



Saguache Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary hosts a fundraising bake sale

— Page 5



Second Team All-Valley Football

— Page 6



Today's Issue Sponsored By:



VOLUME 97, NO. 186

Valley Courier

FRIDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

November 24, 2023

\$1

SLV Today Communities in Christ annual concert is Dec. 3

SANFORD — The "Gathering Our Communities in Christ" Choir Group and other local talent will usher in the Christmas season at the annual concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 3, inside the Sanford School auxiliary gym. The concert is free, but they are accepting donations to the food bank.

SLV Rural Philanthropy Days information sessions

SAN LUIS VALLEY — Interested in being a part of the planning process for San Luis Valley Rural Philanthropy Days?

This group of local leaders will collaborate over the next eight months to build programming, build the capacity of nonprofits, and expand professional networks at the San Luis Valley RPD. Communities connecting together and with grantmaking partners is more important than ever, and the steering committees can help ensure the success of the San Luis Valley RPD.

If you live or work in Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache counties and would like more information about the 2024 conference and regional steering committee, two virtual informational sessions are planned:

- Thursday, Nov. 30, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 6, 1 to 2 p.m.

This hour-long informational meeting will explain more about the conference planning process — honing in on the role, responsibilities, and benefits that come from serving on the regional steering committee.

If you are unable to attend these dates but would like to learn more about the steering committee, organizers ask you to sign up as recordings from these sessions will be sent out afterward.

SLV WEATHER

Snow Showers Likely, Breezy 40/17

Sat: Snow Showers Likely 38/7

Fri: Mostly Sunny 34/0

INSIDE

Record	Page 2
Valley News	Page 3
Opinion	Page 4
Lifestyle	Page 5
Sports	Page 6
Shop Local	Page 7
Public Notice	Page 8
Classifieds	Pages 9 and 10
Comics	Page 11
Miss Merry	Page 12

Turkeys, ham roll out of Woody's smokers

By KEITH R. CERNY
Courier Publisher

ALAMOSA — Something is always smoking at Woody's Q Shack.

This week it was turkey and ham on top of the barbecue restaurant's normal menu.

Owner Kyle Woodward and his staff were busy Wednesday loading smokers and preparing previously smoked turkey and ham for pre-orders of 56 and 24, respectively. This is the first time that Woody's have offered the Thanksgiving delights since 2020 when the owner himself became ill on Thanksgiving Day. "I had to coach my wife Mi-

chelle and another employee over the phone on how to finish the process," Woodward said. "We had about 80 families to worry about not spoiling their holiday."

Woody's has been offering smoked turkey and ham for Thanksgiving since 2013 other than the pandemic years of 2021 and 2022. Woodward said that first year they prepared 12 tur-

■ See **WOODY'S** page 3

Woody's Q Shack owner Kyle Woodward displays some of this year's smoked turkeys waiting to be picked up by customers.

Courier photo by Keith R. Cerny



Helping Thanksgiving hands



Photo by Kathy Lee

ALAMOSA — Aaron Miltenberger of the Boys and the Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley (left) and Alamosa City Council Member Liz Thomas Hensley help getting Thanksgiving food bundles ready at the Food Bank Network of the San Luis Valley.

Transmission line study application has been filed

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

SAN LUIS VALLEY

— Alamosa County Commissioner Lori Laske has submitted a concept paper application to the U.S. Department of Energy for a grant to study the feasibility of considering up to three alternative power transmission lines in and out of the Valley. The application is for up to \$2.0 million for an Upper Rio Grande Valley Transmission Study to consider transmission routes in south Colorado and northern New Mexico.

Laske briefed the San Luis Valley Commissioners Association at their meeting in Alamosa on Nov. 20, stating, "This is a grant to the federal Department of Energy to have a study done to have a large transmission line. This is not a line going to houses, it is to transport [electricity] solar out of

the valley or energy coming in. This is a line to move energy in and out of the Valley."

Laske told the commissioners that a grant application for a study of Valley transmission lines submitted last year was not chosen. After learning the fate of that application, Laske said she searched for other grant opportunities and picked this Department of Energy grant that could finance a feasibility study. Formally, the grant application is known as a Transmission Siting and Economic Development (TSED) Program Concept Paper," and Alamosa County is the siting authority with Commissioner Laske as the technical point of contact. Laske added she hopeful, "at a later date to get all the San Luis Valley Commissioners to endorse and be a partner of this project."

■ See **LINE** page 3

SLV Apothecary sets sights on new State Avenue location

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

ALAMOSA — SLV Apothecary, the local old-time herb tea shop which also has foods from local cultivators and producers will be expanding to a new State Avenue location on the south side of Alamosa early next year.

The shop is owned by Cari Smith and Danielle Wobith, and on a recent visit, this reporter was treated to a wonderful infusion tea. The shop offers many custom tea blends including Insomnia Tea which includes Valerian leaf and flower, orange peel, and chamomile, and Easy Digest Tea a blend of marshmallow leaves, lilac blossoms, fennel, and rosemary.

The business began about a year and a half ago after the two met and decided their skills complemented each other and the business was born.

Wobith and Smith just learned the new location is a go on Tuesday, a development that had been in the works for some time. Wobith described the news as, "Awesome, we are going to be

■ See **LOCATION** page 3

SLV Apothecary owners Cari Smith and Danielle Wobith are excited to announce the business will be moving to a new and larger State Avenue location on the south side of Alamosa sometime early next year.

Courier photo by John Waters



ALAMOSA STATE BANK
A Real Community Bank®
Local Ownership. Local Commitment.

SERVING THE SLV FOR 116 YEARS!
589-2564 | www.alamosastatebank.com



Record

MV Emergency Food Bank holds Thanksgiving distribution

By **MARIE MCCOLM MONTE VISTA** — On Friday, Nov. 17, the Monte Vista Emergency Food Bank held a Thanksgiving distribution.

Executive Director Jennifer Becker was pleased with the turnout and happy that they could help so many families.

"We fed 625 people, 172 families, in just four hours. We were grateful to be able to help so many people in the community in need," Becker said.

The Monte Vista Emergency Food bank usually serves between 2-500 people for the holiday season. The bank relies on donations from the community, businesses, and individuals.

At this year's distribution, people received cranberries, chicken broth, pumpkin, green beans, evaporated milk, Jello mix, a cake or cookie mix, along with turkey or ham, fresh bread, and eggs.

Becker said that the food bank spent around \$8,000 to help feed everyone.

"We are always thankful for the donations that help so much," Becker

said. "I definitely want to thank everyone who has donated. I would like to also give a big shout out to Scott Lujan at Top Value, too. Scott, his wife Kat, and his staff are great! They always throw in extras, and give us a good deal on price, and deliver the goods to us on time every year. We appreciate that so very much."

Becker said that she can't forget her volunteers. They work hard to make sure that the distribution goes smoothly, not just for the holidays but year-round.

Becker also said that she was grateful to Tim and Wendy Davidson of Scrumpy Moos, who fed her volunteers on the day of the distribution for free.

"So many wonderful people in the community working to band together to help feed the community," Becker said. "We are all a team, and I couldn't do it without any of them. I am grateful that we were able to feed so many people in the community for Thanksgiving. This is what the food bank is all about. We want to

make sure that everyone in need gets fed. We are also proud to be able to feed everyone in need for the holidays and all year round too."

Food bank board member Bridget Sandoval helped at the distribution and said that everyone looked happy to receive the food.

"I was happy to be a part of it all and help," Sandoval said. "People started lining up at 9 a.m. for the distribution. We fed a lot of families. They walked away looking really happy to be able to feed their families for Thanksgiving."

With Christmas right around the corner, the Monte Vista Emergency Food Bank needs donations. The food bank is open from 2 to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, and their phone number is 719-852-4851. The food bank is located at 245 Washington St. in Monte Vista. The food banks is also on Facebook and people can email Becker directly at jbeckermv-foodbank@gmail.com or mail monetary donations to PO Box 844, Monte Vista, CO 81144.



Courtesy Photo

San Juan Avenue closure for light stringing

STAFF REPORT ALAMOSA — The half block of San Juan Avenue between Main Street and the alleyway south of Fourth Street will be closed on the morning of Wednesday, Nov. 29, for the stringing of decorative lights.

All vehicles must be removed before 6 a.m. that morning, according to the city.

The street will reopen by noon that day. This beautification project implements the community vision for this "festival street" described in the

Downtown Plan and was made possible through funding provided by Adams State University.

Contact the Development Services department with any questions at planning@ci.alamosa.co.us or by calling 719-589-6631.

OBITUARY

Jerome (Jerry) Mathew Salazar

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of our son and brother, Jerome (Jerry) Mathew Salazar of Monte Vista, Colo., in Colorado Springs on Nov. 13, 2023.



Amari and Myles, of Alamosa, Colo., Modesto, Mari and Madison Gutierrez of Del Norte Colo., Dustin (Reni) Salazar; Andrea and Aaliyah Salazar of Albuquerque N.M., MacKenzie Salazar, nieces Rachael (Lucas) Torres; Karsyn, Maverick and Declan Torres, of Monte Vista, Colo., Marisol (Reno); Royal and Modesty, of Alamosa, Colo., Zoe Simmons; Marisela and Mariciano Flores, of Alamosa, Colo., his aunt Ethel and cousin John Noriega of Monte Vista, Colo., cousins Alire's, Carl (Roberta) Medina Richland, Texas, and cousins Medina from Washington. He is also survived by several aunts, uncles, cousins as well as his beloved familia Vigil from Ranchos De Taos, and Albuquerque, N.M., his best friend and cousin Louie Mansanares, longtime friends, Leroy and Wanda Sanchez, Manuel and Toni Romero, Robert Medina, Tom Maloy and Don and Janet Nolan.

Jerry was born on Dec. 8, 1953, in Holyoke, Mass., to Modesto and Martha Salazar, becoming the oldest of their '6 J's' and began his life as an Air Force Brat, and a life of world travel with his family.

San Luis Valley. He also charmed the air waves in several communities in Northern Colorado, New Mexico, and California. He definitely had the gift of gab and had a joke to share, whether you wanted to hear it or not!

Jerry was preceded in death by maternal grandparents, Bernie and Rachel Noriega of Monte Vista, Colo., and Francisco and Eurmania Salazar of Center, Colo., his father, Modesto Salazar, his sisters Joya (Mike) Gutierrez and Jessica Simmons both of Monte Vista, Colo., his brother Jan Salazar, Colorado Springs, Colo., and nephew Marty Gutierrez of Monte Vista, Colo.

He attended schools in Missouri, onto Zaragosa, Spain, El Paso, Texas, McChord AFB, Wash., Travis AFB, Calif., Boarding School in Ankara, Turkey, dotted with a few times in Monte Vista, Colo., where he graduated in 1972.

He is survived by his mother Martha Salazar, of Monte Vista, Colo., his brother Joey Salazar of Albuquerque, N.M., and Josette (Louie) Borrego, of Espanola, N.M.; his former companion Kathy Burns and his son Dominic Salazar, of Santa Fe, N.M., as well as his beloved 'Scottie', 'America', nephews, Michael (Erica) Gutierrez; Harper and Henley of Alamosa, Colo., Mario Gutierrez, of Boulder, Colo., Nicholas Gutierrez; Mia Gutierrez of Phoenix, Ariz., Rico (Shawntel) Simmons;

He served in the United States Marine Corps, of which he was proud, for all his life. He won several prestigious awards for his writing and production skills, including interviews with General West Moreland, comic Bill Cosby and was a part of the production crew serving President Nixon.

He will truly be missed. We will have a celebration of life for Jerry in the spring of 2024 in Monte Vista, Colo. The interment will be at the Colorado State Veterans Center Cemetery at Homelake, Monte Vista, Colo.

The family of Jerry Salazar has entrusted the care of their loved one to Rogers Family Mortuary, to leave online condolences, tributes, and words of comfort for Jerry's family, please visit www.Rogers-Funerals.com

Jerry had a great talent for broadcasting on and writing 'production' while he was manager for KSLV radio station in Monte Vista, Colo., for several years, winning the hearts over many of his beloved community of Monte Vista and the



Photo courtesy of NPS

The wild rose can be seen along the Mosca Pass Trail in Great Sand dunes National Park and Preserve.

Great Sand Dunes celebrates Native American Heritage Month

By **JAIDEN GARCIA Jicarilla Apache Tribe and NPS Intern GREAT SAND DUNES** — There are hundreds of plant species in Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, each of them a resource with a purpose for Native Americans. We can step into the past and learn how Native Americans were able to survive off the land and utilize the plants in a beneficial and medicinal way in their everyday life.

One plant species that is found in the park and

preserve is the wild rose. It is a very beneficial plant, and a vital source that helped Native Americans and settlers maintain a sufficient intake of Vitamin C while traveling over Mosca Pass and other mountain areas. Once the rose petals have fallen off, the rose will produce a rose "hip" or berry at the base of the flower. Each berry can contain up to 2000 mg of Vitamin C, maintaining health and preventing scurvy. The berries can be eaten raw or made into jam, jelly,

syrops, and teas. Immerse yourself into nature and to the stories that the trees, plants and rocks must tell. The stories that the plants and rocks hold can relate resilience in the forest to everyday life.

School Menu Friday November 24, 2023

COURIER OBITUARY POLICY

The Courier charges \$75 for each obituary per day. Pending arrangements or death notices are free. This charge affects funeral homes, family or other representatives that place obituaries. All paid obituaries are published on www.alamosanews.com, for no additional fee.

Please email obituaries if possible to squintana@alamosanews.com If the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed.

Thanksgiving Break!

Breakfast & Lunch Free for all students Alamosa School District To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

PEOPLE WITH DISABLED CHILDREN HELPING FAMILIES WITH DISABILITIES

NTSOC
Nursing & Therapy Services of Colorado

719-574-5562 • NTSOC.COM
1130 W. WOODMEN RD., COLO SPGS, CO 80919

Valley News

T-Road Brewing Company and Nick Nevares host Community Thanksgiving Dinner

By MARIE MCCOLM
CRESTONE — On Sunday, Nov. 19, the T-Road Brewing Company along with Crestone's Nick Nevares, hosted a community Thanksgiving potluck meal, from 12 to 5 p.m. According to Nevares, the event was a success with approximately 500 people show-

ing up for Thanksgiving dinner. "I coordinated around 30 turkeys to be cooked," Nevares said. "My local MLS donated money, and a variety of other people donated money to the Crestone Mercantile, and then they gave us the turkeys for wholesale. The remainder of

the food was all potluck, so people just brought in the rest of the spread. It was all lovely."

T-Road Brewing Company was decked out with festive lights outside of the establishment. Just inside the door, the smell of freshly cooked turkey wafted through the air. A large table was set up in front of some bar stools, that held trays full of turkey. Two tables were set up next to the turkey table that had rolls and sweet potatoes. On the counter directly across from the turkey, were cups, plates, forks and spoons along with trays of mashed potatoes, stuffing, pumpkin and pecan pies, whip cream, and other desserts.

There were numerous tables for dining inside the establishment, with centerpieces made of fall leaves and pinecones, and some were adorned with a pear in the middle. On the corner of the tables, there was a large lit Christmas tree, with multicolored lights. There were also tables outside with large white tablecloths and chairs. A person played the piano that was inside the brewery.

People were lined up smiling and laughing, as they entered T-Road to enjoy Thanksgiving



Courtesy photos

Approximately 500 people attended the community Thanksgiving potluck on Nov. 19 at T-Road Brewing Company in Crestone.



Nick Nevares collaborated with T-Road Brewing Company in Crestone for a community Thanksgiving potluck meal on Nov. 19.



dinner. Children played outside.

Crestone resident Lori Sunflower said it was a great time.

"Everyone has been

happy that has come in. The people here are just talking and enjoying the food," she said.

Many people also gave thanks to Nevares for

collaborating with the T-Road Brewing Company on the wonderful event. Last year, fed more than 600 people at the Thanksgiving potluck.



Courier photo by John Waters

Power transmission lines on 8N in Alamosa County. The county has submitted a grant application to the Department of Energy that would fund studies to analyze potential routes for new transmission lines in and out of the Valley.

Line

Continued from Page 1

According to the concept paper, "The proposed URGV (Upper Rio Grande Valley) Transmission Study will increase grid resilience, enable the development and deployment of renewable energy and significantly increase economic opportunities in the communities affected by the construction and operation of a "covered transmission project."

The concept paper-application states that communities in south-central Colorado and northern New Mexico, "have identified strong interest in additional transmission lines and substations to provide interconnection points for a subsequent clean energy build-out." The region is "ideal for solar production," and, "the region currently only has just one transmission corridor, which runs north over a wooded mountain pass with high fire risk. Without redundancy, all power to the 50,000 residents in the SLV could be lost if there were to be a wildfire."

The San Luis Valley is home to several solar production facilities. In March, the Valley Courier reported on a 17.5-acre renewable energy storage facility being built off Lane 8N. Last month, Korsail Energy announced plans to build a 790-acre solar energy production and storage facility near Alamosa.

This is not the first attempt to build an additional line in and out of the Valley. In 2011, a permit was issued to Public Service of Colorado and Tri State Generation and Transmission to build a transmission line from Alamosa County over La Veta pass. That proposal was doomed after a large landowner objected to the plan that prevented the acquisition of the needed right of way.

If the proposed study is funded, it will analyze three transmission corridors, 1. East from Alamosa to Pueblo; 2. South from Alamosa to Northern New Mexico; and 3. Northwest from Alamosa then southwest to the Four Corners Area.

During the commissioners meeting, Laske listed the partners in the proposal: Colorado Energy Office, New Mexico Energy Office, New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Office, Colorado Electric Transmission Authority, Colorado Department of Transportation, New Mexico State University, San Luis Valley Commissioners Association, San Luis Valley Council of Governments. The San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative and Kit Carson Electric Cooperative are also partners.

In an interview with the Valley Courier, Alamosa County Commissioner Laske stressed that the concept paper-application she has submitted is a preliminary step that has yet to be approved.

Location

Continued from Page 1

moving in January, expanding and offering more local foods. This will be a grocery store—apothecary. This will be at 1619 State Avenue, there is the food bank on one side and we will be on the other. We will bring an apothecary and groceries to an area that does not have one, so that is exciting. Local farmers can come and bring their produce, meats, and product."

Currently, the shop is located at 407 State Ave., Suite D, at the intersection of Fourth Street in Alamosa.

The new location will, "bring food to that area of town, now you have to go so far and this will be great for people who don't have access to transportation, we are super-excited," said Wobith. "The new location is about twice the size of the current location and also has a commercial kitchen."



Courier photo by John Waters

Early next year, SLV Apothecary will occupy half of this building at 1619 State Ave. in Alamosa.

Smith is also the proprietor of InfiTea Farm, a business, "Where I actually cultivate the herbs and make tea blends, tinctures, and salves. I also do hydrosols."

Smith grows herbs including lovage, lemon balm and lemon verbena at the Rio Grande Farm Park in Alamosa. Smith added that she engages in no-till agricultural techniques at the farm and focuses on producing perennial plants.

"Our main goal, other

than selling our own products, is selling San Luis Valley produced products. Our focus is SLV products, Alamosa La Jara, Crestone, Saguache and Monte Vista," Smith said.

The duo also gather herbs in the wild, Wobith harvests the herb Oshá, in the San Juan Mountains at an elevation of about 10,000 feet. According to the University of Kansas Native Medicinal Plant Research Program, "The root of Ligusticum porteri, known as Oshá, has long been esteemed—particularly among Native Americans and Hispanic populations in the Southwest and Mexico—as a traditional remedy for colds, sore throat and other ailments. Its use as an herbal remedy has increased significantly in the North American natural products market over the past two decades."

Local producers are a hallmark of the apothecary and products include bread and pizza dough from Tumbleweed Bread, locally grown meat, and

mushrooms from Alpine Valley Mushrooms in Saguache. Smith says the pioppino mushrooms are excellent on pizza made from the dough made by Tumbleweed.

The apothecary also offers classes such as Tea Making for Winter on Nov. 25 from 4 to 6 p.m., which will be facilitated by Smith. Participants can learn about herbs that can help get you through the winter, healthier and happier. The class will go over common herbs like Marshmallow to soothe the stomach and throat, red clover to help detoxify, and nettles to nourish and how to brew teas for the highest medicinal value. The cost is a suggested donation of \$20 and scholarships are available, said Smith.

SLV Apothecary can be reached at 719-496-6114 and on the web at www.slvapothecary.com and is located at 407 State Ave., Suite D, facing Fourth Street in Alamosa. The apothecary is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Woody's

Continued from Page 1

keys (no ham), "and we thought that was a lot." Fast-forward 10 years and it has grown to a combined total of 80 turkeys and hams.

Woodward said they use a "quick brine" process for the birds with their own recipe which is injected. After a four-hour resting period, the turkeys are smoked for six hours at 275 degrees. Hams are dry rubbed and smoked at the same temperature.

Online ordering on Woody's website expedited the process this year but had to be purchased about a week in advance. Smoked prime rib and ham will be available for Christmas, Woodward said.

According to their website, Woody's story started in 2012 when Michelle bought Kyle a smoker for Christmas. He and his late father, Jeff, found a shared love for barbecue and enjoyed feeding family and friends.

This hobby became a passion when the family began entering the competition world, with Woody's winning many awards on the KCBS circuit including grand champions of the 2018 SLV Beat the Heat BBQ competition here. They also placed in the top one percent of the 465 teams at the 2018 American Royal, also known as the "world series of barbecue."

The passion later became a family-run catering business (now up to 2,500 people) then quickly expanded into a successful food truck and



Courier photo by Keith R. Cerny

Woody's Q Shack pit master Carlos Apodaca, who also serves as kitchen manager, is loading one of the company's outdoor rotisserie smokers with turkeys for pickup on Thanksgiving Day.

a full brick-and-mortar restaurant in downtown Alamosa.

"We've built our business by believing in faith, family, the product, the

staff, customers, restaurant environment, our community, being the best, doing the best, staying humble, and continuing to grow."



A&M WINDOWS & DOORS, L.L.C.

We manufacture windows right here in the Valley. Any size you need.

Doors • Screens • Storm Doors
Insulated Glass Units
(719) 589-9952

Opinion

Riding the magic carpet

Just this past weekend Ol' Dutch decided to make the long journey up to Kansas and some of my past digs to see family.

Fast Freddy, my father these past 67 years, needed a visit and so Miss Trixie and I pointed the Jeep north and soon were basking in the flat lands of my youth.

It was good to get together and the trip had a two-fold purpose as my nephew had recently married and was having a reception and so we took my dad and mom up to that event.

Mom wanted to make a day of it so since five members of the family had recently purchased new homes, we visited all of them so Mom could see all the decorating they had done. At each house, she and Trixie would take the grand tour while the men of the house, Dad and I would sit in the living room waiting because men generally don't care what bedspreads are on the beds or pictures are on the walls.

I think the most interesting thing about the trip was getting to drive my Dad's new Nissan Rogue car to the reception and around the house tour. I had not been in a newer car for some time and boy was I in for a treat.

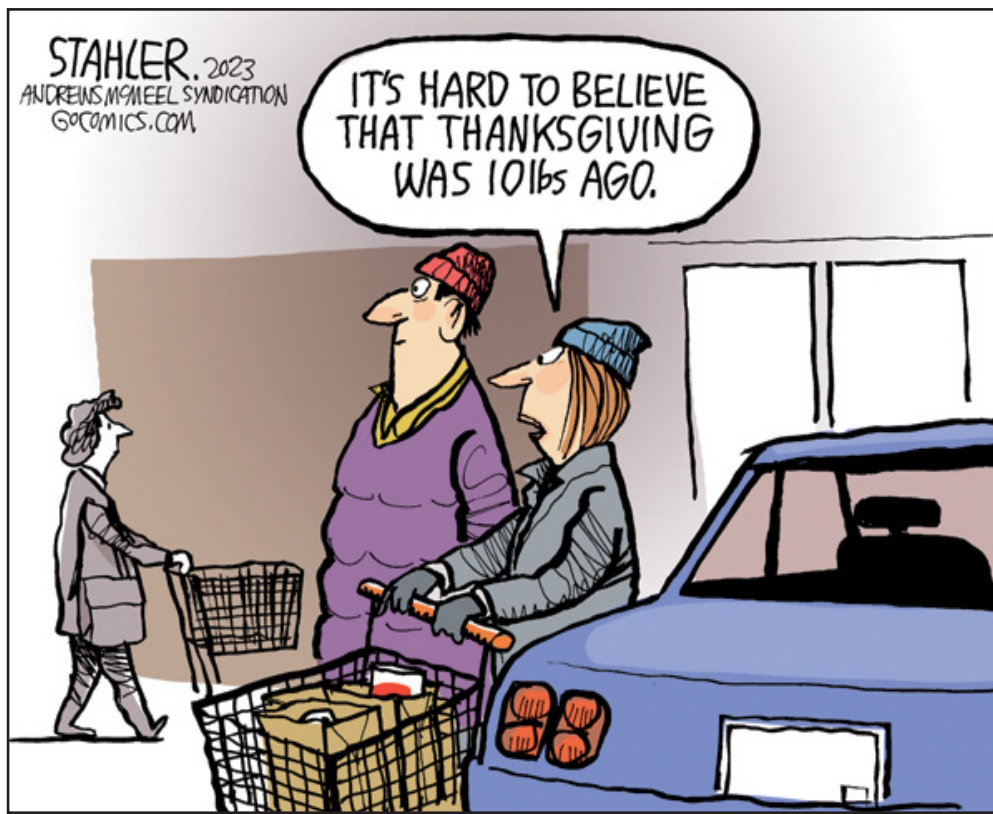
No sooner had I hit the onramp for the interstate, but the darned thing started to talk to me. Now I am used to the phone bossing me around, but this thing dinged and beeped and whizzed constantly.

If a car came up beside us it dinged and beeped and a light came on over by the side mirror to warn you about the

Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick



danger in the blind spot. The navigation screen was unbelievable, giving me all sorts of information most of which I did not need but found entertaining.

I was just getting comfortable driving and had found the cruise control and had settled back for a nice long drive up the interstate when something very disturbing happened. Suddenly I found myself fighting some invisible force that was trying to take over the steering.

This wasn't like Miss Trixie and her back seat driving instructions, but it felt like actual hands were turning the wheel as we sped along at 75 mph. I about halfway panicked until Fast Freddy explained that it is the self-driving mode.

For it seems it has this function much like a Swami riding a magic carpet that looks out ahead and follows the lines on the pavement. It was difficult to get used to I have to admit but the farther I went the better it seemed and soon

I dreamed of just taking my hands off the wheel and browsing the Internet for house materials.

But that idea was squashed as Dad said it would slow down and stop if you took your hands off the wheel so there goes that idea.

So, we sped along out of my control and soon entered some traffic. Now the car began to slow and match the speed of the traffic ahead. And Ol' Dutch, even the big thinker began to realize that a person can probably get a pretty good nap with this car as it will pretty much take care of you no matter where you go.

And since I cannot hear, the dings and beeps would not keep me awake either. It took me some time but soon I came up with the idea of getting some of those Halloween hands to put on the steering wheel and then Ol' Dutch could put the old chair back and catch some serious ZZZ's.

To submit news, email:
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!"

Miss Trixie, upon hearing this idea let out a sigh and I could tell that at least with her along I would never get to experience the jet-set age of new-fangled inventions we are living with. Obviously, she has more to live for than Ol' Dutch as she always makes me pay attention when driving anywhere.

We had a great time coming and going and if the darned thing would just see the deer and elk and avoid them it would be about as good as we can get. It may not be the Jetsons future that we were promised folks, but it's getting there anyway.

Wherever you are on this Thanksgiving weekend, I pray you have plenty of food and lots of love.

Kevin Kirkpatrick and his Yorkie, Cooper, fish, hunt, ATV or hike daily. His email is Kevin@TroutRepublic.com. Additional news can be found at www.troutrepublic.com.

Will stars align for Haley in bizarre GOP contest?

By BYRON YORK

The political world spends a lot of time discussing former President Donald Trump's lead over the Republican field in national polls -- currently at 45.4%, according to the RealClearPolitics average of polls. But, of course, the race will unfold as a series of state contests, beginning in Iowa on Jan. 15, New Hampshire on Jan. 23, Nevada on Feb. 8 and South Carolina on Feb. 24. By then, Republicans should have a pretty good idea who their 2024 presidential nominee will be.

Of course, Trump is leading in the early-voting state polls, too -- a 29.7-point lead in Iowa, a 27-point lead in New Hampshire and a 30.5-point lead in South Carolina. Something big will have to happen for Trump's huge leads to disappear. But there is a secondary race, too -- the race to be the backup nominee should Trump somehow fail. Right now, the secondary race appears to be coming down to Ron DeSantis vs. Nikki Haley, and Haley is emerging with a strong hand, at least for the moment.

As is always the case, there's been a huge amount of campaigning in Iowa. It's important to all the candidates, but even more important to candidates who are slipping in the polls and see a good finish in the first-voting state as a way to revive their fortunes. Currently, DeSantis is going "all in" campaigning in Iowa in a move widely seen as an indicator that he believes a poor showing there would not be survivable.

But here's the problem with Iowa, even for candidates who manage to do well there. It's been 23 years since a Republican hopeful won the Iowa caucuses and then went on to win the Republican nomination. You have to go back to 2000, when George W. Bush won both the caucuses and the nomination, to find an Iowa winner who became the

GOP's standard-bearer.

New Hampshire has been a different story. In 2016, Trump won the primary and then the nomination. Mitt Romney did it in 2012, and John McCain did it in 2008. The last GOP candidate to lose the New Hampshire primary but still win the nomination was Bush in 2000.

Which brings the story back to DeSantis. Say his efforts pay off and he does well in Iowa. (As for all the other candidates, "does well" means "finishes second to Trump.") He will then have eight days to do well in New Hampshire, where of course Trump is also leading. That's where Haley's strength could kick in and do some serious damage to DeSantis.

A recent University of New Hampshire poll found Trump leading Haley by a 42% to 20% margin, with Chris Christie in third place at 14% and DeSantis in fourth with 9%. News coverage of the poll focused on Haley's rise from 12% in the last UNH poll in September to 20% today.

New Hampshire voters can register as Republican, Democrat or "undeclared," and undeclared voters are allowed to vote in the Republican primary. The UNH poll showed Haley doing very well with undeclared voters. Among registered Republicans, Trump led Haley by a margin of 55% to 17% -- a 38-point lead. Among undeclared voters, Haley led Trump by a slim margin of 25% to 24%. In the new poll, undeclared voters made up 43% of the group of likely GOP primary voters surveyed.

Of course, even with the undeclared support, Haley is still 22 points behind Trump. But the survey does point to the importance of undeclared voters in New Hampshire, and it raises the subject of mischief voting. In the past, some Democrats have urged fellow Democrats to re-register to undeclared temporarily in order to vote in the Republican pri-

mary. On the other side, in 2008, the late Rush Limbaugh famously created "Operation Chaos" in which he urged Republicans to vote in the Democratic primary race between Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton.

Now, there are special concerns about possible mischief voting in the 2024 New Hampshire primary because President Joe Biden has offended many in New Hampshire by throwing the state out of the first group of Democratic primaries, choosing instead to start with South Carolina, where Biden won in 2020. So what will New Hampshire Democrats, facing a new situation in January, do? Would the Republican primary be a perfect place for a Democrat to cast a protest vote against Trump -- and for Haley -- in the Republican primary?

Andrew Smith, director of the University of New Hampshire poll, downplays the possibility, saying mischief voting has never been a serious factor in a New Hampshire primary. "Regarding independents, very few, about 3% of voters, move from one party to another over primary cycles," Smith said in an email exchange. "Most independents who are really Democrats will vote in the Democratic primary or stay at home. It's hard enough to get people to vote in their own party's primary, let alone the other party."

If the New Hampshire Republican primary were held today, it seems clear that Haley would beat DeSantis. And then the campaign would move on to South Carolina, where Haley happens to be the former governor and where she leads DeSantis 18.8% to 10.5%, according to the RealClearPolitics average of polls. If a candidate wins New Hampshire and South Carolina, no matter what happened in Iowa, that candidate is probably on the way to the nomination.

Of course, right now, that candidate looks to be Trump. But the secondary race is important, too, given Trump's legal situation and the always-there possibility that something weird could happen in a very unusual Republican campaign. In that event, the winner of the secondary race could become the Republican nominee. And at the moment, Haley is coming on strong.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.

Write them

GOVERNOR

Governor Jared Polis (D), State Capitol Building Room 136, 200 East Colfax, Denver CO 80203; (303) 866-2471; Fax: (303) 866-2003.

STATE HOUSE

Matthew Martinez (D), Colorado State Representative, District 62, 200 E Colfax, Room 307, Denver, CO 80203; phone: 303-866-2916; email:matthew.martinez.house@coleg.gov

STATE SENATE

Cleave Simpson (R), Colorado State Senator, District 35, 200 E Colfax RM 346 Denver, CO 80203 Phone: 303-866-4875 cleave.simpson.senate@coleg.gov

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Lauren Boebert (R)
Pueblo Office: 503 N. Main, Suite 426, Pueblo, CO 81003 (719) 696-6970;

Washington Office: 1609 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-4761

Fax: (202) 226-9669;

Contact: https://boebert.house.gov/

U.S. SENATE

Michael Bennet (D)
SLV Regional Office: 609 Main Street, Suite 110, Alamosa 81101; Phone: 587-0096; Fax: 587-0098;

Washington office: 458 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; DC Phone: 202-224-5852;

Contact: bennet.senate.gov

John Hickenlooper (D)

Washington office: B85 Russell Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510 (202) 224-5941

Contact: www.hickenlooper.senate.gov

Keith R Cerny
Publisher

Brian Williams
Managing Editor

Valley Courier

(ISSN 1047-1170)

The Valley Courier is published daily, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday by San Luis Valley Publishing, 2205 State Ave., Alamosa, Colo. 81101. Web site: www.alamosanews.com. Periodicals Postage: is paid at Alamosa, Colo., Monte Vista, Colo., La Jara, Colo., and Fort Garland, Colo. Phone (719) 589-2553. Postmaster send change of address to P.O. Box 1099.

coloradopress
ASSOCIATION

Debbie Sowards
Adam Lopez
John Waters
Priscilla Waggoner

Advertising Manager
Advertising & Digital Sales
News Editor
Staff Writer

Ryker Alonzo
Ken Hamrick
Shasta Quintana
Richard R. Quintana

Editorial Assistant
Sports Editor
Circulation
Mailroom Supervisor/Press

Your FIRST Source for Local News

Editor's Note: The views expressed in individual columns on this page do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Valley Courier.

Lifestyles

Saguache Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary hosts a fundraising bake sale

Auxiliary also gives information about the Fire Department

By MARIE MCCOLM
SAGUACHE — The Saguache Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary held a fundraising bake sale on Friday, Nov. 10, in front of the Saguache Town Market. The bake sale was held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The women at the sale were all smiles and plenty of people lined up to purchase baked goods.

The items offered at the sale included a fresh variety of sweets and breads with sugar-free and gluten-free options as well. The auxiliary sold zucchini, pumpkin, banana, and cornbread, cookies, pies, muffins, and much more. Around noon, the group was down to just a few cookies and a few muffins.

Co-chair for the auxiliary Chella Moores said they had done well.

"We sold a lot this morning. The support we have gotten from the community and the locals has been so great. We had a lot of baked goods with us, this has been great," Moores said.

Co-chair for the auxiliary Jessica Phillips also spoke about the volunteer department and other fundraising events. "There are 13 members in the volunteer fire

department," she said. "They have around 200 fires per year. The volunteers are also first responders, so they answer all other calls as well. We try to hold a bake sale two times a year. As another fundraising event, we will also be holding our annual New Year's celebration, a dinner and dance, and an auction at the Saguache County Community building. Everyone is invited to attend that too."

Phillips said that the volunteer fire department is excited about auctioning off a .22 Tribute Rifle that was donated to them by the Salida Gunshop, at this year's New Year's celebration. She said that since Saguache doesn't really have a business community, they rely on the entire Valley including Salida, Alamosa, and Monte Vista to help with things.

"We really appreciate all the support the businesses give us. Kudos to all the businesses that help us out," she said.

Phillips said that the fire department also does other things for the community. Phillips, who is also a teacher, said that October was Fire Prevention Awareness Month. The department visited schools dressed in full gear to talk to the kids about fire safety. They also gave the kids coloring books and crayons along with packets with helmets and a little craft for the kids to put together a small fire



The Saguache Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary held a fundraising bake sale on Friday, Nov. 10, in front of the Saguache Town Market.

Photo by Marie McColm

truck.

Cassandra Bison of the auxiliary said that they also had a junior crew on the fire department. There were two children sitting with the women as well. Bison introduced Hadley Livings, and Wesson Hall. Bison said that both kids make it to all the meetings.

"We brag about the demographic because we finally have a crew that has all age groups. That is our goal to keep a demographic of all the kids and have them make it to all the meetings too," Bison said.

The Saguache Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1902. The Chief is Kendal Adolph.

For more information about the Saguache Volunteer Fire Department, visit their Facebook page.

NOVEMBER 24TH THROUGH 27TH

10% OFF STOREWIDE
ADDITIONAL 10% OFF SALE ITEMS

20% OFF
SELECT CATEGORIES

- BIKES 10%
- SHOES 10%
- SOLAR PANELS 20%
- APPAREL 20%
- BURLEYS 20%
- STOVES 20%
- TENTS 20%
- BACKPACKS 20%
- ... AND MORE!

SALE EXCLUDES SKIS/BOOTS/BINDINGS, BOARDS/BOOTS/BINDINGS, XC SKIS/BOOTS/BINDINGS, ELECTRONIC AVI BAGS

KRISTI MOUNTAIN SPORTS
ALAMOSA • COLORADO
719-589-9759 • www.KristiMountainSports.com

THE VALLEY'S BEST OUTDOOR SHOP SINCE 1969!

MVC

MVC FARM STORE

THANKS GIVING SALE

NOVEMBER 24TH & 25TH

SPEND \$125 Spend \$125 store wide and receive a special voucher for 25% OFF All Women's and Men's Clothing & Boots AND 10% OFF All Children's Clothing & Boots. Offer Valid Jan 2 - Feb 29, 2024.

Win a FREE pair of boots!
Visit MVCOOP.COM to register!

¿le gustaría ser dueño de su propia vivienda?

Familia Vanessa, Cliente de CHFA y dueño de vivienda

CHFA le acompaña a cada paso del camino

Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA) está aquí con recursos para ayudarle a tomar una decisión informada y a convertirse en un dueño de vivienda cuando se sienta listo:

- Mi Hogar:** Nuestro sitio en español sobre la compra de vivienda está lleno de herramientas para ayudarle a avanzar con confianza por el camino a ser dueño de su vivienda.
- Educación de compra de vivienda:** Ofrecemos clases en todo el estado y ayuda en línea para ayudarle a tomar decisiones informadas y a vencer la intimidación de adquirir una vivienda. Las clases están disponibles en español.

Aprenda más visitando chfainfo.com/MiHogar.

800.877.chfa (2432)
800.659.2656 tdd
www.chfainfo.com

Con respeto a sus programas, servicios, actividades y prácticas de empleo, Colorado Housing and Finance Authority no discrimina en base a raza, color de piel, religión, género, edad, origen nacional, discapacidad ni en base a ninguna otra clasificación proyectada bajo ley federal, estatal o local.

chfa

colorado housing and finance authority

Sports

Second Team All-Valley Football

Second-team Offense



Lucas Garcia
Sargent H.S.



Riley Heater
Mountain Valley H.S.



Josiah Jiron
Antonito H.S.



Kaden Madrid
Monte Vista H.S.



Derek Martinez
Sierra Grande H.S.



Jace Pacheco
Del Norte H.S.



Heber Reed
Sanford H.S.



James Sanchez
Sanford H.S.



Kolby Shellabarger
Sangre de Cristo H.S.



Jesus Valadez
Center H.S.



Craig Williams
Del Norte H.S.

Second-team Defense



Samuel Aguilera
Sierra Grande H.S.



Braiden Cantu
Sangre de Cristo H.S.



Darius Cisneros-Gomez
Antonito H.S.



Kevin Cisneros
Monte Vista H.S.



Jordan Garcia
Centauri H.S.



Roj Larson
Sanford H.S.



Jacob Martinez
Mountain Valley H.S.



Michael Motz
Alamosa H.S.



Shelton Sowards
Centauri H.S.



Luis Valadez
Center H.S.



Fernando Venzor
Sargent H.S.

All-Valley Football Sponsors

Sports Bulletin

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

College men's basketball

Adams State at Alaska-Anchorage, 9:30 p.m.

College women's basketball

Adams State at Alaska-Anchorage, 7:15 p.m.

SATURDAY

College men's basketball

Adams State at Alaska-Anchorage, 9:30 p.m.

College women's basketball

Adams State at

Alaska-Anchorage, 7:15 p.m.

TUESDAY

Prep boys basketball

Center at Salida, 4:30 p.m.
Creede at La Veta, 4:30 p.m.

Prep girls basketball

Center at Salida, 4:30 p.m.
Creede at La Veta, 4:30 p.m.

Prep girls swimming

Sargent, at Pueblo Centennial at Pueblo South, 5 p.m.

GOLD SPONSORS

Absolute Shine AutoBody & Paint

Alamosa Building Supply

Alamosa State Bank

Colorado Realty and Land

Colorado Sports

San Luis Valley Federal Bank

Valley Courier

Vibrant Valley Photography

Woody's Q Shack

SILVER SPONSORS

Cottonwood Dental

GoodSpeed Auto

Linda Jalisco

SLV Health

The Village Pub

BRONZE SPONSOR

Trinchera Ranch

Be sure to check out Saturday 11/25's edition for the All-Valley Football-First Team Offense and Defense.

SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESS. SHOP SMALL[®] HERE.



#ShopSmall

Saturday, Nov. 25, 2023

This message brought to you by:

ALAMOSA STATE BANK
 A Real Community Bank[®]
 Local Ownership. Local Commitment.
 Member FDIC


DEL NORTE BANK
 TRUE • LOCAL • BANK
 Member FDIC


San Luis Valley Federal Bank
 COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS
 Member FDIC


RG BANK
Your Future Begins Today!
 Member FDIC

We support local and hope you will too!
 Shop Small[®] on November 25, 2023
 #ShopSmall


1st SouthWest Bank
 COMMUNITY AT OUR CORE
 Member FDIC | Certified CDFI
fswb.bank • 866.641.3792
 ALAMOSA • CENTER • CORTEZ • DURANGO • PAGOSA SPRINGS • SAGUACHE

Public Notices

ELECTION OF THE SAN LUIS VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election will be held on Tuesday, the 5th day of December, 2023 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The Board of Directors of the District has designated the following polling place within the District:
 Office of the San Luis Valley Irrigation District
 296 Miles Street
 Town of Center, Saguache County, Colorado
 At said election, the electors of the District shall vote for Director(s) to serve the following term(s) of office on the Board of Directors of the District:
 One Director for Division III for a 3-Year Term
 The name(s) of person(s) nominated and term(s) of office for which nominated are as follows:
 Tuck Stane, Director for Division III for a 3-year term
 NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that an elector of said District for the purpose of said election is a person who (1) owns taxable real property within the District, and (2) is over the age of twenty-one years.
 NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that applications for absent voter's ballots may be filed with the Secretary of the District, Amy S. Dean, at 296 Miles Street, Center, Colorado until 4:00 p.m. on the Friday immediately preceding the election. Affidavits of intent to be a write-in candidate must be filed no later than 4:00 o'clock p.m. on the Friday immediately preceding the election (Friday, the 1st of December, 2023).

San Luis Valley Irrigation District
 By: /s/ Amy S. Dean
 Secretary
 No. 3664.
 Published in the Valley Courier on November 10, 17, & 24, 2023.

099 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

STROKE AND CARDIOVASCULAR disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-833-939-0353. (11/29/2023AS)

163 - LOST & FOUND

LOST CAT NEAR HARTSEL RD., WEST of BLANCA, south of US160. Answers to "SKINNY". Gray, 8 yo, fixed male. Please call 719-480-1013/719-298-1982. (11/29/23AS)

FOUND: COOLER 11/12/23 on Hwy. 17. Describe contents 719-740-0004. (11/25/23AS)

173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

LICENSED PLUMBER DOES all types of plumbing & plumbing repairs. Quick service! Call anytime, weekends & evenings: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (12/1/23-monthlyAS)

221 - HELP WANTED

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

DRIVER/LABOR: MUST HAVE dependable ¾ ton+ full size pickup, good driving record, must be dependable, have CONSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE, & pass a drug test. Call 719-992-1396. (12/22/23AS)

NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for (1) Centauri HIGH SCHOOL HEAD TRACK COACH. Applications are available at North Conejos School District, 17887 US Hwy 285, LA JARA, CO or can be downloaded at www.northconejos.com. Submit application to Mr. Darren Edgar, Superintendent. Application deadline is until position is filled. EOE. (11/25/23AS)

ALAMOSA SCHOOL DISTRICT is now accepting applications for the following positions: GIRLS ASSISTANT BASKETBALL COACH (AHS). Applications are available online at <https://www.alamosa.k12.co.us/> For more information, contact Tracy Vigil at 719-587-1600. Application deadline is until filled. EOE. (11/25/23AS)

HELP WANTED: COOK & WAITRESS (will train) at the Wagon Wheel in LA JARA. Contact Margie, 719-274-5965. (12/2/23AS)

TRINCHERA RANCH

Job Title: Line Cook
Dates of Employment: Starting ASAP
Employment Terms: Temporary to start with potential for full-time, year-round employment
Expected Hours: 40+ hours/week, weekends, holidays
Pay: from \$20.00 per hour, depending on experience; benefit eligibility after probationary period
Job Purpose: Trinchera Ranch is looking for an experienced and talented Line Cook for the Guest/Hunting Lodge.
Essential Duties/Responsibilities:
 - Prepare breakfast, lunch, and dinner for large parties, small gatherings, and in private chef settings
 - Ensure that food comes out simultaneously, in high quality, and in a timely fashion
 - Work with a wide variety of cuisine including game and health-conscious fare
 - Put away items from food order, stocking of all pantries, organizing and heavy lifting required
 - Ability to work weekends, overtime, and holidays
 - Adhere to and implement sanitation regulations and safety regulations.
 - Ability to work independently and as part of a team
 - Perform other Ranch duties as assigned
Job Qualifications:
Knowledge: Strong knowledge of cooking methods, kitchen equipment, and best practices.
Skill: Upscale food presentation, preparation of game and health-conscious fare
Ability: Teamwork-oriented, creative, strong attention to detail
Education: Professional culinary training is preferred
Experience: Minimum of three years' experience working in a similar setting. Prior guest ranch experience preferred
To apply for this position, please email your resume or work experience and salary requirements to Allison Reagan, Human Resources Manager at Allison.Reagan@TrincheraRanch.com. Please note "Sous Chef" in subject line of email.



FEEL LIKE A FISH OUT OF WATER?

New in town?
 Get acquainted with and all it has to offer by ordering a subscription to the **Valley Courier**
 719-589-2553

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



Haven't You Heard?

Buying and Selling in the Valley Courier Classifieds can be the Best Way to get the most Bang for Your Buck!

Give Us a Try!

Valley Courier
 589-2553

Lunch Break.

We're There.

Valley Courier

To Subscribe, Call 589-2553

Carly Santi, MS, RDH, LLC
Dental Hygienist in Monte Vista
 Providing quality, preventative oral health care to adults and children.

Including:

- Dental Hygiene Exams
- X-Rays (Including Pain-Free Bitewings!)
- Dental Cleanings • Fluoride Treatments
- Sealants • Supportive Periodontal Maintenance
- Non-Surgal Periodontal Treatment
- Teeth Whitening • and More

Referral to general dentists and specialists as needed.

Over 20 years of experience!
Appointments available as soon as next week

Carly Santi, MS, RDH, LLC
 1120 Park Ave. Monte Vista
 719.849.9749

Holiday Gift Guide

SHOP EARLY! Shop Local!

LA JARA HEALTH MART PHARMACY
20% Off
 Entire Store Fri. November, 24

10% Off
 When You Bring This Ad In The Store
 412 Main St. • La Jara • (719) 274-5109
 Store M-F 9am-6pm • Sat 9am-5pm
 Pharmacy M-F 9am-6pm • Sat 10am-5pm

Hobbies, Games, Arts, Gifts and Crafts!
HobbyTown
 Hours: 11 am - 7 pm • Mon. - Sat.
 709 Main 937-2570 Alamosa

READY FOR HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING?
 Open 10-6 Mon-Sat
ALTITUDE APPLIANCES
 611 Main • Alamosa
 (719) 206-2844

9 Reasons to Shop Local

- 1 Shopping Local Creates Jobs:** The jobs created allow spending in the local economy and helps create more jobs.
- 2 Local independent businesses invest more in our community:** They support local charities, schools and community events which financially impacts our community.
- 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.

Classifieds



MAKE TIME FOR FAMILY READING

You'll find fun and informative news and features on a wide range of topics. Plus, reading the newspaper with your children helps them understand what's happening in the world and how it affects them.



For Subscription Information, call 589-2553

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

WOUND CARE RN/ CERTIFIED HYPERBARIC. RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL has an opening in our Wound Clinic and Hyperbaric Oxygen (HBO) therapy Center in DEL NORTE, COLORADO. Must be a RN Colorado license, CPR, Wound Care certified, Certified or eligible to test for Certified Hyperbaric Specialist, Experience in Wound Care, must understand wound care and practices; capable of dealing with people and working closely with patients and physicians; workable knowledge of safety procedures; must have patience and enthusiasm as well as the willingness and ability to handle difficult situations with good judgment; must be able to work as a team member; must be willing to learn. RGH is an EOE. If interested, please complete a job application found on RGH website at www.riograndehospital.org. (11/29/23AS)

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for an **INFANT/TODDLER CAREGIVER** at the MVSD Early Learning Center. This is a full-time position. A complete list of qualifications can be viewed on the district website. The 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 Paraprofessional Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Administrative Information 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 November 27, 2023 or until the position is filled. For application questions contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (11/29/23AS)

EXPERIENCED PLUMBER NEEDED. Pay range is \$25-\$35 per hour. Licensed preferred. Call **DEREK'S PLUMBING** 719-588-0682. (11/28/23AS)

WANTED EXPERIENCED PRESSMAN. Must be reliable, flexible, and dependable. Apply in person, 2205 State Street, ALAMOSA. (TFN-AS)

NOW HIRING: THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ALAMOSA is seeking a full-time **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**. Preferred qualifications include a bachelor's degree in business administration or a minimum of 3 to 5 years of business and supervisor experience. Qualified candidates must have a background in computer data base skills, grant writing experience, bilingual skills desirable and must work well with the public. Background check will be required upon offering the position. We offer a competitive salary and a great benefit package. Please call for more information 719-589-6694. Please submit a letter of intent and resume no later than November 27, 2023 to 213 Murphy Dr. Alamosa, Co. 81101. (11/25/23AS)

You'll find it all in the ... Business & Service Directory

• Easy to Read Format • Affordable • Seen 4 Days a Week To Place Your Ad Call (719) 589-2553

Advertising

Advertise Your Business in this SPACE

Only \$99 per month*
*3 month commitment

d dylan brown agency

Local Medicare Help

719-350-6941
2415 Mullins Avenue
Alamosa, CO 81101
Dbrown1@farmersagent.com
Katrina.dbrown1@farmersagency.com

Dylan Brown Katrina Brown

*Medicare Advantage *Supplements *Part D Prescription Plans

STORAGE

ALAMOSA STORAGE

5929 Road South 106
Alamosa, CO 81101
Call us today or visit our website
alamosastorage.com
(719) 992-3440

Advertising

Advertise Your Business in this SPACE

Only \$99 per month*
*3 month commitment

Attorney

ATENCIO LAW
719.589.6005

- Civil Litigation
- Real Estate • Water Law
- Business Law
- Wills & Probate
- Unbundled Legal Services

STEVE ATENCIO
steve@atenciolaw.net
www.atenciolaw.net

PROUDLY SERVING CLIENTS THROUGHOUT THE SAN LUIS VALLEY

Architecture

SPENCER architecture studio

Your Local SLV Architecture Firm for Residential, Commercial, Industrial and Agricultural Projects

Dan Spencer, A.I.A.
Dan Naiman, Architect
Senior Architect

719-696-5783
spencerarchitecturestudio.com

Auctioneering

A&B AUCTION SERVICES LLC (719)588-2573

Brady Stagner
Email: aandbauctions@gmail.com

For All Your Auction Needs

- *Farm *Ranch *Benefit
- *Household *Fundraising

www.aandbauctionservices.com

Electrical

ALPINE ELECTRIC INC.

82 CONEJOS ALAMOSA
719-589-9144

Earth Moving

Earthworks of Southern Colorado LLC
Troy Geringer 719-480-1256

- Trenching
- Drill Cleaning
- Site Cleaning & Prep
- Driveway Construction & Grading
- Landscaping
- House Pads
- Stream Bank Restoration
- Ironwork Welding & Fabrication
- Trailer Moving
- Dirt Work
- Drainage
- Snow Removal

Taxidermy

Ask about our 6 month guarantee!

JULY'S TAXIDERMY Est. 1995
719-480-9300

Real Estate

Greg & Jeni Goodwin

PORTER REALTY, INC.
503 Main Street, Alamosa, CO
719-589-5899
www.PorterRealty.com

greg@porterrealty.com (719) 580-5395
jeni@porterrealty.com (719) 580-2636

Excellent Service • Expert Advice • Exceptional Results

PROPANE

INNOVATION PROPANE SOLUTIONS

\$1.699 PER GALLON FOR THE REST OF NOVEMBER

19275 US Hwy 285 • La Jara
804-4GASGUY
email: innovationpropanesolutions@gmail.com

FOOD TRUCK

SUAVECITO Follow us on Facebook
719-588-7485

GRITZ

Catering located in the parking lot in front of Little Caesars.

RESTAURANT

Mom and Pop's Country Kitchen

Dinner Service coming soon!

Lunch and Breakfast
Thursday - Monday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Closed Tuesday & Wednesday
Outdoor Seating Available
111 Spruce Street • La Jara
Follow us on Facebook

LOCKSMITH

Locked Out? Lost Your keys? Just Need a spare? We've Got You Covered!

- Smart Keys • Transponders • Fobs
- Serving The San Luis Valley And Surrounding Areas

Call or Text us Today 719-Mrk-Lock (719-675-5625)
MrKLock.com

Mr. K Lock & Key
LOCKSMITH
719-Mrk-LOCK - (719-675-5625)

AUCTIONS

Tailgate Consignment Auctions

at the Community Building next to Quality Timbers on S.R. 285 • Antonito
719.580.3339

Auction Dates

10-7-2023 11-4-2023
10-21-2023 11-18-23

Real Estate

Results that Move You!

Schulz Realty

Judrey Cowan Lisa Luero Marie Schulz Candice Hennig Ray Johnson

(719) 589-6977 • www.slvproperties.com

Stucco

Sanchez Plastering & Masonry

Synthetic Traditional Patches Interior Exterior Paint

Fully Insured & Bonded Fully Licensed Work Guaranteed

(719) 486-6781

Tires

Jim's Tire Store

711 1/2 State Ave. • Alamosa
719-589-9690

NEW • USED • RECAPPED
Great Service!

Plumbing & Remodeling

DEREK'S Plumbing & Remodeling

Derek Marquez
Master Plumber, Plumbing Contractor
(719) 588-0682
derekspumbing@outlook.com
1110 Alamosa Ave. • Alamosa, CO

We Buy Cars

FREE Estimates
We Welcome Insurance Claims

L&M Paint & Body Shop

8425 Rd. 8 South • Alamosa
589-9205

Construction

ZTEC Construction

5" & 6" SEAMLESS RAIN GUTTERS
Free Estimates

Mervin Fisher 719.992.1396
14972 CR 13 • La Jara, CO 81140

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

Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 "On the double!"
 - 4 Give shape to
 - 8 Mil. school
 - 12 TV character — Grant
 - 13 About (2 wds.)
 - 14 Type of moth
 - 15 Mex. neighbor
 - 16 Like hand-me-downs
 - 17 Proper
 - 18 Army doc
 - 20 Not fit
 - 22 Fish eggs
 - 23 Dry, said of wines
 - 24 Voracious eater
 - 28 Thin cookie
 - 32 Host Kelly —
 - 33 Saucy
 - 35 "Norma —"
 - 36 Conger
 - 37 Brother of Jacob
 - 38 Hoedown site
- DOWN**
- 1 Purple color
 - 2 Prescribed amount
 - 3 Increase fourfold
 - 4 Spigot
 - 5 CIA forerunner
 - 6 Abbr. on road maps

Answer to Previous Puzzle

W	A	S	T	E		P	A	S	T	A		
A	L	L	A	Y		A	L	E	U	T		
F	L	A	X	E	N	P	L	I	A	N	T	
T	A	M	E		A	B	E		N	A	Y	
					D	I	V	E	R	S	E	
A	D	A		R	E	T		I	M	P	E	L
P	I	S	T	O	L		E	M	I	L	E	
E	V	I	A	N		P	R	A	T	E	S	
D	A	N	T	E		T	A	R		Y	E	T
					A	D	M	I	R	A	L	
O	W	E		A	P	T		A	S	K	S	
V	A	L	L	E	Y		Y	A	N	K	E	E
A	V	A	I	L				S	A	I	N	T
L	E	N	D	S				P	I	N	T	S

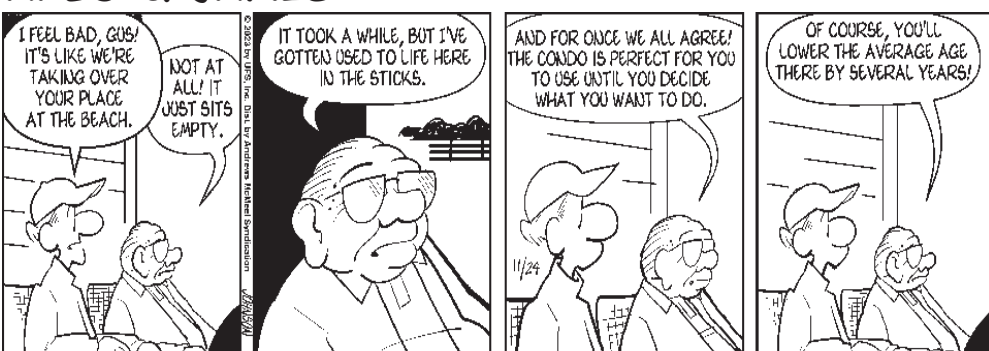
- 7 — operand
- 8 Wool-bearing animal of Peru
- 9 Road's edge
- 10 Dye plant
- 11 Woman of rank
- 19 Greek letter
- 21 Salamander
- 24 Actor — Kinnear
- 25 In — of
- 26 Photo —
- 27 Come close to
- 29 Con artist
- 30 Merit
- 31 Torn
- 34 Regret
- 37 Lab burner
- 38 — fide
- 40 Child care provider
- 42 Big gun
- 44 — Kringle
- 46 Phone
- 47 Orchestra instrument
- 48 "You bet!"
- 50 Indigenous Japanese
- 51 Fearing that
- 54 Bigwig
- 55 In the manner of (2 wds.)

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					62		

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



BIG NATE



THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



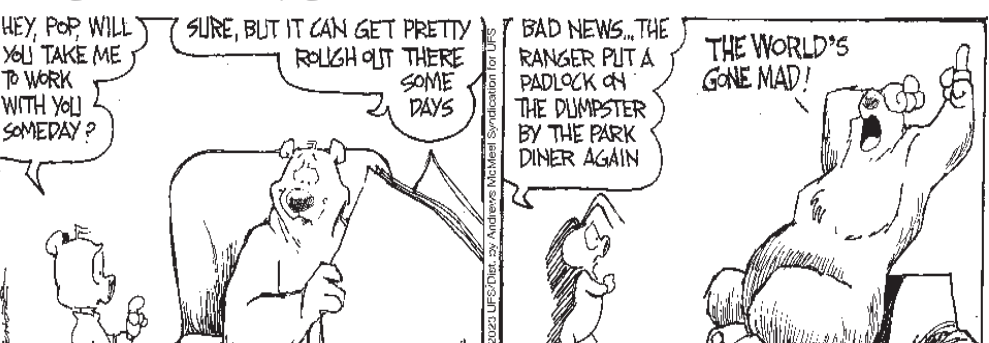
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

HERMAN



Wife's admissions damage husband's trust in her word

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to my high school sweetheart for 30 years. Recently, she shared details of two infidelities that she had with other men.

The first was with an individual on the staff of our church who held himself out to be my friend. My wife says it was an unprovoked attack, where he forced himself upon her. But when I asked why she didn't resist or fight him off, she said she didn't know and that maybe, deep down, she wanted it to happen. The second was someone she met at a bar and had developed a relationship with. When I was away on business trips, she stayed with him overnight on four occasions.

She tells me these things happened more than 20 years ago and she's been faithful since, but to put it bluntly, I am devastated and unconvinced that that's the entire story. I believed my wife to be faithful during our marriage.

I guess I was naive because, over the years, she was jealous and accused me of something nefarious if I even looked at a woman, although I never strayed. Now I'm doubting everything. Did we live a fictional life? Were we ever truly happy? How can I believe that she's been faithful since?

The fact of the matter is I DON'T BELIEVE HER. I still love her, but every time I look at her, I think about

what she told me, and I'm having a hard time coping with this information. I don't think I will ever get over this. What should I do? -- DOESN'T BELIEVE HER IN FLORIDA

DEAR DOESN'T BELIEVE: I can feel your pain, and for that, you have my sympathy. You may need the help of a marriage and family counselor to figure out the answers to the questions you are asking yourself. Once you have started on that path, ask your wife to join you. Solid marriages are built on trust. Only if that can be reestablished will your marriage be healed.

DEAR ABBY: Three months ago, I lost my dear, loving wife (the best part of me) to cancer, COVID-19, pneumonia and heart problems. We had a great marriage, not perfect, but the happiest times of our lives. In disbelief, carrying a burden of grief, sorrow and pain, I am lonely and alone, but it is getting lighter with each passing day. I know I don't want to spend the rest of my remaining time this way.

We were together 40 years, rearing a blended family of four children. Then, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren came along. How long should I wait before considering looking around, dating and searching for someone to share my life with? I am being bombarded with interest



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

from women I do not know, which I did not expect. -- ALONE IN ALABAMA

DEAR ALONE: Please accept my sympathy for your loss. Your loneliness, pain and vulnerability are palpable. This is why, when you start dipping your toe into the dating pool, it's important to take your time and not rush into any "quickie" entanglements.

Realize that as a senior widower, you are now a hot commodity. You will meet many women as the weeks go on. There's a good reason why folks are advised not to make any serious decisions for a year after a loss such as the one you have experienced. Take your time and avoid jumping into any serious commitments in the coming months.

Holiday Greetings



SLV Federal Bank kicks off 'Spirit of Giving'

SLV Federal Bank's Spirit of Giving program enters its 23rd year, allowing the bank's members to decide where a portion of the bank's community support budget should go. Members can cast one vote per account and name their favorite SLV community non-profit organization to receive a portion of the \$35,000 set aside for the program. Members may vote online at "www.slvfb.com/spirit" or at any of the bank's three branches. Staff members shown with Miss Merry Christmas Sarah DeLaCerde, Little Miss Isabella Avila, and Little Mister Ezequiel Chavez are, from left, Joelle Boos, Chad Crowther, Jamilya Ruybal, Kyle Burnett, Dolene Rodman and Amanda Maez.

San Luis Valley Federal Bank
Spirit of Giving
24th Annual

San Luis Valley Federal Bank's Spirit of Giving is here! \$35,000 will be donated to SLV local non-profits. Every Bank member may vote for their favorite non-profit! Each vote a non-profit receives, the larger their donation will be. Learn more or cast your vote by visiting our website!
Voting begins November 13th and ends December 15th

Scan to submit your vote!

San Luis Valley Federal Bank
COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS

LOCATIONS

Alamosa Main Office 401 Edison Ave	West Alamosa Office 3415 Mariposa St.	Monte Vista Office 330 Solar Ave
---------------------------------------	--	-------------------------------------

Phone: 719-589-6653 | **FDIC** | www.slvfed.bank



FSWB offers variety of banking services

Miss Merry Christmas Sarah DeLaCerde, Little Miss Isabella Avila, and Little Mister Ezequiel Chavez heard about the all of the banking services offered at First Southwest Bank in Alamosa, Center and Saguache when they visited with regional branch manager Yuri Candejas, and financial services representatives Samantha Saiz and Jessica Medina.

The Warmest Holiday Wishes to Family & Friends

— Congratulations —

SARAH DELACERDA Miss Merry Christmas	ISABELLA AVILA Little Miss Merry Christmas	EZEQUIEL CHAVEZ Little Mister Merry Christmas
--	--	---

1st SouthWest Bank
COMMUNITY AT OUR CORE
Member FDIC | Certified CDFI

2022 Spirit of Alamosa Winner
Alamosa Chamber of Commerce

2022 & 2021 Community Rural Lender of the Year
U.S. Small Business Administration

fswb.bank
866.641.3792 | info@fswb.com
ALAMOSA • CENTER • CORTEZ • DURANGO • PAGOSA SPRINGS • SAGUACHE

Serving the San Luis Valley for Over 100 Years