stature to us, nor his fabulous hair!

My Dad was born in Paris, Arkansas and as a child moved to Haysville, Kansas overcoming many difficult times but always striving to do his best, a true survivor.

He loved fishing; the fish just didn't reciprocate the same feelings. He once was told by a fishing guide that he was the most unluckily fisherman he had met. Another time when my parents went on a fishing boat in Alaska, he was never able to cast his line; instead, he spent the trip looking overboard.

He was a walking encyclopedia of sports knowledge. Any question you had, he could answer. A true lover of sports, you might find him at a professional boxing match sitting next to George Foreman's

trainer in a white leisure suit, attending professional baseball or football games or at the Breeder's Cup getting his picture taken not only with the jockeys but most importantly Bo Derek! I may not be 10, but in my dad's eyes I was! From Columbine Rams to Montrose High School Indians, he was my number one fan, little did he know; he was mine.

As a grandfather, he loved spending time with Jack and Sam. They went on many RV trips, one year visiting all the "hall of fame" museums. Sam often asked if they would be spending the night in the Walmart parking lot!

He attended many of their hockey, football, basketball, and track events. Along with high school and college graduations. They loved their grandpa and he loved them.

Jerry was preceded in death by his daughter Lori (Goodson) Parson. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, De An, daughter Stephanie (Goodson) Klemp, grandsons Jack and Sam Klemp, son-in-laws Todd Klemp and Norman Parson, brother Larry Goodson and many loved ones and friends. A special thank you to HopeWest for your kindness, care, support and guidance.

A celebration of life will take place this Summer.



*Thank you for reading*

**THE MONTROSE MIRROR**

ISSUE 574 May 25, 2026

# ART & SOL

## RADIO HAMS PLAN A BUSY WEEKEND



USS Montrose Ship's bell. Photo courtesy of Waymarking.

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-Amateur radio operators from the Montrose Amateur Radio Club are planning a busy weekend June 5-7, 2026, with two events, the 2026 Museum Ships Weekend and the Annual Tailgate Par-

ty. Both events are open to the public. The Annual Tailgate Party will be June 6 from 8AM to 11AM in Delta at the Lions Pavillion, Confluence Park. There is an opportunity to buy, sell, or swap amateur radio gear. According to Steve Schroeder the event chairman, "It is also a good opportunity to meet area hams in person, not just over the air. Tables for sellers are five dollars. Admission is free and all attendees are automatically entered in the door prize drawings. You must be present to win." This event is sanctioned by the American Radio Relay League, the national organization for amateur radio. June 5, 6 and 7 will be the 2026 Museum Ships Weekend, an event sponsored by the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station that unites historic ships and ship memorials around the world in a celebration of the rich history of these vessels. According to event Chairman Royce Seymour, "This year we celebrate 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, 150 years since Colorado statehood and 82 years since the launching of the USS Montrose. We are fortunate to have the ship's bell serving as

a memorial to the ship here in our community." The bell is currently located in City Hall but destined to be relocated to the new Veterans Memorial.

The event will take place in front of the Citizens State Bank, 401 East Main across the street from City Hall. "We will operate an amateur radio station Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday attempting to contact as many other hams and museum ships as possible. Saturday during the day would be a great time to visit us to learn about the USS Montrose and the exciting hobby of ham radio," said Seymour.

The radio station will begin operating at 6 PM Friday June 5. On Saturday and Sunday, the start time will be 8 AM. Operating will continue into the night on Saturday. Sunday operating will end midafternoon.

The USS Montrose was an attack transport ship that served during World War 2, Korea, and Vietnam. The ship was awarded a total of ten battle stars before finally being scrapped in 1970.

For additional information on these events contact Lew French, call sign KOLMF, at 970-417-6142.

Some things never go out of style.

#montrosemirror



# Ouray County Historical Society 2026 Events Calendar



## TOWN OF OURAY WALKING TOURS\*

Led by Jenny Hart (Meet at Museum, 420 6th Ave)

Limited to 15 Persons 4:30 PM-6:30 PM

\$20 per Person - Members: \$15 per Person

RSVP: 970-325-4576

July 10th · July 17th · July 24th · July 31st

Note: Each tour may address a unique section of the city

## RED MOUNTAIN RELATED TOURS\*

Corkscrew Railroad Bed and Turntable Hike

Led by Mark and Bobbie Johnson

Friday, July 24th 2026 - 9 AM-1 PM

Meet at the museum

\$20 per Person - Members: \$15 per Person

RSVP: 970-325-4576

## CEDAR HILL CEMETERY TOURS\*

Cedar Hill Cemetery (Led by Alice Leeper)

18510 Hwy. 550, Ridgway

June 11, 2026

9 AM - 1-1.5 Hrs.

RSVP: 970-325-4576

\$20 per Person

Members: \$15 per Person

## Mineral Identification Workshops with Robert Stoufer

Workshop for Kids

Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026

\$15 per child

Workshop for Adults

Saturday, Oct. 10, 2026

\$20 per adult

10 AM - 12 PM

## Dallas Park Cemetery (Led by Coleen McElroy)

7690 Highway 62, Ridgway

May 9th, June 13th, July 11th, Aug. 8th, Sept. 12, Oct. 10th

10 AM - 1-1.5 Hrs.

RSVP: 970-325-4576

\$20 per Person

Members: \$15 per Person

Meet at the Cemetery

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RSVP: 970-325-4576

**\*Registration/Details**

Call OCHS at 970-325-4576

[info@ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org)

[www.ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org)

# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE THANK LOCAL BACKCOUNTRY SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS FOR HELPING OUTDOOR RECREATIONISTS IN NEED

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER — In honor of National Search and Rescue Week, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) wants to recognize the Backcountry Search and Rescue teams in each Colorado county that help people who are stranded, lost or injured while recreating in the backcountry.



*CPW courtesy photo.*

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Backcountry search and rescue (BSAR) teams throughout Colorado are a network of first responders who provide critical,

life-saving services to the public. These teams are affiliated with county sheriffs and are composed of dedicated, highly skilled professionals and volunteers

“We are incredibly fortunate to have dedicated and coordinated BSAR teams all over our state,” said CPW BSAR Program Manager Perry Boydston. “Colorado is known for world-class outdoor recreation. However, knowing how to navigate Colorado’s extreme weather, cold waters and wildlife can be tricky and create emergency situations in the backcountry. We are grateful that local BSAR teams quickly deploy their resources and volunteers within their communities to respond to emergency events.”

As the demand for outdoor recreation increases in Colorado, so does the need for BSAR services. Colorado residents help fund local search and rescue teams by purchasing a [Keep Colorado Wild Pass](#) with their annual vehicle registration. Another way people support the teams is by paying the [Colorado Backcountry Search and Rescue](#) surcharge when purchasing CPW registrations and licenses. Since the Backcountry Search and Rescue Fund (BSAR Fund) was moved to CPW in 2023, more than [\\$6.8 million in BSAR grants](#) have been awarded to Colorado counties. BSAR county teams have used these funds to purchase items like SAR equipment, training, vehicles, small capital improvement projects, mental health services, radios and computer software.

“The dedication our volunteers bring to every mission is matched by the support we receive from programs including KCW,” said Alyssa Karpa, President of El Paso County Search and Rescue. “These funds go directly toward critical gear and training that our all-volunteer team relies on when seconds count. We’re proud to serve El Paso County and deeply appreciative of all who help make that possible.”

“When it comes to search and rescue operations, it truly is a cooperative and collaborative effort,” said Sheriff Scherar of Routt County. “It’s a unified statewide effort to make sure our BSAR teams are set up for success with state resources and funding to help people in the state of Colorado.”

# EVENINGS OF HISTORY

## 2026 SCHEDULE

### OURAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



All talks take place at 7:00 PM at the Wright Opera House  
Ouray, CO

**JUNE 16**

**ALAN TODD**

*Gus Begole:  
The First Days of Ouray*

**JULY 14**

**JENNY HART AND LEO WILLIAMS**

*Growing Up in the San Juans  
in the Late 1800s*

**JUNE 23**

**AMY EXSTRUM**

*Fashionable Ouray:  
What Folks Wore  
in the Early Days of Ouray*

**JULY 21**

**KEVIN CHISMIRE**

*W.H. Jackson: Photographer  
of the 19th Century American West*

**JUNE 30**

**OCHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Ouray 150: The Early Years  
(Special Presentation)*

**JULY 28**

**GAIL ZANETT SAUNDERS**

*From the OCHS Photo Collection:  
An Album of Recreation & Celebration*

**JULY 7**

**KEITH MULHERN  
& MICHAEL PEDDECORD**

*The Veins Beneath the Rock:  
The Living Legacy of Thomas K. Walsh*

**AUGUST 5**

**SONDRA JONES**

*Trading, Raiding and Bargaining:  
How Ute Bands Negotiated Survival  
in Western Colorado*



For further information please call 970-325-4576

[info@ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org)

[www.ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org)



# The Satisfied Self

## THE SATISFIED SELF: WHY MORE STIMULATION ISN'T MAKING YOU FEEL BETTER



By Gia Pirelli

Modern life is built around reward... Notifications. Emails. Social media. Coffee. Productivity. Shopping. Another goal. Another achievement. Another thing to check off the list.

We live in a culture that constantly asks for our attention while reward-

ing us for giving it away.

And for a moment, it feels good.

That moment has a name:

Dopamine.

Dopamine is often called the "feel-good" chemical, but that description is somewhat misleading. Dopamine is less about pleasure itself and more about *anticipation*. It drives motivation, curiosity, and the pursuit of reward. It helps us move toward goals, solve problems, and keep progressing.

The problem isn't dopamine. The problem is that modern life delivers an endless stream of highly stimulating rewards that the human nervous system never evolved to process.

So "more" rarely feels like enough. We've become accustomed to movement, urgency, and the feeling of always pursuing something. Busy becomes productive. Productive becomes valuable. We check one message and immediately check another. We finish one task and move directly to the next. We buy something new, reach a goal, or cross an item off a list, only to find ourselves quickly looking for what comes after it.

Dopamine is designed to keep you pursuing. And historically this was useful. Humans needed motivation to hunt, gather, build, and survive. But now that same system is being activated constantly.

The result can feel like restlessness, mental clutter, difficulty slowing down, reduced attention span, always feeling slightly behind, difficulty feeling satisfied.

Many people have become highly stimulated and profoundly undernourished at the same time.

For women, this conversation becomes especially interesting. Because women regulate differently. For decades, much of what we understood about stress and performance was built largely around male psychology. As research expanded, it became evident that (shocker) women and men respond differently.

Research increasingly points toward the importance of connection, safety, emotional support, and relationships for a woman's well-being.

Many women don't simply respond to pressure with a "fight-or-flight response. Emerging evidence suggests women often engage in what researchers call a "tend-and-befriend" response - meaning they move toward connection and support during stress.

Which means a life organized entirely around stimulation, achievement, and constant pursuit may leave many women feeling depleted rather than fulfilled.

You can be highly productive and still feel highly disconnected.

You can accomplish everything on your list and still feel totally empty.

This is where another neurochemical enters the conversation: oxytocin. Where dopamine says, *keep going*, oxytocin says, *you're safe*.

Oxytocin is associated with bonding, connection, trust, warmth, belonging, and emotional safety. It increases through meaningful conversation, laughter, touch, community, and experiences that create a sense of safety and presence. Even practices like breath work, meditation, yoga and sound healing may help create conditions that support these states.

In other words, some of the things we casually dismiss as "self-care" may actually be supporting our biology.

This matters because a chronically stimulated nervous system can begin confusing intensity with fulfillment. We start believ-

ing we need more input, more productivity, more urgency, more distraction. When what we actually need is more stillness, more connection, more presence, more recovery.

Perhaps this is why slowing down can feel uncomfortable at first. Many of us have become conditioned to seek stimulation so consistently that stillness feels unfamiliar, and even unpleasant.

But stimulation and nourishment are not the same thing.

So perhaps the better question isn't: "What else do I need to do?"

Perhaps it's: "What does my nervous system need right now?"

Maybe it's movement. Maybe it's rest. Maybe it's silence. Maybe it's sitting with a friend on a patio with a glass of wine without looking at your phone. Maybe it's taking ten minutes to breathe before starting the day. Because sometimes the answer isn't more stimulation. Sometimes it's more *support*.

We've become increasingly skilled at seeking the next thing.

*And less skilled at fully experiencing the present one.*

Perhaps satisfaction isn't found in constantly increasing stimulation. Perhaps it's found in presence. In connection. In *enough*.

Next week, we'll explore why connection and belonging are not simply emotional experiences—but biological needs—and how the nervous system responds when they're missing.

### Byline

**Gia Pirelli is a yoga teacher and sound healing practitioner specializing in nervous system regulation and applied mind-body practices for self-leadership in modern life. She works with individuals and organizations to improve resilience, focus, and sustainable performance through breath, movement, and sensory-based regulation. Learn more at <https://www.giapirelli.com>**



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Open: Monday-Saturday, 8AM-5PM

# ATTENTION ALL CLASSIC CAR, TRUCK AND STREET ROD ENTHUSIASTS, FAMILY & FRIENDS!

**Black Canyon Classics Car Club Show Coming June 12-14, 2026, to Benefit the Montrose Veterans Memorial Coalition**



By David White

Do you own a collector car or truck? If not, do you love seeing them in real life and not just on YouTube or some social media platform? If so, make plans to come to the 31<sup>st</sup> annual Colorful Colorado Auto Show & Cruise coming to Montrose the weekend of June 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Festivities begin on Friday June 12th as follows:**

**9 AM – 2PM:** Early Registration for the car show – Fairfield Inn & Suites, 25 Tributary Street, Montrose, CO 81401

**4 PM - 8:00 PM:** All-inclusive car, truck, street rod, etc. gathering on Main Street between Townsend Avenue and Park Ave. – bring family and friends to downtown Montrose for a night of entertainment.

**Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>** – Car Show Day! Bring your vehicle to Cerise Park (just off of the intersection of West Main Street and Chipeta Road on Shane’s Way in Montrose) or just come to enjoy the day with family and friends!

**8 AM - 10 AM:** Day of Show Registration - Cerise Park

**8 AM - 2:30 PM:** Car, Truck, and Rod Show, independent judging throughout the morning and early afternoon

**9 AM - 1:30 PM:** Silent Auction – great selection of items to be offered to the

highest bidder

**9 AM - 2 PM:** Food and Refreshment Vendors will be on site

**12:30 PM:** Annual award of an academic scholarship to a student applicant

**2:30 PM – 3:00 PM** Presentation of Trophies and Awards

**6:30 PM until Late!** “Back to the 60’s & ‘70’s Night” at the Star Drive-In Theater, 600 E. Miami St., Montrose

**Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>** – The weekend wraps up with a surprise cruise to an area destination. Be ready to go for a drive!

**9 AM - 12 PM** Meet at Cerise Park, Cruise TBD

Every year the members of the Black Canyon Classics Car Club choose a non-profit organization as the beneficiary of the net proceeds of the annual car show. This year, the Montrose Veterans Memorial Coalition was chosen to be the recipient of these proceeds. The Montrose Veterans Memorial Coalition Foundation is dedicated to creating a Veterans Memorial Plaza that honors veterans of all wars and eras for their service in protecting the values at the heart of our nation. The memorial is currently under construction next to the Montrose Botanical Gardens



Courtesy photos David White.

on the grounds of the City’s Montrose Pavilion. This peaceful space will support healing for veterans, their families, and the community, while offering educational programs that help future generations understand the sacrifices made in war. (<https://www.montrosevmc.org/>)

For more information and to register your vehicle for the show, please visit the Black Canyon Classics website:

**<https://www.blackcanyonclassics.org/>** See you at the show!!



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# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

## ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

**Office Hours:** By appointment.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Olathe, Co 81425

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

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Sunday 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer 7 p.m.

## CEDAR CREEK CHURCH

**affiliation:** Evangelical Free

**Address:** 222 South Townsend Montrose,  
 CO 81401

**Office Hours:** 10am-2pm Tuesday- Friday

**Contact:** 970-252-1163

[ccc@cccmontrose.org](mailto:ccc@cccmontrose.org)

**Pastor:** Curt Mudgett

**Sunday worship:**

**worship Service:** September-May at  
 10:15am **Discipleship Hour** at 9am

**Worship Service:** June-August at 9:30am  
 Nursery available for 0-4 during worship  
 service

**Wednesday Prayer:** 5:30-6:15pm

Cedar Creek Church is a welcoming and  
 friendly group of people that takes God  
 seriously, but not ourselves.

We enjoy gathering for encouragement,  
 meals, prayer and having fun!

Our mission is to exalt Jesus Christ by  
 being a Word-centered community of  
 believers who are equipped for a life of  
 worship, prayer and service, and to reach  
 our neighbors for Christ.

Please make plans to come check us out  
 soon!

## CELEBRATION CHURCH

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

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

**Office Hours:** By appointment

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

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

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

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

Pastor Brandon Mathis

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

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

**Demographics:** Multi-generational

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

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

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

## CHRIST'S CHURCH OF THE VALLEY

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

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

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

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

**Contact information:**

Phone: 970-249-0530

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

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

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

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

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

in our Lord Jesus Christ to the glory of  
 God.

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

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

## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

**Contact:** 970-633-0226

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

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

**Pastor:** Tim Onnen

**Worship:** Sundays at 9 AM

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

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

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

# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

## COMMUNITY SPIRIT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (UCC)

**Address:** 504 N. 1st Street (HAP Building)  
**Office hours:** Call or text for appointment  
 Phone: 970-765-7070  
**Email:** [spirit@communityspiritucc.org](mailto:spirit@communityspiritucc.org)

Website: [communityspiritucc.org](http://communityspiritucc.org)  
 Current Pastor: Rev. Wendy Kidd  
**Worship service: Sundays at 11:30 am**  
 Mission: Our commitment to a more inclusive and accepting world is steadfast, and we will continue to work towards a

future where everyone can live freely and authentically.

**Demographics:** We are a small congregation of mostly adults and seniors, however, we are always ready to welcome families and children.

## COVENANT HEBRAIC FELLOWSHIP

**Denomination affiliation.** No affiliation  
**Address Office hours** N/A  
**Contact:** 720-951-9941,  
[office@ccfmontrose.net](mailto:office@ccfmontrose.net),  
[www.ccfmontrose.net](http://www.ccfmontrose.net)

**Name of current Senior Pastor.** Led by elders  
**Worship service times.** Noon on Saturdays. Children's Church will be offered as needed.  
 Covenant is a Hebraic roots community

that studies the Torah as well as the rest of Scripture. We learn about the Hebrew roots of the language and believe that the Lord's feasts are for today. We are predominantly made up of older folks, but have some young blood, too.

## FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

**Denomination:** Church of the Nazarene  
**Address:** 705 South 12th Street  
**Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday** 9 am - Noon and by Appointment  
**Contact Information:** Office Phone 970 249 -9213, [mncfirst@gmail.com](mailto:mncfirst@gmail.com),  
[www.montrosenazarenechurch.org](http://www.montrosenazarenechurch.org)  
**Pastor: Pastor Ian Hyde**

**Services Sunday:** Worship 10:30 AM, Discipleship Hour: 9:30 AM. Discipleship Hour has classes across all age groups. Nursery for children UNDER 3 is available during Worship and Discipleship Hour. Youth Night (6-12th grade): Tuesdays, 6:30 PM. Weeknight Bible Study: Wednesdays, 6:30 PM. Mission Statement: Montrose First

Church of the Nazarene exists to make Christlike disciples in Montrose Colorado and around the world. Demographics: Our church consists of older and younger people. We have younger families with children and young teens and older adults as well. We also support the work of Calvary Ranch Colorado and its addiction recovery ministry.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

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

**Contact:** 970-249-4732, [in-form@fpcmontrose.com](mailto:in-form@fpcmontrose.com),  
[www.fpcmontrose.com](http://www.fpcmontrose.com)  
 Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jesse G. Mabanglo  
**Worship Service times:** 9:30AM,  
*We strive to encourage, challenge and*

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

## HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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

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

## MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Denomination Affiliation:** United Methodist  
**Address:** 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401  
**Office Hours:** M-Thu, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
**Contact Information:** 970-249-3716,  
[office@montroseumc.org](mailto:office@montroseumc.org), [\[roseumc.org\]\(http://roseumc.org\)  
\*\*Current Senior Pastor:\*\* Rev. Kevin Young  
\*\*Worship service times:\*\*  
\*\*9:15 AM to 10:15 AM:\*\* Children's, Youth, and Adult Sunday School; Christian Education & Fellowship.  
\*\*10:30 AM:\*\* Sanctuary & Virtual Worship  
\*Montrose UMC is a leader in being fully\*](http://mont-</a></p>
</div>
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*inclusive, loving, and just servants of Christ. Our church family welcomes people from various cultural and faith backgrounds: single, married, remarried, with or without children, from diapers to dentures. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey we invite you to come discover hope, joy, peace, purpose.*

## ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

**Affiliation:** Southern Baptist  
**Address:** 1598 E. Niagara Road, Montrose, CO 81401  
**Office Hours:** Tues-Thurs, 9am-4pm  
**Contact information:**  
**Phone:** 970.249.4887  
**website:** [www.RosemontBaptist.org](http://www.RosemontBaptist.org)  
[youtube.com/@rosemontbaptistchurch](https://youtube.com/@rosemontbaptistchurch)  
[facebook.com/RosemontBaptist](https://facebook.com/RosemontBaptist)

email: [office@rosemontbaptist.org](mailto:office@rosemontbaptist.org)  
**Senior Pastor:** Rolland Kenneson  
**Worship Service Time:** Our engaging and relevant Sunday Worship Service is at 10:45 AM.  
 We also have small groups we call L.I.F.E. Groups for all ages on Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM.  
 We strive to have each of our small groups live L.I.F.E. together.

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 where they are at in life .

# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY *From previous pg*

## ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

**Denomination:** Anglican-Reformed Episcopal Church (REC)  
**Address:** 2405 Sunnyside Road, Montrose 970-249-4868  
**Contact:** [ststephensmont-](mailto:ststephensmont-rose@yahoo.com)

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

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

## VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

**Denomination Affiliation:** Independent Baptist  
**Address:** 2890 N Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401  
**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 8am-12pm  
**Contact Information:** Phone (970) 249-

6874; email at [info@vbcmontrose.org](mailto:info@vbcmontrose.org); website: [vbcmontrose.org](http://vbcmontrose.org)  
**Current Pastor:** Roland Kassales  
**Worship Service Times:** Sunday School at 9:30am, Sunday AM Service at 10:30am, Sunday PM Service at 6pm, Wednesday Night Service at 6:30pm (all services include childcare)

*Victory Baptist Church exists to exalt God, edify saints, and evangelize the lost. Demographics: Victory Baptist serves everyone with age-appropriate classes, groups, and activities. Families with children make up the majority of VBC with young adults, singles, middle-aged couples, and seniors comprising the rest.*

### Church Directory Mirror Editorial Staff

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

Mirror:  
 Name of church  
 Denomination affiliation  
 Address Office hours  
 Contact information (phone number, email address, website)  
 Name of current Senior Pastor  
 Worship service times

Please give a one sentence description of your church and its mission in the Montrose community.  
 Brief description of your current church demographics (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles).  
 Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

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

Horsefly Brewing  
 970-249-6889

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 Burgers & Beer  
 970-252-1227

Fiesta Guadalajara  
 Re-Opening 2026  
 970-249-2460

El Jimador  
 970-249-8990

Busy Corner White Kitchen  
 970-323-6215

Delta: CB's Tavern  
 970-399-3570



Lighthouse Eatery  
 970-964-7570

Ray's Corner Cafe  
 970-417-4340

Rib City  
 970-249-7427

Stone House  
 970-240-8899

Sidelines Sports Bar  
 970-765-0129

Delta: Pour Ernie's  
 970-546-0074



Alpen Confections  
 970-648-0609

Crash Burger  
 970-249-0825

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

Tacos & Beer  
 970-964-4448

Tacos & Beer on Main  
 970-964-4999

Pahgre's  
 970-249-6442



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# SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING-

**ALTRUSA INT'L** believes in "Leading to a Better Community" and is always looking for new members. We meet in Montrose on the first three Tuesdays a month at the Field House: 25 Colorado Ave, 12-Noon. Pick a day that works for you & please join us! Through our local Altrusa Club, members unite their varied talents in service to others, achieving as a group what individuals cannot do alone." <https://www.altrusamontrose.org/> P: 970-765-7666 E: [Altrusa.Montrose@gmail.com](mailto:Altrusa.Montrose@gmail.com)

**BLACK CANYON AUDUBON SOCIETY** provides a monthly program on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm at the Montrose Field House, 25 Colorado Avenue, Montrose. [blackcanyonaudubon.org](http://blackcanyonaudubon.org)

**Tuesday - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays-Black Canyon Audubon Society hosts monthly birdwatching field trips in the Montrose area on 1st Tuesdays of the month and in the Delta area on the 3rd Tuesdays of the month. Check out the website for field trip details at [blackcanyonaudubon.org](http://blackcanyonaudubon.org).**

**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.

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

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

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

**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.

**MONTROSE AREA WOODTURNERS** Montrose Area Woodturners meet second Saturdays 9 am. Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. For location and information contact: Al Head 970-209-0981 or [aheadaviation@outlook.com](mailto:aheadaviation@outlook.com)

**MONTROSE FARMERS MARKET** (970) 249 0705 Centennial Plaza, 433 S. 1st St. Montrose, CO 81401

[www.valleyfoodpartnership.org](http://www.valleyfoodpartnership.org). Year-Round Farmers Market, Saturdays 9am-1pm (Summer), every other Saturday 10am-1pm (Winter). Accepts SNAP and Double Up Food Bucks.

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

**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**-3rd Wednesday of every month at 6pm, the Montrose County Neighborhood Watch meets at the Sheriff's Office at 1200 N Grand Ave

**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.

## MONTHLY

**May 30**-11 am – 4 pm, Friends of Youth and Nature presents the Bring on the Summer Youth Festival! Join Friends of Youth and Nature at Riverbottom Park and get a taste of summer programs offered in our community for kids and families. We also have a very special guest...**Wilder!** Meet your kids amazing outdoor friend – half yeti and half mountain goat. Wilder is on a mission to help children discover all the magic awaiting them just outside the door! There will be pie and watermelon eating contest, gelly ball games, relay races, paddles on the river, duck races, yard games, bubbles, and a nature mystery box. MRD is hosting soccer and basketball skills clinics, strider bike instruction and more! Finesse is providing free youth haircuts (more info/schedule of events at [www.foyan.org](http://www.foyan.org)).

**June 2**-Tuesday, June 2. 7:30 pm. Let Ignite Montrose Spark Your Interest! Enjoy an evening of free entertainment as your fellow community members present fast-paced five-minute presentations on their ideas, hobbies, travels, interests, passions and curiosities. Ignite begins at 7:30 pm at the Canyon Creek Bed and Breakfast (Backyard patio, 820 East Main). Beverages will be available. Check [ignitemontrose.org](http://ignitemontrose.org) for a list of topics and presenters.

**June 5**-8th Annual Boot Stomp, 5:30 to 10:30pm Storm King Mountain Ranch. For tickets and information visit [bootstomp.org](http://bootstomp.org).

**June 6**-Delta Rock, Gem and Mineral show coming June 6, 9 to 5 Bill Heddles Recreation Center Delta Free, Free, Free.

**June 11**-From 7 -8:30 pm Black Canyon Audubon Society will host Sue Riffe who will speak about a different way of learning bird sounds. Sue will explore musical vocabulary to analyze bird songs we hear and will introduce different ways to learn these songs. The next morning, you will have the opportunity to use your newly gained musical vocabulary to identify bird sounds on a [field trip](#) to Billy Creek SWA (please register for the field trip beforehand). The Montrose Field House Summit Room, 25 Colorado Avenue, Montrose. For more information about the speaker and topic go to programs at [blackcanyonaudubon.org](http://blackcanyonaudubon.org)

**June 12-13** - Car show. Black Canyon Classics 31st Annual Colorful Colorado Car, Truck, and Rod Show, Montrose CO. Friday downtown Main Street closed off for free car entry and public display at 4pm until dusk. Saturday show at Cerise City Park, 8am -3pm, register your car online at [blackcanyonclassics.org](http://blackcanyonclassics.org). Kids events, pin-up girls, food vendors. Call 9705964523 for more information.

**June 27**-Sharing Ministries presents the Back to the Future Festival-Food, Shelter, Hope. 8:30am to 4:30pm. Museum of the Mt. West 68169 Miami Road.

# NEW FLAGS PLACED AT VALLEY LAWN FOR MEMORIAL DAY



*MONTROSE-United States flags mark the graves of U.S. Veterans at Valley Lawn Cemetery, in celebration of Memorial Day 2026. City of Montrose courtesy photo.*



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