



Liberty Common ends Centauri's season

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Creede sets dates for a Holiday in Creede

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San Luis Valley
Colorado Genuine

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Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

November 11, 2023

\$1

SLV Today

Crack sealing to begin Nov. 14 on CO 149

MINERAL AND RIO GRANDE COUNTIES — The Colorado Department of Transportation is performing month-long surface treatment repairs on a 9-mile segment of Colorado Highway 149, beginning Tuesday, Nov. 14. Operations will take place 10 miles north of South Fork, Mile Points 10-19. Daytime work hours will range from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Surface treatment operations help treat road damage caused by harsh winter conditions creating a smoother and safer road surface for motorists. Work is weather permitting.

Operations will take place Nov. 14 through Dec. 14. Daytime work hours will range from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

CDOT to perform surface treatment in Alamosa

ALAMOSA COUNTY — The Colorado Department of Transportation will perform crack sealing operations in Alamosa, beginning next week. Work will occur along a 2-mile segment of US Highway 285 between Sixth Street and County Rd 9 South, Mile Points 32-34. Motorists should plan for full stops and up to 20-minute delays through the end of November.

Crews will work swiftly to complete the repairs. Work is weather permitting.

Operations will take place Nov. 13-30. Daytime work hours will range from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

DN Food Bank distribution is Nov. 18

DEL NORTE — The Del Norte Food Bank will be open for its November distribution on Saturday, Nov. 18. It will serve its regular clients from 10 to 11 a.m. New clients will not be served until after 11 a.m. Anyone in need of food assistance is welcome.

If you are unable to attend during distribution hours and need food assistance, call 719-850-2643.

SLV WEATHER

Sunny 50/13

Sun: Sunny 54/14

Mon: Sunny 56/15

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Ef's closing its doors Dec. 23

'It's time to make that shift into the community'

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — Ef's restaurant is closing its doors on Dec. 23. Owners Jamie and Cristalray Dominguez say they'll continue to cater, and the food truck will be in the community more, but the restaurant where people have gathered to

feast on green chili, huevos rancheros, burritos and skillet breakfasts for almost 15 years will soon be a thing of the past.

It's a big decision, bringing to a close a generational history of family restaurant ownership that began with Efrem Ortiz, Jamie's stepfather, when he opened the Lamplighter Restaurant in 1995, which, after moving to a new location, became Ef's

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The mural on the wall of Ef's Restaurant.

Photo courtesy of Jamie Dominguez



Monte Vista salutes Veterans

Romero receives George Washington Badge of Merit Award

STAFF REPORT MONTE VISTA

Monte Vista celebrated Veterans on Friday, Nov. 10, with a parade downtown and ceremony at Faith Hinkley Veterans Memorial Park.

U.S. Army Veteran Steven Romero received the local George Wash-

■ See SALUTE page 3



Photos by Brian Williams

Monte Vista celebrated Veterans on Friday, Nov. 10, with a parade downtown and ceremony at Faith Hinkley Veteran's Memorial Park. Veteran Steven Romero received the George Washington Badge of Merit Award.

Left: The Monte Vista Veterans ceremony concluded with the retiring of the colors by the Rio Grande County Color Guard.



Kit Carson Mountain may get a new name



Courier photo by John Waters

Kit Carson Mountain is nestled near these peaks in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Currently, the Colorado Geographical Naming Advisory Board is considering a name change. Recently, the Saguache County Board of Commissioners voted in favor of changing the name to a yet-to-be-determined name.

Saguache County Commissioners support a name change

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS — Kit Carson Mountain in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains is under consideration for a name change in a proposal before the Colorado Geographical Naming Advisory Board. The proposition references Carson's violence against Navajo and Apache tribes in the 1800s. Carson was a frontier legend, fur trapper, wilderness guide, Indian agent, and U.S. Army officer. In 1865, Carson became the

commander of Fort Garland.

The board was created by Governor Jared Polis in 2020 to evaluate proposals concerning name changes, new names, and name controversies of geographic features and certain public places in the State of Colorado and then make official recommendations to the governor.

In an interview with this reporter in September 2022 regarding the possibility of changing the name of Kit Carson, Polis said, "First, we give heavy weight to what local residents want. The geographical naming board sends recommendations to me that we advance to the federal government. Often it begins with a classroom of students, or local officials, and it builds — and the naming board is part of that. It

■ See NAME page 3

ASU Theatre holiday production opens Dec. 1

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALAMOSA — Laughter is the perfect gift this holiday season as Adams State University Theatre presents "The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong." Tickets go on sale online Monday, Nov. 13, at theatre.adams.edu.

"The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong," directed by John H. Taylor, Ph.D., is the 20th holiday season production the theatre department has produced since 2004. This family-friendly farce follows the antics of an amateur theatre company on the open-

ing night of their winter play. Dr. Taylor notes: "From their pre-show activities to the final moments of their ill-fated performance, everything possible goes wrong. While giving their best effort, these actors are still perfectly awful, but wonderfully funny."

In this 80-minute comedy written by Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer and Henry Shields, it is opening night of the Cornley University Drama Society's newest production, "The Murder at Haversham Manor," where things are quickly going from bad to

utterly disastrous. This 1920s whodunit has everything you never wanted in a show — an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can't play dead, and actors who trip over everything (including their lines). Nevertheless, the accident-prone thespians battle against all odds to make it through to their final curtain call. Part Monty Python, part Sherlock Holmes, this award-winning comedy is full of laughs and comic surprises.

"I chose to direct this play because, in these try-

■ See THEATRE page 3



Photo courtesy of Adams State University

The Adams State Theatre Annual Holiday Performance opens December 1, on the SLV Federal Bank Main Stage, located in the Theatre Building.



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Record

Prayer vigil held for missing woman Edna Quintana



Photos by Marie McColm

A prayer vigil was held for Edna Quintana on Saturday, Nov. 4, at Saint Agnes Catholic Church.



Father Eric Haarer led the prayer vigil on Nov. 4 at Saint Agnes Catholic Church for Edna Quintana, who has been missing since May 3.

By **MARIE MC-COLM SAGUACHE** — A prayer vigil was held for Edna Quintana on Saturday, Nov. 4, at Saint Agnes Catholic Church. Approximately 60 people attended the vigil for Quintana who has been missing since May 3.

The vigil honored Quintana and Suzanne Morphew and James Montoya, two people who disappeared and were both found deceased.

Quintana grew up and lived in Saguache County for many years and was well known. Many of the people who attended the vigil hugged before walking into the church.

Eddie Garcia welcomed everyone to the vigil. Father Eric Haarer gave an opening prayer and then Iris Garcia talked about the missing people.

Debbie Quintana read a statement from Morphew family who was found deceased in the same mountain area where Edna allegedly disappeared.

"To the family of Edna Quintana gathered to pray and remember her. This year on Sept. 22, two women's paths crossed through each other's. A divine encounter in which my family found closure, while yours found new light shining on your loved one. I was notified by the sheriff that remains had been found and they were positively identified as my beloved sis-

ter, Suzanne Morphew. After over 3 years my prayers, and prayers of many were answered. I felt a burden lifted and a new peace settled in my heart. Several days passed and further conversation with authorities revealed to me that circumstances in the way that Suzanne's remains were discovered. I was to hear of Edna's disappearance for the first time. I would also hear about the active search which took place for Edna, on Sept. 22, in Saguache County to the eyes of the authorities looking for Edna. I believed this to be a divine encounter for these two women and for their families. At that moment there was a debt of gratitude written on my heart for Edna and will continue for all of those in authority who are doing their assigned tasks and looking for missing people. Today we remember Edna Quintana, her family, and friends, searching for a loved one is a journey nobody ever imagines they will take. It is wrapped with moments of great sadness. It's a painful journey of ambiguous loss alone. My experience proves that we must have God's help and intervention. Therefore, I ask that today prayers be offered to those in authority, who are given the task of finding Edna. They need strength and perseverance. I am with you in spirit Suzanne Mor-



Edna Quintana

phew's sister."

Edna's sister, Marilyn Quintana, also got up and read a poem for her sister and with tears running down her face said, "Her two sisters, her brother, and her mom, miss her very much and want her back. We ask everyone to please keep Edna's name active. We do not want anyone to forget that she is still not home. We hope and pray that she is found safe. Please everyone help us keep her case and name active. Edna, we love you, we miss you, and we just want you home."

If anyone knows of Edna Quintana's whereabouts or has seen her since the date she disappeared, you are encouraged to contact your local law enforcement authority or the Colorado Bureau of Investigations.

The family thanked everyone who attended the service and asked that everyone continue to pray for her safe return.

Colorado governor calls special session on property taxes following failure of Proposition HH

By **BRIAN EASON AND JESSE PAUL**
Colorado Newsline

Gov. Jared Polis on Thursday called state lawmakers into a special legislative session to cut property tax rates and blunt the impact of large increases in home values awaiting homeowners next year.

The session will begin Friday, Nov. 17 at 9 a.m.

Polis' announcement comes just two days after voters overwhelmingly rejected his preferred solution, the sprawling property tax relief and school funding measure known as Proposition HH. The initiative was aimed at combating a 40% increase in property values that would cause a corresponding jump in property tax bills next year.

The General Assembly is working under a tight timeline if it hopes to curb the state's rising cost of living. If no tax cut is approved before early December, a sharp increase in Colorado property taxes due in April will be locked in.

The timing — less than a week ahead of Thanksgiving — puts pressure on lawmakers to reach a deal quickly or risk interrupting their holiday plans. It takes at least three days to pass a bill in the legislature.

"We need to act for short-term property tax relief now," Polis said at a Thursday announcement at the governor's mansion.

The governor's call for a special session comes despite the lack of a clear proposal that a majority of lawmakers can agree upon. Progressives are now pushing for more targeted relief to low- and middle-income Coloradans, while Republicans are seeking "clean" tax cuts that avoid a long-term reduction in taxpayer refunds under the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, or TABOR.

Caught in the middle of the debate are school districts and local governments, which stand to lose out on hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue each year if the state cuts property taxes without increasing financial support for local services.

Polis, a Democrat, kicked off a news conference at the governor's mansion Thursday by swinging a baseball bat at a clear case labeled break in case of emergency — the failure of Proposition HH.

But while he said the special session has long been plan B, he offered little guidance for lawmakers at Thursday's announcement.

"Our plan is to try to assemble a legislative majority for providing the maximum amount of property tax relief that we can," Polis said, when asked what specifics he would like to see in a bill.

Polis said the special session would be limited to short-term solutions for the current property tax year, but urged lawmakers to take up long-term changes when it reconvenes in January. He proposed a blue ribbon commission to study a broader overhaul that he said should include an annual cap on property tax growth.

In the meantime, Polis offered three potential sources of funding for lawmakers to fund reimbursements for schools and local governments. Two of them come straight from Proposition HH, which voters just rejected by a 60-40 margin.

When lawmakers approved the ballot measure, the legislature set aside \$200 million in general fund money to offset some of the financial impacts to local services. Proposition HH also would have tapped the state's TABOR surplus, which funds state

taxpayer refunds in years when the economy grows faster than the state spending cap.

Polis offered a third option Thursday: taking as much as \$200 million from the state's reserves, which today holds 15% of general fund spending.

Local government advocates, who opposed Proposition HH because it offered relatively little compensation for their lost revenue, told The Colorado Sun they have been working to come up with proposals of their own.

Ann Terry, the director of the Special District Association, told The Sun this week she was "thrilled" voters rejected Proposition HH.

"We recognize there is more work to be done, and we have a coordinated stakeholder process to provide real property tax change going forward," Terry said.

But looming over the discussions is a measure conservatives placed on the 2024 statewide ballot that would cap annual property tax increases statewide at 4%. The measure has no funding mechanism to offset the financial hit to local services, such as schools, fire districts and libraries.

The hastily called session comes as local government officials are scrambling to meet December deadlines to set their budgets for next year. Tax bills go out in January and are due in April.

The last time lawmakers convened for a special session was in 2020 to approve stimulus spending during the coronavirus pandemic. Before that, then-Gov. John Hickenlooper called lawmakers back to the Capitol in 2017 to fix a bill-drafting error that was costing local districts millions of dollars in marijuana revenue.

OBITUARY

Angela Benavidez

On Nov. 7, 2023. Our mother, Angela Barbara Benavides, left us peacefully in her sleep. She had just turned 93 years old in October. She lived a long life and touched many people. Not only did she have her children and grandchildren that held her as a matriarch, but she had many nieces and nephews that held her in their hearts. It's not uncommon for someone to ask about her or tell me how special she was to them, and how she was there for them when they needed someone.

Her parents immigrated to Colorado and had a large family of six boys and six girls. She would often talk about growing up with them and working with them on the family farm. The simple times when she would hang out with her friends and work in the hospital as an on-the-job trained nurse. She married my father, Steve, they went on to have five of us kids. They moved from Las Cruces, N.M., to the San Luis Valley.

My mom was the manager for what used to be

the Cliff Brice Convenience Store and retired from there and moved to Alamosa, Colo., a few years after we lost our father. She was active in the Catholic Church (both in Fort Garland and Alamosa), and was a Third Order of Mount Carmel Carmelite. Through the church, she met and knew many people.

Mom recently lost her beloved baby brother, Uncle Pete. They remained close even though old age prevented them from being able to visit each other. She was ready to see her Little Mama and "your dad". So yes, we ALL will miss her very much, but she was tired and needed to move on from this life — a life free of all the elements of the 93-year-old body.

Services with Recitation of the Rosary will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Alamosa, Colo., at 9:30 a.m. with the Mass of the Resurrection to follow at 10 a.m. also at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Interment will follow

at the Alamosa Cemetery. To leave online condolences, please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. The care of arrangements has been entrusted to Romero Valley Funeral Home of Alamosa.

No flowers or donations please. My mom was quick to offer a prayer for anyone. She felt needed it. So, I ask you please send up a prayer for her instead.

School Menu Monday November 13, 2023

BREAKFAST

Cereal Bar/Graham Crackers
Fruit & Milk

ELEMENTARY

Mac & Cheese/Roll
Carrots

Fresh Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mac & Cheese/Roll
Carrots

Fresh Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

HIGH SCHOOL

Mac & Cheese/Roll
Carrots

Fresh Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

Breakfast & Lunch Free for all students

Alamosa School District

To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

VALLEY — The San Luis Valley offers many Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous groups.

A.A. and N.A members primary purpose is to

stay sober and help other alcoholics/addicts to achieve sobriety.

There are AA and NA 12-Step Meetings throughout the valley. The 6th Tradition states that we are not affili-

ated with any outside organizations, but in the spirit of cooperation, we list these meeting schedules for friends and family. For information, call 719-937-5083 or see our website: slvaa.org

Valley News

Salute

Continued from Page 1
 ington Badge of Merit Award, a plaque. Phillip Mackey explained that the award is now known as the Purple Heart Medal.
 In May of 1969, Romero was sent to Fort Ord, Calif., for basic training before being shipped to Vietnam in October of that same year and spent time with the First Infantry Division. He was transferred to the 25th Infantry Division for the remainder of his tour. In September of 1970, he was sent to Fort Carson, Colo., and completed his tour of duty on May 7, 1971.

The parade was headlined by the Monte Vista High School Pirates Marching Band fresh off placed second at the 1A State Bandmasters Association competition.
 A couple of hundred peo-

ple lined the parade route, took photos and video, waved as the cars, trucks, tractors and marching band went to the park next to Bill Metz Elementary on the corner of Broadway and First Avenue.

A large American flag was held high above the street near the park by Monte Vista and Del Norte fire ladder trucks.

Following the parade, people moved to the bleachers in front of the Faith Hinkley Memorial for the 45-minute ceremony.

U.S. Air Force Veteran Richard Nagley was the guest speaker. He is also the president of the Veterans Coalition of the San Luis Valley.

Nagley spoke of the history of Veterans Day, which was first proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson on Nov. 11, 1919, to commemorate the end of World War I. It was originally

called Armistice Day. It celebrates all who have served in the U.S. military. He also noted that Nov. 10 was the 283rd birthday for the U.S. Marine Corps.

Nagley asked the Veterans in attendance to stand, and the crowd thanked them for their service with a hardy round of applause. He also asked people to become involved with Veterans services and to become an advocate.

Rio Grande County Commissioner Scott Deacon led the ceremony with a prayer.

Rio Grande County Commissioner Gene Glover led the wreath ceremony. The families of Army Sgt. Faith R. Hinkley and Marine Sgt. Glen E. Martinez placed wreaths at the base of the memorial in the park that honors each person's contributions to Monte Vista.

Hinkley, 23, died Aug. 7, 2010, in Baghdad, of wounds suffered when insurgents attacked her unit

in Iskandariyah, Iraq.

Martinez, 31, was one of five Marines killed May 2, 2008, when their Humvee hit a roadside bomb in Fallujah.

The ceremony concluded with the traditional retiring of the colors by the Rio Grande County Color Guard.

SLV VETERANS DAY EVENTS

• Saturday, Nov. 11 — American Legion — Dickey-Springer Post 113, and the Ladies Auxiliary will host the annual Veterans Day Parade on Main Street in Alamosa. The parade begins at 11 a.m. The parade recognizes veterans, past and present.

• Saturday, Nov. 11 — Civil War Veteran Capt. Jose Maria Sanchez will be celebrated at the Sangre de Cristo Catholic Church in San Luis at 10 a.m. He will then be given a military service at the San Pedro Cemetery by an Honor Guard provided by American Legion Post 142 and VFW



Photo by Brian Williams

Following the parade, people moved to the bleachers in front of the Faith Hinkley Memorial for the 45-minute ceremony. Veteran Richard Nagley was the guest speaker.

Post 6101 of San Luis.

• Saturday, Nov. 11 — Proud Military Parents group is hosting its first annual Coffee with a Veteran from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11. This event will take place at the Colorado Veterans Community Center of Homelake in Monte Vista. The event will be open to the public

• Saturday, Nov. 11 — The San Luis Valley Theatre Company is presenting a comedy play called "Breaking and Entering" at Society Hall, 400 Ross Ave., Alamosa. Veterans are welcome to attend at no charge.

The San Luis Valley Theatre Company is presenting a comedy play called "Breaking and Entering" at Society Hall, 400 Ross Ave., Alamosa. Veterans are welcome to attend at no charge.

• Saturday, Nov. 11 — The SLV Big Band will host a Veterans Day concert at 7 p.m. at Ortega Middle School. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted.

Name

Continued from Page 1
 starts with local residents."

On Nov. 7, Saguache County Commissioners voted in favor of a name change, Commissioner Tom McCracken said the commissioners did not choose a name.

In a statement to the Valley Courier, Commissioner Liza Marron wrote, "Kit Carson was noted for his bravery in settling the West, however, he was involved in the massacres of indigenous peoples and suppression of the Apache and Dine among others. This genocide should not be celebrated.

"It turns out two lower peaks of Kit Carson Mountain have already been re-named; Challenger and Columbia. I would be in favor of a rename of the highest peak, while consulting the

community of Crestone and the Ute and Dine people."

The 14,165-foot peak is in the Rio Grande National Forest and in documents presented before the geographical naming board, a 2021 letter from U.S. Forest Service Supervisor Dan Dallas stated, "I am in complete support of the proposal as drafted." Dallas continued that in consultation with tribal governments support for the name change was offered and the Navajo Nation officially responded with a statement that in part read, "The Navajo Nation fully supports renaming Kit Carson Mountain..."

If the state board recommends a name change to Polis and he accepts it, the proposal then goes before the federal U.S. Board on Geographic Names domestic names committee (BGN). Name changes for natural features such as Kit Carson must be, "for a com-

pellous reason," according to the federal body.

The summit was first called Frustum Peak by the Wheeler Survey. In that expedition, Lieutenant George Montague Wheeler, United States Army Corps of Engineers, led expeditions for surveys west of the 100th Meridian between 1869 and 1879.

The summit was named Kit Carson Peak by a 1906 BGN decision. In 1970, the BGN voted to change the name to Kit Carson Mountain.

According to the federal geographic naming board, in 2008, a proposal was submitted to the BGN to change the name of Kit Carson Mountain to Mount Crestone, stating that most locals in Crestone referred to the peak as Crestone Peak and that the name Kit Carson Mountain applied to a different mountain to the east. The proponent of that

change also proposed that the highest unnamed summit on Kit Carson Mountain be named Tranquility Peak. In 2010, a proposal was submitted to apply the name Kit Carson Peak to the same unnamed summit. In 2011, the BGN voted not to approve any of these proposals and reaffirmed

the previous Kit Carson Mountain decision.

Name changes do happen. In September, the name of Mount Evans was officially changed to Mount Blue Sky by the federal board. The process was a several-year collaboration between tribal, state, county, and local governments.

The Colorado Geographical Naming Advisory Board will next meet on Jan. 24, 2024, from 5 to 7 p.m. and will be on Zoom with meeting ID 885-7290-3329 with the password 266179.

Requests for comment from Crestone Mayor Karina Danforth were not received by press time.

Theatre

Continued from Page 1

ing times, we need a little levity. It feels like we all could use some laughter to escape the realities of our world today. And during the holiday season, as we gather as family and friends, what better way to spend time together than laughing and enjoying the silly, over-the-top silly antics in this slapstick comedy," said Taylor.

Public performances of "The One-Act Play That

Goes Wrong" run at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1, 8, and 9; and 2 p.m., Dec. 3, on the San Luis Valley Federal Bank Main Stage, located in the Theatre Building.

The Share the Magic benefit performance for La Puente Home is Dec. 2 and the Adams State alumni performance is 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 10. The production is sponsored in part through the generosity of Billings Electric and Valley Lock and Security.

Tickets are \$13 for the general public and free to

Associated Students and Faculty (AS&F) with current Adams State I.D. Starting November 13, tickets may be purchased online at theatre.adams.edu. For telephone or in-person ticket orders, the box office number is 719-587-8499. The box office will open from 3 until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday the week before Thanksgiving and again starting on Nov. 27. AS&F tickets for faculty, staff, and students must be ordered through the box office.

Ef's

Continued from Page 1

Hideaway restaurant. The tradition continued when, after Efrem closed Ef's Hideaway in 2009, Jamie and Cristalray re-opened six months later under the name Ef's.

But it's time this decision was made, as becomes obvious in a conversation with Jamie and Cristalray, Efrem and Nancy (Jamie's mother) Ortiz and the Dominguez's second youngest daughter, Ja'Nya.

"Running a restaurant is hard on a person's body," says Ortiz, holding out wrists stiff with carpal tunnel syndrome after years of cooking. "It's a business you have to be married to if you're going to be successful. I know about that. But when they opened Ef's, Jamie and Cristalray took it way beyond what we did. They leap frogged into something new."

When Jamie and Cristalray took over Ef's, they had already been in the business for 14 years. They knew what was involved. Events out of their control — like 9/11, the recession in 2008, supply chain is-

suces, and inflation — will hit rural businesses hard, especially restaurants. Ef's was still successful in difficult times, only raising their prices once over the next 15 years even as costs continued to climb.

But when the pandemic hit, the Dominguez family re-examined their lives.

"I saw the restaurant business as an opportunity to learn, but Efrem said it best. You have to be married to it. Well, Cristalray and I are already married," Jamie says, drawing a laugh from the family.

"We're not throwing in the towel. It's our choice to do this. We assessed what we're doing, how we're living and spend our time. We want to take a chance and explore the rest of our lives. We know it's a change. We're looking at four generations who've been involved in this restaurant."

"But with our construction business, the restaurant and the community work we're doing, we're burning the candle at both ends, and there's not much candle left," Cristalray says. "So we asked, how do we want to live the rest of our lives? Slaving away?"

"We want to lead the

horse instead of just keeping up with it," Jamie says, drawing another laugh.

"We didn't really plan on this happening right now," Cristalray continues, "but it's already set in motion, and we're getting a lot of support from the community who think it's the right thing for us to do."

And Ef's is not going away entirely.

"I love cooking, so I'll still be doing that and we'll be taking the food truck out more than in the last few years," Cristalray says. "But instead of being torn between that, running the family business and my employees being able to make money, we'll be doing things together, as a family."

The Dominguezes have also created a new path with a strong community presence through the work they do at Shooting Stars Cultural and Leadership Center and elsewhere.

"Ef's has left a footprint on the community. It's the foundation of everything that we are as a family and part of this community. People who really know us know what Ef's has done in the past," Jamie says.

For years, Cristalray has made food for funerals, often missing the funeral herself as she prepared — for free — food for the families and friends. The gesture was so significant that, when an elderly customer passed away, the Dominguezes were mentioned in her eulogy.

When the COVID-19 pandemic shut down all the restaurants, they met with the school district to provide meals for the students, even in the summer. The district also wanted to provide breakfast, so Ef's provided breakfast while continuing to distribute food boxes.

"The cops used to escort us when we took our floats to the South Side and delivered gifts to the Alamosa Housing Complex and other places. One year, a cop named Cooper asked if he could take some gifts up to this place where he'd just arrested the dad on a warrant. At first, the family didn't open the door but when they saw me behind him, they opened up and Cooper gave the kids a bike and other toys. For Cooper, it was really what he needed. And for the family, they got to see cops in a new way."



Photo courtesy of Jamie Dominguez

Left to right, Efrem and Nancy Ortiz and the Dominguez family: Nakkia, Cristalray, Jamie, Dekaj, Taneka and Ja'Nya.

After that, the Alamosa Police Department (APD) started giving toys they had bought to Dominguez to distribute. APD's car club even started touring with Five Star Riders.

"That's when Ef's really shifted into a role that was more than just a food industry. We already knew the community because of the restaurant. We had a connection. And, because of Ef's, we also had resources."

Change can be difficult, even when it's welcomed, as is true with 21-year-old Ja'Nya, the second youngest of Jamie and Cristalray's four daughters.

"I started at Ef's in middle school," she says. "Now, I'm the only one who can do it all." She tears up. "I hate work but it's always been there. I never thought about it going away. (My parents) are so much happier being in the community. This needs to happen."

"The restaurant has taught us how to see good and bad in the world and to learn from both," says Jamie. "I'm grateful to Efrem and Nancy for making Ef's possible. I'm grateful to everyone for many years of support. We're looking forward to what's ahead."

ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY
 COLORADO

Great Stories Begin Here

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

| SUNDAY • 12 | MONDAY • 13 | TUESDAY • 14 | WEDNESDAY • 15 | THURSDAY • 16 | FRIDAY • 17 | SATURDAY • 18 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | www.adams.edu | | Lunchtime Talk in STEM: Importance of Water Resources at Great Sand Dunes Andrew Valdez, park geologist, 12 p.m. Porter Hall 130 Free | Zacheis Planetarium Free Movies: 5:30 p.m. <i>The Hot and Energetic Universe</i> and <i>From Dream to Discovery: Inside NASA</i> | | W Basketball vs Texas A&M University - Kingsville 5:30 p.m. Plachy Hall |
| Through December 15 | | | | | | |
| Cloyde Snook Gallery: <i>Light and Glass - in the spirit of Taos Alchemy</i> Robin Stanaway | | | Native American Heritage Month: String Games 5 p.m. McDaniel Hall 101 | Faculty Lecture: <i>Art and Land Acknowledgments</i> Bill Tite 6 p.m. McDaniel Hall 101 Free | | |
| Hatfield Gallery: <i>Upcycle: a Play on Light</i> Mary Hoffman | | | Zacheis Planetarium Free Movies: 5:30 p.m. <i>Fractal Explorations</i> and <i>The Sun: Our Living Star</i> | Percussion Ensemble Concert: 7 p.m. Richardson Hall Auditorium | | |
| Gallery Hours: 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday | | | Senior Recital: Joshua Puente, piano 7 p.m. Leon Memorial Hall | W Basketball vs Eastern New Mexico University 7 p.m. Plachy Hall | | |

Opinion

Revealed – Nikki Haley's husband and his Djibouti call

By ANN COULTER

Will Republicans ever rebel against the execrable primary debates foisted on us every four years? Vetting presidential candidates is one of our most important civic duties, but the Republican National Committee offshores the job to journalists who pretend to be neutral — the better to slay Republicans on behalf of the Democrats — and inject themselves into the proceedings, a la Candy Crowley correcting Mitt Romney when Romney was right and her correction was wrong. (Three hundred more examples upon request.) Moderators consider any debate a failure when they haven't done 90% of the talking.

Despite my repeated demand for presidential debates with no moderators, like Lincoln and Douglas did, the worst possible people keep popping up to host these events, making them a total waste of time, like a David Brooks column.

I'm a very busy person, but as a public service, I have written a series of questions for the useless wastes of space "moderating" this week's Republican debate. Perhaps not as riveting as questions from a talking snowman about global warming, but still pretty good.

Today, my questions will focus on Nikki Haley, who is surging in the polls principally because, as my regular readers know, Republican megadonors are the most out of touch, head-up-their-butts twits the country has to offer. (Just ask Presidents Jeb Bush, Carly Fiorina, Rudy Giuliani, Fred Thompson and Phil Gramm.)

Here are a few of the questions that need to be answered:

1. Ambassador Haley, you mention your husband's military service often, and by "often," I mean "on a 5-second loop." In nearly every public appearance, you say some variation of this:



[Read with feeling]

"Our family, like every military family, is ready to make personal sacrifices when our loved one answers the call. We could not be prouder of Michael and his military brothers and sisters. Their commitment to protecting our freedom is a reminder of how blessed we are to live in America."

Your husband's first deployment was to Afghanistan in 2013, to teach Afghans to grow crops other than opium. This did not have the slightest effect, and today, the country is growing more opium than before your husband's deployment.

Please explain how trying to teach Afghans to grow crops other than opium, which led to their growing even more opium, "protect[ed] our freedom."

2. In fact, explain how getting Afghans to grow less opium would have "protect[ed] our freedom" — even if it had worked. Which, again, it did not.

3. I realize there's an excellent reason for sending billions upon billions of hard-earned American dollars around the globe to people who hated us before, hate us after, and which never accomplishes the stated objective, but please remind us what it is.

4. Exactly how much money should we confiscate from the American people to spend on countries notable for not being our country? My number is

zero. What's yours? We're looking for a specific figure, not a seminar on foreign aid.

5. Your husband is currently making us safer in Djibouti, Africa, a place obviously top of mind for most Americans.

Our mission there is vital and only the most obtuse would mock it. According to the Defense Department, American military exercises there consist of keeping the locals entertained with art bazaars, Ramadan meals and field trips:

- "U.S. service members who deploy to [Djibouti] engage with our allies and Djiboutian partners through hosted events and volunteer opportunities in the community." — Navy Capt. Suzanne J.M. Krauss, commanding officer.

- It's "a really lovely thing" to see U.S. personnel engaging the community in such positive ways. — Acting Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Policy Mara Karlin

- "For the past 16 years, the base has hosted a biannual bazaar that connects U.S. military members with Djiboutians through art." — U.S. Department of Defense

Please explain to voters, who lack a nuanced understanding of strategic objectives, how this posting "protect[s] our country and our freedoms"?

6. Now, obviously, as crucial as it

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!"

is, we can't spend all of our military budget on Djiboutian art bazaars, Ramadan meals and field trips. Equally important is paying the military, agriculture, policing, educational, retirement and civil service expenses for the country of Ukraine.

You have warned congressional Republicans that to stop the flow of taxpayer money to that country, on top of the \$100 billion we've already sent, could cause Ukraine to lose the war.

If that should that happen, which of these is your greatest fear:

- Millions of poverty-stricken Africans and Latin Americans will pour into Ukraine within three years;

- One hundred thousand Ukrainians will die every year from drugs brought across its borders, including enough fentanyl to kill every man, woman and child several times over;

- Tens of thousands of children will be smuggled in and forced to work at dangerous jobs on 17-hour, overnight shifts;

- Hundreds of terrorists will stream into Ukraine each year.

7. Who is the campaign consultant to female presidential candidates convincing you, Fiorina and Hillary Clinton that to be taken seriously as a possible commander in chief, you have to be Suzy Warmonger, constantly threatening to start wars all over the world?

LETTERS

What quality of life do we want for Alamosa?

Editor,

I would like to take a deeper look into the decisions the city manager and city council are making in regard to homelessness in Alamosa that impact this community so deeply. I am always interested in what the "boots on the ground" people are experiencing. In the interview with Ken Anderson (at the time our chief of police) stated "These decisions have to be addressed. It needs to be understood that our officers are not expendable. They're the people who have to deal with the increased crime and danger and unimaginable scenarios that come from these decisions." I have felt for years that councils and boards have meetings and retreats and come up with what they think are good ideas. The breakdown in this process is that someone else is responsible for managing and maintaining these

ideas. The councils and boards often have no first-hand experience or "boots on the ground" of what it takes to maintain these ideas. And in this case, what costs to the people that manage the unimaginable scenarios and the dangers to the greater community?

Anderson stated in his interview that Alamosa has a homeless population equivalent if not bigger than that of Durango. Can we examine the factors why we have such a large homeless population for our size of city? From the articles I have read in the paper, the city council and city manager seem to commend each other for their work on homelessness. Yet we have just had an election. Those of us who live a mile or two outside the city limits do not get to vote for city council. Yet their decisions impact our lives in the country. The river east of Alamosa has homeless periodically

camping and moving through this area. When the railroad was in bankruptcy/receivership the homeless were on the road by the tracks. As just one example a woman collapsed from an overdose in the neighbor's driveway. I think myself as well as others would deeply appreciate knowing the city council and city manager took our concerns seriously about the growing homeless population in Alamosa. In the Valley Courier article on the city council meeting when Anderson handed over his badge; I did appreciate the remarks by city counselor Liz Hensley, "We're taking risks. We must be willing to re-evaluate and if something isn't working, cut our losses." What quality of life do we want for Alamosa? Are we willing to examine the decisions that have been made, and take a deeper look into what path these decisions are leading us?

Laura Cranson
Alamosa

Write them

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Keep the government open

Editor,

Contact your representative today to keep the government open past the Nov. 17 shutdown deadline.

A shut down will hurt us all. Military service members, TSA, and Air Traffic controllers are among the many federal employees who have to report to work without pay. Congress, how-

ever, gets paid without fulfilling their work duties. Farmers will be unable to get market loans to help harvest their crops, holiday travel is at risk and other essential services will be affected.

While some harm starts immediately, the damaging effects grow immensely over time. It has been projected that each week of a shutdown,

it could cost the US economy \$6 billion weekly.

Find your representative's contact information at house.gov.

Meryl Ennis, Patti, Robert and Paul Vincent, Jane Brotsma, Marge Hoglin, Susan Fey, Les McMenemy and Robin Durrance

CD3 residents

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Religion

German bishops press for same-sex union blessings

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus proclaimed, "Judge not, lest you be judged."

Early in his papacy, Pope Francis told journalists: "If someone is gay and he searches for the Lord and has good will, who am I to judge?"

Citing those words, while expressing hope for future Synod on Synodality developments, a German bishop has officially asked his clergy to start performing rites blessing Catholics in same-sex relationships. He also included couples with secular divorces, as opposed to church annulments, who are then married outside the church.

"Both with regard to believers whose marriages have broken down and who have remarried, and especially with regard to same-sex oriented people, it is urgently time -- especially against the background of a long history of deep hurt -- for a different perspective," wrote Bishop Karl-Heinz Wieseemann of the Diocese of Speyer, in a translation from the German posted by the Catholic Conclave blog.

The goal, he added, is "a pastoral attitude ... as

many of you have been practicing for a long time. That's why I campaigned for a reassessment of homosexuality in church teaching in the Synodal Path and also voted for the possibility of blessing ceremonies for same-sex couples. I stand by that."

The bishop stressed that new rites will not be "celebrating a sacrament, but rather about a blessing." This change in diocesan policy means that "no one who carries out such blessings has to fear sanctions."

Performing these blessings will require "empathy and discretion," wrote Wieseemann.

"It may be that the domestic setting (possibly also with the blessing of the shared apartment) is more suitable. ... A blessing ceremony can also take place in the church," noted the bishop. "The celebration must differ in words and symbols from a church wedding and, as an act of blessing, should expressly reinforce the love, commitment and mutual responsibility that exists in the couple's relationship."

At the end of recent Vatican meetings, Synod on Synodality participants

released a 40-page report that didn't mention changes on hot-button topics such as married priests, the ordination of women as deacons and a range of LGBTQ+ issues.

However, Bishop Georg Batzing, president of the German bishops, noted signs of possible shifts in future synod sessions -- even on "gender identity or sexual orientation" disputes that "raise new questions."

The global synod statement added: "Sometimes existing anthropological categories are not sufficient to grasp the complexity of what emerges from experience or from science, and therefore this calls for further investigation. We must take the necessary time for this reflection and devote the best of our energies to it, and not fall into simplistic judgments that hurt people or damage the body of the Church."

Before this synod meeting, Pope Francis urged "pastoral charity" when considering same-sex blessings, adding that the "defense of objective truth" in ancient doctrines is not enough. "For this reason, pastoral prudence must adequately discern whether there are forms of blessing ... that do not transmit a mistaken conception of marriage," he wrote.

Now, Pope Francis has issued an apostolic letter

-- "Ad theologiam promovendam (to promote theology)" -- seeking a "paradigm shift" to a "fundamentally contextual theology" that doesn't settle for "abstractly re-proposing formulas and schemes from the past."

This post-synod letter proclaimed: "Theology can only develop in a culture of dialogue and encounter between different traditions and different knowledge, between different Christian confessions and different religions, openly engaging with everyone, believers and nonbelievers."

Bishops in Germany and other rapidly shrinking

European churches have, in recent years, openly pushed for the modernization of Catholic doctrines on sexuality. Last year, bishops in Belgium approved a text allowing rites blessing same-sex couples. And 93% of participants in German sessions preparing for the Vatican synod backed a document approving "blessing celebrations for people who love each other."

During a synod press conference, Bishop Franz-Josef Overbeck of Essen -- a diocese with 321 parishes in 2002, but only 40 parishes in 2022 -- said that if church "theology,

the magisterium, or tradition" continues to ignore the "signs of the times," modern Germans will stop listening, including young Catholics.

Asked to clarify, Overbeck added: "We put Jesus Christ at the center of faith in a common quest without clinging to habits and traditionalisms which, if critically examined, have no priority in the hierarchy of truth."

Terry Mattingly leads GetReligion.org and lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He is a senior fellow at the Overby Center at the University of Mississippi.

On Religion



Terry Mattingly

Bible Digest

Saturday, November 11, 2023

"A soft answer turns away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger." (Proverbs 15:1 AKJV)

Save yourself some problems. Follow the truth above. Be kind and patient.

Sunday, November 12, 2023

"The thief comes not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10 AKJV)

Jesus has given me abundant life and I know He will do the same for you.

Monday, November 13, 2023

"Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith." (Proverbs

15:16 AKJV) Little with God is much better than having the riches of this world.

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

"You are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and stayed not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." (John 8:44 AKJV)

If it is not the truth, it is a lie. The devil is the father of lies. Think it over.

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

"Your word have I hid in my heart, that I might

not sin against you." (Psalms 119:11 AKJV)

This verse holds an important key to victory over sin. Memorize God's Word and get the victory.

Thursday, November 16, 2023

"For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God." (John 12:43 AKJV)

What is most important to you?

Friday, November 17, 2023

"I am come a light into the world, that whoever believes on me should not abide in darkness." (John 12:46 AKJV)

Come out of the darkness of sin and deception and walk in the light of Jesus. He can make all things new.

Accessing God's Power Through Grace and Faith

God has a great plan for each person's life, and He wants us to enjoy every day of our lives. But we can't do it if we live in fear and lack confidence. Confidence is the belief that you're able to do what you need to do. God gives us confidence, but we need to know how to access it by faith.

God-given confidence is actually the grace of God. We usually hear grace defined as God's undeserved favor or God doing something for you that you don't deserve. But it's really more than that. It was life-changing for me to learn that grace is also God's power, freely given to me, to enable me to do with ease what I could not do on my own with any amount of struggle or effort.

Think about this for a minute. Everyone who accepts Jesus as their Savior is taught that we're saved by grace through faith. Ephesians 2:8-9 (NKJV) says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." But the same way we are saved is the way we are supposed to live. In other words, once we are born again, God wants us to do everything in life by grace through faith.

power, to live my everyday life. First, I had to get an understanding that once I was saved, God didn't expect me to live right by my own strength. Just as I couldn't "earn" salvation through my own works or effort, I also couldn't really change my heart or behavior in my own strength. Jesus says in John 15:4 (NIV), "...No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."

Every day we need to come to God and tell Him, "God, I can do nothing without You. Nothing in my life is going to work without You. Apart from You, there is nothing good in me. My confidence is in You. I need You all the time. I believe You and trust You, Lord." When we humble ourselves before God and ask Him for help, we can access His grace through faith.

So, to help you do that, I want to share three things that commonly short-circuit our faith, cutting off our access to God's power: complaining, self-pity, and pride. Complaining is a negative attitude that keeps us from being thankful for all God has done, is doing, and will do. It is a sin we need to repent of, and then be determined to thank God in all things, at all times. His grace and blessings always outweigh the things we think are wrong in our life.

Self-pity is simply a "poor me" attitude. It is a form of idolatry because it causes you to focus on yourself and think, "What about me?" But we can't be pitiful and powerful at the same time, so let's decide to give up all self-pity.

Pride takes credit for what God has done and steals His glory. It makes us independent of God, and we can't bear good fruit apart from Christ. Before I learned how to live my life by God's grace, I was a mess. I was



a nagging wife, a manipulator, and controlling. And I wasn't satisfied living like that. Then God helped me by opening my eyes to see that I couldn't really change until I started taking His Word seriously and trusted Him to change me. When I made a firm decision to pray and study the Word in areas where I was weak, then God's grace gave me the power I needed to overcome the things that were wrong. And I keep going forward in my journey with God the same way today.

God has all the power you need to do anything you need to do. He loves you and wants to give you His power to live your daily life with joy. Lean on Him with absolute trust in His wisdom and goodness, and live with God-given confidence.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's five-part teaching resource Bold, Confident and Courageous. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 140 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and OVERCOMING EVERY PROBLEM (FaithWords). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Table with columns for church names, addresses, phone numbers, and service times. Includes categories like All-Denominational, Catholic, Protestant, and various denominations.

You are loved. Sunday School 9am, Sunday Service 10:15am. ALAMOSA Christian Reformed Church 719-589-3493

See you at Sunday School

Sports

Liberty Common ends Centauri's season

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – The Centauri High School volleyball team played two more matches at the Class 3A State Tournament Friday at the Denver Coliseum.

The eighth-seeded Lady Falcons first played 10th-seeded Colorado Springs Christian in the first round of the contenders bracket, and they defeated the Lady Lions in three sets. The scores were 25-19, 25-16 and 25-19.

Centauri then played sixth-seeded Liberty Common in the second round of the contenders bracket. The Lady Falcons won the first set 25-20, but the Lady Eagles won the next two by scores of 30-28 and 25-19. Centauri won the fourth set 25-21 to knot the match at two sets apiece, however, Liberty Common won the fifth set 15-9 to end the Lady Falcons' season.

Statistics were unavailable for either match.

Centauri finished the season with a record of 20 and eight losses.



Courtesy photos by Shelly Polzin
Left: Centauri High School's Cameryn Wilfong (10) sets up a kill attempt in Friday's Class 3A State Tournament match against Colorado Springs Christian at the Denver Coliseum. Top right: Jaelyn Jackson (4) records a dig. Bottom right: Kailyn Polzin hits the ball over the net. The Lady Falcons defeated CSCS in three sets, but lost to Liberty Common in five sets to end the season.



Sierra Grande Veteran's Day 5k run is today

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – The Sierra Grande Veteran's Day 5k run will take place today at 11 a.m. at Veteran's Park in Fort Garland.

All participants can register before the race. The cost is \$25 for adults and \$15 for senior citizens and students.

To get to Veteran's Park, go to Fort Garland on Route 160, and go south on Highway 159. Cross over the railroad tracks and take an immediate left onto Ice House Road. From there got about a half mile and Veteran's Park will be located on the left.

T-shirts will be mailed to all participants.

For questions or more information, call Brandon Mizokami at (719) 379-3257.

Sports Bulletin

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

SCOREBOARD

FRIDAY

Prep girls volleyball

Centauri def. Colorado Springs Christian 25-19, 25-16, 25-19

Liberty Common def. Centauri 20-25, 30-28, 25-19, 21-25, 15-9

College women's volleyball

Regis def. Adams State 25-15, 25-23, 25-12

College men's basketball

Adams State 70, Texas-Permian Basin 67

College women's basketball

Adams State 63, Cameron (Okla.) 53

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

Prep football

Sierra Grande at Stratton (six-man state playoffs quarterfinals), 1 p.m.

College football

Western Colorado at Adams State, 1 p.m.

College women's volleyball

Colorado-Colorado Springs at Adams State, 5 p.m.

College men's basketball

Adams State vs. Western New Mexico (South Central Region crossover at Salt Lake City), 10 a.m.

College women's basketball

Adams State at Midwestern State (Texas) (Ashbrook Comfort Inn Suites Classic), 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

College swimming
Adams State at TYR/CMU Invitational (at Grand Junction), TBA

THURSDAY

College women's basketball

Eastern New Mexico at Adams State, 7 p.m.

College swimming

Adams State at TYR/CMU Invitational (at Grand Junction), TBA

FRIDAY

College men's basketball

Adams State vs. Eastern New Mexico (Skyhawks Hardwood Classic at Durango), 7 p.m.

College swimming

Adams State at TYR/CMU Invitational (at Grand Junction), TBA

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.

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Lifestyle

First Friday Art Reception features Kosmowski family

By MARIE MCCOLM CRESTONE — The Baca Grande Library hosted the First Friday Art Reception on Friday, Nov. 3, featuring the Kosmowski family. About 20 people attended the reception. Light refreshments were served. Noemi Kosmowski and her husband, Chris, were two of the featured artists with several of their paintings hanging on the walls.

The Kosmowski's are singers as well, and while the crowd drank their choice of water, soda, or wine that was served, the two sang many songs including, "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," and many other well-known favorites. Noemi Kosmowski spoke about her art in between the music.

"Thank you all for coming to see all this work that we have done," she said. "I have many paintings here. My husband Chris of 41 years is also a painter. He

has painted many things over the years. He used to only paint sports, and musicians, and now he is painting modern landscapes. He also paints T-shirts. There is a gentleman who came today, and he is wearing Chris's T-shirt. He paints bigger paintings also and has some on display in Vail, but they are giant paintings. I am a spiritual painter, but I really paint anything. I paint Budha, Jesus, Uganda. You name it I am doing it, dragons, spiritual wolves. I love to paint spiritual things. Thank you all for coming. Please eat, drink, and enjoy."

Noemi Kosmowski said that she has been painting her entire life. She cannot remember a time when she was not painting.

"The painting it is in my blood. My genes decided this for me. I am from three generations of artists," she said. "I was painting before

I was walking. I was raised in my father's art studio. I have been painting all my life. The only time I didn't paint was when I was a teenager. I said I would never paint or marry an artist and exactly the opposite is what happened to me."

She said she can remember painting with her kids when they were little.

"It is a tough choice, but I cannot do anything else. I think this was fate. It's like great performers on stage, it drives me every day. I paint until midnight every night. I go home, I eat, I talk with my family, and I paint," she said.

Noemi Kosmowski spoke about the paintings hanging at the Baca Grande Library and being a teacher.

"I teach art also. I have classes at my studio in town," she said. "These are my three pictures here. One of them looks like my students did it, they helped



sPhoto by Marie Mccolm

During the First Friday Art Reception, the Kosmowski family performed and talked about their art.

me. The other two I did the work on."

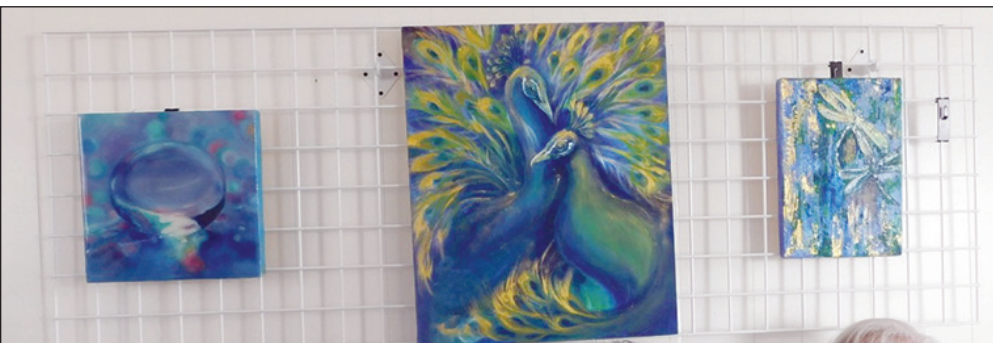
Kosmowski pointed at three pieces of art. One of them looked like two dragonflies intertwined on a leaf, the painting that her students helped her with. One was a vision of two peacocks standing together, and the third appeared to be a spiritual circle with dif-

ferent splashes of color throughout the circle.

The Kosmowski's recently opened a small art gallery in town, and they are proud of the gallery.

"We like that our art is displayed there," she said. "We were made the offer to join other people there. It is a tiny gallery but perfect for our paintings. Everything around you is art.

The art is the one thing that is most important to me. There is art in everything. If you look around there is art in paintings, there is art in everything. The coffee mug you drink out of is art. The world is art. If I am not painting, I am thinking about painting and about the art. Painting is my life. It is how I live; it is my fate."



The Baca Grande Library hosted the First Friday Art Reception on Friday, Nov. 3, featuring the Kosmowski family.

Bolerjack concert at Calvary Bible Chapel

CONTRIBUTED

Award-winning Christian vocal duo, Blake and Jenna Bolerjack, will be in concert at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 17, at Calvary Bible Chapel. As husband and wife, Blake and Jenna communicate their faith through music with gentleness and a testimony of love and commitment with their marriage; a chemistry easily seen as they sing and serve together.

Blake's soaring vocals and Jenna's sweet harmonies are sure to inspire and encourage. All ages will enjoy their mix of classic and inspirational styles.

The Bolerjacks have traveled for 17 years full-time with concert ministry appearing in churches, theaters, festivals, and conventions across the United States as well as Canada and multiple tours to Germany. Blake is also an award-winning songwriter and they have been featured on TBN and VTN television networks nationwide and have topped the Singing News charts with multiple radio hits.

Along with their powerful music, Blake and



Award-winning Christian vocal duo, Blake and Jenna Bolerjack, will be in concert at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 17, at Calvary Bible Chapel. Courtesy photo

Jenna share their story of Jenna's recent battle with cancer at the age of 31 and God's faithfulness through that journey. Blake and Jenna passionately believe concerts and special music can offer encouragement in a completely unique way; sometimes hearing how others have been through the "fire" and how God was still with them can significantly renew your hope and spirit and that is what they love to do.

Calvary Bible Chapel is located at 7160 Brush Lane in East Alamosa (south of the U.S. government Closed Basin building on Highway 160 East). A free will offering will be received for the Bolerjacks.

For more information, call 588-5011.



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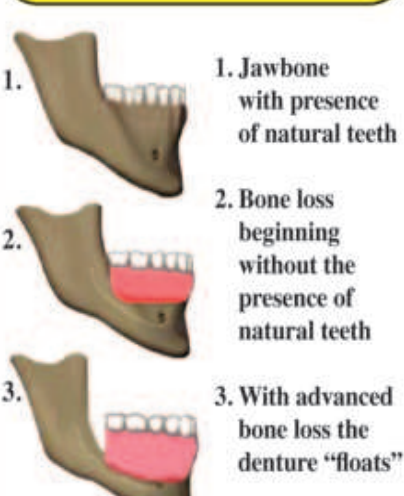
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What Are the Limitations in Your Life?

- Do you cover your mouth when you laugh, cough or sneeze, fearing your dentures will slip and fall out?
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- Do you dream of one day eating the foods you used to eat, like a big juicy steak or delicious green salad?
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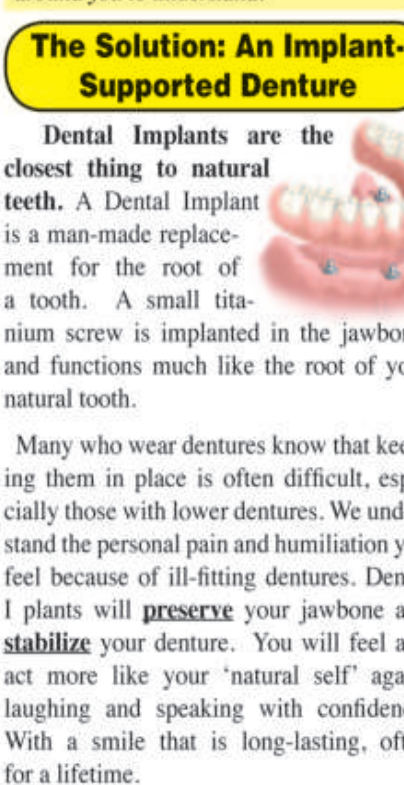


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Public Notices

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 3, STATE OF COLORADO TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS FILED IN WATER DIVISION 3.

Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302(3), you are notified that the following is a resume in Water Division 3, containing notice of applications and certain amendments filed in the office of the Water Clerk during the month of October 2023 for each county affected.

2023CW15: Concerning the Application of Water Rights of Diaz Family Farms, LLLP, 0721 Lane 2 N, Alamosa, CO 81101, diaz@martinezfarms-eagleproduce.com. Application for Change of Water Right in Alamosa County. Decreed water right for which change is sought: Name of structure: Well No. 3 (W309 and 83CW70) Permit no. 15826 15826 F, WVID 2005684. Date of original and all relevant subsequent decrees: 7/27/1984 Case No: W309 and 83CW70 Court: Division 3 Water Court. Legal description of structure as described in most recent decree that adjudicated the location: SW 1/4 SW 1/4, Section 20, Township 39 North, Range 9 East NMPM, at a point 1280 feet from South Section line and 1300 feet from West Section line, in Alamosa County, Colorado. Decreed source of water: Unconfined. Appropriation Date: October 14, 1971. Total amount decreed to structure: Absolute 1000 gpm. Decreed use or uses: Irrigation and stockwater. Amount of water that applicant intends to change: Absolute 1000 gpm. Name of structure: Well No. 3S (83CW70), Permit no. 26678-F, WVID 2005685. Date of original and all relevant subsequent decrees: 8/24/1984 Case No: 83CW70. Court: Division 3 Water Court. Legal description of structure as described in most recent decree that adjudicated the location: SW 1/4 SW 1/4, Section 20, Township 39 North, Range 9 East NMPM, in Alamosa County, Colorado, at a point 630 feet from South Section line and 1300 feet from West Section line, in Alamosa County, Colorado. Decreed source of water: Unconfined. Appropriation Date: October 14, 1971. Total amount decreed to structure: Absolute 500 gpm. Decreed use or uses: Irrigation. Amount of water applicant intends to change: Absolute 500 gpm. Detailed description of proposed change: Part 1: We request that the locations for both wells (Well No. 3 and Well No. 3-S) be confirmed by the Court. Both wells are located in the NW of the SW 1/4 of Section 20, Twp. 39N, Range 9E NMPM have been GPS'd by DWR staff. Both wells have always been located at these locations. Part 2: Applicant requests that the flow rate of Well No. 3-S be changed from 500 gpm to 1000 gpm. Well No. 3-S will remain decreed as an alternate point of diversion to Well No. 3 (W309). It is requested that both wells be allowed to individually and in combination with each other be allowed to pump 1000 gpm. This request would allow us to qualify for a metering variance through the DWR so that they can be measured using one meter. Both Well Nos. 1 and 2 produce from the unconfined aquifer and are decreed to be used on the SW 1/4 of Section 20, Twp. 39N, Range 9 East, NMPM. The decreed limit of 475 acre feet will remain the same. There would be no expansion of use. Both wells are enrolled in Subdistrict #1 and would continue to do so. If applicant is changing or adding a point of diversion (including the drilling of a replacement well more than 200 feet from the decreed location), please provide the new location of the structure; or if applicant is changing the decreed point of diversion to conform to the actual location, please provide the actual location: Well No. 3/Permit No. 15826-F PLSS: Alamosa County, NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, Section 20, Township 39N, Range 9E, NMPM. Points of diversion: Location information in UTM format: Easting 410310 Northing 4162722 Zone 13. Location information: Well No. 3-S, Permit No. 26678-F PLSS: Alamosa County, NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, Section 20, Township 39N, Range 9E, NMPM. Points of diversion: Location in UTM format: Easting 410119 Northing 4162725 Zone 13. Name and address of reputed owners: N/A.

You are notified that you have until the last day of December 2023, to file with the Water Clerk a verified statement of opposition setting forth facts as to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions or a protest to the requested correction. A copy of such a statement of opposition or protest must also be served upon the Applicant or the Applicant's attorney and an affidavit or certificate of such service must be filed with the Water Clerk. The filing fee for the Statement of Opposition is \$192.00. Forms may be obtained from the Water Clerk's Office or our website at www.courts.state.co.us. Jennifer Pacheco, Water Clerk, Water Division 3, 8955 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101 No. 3652.

Published in the Valley Courier on November 11, 2023.

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 3, STATE OF COLORADO TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS FILED IN WATER DIVISION 3.

Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302(3), you are notified that the following is a resume in Water Division 3, containing notice of applications and certain amendments filed in the office of the Water Clerk during the month of October 2023 for each county affected.

2023CW16: Concerning the Application of Water Rights of Diaz Family Farms, LLLP, 0721 Lane 2 N, Alamosa, CO 81101, diaz@martinezfarms-eagleproduce.com. Application for Change of Water Right in Alamosa County. Decreed water right for which change is sought: Name of structure: Well No. 3 (W1000) Permit no. 496-R-R, WVID 2006648. Date of original decree: 1/11/1974. Case no. W1000 and 719CW12. Court: Division 3 Water Court. Legal description of structure as described in most recent decree: SW 1/4 SW 1/4, Section 9, Township 39 North, Range 9 East NMPM in Alamosa County, Colorado. Decreed source of water: Unconfined. Appropriation Date: December 31, 1940. Total amount decreed to structure in gallons per minute (gpm): Absolute 791 gpm. Decreed use or uses: Irrigation. Amount of water that applicant intends to change: Absolute 791 gpm. Decreed water rights for which change is sought: Name of structure: Well No. 4 (W1000) Permit no. 497-R, WVID 2006264. Date of original and all relevant subsequent decrees: 12/13/1979 Case No: W1000 and 79CW12 Court: Division 3 Water Court. Legal description of structure as described in most recent decree: NW 1/4 SW 1/4, Section 9, Township 39 North, Range 9 East NMPM, in Alamosa County, Colorado. Decreed source of water: Unconfined. Appropriation date: December 31, 1950. Total amount decreed to structure in gallons per minute (gpm): Absolute 837 gpm. Decreed use: Irrigation. Amount of water applicant intends to change: Absolute 837 gpm. Decreed water rights for which change is sought: Name of structure: Well No. 3 & 4A (79CW12), Permit no. 22877-F, WVID 2005383. Date of original and all relevant subsequent decrees: 12/13/1979 Case No: 79CW12. Court: Division 3 Water Court. Legal description of structure as described in most recent decree: At a point which is 20 feet from South Section line and 1320 feet from West Section line in the center of the SW 1/4, Section 9, Township 39 North, Range 9 East NMPM, in the County of Alamosa County, State of Colorado. Decreed source of water: Unconfined. Appropriation date: December 31, 1950, and December 31, 1940. Total amount decreed to structure in gallons per minute (gpm): Absolute 1000 gpm (791 gpm from Well No. 3 and 209 gpm from Well No. 4). Decreed use: Irrigation. Amount of water applicant intends to change: Absolute 1000 gpm (791 gpm from Well No. 3 and 209 gpm from Well No. 4). Detailed description of proposed change: We request to make all 3 wells alternate points of diversion to each other. Well No. 3 & 4A is already decreed as an alternate point of diversion to both Well Nos. 3 and 4. We request that each of the 3 wells in this application be able to individually and in combination with each other be allowed to pump 1628 gpm (the total decreed flow rate to Well Nos. 3 and 4). This request would allow us to qualify for a metering variance through the DWR so that we can use one meter to measure all 3 wells. All three wells are decreed to produce from the unconfined aquifer and are permitted to be used on the SW 1/4 of Section 9, Twp. 39N, Range 9 East, NMPM. There would be no expansion of use. All three wells are enrolled in Subdistrict #1 and would continue to do so. Change in point of diversion or change in decreed point of diversion: Location information: Well No. 4/Permit No. 497-R. PLSS: Alamosa County, NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, Section 9, Township 39N, Range 9E, NMPM. Points of diversion: Location information in UTM format: Easting 411570 Northing 4165958 Zone 13. Location information: Well No. 3, Permit No. 496-R-R. PLSS: Alamosa County, SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, Section 9, Township 39N, Range 9E, NMPM. Points of diversion: Location information in UTM format: Easting 411573 Northing 4165786 Zone 13. Location information: Well No. 3 and 4A/Permit No. 22877-F. PLSS: Alamosa County, NE 1/4 of the SW 1/4, Section 9, Township 39N, Range 9E, NMPM. Points of diversion: Location information in UTM format: Easting 411969 Northing 4165901 Zone 13. Name and address of reputed owners: N/A.

You are notified that you have until the last day of December 2023, to file with the Water Clerk a verified statement of opposition setting forth facts as to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions or a protest to the requested correction. A copy of such a statement of opposition or protest must also be served upon the Applicant or the Applicant's attorney and an affidavit or certificate of such service must be filed with the Water Clerk. The filing fee for the Statement of Opposition is \$192.00. Forms may be obtained from the Water Clerk's Office or our website at www.courts.state.co.us. Jennifer Pacheco, Water Clerk, Water Division 3, 8955 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101 No. 3653.

Published in the Valley Courier on November 11, 2023.

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 3, STATE OF COLORADO TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS FILED IN WATER DIVISION 3.

Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302(3), you are notified that the following is a resume in Water Division 3, containing notice of applications and certain amendments filed in the office of the Water Clerk during the month of October 2023 for each county affected.

2023CW3017 2023CW3017 IN MINERAL COUNTY - APPLICATION FOR SURFACE WATER RIGHT City of Creede c/o Richard J. Mehren, Molly K. Haug, Moses, Witemeyer, Harrison and Woodruff, P.C., 2595 Canyon Blvd., Suite 240, Boulder, CO 80302 1. Name, mailing address, email address, and telephone number of applicant: City of Creede, Colorado ("Creede") c/o Louis Fineberg, City Manager, 2223 N. Main Street, P. O. Box 457, Creede, CO 81130, (719) 658-2276 2. Name of structure: Creede Hydropower Diversion Structure. 3. Location of structure and point of diversion: The location of the Creede Hydropower Diversion Structure is as follows: 3.1 PLSS description: SE 1/4 SE 1/4, Section 25, Township 42 North, Range 1 West, N.M.P.M., Mineral County, Colorado. 3.2 UTM description: Creede will construct the Creede Hydropower Diversion Structure at one of the following two locations: 3.2.1 330443.63 mE, 4191581.16 mN, Zone 13 South, NAD 83. 3.2.2 330418.00 mE, 4191593.00 mN, Zone 13 South, NAD 83. The two locations for the Creede Hydropower Diversion Structure described in paragraphs 3.2.1 and 3.2.2, above, are within 100 feet from each other and are shown as a single location on the map attached as Exhibit A. The source of the UTM coordinates is a handfield GPS unit. 4. Source: Willow Creek, tributary to the Rio Grande. 5. Amount claimed: 18.0 cfs, CONDITIONAL. To the extent Creede diverts and places all or any portion of the claimed water right to beneficial use while this Application is pending before the Water Court, Creede will seek to make absolute in the decree to be entered by the Water Court in this case all or any portion of the water right that is so diverted and placed to the claimed beneficial use. 6. Priority: 6.1 Date of appropriation: October 17, 2023. 6.2 How appropriation was initiated: By forming the intent to appropriate the claimed water right; by filing the application in this case to adjudicate the claimed water right; by the Board of Trustees formally acting to authorize the hydropower project; by planning and hiring consultants to construct the Creede Hydropower Pipeline and hydropower infrastructure. 6.3 Date water first applied to beneficial use: N/A. 7. Uses: Hydropower production. 8. Name(s) and address(es) of owner(s) or reputed owner(s) of the land upon which any new or existing diversion or storage structure, or modification to any existing diversion or storage structure is or will be constructed or upon which water is or will be stored, including any modification to the existing storage pool: 8.1 Creede Hydropower Diversion Structure: Creede. 8.2 Creede Hydropower Pipeline: Creede owns in fee portions of the land that where the Creede Hydropower Pipeline will be constructed. Creede has a prescriptive easement for the Creede Hydropower Pipeline across the land owned by the following landowners: 8.2.1 Aquino General Partnership, P. O. Box 4389, Aspen, CO 81612 8.2.2 BPOE (Elks Club), P. O. Box 117, Creede, CO 81130 8.2.3 Jimmy and Kathy Adelman, P. O. Box 558, Creede, CO 81130 8.2.4 Terry Wetherill, P. O. Box 143, Creede, CO 81130 8.2.5 Jason Trujillo, P. O. Box 381, Monte Vista, CO 81144 8.2.6 Creede Consolidated School District No. 1, P. O. Box 429, Creede, CO 81130 8.3 Creede Hydropower Return Structure: Creede. 9 Remarks: The use of the water diverted under the claimed water right will be off-channel and non-consumptive. Water will be diverted from Willow Creek at the Creede Hydropower Diversion Structure at the point of diversion described in paragraph 3, above, into a pipeline that will carry water to Creede's hydropower generating facility that is planned to be located near the southern end of Creede. The water will be run through Creede's hydropower generating facility and returned to Willow Creek at the hydropower point of return at a point that is approximately 4,516 to 4,572 feet downstream of the point of diversion of the Creede Hydropower Diversion Structure with no change to the timing, quality or quantity of the creek flows. There are no water rights that divert from Willow Creek in the intervening reach between the Creede Hydropower Diversion Structure's point of diversion and the point where the diverted water will be returned to Willow Creek and there is no instream flow water right in the intervening reach between the Creede Hydropower Diversion Structure's point of diversion and the point where the diverted water will be returned to Willow Creek. You are notified that you have until the last day of December 2023, to file with the Water Clerk a verified statement of opposition setting forth facts as to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions or a protest to the requested correction. A copy of such a statement of opposition or protest must also be served upon the Applicant or the Applicant's attorney and an affidavit or certificate of such service must be filed with the Water Clerk. The filing fee for the Statement of Opposition is \$192.00. Forms may be obtained from the Water Clerk's Office or our website at www.courts.state.co.us. Jennifer Pacheco, Water Clerk, Water Division 3, 8955 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101 No. 3655.

Published in the Valley Courier on November 11, 2023.

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Job Qualifications:
Knowledge: Strong knowledge of cooking methods, kitchen equipment, and best practices.
Skills: Upscale food presentation, preparation of game and health-conscious fare
Ability: Teamwork-oriented, creative, strong attention to detail
Education: Professional culinary training is preferred
Experience: Minimum of three years' experience working in a similar setting. Prior guest ranch experience preferred
To apply for this position, please email your resume or work experience and salary requirements to Allison Reagan, Human Resources Manager at Allison.Reagan@TrincheraRanch.com. Please note "Sous Chef" in subject line of email.

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. (11/18/23)

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 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)

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 under Contact/Employment. Additional questions, contact Ted Andersen at teda@riograndehospital.net or call 719-657-2418. (11/15/23)

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

RONCO ROTISSERIE AND BBQ oven. \$50. 719-298-2355. (11/11/23)

SEWING MACHINE CABINET. \$25. 719-298-2355 (11/11/23)

FOR SALE: MATTRESS 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)

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

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. (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)

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

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

304 - LAWN & GARDEN

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

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.S. ANTONIOTO. The minimum acceptable bid is \$2,000/acre. Bids must be received by U.S. mail or hand delivered to the RGWCD's office at 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101. Detailed information regarding the tracts is available for review by appointment at the RGWCD office or by visiting the District's website at www.rgwd.org or 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@rgwd.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. (09/09/23)

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)

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

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

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

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

Accepting Applications for waiting list for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family units available
West View Villas
 510 Dunham Monte Vista, Colo
852-3949

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

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)

630 - ROOMS FOR RENT

ALAMOSA FURNISHED ROOM for Rent. Private bath, washer/dryer, shared kitchen/living room. \$700/month, all utilities included. Some storage available. Cat OK. Call/text 408-533-2701. 15 minutes from downtown Alamosa. (11/15/23)

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. 719-293-0806. (11/25/23-CR)

713 - PICKUP TRUCKS

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

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. (11/28/23)

FEEL LIKE A FISH OUT OF WATER?
 New in town!
 Get acquainted with and all it has to offer by ordering a subscription to the
Valley Courier
 719-589-2553
 Where To Shop!
 Where To Dine!
 Community Bulletin Board!
 Professional Services!
 ...And more!

WINTER WORK!

Full & Part-Time/Holiday Positions:
 Winter Seasonal: November - April

- Lift Department
- Ski School
- Food & Beverage * Baker
- Base Operations
- Snow Removal * Grooming
- Custodial Building Maintenance
- Rental
- Retail
- Ticket Office
- Ski Patrol
- Snow Reporting/ Guest Services

Applications at WolfCreekSki.com and employment

Send applications and resumes to:
 P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
WolfCreekSki@WolfCreekSki.com

ALL POSITIONS OFFER SKIING PRIVILEGES & STARTING WAGE OF \$18/HR
 Merit increases based on performance & experience



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

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. (12/15/23)

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. (11/29/23)

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

ALAMOSA SCHOOL DISTRICT is now accepting applications for the following position: **ORTEGA MIDDLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION 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. (11/18/23)

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. (11/29/23)

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

ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for a **GENERAL LABOR III** position in the Facilities Services Department. Starting salary for this position is \$3,484 per month. For application or more information, please see <https://www.adams.edu/hr/employment/> AA/EOE. (11/17/23)

DELOSS INDUSTRIES IN ALAMOSA 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. (1/13/23)

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)

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26ft 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)

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, 95 W. 1st Ave., Monte Vista, CO 81144. EOE/ADA. (11/11/23)

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. (11/18/23)

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 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)

ROBINS CONSTRUCTION IS 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. Foreman 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. (11/18/23)

BOOKKEEPER: 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, 719 589-5909, ext.238. www.lapuente.net. (11/17/23)

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. (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. (11/15/23)

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)

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)

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.

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.rgwd.org or subdistrict-no-1-bid. For more information, call the District office at (719) 589-6301 or by emailing taylor@rgwd.org. Bids must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on December 1st, 2023. Late bids will not be accepted. (12/1/2023)

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

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

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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bowl over
 - 4 True statement
 - 8 "You can say — again!"
 - 12 The "I"
 - 13 Woodwind instrument
 - 14 Patriot
 - 15 A piece —
 - 16 Actor —
 - 17 The Emerald Isle
 - 18 Storm
 - 20 Worn out
 - 21 Starship —
 - 22 Young fox
 - 23 Intone
 - 26 Fruity beverage
 - 30 Major airport
 - 31 Sunbather's goal
 - 32 Regretted
 - 33 Stew pot
 - 35 Sweep under the —
 - 36 Pester
 - 37 Promised
 - 39 "Sir" or "Madam"

- 41 Fodder for horses**
- 42 Distress call**
- 43 Range in South America**
- 46 Sleep**
- 50 Hatch**
- 51 Calendar abbr.**
- 52 "— on a Grecian Urn"**
- 53 Comedian —**
- 54 Command for a pooch**
- 55 United**
- 56 Molt**
- 57 Punta del —**
- 58 Unhinged**

- DOWN**
- 1 Showed sorrow
 - 2 Curved molding
 - 3 Apple invader
 - 4 Woodcutter's milieu
 - 5 Pit
 - 6 Paint layer
 - 7 Half a score

Answer to Previous Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | | | |
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| L | A | G | M | E | R | E | H | O | N | A |
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| F | A | I | T | H | T | O | P | M | O | S |
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- 8 Playhouse**
- 9 Difficult**
- 10 "I cannot tell —"**
- 11 Look after**
- 19 Play on words**
- 20 Actor —**
- 22 Chess piece**
- 23 Grilled item**
- 24 Dry outer covering**
- 25 Competent**
- 26 Speak well of**
- 27 Mom's sister**
- 28 "Let's Make a —"**
- 29 Brink**
- 31 Card with three pips**
- 34 Stuck**
- 38 Petrol**
- 39 Muss**
- 40 Cousin to an ology**
- 42 Icy rain**
- 43 Says further**
- 44 Ark builder**
- 45 Pigeon**
- 46 Takes legal action**
- 47 Thunderous sound**
- 48 Best or Ferber**
- 49 Tall grass**
- 51 Ivan —**
- Terrible**

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| 56 | | | | 57 | | | | 58 | | |

ALLEY OOP

SCIENTISTS AND PHILOSOPHERS HAVE TALKED ABOUT THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT FOR DECADES.

BUT I, USING MY SUPERIOR GENIUS, HAVE DISCOVERED THAT THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT IS PURE NONSENSE.

GO, DR. WONMUG! STICK IT TO THE MAN!

OF COURSE A BUTTERFLY COULDN'T AFFECT SUCH DRASTIC CHANGE ON A GLOBAL SCALE.

IT'S ACTUALLY A DRAGONFLY.

ARLO & JANIS

MY MOTHER SUBSCRIBED TO READER'S DIGEST WHEN I WAS A BOY. I LIKED THE FEATURE HUMOR IN UNIFORM, ANECDOTES FROM THE MANY VETERANS AT THAT TIME.

I REMEMBER THERE WAS THIS PRIVATE WHO RECEIVED A SALAMI FROM HOME. HE USED HIS BAYONET TO CUT SLICES FOR HIS BUDDIES IN THE BARRACKS, AND HE DIDN'T CLEAN IT AFTERWARD.

HE REMEMBERED THIS DURING THE NEXT INSPECTION, AND HE WAS REALLY SWEATING IT. WHEN THE SERGEANT GOT TO THE PRIVATE AND INSPECTED HIS GEAR, HE SAID, "AT LEAST ONE OF YOU KNUCKLEHEADS HAD SENSE ENOUGH TO OIL HIS BAYONET!"

MAYBE IT ISN'T A HILARIOUS STORY, BUT FOR SOME REASON I STILL REMEMBER IT!

BIG NATE

ARTUR, I'VE GOT BAD NEWS AND GOOD NEWS.

THE BAD NEWS IS, THEY JUST POSTED THE WINNER OF THE YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST, AND IT WASN'T ME.

THE GOOD NEWS IS, IT WASN'T YOU, EITHER.

HOKAY, BUT TO ME THAT DOES NOT SOUND LIKE GOOD NEWS.

YEAH, I GET THAT. BUT TRUST ME, IT'S FANTASTIC!

THE BORN LOSER

THANKS FOR TAKING ME TO THE PARADE, POP!

ALL THE VETERANS SEEMED SO HAPPY AND PROUD TO BE HONORED FOR THEIR SERVICE.

AND THAT MADE ME, TOO, ME FEEL HAPPY AND PROUD!

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

PUFF, PUFF, PUFF, PUFF... I DON'T WANT A PUPPY!

THEY CRU AT NIGHT AND MESS ON THE FLOOR. THEY CHEW THE FURNITURE AND STAIN THE RUGS.

THEY HAVE TO BE TRAINED AND VACCINATED—A PUPPY IS A LOT OF TIME AND EFFORT AND JUST PLAIN WORK!!

HI, MOM!—WHERE WERE YOU JOGGING MY MEMORY?

FRANK & ERNEST

SAM'S DINER

JUST GIVE ME WHATEVER HE'S HAVING.

I'LL HAVE THE SAME!

GARFIELD

LOSE INTEREST?

THE GRIZZWELLS

MAN, YOUR BURPS SMELL REALLY BAD

WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY...

GARBAGE IN, GARBAGE OUT

URP!

PEANUTS

WHO'S THAT MAN RAKING LEAVES?

THE ONE WHO WAVED AT ME? THAT'S MY DENTIST... HE LIVES THERE...

YES, I'M WEARING MY RETAINER!!!

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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Bachelorette party planning foreshadows expensive trip

DEAR ABBY: My best friend is getting married next year and is planning for her bachelorette party. Right now, they are looking at places that have a three- or four-night minimum and would cost each person more than \$500. (That's just to rent the place.) It wouldn't cover food, gifts, etc.

My friend isn't a fancy, extravagant person, so I was shocked by the length of time I'll need to take off from work and the amount of money I will have to spend. I worry if I try to (nicely) say something, it will come across as not caring about her, her wedding or doing this for her. It's not that I can't afford it, and I think I should have some time off available, but it's going to cost more than I'm comfortable with. Am I being unreasonable? I wouldn't want to not make her feel special. -- SOUR ON IT IN INDIANA

DEAR SOUR: You are not being unreasonable. You are practical, and your reasoning is sound. If your friend's bachelorette party will be more of a financial stretch than you can COMFORTABLY afford, you need to level with her, because the wedding will cost you even more. What isn't reasonable is for her to expect everyone to drop

everything and blow their budgets in order for her to "feel special."

DEAR ABBY: I had a best friend I got together with weekly. She decided she needed to move away to a quieter place. Of course, I was disappointed, but I supported her decision because it was right for her. She promised me nothing would change, but we lived too far apart for our weekly visits to continue, so I hoped we would talk weekly by phone.

She canceled our last get-together, saying she was stressed and busy preparing for the move. I told her I understood, and I'd give her space and time to settle in and would wait for her call when she was ready. The call never came.

We have seen each other a few times in the years since she moved, always at her suggestion. I gently reminded her of the phone calls we used to make and mentioned getting together a few times, but I received no response. Must I just let her go? I want to tell her how much I miss her friendship, but I'm afraid it will make her feel guilty or obligated. -- GRIEVING IN CANADA

DEAR GRIEVING: Yes, you should let her go. Your friend no longer



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

feels the tie to you that she did when the two of you lived close by. If you want to tell her how much you miss her friendship, you are entitled to do that. But please recognize that not all friendships last forever; some have an expiration date, and the one you had with her appears to be one of them.

DEAR VETERANS: For your service to our nation, I salute you. My thanks to each of you on this Veterans Day. You are the personification of patriotism, self-sacrifice and dedication to our country. I would also like to recognize your families for the sacrifices they, too, have made while you were serving your country. -- LOVE, ABBY

HERMAN

USED CARS

\$3200

"Where else will you get an eight-seater for that price?"

Lifestyle



Creede sets dates for a Holiday in Creede

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

CREEDE — The picturesque small mountain town of Creede is gearing up for the coming holiday season and has set some dates for the annual Chocolate Festival and the second annual Holiday in Creede. Creede is preparing to pull out all the stops and plans to transform into a winter wonderland for the holidays.

Thanks to the efforts of several local businesses and organizations the Holiday in Creede was a huge success last year. The market features local vendors, artists, local businesses, local food, and entertainment, including holiday productions by Creede Repertory Theatre. This combined with the atmosphere of the small mountain town creates the perfect holiday setting with old holiday market flair.

Beginning with the annual Creede Chocolate Festival on Nov. 24 and 25, the town will be kicking off a month of holiday festivities in December. The festival goes from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. each day and the annual Parade of Lights will be on Friday night, Nov. 24, at 5 p.m. and run-down Main Street.

The annual event brings the best of Creede to the forefront, challenging participants to make a unique chocolate treat to share with ticket holders for two days. Rules for the event are simple, the treat must contain chocolate, carob, white chocolate, or cocoa and must



File photos

The annual Creede Chocolate Festival and Second Annual Holiday in Creede markets will kick off at the end of November and run through the holidays at the end of December.

be homemade.

Visitors must purchase tickets at the Creede and Mineral County Chamber of Commerce for the event and are asked to vote for their favorites by the end of each day. During the two-day period, guests can wander through downtown Creede's many shops and vendors that will be open and ready for holiday shoppers.

After the Chocolate Festival, there are still several opportunities to enjoy the charming downtown holiday decorations and take part in the Holiday in Creede markets that will be held on Dec. 9 and Dec. 16 from 11 a.m. un-

til 3 p.m. Each market will feature children's activities, vendors for holiday shopping, adult beverages allowed within the boundaries of the market near Basham Park, and entertainment from Eliana Joy Jay Trio thanks to the Creede Musical Arts Collective.

The Creede Repertory Theatre will also be hosting a production of "Jacob Marley's A Christmas Carol" throughout December.

To sign up as a vendor, email creedefarmersmarket@gmail.com or to volunteer to help set up decorations, follow Creede Holiday Festivities on Facebook for dates and locations.

New book to hit Adventure Walk in Del Norte Town Park

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

DEL NORTE — The Del Norte Public Library is ready to set the stage for the coming holiday season and in partnership with the Rio Grande County Museum, has planned some family fun for the Adventure Walk this winter in the Del Norte Town Park.

Thanks to the help of Kathryn Trujillo through the Early Childhood Council of the San Luis valley, the Rio Grande County Museum and Del Norte Public Library will be sponsoring the book "Snowday," a fun and interactive book for all ages. The book is the perfect fit for a snowy walk through the park

with family for the holidays and comes with a wide variety of activities parents can do with children either at home or in the library.

The Adventure Walk was installed by the Del Norte Public Library in partnership with the Upper Rio Grande School District, Early Childhood Council of the San Luis Valley and other generous organizations and donors in 2022. Every few weeks, a new book is placed along the kiosks in the park that tell a story as families enjoy the river walk and feature different activities associated with the book.

In addition to the book along the Adventure Walk, families can also go to the library and

check the book out to enjoy it more from home along with some activities. "It is a really great way to get outside, enjoy reading and activities while being with family and friends. It is a wonderful addition to the Del Norte community and has been very successful," said Del Norte Public Library Director Susan Williams.

The museum and the library will also be partnering with High Valley Community Center on Dec. 1 to bring participating students to the museum for an afternoon of holiday fun. Students will come to the museum to hear a holiday tale read to them by Williams and then enjoy cookie decorating with museum staff.

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