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ISSUE 715 Nov. 9, 2026

the Montrose Mirror

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COUNTY HONORS PAUL GOTTLIEB, APPROVES VETERANS DAY PROCLAMATION

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-With all commissioners present, the regular meeting of the Montrose County Board of Commissioners (BOCC) began with a spirit of thankfulness.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Invocation was delivered by Pastor Karl Leuthauser of Grace Community Church. Leuthauser asked those present who pray to engage in a moment of silent prayer, before he himself offered a prayer of thanks. He encouraged them to thank God for three things. Leuthauser prayed, "...Father, you say in First Thessolonians 5:18 to give thanks in all circumstance, for this is the will of Christ Jesus ....There's a lot of things that don't go like we want them to, but so many things, Lord, to be thankful for...I pray that we would walk forth in this day, Lord, with thankful hearts..."



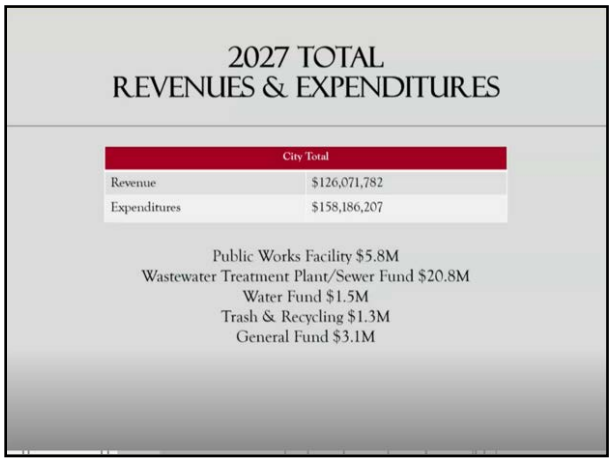
Les Williams of the Montrose Veterans Memorial Coalition thanked the County and City for their support. Meeting Screenshot.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

BOCC Chair Kirstin Copeland announced that the County wished to honor Paul Gottlieb, who has played a leadership role with the Montrose Sheriff's Posse for many years, among many other accomplishments. All three Commissioners expressed their thanks.

Continued pg 10

CITY APPROVES BUDGET ON 1ST READING, FILLS VACANT COUNCIL SEAT



City of Montrose Finance Director Heather MacDougall presented the 2027 Budget on First Reading, with slides, above. Meeting screenshot.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-From a ten-candidate field, the City of Montrose selected Cindee Williams to fill the vacant at-large Council seat. The selection was made during the regular City Council meeting of Tuesday, Nov. 2. All Councilors were present, as was Youth Councilor Conner Luttrell.

There were no changes to the meeting agenda. Following roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Michael Badagliacco opened the floor to comment from the public.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

First to speak was Clay Goldberg. Goldberg addressed the condition

Continued pg 21

Muralist Wes Abarco Transforms MADA Facility, NW Side! Pg 69 | Letters to the Editor! Regional News Briefs! | Cartoon by Tim Jones! Pg 20 | Local Events Calendar! Pg 85! Montrose Church Directory! Pg. 78!

Adult Services Program

Retro Arts & Crafts: Totally 90s

November 12

6:30-8:00 p.m.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

FINAL UPLOAD OF UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

Special to the Mirror

Montrose County-Election Results

Final upload of unofficial results November 03, 2026

2026 General Election Results

View results specific to Montrose County ballots here.
View results relating to the entire State of Colorado here.
View it on website

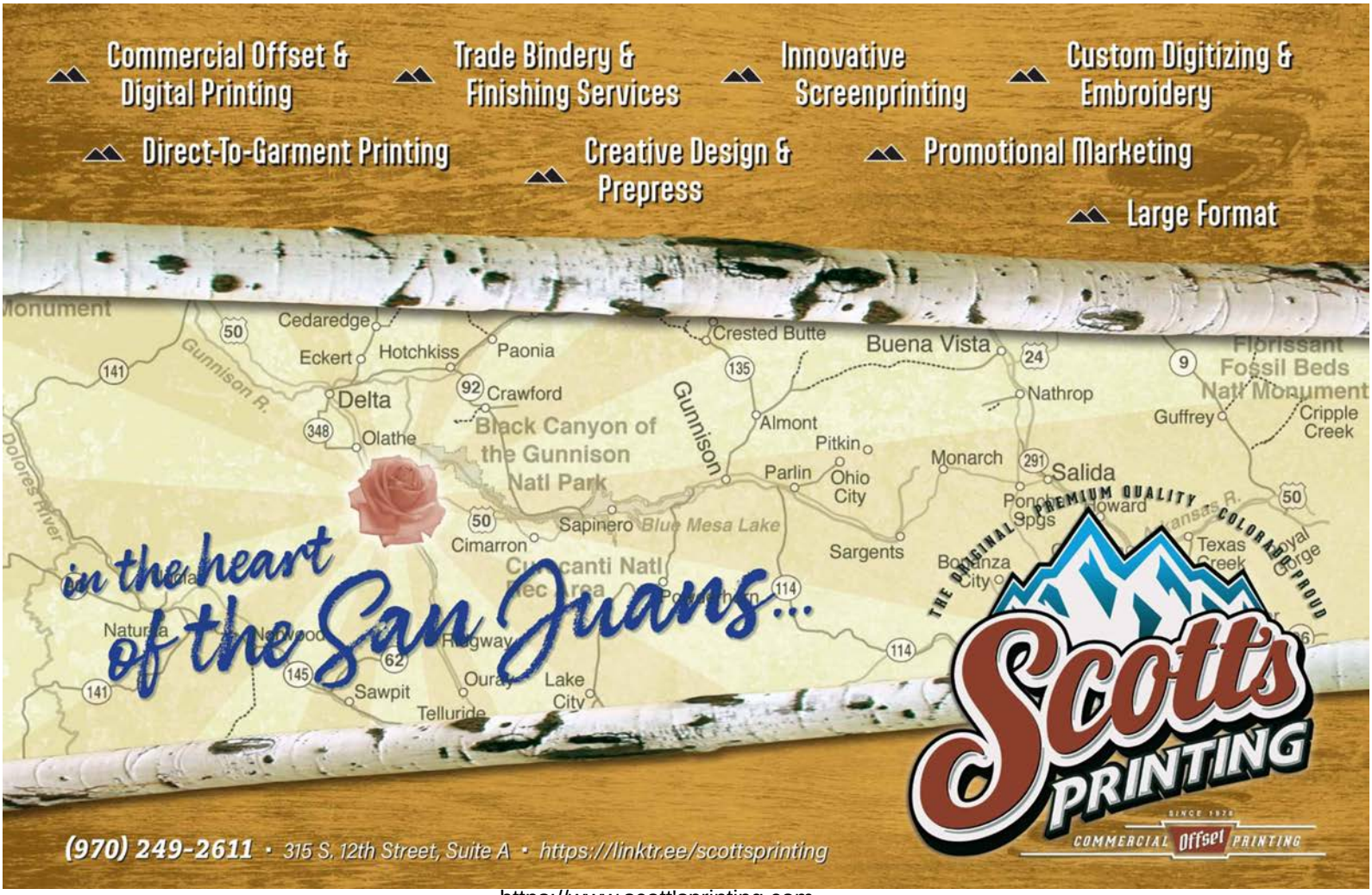
CO 65 CLOSURE PLANNED FOR NOV. 10

Special to the Mirror

DELTA COUNTY-The Colorado Department of Transportation plans to close CO 65 between mileposts 32.5 and 34 beginning at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 10, for a vehicle recovery operation.

No reopening time has been confirmed. CDOT estimates the recovery could take up to eight hours, or longer if weather conditions worsen or complications arise.

Please check current conditions before you leave and follow posted closures and traffic controls.



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Colorado law generally gives mineral owners reasonable surface access to develop their interests, subject to legal limitations and surface-owner protections. Historic mining claims can add another layer of complexity, particularly around Ouray.

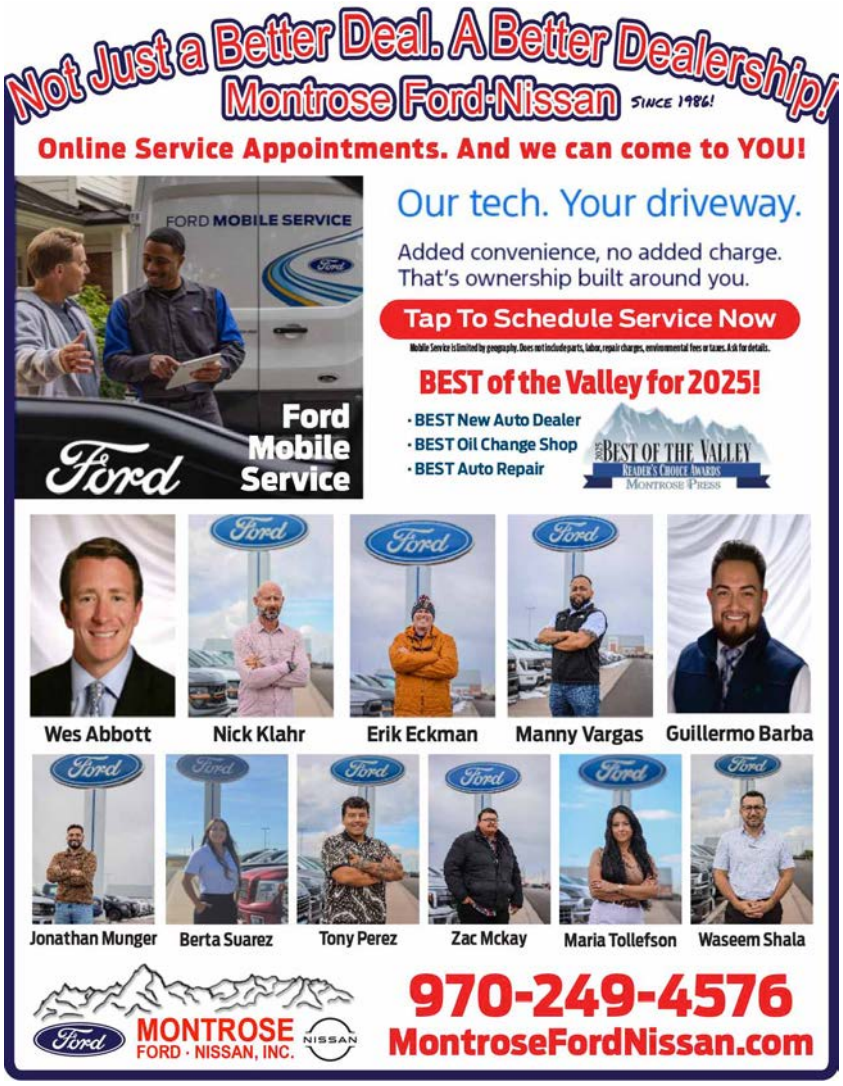
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RULES FOR PUBLISHING

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,
Montrose Mirror Editor

the Montrose Mirror

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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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OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY


Mayor Badagliacco. Courtesy photo.

From the Mayor's Desk

The people of Montrose have spoken and made their choice. The important thing we did is take part in this experiment we call self-governance, and the most effective way we do that as Americans is to exercise our most sacred right: the right to vote. And you did that with over 57% of the registered voters taking part in the process.

Civic engagement in Montrose

Our Constitutional Republic was designed for an active and informed electorate. My goal has always been to increase public engagement, and we are seeing that happen here in Montrose. Monday's record turnout at the Budget Open House and this election were prime examples of that, and we continue to see strong numbers of people involved and engaged. Are we all going to agree? Of course not. But the discussions are happening, and that is the point. Civil discussion produces true, positive change that is right for the people of our community.

Thanks to voters

I want to thank everyone who dug in and did their own research and cast a ballot. Whether you voted yes or no is not what was important. What was important was that you cast your vote and performed the sacred duty that every citizen should take on with humility and respect for what our founders put in place. It shows that every vote counts. We will take the information learned here and move forward, always keeping our eye on the goal of making Montrose better every day.

What the people chose

Voters approved moving municipal elections to November beginning in 2028 and establishing a lifetime eight-year limit on elected City Council service.

The voters chose not to return approval authority to the City Council of the City Manager's decisions to appoint or discharge the Police Chief and City Clerk.

We will implement the election-date change and the lifetime term limit as directed by voters, while appointment authority for the Police Chief and City Clerk remains with the City Manager. This outcome supports higher turnout and new voices in leadership while maintaining the current operational structure for those positions.

Thank you Montrose!

Sincerely,

Michael J Badagliacco, "MJB"

Mayor - Montrose, CO

CITY OFFICES TO CLOSE FOR VETERANS DAY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — In observance of Veterans Day, City Hall, Municipal Court, Animal Shelter, Downtown Visitor Center, City Shop, Montrose Pavilion, and Police Department offices will be closed on Wednesday, Nov. 11.

Police Department offices will also be closed; however, officers will be on duty and responding to calls.

The Black Canyon Golf Course will be open, along with the golf course snack bar and The Rusty Putter restaurant.

City residential trash customers who would normally receive service on Wednesday, Nov. 11, will instead be served on Monday, Nov. 9, and Tuesday, Nov. 10.

For residences north of East Oak Grove Rd, trash pickup will occur on Monday, Nov. 9.

For residences south of East Oak Grove Rd, trash pickup will occur on Tuesday, Nov. 10.

Recycling customers who would normally receive collection service on Wednesday, Nov. 11, will instead be served on Friday, Nov. 13.

Residents with questions about route adjustments are encouraged to call City Hall at 970.240.1400 or visit www.CityofMontrose.org/Trash

For information about the City of Montrose, visit CityofMontrose.org.

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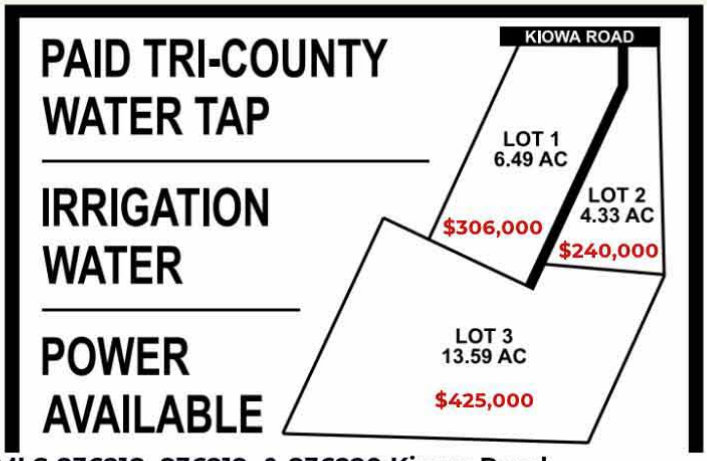
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MLS 836218, 836219, & 836220 Kiowa Road
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

INAUGURAL VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Come see the Huey while honoring our veterans!

Montrose Veterans Memorial

1800 Pavilion Dr., Montrose, Colo.

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2026

A ribbon cutting/dedication ceremony, hosted by memorial partner the City of Montrose, will begin at 10 a.m., followed by a Veterans Day ceremony at 11 a.m.

For more information on the ceremonies, tribute and patriot bricks, visit https://www.montrosevmc.org

Huey nose in the mountains photo by Les Williams



PAUL AND MARSHA GOTTLIEB HONORED

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-For decades, Paul has generously given his time, energy and talents in service to Montrose County and its residents. Through his dedication and volunteer work with numerous causes, boards and agencies, Paul has made a lasting impact on the community and the people who call it home. His commitment to helping others and making our community a better place is something truly worth celebrating.

Behind that dedication has been the love and support of his wife, Marsha, whose encouragement has been an important part of Paul's many years of service.

Please join us in thanking Paul for his decades of generosity, leadership and commitment to our community, and Marsha for her unwavering support. Montrose County is a better place because of people like you!



Montrose County courtesy photo.


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COUNTY HONORS PAUL GOTTLIEB, APPROVES VETERANS DAY PROCLAMATION From pg 1

Several men stepped forward to share their appreciation for Gottlieb. Among those was Jerry Sieverson, whose comments concluded, “Congratulations Paul, job well done. We just need more of ya, if you could just run through the copy machine.”

Said Commissioner Caryn Webb Gibson, “...Your big heart is appreciated. I am filled with gratitude. I don’t know if you realize the impact you’ve had...”

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments heard from the public during the Public Comment Period.

COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Joe Kerby asked that General Business Item 1 be moved up before the Consent Agenda, a proclamation declaring that November 11, Veterans Day shall be recognized and observed by Montrose County and the Montrose County Historic Courthouse will be lit in green from Nov. 4 - 11 as a reminder to the community of the service and sacrifices of our Veterans.

The Change was approved, and the Proclamation was as well, after being read into the record by Les Williams of the Montrose Veterans Memorial Coalition. Williams thanked the County and the City of Montrose for their support.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved, with Resolution No. 39-2026 assigned to Item 5; Resolution No. 40-2026 assigned to Item 6; Resolution No. 41-2026 assigned to Item 7; Resolution No. 42-2026 assigned to Item 8; Resolution No. 43-2026 assigned to Item 9; Resolution No. 44-2026 assigned to Item 10.

GENERAL BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS



Commissioners voted to authorize the Chair's signature on the construction contract with Con-Sy Inc of Grand Junction, CO having submitted the lowest responsible, responsive bid for the B-117 Spring Creek Bridge Replacement in the amount of $1,299,101.24, as reviewed by Counsel. This is a budgeted expense. Upon approval, a purchase order will be issued to Con-Sy Inc.

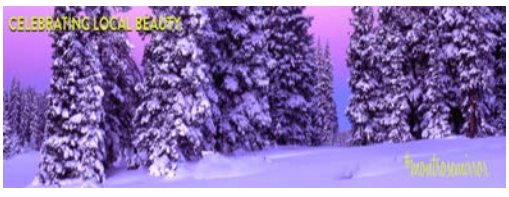
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioners approved the Planning and Development Consent Agenda items:

- Haugsness Minor Subdivision [MI26-010] proposal to divide 4.64 acres into 3 lots at Parcel 376732100072; and

- Avis Amended Plat [AM26-010] proposal to combine lots at Parcels 399301114003 and 399301115001.

With no further business, commissioners voted to adjourn.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TESTING UPON ARREST

Refusing chemical testing has consequences in Colorado

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO—Receiving a DUI comes with serious consequences due to the threat an impaired driver poses to other road users in a vehicle, bicycle or on foot. While the penalties are significant for DUI, drivers can make things even worse if they refuse or attempt to delay a chemical test when requested by an officer who suspects impairment.

“In Colorado, with the privilege of receiving a license to drive in this state, you have agreed to submit a chemical test when requested if the officer places you under arrest for driving under the influence,” stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. “When a person refuses, this driver receives additional administrative penalties, and your refusal could work against you even further as you go through the court process.”

If a Colorado driver refuses a chemical test, one automatic consequence is a longer license revocation at the DMV. For a first-time DUI offense, the driver’s license revocation will increase from 9 months to one year. This and other possible penalties can result, including:

Automatic license revocation: A refusal triggers an automatic suspension of driving privileges. The first refusal results in a 12-month license suspension, while subsequent refusals carry longer suspensions.

Interlock ignition device requirement: Drivers who refuse a toxicology test are required to have an interlock ignition device for two years following the reinstatement of their driver’s license.

Consequences in court: A refusal can lead to increased consequences if convicted of Driving Under the Influence (DUI) or Driving While Ability Impaired (DWAI).

Identification as a Persistent Drunk Driver: Refusal to take the test results in being labeled a Persistent Drunk Driver (PDD). This can result in surcharges to benefit the crime victim compensation fund and other fees.

SR22 insurance: Offenders may be required to get SR22 insurance — a certificate of financial responsibility required for high-risk drivers to prove they have the minimum auto insurance coverage mandated by the state. SR22 premiums tend to be much higher than standard car insurance, and not all insurance providers offer it.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES NOW ACCEPTING LEAP APPLICATIONS FOR 2026-2027 WINTER SEASON

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE - Montrose County Human Services is now accepting applications for the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) through April 30, 2027. LEAP is a federally funded program that helps eligible households pay a portion of their winter heating costs.

"Winter heating costs can put a strain on household budgets, especially when families are already managing other expenses," said Mirian Mason, Montrose County Human Services Manager. "LEAP can help ease that burden, and we encourage anyone who thinks they may qualify to apply."

LEAP provides financial assistance for various heating sources, including propane, natural gas, electricity, wood and coal. Benefit amounts vary based on household income, heating costs and available funding. Most payments are made directly to the household's energy supplier. Eligible households may also qualify for assistance with furnace repair or replacement and weatherization services.

For the 2026-2027 season, households with incomes at or below 60% of the state median income may qualify. The maximum gross monthly income for a one-person household is $3,774, while a family of four may earn up to $7,258 per month. Applicants must pay heating costs directly or as part of their rent and meet additional eligibility requirements.

Applications are available at Montrose County Human Services, 1845 S. Townsend Ave., or online through Colorado PEAK https://peak.colorado.gov. Applicants should provide proof of household income and their most recent heating bill or rent receipt. Applications will be accepted through April 30, 2027.

For more information, visit https://cdhs.colorado.gov/leap, call Montrose County Human Services at 970-252-5000 or contact the HEAT HELP Hotline at 1-866-432-8435







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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

THE FORUM IS TAKING A VERY SIGNIFICANT FIELD TRIP!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-We WILL NOT meet at CMU's Cascade Hall at 9 am. Instead...We will join the community at the new Montrose Veterans Memorial Plaza!mWednesday, November 11, 10 AM Ribbon Cutting/Dedication and/or
Approximately 11 AM Inaugural Veterans Day Ceremony
1800 Pavilion Drive, across from the Pavilion and just west of the Botanical Gardens. Parking is available in the Pavilion parking lot.

After roughly five years of planning, fund raising, and community collaboration, work began in April 2026 on the new Montrose Veterans Memorial Plaza.

Key Milestones & History

-The Vision (Early 2021): Mike Trickey—a U.S. Marine veteran and executive director of the Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans—conceived the idea for a bold, modern memorial to honor all local veterans.

-Coalition & Partnerships: Local veterans formed the Montrose Veterans Memorial Coalition (MVMC), which partnered with the City of Montrose, Montrose County, local veteran groups (like the American Legion and DAV), and the Colorado National Guard.

-Site Selection: Originally considered for Cerise Park, the project was sited on an undeveloped city-owned lot directly west of the Montrose Botanic Gardens and the Montrose Pavilion Event Center. This location offers views of the San Juan Mountains and bus/parking access.

-Design & Features: The memorial features laser-engraved granite panels chronicling military history from World War I through the Global War on Terror, dedicated bricks honoring individual service members, informational displays, and recognition of all branches of the armed forces.

Groundbreaking (April 2026): Ceremonial construction and site excavation officially kicked off in April 2026, supported by hundreds of community donors, Stryker Construction, Del-Mont Consulting, the City and County, and a long list of local businesses, organizations and suppliers.We hope you will join us on November 11 as we join the community to celebrate this very important community event.

Upcoming Programs

Nov. 11, 2026 — "Salute to Veterans" at the new Montrose Veterans Memorial
The Forum WILL NOT meet in Cascade Hall on the 11th. Instead, attendees are encouraged to join the community for one or both of these special events:
10 AM Montrose Veterans Memorial Ribbon Cutting/ Dedication
Approximately 11:00 AM Inaugural Veterans Day Ceremony
1800 Pavilion Drive, across from the Pavilion and just west of the Botanical Gardens. Parking is available in the Pavilion parking lot.

We will resume with our normal date, time (9-10 AM), and place...

Nov. 18, 2026 — Billy Goat Hop Farm & LaNoue Dubois Winery
Nov. 25, 2026 — No Forum: Thanksgiving



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE TO DEDICATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA ON VETERANS DAY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — Montrose will celebrate the dedication of its new Veterans Memorial Plaza on Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11, honoring the military service members who have served the nation and the Montrose community.

The public is invited to attend the ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony beginning at 10 a.m., followed by remarks from community leaders at 10:15 a.m. Veterans will share their remarks at 11 a.m., offering an opportunity to recognize their service and reflect on the sacrifices made by generations of military personnel.

Located just west of the Montrose Botanic Gardens, the plaza is the culmination of a collaborative effort involving the City of Montrose, Montrose County, and the Montrose Veterans Coalition to establish a permanent tribute to veterans from Montrose and the surrounding region.

Planning for the project began in 2022, with community fundraising and partnerships helping to advance the memorial. The project has an estimated budget of $730,000, including $600,000 in combined city and county funding. Local construction suppliers also pledged approximately $125,000 in donated services, supplies, and materials.

A retired UH-1 Huey helicopter, purchased through fundraising efforts led by the Montrose Veterans Coalition, will serve as the centerpiece of the memorial.

The Veterans Day dedication marks a milestone in the community's effort to create a lasting place of remembrance, reflection, and gratitude for those who have served in the U.S. military.

For more information about the memorial or ways to contribute, visit www.montrosevmc.org.

For information about the City of Montrose, visit CityofMontrose.org.

INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY FOLLOWING DISCOVERY AT BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON NATIONAL PARK

Montrose County Coroner News Release

MONTROSE – On Oct. 27, 2026, at approximately 5:31 p.m., Montrose County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a report of an abandoned vehicle parked near mile marker 10 along the South Rim of Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.

Personal belongings were also discovered near Devil's Lookout and subsequently turned over to the Montrose County Sheriff's Office as evidence.

The Montrose County Sheriff's Office Drone Team was requested to assist in searching the canyon for a possible missing person associated with the abandoned vehicle. Due to diminishing daylight, the initial drone search was unsuccessful.

On Oct. 28, at approximately 6:30 a.m., Montrose County Sheriff's Office Investigator Anthony Moschetti returned to Devil's Lookout with Deputy Brett Suppes, who deployed a drone into the canyon. During the search, the drone confirmed the presence of human remains on the canyon floor.

On Oct. 30, the body was recovered from the canyon and transferred to the custody of the Montrose County Coroner's Office. The decedent was transported to Community Hospital for an autopsy and was positively identified as 57-year-old John Countryman of Denver, Colorado.

The cause and manner of death remain under investigation by the Montrose County Coroner's Office.





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PUBLIC TOWN HALL

Updates on Community Hospital Partnership & Health Needs Assessment

Community HOSPITAL

Thursday, December 3rd
3:00 - 4:00 PM

Montrose Regional Health
Conference Rooms A&B, Lower Level
970-249-2211

Learn about the latest updates with the MRH-Community Hospital partnership and participate in our annual Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

Hot chocolate and cookies will be served!

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CITY APPROVES BUDGET ON 1ST READING From pg 1

Goldberg addressed the condition of the bike path from the old railroad bridge over the Uncompahgre River to Chipeta Road. The path is six feet in width, which is substandard, he said, and does not well accommodate the many users who travel the path each day. Goldberg asked that Council allocate funds to replace and widen the path. "...Use our money wisely," he said. "And get a good program going to replace that bike path to an eight foot width..."

Chaucey Edwards spoke on behalf of HopeWest Hospice and Palliative Care. November is national Hospice and Palliative Care month, she said, and thanked the city for the community support. Edwards shared the mission of HopeWest, and read a prepared statement on behalf of the non-profit.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council voted to approve the minutes of the Oct. 20 City Council meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR

Council considered appointing a candidate to fill the vacant At-Large Council seat.

Ten Candidates had initially applied. Those candidates included:

John Brown

Gregory Cairns

Clara Carrasco

Danielle Godt

RJ "Sam Aster" Kelly

Beth McCorkle

David L. Register

David C. Romero

Alejandro Salazar

Cindee Williams

On Oct. 28 that list was narrowed down to three finalists:

John Brown

Danielle Godt

Cindee Williams.

Prior to the vote, Councilor J. David Reed made prefatory remarks. He noted the importance of working together to find common ground and reach consensus where possible.

"...We're trying to build consensus in how we approach running this community," Reed said. After speaking, Reed nominated Finalist Cindee Williams.

Council voted to approve the appointment; City Clerk Lisa Del Piccolo read the Oath of Office and Williams was sworn in.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Council voted to approve applicants John Eloe, Kenneth Huff, and Darlene Mora for reappointment to the Historic Preservation Commission for terms that expire on Oct. 16, 2029.

ORDINANCE 2733 - FIRST READING

Following a detailed presentation by City Finance Director Heather MacDougall, Council voted to approve Ordinance 2733 on First Reading, providing and appropriating funds for defraying the expenses and liabilities of the City of Montrose, Colorado, during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2027. The proposed Budget for 2027 is included in the meeting packet.

RESOLUTION 2026-18

Following a presentation, Council approved Resolution 2026-18, repealing and replacing Chapters 3-1-1, 3-1-2, and 3-1-3 of the City of Montrose Regulations Manual and adopting the 2027 fee schedule.

LANDFILL AGREEMENT EXTENSION

Council approved an extension of the Landfill Agreement with Bruin Waste Management, LLC, for a period of one year

BLACK CANYON FLATS OGDEN FRONTAGE PIPING FUNDING REQUEST

Also approved were $25,000 in expenditures payable to Ridgway Valley Enterprises for piping of the stormwater/irrigation ditch along the Black Canyon Flats Affordable Housing Project's Ogden Road frontage sidewalk.

CEDAR CREEK TOWNHOMES SUBDIVISION FINAL PLAT

Council voted to approve the Cedar Creek Townhomes Subdivision 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.

. Developer Garrett Smith of Color Red Development LLC was present to answer questions and discuss the project.

QUASI-JUDICIAL ITEMS

CHIPETA LAKE 2 ADDITION ANNEXATION HEARING

Following a Public Hearing, Council voted to adopt Resolution 2026-19, findings of fact for the Chipeta Lake 2 Addition annexation.

Also approved was Ordinance 2735 on first reading, for the annexation of the Chipeta Lake 2 Addition.

SPRUCE POINT SUBDIVISION AMENDED PRELIMINARY PLAT

Council voted to approve the Spruce Point Subdivision Amended Preliminary 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.

YOUTH CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Youth Council is in the middle of orientation and will be planning for their yearly service project, Youth Councilor Conner Lutrell said.

STAFF REPORTS

Deputy Chief of Police Larry Witte gave an update on Department activity.

City Engineer Scott Murphy updated Council on flooding that has occurred on Miami Road, caused by the breach of an irrigation Canal.

Constituent John Brown discussed the possibility of Council allowing grant funds for service members who cannot afford bricks for the Veterans Memorial. He asked Council to consider the possibility.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

IT ONLY TOOK 18 MONTHS!

By Don Stott

Where to begin? The Wall Street journal is full of columns as well as in-house editorials, bemoaning the huge Republican loss on Tuesday. Most say it is the Iran War, and I agree, but it is also the tariffs, and Trump's historic, never before even dreamed of, un-equaled, ego. I got a note from a client who says that, "Trump's ego is far bigger than his IQ." Maybe, but I think Donald Trump's first half of his 2nd term in the White House, will go down in history, as the most destructive of a political party ever recorded. And he did it all by himself, in about 18 months! I rejoiced at his election, and had sent him money, but the Trump Train quickly ran off of its track and campaign promises. It crashed November 3rd.

Perhaps never before in our history, has a president lied and exaggerated more than Donald Trump. A typical example might be that over and over again, he bragged that his tariffs were generating hundreds of billions for the U.S. Treasury. The fact is, that any money 'generated' by his tariffs, were paid for by you and me, in high dollar costs for everything. Just for September alone, the official 3.7% inflation rate was published. Donald Trump's last 18 months, has increased our national debt by over three trillion dollars, and now the U.S. debt equals our GDP! That hasn't happened since 1944, in the midst of WW II. As I write this, the U.S. debt over $40.5 Trillion!

Is Donald Trump stupid? Has his unparalleled ego, crushed any semblance of brain power, common sense, or logic? I watched in horror, as he methodically destroyed the Republican Party, lying and exaggerating about everything, and insisting that Putin and XI are his friends. Surely he cannot honestly believe that Putin will end his war in Ukraine!

What could save the Republican Party? If the Democrats impeach him, what would that do? My dictionary definition of "impeach," is: "To challenge the practices or honesty of; accuse: esp. to bring (a public official) before the proper tribunal on charges of wrongdoing." The House of Representatives can vote to impeach, but the office holder remains in office. The Senate must hold a trial, and it would take two thirds of the Senate to convict and remove from office. Could the new Senate plus disgusted Republicans pull this off?

Or, the 25th Amendment provides that the Vice President and Cabinet Members can vote that the President is unable to fulfill his duties, but a vote from the Congress must be held to finish the removal. Do the upcoming Democrats have enough members to remove Donald Trump? We'll see, but I'm certain they'll try. If they try and succeed, that will be a great help to Republicans. Are they smart enough to try? Time will tell, but the November 3rd vote, will change America. Thanks Donald Trump!

The joyous Democrats are now shouting all they will do in their first hundred days, and it is basically America being destructed. Has America, like many in history, voted for its own destruction? The 1917 birth of communism, the French Revolution, Hitler's ascendency to becoming the 'Fuehrer,' FDR's victory in 1932, and maybe the just completed election? All were abated by, and influenced by votes of the common people, who were fooled by empty promises of free things. Free things, subsidies, entitlements, and welfare in all sectors, have been increasing since 1932, and with the new Congress, it appears the faucet will be turned on full force. The presses will roll, computers do their thing, and the Federal Reserve's output of un-backed dollars will flow into government, who will use them to pay bills legislated by the new Congress, and inflation will rise like the morning sun, and just as certain.

New York voted for socialism by electing a mayor, who naturally has promised state run grocery stores, free baby-sitting, free transportation, and free just about anything you can think of, and Los Angeles has voted a far left socialist to run that second largest city in America. The new DSA, (Democrat Socialists of America), is going to attempt to rule Congress, I am sure. Stupid, unthinking voters, always fall for welfare freebies, and in reality, vote for their own destruction, like a mortally wounded deer in the woods. The deer licks its fatal wounds, thinking it will heal, but he is drinking his own fatal blood, just like freebie wanting voters, voting for their own ultimate destruction. France is now realizing the result of endless socialistic handouts and welfare. Is our welfare state similar to Frances'? Endless socialistic welfare freebies since FDR's election in 1932, have resulted in the once proud U.S. dollar, now being worth but a nickel or less, of its former glory. This is known as inflation and with Democrats soon to take more power, the dollars' future looks dismal to most, if not all.

For over 48 years now, I have been preaching Stott's law, which says that "The more of anything there is, the less they will be worth, and the less of anything there is, the more they will be worth," and that includes dollars, silver, and gold. Silver and gold are self backed, and have been real money for thousands of years. Physical cars and real estate are backed by titles and deeds, but stocks, bonds, bit coins and anything made of computer entries or paper promises, ALWAYS eventually become worthless, as has the dollar virtually already. No one has a physical share of stock or a bond, nor a physical bit coin. No physical possession of stocks, bonds or crypto, are even possible. They're all in computers. I watch Fox Business News and wonder why someone doesn't realize that all those figures are mythical, hypothetical, and guesses based on a few peoples' opinions on what the future holds. No one knows what will happen ten minutes from now.

In the 'Roaring Twenties,' F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby" had been published in 1925, and by 1929, prohibition was in full flower. More alcohol was being consumed than ever before in thousands of 'speakeasies.' People were dancing to the Charleston, and Zoot Suits and Flappers were everywhere. The stock market was at an all time high, and America was still celebrating the end of World War One, which was the 'War To End All Wars.' What could possibly go wrong? The Ford Model "A" had just replaced the old fashioned Model "T" and Ford had doubled his employee's wages. A few became alarmed, thinking this 'prosperity' had run its course, and decided to get out. More and more followed, and in a

Continued next pg

IT ONLY TOOK 18 MONTHS! From previous pg

chain reaction like a disease spread, and the stock market crashed, virtually overnight, with everyone wanting to sell, but no one wanting to buy. For every buyer there has to be a seller. There was nothing left but a hundred million bankruptcies, which took World War Two to solve.

Am I predicting anything? No, only that the dollar's decline will continue with ever increasing velocity as a result of the November 3rd election.

Insurance is bought to guard against an accident, fire, earthquake, tornado, or any unforeseen happening. People buy insurance when it is forced upon them by a creditor, or logical thought. I have never made an insurance claim of any kind, but I keep on buying my insurance as I can afford to do so, store it, where it just sits, and without any action on my part, its dollar price goes up automatically. I have no premiums to pay, and I can leave it to my kids with no inheritance taxes for them to pay. My insurance in the form of gold and silver is not registered with any government, and it has no serial numbers which can be traced. I buy more when I can afford it, whether the price are low or high. I just don't depend on dollars as insurance. Dollars have far too many liabilities, serial numbers, and government snooping. I'm secure.

Our inflation insurance, costs but one percent over our price to buy from our wholesale distributor, and this includes delivery. As the dollar crumbles, the insurance's dollar price goes up, at no cost to its holders. Since FDR, this insurance has gone from $20.67 per ounce of gold, to $4,100 per ounce! I bought my first insurance at about $250 per ounce, in 1975, and it just keeps going up in dollar price, even though its actual value remains the same.

Everyone needs adequate dollars for our daily needs. The gold and silver insurance is for savings, just like any insurance is. For future use when it is needed. It will be, believe me.

Since you would be physically holding your insurance, and we have no Social Security Number of yours, and want none, you can store it any place you choose and only tell your kids where it is. If anyone asks you what you bought with your money, tell them it is a surprise for your wife, your kids operation, or to pay off a gambling debt!



www.mlkdaymontrose.com



Let us say thank you to our **Veterans**!

November 11, 2026

In celebration of Veterans Day, Alpine Bank would like to say thank you for the service and sacrifice our veterans made. Join us for coffee and help us thank our local veterans.

Holy Grounds Coffee
9am - noon | 1800 Pavilion Dr | Montrose

Alpine Bank

REGIONAL NEW BRIEFS

TWO MONTROSE MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS JOIN CONTINENTAL DIAMOND TOOL IN PG&F SUPERABRASIVES ACQUISITION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE– Continental Diamond Tool Corp. (CDT), a specialized manufacturer of precision grinding and dressing tools headquartered in New Haven, Indiana, has completed its acquisition of PG&F Superabrasives, bringing two Montrose manufacturing facilities into its U.S. operations.

The acquisition includes PG&F Superabrasives' operations in Montrose, Colorado, and Royersford, Pennsylvania. CDT acquired the business from Nimbus, a European investment firm focused on industrial and manufacturing companies.

The two Montrose facilities employ a combined 31 people and specialize in superabrasive grinding wheels used in precision manufacturing, including small-wheel solutions for CNC round tool manufacturing and large-wheel solutions for centerless and double-disc grinding.

PG&F Superabrasives will continue operating under its existing name as part of CDT, with its engineering and manufacturing teams remaining in place.

"Having worked with both PG&F and Continental Diamond Tool, I've seen firsthand the expertise these teams bring to precision manufacturing," said Paul Christy, General Manager of PG&F Superabrasives. "Joining a family-owned American company that's focused on grinding and dressing technology gives us an opportunity to build on our strengths, expand our capabilities, and better serve our customers."

The acquisition adds the Montrose and Royersford operations to CDT's existing manufacturing facilities in Indiana and the United Kingdom, positioning the company as one of the largest U.S.-based superabrasives solutions providers.

"We're proud of the specialized grinding wheels our Montrose team manufactures and the quality of work that goes into every product," said Aaron Yender, Montrose Site Manager. "We're looking forward to working with our new colleagues at CDT and continuing to deliver for our customers."

The acquisition brings together manufacturing and engineering teams with complementary product capabilities. Customers will have access to a broader range of precision grinding and dressing solutions, supported by a combined sales and application engineering team.

CDT President Nick Viggiano said: "For more than fifty years, CDT has grown by investing in people who know this craft deeply. PG&F Superabrasives brings a team with decades of experience, and we are proud to welcome them to CDT."

As part of its announcement, CDT also formed a strategic alliance with Winterthur Technology Group, an international manufacturer of precision grinding tools with operations across Europe and Asia. The alliance expands CDT's offering of conventional abrasive wheels for customers throughout North America.

CDT CEO Brian VanHall said: “We are very excited about the future of advanced materials and advanced manufacturing. The acquisition and alliance are built on a shared vision and set of values to provide the best solutions, service, and support to North American manufacturers.”

Terms of the acquisition were not disclosed.

About Continental Diamond Tool Corp.

Founded in 1973 by Ray Viggiano in New Haven, Indiana, Continental Diamond Tool Corp. is a second-generation, family-owned, ISO 9001-certified manufacturer of superabrasive grinding wheels and dressing tools serving global markets. Proudly made in the USA, CDT provides precision tooling to customers worldwide, with manufacturing operations in Indiana, Pennsylvania, Colorado, and the United Kingdom.www.cdtusa.net



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SHOP / STORAGE


OVERHEAD DOOR

Once a blacksmith shop, this character-filled building offers approximately **1,475 sq ft of front office or retail space** and **1,400 sq ft of flexible shop or storage space**, plus basement storage. An overhead garage door with alley access adds everyday functionality.



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NOVEMBER 11 VETERAN VIDEOS (all films 60 minutes)

- 10 AM Way of the Warrior-
- Noon True Whispers – Navajo Code Talkers
- 2 pm The Warrior Tradition – Untold stories of Native American in the US military

NOVEMBER 11 Opening Exhibit (November-February))

Exhibit featuring a diving helmet worn by Raymond Baker, Chief Warrant Officer of the US Navy from The Southern Ute Tribe, a 30 year retired Veteran

NOVEMBER 12" Indian School documentary 40 minutes every hour (10am – 3 pm)

- A Survivor's Story

Detailing some of the many abuses of the American Indian Boarding Schools in the US, taken from testimonies of survivors.

NOVEMBER 14 "We Shall Remain" – Wounded Knee 10 am 90 minutes

- The occupation of Wounded Knee and the emergence of the American Indian Movement

NOVEMBER 15 BEADING LOOM CLASS $25 Noon – 2pm RSVP (Sunday)

- Join Native American Amerson Woodie (Lakota/Navajo) in beading a bracelet on a loom

NOVEMBER 18 BOARDING SCHOOL FILMS

- 10 am - "Indian Horse" Soul Indian Horse, an Ojibway boy, is torn from his family and send to a boarding school. He is denied the freedom to speak his language or embrace his heritage. 1 hour and 42 minutes

- 1 pm – "Our Spirits Don't Speak English" - In 1869 the U.S. government enacted a policy of educating Native American children in the ways of western society. By the late 1960's more than 100,000 had been forced to attend Indian Baoding Schools.

NOVEMBER 20 Navajo Rug Exhibit and Sale 9AM – 4PM

The Adopt-A-Elders Program creates a market for the Elder's Art and raises awareness about the needs of the Elders. Proceeds from the sales go directly to the artisans.

NOVEMBER 21 Weaver's Guild Annual Sale/ Navajo Rug Exhibit and Sale 9am – 4:

Continued next pg

Ute Events 2026 FREE UNLESS INDICATED FROM PREVIOUS PG

NOVEMBER 22 Noon – 1:30 (Sunday)
100 YEARS OF SILENCE EXHIBT AND PRESENTATION by Deena Ute (Ute Mountain Ute)

- "100 Years of Silence", a Ute Mountain Ute tribe project around the 1923 events often called the "Posey War". Anlknuche people (Ute)) were placed in a makeshift prison camp, and federal official shipped their children to boarding schools.

NOVEMBER 28 "We Shall Remain" Trail of Tears 1-2:30pm 90 minutes

- On May 26, 1838 federal troops forced thousands of Cherokee from their homelands

NOVEMBER 29 Porcupine quill earrings class noon-2pm $25 RSVP Sunday

- Join Director CJ Brafford (Lakota) in making two pair of beaded and porcupine quill earrings

DECEMBER 5 ANNUAL UTE MUSEUM HOLIDAY ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL

- Native and nonnative vendors, gift store specials, fry bread, silent auction,

DECEMBER 6 Adult Beading Class $25 Noon – 2 pm Sunday RSVP

- Join Amerson Woodie (Lakota/Navajo) in making a beading a bracelet

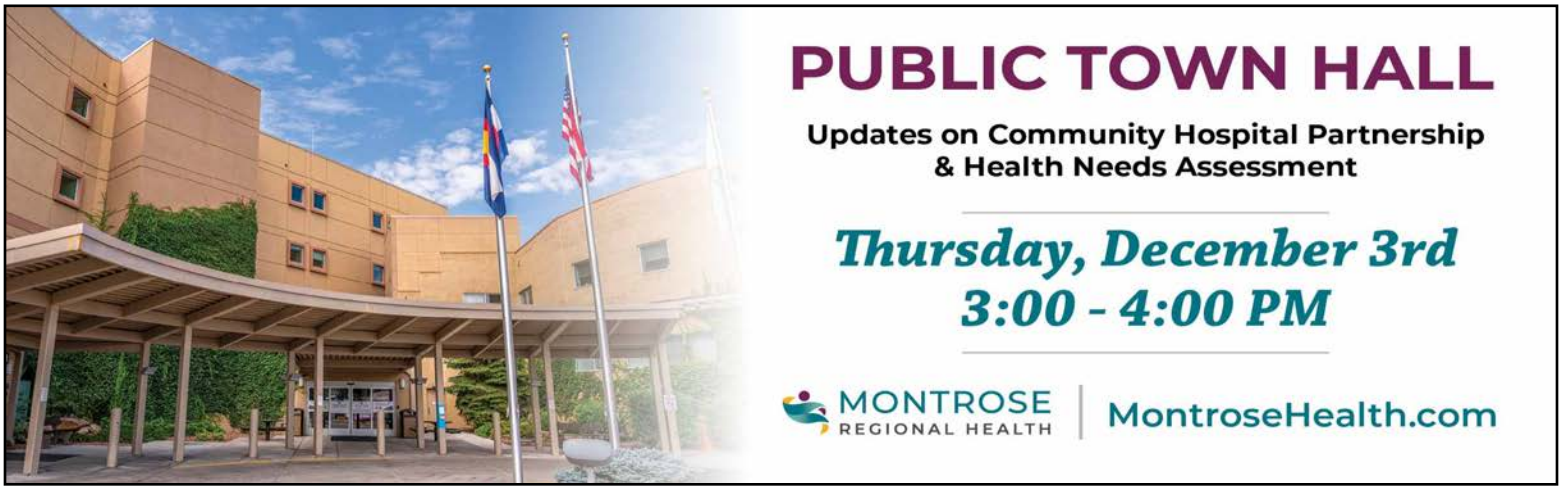
KIDS HOLIDAY CRAFT CLASS and FILM (GRADES 1-5) RSVP December 12 10am -12:30 pm

- $10 or $8 for members Make special handmade Christmas gift(s), wrap it up to take home to family. Enjoy watching the short film *Native American Night Before Christmas*.

December 13 Adult Loom Beading noon-2pm $25 RSVP SUNDAY

DECEMBER 19 Pine Needle and Wood Ornament Ages 12-17 or grades 6th012th 10am-12:30pm

Learn traditional pine needle weaving and customize with beads and painted designs.





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NOVEMBER 11

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NEW HORIZONS BAND OF MONTROSE, NOV 18, 2026, 10:45 AM, END OF SESSION PERFORMANCE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-You're invited to a free performance of the New Horizons Band of Montrose, on Wednesday, November 18, 2026 — 10:45 am, at the Montrose Senior Center/Pavilion - 1800 Pavilion Dr, Montrose, CO 81401

This concert is the end of Fall session performance of the New Horizons Band of Montrose and will include various styles of American music. This concert band program is part of the 50+ activities offered by the Montrose Recreation District, and organized in partnership with the New Horizons International Music Association, founded in 1991 to encourage music making for those 50+. According to NHIMA founder Roy Ernst, "Playing music in groups supports good mental and physical health, besides being an unending source of joy." "Your best is good enough."

This concert band is for adults 50+ who were once active in a school music program, as well as an entry point for adults with no prior music experience. Starting with 6 members in February 2022, the New Horizons Band of Montrose now has 25 members. No previous musical experience is required. New members are encouraged to come to the performance to learn more and to join us in January 2027.



TELLURIDE ARTS HOLIDAY ARTS BAZAAR RETURNS

Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE— Give something with a story this holiday season. The Telluride Arts Holiday Arts Bazaar returns Dec. 4–6, 2026, bringing more than 34 artists and artisans together at Ah Haa School for the Arts, 155 W. Pacific Avenue.

Presented by Telluride Arts in partnership with Ah Haa School for the Arts, with sponsorship support from Alpine Bank, the Bazaar invites residents and visitors to meet the makers, discover handmade gifts, and celebrate the creativity of our community.

A local tradition since 1983, the Bazaar features jewelry, ceramics, clothing, artwork, gourmet foods, body products, and more. Whether shopping for someone special or finding something unexpected for yourself, visitors can explore work made by hand and connect with the people behind it.

"The Holiday Arts Bazaar is a chance to shop directly from local artists, discover handmade gifts that are truly unique, and support the creative talent in our community," said Olivia Pedersen of Telluride Arts.

Plan Your Visit

Friday, December 4: 4–7 pm

Saturday, December 5: 11 am–7 pm

Sunday, December 6: 11 am–4 pm

Location: Silver Jack Building, 155 W. Pacific Avenue, Telluride

Explore this year's vendor preview and event details at telluridearts.org/holiday-art-bazaar



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WILLIAMS APPOINTED TO FILL COUNCIL VACANCY

Special to the Mirror

Photo courtesy of the City of Montrose

MONTROSE — Montrose City Councilors voted to appoint Cindee Williams to the City Council's At-Large seat during their regular meeting Monday evening, November 2. Williams was appointed by a unanimous vote of the council.

Williams' appointment fills a vacancy left by Adam Woodden, who resigned from the At-Large seat in October and was reappointed to the council's District IV seat formerly held by Dave Frank. Frank resigned from the City Council in September.



As set forth by the City Charter, the City Council formally votes to appoint a replacement to serve until the next General Municipal Election, which will occur in 2028.

To fill the vacancy in the At-Large seat, applications were accepted from anyone living within the city limits. The council then selected three finalists, John Brown, Danielle Godt, and Williams, from the ten applications received by the City Clerk.

Mayor Michael Badagliacco, J. David Reed, Ed Ulibarri, and Adam Woodden thanked the applicants for taking the time to apply for the vacancy and for their interest in public service.

For more information about the City Council, visit CityofMontrose.org/CityCouncil.

For information about the City of Montrose, visit CityofMontrose.org.





The bags showcase bright vehicle graphics in soft, kid-friendly materials. Riding inside, the trusty plush partner encourages adventures and storytelling all day long.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NOVEMBER IS THE PEAK MONTH FOR WILDLIFE CRASHES IN COLORADO

Colorado State Patrol shares the top 10 counties

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO—As migration and rutting season continues, Colorado drivers are advised to use caution and actively scan the roadways for wildlife. Dawn and dusk remain the top times of day, but wildlife crashes can happen at any time. October through December are the highest months for wildlife crashes in our state, according to Colorado State Patrol investigation data, and November is the peak month. In 2025, troopers investigated 608 wildlife-involved crashes.

“Animals are active 24 hours a day, and all year round, but drivers may see a noted increase right before sunrise and then again at dusk,” stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. “Wildlife like dawn and dusk due to the dim light for hiding and cooler temperatures while moving around. Unfortunately, reduced visibility leads to more crashes.”

When looking at the past five years of Colorado State Patrol data (2021-2025), the top counties for wildlife crashes from highest to lowest investigated by the Patrol were:

1.La Plata

2.El Paso

3.Montezuma

4.Pueblo

5.Chaffee

6.Garfield

7.Archuleta

8.Park

10.Moffat

11.Douglas

“Driving the posted limit and repeatedly scanning roadways is your best strategy to avoid wildlife,” explained Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. “You need to give yourself time to brake if no one is immediately behind you. Speeding or driving distracted takes away any opportunity to avoid the crash.”

<u>Tips for Avoiding a Wildlife Crash</u>

-Don’t exceed the speed limit.

-Scan roads (or shoulders) for movement and eye shine.

-Use bright lights at night when safe.

-If you have time and space behind you, stop for wildlife on the road/use hazard lights.

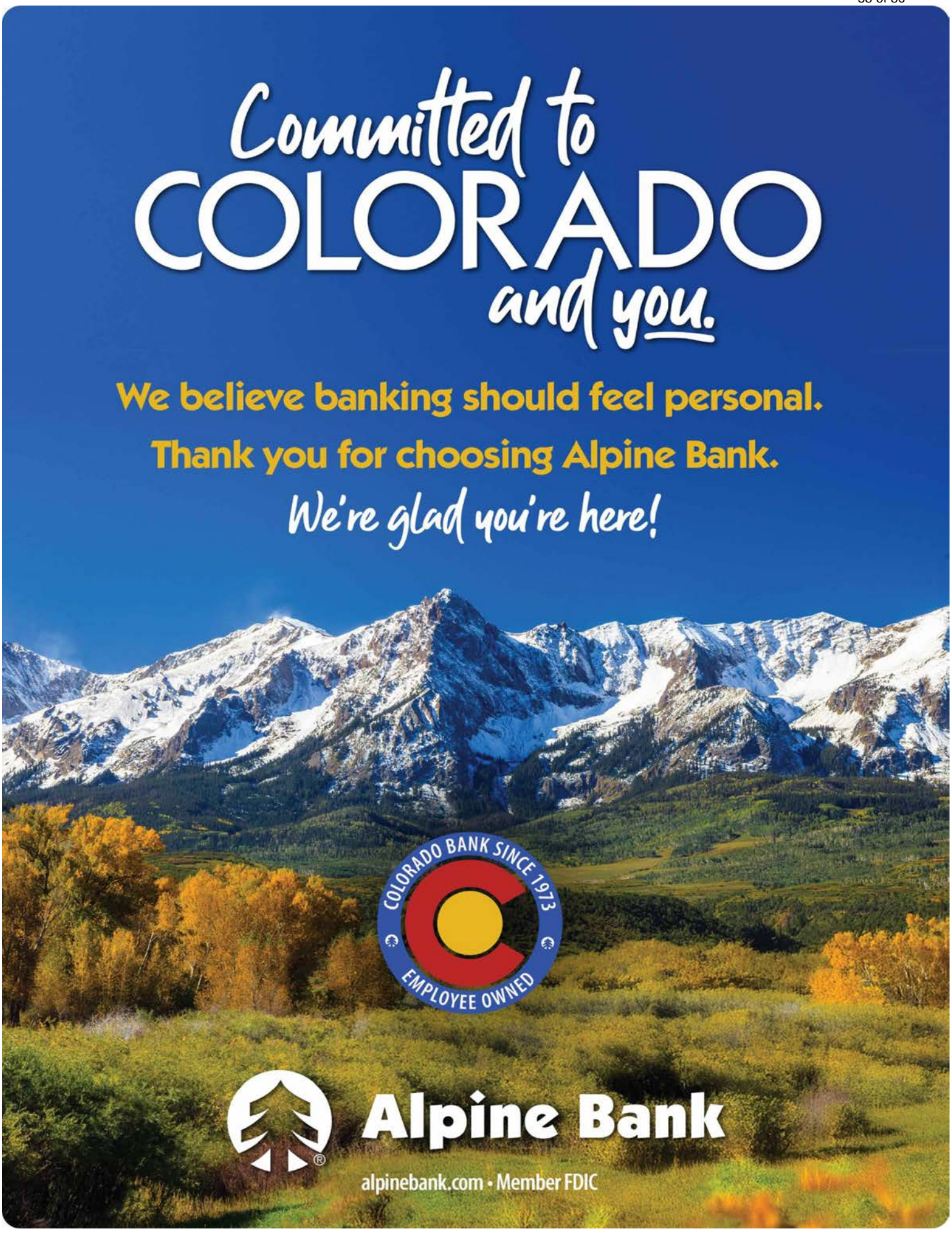
-Be aware of groups: remember that if you see one animal, there may be others nearby.

If you encounter an animal and do not have time to safely brake in a straight line, the right choice is to drive through, keeping in your lane. If you are traveling in an outside lane with the white stripe to your right or a single lane, angle slightly to hit the butt of the animal. Never swerve or jerk your vehicle’s wheel.

If you are involved in a crash with an animal, call 9-1-1 just as you would in any other emergency. In addition, if you witness wildlife in distress from possibly being struck on or near the side of the road, call *CSP for the proper resource to be notified and sent to the scene.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

LOCAL HOME HEALTH PROVIDER MARKS 25-YEAR MILESTONE

Expanded regional reach and program growth support a commitment to helping older Western Colorado residents remain independent.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— Home Health of Western Colorado, a service of VOA National Services (VOANS), is celebrating its 25th anniversary this November, marking a quarter-century of providing compassionate, skilled health care to people in the comfort and familiarity of their own homes.

Since its founding in 2001, Home Health of Western Colorado has become a trusted health care resource for families throughout the region. The organization served approximately 450 clients last fiscal year in Montrose, Delta and Ouray counties, helping individuals recover from illness, injury and surgery, manage chronic health conditions and maintain greater independence at home.

“For 25 years, our team has had the privilege of being invited into the homes and lives of people throughout Western Colorado,” said Pam Samora, administrator of Home Health of Western Colorado.

“That trust means everything to us. While healthcare has changed considerably since our opening, our commitment has remained the same by providing each person with individualized care that respects their dignity, independence and personal goals.”

The organization's 25th year has also been one of continued growth. During the past year, Home Health of Western Colorado expanded its service area to include Ouray County, extending access to a rural community that has not had a direct provider in many years.

In 2026, VOANS also partnered with Delta Health to transition Delta-Montrose Home Health services to Home Health of Western Colorado. The collaboration was designed to preserve jobs and access to local home health services and provide continuity of care for patients throughout the region. Samora added that the agency is working in close partnership with the Veterans Administration and a third of current clients are being covered under Veteran benefits.

Together, these developments strengthen Home Health of Western Colorado's ability to serve residents across Montrose, Delta and Ouray counties while building upon relationships with local hospitals, physicians and other health care and community organizations.

At the center of Home Health of Western Colorado's history are the employees who have carried its mission into patients' homes every day. Nurses, certified nursing assistants, physical and occupational therapists, social workers and support staff provide much more than clinical services. They build relationships with clients and families, help people navigate difficult health transitions and provide encouragement and expertise that can make it possible for someone to recover or continue living safely at home.

“Our staff is our most important asset,” said Samora. “Their dedication, knowledge and compassion are what have made 25 years of service possible. This anniversary is an opportunity to honor our employees and thank them for the countless ways they have improved the lives of our clients and strengthened the communities we serve.”

Home Health of Western Colorado services include post-hospital and post-surgical care, physical and occupational therapy, wound care, IV infusion therapy, medication and disease management, medical social work and coordination with other community resources.

As a Medicare- and Medicaid-certified home health agency, Home Health of Western Colorado works closely with physicians, patients and families to develop individualized plans of care. Its services can provide an alternative to inpatient care while helping reduce the likelihood of hospital readmission.

To learn more about Home Health of Western Colorado, call 970-240-0139 or visit https://www.voans.org/locations/home-health-of-western-colorado/.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

VETERANS AND MILITARY GET FREE ENTRY INTO COLORADO STATE PARKS ON NOV. 11

Special to the Mirror

DENVER — On Nov. 11, 2026, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) will offer veterans, active-duty military personnel, and the National Guard free entry into Colorado state parks as a thank you to U.S. military members.

Veterans and military members, residents and non-residents, can visit any Colorado state park for free by showing proof of military service. Vehicles displaying a Colorado Disabled Veteran or Purple Heart license plate receive free entry to all state parks year-round.

The free day pass offers an opportunity to explore Colorado's world-class state parks and experience the diverse wildlife and landscapes they showcase. Whether you're a nature lover, an outdoor adventurer, or just looking for a peaceful retreat, there's something for everyone at Colorado state parks.

Find a Colorado state park map and discover the activities available at each park using the online State Park Finder.

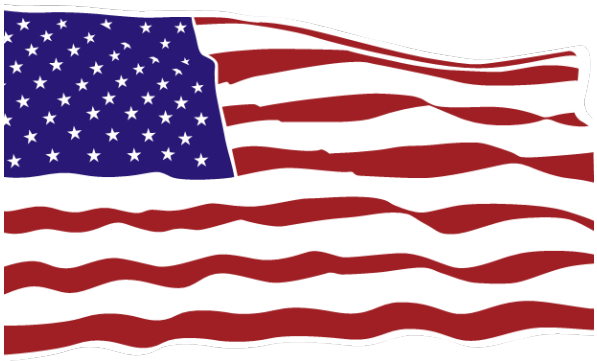
All other state park fees remain in effect, including camping reservations, boat and off-highway vehicle registrations, and hunting and fishing licenses.

CPW offers additional military benefits for outdoor activities to active-duty military, veterans and disabled veterans. These programs include free admission to state parks in August, free lifetime small game and fishing licenses for qualified disabled veterans, and a free specialty Independence Pass to visit Colorado state parks.

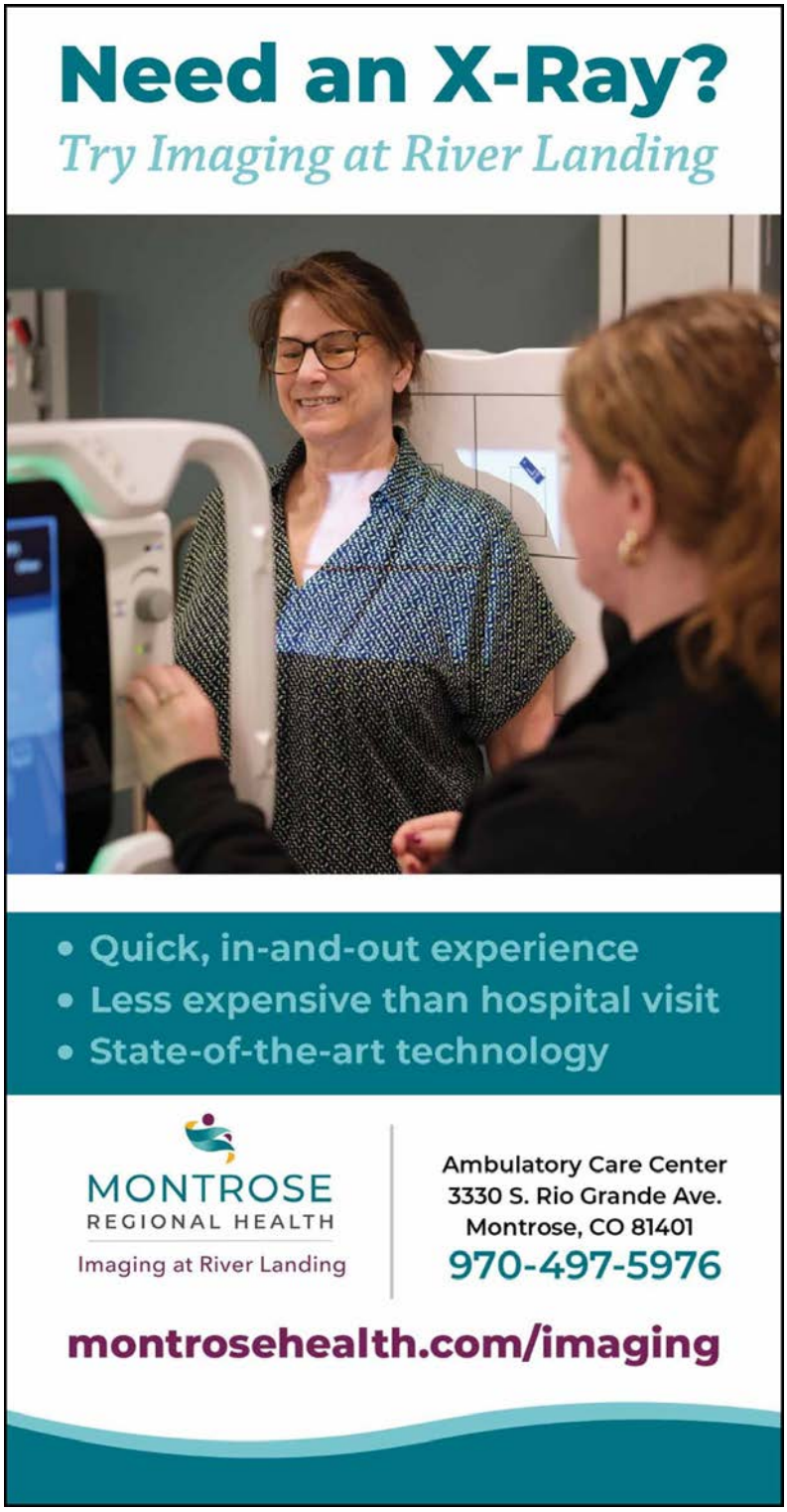
CPW offices and call centers will be closed on Nov. 11 to observe the state holiday. Call CPW offices ahead of your visit to confirm if state park Visitor Centers are open.

Join us in keeping Colorado, Colorado. Get a $29 Keep Colorado Wild Pass with your next vehicle registration and support our state parks, search and rescue teams and avalanche safety programs. Learn more at cpw.info/keepcoloradowild.

Colorado residents with any applicable fee-exempt military license plates, Colorado Disabled Veterans or Purple Heart license plates may access Colorado state parks for free; if you renew your vehicle registration online, stay opted in and get the Keep Colorado Wild Pass at no cost.



Thank you to our nation's Veterans!



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

NEWLY ELECTED DEMOCRATS HAVE A CLEAR MANDATE

Editor:

On Tuesday November 3, 2026, Americans rejected the policies of the second Trump administration. It seems that Americans don't like the idea of an authoritarian strongman who has ignored the Constitution, undermined the principles of democracy, and tried to rewrite America's history in order to impose a white, Christian nationalist regime that has enriched him and his cronies at the expense of everyday American taxpayers.

The majority of American voters have made their position very clear. They demanded: an end to corruption, an end to Trump's unauthorized war on Iran, an end to costly tariffs, both of which have increased household costs and decreased spending, and an end to the masked ICE agents kidnapping Black and Brown people off the streets of America.

Americans voted for a country based on the rule of law in which everyone is held accountable for their actions and no one can break the law free of consequences. They voted for the system of checks and balances established by the Framers of the Constitution. They voted for policies that supported the American people, making it possible for them to afford food and housing and healthcare rather than continuing to funnel money to billionaires. Americans voted for the multicultural country that Trump and his loyalists have mocked. They elected Democratic Black candidates like Keisha Lance Bottoms to govern Georgia and they also elected Byron Donalds, a Black Republican, to govern Florida.

Michigan voters elected Democrat Abdul El-Sayed to be the nation's first Muslim senator, and they reelected Representative Ilhan Omar, whom Trump has made a key target of his attacks.

The Associated Press reported that Hispanic voters shifted HARD away from the Republican Party and swung back toward the Democratic party in 2026, with 7 out of 10

Hispanic voters in Texas backing Democratic Senate candidate James Talarico. In a rejection of Trump's attacks on immigrants, for the first time since 2008, Democrats won every House district that touches the U.S.-Mexico border, and voters have sent fourteen new Hispanic Democrats to Congress.

Black voters, especially in the American South, turned out in unusually high numbers, and they voted for Democrats at higher rates than they did in 2024. The New York Times reported that about 80% of Black votes in congressional races across the country were for Democrat candidates. This was most likely a backlash to the Trump Supreme Court gutting the voting rights act.

The message sent was unmistakable: "focus on Americans wallets and wellbeing, not just the billionaires."

The Economist noted that Tuesday's Democratic victory was "the biggest congressional landslide in 50 years", since Watergate. Many elected Republicans are recognizing the direction of the tide since the election and are panicking, calling for regrouping, ending the war on Iran, and addressing affordability for Americans. Since his 2024 reelection, Trump and his allies have repeatedly insisted that his margin of victory of about 2.3 million voters over Vice President Kamala Harris, earning him less than 50% of the vote, was a "mandate." Compared to the margin of the more than 12 million voters delivered on Tuesday, 2024 was a fizzle.

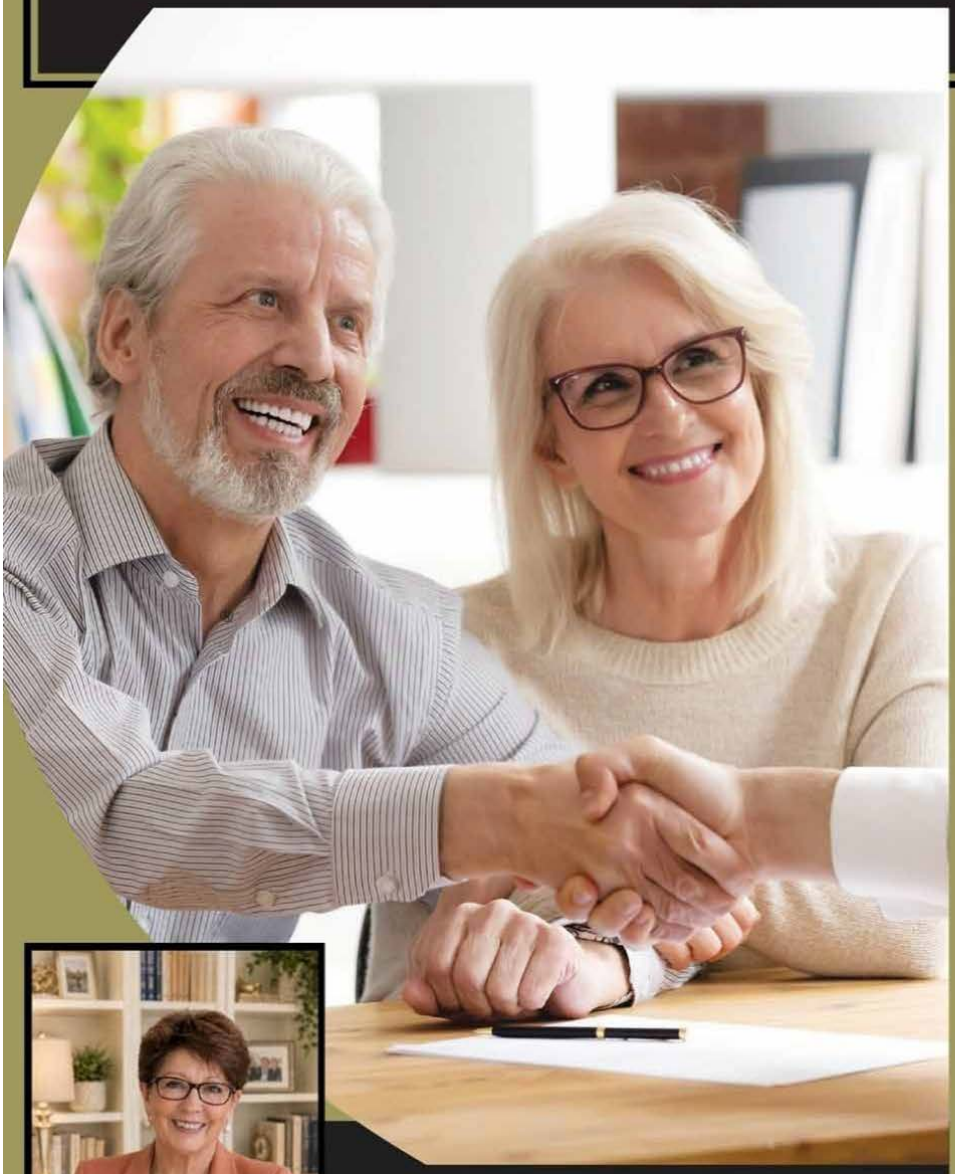
The mandate message given on Tuesday by American voters was sent to both political parties: "focus on us and our daily lives."

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MRH TO HOST PUBLIC TOWN HALL ON KEY HEALTHCARE UPDATES

Dec. 3 event will address proposed Community Hospital partnership and 2026-28 health priorities

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — Montrose Regional Health (MRH) invites community members to attend a public town hall Thursday, Dec. 3, from 3 to 4 p.m. The meeting will take place at the main hospital, 800 S. Third St., in Conference Rooms A and B on the lower level. The meeting will provide updates on MRH's proposed partnership with Community Hospital in Grand Junction, as well as the health priorities identified through MRH's 2026-28 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

Proposed Community Hospital Partnership

In March 2026, MRH and Community Hospital announced a letter of intent to explore a partnership through the creation of a new tax-exempt, nonprofit organization. The proposed partnership is intended to strengthen community-based healthcare across western Colorado while preserving each hospital's independent governance and individual identity.

Since that announcement, leadership and teams from both organizations have continued working together to advance the proposed partnership. The town hall will provide an update on the status of those efforts and the anticipated next steps.

2026-28 CHNA Priorities

The town hall will also highlight findings and priorities from MRH's 2026-28 CHNA. Conducted every three years, the assessment identifies significant health needs in the region and helps guide MRH's efforts to improve access to care and address local health challenges. The priorities identified for 2026-28 include:

-Continued recruitment and retention of the healthcare workforce.

-Increased access to mental and behavioral healthcare services and providers.

-Prevention, education, and services that increase community awareness.

-Increased access to affordable care and efforts to reduce health disparities.

Community members can view the full assessment at montrosehealth.com/chna.

The town hall is open to the public and will include an opportunity for attendees to ask questions related to the proposed partnership and CHNA priorities.

FOREST SERVICE APPROVES SOUTH UNCOMPAHGRE FOREST HEALTH AND FUELS PROJECT

Special to the Mirror

NORWOOD— The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests' Norwood and Ouray Ranger Districts have completed the environmental assessment and approved the South Uncompahgre Hazardous Fuels and Ecological Resiliency (SUHFER) project.

The project will help reduce wildfire risk, improve forest health and enhance wildlife habitat across portions of the Uncompahgre Plateau and Naturita Division in Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel counties. Implementation of approved projects may begin immediately.

"The South Uncompahgre project is an important investment in the long-term health of our forests and rangelands," said Megan Eno, district ranger for Norwood Ranger District. "The condition-based management approach will allow us to respond to changing conditions on the landscape and adapt our implementation strategies to the current need."

The SUHFER project area covers approximately 267,300 acres, with about 245,000 acres taking place on National Forest System lands. Treatments will focus on making forests and rangelands more resilient to wildfire, drought, insects and disease while improving habitat for big game and Gunnison sage-grouse.

The first project to be implemented under this decision is expected to occur in the Naturita Division, south of Norwood, where the district will explore opportunities for combined fuels reduction and wildlife habitat improvement.

Project documents, including the final environmental assessment, decision notice and finding of no significant impact, are available online at:

https://www.fs.usda.gov/r02/gmug/projects/301395

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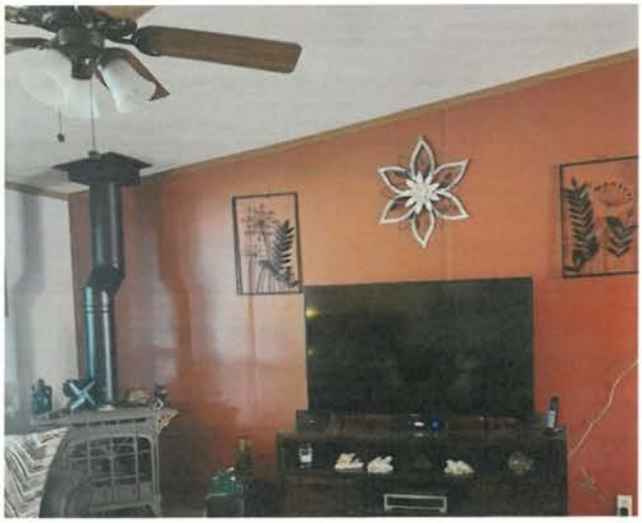
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

MONTROSE NEEDS A COST TEST BEFORE ANY DATA CENTER GETS A PERMIT

Editor:

Montrose County has taken the unusual step of giving itself time to decide how data centers should fit into the landscape. Now it needs to use that time to answer the question residents will eventually ask: Who pays when a big new computer facility needs more power, more water, and more public infrastructure?

The county's official resolution index records a July 1, 2026, moratorium on data center facilities. An October 29 planning commission hearing on proposed zoning rules discussed the next stage: defining where facilities belong and what rules they must follow. The account says officials knew of no submitted applications. Residents should evaluate the policy before anyone asks for an exception.

The economic case for a data center deserves serious consideration. Construction work, property-tax revenue, and investment can benefit a community. But a project that promises jobs without revealing how many permanent local positions it will create gives residents only half the economic picture.

Electricity deserves particular scrutiny. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation's latest long-term assessment projects rapid growth in North American electricity demand, driven heavily by data centers and other large loads. That national forecast does not tell us what would happen to an individual Montrose electric bill. It tells us exactly why local terms must be transparent.

Any future application should come with a plain-language, independently checkable public impact statement. Show projected peak electricity use, source of additional supply, who pays for new substations or transmission, and whether other ratepayers could absorb costs if the project closes or uses less power than expected. Put the assumptions and revisions online, where residents can compare them over time.

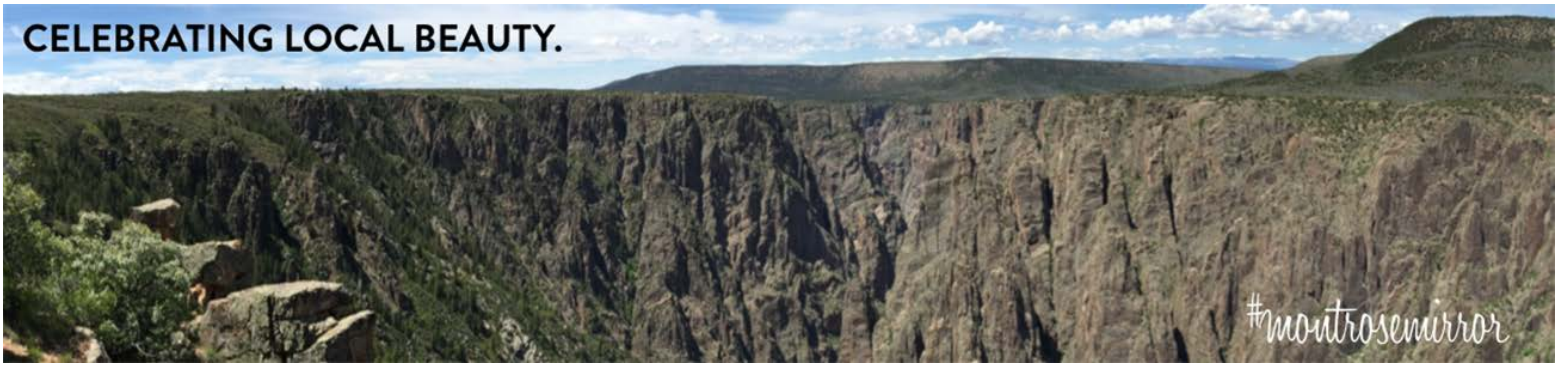
Water requires the same discipline. Identify the cooling design, the water source, expected consumption in normal conditions and drought, and any wastewater or treatment burden. A claim of efficient cooling should specify the actual technology and measurable limits. If a facility proposes to recycle water, spell out what percentage and what happens during equipment failure.

Then show the durable local return. Separate construction jobs from year-round positions. Estimate how many of those permanent jobs can be filled by residents. Identify the taxes and fees expected, alongside the public services a project would require. These numbers should appear next to costs, not in a separate promotional brochure.

Officials should establish three safeguards in advance: public reporting of energy and water use against approved projections, enforceable responsibility for unpaid infrastructure costs, and a process to revisit permit conditions when a project's footprint materially changes. A developer with a strong proposal should be able to meet these terms.

Montrose has a chance to avoid the familiar sequence in which a community debates a large project after most of the important assumptions have hardened. The county can welcome serious investment while keeping the cost of uncertainty off its residents. Make the financial and resource case public first, then debate the permit.

Gleb Tsipursky, PhD, a behavioral scientist, CEO of Disaster Avoidance Experts, and author of The Psychology of AI Adoption at Work: From Resistance to Results (Georgetown University Press, 2026) https://disasteravoidanceexperts.com/aibook



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY OF MONTROSE RECOGNIZED BY THE AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION FOR YEAR OF MAIN STREET

Special to theMirror

MONTROSE— The City of Montrose has been recognized by the Colorado Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA Colorado) with an Excellence in Planning award for its Year of Main Street initiative, which brought more than $9 million in infrastructure improvements to downtown Montrose during the 2025 construction season.

The award recognizes how thoughtful planning, strategic coordination, and collaboration across city departments can maximize public investment while minimizing long-term disruption to the community. Rather than spreading major infrastructure improvements across multiple construction seasons, the city strategically coordinated projects to address multiple needs along Main Street within a single year.

The work represented a significant investment in the future of downtown Montrose, supporting infrastructure reliability, accessibility, mobility, and the continued vitality of the city's historic commercial district.

“The Year of Main Street was about looking at the bigger picture and making the most of every opportunity we had,” said City Engineer Scott Murphy. “When we know multiple infrastructure improvements are needed in the same area, we have to ask ourselves how we can stack those projects on top of one another, coordinate the timing, and get as much accomplished as possible in one construction season. It takes a tremendous amount of planning and coordination, but it helps us avoid coming back to disrupt the same streets and businesses year after year.”

While the infrastructure work was extensive, city administrators recognized that Main Street is more than a transportation corridor. Main Street is home to local businesses, gathering places, and the people who give downtown Montrose its distinctive character. Maintaining business access and keeping the community informed were important considerations throughout the construction season.

“Main Street businesses were incredibly supportive throughout this process, and that made a tremendous difference,” said Michelle Wingfield, the City of Montrose's Community Initiatives Manager. “We knew these improvements were necessary, but we also understood that construction could create real challenges for the people whose livelihoods depend on downtown foot traffic and customer access. Working directly with business owners, communicating what was happening, and helping them navigate the disruption were essential. Their patience, flexibility, and willingness to work with the city helped make this ambitious effort possible.”

The Year of Main Street reflects the City of Montrose’s broader commitment to connecting infrastructure investment with economic development and community vitality. By coordinating projects and working alongside downtown businesses, the city sought to complete necessary improvements efficiently while supporting the people and places that make Main Street a destination.

The APA Colorado award recognizes the role of planning in building stronger communities and highlights the value of coordinated, forward-looking approaches to local challenges. For Montrose, the Year of Main Street illustrates how planning extends beyond individual projects to encompass long-term infrastructure needs, public investment, economic vitality, and meaningful community partnerships.

The City of Montrose extends its appreciation to the contractors, project partners, downtown business owners, residents, and city staff whose collaboration helped bring the Year of Main Street to fruition.

For more information about city infrastructure projects, visit the Moving Montrose Forward webpage at MoveMo.CO. For information about business support, revitalization, and community engagement initiatives, visit the Development and Revitalization Team (DART) webpage at CityofMontrose.org/DART.

For information about the City of Montrose, visit CityofMontrose.org.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS

ELECTION IS OVER BUT QUESTIONS REMAIN

Editor:

Montrose voters have made their decisions on the four City Charter amendments. I respect those decisions, including the two outcomes I advocated against. But accepting election results does not mean setting aside questions about how the election was administered or how its meaning is presented afterward.

In his recent statement, Mayor Michael Badagliacco said voters “chose not to return approval authority” over the appointment or discharge of the Police Chief and City Clerk to City Council.

Voters rejected two proposed changes to the City Charter, leaving the existing authority with the City Manager. Describing that decision as choosing “not to return” authority frames the outcome around the argument for the amendments. A straightforward description would acknowledge that voters chose to retain the current arrangement.

That distinction matters. An official statement should clearly distinguish what voters decided from what supporters of a proposal wanted them to do. The results establish which amendments passed. They do not establish why each person voted as they did.

The mayor is right to celebrate participation. But the concerns raised during this election also deserve acknowledgment.

Residents are still seeking clear answers about ballot adjudication, delays in reporting results, and when and how the public was informed.

Those questions warrant a public explanation: What caused the problems? What accounted for the volume of ballots requiring review? When were officials aware of the delays, and how was that information communicated? What improvements will be made?

The county administers the election, and those responsible should answer these questions. City leaders can also recognize that the concerns deserve attention.

Celebrating turnout does not resolve them.

Asking for answers is entirely consistent with respecting the outcome.

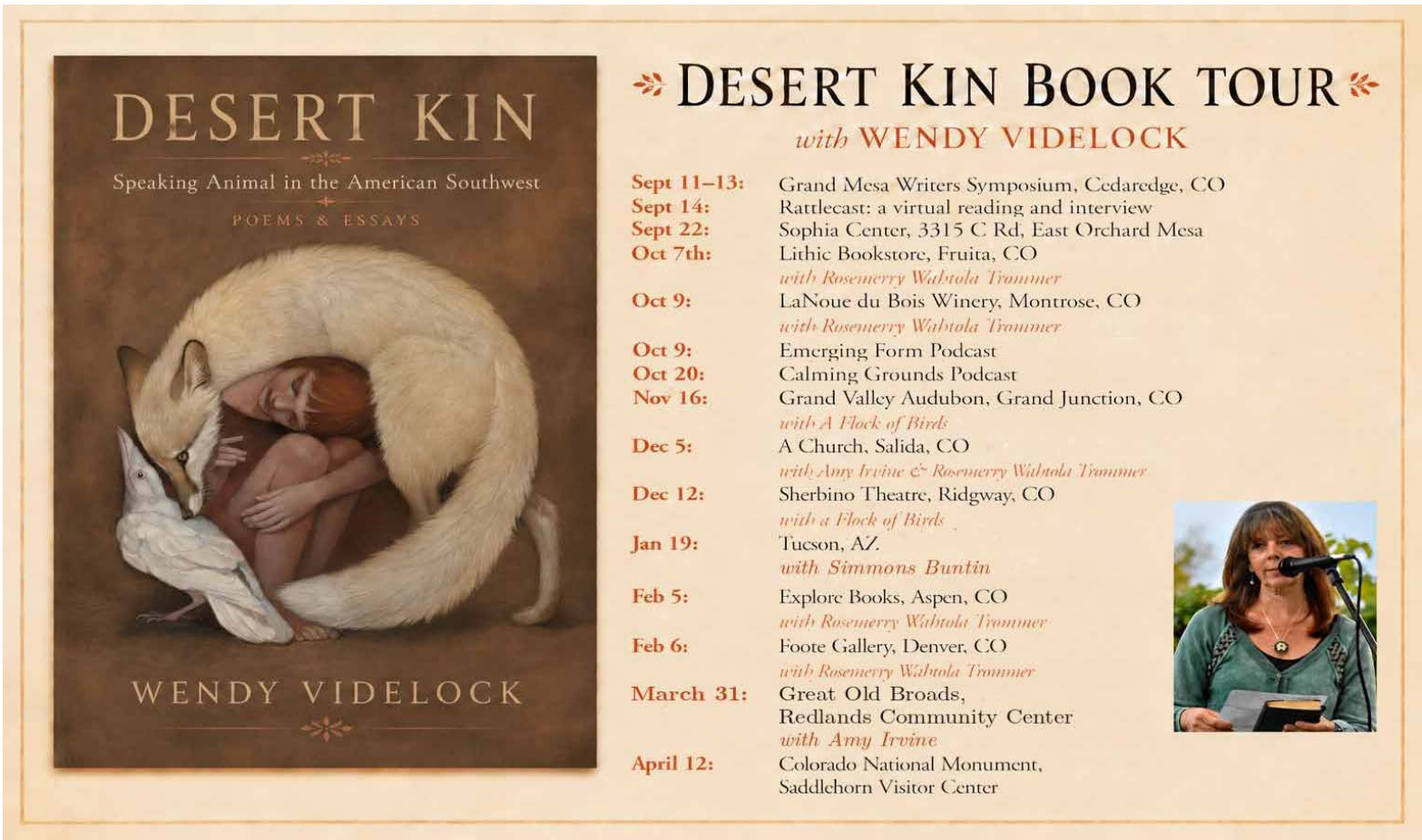
Public confidence is strengthened when officials explain problems openly and demonstrate how they will address them.

Civic engagement also extends beyond casting a ballot. ,Residents researched the amendments, organized neighbors, attended meetings, and challenged proposals they believed would harm Montrose. That work was civic participation, too.

The test of a commitment to public engagement is how leadership responds when residents disagree, question a decision, or ask for accountability.

Montrose deserves accurate descriptions of what voters decided, timely communication when problems arise, and direct answers to reasonable questions. The election is over. .Those responsibilities continue.

Beth McCorkle, Montrose



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OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS

WHAT ABOUT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFING LEVELS?

Editor:

I was going to write about Democrat voter fraud this week, but I read a couple of things that convinced me to delay writing about election integrity. One had to do with more revelations of teachers' union corruption, and the other was another of Zoe Werden's criticisms of our local school board members. Before I get into that, I want to give credit where credit is due. First, I know there are a lot of excellent teachers out there. Some of my own family members spent part of their careers in education. To those teachers who dedicate themselves to honestly try to teach kids how to think, and not what to think, I commend you. Second, let's not pretend that our public schools are the only ones that have failed our children. While I believe the schools are a major cause of the sorry state of many of today's youth, they are only one factor. Parents have the primary responsibility of teaching their children basic things like morality, and the difference between right and wrong. Children don't learn that lying and stealing are wrong from the schools. They first learn that from their parents. The parents are also responsible for instilling a love of learning, teaching compassion for others, encouraging goal setting, and all things spiritual. The parent is also the one who should back up the teachers in things like ensuring school work gets done. To the extent much of that doesn't get done, oftentimes due to the breakdown of the nuclear family, we fail the kids as well as the school system.

I've read several of Zoe Werden's opinions in the Mirror, all critical of individual school board members. I have hesitated to comment because Zoe and her husband Dave and I are friends, but her 11/1 Mirror comments simply cannot go unchallenged. Zoe insinuates that school board member Shane Daly has been disingenuous about his "lack of public-school experience," and his "growing up here" and "only attending public schools part time …. for a few years while being homeschooled." Zoe is further critical of Shane because his "own children do not attend public school," and also commented that Shane "has not disclosed this," as if that is some kind of disadvantage or something bad. Zoe then indicates that board member Jody Hovde is more qualified based totally on the fact she "received her education, spent her career in and had her children in full-time public education." Here's a news flash for Zoe: Having attended or been employed by the school district, or whether your children attended public schools or were homeschooled has absolutely nothing to do with one's qualifications on the school board. Jody Hovde may be eminently qualified, but not because her parents chose to send her to public schools. Likewise, Shane Daly's qualifications have little to do with where he or his kids went to school.

I wrote in the 10/4 Mirror about the sorry state of our public-school systems. One of the points I made was that school board elections have always been power struggles dominated by the teachers' unions who get their candidates elected so they can protect their status quo. Conservatives like myself consider the status quo unacceptable, and, therefore, would look more favorable on a board candidate who has experienced the public school system and decided that is not for them, because that person will work for change. My family has its share of MBAs and Masters Degrees who have succeeded in spite of the public education system. They finished their education still loving America and capitalism. They know there are only two genders. They understand history and know everyone is not either an oppressor or a victim. My family also includes parents who have done everything possible to keep their kids out of public schools. They have sacrificed their time and resources to both homeschool and put their kids in Christian schools. Their kids are tradesmen, entrepreneurs, and small business owners, and are every bit as successful – without the degrees and the public-school brainwashing. Homeschooling is not criticized because it fails. It is criticized because it succeeds outside the system. The teachers' unions and establishment administrators unfortunately resist any and all change, even though too many of their students are failing. The unions have become little more than taxpayer-funded left-wing propaganda outlets. I read this week about the Chicago teachers' union leaders meeting with the French revolutionaries burning Paris down. The meeting was a "call of solidarity" that pumped up the rioters to foment more violence, and referred to previous meetings between the two groups in France. No, I'm not suggesting our local teachers are conspiring with communists and anarchists across the world. I am just making the point that many people in this country, including in Montrose County, have lost all faith in public education and will no longer accept the status quo. Electing and supporting individuals to our school boards outside the educational establishment is not only a positive first step, but is a very necessary one. I've written previously about what I call "LVL's" – Liberal Vocal Locals. Those are the people who cannot win at the ballot box, so they do everything possible to make it difficult for those elected to govern. Their goal is to make life as miserable as possible for any elected conservative. I don't put Zoe in that category, but some of her actions are just as destructive. Sorry Zoe, but much of your criticism is not constructive. Most school board members have full-timed jobs, growing families, and marriages, in addition to their very demanding school board responsibilities.

Who are you to demand they spend their time visiting schools and attending school activities? The fact they have chosen to not be your "pen pal" and respond to your constant criticism probably means they have higher priority things to do, and/or simply consider your criticism not credible.

One comment in closing. Zoe has commented several times about what the school district is spending on legal fees. That's probably a legitimate concern. One that is much more concerning and significant is the school district's administrative staffing levels.

Perhaps Zoe could use her influence and contacts in the school district to head up an evaluation team detailing those staff levels and cost, and comparing that information to other area school districts?

I suspect no one in Montrose County would be happy with what that study reveals.

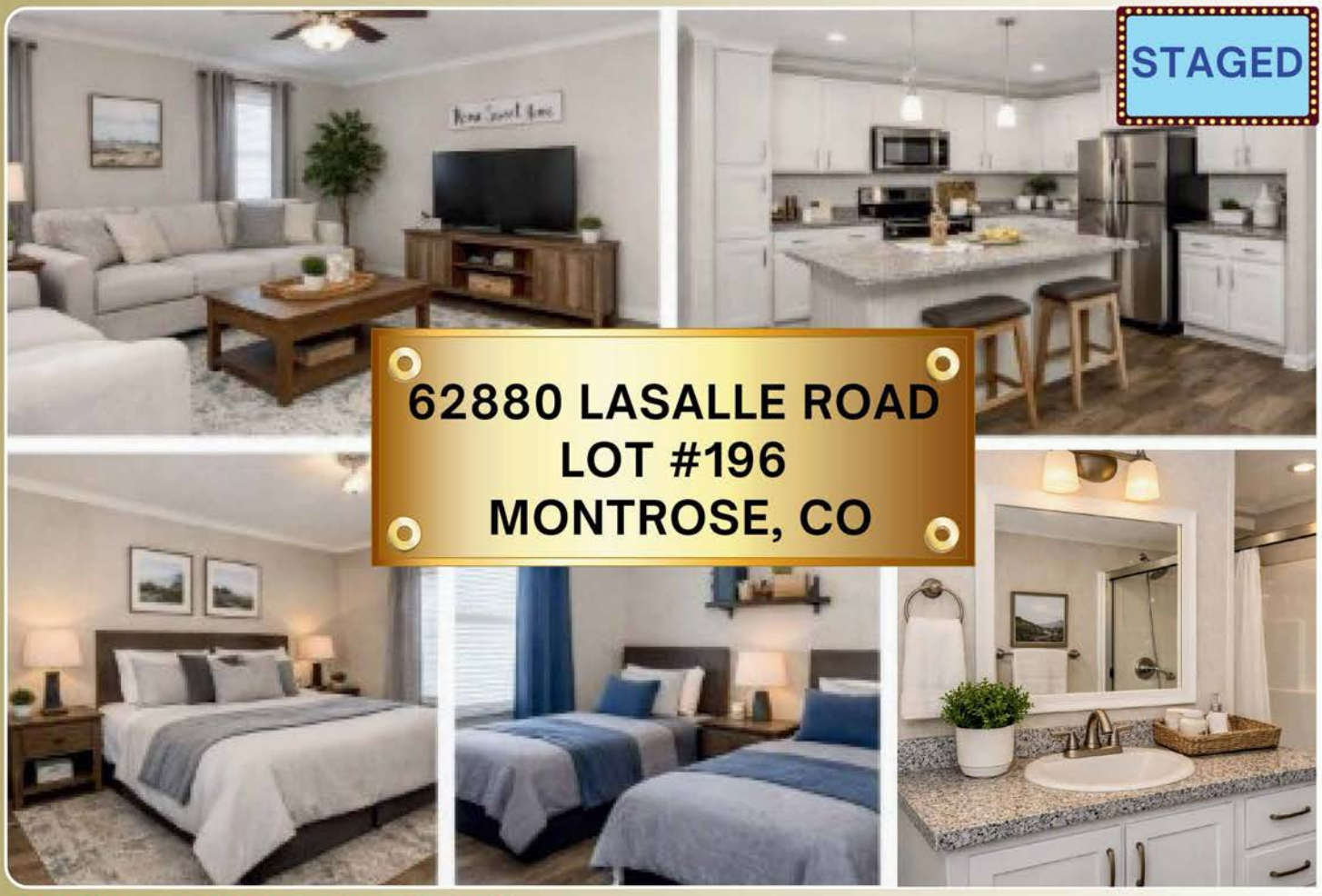
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OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS

COLORADO – A BRIGHTER SHADE OF BLUE IN 2026

Locally…Is the Hysteria Over? Probably Not.

By David White

The mid-term election last week drew a bigger contrast than ever before between the conservative values of Montrose County and the rest of Colorado. Blue, bluer and bluest come to mind to describe where the State of Colorado has gone and in some cases outdoing the bastions of liberal politics found in California, Illinois, New York, Michigan and soon, Texas. And then there's Montrose County. Still deemed "Red" by most measures and the overall vote when compared to the statewide votes on ballot issues reflects that standing. The local questions regarding the Montrose City Charter drew significant opposition as well as support from former elected officials and other active community members leading to some very acrimonious debates among the groups involved in the campaign.

When taken as a whole, Colorado's voters moved decisively toward Democrats this November, but, as seen below, Montrose County did not follow suit. Statewide, Phil Weiser won the governor's race by about 28 points, and John Hickenlooper won his Senate race by about 25. Democrats also won the attorney general, secretary of state and treasurer races. Montrose went the other way in every other comparative contest.

Victor Marx carried the county for governor by 19.4 points, Mark Baisley carried it for Senate by 21.3, and Allen carried it for attorney general by 25.1. In the 3rd Congressional District, where Jeff Hurd won narrowly, about 49% to 47%, he carried Montrose by 26.5 points. ***In the top races, the county ran roughly 43 to 47 points more Republican than the state.*** (See the comparative chart for further information.)

Race	Statewide	Montrose County	Difference
Governor	Weiser (D) +27.8	Marx (R) +19.4	47 pts
U.S. Senate	Hickenlooper (D) +25.4	Baisley (R) +21.3	47 pts
Attorney General	Griswold (D) +17.9	Allen (R) +25.1	43 pts
U.S. House, CD3	Hurd (R) +1.9 (district)	Hurd (R) +26.5	25 pts

The ballot measures show the same split. Statewide, voters rejected Amendments 81, 82 and 86. They also rejected Amendment 85, which won a majority but fell short of the 55% an amendment needs to be made a part of the State Constitution. Montrose voted yes on all four.

The county backed 81, 82, 85 and 86 by margins of 16 to 34 points. It voted no on the graduated income tax, Amendment 87, by 31 points, while the measure passed statewide by about 3 points. The two sides were closer on the criminal-justice and social measures. Proposition 134, on school sports, passed statewide by about 4 points and carried Montrose by almost 40. (See the comparative chart below for further information.)

Measure	Statewide	Montrose County
Amendment 81 (law enforcement reporting)	No +10.6; rejected	Yes +25.2
Amendment 82 (right to natural gas)	No +7.5; rejected	Yes +33.6
Amendment 85 (plain-language ballot questions)	Yes +2.2; rejected (needs 55%)	Yes +28.0
Amendment 86 (congressional redistricting)	No +6.3; rejected	Yes +16.4
Amendment 87 (graduated income tax)	Yes +3.2; approved	No +31.4
Proposition 134 (school sports)	Yes +4.4; approved	Yes +39.9

In the city of Montrose, voters approved two of four charter amendments. Both the move of municipal elections from April to November (2A) and the eight-year council term limit (2B) were passing as of the latest numbers from the Montrose County Clerk's Office late last week. The two measures that would give council a say over the hiring of the police chief and

Continued next pg

COLORADO-A BIGHTER SHADE OF BLUE IN 2026 From previous pg

city clerk (2C and 2D) were failing narrowly. These are unofficial figures as counting and ballot curing run through November 12th, with certification of the election by the County Clerk set for November 30th, however, statistically, it is unlikely that the spread between the yes and no votes will change significantly.

City of Montrose charter question	Yes	No	Result
2A: Move city elections from April to November	51.7%	48.3%	Passing
2B: Eight-year limit for council members	63.1%	36.9%	Passing
2C: Council approval of police chief decisions	48.4%	51.6%	Failing
2D: Council approval of city clerk decisions	48.0%	52.0%	Failing

Also of note are the changes coming to the State Legislature. With just 100 members (65 in the State House & 35 in the State Senate), the numbers point to a Democratic supermajority in both chambers.

Senate: 24 Democrats, 11 Republicans. The Associated Press has called all 21 Senate seats on the ballot. That is a one-seat gain for Democrats, who held 23 before. The flip was District 30 (Highlands Ranch and Lone Tree), where Democrat Kevin Leung beat Republican incumbent John Carson. 24 is exactly the two-thirds mark.

House: 49 Democrats, 16 Republicans. With some seats still being decided as of this writing, it appears that the House would finish with 49 Democrats and 16 Republicans. That is up from 43–22 going into the election. Democrats already clear the 44 seats needed for a two-thirds majority which gives them a supermajority.

What should concern those on both sides is that with at least 24 Senate seats and 44 House seats firmly in their control, Democrats have the numbers to refer constitutional amendments to the ballot and override gubernatorial vetoes. We will see how this all plays out as the 2027 Legislative Session opens on January 11, 2027. Phil Weiser takes office as governor the next day, January 12th. The Democratic controlled legislature will have the votes to override his vetoes if it chooses. The consolidation of power in the hands of the legislature could be a worrisome matter if trends in Colorado and national politics that seemingly favor the Democratic Socialists continue to take root.

NOTE: *Sources used to compile this data include the Decision Desk HQ county results and the Colorado Secretary of State's reporting as compiled by Rocky Mountain Voice; local reporting from KJCT and the Montrose Daily Press as well as the Montrose County Clerk's Office.*

In spite of a decided effort to by local notable Democratic Party members and their associated organizations, Montrose County has held onto its more broadly conservative and Republican principles and values – for now. The hysteria generated by many on the left side of the political aisle in the form of No Kings protests, anti-ICE protests and statements, opposition to changes to the City Charter driven in part by the still questionable outcome of the ballot counting in the April 2026 municipal election as well as long of tooth City Councilors holding office over the course of decades and public officials under the direct hiring by the City Manager, all served to raise the temperature by many degrees in the local and statewide political contests.

With the final results of this election pretty much known across the state and locally, I can only opine that if we turn any more blue as a state, we'll all die of asphyxiation – politically, financially, culturally and in any other way one can imagine as we turn yet another example of socialism into a textbook history lesson of its failure as free market capitalism, free speech and many other guarantees given us by the founding fathers of this country and state evaporate under the heavy hand of government. And don't worry, compromising with these people sounds good, but as we've seen time and time again, it will only serve to be our undoing. That's the sad reality of where we are today.

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 with 2 more on the way & a great grandchild.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS

REFERENCE 01 NOV, PAGE 70 OF 101, LETTER TO EDITOR TITLES SCHOOL BOARD PICKED WRONG VP

Editor:

The composer of the letter has angst that the Montrose County School Board had the “audacity” to select an individual not having “public education credentials” and that the selectee was not being “transparent” and the School Board was adhering to an agenda rather than some mystical and lofty public education guidelines. What a load of crap.

Generally, I am not a fan of school boards. I have written, in the past, why but that is not the subject of this opinion. Bully for the Montrose County School Board! It seems the selection they made was a good one because when career public employees get haughty over publicly-elected representation decisions, it generally means the agendas of the elitists of public-employees and academia have been rejected. And that is a good thing. The issues the author has are couched in elitism and portrays an opinion of personal vendetta rather assess that a different perspective could be of value.

Someone, involved in public-education, with a differing perspective and/or background is a benefit to the greater good. As a property taxpayer, no one represents the taxpayer on school boards. As a group, we shoulder the major portion of public-school funding yet we have little to no representation or influence with school boards. Public education is floundering, as an industry, and is struggling to compete with other educational options.

Typical of arm-chair elites, it is their way or the highway. Opinions are narrow-minded and they fail to produce positive options, only criticism.

You go, Shane Daly! Make a positive and productive difference.

Robert Franco, Montrose

LET’S RECOGNIZE ORGANIZATIONS THAT CONTROL THEIR PRICES, REIN IN COST INCREASES

Editor:

Your November 2nd article indicated SMPA is raising its monthly access charge by 27% and its on-peak rate by 24%. It is a vicious cycle; complain about rising costs and raise your own prices to further fuel inflation for everyone. There ought to be a mechanism to reward those businesses and organizations that fight against that vicious cycle and help tame inflation. Perhaps not feasible with monopolies and not effective with organizations pursuing political agendas, but recognizing organizations that control their prices and keep any increases below the annual general inflation might be a start.

Richard Wojciechowski, Ouray County

OBSERVATIONS OF 03 NOV ELECTION RESULTS

Editor:

-Socialism is now mainstream

-Mainstream Democrats will be subservient to the DSA

-Tried and true American ideals are no longer relevant. Our affluence has become the harbinger of our demise

-Kolorado (not misspelled) is Eastern Kalifornia

-Time to discuss a national divorce

I’m glad I’m 70. In 20 years, this country will not be recognizable.

Robert Franco, Montrose

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OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS

THE SENATE IS FAST-TRACKING A BILL TO GUT CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS

Dear Editor,

The Senate is rushing to pass a bill that guts environmental protections and silences community voices for the overwhelming benefit of the fossil fuel industry and data center developers.

The Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026 (BAAJA, S 5653) is a back-door deal that gives a massive power grab to Big Tech, mining and the fossil fuel industries.

The BAAJA is being touted as permit reform to allow for faster buildout of renewable energy infrastructure, which it would. However, this would be accomplished through extreme reversals and prohibitions on existing laws and judicial discretion.

If the BAAJA becomes law, this bill will gut key aspects of foundational environmental laws like the Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. It will eliminate opportunities for public involvement before decisions are made and would prevent legal challenges from stopping activities once they are underway. It eliminates the requirement to consult with Tribes on potential impacts of proposed projects. It would allow private interests to take private land through federal eminent domain. It would fast-track plans to build data centers and fossil fuel projects – regardless of community opposition. It would allow mining companies to dump their waste anywhere they want to on public lands – no. It would prevent the reversal of any permit or development decision taken by the current administration or federal agencies without the requirement to pay exorbitant damage fees to the proponents. It would pollute families' air and water with chemicals that increase their risk of asthma, cancer, and premature deaths, worsen the climate crisis, and put threatened species at risk of vanishing forever.

This dirty deal was negotiated behind closed doors between four Senators (2 GOP, 2 Dem – so they can call it bipartisan), and the Senate intends to use special rules to bypass processes that help the public understand its impact. No committee hearings, no public comments. Most Senators haven't even been briefed on it yet, because it was introduced the day before everyone when back to their States before the election. They're racing to pass this deal in November and could vote on it as early as November 9, in their lame duck session.

Our best defense against that is to educate ourselves QUICKLY and speak out against this terrible bill.

Call and/or email your Senators and ask them to vote against BAAJA.

Tell your members of Congress to stand up for our community, air, water, public land and climate, instead of giving big tech, data center proponents, fossil fuel and mining interests, and STOP THIS DIRTY DEAL!

Thank you!

Carol Howe, Montrose



COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

MARY ALICE POLITZ
April 5, 1935-October 30, 2026



If you ever need to drive a shamelessly hard bargain, revive a wilting rose, play a winning card game of Bridge or get away with eating ice cream before dinner, you have a kindred spirit in Mary Alice Politz. She joined her Savior in heaven on October 30, 2026, leaving behind lots of practical advice, an impressive collection of frogs, and a massive hole in our hearts.

Mary's recipe on how to live a peaceful life was inspired by Philippians 4:6. She wrote, "Don't worry. Ask God for what you want. Be thankful for what you get, and accept the fact that they may not be the same."

Born, Mary Alice Sperling, on April 5,1935 to Ellsworth Cliffor Sperling and Minnie Alice (Goode) Sperling, she brought joy and laughter to her husband, Frederick Clifton Politz, who she married on August 7,1954. The two took turns putting each other through school at Lamar State College of Technology where Mary graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering, an unusual choice of degree for a woman in the 1950's. Fred and Mary raised two devoted daughters: Carol Anne Beers, married to Richard Beers; and Susan Kay Murphey, married to Pattinson Murphey.

Mary is adored and cherished by her 5 grandchildren: Richard Samuel Beers, Janna Richelle Rice, Jonathon Daniel Beers, Merideth Marcella Murphey and Carter Clifton Murphey.

She is further blessed with nine great-grandchildren: Sophia Beers, Eva Beers, Seth Beers, Layla Rice, Sydney Beers, Edie Rice, Kobe Murphey, Norah Beers and Vivian Murphey.

Mary and her husband Fred were members of Montrose Christian Church and Christ's Church of the Valley while living in Montrose.

Mary's joy is now complete as her life in Christ continues into eternity.

BARRY POMEROY MERKEL
June 12, 1952 – October 18, 2026



Barry P. Merkel, age 74, of Ridgway, Colorado, died at his home. Barry was born in Cleveland, Ohio, To William R. and Joan (Christian) Merkel. He graduated from Orange High School in Pepper Pike, Ohio, and attended Wittenberg University for several terms before beginning his long career as a craftsman and carpenter.

He moved to Colorado from Texas in 1978. He remained in Colorado the rest of his life, starting in Aspen, then Carbondale, and then the Denver area. He moved to Ouray County in 2000, and built his home in Ridgway in 2005.

Barry was a gifted carpenter and builder. He was part of various crews constructing quality homes. He was particularly skilled in finish work and cabinetmaking. He donated his talents and time as well. Some of his finest contributions can be found at the Sherbino Theater in Ridgway and the KVNF radio studio in Montrose.

He loved hiking, fishing, hunting, skiing, mushroom gathering and being in nature. He was an avid music fan. It began in his early teens and he loved rock, blues, country and bluegrass music. From live performances to recordings and biographies, he loved them all. His passion for music took him deep into the roots of many genres. He also played the guitar and mandolin, dabbled in songwriting, and occasionally performed at open mike nights in the area.

He is survived by his brother Lee (Marla) Merkel, sisters Christy (Jon) Rockhold and Wendy (Bruce) Kelsh, and seven nieces and nephews.

Barry's ashes will be spread at Owl Creek Pass, according to his wishes, where he will rest among the mushrooms he loved.

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

HAROLD WILLIAM “WILLY” NORTHRUP
November 29, 1937 – October 24, 2026



HAROLD WILLIAM “WILLY” NORTHRUP peacefully entered into the presence of the Lord on October 24, 2026, at the age of 88. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather; a cherished friend; and a man of extraordinary generosity and uncommon humility. His life encompassed Army service, remarkable success in business, and years of ranching in the community he loved.

Willy was a giant, though he would have been the last to say so.

Born in Denver, Colorado, on November 29, 1937, to Arlene and Harold Northrup, Willy possessed a zest for life and an energetic spirit that never left him. Growing up, he loved sports, and after graduating from Arvada High School in 1954, he joined the United States Army and was stationed in Germany. He married Jeanne in 1956, and they soon welcomed their son, Bill, and three daughters in the years to come: Tammy, Chelli, and Nikki. Willy and Jeanne’s marriage would span 70 years as they raised a family, built a business, and welcomed grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Willy began Arvada Hardwood Floor Company in his garage in 1959. Through determination and years of hard work, that modest beginning grew into Colorado’s largest flooring company. Home Depot acquired the business in 2002.

It was an extraordinary accomplishment, but Willy remained humble. The thousands of relationships he formed along the way mattered deeply to him, and many of the people who worked with him became lifelong friends. Success gave him the means to help others, and he did so generously.

Another defining chapter of Willy’s life unfolded at Black Canyon Ranch in Bostwick Park, near Montrose. Ranching brought work, friendships, and a close connection to the community.

Willy’s generosity reached well beyond his family. He supported kids raising 4-H animals and Montrose County athletics, along with charitable and humanitarian causes across the state. With his bushy white mustache and a torn cutoff shirt, he never made a fuss about himself. But his generosity and mentorship left its mark on countless lives. A God-fearing man, he lived his faith through his generosity and the way he treated people.

For all his accomplishments, his family was his greatest pride. Willy would drive across the country to be there for his children’s and grandchildren’s athletic and academic pursuits. His family knew that their interests, efforts, and milestones mattered to him.

He also knew how to have fun. He enjoyed softball, bowling, running, and racquetball, and at 70 he was still playing beach volleyball in Mexico with family. A game of wiffle ball was another chance to join in. His family will remember him swimming in the pond in a Speedo and attending a Rockies game shirtless, with a player’s name painted on him. Willy was always willing to join in the fun.

He also held a firm conviction that you wouldn’t overeat if you ate dessert first. If you spotted Willy driving through town, there was a good chance he was headed to Dairy Queen. He gave his family plenty to admire, but also plenty to laugh about.

Willy was preceded in death by his parents, Arlene and Harold Northrup, and his son, Bill. He is survived by his beloved wife Jeanne; his daughters, Tammy (Gary) West, Chelli (Mark) Corey, and Nikki Sinner; his brother, Larry Northrup (Jackie) and his sister, Marge Grenemyer.

He also leaves eight grandchildren and their spouses: Troy (Iryna), Tori (Clay), Kylie, Lindsey (Max), Colby (Marissa), Willy (Emily), Ryne (Meg), and Calvin (Alex); and nine great-grandchildren: Lane, Rhett, Ava, Hadley, Cameron, Georgia, Brooks, Solomon, and Ripley.

For his family, the loss is beyond words. So, too, is their gratitude for the years they shared with him. Willy leaves behind a business legacy, a ranching legacy, and a lifetime of service and friendship. Above all, he leaves people who knew they were loved. That will remain his greatest legacy.

A service honoring Willy’s life will be held and streamed online on November 28, 2026, at 10 a.m. at Grace Community Church, 16731 Woodgate Road, Montrose, Colorado 81401. In lieu of flowers those wishing to honor Willy’s memory may contribute to the Montrose County 4-H Council, continuing his support for young people in the community. Checks should be made payable to Montrose County 4-H Council, with “Willy Northrup Memorial” noted in the memo line. Donations may be mailed to the Extension Office, Attn: Jamie Goza, 949 N. 2nd St., Montrose, CO 81401. Cash or checks may also be delivered to Timberline Bank; please indicate that the donation is for Willy Northrup’s memorial.

And because Willy had a special love for cookies and ice cream, we’ll have a reception following featuring these favorite treats.

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

ALVA LEE COX
August 5, 1937 - October 27, 2026



Born at home in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, Lee's heart never strayed far from that place of his origin. Named for his granddad Alvie Patterson and his dad Lee Cox, he was a consummate outdoorsman, skier, ski instructor and lover of mountains – especially his San Juans.

Lee graduated in 1955 with the first class out of the new high school on Main Street in Pagosa, excelling academically and athletically - in football, basketball and baseball. He went on to graduate from Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado with a major in mathematics and a minor in physics, and was soon scooped up by the U.S. Army and stationed at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. There, his math and physics education was used in evolving the first building-size computers which led him into a vocation that he followed throughout his working life.

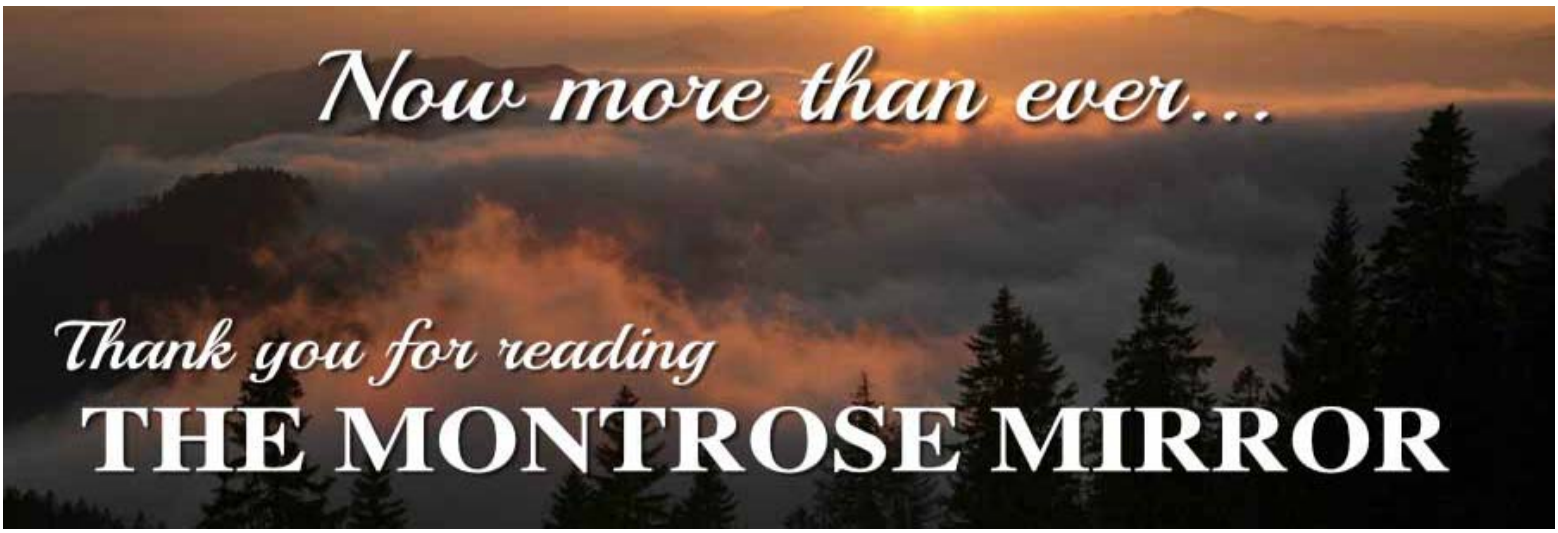
He was a fourth generation Pagosan with his maternal roots of the Patterson line and his paternal side carrying numerous generations of Protestant theologians, although his personal spiritual orientation was grounded in the beauty and magnificence of nature, mountains, family, and helping others enjoy the things that meant the most to him – skiing and being out in the mountains.

For some 80 years, skiing was Lee's passion. Beginning at age seven on the slopes and hills around Pagosa when his dad brought skis home from World War II, he progressed to the rope tows atop Wolf Creek Pass then on to the large ski areas around Denver. There, he became a National Ski Patrol volunteer ski patroller at Arapahoe basin for 18 years, at Keystone when it first opened, and Squaw Pass Ski Area, then turned to instructing at Telluride and Powderhorn. He did that all while working at his main job in the IT field in the Denver area and later for 23 years at the County, then City of Montrose. After retirement, he kept busy by instructing at many areas, including back at his favorite, Wolf Creek. There, he was often sought out to teach private lessons to individuals who were intimidated by the sport. Gently and patiently, he led them step by step to success through his mantra of 'Relax and Enjoy'. At the upper end of the spectrum, he taught aspiring enthusiasts the art of skiing deep powder, steep faces, or moguls. He also worked hard to instill a love of the outdoors in his children, and later his grandchildren. He and his family could often be found cross country and downhill skiing, hiking, and backpacking together. Lee also enjoyed participating in the San Juan Mountain runners club while living in Montrose and later the Gray Wolves hiking group in Pagosa.

At the age of 89, he passed away at home in Cedaredge, with family close by.

Lee is survived by his loving wife Sheila Ballard Cox of Cedaredge, Colorado; his sons Erik Cox and wife Melissa of Bailey, Colorado and Shawn Cox of Grand Junction, Colorado; a daughter Lindsay Frost and husband Clint of Evergreen, Colorado; three grandchildren, James, Cameron, and Avery; and his brother Dean Cox and wife Karen of Pagosa Springs, Colorado.

At Lee's request, there will be no memorial service, and his ashes will be scattered at treasured locations in the mountains. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in Lee's memory to Hope West Hospice at 195 Stafford Ln, Delta, CO 81416 and/or Lewy Body Dementia research at Dementia Society of America, PO Box 600, Doylestown, PA 18901.





MURALIST WES ABARCA TRANSFORMS MADA FACILITY, NORTHWEST SIDE





At left, Darlene Mora stopped by to see the mural. Photo by Darlene Mora. At right, the artist at work. Photo by Wes Abarca.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-A plain facade has been transformed on the Northwest side of town; the Mexican American Development Association (MADA) recently engaged renowned Artist Wes Abarca to create one of his bright and powerful “stained glass” style murals on the building’s Western wall.

Abarca, 49, who lives in Payson, Arizona, has been painting murals since he was a teen, full time since 2020. He began the MADA project on October 29.

“They had an outline for me,” Abarca said. “And I adjusted a few things. There’s a lot going on in the mural--it’s real busy.”

The neighborhood around MADA is busy too, with people stopping by to watch the artist at work. And the artist himself is very, very busy, painting on average 25 to 30 murals per year-and more than that in 2026.

“This year’s a record,” he said.

Learn more about Muralist Wes Abarca on Social Media:

https://www.facebook.com/wes7svn

https://www.instagram.com/wes7svn/

Phone: 562-363-7527

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

MCA PROUDLY PRESENTS THE HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE OF ART

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose Center for Arts proudly presents its 2nd annual The Holiday Marketplace of Art. Western Colorado artists will brighten the season with their offerings of fine art pieces for the holidays, making perfect gifts for family and friends. The exhibit will run from November 10 through January 8.

The Cottonwood and Ponderosa Rooms will open on November 10 with amazing gifts, from jewelry to pottery, from cards to paintings, and so much more. Then on November 17, the Main Gallery will showcase a vast array of 12 x 12 paintings for our annual fundraiser.

MCA invites you to stop by our 2nd Thursday reception on November 12 as we debut our first edition of our MCA Holiday Cards and to meet the artists who created the card artwork. Then on December 10, from 5 – 7 p.m. at MCA, join us for an Ugly Holiday Sweater Night (with a prize for best ugly holiday sweater), seasonal treats and beverages, explore the gallery, and shops for those special holiday gifts.

A New Tradition – MCA Holiday Cards

Congratulations to Kim Keller and Brian Webber whose artwork submissions were selected for our first edition of MCA Holiday Cards. They've donated their designs to MCA and the cards will go on sale at the Holiday Marketplace in mid-November. All proceeds from the cards will go to the Art Center.

Grand Junction mixed media artist Kim Keller recently relocated to the Western Slope from Pennsylvania. The move has inspired her to explore new subject matter and techniques. Her original design was composed of fabric and paper.

Brian Webber, who has frequently exhibited at MCA, enjoys the subtle softness watercolors allow him when he expresses a moment in time. He is particularly motivated by the impact of morning light as it affects the subject matter.

The cards will go on sale in 6-card packets (three of each design) and in individually wrapped single cards for your holiday giving. Watch for this limited 2026 edition release at MCA beginning Nov. 10 at the Holiday Marketplace of Art.

“We can’t wait to share these timeless treasures with visitors this season,” says MCA Board President Pat Chaloupek. “We hope this will be a tradition guests enjoy every year.”

Support the Arts this Holiday Season

Visiting MCA and purchasing art, or donating on the website, is the easiest and most effective way to help our organization continue to foster the arts in our community. With your help, our all-volunteer team can continue to manage daily operations, expand on programming to include bigger and better opportunities for local and budding artists, and attract art lovers from all over the world to our community.

Our FREE and low-cost programming includes:

-ART CRAWL during the summer months and continuing with 2nd Thursday receptions throughout the year

-Art in Motion (AIM) where artists showcase work in local businesses

-Partnering with the Montrose Regional Library District for a book club focused on the arts

-Partnering with local youth organizations and the city of Montrose to give young artists a free place to exhibit their art

-Art classes in all mediums

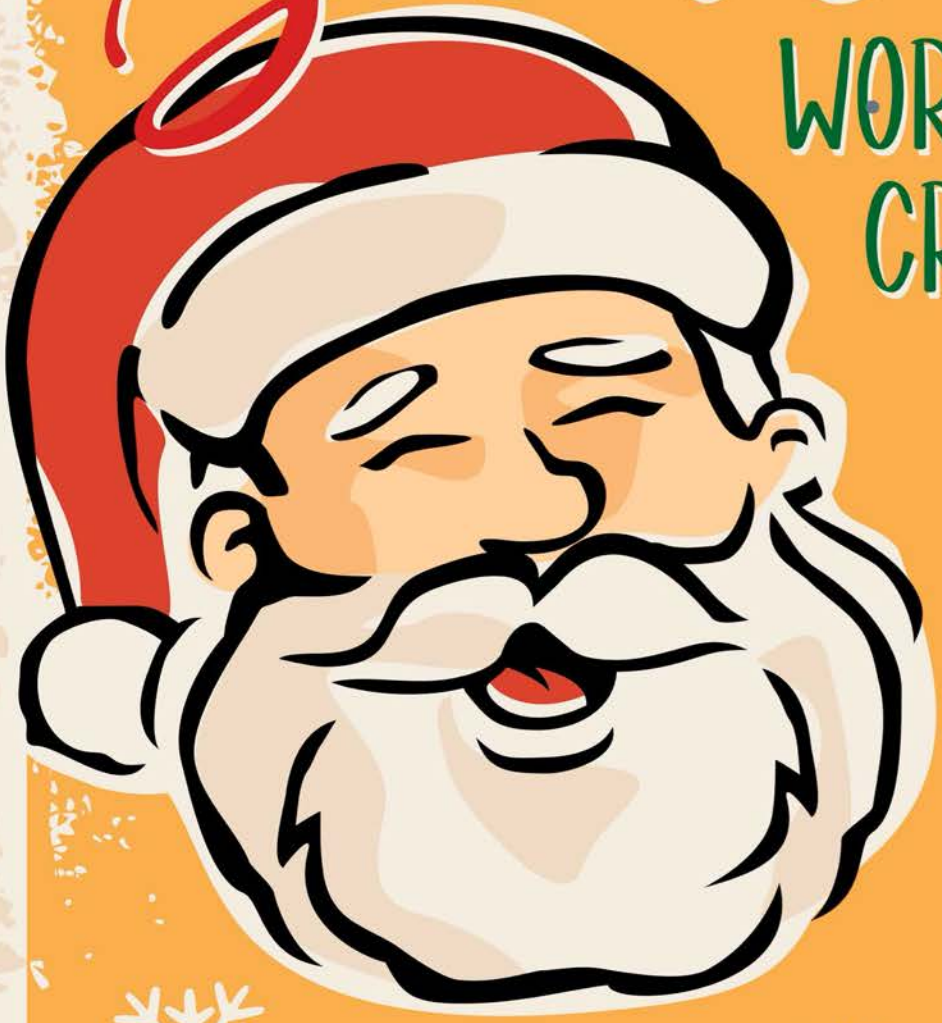
-Plus, a showcase for local and regional artists to exhibit their art — from painting to woodworking and woodturning, from jewelry to pottery, from metal to photography and much more

These free programs and more are only possible with the continued support of our growing community. Your purchases will support local artists and your donations will be invested into these very programs, ensuring we continue the traditions that are enjoyed by thousands of visitors each year.

Donate by going to the website at montrosecenterforarts.com, or to ColoradoGivesDay.org (they’ll match some of the dollars donated) at www.coloradogives.org until December 7. Remember, contributions to MCA are tax deductible! In addition, anyone who would like to donate can do so by going to our website, or by stopping in at the gallery and purchasing some of the wonderful holiday merchandise.

Santa's

WORKSHOP & CRAFT SHOW



FRIDAY
DECEMBER 4 * 9-5

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 5 * 9-4

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 6 * 11-4

JOIN US AT MONTROSE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS FRIENDSHIP HALL

OVER 90 VENDORS

METAPHORSE GROWTH AND HEALING CENTER
Local Non-Profit Rescues Horses who Rescue People

By Sue Zanol

MONTROSE-Who's Healing Who? On a gorgeous late spring afternoon, I drove to the Metaphorse Growth and Healing Center in lovely Spring Canyon in Montrose. I made an appointment based on what a fellow veteran I trust told me. He said his time spent at the center made more of a positive difference in his daily struggles with military related PTSD than his many years of traditional mental health therapy. To say my own experience was unique and an innovative approach to healing that works, is an understatement. I was met at my car by the founder and owner, Jody Nixon who besides being a certified instructor in Equine Facilitated Learning and Human Development, is also certified in the Masterson Method. This is an interactive bodywork technique where light touch and gentle movement help a horse release physical tension. As Jody explained as we walked, "We rescue horses who rescue people". She told me about some of the rescued horses. Some are seniors while others are gentle souls who were facing slaughter. All of the remarkable horses have found safety and purpose in healing humans. While we walked and talked, I was curious about the large rectangular thing she was pulling along in a small wagon. Jody told me I would soon see. We stopped in a field with horses I could see in the distance. Jody took the rectangular thing off of the wagon and unfolded it. It was a cot. She asked me to lie on it. I felt vulnerable with big horses in the field and wondered what I had gotten myself into. Jody stood behind me as I laid on the cot. For the next hour and with Jody standing behind me, horses came to the cot. Some left and two stayed for most of the hour. Jody explained what their body language including ears were indicating. I consider myself an evidence based person with a degree of skepticism. I am not into snake oil or conspiracy theories. But, something happened I can't explain. While lying on the cot surrounded by horses, I I developed diarrhea of the mouth. I told those horses things I have buried for many years. I felt relaxed and at peace, a rarity for me. It was close to euphoric. I had the feeling the horses got something from the experience as well, a win/win. Running a horse sanctuary is expensive. The price of hay has doubled in a short amount of time and horse heath care is also expensive. Please consider donating to this wonderful horse sanctuary and healing center. As Jody says, "Who's healing Whom? At Metaphorse, the answer is beautifully both".

Colorado Gives Day is December 8!



Equine Therapy photo by Sue Zanol.



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

HOLIDAY EVENTS BRING CHEER TO DOWNTOWN FRUITA

Special to the Mirror

FRUITA-The holiday season is just around the corner, and the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce invites residents and visitors to celebrate with two festive community traditions: the Downtown Holiday Lighting Celebration on Friday, November 20, and the Fruita Parade of Lights on Saturday, December 12.

The Downtown Holiday Lighting Celebration will kick off the season on Friday, November 20, with an evening of music, treats, and holiday fun. Enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides, live music by Cliff Ritchey at Mulberry Plaza from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., and the lighting of downtown at 6:30 p.m. in Circle Park. Guests can also look forward to special appearances by the Grinch and Cindy Lou Who, Santa, a message from the mayor, and local businesses handing out hot chocolate, cookies, candy, and other seasonal treats.

The festivities continue on Saturday, December 12, at 5:30 p.m. with the annual Fruita Parade of Lights! This year's theme, "Very Merry Movie Night," invites parade participants to bring their favorite holiday movies to life through festive floats, vehicles, and walking groups filled with lights, characters, costumes, and music. From the North Pole to Whoville, downtown Fruita will be filled with holiday magic and creativity!

The Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce encourages everyone to join in the celebrations, support local businesses, and enjoy the special traditions that make Fruita such a wonderful place to celebrate the holiday season.

For more information about upcoming holiday events, visit www.fruitachamber.org and follow the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce on social media.

Event Details

Downtown Holiday Lighting

-Friday, November 20

-Live music: 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

-Downtown lighting: 6:30 p.m.

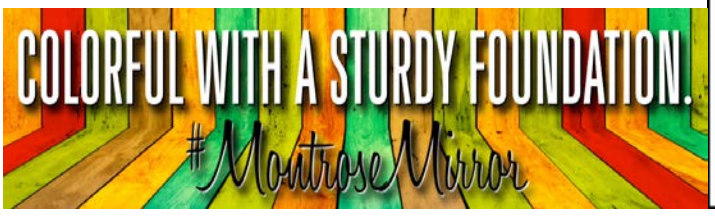
-Locations: Mulberry Plaza and Circle Park

Fruita Parade of Lights

-Saturday, December 12

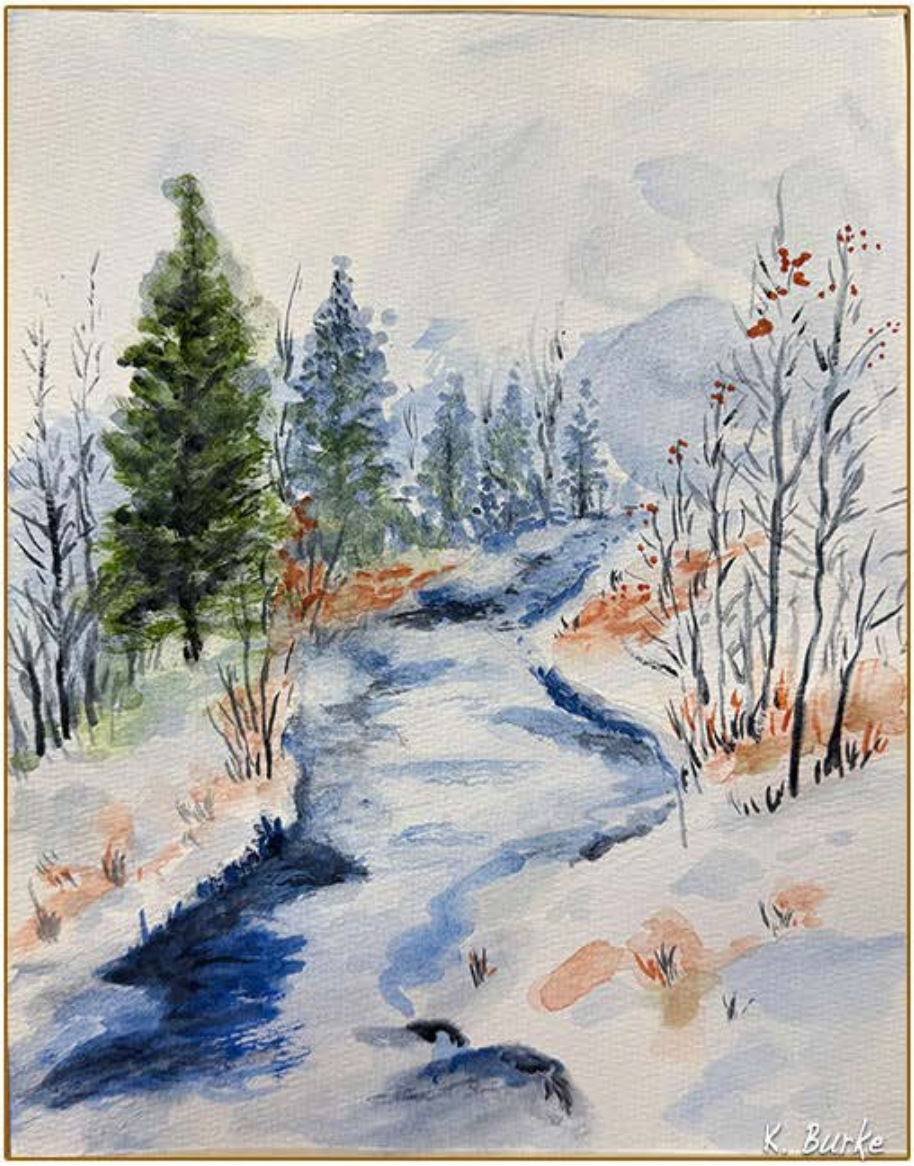
-Parade begins at 5:30 p.m.

-Theme: Very Merry Movie Night





WATERCOLOR WITH KATE



Friday Afternoon ART 1-3:30 pm, November 13th at the SENIOR CENTER

Paint a winter scene of icy water and trees with a lingering touch of fall. Combine wet-on-wet and dry-brush techniques on 9" x 12" Cold Press paper. Step-by-step instruction. Freehand or template available. All levels welcome. Everything provided plus soft drink and snack. $40 pp.

MONTROSE RECREATION DISTRICT 50+ Program

1800 Pavilion Dr., Montrose, Colo.

https://kathrynrburke.com/product/111326mrd

https://kathrynrburke.com/product/111326mrd/

Country Living

THREE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

240 De Maria Ct.

MLS # 837152 | **$499,900**







- 1,500 sq ft home
- 1700 sq ft large shop
- 1+ irrigated acre
- New roof
- New laminate flooring
- New applinaces
- Cozy cul de sac
- Just minutes from Main St.
- No covenants

SCAN TO VIEW THE VIDEO TOUR

511 Chipeta Dr.

MLS # 836463 | $599,900







- 4.8 acres with irrigation
- 3 beds, 1 bath in main house (built in 1904, 1072 sq ft)
- Hot water baseboard heat
- 2 bedrooms, 1 bath in guest house
- 2,400 sq ft shop
- Mature yard with trees and raised garden/flower beds
- No covenants
- Close to Main St. and Townsend Ave.
- Let your ideas become reality

SCAN TO VIEW THE VIDEO TOUR

2133 - 6450 Rd.

MLS # 835133 | $539,900







- 2+ irrigated acres
- Nicely maintained home with many custom details
- 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
- Large main suite with 5 piece bath & jetted tub, exceptional closet
- Spacious laundry/mudroom
- Covered patio and mature landscaping
- 1500 sq ft barn/workshop with additional garage
- 3 stall loafing shed and chicken house
- Just minutes from Main Street
- No covenants

SCAN TO VIEW THE VIDEO TOUR

Live the Lifestyle You Love



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Broker Associate
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970-209-3934 | Realtor@PegEvanoika.com
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CENTURY 21
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500 E. Main St., Montrose, CO
970-249-5673

Offered for Sale.. *passive solar ENVELOPE home on 39 acres at $1,100,000*

A rare and distinctive rural property blending comfort & craftsmanship





MLS # 824397-- 830 Tiyoweh Trail





- *3 bedrooms/ 3 baths*
- *3454 SqFt remodeled 2020-2025*
- *Passive solar design*
- *Fully finished lower level*
- *Covered and lighted 9' x 16' deck*
- *Glass enclosed south facing sunroom*
- *Sweeping, unobstructed views*

Hike, ride.. enjoy the outside



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Realtor@PegEvanoika.com
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500 E. Main St. Montrose, CO 970-249-5673

CIMARRON CREEK: COLORADO LIVING AT IT'S BEST



CIMARRON CREEK

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Montrose, Colorado







Where comfort, community and Montrose, Colorado beauty come together

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- 🌳 Tree-lined streets, walking paths, large open green spaces
- 🏡 Pride of ownership
- 🚗 Prime Montrose location
- 🐾 Pet-friendly
- 🌞 Colorado lifestyle

WHY RESIDENTS LOVE CIMARRON CREEK

- Large Common Areas
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- Peaceful Atmosphere
- Community Center
- Lending Library
- Fenced Playground
- Dog Parks
- Community Garden
- Pet & Family Friendly
- Mature Landscaping

970-249-0493 manager@cimarroncreekcommunity.com

Open: Monday-Saturday, 8AM-5PM

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

2057 S. Townsend, Montrose, CO 81401

Office Hours: 9 AM - 12 PM Mon, Wed, Thurs

(970) 249-2451

www.allsaintsmontrose.org

Rector: The Rev Preston Gordon

office@allsaintsmontrose.org

Sunday Worship: 8 AM + 10 AM (with kids ministry)

Wednesday Midweek prayer and communion: 11 AM

We are an evangelical Anglican church and a member of the Diocese of the Rocky Mountains. Our worship emphasizes meeting God through Scripture, the Spirit, the Sacraments and song.

-We warmly welcome visitors: unchurched, ex-churched, or anything in between.

-Coffee + fellowship hour takes place in between the two Sunday services.

-Kids Church + nursery: during the 10am service only.

Bible Baptist Church

Independent Baptist

112Main St.

P.O. Box 262

Olathe, Co 81425

Tuesday-Friday Phone: 970-808-1021

www.biblebaptistchurcholathe.com

Pastor Gabe Skillo

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Sunday 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer 7 p.m.

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

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, Montrose, CO 81401

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: (970) 497-4925

Email: celebrationmontrose@gmail.com

Website: https://celebrationmontrose.org/

Worship Service Times: 9am and 10:45am

Senior Pastor:

Pastor Brandon Mathis

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

Demographics: Multi-generational

Celebration Kids: (age birth to 5th 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. Montrose, CO 81401

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

Contact information:

Phone: 970-249-0530

Email: CCVMontroseCO10@gmail.com

Website: ccvmontrose.org

Name of current Senior Pastor: Ken Lawrence

Worship service times: 10:30 a.m.

Mission: Christ's Church of the Valley is a loving and welcoming church whose purpose 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 predominately 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 Synod

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

Contact: 970-633-0226

Website: www.montroselutheran.org

Email: montroselutheran@gmail.com

Pastor: Tim Onnen

Worship: Sundays at 9 AM

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class at 10:15 AM; Women's Bible Study Fridays at 9 AM. At Christ Lutheran Montrose you will find friendly people gathered in a welcoming environment being comforted and encouraged by the forgiveness and love of Jesus, and sharing that with one another. We are a small congregation of seniors and middle-aged, sprinkled with young children and teenagers.

Continued next pg

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY Continued 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

Website: 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, 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.

Sunday School and childcare: None

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, 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, inform@fpcmontrose.com, www.fpcmontrose.com

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jesse G. Mabanglo

Worship Service times: 9:30AM,

We strive to encourage, challenge and support one another through spiritual growth, worship, and service in our 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

Website: montroseucc.org

Current Pastor: Rev. Wendy Kidd

Worship service times: Sunday, 10 a.m.

Hillcrest Congregational UCC is a welcoming, open and affirming church, open to all no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey.

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

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

MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Denomination Affiliation: United Methodist

Address: 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401

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

Contact Information: 970-249-3716, office@montroseumc.org, montroseumc.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 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

youtube.com/@rosemontbaptistchurch

Continued next pg

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY Continued from previous pg

facebook.com/RosemontBaptist

email: 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 .

ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Denomination: Anglican-Reformed Episcopal Church (REC)

Address: 2405 Sunnyside Road, Montrose

970-249-4868

Contact: ststephensmontrose@yahoo.com

www.ststephensmontrose.com

Rev. Dec. Garrett Agajanian

St. Stephen's is a community of caring Christians rooted in the godly traditions of the past, focused on the challenges of the present, hopeful for the future, continuing in the Faith once delivered to the saints, using the 1928 Book of Common Prayer.

Sunday: Holy Communion10 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; website: vbcmontrose.org

Current Pastor: Roland Kassales

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

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

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

Church Directory

Mirror Editorial Staff

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

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?



CENTURY 21

BUYER-FOCUSED REPRESENTATION WITH INTEGRITY AND EXPERTISE





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O: 970-249-7653
LeslieGoreRealtor@gmail.com

DIANE HAYNES, CRS
Associate Broker
C: 970-596-3521
O: 970-249-7653
DianeHaynes@outlook.com
DianeHaynesRealtor@gmail.com

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® OFFICIAL DESIGNATION | ABR®

Choosing a real estate agent with the Accredited Buyer's Representative (ABR) designation offers several advantages:

Specialized Training: ABR agents have received advanced training focused on representing buyers, giving them a deep understanding of the buying process and strategies to advocate for your best interests.

Expert Negotiation Skills: They are equipped with the skills to negotiate better terms, prices, and contingencies, helping you secure a more favorable deal.

Market Knowledge: ABR agents are well-versed in local market conditions, giving you insights into pricing trends, property values, and neighborhood information.

Exclusive Buyer Focus: Their primary focus is on buyer representation, ensuring you get unbiased advice and guidance tailored specifically to your needs.

Legal and Ethical Standards: ABR agents adhere to a strict code of ethics, ensuring that you receive professional and trustworthy service throughout the buying process.

In short, working with an ABR-certified agent provides specialized expertise, better representation, and a smoother home-buying experience.

Call for an appointment today!

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

FERGUSON ACCEPTED INTO WARTBURG'S TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Special to Art & Sol

WAVERLY, IA -- Kaleb Ferguson has been accepted into the Wartburg College Teacher Education Program.

Ferguson, of Olathe, had to demonstrate effective reflective components in teaching and complete several other requirements to be considered for the program.

Admission to the Teacher Education Program allows students to begin professional education courses in their field.

Wartburg College is a four-year liberal arts college internationally recognized for community engagement. A college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Wartburg is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning. The college is characterized by vigorous academic expectations and community engagement within an environment of strong personal support.

SAN JUAN WEAVERS GUILD SHOW & SALE

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-The San Juan Weavers Guild welcomes the public to its 48th annual Show & Sale Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Ute Museum, 17253 Chipeta Rd., Montrose, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A vast selection of handwoven, handspun, felted, and other fiber-related items will be offered for sale just in time for holiday shopping. There is no admission charge. Museum facilities are wheelchair-accessible, with on-site parking.

The one-day guild sale takes place during a celebration of Native American Heritage Month. During November, the museum sells Navajo rugs in conjunction with the Adopt a Native Elder program, to benefit traditional Navajo weavers. Additional hand-crafted items are offered in the gift shop and by Native American vendors.

Guild members work all year to prepare inventory for their sale, which typically includes kitchen items, rugs, clothing and accessories, ornaments, baskets, felted hangings, jewelry, and much more, all displayed by category. A single checkout station makes shopping convenient by card, cash, or check. Experienced customers are often lined up when the doors open for the best selection, yet later shoppers will continue to find a wide assortment of temptations for themselves and others. All inventory is displayed from the start. The guild sets high standards for quality production. Except for a commission to cover guild expenses, sales benefit participating guild members.

Education is an important goal of the guild. Fiber artisans are on hand throughout the day to demonstrate their skills, answer questions and share their enthusiasm for weaving, spinning, felting, basketry, and related fiber arts. This year’s sale will feature a display of items inspired by textile traditions throughout the world, the result of an annual guild challenge to encourage creativity.

Each winter, experienced guild members offer two-day classes in weaving for beginners and others who want a refresher course. All equipment and yarn are provided for a modest fee, and class size is limited. One session is scheduled in January and repeated in February. Anyone considering taking a class is encouraged to sign up at the November guild sale without needing to commit immediately, although deposits will help ensure a spot in the classes that usually fill quickly.

The San Juan Weavers Guild meets monthly in Olathe during the school year and into June, and spinners meet year-round in Delta. Both interest groups sponsor periodic workshops and give demonstrations at area museums, libraries, and other community events. Members come from across the Western Slope and beyond. Regular meetings are free, and visitors and new members are always welcome. See the guild website for more information: www.sanjuanweavers.org

LESLIE GORE WITH CENTURY 21 ELEVATED PROUDLY PRESENTS



VACANT PARCEL FOR SALE







TROUT RD LAND
MONTROSE, CO
MLS # 837927

Finding 18.7 acres in one piece with irrigation water is becoming increasingly rare in Montrose. Located just a few miles south of downtown, this raw, vacant parcel offers wide-open space and endless possibilities. Create a beautiful equestrian property, establish a small farm, or build the country retreat you've always envisioned. Please note that there is currently no domestic water tap and no utilities are available at the lot line. Bring your vision and explore the potential of this exceptional acreage in a convenient rural location.

PRICED BELOW RECENT APPRAISAL

$699,900.00
18.7 acres
Irrigation water

CONTACT:

19702753195
lesliegorerealtor@gmail.com
https://tinyurl.com/LeslieGoreC21

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

NEW HORIZONS BAND OF MONTROSE, NOV 18, 2026, 10:45 AM, END OF SESSION PERFORMANCE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-You're invited to a free performance of the New Horizons Band of Montrose, on Wednesday, November 18, 2026 — 10:45 am, at the Montrose Senior Center/Pavilion - 1800 Pavilion Dr, Montrose, CO 81401

This concert is the end of Fall session performance of the New Horizons Band of Montrose and will include various styles of American music. This concert band program is part of the 50+ activities offered by the Montrose Recreation District, and organized in partnership with the New Horizons International Music Association, founded in 1991 to encourage music making for those 50+. According to NHIMA founder Roy Ernst, "Playing music in groups supports good mental and physical health, besides being an unending source of joy." "Your best is good enough."

This concert band is for adults 50+ who were once active in a school music program, as well as an entry point for adults with no prior music experience. Starting with 6 members in February 2022, the New Horizons Band of Montrose now has 25 members. No previous musical experience is required. New members are encouraged to come to the performance to learn more and to join us in January 2027.

HOPEWEST INVITES COMMUNITY TO LIGHTS OF LIFE EVENT

Special to the Mirror

HopeWest invites the community to join us for our annual Lights of Life event. This cherished tradition offers a moment to remember and honor loved ones who hold a special place in our hearts, especially during the holiday season.

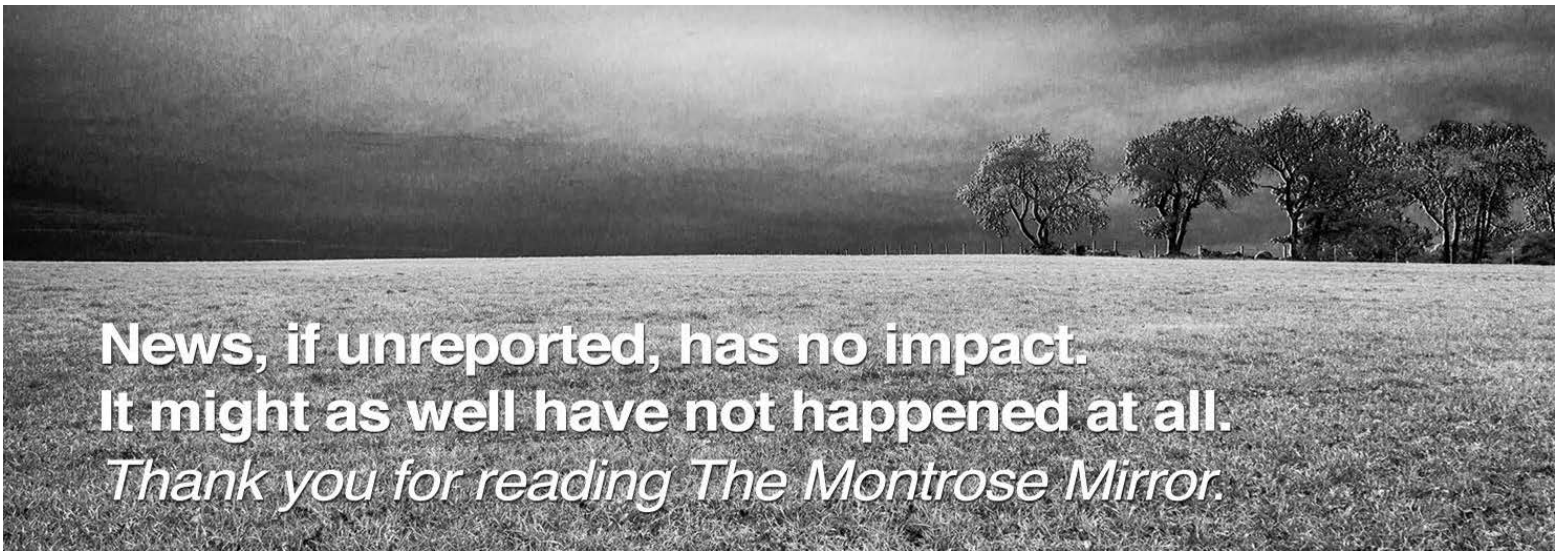
The event will be held on Thursday, Dec. 10, at 5:30 p.m. at the HopeWest Montrose Office,725 S. 4th Street. The evening will feature music, a spiritual message, and a candle lighting ceremony.

The holidays can be especially challenging for those who have experienced loss. Lights of Life provides our community with an opportunity to come together, reflect, and celebrate the lives of those we love. This event was free and open to the public. Many attendees purchased personalized luminaries in memory of loved ones, which are on display throughout the month at the HopeWest administrative office in Montrose.

"This event is a powerful reminder of the comfort we find in community," said Jenni Zimmer, Director of Regional Development. "Together, through opportunities like this, we can help families continue their journey toward healing, while also remembering and honoring those we hold close to our hearts."

We are grateful to the volunteers and teammates who make this night possible.

To purchase a luminary or commemorative pewter ornament, visit hopewestco.org/lights-of-life. Please order ornaments by Dec.15 to receive them by Christmas.



SAVE THE DATE

ONGOING-

Altrusa International of Montrose believes in "Leading to a Better Community" and is always looking for new members. We meet in Montrose on the first three Tuesdays of each month. Our local Altrusa Club has given back over $1,000,000 in 50 years. Our members unite their varied talents in service to others, achieving as a group what individuals cannot do alone. If you are interested in more information or to come to a meeting, please contact us at 970-765-7666 or Email: Altrusa.Montrose@gmail.com or https://www.altrusamontrose.org/

BLACK CANYON AUDUBON SOCIETY provides a monthly program on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm at Baldridge Hall, Montrose United Methodist Church, 647 South 1st Street. All are welcome and there is no charge. These meetings are also available via Zoom. For information about the speaker and topic presented each month go to the 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.

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.

CRAFTERNOON AT THE LIBRARY-The Crafternoon group meets weekly, on Thursdays from 11 AM-1 PM, to knit or crochet items for charity and this is the 2nd year that they have "yarn stormed" the library. This year, it was done in spirit of the 250/150 celebration. Our lobby, courtyard, and front entrance areas have all been decorated in red, white, and blue.

FRIENDSHIP QUILTERS meets at Montrose County Fairgrounds Friendship Hall, 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

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

MONTROSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY meets 1st Wednesday of the month @ Friendship Hall, 1001 North Second, Montrose, 7 pm (970) 249-2085 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

Nov. 10-Tuesday, Nov. 10, 7 pm. Let Ignite Montrose Spark Your Interest at the Association (39 W Main – Potato Growers Building). 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. Beverage/food service will be available. Check ignitemontrose.org for a list of topics and presenters.

Nov. 12-Thursday Nov. 12, 7 PM, Baldridge Hall, Montrose United Methodist Church, 647 South 1st Street, Montrose. Black Canyon Audubon Society will host Jon Horn and Steve Dike presenting "20 days in Mongolia" where they camped and traveled throughout the central part of the country exploring mountains, taiga forests, grass steppe lands, canyons, lakes, wetlands, rivers valleys and the Gobi Desert. These two adventurers saw over 200 species of birds and a wide variety of other critters. For more information about the speaker and topic go to programs at blackcanyonaudubon.org

Nov. 19-Friendship Quilters of Western Colorado will meet Thursday, Nov. 19, at Friendship Hall, Montrose County Fairgrounds, 1001 N Second Street in Montrose. The meeting starts at 9am with social time, followed by a business meeting, program, and show and share. We will have a show of quilts and toys made for Dolphin House and we will be electing new board members and officers for 2027. After the meeting there will be an open sew hosted by two of our members. Bring a sack lunch and a project to work on, or just sit and visit and see what others are making. Questions? 360.448.0153.

Dec. 10-HopeWest invites the community to join us for our annual Lights of Life event.

The event will be held on Thursday, Dec. 10, at 5:30 p.m. at the HopeWest Montrose Office,725 S. 4th Street. The evening will feature music, a spiritual message, and a candle lighting ceremony. To purchase a luminary or commemorative pewter ornament, visit hopewestco.org/lights-of-life. Please order ornaments by Dec.15 to receive them by Christmas.

COME HONOR OUR VETERANS: 11TH HOUR, 11TH DAY, 11TH MONTH



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Come see the Huey while honoring our veterans!

Montrose Veterans Memorial

1800 Pavilion Dr., Montrose, Colo.

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2026

A ribbon cutting/dedication ceremony, hosted by memorial partner the City of Montrose, will begin at 10 a.m., followed by a Veterans Day ceremony at 11 a.m.

For more information on the ceremonies, tribute and patriot bricks, visit https://www.montrosevmc.org

Huey jpg by J. Bob Brueske



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

Delta: CB's Tavern
970-399-3570

DINE - OUT MONTROSE

Premier Sponsor:
Montrose Farmers Market
970-249-0705

Horsefly Brewing
970-249-6889

Jimmer's BBQ,
Burgers & Beer
970-252-1227

Fiesta Guadalajara
Re-Opening 2026
970-249-2460

El Jimador
970-249-8990

Tacos & Beer Ridgway
970-964-9968



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