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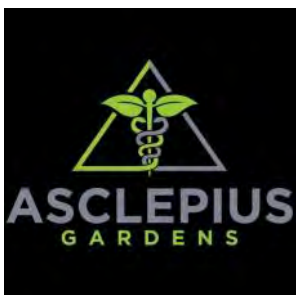
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Issue No. 436 July 5, 2021

DART TO ADMINISTER PUBLIC ART EXPERIENCE (PAX) PROGRAM



Montrose City Council will gather in Council Chambers on Tuesday, June 6 for a regular work session at 10 a.m. and for a regular meeting at 6 p.m.

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE—On Tuesday, July 6 Montrose City Council will gather in Council Chambers for a regular work session at 10 a.m. and for a regular meeting at 6 p.m.

WORK SESSION

Discussion items will include a grant application for the potato growers building; a signalization project design contract for Chipeta Road and US 550; a contract award for the Cerise Park waterline bore; right-of-way vacation ordinance for Orchard Road; updates to the youth city council manual; the second quarter police department report and 2A report card.

Items to be considered at upcoming City Council work sessions and meetings include:

Continued pg 4

ALPINE BANK CELEBRATES 20 YEARS IN MONTROSE

By Caitlin Switzer

REGIONAL—Since branching out to Montrose 20 years ago, Colorado's Alpine Bank (founded in Carbondale) has built a successful brand around supporting this community and giving back. Alpine Bank is well known here today for funding countless community organizations and causes while growing local market share.

In July, community members will be able to join in the 20-year Montrose anniversary festivities with a series of fun events sponsored by the bank, which will celebrate half a century in Colorado in 2023.

—On Saturday, July 24 at 7 p.m., the first 350 ticketholders will enjoy a free movie at the Fox Theater along with \$2 off at the concession stand.

On Saturday, July 31 from 6 to 8 p.m., there will be free bowling and hot dogs at

Continued pg 4



Staff at Alpine Bank's Montrose headquarters pose for a photo in honor of the bank's 20th anniversary in Montrose.

in this issue

[Historian Bob Cox on Hatching Some History!](#)

[Montrose 4th of July Parade photos!](#)

[Silverton struggles to balance 1st Amendment with Governance](#)

[Kate Burke Arts Update!](#)

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

2021 MONTROSE WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL SET FOR SEPTEMBER 4

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- – The 2021 Montrose Wine & Food Festival, presented by Alpine Bank, is back! Join us Saturday Sept. 4, 2021 from 1-4 p.m. at the Montrose County Event Center (1036 N. 7th St.) There will be samples and sips from great local food and beverage vendors. With live music by Neon Sky, a silent auction, photo booth and more, it is an event not to be missed. All proceeds from the event benefit the Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club (BCBGC). Tickets and sponsorships are available online at wine.blackcanyontickets.com. Tickets are \$65 and include an event glass. The deadline for sponsorships is Aug. 1, 2021. Contact BCBGC Executive Director, Bud Taylor, at btaylor@bcbgc.org with event questions. For more information on the BCBGC, visit www.bcbgc.org. For more information on the Festival, visit www.montrosewinefestival.com



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READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN

Photographer Deb Reimann captured this image of a meadow of blooming Mule's Ears on the Uncompahgre Plateau last week.





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ALPINE BANK CELEBRATES 20 YEARS IN MONTROSE From pg 1

the Rose Bowl until capacity is reached. -And on Thursday, Aug. 5 at 7:30 p.m., the first 250 cars will enjoy free entry to the Star Drive-In Theatre for a double feature.

Coming to Montrose was a great opportunity for Alpine Bank, said Montrose President Tyler Dahl.

"There's a lot of potential here," he said. The same qualities that first drew Alpine Bank to Montrose continue to define the community, which is known for Western Slope friendliness, plentiful outdoor recreation opportunities, and a relaxed, small

town pace. Talking to customers here and helping to raise money for important causes that help people of all ages is rewarding.

Also rewarding is the fact that Alpine Bank employees are given 24 hours of time to volunteer for a cause of their choosing, said Jane Marie Amundson, Alpine Bank's director of community outreach.

"It's a big perk," she said. "I like all of it," said Dahl, who joined the company in 2007. "Our business model is to focus on community...I also like that

personal touch. "We have a lot of momentum." Last week's announcement that Dahl has been promoted to regional president of all five Alpine Bank branches in Mesa County is exciting, he said.

Still, Montrose has been an important of Dahl's life, as the place where he married and where his three children were born. "Montrose has been my home for 14 years," Dahl said. "I've lived here longer than any place; it's going to be really tough.

"This is such a good community."



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DART TO ADMINISTER PAX From pg 1

July 19-Planning Commission alternate applicant interviews;

Aug. 3-Planning Commission alternate appointment; Riverside Park Addition II Annexation Ordinance; Riverside Park Addition III Annexation Ordinance.

COUNCIL MEETING

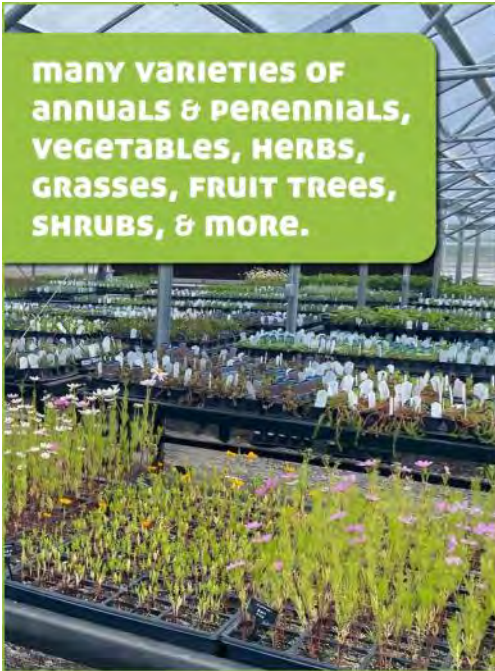
Council will consider Resolution 2021-10, authorizing the transfer of funds from the Montrose Community Foundation PAX (Public Art eXperience) component fund and allocating those funds to the Development and Revitalization Team (DART) for PAX.

As previously discussed in work session, Council will consider approving Ordinance 2546 on first reading, repealing Title 6 Chapter 1 Section 19 (6-1-19) only, regarding false identification; Ordinance 2547 on first reading, designating the Denver and Rio Grande Depot, 21 N Rio Grande Avenue as a City of Montrose Historic Property; and Ordinance 2545 on second reading, designating the Montrose County Jail, 217 S. 1st Street, Montrose, Colorado, as a City of Montrose Historic Property.

Council will consider approving the Sunrise Creek III Filing No. 2 Preliminary Plat and will consider approving updates to the Planning Commission bylaws.

Following staff reports, Council will adjourn.

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- 720 sq. ft. veggie cool room and display (under construction)

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- Farmers Market, Commercial Retail, and Restaurant-direct veggie supplies
- Farmers Market options this year grown in the field. The general public may shop at our Farmers Market starting this fall, Tues.–Sat.
- We have a small variety of seedlings for sale, however due to construction delays it will be next year before we will have large inventory of vegetable plants available for retail or sales of 4-pack seedlings and mature vegetable plants for sale to the home gardener.
- There is a large variety of direct sown veggies in our massive garden.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ONE MILE AND SUNSHINE CAMPGROUND WATER SYSTEMS CLOSING

Special to the Mirror

DELTA- —Due to scheduled repairs and upgrades, the One Mile and Sunshine campground water systems will be unavailable beginning June 29 for the remainder of the 2021 camping season. Alternate sites for water collection at One Mile campground are North Bank and Lodgepole campgrounds. These alternate sites

have hand pump operations that are not equipped with hose connections for RV fill up. Be prepared and bring your own water collection container. The alternate site for water collection at Sunshine campground is Matterhorn campground. This alternate site has pressurized water suitable for RV fill up. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding during this closure.

Please also be aware, with record-breaking levels of visitation, there is more demand for developed campsites, resulting in a limited number of available sites each weekend. Please do your part and know before you go.

Campers who want to camp in non-reservable developed sites should plan ahead and arrive early for their best chance at obtaining a site. Always have a backup plan—Have several camping options to choose from in case the first option is full.

Pack It In and Pack It Out—Garbage facilities are limited. Do not pile trash next to trash bins, leave it in your campsite or burn it in your fire pit. Campground trash receptacles are intended for campground guests, only. Please take your garbage home with you for disposal, and always adhere to Leave No Trace Principles.

Be respectful—Don't crowd your neighbors, drive slow in campgrounds, pick up after your pet, follow quiet hours and don't walk through other campsites.

· Do not leave your campfire unattended or abandoned. Make sure to use the drown, stir, and feel method. Ensure your campfire is DEADOUT!

· Please be safe out there this summer.

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6-8 P.M.



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THURSDAY
AUG 5
7:30 P.M.



The first 250 cars can enjoy free entry to the Star Drive-In for a Double Feature!



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PUBLISHER'S CORNER: PAUL ARBOGAST

MONTROSE POLICE TO RELEASE CRIME STATISTICS



Mirror Publisher Paul Arbogast.

By Paul Arbogast, Mirror Publisher

MONTROSE-At the next City Council (July 6) work session Police Chief Blaine Hall will be going over what is listed as the Second quarter crime statistics. The report covers five months, from January to May of 2021, compared to the same period of 2020.

According to the data, assaults are up from 61 to 91, burglaries are slightly down from 28 to 23, thefts are up from 309 to 328, and domestic violence is up from 85 to 106.

Total felony crimes have gone up from 214 to 236, while felony arrests dropped from 109 to 103, and misdemeanor crimes increased from 677 to 864 while misdemeanor arrests went up from 377 to 415.



Measure 2A helped to fund a new police facility, now under construction, above. Mirror file photo.

While DUI's have dropped from 27 to 19 (30 percent), traffic accidents are up 33 percent and traffic citations are up 82 percent.

This update to city council by Chief Hall will also show statistics and progress made regarding the .58 percent Public Safety Sales Tax that was passed in 2019.

The last time crime statistics were released appears to be in the May 6, 2019, work session packet. The information showed data for January 2019 with data from December 2018 as a reference for

the change. While one could extrapolate from a single month, these numbers would be inaccurate in comparison to the five months of data provided for 2020 and 2021.

Because that data is not available *Mirror* staff looked at information reported to the FBI for their crime statistics. For the years 2108 to 2109 respectively, assaults dropped from 48 to 31, for the first five months of this year they are nearly three times higher. Comparing a year's data to 5-five months of data leads to a lot of guessing, but it appears that overall thefts will be higher by the end of this year than 2019 but lower than 2018.

The work session packet ends with a status report on what the city said it would do with the Public Safety Sales Tax vs what has happened so far. Boxes can be checked or not, but in the end, crime numbers speak to how increased funding has affected crime in Montrose.

Crimes against property are decreasing, while crimes against people are on the rise, both in assault and domestic violence. Each citizen can review this data and determine if the new tax and spend for public safety has helped public safety. The data is on the last few pages of the work session packet and can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/tfvhs477>

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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO TROOPER TIPS: DRIVE BY EXAMPLE...

By Master Trooper Gary Cutler

COLORADO—"Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery" is a proverb that simply means trying to do what someone else does, or think like someone else thinks is a compliment to that person. Well, parents you should feel flattered, because your kids spend a large amount of time watching your actions and then imitating them. People often imitate or follow along with others without thinking about their actions, sometimes when doing unsafe acts.

So, when you are in your vehicle with your kids, remember that children learn by imitating what they see adults do. So why is this important to know? Because once they turn 16 and get behind the wheel of that vehicle they are going to drive like they saw their parents do when you were driving.

So here are some points to remember when you have that young audience watching your every move. First and foremost, before you leave the house put that

seatbelt on. Make sure the kids are imitating you on this one.

Second, keep your temper down. Don't let other drivers get the best of you. Keep calm and use it as a teaching lesson for your children on what they should do when they drive.

Third, use your turn signals. Let them know why you do this. If it's ingrained at a young age it can stay with them for a lifetime.

Fourth, keep the speed at or below the speed limit. If the world is flying by too fast, how are kids supposed to see the beauty when all they can do is hang on for the ride.

After all of that, just remember to do the best for your kids when it comes to driving laws. They'll follow your example and hopefully it will be the right one.

One last thing. I've been on contacts with drivers I've pulled over only to have the kids tell me what their parent was doing wrong. That is a great example on how kids process what is going on in the vehicle. So, drive correctly, drive safely, and remember, when you have kids in the car, you have an audience in the car with you. "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose." -Dr. Seuss.

As always, safe travels!



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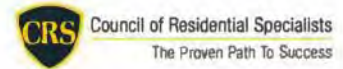
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY CLOSES CERISE DOG PARK FOR MAINTENANCE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — The City of Montrose will close the city’s dog park located on the north end of Cerise Park for cleaning and maintenance beginning Wednesday, June 30. The park will reopen for public use on Monday, Aug. 9.

During this closure the city’s second dog park located within Riverbottom Park will remain open. This park is located on the north end of Riverbottom Park just off the bike path. The dog parks are open from sunrise to sunset.

These routine closures help rehabilitate the park itself and can help prevent the spread of diseases like Parvo — which can be transmitted through feces and saliva — and Kennel Cough, which can be transmitted through the air.

As a reminder, the city would like to encourage the public to use the waste bags and disposal cans as they contribute to the overall health, safety, and upkeep of both the city’s dog parks.

All pets must remain on-leash until within the off-leash area in the dog park.

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- Auction and raffle donors and buyers
- Everyone who participated

OVER \$80,000 was raised to help patients at the San Juan Cancer Center a Department of Montrose Memorial Hospital



The San Juan Healthcare Foundation

MONTROSE 4TH OF JULY PARADE *photos by Paul Arbogast*



IN THE AREA: 7.5.21-REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Durango

On Oct 10, 2020, Suzie Rhodes of Durango was ejected from a Jeep she was riding in on Black Bear Pass above Telluride. She suffered a spinal cord injury, and this week was able to take her first few steps since the accident eight months ago. The Jeep is estimated to have fallen 1,000 feet and Rhodes was in it for an estimated 300 feet before being ejected.

Grand Junction

The BLM has purchased a 177 acre parcel in the Ruby-Horsethief stretch of the Colorado River west of Grand Junction for \$655k. The stretch is one of the last private land in-holdings in the McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area and has 1.5 miles of shoreline.



Above, Susie Rhodes and her dog Decker, in a photo from a [gofundme site](#) set up for her recovery.

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'THE HATE IS IMMENSE, AND REAL, AND SCARY'

Silverton struggles to balance 1st Amendment activism with governance



The Silverton Board of Trustees reconsidered meeting protocols on June 28.

By Caitlin Switzer

SILVERTON-Background- During the town meeting of June 14, Silverton Mayor Shane Fuhrman banned the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance during public meetings, stating that saying the pledge has led to threats and divided the community. Since that time, the town has received national media attention and an outpouring of anger and harassment from outsiders, officials say. During the June 24 town work session, Mayor Fuhrman said that meeting protocols would be revisited at the regular meeting of June 28.

REGULAR MEETING

The Silverton Board of Trustees gathered for a regular meeting on Monday, June 28. All trustees were in attendance. Mayor Shane Fuhrman opened the public portion of the meeting following an executive session; and opened the floor for public comment.

He said that the executive session was held for the purpose of discussing "specialized details of security arrangements or investigations including defenses against terrorism both domestic and foreign and/or including disclosure of the matters discussed by revealing information for the purpose of avoiding prosecution for a violation of the law."

Time for public comment

Public comments are limited to three minutes in duration; in person comments were taken first.

The first citizen to comment did not state his name but said he was a third-generation resident of Silverton, and then launched into a rapid-fire diatribe directed against Mayor Fuhrman. "...there is a snake in our grass," he said, "...a man moved to town and with the first stroke of his pen attempted to sell us to the highest bidders with the investment plan you all know as the Selwyn.

"This is our home, not your get rich quick scheme," the commenter said, "...he stands on soapbox after soapbox of free thought...he is a master of sleight of hand in speech and word play...five weeks ago on May 24 in a town board meeting, he rode again his horse of lies claiming respect for our democracy...he said he respected freedom of expression regarding the Pledge of Allegiance not only for himself but for all involved.

"...then just three weeks later on June 14, he turned around and unilaterally took that right and liberty away from not only our town board but also the whole public entity present, in person and via the Internet, making a mockery of democracy.

"He is a liar and a fraud...you are a sellout and a swine...go sell someone else's hometown."

Next to speak was Citizen Julian Roberts. "...I just want to say I'm deeply sorry to every single one of you who was present through this ungodly display of nationalism and debauchery that has ensued inside of our own community...first and foremost we are a community that is of ourselves, we are of these mountains, we are of each other, and the fact that we are now facing threats from an external force inside our community is the true issue at odds here...we can no longer focus on things that make our town run...the issues that are going to facing our great grandchildren, those are the things that we have to be focusing on...we should be singing the Silverton song at the beginning of every single meeting...because every single one of us here are Silvertonians first...That is who I will fight for...for the 650 people who occupy these mountains right now...if you step on that, if you tread on that, that is where we draw the line...Silverton is a community of itself. We are isolated, period. We are of itself. Thank you."

Next to address the Board of Trustees was Deanne Gallegos, who is executive director of the Silverton Chamber of Commerce but who spoke as a private citizen. "...I know what the town staff has gone through, I know what my staff has gone through, I know what I have gone through," Gallegos said. "The hate is immense and real, and scary. What I would love to tell the outside world...this is our home, this is our issue, this is our dysfunction to turn into function, which we're good at—we've done it before...the opinions, the hate, the rage, the screaming at us, the threats, it's us soldiers on the ground who actually interface with the public at large who have to do that, and that's what we're going to do."

Gallegos said she spoke as an independent, not wanting to be pulled between the far left and far right.

SILVERTON STRUGGLES TO BALANCE 1ST AMENDMENT ACTIVISM WITH GOVERNANCE

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“We’ve been traumatized in our national politics for four years,” she said. “We’re finally seeing the gush filter down to our little hamlet. But it’s more, painful, it’s more saddening, it’s more personal when it’s us.

“You guys were elected as leaders for our community, and to watch the dysfunction is also painful.”

For those caught between the extremes, the situation can feel like a painful divorce, she said. “What about us?”

Community means coming together, she said, and leaders who can lead by example and compromise.

Gallegos thanked Town Administrator Gloria Kaasch-Buerger for holding her head high over the past week. “It’s been tough, I know,” she said.

There were no public comments heard from Zoom participants.

New business-discussion on meeting protocols

Mayor Fuhrman suggested a discussion on how best to open meetings, including removing formal titles during discussions, and adding public comment to specific agenda items during meetings in addition to the public comment time allowed at the beginning and end of meetings.

Trustee Molly Barela asked that the board continue to say the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of meetings, noting that individuals may leave out phrases such as “under God” that they do not agree with. She agreed with the use of first names. By allowing comment on specific agenda items, context is created on that issue, she said.

Trustee Jess Wegert said that not allowing comment throughout meetings was originally intended to increase civility. “When they feel like they have the freedom to speak out whenever we’re talking about something, they’ll just shout out whenever they want...”

The use of formal titles was also intended to bring more courtesy to discussions, Wegert said, but he did not object to use of first names. “As long as we keep it civil, I’m fine with that.” He also spoke in favor



Silverton Mayor Pro Tem Sally Barney, left, burst briefly into song as Citizen Julian Roberts offered to teach trustees “The Silverton Song” as an alternative to the Pledge of Allegiance.

of saying the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of each meeting.

“I really don’t understand why we would change the way we have been starting our meetings in the past,” Wegert said. “I think the Pledge of Allegiance is a great thing to say. If people don’t want to say it, that’s fine, that’s your right, we’ve had trustees in the past who didn’t want to recite it, and that’s fine, but I think we need to just think about what kind of impacts this decision has had for our community and our staff and ask ourselves if it’s really worth it.”

Trustee Jordan Bierma said he is fine with allowing comments on specific agenda items. “I am also fine going back to informal references for names...you guys can also call me ‘Cool Cat’ if you want, I’d be okay with that...I also like Julian’s idea, I like the Silverton Song...I know I have option to choose how I want to represent myself at the beginning of meetings, right now I feel like my only option is to go along with the crowd or get threatened,” he said. “Those don’t seem like good options for me.”

Bierma suggested that those who want to say the Pledge of Allegiance could say it early and the meeting could begin afterward. “Our goal is to make Silverton a better place, that’s really what it comes

down to.”

Barela suggested that a signup sheet could be used for those who wish to speak on specific agenda items.

Mayor Pro Tem Sally Barney said that the theme of meeting protocols appears to be to bring civility and productivity to meetings. “I remember...meetings where...trustees recited these civility protocols, same as the titles...I think if the purpose of these kind of rituals is to promote civility, it’s not working, obviously. This has not been a civil week for us. It hasn’t been civil for staff, it hasn’t been civil towards local residents of Silverton.

“I think what we’re trying to solve here is how do we create a meeting protocol that promotes civility,” Barney said. “So that’s what I’m in favor of. I have no problem if that’s to start with the Pledge of Allegiance. My problem is that for people who want to sit for the Pledge...it’s choosing to go along with the crowd or feeling threatened or harassed for that decision, and I don’t think that’s civil.”

Barney said that for those who have been watching her carefully, it is clear that she has not been comfortable sitting for the Pledge. “It’s just really intense to make that decision...our end goal is civility and productivity. I am trying to balance the right of people to sit for the Pledge

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around this table or say it in a way that feels true and authentic to them...and not create more attention to the subject.

"...I don't think that our willingness to stand and say the Pledge has much bearing on the decisions that we make as local officials," Barney said. "...I'm having a hard time knowing, like, how patriotic I am affects, like, how I understand the sewage treatment plant here in Silverton."

Trustee Tyler George said that trustees can stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance, but if disruptions continue it will be revisited, and in that case he would be in favor of removing the Pledge from the agenda. "I've heard a lot of talk about first amendment rights over the last week and how a whole group of peoples' was violated, but it all began because two people here were using their first amendment right and then were threatened because of it."

George noted that trustees serve for next to nothing, volunteer lots of hours, and obviously do not hate America. "We took an oath when we took this position, saying that we were going to honor and uphold the laws of the United States.

"...For people who come and attend the meeting, if it causes too much anger for you to see people exercise their first amendment right and not stand for the flag, then you should excuse yourself from the meeting...I was really upset that certain people felt their first amendment rights were being trampled, and it sort of stemmed from people on this board's first amendment rights not being accepted."

Trustee Jim Harper said that he is in favor of allowing public comment during meetings, and for true communication between the public and the board. "I say bring it on, the more interaction we have...the better we are as a community." He also said he favors using names rather than titles.

As for the Pledge, "We talk about community; in my opinion the Pledge is community...the United States is a melting pot," Harper said. "Silverton is a melting pot. How many true Silvertonians are left?



Mayor Fuhrman told citizens saying the Pledge at the June 14 meeting, above, that they were out of order.

We come from every walk of life, every background there is, and the one common denominator besides our community of Silverton is that we all live under the flag.

"We all live under the constitutional rights that were given to us and fought for us by men and women. It is community, because out of many comes one."

Harper said that his father served during the Vietnam era as a captain in the United States Air Force. "That's why I stand...he stood up for this country, he stood up for our rights, and I stand up for him.

"I respect those that don't and I respect those that do," Harper said. "Because this man and others like him stood up for each and every one of us. That's why I do it. That's my representation of this community, us standing as one."

Mayor Fuhrman expressed support for greater communication, for allowing comment during meetings, and for greater informality with use of first names. He said that his decision to ban the Pledge was made with thoughtfulness but was a huge mistake. "Just because I had the authority to make the decision doesn't mean I should have made the decision; this discussion should have taken place at the last meeting, and I apologize for that...I was not appreciating that the scope of this decision would have a national audience, I

was thinking about in the context of this room and this community."

Fuhrman said that America is great, Silverton is great, and that there is still disagreement about the Pledge. He said he would support whatever the majority decides.

Citizen Julian Roberts raised his hand to speak again; trustees allowed him to speak.

"I am happy to teach and or sing the Silverton song for all of you here right now, if you are inclined," Roberts said, and Mayor Pro Tem Barney joined in, bursting into song. "For these are my mountains, and this is my glen..."

Another citizen spoke who did not give his name. "We the community elected you as our town fathers, as our leaders. When we think about the pledge of allegiance, it's a pledge of allegiance to the flag. ...I think of the people that have died for us...we shouldn't be forgetting the people that built this country and ignoring that is hurtful to a lot of people.

"...When we decide to take a seat, we're sort of ignoring that feeling that so many people have that we will not forget the soldiers at Tripoli that fought to hold the flag...not the battle ships that sunk at pearl Harbor and all the deaths that occurred.

Continued next pg

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surprised how little the average person in Silverton cares why you did what you did," Early wrote, and addressed the actions of individual trustees, including an appearance on Fox & Friends.

"Consequently, threats to the town staff became worse. A bad situation became worse," she wrote. "I think that if someone from Silverton was murdered by a so-called patriot offended by Shane's action, you would suffer anguish and ask yourself if the results might have been different if you had done something different...it's irresponsible to draw that kind of attention to our town."

Early asked Harper and Barela to apologize to town staff and asked that Bierma and Fuhrman stand for the Pledge of Allegiance out of respect for local veterans and those who have died serving their country.

Among those who commented via Zoom, Citizen Albert Heirich expressed anger at Mayor Fuhrman, and added that he had received a visit from the sheriff over an email that he sent to the town. Another caller recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the board. Citizen Nancy Brockman talked about doing tourist things in Silverton and subsequently learning about a time of turmoil in Silverton's history. "Apparently the ornery times of 1881 were cleared up, and maybe these are just more ornery times."

Unskilled debaters attack the identity of debaters rather than ideas, but the way to reach people is to find common ground, Brockman said. "I think our common ground is that we love this place called Silverton. We have a song—I didn't even know that until tonight." She thanked trustees for their efforts.

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned.

"The hate is immense, and real, and scary," Deanne Gallegos told the Board of Trustees. Gallegos is director of the Silverton Chamber of Commerce, but spoke as a private citizen about the impacts of recent Board of Trustee decisions and not wanting to be pulled between the extreme politics of the far left and far right. "What about us?" she asked.

"...I for one disagree with leaving off the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag that represents us and the people that died for us...our leaders should lead, and our leaders should promote this allegiance in our lives and in our work," he said.

Bierma moved to reinstate the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:50 prior to the start of meetings, and to put "on hold" the Silverton song. "For the time being, maybe for future discussion because it is a fantastic song." The motion died for lack of a second.

Barela moved to allow use of informal names during meetings and structured citizen comment, and to start meetings at 7 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Harper seconded the motion; it was approved by the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees then moved through the remainder of the [meeting Agenda](#), taking public comments once again at the close of the meeting.

A citizen, who did not speak his name into the record, spoke. "You guys knew the job was dangerous when you took it," he said. "As a public servant and an elected official, you set an example for the members of the community.

"It's hard work, carry on the best you can."

San Juan County Sheriff Bruce Conrad spoke as well. "When you guys took this job, I don't think you should have understood that it was dangerous. I think you should have understood it was difficult; it shouldn't be dangerous."

He advised that vile comments and harassment will not be tolerated. "I commend you for doing your jobs and it shouldn't be dangerous. Sorry."

Administrator Kaasch-Buerger read a letter from Citizen Margot Early, stating that recent actions taken by the board have brought unwanted attention to the entire community. "I think you would be



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CO ATTORNEY GENERAL PHIL WEISER SPEAKS IN MONTROSE



Photo by Susan Zanol
MONTROSE—On Thursday, July 1, 85 attendees listened to Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser speak in the backyard of local Democrat Kevin Kuns (far left). Attendee Susan Zanol, who took the photos, said that Weiser told attendees that Democracy is under assault and that we, as citizens, must do everything in our power to save Democracy. Vote in all elections, and the filibuster should be set aside on issues that threaten Democracy. Weiser said that water keeps him up at night--drought and climate change need to be met with innovation--and that the best water rights lawyers are working for him. Following the presentation, Weiser took questions from the audience.

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The kitchen boasts hidden gems beloved by any foodie, and the master suite has a lovely soaking tub with enormous surrounding windows and lush pebble draining floor. To top off the experience, if the luxurious bath surrounded by mountains didn't get you close enough to nature, the outdoor shower surely will. A huge over-sized 3-car garage complete with a CrossFit-style gym is ready for the fitness buff, or it can easily be outfitted for the car aficionado or tinkerer. There's an alcove dedicated to fine whiskeys and cigars, while a great room boasts a through-and-through fireplace with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves just begging the avid reader to curl up with a great book, a fine tea, and miles of mountain views to bathe your soul. Situated on the apex of a hill surrounded by 35 acres, you are assured that the huge open vistas cannot ever be blocked. With shares of irrigation water, a lush garden, orchards, or fields could be cultivated. To top off this expansive home with its large ensuite bedrooms, walk-in closets, and open floor plan, you will find the authentic 1800's cabin which has been painstakingly relocated to the property nearby. A gorgeous space for an artist retreat or mother-in-law studio. This serene and artfully appointed home is a rare find in one of the most desirable communities in Western Colorado, and is located just minutes from downtown Montrose. If you want all the beauty and joy of rural mountain living, with luxury and excellence to come home to, just a short drive from modern conveniences and surrounded by exclusive resort communities, then this is your home.

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Fires contained within liquid fueled or gas fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices.



Target shooting in a safe manner is permitted.



NOT Allowed



The personal use of all fireworks is prohibited.

Any fire or campfire, not within a permanently constructed fire grate in a developed park, campground, private residence, or picnic area.



Smoking, EXCEPT within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area of at least six feet diameter that is barren or cleared of all combustible material.

Agricultural burning is not allowed.



Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame EXCEPT in cleared areas of at least 10 ft in diameter and in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher.

Operating or using any internal combustion engine, such as chainsaws, without a spark-arresting device properly installed, maintained, and in effective working order.



Target shooting with explosive targets is not permitted.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS: BUSINESS

ALPINE BANK ANNOUNCES NEW REGIONAL PRESIDENT

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION— Alpine Bank announces the promotion of Tyler Dahl, president of Alpine Bank Montrose, to regional president of all five Alpine Bank branches in Mesa County.

A leader for the company in the Montrose, Delta, Ouray and Ridgway communities for 14 years, Tyler’s role now shifts to Mesa County and management of the Alpine Bank branches in the communities of Fruita, Clifton and Grand Junction.

“Tyler has been an instrumental part of the success of Alpine Bank Montrose over the past 14 years. He exhibits a level of experience, determination and customer service that directly benefits our clients,” says Alpine Bank regional president Mike Burns. “This is a great opportunity for Tyler and his family, as well as the communities that Alpine Bank serves in Mesa County.”

Originally from Rangely, Tyler graduated magna cum laude from Colorado Mesa

University with a bachelor’s in business administration with an emphasis in finance. He began his career with Alpine Bank in 2007, and in 2011, graduated from University of Colorado’s Graduate School of Banking. Committed to serving the local youth, Tyler has been board president of the Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club and has also coached AAU basketball in Olathe and Montrose.

“I feel blessed to be part of such a fantastic organization and team, and I’m excited about the opportunity to expand my leadership role at the bank. At Alpine Bank, serving our community and meeting the needs of our customers is of utmost importance,” says Tyler. “I look forward to continuing a longstanding tradition of providing personalized service and giving back to the community.”

Tyler may be reached for comments, questions or suggestions at (970) 615-8156, or by email tyler-dahl@alpinebank.com.



Tyler Dahl (above) is now regional president of all five Alpine Bank branches in Mesa County. Courtesy photo.

DUNKIN’ OF GRAND JUNCTION & MONTROSE SALUTES OUR TROOPS WITH THE LAUNCH OF ‘COFFEE FOR HEROES’ DONATION

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION & MONTROSE – Dunkin’ of Grand Junction & Montrose today announced the launch of its “Coffee for Heroes” donation to give back to its local military service members the best way it knows how – with coffee.

Beginning Sunday, July 4 through Saturday, July 31, for every pound of coffee purchased at participating Colorado restaurants, Dunkin’ franchisees will donate a

pound of coffee* to USO Colorado. The donated pounds of coffee will go directly to local active military service members and their families to show appreciation for the brave work they do day in and day out for our country. “Dunkin’ of Colorado is honored to once again launch ‘Coffee for Heroes’ to keep our military communities running on Dunkin’,” said George Hart, retired U.S. Army Major and local Colorado Springs Dunkin’ Franchisee. “We’re

supporting people who support our freedom. We encourage guests to come make their pound of coffee purchase mean something more this month and show their appreciation to our military service members.”

**Dunkin’ will donate one pound of coffee per pound of coffee purchased, 1:1 from Saturday, July 4 – Saturday, July 31. Pounds of coffee will go to local active military members and their dependents.*

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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS: RECOGNITION



KNOTT TO HEAD COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE



Basalt Police Chief Greg Knott, who was raised in Montrose and graduated from Montrose High school in 1986, was sworn in as the president of the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police in Keystone on June 24. Courtesy photos from the Basalt Town Manager's June 25 update. "This is quite an honor and speaks to the caliber of chief we are fortunate to have in Basalt," Town Manager Ryan Mahoney said.

Courtesy photos from the Basalt Town Manager's June 25 update.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BRIDGE REPAIR WORK TO BEGIN JULY 12

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — The City of Montrose Streets Division will begin a bridge repair project on Odelle Road at the Loutsenhizer Ditch crossing on Monday, July 12. The bridge is expected to reopen at the end of the day on Thursday, July 15.

According to Public Works Assistant Manager Jackie Bubenik, the project will consist of replacing two bridge panels and repairing the asphalt approaches on the roadway.

To accomplish this work, a segment of Odelle Road beginning east of Painted Road Lane and extending west of Torrence Drive will be closed starting Monday, July 12.

Work hours during this closure will be 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day.

Due to heavy machinery in the area, no thru traffic will be allowed, but all residents living in the vicinity will have access to their property.

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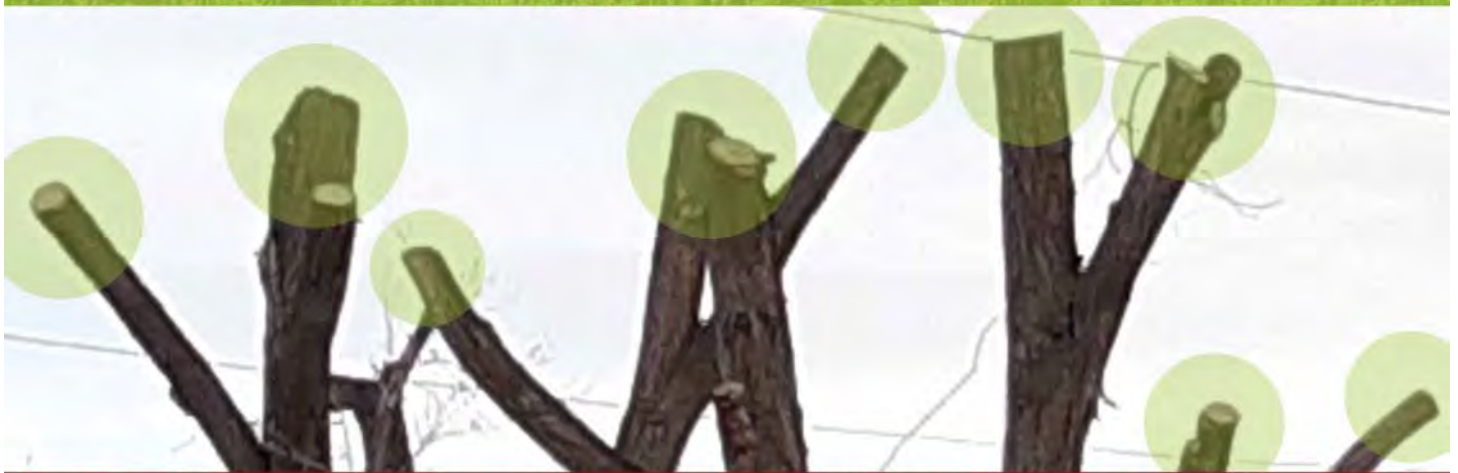
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY JULY 5

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- City of Montrose offices will close in observance of the Independence Day weekend holiday on Monday, July 5. City Hall, the Downtown Visitor Center, Municipal Court, Animal Shelter, Montrose Pavilion, and Public Works will be closed.

Police Department offices, operating from City Hall due to construction of the Public Safety Complex, will be closed, however,

officers will be on duty and responding to calls.

The Black Canyon Golf Course will be open.

City residential trash customers who would normally receive service on Monday, July 5, will instead be served on Tuesday, July 6, and Wednesday, July 7.

Monday customers located south of San Juan Avenue will be served Tuesday, July 6. Monday customers residing north of

San Juan Avenue will be served Wednesday, July 7.

Recycling customers who would normally receive collection service Monday, July 5, will instead be served Friday, July 9.

For more information, contact City Hall at 970.240.1400 or visit CityOfMontrose.org/Holiday. Residents with questions about route adjustments are encouraged to call City Hall at 970.240.1400 or visit Cityof-Montrose.org/Trash.

MABA BUCKS FOR BIKING PROGRAM TAKES MORE THAN 900 CARS OFF THE ROAD IN JUNE

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-The Montrose Area Bicycle Alliance's Bucks for Biking program has concluded as of July 1.

Overall, the program was an amazing success, organizers say.

"It was really impressive to see the number of over 900 cars not on the street for the month from these citizens that opted to bike to work," Organizer and MABA Board member Jeff Rice said. "I hear a lot of drivers that complain about the traffic here in Montrose, but these bikers chose to be a part of the solution. All while making some money from the program, enjoying our wonderful outdoors, and opting for a healthier lifestyle. Hopefully drivers who live within a couple miles from work took note of the bicyclists and have been motivated to try it a couple days a week."

A huge thank you is owed to all the participants of the program, he said, and especially the sponsors that contributed to the success, including Bicycle Outfitters, Trek of Montrose, The City of Montrose, Montrose Surf/Cycle, and San Juan Brews.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

SOME 'OPINIONS' FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY

Editor:

One of the questions that the Simple Six likely continually ask themselves and others, and with their misuse of CORA and FOIA regulations is "Why do these people (citizens) need to know this information that we want to hide from them?"

Well, Thomas Jefferson said "If we are to guard against ignorance and remain free, it is the responsibility of every America to be informed."

The public has a right and obligation to know everything undertaken by their government in real time with information freely provided. Only poor rules written by people with ulterior motives begins to justify any restriction to that information (except pertaining to ongoing contract negotiations).

This is because James Madison said, "A popular government without popular in-

formation or the means of acquiring it is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy, or perhaps both."

When the citizenry cannot evaluate what is going on, likely as not, what is going on is not good and is exactly what they want to know about.

John Adams said, "No people will tamely surrender their liberties nor can any be easily subdued when knowledge is diffused and virtue is preserved."

While persons believe that they are endowed with trust by their election to office the citizenry are still responsible for their political behavior.

The elected may well hide the truth of their behavior from the electorate. They might pull the wool over the eyes of most of the public. But there will always be a significant part of the population who will seek to know what is truly going on be-

hind their backs. Who is doing what and for what reasons and why is it being done in the dark. Because only persons with evil intent hide their behavior from the sight of the public.

To those elected officials, George Washington wrote, "Truth will ultimately prevail where pains is taken to bring it to light."

Over the past several years we have all seen great effort made to keep the citizens in the dark as to the operation of our municipal government. Several months from now there will be a municipal election.

That will be our opportunity, the opportunity of concerned citizens, to clean the political house and let the bright light of exposure shine upon the darkness of recent Montrose City Council behavior.

Bill Bennett, Montrose

*Save a tree —
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GUILTY VERDICT TO HARASSMENT WITH ETHNIC INTIMIDATION RETURNED AGAINST PHILIP KENLON IN GUNNISON COUNTY COURT CASE #2019M145

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
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 **Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization.**

Special to the Mirror

GUNNISON-On June 24, 2021, following a 2-day jury trial, The Honorable Ashley Burgemeister received a guilty verdict from a jury of Gunnison County citizens. The jury found Gunnison County resident Philip Kenlon guilty of Harassment with Ethnic Intimidation, a class 1 misdemeanor.

The Office of the District Attorney acknowledges the citizens who served on the jury and their willingness to selflessly perform an important civic duty. This verdict resulted from the thorough investigation conducted by the Gunnison Police Department and the cooperation from the victim and witnesses. The prosecution was handled by Deputy District Attorneys Josh Dougherty and James Tilton.

The sentencing date for Mr. Kenlon has yet to be set by the court.



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MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

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

arlyn@spiritaware.org,
www.spiritaware.org
Name of current pastor: Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, Senior Minister; Rev. Catharine Gates, Associate Minister. Spiritual counseling available.
Worship service times: Unity Service at 11 a.m., Adult Discussion at 9:30 a.m., Quiet Meditation at 10:30 a.m.

The Spiritual Awareness Center is an interfaith spiritual community welcoming spiritual seekers and people of all faiths, providing a safe place to explore and nurture the individual's unique connection to the Divine through Unity services, classes, family and community projects, including the Great Community Giveaway and Wellness Fair.

SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

Denomination affiliation: Southern Baptist
Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403
Office hours: Varies
Contact information: phone number: 970-275-7026
 email address:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com
 website:

www.summitchurchmontrose.org
Name of current Senior Pastor: John DeSario
Worship service times: 9 AM for Sunday Worship, Monday Night Bible Study 6:30-8pm
Summit Church Montrose preaches the Word of God, reaches the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and equips Christians to serve the Lord.
Summit Church is a group of diverse peo-

ple, (widows, retired couples, families with adult children, families with young and school aged children, and recent high school and college graduates).
Our services are in English, but many in our congregation also speak Spanish, as we partner with Verdad Y Vida (a Spanish congregation meeting in the same building).
We have a children's area we call "Base Camp" for children ages birth to Kinder-

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.

<p>Church Directory <i>Mirror Editorial Staff</i> 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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Please give a one sentence description of your church and its mission in the Montrose community. Please give a one or two sentence description of your current church demographics (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles). Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?</p>
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COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

MARJORIE KEEHFUSS

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Marjorie Ruth Keehfuss; caring mother, doting grandmother, beloved friend, and an active member of the Montrose community.

Marge was born in Oak Park, Illinois and raised in Denver, Colorado with her sister Kathy Ventimiglia.

She later attended Colorado State University and Western State College, where she received a bachelor of arts in speech and drama. Shortly after graduating college, Marge moved to Montrose, Colorado, the town where she would spend majority of her life—52 years in a community she loved dearly.

Marge was a successful businesswoman who owned the Amaranth clothing store for many years prior to becoming executive director of the Chamber of Commerce from 1997-2008.

While at the Chamber, Marge was involved in the Kids Voting program, Ride-the-Rockies, PAX, and spearheaded many other community projects.

In addition, Marge was on committees that created the MAMA organization, Downtown Improvement District, Uncompahgre Valley Leadership Committee, and the Lighter than Air Balloon Affair.

Marge dearly loved being a member of the Altrusa Club, Quilt Club, and Business After Hours. She was also fond of her nickname, "The Pie Lady," for the Community Thanksgiving Dinners.

Community involvement was incredibly important and fulfilling to Marge. She was always a busy woman.

While attending CSU, Marge met and married Lee Keasey, they share three children: Beth Vincent, Jill Vincent, and Brian Keasey. Later, Marge and Lou Keehfuss would marry for 22 years.

Marge was a wonderful mother, and an even better grandmother to Alyssa Bateman (Darren Bateman), Nick Vincent (Carly Withers), Zack Vincent, and Shea Vincent.

She had recently become a great grandmother to twins—Carter and Everett Bateman.

Marge loved quilting, spending time with her grandchildren, and shopping with her daughters and best friend, Pam Shippy.

The family would like to thank the amazing team at Valley Manor Memory Care Unit.

The love and care the staff provided helped guide Marge through the last two years of her life. Our family is eternally



grateful.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Marge's name be made to the Valley Manor Memory Care Community: In care of Brandi Valdez 1401 South Cascade Ave. Montrose, Colorado 81401. And above all else, as Marge would say, "shop local!"

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CRIME STOPPERS**

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

NANCY VIRGINIA HANNA

July 13, 1948 - June 23, 2021



NANCY VIRGINIA HANNA, age 72, of Montrose, Colorado, died on June 23, 2021. She was born on July 13, 1948 in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania to parents J. Richard and Olive Hanna.

Nancy moved with her family to California in the early 1950's. She graduated from Westmont High School in 1966. She went on to earn a B.S. in Nursing from California State University, Fresno, in 1984. In 1994, Nancy attended a nursing education program for Wound, Ostomy and Continence at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Nancy moved to the Western Slope of Colorado in 1997 to be near family. Besides working in various nursing positions, Nancy spent her time enjoying many personal interests, including traveling, sewing, knitting, other homestead crafting, antiques and collectibles. She

was a caring individual who kindly supported people in need and gave to organizations that provided services in areas she was passionate about.

We know that Nancy is now at peace in the loving arms of Jesus, her Lord and Savior. She is survived by her brother, Rich (Marge) Hanna of Montrose; three nephews, David (Tanya) Hanna, of Sarasota, Florida, Robert (Elizabeth) Hanna of Papillion, Nebraska, and Bryan Hanna of Montrose; 3 grandnephews, William, Ayden, and Alex; and 4 grandnieces, Lucena, Emerald, Angelina, and Evelyn.

Services and interment will take place in Massena, New York. The family would like to thank all who provided loving care and support to Nancy over the past several years.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

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

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

RUTH MARGARETE RICHARDS

June 24, 2021-February 8, 1916-

RUTH M. RICHARDS, a life-long resident of Colorado, passed away on Thursday, June 24th, 2021, at her home in Montrose, Colorado, surrounded by her loving family. Born on February 8, 1916, in Olathe, Colorado to John and Pearl (Crouse) Anders, she passed away at the age of 105.

Ruth was the third of six children, and she was the first of her siblings to be born in Colorado. Ruth grew up in Olathe, where she attended Stone School from first through eighth grade and then attended Olathe High School. While in school, she met Ed Richards and on December 17, 1934, the couple were married in Delta. Ruth and Ed moved to Montrose where Ed worked for Uncompahgre Valley Water Users. The only time that Ruth lived outside of Colorado was when her husband Ed worked for Rio Grande Motor Ways and the couple located to Price, Utah for three months before returning to Colorado. The couple eventually returned to Montrose where Ruth worked at Reeds Variety Store, Allisons Clothing Store, Ideal Food Market and other places throughout the years.

Ruth was a child of the great depression, which had a profound effect on her entire life. She was a devout Christian who trusted and believed that God would always provide. She attended the Assembly of God Church and the Christian

Church until her health no longer allowed. Ruth had many enjoyments in her life such as, quilting, crocheting, and sewing; however, her greatest joy came from spending time with her family. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 50 years Ed Richards; a daughter, Marylin Kay; a sister Beulah Carrico and her husband Berlan; brothers, Gene Anders and his wife Opal; Bud Anders and his wife Phyllis; a sister-in-law, Bonnie Anders and a brother Lowell Anders; Son-in-laws, Jerry Holman and Richard Holzmeister; Brothers and sisters-in-law, Hazel and Hank Schlaugher, Mildred and Carl Button, and Phyllis and Jimmy Carter; and a great grandson, Javone Cowan.

Ruth is survived by her daughters, Barbara Holman of Montrose, Colorado, and Sandra Holzmeister of Elverta, California; her brother Charles Anders of Olathe, Colorado; grandchildren, Buddy Holman and his wife Arlene of Delta; Dawn Gray of Olathe; Drea Cole and her husband Ted of Montrose; Debra Cole and her husband Rocky of Munford, TN; Shelly Carlson and her husband Shawn of Elverta, CA; Dennet Cowan and her husband Terry of Rio Oso, CA; and Kevin Holzmeister of Elverta, CA. She is further survived by twenty-one great grandchildren;



twenty-four great great grandchildren (and two on the way); her sister-in-law Irene Anders; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Friends are invited to attend the funeral service on July 19, 2021, at 10 am at Crippin Funeral Home, located at 802 E. Main Street, Montrose with Chaplain Annie Grogan officiating. Interment will follow at Valley Lawn Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Crippin Funeral Home.

Remembrances may be made in Ruth's name to HopeWest Hospice, 725 S 4th Street Montrose, CO 81401



COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

LOIS JUNE KITSMILLER



LOIS JUNE KITSMILLER, 89, passed away on June 19, 2021 at her home in Montrose, Colorado.

Lois was born and raised in Delta, Colorado. She was a daughter of Chester Roy Lampshire, a farmer, and Effie Ruby Lampshire.

Lois graduated at Delta High School

where she proudly attended her school reunions. Lois was employed at Meyers Grocery while attending high school. Lois met the love of her life Charles O. Kitsmiller while she was working at Comet Drug Store. They eloped to San Juan County in Aztec, New Mexico and got married on June 13, 1952.

Initially, Lois was a house wife and a stay-at-home mother while the children were small and Charles ran the first grocery store in Montrose called Ideal and Sellrite Food market owned by the Kitsmiller family. Charles later purchased a restaurant in Ouray then named The Golden Nugget, which Lois was dedicated to help run. After the restaurant was sold, Lois was a waitress at Mary's Cafe for many years. After Lois retired, she enjoyed volunteering at the Montrose Pavilion and also in Delta for the senior lunches. People were impressed on how

many people she knew and her extensive knowledge of the history of Montrose.

Lois had many hobbies which included needle point, making quilts, going on long walks, and tending to her many house plants. She always kept her house meticulously clean. Lois will be remembered for her joyful personality.

Lois was preceded in death by her husband Charles.

She is survived by her children Gary Kitsmiller of Sierra Vista, Arizona, Kathy Casias, Lynda Christensen both of Montrose, Colorado and Julie Emery of Ft. Worth, Texas. Lois's grandchildren include, Jeremy Casias, Destry Casias, Jerrod Christensen, Hailey Emery, and Holly Emery. One great grandchild, Garrett Boone.

Private interment will take place at the Delta Municipal Cemetery.

ROBERT MAESTAS

ROBERT MAESTAS 38, Montrose passed away on June 27, 2021 at Montrose Memorial Hospital. Services will be scheduled for the Fall. Crippin Funeral Home and Crematory assisted the family. 970-249-2121



ISSUE 323 July 5

ART & SOL

HATCHING SOME HISTORY

By Bob Cox

MONTROSE-About as soon as westward expansion began, those in charge began coveting the riches of what would become Colorado.

Long before the gold rush of 1859 there was a desire to capitalize on other unique Colorado resources. Water became one of those "untapped" resources very early on and was one of the focuses of the three-year-long Lewis and Clark Expedition that began in 1803. Early explorers looked upon the snow-capped peaks of Colorado and must have assumed that the resulting running water was infinite.

Along with the water and gold there was another rush of sorts. Those streams and rivers held what some considered just as valuable as gold. Colorado had trout. Of course, when that resource first came to the surface, the waters only held the famous cutthroat trout and three subspecies of cutthroat, but the territory had more than 9,000 miles of rivers, thousands and thousands of small tributaries, and about 2,000 natural lakes.

Hatcheries started springing up around the Territory of Colorado. As early as the mid-1870s entrepreneurs began realizing that, with the advent of more railroads, they could ship trout to just about everywhere and reap a good reward doing so. In 1874 *Harper's Weekly* sent Paul Fran-



Several years ago a local historian provided the above photo to The Mountain Valley News in Cedaredge. It was represented as being a State of Colorado photo, and has appeared in several documents and promotions. The photographer has not been identified.

zeny and J. Travernler to the Broadwell trout hatching facility on the South Platte River about 10 miles south of Denver. The owner of the facility, James Broadwell expressed his disappointment to the *Rocky Mountain News* when he learned that the article and sketch published by Harper's did not even mention the name of the facility. Regardless, Harper's let their readers know that the future of trout rearing

was building in Colorado. The sketch caption read, in part: *...this page gives a view of the interior of a trout hatching house in one of the Colorado streams. It does not differ in material detail from similar establishments in other parts of the country... Artificial trout raising begins already to be a large industry in Colorado, and it is believed that in a few years that the region will be able to furnish*

Continued next pg

HATCHING SOME HISTORY From previous pg

the eastern markets with an immense supply of this delicious fish.

Not long after the big hatcheries on the Eastern Slope began being noticed, there were those on the Western Slope entering the business. Private hatcheries started up in Durango, Glenwood Springs, Cedaredge, and around Mesa and Delta counties. An article in the *Delta Chief* on May 23, 1883 editorialized in a small blurb: *Among the new industries of Delta is a large sized hatchery, guaranteed to hatch anything from a fish egg to a full-fledged lie.*

The Durango hatchery was established in 1903 and used the same design as that of the Broadwell hatchery near Denver. The hatchery has been updated numerous times and is now the oldest state-operated hatchery in Colorado.

About the same time a privately owned hatchery south of Cedaredge, near Surface Creek, was beginning to get a lot of attention. The fry produced were among the best in the state and there was a constant movement for the state to either buy the hatchery or establish a similar one close by. In November of 1907 W. T. Thompson, who was the superintendent of a government hatchery in Leadville, went to Cedaredge specifically to inspect the works of the Cedaredge hatchery. In his report he stated, "I am very much pleased with the showing made this season."

With all the activity, much focus was placed on Grand Mesa. Its abundance of natural lakes and streams made it a perfect place for propagation of Colorado's trout. One of the biggest investors in the Grand Mesa projects was a wealthy Englishman named William Radcliff. Radcliff claimed that he had exclusive use of a large amount of territory on Grand Mesa, which included Alexander Lake and several others. In early 1901 he began denying the general public use of the lakes and streams he was using for hatchery purposes. Many of the citizens of the surrounding area refused to accept Radcliff's claims and continued to fish in the lakes and streams. Consequently, Radcliff hired Frank Mahaney to discourage the alleged

poachers. Mahaney had a reputation for being no-nonsense. Probably one of the best accounts of what happened in July of 1901 is in a report prepared in 1985 By William J. Wiltzius for the Colorado Division of Wildlife. (note: the spelling of Radcliff's name is not correct in the report) In part, the report read:

(Radcliffe) operated two hatcheries for fish propagation in the late 1890s and donated many fish to the state for stocking in public waters. He also allowed the U. S. Fish Commission to use his facilities for egg-take purposes, but this was done through a contractual agreement where the Commission men collected all the eggs, hatched and tended them, and then received less than half of the fish for their use.

That contractual agreement was one of the problems focused on by local residents and they continually challenged Radcliff. At one point, after being denied access, several citizens went to the Radcliff property and set fire to several of his buildings. Radcliff then filed a lawsuit against those citizens. Wiltzius' report went on:

Radcliffe had seven deputized state game wardens to patrol his Grand Mesa estate from poachers, and also required that fishermen have a permit to fish his lakes. During 1899 he got involved in a suit with Delta County residents over the legality of his state game preserve license, and in July 1901 one of his guards (Mahaney killed a Delta County resident (W.W. Womack) who had been known to poach at Grand Mesa. Fearing for his life, Radcliffe leased his property for three years to the U. S. Fish Commission for \$1, and returned to England, and through the assistance of the British Ambassador to the U. S., Radcliffe made a claim on the U. S. Government and eventually received \$25,000 for damages.

The takeover of lakes on Grand Mesa was not limited to Mr. Radcliff. An article in *The Paonia News* on August 12, 1910 was not well-received by local fishermen:

Four Grand Mesa Lakes Are Closed to Fishermen

While here last week B. C. Hosselkus,

manager of the Lost Lakes Hatchery company, which has a 10 year lease on thirteen of the lakes on Grand Mesa, ordered four of them closed to fishermen for this season and has posted notices to that effect. The reason given for such action is that the fish should be preserved for spawning purposes. The lakes closed are the Alexander, Ward, Island and Reaver Slough. Mr. Hosselkus left for Creede Sunday leaving his interests here in charge of Harry Kichen of Cedaredge.

On April 14, 1911 the same newspaper reported:

CEDAREEDGE COMMENTS

From the Surface Creek Champion After considerable discussion the fishing privileges in four of Grand Mesa's best lakes were last Saturday leased by the Surface Creek Ditch & Reservoir company to Denver capitalists headed by Judge D. C. Beaman. The plans of the holders of this new lease have not yet been public, but it is rumored that they intend to build a large hatchery on the mesa and another near Cedaredge. The four lakes will be stocked to their utmost capacity and the fish used to supply the Denver and other markets.

The *Delta Independent* published several articles advocating for a government, or at least government funding for, takeover of the lakes on Grand Mesa. This article, published on May 10, 1912, while lengthy, sums up at least the opinion of the newspaper:

THE GRAND MESA RESORT PEOPLE SHOULD GET BUSY

A Move in the Right Direction Might Bring Government Appropriation

In the bill before congress providing for a \$25,000 fish hatchery for Colorado, appears an opportunity for the Grand Mesa Resort people to possibly secure the hatchery so much needed. The Grand Mesa lakes are in a class by themselves as a fishing resort and a site for trout propagation. For years they have furnished millions of eggs annually for other hatcheries, and now that they have come under control of an incorporate company of home people, whose needs will be to build a hatchery provided they cannot secure

HATCHING SOME HISTORY *From previous pg*

public aid. The government proposition, if it can be secured, would be opportune. Under present reckoning, we see no good reason why it could not be secured. The mesa lakes have a reputation second to none. In their abundant waters, natives, rainbows, brook, and all other trout that have been tried thrive and, properly stocked and cared for, these lakes could not only be made to supply young trout for their own constant stocking, but almost enough in addition to stock the entire state. Nothing more should be needed to secure this government hatchery than to call the attention of our representatives in congress to this so favored location which stands head and shoulders above any other. The local company has owned and operated in a small way for many years a summer camping ground on Grand Mesa. The property during that time consisted of 160 acres, including portions of Alexander, Barren and Eggleston lakes, all of which are included in the reservoir system of the Surface Creek Ditch and Reservoir Company. Recently the company has acquired the lands and rights of Judge Beaman, being the rights and property originally owned by Alexander & Forrest and later by Radcliff.

The debates carried on. Almost three years later, on November 27, 1914, this article appeared in the *Surface Creek Champion*:

Another Fish Hatchery

For several months A. L. Reynolds, R. M. Gipe and E. W. Stolte have been acquiring rights, privileges, etc. to take over Leon

Lake and stock it with fish for commercial purposes. They now have their plans completed and are starting on the actual work. The fishing rights in Leon Lake were retained by M. M. Coalby, who at one time operated a resort there, and these have been acquired by the parties mentioned above. The lease of the lake has been ratified by the Leon Lake Reservoir Company and the government forest service, and young Eastern Brook trout will be placed in the lake next spring. The plans at first were to build a hatchery at the lake but Eastern Brook spawn must be hatched during the winter months and the hard winters at the lake would make this very disagreeable. The company has secured the use of spring water on the Wm. Kiser ranch on Kiser Creek and now has a force of men erecting a hatchery, which will be completed in time to hatch Eastern Brook eggs this winter. The hatchery is started on a small scale at present having a capacity of about 500,000 eggs, but so arranged as to allow of an increase later. The work is in charge of Mr. Gipe, who has had much experience with both state and government fish culture and is fully competent to handle this proposition. There seems to be no reason why this will not prove to be a paying proposition for the promoters and a good thing for the community in general.

Early in 1917, *The Delta Independent* quoted R. W. Curtis, who was looking to acquire land near Cedaredge for still another hatchery.

The quote was as follows:

"The Grand Mesa lakes, when properly stocked, are the greatest trout spawning beds in the state or in the west, and will supply an abundance of spawn for the entire state."

Nearly every year another hatchery was built, or further provisions were made to harvest the valuable trout eggs on Grand Mesa. A privately-owned hatchery was ultimately built near Cedaredge. It proved to be successful and there was a concerted effort made by locals for the hatchery to be sold to the State of Colorado. State records show that, in early 1918, the Cedaredge hatchery provided stocking trout for Dallas Creek, Cow Creek, upper and lower Lake Fork, Leroux Creek, Minnesota Creek and several others, adding up to about 235,000 fish.

The state finally purchased the Cedaredge hatchery in 1920 and successfully operated it for several years, before a private company once again took over. The hatchery was in operation well into the 1940s when the state discontinued their operation on Grand Mesa.

Today, Colorado Parks and Wildlife operates 18 hatcheries throughout the state and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife operated a state-of-the art hatchery near Hotchkiss. With the promotion of activity in Colorado the hatcheries are pressed to keep up and CPW found it necessary to reduce bag limits and establish several catch-and-release waters throughout the state. Note: Bob Cox can be reached at cox-bob@charter.net. His YouTube channel is [coxnotes](#).



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Colorado-ology

LIVE MUSIC ROUNDUP-- WEEK OF JULY 5

By Paul Arbogast, Mirror Publisher
REGIONAL-Cruiser's Bar, Grand Junction
(Horizon Drive):
-Saturday, July 3, 9 PM – Union of None

Grand Mesa Arts & Events Center, Ce-
daredge:
-Friday, July 9, 4 – 7 PM – Kirby Kelly
Horsefly Brewery:

-Wednesday, July 7, 5:30 PM – Open Mic
Night with Donny Morales
-Saturday, July 10, 6 – 9 PM – Crazy Like a
Fox
Palisade Brewing Company, Palisade:
-Friday, July 9, 6 PM – Tim + Richard
Mesa Theater, Grand Junction:
-Friday, July 9, 8 PM - Zamtrip / Mother-
wind
-Saturday, July 10, 7 PM. Gemini Syn-
drome at Mesa Theater
Monumental Beer Works, Grand Junction:
-Friday, July 9, 6:30 PM – Union of None.
Sherbino, Ridgway:
-Tuesday, July 6, 5:30 PM - The Sugar
Thieves Duo
-Wednesday, July 7, 6 PM - Wine Wednes-
day with Jazz by Yaz
-Friday, July 9, 5:30 PM - Mary & the Phar-
aoh Feat. JJ Murphy and Deidre McCarthy
-Saturday, July 10, 5:30 PM - Lizzy Plotkin
& Natalie Spears
Upstairs at Pecedence:
-Friday, July 9, 7 PM – Swing City Express
-Saturday, July 10, 7 PM – Gabrielle Louise
Warehouse 25sixty-five, Grand Junction:
-Thursday, July 8, 5 PM - Sam Riggs
-Sunday, July 11, 7 PM - Larry Fleet.

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
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Silver Stage Arts & Entertainment

BIG EVENT AND YOUR COMMUNITY ART CENTER



Jeff Ellingson, guest artist and curator for Durango Roundhouse Museum, speaks at opening of MCA show about mining and NG railroad history. Image, K.R. Burke.

By Kathryn R. Burke

REGIONAL-Partnering with other organizations, [Montrose Art Center](#) hosts a special community event during the month of July: Celebrating San Juan Mountain hard-rock mining history and the steam-powered narrow gauge railroads that served them. This regional event includes participation by [Ridgway Railroad Museum](#), [Ouray County Historical Society](#), and the [Durango Roundhouse Museum's](#) curator and the show's guest artist, renowned watercolorist, Jeff Ellingson.

(mc4arts.com/mine-rr-history)

At the Opening Reception, Friday, July 2, [Ellingson](#) shared stories of his 37 years with the Durango & Silverton Railroad. Local musicians, The Lucky Stars, entertained while guests enjoyed wine and light apps. More than 50 guests from around the region attended.

All Month. Artwork from regional artists and photographers extends from the main gallery to the Columbine Room, where Ellingson's paintings and historical photographs are displayed. Books and cards on

railroads and mining history are available for sale in the Gift Shop where there is a special mineral exhibit. Bid online or at the gallery during the month-long Silent Auction of original watercolor paintings by [Virginia Blackstock](#) and [Jeff Ellingson](#). This show is also a fundraiser for the Art Center.

Special History Programs. Saturday, July 3, 9 am. Join Don Paulson, Ouray County Historical Society, leading a hike to Corkscrew Turntable. Reservations. 970-325-4576.

Wednesday, July 14, 1-2 p.m. at MCA, Karl Schaffer, President of the Ridgway Railroad Museum, presents [Railroad History of the Uncompahgre Valley, Then and Now](#). Coffee, cold drinks, and cookies provided.

Reservations appreciated (so we have enough seating and refreshments.) FREE, but donations appreciated; this is fundraiser for MCA and RRM. [Register online](#) (mc4arts.com, listed under events) or call MCA at 970-787-9428.

Wednesday, July 21, noon-2 p.m. at

MCA. [San Juan Mountains Mining and Railroad History AND History of Ouray](#). Presented by Kate Burke, Vice President of the [Montrose Center for the Arts](#) and regional history book and magazine publisher, and Gail Saunders, Ouray County Historical Society Archivist. Includes historical photos, video, personal stories, and time for Q&A. Bring a brown bag lunch. Coffee, cold drinks, and desserts provided. FREE, but donations appreciated; this is fundraiser for MCA and OCHS. [Register online](#) (mc4arts.com, listed under events) or call MCA at 970-787-9428.

If you have stories you would like to share at either event, please let me know when you register or call 970-787-9428 and leave a message for Kate. Several people have come forward with some wonderful family photos and memories.

Classes. Friday, July 30, 6-8 p.m. at MCA, popular art instructor Anne Hockenberry conducts a class on Gems and Minerals Painting. Create a painting with acrylics on canvas!

You will receive step-by-step instructions to create your painting in a fun and relaxing environment. All materials are provided. Tuition\$30. [Register online](#) on the mc4arts.com website (under classes). Or call MCA at 970-787-9428.

Saturday, July 31. 9 a.m. -2 p.m. Plein Air Paint Class with Terry Ouimet. [Register online](#) (mc4arts.com under classes). Or call MCA at 970-787-9428. This is part of a summer plein air series with artists from around the region.

Kathryn R. Burke (Kate) is [MCA Vice President](#) and has arranged this event. She also teaches art classes at the Art Center and gives private instruction in her home studio. [Contact her here](#). kathrynrburke.com/contact-me/

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

RIDGWAY STATE PARK SUMMER PROGRAM SERIES

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Evening programs scheduled so far:

"Ute History in Dance and Song" by CJ Bradford, Director, Ute Indian Museum and from the Yanktown Sioux tribe. CJ will share history about the pow wow dances with demonstrations and perform some native sign language. (Friday July 9, 7:30pm, Visitor Center Overlook)

"Alfred Packer" by Sally Johnson, member of Chipeta Archeological Society. Join us for an entertaining take on the stories that took place near Lake City, CO. (Saturday July 10, 7:30pm Visitor Center)

"Bat Research!" by Evan Phillips, wildlife biologist CPW. Evan will share information about bats in Colorado and the research that he continues to work on while studying these important creatures! (Friday, July 16, 7:30pm Visitor Center)

Full "Buck" Moon hike! Join us for a hike during the full moon with some fun moon facts shared along the way. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a flashlight/head lamp. (Friday, July 23, 8:30pm Visitor Center)

"Geology of Ridgway Reservoir and Ouray County" by John Mitchell, retired engineering geologist. John has interest in the formations that we see today in the Ridgway area. He will be talking about a few of these formations and let you know where you may find them right here on the park. (Saturday July 24, 7:30pm Visitor Center)

"The Western Colorado Wikiup Project" by Holly "Sonny" Shelton of the Dominguez Archeological Group. Sonny will share research being done on these Ute temporary shelters. She will also share some work being done to find evidence of bison in western Colorado. (Friday, July 30, 7:30pm Visitor Center).

"Dallas Gold" by Robert Cox, local author and history expert. He will share the history, photos, and stories of the town of Dallas and ranches that once sat where Ridgway State Park is now. (Saturday, July 31, 7:30pm Visitor Center)

"Wild Mustangs of Spring Creek Basin" by TJ Holmes, herd manager. TJ will share her pictures, knowledge, and love for the wild mustangs of Disappointment Valley. (Saturday, August 7, 7:30pm. Visitor Center)

"Firefighting in the West" by Anna Janik, retired U.S. Forest Service and part-time public information officer for fire incidents in the west. Ann will talk about the logistics and behind the scenes work when responding to a fire. (Friday, August 13, 7:30pm Visitor Center)

"Second Chance Humane Society" by shelter staff. Join us for a talk about dogs and wildlife, training tips and meet some adorable dogs up for adoption! (Saturday, August 14, 7:30pm Visitor Center)

"The Life and Stories of a Horse Woman" by Alice Billings, artist, musician, and horse lover. Alice will talk about "Thunder Heart Haven", her horse rescue and therapy non-profit, share some of her paintings and life stories. You will also get to meet a recent rescue! (August 27th, 7:30pm, Visitor Center)

"Elk: Nature and Management" by Nathaniel Rayl, CPW biologist.

Join us for a talk about his Elk research in Colorado with pictures and some of the equipment he uses. (Saturday August 28, 7:30pm Visitor Center)

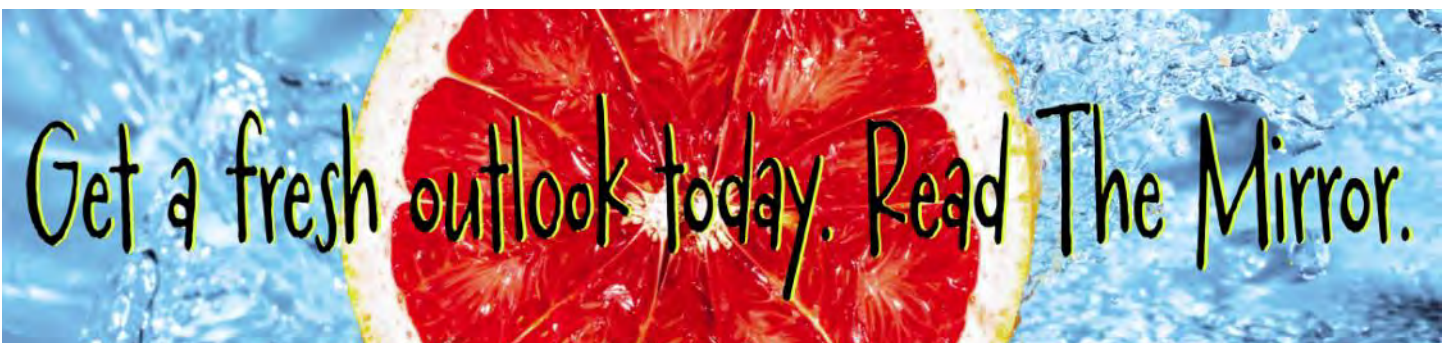
Children's programs are every Saturday and Sunday morning including:

"Hunger Games Archery" July 3 and August 7, 9:30 – 11 am Visitor Center lawn.

"Take Me Fishing", July 17th and August 21st. 8:30 -11am Parking area at the fishing ponds, Pa-Cho-Chu-Puk entrance. Free poles and bait provided!!

"Nature Detectives", all other Saturday and Sunday mornings 9:30-11am (Locations vary)

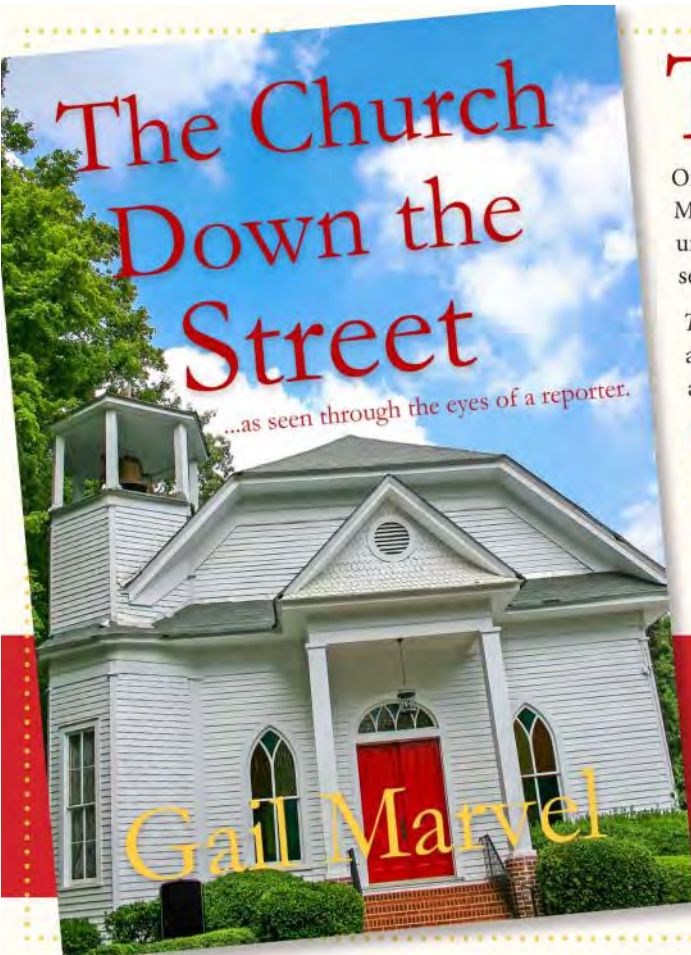
More events will be added as they are scheduled. We appreciate your patience as we ease back into our summer program series.



OURAY HIGH SCHOOL TRACK & FIELD TEAM SHINES AT STATE



Photos by Tanya Ishikawa
 OURAY-Ouray's boys and girls teams headed for the state track meet at Jeffco Stadium in Lakewood June 24-26. With 39 points, the boys team (at left) earned 5th place, breaking a number of school records. Below, the 4X800 team took 2nd place at state.



The Church Down the Street, published pre-COVID, peers into the worship services of more than 70 churches, some of which have a weekly attendance of less than 10.

Organized in a topical format (Hospitality, Program & Source Material, Music, Meditations & Invitations, and The Message), the author uses an unbiased approach to allow readers to experience the worship service as seen through the eyes of a reporter.

The Church Down the Street contains anecdotes and stories from the actual worship services and asks thought-provoking questions that allow readers to draw their own conclusions.

Readers will:

- See strengths and weaknesses in the worship service
- Re-evaluate hospitality toward visitors
- Become more aware of source material used in the worship service
- Compare and contrast music presentations and selections
- Discern the value and content of the sermon.

Gail Marvel's book, *The Church Down the Street*, is available online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [wingedpublications.com](https://www.wingedpublications.com).

GAIL MARVEL
 Montrose Author & Reporter



YOUR BODY AND BRAIN ON NATURE: BIOPHILIA



By Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D

Greeting Mirrorites,

For the next few installments of this wellness column, I'll be illuminating the beneficial effects of time spent in nature on human thriving according to predominant theories. Benefits such as attention restoration, memory retention and enhancement, creativity, depression and stress management, improved self-esteem, and loneliness reduction are all possible, and more. I feel that when explaining this over the course of the next few weeks, a little theoretical foundation will help the future articles unfold in a more accessible and organized manner.

Let's start with "biophilia." All of you who know what this is, raise your hands. Oh wait, I can't see you, so never mind. I'm going to assume, therefore, that some do, but most don't.

Biophilia is an idea that holds that since humans evolved in natural environments and have lived separately from nature only relatively recently in our evolutionary history, people have an innate need to affiliate with other living things. Satisfaction of this need is predicted to produce a broad array of psychological benefits, including increases in positive affect and decreases in negative affect (bad mood). In other words, dumping the old sourpuss in favor of something lighter and brighter.

In support of this concept, current research indicates that this appears to be true for the majority of us humans. In other words, tripping the light fantastic out-

doors surrounded by trees, bird song, sunshine, and flowing water can get one feelin' groovy. No drugs needed. The more innate connectedness to nature that a person naturally experiences, the groovier they're going to feel.

I have always felt deeply connected to nature since early childhood. I assume that growing up at the San Diego Zoo (literally) had something to do with that proclivity, but maybe it's all in my genes. Biophilia concepts would hold that I was born with a template into which those early experiences were plugged in, like putting the correct square block into its square hole on the genetic pre-school puzzle board. And sure enough, there is evidence of an increased inherent genetic tendency toward connectedness to nature more in certain children than others, but they've also found that adults who increase their time in nature develop a deeper sense of connectedness as well. So you don't have to be born a tiny tree-hugger like me to be able to experience that deep sense of belonging to a greater whole.

The old joke about the way a Buddhist orders a hot-dog is appropriate here: *Make me one with everything.* A sense of connectedness to nature can fulfil what science is now determining as a genuine critical human need. They hold that the need to feel connected to others and to feel like a valued member of a community can and should be extended to nature. I mean, think about it, this sense of belonging should naturally and logically extend beyond our human contacts and city limits, after all, 350,000 generations of early humans lived close to the land as hunter-gatherers and a sense of belonging and feelings of being embedded within the natural world characterized these cultures. In some ways, then, it would be surprising if the modern life of being divorced from nature did *not* have negative consequences associated with it that spending time in nature can reverse. We evolved in social groups yes, but not in cities. And sometimes, social groups do

not provide much needed psychological benefits, if judgments, social rejection, and stressors like bullying are abundant. Nature is free of judgment. It can be physically ferocious, but it ain't personal.

If biophilia works through connectedness to nature as an engine for mental well-being, it would be interesting, I think, to know why. I am going to speculate here, an informed process based on my current knowledge of the science at this time.

Brain researchers have recently discovered a group of interconnected cerebral structures that seem to be collectively activated under conditions of rest and relaxation. They gave this system the boring name of "the default network" and they are still trying to figure out exactly how it works.

When the default network is most active and engaged happens to be when we are at rest, attentionally speaking. No difficult tasks or challenges are being asked of us and we are essentially loafing. That is when the default network lights up. It is during these moments that human beings are better able to think outside the box with problem solving, engaging in self-reflective thinking, envisioning future events, and considering the thoughts and perspectives of others. Creativity and divergent thinking processes are invoked. It seems as though our 'higher selves' are able to emerge when the default network is engaged.

In the article I wrote for the previous edition of the *Mirror*, I detailed how rage gardening helps the sufferer get a grip and take a calmer perspective on vexing matters. That's actually the default network kicking in and doing its thing. Time spent in nature, whether it be a mountain trail or patio container plant paradise, brings the default network online. Our attention being online with focused tasks or electronics-based activities, takes the default network offline. More on that in another article.

So anyway, as we stroll down that primrose path, we begin to muse and day-dream and we have seen that this alone is

Continued next pg

YOUR BODY AND BRAIN ON NATURE: BIOPHILIA

From previous pg



This scene of a very popular Montrose walking opportunity holds all of the elements believed to be highest in biophilia appeal. Curvilinear topography, trees interspersed throughout savannah-like areas, depth of view, and running water.

incredibly beneficial. But what if we indulge our default network in an even better way, one that includes that important sense of belonging?

Social ostracism has been linked with increased desire to connect with nature. As such, it is possible that, over time, social disconnection may motivate the development of connectedness to nature, which then feeds back to reduce feelings of loneliness. Seems intuitive enough, just ask any back country hermit. But wait! It's also been demonstrated that there is a positive correlation between "social well-being" (i.e., feelings of social acceptance and integration) and feelings of connectedness to nature. In other words, the more connected to nature you feel, the more connected to humanity you feel. *Not* immediately intuitive. But like whether a genetic template or a learned response to connectedness to nature controls the response, the good news is, it really doesn't matter. Exposure to the wild is the key to accruing certain benefits through multiple means, of which biophilia may be only one.

For instance, in reviewing the literature,

researchers Passmore and Howell (2014) conclude that "in multiple studies utilizing multiple measures, social well-being has been shown to correlate significantly with nature affiliation." They further suggest a causal mechanism underlying this relation: "experiences with nature afford us a greater sense of relatedness and social connectedness."

Oh dude, that's AWESOME!

My academic leap here is that biophilia prompts a drive to spend quality time in nature at leisure as part of an evolutionary mandate. That time spent in naturalistic settings can engage the default network. When engaged, it assists in strengthening divergent thinking, imagination, compassionate perspectives and also fosters a greater, broader appreciation and tolerance of humanity.

Time spent in nature not only helps pump up your inherent biophilia, it makes you a much nicer human and better global citizen in the process. And best of all, it's free.

This scene of a very popular Montrose walking opportunity holds all of the elements believed to be highest in biophilia

appeal. Curvilinear topography, trees interspersed throughout savannah-like areas, depth of view, and running water.

My advice is if you haven't already, give this [Riverbottom](#) trail a go. There's lots of parking and very few other folks if you can get there early morning. For the best experience, walk this area with very quiet companions or even solo to engage your biophilia without disturbance and to derive the most default network benefit. I personally recommend ½ an hour, but other researchers have found positive improvements in mood and perspective with only 15 minutes spent in similar venues. Potent medicine right in your backyard.

For the following articles I will regale you with tales of why nature is important in terms of Attention Restoration Theory, and Stress Reduction Theory.

As always, I am happy to answer any questions about this topic, since it is one of my favorite academic specialties.

Just email me at agescapesnow@gmail.com.

Until next week,
Be well and get outside.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

RIDGWAY RAILROAD MUSEUM NAMED JULY 2021 RACC MEMBER OF THE MONTH



Courtesy photos Ridgway Railroad Museum.



Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-Ridgway Railroad Museum named July 2021 Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce Member of the Month. The RACC Member of the Month Program is in its third year as an ongoing effort to promote and get to know our local businesses and organizations.

The town of Ridgway was founded by Otto Mears to be the headquarters and operations center for his Rio Grande Southern Railroad, which operated between Ridgway and Durango from 1891 to 1951.

Although abandoned, among rail fans it is one of the most popular, most modeled, most researched, and most written about narrow-gauge railroads in the world, mostly because of the unique Galloping Goose railcars that were built and operated here in the 1930s and '40s.

In 1998, six area residents met to discuss establishing a museum to provide education and preservation of the railroad history, which was being forgotten by residents, even though it was well known in the railroad history world. By 1999, the

museum had been incorporated, followed by approval as a 501(c)3 nonprofit educational museum.

Since its founding, the museum has built a national reputation as “the little museum that gets things done,” said board member Jim Pettengill. “We have more than 250 members throughout the nation (and a few in other countries). We have grown from one railcar and a small corner of the visitor center to having the use of about seven acres, plus a 2,800-foot demonstration loop of track, three operational railcars, seven static railcars, an inside exhibit room, an extensive research library and archives, and many other artifacts in storage for when we occupy the historic depot building in the future.”

With the recent installation of seats in the Rio Grande Southern passenger coach 252, the museum plans to complete restoration this year – it will be the only operational RGS coach in existence at this time. The recreation of RGS locomotive 36 is in the final stages of construction and is about 80 percent complete.

The museum is now fully located on

North Railroad Street, with an indoor display room in the historic depot building currently occupied by the Ouray County Ranch History Museum (OCRHM). When OCRHM completes their planned building on the property, the railroad museum will fully occupy the depot.

The outside exhibits are available for self-guided tours 24/7, and free rides are scheduled every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through mid-October.

The inside exhibits in the historic depot building are available when OCRHM is open, Wednesday through Sunday. The annual Ouray County Railroad Days will be Sept. 23 to 26 in conjunction with Ridgway’s Old West Fest.

For the location and other information about the Ridgway Railroad Museum, go online to www.ridgwayrailroadmuseum.org or email ridgwayrailroadmuseum@ouraynet.com. You can find the museum in Ridgway at 200 N. Railroad St.

SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

ONGOING-

NAMI FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP will be held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the PIC Place 5:30-7pm. Please call Kathy at 520-282-9060 for more information.

MONTROSE FARMERS' MARKET is a gathering of vendors selling local fruit, vegetables, meat, crafts, and more. **Date and time:** Alternate Saturdays from 10 am-1 pm—every other weekend. **Location:** Montrose Centennial Plaza and Centennial Meeting Room, 15-99 S Uncompahgre Ave, Montrose, CO 81401 **Cost:** Free to attend. Curbside service is still available in the winter season!

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY-Registration now open for Sept 2021 - Apr 2022 COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY, an international non-denominational Bible study. Studying Revelation Sep 2021-Jan 2022 and Christian Living (1,2,3 John, Jude & Philemon) Feb-Apr 2022. In person for women and children of all ages on Wednesday mornings 9-11. Virtual/Zoom for women Thursday evenings 6-7:15. Contact 720-635-0091 to register of for more information. Or come to our first meeting Wed., Sep. 8, at the First Presbyterian Church, 1840 E. Niagara St., Montrose, at 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 Hampton Inn conference room at Noon.

MONTHLY

July 6-Could you use a little inspiration this summer? You might use a bouquet to decorate your home or give someone a beautiful gift. Designing your own bouquet adds a special touch and could help connect you to Montrose's beautiful landscape. Cynthia Alvarez, Founder and Owner of Alpenglow Growers, is an expert in plant and floral design. She specializes in many different crafts and activities including wreaths, workshops, wedding decorations, and lovely bouquets! Cynthia will teach us the basics of designing a bouquet on Tuesday, July 6, at 6pm. Email Taylor at tevans@montroselibrary.org to sign up for this virtual event.

July 7-Montrose County Historical Society will hold its general membership meeting Wednesday, July 7 at Friendship Hall on the Montrose County Fairgrounds in the Pioneer Room at 7 pm. This month's speaker will be Chris Trujillo and a panel of interested persons on the history, program, and the future of MADA. Admission is free and all are welcome.

July 14-Wednesday, July 14, 1-2 p.m. at Montrose Center for the Arts, *Railroad History of the Uncompahgre Valley, Then and Now*. Free. [Register online at mc4arts.com](https://www.mc4arts.com) (under events) or call 970-787-9428

July 20-Soul Habit will perform at Music in the Grapevines on Tuesday, July 20, at Two Rivers Winery in Grand Junction. The band brings guitar, bass, sax, drums, percussion and vocals together to create funk rock dance music that brings audiences to their feet. Music starts at 7 pm, and gates open at 6 pm. Tickets are \$15 in advance at Two Rivers Winery, The Art Center (7th & Orchard), and www.artcenterguild.org. At the gate, tickets are \$20. All proceeds go to the Art Center of Western Colorado.

July 21-Wednesday, July 21, noon-2 p.m. at Montrose Center for the Arts. *San Juan Mountains Mining and Railroad History AND History of Ouray*. Brown Bag Lunch. Free. [Register online at mc4arts.com](https://www.mc4arts.com) (under events) or call 970-787-9428.

July 30-Friday, July 30, 6-8 p.m. at Montrose Center for the Arts, Gems and Minerals Painting. Tuition \$30. [Register online at mc4arts.com](https://www.mc4arts.com) (under events) or call 970-787-9428.

July 31-Saturday, July 31. 9 am-2 pm. Plein Air Painting with Terri Ouimet. Free. [Register online at mc4arts.com](https://www.mc4arts.com) (under events) or call 970-787-9428.

Aug. 13-Friday, Aug. 13. 6-8 pm. Comedy and Music program. At Montrose Center for the Arts, 11 S. Park Ave., Montrose CO [mc4arts.com](https://www.mc4arts.com). 970-787-9428.

Aug. 26-Saturday, Aug. 26. 9 am-2 pm. Plein Air Painting with Barbara Kendrick. Free. [Register online at mc4arts.com](https://www.mc4arts.com) (under events) or call 970-787-9428.

Aug. 28-The Montrose High School Class of 1976 will be holding a 45th class reunion on Saturday, Aug. 28, 2021. Festivities will start at 2pm in the Backyard of the Montrose Elks Lodge, 801 S. Hillcrest Dr. Dinner will be at 5pm by Serving Grace-Catering. Dinner reservations will be \$25 per person. We invite members of other MHS classes, former faculty and staff members to join us. Contact LeAnna Edmonson Spadafora 970-209-3374 or Tracy Allies Harrison 970-249-1418 or check out our FB page "76" for more information.

Sept. 4-The 2021 Montrose Wine & Food Festival, presented by Alpine Bank, is back! Join us Saturday Sept. 4 from 1-4 p.m. at the Montrose County Event Center (1036 N. 7th St.) All proceeds from the event benefit the Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club (BCBGC). Tickets and sponsorships are available online at wine.blackcanyontickets.com. Tickets are \$65 and include an event glass. For more information on the BCBGC, visit www.bcbgc.org. For more information on the Festival, visit www.montrosewinefestival.com

Sept. 17-Friday, Sept. 17, 5-7 pm. VIP Reception at Montrose Center for the Arts, 11 S. Park Ave., Montrose CO. [mc4arts.com](https://www.mc4arts.com). 970-787-942.

Sept. 17-Friday, Sept. 17, 7-8:30 pm MCA Fundraiser Concert at Montrose Methodist Church. 19 S. Park Ave., Montrose CO. [mc4arts.com](https://www.mc4arts.com)

Contact the Montrose Mirror:
970-275-0646

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READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN

Below, the beautiful Coal Valley, by Deb Reimann.



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