

Obituary

Barb Johnson

June 14, 1955 -
August 9, 2019

Barb Johnson, 64, passed away of cardiac failure on Friday, August 9th, 2019 at her home in Montrose, Colorado. Cremation & services were held in Montrose.

Barbara G. Johnson was born on Thursday, June 14, 1955, in Everett, Washington to Ted & Gerry (Geraldine) Johnson.

She grew up and went to school in Tacoma, WA., where she met and married her Marine helicopter specialist husband, Marty Kaminski. They had one daughter, Melissa. The family moved around as military families do, finally moving back to Tacoma, WA., where they divorced after



several years. Barb and young daughter Melissa moved to Glenwood Springs, Colorado in the 1980's, to be near her mother and step-father, Gerry & Joe Jammaron, where she developed her interest in 4-wheeling and horses. Then moving to Kalispell, Montana in 2000 when her mother, Gerry (family-nickname 'Greentree') moved there, until her death

in 2008, when Barb and Melissa returned to Colorado, finally residing in Montrose. Barb always had a passion for her beloved cats, and was also a lifelong member of, and involved with, the ASPCA. Thanks go out to the Montrose Animal Shelter for taking care of Barb's surviving cats & finding them new homes. Barb was a D.A.R. (Daughters of the American Revolution), and a documented Mayflower descendant. Barb is survived by her beloved daughter Melissa Kaminski of Grand Junction, CO., sister Chris Wheeler of Seattle, sister Karen Johnson of Portland, niece Julie McNamara of Portland, and many cousins & relatives in the Portland and Seattle areas.

Five more West Nile cases in Delta County

By Lucas VADER
THE DELTA COUNTY INDEPENDENT

The Delta County Department of Health announced five additional cases of West Nile virus, or WNV, in a statement on Sept. 24, bringing the total number of confirmed WNV cases up to 20 in the county. "The presence of additional cases is a clear indication that West Nile virus remains present and poses a risk to those who are bitten," the press release stated. "August through September are when most human cases of West Nile virus have been reported in Colorado." Out of the 20 cases, 12 of the cases have been of uncomplicated fever, six of the cases have been cases of West Nile virus encephalitis and two cases have been of meningitis. According to Delta County Department of Health Director Ken Nordstrom, even the uncomplicated fever can affect people for several years. "Depending on a person's immune system and how they respond to the virus, it can hang on for a long time," Nordstrom said. The cases of encephalitis and meningitis can potentially have prolonged recovery times and involve rehab. At 20 cases this year, the number of recorded West Nile cases is over twice as many as last year's eight cases in

the county. The number varies wildly from year to year based on several environmental factors, Nordstrom said. The highest number recorded in Delta County was 31, while the lowest was zero. About 80 percent of West Nile victims never notice the symptoms and end up being unaffected, according to Nordstrom, who said that the low percentage of people who are affected make the virus not seem as serious as it is. "That makes people complacent, and they may be the percentage that would react to this virus in very serious ways, so people just need to be diligent not to be bitten by mosquitoes," Nordstrom said. The Department of Health advises everyone to drain standing water on their property, avoid being outdoors at dusk and dawn if at all possible, use mosquito repellents that contain DEET, dress in long sleeves and pants during dusk and dawn in areas where mosquitoes are active, and screen the windows of homes to keep mosquitoes out. Anyone who wants additional information on any of the 20 cases can visit the Delta County website, deltacounty.com. Also, anyone who wants more information on West Nile and precautions to avoid it can visit fightthebitecolorado.com.

Best-selling author in town

STAFF REPORT

CMU professor of history and political science Tim Winegard is bringing the topic of New York Times' Bestseller to Montrose from 6:30-8 p.m. today at Cascade Hall multipurpose room on the CMU Montrose campus. The event is free and open to the public Winegard's fifth book,

The Mosquito: A Human History of Our Deadliest Predator, posits imagining a world without deadly mosquitoes. History and the world we know would be completely unrecognizable. With insights of the impact of the mosquito on history and fast-paced storytelling, Winegard's book, which is also an International Bestseller, is the untold

story of the mosquito's reign through human history. Winegard completed his Ph.D. in history at the University of Oxford and has taught at Colorado Mesa University since 2012. He is also the head coach of the CMU hockey team. He also served nine years as an officer in the Canadian and British Armed Forces.

Montrose Dems endorse public safety tax

STAFF REPORT

The Montrose County Democratic Party this week officially endorsed a yes vote on Ballot Issue 2A, which would implement a .058-percent public safety sales tax in Montrose.

"To address the increased dangers to public safety, for all our neighbors, we need to support our dedicated Montrose Police Department," Montrose County Democratic Party Chair Kevin Kuns stated in a release. "There is a

severe shortage of officers on patrol duty, and (they) are lagging significantly behind neighboring districts as a result." Ballot Issue 2A will appear on the November 2019 ballot for registered Montrose voters.

JEWELRY SALE

Sunday, September 29th 1:00-4:00 p.m.
MONTROSE PAVILION



Admission is FREE!



A benefit for Montrose Animal Protection Agency

For more information, call (970) 240-6090

Sale proceeds are for MAPA's local spay/neuter programs
** PLEASE NOTE: Cash or checks only

News tip or story idea?

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