



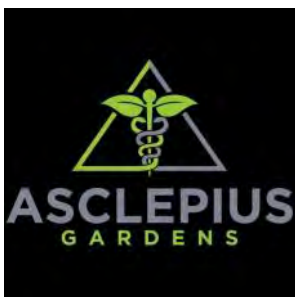
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# the Montrose Mirror

Issue No. 465 Jan. 24 2022

Fresh news for free people!

## SHELTER DISTILLING PLANS UNVEILED AT MURA MEETING

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Zoom meeting of the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA), a virtual event only, was held on Jan. 19, 2022. A quorum was established with Councilman Anthony Russo joining late; David Reed and Mark Plantz were absent.

Committee Chair Tad Rowan welcomed new board member Steve Bush, who replaces Montrose School District Representative Gayle Johnson (term limited).

Rowan opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, and Consideration of the minutes from the Oct. 20 meeting; the previously scheduled meetings for November and December were cancelled. There was no Public Comment.

**TFI (Tax Increment Finance) Expenditure Update-** Scott Murphy, City Engineer.

Murphy said, "This is a routine update. For Steve's [Bush] benefit, when we started the MURA funding was all promissory notes [from the city]. We are keeping track of every penny...as things go along. Use this [spread sheet] as a guide. The take-away number on the



A variety of spirits are produced by Shelter Distilling. Courtesy photo.

[Continued pg 16](#)

## MIMO'S GRANTED LIQUOR LICENSE FOR EXPANSION TO SECOND LOCATION ON NORTH TOWNSEND



The former location of the Shanghai Palace, above, will soon house a second location of Mimo's, which will keep both locations open. City Council has granted a liquor license for the new location, 216 N Townsend Avenue.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-On Tuesday, Jan. 18, the Montrose City Council met in chambers for a regular meeting. Present were Mayor Doug Glaspell, Mayor Pro Tem David Frank, and Councilors Anthony Russo and Barbara Bynum. Councilor J. David Reed was absent. Youth Council Treasurer Indica Taylor was present as well.

Mayor Glaspell welcomed all to the meeting, and all joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem David Frank had no changes to the meeting agenda.

### SCHOOL CHOICE PROCLAMATION

Glaspell read into the record a proclamation in support of School Choice Week, Jan. 23-29.

### CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments heard

[Continued pg 13](#)

in this issue

[Carole Ann McKelvey's Rocky Mt. Cravings!](#)

[Reader Photo Spotlight: Deb Reiman!](#)

[City & County Government!](#)

[Letters to the Editor! Calendar of events!](#)



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### ELKS TO SPONSOR YOUTH HOOP SHOOT

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-This year Montrose Elks Lodge #1053 is sponsoring a Hoop Shoot for Youth Ages 8 to 13 on Saturday January 29, 2022 at the Montrose Elks Gym located at 801 South Hillcrest Drive, Montrose, CO 81401. Registration begins at 11:30 am and the Hoop Shoot starts at Noon.

The Elks Hoop Shoot allows youth to compete to sink the most of 25 free throws. This contest begins at the local level in Montrose. Winners of this local Hoop Shoot advance through District at Olathe on February 5, 2022, State, and Regional contests to reach the National Finals in April 2022. Six contestants will be named National Champions and will have their names permanently inscribed in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. There are six Divisions based on Contestants age as of April 1, 2021:

Boys, ages 8-9

Girls, ages 8-9

Boys, ages 10-11

Girls, ages 10-11

Boys, ages 12-13

Girls, ages 12-13

Please feel free to contact Montrose Elks Lodge at 970-249-4852, or Martin Crespin at 970-417-3320 with any questions regarding this event.

# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Published every Monday since 2010 in Montrose, Colorado, to a readership of over 15,000 residents of Western Colorado. Founder, Editor, and Publisher: Caitlin Switzer

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## MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS: PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS



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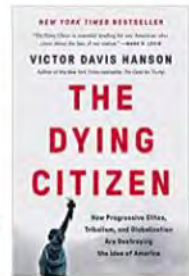


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**All Saints Anglican Church  
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## OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS

### LET OUR VOICES ROAR AND LET FREEDOM RING!

Editor:

Okay...I've had enough of no push back from our two Colorado Senators. Why not? How can they not see what is happening to our Country? They took an oath of office to uphold our Constitution and the laws of our country. What have they done to do so? Do they not understand the oath they took; our Constitution; our laws or are they just good ole boys who go along to get along. Maybe our two Senators are just ignorant and not smart enough to hold office and represent Colo-

rado Constituents.

Who in America WOULD'N'T want to Make America Great where we have individual freedom and liberty like no other country on the face of the earth. Right now those freedoms are being attacked. We're being told how we can worship and live our faith, foods we can eat, loss of control & privacy of our healthcare, our schools and our whole way of life. If those who live here don't believe and want America Great then why are they here? They should find another country, maybe

China, North Korea, Iran or some other to their liking. We don't need these people here reaping the benefits and freedoms we enjoy and cherish when they're working to destroy those very things. A common sense question: Why do so many people around the world want to come to our country if it's so bad?

Whether you're Republican, Democrat, Libertarian or Independent how can the destruction of our country be ignored. If you love this country, value our freedoms and liberty something needs to be done. We are not helpless! We can speak out, we can take action, we can inform ourselves on the issues and the candidates and we can VOTE! Do you believe your own eyes and ears or do you believe the Socialist Government telling you to ignore what you see and hear? Where is the critical thinking of our population? Has it all been lost to the corrupt educational system?

America is being attacked from within; not from foreign nations....at least not yet! We as ordinary citizens find this hard to comprehend. There's a sense of helplessness in our country. People taking the easier way to act like sheep and just follow orders. That IS NOT AMERICA! Just stop, listen and notice everything that has happened in the last 10 plus years and is getting worse by the day. It's hard to keep up with all crises that are reigned down upon us.

It's easy to stick our heads in the sand and ignore it all but..when we pull our heads out of the sand, we've lost our freedoms, our way of life as we've known and loved and we've lost our country. It will be too late.

We have a chance in this 2022 election to vote with our hearts and mind and love of this great country as it was founded. Let's hope there are enough of us OF ALL persuasions to take the first step to save our beloved country. We are Proud Americans! The time is Now...Our Country is on the precipice of a Socialist Country or a FREE Republic. There's no time to waste; we ALL need to wake up and LET OUR VOICES ROAR AND LET FREEDOM RING!

Carol McBride, Montrose

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CITIZENS CLIMATE LOBBY WILL MEET MONDAY, FEB. 7

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE--On Monday, Feb. 7, at 5:30pm the Citizensclimatelobby.org meets in person with masks at Montrose library meeting room--environmental , nonpartisan, national, all welcome, info 970-765-9095



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## Featured Listing



### 63169 Percheron Court

Step away from the ordinary, the mundane and step into elegance, details and spaciousness. The elegance of the rounded entry door surrounded by glass leads the way into this lovely custom built home with recent improvements at every turn. Get cozy in the library/den with beautifully stained custom bookcase and storage. The perfect space for reading, relaxing and energizing your soul. Archways surround the formal dining room now used as an office with beautiful hardwood flooring. Vaulted ceilings crown the spacious living room, and kitchen. Custom cabinetry and granite counter tops show off an efficiently designed kitchen with pantry. Whether eating, or gathered around the table for good conversation, the beautiful fireplace creates the perfect setting. The split floor plan with three bedrooms, one on-suite and two that share a full bath are on one end of the house, and the stunning owner's suite is on the other. Columns show off the spa-

like bathroom with double sinks, trayed ceiling, mirror with hidden tv, and double sided fireplace for viewing from the relaxing bath or the bedroom. Downstairs is perfect for large gatherings and entertaining. There is a wet-bar, large theater room, a workout room or make it an additional sleeping area, and STORAGE everywhere. A separate door is off the large family room. The 3 car garage is complete with 220 and 230 in the single bay. Fresh paint throughout the home and garage, new carpet, new LVT flooring and new Geo-Thermal heating system with a 10 year warranty, new appliances, and on the outside freshly painted stucco is accented with timber trimmed window sills. There is a beautiful pond in back yard with pump. \$1,150,000 MLS# 788949



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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

# THE OLYMPICS SHOULD BE THE MODEL OF HOW AMERICANS NEED TO INTERACT

*Editor:*

The Olympics should be the model of how Americans need to interact. One does not state, "Amazing job for a Democrat. If that competitor was a Republican, then there'd be even more success." One does not cheer for a high score and state, "Great work. Now if they all were Democrat, it would have been perfect." The hard work is recognized. Cheering takes place because an American triumphed. Indeed, there are always the naysayers, who have

to negate everything and want to start a fight. Albeit there are multiple issues about being in China or any other country, the performance of the athlete/team produces pride. According to the Gallup Poll of Nov. 2021, 31% are Republicans, 27% Democrats, and 41% are Unaffiliated. Colorado hit a new milestone in growing numbers of Unaffiliated. There are varying personal reasons for a person to change; however, it is a high possibility that people want to cheer for the hardest worker,

the one that represents all. There is the looking beyond the final performance and recognizing all the hard work that created that success. "Crossing the aisle" is political speak for the Olympic attitude.

When a champion stands on the podium and the National Anthem is played, that person does not state, "I only did it for Republicans/Democrats."

It was done for all. Time to embrace that ideology.

*AJ Smith, Montrose*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### FATAL ACCIDENT LEAVES FOUR FAMILIES IN NEED *Olathe locals raise money for injured and deceased farm workers*

*Special to the Mirror*

OLATHE—Olathe community members are seeking to raise funds for the families of four farm workers after a fatal car accident left three dead and one seriously injured last month.

While insurance plans are in place to assist the four families, the process of determining need and releasing financial support to the families will be slow. During this time, the families of the workers are facing significant financial struggles having lost the main breadwinners. Tuxedo Corn, in conjunction with the Western Colorado Migrant Coalition (501(c)(3)) and local residents to raise funds to support the families of the four workers.

"We faced significant barriers in returning the three deceased workers home to their families in Mexico, and it took us the better part of a month," said John Harold, owner at Tuxedo Corn. "We are now focusing on how we can best support their families, at this time financial help seems to be the most important need we can fill."

The workers involved in the accident were temporary H-2A laborers from Mexico. All four were long-time seasonal workers at Tuxedo Corn, leaving their homes and families to work in Colorado for about six months each year. Three died in the accident, and one is still in intensive care. All four workers have families with children that relied on them for financial support. Tuxedo Corn was able to secure a humanitarian visa for the hospitalized worker's wife to be with him here during the healing and recovery process.

Any individual or organization wishing to donate to a fund for the families may do so at any Alpine Bank branch by writing a check to the Western Colorado Migrant Coalition Four Family Fund.

#### **Noe Lopez Moroyoqui, Deceased**

Noe began working for Tuxedo Corn in 2017. He is survived by his wife Litzy, and two children, a four-year-old boy and three-month-old girl, who live in his hometown of

Santa Maria, Sonora.

#### **Francisco Javier Quiroz Morales, Deceased**

Francisco began working for Tuxedo Corn in 2017. Francisco cared for his sister and her two sons, ages nine and four, who live in his hometown in Valle de Santiago, Guanajuato.

#### **Juan Cano Leon, Deceased**

Juan began working for Tuxedo Corn in 2007. He is survived by his wife, two adult children, and a 14-year-old daughter, who live in his hometown in Valle de Santiago, Guanajuato.

#### **Victor Manuel Rodriguez Cano, Hospitalized**

Victor first worked at Tuxedo Corn in 2006. He is currently recovering in intensive care.

Victor's wife was brought to Colorado after the accident on a humanitarian visa. Their 17-year-old son and two daughters, 12 and six, are currently with family in Guanajuato.

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS

## GAIL DID TREMENDOUS JOB COVERING SAN JUAN SENIOR APTS

Editor:

Deepest Gratitude for your article in this week's (01/-17-22) edition pertaining to the safety issues at the San Juan Senior Apts that are managed by the Monroe Group, Ltd. (a Corporation that owns a minimum of 60 properties in approximately 16 states.)

Gail did a tremendous job, especially due to her expanding the coverage to also cover the Cottonwood Family Apts, and I am thankful for the spotlight being focused on these two properties - for as long as it takes - to recreate a more compassionate approach to the vulnerable that reside here. (Meaning specifically the majority of tenants (76 apts @ San Juan) are either in their 70's - 80's - 90 years of age . . . are handicapped (in wheelchairs or require walkers) . . . with sight & hearing challenges . . . OR, are faced with other numerous physical concerns. Is it possible that "all corporations" have lost their "moral compass" in their efforts to control & benefit financially ? ( THEIR benefits - THEIR rewards . . . on how many backs of the disenfranchised) ???

Compassionate & Benevolent treatment is 'screaming' to be revived . . . FIRST & FOREMOST . . . and, MUST BEGIN within the prominent corporate structures that have simply become ABUSIVE DICTATORS !!! ( In my opinion, of course.)

I want my 'Freedom of Choice' back ! I want my " Freedom to Speak the

Truth", ( from my perspective ) without fear of retribution or being targeted because I have the courage to speak up for myself . . . and, for others when I see or hear uncommon misuse & abuse of pow-

er. With Sincere desire for a kinder & more sincere approach to & for "all of humanity,"

*Wooddora-Rose Eisenhauer, Tenant  
San Juan Senior Apt Complex, Montrose*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MAIN STREET TRAFFIC SIGNAL WORK UNDERWAY

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE — Work to replace a damaged traffic signal at the Main Street and Nevada Avenue intersection began Jan. 19, and is expected to last approximately two weeks.

The City of Montrose Streets Division will be directing traffic in the area during the work period and will install a temporary stop sign on the Nevada Avenue legs of the intersection for motorists wanting to enter onto Main Street.

On May 12, 2021, the city-owned traffic signal at the Nevada and Main St intersection was severely damaged by a vehicle accident.

Based on input from the city's traffic signal and lighting consultant, it was determined that the signal would be removed because of un-repairable structural damage and replaced with a temporary signal. The city is seeking compensation from the responsible party's insurance company for a portion of the total cost of the replacement project.

In June 2021, City Councilors approved an emergency expense authorization for the replacement of the traffic signal. According to Public Works Manager Jim Scheid, the funds will pay for a new two-arm style traffic signal, along with upgrades to failing infrastructure (cabinet and underground) to bring the intersection's traffic

signals into compliance with standards set forth by the Colorado Department of Transportation.

Motorists are urged to use caution when

operating in the construction area for the duration of construction. Get updates on all city roadwork and capital projects at [MoveMo.co](https://www.moveMo.co).

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SPRING 2022

# CRAFT SHOW

## Vendors Needed

### THE CABIN FEVER CRAFT SHOW

**Set Up:**

Thursday, March 10  
Starting at Noon

**Selling:**

Friday, March 11  
9:30am – 6pm  
Saturday, March 12  
9am – 4pm

**Cost:**

**\$80 total** for both days  
with a 10x10 spot

### THE FLEA MARKET CRAFT SHOW

**Set Up:**

Thursday, March 31  
Starting at Noon

**Selling:**

Friday, April 1  
9:30am – 6pm  
Saturday, April 2  
9am – 4pm

**Cost:**

**\$80 total** for both days  
with a 10x10 spot

### THE MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND CRAFT SHOW

**Set Up:**

Thursday, May 5  
Starting at Noon

**Selling:**

Friday, May 6  
9:30am – 6pm  
Saturday, May 7  
9am – 4pm

**Cost:**

**\$80 total** for both days  
with a 10x10 spot

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## MIMO'S GRANTED LIQUOR LICENSE FOR EXPANSION *From pg 1*

heard from the public on non-agenda items.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved.

### NEW HOTEL AND RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION-ROTEMAN'S CATTLEMEN'S TABLE

Council voted to approve an application for a new Hotel and Restaurant liquor license at 647 E. Main Street for Roteman's LLC, doing business as Roteman's Cattle-men's Table, for consumption on the licensed premises. Partner Jerry Roteman said that the farm to table menu will be affordable, with local proteins and locally-grown produce. The emphasis will be on the food rather than the bar. Partner and General Manager Antony Oxley said that they hope to open around March 1.

### NEW HOTEL AND RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION-MIMO'S

Council voted in favor of a new Hotel and Restaurant liquor license application at 216 N. Townsend Avenue for Mimo's LLC, for consumption on the licensed premises. The popular Montrose eatery will maintain the existing breakfast and lunch location on South Townsend near the high school but will open a second location on North Townsend.

Mimo's Owner Rocio Rueda Ortega, who speaks Spanish, was joined by her daughters who are fluent in English and will be helping their mother run the business.

Councilor Barbara Bynum read a statement in Spanish about the importance of not serving alcohol to high school students before being informed that the liquor license will be used at the new location rather than the old. If all goes well the new location will open the second week of February.

### SOUTHEAST WATER TRANSMISSION MAIN CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

Council voted to approve the Southeast Water Transmission Main Construction Contract. City Engineer Scott Murphy presented for approval the expenditure of \$3,270,668.26 for construction of the Southeast Water Transmission Main Construction Project. This includes the award of a construction contract to Williams Construction in the amount of \$3,228,068.26 and a construction stakeout contract to Del-Mont Consultants in the amount of \$42,600.

**Background-**A memo from Murphy to Council notes that the City of Montrose water master plan calls for the installation of a 24-inch diameter transmission line starting at the connection point with Project 7 at Highway 50 near Miami Road and ultimately running to the Sunshine Road Water Tank. The project involves installing a new 1.8-mile line from the intersection of 6800 and Sunnyside Roads south to the intersection of East Oak Grove and 6700 Roads. The new line will run along open fields, rights of way, open space areas, and through the middle of Fox Park. The construction project is scheduled to begin in late January and extend through the spring of 2023 with a summer shutdown in 2022.

### HILL STREET EXTENSION CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

Council voted to approve \$1,053,379.67 in expenditures for construction of the Hill Street Extension Project, including award of a construction contract to Oldcastle SW Group in the amount of \$1,028,279.67 and a construction stakeout contract to Del-Mont Consultants in the amount of \$25,100.

### CERISE PARK WATERLINE BORE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NO. 1

As discussed previously in work session, Council voted to approve Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$30,000 to Ridgeway Valley Enterprises' Cerise Park Waterline Bore Construction Contract to compensate for out-of-scope work elements and unanticipated soil conditions.

The new waterline will also serve the Cerise Park amphitheater, Murphy said.

### RESOLUTION 2022-01

Council voted to approve Resolution 2022-01 authorizing the City of Montrose to enter into a \$2,000,000 grant contract with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) for the West Main Complete Streets Project, as previously discussed. A red-lined version of the contract is included in the meeting packet.

### RESOLUTION 2022-02

Also approved was Resolution 2022-02, setting March 1, 2022 as the hearing date for the annexation of the Mier Addition.

**Background-**A memo from Senior Planner Amy Sharp to Council states, "The Mier Addition is a proposed annexation approxi-

mately 14.67 acres in size. The parcel is located east of 6530 Road, west of 6600 Road, and north of Locust Road. It is within the City's Urban Growth Boundary, Tri-County Water Service Area, and the City of Montrose Sewer Service Area. Annexation of this property will allow for future housing development. An Annexation Agreement will be required."

### 2022 ANNEXATION REPORT AND THREE-MILE PLAN

As discussed previously in work session, Council voted to adopt the 2022 Annexation Report and Three-Mile Plan, as required by state statute.

### MONTROSE PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX FF&E CONTRACT AWARD

Council also voted to approve the FF&E contract for the Public Safety Complex as previously discussed, including award of funds in the amount of \$559,451, including a five-percent contingency, to Office Outfitters. Councilor Anthony Russo thanked Public Works Director Jim Scheid for his hard work. "In this day and age looking at the procurement process and everything that's out there, coming in under budget is a great benefit to everyone," Russo said.

"I noticed you're not wearing your tie," Mayor Pro Tem Dave Frank said, and thanked Scheid for a diagram showing the layout of furniture in an office.

### STAFF REPORTS

Finance Director Shani Wittenberg was scheduled to present but did not connect with the session. The sales and excise tax reports are included in the meeting packet. Assistant City Manager Ann Morgenthaler said that Montrose continues to see a strong economy. "...We don't have any concerns at this time."

Youth City Councilor and Treasurer Indica Taylor said Youth City Council is considering new projects, "...Including but not limited to a financial literacy class for high schoolers, a high school class credit course for high schoolers, street cleanups, and possibly renting the Fox theater to host a movie for high schoolers." Frank said that financial information is contained in the meeting packet, to which constituents can subscribe. "Right now it shows that Montrose is in fantastic economic shape." With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.





## **MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S POSSE, INC**

P.O. Box 717

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Residents and visitors alike enjoy the year-round great outdoor activities that Montrose County and the surrounding area provide. Whether it is hunting, fishing, hiking, cycling, photography, ATV or 4-wheeling, there is something here for everyone. But things don't always go as planned in the great outdoors and sometimes bad things happen. You could fall on a hike and become injured, or have an ATV accident. Perhaps Colorado's ever-changing weather caught you off guard. In any event, rest assured the Posse is here to help.

The Montrose County Sheriff's Posse (MCSP) consists of 40 highly trained volunteers in two divisions based in Montrose and Nucla who donate thousands of hours in service to the community each year. You may notice Posse members at intersections during a bike race, a parade, or one of the emergency management drills, such as the Flu Shot Drive Thru Clinic. We may be out of sight searching for a lost hunter, fighting a brushfire, or rescuing a skier or ATV rider injured on a backcountry trail. Posse members also utilize their own personal equipment such as vehicles, OHVs, trailers, snow machines, boats, backpacks, and other gear. The services performed by the MCSP can save the taxpayers of the county thousands of dollars each year.

During our 58 years of operation, the MCSP has acquired a fleet of vehicles, four ATVs and other specialized equipment. Last year, with the much-appreciated help of the community, we were able to replace a 40-year-old slide-in water pump/tank/hose reel with a new unit on one of our fire trucks.

We incur costs each year maintaining, updating, and storing the vehicles and the gear that allow us to provide quick response to an emergency in a competent manner. We also have expenses for training and recertifying new and experienced Posse members in topics such as first aid, firefighting, GPS and mapping, radio communications, safe driving, traffic control and helicopter operations. Donations received from the community help us cover these costs of operation.

The Covid pandemic has caused all of us to make changes. The roll the Posse undertakes in the community has evolved accordingly as we have become an integral part of the emergency management team serving the community.

Your support of the MCSP through this fund drive provides the financial resources needed to accomplish our mission. Any contribution you can make will be of great benefit to our entire community. As a 501(c)(3) charitable, non-profit corporation, all donations are deductible for income tax purposes. Please mail your gift today in the envelope provided. The Posse also would like to express thanks to all the members of our community for their continued support, because without community support and generous donations, we could not operate.

Sincerely,

Montrose County Sheriff's Posse



# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## OIL & GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION ISSUES CUMULATIVE IMPACTS ANNUAL REPORT

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER - The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) has announced the Director has delivered its "2021 Report on the Evaluation of Cumulative Impacts," as required by the adoption of the SB 19-181 Mission Change rules to regulate oil and gas development in a manner that is protective of public health, safety, welfare, wildlife and environmental resources.

COGCC recognizes that the seven Oil & Gas Development Plans (OGDPs) approved in 2021 were the basis of this report's data evaluation. Future reports will grow by including the data from any new OGDPs and Comprehensive Area Plans approved by the Commission. In addition, COGCC will accept technical information that would enhance future reports.

The report is required from Rule 904.a,

which was adopted by the Commission during the Mission Change Rulemaking Hearings on Nov. 23, 2020, and became effective on Jan. 15, 2021. Starting next year, the COGCC Director will provide an annual report on the Evaluation of the Cumulative Impacts by the final day of February.

Additional information on this report is provided in the Director's Letter, which is found in the report by clicking [HERE](#).

## COVID-19 Hospitalizations

On **January 20, 2022**, the total number of patients hospitalized with a COVID-19 illness was **8**.



Unvaccinated



Fully vaccinated

### 8 Hospitalized

- 7 unvaccinated
- 1 vaccinated



### 1 in the ICU

- 1 unvaccinated
- 0 vaccinated



### 1 on Ventilators

- 1 unvaccinated
- 0 vaccinated



Total hospitalized with COVID during the timeframe 10-1-21 through 1-15-21 was **260**.

28.08% Vaccinated • 0.77% Partially Vaccinated  
62.69% Not Vaccinated • 8.46% Unknown Vaccine Status



**MONTROSE**  
REGIONAL HEALTH



## SHELTER DISTILLING PLANS UNVEILED AT MURA *From pg 1*

the spread sheet is the \$375,000 number; \$375,000 is surplus [not yet spent]."

Murphy hit the highlights of the spreadsheet, including which projects are completed and which are pending.

Brad Hughes said, "When I look at the vertical agreements [with the developers], the service lines are not eligible for reimbursement. I didn't realize we were calling service lines horizontal site improvements. I thought horizontal site improvement was for landscaping, sidewalks..."

Murphy said, "Each building has its own service up to the building. The description covers what has been reimbursed. Every invoice [submitted] we do a break down of what is eligible and what is not. We pull it out and make sure it is coming from the right pot [fund]." Murphy noted project items that are ineligible for reimbursement, i.e., roof drains, tap fees, and foundations.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Murphy showed photos of the foundation for the first apartment building and the retaining wall. He said, "Framing should start going vertical next week. Blocks are not here because of [supply] delays. They were able to do a post-tensioning foundation [as opposed to a pile-driving foundation]." The board requested Murphy continue with the updates and spread sheet for future meetings.

**Development Update** - David Dragoo, Colorado Outdoors.

Dragoo reported on projects in the MURA — the Marriott, Colorado Yurt and the Flex Building.

**Fairfield Marriott** — Is expected to be completed by the end of the year or the first of next year. Dragoo said, "This is not a full-service hotel. We need more restaurants at the north end of the development. There will be a pool, hot tub, and outdoor firepit." The hotel components are modular and built off-site. Dragoo said, "When they are delivered on-site, they will be installed immediately. Like Legos, it will take less than 10-days, then they will finish the exterior and tie everything together." Because of the speed associated with putting the modulars together, the builder does not plan to have a ground-breaking ceremony, but rather a Grand Opening.

Barbara Bynum inquired about the possi-

bility of photos showing the construction of the modules in the warehouse. Dragoo said, "There is a similar building in South Dakota. We can get pictures of the modules being built."

**Flex Building** — Along with Montrose Anglers, the Italian restaurant Trattoria Di Sofia will relocate to the Flex Building. Dragoo said, "We are working on the interior, so a lot of the site work is being done inside. You won't see much on the outside."

**Colorado Yurt** — Dragoo said, "They are putting siding on the building. The north end of the of the trail is where the public restroom will go. It should be completed by the end of May or early June."

Dragoo turned the Development Update over to Karl Anderson, one of the founding partners of Shelter Distilling, which is currently located in Mammoth Lakes, CA.

Anderson said, "We are from a small ski town, there are three of us. Me, Matt Hammer and Jason Senior." Anderson explained the beginning of Shelter Distilling, the company growth, and the lack of being able to expand their business in California due to changes in the law. He said, "We built everything from the ground up. We have a variety of spirits. We make everything — vodka, whisky, liqueur, vermouth, bitters, tonics, beer, kegs of beer, and canned cocktails. Everything we serve you is from something we've made in California."

Because of COVID, Shelter had no indoor dining at the Mammoth Lakes location; however, last year was a record breaker. Stats show:

50 percent year over year growth 2018-2021

\$2.7 Million in Revenue

1,500 Cases of Alcohol Produced and Sold Annually.

Anderson said, "But [now] we cannot grow at all. We are stuck where we are. We are limited. In 2019 we started looking at expanding. We want to grow. We



*Artist conception of the proposed Shelter Distilling facility to be built in Montrose. Colorado Outdoors Developer David Dragoo said, "We are under contract to sell the land and we're closing in February. It's a \$9 to \$10 million dollar project. The main driver is cost. We're not going to be their landlord; we're going to be their partners." Courtesy image.*

looked all across the US. In Reno the only space was warehouse space. We couldn't find space that worked with the outdoors. Your water source is unparalleled."

Hammer said, "Water is the number one box for us."

The partners discovered Colorado Outdoors development in Montrose had a location by the river. Anderson said, "Alcohol is all about marketing. If you had two beers and one said Made in Reno, Nevada and the other said Made in Montrose, Colorado — you going to pick the one made in Montrose, Colorado."

In their current California location, the distillery can produce one barrel a week, but in a new Montrose facility they project they could produce 15 to 20 barrels a week. Comparing their proposed production to other distilleries Anderson said, "In Kentucky they produce 700 to 1,000 barrels a day."

The proposed, two-story 23,000 square foot building would accommodate the distillery, a cannery, a restaurant with capacity for 350, an events area for weddings, and a separate pub. Anderson said, "We would do everything in-house. We will not have a lot on automation. In our first five-years we will hire 40 full-time employees and 15-20 part-time employees. We would like to grow to larger wholesale. We could have a Montrose grown bourbon, 100 percent Colorado



# SHELTER DISTILLING PLANS UNVEILED AT MURA

## From previous pg

Grown, and Colorado whiskey.”

Anderson noted that the distillery waste products could be used locally to feed cattle. Murphy said, “We can handle it from the wastewater treatment aspect.”

Mayor Doug Glaspell quipped, “Maybe a Colorado Sweet, Sweet Corn Bourbon.”

Anderson educated the board in the distilling aging process.

He said, “We produce a clear spirit that gets its color when aged in the barrel. The whisky barrel program is released in three years, the bourbon barrels released in five years.” Anderson stressed that Shelter Distilling is not coming to Montrose to force local competition out of business, but that there is room for all companies to grow their business.

Dragoo suggested additional Uncompahgre River improvements near the proposed site, “A take-out in the river [similar to the kayak take-out in Cerise Park]; amenities for the public down in the river. We are under contract to sell the land and we’re closing in February. It’s a \$9 to \$10 million dollar project. The main driver is cost. We are not going to be their landlord; we’re going to be their partners.”

Dragoo gave a brief update on the Colorado Creative Industries Grant which businesses in the Flex Building are eligible for. The developer also requested the MURA Board schedule and Executive Session prior to next months regular meeting. There is a need to work with Anderson Analytics and project the tax generation associated with Shelter Distilling. An Executive Session was scheduled for 1 p.m. on Jan. 31. The next monthly meeting of the MURA is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Feb. 16, 2022.

**Background:** *The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) was formed in late 2016 by a resolution of the Montrose City Council. Generally speaking, the MURA Board oversees the Colorado Outdoors Urban Renewal Area and administers the Tax Increment Financing (TIF), the funding mechanism to finance public infrastructure in the MURA. The property, which covers 158 acres along the river corridor between the Justice Center on the north and West Main on the South, is being developed by the Dragoo’s Mayfly Outdoors. The Dra-*

*goo Developers are son David Dragoo and father Doug Dragoo.*

*The 10-member MURA board is made up of Montrose City Council (five members), City Manager Bill Bell (Executive Director), Brad Hughes (Montrose County), Chair Tad*

*Rowan (Montrose Fire Protection District), Steve Bush (Montrose School District) and Mark Plantz (Special Districts Representative). The six-member city constituency hold the controlling interest and actions of the MURA Board.*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CHANGES PROPOSED TO COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

#### Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— The Montrose Board of County Commissioners were presented with proposed changes to the commissioner districts at the Jan. 19 board meeting. These proposed changes are open for public comment and are available at [montrosecounty.net](https://www.montrosecounty.net).

The Geographic Information Systems Department created the maps based on a requirement in the Colorado Revised Statutes. The proposed changes were made in accordance with population data provided by the state legislative council. Additionally, the changes were made in collaboration with new voter precincts as created by the Clerk and Recorder's Office.

The 2020 census, delayed due to the pandemic, lists Montrose County's population at 42,679, which is up from the 2010 census of 41,276 individuals ([census link here](#)).

"The county is seeking public comment on the new proposed commissioner districts," said Lisa Goetsch, Montrose County Geographic Information Systems Manager. "The districts are important as they help provide the framework for future commissioner candidates. For instance, a commissioner must reside in his/her district in order to be a candidate for county commissioner."

One change from the 2011 redistricting is that historically counties have been statutorily required to subtract incarcerated populations from the county population

totals prior to redistricting. Under a new bill (HB21-1047), the state legislative council will reassign incarcerated individuals to their last-known home address for the purposes of redistricting. Individuals in federal penitentiaries are not included in the reallocation process from the legislative council. The reallocation from the legislative council added 71 individuals

(from the incarcerated population) to the redistricting totals.

The proposed county redistricting map can be found at <https://www.montrosecounty.net/DocumentCenter/View/16409/redistricting-011822>. Comments may be submitted to [commissioners@montrosecounty.net](mailto:commissioners@montrosecounty.net) or via phone at 970-249-7755.

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### IF YOU SEE AN OPINION YOU CONSIDER DIVISIVE, UNTRUE, OR HATEFUL, SEND A LETTER ACTUALLY REFUTING THOSE OPINIONS

*Editor:*

I must respond to C. E. Trujillo's January 17<sup>th</sup> letter, only because a person reading only his letter, and not my letter (December 20 MM / January 5 MDP) might conclude I have said or inferred things I did not. My letter simply made the point that Hispanics are abandoning the Democratic party. That is a fact. I also expressed opinions as to why that might be - none of which were anything other than complementary to Hispanics. Hopefully, Mr. Trujillo will re-read my letter and agree.

I agree wholeheartedly with Trujillo that Hispanics are not carbon copies of each other, and vote differently, live different lives, have different ideas, etc., and that the term includes a variety of distinct groups (mexican americans, spanish americans, mexican indians, etc.) I also fully understand that Hispanics have a long history in this country and didn't just arrive as immigrants. Nothing in my letter indicates otherwise. I am also not sure where Trujillo got the idea that I want Hispanics to leave this country, that I have ever mentioned civil war, or that I am somehow confused about who my Savior is. He certainly didn't get any of that from my letter.

My letter definitely did not suggest that

Hispanics only want free stuff. Here are my exact words: "All the Hispanics I have ever known, including family members, would cringe at being labeled a victim. They have lived through real racism and prejudice, but still believe this is the greatest country in the world. They are focused on their families and their God, and know that this is one of the few nations in the world where a person can rise from poverty to middle-class in one generation - not by big government welfare, but by hard work and fortitude." Please don't twist those words to suggest that I think Hispanics only want free stuff or that they are anything other than hard-working, family oriented, god-fearing people. What I do believe is that Democrats want everyone to view themselves as victims and to be totally dependent on the federal government.

I write letters to the Montrose Daily Press, the Montrose Mirror, and the Delta County Independent for one reason only. I fear the radicals in control of the Democratic party today are destroying this country. Most of the letter Trujillo mentioned focused on how I think Democrats are doing that. I would encourage anyone to challenge my opinions on Democrats all you want, but don't slander me by projecting ideas upon me that have nothing

to do with me or my beliefs.

On a separate topic, unrelated to Trujillo, I will also comment on the several liberal writers who seem to be upset that a number of conservative writers ("the usual suspects", "the three idiots", etc.) are able to exercise their 1<sup>st</sup> amendment rights by expressing their opinions in letters to the editor. Here are my suggestions to those individuals: 1) If you see an opinion you consider divisive, untrue, or hateful, send in a letter actually refuting those opinions, rather than simply writing it is divisive, untrue, or hateful. 2) If you would like to counter those views with information that will help us understand more clearly what a great job Biden is doing, write a letter that actually supports that position.

It isn't going to happen. Today's liberals have no facts to substantiate their opinions, and can't point to anything Biden has done that is not totally destructive. They can only fall back on the Democrat (Saul Alinsky) play book: "If you disagree, just slander the conservative writer because everyone knows they are just a bunch of racist, divisive idiots. Then we don't have to actually have an honest, civil discussion about facts, or try to defend our policies, performance, or results."

*Also a veteran,*

*Ed Henrie, Montrose*



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*see something, say something*



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### TIM VIGIL JOINS DMEA AS CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) has appointed Tim Vigil as the co-op's Chief Operations Officer. Vigil is responsible for the safety, operations, and engineering divisions of DMEA. He began his position on January 17, 2022. Vigil brings electric generation, transmission, and power marketing experience to DMEA. For 20 years, Vigil served the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) headquartered in Montrose. In his most recent role as Senior Vice President and Colorado River Storage Project Manager, Vigil was responsible for marketing 1,800-megawatts of generation capacity, as well as providing strategic and tactical direction to WAPA's senior leadership team.

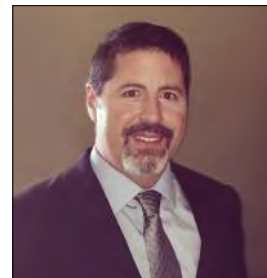
During his WAPA tenure, Vigil was responsible for maintaining the reliability of more than 5,000 miles of high voltage transmissions lines and maintaining fiscal responsibility for a 10-year work plan for all transmission and facility maintenance. He also led a 300-person team composed of operations, power marketing, environmental divisions, and more.

"Tim's extensive industry experience, coupled with his familiarity with the area, will strengthen DMEA's service to our members. I am excited to have Tim join the DMEA leadership team," said Alyssa Clemens Roberts, DMEA's Chief Executive Officer.

"I am very excited to leverage my extensive experience in the wholesale electric

utility industry to the benefit of my local community and DMEA members," said Vigil.

Vigil joins DMEA's leadership team as Guzman Energy, DMEA's wholesale power supplier, is developing the region's first large-scale renewable energy generation project—an 80-megawatt solar array in Delta County. DMEA will purchase a significant portion of the plant's output, increasing the cooperative's locally sourced renewable energy to approximately 20 percent.



**DMEA COO Tim Vigil.**  
*Courtesy photo.*

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# BOCC LOOKS AT NEW BOUNDARIES FOR COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS, DESIGNATES HISTORIC LANDMARK



*The Olathe Producers COOP building at 430 5th Street in Olathe has been designated a historical landmark. Courtesy image.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-In the absence of BOCC Chair Keith Caddy, Vice Chair Sue Hansen welcomed all to the [regular meeting](#) of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on Wednesday, Jan. 19. Commissioner Roger Rash was also present.

Pastor Curt Mudgett of Cedar Creek Church delivered the Invocation, praying for commissioners and community. "Thank you, Lord for the day you've provided...we're grateful to you for the blessings of being able to live on the Western Slope...We're grateful for our county...give them wisdom today...we just pray for peace for us all..."

Olathe Town Administrator Rob Smith led all in saying the pledge of Allegiance.

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Citizen Scott Riba addressed the BOCC. He asked that Consent Agenda Item 6 be removed from the Consent Agenda. "...I think there's some issues with the process that has occurred, starting back in September with the zoning regulations being heard and approved by the county."

The item has not actually had a public hearing, Riba said, noting that on Sept. 23 when the new regulations were first presented to the Planning Commissioners, there were insufficient planning commissioners present, and the item was moved to a special meeting on Oct. 14. Originally posted as a public hearing before the planning commission; on Oct. 14 it was posted as old business and there was no public

hearing, though that meeting appears not to have occurred, Riba said. On Oct. 28, the item was introduced as old business and was approved by the Planning Commission without a public hearing, he said. "From everything I can see...there has been no public hearing with the planning commission on this item."

Hansen thanked Riba for bringing the matter to the attention of the county.

County Manager Jon

Waschbusch outlined several options; Hansen suggested removing the item from the agenda for discussion in a work session. "And if we didn't have a public hearing, we need to do that," Rash said.

County Attorney Marti Whitmore said that a public hearing could not be held during the regular meeting because it had not been noticed. Hansen said, "...We want to make sure that we have full community input...I would suggest that we remove it and then re-evaluate it and put it back on an agenda at some future time for a public hearing."

The BOCC voted to remove the zoning resolution amendment from the agenda for re-evaluation.

## COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Jon Waschbusch asked that item C-8, be moved from the Consent Agenda to Item D-6 under Regular Business.

## CONSENT AGENDA

[Consent Agenda Items](#) were approved as amended; Item 6, adoption of a resolution amending the zoning resolution, was removed; Item C-8 was removed and added to General Business as D-6; and Resolution No. 03-22 was added to Item C-13, dissolving the Montrose County Building Authority.

## GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

With a brief public hearing, Public Works Director Keith Laube requested the commissioners **review and signature on the**

**2021 Colorado Department of Transportation Highway Users Tax Funds (HUTF) report**, and consideration and approval of [Resolution 04-2022](#) for annual changes, additions, and deletions of roads to the county road maintenance system. "Our HUTF funding is based on the miles in this report," Laube said. Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 04-2022. Landmark Advisory Board Chair Zilla May Brown presented information on proposed [Resolution 05-2022](#), **designating the Olathe Producers COOP building at 430 5th Street in Olathe as a Montrose County Historical Landmark**. Brown read the resolution into the record, thanked coop officials who helped with the presentation, and acknowledged invited guests from Olathe.

Commissioner Roger Rash said, "What a wonderful report and a history lesson...I had no idea! It was very well put together, the pictures were outstanding, and I enjoyed reading it."

Hansen said she enjoys reading all of the findings of the Landmark Advisory group. "...Nice job, very thorough...and it's really a pleasure, we sort of forget about Olathe, stuck in the middle of between Montrose County and Delta County, but it's an important community...I know how important ag is to the community and to all of us.

"And I just think it's great that we have a landmark advisory board that keeps your eyes open and makes sure that we are paying attention to our history," Hansen said. Commissioners voted to approve Resolution 05-2022, designating the Olathe Producers COOP building at 430 5th Street in Olathe as a Montrose County Historical Landmark.

**Background-Facts presented in the resolution include the following:** *The Olathe Producers Coop building, also known as the Olathe Potato Growers Warehouse, located at 430 5th Street in Olathe, Colorado, was constructed by area contractors A.J. Dawson and Frank Waller in 1912; to house locally grown potatoes and facilitate their transportation to market. The structure showcases period posts, beam*



## BOCC LOOKS AT NEW BOUNDARIES FOR COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS, DESIGNATES HISTORIC LANDMARK *From previous pg*

and joists, a large basement cooler room with antique refrigerant units and original ductwork, and an early industrial elevator with machinery hardware, all of which has historical significance and is still functional today. In 1923, Olathe was recognized as the D&R.G. Railroad's record shipping point for agricultural products; and in keeping with regional market needs and economic drivers, the Olathe Producers Coop merged with the Delta Coop in 2003 and Montrose Coop in 2004. The Olathe Producers Coop continues to serve as the hub for the business of agricultural marketing in Western Colorado, and the building is important both because of its significant contribution to Montrose's proud agricultural economic history and as a representation of the agricultural warehouses of the early twentieth century.

Montrose County Clerk Tressa Guynes read **Resolution 06-2022** into the record, as commissioners voted to approve a request to set **Montrose County precinct boundaries** to establish election districts within the political subdivision, pursuant to C.R.S. 1-5-101 et seq. and C.R.S. 2-1-104 et seq.

Guynes discussed recent statewide districting changes that have resulted in Montrose County being split into two state Senate districts. "...It was quite the task to come up with these lines for these precincts," she noted.

Said Rash, "I appreciate all the effort you guys put into this, I know it was a huge challenge...I'm really concerned about our western part of our county being in a different senate district...but it is what it is, and I appreciate the GIS crew that helped you with that."

"...The GIS team is excellent, excellent," Guynes said, acknowledging Manager Lisa Goetsch and the GIS Department.

"They've done a great job in spearheading this mapping project."

Scott Fitzgerald of the Olathe Fire Department addressed the BOCC concerning County validation in support of the **Olathe Fire Department's grant application with the West Regional Emergency Medical & Trauma Advisory Council (WRETAC)**.

Olathe Fire is applying for a grant to purchase ten radios and supporting microphones to improve communication across the department. WRETAC grant applications require County validation prior to approval. Commissioners voted to approve the request.

Montrose County Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Manager Lisa Goetsch presented **a proposed 2022 redistricting map for commissioner districts** and opened a public hearing regarding proposed changes to the Montrose County Commissioner Districts. The agenda notes that Per CRS 30-10-306(4), after each federal census of the United States, each district shall be revised or altered and established to assure that each district shall be as equal in population as possible. Per CRS 30-10-306 (5), no less than thirty days before adopting any resolution to change the boundaries, the BOCC shall hold a public hearing on the proposed district boundaries.

Goetsch discussed the changes in detail. "Thank you for the guidance," Hansen said.

Removed from the Consent Agenda where it had been Item C-8, Commissioners reviewed General Business & Administrative Item D-6, **Consideration and possible authorization for the chairman's approval of the Correctional Health Partners Third Amendment to the October 2019 Agreement**. The Amendment represents an annual expenditure of \$942,182.17 for inmate health care services from Jan. 1, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022. The written dollar amount does not match the numbered dollar amount in two loca-

tions, Rash said. "We need to get clarification on the right dollar amounts."

The item was removed from the agenda.

### PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Planner Tallmadge Richmond opened a public hearing on a **proposal to dedicate a right-of-way along LaSalle Road and Marine Road**. Staff recommended approval; commissioners voted to approve the right of way dedication.

Richmond presented the Gather Campground RV Park Special Use Proposal to create **an RV Park with 88 RV sites** at 6600 Road and Highway 550. A maximum of 250 guests will be allowed at any time. At the request of Hansen, Richmond also reviewed the necessary conditions for the special use. No concerns have been raised. After questions and discussion, commissioners voted to approve the special use permit. Richmond presented three minor subdivisions, which were approved:

-The **Erskine Minor Subdivision** proposal to divide 39.187-acre lot into three lots at 61505 Highway 90;

-The **Grey Fox Minor** proposal to divide 17.26 acres into three lots at Parcel 376522101001, 5950 Rd; and

-The **Pridy Minor Subdivision** proposal to divide 10.082 acres into two lots at Parcel 376508107002, 5800 Rd and Jig Rd.

### MONTROSE COUNTY LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY

Reconvening as the Montrose County Local liquor Licensing Authority, the board voted to approve the **renewal of the Fermented Malt Beverage (Off Premises) License for Newberry's Store & Rock Shop**, 82119 E. US Highway 50, Cimarron.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board reconvened as the BOCC and entered Executive Session to discuss matters related to Montrose Regional Health. No decisions were made. Following the Executive Session commissioners voted to adjourn.

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## MIRROR IMAGES OUT & ABOUT



Above, a Clydesdale and a burro in a Montrose field. Photo by B. Switzer.

*"For me, it's about giving a voice to the people, businesses and leaders in our community. The fact that we mix in laughter and shenanigans when we can is just icing on the cake."*

~ Tonya Maddox

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## BETTER TOGETHER: FIVE EDUCATION RESOLUTIONS FOR A NEW YEAR

By: *Tonya Drake, Ph.D., RVP Northwest Region of Western Governors University, and Mark David Milliron, Ph.D., senior vice president of Western Governors University and executive dean of the Teachers College COLORADO*—The shortage of teachers is reaching a critical point in Colorado. Forty Percent of teachers in this state are considering quitting, based on a [survey](#) by the Colorado Education Association. These numbers breakdown to 38% in the Denver area and 42% in other areas in Colorado. Safety, health concerns and navigating the pandemic are driving teachers to consider new career options.

The economic impact alone is reason to cause pause and assess how this state can ensure our youth and workforce have access to the education they need to ensure we can all thrive into the future. As we enter a new year, here are five resolutions for educators and policymakers to consider.

### Improve Digital Learning Infrastructure

In the urgent shift to remote learning during the pandemic, it became painfully clear that we live in a technology landscape of “haves and have nots.” According to [Broadband-Now](#), only 3% of Coloradans have access to an affordable standalone internet plan. Further, 7% of households have no computer, according to [Digitunity](#). Underserved and rural populations often suffer the greatest challenges where digital access and literacy are concerned.

The [Colorado Broadband Office](#) is working to ensure broadband availability and reducing the barriers to internet access, affordability and digital literacy. Through the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, \$100 million will help provide broadband coverage across the state to at least 85,000 Coloradans who currently lack it. More than 1.2 million Coloradans will be eligible for the Affordability Connectivity Benefit, which will help low-income families afford internet access. It is essential that educational institutions partner with associations and government entities to remove technology and affordability barriers to digital access for learners of all ages.

### Reimagine Learning Models

[Colorado Succeeds](#) is working to bring innovative thought and policy to education in Colorado. New curricula, technologies, pedagogies, and programs have the potential to

support the college readiness of historically under-represented students, including low-income populations, students of color, and those who will be the first in their families to attend college.

One model worth exploring is mastery learning, which allows educators to build a system of learning in which students are rewarded for perseverance. The [Mastery Transcript Consortium](#) comprised of public school districts, private schools, and leading universities is developing this idea.

### Encourage Educator Self-Care

A recent RAND Corporation [survey](#) found that while 40 percent of all employed adults reported experiencing significant job-related stress during the pandemic, this figure was almost double for K-12 teachers (78 percent). Many pandemic-era teaching issues, such as stressed and confused students, technology challenges, and new learning systems are linked to significant job-related stress, depression and burnout.

Area leaders would do well to design and implement mental health and wellness initiatives for educators. Hiring behavioral health counselors for students and also for teachers and paraprofessionals can help, as well as listening with empathy to and acting with urgency on teachers' concerns around pay, time, and support needs.

### Champion Healthy Learning

Today's students have [reported heightened feelings of anxiety, depression](#) and isolation. As we reimagine PK-12 education in the wake of the pandemic, healthy learning is needed more than ever. School leaders should develop methods and processes that emphasize a learning environment that provide holistic support for a student's academic, physical, psychological, and social self. To [prioritize healthy learning](#), schools, colleges, and universities can bring together the research and practices of initiatives addressing basic needs; diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI); social and emotional learning (SEL);



*Tonya Drake. Courtesy photo.*



*Mark Milliron. Courtesy photo.*

mental health; and character education. This work should extend into governance and community

engagement, particularly in our current politically charged environment.

### Embrace Regional Education Ecosystems

All parts of a regional education ecosystem—early learning, K-12, community colleges, colleges, and universities—are interconnected. Each of these interconnected entities has the power to effectively partner or painfully disrupt and disconnect learner journeys. Colorado's outstanding colleges and universities are continuing to provide life-changing education for many, making a positive difference for individuals, families, and communities.

As Colorado moves forward, dramatically changed by COVID-19, it's critical for higher education institutions to establish alliances with local school districts to support their human resource objectives and elevate the teaching profession. Partnerships like this can include professional development of current or aspiring teachers and school districts serving as clinical learning sites for pre-service teachers, the next generation of Colorado educators.

Adopting and fulfilling these five resolutions depend on educators and their communities working together. We need set aside the historic “better than” arguments and embrace a “better with” reality: We're all in this together. Education is a game changer, door opener and playing-field leveler. As such, let's commit to substantive conversations and good work on each of these resolutions. Making progress together will support our shared journey toward new possibilities in 2022.



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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## SLASH PILE BURNS PLANNED FOR RIO GRANDE STATE WILDLIFE AREA

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTE VISTA, Colo. – Colorado Parks and Wildlife, in cooperation with the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, will conduct slash pile burning operations in the Rio Grande State Wildlife Area over the next few weeks. If weather conditions permit, burns are planned for January and into February.

Slash piles have been created to remove debris and reduce hazardous fuel accumulation to help reduce the risk of larger wildfires. The piles are burned in areas where other means of disposal are not feasible. Smoke may be visible in the area and could persist for several days as fuels burn themselves out.

Crews will be on scene to monitor the

progress throughout the process. The public is reminded not to call 911 or other emergency services if smoke is visible from the burn areas. CPW works closely with agencies such as the Colorado Air Pollution Control Division, Division of Fire Prevention and Control and local authorities in developing and implementing any burning project.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. Additional information is available at <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

Rio Grande State Wildlife Area is a 935-acre property in Rio Grande County that offers good fishing and hunting opportunities.

It is closed to public access Feb. 15



*Crews will work to burn slash piles at the Rio Grande State Wildlife Area as conditions permit over the next few weeks. Courtesy photo.*

through July 15 to protect nesting and wintering bird populations.

For more information, contact CPW District Wildlife Manager Tyler Cerny at 719-850-6363 or [tyler.cerny@state.co.us](mailto:tyler.cerny@state.co.us).

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# 'ALL ALONG WE HAVE HAD THE TRATTORIA FOLKS IN MIND TO MEET THE NEEDS OF MARRIOTT'

*City Manager outlines plans to invest in restaurant expansion, commercial kitchen*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Due to the Jan. 17 closure for Martin Luther King Day, the Montrose City Council gathered for a work session on Tuesday, Jan. 18. Present were Mayor Doug Glaspell, Mayor Pro Tem David Frank, and Councilors Anthony Russo and Barbara Bynum. Councilor J. David Reed was absent.

## TRATTORIA DI SOFIA EXPANSION SUPPORT

City Manager Bill Bell joined the work session virtually to discuss the first item, Trattoria Di Sophia Expansion Support.

Bell said he had been home sick for a week. "We are excited to finally bring this before the city council...we have worked on this for a couple of years," he said. "Originally, we probably first started talking about the need for more commercial kitchens in our community five years ago...and the idea at that time was to get more nightlife, more restaurants opportunities and those types of things into our community. And by building more commercial kitchens that provides in perpetuity more restaurant availability throughout the community...we're really excited about it...at this point in time we're just looking to have a discussion and finally bring the project into the public venue."

"We're really excited that by partnering with Colorado Outdoors in the new flex building space we are able to meet a few needs all in one project," Bell said. "The Trattoria folks are doing an excellent business in Downtown Montrose and they're really looking to expand."

The Flex Building will serve as a business incubator, he said. "We also focus a lot on business retention and expansion here in Montrose, and this is another one of those projects where we take an outstanding local business and help them grow and do it right here in Montrose so they don't need to leave our community to grow..."

The location will include an outdoor dining area at the north end of the flex area. "This will serve as the full-service restaurant for the new Marriott Hotel," Bell said. "...the Marriott does not include full-service dining so to be fully successful

they would need near-by full-service restaurant.

"All along we have had the Trattoria folks in mind to meet the needs of Marriott."

The Marriott will break ground next month, Bell said. Buildout of the restaurant began in the fall.

Restaurant owner Xochitl Zamora and her daughter Monica were

present to answer questions, with an interpreter to help as needed. The Zamoras both expressed thanks to Council for the opportunity.

Said Xochitl with assistance from the Interpreter, "I am pretty sure that with the help that you can give us, you are not going to be disappointed, and it is going to be so helpful for business."

Monica said, "...We're very excited with this project...if you guys have ever came into our restaurant on a weekend you can see that we are always, always packed, and we can't seat as many people as we'd like to...I feel like with this new project we would be able to seat more people...and be able to provide to the residents of Montrose and any tourists a good, home-cooked meal."

Councilor Barbara Bynum said, "I'm very excited that there will be a full-service restaurant located in that part of town; that fulfills a promise that we made to the Marriott Hotel to have a full-service restaurant there. I also think that it will help more businesses choose to relocate, and that will ultimately help our URA to grow and thrive."

Said Mayor Pro Tem Dave Frank, "I love Trattoria's. I love it. It's a great restaurant and I would look forward to being able to get a seat."

The support is not a gift but a loan, Frank said. "Now the loan does have a structure in it to be forgiven, based on performance...we are expecting a good, solid business and restaurant, because it's a



*Trattoria Sophia will expand operations with City support.*

very popular location to go."

The project was designed by Montrose Architect Phil Motley and is being constructed by Shaw.

Bell reviewed sales projections and employment numbers. He projected \$1.5M in estimated annual sales revenues which are expected to increase with time. If the Trattoria outgrows the space, the City of Montrose "...would love to help them at that time...it's not a one and done," Bell said, noting that the total contribution from the City to the project would be around \$400K. The restaurant owners themselves would be bringing around \$70K to the table, he said. The remaining funds for the \$800K project would come from the Flex building owners, Colorado Outdoors. "It'd truly be a three-way partnership between the Dragoos and their partners, the City, and the restaurant owners." The restaurant would be able to employ 23, Bell said. Council will consider approval in February.

**Background-** A memo from the City Manager's Office to Council states, "Trattoria Di Sofia is an Italian dine-in and take-out restaurant currently located at 110 North Townsend Avenue, where they have operated since November 2015. The owners of Trattoria Di Sofia, Sergio Zamora and Xochitl Zamora, are relocating their restaurant to a space in the new Flex Building within the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) in order to double the current seating capacity, offer outdoor dining, and provide new

*Continued next pg*

# CITY PLANS TO INVEST IN RESTAURANT EXPANSION

## From previous pg

menu items such as gourmet pizza. The owners estimate that their investment in the expansion project will be \$88,000. The City Council and the DART board have discussed supporting the creation of a new commercial kitchen in our community. Doing so would increase dining options and benefit any future occupant of the new restaurant/commercial kitchen space as well as the Montrose economy. The creation of a new restaurant opportunity in Montrose will yield additional avenues for sales tax generation. Customers of restaurants in Montrose pay a total of 9.33 percent in sales tax, of which 4.68 percent is retained by the City of Montrose for City purposes..."

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH MONTROSE RECREATION DISTRICT**  
Community Programs Manager Kendall Cramer presented the annually updated Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Montrose Recreation District, reviewing the proposed changes. Jeremy Master of the Rec District was present to answer questions.

**Background**-A memo from Cramer to Council states, "City and Montrose Recreation District Staff have been collaborating

over the past few months to work through proposed changes to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Montrose and the Montrose Recreation District Regarding Shared Services...Notable changes to the agreement include the addition of an exchange of services between the Parties for lawn maintenance at the new Montrose Rotary Amphitheater and crack sealing of the parking lot at the Community Recreation Center. Additional language regarding scheduling of events at the Cerise and Amphitheater Fields has been added."

### EQUIPMENT PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION

Public Works Manager Jim Scheid presented information on the purchase of two dump trucks from Jackson Group Peterbilt in Grand Junction for a total of \$493,078.90. A memo from Scheid to Council states, "The Fleet Division has collected a total of \$464,000 over the last 17 years for the replacement of these trucks. \$464,000 is included in the 2022 Budget in GL 600-8005-944-000 for the replacement of both trucks. The budgeted amounts were based on quotes received in July of 2021 and included the anticipated infla-

tionary increases that were known at that time. The purchase amount is over the amount budgeted by \$29,078.90. The costs above what is budgeted are to be covered by the Fleet Fund.

**NIAGARA ROAD ADDITION ANNEXATION**  
Planner William Reis discussed and shared a presentation on the annexation of the Niagara Road Addition.

**Background**-A memo from Reis to Council states, "The Niagara Road Addition is a proposed annexation approximately 0.456 acres in size. The property is located on the northern half of Niagara Road, approximately centered at the intersection with St. Mary's Dr. It is within the City's Urban Growth Boundary, the City of Montrose Water Service Area, and the City of Montrose Sewer Service Area. Annexation of this property will clean-up an orphaned parcel of City Right of Way. The Council Resolution to set a hearing date is not required for this annexation as it is a city-owned property."

### GENERAL COUNCIL/STAFF DISCUSSION

There were no comments. Assistant City Manager Ann Morgenthaler thanked Council for their patience as the City moves to hybrid meetings again.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CPW SEEKS COMMENT ON HERD MANAGEMENT PLANS NEAR GRAND JUNCTION AND RIFLE

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO-CPW wildlife managers refer to the areas as Data Analysis Units: D-42 for deer at Rifle Creek, D-11 for deer in the Bookcliffs, and E-10 for elk in the Bookcliffs and north of Parachute (Yellow Creek). The plans cover Game Management Unit (GMU) 33 for deer in Rifle Creek, GMUs 21 and 30 for deer in the Bookcliffs and GMUs 21, 22, 30, 31 and 32 for elk.

Many changes have occurred to the landscape of these areas over time, affecting habitat conditions that support the deer and elk populations, including persistent drought and fire.

The proposed herd management plans offer several alternatives for setting population and sex-ratio objectives for the next 10 years.

The objectives for the number of hunting licenses issued in those GMUs is set on an annual basis.

#### **Rifle Creek deer herd**

Since 1993, the Rifle Creek deer herd population has been largely stable between 6,000 - 8,000 deer, which is lower than the previous herd plan objective of 7,700 - 9,400 deer.

In the new deer draft herd management plan for 2022 - 2032, CPW proposes a reduction in population objective range to 6,200 - 8,200 deer.

This would not be a reduction of deer numbers in Rifle Creek, but a management of the deer population at the current population average.

CPW also proposes to change the sex-ratio objective from 30 - 35 bucks per 100 does to 25 - 32 bucks per 100 does. This new range allows CPW managers to balance the management of chronic wasting disease (CWD) while maintaining a quality buck hunt.

#### **Bookcliffs deer herd**



*CPW courtesy photo.*

The Bookcliffs deer herd north of Grand Junction near the Utah border has been stagnant at historically low levels for nearly two decades.

The previous herd management plan was 10,000 - 12,000 deer.

CPW proposes a reduction in the population objective to 5,000 - 8,000 deer. This allows CPW to manage the D-11 herd in sync with the habitat condition and capability while increasing the resiliency and sustainability of the herd.

Additionally, CPW recommends a slight decrease from the current sex ratio of 30 - 35 bucks per 100 does to 27 - 32 bucks per 100 does. This slight decrease allows for CWD management while maintaining or increasing hunting opportunity.

#### **Yellow Creek elk herd**

The Yellow Creek elk herd north of I-70 has steadily increased over the last couple of decades. Following the 2020 hunting season, CPW estimated about 12,000 elk

in this herd, exceeding the previous herd management plan's population objective of 7,000 - 9,000 elk. This objective range was set before improvements in modeling techniques, so CPW proposes a change in the objective range to 8,500 - 10,500 elk.

Since the GMUs in this DAU offer over-the-counter licenses during the archery and rifle seasons, CPW expects to maintain the current sex-ratio objective for the Yellow Creek elk herd at 18 - 25 bulls per 100 cows. The deer and elk draft plans are open to public comment through Thursday, Feb. 21.

Please submit public comments to Genevieve Fuller at [genevieve.fuller@state.co.us](mailto:genevieve.fuller@state.co.us).

[Click here to view the Rifle Creek deer herd management plan.](#)

[Click here to view the Bookcliffs deer herd management plan.](#)

[Click here to view the Yellow Creek elk herd management plan.](#)

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2351 South Townsend Ave, Montrose  
970-252-1743  
[www.walgreens.com/pharmacy](http://www.walgreens.com/pharmacy)

**Please reach out to one of the providers listed to schedule a COVID-19 test.**

For additional regional testing sites, please visit [www.montrosecountyjic.com](http://www.montrosecountyjic.com)  
updated 11/8/21



## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### DEMOCRATS WANT VAX CARD TO EAT IN A RESTAURANT, BUT NO ID CARD TO VOTE?

*Editor;*

The pathetic whining about voter rights by Democrats defines their bankrupt political future. They have done nothing good or positive for America. Everything has been failures and devoid of all common sense. Now, since mumblin' bumblin' Joe has nothing else to talk about, he states he doesn't believe the midterm elections will be "legitimate"! What? Is the person who has bragged, "We have put together, I think, the most extensive and inclusive voter fraud organization in the history of American politics.", now worried about voter fraud? Oh, it's worth remembering that fraud is okay as long as it benefits them. In fact, that is the only true statement he has made in recent memory and a tribute to his honesty. Right now, Democrats are in a panic because of the failure of the "voting rights" legislation to pass. But this is not about fighting for the right to vote. They are fighting for the right to cheat. Every eligible U.S. citizen already has the right to vote.

The News media has never interviewed any citizen who was denied the right to vote. And if they could find someone's picture to plaster on a billboard saying, "They won't let me vote", it would be national headline news till election day and thereafter! Democrats want to federalize all election laws where they can on a mi-

nute notice change local laws to cheat to oblige local political demands. They already did that in 2020 in Democrat controlled areas.

Democrats are desperate. They cannot win on policies and know they will have to cheat again. So they pushed ahead with their unpopular "voting rights" act in complete disregard and defiance of the hardships they are already inflicting on American families like sky-high gas prices, rising food costs, spikes in violent crime, opening our borders to allow millions of unwanted freeloaders to feed off the American taxpayers, and a general shortage of needed products. No, the Biden regime has botched up everything they have touched and then lied about them.

So it makes no sense to let them touch or run our state elections with legislation that would actually be the "Freedom to Cheat Act." That Democrat Act would ban voter photo ID, prohibit states from cleaning their voter rolls of dead people, would extend the deadline for returning ballots to over two weeks after an election instead of the same day, would do nothing to protect voting rights, but would do everything to expand bulk mail balloting fraud, and would allow ballot harvesting and allow counting ballots up to 10 days after elections, even without postmarks, and felon voting would be allowed. They

will be voting for those who are turning them loose back on the streets!

Biden even went to Georgia with his busy (not) partner Kackln' Kamala lecturing them on how he is protecting their right to vote, but he didn't admit to them he was just kidding. They are actually undermining election integrity and diluting the legitimate votes of citizens with fraudulent ones. Wait till you see what Democrats have planned for America with all the illegal invaders they are waving in! There will be no need for "voting rights" then! Patriotic American voters will be outvoted. While Biden's remarks were divisive and ugly in Georgia, he pretended to have reverence for sacred things like praying at the crypt of Dr. Martin Luther King at Ebenezer Baptist Church, but he pronounced it as "Ebenezer Bastard Church"!! Poor guy, he can't even read his teleprompter when it's within arm's reach, but the Democrat Party deserves him! After all, with their standards, they want you to show a vax card in order to eat in a restaurant and an ID card to enter the Democrat National Convention, but don't want you to be required to show an ID card to vote. Pitiful!

To clear up Democrat confusion, voter rights does not equal voter fraud, and voter fraud does not equal voter rights.  
*Jerry Bartholome, Montrose*



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**MONTROSE REGIONAL  
CRIME STOPPERS**

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## ABOUT THOSE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, AND WHY WE RUN THEM

*"I don't give a d--- about my bad reputation,"*—  
—Joan Jett

By Caitlin Switzer, Mirror Editor

MONTROSE—The email was addressed to me personally, not the *Mirror*, and I actually knew the sender in real life. Nevertheless, the comments had all the sting of an anonymous hit on social media.

"... the letters to the editor feature has become nothing less than toxic," the sender wrote. "Every issue seems to have the same four people expounding in full-page partisan and ill-informed diatribes...the continual feature of these writers isn't doing the *Mirror's* reputation any good, unless that's the group you want to appeal to."

My response to this unsought comment was quick and decisive, as insinuations against anyone's reputation simply for

refusing to censor are actually crossing a line.

Still, this would-be suppressor of free speech has presented a well-timed opportunity to remember why we aim to publish all letters that do not contain active threats of violence or personal attacks on private citizens, and which are not oppressively lengthy.

Because for the most part, those who take the time to write a letter and sign their name to it deserve the opportunity to make their opinions known.

We include the heading, "Opinion/Editorial" to ensure that there is no confusion. As a news blast, our goal is to inform and engage our readers while promoting our advertisers, all of whom are clearly visible as such in our pages.

I do not necessarily share the opinions

that we publish, but I believe in the importance of hearing—and respecting—what our fellow citizens choose to think and believe. Finally, I received another comment last week as well, from a longtime reader, who wrote, "I enjoy reading the various 'uncensored' opinions."

Well said. Besides, occasionally we receive a truly great citizen Op/Ed. And for those who do not enjoy reading opinions with which they do not agree, letters are clearly marked as such and there is no requirement for you to read them at all.



Editor Caitlin Switzer,  
Courtesy photo.

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*Making sure readers don't bury their heads in the sand.*

## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### EFFIE LUCILLE LECLERE *April 11, 1929-January 12, 2022*

EFFIE LUCILLE LECLERE, age 92, passed away peacefully in her home, Wednesday evening, January 12, 2022.

Lucille was born April 11, 1929, in Powell, Wyoming, to Harmen and Effie Schultz. She spent her early years on the family ranch in Sage Creek, Cody, Wyoming.

On August 31, 1947, on his return from World War II stationed in Hawaii, she married George D. LeClere at the Chapel of the Transfiguration in Grand Teton National Park.

Lucille worked as a telephone operator. They had three children, Leslie, Kirk and Jeffrey. George worked for many years for the Bureau of Reclamation as an accountant. The first job transfer was to Yakima, Washington. Lucille became a police dispatcher. After that, they were transferred to Dutch John, Utah. It was a very small town, where they developed friends that lasted a life time. Most of the Dutch John "gang" was transferred to Montrose for the construction of the Gunnison river dams in 1962-1964. In Montrose, Lucille worked many years for Ed DeJulio at Flairmont Furniture.

Everyone knew bridge was her passion. She helped organize and played in many clubs throughout the years. Before George's passing, they loved to travel

and actually drove to every state in the continental U.S.

She and her girlfriends could be seen regularly walking around town; having coffee afterwards. Church was an important part of her life and she did many different jobs for the church.

She delivered "meals on wheels" and was a volunteer for the health fair, late into her 80's. She was always busy and helped her daughter and son-in-law in their accounting business. She also enjoyed playing the piano, painting, and sewing.

Lucille is preceded in death from her husband, George, on May 17, 1999, her brother John Schultz of Cody Wyoming and her parents.

Lucille is survived by: sister Velda Kant of Bellevue Washington; sister-in-law Linda Schultz of Cody Wyoming; daughter Leslie (Jack) McKenna, grandson Justin (Kara), great grandchildren Blake and Harper of Montrose and step granddaughter Michele (Kevin) Turner, of Brownsburg, Indiana, step great grandchildren Graham, Duncan, Julia and Ana; son Kirk (Jody) LeClere, grandchild Jessica, great grandchild Moira, grandchild Kristopher all of Montrose, grandson David (Nichole) LeClere of Granger, Tex-



as, great grandchildren Liam, George and Holden; and son Jeffrey (Nancy) LeClere of Golden CO, granddaughter Corey Spittler and great grandchild Jackson of Georgia.

Arrangements are by Crippin Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hope West.

#### CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.





## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### MICHAEL ROY WALKER SR. *February 24, 1957 - January 14, 2022*

MICHAEL ROY WALKER SR., age 64, of Montrose, passed away on Friday, January 14th. Mike was born in Sweet Home, Oregon and was the second of four boys born to Bill and Jean Walker.

The family moved to Colorado when the boys were young and that is where he would grow up, meet his wife of almost 47 years, Vicki, and raise their three children. Mike spent many years logging with his father up and around the Cimarron area and was able to enjoy the time up there with his family as well.

He worked as both a truck driver and heavy equipment mechanic in his later years. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle on the weekend and was happy to "shoot the breeze" with anyone who stopped by the house. He is survived by

his wife, Vicki; son Mike (Jennifer) Walker; daughters Michelle Turuc and Misty Walker; brothers Steve (Judy) Walker and Ed (Sandy) Walker. He was the proud grandpa of 8 grandchildren; Wendy, Tyler, Mikayla (P.J.), Logan, Meagan, Harley, Madison & Natalie and was going to earn the title of great grandpa to his first grandson this summer.

He was also fortunate enough to be an uncle to several nieces and nephews; Rob (Monica) Walker; Kendra (Jon) Gesick; Katie Walker; Jordan Walker and Sallie Collom.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Jean Walker, as well as his brother Kelly Walker and sister in law Bobbi. Final arrangements are being handled by Crippin Funeral Home.



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

## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### GARY BARKS

*July 27, 1964 - January 13, 2022*

GARY BARKS passed away January 13, 2022 at home surrounded by his loving family after a brief battle with a rare form of cancer.

He was born July 27, 1964 in Delta to Harry and Lillian Souther Barks. He attended school in Montrose where he met the love of his life. He and Patti Steele were married July 3, 1981.

Gary worked in the oil field for many years. He was a truck driver and wildland firefighter for Kuboske until he became ill. Gary was a dedicated to not only his family but also to the Kuboske family and company. He was well respected and loved by so many throughout the community.

He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and camping but he especially liked spending time with his grandchildren. Gary was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Lillian Souther Barks and his sisters, Joy Barks and Lisa Kitsmiller. He is survived by his wife Patti, his son Cody, his daughters Ashley Huydic (Scott), Brittnee Barks (Eddie), Brooke Barks (Brad), Hailey Allen, his sister Gaye Lynn Barks-Cox, his brother LeeRoy Barks, five grandchildren and one on the way.



### ELVIN GRAY PARKER JR.

*November 29, 1955-January 14, 2022*



ELVIN GRAY PARKER JR. passed away January 14, 2022, peacefully in his home surrounded by love at the age of 66, after a courageous battle with lung cancer. Elvin was born November 29, 1955, in Baltimore Maryland to Joyce Tyndall and Elvin Gray Parker Sr. Earning him the childhood nickname Junior that sticks to this day. At a young age he craved adventure and excitement which led him to join the U.S. Navy at the age of 18 where he served aboard the U.S.S. Hassayampa. Elvin moved to Colorado in the early 90's and started his own painting business with a small van and a couple of ladders. In 1993 he met the love of his life, Christy and together they built a longstanding prominent painting business in the Telluride area. Elvin was a hard worker, go-getter, smooth talking guy with an unbreakable passion for life. He loved to have a good time with his family and friends. He enjoyed fishing, boating, jet skiing and of course some gambling when he could get away with it or should I say get someone to take up a wager and gamble with him. Elvin is survived by his devoted wife of 28 years Christy Parker, his daughter Brittany, his son Preston and three

grandchildren Cadance, Tristan, and Taylor. He is further survived by his sister Alice Butler and two brothers, Jeff Cahoon and Richard Parker. Elvin was preceded in death by his mother Joyce Tyndall, nephew Ronnie Butler, brother-in-law, John Marble and his niece Lacey Steele. Elvin's love of life did not come to an end with his death because he is surrounded by family and friends and loved ones who will continue to honor his legacy by living their lives to the fullest! A celebration of life is planned for Jan. 29, 2022, at 11AM at the Redvale Community Center, 450 3575 Road, Redvale CO. Crippin Funeral Home is assisting Elvin's Family.

Some things never go out of style.  
#montrosemirror



## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### GEORGIA VIOLA MCNEILL *April 1, 1938 – January 14, 2022*



GEORGIA VIOLA (ROY) MCNEILL passed away January 14, 2022 at the Montage Creek assisted living center in Montrose CO, from Dementia.

Georgia was born to William Minard Roy and Elsie Rahe (Inman) Roy at the St. Lukes Hospital in Montrose Colorado April 1, 1938. She grew up in Montrose with her younger siblings Alice, William and Thomas. She attended the Coal Creek School as a child then went on to

Maple Grove until the seventh grade, from there she graduated the eighth grade at Riverside and graduated High School in 1956.

Georgia married her husband Corbin A. McNeill (C.A.) in March 1957. They were married for 31 years and had two children, Cathy and Keith. Her marriage ended with the passing of C.A. in 1988. Georgia then married Hugh Hays in 1994. They married on her birthday, April first which everyone gave them a hard time and thought it was an April fool's joke. They spent their honeymoon in Brunswick Maine and made a side trip to Niagara Falls, from there they enjoyed traveling and spending time together until the passing of Hugh.

Georgia was a strong-willed woman that loved her family. She was extremely social with a witty personality and beautiful smile. You could count on seeing her at Applebee's almost every afternoon for lunch with her friend Bull, laughing and giving the staff a hard time, as well as some of the other diners. One of the

things she took pride in was driving school bus for 22 years, and never having a ticket. Until a couple years ago, which she claims she didn't deserve! She was an avid bowler and member of Emblem Club. She took pride in being a past president of the club and holding other offices. Georgia was also a member of 4-H for 10 years and a 4-H leader for another 10 years.

Proceeding Georgia in Death were her Father and Mother, brothers William Henry Roy, and Thomas Warren Roy, husbands C.A. McNeill and Hugh Hays. Georgia is survived by her sister Alice Rahe Amato, children Cathy J Mullen (Tom), Keith E McNeill (Tonya), grandchildren Daniel Brack, Aaron Brack, Neil Brack, Stevie McNeill, Corbin McNeill, and Jessi D'Angelo, 11 great grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews..

Family asks that donations be made to Hopewest Hospice and Breast Cancer Foundation.

*Now more than ever...*

*Thank you for reading*

**THE MONTROSE MIRROR**

ISSUE 353 Jan. 24, 2022

# ART & SOL

## DOUBLE BARREL TACO TRIVIA NIGHT TAKES OFF



*Trivia players. Photo by Paul Arbogast.*

*By Paul Arbogast*

MONTROSE-If you are a fan of trivia, there is now a trivia night in Montrose. Double Barrel Taco Company hosts a 'Trivia with Friends'. Last week was only the second time they hosted it, and already the turnout is growing. Local businesses are stepping in to sponsor it by offering gift cards to the winners.

You can show up with friends and form a team and join the fun. The format is five separate rounds of trivia, from typical trivia questions to visual rounds where you identify objects or people in photos, to a music round where you listen to clips of songs and need to identify song, artist, or other details about the clip.

Trivia with Friends happens the first and third Tuesday of the month and runs from 6 pm to about 8 pm. Double Barrel Taco Company is located at 347 E. Main Street.



*Hosts and judges Justin Tubbs and David Lutz check answers after a round of trivia . Photo by Paul Arbogast.*



UPSTAIRS  
PRESENTS

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 **Colorado-ology**







By Carole Ann McKelvey

MONTROSE – If you haven't gone, get to it. Double Barrel Taco Company on Main is just that good. Stopped in by myself for a little taste the other evening. Place wasn't full but food was to die for.

I had -- wait for it -- a Gun Totin' Vegan taco. You say it doesn't sound good? Well, I'm here to tell you it's delicious, Vegan or not. Vegan chorizo (who knew there was such a thing?), grilled onion and garlic, spinach, avocado, tomatillo puree and Pico de Gallo. All stuffed inside a nice soft tortilla. Washed down with a great house margarita, no salt please.

Sat at the bar and it was nice and comfy. Double Barrel Taco Company is well worth your visit.

Their variety is great. Before I ordered the taco chowed down on an order of great guacamole with chips. Frankly, so large I thought it was going to be dinner. But the tacos sounded too good to pass up.

Now, despite the name, they don't just serve tacos.

Appetizers:

Besides salsa and chips (\$5) you can find all sorts of goodies here if you just want an appetizer and a drink.

Guacamole or queso and chips (\$9) add carnitas or beef for \$3; Sweet & spicy Brussel sprouts (\$6); DBTC eggrolls (\$10); chicken wings (\$13); loaded fries (\$8); battered fries (\$6) or beans or street corn (\$3).

Don't stop there.

Salads run from \$11-15 and house-made Texas style chili (\$6 cup/\$11 bowl).

Now, tacos, and more tacos:

For \$5.50 there's the Double Barrel, The Joe, Down-south sawed off; \$4.50, Jail bird, Dirty bird, Pickled P.I.G. and Notorious piggy; \$6, Buffalo Bill, TXAF V2; \$5.00,

*All I can say is Yum!*  
**ROOTIN' TOOTIN'**  
**DELICIOUS TACOS**



Baja Gangster, Gun Totin' Vegan (go ahead try it).

Not enough for you or have a gang? For \$39 you can order "Well Almost All the Tacos"; which means you get 1 of each taco (except it doesn't include the Buffalo Bill).

Feel like a sandwich? Order the Double Smash Burger for \$12 and the Cowboy Burger for \$14.

Double Barrel Taco Company is located at 345 E. Main Street, Montrose, CO 81401.

[info@doublebarreltaco.com](mailto:info@doublebarreltaco.com) or call (970) 417-4340.



## Chocolate, Cupid, & Cassanova The Valentine Trifecta



Kate Burke' history series



**Tuesday, Feb. 14, 1 pm**  
**Montrose Senior Center**  
**1800 Pavilion Drive**  
**Valentines & Chocolates for You**



# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## WRIGHT OPERA HOUSE RECEIVES GOVERNOR'S AWARD

### Special to Art & Sol

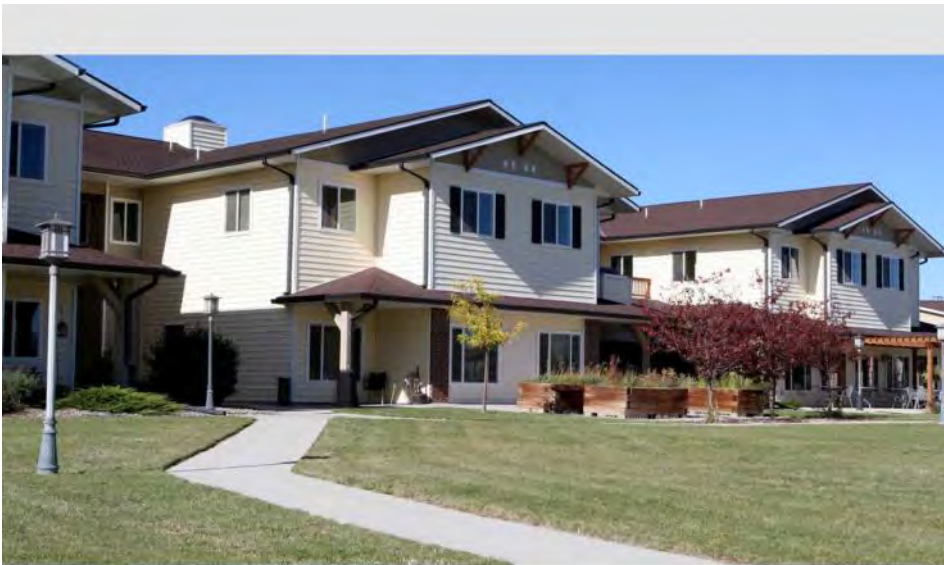
OURAY-The successful rehabilitation of the Wright Opera House is being recognized with the Governor's Award for the 2022 Stephen H. Hart Award for Archaeology and Historic Preservation. The Stephen H. Hart Award recognizes exemplary projects that contribute to innovational

techniques and advances in preservation while implementing historic design and craftsmanship. The Governor's Award recognizes the Wright Opera House as the best in historic preservation, honoring historic artistry, and in implementing the proper preservation techniques and ethics. The award first came about in 1986,



Photo courtesy of the Wright Opera House.

when Colorado's first Preservation Officer, Stephen Hart, was recognized. Believing that preservation in Colorado could be influenced by law, Mr. Hart was able to save many historic sites. The award is a commemoration of Stephen Hart's work and dedication to preserving Colorado's history. There have been many hours of dedication put into the building from many people involved in the Wright. Receiving this award is recognition of all of the hard work from those individuals. The Wright is incredibly honored to be awarded this award which represents our passion for preserving this beautiful building and its history. An award ceremony is scheduled to take place on Monday, February 7, 2022 at the History Colorado Center. Several members of the staff, Board of Directors and dedicated individuals will be in attendance to receive this prestigious award. In the coming months, an award ceremony will be held in Ouray to celebrate this honor with the wonderful community.



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- Housekeeping Options

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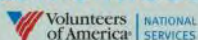
At The Homestead at Montrose, we're a welcoming community – a comfortable, cheerful place you'll be happy to call home. Located across from the Montrose Pavilion Events Center, the Senior Center and the Montrose Botanical Gardens, The Homestead at Montrose is near all the things you love to do.



### CONTACT US TO SCHEDULE A TOUR:

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Montrose, CO 81401  
970-964-3400  
homesteadatmontrose.org

**The Homestead  
at Montrose**





# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

## FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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

**Pastor:** Buddy Cook  
**Services** Sunday: Worship 10 AM, Adult Bible Study 11:30 AM Worship includes age-appropriate children's ministry during adult worship.  
 Wednesday: Prayer Boot Camp - 7 PM  
 Mission Statement: *Montrose First Church of the Nazarene exists to make Christlike*

*disciples in Montrose Colorado and around the world.*

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

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

**Affiliation:** Presbyterian  
**Address:** 1840 E Niagara Rd. Montrose CO. 81401  
**Office Hours:** M-Thu 9AM - 12PM  
**Contact Information:** 970-249-4732, [info@fpcmontrose.com](mailto:info@fpcmontrose.com)

[www.fpcmontrose.com](http://www.fpcmontrose.com)  
**In Transition-Currently:** Howard Davidson  
 Merle Bierma  
**Worship Service times:** 9:30AM, Student Worship at 6PM

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

## MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

[montroseumc.org](http://montroseumc.org)  
**Current Senior Pastor:** Rev. Lisa Petty  
**Worship service times:** 9:30 a.m. Casual Contemporary Worship & 11:15 a.m. Traditional Worship  
 10:30 - Social/Devotional Time  
*Montrose UMC is a leader in being fully*

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

## ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

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

## SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

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

[arlyn@spiritaware.org](mailto:arlyn@spiritaware.org), [www.spiritaware.org](http://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.*

## MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

### SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

#### Denomination affiliation:

Southern Baptist

**Address:** 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

**Office hours:** Varies

#### Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026

email: [summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com](mailto:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com)

website: [www.summitchurchmontrose.org](http://www.summitchurchmontrose.org)

**Name of current Senior Pastor:** John De-

Sario

**Worship service times:** Sunday Worship is at 9 am followed by a time of fellowship and snacks. Wednesday evening Prayer and Discipleship (a book study) Prayer 5:45-6:15pm, Discipleship 6:30-7:30pm, childcare provided up to 5th grade. 6th graders on up are welcome and encouraged to attend the book study "Fundamentals of the Faith"

*Summit Church Montrose is a new church*

*plant that preaches the Word of God, reaches the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and equips Christians to serve the Lord. Summit Church has people of all ages! We have families with children (babies, school aged, recent high school and college graduates) There are retired couples and widows. During the Sunday sermon we offer teaching for children ages birth to Kindergarten, in a kid friendly room called Base Camp.*

### VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

**Denomination Affiliation:** Independent Baptist

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

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 8am-12pm

**Contact Information:** Phone (970) 249-6874;

email at [info@vbcmontrose.org](mailto:info@vbcmontrose.org); website: [vbcmontrose.org](http://vbcmontrose.org)

**Current Pastor:** Roland Kassales

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

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

#### Church Directory

#### Mirror Editorial Staff

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

formation to the Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

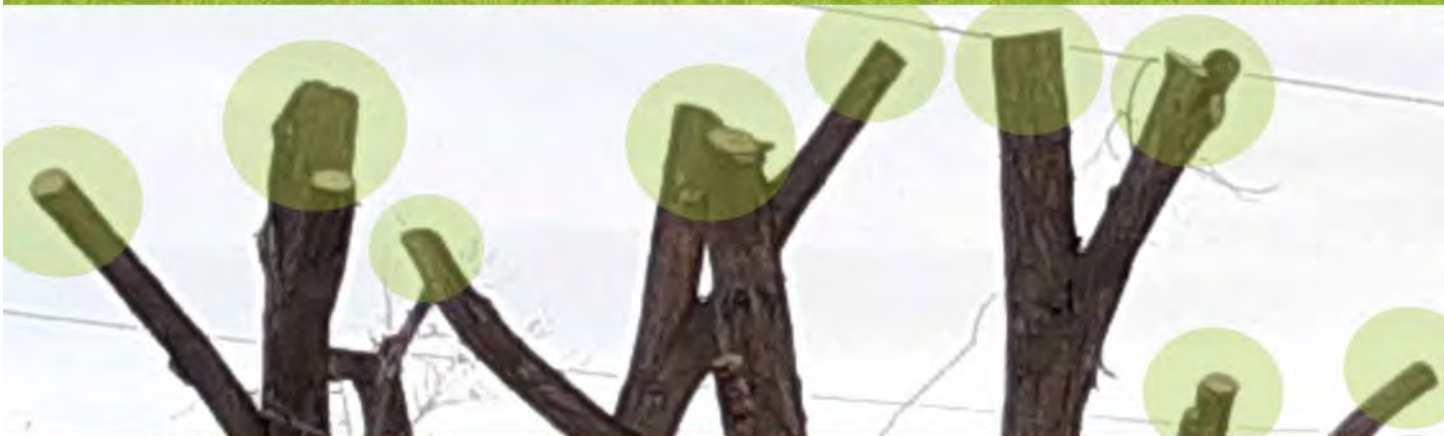
Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

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## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE MARCH 4 & 5, 2022



*Special to Art & Sol*  
CLIFTON-Embracing Our Beauty is a Christian women's conference where we discover the glorious design of women that God originally intended.

Registration is required. Tickets are \$50 for the two-day event and will be held at Clifton Christian Church. Staci Eldredge co-wrote Captivating, Unveiling the Mystery of a Women's Soul, with her husband. It

has sold nearly 3 million copies. The Western Slope rural communities are often overlooked for events and educational opportunities.

Face to Face Ministries' goal is to bring people together from rural Colorado to benefit from events such as this.  
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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## ENDANGERED INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES FIND A HOME ON THE WORLD'S MOST TRANSLATED WEBSITE

*Special to Art & Sol*

COLORADO-The most translated website in the world — jw.org, the official website of Jehovah's Witnesses — includes content in more than 1,030 languages, including many Indigenous languages consid-

ered at risk of dying out.

Among them is Navajo, spoken by an estimated 170,000 in the Four Corners region of the United States, which includes Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Utah, as well as Blackfoot, Cherokee, Choctaw,

Hopi and Central Alaskan Yupik.

Garry and Kathy Boye were raised during a time when everyone spoke Navajo in their small villages on the reservation. Reflecting on changing times, Garry states, "[Speaking Navajo is] kind of going away because the kids are speaking more English than Navajo."

For Kathy Boye, who grew up speaking Navajo and was not exposed to English until attending school on the reservation, the Navajo publications on jw.org have helped her to embrace her culture while also deepening her faith. Kathy adds, "It also helped me to see, too, that Jehovah [God] is concerned about the Navajo people and about the language so that we can understand [the Bible's message.]" Garry, a volunteer assisting with the Navajo translation work, states, "If it's translated into Navajo and then you read it in Navajo, it has a deeper meaning for you because it's your heart language." Kathy relates, "I think when Jehovah's Witnesses as an organization decided to focus on languages, especially the Navajo, it showed that the organization as a whole is so loving to provide this."

"Translating Indigenous languages is a labor of love for all those involved and for our organization," said Robert Hendriks, the U.S. Spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses. "The work is challenging and time consuming. But our goal isn't to make a profit, it's to provide the Bible's comforting message clearly and accurately to as many people as possible." Sharing the Bible's message of hope and comfort in the local Navajo community has been a powerful experience for the Boyes.

Kathy concludes: "It felt like Jehovah was talking to me personally, like he's finally focused on us, and I felt like Jehovah just wrapped his arms around me and that I could understand. ... It really helped me to see how important it was to try to reach the Navajo people with God's Word ... so they can understand, they can enjoy what I enjoy — having a relationship with Jehovah by means of a language that I can understand."

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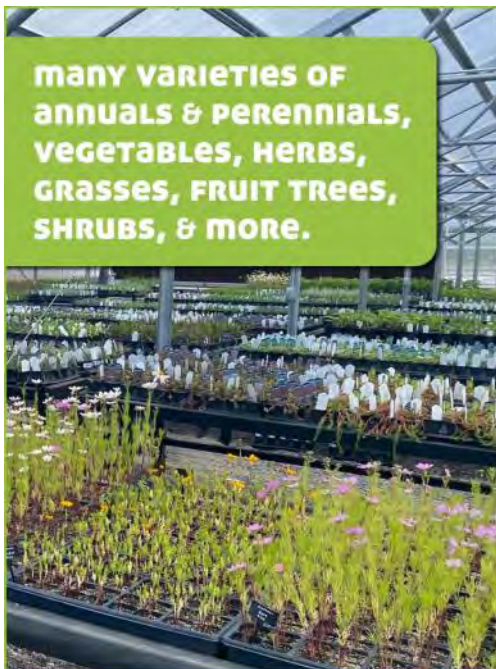
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- Farmers Market options this year grown in the field. The general public may shop at our Farmers Market starting this fall, Tues.-Sat.
- We have a small variety of seedlings for sale, however due to construction delays it will be next year before 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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# SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING-

**FREETHINKERS** meet 1st Sunday of the month at 1pm. more info at 970-708-8333.

**NEWCOMERS AND NEIGHBORS** welcomes adults who are new to Montrose or have been here awhile, who would enjoy learning more about the area and participate in social activities. 2021-22 meeting info. Meetings will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month (January – May). 10am-11:30am in the downstairs meeting hall of Cedar Creek Church, 222 S. Townsend and S. 3<sup>rd</sup>. enter through the side door on S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Hope to meet you there! Contact Patti 951-544-6289 if you have questions.

**THE MONTROSE GENEALOGY CENTER** at 700 E. Main St. is now open Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, 1-4 p.m. or call for an appointment: 970-240-1755. Free help and resources for your family history research.”

(The center is sponsored by the non-profit organization, Fore-Kin Trails Genealogical Society.)

**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** -Saturdays from 9 am-1 pm.. **Location:** Montrose Centennial Plaza . 81401 **Cost:** Free to attend.

**COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY**-Registration now open for Sept 2021 - Apr 2022 COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY, an international nondenominational 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 or 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

**Jan. 28**-Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery presents *Residual Roots: An Art Exhibit by Cie*. The Artist Reception will be Friday evening, Jan. 28, 2022. One-of-a-kind handcrafted Wood Art pieces will be on display for viewing and purchase. Exhibit overview and Q&A session with Cie will be part of Artist Reception festivities. Wine and refreshments will be provided. Lanoue Dubois Winery will pour wines at the Artist Reception. Individuals must be 21+ years of age with a valid I.D. to consume alcohol. Special Acoustic Performance by You Knew Me When. Doors open at 6 PM. Street parking is available.

**Feb. 2**-Montrose County Historical Society presents Dave Fishell explaining the history and significance of Fort Uncompahgre in Delta and its importance in the Gunnison/Uncompahgre Rivers area, at 7 pm. Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022, at Friendship Hall, Pioneer Room. Admission is free, the public is invited. Light refreshments may be available. Social distancing and COVID procedures are encouraged.

**Feb. 4**-Visions from the Santa Fe Trail, with Mike Simpson and Lewis Williams. 5-7p.m., Montrose Center for the Arts, 11 South Park Avenue.

**Feb. 7**-On Monday, Feb. 7 5:30 Citizensclimatelobby.org meets in person with masks at Montrose library meeting rm, environmental, nonpartisan, national, all welcome, info 970-765-9095

**Feb.14**- “Chocolate, Cupid and Cassanova, the Valentine Trifecta,” with Kaye Burke. 1pm, Montrose Pavilion Senior Center.

**Feb. 26**-Western Colorado Soil Health Conference, Montrose Pavilion. 970-964-3582.

**March 4-5**-Embracing Our Beauty is a Christian women's conference where we discover the glorious design of women that God originally intended. Registration is required. Tickets are \$50 for the two-day event and will be held at Clifton Christian Church. Featuring Staci Eldredge, who co-wrote Captivating, Unveiling the Mystery of a Women's Soul, with her husband. It has sold nearly 3 million copies. The Western Slope rural communities are often overlooked for events and educational opportunities. Face to Face Ministries' goal is to bring people together from rural Colorado to benefit from events such as this. Register@facetofaceministries.net

**March 19**-Come out to enjoy fun and inspiring films about outdoor adventure and conservation through the love of fly fishing, and support projects that protect and restore your local river. This year's venue is the Ouray County Event Center (22739 Highway 550) to provide lots of elbow room! Masks currently required – stay tuned for updates. 100 percent of proceeds go to the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership for maintenance and improvement of riparian areas, fish habitat and recreation areas. Sponsored by RIGS Fly Shop & Guide Service.

6:30-9 p.m. Doors open at 6. Tickets: \$25 online in advance; \$30 event day at the door. Online ticket purchase opens by Feb. 1. Ticket information: [info@fishrigs.com](mailto:info@fishrigs.com). More information: [uncompahgrewatershed.org/events](http://uncompahgrewatershed.org/events), [info@uncompahgrewatershed.org](mailto:info@uncompahgrewatershed.org), or 970-325-3010.



Contact the Montrose Mirror:  
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