Monticello will keep swimming pool closed by Bill Boyle

San Juan Record Editor

The Monticello Swimming Pool will not open in 2020 after the Monticello City Council met on May 26. It is just one of several momentous decisions made at the council meeting.

After a significant amount of discussion, the council voted 4-1 to keep the swimming pool closed. Councilman Ron Belt was the dissenting vote.

Recreation Manager Shane Christie and Pool Manager Kaelen Kulow offered a variety of perspectives about opening the pool, with Kulow presenting a summary if the pool were to open.

The council discussed the logistics of opening the pool and changing rooms, closing the pool wall and slide, possibly taking the temperature of patrons, and how the logistics of opening cleaning efforts could work.

Liability fears seemed to be the biggest issue for the council. City Manager Doug Wright said, “One of the things that worries me more than anything is the swimming pool having 16, 17, 18-old kids in charge of the lives of people. Adding this layer (coronavirus) concerns me even more. ‘If they have the maturity and common sense to make sure these things are being followed.’

It was suggested that adults should serve as lifeguards but the employees are paid $8 an hour and head guards earn $8.50 an hour. The Council wondered if adults would work for those wages.

The bottom line seemed to be the liability and the cost.

Christianson asked, “Is it really the risk to open the pool for one summer?”

The pool is in its tenth year of use. The city has a $450,000 annual payment for the facility that is due each year when the pool is open or closed.

In other situations, if we increase the city adopted rules now go up at the city landfill.

City Works Director Nate Lampton explained that an increase was necessary because the city is “conscientiously short on the landfill and not making enough money to keep a major asset up.”

Lampton estimates that actual annual costs total $86,211, while revenue has averaged $85,000 per year. The Council essentially agreed that the transfer station will need to be cleaned be at the landfill rather than $15 in Monticello may go up $15 in Las. Lampton said the San Juan County landfill

The city could “ensure” something to happen. The Mayor Lyman clarified, “This isn’t telling people they can’t celebrate the Fourth of July, Memorial Day or any other event. Just thing is that the city could put themselves in a bad situation if it is a city-sponsored event.”

The mayor and councilmen believe that a big celebration could cause a new outbreak.

The council also confirmed its first reading for a new ordinance that would require permits for any event of July 4 and the day of the meeting.

Mayor Lyman said, “Things can change so quickly. The Navajo Nation outbreak is still tied to those two or three counties in the city. The scope of that – you’re almost guaranteed to have a COVID-19 outbreak and then you’re right back in red.”

Councilmember Robert Turk, longtime organizer of the Fourth of July celebration made the motion to cancel.

The council did add a regulation that something could take place with permits.

The council council on how city recreation activities would be conducted. A recent change in the guidelines eliminates the need for social distancing in the pool, which would also eliminate fees for city residents.

City Manager Jerry Field updated the council on the city’s recreation activities will be under new guidelines. A recent change in the guidelines eliminates the need for social distancing in the pool, which would also eliminate fees for city residents. The city could “ensure” something to happen.

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Monticello pool to close

Continued from Page A1

Two budget hearings were held, the first to determine for Wednesday, June 10, plans for an open house and the second to set a tentative budget for the fiscal year that starts on July 1.

City Manager Doug Wright said the state has been a 51 percent reduction in the general fund. The tentative budget next year anticipates a 15 percent reduction in tax revenue. Wright outlined cuts in every department with reductions across all services in keeping with the overall budget and a number of other changes. Wright set to retire in July.

The tentative budget and the second to set a tentative budget for the fiscal year that starts on July 1. City Manager Doug Wright explained that this year’s sales tax revenue has been $10,994,273, “It’ll be a tricky year with the COVID-19 virus,” noted Mayor Lyon. City Engineer Terry Ekker reports the transportation master plan should be getting back on track with the status of the state now in yellow. The city is planning an open house for Wednesday, June 10, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Property owners of parents affected by the transportation master plan will be getting notices in the mail. All other citizens are also invited to attend.
Hi, my name is Logan Boyd and I am running for San Juan County Assessor. I was raised in Monticello and have loved being able to raise my daughter here for the last six years. I currently work in real estate as a realtor, I constantly assess the market to keep my clients informed. I returned to attend the University of Utah, graduating with two Bachelor of Science degrees, one in Business Management and the other in Human Development.

After graduating, I took a job with UDOT at the Port of Entry in Monticello and worked my way up to a Special Agent with the USDOT. I then worked one and a half years for the Utah State Tax Commission. My love of my life, Jonna Lancaster, from Monticello and I married and my wife and I would raise our daughter here for the last six years. I have loved being able to raise my family in what I call paradise, Blanding, I have always wanted to raise my family in what I call paradise, Blanding.

The red dirt of San Juan County is deep in my soul. Growing up in Blanding, I have always wanted to raise my family in what I called paradise. Blanding is watching the sun rise over the mountains in Colorado and its setting sun over the Ridge, with the White Mountain reaching out to me.

After graduating from San Juan High School in 1980 and serving as a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Little Rock Arkansas Mission, I knew in my heart that I must attend Utah State University. This decision was without a doubt inspired by God, because there at USU I met the love of my life, Joanna Lancaster, from New Jersey. 36 years later she is as beautiful as the day we met. San Juan County keeps calling.

In 1986, I moved to Utah Valley, where I attended and graduated from Brigham Young University in 1988 with a Bachelor’s of Science Degree. Many adventures and events since that time (such as raising five great kids) has given me the following work experience:

I worked one and a half years for the State of New Mexico Department of Labor. I worked in an open office with 30 other persons collecting disability and unemployment taxes from employers.

Next, I became a health inspector working for Utah Health Department for one year. Answering San Juan County’s call. In 1991 it happened! I with my family moved back to Blanding, and haven’t looked back since.

I worked for 24 years as the public health inspector, serving all over San Juan County. Then, in 2015, the new San Juan Public Health Department was created and I became the Environmental Health Director.

One of my goals is to write a book about 30-plus years as a health inspector. It has been a ride.

When you meet me, I have an optimistic attitude. This comes from raising hundreds of people those many years have better lives, helping them achieve their goals and dreams.

Life is always good. So when Greg Adams, the current county assessor, told me that he was retiring at the end of this year, I asked myself, “Why not?”

Having been a scout master (twice) and a farmer/small cattle rancher, I have a major role of service.

“If you don’t try, you won’t do, and if you don’t know, you will never know.” Knowing state laws and regulations, having been a certified asbestos- and lead-base paint inspector for 25 years, I feel qualified.

I know San Juan County from Spanish Valley to Navajo Mountain, from LaSal to Aneth. I love San Juan County. This is home base for me and the kids.

At this time I am asking for your support. Please give Rick D. Meyer, June 30 for County Assessor. Thank you San Juan County.

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Dear Editor:

To the mask wearers


With over 250 positive cases and four deaths in the County, it is time to wake up and be more vigilant.

With the majority not wearing masks around our town, not observ- ing safe practices, it’s just a matter of how soon the virus ventures its way here from the Navajo Nation or else- where. We may already have carriers in Monticello. I don’t know if even a handful of people in Monticello have this as a fact on the ground.

While store personnel wear masks all day, it is a big sacrifice for the rest of us to help keep our masks over our mouth and nose for a few minutes while at the Post Office, at the gro- cery store or eating place. Family Dollar, Maverik, or at any other busi- ness in town.

Be courteous and cautious as if you could be a possible carrier. Although 80 percent of those dying are over 60 years of age, 80 percent of the carri- ers are under the age of 40.

In Utah, we have the opportu- nity to open up and take risks. We need to be in businesses to come back and for the economy to re-bound.

Our county with its open spaces, clean air, no crowding, plenty of nat- ural wonders is ideal. The wide open space is the best and safest place for this or any other pandemic.

Yet, will our communities con- tinue to disregard health recommen- dations? People will come and spend money here, but few will come if we don’t have as known as a hot spot or cau- tionary location for COVID-19.

In some states, while entering a Costco or Walmart, you have to wear a mask. Customers not wanting to do so will kick up a fuss and intentional- ly spoil and rough on the one in charge of enforcement and threaten to sue the business. Are you one of those?

Anti-American: A true American will care about the well-being and safety of others.

First responders, doctors, nurses, law enforcement, military. If you want the virus to prolong indefinite- ly, keep not wearing a mask in public places and disregard any other CDC safe practices.

If you haven’t served your country, then do as many of the rest of us have. Or serve others by not exposing them to the risk of you possibly hav- ing the virus.

Anti-Fascist: If you want to bring about restrictions as per the virus, keep being irresponsible and self-cent- ered.

The rest of us want to get back to total freedom and no restrictions but cannot do so without your help.

Anti-Christ: If you want to see about others as Jesus did, you would do as He did. He was not all about me, me, and you.

He wasn’t self-focused, ignoring the need of others. Are you pro- life or death?

Anti-Church? If you enjoy going to a church, then keep that right pro- tected by being responsible so that we can all return to church safely.

Anti-Humanity: Over 100,000 have died in USA. We can get things going economics and at the same time minimize the loss of lives.

How? By wearing a mask, social distancing, testing, tracing, quaran- tine if positive or possibly exposed.

Let’s get’r done. Make San Juan County great, and keep our local community safe.

Robert Hatch

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The San Juan Record welcomes letters to the Editor. Letters to the Editor must be:

• No more than 500 words
• Include the author’s address and phone number

The San Juan Record reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity and to eliminate libelous or tasteless material. Letters to the Editor do not determine the edi- torial position of the San Juan Record.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday June 3

11 a.m., Bluff Library, 123 East 200 North, Bluff – Monticello Rotary Club, 6th Annual Breakfast. 

12-1 p.m., Blanding City Offices, 262 South 500 East – Family Support Group, meeting, 614 S. Main, Blanding.

12-3 p.m., 735 S. 200 W., St, Monticello – Pioneers Primrose Camp, meeting, 7 p.m. night – Monticello Golf Board of Trustees meeting.

12:30 p.m., Monument Valley Police Department, Community Center

Thursday June 4

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Tri-County Transit, 50 West 100 South, Blanding – Tri-County Transit.

11 a.m., Blanding and San Juan Counties, 177 East 200 South – Food pantry.

11 a.m. – 2 p.m., Blanding City Offices – Firehouse.– Call 435-686-2010.

11 a.m., Family Support Group – Office, 614 S Main, Blanding.

12-3 p.m., Pioneers Primrose Camp, meeting. 7 p.m. night – Monticello Golf Board of Trustees meeting.

12:30 p.m., Monument Valley Police Department, Community Center

Friday June 5

6:30 p.m., Blanding Community Center – AA meeting (The Red Rock Recovery), 6 p.m., library

6:30 p.m., Blanding Community Center – Serenity), 6 p.m., library

6:30 p.m., Blanding Community Center – NA meeting (Happy Joy Peace), 6 p.m., library

Monday June 8

1:30-3 p.m., 735 S. 200 W., St, Monticello – Pioneers Primrose Camp, meeting.

2:30-4:30 p.m., Blanding Community Center – Pioneers Primrose Camp, meeting.

3:00 p.m., Blanding City Offices, 262 South 500 East – Firehouse.– Call 435-686-2010.

5:00 p.m., Blanding City Offices – Firehouse.– Call 435-686-2010.

5:30 p.m., Monticello – Bluff Water Works Special Meeting (435) 678-7818

6:30 p.m., Zortman’s, 209 South 500 East, Blanding – Monticello Golf Board of Trustees meeting.

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Brent Johansen D.D.S.
435-378-7818

Free Home health care program in prescrip- tion (within 3 miles) SYNCH YOUR MEDS (Medication Synchronization)

I take-home meal

Community Dentistry & Orthodontics
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Coronavirus precautions more important now than ever

San Juan County has seen a spike in recent weeks in new COVID-19 cases, leading local officials to urge residents to remain vigilant in following preventative measures such as wearing masks, maintaining social distance, and washing hands regularly.

In a recent interview, Dr. William Love, President of the Navajo Health System, emphasized the importance of masks and social distancing, stating that "The importance of masks and social distancing cannot be overstated. These are the primary tools we have to control the spread of the virus." He went on to explain that even with vaccines on the horizon, it is crucial to continue these measures to prevent the virus from overwhelming healthcare systems.

Local health officials are also stressing the importance of getting vaccinated as soon as possible. "Our goal is to vaccinate as many people as we can, as quickly as we can," said Dr. Love. "With the surge in cases, we need to prioritize those at highest risk, such as older adults and those with pre-existing conditions." He added that the vaccine is not only important for personal health but also for the community as a whole, as it helps to stop the spread of the virus.

The City of Blanding has announced plans to host an open house to discuss the transportation master plan. The open house will be held on Wednesday, June 10 from 6 to 8 pm at Blanding City Office, 50 West 100 South, Blanding. The City is seeking public input on the transportation master plan, which will guide future transportation improvements in the area.

The City is asking residents to provide feedback on transportation needs and priorities, including roads, sidewalks, and bike lanes. They are particularly interested in hearing from people who live or work in the Blanding area.

Residents interested in attending the open house are encouraged to complete a survey beforehand to help guide discussions. The survey can be accessed through the City of Blanding's website or by visiting the City Office.

In other news, the San Juan Record reported on a recent event in Blanding, where a group of sheep were flown from Arizona to New York. The event was organized as part of a larger effort to combat the spread of COVID-19 by reducing the number of people in large gatherings. The sheep were flown to New York to help prevent the virus from spreading in the southeastern United States.

The sheep were flown from Arizona to New York on a special flight organized by the Navajo Nation. The event was held as part of the efforts to contain the COVID-19 outbreak, which has impacted many communities in the region.

Residents are encouraged to continue following preventative measures such as wearing masks, maintaining social distance, and washing hands regularly, as the pandemic continues to evolve. The Navajo Nation and local health officials are working closely to monitor the situation and provide guidance as needed.
Local student’s research

Lori Begaye of Blanding was one of more than 200 University of Utah undergraduates showcasing their research virtually at the 2020 Undergraduate Research Symposium. Begaye, who is studying Pre-Medicine and International Studies, represented the Obstetrics and Gynecology department. Her presentation was titled “Undertreated Iron Deficiency Anemia Increases the Risk of Postpartum Blood Transfusion.” The Undergraduate Research Symposium provides an opportunity for students to present their work to students, faculty and other members of the University of Utah community. Undergraduate students from all disciplines are invited to present their research and creative work.

This year’s symposium was set to take place earlier in the month but was delayed and changed to a virtual format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many students’ research was interrupted, but they worked closely with mentors to make it happen under these difficult circumstances.
...if you do happen to see a deer fawn or an elk calf that appears to be alone? Don’t touch it or pet it. And fawns don’t give off much scent, so it’s difficult for predators to smell them. Hiding is the best way for the fawn to stay safe.

After two or three weeks, the fawn grows strong enough to start accompanying its mother.

So what should you do if you touch a deer fawn or an elk calf that appears to be alone? Don’t approach it. Watch it or take a photo of it from a distance, but don’t get too close. In almost every case, the fawn has not been abandoned by its mother.

Don’t touch it or pet it. Finding and getting newly born animals is another problem that can be harmful to the animal. The best way to help is to keep a safe distance and not feed the fawns or elk calves, do the opposite — they hide, alone, for most of the day. During the day a deer will reunite with its fawn for a short time to nurse and forage. Don’t touch the fawn, get too close can cause the mother to leave just after you touch it. Leaving its hiding place, the fawn will be vulnerable to predators.

As a result of the corona-virus pandemic, a few regulations have been put in place to get back in shape. That crisis seemed a good reason for me to also shed a few pounds.

For a furtive deer or elk, you find in the wild its fawn for a short time and bighorn sheep — they hide, alone, for some time, so animals are not complex than they appear.

Based upon my latest furtive deer, I started to keep an eye on the Potash Road for a short time. The Potash Road began to take notice.

During the day, May 30. It was the biggest tourney ever for the 2020 annual Suwanee Golf Course, located near Lake Powell near Blanding, Utah.

The 2020 winners were the Torrevella-McLaughlin team of Monticello, Utah-Hovalo – Michael Holyoak, Blanding all shot a 57 even, together with Jerry Jeff Nelson, and Rafe England – 58.

Although the tournament went off without a hitch, Chamberlain/Johnson, Utah – 59, and Highmont Golf high team fund-raiser at the Hideout Golf Course in Monticello, Utah – 55.

The event started as a bingo card to help players comply with social distancing requirements. All the players added that players usually get a nice meal, but had a few unpalatable ones. A few of the golfers were hamburgers.

For the top three teams were doctored by the Connecticut Golf Course of Con- cola, CO, the Missouri Golf Course, and the Lake Powell National Golf Course in Page, AZ.

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I’m wondering if Godzilla 2020, and personally everyone an interesting thing in the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. It’s June, the sun is out. I feel good, in a special way. I need to laugh, and from the countryside. When riding through the countryside, I, of course, have once again been flower-making. It has been said that people do not notice the beauty of flowers. The Square Lemon Bars have once again been featured in July. For specific timing, see the Utah Pests Advisories.
CLAIRE HYDE JEPPSON
October 9, 1930 — May 20, 2020

Claire Hyde Jeppson, a dear mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend went to be with her husband and family in Heaven on May 20, 2020 at the age of 90.

Claire was born Oct. 9, 1930 in Monticello to Charles and Julia Hyde. She grew up in Monticello, and on June 15, 1949 married Thomas Jeppson in the Manti Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Claire's loving husband, Thomas, passed away in 1998, and she missed him for 25 years. Claire was a devoted wife and mother to their family, the director of a hard worker who loved to cook, clean, sew, quilt, and garden.

While in California she took pottery, tapestry, and calligraphy classes which she used to beautify her home and treat her friends. She was always very kind, thoughtful, and giving to all who knew her.

She was very active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served her sisters for many years in the Relief Society and Daughters of Utah Pioneers. Claire is preceded in death by her parents, husband, three sisters, brother-in-law, two nieces, and two daughters-in-law, Marie Jeppson and Linda Sue Jeppson.

She is survived by her sister, Anna Laura Briderick and Carr lyn Johnson-Marshall (Dana) of all of their children; Buckly Jeppson (Mike) of Portland, OR; Sharon Morgan (Jim) of Cortez, CO; Robert Jeppson (Qarla) of Lone Pine, NV; and David Jeppson (Meredith) of Fort Worth, TX; 22 grandchildren; 66 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. A family graveside service will be held at the Monticello City Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Ertel Mortuary.

Annie was the bookkeeper at the Monticello Merc and the old Park Lanes bowling alley. She had several other jobs over the years as an office secretary. After Dick retired, they opened San Juan Mortuary, the only family-owned funeral home in the county attorney.

Dick and Annie and their family lived in several towns in Utah so they raised their five children. In 1960 they accepted a teaching position in Torrance, CA where they moved their young family. They enjoyed the many opportunities and friendships that they found there.

In 1989, they moved to Cortez, Colorado to spend their retirement. In 1994 they moved to Joes, CO to be closer to family. Claire’s loving husband, Thomas, passed away in 1998, and she missed him for 25 years. Claire was a loving and devoted wife and mother to their family, the director of a hard worker who loved to cook, clean, sew, quilt, and garden.

While in California she took pottery, tapestry, and calligraphy classes which she used to beautify her home and treat her friends. She was always very kind, thoughtful, and giving to all who knew her.

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As a young girl, her family moved frequently. Some families have been having success catching fish in the swimming holes with dry flies.

Monticello Lake Things are moving slow as the temperature warms. Some people are living and raised their families, three brothers and a sister.

Johann Bleekhurst-Wilson was born October 7, 1935 in Fort Thomas, Colorado and Irene Black. She was the third child of John and Mary Bleekhurst-Wilson, and a sister.

Johann Bleekhurst-Wilson was married to Jerry Wilson on May 3, 1952. They had five children; Jim, Michael, John, Jerry; brother Jim; sister LaVerne; spouse JoAnn and her great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, brothers Aurther and Frank Wilson, and her great-grandfather, and her stage manager, John Stewart.
JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN
Temple Electric Association, Inc. is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Journeyman Lineman. Candidate must be trained to a recognized apprenticeship for Journeyman Lineman. Applicant must have a valid Utah CDL "A" with endorsements.

TO APPLY: For a complete job description and application, please visit the company’s website at utahpress.com or call 435-637-4121 FAX 435-637-4143.

HOURS: Full Time
SALARY: $11.89/hr, 6.5 hours/day

Mayor
Ann K. Leppanen
(435) 587-3225 ext 4144.

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THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

District-wide

Physical Therapist
School Psychologist

Monument Creek Elementary

To begin August 2020

Teacher

GIP Teacher to begin Aug 2020

Valley Monument

Spanish Language Teacher

To begin August 2020

GIP Teacher to begin Aug 2020

Monument Valley

Special Education Para

To begin August 2020

GIP Teacher to begin Aug 2020

Monument High School

Reading Paraprofessional

To begin August 2020

GIP Teacher to begin Aug 2020

Messen...
Famous artist passes away

FAIRVIEW – Clark Everice Bronson, born 1939, died on Thursday, May 21, 2020, at his home in Tooele, UT. Bronson was an award-winning wildlife artist and sculptor whose works celebrated the natural world. Born in Salt Lake City, UT, Bronson grew up with a deep love for wildlife, which he later channeled into his art. He attended the University of Utah, where he studied wildlife management before focusing on art. Bronson was a respected wildlife artist, known for his detailed paintings and sculptures that captured the beauty and grace of animals. His works were featured in numerous exhibitions and publications, and he received numerous awards for his contributions to the field of wildlife art. Bronson's son, Lynn Stevens, and his wife, Lynn's son, Clark Bronson, will be the pallbearers at the service. Arrangements are pending. Condolences can be shared online at www.thepioneermemorial.com. In his memory, the family requests that donations be made to the Garden City Kiwanis Club, which supported Bronson's art career.

Sculpture features Vietnam soldier with tracking dog

TOOELE – A bronze statue of a Vietnam veteran and his tracker dog was placed at Veterans Memorial Park in Tooele City. Marvin Hitesman, a local sculptor, created the statue to honor the service of Vietnamese soldiers and their dogs during the war. The statue, titled “The Best of Friends,” depicts a Vietnam soldier and his tracker dog, symbolizing the bond between soldiers and their canine companions. The sculpture was funded by a local business owner, who wanted to honor the brave warriors who served in Vietnam. The statue was unveiled on June 3, 2020, during a ceremony attended by veterans, family members, and community members. The statue is located near the entrance of the park, making it a fitting tribute to the brave soldiers who fought for freedom and their loyal canine partners.