



Latest high school wrestling rankings

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RGC welcomes new Human Resource Director

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VOLUME 98, NO. 10

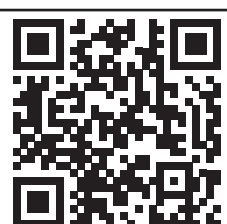
# Valley Courier

WEDNESDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

January 17, 2024

\$1



Visit our website

## SLV Today

### County treasurer's office training closure

**ALAMOSA** — The Alamosa County Treasurer and Public Trustee Office will be closed from 9:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. today, Jan. 17, for software training.

"We are very sorry for the inconvenience, but we are attempting to be able to better serve our customers. Also, as a reminder, due to some changes in legislation we don't anticipate having tax notices ready until Feb. 1, we are very sorry for this delay, but it is out of the county's control. Thank you for your patience and understanding," stated Amy McKinley, Alamosa County Treasurer and Public Trustee.

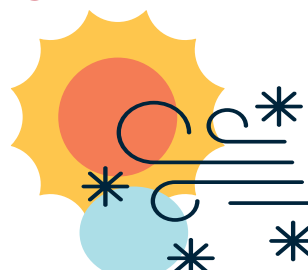
### Coffee Connections is Thursday

**ALAMOSA** — Enjoy casual networking, community, and ways to help your business succeed at Coffee Connections on Thursday at the Sanctuary at the Friar's Fork, 607 4th St., Alamosa, from 9 to 10 a.m.

### Moffat School training Jan. 31

**MOFFAT** — The Strengthening Families Program for ages 10-14 starts Jan. 31. The program will teach how to have clear, open, and effective communication. Email Jordan Cobb at jcobb@moffatschools.org or Alex Moore-Guenther at amoores@moffatschool.org, if you are interested in joining.

### SLV WEATHER



Mostly Sunny, Wind Chill 38/4

Thurs: Mostly Sunny 40/4

Fri: Mostly Sunny 38/10

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## Three items up for consideration by Alamosa City Council

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER  
*Courier Reporter*

**ALAMOSA** — According to their agenda posted on the website, Alamosa City Council will be doing a first reading of ordinance and two motions tonight during their regularly scheduled meeting.

Ordinance No. 1-2024 would amend Alamosa's fair campaign practices ordinance — part 2 of chapter 5 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Alamosa — to expressly provide that campaign contribution limits do not apply to Alamosa municipal elections.



Photo by Priscilla Waggoner

■ See **COUNCIL** page 3 **Alamosa City Council will be meeting tonight, Jan. 17.**



Courier photos by John Waters

**At the pet food distribution at the Alamosa County Fairgrounds held on Jan. 16, from left to right are volunteers Marvin McCarty Byron Dale, Vivien Andrews, Makayla Reynolds, Justin Rowe, and Molly Johnson with the Dumb Friends League.**

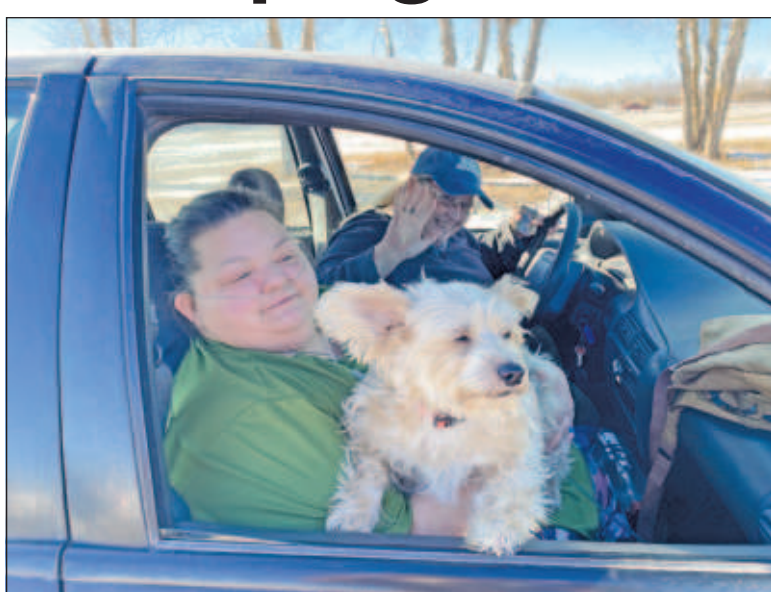
## Colorado pets and owners receive a helping hand

By JOHN WATERS  
*Courier News Editor*

**ALAMOSA** — On a stunningly beautiful January morning, five volunteers with the Colorado Pet Pantry, in partnership with the Dumb Friends League, and La Puente distributed bundles of free pet food at the Alamosa County Fairgrounds.

The Colorado Pet Pantry was founded ten years ago by Eileen Lambert and has grown to a statewide organization with 103 distribution points. In 2023, volunteers with the nonprofit assisted families in providing nine million meals or 1,416,877 pounds of dry food and 309,011 cans.

Molly Johnson, Community Liaison with the Dumb Friends League who was coordinating the food distribution at the fairgrounds said, "Today, we have brought approximately 3,500 pounds of food and that is about half of what we normally give away.



**Squishy, a happy Yorkiepoo is held by Meika Bashline of Alamosa during the Colorado Pet Pantry pet food distribution at the Alamosa County Fairgrounds on Jan. 16. Penny Renee Clepper of Alamosa is the driver.**

In the past, we typically average about 5,700 pounds of dog food and 1,500 pounds of cat food. We are scarce on food donations through the Colorado Pet Pantry warehouse. We are

having to cut our [food distribution] numbers in half due to the food shortage." Lambert told the Valley Courier the organization temporarily

■ See **PANTRY** page 3

## ASU's Rocky recruiting for Next Gen program

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

**ALAMOSA** — Students interested in food studies, agriculture, agribusiness, or natural resources have an opportunity for scholarships covering college expenses at Adams State University. As the project director, Sheldon Rocky,

Leadership for Careers in Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources," supported by the USDA funding opportunity program, "From Learning to Leading: Cultivating the Next Generation of Diverse Food and Agriculture Professionals (Next-Gen)."

Majors in agriculture, agribusiness, food studies and natural resources will be eligible for significant tuition and fees scholarships and oppor-

tunities for financial assistance for housing.

"I am currently recruiting students for the fall 2024 semester," Rocky said. "Not only is the grant providing scholarships, there are also components for paid internships and job placement after graduation."

Local and regional industries will benefit as well, as the grant will fund the student internships and other work-based learning experi-

ences.

"The grant is so important to the local community," Rocky added. "We hope with all the perks of the grant, including job placement, it will encourage skilled professionals to remain in the San Luis Valley after graduating with their degrees from Adams State."

Rocky received a degree from Colorado State University in agro-engineering in 1998. He is an



**Sheldon Rocky**  
Adams State Next Gen grant director

■ See **ROCKY** page 3





# Valley News

## Creede Arts Council presents a Jamboree on Jan. 27

**By CREEDE ARTS COUNCIL**

**CREEDE** — The Creede Arts Council's annual Jamboree will be from 6 to 9 p.m. on Jan. 27 at the Creede Elks Lodge. A Jamboree (according to Merriam-Webster) is a large festive gathering or a long, mixed program of entertainment. Local bands Caldera and Too Many Fingers will be playing, along with a country western line dance DJ.

Dancing will be encouraged at the Jamboree. Caldera, a Creede-based quartet, melds Americana and Rock sounds to create a blend of insightful originals and distinct

covers. Too Many Fingers is a country western group that is sure to be a crowd pleaser.

The event is for all ages. The Creede Arts Council will have a kid's craft table arranged for younger members of the audience. The Jamboree proceeds will benefit the nonprofit mission of the Creede Arts Council to cultivate the arts in the community. A free-will donation will be accepted at the door and the Elks will offer a cash bar. The Creede Arts Council will provide snacks.

For more information, contact the CAC at 719-658-0312 or creedearts@outlook.com.

## Issues

■ Continued from Page 1

ted some information that he stated was important to the public to know. The Valley Courier then asked for an interview with the mayor to address what he felt should have been included.

Coleman graciously responded that, due to the work session not being recorded, the city had posted information on their website. "Since Council and staff are in agreement with the above information being shared with the public, I don't have any additional information to add at this time."

What follows is the information Mayor Coleman highlighted from the

website:

- City Council held a work session to address the remaining concerns raised by exiting Chief Anderson. Partners from SLV Housing Coalition, SLV Behavioral Health, and La Puente were in attendance in addition to the City Attorney, Interim Police Chief, and City Manager to present information. Key points included:
  - Airport Road Housing update from the SLV Housing Coalition:
  - New name for development: Horizon Heights
  - Housing Eligibility: Housing will show preference for: Veterans, youth transitioning out of foster care, disabled, single parents, housing voucher holders, those working with partner agencies like Tu Casa.
  - Housing will not allow: Those with a criminal background of sex offense, drug manufacturing or distribution, murder, attempted murder, or a chronic violent criminal history. Any applicant with a criminal background in the last 5 years of felony drug charges and felony charges that include injury to a person or property will not be allowed at Horizon Heights.
  - Rent: All tenants will be required to pay rent. Rent will likely be in the \$400 and \$550 per month range.
  - Leases and Eviction: SLVHC will use 6-month leases to make sure tenants stay on track. If a tenant becomes disruptive/does not follow rules, evictions can be completed in less than 6 months.
  - To Answer Misconceptions: This housing is not for criminals, Rent is required, and the new hous-

ing is not for those at the homeless encampment, St. Benedict. Horizon Heights is for those needing to establish a good rental history who, for a single-person household, make \$48,720 a year or less.

- Homeless update from La Puente and City Staff:
- Provided new demographic data that City Co-Responders helped collect showing survey answers to common questions like "Were you homeless when you came to the valley?" and "Have you lived in the valley for at least 3 years?"
- Discussed the need for St. Benedict: it is not designed to solve homelessness but is designed to keep homeless from camping anywhere else in the city. The City cannot enforce camping bans in parks, on public roads/alleys, and along the river unless there is a legal place to camp in the city.
- City Council unanimously decided to continue forward with efforts to move the soup kitchen off of State Street and construct an emergency weather shelter.
- A new webpage dedicated to homelessness will be added to the City's website in order to provide information in the near future.
- Allegations made by former Chief Anderson concerning City Manager and City Attorney:
- Claims of City Manager micromanagement: Chief Anderson alleged that the City Manager did not allow him to make decisions about discipline/promotions at APD. The City Manager clarified that the only time she was involved in the promotion/discipline process was

when a serious lawsuit was filed against the APD alleging American with Disabilities Act (ADA), Racial Harassment, Hostile Work Environment, and Retaliation. The City Manager and Interim Chief Spangler stressed that this lawsuit required City Hall to be more involved during this limited time in order to protect APD and the City from further legal action.

- Claims that the City Manager denied APD funding and staffing requests: The City Manager and Interim Chief provided an update on both capital and personnel needs that were not included in Chief Anderson's 2024 Budget request. Council approved modifying the budget by \$175,072 for the needed equipment and \$90,070 for an additional Sergeant position when the budget allows.
- Claims that the City Attorney dismisses charges without cause: Staff explained the change of laws and expectations regarding use of force and the two excessive force lawsuits against APD that influenced the City Attorney's decision-making.
- Additionally, staff discussed the need to have the City's resisting/obstructing arrest language mirror the State's language. Now that the City Prosecutor can talk to officers, he will be able to have a better understanding of the charges and can discuss if changes are needed. Additionally, the City Prosecutor and Interim Chief agree that continued meetings will improve and strengthen the interaction between APD and Municipal Court.

## Pantry

■ Continued from Page 1

porarily assists pet owners and now allows them to receive food once every three months.

The economics of pet ownership can be daunting, according to a recent analysis of pet ownership. "While the love of pet ownership is priceless, the cost of owning one is not," according to a Forbes Advisor study. The analysis found that 41% of dog owners spend between \$500 and \$1,999 annually and 8% spend over \$2,000. The American Veterinary Medical Association estimates annual household dog care is \$912, cat care is \$653, and households with both cats and dogs is \$807. In a 2023 survey conducted by USA Today, 91% of respondents said they've experienced stress related to pet care expenses.

The cost of pet food has increased at least 40% since 2020 said Lambert.

The pet pantry partners with local human food banks and works locally with La Puente and the Dumb Friends League.

Alamosa resident Penny Renee Clepper, who was waiting in line at the drive-up food distribution with Meika Bashline and Squishy, a Yorkipoo said of the pantry, "This is a



Courier photo by John Waters

**At the drive-through pet distribution held at the Alamosa County Fairgrounds held on Jan. 16, dozens of cars lined up. Courier photo by John Waters.**

wonderful thing, I don't use it every other month but occasionally I run into a bit of expense and I have to take care of my fur babies. I've been going to this for quite a while, this is the first time I've been here at the drive-through."

The pantry is experiencing a huge increase in demand and a substantial decrease in supply of food and is a "double whammy," said Lambert. Pet food has a shelf life of a few years and during the pandemic, less pet food was produced, and that reduced quantity of food is now being donated to the pantry. "Since less food was created and due to supply chain issues, there is just less pet food being donated now two to three years later. Not only are we seeing increased need but we are seeing lower food donations. We

have had to change our policy to allow people to come every two months to every three months," said Lambert.

Lambert also stressed the pantry is a supplemental program to provide pet food, not a primary one.

The Colorado Pet Pantry welcomes volunteers and those interested can check the pantry website. The Alamosa distribution volunteer opportunity was listed with the location and time and this important information, "This pet food bank will be held outside. Please be sure to dress for the weather." Volunteers need to be able to lift 20-30 pound packages.

The website of the Colorado Pet Pantry is [www.coloradopetpantry.org](http://www.coloradopetpantry.org). Donations can be made online or mailed to: Colorado Pet Pantry, P.O. Box 323, Boulder, CO 80306.

## Rockey

■ Continued from Page 1

owner of White Rock Specialties LLC, where he handles grower relations and marketing of the potato and quinoa crops. He has served on the Subdistrict No. 1, the San Luis Valley Water Conservation District and the

SLV Irrigation District. Rockey has connections across the state and nation. He served as the Colorado Potato Administration committee chair, and on Potatoes USA, a national marketing entity for growers across the nation.

As Colorado's premier Hispanic Serving Institution, Adams State will

receive \$4.6 million over the next five years with the USDA Next Gen investment as we work together to strengthen opportunities for students to enter related careers in the SLV workforce and beyond.

For more information, contact Sheldon Rockey by email at [srockey@adams.edu](mailto:srockey@adams.edu).

## Council

■ Continued from Page 1

As described in the coversheet provided to council members and available on the city website, Alamosa's mayor and council member elections have never been subject to campaign limits. Prior to Jan. 1, there were no state imposed limitations, either.

During the 2023 legislative session, HB 23-1245 ("Campaign Practices for Municipal Elections"), was signed into law, including a new provision that limited campaign contributions for municipal offices to \$400 per person and \$4,000 per small donor committee.

It is noted in the coversheet that the provisions of the state Fair Campaign Practices Act, where this new provision is located, do not apply to home rule municipalities such as Alamosa that have adopted their own ordinances governing the same topics as the Act and Article XVIII of the Constitution (see C.R.S. § 1-45-116).

The council discussed the topic during their July 2023 workshop where it was brought up that, although "outside influences were spending significant sums on municipal campaigns in cities on the Front Range," there has never been a noticeable influx of such money in Alamosa. In fact, some of the council members report having spent more than \$400 on their own campaigns in the past.

At that time, "council members leaned towards keeping no contribution limits."

Staff recommended passing the ordinance and addressing limits on campaign contributions "in some form" but had "no opinion on what those forms should be."

Also on the agenda,

consideration of a motion authorizing sponsorship of \$5,000 and in-kind support to eight entities in varying amounts, including Cinco de Mayo Block Party — \$2,000 plus use of the stage (\$200); Alamosa Round-UP — \$1,000 plus use of the stage (\$200), tent (\$300), venue (estimated at \$1,250-\$1,500), and electricity/water (estimated at \$100-\$120); Rollin Deep Car and Bike Show — \$600 plus use of the stage (\$200); 2nd Annual First Responders Appreciation Event — \$300; National Sport Rocket Launch — use of the tent (\$300); 4th Annual SoCo Spring Soiree & 4th Annual Juneteenth Safari — \$600 and use of the course (\$200); Chamber Art & Award Gala — \$400 and Mysterious Valley Productions Musical Acts for 1st Fridays & Juneteenth — \$100 and stage if needed and available (\$200).

Another motion for consideration would waive a late charge of \$10,000 and interest of 8% from SLV Housing Coalition for the purchase of Century Mobile Home Park, setting Aug. 1, 2024, as the new due date.

As described in the coversheet, also available on the city website, the initial agreement required SLV Housing Coalition to repay funds by Dec. 31, 2023, with a \$10,000 late charge and 8% interest for the remaining balance, unless waived by city council.

The city has received \$35,151.22 in payments, leaving a balance of \$24,848.78. SLV Housing Coalition has committed to paying \$4,000 per month beginning in January 2024, which would pay off the remaining balance in 6.2 months.

Given the significant amount of work SLV Housing Coalition has dedicated to assuming ownership and

improving Century Mobile Home Park — which otherwise would have likely been sold to an out-of-state entity that would have put the affordability of housing at risk — staff feels that an extension of 7 months is consistent with city council's focus on affordable housing.

In that same document, SLV Housing Coalition gave a detailed description of repairs they have made to both the park and the individual homes the park owns and rents and mitigation steps they have taken to keep the sewer line operational until a new sewer can be installed, totaling an amount that was twice what the previous owners had spent in the same amount of time. They also committed to forfeiting their \$4,000 monthly management fee of the park, if needed, to make sure that they can cover their repayment by the deadline.

Staff recommends that the city council waive the \$10,000 late charge and 8% interest for SLV Housing Coalition and set Aug. 1, 2024, as the new due date per the Agreement to Repay Borrowed Funds.

The fiscal impact of the motion was also included, stating, "The recommendation only extends the due date for full repayment of the loan, thus the City will receive the full repayment of \$60,000. The recommendation would mean that the City does not collect the \$10,000 late charge and 8% interest, which was not factored into the budget."

City council meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. in council chambers at 300 Hunt Ave. in Alamosa. Those who wish to attend via zoom can do so by going to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85753492744> or by calling: 1-719-359-4580, webinar ID: 857 5349 2744.

## OBITUARIES

### Estevan Gurule Jr.



He was a family man. He will be missed by all who knew him his legacy will live on through his partner and his children Teresa Mix, his daughters, Sandra Gurule, Lora belle Gurule, Glenda (Kelly) McCarroll, Angel Espinoza, Charlotte (Will) Gurule Holland, Raylene (Jose) Mix, sons, Andrew Gurule, Steve (Toni) Gurule, Jim Mix, Ray (Candice) Mix, 23 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren and

great-great-grandchildren, sisters Pearl (Ed) Garcia, Mildred Ayote, brothers Orlando Gurule, Ben (Emma) Gurule, and numerous extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Estevan and Manuelita Gurule, two grandsons Wesley Quintana, Joshua Gurule and his brothers and sisters.

A Viewing will be held on Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024, at Romero Valley Funeral Home in Alamosa from 12 p.m.-4 p.m. Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, Jan. 19, 2024, at 10 a.m. also at Romero Valley Funeral Home.

To leave online condolences, please visit [romerofuneralhomes.com](http://romerofuneralhomes.com). The care of Arrangement has been entrusted to Romero Valley Funeral Home of Alamosa.

# Opinion

## Explaining Trump's big win

By BYRON YORK

Even though it was the first time Republicans had voted in this presidential contest, there was a last-stand mentality here in Iowa among those who hoped to stop former President Donald Trump from reclaiming the Republican nomination. Their goal was to push the candidacy of Nikki Haley hard and hope that Haley, together with the fading Ron DeSantis, would not actually defeat Trump but keep him below 50% of the total vote. That way, they would argue that, in total, more GOP caucus voters had voted for someone other than Trump than voted for him.

It didn't work. Trump won with 51% of the vote and can now make the opposite argument: I won more votes than all the opposition combined. It's over. Why don't we just give me the nomination right now? An even shorter version of the night is: Trump won big, period.

He won 98 of Iowa's 99 counties. He won women voters. He won men. He won urban, suburban, and rural voters. He won every age group over 30, losing only the 18 to 29 group. He won evangelical Christians. He won college graduates. He won those without a college degree. In short, he won everybody.

Trump's across-the-board victory is sure to push the anti-Trump forces to wage an even more desperate battle against him in the New Hampshire primary, seven days away. Of course, Trump is leading in the polls there, too, although not nearly as decisively as he did in Iowa. But in New Hampshire, the anti-Trump forces' hope will be to convince enough Democrats and independent (known in New Hampshire as "undeclared") voters to take part in the Republican primary and defeat Trump.

They tried that in Iowa, where the rules allowed a Democrat or independent to come to the GOP primary, register as a Republican, and vote right away. According to media entrance polls, 16% of the electorate Monday night identified themselves as independent, while 2% were Democrats. At the caucus I covered, a precinct in the Des Moines suburb of Ankeny, there were a total of 180 votes. The party volunteers running the event told me that of that group, 25 people had registered as Republicans at the door. They didn't have any further information on that group, but it is safe to say they kept



Haley in the game in a precinct in which Trump and DeSantis were fighting it out — the final result was DeSantis, 58 votes; Trump 57 votes; Haley 56; Vivek Ramaswamy 8, and Ryan Binkley 1.

Overall, in the entrance poll, Haley romped, just absolutely cleaned up, among voters who described themselves as "moderate" — she won 63% of them. The problem was, those "moderate" voters made up only 9% of the total caucus electorate, according to the entrance polls. Fifty-two percent of all voters described themselves as "very conservative," and Trump won 61% of them, while 37% described themselves as "somewhat conservative," and Trump won 47% of them. (One percent of voters described themselves as "liberal," but that wasn't enough to get any data on how they voted.)

The night was a blow to Haley, who was not only rising in the polls but, rich with GOP big-donor money, actually spent more money on advertising in Iowa than either Trump or DeSantis. After the results were known, Haley engaged in some bravado by claiming the caucuses had made the Republican contest a two-candidate race, meaning herself and Trump. That is not what happened. Instead, the caucuses showed that the "moderate" camp inside the GOP just isn't big enough to put a candidate over the top. And at least on a really cold night in Iowa — leaving the caucus, it was six

below zero where I was in Ankeny — not enough independents and moderates came out to push Haley to a win.

Then there was DeSantis, who was relying on solidly conservative Republican voters who nevertheless want the party to move on from Trump. Among the 52% of the caucus electorate calling themselves "very conservative," DeSantis won 26% to Trump's 61% (and Haley's 5%). Among the tiny "moderate" group, where Haley won with 63%, DeSantis won just 7%, indicating that he really did attract conservative voters.

Monday night was do-or-die for DeSantis. The polls, especially the influential Des Moines Register poll, had showed him slipping to third place behind Haley in the final days of the campaign; in the RealClearPolitics average of polls, DeSantis had fallen to three points behind Haley. The consensus among insiders, or at least those who didn't work for the DeSantis campaign, was that DeSantis could not survive a third-place finish. In conversations in the last few days of the race, DeSantis' surrogates and staffers said they just didn't think the polls were accurate. They believed that DeSantis' carefully built ground game would prevail over Haley when cold caucus night came.

They were right. Instead of losing by three points, DeSantis beat Haley by two points, 21.2% to 19.1%. DeSantis supporters were both relieved and eager to

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news@alamosanews.com

To submit sports, email:

khamrick@alamosanews.com

### Letters policy

Letters are welcome and encouraged. All letters submitted for publication in the Valley Courier must be typewritten, signed by the author, and must include a phone number and address where the author can be reached. Letters must not be libelous. The Courier will not run letters that are negative to specific businesses. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, civility and accuracy. Please limit letters to 500 words or less.

The Courier's editorial board reserves the right to reject a letter for reasons it believes are appropriate. Letters may be subject to editing to fit available space, or exclusion from the Opinion Page. Please, no poetry. Please send signed letters to P.O. Box 1099, Alamosa, CO 81101 or email them to news@alamosanews.com. Letters to staff, not for publication, should be marked "personal."

keep fighting. They were also really, really angry at media organizations that called the race for Trump so early that some caucus-goers hadn't even voted yet. They had a point — that really shouldn't happen again; it wouldn't be hard for media organizations to agree on a time, immediately after all votes have been cast, to release projections.

Now the race moves on to New Hampshire, where the more "moderate" Republican primary electorate, including Democrats and undeclareds, is better for Haley than DeSantis — but which Trump still leads by 14 points in the RealClearPolitics average. And then, were DeSantis to keep slogging, the race goes to South Carolina, where Trump is extremely popular — many insiders believe he will beat Haley in her home state. So, if DeSantis goes on, there is a good chance he will lose to Trump in New Hampshire and then lose to Trump in South Carolina, on top of losing to Trump in Iowa. Where will that get him? Nowhere.

The fact is, the Iowa caucuses confirmed what the polls had said for months. The Republican race is Donald Trump far ahead, and a couple of other candidates far behind. If that dynamic continues, it will not come as a shock that the candidate who is far ahead will win.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for *The Washington Examiner*.

## LETTERS

# DN/SF Food Bank thanks community for donations of money and food

**Editor,**  
The Del Norte/South Fork Food Bank extends a huge thank you to all the individuals, businesses, and organizations that supported us with donations of money and or food items in 2023. As we rely mainly on donations, we would not be able to serve our community without your support.

November and December are especially busy, and we served close to 90 households in each of those months, but

there are many who need our help every month.

We are deeply thankful to Pioneer United Church in Del Norte which provides us with a building in which to operate and pays for all our utilities.

Many, many thanks to the following: Del Norte Bank; South Fork Kiwanis; Val Alto; Silver Threads Quilt Guild; Trade and Post; Mountain King Potatoes; Lowe's Grocery Store; Edward Jones; Rainbow Grocery; Dollar General in

South Fork; Family Dollar in Del Norte; Del Norte Ministerial Alliance; Alamosa Food Bank; Sherice Shiner (Healthy Food Access Coordinator for the food banks of the San Luis Valley); and the Honors Society at Del Norte Schools.

And a big thanks to all of the individuals who donated.

Our food bank is run by a small group of volunteers who do all the work involved, and we need more. Our distribution hours are from 10 a.m. to noon on

the Saturday following the third Thursday of each month, but folks in need of food at other times can call us, 719-850-2643, and we will get food to them. If you think that volunteering with us is a way in which you'd like to serve our community, and if you are able to commit to a few hours each month (or some months) please let us know.

Becky Hand  
Director Del Norte/South Fork Food Bank

## Is it the duty of the city to subsidize business with tax dollars?

**Editor,**  
As we celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and hear again his message of resistance to racism, we forget his other messages of opposition to militarism, materialism and poverty where wealth is transferred from the many to the few. I realize that there is a common belief, which by now should have been discredited, that a rising tide

lifts all boats. In fact, the rising tide takes from even those in lifeboats and transfers the wealth to those in their luxury yachts.

Here in Alamosa, it is being proposed that the taxes of the many be used to subsidize one of our more wealthy developers. The belief seems to be that building a downtown hotel will assist the business on Main Street. When

there are no available storefronts on Main Street it tells me that the merchants are doing pretty well. Sure, they would probably all desire to have more customers, but is it really the duty of the city to subsidize them with our tax dollars?

It is hard to break the public of their mistaken belief that growth solves problems when in fact it causes problems.

While growth transfers money from the many to the few, the many are left with the problems of congestion, dirty air and water, the growing scarcity of water, the rising costs of housing and costs in general, the loss of open space and quality of life which we would otherwise enjoy.

Don Thompson  
Alamosa

## By what right does Congress claim oversight over academia?

**Editor,**  
Regarding the Dec. 15 column by Gene Lyons, "Parsing the language of war," in which he tackles the topic of congressio-

nal hearings and university executives. By what right does Congress claim oversight over academia? Isn't the point of education to encourage reasoning and debate?

To paraphrase Pete Seeger, "This is a great country — where else do I have the right to be wrong?"

Back in 1964, the chancellor of UC Berke-

ley tried to prevent students from collecting dimes and quarters in support of deep-south racial justice activists — he wanted to limit activities to on-campus issues, and sparked a months-long large and peaceful movement, however, at one point, an unkempt looking person planted himself on a chair at the campus gate and was promptly arrested for holding up an obscene placard. This was a distraction from the voting rights issues, and yet what right did the university dictate decorum and bad taste?

In recent decades, student actions have become less decorous than that, "The Free Speech Movement" have broadened in scope to include financial and other issues — a tradition dating back hundreds of years in Europe — but that doesn't justify a congressional witch-hunt. Meanwhile, bigots attempt to muzzle schools and libraries as well as rights to reproductive freedom.

Apparently, the main right they value is the right to profit from the manufacture of weapons for use at home and overseas.

Slim Wolf  
Moffat

Keith R Cerny  
Publisher

Brian Williams  
Managing Editor

# Valley Courier

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## Your FIRST Source for Local News

# Lifestyles

## Gov. Polis, Colorado Parks and Wildlife grow the Outdoor Regional Partnerships Initiative

By COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

**DENVER** — Governor Jared Polis, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) on Tuesday, Jan. 16, announced grant recipients for the Outdoor Regional Partnerships Initiative establishing two new partnerships in south-central Colorado and the eastern plains. First launched in 2021, the Initiative funds regional coalitions that bring broad interests together to ensure that Colorado's lands and waters thrive to sustain healthy wildlife and treasured outdoor recreation opportunities.

"Colorado's Outdoor Regional Partnerships are a model for collaboration to conserve our iconic outdoors for people and wildlife," said Governor Polis. "New partnerships on Colorado's eastern plains offer exciting opportunities for economic growth through outdoor recreation while advancing conservation for Colorado's grasslands and preserving our agricultural heritage."

"We are pleased to announce the grant recipients for the Outdoor Regional Partnerships Initiative, a program that has proven to be a cornerstone in our ongoing efforts to foster sustainable outdoor recreation and conservation of Colorado's natural resources through collaboration and partnerships," said CPW Director

Jeff Davis. "The success of Outdoor Regional Partnerships reflects the dedication of communities across Colorado to work together and steward the natural resources and recreation opportunities in their regions."

This grant opportunity is the result of a landmark Executive Order signed by Governor Polis creating the Outdoor Regional Partnerships Initiative with funding support from CPW and GOCO. Grant funding supports community collaboration to identify and advance locally driven solutions that are tailored to the unique needs of regions across the state. Looking ahead in 2024, this Initiative will inform Colorado's Outdoors Strategy, a regionally rooted, statewide vision and action plan for conservation, recreation, and climate resilience.

"Colorado's collaborative approach to conservation and recreation is something to be proud of," said GOCO Executive Director Jackie Miller. "This next round of Regional Partnerships funding invests in both new and existing coalitions whose expertise and passion will help us chart a path for our state's future. Here at GOCO, we continue to be inspired by this work and honored to support its success."

There are now 18 Outdoor Regional Partnerships, covering about 70% of the state. This grant cycle increases the

amount of money invested in Outdoor Regional Partnerships to \$3.5 million with another round of grant funding opening in the spring of 2024. Grant recipients include three existing coalitions based in Colorado's front range and central mountain regions, and two new coalitions that expand the Initiative to the eastern plains. New partnerships bring critical coverage of grassland habitats, including mixed and tallgrass prairies which provide essential habitat for numerous wildlife species, including the lesser prairie-chicken, burrowing owl, swift fox, black-footed ferret, and the lark bunting, Colorado's state bird.

Regional Partnership Grant Funding Recipients:

**Eastern Grasslands Coalition (\$76,000)** — This new Regional Partnership encompasses Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, and Lincoln counties with the potential to expand across the central eastern plains. With this grant funding, the Eastern Grasslands Coalition will hire a coordinator to bring stakeholders and partners together from across the region and lay the foundation for a strong lasting partnership. Together, community representatives from broad outdoor interests will explore conservation and recreation opportunities in tandem with community needs, economic resiliency, and cultural heritage.

**NoCo Places (\$150,000)** — Representing eight county, state, and federal public land agencies and nonprofit partners across Boulder, Clear Creek, Gilpin, Jefferson, and Larimer counties, NoCo Places has been a part of the Regional Partnership Initiative since 2021. This grant award supports messaging campaigns, staffing needs, and the finalization of a conservation and recreation vision for this highly populated region that is home to some of Colorado's most popular outdoor recreation destinations, including Rocky Mountain National Park.

**Outside 285 (\$100,000)** — Outside 285 is a collaboration of public land management agencies, wildlife advocates, and recreation use groups working together to develop shared solutions for public land planning in the US 285 corridor southwest of Denver. After joining the Regional Partnerships Initiative in 2022, Outside 285 expanded their region to include all of Park County. Continued funding will support coalition capacity, communications, planning tools and strategies to enhance the outstanding outdoor recreation experiences offered by the region's numerous peaks and miles of trails and rivers while conserving wildlife and other natural resources.

**Spanish Peaks Outdoor Coalition (\$100,000)** — New to the

Regional Partnership Initiative, the Spanish Peaks Outdoor Coalition builds on the collaborative efforts to create Fishers Peak State Park. Grant funding will support coalition building and further collaboration across Huerfano and Las Animas counties to plan for and support conservation and outdoor recreation.

Summit County Outdoor Coalition (\$99,930) — The Summit County Outdoor Coalition, first

funded in early 2023, convenes broad interests from conservation, recreation, and local, state, and federal land management. Grant funding will support strengthening the coalition's foundation along with community engagement and landscape condition mapping to inform a vision for growing sustainable and inclusive recreation, protecting critical wildlife habitat and enhancing ecosystem resilience.

### UPCOMING GRIZZLY ATHLETIC EVENTS

Friday, January 19

Men & Women's Swim at Colorado College Classic at Colorado Springs, Colo.

TBA

Men & Women's Basketball vs Colorado Christian University at Alamosa, Colo.

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 20

Men & Women's Swim at Colorado College Classic at Colorado Springs, Colo.

TBA

Men & Women's Basketball vs Chadron State College at Alamosa, Colo.

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Men & Women's Track at Dr. Martin King Jr. Invitational

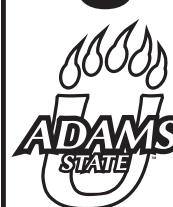
8:00 a.m.

Wrestling vs San Francisco State University at Burnaby, British Columbia

TBA

Wrestling at Simon Fraser University (B.C.) at Burnaby, British Columbia

TBA



## SOUTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN AG CONFERENCE

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# Sports

## Sports Bulletin

Follow sports editor Ken Hamrick on X. His handle is @KenHamrick1.

### SCOREBOARD

#### TUESDAY

**Prep boys basketball**  
La Veta at Sangre de Cristo - postponed  
**Prep girls basketball**  
La Veta at Sangre de Cristo - postponed

#### SCHEDULE

##### THURSDAY

**Prep boys basketball**  
Lake County at Center, 4 p.m.  
Trinidad at Sargent, 4:30 p.m.  
**Prep girls basketball**  
Lake County at Center, 4 p.m.  
Trinidad at Sargent, 4:30 p.m.  
**Prep boys wrestling**  
Center at Salida duals, 5 p.m.  
Alamosa at Centauri, 7 p.m.

##### FRIDAY

**Prep boys basketball**  
Moffat at Sangre de Cristo, 4 p.m.  
Center at Crested Butte, 4:30 p.m.  
Lake City at Creede, 4:30 p.m.  
Antonito at Centennial, 5 p.m.  
Montezuma-Cortez at Centauri, 7 p.m.  
Pagosa Springs at Alamosa, 7 p.m.  
**Prep girls basketball**  
Moffat at Sangre de Cristo, 4 p.m.  
Center at Crested Butte, 4:30 p.m.  
Lake City at Creede, 4:30 p.m.  
Antonito at Centennial, 5 p.m.  
Montezuma-Cortez at Centauri, 5:30 p.m.  
Pagosa Springs at Alamosa, 5:30 p.m.  
**Prep girls wrestling**  
Monte Vista at Grand Junction Central Invitational, 1 p.m.  
**College men's basketball**  
Colorado Christian at Adams State, 7:30 p.m.  
**College women's basketball**  
Colorado Christian at Adams State, 5:30 p.m.  
**College swimming**  
Adams State at Colorado College Classic, TBA

##### SATURDAY

**Prep boys basketball**  
Creede at Cripple Creek-Victor, 1 p.m.  
Lake City at Centennial, 2 p.m.  
South Park at Del Norte, 4 p.m.  
Antonito at Moffat, 5 p.m.  
Sangre de Cristo at Primero, 5 p.m.  
Centauri at Alamosa, 7 p.m.  
Monte Vista at Sanford, 7 p.m.  
Trinidad at Sierra Grande, 4 p.m.  
**Prep girls basketball**  
Creede at Cripple Creek-Victor, 1 p.m.  
Lake City at Centennial, 2 p.m.  
South Park at Del Norte, 4 p.m.  
Antonito at Moffat, 5 p.m.  
Sangre de Cristo at Primero, 5 p.m.  
Centauri at Alamosa, 5:30 p.m.  
Monte Vista at Sanford, 5:30 p.m.  
Trinidad at Sierra Grande, 4 p.m.  
**Prep girls swimming**  
Sargent at Grand Junction Invitational, 10 a.m.  
**Prep boys wrestling**  
Alamosa at Fairview Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Centauri hosts Centauri Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Center at North Fork Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Del Norte, Mountain Valley, Sargent, Sierra Grande/Centennial at Gene Gagliardi Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Monte Vista at Platte Valley Invitational, 9 a.m.  
**Prep girls wrestling**  
Alamosa at Brighton Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Monte Vista at Grand Junction Central Invitational, 9 a.m.  
**College men's basketball**  
Chadron State (Neb.) at Adams State, 7:30 p.m.  
**College women's basketball**  
Chadron State (Neb.) at Adams State, 5:30 p.m.  
**College swimming**  
Adams State at Colorado College Classic, TBA  
**College men's wrestling**  
Adams State at Simon Fraser (B.C.), TBA  
Adams State vs. San Francisco State (at Burnaby, B.C.), TBA



Courier file photos by Ken Hamrick  
Monte Vista High School's Jeremiah Baumgardner (left) and Centauri's Parker Buhr battle for position in last Thursday's dual meet. Baumgardner is the No. 2-ranked wrestler at 157 pounds in Class 2A, while Buhr is sixth sixth at the same weight in Class 3A.

## Latest high school wrestling rankings

By KEN HAMRICK  
Courier sports editor

**ALAMOSA**—Tim Yount released his sixth On the Mat high school boys wrestling rankings last Thursday and prior to last weekend's tournament action.

### Class 3A

Centauri is the only Class 3A team in the rankings as the Falcons remained at No. 9.

Mullen is still the top-ranked team followed by Eaton, Brush, Jefferson, Fort Lupton, Gunnison, Valley, Severance, Centauri and Pagosa Springs.

### Alamosa

The Mean Moose have four ranked individuals. The list includes Jeremiah DeLaCerde who is fifth at 106, Anthony Griego who is fifth at 132, Uriah Martinez who is sixth at 120, and Dyson Woodward who is eighth at 138.

### Centauri

The Falcons have seven in the rankings and they are led by Josh Polkowske who is second at 190 pounds.

Other ranked Centauri wrestlers include Matthew Salazar who is third at 106, Riley Valdez who is fourth at 126, Parker Buhr who is sixth at 157, Caden Casias who is seventh at 113, Spencer Smith who is ninth at 175, and Aundre Chavez who is 10th at 120.

### Class 2A

Two local Class 2A programs are in this week's team rankings. Center remained in the No. 5 position while Monte Vista debuted at No. 10.

Wray is still at the top of the rankings, followed by Cedaredge, Meeker, Mancos, Center, Buena Vista, Rocky Ford, Dolores



Alamosa's Jeremiah DeLaCerde (left) battles Brush's Eian Blake in November. DeLaCerde is fifth at 106 pounds in Class 3A.

Huerta, North Fork and Monte Vista.

### Center

The Vikings have eight ranked individuals and they are led by Aaron Valadez who is the top-ranked wrestler at 144 pounds.

The remaining ranked Center competitors include Jordan Duran who is third at 113, Martin Palma who is third at 165, Michael Archuleta who is fifth at 106, Andre Meraz who is fifth at 144, Jesus Valadez who is sixth at 175, Francisco Villa who is sixth at 126, and Caden Ruggles who is 12th at 150.

### Del Norte

The Tigers currently have no ranked wrestlers.

### Monte Vista

The Pirates have six wrestlers in the rankings. Leading the way is Jeremiah Baumgardner who is second at 157 pounds.

Also ranked for Monte Vista are Elijah Baumgardner who is fifth at 126, Kevin Cisneros

who is fifth at 150, Jacob Pacheco who is fifth at 165, Ethan Wolfe who is eighth at 132, and Stetson Romero who is 15th at 106.

### Mountain Valley

The Wolves currently have no wrestlers in the rankings.

### Sargent

The Farmers have two ranked wrestlers in Matthew Voss who is ninth at 126, and Jaycian Sierra who is 12th at 138.

### Sierra Grande/Centennial

The Panthers have one ranked individual in Diego Rodriguez who is 14th at 113 pounds.

### Girls

Tom Blair of InsideCoWrestling also released the sixth girls wrestling rankings of the season last week.

The local ranked female individuals include Monte Vista's Alyssa Campos who is second at 130, and Alamosa's Sarah DeLaCerde who is fourth at 115 pounds.



Courtesy photo  
Noah Weyers (left) and Asher Ruybal of the San Luis Valley Wrestling Club both won championships at the RMN Who's Bad National Classic. Both wrestlers will compete for Team Colorado South in a dual meet on Jan. 26. Weyers is the south regional champ while Ruybal was second at regionals. Both have also won Dan Gable Challenge Championships.

## High school basketball standings as of Saturday

BOYS BASKETBALL		
CLASS 4A/3A INTERMOUNTAIN LEAGUE		
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Pagosa Springs	2-0	11-1
Alamosa	1-1	8-3
Centauri	1-1	6-4
Ignacio	1-1	5-5
Montezuma-Cortez	1-1	4-6
Bayfield	0-2	1-9

CLASS 3A/2A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE		
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Del Norte	1-0	2-6
Sargent	0-0	8-1
Crested Butte	0-0	5-2
Monte Vista	0-0	5-3
Sanford	0-0	6-4
Trinidad	0-0	0-8
Center	0-1	1-8

CLASS 1A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE		
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Moffat	2-0	9-1
Antonito	1-1	1-7
Sierra Grande	0-0	7-2
Sangre de Cristo	0-0	5-3
Centennial	0-0	3-4
Lake City	0-0	0-0
Creede	0-2	1-8

GIRLS BASKETBALL		
CLASS 4A/3A INTERMOUNTAIN LEAGUE		
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Pagosa Springs	2-0	9-3
Alamosa	2-0	8-4
Centauri	1-1	7-3
Montezuma-Cortez	1-1	5-4
Ignacio	0-2	4-6
Bayfield	0-2	3-6

CLASS 3A/2A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE		
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Del Norte	1-0	4-4
Monte Vista	0-0	6-1
Sanford	0-0	7-3
Trinidad	0-0	7-3
Sargent	0-0	6-3
Crested Butte	0-0	3-3
Center	0-1	5-4

CLASS 1A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE		
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Creede	2-0	4-6
Sierra Grande	1-0	2-7
Sangre de Cristo	0-0	5-2
Centennial	0-0	0-8
Moffat	0-1	2-7
Lake City	0-1	1-4
Antonito	0-1	0-8

# WINTER BLEND DIESEL

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# Lifestyle

## Child tax credit expansion, business incentives combined in new congressional tax plan

**Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet applauds 'bipartisan commitment to fighting child poverty'**

By ASHLEY MURRAY  
Colorado Newsline  
WASHINGTON — Leading members of Congress released a bipartisan, bicameral tax proposal Tuesday, promising a middle-path deal to help low-income families and provide incentives for businesses as Trump-era tax breaks expire.

The framework led by top tax policy leaders U.S. Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon and Republican Rep. Jason Smith of Missouri would permanently raise the child tax credit over time and restore tax relief for affordable housing projects.

The three-year proposal would also make exempt disaster payments to wildfire victims and to those who suffered losses after the massive train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio. The deal also aims to extend research and development tax credits, as well as reduce tax burdens on U.S.-Taiwan business relationships, an effort to bolster relations with the autonomous island nation vulnerable to Chinese government aggression.

Wyden, chair of the Senate Committee on Finance, said in a statement that "(f)ifteen million kids from low-income families will be better off as a result of this plan, and given today's miserable political climate, it's a big deal to have this opportunity to pass pro-family policy that helps so many kids get ahead."

Democrats have been pushing to permanently raise the tax credit that low-income families receive per child after a temporary increase during the COVID-19 pandemic illustrated significant reductions in child poverty.

Wyden also praised the deal's potential to spur affordable housing construction and said that his goal "remains to get this passed in time for families and businesses to benefit in this upcoming tax filing season, and I'm going to pull out all the stops to get that done."

Smith, chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means, said "American families will benefit from this bipartisan agreement that provides greater tax relief, strengthens Main Street businesses, boosts our competitiveness with China, and creates jobs."

U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet of Colorado, a Democrat who has championed a full expansion of the child tax credit in the proposed American Family Act, said this week's agreement reflected a "bipartisan commitment to fighting child poverty in our country."

"Although I am disappointed their proposal isn't a return to the American Family Act, eighty percent of children currently left out of the full Child Tax Credit will benefit from this deal," Bennet said in a press release. "We need to get this done, and after we do, I'll keep fighting to make the expanded Child Tax Credit permanent."

Both Wyden and Smith highlighted the proposal's effort to rein in abuse of the COVID-19-era employee retention tax credit by increasing penalties and the statute of limitations for those committing fraud, and cutting short the overall program by 14 months.

"We even provide disaster relief and cut red tape for small businesses, while ending a COVID-era program that's costing taxpayers billions in fraud. This legislation locks in over \$600 billion in proven pro-growth, pro-America tax policies with key provisions that support over 21 million jobs. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this legislation," Smith continued in a statement Tuesday.

And for those who file 1099 forms, a provision tucked away in the framework would increase the threshold to file to \$1,000 from the current \$600.

The proposal won praise from across the tax policy spectrum.

Business Roundtable, an advocacy organization representing a wide range of U.S. CEOs, described the deal's pitch to revive expired pro-business policies as "critical to strengthening America's global competitiveness."

"Business Roundtable strongly supports the bipartisan deal to restore three vital pro-growth tax policies that have expired or are being phased out," the organization's CEO Joshua Bolten said in a statement Tuesday. "Reviving immediate research and development expensing, full expensing for purchases of equipment, machinery and technology, and a more sensible business interest deduction would increase domestic investment, bolster U.S. innovation and create American jobs."

Sen. Sherrod Brown, an Ohio Democrat and evangelist for the child tax credit, urged his colleagues to pass the deal, calling it a "win-win for Ohio families and Ohio manufacturers."

"The deal's expansion of the Child Tax Credit will help parents keep up with the rising cost of living and ensure that their hard work pays off. The business provisions will support American companies that invest in our nation's research and manufacturing. The deal also ensures that residents of East Palestine won't get hit with a surprise tax bill for payments they received from Norfolk Southern after last year's derailment," Brown said in a statement Tuesday.

## Rio Frio Ice Fest

### January 26TH - 28TH 2024 "Penguin Party"

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Friday January 26th**  
6pm - 730pm: Packet Pickup at Milagros Coffee House  
6pm - 8pm: Cross Country Luminara Ski @ BV Pond

**SATURDAY JANUARY 27TH**  
8-930am: Race Packet Pickup @ Alamosa Senior Center  
10am: Rio Frio 5k @ Rio Grande River  
11am (After Race): Race Awards (Race Start/Finish)  
12pm: Ice Carving Demonstrations @ Main Street  
12-2pm: Disc Golf (SOGO Ice Bowl) @ Disc Golf Course  
12-3pm: Shop Local Raffle Extravaganza @ San Juan Ave.  
1-4pm: Info Tent @ San Juan Ave.  
4-6pm: Rio Frio Flights  
6:30pm: Fire and Ice Bonfire

**SUNDAY JANUARY 28TH**  
12pm: Polar Plunge/Ice Carousel & Pond Skating @ BV Pond  
9am-4pm: Ice Climbing Trip

Website: [Rioraces.com](http://Rioraces.com)  
Facebook: @RioRacesAlamosa, #RioFrioIceFest

# ANNUAL WE LOVE BABIES

**Deadline Thursday Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**GRANDPARENTS, PARENTS, AUNTS & UNCLES...**

Show off your son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, niece, nephew or your favorite beautiful baby (4 years & under) in the Valley Courier's We Love Babies Edition!

**THIS IS NOT A CONTEST.**

Just fill out the form to the left and mail or drop off the form along with your favorite photo to the Valley Courier, 2205 State Ave., P.O. Box 1099, Alamosa, CO 81101. Include the \$15 fee which must be paid when submitting your form and photo.

PLEASE BE SURE TO WRITE YOUR CHILD'S NAME ON THE BACK OF THE PHOTO. PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY, THE VALLEY COURIER IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR MISPELLED NAMES

Baby's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents: \_\_\_\_\_

Brothers and/or  Sisters: \_\_\_\_\_

Grandparents: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

*(will not appear in paper)*

# Public Notices

**COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION**  
 CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 954-23  
 To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:  
 On October 20, 2023, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.  
 Original Grantor(s)  
 CHRISTOPHER V SALAZAR AND KELLI R SHAWCROFT  
 Original Beneficiary(ies)  
 CHAMPION MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF KEYBANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
 Current Holder of Evidence of Debt  
 U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2019-RP1  
 Date of Deed of Trust  
 December 16, 2006  
 County of Recording  
 Alamosa  
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust  
 January 04, 2007  
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)  
 329256  
 Original Principal Amount  
 \$68,800.00  
 Outstanding Principal Balance  
 \$51,867.10  
 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust and other violations of the terms thereof  
 THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.  
 ALL THE REAL PROPERTY TOGETHER WITH IMPROVEMENTS, IF ANY, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF ALAMOSA AND STATE OF COLORADO DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:  
 THE WEST 100 FEET OF LOT 3, AND THE WEST 100 FEET OF THE SOUTH 32 FEET OF LOT 2, BLOCK 93, COLT'S SUBDIVISION TO THE CITY OF ALAMOSA, ALAMOSA COUNTY, COLORADO.  
 Also known by street and number as: 1004 EDISON AVE, ALAMOSA, CO 81101.  
 THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.  
 THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 02/21/2024, at County Office Building, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.  
 First Publication 12/27/2023  
 Last Publication 1/24/2024  
 Name of Publication Valley Courier  
 IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;  
 DATE: 10/20/2023  
 Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado  
 By: Amy McKinley, Public Trustee  
 The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:  
 Ryan Bourgeois, Esq. #51088  
 Barrett Frappier & Weisserman, LLP 1391 Speer Boulevard, Suite 2000, Denver, CO 80204 (303) 350-3711  
 Attorney File # 00000009595745  
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.  
 ©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015  
 No. 3728.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on December 27, 2023, January 3, 10, 17, & 24, 2024.

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF COLORADO MUTUAL HOLDING COMPANY**  
 Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of members of the above-named Mutual Holding Company will be held at the home office at 402 Edison Avenue, Alamosa, Colorado on the 29th day of January, 2024 at the hour of 1:00 p.m. of said day. The business to be taken up at said meeting shall be:  
 1. Considering and voting upon reports of Officers and Committees of the Holding Company;  
 2. Considering and voting upon ratification of the acts of Directors and Officers of the Holding Company;  
 3. Election of Directors to fill the offices, the terms of which are then expiring;  
 4. No other matters, except as required by law or regulation.  
 BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 Dated at Alamosa, Colorado, December 18, 2023  
 Joelle Boos, Secretary  
 Colorado Mutual Holding Company  
 No. 3741.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on January 17 & 24, 2024.

**RFP For Architectural Drawings**  
 The Saguache County Housing Authority is soliciting architectural drawings for an energy efficient single-family home which utilizes local materials.  
 The full RFP document containing the project requirements, timelines, submission instructions, etc. will be provided by calling or texting 719-849-0356 or emailing emsamora@saguachecounty-co.gov.  
 Proposals are due by 4pm, Friday, February 2nd, 2024.  
 No. 3751.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on January 17 & 26, 2024.

**NOTICE**  
 The Alamosa Housing Authority will be accepting bids for an office remodel. Please come by our office for a bid packet. The bid packet will be ready for pick up in our office at 213 Murphy Dr. Alamosa, Co. 81101 on January 12, 2024.  
 No. 3755.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on January 13, 16, 17, & 19, 2024.

**173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**LICENSED PLUMBER DOES** all types of plumbing & plumbing repairs. Quick service! Call anytime, weekends & evenings: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (3/15/24-monthlyAS)

**WE GOT THE HELP WE WERE LOOKING FOR WITH THE HELP OF THE VALLEY COURIER.** Smokin Spuds. (AS)

**WE ARE SEEKING** a responsible, self-motivated, "preferably" experienced DENTAL ASSISTANT to join our amazing team at HARDING DENTAL GROUP where our patients experience the difference at the premiere dental practice in the San Luis Valley. We use the latest technology and materials to provide exceptional dental care to our growing patient population. Please email resumes to june@hardingdentalgroup.com. (2/6/24)

**ALAMOSA WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT** is seeking a candidate for the position of MANAGER. The position reports directly to the District Board of Directors and is responsible for the administrative duties of the East Alamosa Water & Sanitation District. Candidate must have a strong knowledge of QuickBooks, Word and Excel, with the ability to quickly learn new software programs and applications. This a full-time salaried position with some benefits and a simple 401K. The schedule is Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. thru 5:00 p.m. with some night meetings. Annual salary is \$45,000+ DOE. Resumes can be delivered to the District office at 10 Costilla, Alamosa or emailed to jamie@eastalamosaws.org, no later than January 20, 2024 at 5:00 pm. A complete description of job duties is available upon request or can be viewed online at eastalamosaws.org. (1/23/24AS)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**V C L C AT HOMELAKE** is seeking permanent full-time CUSTODIAN, STRUCTURAL TRADES I (BUILDING & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE), and CNA (CLIENT CARE AIDE) positions for our 24-hour Skilled Nursing Home as well as TEMPORARY CNA, RN (PRN) & STRUCTURAL TRADES (BUILDING & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE) positions. We offer competitive salary, retirement plan (Public Employees Retirement Account (PERA), 401K/457), health and dental insurance options, life insurance, short term disability, 11 paid holidays/year, paid sick, vacation and bereavement for permanent positions. Must have a current driver license; pass a CBI/FBI background check, and drug screen. Interested candidates in the above positions must complete an official State application. http://agency.governmentjobs.com/colorado Contact Nina Esquivel for assistance at 719-852-8215. For questions regarding available open shift(s) for RN, & CNA positions, contact Sandra Qualls, DON, or Christina Gillenwater, ADON at 719-852-5118. (1/23/24AS)

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**Plan TWO** **Multiple Location - \$5.00**  
 Any regular or guaranteed ad can be picked up into another classified category for the entire length of the running time. Must be same ad, no copy changes. Ads run multiple locations in same issues.

**Plan THREE** **Free Ad**  
 As a thank you to our readers, any item placed in the Courier with an advertised price of \$50 or less will be published FREE for 1 week (4 issues). Here's how it works:  
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 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_



# Classifieds

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**CITY OF ALAMOSA** is seeking a full-time **WATER WASTEWATER TECHNICIAN**. Hiring pay is \$19.63 to \$20.62 per hour DOQ. Fringe benefits include CO PERA Retirement employer contribution 14.73% & employee contribution is 9.00%, or Empower 401K, 10% match, 11.5 holidays per year, 2 personal days, 80 hours of sick leave and 80 hours of vacation leave per year. Employer paid life insurance, STD, LTD & AD&D, 75% of medical, vision, and dental premiums paid by the employer, Wellness Program, and discounted recreational memberships. This position performs a variety of preventative maintenance and repair of City public infrastructure and property related to water distribution and wastewater collection systems. Work varying shifts and schedules, including on-call, as needed and required by supervisor. Some overtime will be occasionally required and assigned as necessary. This position must work well independently and with teams, while providing excellent, respectful customer service. For a full job description and to apply, visit [cityofalamosa.org](http://cityofalamosa.org) or stop by City Hall at 300 Hunt Ave. The City of Alamosa provides Equal Opportunity Employment for accommodations, please submit them in writing with the application. Application deadline - open until filled. (1/31/24AS)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**NIGHT STAFF NEEDED AT LA PUENTE HOME.** Need Mature, dynamic, compassionate people that are able to deal with all types of clients. Must be able to work weekend and graveyard shifts (9:00 pm - 7:00 am). Must be at least 21+. Bilingual preferred. Looking for the unique applicants who will be a part of an awesome team of individuals helping others. Beginning pay is \$15.00 per hour. Some day shifts may also be available. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of helping others. (2/16/24AS)

**12TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATION DEPARTMENT** currently has an opening for a full-time **PROBATION OFFICER** with a monthly salary range of \$4463 to \$8065. Minimum requirements are a Bachelor Degree from a four year college or university with major course work preferably in Criminal Justice, Sociology, Psychology, Social Work, or related field. Upon hire and as a condition of continued employment, the employee must complete all Mandatory New Employee Training. Prospective employees are subject to a background investigation prior to hiring. A Colorado Judicial Department Application, located at [www.courts.state.co.us/Careers](http://www.courts.state.co.us/Careers), under Job Title "PROBATION OFFICER", Location "ALAMOSA" must be submitted via the website no later than January 25, 2024. Please include a detailed resume as well. (1/24/24AS)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY** is looking for candidates to fill the position of **BUDGET DIRECTOR** within the Business and Finance department. You can apply here <https://adams.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/ASU/details/Budget-Director-R183>. We look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions, please reach out to our Human Resources department 719-587-7990. (2/14/24AS)

**MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for full-time **CUSTODIAN**. This is a full-time position with benefits. Preference will be given to applicants with maintenance experience. A full list of desired qualifications can be viewed on the district website. Monte Vista School District offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, HSA match, and life coverage. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Maintenance and Custodial Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by education and experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities> by January 25, 2024 or until the position is filled. For application questions, contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (1/31/24AS)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**SANGRE DE CRISTO SCHOOL** is looking for an **ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL / ATHLETIC DIRECTOR** for the 2024/2025 school year. Please see [www.sangreschools.org](http://www.sangreschools.org) for more information. (2/20/24)

**CONEJOS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH** is seeking a **PART TIME COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTOR**. 28 hrs/week. Distributes commodities, packs food boxes, lifts up to 30 lbs, drives and delivers boxes to clients, maintains client records and inventory, and basic computer skills, starting wage \$14.42/hr Valid driver's license required. Application Form Required available on our web site [conejoscounty.colorado.gov](http://conejoscounty.colorado.gov) or via email upon request at [cricci@co.conejos.co.us](mailto:cricci@co.conejos.co.us). Inquiries call 719-274-4307 or 719-376-6799. EEOE. (1/20/24AS)

**MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for a **ROUTE DRIVER FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**. Applicants for this position must have a current driver's license (a CDL IS NOT REQUIRED) and pass a drug test. For additional information contact Mark Hotz, Maintenance/Transportation Director, at 719-852-2881. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities> by January 25, 2024, or until the position is filled. For questions regarding the application process, contact the Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (1/31/24AS)

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**Get Your Service Out there! call the Valley Courier Today! 589-2553**

# Classifieds

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**CITY OF ALAMOSA** is accepting VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER applications. As a volunteer member of Alamosa Fire & Rescue, you will have the honor of serving your community in emergency situations. Additionally, all members have the opportunity to meet and work with other highly trained, motivated, and enthusiastic volunteers, and interact with numerous local, state, and national fire and rescue organizations. Please visit our website at <https://cityofalamosa.org/> for more information and to complete an online application. For questions please contact Fire Chief Stone at (719) 587-2530. (2/14/24AS)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**CENTER FOR RESTORATIVE PROGRAMS** has the following positions open: **INTENSIVE CASE MANAGER III (ICM III)** Responsible for providing specialized intensive case management/ wraparound services to assigned caseload, provide support, mentoring, training to CM team around crisis plans, challenges, and effective implementation. At least 5 years experience providing wraparound services, intensive case management, advocating and working with adults with substance use and/ or mental health disorders, homeless population, recovery support, and collaboration with community partners and families. Will work closely with community partners such as justice system, law enforcement, behavioral health, medical, housing, human services, schools and workforce development. Must be willing to travel, work some nights and weekends. Spanish speaking is a plus. **INTENSIVE CASE MANAGER (ICM II)** Responsible for providing intensive specialized case management/ wraparound services; working closely with community partners such as criminal justice systems, law enforcement, behavioral health, medical, housing, human services, schools and workforce development. Ability to work independently, needs strong organizational/ communication skills, ability to establish wraparound plans and help navigate systems. Successful candidates will have at least 3 years relevant experience providing wraparound services, intensive case management, advocating and working with adults with substance use and/ or mental health disorders, homeless population, recovery support, and collaboration with community partners and families. Must be willing to travel, work some nights and weekends. Spanish speaking a plus. **FOR BOTH POSITIONS:** See webpage for more details: [restorative-program.org](https://www.restorative-program.org) and Email resume & cover letter to [clarissa@restorative-programs.org](mailto:clarissa@restorative-programs.org) Positions open until filled. CRP is an EOE. (1/23/24AS)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**MELANZANA IS NOW** hiring for full-time **SEWING MACHINE OPERATORS, FABRIC CUTTERS, and a SEWING MACHINE MECHANIC** for our new manufacturing facility in ALAMOSA. Applicants must be skilled with hands, have a strong work ethic and the ability to stay focused in a busy manufacturing environment. Previous experience not necessary; manufacturing experience is a plus. On-the-job training provided for the right candidates. Positive work environment and full-time benefits: 4 day/32 hr work week. Paid time off, Medical/Dental/Vision, Profit Sharing, and Employee discount. Starting wage is \$19/hr with potential for increase at 4 months and 1 year. Applications are being accepted now through February 2, 2024. Apply online at [melanzana.com/jobs](https://melanzana.com/jobs). (1/24/24AS)

**353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK**

**I SOLD MY HORSE IN 2 DAYS TO A GOOD HOME. THANKS VALLEY COURIER!** Rick. (AS)

**360 - MISC. FOR SALE**

**SOLD MY WHEELCHAIR IN 2 DAYS. WONDERFUL, HEARTWARMING EXPERIENCE. A WIN-WIN FOR BOTH OF US!** Yolanda. (AS)

**387 - WANTED TO BUY**

**TOYOTA TRUCKS ONLY:** 4x4 from 80's to early 90's, running or not, wrecked ok. 719-580-8101 call or text. (2/10/24AS)

**401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES**

**Century Property Management & Sales, LLC**  
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For all your rental needs please call 719-589-5744 or stop by 823 Main St. Alamosa, CO 81101  
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**410 - AUCTIONS**

**AUCTION. STORAGE UNITS;** 2049 Mullins Ave, ALAMOSA, CO 81101. January 20, 2024. #4 at 10:00 AM, #62 at 11:00 AM, #181 at 12:00 PM. (1/20/2024AS)

**420 - LOTS & ACRES**

**MULTIPLE 35+ ACRE TRACTS** For Sale. The Rio Grande Water Conservation District is accepting sealed bids for tracts of land LOCATED AT 14355 G.S. ANTONITO. The minimum acceptable bid is \$2,000/acre. Bids must be received by U.S. mail or hand delivered to the RGWCD's office at 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101. Detailed information regarding the tracts is available for review by appointment at the RGWCD office or by visiting the District's website at [www.rgwd.org/subdistrict-no-3/publicbid](http://www.rgwd.org/subdistrict-no-3/publicbid). The land may be inspected with District personnel by appointment only. Appointments can be made by calling the District office at (719) 589-6301 or by emailing [angelo@rgwcd.org](mailto:angelo@rgwcd.org). Bids must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on January 31st, 2024. Late bids will not be accepted. The District reserves the right to reject any bid in its sole discretion. (1/27/2024AS)

**307 - APPLIANCES**

**PAT SOLD HER ELECTRIC STOVE IN JUST 3 DAYS THROUGH THE VALLEY COURIER'S CLASSIFIED ADS.** (AS)

**324 - SEED & FEED**

**BARLEY STRAW FOR Sale.** 3'x4'x8' big square bales. Good clean, bright straw. \$90 per ton. Stacks located near ANTONITO and also near MOFAT. 719-480-4289. (2/17/24AS)

**NATIVE GRASS HAY** for sale. Small bales, HORSE HAY QUALITY. Contact Ed, if interested leave a message (719) 852-3069. (2/14/24AS)

**426 - MOBILE HOMES FORSALE**

**FOR SALE IN ALAMOSA County:** 1980 GLENWOOD TRAILER HOUSE \$6,700. Must be moved. 402-269-7172. (E-TFN-AS)

**341 - GARAGE SALE**

**INSIDE GARAGE SALE,** afternoons only, starting at 1:00 p.m. Call for appointment 719-298-6110. (1/24/24AS)

**525 - GUNS**

**ZACH'S EUROPEAN MOUNTS.** Professional work, low prices. 719-580-0398. (TFN-AS)

**601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

**ALAMOSA: 1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH** apartment in DUPLEX; great location. Washer/dryer, recently updated, no pets. \$675 month, \$675 deposit. Call 719-580-5400. (1/24/24AS)

**CITY OF ALAMOSA** is seeking a full-time **COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER.** Hiring pay is \$21.59 to \$22.67 per hour DOQ. Fringe benefits include CO PERA Retirement employer contribution 14.73% & employee contribution is 9.00%, or Empower 401K, 10% match, 11.5 holidays per year, 2 personal days, 80 hours of sick leave and 80 hours of vacation leave per year. Employer paid life insurance, STD, LTD & AD&D, 75% of medical, vision, and dental premiums paid by the employer. Wellness Program, and discounted recreational memberships. This position performs a variety of professional and technical work necessary to identify, investigate and enforce violations of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Alamosa as specified by Article II, Section 2.37 of the Code of Ordinances authorized by the City Manager. For a full job description and to apply visit [cityofalamosa.org](https://cityofalamosa.org) or stop by City Hall at 300 Hunt Ave. The City of Alamosa provides Equal Opportunity Employment for accommodations please submit them in writing with the application. Application deadline - open until filled. (1/19/24AS)

**CITY OF ALAMOSA** is accepting applications to fill TWO POSITIONS in their UTILITY DEPARTMENT. Applicant should possess knowledge and skills in all aspects of high voltage power lines - lineman preferred, gas systems, water distribution, and sanitation. Applicant should accept duties of construction, repair, maintenance, and operation of these systems. Applicant must also have a valid driver's license and be able to operate trucks, backhoe, and other equipment in the performance of these duties. The duties also included are heavy manual labor and utilization of a large variety of hand tools. Some experience is preferred and continued training will be provided. Compensation will depend on experience. Applicant must also have the ability to interact with customers and possess good communication skills. Applicant must also pass a background check and pre-employment drug testing. The candidate will also be subject to random drug testing upon hiring per CDOT regulations. CDL license preferable but not required. The job description and the application is on the Towns website, [townsofcenter.colorado.gov](https://townsofcenter.colorado.gov). Please submit your application to Town Hall or email to [jhurtado@centerco.gov](mailto:jhurtado@centerco.gov) The deadline is until positions are filled. (1/23/24AS)

**MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for two **SECONDARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS** for the 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR. A complete list of desired qualifications and experience is posted on the district website. The District operates on a 4-day week (Monday - Thursday) and offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, HSA match, and life coverage. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Teacher Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by education and experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates-monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities> by January 25, 2024 or until the positions are filled. For application questions, contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (1/30/24AS)

**DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTEER COORDINATION:** Local, well-respected non-profit agency seeking individual to recruit, train, and place community volunteers and service groups to assist La Puente's diverse programs. Additional responsibilities: presentations, special events, building community partnerships, management of support staff. Self-starter, values driven, comfort engaging a diversity of people, administrative skills. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of serving others. Salary \$43k-46k DOE, full benefit package. Start date: flexible between February 1-April 1st. Request job description: send resume/cover letter Emily: [hr@lapuente.net](mailto:hr@lapuente.net), 719 589-5909, text238. [www.lapuente.net](http://www.lapuente.net) (1/24/24AS)

**HEAD VOLLEYBALL COACH** needed at DEL NORTE SR HIGH SCHOOL. We are looking for the following abilities in our coach: Experience as a volleyball coach or assistant coach at the high school or college level is preferred. Must possess: effective coaching techniques and skills; a thorough knowledge of the rules, regulations, and techniques of the sport; and have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with school administrators, parents, and students. Please contact Gilbert "Gibbs" Sanchez, Athletic Director, at: [gsanchez@urtigers.co](mailto:gsanchez@urtigers.co), 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at: [ahardy@urtigers.co](mailto:ahardy@urtigers.co), 719-657-4020. Applications may be found on our website; [www.urtigers.co](http://www.urtigers.co). (1/23/24AS)

**THANK YOU, VALLEY COURIER. I SOLD MY WOOD SPLITTER!** Frank.

**FIREWOOD FOR SALE,** \$225 cord. 719-588-1183. (2/24/24AS)

**350 - FARM EQUIPMENT**

**WANTED TO RENT- OTECO TRACK FILLER.** Would like to rent in February or March. I will provide insurance. Also, open to hiring the work done. Located north of CARMEL. 719-480-4289. (2/17/24AS)

**601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

Accepting applications for 1 bedroom apartments. Must be 62 or older or disabled **Cielo Vista**

**Apartments**  
166 S. Wills Center, Colo  
**754-3664**

TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting Applications for waiting list for 2 & 3 bedroom family units **Valley Grande Apts.**

2256 E. Drive Monte Vista, CO **852-4302**

TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting Applications for waiting list for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family units available **West View Villas**

510 Dunham Monte Vista, Colo **852-3949**

TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Rent based on income for qualifying households. **Gomez Manor Apts. 804 State St. Antonito, Colo. 376-2388**

TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

**611 - HOMES FOR RENT**

**KUDDOS TO THE VALLEY COURIER FOR RENTING OUR HOUSE IN 2 DAYS!** Thanks, Gerry. (AS)

**701 - AUTOS FOR SALE**

**1 DAY ADVERTISED IN THE VALLEY COURIER, SOLD MY CAR! GREAT SERVICE!** Samuel. (AS)

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**SAVE GAS!**

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Rental Assistance Apartments Available - Applications Now Being Accepted for 1,2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments With **Sierra Vista Apartments** 2315 Vigil Way Apt 1 Alamosa, CO 81101 **589-2098** TTY 1-800-659-2656 This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

# Comics

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Container for moonshine
  - 4 Follower
  - 7 Goad
  - 11 Honest — Lincoln
  - 12 Metric measure
  - 13 Antler prong
  - 14 Pawns on a board
  - 15 Competent
  - 16 Not in favor
  - 17 Gentle wind
  - 19 Snorkeling site
  - 21 Class
  - 23 "Hold on a —!"
  - 27 Special —
  - 29 Boulder
  - 32 "— in the Life"
  - 33 Blemish
  - 34 Color
  - 35 French article
  - 36 — Coke
  - 37 Occupation

- 38 Letter for pluralizing presses**
- 40 "Kinky —"**
- 41 Self**
- 43 Melville's Captain —**
- 45 Generous ones**
- 48 Ancient (hyph.)**
- 52 Consequently**
- 53 Grotto**
- 55 — culpa**
- 56 Buzzing insects**
- 57 Biblical brother**
- 58 Snood**
- 59 Raced**
- 60 Raced**
- 61 Wrath**

- DOWN**
- 1 Door frame piece
  - 2 Lyft competitor
  - 3 Dancer — Kelly
  - 4 Roughage
  - 5 Totality
  - 6 Holiday song
  - 7 Theater area

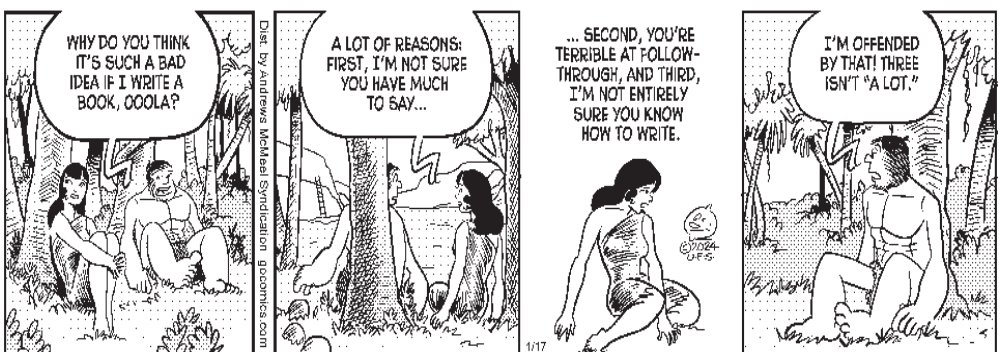
Answer to Previous Puzzle

H	A	M	H	E	R	A	S	L	A	M	
I	C	U	A	G	E	R	S	C	O	L	A
S	U	N	L	O	S	T	R	O	A	R	
S	T	I	L	L	T	I	T	A	N	I	C
E	T	A	S	A	P						
A	D	O	B	E	A	N	D	E	V	A	
N	O	N	T	A	N	E	M	B	E	R	
Y	E	S	R	U	G	M	O	O	P		
N	A	T	A	L	I	E	T	E	N	E	
A	R	I	D	B	R	I	O	D	A	Y	
V	E	E	R	L	O	A	M	E	S	P	
E	A	S	E	E	S	N	E	D	E	E	

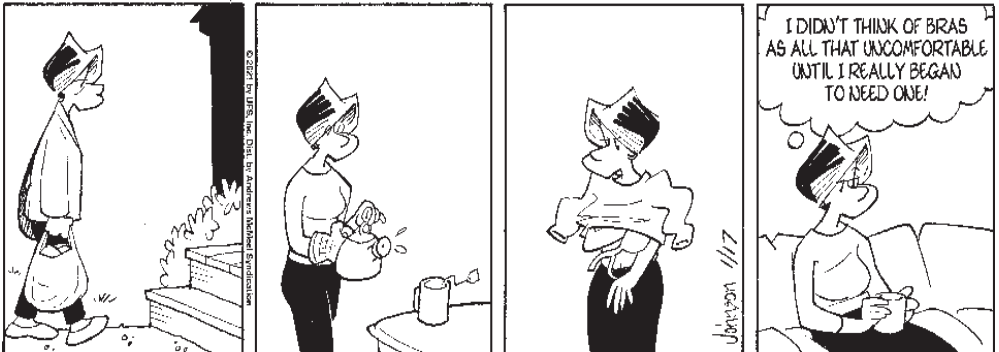
- 8 Fairy-tale boy of wood
- 9 "Do — others ..."
- 10 Check
- 12 Toy instrument
- 18 See
- 20 Helper: Abbr.
- 22 Sunflower State
- 24 Patriot — Nathan —
- 25 — of March
- 26 Traveler
- 28 Kettle
- 30 Family member
- 31 Poor grades
- 33 Do wrong
- 36 Name in fashion
- 37 Rounded body part
- 40 Roll with a hole
- 42 Gander
- 44 Refuge
- 45 Obligation
- 46 Two-color cookie
- 47 Disfigurement
- 49 Hotel chain
- 50 Lascivious look
- 51 Go out with
- 54 Lawyers' org.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11			12				13				
14			15				16				
17		18			19	20					
		21			22		23				
24	25	26			27	28		29	30	31	
32				33				34			
35				36				37			
38				39				40			
		41	42			43	44				
45	46				47		48		49	50	51
52					53	54			55		
56					57				58		
59					60				61		

## ALLEY OOP



## ARLO & JANIS



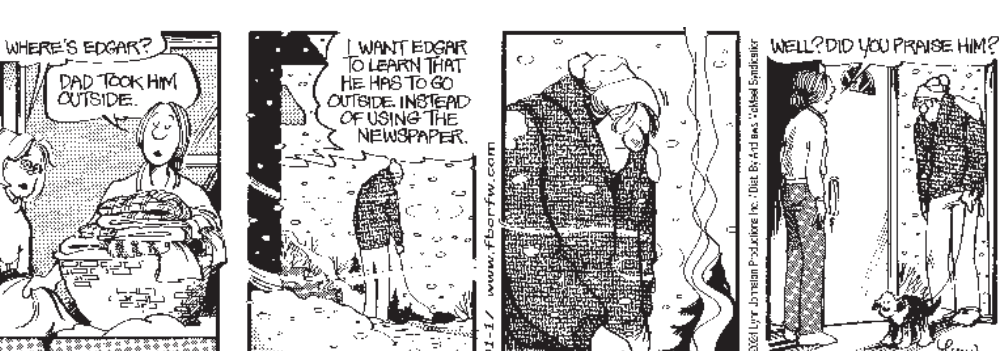
## BIG NATE



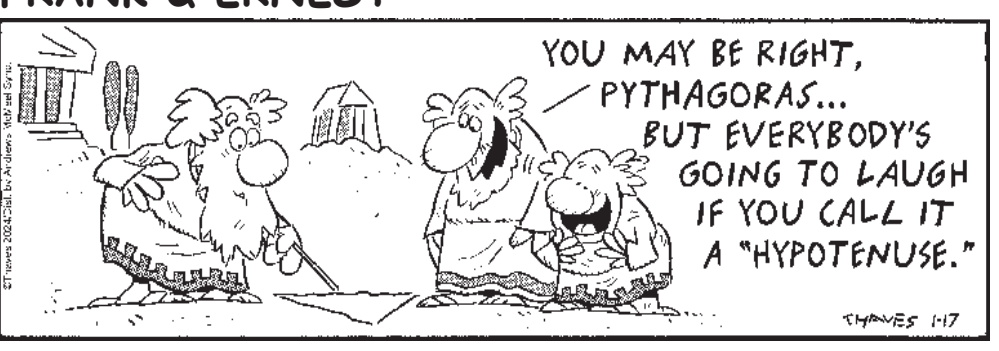
## THE BORN LOSER



## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



## FRANK & ERNEST



## GARFIELD



## THE GRIZZWELLS



## PEANUTS



## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

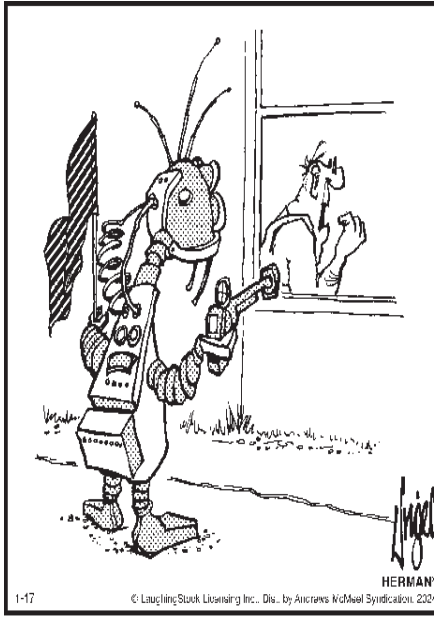
		7	9	2	6				1
6					5	2			9
			4	3		8			7
			5			9	1	8	
				1					
1	8	5			2				
3		8			5	7			
5		6	2						3
9			3	6	4	7			

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

9	7	4	6	8	3	1	5	2
8	1	2	7	9	5	6	4	3
3	5	6	2	4	1	7	8	9
7	6	8	1	5	2	3	9	4
1	3	5	4	7	9	8	2	6
4	2	9	8	3	6	5	7	1
6	4	7	9	1	8	2	3	5
5	9	1	3	2	7	4	6	8
2	8	3	5	6	4	9	1	7

**HOW TO PLAY:**  
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

## HERMAN



## Boyfriend's head is happily in the cloud

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend of two years, "Rick," is addicted to social media -- mainly the women on there. I'm not on any of his social media, and it seems like he acts like he's single there. If he's not at work, he is at home, but always on his phone.

Rick pays more attention to Facebook than he does to me. There are more than 2,000 women on his FB, and he follows thousands on his TikTok. He likes and "hearts" their pictures and even comments. He sees nothing wrong with it because he's home with me and not physically in contact with them. This has been our only problem the whole time we have been together. When I express my feelings about it, he tells me I'm overreacting and that it's "just social media."

I told Rick I feel like he's cheating in a way because he is devoting his attention to other females that he could be giving me. It's like he needs constant attention, even if it's inattention. It makes me feel like I'm not enough for him, that he's no longer interested in me and he's looking for the next gal to move on to.

I feel like I have to compete with these women online. His TikTok is mainly women dancing

half-naked. I can be literally right next to him in bed, but he would rather look at them. Other than this addiction, Rick is an amazing man. Please help. -- COMPETING IN OHIO

DEAR COMPETING: Rick may be "amazing," but he is also absent. He may be next to you physically, but if his attention is directed to the dancing girls on screen, you could freeze to death and he wouldn't notice. In a way, in fact, you ARE freezing because your love life has been put on ice. Unless Rick is willing to find things he can do with you rather than feed his addiction, you really should find a partner who is available.

DEAR ABBY: My husband has always been a rule-breaker. During the COVID lockdown, he refused to change his routines. He continued to do unnecessary errands daily and eat lunch out (even if it meant in his car). My pleas for him to stop fell on deaf ears. I protected myself by keeping my distance.

Although neither of us got the virus, I'm having trouble excusing his selfish behavior. He has offered no apologies and seems to think he did nothing wrong because neither of us got sick. I maintain that is not the



## ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

point. He put both of us AT RISK. How can I get past this? -- DODGED IT IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR DODGED IT: You and your husband have been lucky. A way to get past this would be to ask your husband in a non-confrontational manner WHY he did what he did, and whether he took into consideration that it might have put you in danger. Then let him explain.

If his response is not satisfactory enough for you to "get past this," recognize that this is what you signed on for when you married a "bad boy" (aka a rule-breaker) and make sure to take ALL the necessary precautions to protect yourself in the future.

# Lifestyle

## RGC welcomes new Human Resource Director

**STAFF REPORT**  
**RIO GRANDE COUNTY** — Rio Grande County has a new Human Resource Director. Deb Hite was brought on in the fall of 2023 and has since worked to streamline the Human Resource Department through innovative and strengthening ideas.

Hite decided to relocate from a suburban area in Boston, Mass., to Colorado in July 2023, joining Rio Grande County in September 2023 as the Human Resource Director/Specialist.

The main motivation behind this move was to be closer to her daughter, who has lived in the region for over five

years. With a human resource background, Hite has gained much experience throughout her career. She has worked for government organizations such as the State of Nevada, Massachusetts, and Santa Clara County in California.

At 21, Hite began her professional journey as a Paid Reserve Deputy for Stanislaus County, Calif., before advancing into positions within the Department of Corrections, specifically serving maximum security prisons. As a sergeant, she managed the Prison Investigations Team and Security Squad. Eventually, she was promoted to Training Director based in

northeast Nevada while working with the State of Nevada.

Additionally, Hite possesses firsthand involvement in overseeing the construction and transition of a new super maximum prison in northeast Nevada. There, she recruited, hired, and developed training programs for recruits and badged personnel. The American Correctional Association recognized her efforts in managing security for a multi-million-dollar convention during her tenure.

At Santa Clara County in Calif., she worked as a Training Manager for the Department of Corrections. She developed and managed staff

development programs for recruits, badged personnel, and administrators. She served as a Bay Area Training Consortium member with the Standards and Training Division of the State of California, which collaborates with local corrections systems to improve the professional competence of local corrections staff in California.

While relocating to Massachusetts, she simultaneously expanded her family. This meant more than just moving to a new location, it entailed the addition of new members to her household. Nonetheless, she embraced the opportunity wholeheartedly, fully committed to providing a nurturing environment for her loved ones in their new home in Massachusetts. Subsequently, she worked as an assistant to the director of a regional school district. During her time there, she was responsible for assisting in human resources and fiscal duties. She also served as president of a local bargaining unit.



Consequently, after obtaining her degree, she continued studying at the University of Massachusetts with a focus on Human Resource Management and Diversity Recruitment.

Having grown accustomed to the hustle and bustle of urban living, she finds herself constantly amazed by the breathtaking and majestic views of the area. She enjoys cycling, traveling, and exploring the outdoors. She enjoys encaustics, mixed media painting, and photography.

Hite is eager to use her knowledge of labor laws, diversity, and inclusion to adapt to the changing work environments and continue to foster a positive work culture for Rio Grande employees. Her aim is to provide guidance for employee growth and success.

## Happy New Year from HVCC

By **HIGH VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER**

**DEL NORTE** — We are so grateful for an incredible 2023, and we are looking forward to another great year in 2024! Seeing all the kids again after a long break was just what we needed to start off the new year.

menting them by the beginning of February. We greatly appreciate your support and readership! If you are reading this, come on by HVCC to receive a free gift from us!

Here's to the new year!

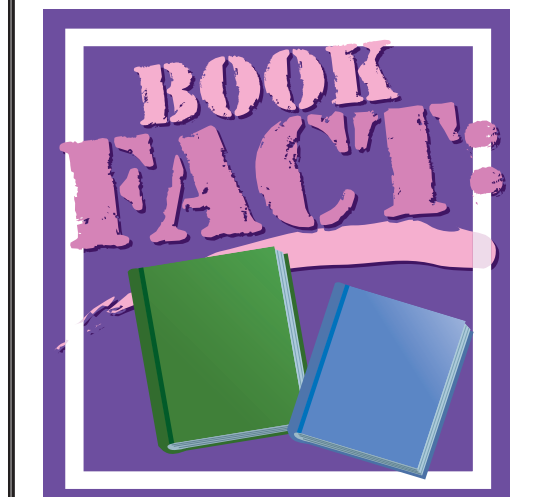


January is full of all sorts of fun stuff! This last week, we welcomed the kids back to High Valley. Our teens worked on their skills in science, math, and teamwork by building and programming a robot. This will be a longer project, and we will keep you updated as they continue to make progress!

Our K-5 graders learned all about Egypt and had the chance to become a junior archaeologist and uncover their own treasures from an Egyptian Pyramid.



After a successful week, we celebrated with our kiddos on Friday by going bowling at Stars and Strikes! Despite the freezing temperatures, the entire HVCC group had a ton of fun at the bowling alley and had some friendly competition to spur them on.



Our January calendar is on our website — there is a calendar for K-5 and a calendar for 6-12 grades. Make sure to check them out to stay up to date on what is happening at HVCC!

One important date to note for this month is Jan. 18. Elementary students do not have school, so we will be open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. We will take them on a field trip and provide valuable time with them! We will return to HVCC by 4 p.m. so that our junior/high school students will have someone to hang out with after school. Please make sure that all students are picked up by 5 p.m. that day.

**BOOK FACT:**  
 A CHILD BETWEEN THE AGES OF 6 AND 11 WHO READS THIS MANY BOOKS IN A YEAR IS CONSIDERED A FREQUENT READER.

ANSWER: 44

You may be missing your usual Encore deliveries and the program as you know it. We have not forgotten you! We want to make sure we're using our funding and resources to meet the greatest needs, and we're excited to share that we have a few ideas. We're hoping you might help to lead our community gatherings — we will provide the space, snacks, supplies, advertising, etc. Give us a call for more information and to get started! You can expect our new meal services to be announced soon, and we'll be imple-

*How they SAY that in...*

**ENGLISH:** Page  
**SPANISH:** Página  
**ITALIAN:** Pagina  
**FRENCH:** Page  
**GERMAN:** Seite

### Crossword Puzzle

1		2					3
4					5		
				6			
		7					

- ACROSS**
- Resting
  - Represented
  - Food enjoyed on Tuesday
  - Short novel
- DOWN**
- Enjoying a book
  - Illumination providers
  - Type of flower
  - Path

**Answers:**  
 Across: 1. Relaxing 4. Depicted 6. Taco 7. Novella  
 Down: 1. Reading 2. Lamps 3. Gladiola 5. Trail

### THIS DAY IN...

**JAN 15 HISTORY**

- **1759:** THE BRITISH MUSEUM OPENS TO THE PUBLIC.
- **1870:** A POLITICAL CARTOON DEPICTS THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY WITH A DONKEY FOR THE FIRST TIME.
- **1889:** THE COCA-COLA COMPANY, THEN KNOWN AS THE PEMBERTON MEDICINE COMPANY, IS INCORPORATED IN ATLANTA.

**New word**

**GLOSSARY**  
 alphabetical list of terms in a book

**Did you know?**

THE FIRST BOOK TO SELL ONE MILLION COPIES IS BELIEVED TO BE "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" BY HARRIET BEECHER STOWE. IT WAS WRITTEN IN 1852.

**GET THE PICTURE?**

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?  
 ANSWER: STACK OF BOOKS



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