



Properly discard of pumpkins after Halloween, do not leave out for wildlife consumption

— Page 5



Seven local cross country runners named All-State

— Page 6

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VOLUME 97, NO. 174

# Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

November 3, 2023

\$1

## SLV Today

'Little Mister, Miss Christmas' submissions sought

ALAMOSA — Candidates are being sought for the Valley Courier's 2023 "Little Mister and Miss Merry Christmas." All entrants must be between the ages of 5 to 8.

An entry blank is on page 7 of today's edition. A recent photo must be submitted as well as parental permission to use the photo and contact information.

The youngsters will be featured along with this year's Miss Merry Christmas in a special holiday edition on Wednesday, Nov. 22.

New SLV Veterans pics due Wednesday

VALLEY — San Luis Valley Veterans not previously featured in the Valley Courier's annual Veterans Day tribute need to be submitted by Wednesday, Nov. 8, either in person or by email to squintana@alamosanews.com.

Photos should be accompanied by the Veteran's town of residence, branch of service and rank.

Those Veterans that were submitted previously DONOT NEED to be submitted again.

Crossroads lecture program Nov. 3 at SLV Museum

ALAMOSA — The director of the Ft. Garland Museum, Eric Carpio, will be delivering a lecture program in conjunction with the "Crossroads" project on rural America.

This will occur at 7 p.m. on Nov. 3, on the First Friday, at the SLV Museum, 401 Hunt Ave., Alamosa. The event is free and open to the public. It will feature slides and vintage photos.

## SLV WEATHER



Sunny, Breezy 61/19

Sat: Sunny, Breezy 61/19

Sun: Mostly Sunny, Breezy 63/30

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# APD Chief hands mayor his badge

Anderson resigns 'effective immediately'

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER  
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — Alamosa Police Chief Ken Anderson shocked a standing-room-only crowd at Wednesday's city council meeting when, following a statement reiterat-

ing why he was resigning from the force after 23 years, he handed his badge to Mayor Ty Coleman, making his departure effective immediately.

Anderson had initially submitted his resignation to City Manager Heather Sanchez last week, citing her lack of respect for his professional opinion and disregard for the impact city initiatives were having on the city's police

■ See CHIEF page 3



Ken Anderson salutes Alamosa's Mayor Ty Coleman after handing him his badge in resignation. Coleman (on the right) was stunned by Anderson's action.

Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner

# Crystal Wilson and stories of Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER  
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — The challenge of climbing the peaks of the Blanca Massif draws hikers and climbers to the San Luis Valley every year. Most make it without incident. But some do not, and they end up being rescued or, tragically, recovered after a loose rock or a fatal misstep claims their lives.

But another story goes on behind the scenes that is rarely told or even acknowledged. That is the story of the dedicated members from Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) who answer the call at all hours of the day or night, leaving their families and their jobs to, quite literally, put their lives at risk in bringing a missing person down the mountain.

Recently, Crystal Wilson with AVSAR agreed to share some of that story with the Valley Courier. Wilson has been the leader and an active part of the team since 2017, serving for more than five of those six years as president of the organization. She stepped down from that position on Oct. 25.

Born in Colorado Springs, Wilson has lived all over the country, including in Chicago where she worked as a hair stylist. About 10 years



Photo courtesy of Crystal Wilson

ago, she and her partner, Stephen Cline, took a "backpacking and big antelope hunting trip" in Wyoming that prompted them to realize they wanted to live in the mountains again. They did just that, settling in the Jacob's Hill area.

Wilson's background in outdoor activities included hunting and hiking as a kid, but Cline had been researching search and rescue before moving to Colorado.

"I felt the need to help people," she says. "And it was a way to grow my skills in the

outdoors. So, we jumped in headfirst. The first thing we did when we moved to Colorado was to join AVSAR."

Wilson has been on at least 50 missions since joining AVSAR, supporting more recoveries than rescues, due, she says, "to the dangerous nature of the Blanca Massif."

"Some of the missions have ended well," she says. "Earlier this year, a hiker was on the traverse between Little Bear and Blanca, which is very, very exposed, and dangerous. He ended up bailing

■ See STORIES page 3

# Deceased car theft suspect identified

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — Alamosa County Coroner Joe Dzuris has identified the car theft suspect who was killed by a sheriff's deputy Tuesday afternoon as Benjamin "Benji" Arvizo, 31, believed to be from Alamosa.

He was shot and killed by an Alamosa County Sheriff's Office deputy just northwest of Alamosa after reportedly threatening nearby residents and police officers with a knife.

A Facebook post by the ACSO said the department responded to a stolen vehicle report at the IHOP restaurant and posted a be on the lookout (BOLO). Dispatch informed officers that the vehicle was located at a residence reportedly on the north end of Road 107, north of the Comfort Inn Hotel, where a male suspect was said to be making threats to the residents with a knife.

The ACSO and a Colorado State Patrol trooper arrived at the scene and confronted the male suspect who was armed with a knife. During the encounter, a deputy discharged his firearm, killing the suspect. First aid was administered following the incident and the suspect was transported to San Luis Valley Health Regional Medical Center.

The ACSO news release said, "this is a very fluid on-going investigation, and we will provide updates as more information becomes available."

Alamosa County Sheriff Robert Jackson declined to identify the officer involved at this time.

The Alamosa Police Department is assisting with this investigation and Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been contacted.

"We want to assure the community that there is no ongoing threat to the community at this time," the ACSO said.

# SLV Big Band's annual Veterans Day Concert Nov. 11

Performance will be at Ortega Middle School Auditorium

By MARIE MCCOLM

ALAMOSA — The San Luis Valley Big Band will be performing a Veterans Day Concert at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11, inside the Ortega Middle School Auditorium in Alamosa. Everyone is invited to attend this family-friendly event that is entitled

■ See CONCERT page 3

The San Luis Valley Big Band will be performing a Veteran's Day Concert at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11, inside the Ortega Middle School Auditorium in Alamosa.

Courtesy photo



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# Record

## OBITUARIES

### Jua (Nita) Pauline Dieckman

Jua (Nita) Pauline Dieckman, 89, passed away Oct. 31, 2023, in Florence, Colo. Nita was born on Nov. 16, 1933, in Campo, Colo., the daughter of James Melvin Stagner and Paulda Hoeffner. Nita was united in marriage to Louie Dieckman Jr.



She was preceded in death by Louie Dieckman (husband), Joe and Georgia Stagner, (brother and sister-in-law), Sandra Click (daughter). She is survived by James and Francis Stagner (brother and sister-in-law), Terry Bruce and Kyoko Dieckman (son and daughter-in-law), Laine and Calvin Harding (daughter and son

in-law), Mark Dieckman and Donna Strickler (son and daughter-in-law), Bret and Donna Dieckman (son and daughter-in-law). Her legacy includes nine grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. Nita co-owned and op-

erated the Dunes Cafe in Mosca, Colo., for 20 years. She had a very full life filled with adventure. Nita enjoyed participating in community events. She sewed, quilted, crocheted, painted in oil and watercolors, did lapidary, and leather work. She attended the First Baptist Church of Alamosa and Hooper, and Mosca United Methodist Church.

Per Nita's wishes there will be no services at this time.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of the arrangements. To leave online condolences, remembrances, and words of comfort for Juanita's family, please visit [www.RogersFunerals.com](http://www.RogersFunerals.com).

### Derrell Paul Shawcroft



Lifetime La Jara resident Derrell Paul Shawcroft, 63, died Nov. 1, 2023, at his home in La Jara, surrounded by family and under hospice care.

Derrell's life began in Alamosa, Colorado on Sept. 18, 1960, the son of Gary and Ethel (Clair) Shawcroft. He married the love of his life, Margaret Tuckett, in the Salt Lake Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Aug. 31, 1984.

Derrell was a rancher and raised cattle and bulls. He is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and through the years, held many different callings, including Bishop. He served his church mission in the Dearborn, Mich., area.

In his spare time, he loved watching football, both at the high school level and the college level. He loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren working cows at home or in the mountains.

Derrell is survived by his parents Gary and

Ethel Shawcroft of La Jara; his wife Margaret Shawcroft of La Jara; his children Melanie Shawcroft of La Jara, Greg Shawcroft of La Jara, Kurtis (Breanna) Shawcroft of Vernal, Utah, and Mandi (Trevor) Paskett of Monte Vista, Colo.; his grandchildren Jason Shawcroft, Reece Koenig, Jacqueline Shawcroft, and Nathan Shawcroft; his siblings Perry (Bev) Shawcroft of La Jara, Marie (Don) Morgan of Meridian, Idaho, and Gene (Janeen) Shawcroft of Provo, Utah; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends.

Derrell was preceded in death by his infant son Jason Derrell Shawcroft.

A visitation will be held Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023, from 4-6 p.m. and prior to funeral services Monday, Nov. 5, 2023, from 9-9:45 a.m., all at the La Jara Spring Creek Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. A Funeral Service will follow the visitation also at the La Jara Spring Creek Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Monday, Nov. 5, 2023, at 10 a.m. Interment will take place in the Sanford Cemetery following the funeral service.

In lieu of flowers, contributions are suggested to the La Jara Spring Creek Ward Missionary Fund and may be made through the funeral home office at 205 State Ave., Alamosa, CO 81101.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of the arrangements. To leave online condolences, tributes, and words of support and comfort for Derrell's family, please visit [www.RogersFunerals.com](http://www.RogersFunerals.com).

### Toby Henry O'Caña June 19, 1941-Oct. 19, 2023



try proudly until 1965.

He and Barbara were happily married for 63 years and had 5 children together. They lived in California until he left the military and then returned to Colorado to raise their family. In 1984, they moved to Brighton, Colo., and resided there until the time of his death.

Toby worked at the United States Mint for 30 years before retiring to pursue his other interests. Toby was a hardworking man who loved his family, working on cars, fishing and horses. He also had a passion for weightlifting and was a lifelong fan of the Green Bay Packers! He was a wonderful son, husband,

father, grandfather and great grandfather who will be forever missed.

Toby was preceded in death by his son Bill and his parents Alonso and Sadie.

He is survived by his wife Barbara; his children Joey (Mary), Yvonne, Shelley and Toby (Kristie). He will be greatly missed by his seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Life for Toby will be on Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023, at the Elks Lodge in Brighton from Noon to 5 p.m. located at 101 North Main St. Brighton, CO 80601.

Condolences may also be sent via email to his daughter at [YvonneMO-Cana@gmail.com](mailto:YvonneMO-Cana@gmail.com).

Toby Henry O'Caña passed away peacefully in his home on Oct. 19th, 2023, at the age of 82 with his beloved wife Barbara by his side.

Toby was born on June 19, 1941, in Los Valdeses, Colo., to Alonso and Sadie O'Caña. After graduating from Center High School in 1960, he married Barbara and joined the United States Marine Corp. He was stationed at Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he served his coun-

## Trail Springs Fire update

**STAFF REPORTS**  
Size: 1,251 Acres | Containment: 37% | Cause: Lightning  
**SAN JUAN NATIONAL FOREST** — Smoke from the Trail Creek Fire was objectively lighter yesterday than the day before and the fire experienced no significant growth. Soil conditions have improved since last weekend's winter storms. Suppression work will begin in places where the fire perimeter is secure.

According to the US Forest Service, suppression repair is done under the guidance of a Resource Advisor, a specialist who understands the impacts of fire suppression activity on natural and cultural resources such as soils, wildlife, plants, historical and archeological sites, watersheds, and other resources that may have been affected by firefighting activities.

Under the direction of the advisor, firefighters will return fire lines, dozer lines, and other impacts from suppression efforts as close as possible to the state in which they were found before they began fighting the fire.

The fire danger level is currently high, so it is important that forest users completely drown campfires to prevent unintended escape. Use the "drown, stir, feel" method to be sure it's dead out.



Photo US Forest Service

**The Trail Springs Fire as seen from the air.**

Mill Creek 2 Fire | Size: 122 Acres | Containment: 0% | Cause: Under Investigation

This fire is located in rugged, remote terrain near the border of the South San Juan Wilderness Area. Firefighters continue to actively observe fire behavior from strategic locations on the ground and from the air. During yesterday's aerial observations, only two areas of smoke were observed from smoldering material within the existing footprint.

### Walter Romero

Lifelong San Luis resident Abel "Walter" Romero passed away Oct. 29, 2023, at his home. Walter was welcomed into the world on April 14, 1966, in San Luis, Colo., the beloved son of Leo Romero and Mary Duran.

After he graduated from high school, he went on to work in construction for many years. Anyone who knew Walter knew he was an animal lover and a whistler. He enjoyed singing, fishing, cooking and was a sports fanatic. His favorite teams were the Denver Broncos and the Denver Nuggets. He was a kind, caring and loving person and friend to all and he will be surely missed.

His memory will live on through his loving daughters Lorroya (Jose) Martinez, Shania Gonzales-Romero, Deni-Leigh Gonzales-Romero, Adelia

Romero all of San Luis, Colo.; granddaughter Jacklin Johnson, sisters Evelynna (Frank) Mondragon of Pueblo, Colo.; Julie (Arnold) Lopez of Denver, Colo.; Dolores (Ron) Barela of Denver, Colo.; Annette (Steven) Cariño of San Luis, Colo.; Juanita (Casey) Sanchez of San Luis, Colo.; brother Jimmie (Pam) Romero of Amalia, N.M., spouse Ruby Vigil of Romeo, Colo. He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Walter was preceded in death by his parents Leo and Mary Romero and his niece Lisa Barela.

Vigil Service with Recitation of the Rosary will be held on Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023, at 6 p.m. at Sangre De Cristo Catholic Church in San Luis. Mass of the Resurrection will be held on Friday,



Nov. 3, 2023, at 2 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church in Ft. Garland. Interment will follow at the San Acacio Cemetery.

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

## PENDING OBITUARY

### Benji Arvizo

Alamosa resident Benji Arvizo, 31, passed away on Oct. 31, 2023. Arrangements are pending and will be announced through Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

**School Menu**  
**Friday**  
November 3, 2023

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# Valley News

## Vote 2023!



Photo courtesy Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorder  
**RIO GRANDE AND MINERAL COUNTIES — In this election year, Monte Vista has four candidates running for two City Council seats — incumbents Martha Lock and Loren Howard and newcomers Sheila Sanders and Brad Watson. The Creede School District has three candidates running for two Board of Education seats — incumbents Kara Brittain and Casey Adelman and newcomer Lori Heinrich. A voter deposits her ballot in the drop box located at the southwest corner of the Rio Grande County Annex building, 965 Sixth St., in Monte Vista. It is in the alley between the three-story courthouse and the annex building. Voters have until 7 p.m., on Election Day, Nov. 7, to cast their ballots.**

## Stories

■ Continued from Page 1

off the traverse into the Blanca Basin — which is remote and rugged — and ended up in a medical emergency.

“He was grossly under-prepared. Severely dehydrated, weak, couldn’t walk, was out of food and water, and didn’t have enough layers to sustain himself overnight. We got him to our helipad, and he was flown to the hospital from there. A few hours later, he would have been in kidney failure.”

But other missions have different endings and, when asked, one name comes to mind. Joy Cipoletti and the search that took place in 2020. Wilson calls it a “career-altering mission.” Wilson was the incident commander on the search.

“Joy was last heard from when she summited Ellingwood Point,” she begins. “She’d called her daughter. There were a couple of texts back and forth. Then she went missing and was never heard from again.”

“We had multiple aircraft and over 10 different teams from around the state. On day five, we ended up finding her deceased.”

“That was the largest mission I’d ever been a part of, and it solidified

my role in beefing up our incident command skills. After that, I started to enact an incident command program with the team.

“The hardest but the best thing about that mission is that the family was there the whole time. Typically, we have a pretty strict rule of no families but Chris, Joy’s brother, was wonderful. He respected all of our boundaries and kept all of us fed all of the time. To this day, I still chat with them three or four times a year because they’re like family. There’s not a day that goes by where I don’t think of Joy and her family.”

A call came over the radio that they needed additional gear and someone to help run the rigging, which was going to be intense because of where her body was located. Wilson was the only one left who had any knowledge of the rescue rigging, so she was flown by helicopter to help package Joy’s body up and run the rigging to get her down to just above South Zapata Lake where she was then put into the helicopter and flown out from there.

“When a search ends that way, it’s tragic for us, as well. There are things you can’t unsee,” she says, her voice trembling a bit.

After that mission, Wilson formed a mental health committee. A



Photo courtesy Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue  
**A helicopter assists in the recovery of Joy Cipoletti from Ellingwood Point in Oct. 2020.**

team member with Adams State University who had a background in mental health support for law enforcement and first responders put together a program that AVSAR now offers to anyone who assists them on a mission, positioning AVSAR on the forefront of southern counties in creating mental health support for team members.

“Sheriff Jackson and Undersheriff Woods have been a huge part of that,” she says.

Another one of Wilson’s passion projects is being able to connect with these families. That passion was born in her first mission — the recovery of Barney Cruz.

“I would say a really hard but very big part of healing is getting to meet the families of the person we just recovered because then you can hear

stories about the person they were,” she says. “You always find connections with the person that way. Then you can say to the others, this is the kind of person Barney was, and it sounds like he would have fit in perfectly with our team. So, it’s not just a task, it’s a real person, a real life that you’re being a part of.”

Wilson admits that it was a big decision to step down as president, but it is also an enormous job that she is ready to hand off to someone else. She wants to spend time with her family. She looks forward to getting her life back.

When asked if getting her life back includes staying part of AVSAR, she does not hesitate.

“Of course,” she says. “AVSAR is a part of who I am. I think it always will be.”

## Chief

■ Continued from Page 1

department. At that time, Anderson had committed to staying into December, but an interview with Sanchez where she said he was “untruthful” in his claims accelerated his decision to leave the department.

When the meeting was opened for public comments, a line of individuals spoke in-person and on Zoom, most voicing strong opinions on one or both of two topics — dismay at Chief Anderson’s resignation, described as a “huge loss,” and ongoing frustrations with homelessness in Alamosa.

When the council addressed “Update on Police Chief Process,” Coleman called Chief Anderson to the podium. It was the same podium where Anderson had introduced new officers, advocated for an ordinance to address properties that were recurrent sites of crime, presented the council with a comprehensive picture of an inept District Attorney that ultimately led to the DA’s resignation, and where Anderson announced the creation of the co-responder program.

Coleman explained that following comments from Anderson and Sanchez, council members could ask three questions each until all were answered. He then gave Sanchez the floor.

The city manager began by saying, “...for both [the chief and myself] this situation is extremely sad and is not the way we wanted this great partnership to end.” She clarified that, while her interview in the Valley Courier was “very accurate, I, in no way, want anyone to think the chief is a liar.” She described their differences as a “breakdown in communication.”

Sanchez then spent more than 15 minutes laying out a timeline of meetings and work sessions she proposed to address the communication breakdown between



Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner  
**The Alamosa City Council chambers were packed with citizens and members of the law enforcement community for the city council meeting on Wednesday.**

department heads and herself and ways to facilitate the council speaking directly with leadership staff without the city manager’s approval, a distinct change in policy.

Anderson then addressed the council, having to stop several times to deliver a short but emotion-laden statement. “This is a big deal,” he told the council. “It’s been a long career.”

Reading from his notes, his statement suggested he had a different take on the situation. “I speak the truth when I say it’s truly been pleasure and honor to serve my community and this great police dept for nearly 23 years.”

“I believe at this point most everybody has seen the recent articles in the newspaper, and I want to make one thing clear. Very clear. I am not a liar and to say that I am is unfortunate and really pushes my decisions at this point. My statements were accurate and true, and it is now up to you, city council, to either believe or brush them aside and start making the best decisions for our city and this police department.”

Anderson urged the council to get accurate information directly from staff most likely to be impacted by major decisions before those decisions are made. He then returned to addressing his resignation.

“I will not continue working for any kind of tyrant leadership. I hold my morals and my beliefs close, and I want nothing more than for this city to take a strong stance that

protects our citizens and our police officers.

“I’m not going to push any further and drag my officers, my city council or my community through this mudslinging campaign by the city manager with her article that I got to read.”

He asked the council to look at the officers lined up against the wall. “You see these uniforms? Take a good look at these guys. Do not ignore them.”

“Due to these reasons,” he said he was resigning, effectively immediately. The audience got to its feet as Anderson handed his badge to Mayor Coleman and then stood in salute for several long seconds before he turned and headed for the door.

“Thank you, everybody,” he called out to the audience as he walked out of council chambers. Anderson was promptly followed by all law enforcement officers and others in the audience, including a few who commented supporting Anderson as they left.

The city council seemed stunned by Anderson resigning, “effective immediately”, during a council meeting. Councilor Jan Vigil apologized for not knowing the depth of Anderson’s frustration. He then called for a change, telling Sanchez, “We need to know what the hell is going on.”

Councilor Dawn Krebs echoed the description of a breakdown in communication and the situation had unveiled a gap she did not know existed.

Councilor Liz Hensley acknowledged losing An-

derson was a huge loss and said his quitting prompted her to look at herself. “We’re taking risks. We must be willing to re-evaluate and, if something isn’t working, cut our losses.” Hensley also brought up the idea of re-examining the city manager form of government that was instituted in the 50s.

Councilor Charlie Griego also agreed it was a communication breakdown and advocated for speaking directly to department heads. He further expressed confidence in both Ken Anderson and City Manager Sanchez and support for the city’s approach.

Councilor Kristina Daniel said that city initiatives were a sign that the council was listening to citizens’ concerns and Sanchez addressed homelessness at the council’s direction. She also said that, in disagreements, rarely is one side right and one side wrong but the truth is somewhere in the middle.

Councilor Michael Carson spoke the most forcefully. “We are responsible, and you know what I’m talking about.” He said he was disappointed that Anderson’s resignation was just accepted, “flabbergasted” by the city manager creating the timeline when she was involved in creating the problem, and felt that the council was just being told what happened. He expressed support for Sanchez and the city’s approach but continued to be impacted by “losing Kenny Anderson.”

## Concert

■ Continued from Page 1

“In Their Honor.”

The event is free, but donations will be taken. Donations will go toward music that the band may purchase or to purchase rhythm instruments for the band.

“This is a great event. We are inviting everyone out, grandmas, grandpas, bring the kids,” said SLV Big Band member Loren Buss. “If anyone knows of a Veteran that may not be able to drive themselves or doesn’t have a ride or something, maybe you can offer to bring them down and be there with us.”

Buss said the concert has been going since 2006.

“It’s been quite a run for us to do that. One year, we didn’t have the concert, but that was due to COVID. I got sick about two weeks right before,” Buss said with a chuckle, “but other than that we have had this as an annual event every year.”

Buss said that even when the weather does not cooperate, they still have a good turnout.

“The Valley, the community at large, supports the event,” he said. “I think some of the Veterans really look forward to it each year. The recognition that that those Veterans get when they realize that some of us appreciate their service to country, is always great, too.”

Buss said a lot of Veterans come every year to the concert.

“The World War II Veterans are getting to be few and far between now, but the Korea and obviously Vietnam and Gulf War Veterans they are still a prominent part of the crowd,” he said.

Buss said the band’s members are committed to the band and practicing.

“The band has 17 players and the director, so a total of 18 in the band,” Buss said. “To get that many people on the same page, and we rehearse every Monday night. This

is not a short-term project. If you sign on to be a part of the band, it is every Monday night from 7 to 9 p.m. The band tries to maintain their level of performance too and improve. It’s quite a personal commitment for a lot of people who have families and jobs, and kids at home. This is quite a commitment in their life to have every Monday night available for us.”

Buss said that the band will play patriotic music at the concert.

“We do have some patriotic tunes that we do. We also have an Armed Forces Medley that is the service song of each service group. The arrangement that we have written for us is about 10 or 12 years old. The Coast Guard, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, they are all represented with their branch song that we do. We also ask during the time that we play, that when the Veterans hear their Branch Song, being played, that the Veterans stand up, so that they can be recognized,” he said.

Buss said he is excited about the upcoming event. He is proud of the SLV Big Band and what they do.

Buss thanked the Alamosa Live Music Association (ALMA) for the different forms of support they give.

“Recently the San Luis Valley Big Band also opened for the Glenn Miller Orchestra in Alamosa,” Buss said. “This was a once-in-a-lifetime event for the Valley to be able to hear the Glenn Miller Orchestra. I want to thank ALMA for bringing them to the Valley. I want to thank Nancy Harris and the ALMA Board for allowing us to be an opening act for them. We are hoping to have everyone come out for the Veteran’s concert. One thing I do want to convey is that this concert is not for or about the band, this concert is for and about our Veteran’s. We are inviting the public to come and be a part of this recognition for these brave men and women.”



# Opinion

## Series-ly

As most of you know or have surmised by now, Ol' Dutch is back in Texas for the winter and yes, Miss Trixie tagged along again for another enjoyable time of being crammed indoors during cold weather.

Of course, if not for my great disposition, handsome face, deep pockets and meat in the freezer, she would surely find somewhere else to abide. Well, I do have meat in the freezer at least and a 1,700-pound good angus steer staring me down from the pasture. So, there is that.

Not really ever being a fan of any sports on television, it came as quite a surprise to me that the Texas Rangers were playing in the World Series. Of course, the Yellow Rose of Texas herself, Miss Trixie, knew all about it and had been watching it unbeknownst to me.

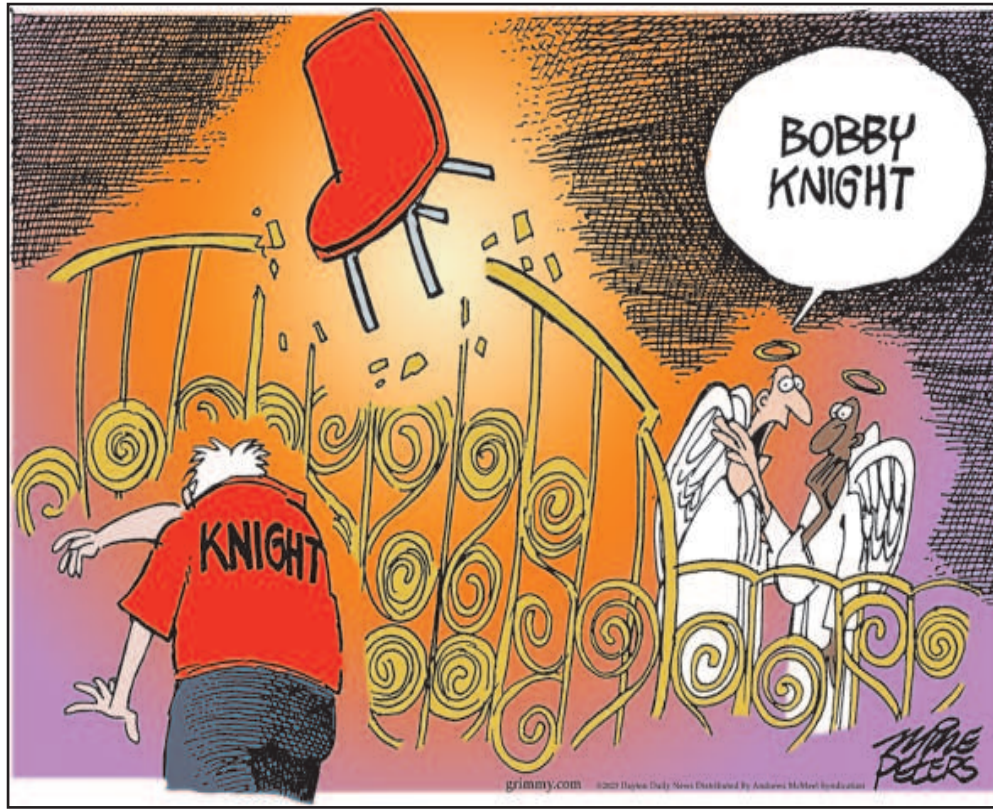
And since Texas is tied with some other team whose name slips my mind, there is hope in the Lone Star State that maybe, just maybe they can pull off a win of the whole thing and make everyone proud as a peacock in heat.

And God bless them if they do as Lord knows they need some team to be proud of as the poor old Cowboys have not won a Super Bowl since Hector was a pup. I have to give it to Texas fans however, as they stick to their Boys like pine tar on George Brett's bat. I guess I do know a little about sports with that comment. You may have to look that up as I think Cain and Able were still going at it when that occurred in history.

### Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick



But regardless of the television schedules for the next games, Miss Trixie and I decided to take our annual sojourn down to South Padre Island for some fun in the sun. Well maybe not so much because we can see the dentist, the ocean and buy some drugs. Before you all freak out and think Ol' Dutch has become a drug mule like Clint Eastwood in the movie "The Mule," these are legal meds like antibiotics, Prilosec and topical muscle miracle salve. So, relax.

It's a long trip down but we did arrive alive, albeit a little worse for the wear in the last 40 miles. For it was at that point that Miss Trixie decided to bury her face in her phone to try and figure out what to do with 24,000 boards 4" x 4" x 65" long that someone wanted to give me.

This momentary lack of attention

failed her on telling me where to turn. Now you might ask why I didn't know myself? Well, you see I have not known anything since Miss Trixie came on board and so every trip, even to the neighbors, I get a turn-by-turn instruction and I have begun to depend on it too much, so it seems.

This small error in missing a turn then became what is generally known as a "rhubarb" as we squabbled back and forth over the missed turn. Ol' Dutch then tried to take the next exit and backtrack but as soon as I lined up for the off ramp, Miss Trixie screamed like a banshee and I thought for sure we were about to hit a deer, hog, elk, nilgai, car, truck or ghost. Now I am not sure how many lives I have but I surely lost part of one there as I swerved back into traffic and back into another "rhubarb."

To submit news, email:  
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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."

We did finally find a road that took us to our hotel and I patiently stood in the lobby while Miss Trixie made a new best friend of the night clerk and discussed our trip, told him why we were late, how often we've stayed at that motel, how long it's been since we had been there and when we would be leaving.

He did seem to bear up under this assault of too much information pretty well and to his credit did not roll his eyes near as much as Ol' Dutch. Dang, I think I have caught that from Miss Trixie.

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 or on Twitter at TroutRepublic.

## From the Librarian's Desk — New arrivals at the Alamosa Public Library

By MARIA KRAMER

**ALAMOSA** — New books are always coming in at the Alamosa Public Library! Here are 10 of our most intriguing arrivals. For more information, or to have a book reserved for you, check alamosalibrary.org or call 719-589-6592.

### Fiction

• **And Then She Fell** by Alicia Elliott  
Alice has it all. A handsome husband, a beautiful new daughter and a house in a posh Toronto suburb. But inside, Alice is falling apart. She can't bond with her baby, she's reeling from her mother's death, and she - the only Indigenous resident of their neighborhood - feels like an imposter. Then, she starts hearing voices. Is she losing her mind? Or is it something more?

• **No One Prayed Over Their Graves** by Khaled Khalifa

In 1907, after a night of carousing, friends Hanna and Zakariya return to their village in Syria to find it devastated by a flood. Their friends, family and neighbors are dead, their homes and businesses destroyed. Their lives will never be the same.

### Inspirational

• **Wildflower Falls** by Denise Hunter  
Charlotte Simpson never knew her biological father, but when her mother died, she discovered some newspaper clippings that might be a clue to his identity. Horse trainer Gunner Dawson has no roots and no family, but he has a listening ear and is willing to give Charlotte a hand.

### Mystery

• **The Spanish Diplomat's Secret** by Nev March

It's 1894, and Captain James Agnihotri and his wife Diana are sailing to England on a luxury liner. On their second day at sea, a Spanish gentleman is found murdered - shortly after he asked to see James. Can James and Diana solve a case with a thousand suspects and no witnesses?

### Nonfiction

• **Return of the Bison** by Roger Di Silvestro

The bison - symbol of the American West - was once almost lost to history. This book charts the continuing journey to bring bison back from the brink.

• **Beyond the Wall** by Katja Hoyer

When the Iron Curtain fell in 1990, the nation of East Germany ceased to be. In this book, Hoyer presents a rich picture of this vanished country - a political, social and cultural landscape that existed in the midst of hardship and oppression.

• **The Good Virus** by Tom Ireland

More than a century ago, a French Canadian scientist discovered "bacteriophages" - viruses that invade and destroy bacteria from within. Today, they could be our allies in fighting drug-resistant bacterial infections.

• **Herbana Witch** by Cecilia Lattari

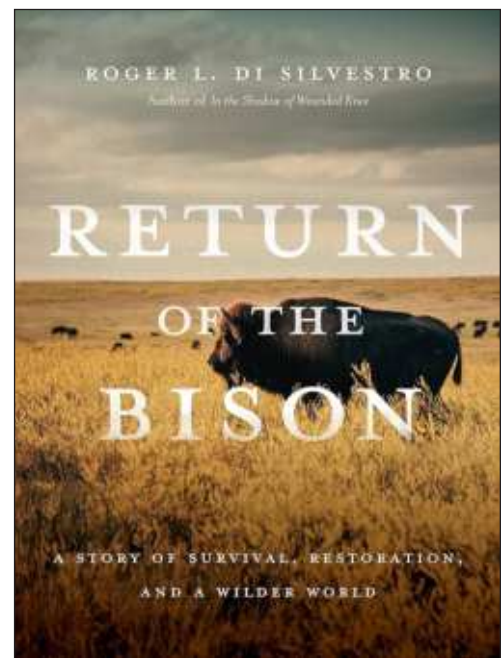
What is an "herbana witch"? A witch who is deeply connected to the power and wisdom of nature. This book presents magical, meditative and healing practices season by season, to help you get in touch with the spiritual power of the woods.

### Poetry

• **Trace Evidence** by Charif Shanahan  
Meditations on mixed-race identity, queer desire, time and mortality.

### Romance

• **Witch of Wild Things** by Raquel Vasquez Gilliland



Like all her family, Sage Flores has a gift. She can speak with the souls of plants, making them grow. When Sage reluctantly returns to her family home, she must confront her past - including Tennessee Reyes, who once broke her heart.

## LETTER

# Animal cruelty: the link

Editor,

It has long been established that when animals are abused or neglected, humans may also be at risk, especially children and the elderly.

Please go to [aldf.org](http://aldf.org) to read more from the Animal Legal Defense Fund:

• "Children who witness both animal cruelty and family violence are more likely to experience depression and anxiety... This psychological trauma may negatively impact a child's development.

• "Between 62-76% of animal cruelty in the home occurs in the presence of a child, which is a form of psychological trauma and negatively impacts chil-

dren's development

• "Researchers found that 43% of school shooters in the United States between 1988 and 2012 had histories of animal abuse."

• "Animal cruelty crimes ought to be taken seriously in their own right. . ." Out of 50 states Colorado is rated number 4 with felony provisions for first-time animal offenses.

It is mandatory for Colorado veterinarians to report animal cruelty and animal fighting.

Are other professionals looking at the connection between human abuse and animal abuse? I wonder how many victims, both human and animal, could be

rescued if a wellness check were done of the whole home when abuse is found.

My mother, brother and I endured the wrath of a father who abused animals on our small, isolated northern Minnesota dairy farm 70 years ago. His depression and frustration with life were exacerbated by a back injury. The memories and emotions are indelible even after so many years.

Please report animal cruelty or neglect to the phone number below. Mammals and other animals are sentient beings. That means they can perceive or feel fear, pain, anger, happiness, and love. Wild animals, as contrasted to domestic animals such as dogs and cats, also

have the above stated emotions. Animal abusers also target wild animals.

We at the San Luis Valley Animal Welfare Society, at our no kill Lori Schubert Dog Shelter/Sanctuary, often hear of animal cruelty and take in abused dogs. Tel. 719-587-WOOF (9663). Please do not confuse us with the San Luis Valley Animal Center.

To report animal or human abuse anonymously please call Crime Stoppers at 720-913-STOP (7867) or text 274637 (CRIMES).

Aileen Renvall Peek  
Volunteer Executive Director  
San Luis Valley Animal Welfare Society

Keith R Cerny  
Publisher

Brian Williams  
Managing Editor

# Valley Courier

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





CPW photo by John Livingston

Mule deer eat pumpkins left out in a Durango neighborhood in 2021.

## Properly discard of pumpkins after Halloween, do not leave out for wildlife consumption

By COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

Carved jack-o'-lanterns delight Halloween trick-or-treaters each year, but leaving pumpkins out in yards or on porches where wildlife can access them can bring a different kind of fright to Colorado neighborhoods.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife encourages the public to properly dispose of pumpkins after Halloween night so that wildlife are not attracted to this non-natural food source. CPW also reminds the public that intentionally feeding wildlife is illegal in Colorado.

"We want our wildlife to be sustained by the resources that naturally occur in their habitat," said CPW Wildlife Pathologist Karen Fox. "Our policy is definitely to not provide supplemental food to big game in any form."

Leaving pumpkins out for wildlife may seem harmless but can lead to unintended consequences. Bears are attracted to the pumpkins as they look to pile on calories during the last days before denning season. That can lead to unnecessary human-bear conflicts.

Deer feeding on pumpkins can attract predators such as mountain lions to residential areas. Other animals that may carry diseases such as raccoons can also be intrigued by rotting pumpkins, and animals congregating where they find this food source can lead to the spread of disease. "Bears are still around

and haven't gone to bed yet," said CPW Assistant Area Wildlife Manager Steve McClung of Durango. "Other animals such as raccoons that may carry distemper or other diseases could also get into those pumpkins, and you don't want potentially sick animals hanging around your home, especially if you have pets. Please find appropriate ways to discard your pumpkins after Halloween."

Many communities and food banks across Colorado offer pumpkin drop-off events for those who are looking for an alternative to throwing away or composting pumpkins themselves.

In the city of Durango, pumpkins and gourds are accepted and donated for animal feed at local ranches. Since 2019, 18,752 pounds of pumpkins have been collected in Durango alone.

Several ranches across Colorado also accept direct pumpkin donations to go toward livestock feed, and zoos may even accept donated pumpkins.

However, pumpkins that have been painted or contain melted wax are not able to be accepted because they are not safe for animal consumption.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has recommended that the public not paint pumpkins because the paint can be potentially toxic to wildlife that consume pumpkins that are left out.

For more information about living with wildlife, go to the CPW website.

# GO TEAMS!

Football Playoff Teams – Alamosa, Centauri, Sanford, Sierra Grande  
Regional Volleyball – Alamosa, Centauri, Sargent, Sanford, Del Norte, Sangre de Cristo  
State Gymnastics – Alamosa

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# Sports

## Sports Bulletin

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

**SCOREBOARD WEDNESDAY College women's soccer**  
Adams State 4, New Mexico Highlands 0

**THURSDAY College men's basketball**  
Adams State at Weber State (exhibition) - late

**SCHEDULE FRIDAY Prep girls gymnastics**  
Alamosa at Class 4A State Meet (at Thornton), 3 p.m.

**Prep girls volleyball**  
Sangre de Cristo at McClave (Class 1A Region 3 Tournament), 1 p.m.

Salida at Centauri (Class 3A Region 10 Tournament), 2 p.m.  
Salida vs. Sterling (Class 3A Region 10 Tournament at La Jara), TBA

Sterling at Centauri (Class 3A Region 10 Tournament), TBA

**College women's volleyball**  
Adams State at Fort Lewis, 6 p.m.

**College swimming**  
Adams State at Nebraska-Kearney Invitational, TBA

**SATURDAY Prep football**  
Alamosa at Delta (Class 2A State Playoffs first round), 1 p.m.

Arickaree at (Sierra Grande at six-man state playoffs first round), 1 p.m.

Centauri at Wray (Class 1A State Playoffs first round), 1 p.m.

Sanford at Byers (eight-man state playoffs first round), 1 p.m.

**Prep girls gymnastics**  
Alamosa at Class 4A State Meet (at Thornton), 1:30 p.m.

**Prep volleyball**  
Basalt at Alamosa (Class 3A Region 9 Tournament), 10 a.m.

Del Norte at Plateau Valley (Class 2A Region 6 Tournament), 10 a.m.

Basalt vs. University (Class 3A Region 9 Tournament), TBA

Del Norte vs. Loveland Classical Academy (Class 2A Region 6 Tournament at Collbran), TBA

Sanford vs. St. Mary's (Class 2A Region 4 Tournament at Littleton), TBA

Sanford at Front Range Christian (Class 2A Region 4 Tournament), TBA

Sargent vs. Olathe (Class 2A Region 5 Tournament at Mancos), TBA

Sargent at Mancos (Class 2A Region 5 Tournament), TBA

University at Alamosa (Class 3A Region 9 Tournament), TBA

**College football**  
Adams State at Black Hills State (S.D.), 1 p.m.

**College cross country**  
Adams State at NCAA South Central Region Championship (at Lubbock, Texas), TBA

**College women's volleyball**  
Adams State at Western Colorado, 6 p.m.

**College women's basketball**  
Adams State vs. West Texas A&M (D2CCA Tipoff Classic at Lubbock, Texas), 11 a.m.

**College swimming**  
Adams State at Nebraska-Kearney Invitational, TBA

**College women's wrestling**  
Adams State at Colorado Mesa, 9 a.m.



Courier photo by Ken Hamrick

**Alamosa High School's Elizabeth McQuitty approaches the finish line at last week's Class 3A State Cross Country Meet in Colorado Springs. McQuitty was named a first team All-State selection by CHSAA.**

## Seven local cross country runners named All-State

By KEN HAMRICK

*Courier sports editor*

**ALAMOSA** – The Colorado High School Activities Association released its All-State cross country teams on Wednesday.

The All-State teams are posted on the CHSAA Now.com web site.

The top 30 individuals were named to an All-State team with the top seven finishers making the first team and the next seven being named to the second team.

In Class 3A, three Alamosa High School girls runners were named to the All-State team. Junior Elizabeth McQuitty was named first team after a third-place finish at the state meet. Senior Sarah

DeLaCerde was named to the second team after finishing 13, and senior Madeline Castillo was named honorable mention after finishing 20th.

One runner from the boys team was also named All-State as senior Mario Villaba was honorable mention after a 26th-place finish.

Two local girl runners were named All-State in Class 2A. Del Norte freshman Frannie Edelen and Centauri junior Erica Miller were both honorable mention. They finished 26th and 30th respectively.

One Centauri boy was All-State as Carson Bagwell was honorable mention who finished in 25th place.

## Molina named to All-State softball team

By KEN HAMRICK

*Courier sports editor*

**ALAMOSA** – The Colorado High School Activities Association released its All-State softball teams last Friday. All three All-State teams are posted on the chsaanow.com web site.

One Alamosa High School player was named to the Class 3A team as sophomore Araceli Molina was an honorable mention selection.

Molina led the Lady Mean Moose in batting average at .448. She had 26 hits in 76 at-bats, which included four doubles, a

triple, a home run and 17 RBIs. She also led the team in runs scored with 26 as well as base hits.

Molina was also the team leader in stolen bases with 14.

She was the full-time starter in center field and had a .882 fielding average.

Alamosa had an overall record of 13 wins and 10 losses and was 4-4 in the Tri-Peaks League. The Lady Mean Moose finished second in their region and qualified for the Class 3A State Tournament.

## High school standings

| FOOTBALL                  |        |         |
|---------------------------|--------|---------|
| CLASS 2A TRI-PEAKS LEAGUE |        |         |
| Team                      | League | Overall |
| La Junta                  | 4-1    | 8-1     |
| Florence                  | 4-1    | 6-3     |
| Alamosa                   | 4-1    | 4-5     |
| Woodland Park             | 2-3    | 3-6     |
| Manitou Springs           | 1-4    | 4-5     |
| Lamar                     | 0-5    | 3-6     |

| Last week's scores           |  |  |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Friday                       |  |  |
| Alamosa 43, Woodland Park 7  |  |  |
| Florence 14, La Junta 13     |  |  |
| Manitou Springs 35, Lamar 26 |  |  |

| Regular season ends                |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| This week's schedule               |  |  |
| Class 2A State Playoffs            |  |  |
| Saturday                           |  |  |
| Alamosa at Delta, 1 p.m.           |  |  |
| Florence at University, 1 p.m.     |  |  |
| Pagosa Springs at La Junta, 1 p.m. |  |  |

| CLASS 1A SOUTH CENTRAL LEAGUE |        |         |
|-------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Team                          | League | Overall |
| Centauri                      | 5-0    | 7-2     |
| Monte Vista                   | 4-1    | 6-3     |
| Ignacio                       | 3-2    | 4-5     |
| Del Norte                     | 2-3    | 3-6     |
| Center                        | 1-4    | 1-8     |
| Trinidad                      | 0-5    | 0-9     |

| Last week's scores         |  |  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Friday                     |  |  |
| Centauri 45, Monte Vista 0 |  |  |
| Center 49, Trinidad 0      |  |  |
| Ignacio 14, Del Norte 6    |  |  |

| Regular season ends      |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| This week's schedule     |  |  |
| Class 1A State playoffs  |  |  |
| Saturday                 |  |  |
| Centauri at Wray, 1 p.m. |  |  |

| 8-MAN MOUNTAIN LEAGUE |        |         |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|
| Team                  | League | Overall |
| Mancos                | 4-0    | 8-1     |
| Dove Creek            | 3-1    | 7-2     |
| Sanford               | 2-2    | 6-3     |
| Sargent               | 1-3    | 4-5     |
| Dolores               | 0-4    | 2-7     |

| Last week's scores       |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Friday                   |  |  |
| Dove Creek 50, Sargent 8 |  |  |
| Mancos 64, Norwood 0     |  |  |
| Sanford 58, Dolores 8    |  |  |

| Regular season ends      |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| This week's schedule     |  |  |
| 8-man State Playoffs     |  |  |
| Friday                   |  |  |
| Fowler at Mancos, 6 p.m. |  |  |

| Saturday                             |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Sanford at Byers, 1 p.m.             |  |  |
| Vail Christian at Dove Creek, 1 p.m. |  |  |

| 6-MAN SOUTHWEST LEAGUE |        |         |
|------------------------|--------|---------|
| Team                   | League | Overall |
| Branson/Kim            | 5-0    | 7-2     |
| Primero                | 3-2    | 6-3     |
| Sierra Grande          | 3-2    | 6-3     |
| La Veta                | 3-2    | 6-4     |
| Mountain Valley        | 1-4    | 4-5     |
| Sangre de Cristo       | 0-5    | 3-7     |

| Last week's scores                  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Thursday                            |  |  |
| Primero 42, Cheraw 41               |  |  |
| Friday                              |  |  |
| Cheyenne Wells 58, Branson/Kim 14   |  |  |
| Granada 52, Sierra Grande 22        |  |  |
| Miami-Yoder 44, Sangre de Cristo 16 |  |  |
| Saturday                            |  |  |
| La Veta 75, Kiowa 12                |  |  |
| Mountain Valley 55, Antonito 0      |  |  |
| Regular season ends                 |  |  |
| This week's schedule                |  |  |
| 6-man State Playoffs                |  |  |
| Saturday                            |  |  |
| Arickaree at Sierra Grande, 1 p.m.  |  |  |
| La Veta at Cheyenne Wells, 1 p.m.   |  |  |
| Peetz at Branson/Kim, 1 p.m.        |  |  |
| Primero at Otis, 1 p.m.             |  |  |

| GIRLS VOLLEYBALL              |        |         |
|-------------------------------|--------|---------|
| CLASS 3A INTERMOUNTAIN LEAGUE |        |         |
| Team                          | League | Overall |
| Centauri                      | 7-1    | 16-6    |
| Alamosa                       | 7-1    | 16-7    |
| Pagosa Springs                | 3-5    | 10-13   |
| Bayfield                      | 3-5    | 6-17    |
| Montezuma-Cortez              | 0-8    | 3-20    |

| CLASS 2A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE |        |         |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Team                           | League | Overall |
| Sargent                        | 6-1    | 16-7    |
| Buena Vista                    | 5-2    | 14-9    |
| Del Norte                      | 5-2    | 10-12   |
| Trinidad                       | 4-3    | 14-7    |
| Sanford                        | 4-3    | 12-10   |
| Center                         | 2-5    | 10-12   |
| Crested Butte                  | 1-6    | 10-13   |
| Monte Vista                    | 1-6    | 8-15    |

| CLASS 1A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE |        |         |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Team                           | League | Overall |
| Sangre de Cristo               | 5-0    | 14-9    |
| Antonito                       | 4-1    | 7-14    |
| Creede                         | 2-3    | 7-11    |
| Sierra Grande                  | 2-3    | 4-16    |
| Mountain Valley                | 1-4    | 3-17    |
| Centennial                     | 1-4    | 1-14    |

| BOYS SOCCER                   |        |         |
|-------------------------------|--------|---------|
| CLASS 3A INTERMOUNTAIN LEAGUE |        |         |
| Team                          | League | Overall |
| Bayfield                      | 5-0-1  | 9-5-1   |
| Pagosa Springs                | 4-1-1  | 6-7-2   |
| Alamosa                       | 2-4-0  | 2-12-0  |
| Montezuma-Cortez              | 0-6-0  | 2-11-1  |

| GIRLS SOFTBALL            |        |         |
|---------------------------|--------|---------|
| CLASS 3A TRI-PEAKS LEAGUE |        |         |
| Team                      | League | Overall |
| Wiley                     | 7-1    | 18-4    |
| Rocky Ford                | 7-1    | 16-10   |
| Lamar                     | 6-2    | 18-9    |
| La Junta                  | 6-2    | 15-11   |
| Alamosa                   | 4-4    | 13-10   |
| Woodland Park             | 3-5    | 7-16    |
| Dolores Huerta            | 2-6    | 7-7     |
| James Irwin               | 2-6    | 4-13    |
| Florence                  | 0-8    | 0-23    |

# SPIN AND WIN

Beginning at 12:30 pm on Mondays, for every 100 same day points earned, receive a Wheel Game on the kiosk. You can spin up to 4x. Once you earn 500 same day points, claim your voucher to Spin the Lucky Cash\* Wheel and Win even more!

# WIN KO

Thursdays 12:30 pm-7:30 pm, 15 players are drawn to drop the puck and win up to \$500 Cash\* and \$500 Bonus Cash\*.

\*Rules apply. Visit Ohkay Winners Club for complete details.

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Alamosa

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# Public Notices

**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the following individuals are indebted to Alamosa Storage for past due rent. Auction will be conducted pursuant to 38-21.5-103 (1)(c)(III) thru 36-21.5-103 (e)(j). Auction will be conducted online with selfstorageauction.com starting November 6, 2023. Alamosa Storage reserves the right to bid on any unit. Sale of a unit is subject to cancellation in the event of a settlement between landlord and obligated party.

Erica Andrews #29 10x20x8 Miscellaneous items  
 Keith Rios #C3 8x20x8 Kitchen table, mattress, box spring, beds frames, bikes, smoker, etc.  
 Peter Autheliet #C14 8x10 Car seats, sinks, barrels, crates, tile, other miscellaneous items  
 Peter Autheliet #C19 8x10 tile, miscellaneous items  
 Abigail Farmer #B22 8x10 Aquarium tanks, freezer, mini fridge, and table  
 Tim Lopez #4 5x10 Miscellaneous items  
 Tim Lopez #77 10x10x8 Miscellaneous items  
 Tim Lopez #B16 8x10 clothes, boxes of miscellaneous items, bike  
 Jennifer Montoya #B29 8x10 Construction tools  
 No. 3623.  
 Published in the Valley Courier October 20, 21, 24, 25, 27, 28, 31, November 1, 3, & 4, 2023.

**NOTICE**

Rio Grande County is soliciting sealed bids for qualified contractors for 2023 AIRFIELD PROJECTS, to be constructed for RIO GRANDE COUNTY, COLORADO. Bids will be received at the County Office until 1:00 pm on Tuesday, November 28, 2023. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud on Tuesday, November 28, 1:00pm at the County Office, 925 6th Street, Room 207, Del Norte, CO 81132.

An Optional Pre-Bid Conference will be held on November 07, 2023 at 1:00 pm at the Astronaut Kent Rominger Airport, 883 Co Rd 22, Del Norte, CO 81132.

The project consists of a 2-inch asphalt overlay to Runway 6-24, a new 450 feet Proposed Taxilane construction East of Taxiway B, and the rehabilitation of existing taxiways and apron pavements with a 608H Seal Coat treatment.

Bids will be received for a single prime contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis with additive alternate bid items as indicated in the Bid Form.

Digital copies of the bid documents are available from the county at [www.riograndecounty.org](http://www.riograndecounty.org). Those downloading the contract documents electronically are responsible for verifying the completeness of contract documents received view download. Failure to download a complete set of digital contract documents will not be a factor considered in the evaluation of bids or form the basis for any bid protest. In order to submit a responsive bid as a Prime Contractor and to receive all necessary addendum (s) for this project, you must be on the Planholder's List, which requires the plans being downloaded from [www.riograndecounty.org](http://www.riograndecounty.org).

Bids shall be accompanied by a bid security in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. The successful Bidder must furnish Performance and Payment Bonds in accordance with the Contract Documents.

Bidders must be licensed to perform work within the state of Colorado.

Bids must remain in effect for 60 days after the bid opening date. Within 60 days from the bid date, the Owner may award the contract to the lowest responsive, responsible Bidder or reject any or all Bids for the Project.

The RIO GRANDE COUNTY, COLORADO reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, to waive irregularities in the Bids and bidding deemed to be in the best interests of the RIO GRANDE COUNTY, COLORADO, and to reject nonconforming, nonresponsive, or conditional bids.

No. 3642.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on October 27, 28, 31, November 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, & 21, 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. (8/18-TFN)

**173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**PRIVATE HOME HEALTHCARE:** 20 plus years' experience. Wanting to take care of your loved one. 719-588-6472. (11/8/23)

**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-monthly)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26** is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the position of **SECONDARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER**, for the remaining 2023-2024 School Year. Qualifications: Special Education Certification as required by the State of Colorado or such alternative to the above qualifications as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719)754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (12/6/23)

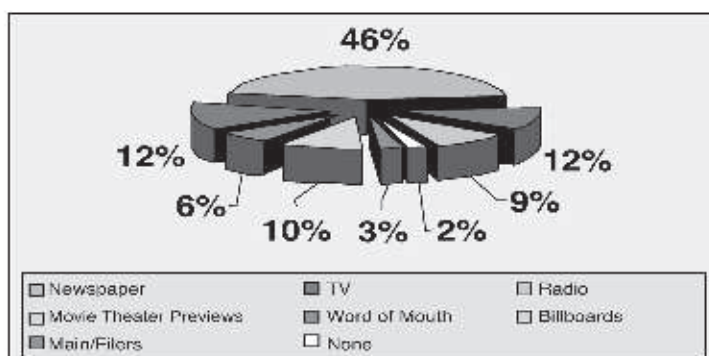
**221 - HELP WANTED**

**ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY** seeks applicants for an **EQUIPMENT OPERATOR II** position in the Facilities Services Department. Starting salary for this position is \$3,658 per month. For application or more information, please see <https://www.adams.edu/hr/employment/> AA/EOE. (11/11/23)

**CITY OF ALAMOSA** is seeking a full-time **POLICE OFFICER** or **POLICE APPRENTICE** to protect the lives, safety, health, welfare, and property of individuals within the corporate limits of Alamosa by enforcing municipal, state and federal statutes, ordinances and laws. Incumbents may be assigned to the Patrol Division, Investigations Division and/or special assignments necessary to protect and serve the needs of individuals relating to law enforcement. Hiring annual salary is \$49,400 - \$59,383 DOQ, FLSA Non-Exempt. Fringe benefits include a 401K retirement with a 10% employer and employee match, 11.5 holidays per year, 2 personal days, 80 hours of sick leave, 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. For a full job description and to apply, visit [cityofalamosa.org](http://cityofalamosa.org) or stop by City Hall at 300 Hunt Ave. The City of Alamosa provides Equal Opportunity Employment for accommodations please submit them in writing with the application. Application deadline - open until filled. (12/2/23)

**WARD CLERK, NEEDED** Full-Time days at RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL. Amazing opportunity to join our incredible patient-centered and service-oriented team. Must be motivated and available to work flexible shifts. Apply at 0310 County Road 14, DEL NORTE, CO 81132 or online at [www.riograndehospital.org](http://www.riograndehospital.org). (11/15/23)

## Valley Shoppers Depend on Newspapers... Shouldn't You?.



An overwhelming 46% of consumers surveyed\* recently said they notice newspaper advertising over any other kind of local advertising. TV came in a distant second with 12%, with radio only drawing 9% interest.

**SHOULDN'T YOUR ADVERTISING MESSAGE BE IN THE PAPER?**

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\*Survey results are from a research project conducted in late 2000 by the marketing department at Adams State College as commissioned by the Alamosa Uptown River Association (AURA) for the Alamosa Downtown Merchants. A complete copy of the survey is available for review at the Valley Courier or by contacting Tawney Becker at 589-3681.

**X County Court District Court Denver Juvenile Court Alamosa County, Colorado**

Court Address:  
 In the Matter of the Petition of:  
 Adult  
 or  
 X Parent/Petitioner: Shandon Bailon  
 For Minor Child: Uriah Xavion Paul Navares  
 For a Change of Name to: Uriah Xavion Paul Bailon  
**COURT USE ONLY**  
 Filed in the Combined Court  
 Alamosa County, Colorado  
 Clerk of the Combined Court  
 Date Filed: 10/20/2023  
 Case Number: 23C189  
 Division: B Courtroom: B  
**PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
 Public Notice is given on October 20, 2023 that a Petition for a Change of Name of a X Minor Child or Adult has been filed with the Alamosa County Court.  
 The Petition requests that the name of  
 Uriah Xavion Paul Navares  
 First Name Middle Name Last Name  
 be changed to  
 Uriah Xavion Paul Bailon  
 First Name Middle Name Last Name  
 By Nikki Quintana  
 Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk  
 No. 3648.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on November 3, 4, & 7, 2023.

**\*\*If your Veteran's Photo has appeared in this section since 2013 there is no need to bring your photo in as we have it on file and it will print again.\*\***



## WE WANT YOUR PHOTOS WE'RE CELEBRATING OUR VETERANS!



We're running special photo pages in our November 11th edition for Veteran's Day to honor those who are serving, and have served, in our nation's military.

Please send your service picture along with your name, branch of service, rank and hometown to:  
 ebone@alamosanews.com or to  
 P.O. Box 1099 Alamosa, CO 81101

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: NOVEMBER 6**  
 Valley Courier  
 2205 State Avenue, Alamosa • Ph: 719-589-2553

## ENTER NOW to Become



Last year's Little Mister and Miss Christmas, Marques Martinez and Marci Ortiz, were featured with 2022 Miss Merry Christmas Whitney Thong.



## 2023 Little Mister & Miss MERRY CHRISTMAS!

"Little Mister & Little Miss Merry Christmases" will be featured in a very special holiday section published by the Valley Courier on Wednesday, November 22nd, 2023, making their choices for Christmas gifts from the San Luis Valley's local businesses.

**DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, NOV. 14th AT 3 P.M.**

**ENTRY FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parents \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 School \_\_\_\_\_

- All entrants must be age 5 to 8.
  - A recent photo must be submitted.
  - Name must appear on the back of the photo.
  - Parental permission for photographs is required for use.
- Simply bring this form and photo to our office

Valley Courier  
 2205 State Ave. • Alamosa, CO 81101



# Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

**CITY OF MONTE VISTA** is currently accepting applications for an **EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I** position. This position will perform skilled work in equipment operations, maintenance and repair work of streets, etc. This position may be asked to perform work for the Water/Sewer Dept and the Parks Dept. This position could require some on-call shifts. A valid Colorado Class B CDL License with air brakes is highly desirable. Requires HS diploma or GED equivalent and one-year prior experience as equipment operator. This is a 40 hour per week full-time position. The general starting wage is \$16.75 - \$17.75 per hour plus an excellent benefit package. Applicant must submit a completed job application to the Human Resources Office, 955 W. 1st Ave., Monte Vista, CO 81144. EOE/ADA. (11/11/23)

**CITY OF ALAMOSA** is seeking a full-time **POLICE CHIEF** to provide administrative leadership, direction, planning, and organizing the activities of the Police Department in law enforcement and crime prevention. Hiring annual salary is \$103,869 - \$113,300 DOQ, FLSA Exempt. Fringe benefits include a 401K retirement with a 10% employer and employee match, 11.5 holidays per year, 2 personal days, 80 hours of sick leave, 80 hours of vacation leave per year, and 80 hours of exempt PTO a 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. For a full job description and to apply, visit [cityofalamosa.org](http://cityofalamosa.org) or stop by City Hall at 300 Hunt Ave. The City of Alamosa provides Equal Opportunity Employment for accommodations please submit them in writing with the application. Application deadline - open until filled. (12/2/23)

**BOOK KEEPER: LOCAL, WELL-RESPECTED** non-profit agency hiring a bookkeeper for a 6-MONTH TERM. Responsibilities include assistance with accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, and special projects. We're looking for a motivated, values-driven individual with experience in QuickBooks and Excel. Initiative essential; training and support provided. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of serving others. FT, \$20.00/ hr; \$1,000 completion bonus after 6 months. Inquire about benefits. Send cover letter, resume/request job description to [hr@lapuente.net](mailto:hr@lapuente.net). 719 589-5909, ext238. [www.lapuente.net](http://www.lapuente.net). (11/17/23)

**RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL CLINIC** at DEL NORTE & MONTE VISTA have a Full-Time MA or LPN position available in our busy Primary Care Clinic's. Must be dependable, have the ability to multi-task, be a self-starter and pay close attention to detail. RGH is an EOE. Complete an application online at [www.riograndehospital.org](http://www.riograndehospital.org) under Contact/Employment. Additional questions, contact Ted Andersen at [teda@riograndehospital.net](mailto:teda@riograndehospital.net) or call 719-657-2418. (11/15/23)

**CNA, NEEDED FULL-TIME NIGHTS** at RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL. Amazing opportunity to join our incredible patient-centered and service-oriented team. Must be motivated and available to work flexible shifts. Apply at 0310 County Road 14, DEL NORTE, CO 81132 or online at [www.riograndehospital.org](http://www.riograndehospital.org). (11/15/23)

**RADIOGRAPHER, CT TECHNOLOGIST (Full-Time)** Specific duties and responsibilities: All X-ray, CT, OP, IP, and ER trauma exams. Join our incredible patient centered and service-oriented team! Must be motivated and available to work flexible shifts. Apply at 310 County Road 14, DEL NORTE, CO 81132 or online at [www.riograndehospital.org](http://www.riograndehospital.org). Full Benefits. Please see hospital website for more information. Contact Jerilyn Hamlin 719-657-4150 for more information. RGH is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (11/15/23)

**REGISTERED NURSE NEEDED** Full-Time NIGHTS at RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL. Amazing opportunity to join our incredible patient-centered and service-oriented team. Must be motivated and available to work flexible shifts. Apply at 0310 County Road 14, DEL NORTE, CO 81132 or online at [www.riograndehospital.org](http://www.riograndehospital.org). (11/15/23)

**REGISTERED NURSE NEEDED** Full-Time ER Days at RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL. Amazing opportunity to join our incredible patient-centered and service-oriented team. Must be motivated and available to work flexible shifts. Apply at 0310 County Road 14, DEL NORTE, CO 81132 or online at [www.riograndehospital.org](http://www.riograndehospital.org). (11/15/23)

**HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS** now hiring **BREAKFAST MANAGER**. Apply in person. (11/4/23)

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[Katrina.dbrown1@farmersagency.com](mailto:Katrina.dbrown1@farmersagency.com)  
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**Get Your Service Out there! call the Valley Courier Today! 589-2553**



# Classifieds

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**MONTE VISTA HEAD START** is accepting applications for a **TEACHER AID**. This position is full time, 38 hours/ week. Must have a Colorado Shines Level 2 or equivalent. Starting pay is \$15.50 to \$16.25 depends on experience. Applications are available at Monte Vista Head Start, 2863 Sherman Ave., MONTE VISTA, Colorado. For more information, you may contact the Director by email, [Director@MVheadstart.org](mailto:Director@MVheadstart.org) or call 719-852-3215. An employment application must be complete. Position open until filled. (11/4/23)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**LUBE TECH/GENERAL SERVICE: HIRING BONUS.** Competitive wages. Health, dental, 401k, PTO and paid holidays. Monday-Friday. Pick up application at **AUTOMOTIVE CONCEPTS** in ALAMOSA or email resume to [info@autoconcepts.us](mailto:info@autoconcepts.us) (11/3/23)  
**SLV REGIONAL LANDFILL** is accepting applications for a full-time **EQUIPMENT OPERATOR**. Benefits include 100% Paid Employee Only Health, Dental & Vision Insurance, Sick/Vacation Leave, Retirement Match. Applications & Job Description can be picked up at the SLV Landfill office or visit our website <http://slvlandfill.com> for more information. Starting wage \$17.00 per hour depending on experience. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. For more information, contact Leonard Brown (719)-852-3810 or [lbrown@slvlandfill.com](mailto:lbrown@slvlandfill.com) (11/11/23)  
**RED HILL LAVA PRODUCTS** is looking for a **LABOR/MAINTENANCE PERSON**. Please call Jon Armenta at 719-480-9595. (11/10/23)  
**CDOT IS LOOKING FOR TEMPORARY HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS** for Monarch Pass for the winter season. Positions would be 40 hours/week with the opportunity for overtime. Pay is \$24.44/hour. This position will receive per diem and CDOT will arrange for employee to stay in a hotel for their scheduled working days. If interested, apply at <https://bit.ly/wolfcreekpass> (11/10/23)  
**WANTED LOCAL DRIVER WITH CDL** license to HAUL HAY. Driving experienced preferred. Must have clean MVR, drug testing required, off weekends & holidays. If interested, call 719-843-5446. (11/7/23)  
**SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT IS** accepting applications for a **CUSTODIAN**. Applications can be downloaded at [www.sanfordechools.org](http://www.sanfordechools.org). Sanford School is an EOE&E. (11/4/23)  
**TOWN OF LA JARA** is accepting applications for a full-time **MAINTENANCE WORKER**. Applicants must have experience operating heavy equipment such as backhoes and tractors and lawn equipment, as well as knowledge of general maintenance repairs, street repairs, weed control, mosquito spraying and understanding or willingness to gain knowledge of water and sewer operations. Applications may be picked up at La Jara Town Hall, 221 Broadway. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. For more information call 719-274-5363. (11/3/23)  
**TOWN OF LA JARA** is accepting applications for **POLICE OFFICER**. Must be currently Colorado POST certified; willing to submit to background and criminal history checks as well as a psychological test. Salary ranges from \$43,000.00 to \$45,000 depending on experience. The Town of La Jara offers an excellent benefit package that includes vision, dental and medical insurance, PTO and paid holidays. Applications may be picked up at La Jara Town Hall, 221 Broadway. (11/3/23)  
**FULL-TIME CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE POSITION** open at the UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. This is a 4-10 hour day (Monday-Thursday) with some weekends as needed. Applicant must pass a background check, be able to work independently, and be a forward-thinking individual with an overall team approach to all tasks at hand. Applicant must also be able to work in all weather conditions (snow removal/general landscaping). If interested, please contact Demo Trujillo, 719-657-4040 x4007, [dtrujillo@urtigers.co](mailto:dtrujillo@urtigers.co). Applications can be retrieved online at: [www.urtigers.co](http://www.urtigers.co). (11/10/23)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**AUTO TECHNICIAN: HIRING BONUS.** Competitive wages. Health, dental, 401k, PTO and paid holidays. Monday-Friday. Pick up application at **AUTOMOTIVE CONCEPTS** in ALAMOSA or email resume to [info@autoconcepts.us](mailto:info@autoconcepts.us) (11/3/23)  
**CAFETERIA STAFF NEEDED** at UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. Must have high school diploma and some knowledge of working in a kitchen or a willingness to be trained. Pay is dependent on prior experience. Please contact Leslie Martinez at 719-657-4040, x1100 or email her at [lmartinez@urtigers.co](mailto:lmartinez@urtigers.co). (11/8/23)  
**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26Jt** is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the position of **ELEMENTARY PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER**, for the remaining 2023-2024 School Year. Qualifications: Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (11/4/23)  
**WANTED EXPERIENCED PRESSMAN.** Must be reliable, flexible, and dependable. Apply in person, 2205 State Street, ALAMOSA. (TFN)  
**NEED A SECOND INCOME?** child support? Car Repairs? Taxes Due? Earn up to \$800/month **DELIVERING THE VALLEY COURIER**. Contact Keith at 719-589-2553. (2/26-TFN)

**360 - MISC. FOR SALE**

**RONCO ROTISSERIE AND BBQ** oven, \$50. 719-298-2355. (11/11/23)  
**SEWING MACHINE CABINET**, \$25. 719-298-2355 (11/11/23)  
**FOR SALE: MATRESS** Topper w/cover; Old Antique Irons; Antique Sewing Machine; Coke Bottle w/ caps; Super Twin Water-bed. Call before 1:00pm or after 6:30pm. 719-298-2355. (11/11/23)  
**WILD WEST MAGAZINES:** \$15 takes all. 719-852-8879. (11/8/23)  
**LARRS MINI -** Therm JVH GAS FIRED BOILER, 160,000 BTU; \$450. ½ HP INLINE CAST IRON PUMP 1-inch inlet/outlet; \$150. 719-379-3921. (11/4+2cr/23)  
**ZACH'S EUROPEAN MOUNTS.** Professional work, low prices. 719-580-0398. (TFN)

**701 - AUTOS FOR SALE**

**1 DAY ADVERTISED IN THE VALLEY COURIER.** SOLD MY CAR! GREAT SERVICE! Samuel.  
**'07 SUBARU WAGON** needs motor; \$1,500. '02 SUZUKI DRZ400: \$750, needs motor. Old GOOSE NECK HORSE TRAILER: \$800. (11/25/23-CR)  
**2015 NH L228 SKID LOADER.** 815 Hrs. New Tires. Bucket and Forks. Enclosed cab with A/C. Very Clean. \$39,500 Call 719-850-1143. (11/28/23)



## 3 Ways To Advertise Valley Classifieds 589-2553

**Plan ONE**

### Guaranteed Ad - \$24.00

Ads must be prepaid, private parties only. One item only. no real estate (rentals, sales, apts. etc...), and no professional services. If item does not sell within 14 days, you must call to renew before the expiration date at NO CHARGE up to 20 more days. No refunds or copy changes except price reductions. Up to 20 words, additional charge for extra words.

**Plan TWO**

### Multiple Location - \$5.00

Any regular or guaranteed ad can be picked up into another classified category for the entire length of the running time. Must be same ad, no copy changes. Ads run multiple locations in same issues.

**Plan THREE**

### Free Ad

As a thank you to our readers, any item placed in the Courier with an advertised price of \$50 or less will be published **FREE** for 1 week (4 issues). Here's how it works:  
1. Private parties only.  
2. Ad must be 20 words or less.  
3. Price must be listed.  
4. No yard or garage sales run free.  
5. Multiple items in 1 ad may not equal more than \$50.00. (Limit one per customer per week)

## CLIP OUT AND MAIL

**VALLEY COURIER** Please Check One  
**P.O. Box 1099,** PLAN 1 \_\_\_ PLAN 2 \_\_\_ PLAN 3 \_\_\_  
**Alamosa, CO 81101** SKIP A SPACE BETWEEN WORDS

AD COPY

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CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**SAN LUIS VALLEY FARM WORKER HOUSING CORPORATION** is seeking a qualified **PART-TIME MAINTENANCE** Position in ALAMOSA. Minimum of 3 years' experience. Must be knowledgeable in heating, small appliance repair, plumbing, and minor electrical work, landscaping, painting and cleaning apartments to make ready. Willing to be on call after normal working hours. Must have a valid driver's license. Must be able to pass background investigation and a drug test. Wage is determined upon experience. Job will close on November 15, 2023. Mail resume to 980 S. Broadway, Center, Co. 81125. Equal Housing Opportunity Employment. (11/15/23)

**CITY OF MONTE VISTA** is accepting applications for the position of **FINANCE DIRECTOR**. The Finance Director has direct responsibility and supervision of all aspects of the Finance Department which includes fund accounting, financial reporting, payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, pension and retirement accounting, revenue collections, purchasing, auditing, budgeting, preparation of the Annual Finance Report, and monitors the financial position of the municipality. Five (5) years progressively responsible experience in Accounting and Finance and a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Public or Business Administration with an emphasis in accounting, financial management or a related field is required. An equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered. This is full time employment. The salary range is \$70,000-\$75,000 DOE, plus full benefits. To apply please visit: [www.cityofmontevista.com/colorado.gov](http://www.cityofmontevista.com/colorado.gov) or applications can be picked up at City Hall, 95 W. 1st Ave Monte Vista, CO 81144. Please provide updated resume with application. Position will remain open until filled, first review November 9, 2023. EEO ADA. (11/14/23)

**MOUNTAIN VALLEY SERVICES** is a rapidly growing construction company seeking an **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**. This full-time position requires outstanding personal skills, organization, and general computer application skills focusing on MS Office and the Google work environment. Salary will be commensurate with experience and skills related to these requirements. Applications can be obtained by emailing [tyler.mt.valley@gmail.com](mailto:tyler.mt.valley@gmail.com) or calling 719-376-5365. Deadline for application is November 1st, 2023. (11/3/23)

**MOUNTAIN VALLEY SERVICES** is a rapidly growing construction company wanting an additional team member to work as a full-time **MECHANIC** located in ANTONITO, Colorado. This position requires a working knowledge of repairing heavy equipment, trucks and most vehicles. Salary will be commensurate with experience and skills related to these requirements. Applications can be obtained by emailing [tyler.mt.valley@gmail.com](mailto:tyler.mt.valley@gmail.com) or calling 719-376-5365. Deadline for application is November 1st, 2023. (11/3/23)

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

**368 - PETS & SUPPLIES**

**FREE KITTENS TO GOOD INSIDE HOME(s).** Call or text 719-250-7597. (11/21/23)  
**OOPS! GOT PUPPIES WHO NEED A HOME?** San Luis Valley ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY is a nonprofit ANIMAL RESCUE dedicated to stopping the euthanasia of healthy adoptable pets. Having pets altered is the number one way to stop pet overpopulation. If your pet has had puppies contact us. We will take the puppies into our rescue and spay the mama dog for free after the puppies are weaned. If needed, we will also provide dog food & gas money to get the dogs to us to help in this situation. Spay/neuter is one of the greatest gifts you can provide your pet, your family, and your community. We have found good responsible homes for over 8,000 animals. Contact 719-587-9663 (WOOF); email: [woof@slvaws.org](mailto:woof@slvaws.org). (TFN)

**304 - LAWN & GARDEN**

**SPRINKLER WINTERIZATION, REPAIR & INSTALLATION.** Quick Service! Call evenings & weekends: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (12/1/23)

**307 - APPLIANCES**

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

**324 - SEED & FEED**

**HORSE & COW HAY:** GRASS, GRASS/ALFALFA, ALFALFA. 3x3 and 4x4 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917. (12/6/23-monthly)  
**HORSE HAY \$9/BALE;** COW/GOAT HAY \$4.50 per bale. 719-274-0380. (11/24/23)

**341 - GARAGE SALE**

**YARD SALE: FRIDAY, Nov. 3, Saturday, Nov. 4, 8:00am-3:00pm, 2019 Angel Place, ALAMOSA.** Good stuff! (11/4/23)

**345 - WOOD**

**FIREWOOD FOR SALE.** \$225 cord. 719-588-1183. (11/24/23)

**353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK**

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

**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](http://www.alamosarentals.com)

**426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE**

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

**525 - GUNS**

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

**601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

**1 BEDROOM & 2 BEDROOM** apartment for rent in ALAMOSA, \$560. Call 720-202-9734. (11/3/23)

**606 - BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT**

**OFFICE FOR RENT.** 10'x10', 315 State Avenue, ALAMOSA. 719-580-3338. (11/8/23)

**611 - HOUSES FOR RENT**

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

**4BR/2BA HOUSE FOR rent.** NEAR ALAMOSA-HS, park, shopping, hospital. \$1,450/month+utilities+deposit, no smoking, application required. 719-588-8828. (11/17/23)



**Subscribe Today!**

## Lunch Break. We're There. Valley Courier 589-2553



