



SLV Trout Unlimited to provide scholarship opportunity

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Mean Moose trample Panthers 72-33

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San Luis Valley Colorado Genuine
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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

January 16, 2024

\$1

SLV Today

Colorado Pet Pantry is today

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Pet Food Bank in partnership with La Puente and the Dumb Friends League will distribute free pet food from noon to 2 p.m. today at the Alamosa County Fairgrounds, 8784 Old Sanford Rd., Alamosa.

'Final patrol' scheduled for Deputy Lucero

PAGOSA — According to the Pagosa Springs Sun newspaper, the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office will be escorting Deputy William "Bill" Lucero on his final patrol of Archuleta County on Tuesday, Jan. 16, at approximately 10:30 a.m.

His final patrol will be on U.S. 160 from west to east through Pagosa Springs. The public is invited to view this final patrol from San Juan Street (main street) in downtown Pagosa Springs. The public is asked not to join the final patrol procession in a vehicle. During this final patrol there will be some short temporary closures of intersections along U.S. 160 and authorities ask for the public's patience and understanding.

Alamosa City Council to meet

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa City Council will have a regular meeting in the Council Chambers located at 300 Hunt Ave. on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 7 p.m. The meeting is open to the public and is available via Zoom. To see the full agenda, visit www.cityofalamosa.org.

SLV WEATHER



Sunny, Wind Chill 30/0
Wed: Mostly Sunny 40/5
Thurs: Mostly Sunny, Breezy 40/7

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Rep. Martinez already up and running with legislation

Focus on education, veterans, behavior health, farming, water

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — With the 2024 session already underway, the Valley Courier caught up with Rep. Matt Martinez (D-62) to get his take on what legislative priorities he has for this session and what's ahead for Colorado's legislature.

Martinez has already introduced two bills, both bi-partisan

and bi-cameral, with a slate of additional bills to follow. In a furtherance of priorities reflected throughout his tenure, he continues to focus on behavior health, education, veterans, boosting tourism, farming and water.

Martinez's HB24-1002 "Social Work Licensure Compact" addresses the critical shortage of experienced, licensed social workers while also expanding access to behavioral health by removing the barriers to licensure often faced by profession-

■ See **MARTINEZ** page 3

Gov. Polis signs Rep. Matt Martinez's HB23-1037 into law in 2023.

Photo courtesy of Gov. Polis' office



Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado accepting applications for natural resources scholarships

Up to \$10,000 available

STAFF REPORT

COLORADO — Are you a student who is interested in natural resources and the environment, or the parent of that student? For the seventh year, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC) is accepting applications for the Grossman Scholarships. The scholarships are awarded to Colorado residents who have demonstrated a commitment to caring for our environment's natural resources and intend to pursue post-secondary education through an accredited environmental, natural resource, climate, or outdoor industry-related education program in Colorado. VOC will award a total of \$45,000 in scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year, thanks to the generosity of former VOC Board Member Rick Grossman, and his wife, Susie Grossman. The maximum scholarship is \$10,000.

The scholarships support and empower individuals who are passionate about environmental conservation. The schol-



Courier photo by John Waters

In this June 2022 photo, a crew from Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado perform trail work on the Willow Lake Trail on the Rio Grande National Forest in Saguache County. The organization is offering scholarships to students interested in pursuing natural resources careers of up to \$10,000. The deadline to apply is Feb. 26.

arships offer a pathway for individuals to pursue higher education while actively participating in VOC's mission to protect and preserve Colorado's natural resources. Scholarships are available to graduating high school seniors, individuals pursuing an under-

■ See **VOC** page 3



Courier photo by John Waters

Society Hall in Alamosa will receive a \$10,000 grant from the El Pomar Foundation.

El Pomar Foundation approves \$32,700 to organizations in the San Luis Valley region

By EL POMAR FOUNDATION
COLORADO SPRINGS — El Pomar Trustees approved \$32,700 allocated to two nonprofit organizations in the San Luis Valley at the Foundation's December Trustees meeting. Through the Foundation's grant making process, the following organizations were awarded grants:

- Society Hall Foundation (Alamosa) — \$10,000 for general operating support; regional council
- Colorado Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc. (Denver) — \$22,700 for CASA del Valle; regional council

Founded by Spencer and Julie Penrose in 1937, El Pomar Foundation has an established legacy of general-purpose grant making. The competitive process remains the Foundation's primary vehicle for organizations to receive funding. Additionally, over the last 85 years, El Pomar has either developed or been entrusted with the stewardship of other funds and presenting merit grants in each region recommended by Trustees and regional council members. Competitive applications, Inc. (Denver) — ■ See **EL POMAR** page 3

Society Hall welcomes Santa Fe Alt-Country Americana Bard Edrington and the Blackbirds

By DON RICHMOND
Society Hall

ALAMOSA — Society Hall is thrilled to host international touring artists Bard Edrington V and the Blackbirds at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

The concert will also stream live on the Society Hall Facebook page and YouTube channel. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door and are available at the Society

Hall website at www.societyhall.org or at the Green Spot, at 711 State Ave., Alamosa.

Bard Edrington V is an award-winning songwriter and international touring artist from Santa Fe, N.M. Bard and his band, the Blackbirds, will be performing at Society Hall while breaking from recording Bard's tenth album at Howlin Dog Studios. Bard will be joined by well-known Santa Fe musician Karina Wil-

son on fiddle and vocals, Sarah Ferrell on bass and vocals, Jim Palmer on drums and special guest Bill Palmer on guitar.

Bard holds up the true meaning of being a "bard". In medieval times a bard was a professional storyteller, verse-maker

■ See **HALL** page 3

Bard Edrington V and the Blackbirds will perform on Jan. 20 at Society Hall in Alamosa.

Courtesy photo



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Record

OBITUARIES

Chad Harrison Phillips Oct. 3, 1975—Dec. 31, 2023

Chad Phillips was born Oct. 3, 1975, and was given to Bob and Susie Phillips.

Chad graduated from Alamosa High School in 1994. Soon after, he worked with Mark Sutack raising black angus cattle.

Chad then went on to pursue a civil engineering degree from Trinidad State Junior College. He held various positions in engineering in Alamosa, Denver and Albuquerque. Most recently, he worked for the City of Rio Rancho where he took great pride in his job and made many friends including co-workers and contractors.

Chad had an infectious laugh that affected everyone in the room. His kind heart meant he would gladly give you the shirt off his back. This continued even after death as Chad was an organ donor.

Chad spent the last five years being the best single dad to his only son, Colin. They had a very special bond that will never be broken. He took Colin to monster truck shows, car races and loved spending time with his son.

Chad also enjoyed his

dad's corvette, going to rodeos, working on cars and performing numerous home repairs and remodels.

Chad was preceded in death by his daughter Kayla Phillips, grandparents Les and Amy Bauer and Clem and Margie Phillips, and Uncle Colin Bauer.

Chad is survived by his son Colin Phillips (Rio Rancho, N.M.), his parents Bob and Susie Phillips (Rio Rancho, N.M.), his sister Bonnie Mercek (Richard, Rio Rancho, N.M.), Uncle Peter Bauer (Dana, Sherwood, Ore.), Aunt Vera Bustos (Montrose, Colo.), Rob and Laura Rutledge (Las Cruces, N.M.) along with numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. He will be sadly missed by all who know him.

Chad was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in August of 2023. He fought a hard and courageous battle.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the University of New Mexico's Comprehensive Cancer Center's Pancreatic Research Fund. Gifts can be made, noting in memory



of Chad Phillips, online, or by check payable to UNM Foundation and mailed to UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center, Development Office, MSC07 4025, 1201 Camino de Salud NE, Albuquerque, NM 87131. Donations can also be made by phone by calling 505-272-9887.

Graveside services will be held in Alamosa, Colorado and announced at a later date.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of arrangements. To leave online condolences, tributes and words of comfort for Chad's family please visit www.RogersFunerals.com.

Todd Daly

Todd Daly, 63, of Center, Colo., after a brief battle with a respiratory illness left this earth and loved ones on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2024, to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Todd served 3 years in the United States Marines. He worked for many years for Idaho Pacific at their Center, Colo., potato processing plant. He held many positions at the plant with his most recent charge of responsibility being Assistant Plant Manager.

He was highly admired, respected, and well-liked by those he worked with as well as those he interacted with in his life's journey.

He is survived by his wife, Gina Daly of 30 years; son, Joshua David Wills, and daughter, Lacy

Jae Welles; his mother, Patricia Mishler; grandchildren, Marcus Ocana, Darius Wills, Quinton Wills, Kayleigh Wills, Cody Wills, and Makenzie Dutton; brothers, Clay Daly, and Eric Daly; sisters, Ina Daly, and Leslie Zinke; cousins, Gwen Reese, Clinton Daly, and Ty Daly; nieces, Melissa Reynolds, Amanda Reynolds, Alisa Daly and family; nephews, Samuel Reynolds, and Bobby Reynolds; great-nieces, Helen Reynolds, and Freyja Reynolds. He is also survived by his brother-in-law William Reynolds.

He was preceded in death by his father Jackie Lee Daly and brother-in-law Kristian Reynolds.

Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, at 11 a.m.



at Strohmayer's Funeral Home located at 205 S. Broadway, Monte Vista, CO 81144. Interment to follow at Blanca Cemetery in Blanca, Colo.

Arrangements in care by Strohmayer's Funeral Home in Monte Vista.

In Loving Memory of Liberato O. Archuleta

Liberato O. Archuleta, 81 passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Dec. 24, 2023. He was born on May 18, 1942, in Monte Vista, Colo., to Bill J. Archuleta and Rafelita Archuleta. Liberato lived a full and meaningful life, leaving behind love, kindness, and cherished memories.

Liberato was an exceptional father, and devoted grandpo/great-grandpo. Liberato Archuleta and Rose Sanchez had five beautiful daughters.

He was an avid fan of the Denver Broncos. He dedicated lots of his time watching Judge Judy, spending time with his daughters, driving around town, he loved taking walks, he cherished feeding his two dogs Princess and Chihuahua, listening to music, and most of all he smiled at the site of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Liberato is survived by his daughters Sharon (Odin) Dean, Lenora (Tom) Phillips, Bernice



(Pat) Gutierrez, Christina Archuleta, and Daisy (Fred) Martinez, many grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his brothers and sisters: Herman Archuleta (Alice), Ida Archuleta, Sofia Archuleta, Virginia Archuleta, and Lindy Archuleta.

Liberato was preceded in death by his parents Bill J. Archuleta and Rafelita Archuleta, brother Walter Archuleta (Terry), sister Katy Macias,

brother Sippy Archuleta, brother Harvey Archuleta, sister Juana Gallegos, sister Francis Mascareñas (Manuel), and brother Billy Archuleta. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

The family expresses gratitude for the support and condolences received during this difficult time. Please join us in celebrating the life of Liberato Archuleta and remembering the joy and love he brought into our lives. May he rest in peace, and may his memory live on in our hearts forever.

Rosary will be on Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024, at 6 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Monte Vista, Colo. Funeral Mass will be on Friday, Jan. 19, 2024, at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Monte Vista, Colo. Inurnment to follow at Homelake Cemetery in Monte Vista.

Arrangements in care by Strohmayer's Funeral Home in Monte Vista.

Wayne S. Farley

Wayne S. Farley, 91, passed away on Dec. 14, 2023, at the Spanish Peaks Veterans Community Living Center in Walsenburg, Colo.

Wayne was born to Carroll Sanford Farley and Dovie Messenger Farley on Aug. 19, 1932, in Phoenix, Ariz.

Wayne married his first wife, Jacquelyne Taylor on Aug. 3, 1956. They later divorced.

Wayne married Sheryl Holmquist Farley on July 20, 1979, and they had 44 years together.

After graduation from Mojave County Union High School, Kingman, Ariz., in 1951, Wayne enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served his country during the Korean War. He was honorably discharged in 1953.

He attended Arizona State University, graduating in 1957 with a BS degree in Education. He earned a Master's degree in Guidance and Counseling from Northern Arizona University.

Wayne's life's work was in the field of education. He was a classroom educator and guidance counselor in Arizona for 13 years. He also received an Education Specialist degree from the University of Missouri. He then was in administration, Admissions and Records, and later Dean of Academic Services at Adams State University

(then College) for 26 years, retiring in 1994. Wayne especially loved working with college students and guiding them toward the best education they could get.

Through the years, Wayne enjoyed working on cars, camping, reading, traveling, running, and especially spending time with his children and grandchildren. He loved animals, especially dogs.

Wayne was preceded in death by his first wife and the mother of his children, Jacque Taylor Finney, his mother Dovie and father Carroll, stepmother Ellen B. Farley, grandson Devon J. Doyle, and sister-in-law Lana Farley.

Wayne is survived by his wife Sheryl, daughter Beth Farley of Napa, Calif., son Dave Farley (Shannon) of Alamosa, Colo., stepdaughters Bonnie (Richard) Mercek of Rio Rancho, N.M., and Leslie (Brian) Doyle of Alamosa, Colo.; his grandchildren Chamisa Kellogg (Pat Farnach), Sierra (Bob) Corriea, Lucia Kellogg, and India Kellogg, Hannah (Phil) Master, Sophia (Zach) Valdez, and Ian Mercek, Kalin (Jordan) Kelleher, and Alison Jo Doyle; two brothers Roy Farley of Ft. Worth, Texas, and Paul (Jackie) Farley of Lakeport, Calif.; five great-grandchildren, John Robert Corriea IV, Selah Jo and Jedd Valdez, and



Kailor J. and Sadie Kay Kelleher; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Wishing to continue to be of help in the field of education, he chose to have his body donated to Anschutz Medical School in Denver.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to The SLV Animal Center Dumb Friends League at 701 Airport Road, Alamosa CO 81101, or the Adams State University Devon Doyle Memorial Scholarship may be found here <https://www.adams.edu/foundation/online-donation/>

A Memorial Mass will be held Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, at 11 a.m. at the Sacred Heart Catholic church in Alamosa. Following the Memorial Mass, please join the family for a luncheon in Faistl Hall.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of the arrangements. To leave online condolences, tributes and words of comfort for Wayne's family, please visit www.RogersFunerals.com.



PENDING OBITUARIES

Bertral Bagwell

Longtime Manassa resident Bertral Bagwell, 83, passed away on Jan. 14, 2024, in Evergreen Nursing Home in Alamosa. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced through Rogers Family Mortuary.

Arnold Mortensen

Longtime Sanford resident Arnold Mortensen, 85, passed away on Jan. 14, 2024, at the San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center in Alamosa. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced through Rogers Family Mortuary.



School Menu
Tuesday
January 16, 2024

BREAKFAST
Blueberry Muffin Fruit & Milk
ELEMENTARY
Sweet & Sour Chicken & Rice Egg Roll/Stir Fry Veggies Veggie Bar Fruit & Milk
MIDDLE SCHOOL
Sweet & Sour Chicken & Rice Egg Roll/Stir Fry Veggies Veggie Bar Fruit & Milk
HIGH SCHOOL
Sweet & Sour Chicken & Rice Egg Roll/Stir Fry Veggies Veggie Bar Fruit & Milk
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Valley News

VOC

Continued from Page 1

graduate degree, and individuals pursuing a graduate degree in an environmental-related field of study. The deadline to apply is Feb. 26.

An eligible candidate is: A Colorado resident who is pursuing a degree program with an environmental, natural resource, climate or outdoor industry degree program with an accredited 4-year college/university, 2-year community college, or a certificate program.

VOC has previously been featured in the Valley Courier highlighting the work the organization does in the region.

Founded in 1984, VOC is the state's oldest outdoor stewardship nonprofit organization. Their mission is simple: "To motivate and enable people to become active stewards of Colorado's natural resources."

Over the last 30-plus years, over 131,000 volunteers have worked on 1,500 projects on about 100 volunteer projects per year. Those interested in the scholarships may also consider gaining valuable work experience and volunteering for VOC.

This reporter first experienced the group while hiking a few years ago on the Willow Lake Trail just outside of Crestone in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. I encountered a group of other hikers carrying large tools, including giant saws, and all were wearing hard hats. These were no ordinary hikers, so I struck

up a conversation and learned they were all out for a weekend of trail work for the nonprofit group Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC).

In an interview with the Valley Courier, Anna Zawisza at VOC said that volunteering with the group is easy, "We work statewide engaging people to do active stewardship work, that means pretty much anything that can be done on public lands without a lot of training, we are doing. Planting trees, doing wildfire mitigation of fuel. Building new trails and maintaining existing trails. We do habitat restoration. The only kind of work that we don't do is trash pickup. I mention that because we want our projects to last at least 10-15 years before volunteers have to come back."

Volunteers with the organization also help forest ecosystem health by removing exotic plants, according to Katie Goodleaf with VOC, "We've been going out to Moon Pass the last four years to remove oxeye daisies and our results have been impressive. This area has a really bad population of that invasive species, and we pull it out of the ground, bag it up, and bring it out of the forest." This plant aggressively grows, forming dense populations that decrease plant species diversity. Removing the plants by hand has eliminated the need for the forest service to use chemical herbicides to eradicate this unwanted daisy. Participating in this type of work that



Photo courtesy VOC

Is this the kind of location you want to work in? Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado is offering students the opportunity to apply for educational scholarships of up to \$10,000.

VOC does would be an excellent resume builder for a student of natural resources. As would a scholarship from VOC.

In an interview last summer, Gregg Goodland with the Rio Grande National Forest said this about VOC, "The Rio Grande National Forest has enjoyed our valuable partnership with Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado for over ten years. The VOC program has a direct tie into our agency's core value of interdependence. VOC provides a connection between us and the communities, increasing our capacity to get important conservation work accomplished while also connecting people to the land.

"Together, we've accomplished many goals and continue working together to set new goals for future work and achievements. We have logged thousands of volunteer hours that have a value in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. However, we are most grateful to all of our volunteers who have demonstrated and shared their passion for the land. It is the selfless stewardship we value the most."

For eligibility requirements, more information can be found at www.voc.org/grossman-scholarship. To learn about volunteering and possibly gaining natural resources work experience visit www.voc.org.

Martinez

Continued from Page 1

als moving to Colorado, including those licensed social workers in military families whose spouses may have just been reassigned.

In agreement with other states, HB24-1002 would eliminate the need for social workers to obtain licenses from multiple states by providing for the mutual recognition of licenses from those states that have signed the compact (referred to as "member" states).

"Doing this for those who have just moved to Colorado allows them to get a job in their field more quickly and become entrenched in their communities," he says.

Martinez plans to introduce a similar bill addressing those licensed in cosmetology, something that would also be very helpful to military families.

"It's a slow process," he says, "because the bill has to pass in almost exactly the same language as it's passed in other states."

Martinez has also introduced HB24-1048 "Providing Veterinary Services Through Telehealth", which would do exactly what the name of the bill suggests.

"With the growing shortage of veterinarians in Colorado over the last year," he says, "providing vet services through telehealth is one way to increase access to a veterinarian by people with animals, such as pets or livestock, out in the field or over their phone or their iPad or whatever."

HB 24-1048 is bi-partisan and came out of the Agriculture, Water and Natural Resources Committee, of which Martinez is a member. It's also co-sponsored with Rep. McCormick, who is a vet-

erinarian, and Senators Joann Ginal and Pelton.

Another bill — the Ninth Grade Student Success Grant Program — would provide grant funding for schools to hire counselors to support students in making that difficult transition from middle to high school, which can be a determinant of future success in secondary schools.

"If you can provide them with that support in the ninth-grade level, it helps to make them more successful and keep them in school," he says.

Again, with an eye on Veterans' health, another one of Martinez's bills coming up would make it a requirement to include in all state literature and advertising information for Veterans on how to apply for and access benefits.

"We already have information on employee rights and how to apply for workers compensation and other areas. There should also be information for Veterans. That will also help them to advocate for themselves," he says.

In what he describes as his "big bill" this session, Martinez plans to restart the Regional Tourism Act.

"The act already exists but there's no funding for it," he says. A distinct difference this time from previous years would involve specifically targeting rural areas as the need in other cities like Denver or Colorado Springs is not nearly as great.

"We'll be putting money into places where it's most impactful and for communities to decide the best way to use the funding."

The problem they've run into, he says, is the definition of "rural", which is somewhat "nebulous" in the state statutes.

"We're aiming for those

really much smaller communities, like frontier counties with minimal populations, and to redefine that within the bill," he says.

"The entire San Luis Valley would be eligible for this funding. But we also have to be careful because a lot of the ski towns were coming up under the definition, so we're working through that, as well."

Senator Cleave Simpson and Martinez are cooperating on getting support for the Costilla Water Conservancy District that is facing significant challenges ahead with creating water augmentation plans, something they had been exempt from developing in the past.

Simpson and Martinez are also working on a bill that will provide resources to potato farmers who have been dealing with PVY, a virus that, if allowed to spread as it has over the past few years, runs the risk of decimating seed growers in the San Luis Valley.

"That business has already dwindled in the past few years because of the virus. They really need our help," Martinez says.

Rep. Martinez is following through on an issue he's previously identified as a priority related to defining in clear, exact terms the data on recidivism rates in Colorado's Department of Corrections.

"Right now, there are 15 different data points used to measure recidivism. Defining that data is critical when you're trying to measure if a program has been successful," he says.

Martinez first identified this issue last year when his bill, HB23-1037 Dept of Corrections Earned Time for College Program Completion, passed with overwhelming bi-parti-

san, bi-cameral support.

Last on the list (so far) of Rep. Martinez's legislation for the 2024 session is a bill that would grant individuals exiting the military who worked as military police while in the service with reciprocity on the Colorado Peace Officers Standard and Training (POST) certification.

"Military Police have gone through enhanced training in the past few years," he said, "and it would help address the serious shortage in law enforcement if that training would make them immediately eligible for employment."

When asked if this session was going to be as crazy as last year, Martinez said, "I think it's going to be...interesting. Housing is definitely a big issue this session with a lot of effort focused on that area."

He believes that "the old Land Use" bill will probably come back to the floor but this time in smaller segments that would allow support for some parts of the bill and opposition to others.

Martinez made it clear that he will continue to be the loudest voice advocating for language about water augmentation and sustainability to be included in any land use legislation that comes before the House.

When asked if last summer's visit to the Valley by the Latino Caucus seemed to impact his colleagues in any way, Martinez immediately mentioned water, saying Rep. Ortiz of Littleton has already added provisions related to water in various pieces of legislation.

"They're also attuned to any efforts to export water — back door or otherwise — and understand how devastating that would be to the Valley," he says.

El Pomar

Continued from Page 1

cations are accepted on a rolling basis.

To increase impact and establish connections across the entire state, the Regional Partnerships program was established in 2003. Each of the Foundation's eleven regional councils advises El Pomar Trustees and recommends grants to help support its communities. The San Luis Valley Regional Council recommends grants in Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache Counties. Council members are regional leaders in the business, nonprofit, and public sectors and provide first-hand information about current needs in their own com-

munities.

To view a full listing of El Pomar's funds and grant making areas, please visit our website at www.elpomar.org/grant-making/.

El Pomar Foundation is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in Colorado. El Pomar contributes approximately \$25 million annually through grants in the areas of arts and culture, civic and community initiatives, education, health, and human services, as well as community stewardship and leadership development programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations. Spencer and Julie Penrose founded El Pomar in 1937 with the mission to enhance, encourage, and promote the current and future well-being of the people of Colorado.

Hall

Continued from Page 1

and music composer. They were usually hired by a chieftain to commemorate and praise the patrons achievements. Though Bard is not singing the praises of the monarch, he does write songs in the storytelling style. His songs are authentic retellings of family history, tales of pioneers, relic train lines or his experiences in the Rocky Mountains. Bard has a gift for telling stories in between songs that gives the listener insight into the song. The Blackbirds bring these stories to life by adding beautiful three-part harmonies and dynamics that keep the listener engaged.

Born in Alabama and raised in Tennessee. His extended family comes from the prairies of Kansas and the banks of the Mississippi in Arkansas. Hard work and family were the core values of his upbringing, and accomplishment came from a day's work with your hands.

These values have carried over into Bard's family life. With his wife, Zoe, they have successfully run their landscaping business for over 15 years. He spends nearly every day outside working. During most of this time, old and new songs run through his head, melodies that sound as if they are coaxed out of the stone he cuts.

His musical roots began

when he and Zoe lived in Blowing Rock, N.C. The first time he saw Doc Watson play, he was hooked on old time music. Weekly open jams taught him the clawhammer style on the banjo. When exploring Doc Watson's music, he learned of Mississippi John Hurt and his finger-picking style of blues. The syncopated rhythms that he held with his thumb, and melodies he played with his fingers, permeated Bard's mind. From John Hurt, he was introduced to the delta blues players, hill country players, piedmont blues, and on and on.

It wasn't long before he started writing songs. Bard's songs have a deep influence of Appalachian music and country blues. Staying true to his name, he writes songs that tell stories of his family, pioneers, relic trains, mecaleros in search of wild agave, road trips, and southern belles.

Currently, Bard and his family live in Santa Fe, where you can find him performing with his band or solo. Wherever you hear him sing you will be guaranteed a musical journey of roots music.

As a fully independent artist, Bard has gained a fanbase and notoriety in the United Kingdom and Netherlands. There he has toured with his band as well as the HOTH Brothers. Bard and Karina will be embarking on a UK tour in October 2024.

Society Hall is on the corner of 4th Street and Ross Avenue in Alamosa.

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Lifestyles



Courtesy photo

SLV Trout Unlimited will provide scholarships to the annual River Conservation and Fly-Fishing Camp in Taylor Park on June 9-15.

SLV Trout Unlimited to provide scholarship opportunity

By **SAN LUIS VALLEY TROUT UNLIMITED COLORADO** — San Luis Valley Trout Unlimited (SLVTU) will provide San Luis Valley youth with an opportunity to attend the Annual Trout Unlimited River Conservation and Fly-Fishing Camp.

SLVTU will host the annual River Conservation and Fly-Fishing Camp for teen youth at AEI Base Camp in Taylor Park on June 9-15. The San Luis Valley chapter will be sponsoring a scholarship for this annual camp that covers the registration

fee and camp tuition. Since 2006, youth from across the state have gathered to complete a week-long program of STEM-based conservation education and instruction in the art of fly fishing. Youth aged 14-18 are eligible to apply for camp.

This camp provides a unique immersive experience for teens interested in the outdoors, fly fishing, and potential conservation-related career paths. Campers participate in hands-on conservation activities and receive one-on-one and group instruction in fly fish-

ing. Their experience is enriched as they form lifelong relationships, “finding their people” and bonding with peers of similar interests. The program exposes campers to the complexity of water management in the west and its nexus with recreation.

For more information, email SLVTU education coordinator Kevin Milder at slvtroutunlimited@gmail.com and Milder will provide more information and a link to apply for the camp. Applications will require a 2-4 paragraph essay. Application deadline is April 1.

Weiser, other attorneys general urge federal rescheduling of marijuana

By **LINDSEY TOOMER**
Colorado Newswire
Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser led a coalition of other states urging the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration to reschedule cannabis “in the interest of public health and safety,” Weiser said in a statement.

In a letter addressed to DEA Administrator Anne Milgram, the group of 12 state attorneys general urged the DEA to permanently reclassify cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule III following the latest recommendations from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The group of Democratic attorneys general said state-regulated marijuana markets are safer for consumers than illicit markets and praised the states that have effectively implemented their own regulations. The letter said 38 states legalized medical use and 24 states as well as Washington D.C. legalized recreational use for adults 21 and up. “As state attorneys general, we have a re-

sponsibility to protect consumers and defend public safety,” the letter says. “The undersigned are also particularly concerned about the illicit market, unregulated intoxicating hemp-derived cannabinoids, and the continuing proliferation of dangerous opioids. State-sanctioned cannabis markets provide access to regulated products that are clearly safer to what individuals can buy on the street — and supporting the effective operation of these regulated markets thus fits with our commitment to addressing the opioid crisis and rising overdose deaths.”

Colorado became one of the first states to approve recreational marijuana use for adults when voters approved Amendment 64 in November 2012. Medical marijuana has been legal in Colorado since voters approved Amendment 20 in November 2000.

Because marijuana is still considered a Schedule I drug federally, businesses are subject to some punitive tax provisions and have

difficulty with normal business practices when working with banks.

The letter said rescheduling would allow state cannabis industries “to continue to set the standard for legal products” and reduce sales of unregulated intoxicating hemp products. Regulated markets have also been profitable for state economies, with billions of dollars coming to state and federal governments, according to the letter, and federal rescheduling would remove tax-related obstacles for legitimate cannabis businesses.

“Regardless of the policy choices made, demand for these products will continue. Meeting this demand only in a regulated, legal marketplace better protects consumers,” the letter says. “Rescheduling also increases the ability to research cannabis to determine the physical and mental impacts of cannabis use. To date, this research has largely not been possible because of cannabis existing placement in Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act.”



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- 3 Local businesses sell a wide range of great products at affordable prices and cater to the needs and wants of the community.**
- 4 Shopping Local saves you money and time!** Travel expenses and personal time make the overall cost of items higher.
- 5 Shopping Local retains our community:** Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.
- 6 Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness:** Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community's needs.
- 7 Shopping Local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Alamosa's diversity, charm & appeal. Which in turn, attracts new community members.
- 8 Shopping Local invests in community services and city economy.** Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Alamosa.
- 9 Local shops value you more:** Local businesses survive by their reputation & repeat business which means you get a higher standard of service.

Keith R Cerny
Publisher

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Brian Williams
Managing Editor

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Lifestyles



Courtesy photo

Resident Barb Miller is a busy grandmother and enjoys cleaning up the roads around Monte Vista.

Miller is making Monte Vista a cleaner place

By MARIE MCCOLM
MONTE VISTA — Resident Barb Miller loves to stay busy and active. Miller works at Top Value in Monte Vista and is a busy grandmother, helping her grandkids, and enjoys cleaning up the roads around Monte Vista.

Miller retired from working as a postmaster in Wyoming 15 years ago, and was asked to come and live in Monte Vista, by her daughter, to help with her grandchildren. Miller moved to Monte Vista and noticed on her many drives around town that the ditches and side roads contained a lot of trash and debris.

Miller, wanting to see the roads look cleaner, and wanting to make a difference in her community, began picking up trash and debris along the ditch banks and the roads coming into Monte Vista.

Many customers from the local store that she works for have noticed her cleaning trash and debris and would stop and wave at Miller and a few even brought her snacks and soda for all her hard work and effort.

Miller spoke of her reasons behind the help that she gives and spoke of her thoughts on how important it is to keep the roads clean for everyone.

"I don't need to be recognized for this, to me this is just play and fun," she said. "I enjoy staying busy and active. Before I started at Top Value, I had gone to the highway department, and I signed on for this, for 3 miles under my name. I noticed though, that nobody would clean the sections in between. So, I just started at our house, which is 11 miles out, and I went all the way up into Monte Vista. I drive this route all the time and I like to see it clean. CDOT has provided me with an orange vest, and with orange trash bags. I help with cleaning, and they pick up the bags. I do this in the Spring and in the Fall. I love to stay busy."

Miller said she has found all kinds of interesting things on the side of the roads and in the ditches.

"I will tell you this cleanup is interesting. I think people would be amazed at some of the things I have found in the ditch areas. I have found lots of sunglasses, and so many tools. I know people probably lay their stuff on

the back of their vehicles and forget they are there and drive off. I have found screwdrivers, wrenches, gas caps. With Monte Vista Coop right there too, people just drive down the highway and forget their gas caps," she said.

She said she has found "twenties, tens, fives, ones, and coins. I often wondered how I could find money but in thinking about it, I am sure people throw money up on their dashes and it just flies out the window as their going down the highway. I found a social security card once and I looked up the name and called a resident out of Alamosa. The woman stated that it belonged to her son, and she would never let him carry it again," Miller stated with a chuckle. "I also once found five boxes of brand-new telephone equipment, that had probably fallen off a truck or a trailer. I took it home and called someone. They were so thankful, they stated it was so many dollars' worth of equipment and they travelled and picked it up. I also found a 3 thousand dollar check once. I called the company that the check was made from, and the guy said that he threw it up on his dash and wondered where it went. He was very appreciative that I found it."

Miller stated that last spring she recycled 25 bags of bottles and cans, to help the environment. "I carry two bags in my pocket and a bag in my hands. I am excited because I helped save the CDOT guys from having to pick up those bottles and cans and take them to the landfill too," Miller said.

Miller stated that a farmer had also stopped once and wanted to give her money for all she was doing.

"I insisted that it was just fun for me, and the money wasn't necessary. It just gives me a good feeling when I see the streets looking clean and the highway looking clean. I know I was a part of that, and that makes me feel good. I think if everyone everywhere would take even just a moment, or an hour or a minute, we could all make a big difference in the way everything looks. This is something I enjoy, and I love to give to the community. Again, not to be recognized but it just feels good to play a part in it all and

see the nice clean roads," Miller said.

Miller wrote a poem about her cleaning efforts and wanted to share it with the community.

"An addict I have become, cleaning the ditches just for fun. You can do it and don't have to run, no one is shooting off the starting gun. Once minute here, and one minute there, it will show that you do care. Mile after mile of trash picked up, soon there won't be a bottle or cup. Your honk and wave make my day, thank you is what I want to say. So, on your walk, grab your sack. Yes, it happens just like that."



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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

CITY OF ALAMOSA is seeking a full-time **WATER WASTEWATER TECHNICIAN I**. 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 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)

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)

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)

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 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)

EDUCATION COORDINATOR: RIO GRANDE FARM PARK seeks Education Coordinator to empower the community through regenerative agriculture. Details at www.slvlocalfoods.org/jobs/. (1/16/24AS)

TOWN OF CENTER 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, townofcenter.colorado.gov. Please submit your application to Town Hall or email to jhurtado@centerco.gov. The deadline is until positions are filled. (1/23/24AS)

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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 or via email upon request at criccj@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)

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)

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, 719 589-5909, ext238. www.lapuente.net (1/24/24AS)

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: restorativeprogram.org and Email resume & cover letter to clarissa@restorativeprograms.org Positions open until filled. CRP is an EOE. (1/27/24AS)

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HEAD VOLLEYBALL COACH needed at DEL NORTE JR/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, 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at: ahardy@urtigers.co, 719-657-4020. (1/16/24AS)

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

221 - HELP WANTED

HEAD HIGH SCHOOL eSPORTS COACH is needed at DEL NORTE SR. HIGH SCHOOL. We're looking for a leader to develop & maintain our new eSports program promoting sportsmanship and teamwork. Our eSports coach will assist each student in gaining skills and confidence while learning game rules and strategies; as well as CHSAA eSports rules. The Coach must be professional, organized, dedicated, and well versed in gaming. The Coach is responsible for conducting practice times after academic classes and supervising the team at school activities. The Coach will also train, test, and receive our small-vehicle certification for driving school vehicles to gaming tournaments. CHSAA eSports competition games include Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, Mario Kart 8, Rocket League, Splatoon 3 on Nintendo Switch; Madden NFL & NBA 2K on PS4. Please complete our coach application found on our website, urtigers.co please contact Gibbs Sanchez, Athletic Director, at: gsanchez@urtigers.co, 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at: ahardy@urtigers.co, 719-657-4020 for further information. (1/23/24AS)

HEAD FOOTBALL COACH needed at DEL NORTE JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL. The coach's responsibilities include: leading training sessions, providing motivation and advice during gameplay, developing game plans, and attending tryouts, as well as scheduling team meetings. The coach should be able to identify the individual abilities of each player and provide one-to-one coaching wherever required. The coach should demonstrate great love for the game of football, and be able to foster good sportsmanship in your players. Outstanding candidates are highly motivated, committed, disciplined, and patient. We are looking for the following abilities in our Coach: experience as a football 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, strategies, 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, 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at: ahardy@urtigers.co, 719-657-4020. (1/16/24AS)

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341 - GARAGE SALE

345 - WOOD

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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
Alamosa • 589-5744
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICE
For all your rental needs please call 719-589-5744 or stop by 823 Main St. Alamosa, CO 81101
www.alamosarentals.com

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 & ACREAGES

MULTIPLE 35+ ACRE TRACTS For Sale. The Rio Grande Water Conservation District is accepting sealed bids for tracts of land LOCATED AT 14355 G.5, 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.rgxcd.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@rgxcd.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)

426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

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

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)

TWO BEDROOM DUPLEX. Double garage. Rent \$1,000/mo (first & last) \$500 Deposit. REFERENCES. No pets, No smoking. No water beds. 2630 Clark, ALAMOSA. Call 719-588-3431. (1/16/24AS)

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)

SAVE on FUEL Shop Locally

Do You Feel the Need to Read?

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Valley Courier
719-589-2553

Where To Shop!
Where To Dine!
Community Bulletin Board!
Professional Services!
...And more!



Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Unskilled actor
 - 4 Mount Olympus queen
 - 8 Shut
 - 12 Hosp. area
 - 13 Golden —
 - 14 Soft drink flavor
 - 15 Daystar
 - 16 "You've — That Lovin' Feelin'"
 - 17 Laugh out loud
 - 18 Motionless
 - 20 Doomed ocean liner
 - 22 Letter after zeta
 - 23 Easy mark
 - 24 Mischievous child
 - 26 Enthusiast
 - 27 Faithless one
 - 30 Sun-dried brick
 - 32 "— that's the truth!"
 - 33 Argentina's — Peron
 - 34 Persona — grata
 - 35 Get bronzed
 - 37 Glowing coal
 - 39 "To be sure!"
 - 40 Carpet
 - 41 Low
 - 42 Mail-order option, quickly
 - 43 Young canine
 - 45 Actress — Portman
 - 49 Doctrine
 - 51 Lacking rainfall
 - 52 Con — (with spirit)
 - 54 Actor Daniel — Lewis
 - 55 Swerve
 - 56 Rich soil
 - 57 Sixth sense, for short
 - 58 Relaxation
 - 59 Anglo-Saxon laborer
 - 60 Fourth letter
- DOWN**
- 1 Sibilate
 - 2 Intense
 - 3 Guns and ammo
 - 4 Auditorium
 - 5 Self-importance
 - 6 What the doctor ordered
 - 7 Skilled worker
 - 8 Discard
 - 9 Crackpot
 - 10 Jai —
 - 11 Singer — Anthony
 - 19 Stew meat
 - 21 Bicycle for two
 - 25 Gasoline, British style
 - 26 Tooth
 - 27 Sprang back
 - 28 Old greeting
 - 29 Sailor
 - 30 "At — rate ..."
 - 31 Average guy
 - 36 Loud enough to hear
 - 38 Sulk
 - 42 Military group
 - 44 "— porridge hot ..."
 - 45 Wheel hub
 - 46 Region
 - 47 Makes the same score
 - 48 Desire, personified
 - 49 Big book
 - 50 Variety
 - 53 Actor — McKellen

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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	

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

HERMAN



"There's a 200-foot monster outside and he tells her to bolt the door."

Old sweethearts' meeting reopens a few old wounds

DEARABBY: After 35 years, I recently ran into my first love, "Cliff." His sister lost her son, and I went to the wake. She and I were good friends growing up and stayed in touch occasionally through the years. Neither of us ever brought up her brother.

Cliff and I broke up during my senior year of high school. I suspected a very good friend of mine was seeing him behind my back at the same time I was confiding in her over my broken heart. Turns out they got married. They are still married to this day.

When I saw Cliff, he looked at me from a distance with a huge smile on his face and his hand over his heart. We hugged for a good five minutes. He held me the way he did when we were together. I never got closure from our breakup because his girlfriend (now wife) wouldn't allow it.

It turns out she wasn't happy that he and I were speaking that evening. I really want closure even though all these years later I have moved on and am married to the love of my life. I need to heal that part of my heart and know if he still has feelings for me. I have

gone through all these years feeling he hates me. Please help. -- BITTERSWEET MEMORY IN NEW YORK

DEAR BITTERSWEET: I think you already have the answer to your question. When your old beau saw you, his smile lit up the room and he touched his heart. To me, it sends a strong message. That his wife wasn't thrilled the two of you spent five minutes hugging makes me wonder if she may have sabotaged your high school romance all those years ago. PLEASE go on with your life and stop looking back. You already have the closure you seek.

DEARABBY: My family and I love to go camping and invite friends and family to join us. No matter how large the group is, I tend to be the one cooking all the meals all the time. I actually love to cook, but some of our guests take advantage and don't help out with food prep or clean up, or the setup or take-down of camping equipment. They don't even pick up after their children.

One of them is a co-worker and good friend, and I don't know how to approach her so that there are no hard feel-

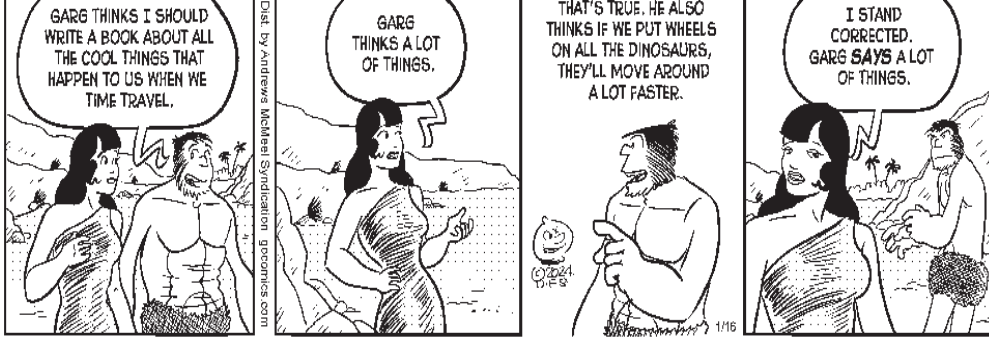


ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

ings. I have actually considered not inviting that family again. I'll miss their company, but my family and I think it's rude not to help in any way. -- NOT A HAPPY CAMPER

DEAR NOT A HAPPY CAMPER: I agree it's rude not to offer to help one's host in the situation you have described. Before inviting your good friend and co-worker on the next campout, have a chat with her. Explain that if she and her family decide to come along next time, you'll NEED her to assist you with those chores. That way she'll be warned and can refuse the invitation if it is not to her liking.

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



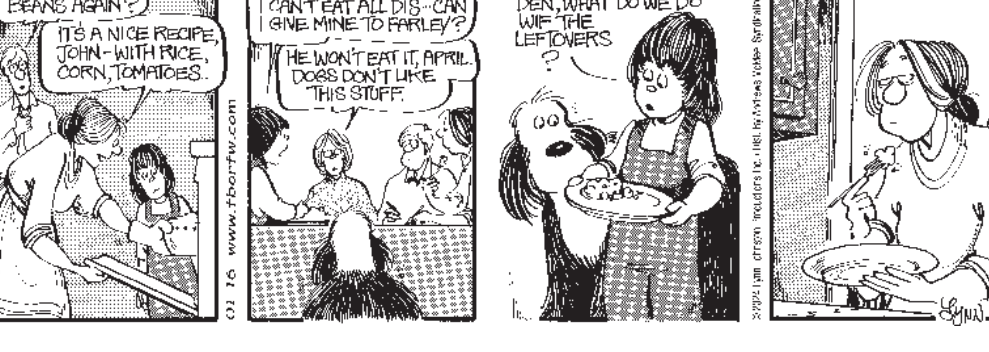
BIG NATE



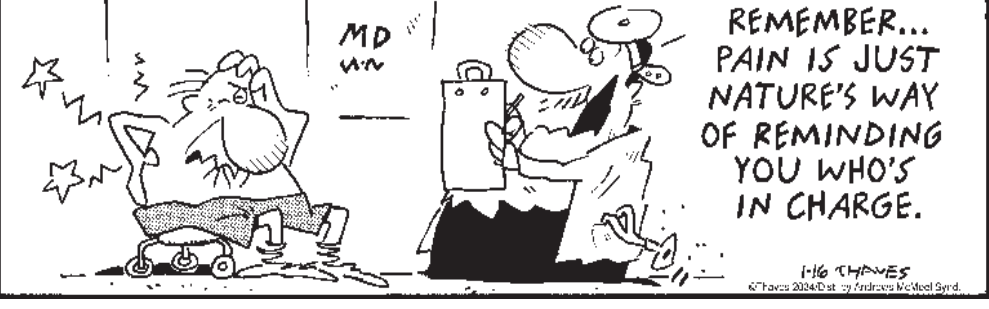
THE BORN LOSER



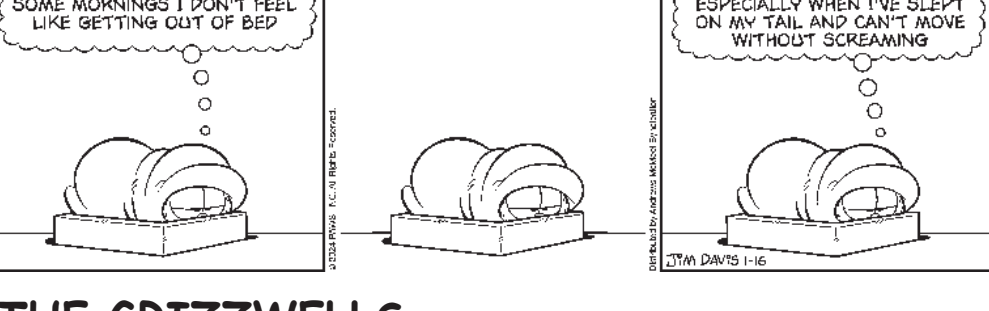
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



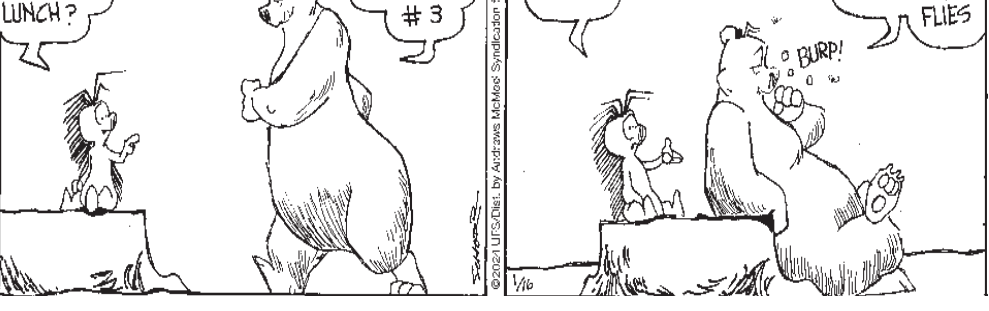
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS

