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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

November 18, 2023

\$1



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SLV Today

SLV Commissioners to meet Monday

ALAMOSA—The San Luis Valley County Commissioners will have a special meeting 9 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 20, at the Alamosa County Service Center, 8900 Independence Way. On the agenda are 2024 budget funding requests and an update from Alamosa County Commissioner Lori Laskeregardingatransmission line grant.

Chapter DP, PEO selling pecans, cashews on Nov. 18

ALAMOSA — Chapter DP, PEO is selling pecans and cashews from 9 to 11 a.m. on Nov. 18 at the First United Methodist Church in Alamosa. Sales help raise money for the chapter's PEO scholarships and grants. For more information, call Helen Sigmond at 719-589-6626.

Annual Bake Sale is Nov. 18

ALAMOSA — On Saturday, Nov. 18, the First Christian Church in Alamosa will hold its 23rd annual Craft and Bake Sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The church is located at State Avenue and First Street in Alamosa.

SLV WEATHER



Chance of Rain or Snow, Breezy 55/20

Sun: Chance of Snow, Breezy 49/21

Mon: Chance of Snow, Breezy 44/11

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Courier announces 'Christmas' honorees

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — By virtue of being crowned Alamosa High School's homecoming queen, Sarah DeLaCerde is the Valley Courier's 2023 Miss Merry Christmas.

She will be joined by Little Miss Merry Christmas Isabella Avila and Little Mister Christmas Ezequiel Chavez in the annual pre-Thanksgiving edition on Wednesday, Nov. 22. The youth were selected from dozens of entries for the latter two honors.

Isabella is the 7-year-old daughter of David and Sophia Avila of Alamosa and a second-grader at Alamosa Elementary. Ezequiel is the 5-year-old son of Kevin Chavez and Brittany Mar-

tinez and is a kindergartner at Alamosa Elementary.

Sarah is a senior at Alamosa High and is the daughter of Peter and Ronda DeLaCerde. She has four siblings, Isaiah, Elijah, Jeremiah and Hannah.

A stalwart athlete at AHS, ■ See **CHRISTMAS** page 3

Sarah DeLaCerde, center, was voted Alamosa High School's 2023 homecoming queen and therefore will be featured as Miss Merry Christmas in the Valley Courier's annual pre-Thanksgiving edition on Wednesday, Nov. 22. Joining her are Little Miss Merry Christmas Isabella Avila and Little Mister Christmas Ezequiel Chavez.

Courier photo by Keith R. Cerny



Courtesy photo

At the memorial service for Sgt. C.G. Betenbaugh, Conejos County Veterans Service Officer Robert Lockwood presented his family with a memorial plaque. From left to right are, Vickie Winsauer, Karen Lofton, Trudy Silverman, Glen Betenbaugh, Jo Jordan, and Robert Lockwood.

Conejos County Veterans Service Officer pays tribute

By **ROBERT LOCKWOOD**
CONEJOS COUNTY

— On Veterans Day, Conejos County Veterans Service officer Robert Lockwood said these words of tribute at the memorial service for Clinton Betenbough, a Veteran who recently passed away at the age of 101. Reprinted here is what Lockwood said at the service.

"It is a great honor to speak today about the oldest and last WW II veteran of Conejos County, and possibly the oldest veteran in the entire San Luis Valley. I hope today is not a complete day of sadness for his passing but rather a tribute to his life and legacy.

"Sgt. Clinton G. Betenbough led a wonderful life. He was born on

May 9, 1922 2 ½ years after the end of WW I. During that era, women were given the right to vote. By the time he was one, Charles Lindbergh completed the first solo transatlantic flight, and the star-spangled banner was adopted as our country's national anthem.

"Betenbough graduated from high school in ■ See **TRIBUTE** page 3



Courier photo by John Waters

The Alamosa City Council held its first executive session with City of Alamosa department heads on Wednesday, Nov. 15.

City council holds first executive session with department heads

Looks into concerns raised by former APD Chief

By **PRISCILLA WAGGONER**
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — At Wednesday night's council meeting, council members took the first step in learning more about the concerns raised by Alamosa Police Department's former Police Chief Ken Anderson, including the reasons he cited for resigning from his position. At this point, three executive sessions have been scheduled so far focusing

on the challenges Anderson said he encountered under the supervision of Alamosa City Manager Heather Sanchez.

During Wednesday night's executive session, council members spoke with the city's department heads, all of whom are supervised directly by Sanchez, as well as individuals on the next tier of the supervisory chain. Beyond that, nothing more is known.

Executive sessions are, by state statute, held in confidential settings where members of the public are legally prohibited from attending due to the nature of the topic to be discussed.

When asked for his comment on the importance of these sessions, ■ See **COUNCIL** page 3

Alamosa celebrates National Adoption Day

By **JOHN WATERS**
Courier News Editor

ALAMOSA COUNTY — On Friday, the 12th Judicial District paid respect to National Adoption Day at the Alamosa Judicial Center. Hon. Amanda C. Hopkins, 12th Judicial District Chief Judge, presided over the events which were focused on kids and fun things for them to do outside on a glorious late fall day.

The kids had a petting zoo, a bounce house, and a small slide where they could release handmade car-like toys. The celebration was open to residents of the San Luis Valley.

In remarks before the outside

activities, Hopkins offered personal and heartfelt words, "A lot of you already know, I'm an adopted child. You have probably heard me tell your kids, that being adopted means that you are such an amazing person, so special that that you could not imagine your family being whole without your children. What is sometimes failed to be honored, is being an adoptive parent. While I probably would have been OK if my stepdad had never adopted me and never become my real dad, I would not be the person I am today had he and my mom not made that choice. In the 30 years since my adoption, I can

■ See **ADOPTION** page 3



Courier photo by John Waters

At the 12th Judicial District celebration of National Adoption Day, are Alamosa Commissioners, left to right, Arlan Van Ry, Lori Laske, and Vern Heersink.



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Record

Alamosa City Council greenlights liquor license for new bar on State Avenue

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa City Council has given the OK for a tavern liquor license to be granted to the new owner of the building that used to house Greco's, a longtime tavern located at 513 State Ave. just south of Main Street. In approving the application, the council helped to pave the way for the new bar to be called "The 719".

Joseph Serrano, the new owner and future operator of the bar, has plans for his business, as was obvious in the comprehensive presentation he made to the city council as part of his application, which also included a petition bearing 100 signatures of people in support of the business.

Serrano is not new to the beverage business. As he told the coun-

cil, he has been in the business for 11 years, primarily in Las Vegas, and, most recently, working at Knee Knockers in Alamosa.

He plans to offer a venue for craft cocktails and mocktails, live music, and sports and spoke of his commitment to safe service. He also plans to work with the Rubi Slipper, the restaurant located across the street, to provide a limited carry-out menu, and to be part of First Fridays.

Serrano told the council he has received the Nevada equivalent of "TIPS" training. TIPS — which stands for Training for Intervention Procedures — is a widely recognized program that provides knowledge and skills necessary for preventing alcohol-related issues and is one that Serrano says he will require such training for



Photo by Priscilla Waggoner

The Alamosa City Council unanimously approved a tavern liquor license to Joseph Serrano for bar at 513 State Ave.

all his employees.

Serrano further stated he is looking forward to restarting the long tradition of live music and sports at a location that has historically been a tavern, a sentiment

echoed by Sara Dixon, who spoke in favor of the application.

Dixon said she was "impressed by the young man." She spent a lot of time in Greco's and would love to see it come

back and liven up the south side of town.

Eddie Valdez, owner of Knee Knockers, also spoke in favor of the application, noting that Serrano does a great job in his role at

Knee Knockers and is good at implementing TIPS.

The members of Alamosa City Council voted in unanimous approval of granting Serrano's license.

Care and Share Turkey Drive



Courier photo by John Waters

ALAMOSA — At the annual Care and Share Food Bank Turkey Drive, volunteers and staff members from the food bank were at the City Market in Alamosa on Friday collecting frozen turkeys that will be distributed to families in need. This year, Care and Share hopes to distribute 15,000 turkeys that will be collected from supermarkets in Colorado Springs, Pueblo, and Alamosa. From left to right are, Charlotte Ledonne, Meagan Smith, Turkey Joan, Harvey Horton, and Kaylee Gomez Romero. The food bank will continue raising monetary donations for Thanksgiving online at www.careandshare.org/turkey.

OBITUARY

Ignacio (Nick) 'Junior' Ortega

Ignacio (Nick) "Junior" Ortega passed away peacefully on Nov. 8, 2023, at the age of 84 in Wheat Ridge, Colo. He was born Feb. 6, 1939, in Capulin, Colo., to Ignacio Ortega and Porfiria (Archuleta) Ortega.

Ignacio was a proud Veteran of the US Navy where he served as a sonarman on the submarine USS Tench from 1961 to 1965. During his time in the Navy, Ignacio traveled through Europe and other countries. This fueled his love for travel and once discharged from the Navy, traveling became one of his hobbies.

Ignacio also enjoyed hunting, fly fishing, walking, swimming and being outdoors. In addition to his hobbies, Ignacio loved watching football and was a dedicated Denver Broncos fan. Later in life, Ignacio loved spending time with his beloved granddaughter, Lilliana.

Ignacio worked for

Union Pacific Railroad as a switchman from the time he was discharged from the Navy until he retired in 1997.

Ignacio was united in marriage to Rose Torres on July 25, 2003, in Denver, Colo.

Uncle Junior, as he was known by all his nephews and nieces, was more than just an uncle. To some, he was a second father, to others he was more like an older brother. To all he was a great and kind man who had a profound impact.

Ignacio was preceded in death by his parents, Ignacio and Porifia Ortega.

Ignacio is survived by his wife of 20 years, Rose Ortega, his stepchildren, Mary Ellen Torres and Gilbert (Mari) Torres, granddaughter, Lilliana Torres; siblings — Jelena (William-deceased) Anderson, Arthur (Oralia-deceased) Ortega, Cecelia (Martin-deceased) Roberts, Victor (Darlene) Ortega,



Helen (Johnny) Oakes, Lawrence Ortega, Jerry (Isabell) Ortega and Edwin Ortega. In addition, Ignacio leaves behind several nieces, nephews, cousins, God children and dear friends.

Recitation of the Rosary to be held Nov. 20, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. at St. Joseph Church in Capulin, Colo. A Mass of the Resurrection will be held immediately after at 10 a.m. with interment following at Capulin Cemetery.

The care of arrangements has been entrusted to Romero Funeral Home in Lakewood and Alamosa.

Biden signs stopgap spending bill, avoiding government shutdown

By JENNIFER SHUTT
Colorado Newsline

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden has signed the stopgap spending bill, giving his administration and Congress about two months to work out agreement on the dozen annual spending bills.

Those appropriations measures were supposed to become law by the start of the fiscal year on Oct. 1, but disagreement about whether to adhere to the total spending level set in the debt limit law approved this summer or to renegotiate has delayed the process.

"Last night I signed a bill preventing a government shutdown. It's an important step but we have more to do," Biden wrote on X, formerly known as Twitter, on Friday morning. "I urge Congress to address our national security and domestic needs — and House Republicans to stop wasting time on extreme bills and honor our bipartisan budget agreement."

The short-term spending bill, also called a continuing resolution or CR, keeps funding flat and policy nearly identical to the last batch of full-year spending bills. Those were approved last De-

cember and totaled about \$1.7 trillion.

Congress passed its first short-term spending bill in late September, creating a new deadline Friday at midnight to negotiate a deal on the full-year spending bills.

But House Republicans plunged into internal turmoil shortly afterward when eight GOP lawmakers and Democrats voted to remove former Speaker Kevin McCarthy, a California Republican, from that leadership role.

House Republicans spent several weeks unable to unify behind three nominees before electing Mike Johnson, a Louisiana Republican.

Johnson earlier this month proposed a second stopgap spending bill that would fund part of the government through mid-January and the rest of the programs through early February. The so-called "laddered" approach, which includes two funding deadlines instead of one, is not typically how short-term spending bills are drafted.

Despite concern from Democrats and some Republicans about the two deadlines, the U.S. House approved the bill Tuesday on a 336-95 vote and the Senate

cleared the legislation for Biden's signature late Wednesday night by a vote of 87-11.

The new spending law will give the Biden administration and Congress until Jan. 19 to reach bipartisan agreement on the Agriculture-FDA, Energy-Water, Military Construction-VA and Transportation-HUD spending bills.

The eight other bills have funding through Feb. 2, giving lawmakers a bit more time to negotiate a final agreement. Those bills include Commerce-Justice-Science, Defense, Financial Services, Homeland Security, Interior-Environment, Labor-HHS-Education, Legislative Branch and State-Foreign Operations.

The dozen bills make up the discretionary side of the annual federal budget and account for roughly one-third of total government spending.

Funding for mandatory programs, including Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, makes up the remaining two-thirds of government spending and is classified as mandatory.

That funding doesn't go through the annual appropriations process and mostly runs on autopilot.

Christmas tree permit sales options

By RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST DEL NORTE

Christmas tree permits for the Rio Grande National Forest are now available to purchase in person or online and will remain on sale through the coming holiday season.

How to obtain Christmas tree permits:

- Permits can be purchased at www.recreation.gov by searching "Rio Grande Christmas Tree."
- Rio Grande National Forest district offices in Saguache, Del Norte and La Jara have the permits for sale from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Visit one of our valuable Christmas tree permit vendors. Navigate to our Rio Grande National Forest Christmas Tree page or interactive map,

to get the most up to date vendor locations.

Below are current vendors that have permits:

- Kristi Mountain Sports — 3223 Main St., Alamosa

- Green Spot Garden Center — 711 State Ave., Alamosa

- South Fork Visitor Center — 28 Silver Thread Ln., South Fork

- Monte Vista COOP — 1901 US Highway 160, Monte Vista

- San Juan Sports — 102 S. Main St., Creede

- Creede/Mineral County Chamber of Commerce — 904 S. Main St., Creede

Costs and rules associated with the permits:

Permits cost \$8 per tree. If bought online, there will be a processing fee added. Users must have a permit with them to harvest a Christmas tree. Several rules apply to this activity and can

be found at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/Rio_Grande_Christmas_Tree.

For information on the Rio Grande National Forest, call 719-850-2374.

School Menu
Monday
November 20, 2023

Thanksgiving
Break!

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

Opinion

100 years ago in the San Luis Valley — November 1923

SAN LUIS VALLEY — One hundred years ago the White family was driving down the Gunbarrel road, right around sunset, when they realized their car battery would not furnish lights. Darkness overtook them as they were debating about pulling over and waiting for the moon to come up. They then ran into a truck. Their daughter was taken to the hospital in Alamosa but no one was seriously hurt. Roads in and out of the valley were in a bad muddy condition due to recent snowstorms.

A young man claimed he was eating watermelon and did not know that he had stolen someone's bicycle. "We presume the discovery of the toxic influence of watermelon will be listed officially as melonitis."

One hundred couples attended the "Spookibus" Carnival at the American Legion. A three-pound trout was caught in the river north of Monte Vista.

The Rexall Store was having a one-cent sale. Phenolphthalein tablets were 2/26¢ (Phenolphthalein at that time was used as a laxative. It is now considered a carcinogen.) Blood Builder 2/\$2.01, Aspirin 2/36¢ (probably bottles, not per pill) Cigars 2/9¢, Emulsified Coconut Shampoo 2/21¢.

The Monte Vista Library announced many new books available including, A Lost Lady and One of Ours by Willa Cather and A Son at the Front by Edith Wharton.

Armistice Day fell on a Sunday, November 11th, therefore it will be observed on Monday the 12th and declared a holiday.

An article contained a discussion about the emergency immigration law which limited annual immigration to 3% of certain nationalities on a basis of like nationals already residing in this country in 1910. "The worst part of it is that there is no way of ascertaining the state of various quotas until the European emigrants are dumped at Ellis Island. The net residue of immigrants admitted, as authorities state, is much inferior to the class which came before the quota law went into effect." The US wants the right class of immigrants as needed for farms and factories. Under the quota law, entries can not be determined until the immigrant ship arrives. Only a gambler would risk on such a slim chance. Congress will take up the matter in the next session. "It should be qualitative, not quantitative quotas."

A relative of C.H. Shulz sent him a letter from Germany that said it is very doubtful Germany will be able to reconstruct stability without a revolution.

If France can't pay the stupendous sum of \$4 billion, how can Germany pay more than 7 times that much? Will the World Conference answer that question?

Calvin Coolidge was quoted as saying "I heartily endorse and favor the extension of kindergarten education as one means of promoting brotherly love and reverence; for in kindergarten such traits are cultivated at a time when habits of thought and action are formed for life."

The Big Brother idea was started in some of the larger cities and had spread rapidly. Monte Vista was recruiting for the Big Brother program.

Josephine Hopper was advertising interpretive dancing lessons. Warners Variety Store headlined their advertisement with "Only 27 Shopping Days Until Christmas".

A force of men from the Canon City penitentiary was arriving to finish the work on the Poncha Pass road. The bridge at Mears was to be raised to road grade and the sharp downhill approach cut to grade.

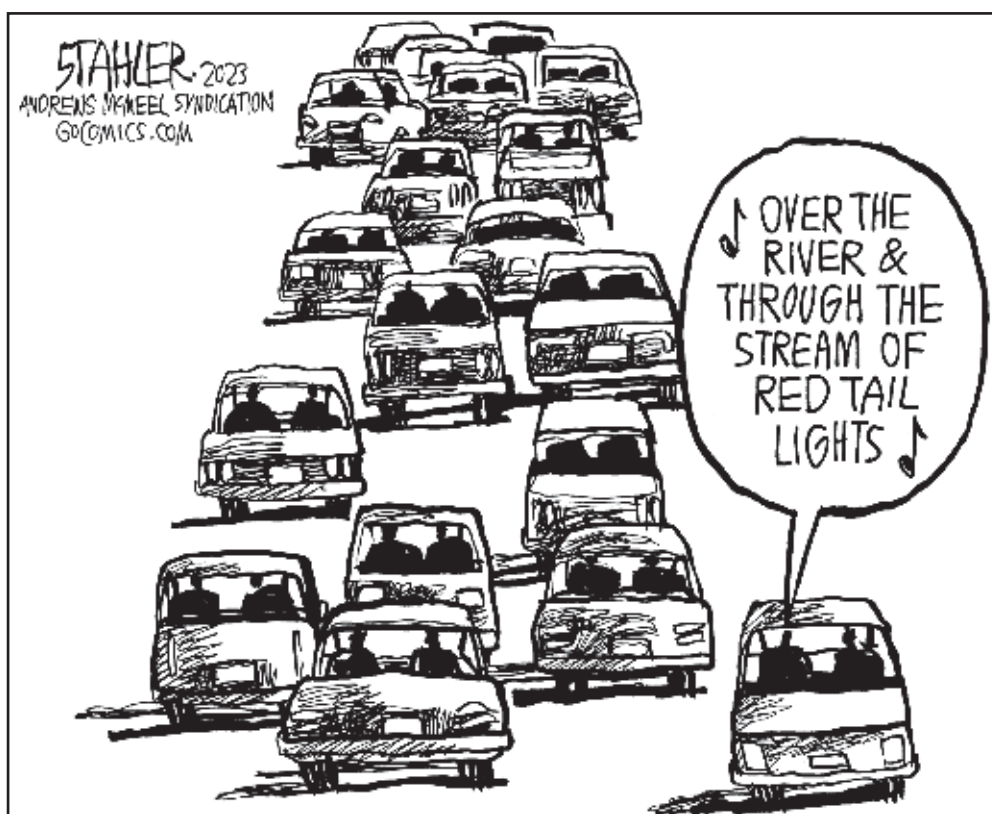
1924 license tags may be purchased beginning November 15. First, the applicant must prove that all taxes are paid on the vehicle. This was a new requirement.

Diavalo, the daredevil of the air, death defying youngster seen in motion pictures, was to appear with the Flying Circus. As the plane flies 90 miles per hour Diavalo will climb on top of the wing and stand on his head. Airplane rides will also be offered piloted by Clyde Pronghorn Planes — King of the Air.

A picture a turkey was accompanied by the following poem.

I'm a wise old bird,
Indeed I am,
And full of goodness as can be
If you don't think that I don't know
Just ax me and
Ax me and see.

Paraphrased from the Monte Vista Journal by Barbara Kruse.



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."

Robin Williams' suicide opens discussions

The supermoon of August 2014 held its breath when Denver's 9News KUSA anchors interrupted. "Breaking news, Robin Williams was found dead at age 63. There is some indication he took his own life."

A few weeks ago, CBS and ABC reported the unexpected death of Matthew Perry in his Jacuzzi from drowning. The world knew he had struggled with alcohol and drugs through his years on "Friends." But anchors and fans alike still wonder did he revert to substance abuse this last time? What happened to Matthew Perry? Was it another planned suicide? The autopsy may give us answers.

I admit the news was hard to take. Like the 2014 tragedy when Williams took his own life, I wondered why? Remembering Williams on network TV, included excerpts from movies and sitcoms. As an English professor, I used Dead Poets Society (DPS) every semester as an opportunity to teach students to think about description, narration, and exemplification; then to analyze by using cause and effect, compare and contrast and definition.

Then again, depression was a character in Neil's story in the DPS. From this underlying layer came important dialogs around depression and suicide. I brought in mental health experts from the local community, and mental health agency. We talked about what element of the story "caused" Neil to take his own life. We discussed the

personal inter-relationships that the film revealed; we looked for the markers of Neil's choices and how he might have chosen differently. We had honest explorations of students' personal struggles and emotional hurdles. No one left that class without knowing the local emergency numbers and the national hotline for suicide prevention which is now: 988. (SMS 988)

For over a decade, mental/behavioral health organizations have campaigned to change the stigma long associated with addressing the many mental health issues and disorders of the brain and "heart."

My own experience with depression and suicide ideation, made me realize that we need to chat with our family and keep Facetime active with friends and maybe even X posts about our thoughts slanting downward. Most of all, we need to look and listen with love. Yes, depression afflicted me throughout my public school years and through young motherhood. I had some help from friends who listened to me despite my 2 a.m. calls.

A few years back, local Valley high schools were embracing the movement of suicide awareness with training in suicide prevention. A decade earlier, I remember how class discussions in another rural community brought one middle aged student to talk to me after class. He was very depressed; he was in the throes of divorce and bankruptcy. Plus, he no longer had the contact with

his children that he yearned for. Having a dedicated counselor on campus was important, especially in these crises. Still, this non-traditional student from rural North Dakota parked his aged pick-up on the tracks. His suicide brought home the need for more counselors available on campus.

Depression is not gender specific and it doesn't pick on the upwardly mobile more than the unemployed; depression is a brain not working properly like lungs that do not breathe fully or like a broken leg that needs medical intervention.

Some signs of depression are: withdrawing from usual activities, giving away possessions, sleeping more than usual, lack of energy and crying for seemingly no reason. Even confusion and lack of concentration can be clues to depression.

Robin Williams in his many roles gave his fans unrelenting humor to help us through our daily lives. In DPS, Mr. Keating offered his students motivation to thrive — like poetry, life, love, and a reminder to "live deliberately," and to find out "What will your verse be?"

Call the hotline for help; call your friends. Reach out and share your feelings and quandaries. Take the challenge that Robin Williams as Mr. Keating shouted out to the class and find your voice (verse), open up your choices and find "life is worth living after all."

Nelda Curtiss is a retired college educator and long-time local columnist. Reach her at columnsbynellie.com or email her at columnsbynellie@gmail.com.

Movin' On with Nellie



Nelda Curtiss

Write them

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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.

Sports

TSC's Masterson named NJCAA men's cross country Coach of the Year



2023 SLV football scores

Sept. 2	ADAMS STATE GRIZZLIES (3-8, 2-7)	35-16 W	Sept. 8	GUNNISON	14-48 L
Sept. 9	LINCOLN (CALIE)	7-28 L	Sept. 22	PEYTON	52-14 W
Sept. 23	At West Texas A&M	7-28 L	Sept. 29	DEL NORTE*	62-18 W
Sept. 16	At Colorado School of Mines*	7-70 L	Oct. 6	At Trinidad*	64-12 W
Sept. 23	FORT LEWIS*	25-24 W	Oct. 13	IGNACIO*	42-7 W
Sept. 30	At New Mexico Highlands*	21-14 W	Oct. 20	At Center*	58-6 W
Oct. 7	At Colorado State Pueblo*	10-43 L	Oct. 27	At Centauri*	0-45 L
Oct. 14	CHADRON STATE (NEB.)*	14-53 L	*South Central League games		
Oct. 21	At Colorado Mesa*	7-42 L	MOUNTAIN VALLEY WOLVES (4-5, 1-4)		
Oct. 28	SOUTH DAKOTA MINES*	9-63 L	Aug. 26	HANOVER	48-16 W
Nov. 4	At Black Hills State (S.D.)*	28-35 L	Sept. 1	WALSH	6-59 L
Nov. 11	WESTERN COLORADO	24-45 L	Sept. 8	At La Veta*	26-60 L
RMAC games			Sept. 23	SIERRA GRANDE	0-47 L
			Sept. 29	At Miami-Yoder	41-39 W
			Oct. 7	SANGRE DE CRISTO*	56-7 W
			Oct. 14	At Branson/Kim*	19-68 L
			Oct. 20	At Primero*	52-80 L
			Oct. 28	At Antonito	55-0 W
			*Southwest League games		
			SANFORD MUSTANGS (6-4, 2-2)		
			Sept. 1	SWINK	52-8 W
			Sept. 9	At Simla	0-53 L
			Sept. 15	At Fowler	20-16 W
			Sept. 23	At Questa (N.M.)	46-0 W
			Sept. 29	DOVE CREEK*	28-30 L
			Oct. 6	NORWOOD	52-14 W
			Oct. 13	At Sargent*	Forfeit
			Oct. 20	At Mancos*	0-58 L
			Oct. 27	DOLORES*	58-8 W
			Nov. 4	At Byers+	16-28 L
			*Mountain League games		
			+Eight-man State playoffs		
			SANGRE DE CRISTO THUNDERBIRDS (3-7, 0-5)		
			Aug. 24	PRIMERO*	7-62 L
			Sept. 2	KIOWA	26-20 W
			Sept. 8	ANTONITO	80-38 W
			Sept. 15	BRANSON/KIM*	0-54 L
			Sept. 23	Idalia (at Cheraw)	20-59 L
			Sept. 29	SIERRA GRANDE*	13-48 L
			Oct. 7	At Mountain Valley*	7-56 L
			Oct. 13	At La Veta*	6-52 L
			Oct. 20	MANZANOLA	56-20 W
			Oct. 27	At Miami-Yoder	16-44 L
			*Southwest League games		
			SARGENT FARMERS (4-5, 1-3)		
			Aug. 26	At South Park	38-0 W
			Sept. 1	SPRINGFIELD	42-0 W
			Sept. 8	HOEHNE	0-46 L
			Sept. 15	At Custer County	40-16 W
			Sept. 29	MANCOS*	Forfeit
			Oct. 6	At Dolores*	42-12 W
			Oct. 13	SANFORD*	Forfeit
			Oct. 21	At Hayden	14-58 L
			Oct. 27	At Dove Creek*	8-50 L
			*Mountain League games		
			SIERRA GRANDE PANTHERS (7-4, 3-2)		
			Aug. 25	MANZANOLA	62-6 W
			Sept. 1	EADS	58-47 W
			Sept. 8	At Branson/Kim*	40-45 L
			Sept. 15	HANOVER	32-24 W
			Sept. 23	At Mountain Valley*	47-0 W
			Sept. 29	At Sangre de Cristo*	48-13 W
			Oct. 6	LA VETA*	31-36 L
			Oct. 12	At Primero*	67-64 W
			Oct. 27	At Granada	22-52 L
			Nov. 4	ARICKAREE+	66-20 W
			Nov. 11	At Stratton+	12-45 L
			*Southwest League games		
			+Six-man State playoffs		
			DEL NORTE TIGERS (3-6, 2-3)		
			Aug. 19	GUNNISON	0-49 L
			Sept. 1	ROCKY FORD	48-12 W
			Sept. 8	At Cedaredge	0-41 L
			Sept. 22	At Salida	12-30 L
			Sept. 29	At Monte Vista*	18-62 L
			Oct. 7	CENTAURI*	6-42 L
			Oct. 13	CENTER*	14-12 W
			Oct. 21	At Trinidad*	36-0 W
			Oct. 27	IGNACIO*	6-14 L
			*South Central League games		
			MONTE VISTA PIRATES (6-3, 4-1)		
			Aug. 24	At Rocky Ford	50-0 W
			Sept. 1	At Colorado Springs Christian	20-48 L

MOUNTAIN VALLEY TRANSIT

FREE TRANSIT SERVICES throughout the rural communities of the San Luis Valley

ROUTES ALREADY IN SERVICE:
 Creede to Alamosa
 KV Estates to Alamosa
 Saguache to Alamosa
 Saguache to Salida

New route from Antonito to Alamosa launching this fall.

IF YOU NEED TO... go to an appointment in Alamosa, shop at the Salida Walmart, or connect with the Bustang to get to Denver, *We've got you covered!*

For route and schedule information, visit MountainValleyTransit.com
 Drivers needed, call 719-530-8980

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 A 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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Sports Bulletin

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY
 College men's basketball
 Adams State vs. Eastern New Mexico - late

SATURDAY
 College cross country
 Adams State at NCAA Division II Championship (at Joplin, Mo.), TBA
 College men's basketball
 Adams State vs. Western New Mexico (Skyhawks Hardwood Classic at Durango), 5 p.m.
 College women's basketball
 Texas A&M-Kingsville at Adams State, 5:30 p.m.
 College swimming
 Adams State at TYR/CMU Invitational (at Grand Junction), TBA
 College men's wrestling
 Adams State at Bob Smith Open (at Hays, Kan.), 9 a.m.

up to **30%** OFF STOREWIDE **BLACK FRIDAY SALE!**

NOW THRU DEC. 2, 2023

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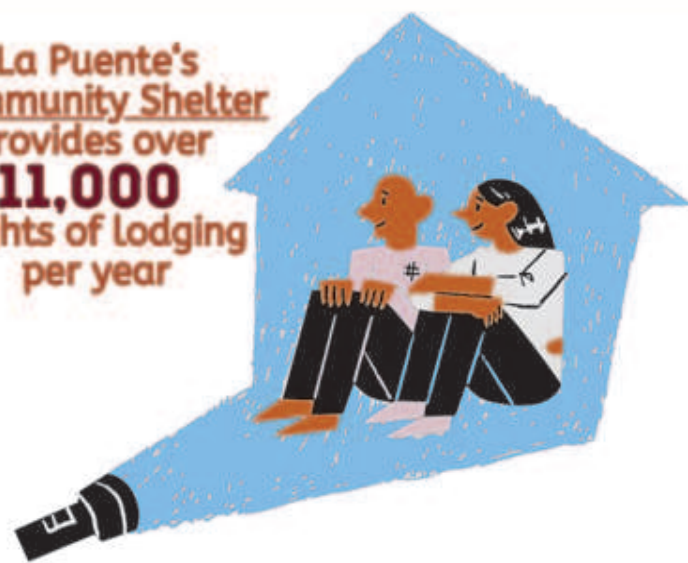
SEE THE NEED MEET THE NEED

La Puente's network of programs assist San Luis Valley (SLV) community members affected by poverty. We endeavor to support individuals and families so they can stabilize, strengthen, and ultimately thrive. As such, a common saying among staff is "see the need, meet the need." We encourage you to join us in this mission and lend a helping hand to others!

IN THE SLV
10X
THE NATIONAL
AVERAGE
EXPERIENCE
HOMELESSNESS



La Puente's
Community Shelter
provides over
11,000
nights of lodging
per year



Street Outreach advocates for the unsheltered and supplies thousands of items to meet immediate needs



Over **1,200** students have participated in VEGI's gardening and nutrition lessons



The Food Bank Network of the San Luis Valley provides over **300,000** meals every year!

MORE THAN
1 IN 10
LACK ACCESS
TO QUALITY
FOOD IN
THE SLV



La Puente's Shelter soup kitchen serves **50,000+** meals a year!

THE AMOUNT OF CHILDREN REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SLV IS
3X
THE RATE IN COLORADO



140+ families are supported by Adelante Family Resource Center every year on their journey to stability



PALS, La Puente's children's program, provides one-on-one mentorship, small group activities, and therapy for kids experiencing instability in their home lives.



ReThreads annually distributes over **13,000** free clothing and household items



In just **1 DAY** Crisis Prevention assisted **85 HOUSEHOLDS** with obtaining energy assistance.

20%
OF PEOPLE
IN THE SLV
LIVE BELOW
THE POVERTY
LINE



YOU CAN HELP MEET THE NEED!



To help us meet the needs of our community, please consider supporting La Puente Home Inc. this Colorado Gives Day!
www.coloradogives.org/organization/Lapuente



Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

SALAZAR MEATS NEAR MANASSA interviewing for salaried, full-time **MANAGEMENT POSITION**, starting \$40-50K based on experience. Please call 347-407-1622 for next steps in the hiring process. (12/15/23AS)

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR MACHINIST: Working knowledge of manual lathe & mill required, horizontal boring mill, and/or CNC experience a plus. Equal Opportunity Employer & drug free workplace. Must have HS diploma/GED, vocational degree, or equivalent industry experience. For full details call 719-852-5070 or email to hr@brimhallindustrial.com. (11/29/23AS)

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.rgrandehospital.org. (11/29/23AS)

221 - HELP WANTED

ALAMOSASCHOOL DISTRICT is now accepting applications for the following position: **ORTEGA MIDDLE SCHOOL REGIS-TRAR/COUNSELING OFFICE SECRETARY.** Applications are available online at <https://www.alamosaschools.org/> For more information, contact Tracy Vigil at 719-587-1600 or tvigil@alamosaschools.org. Application deadline is until filled. EOE. (11/18/23AS)

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)

221 - HELP WANTED

MONTE VISTA HEAD START is accepting applications for a **LEAD TEACHER.** This position is full-time 38 hours/ week. Must have an AA or BA in ECE or related field. Starting Pay is 17.00 to 22.00 Depending on education and experience. Applications are available at Monte Vista Head Start, 2863 Sherman Avenue, MONTE VISTA Colorado. For more information, you may contact the Director by email, Director@MVheadstart.org or call 719-852-3215. An employment application must be complete. Position open until filled. (11/18/23AS)

NOW HIRING: THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ALAMOSAS 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)

221 - HELP WANTED

CAFETERIA STAFF NEEDED at UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. Must have a high school diploma and or GED 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. (12/15/23AS)

DELOSS INDUSTRIES in ALAMOSAS is Hiring Full-Time, 40 Hours Per Week, Wages 24 to 40 Dollars Per Hour. Looking to hire: **EQUIPMENT MECHANICS, MECHANICS HELPER, WELDERS** and **MACHINIST.** The mechanics helper will be paired with a mechanic in the shop. Primary equipment serviced and maintained are forklifts and materials handling related equipment. This is a full-time position, 40 hours per week. Paid vacation and sick leave. Health insurance may be provided. Pay rate is 24 to 40 dollars per hour, depending on experience. Tools are provided. Must have clean driving record, CDL is a plus. Must pass drug test and background check. Must have stable work history. This is a career opportunity with a stable company that has been in the Valley for 36 years. Shop is located in Alamosa, CO. Call 719-589-3213 for interview or send resume to DelossJohn@aol.com. (1/13/23AS)

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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26J 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. (12/6/23AS)

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 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. (12/2/23AS)

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 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. (12/2/23AS)

ROBINS CONSTRUCTION looking for an experienced (5+ years preferred) **CONCRETE FOREMAN** in residential, commercial, and heavy civil construction to join our team. Must have ability to perform strenuous tasks with hands, ability to kneel, bend and lift heavy materials, ability to measure accurately and read plans and specifications. Forman will be running a crew of 5-10 members. Must be a team player, keep crew motivated, complete jobs in a timely manner, and willing to work 40+ hours per week. Offer retirement, medical, dental, vision insurance, and paid vacation/ holidays. Pay based on experience. (11/18/23AS)

221 - HELP WANTED

ROBINS CONSTRUCTION IS looking for EXPERIENCED OR TRAINABLE **CONCRETE LABORERS** to join our team. Responsibilities include forming, pouring, finishing concrete, and additional labor/ equipment operation as needed. Must have ability to perform strenuous tasks with hands, ability to kneel, bend and lift heavy materials. Must be willing to work 40+ hours per week. Must be motivated and proactive. Offer retirement, medical, dental, vision insurance and paid vacation/ holidays. Pay based on experience. (11/18/23AS)

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)

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-AS)

304 - LAWN & GARDEN

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

314 - CLOTHING

WOLVERINE BOOTS, SIZE 9.5M, excellent hiking or work boot, waterproof, awesome condition. 719-256-4058. (11/22/23AS)

324 - SEED & FEED

HORSE & COW HAY: GRASS, GRASS/ALFALFA, ALFALFA. 3x3 and 4x4 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917. (12/6/23AS-monthly)

NATIVE GRASS HAY for sale. Small bales, HORSE HAY QUALITY. USDA certified. Call or text (719)657-1876. (12/19/23AS)

HORSE HAY \$9/BALE; COW/GOAT HAY \$4.50 per bale. 719-274-0380. (11/24/23AS)

345 - WOOD

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

353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK

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

ACCEPTING BIDS FOR IRRIGATION EQUIPMENT on Sub-district #1 Property. Detailed information regarding the irrigation equipment is available for review by appointment at the RGWCD office or by visiting the District's website at www.rgxcd.org/subdistrict-no-1-bid. For more information, call the District office at (719) 589-6301 or by emailing taylor@rgxcd.org. Bids must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on December 1st, 2023. Late bids will not be accepted. (12/1/23AS)

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

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

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

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

LIKE NEW ELECTRIC HOSPITAL BED with remote, bed is mobile, mattress & rails included. Call 719-480-1210. (1/16/24AS)

368 - PETS & SUPPLIES

FREE KITTENS TO GOOD INSIDE HOME(S). Call or text 719-250-7597. (11/21/23AS)

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. (TFN-AS)

401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES

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420 - LOTS & ACREAGES

MULTIPLE 35+ ACRE TRACTS For Sale. The Rio Grande Water Conservation District is accepting sealed bids for tracts of land **LOCATED AT 14355 G.5. ANTONITO.** The minimum acceptable bid is \$2,000/acre. Bids must be received by U.S. mail or hand delivered to the RGWCD's office at 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101. Detailed information regarding the tracts is available for review by appointment at the RGWCD office or by visiting the District's website at www.rgxcd.org/subdistrict-no-3/publicbid. The land may be inspected with District personnel by appointment only. Appointments can be made by calling the District office at (719) 589-6301 or by emailing angelo@rgxcd.org. Bids must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on January 31st, 2024. Late bids will not be accepted. The District reserves the right to reject any bid in its sole discretion. (1/27/2024AS)

426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

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

525 - GUNS

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

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting applications for 1 bedroom apartments. Must be 62 or older or disabled
Cielo Vista Apartments
166 S. Wills Center, Colo
754-3664

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

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting Applications for 2 & 3 bedroom family units
Valley Grande Apts.
2256 E. Drive Monte Vista, CO
852-4302

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This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting Applications for waiting list for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family units available

West View Villas
510 Dunham Monte Vista, Colo
852-3949

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611 - HOUSES FOR RENT

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

701 - AUTOS FOR SALE

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

2002 FORD EXPLORER, \$1,250 or best offer. Has newer tires. Text or call 719-937-8382. (11/22/23AS)

'07 SUBARU WAGON needs motor: \$1,500. '02 SUZUKI DRZ400: \$750, needs motor. Old GOOSE NECK HORSE TRAILER: \$800. 719-293-0806. (11/25/23-CR-AS)

713 - PICKUP TRUCKS

2002 FORD SUPER DUTY DIESEL pickup 4X4 with 6 speed manual trans., 7.3 motor, after market exhaust brake, trailer brake, new batteries, extra fuel tank, load lifter air lift, 115,000 miles, tires are very good and included are 2 spares. Clean inside and out, has always been garaged and maintained regularly. There is a dent in the front bumper and a small dent in the tailgate. There is an extra homemade tailgate included if wanted. \$25,000 OBO. Sorry, cannot take payments. 719-852-2285 or email grettjoyce6@gmail.com. (12/8/23E-AS)

2015 RAM LONGHORN ECO DIESEL, 4-wheel drive, red over cream, 103,000 miles, \$27,000. 719-376-5639. (11/22/23AS)

FOR SALE: 2005 CHEVY SILVERADO, 2500HD, 6.0 Liter Engine, \$3,000. GOOD WORK TRUCK! 719-588-1183. (11/18/23AS)

720 - HEAVY EQUIPMENT

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. (11/28/23AS)



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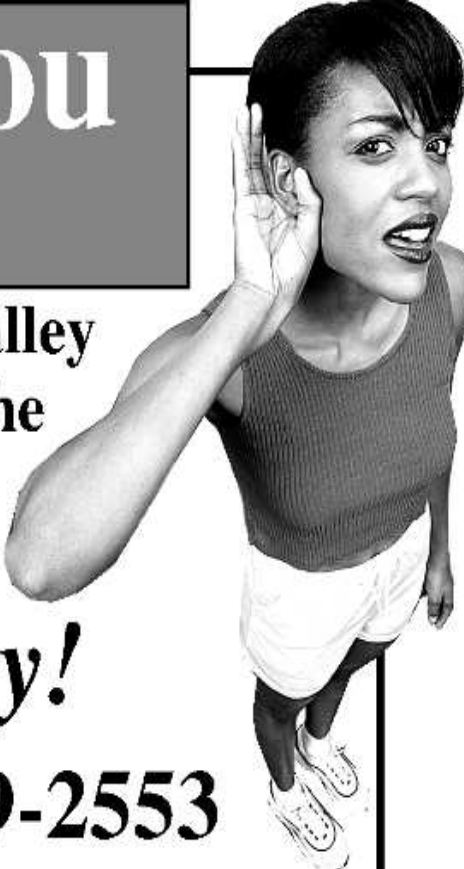
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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Cartogram
 - 4 Read quickly
 - 8 Masticate
 - 12 Broadcast
 - 13 Soft drink flavor
 - 14 "For — jolly good fellow"
 - 15 Ike's monogram
 - 16 Prof.'s employer
 - 17 Spoken
 - 18 Stand for artwork
 - 20 Undesirable consequences
 - 22 Weaken
 - 23 Jerry — Lewis
 - 24 Marine reptile
 - 27 Hackneyed
 - 31 The Red Planet
 - 32 Physicians' org.
 - 34 Chess piece
 - 35 "Able was I — ..."
 - 36 Disguise item
- DOWN**
- 1 Fashioned
 - 2 Verdi opera
 - 3 Goaded
 - 4 Make art from stone
 - 5 Against
 - 6 First Arabic letter

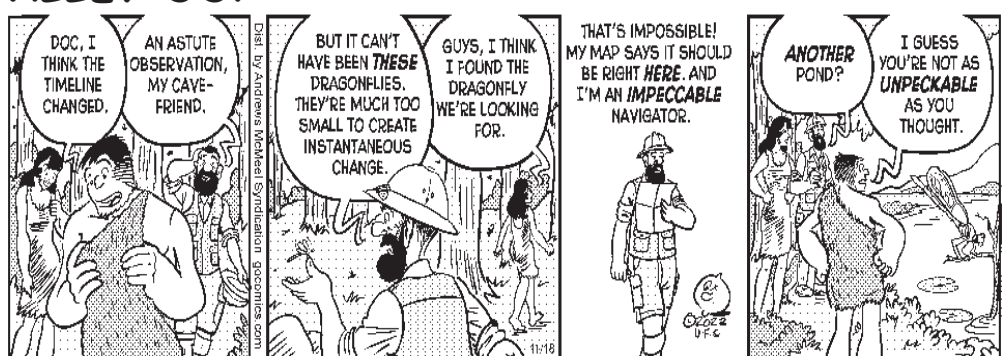
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 7 Of warships
- 8 Anger
- 9 "Last Action —"
- 10 Birthright seller
- 11 Poet — Whitman
- 19 Cup handles
- 21 Term in tennis
- 24 Edible root
- 25 Ordinance
- 26 Middle East VIP
- 28 Ad-lib
- 29 Stretched tight
- 30 Tight —
- 31 Assembled
- 33 Era
- 37 Mixer for drinks
- 39 Halt
- 40 "So tasty!"
- 42 Attire under a tutu
- 44 Hajj destination
- 46 Solidifies
- 47 Black-and-white cookie
- 48 Cold War initials
- 49 Lofty
- 51 Statue in Piccadilly Circus
- 52 Eye part
- 55 Bribe

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



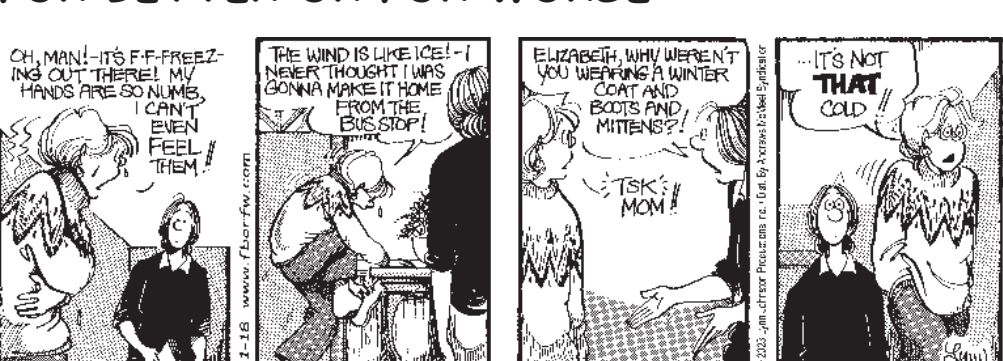
BIG NATE



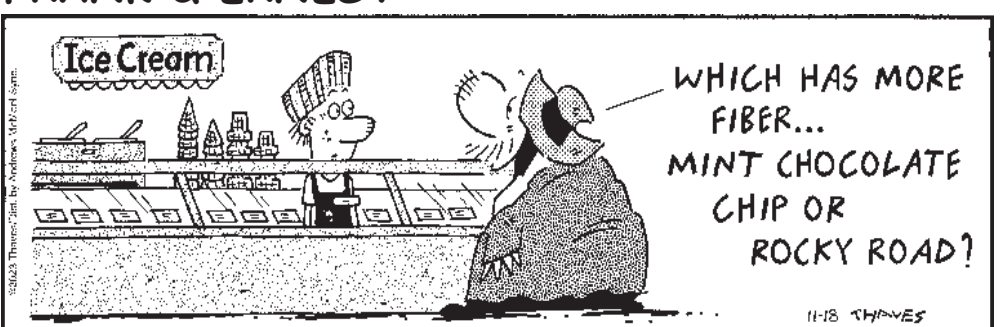
THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



FRANK & ERNEST



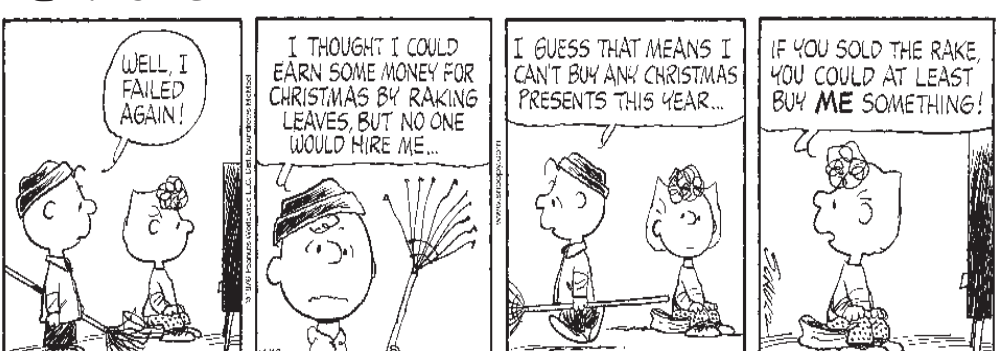
GARFIELD



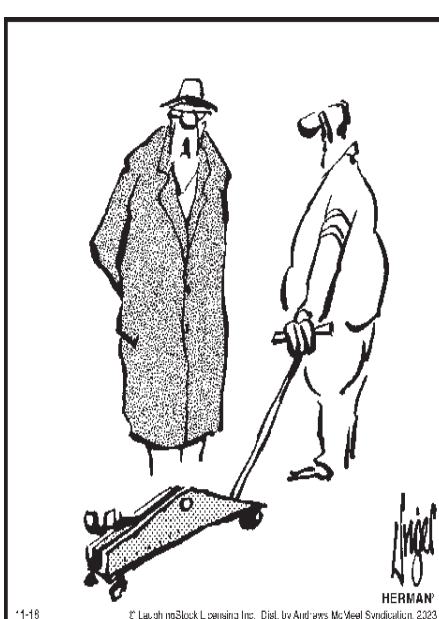
THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



HERMAN



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

Girlfriend ranks kids over boyfriend in importance

DEAR ABBY: My girlfriend and I started dating a couple years ago after getting out of long-term relationships. We have kids from those relationships, and she is still in court over custody. We haven't been able to buy a house yet, mostly because of the cost of the court battle, so we live apart and can't spend as much time together as we'd like. However, when we do have the time, she usually wants her kids to join. She says she wants her kids everywhere with her. She has also told me I will never come first. I have custody of my son and want to spend time with him, too, but I think we need to spend time as a couple and make our relationship important. I feel both the relationship and the kids should be priorities, but not always one over the other.

Recently, we learned a band we both love and grew up listening to is coming to our town. We were excited about going, but she wants to buy tickets for herself and her son, because he said he likes the band when he hears his mom listening to it. He is 10, and whenever we do things like this, he ends up playing games on his phone all night. I end up being babysitter, buying drinks and food for him, taking him to the bathroom, etc., which prevents me from relaxing

and enjoying my time. The tickets are not cheap, and if we bought them separately, we would not be able to get seats together. She said she's definitely buying tickets for herself and her son and hopes I can make it and maybe she'll see me there. This event is something I felt would be special for us to share together, but it appears she doesn't feel the same. Am I selfish for wanting to spend time with her at this concert, with kids? -- CRAVING DATE NIGHT IN VIRGINIA

DEAR CRAVING: I don't think you are selfish for wanting to have a date night with your girlfriend. In fact, I think one should be scheduled with her on a regular basis. This woman does not appear to be as into you as you are into her. Another thing that concerns me is your statement about her making you responsible for her son when the three of you attend an event together. A trip to the bathroom I can understand, but SHE should take her son to the snack stand if he wants something. Something is out of balance here, and I hope you will think long and hard before investing in a house together.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been together for 20 years, married almost 10. He is angry with my adult child



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

dren for not coming to our wedding. (I had told them if they couldn't be happy for me, stay away.) He avoids any social interaction with them. Last weekend, there was a formal affair for my brother, and again, my husband didn't join me. I'm sick of hearing "he is the way he is" and can't suck it up for my sake. He's now sleeping in the guest room. I love him, but I'm sick of the nonsense. Any advice? -- TIRED OF IT IN CONNECTICUT

DEAR TIRED: Because you and your husband are at an impasse, my advice is to seek couples counseling from someone who is licensed to give it. Your doctor or health insurance provider could give you a referral.

Lifestyle

Fall has been busy time for HVCC

By HIGH VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

Fall has been a great season for all of us over at HVCC! The kiddos have been having a blast with the activities we have for them, and it has been such a treat to see the smiles on all of their little faces. As a reminder, we have updated our program hours! Program hours are now 4-6 p.m. Tuesdays – Thursdays and 8

a.m.-5 p.m. on Fridays. When you come to pick up your child, please remember to have your PIN available to make the check-out process easy for everyone!

We will not have After School Program on Nov. 17 - 27 — we will be closed for Thanksgiving! Programming will begin again on Nov. 29.

Our Girls' Basketball team has been fighting hard for a victory this

season! They had a ton of fun on the court and learned so many valuable lessons on teamwork, skills and strategy.

Boys' Basketball registration is currently open, so sign up now! The registration for the co-ed Hot Shots (Kindergarten-2nd) will close Dec. 15. The registration for the 3rd-6th grade boys' team will close Dec. 1. You can register your kiddos online at thehvcc.org by clicking on the Sports category and selecting the appropriate team. Make sure to get them signed up as soon as possible so they don't miss out on the fun!

The Choose Your Fun activities are coming to an end this week. The kids has so much fun getting to learn how to code, all about different places around the world, creating culinary masterpieces and why science is so cool. As the holidays approach, we will be transitioning back to our regular HVCC activities and programming.

This Friday was our last field to Hooper for the year! The kids had a swim party to celebrate everything they learned these past few months. We love going to the pool with them, but with winter coming in, it's getting just a bit too cold to keep up our swim lessons!

That covers what's been happening over at HVCC! We're excited to

spend one more week break for Thanksgiving. with the kids before we We'll see you soon!



Photo courtesy of NAPSI

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there's still time to get your flu shot because flu typically peaks in February and can continue into May.

Be a holiday hero: Get Vaccinated This Season

(NAPSI) — With respiratory virus season in full swing, you may think it's too late for you and your family to get vaccinated against the flu. The good news: it's not.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there's still time to get your flu shot because flu typically peaks in February and can continue into May. Since it takes up to two weeks to build protection against the flu, getting vaccinated now will help protect yourself, your friends and your family from the flu as you gather during the holidays.

Like Thanksgiving, getting your flu shot is an annual event

It's important to get a flu shot every year because the body's protection from the vaccine declines over time. Also, flu viruses vary from year

to year, so receiving the latest vaccine formulation provides optimal protection. It's especially important to protect at-risk populations—such as adults 65 and older — from severe illness.

One-stop shop for immunization and illness prevention needs

There are more than 9,000 CVS Pharmacy locations that also offer COVID-19, RSV and more than 15 other preventive vaccines, providing the protection needed as multiple viruses circulate at the same time. CVS Pharmacy is convenient—85% of the U.S. population lives within 10 miles of one. This makes it easy for people to get vaccinated and find items such as over-the-counter cold and flu symptom relief products, immune support supplements and disinfectant cleaning

products, and take all the steps necessary to help protect against illness this winter. CVS Pharmacy also carries antiviral medications, which require prescriptions and provide treatment if you do get sick with the flu.

Advanced scheduling for vaccine appointments

At CVS Pharmacy and MinuteClinic, you can conveniently schedule vaccines for yourself and your family in the same appointment via digital scheduling (through CVS.com, MinuteClinic.com or the CVS Pharmacy app), and the pharmacy offers walk-in appointments for people of all ages, seven days per week. As an added bonus, anyone who receives a CDC-recommended vaccine through the end of the year at CVS Pharmacy will get a \$5 off \$20 in-store coupon.

Three no-stress tips for tidying up at holiday time

(NAPSI) — If the holidays are at your house this year, you may find they can be even more magical when you have a good plan for cleaning up before and after the company comes.

Keep Holiday Hosting A Delight, Not A Chore

As you prepare for the season — and all the celebrating it entails — keep these home cleaning tips in mind...and look forward to stressing less and spending more time with your loved ones.

Treat stains right: Chocolate. Cranberry sauce. Wine. For every food option on the table, there are just as many stains that could arrive with that delicious meal. Using Ensueño Liquid Detergent, which has both stain-fighting power and color-fading protection, can mean a deep clean that ensures clothes and tablecloths come out bright and stain-free.

Keep cleanup simple: After everyone's gone home, there may still be some chores to be done.

Make your life easier by wiping down surfaces with Pinalen Multipurpose Cleaner to quickly deodorize and deep clean the house from top to bottom.

Don't forget a scent: When your home smells great, people will know it's clean, so don't forget to tidy up with aromatic products such as Pinalen Original. Not only does it freshen, clean, and degrease, but the pine oil smells just like the holiday season.

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