



Annual Headwaters Hoedown is today at Gilmore Ranch

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Mean Moose pick up first win of year by crushing Lamar

— Page 6



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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

October 7, 2023

\$1

SLV Today

Alamosa Clerk and Recorder's Office election hours

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa County Clerk and Recorder's Office will be closed for regular business on Tuesday, Nov. 7, for the Coordinated Mail Ballot Election. The office will be open for election purposes only and will reopen on Wednesday, Nov. 8, for regular business.

All registered electors are encouraged to vote their Ballots they receive in the mail. The ballots may be mailed to the County Clerk's Office or hand delivered to the drop box at 8999 Independence Way by 7 p.m. on Nov. 7. Ballots received after that time will not be counted.

For more information, call the Alamosa County Clerk and Recorder's Office at 719-589-6681.

La oficina del Secretario del Condado estara cerrada el dia Martes 7 de Noviembre 2023 por la eleccion coordinada. La oficina estara abierta para la eleccion exclusivamente y habra el Miercoles 8 de Noviembre 2023 para los negocios regulares.

A todos los votantes registrados los estamos alentado que llenen sus boleta que reciban por correo. Las boletas pueden ser enviadas o llevadas a la caja de boletas a la direccion 8999 Independence way tienen hasta las 7 PM el 7 de Noviembre 2023. Boletas recibidas despues del horario no serán contadas.

Si tienen preguntas pueden llamar al numero 719-589-6681.

New property website through assessor's office

ALAMOSA COUNTY — A new website for property records, in coordination with qPublic.net is now available through the Alamosa County Assessor's Office. The site can be accessed from Alamosa County's homepage, <https://alamosacounty.colorado.gov/>. Then navigate to Departments>Assessor, and click on either Online Property Map or Online Property Search. Please update any bookmarks you may have. Feel free to contact the assessor's office in person, by e-mail, or by phone 719-589-6365.

Sangre de Cristo School selling past yearbooks

MOSCA — The Sangre de Cristo School is cleaning out extra copies of past yearbooks. However, before they do, they would like to make these copies available to the public. There are copies for most years dating back to 1988. The price is \$10 per copy. Anyone interested should contact the yearbook staff via email at yearbook@sangreschools.com.

SLV WEATHER

Sunny 69/32

Sun: Sunny 70/30

Mon: Sunny 69/30

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Adams State president updates community of the State of the University

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALAMOSA — Adams State University President David A. Tandberg was cautiously optimistic regarding the university's future during his State of the University address.

Tandberg presented to the campus in September, and to the community on Oct. 4, the most recent stats on the current condition of Adams State and its future, including foreseeable challenges.

Good news includes an increase in undergraduate and graduate enrollment; five nationally ranked graduate programs; the 100 percent pass rate on the NCLEX licensing exam by the 2023 nursing class; grant awards for the agribusiness, teacher education, and engineering programs; and the national championships in athletics.

Adams State has the largest share of students

from the lowest income quintile; the smallest share of students from the top income quintile; the lowest median parent income; and the highest overall mobility index compared to other four-year, liberal arts institutions in the state of Colorado.

"We are an engine of opportunity," Tandberg said. "We accept all students based not on their past but what we see as their future."

Compared to Colorado and the U.S., the San Luis Valley median household income has a higher percentage of poverty; and a lower percentage of residents with a bachelor's degree or higher. "We are the San Luis Valley," Tandberg said. "As an open-enrollment university, we are the heart in the fight for equity and opportunity."

The future of high school graduates is projected to

■ See ASU page 3



David A. Tandberg, Adams State University President

Now is the time for San Luis Valley fall color drives and hikes

By LYNSIE FERRELL

SAN LUIS VALLEY — The fall colors high up along the San Juan Mountains are almost at peak for the 2023 season, making this the perfect time to get out and enjoy the changing of the seasons.

Snow recently fell along the higher elevations. Now, travelers can see the beautiful Aspen trees changing and can experience the first coating of snow in the mountains.

As always while venturing out into the Colorado back country it is always best to be prepared. Pack and dress for inclement weather and unpredictable situations. The following suggested drives and hikes are easy and along maintained road systems throughout the western end of the San Luis Valley.

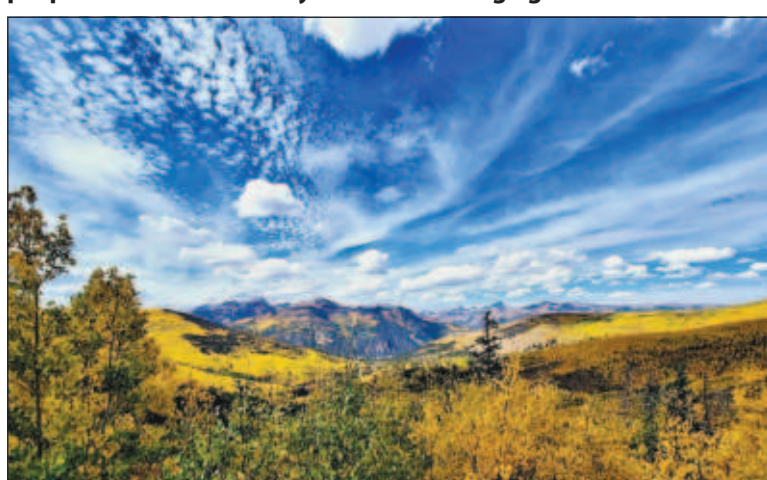
People seeking a drive through beautiful and breathtaking fall foliage while taking a trip back in time can visit the Summitville Mining District located south of South Fork. Travelers can take Highway 160 west out of South Fork along the begin-

■ See COLORS page 3



Photos by Lyndsie Ferrell

Now is the time to go outside and enjoy the fall colors in the San Luis Valley. There are many places to see the fall foliage as it peaks this weekend — Oct. 7-8. Big Meadows Reservoir is just one of the many places where people can visit in the Valley to view the changing seasons.



The Silver Thread Scenic Byway includes bursts of fall colors for people to see at Slumgullion Pass.

Howlin' Dog Music Group: saving music and the people who make it

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — Somewhere, there is a talented, passionate but struggling artist faced with a soul-crushing decision. Continue to pursue their dream of a career in music even though, in the industry today, "more month than money" is likely to be a permanent condition? Or give it up, get a job and turn their dream into a weekend pastime?

It's a brutal choice and one that's impacting more and more artists and those people who love their music.

Music has been a historical harbinger for social change. It's therefore fitting that a diverse group of professionals — singers, songwriters, producers, engineers, and others — have formed a non-profit to give those gifted musicians and their fans a third path to follow.

Howlin' Dog Music Group (HDMG) was created to, in their words, "invest in the music we love, and the livelihood of the

■ See MUSIC page 3



Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Howlin' Dog Music Group (left to right) board members songwriter Susan Gibson and music producer Jana Pochop with HDMG founders Teri McCartney and Don Richmond in the studio at Howlin' Dog Records.



4.31% APY*
Certificate of Deposit- 11 Month

Minimum balance to open this CD Special is \$10,000.

*Also available for an Individual Retirement Account (IRA). APY stands for Annual Percentage Yield. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. This 11-month CD or IRA special will automatically renew at the end of the term for 6 months. Fees incurred on the account may reduce earnings. Minimum balance to earn APY on a CD or IRA is \$1,000. Effective August 29, 2023. This CD Special is available for a limited time and will end without notice. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.



Record



Photo by Amy Kucera

The Adams State University Career and Internship Fair is Oct. 18 in Nielsen Library.

Adams State Career and Internship Fair is Oct. 18

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY
ALAMOSA — The Adams State University Office of Career Services and Civic Engagement has scheduled a free Career and Internship Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 18, on the Nielsen

Library second floor. The fair is free and open to all students, alumni and community members. Local and regional employers will have information available for job seekers to explore careers in their major or field of interest. It is also an op-

portunity to learn about internships with established organizations.

For more information contact Janene Mondragon, assistant director of Career Services and Civic Engagement, at 719-587-8300 or jmedinamondragon@adams.edu.

OBITUARIES

E. Jacqueline 'Jacquie' French

Longtime Monte Vista resident E. Jacqueline "Jacquie" French, 91, died on her husband's birthday, Oct. 4, 2023, at the River Valley Inn Rehabilitation and Nursing Home in Del Norte.

Jacquie was born in Del Norte, Colo., on Jan. 13, 1932, the daughter to John "Jack" Edward Ryan and Evelyn M. Shaw. She married the love of her life, Carl R. French on Jan. 14, 1951, the day after she turned 19, at the Methodist Church in Del Norte.

Jacquie moved to the San Luis Valley in 1967 with her husband Carl. Carl worked under Charlie Pollard in his plumbing business to obtain his journeyman, and later she and Carl purchased the business and changed the name to French Plumbing.

She was an active member of the Methodist Church in Monte Vista and volunteered for many services and activities through the church. She

also volunteered every Thursday doing hair for the people at the Colorado State Veterans Center. In her spare time, she enjoyed playing card games with her friends, especially Pinochle, embroidery and knitting. In her younger years, she also liked to bowl and play golf. Jacquie was a member of The Book Club and read many books.

Jacquie is survived by her daughter Carla (Robin) Clutter of Monte Vista, Colo.; her grandchildren Wayne (Robin) Clutter of Monte Vista, and Yvette (Dan) Wrona of Parker, Colo.; great-grandchildren Emily, Elizabeth, and Sophie Clutter, and Cole and Mason Wrona; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Carl, her infant children John M. French, and Patricia Evelyn French, and numerous extended family members.



Cremation was chosen and a Memorial Service will be held 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2023, at the Monte Vista Community Methodist Church. Contributions are suggested to the Monte Vista Community Methodist Church or the Beaver Creek Youth Camp and may be made through the funeral home office.

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

Gary W. Hostetter

La Jara resident Gary W. Hostetter, 69, passed away Oct. 5, 2023, at home in La Jara.

Gary was born in Alamosa, Colo., on Oct. 24, 1953, the eldest son of Warren Glen Hostetter and Edith Christine Renner Hostetter. He grew up and spent most of his life in La Jara; the Valley was always his home. He graduated from Centauri High School in 1971 where he excelled in football, being all-conference on both offense and defense. Gary served a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Northern California Mission. He married the love of his life, Elise Petersen, for time and eternity, in the Mesa Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Mesa, Ariz., on June 20, 1975.

Gary was a country boy through and through. He grew up hunting, fishing, and trekking the mountainside with his brothers and father. Working on the family sawmill from a young age, Gary developed a staggering work ethic matched only by that of his father — his life-long hero. The mountains and hills surrounding the La Jara Reservoir became his second home.

Gary's work ethic extended into his career where he started several successful businesses.



Ever the entrepreneur, he was always in search of ways to improve efficiency and quality. His long-lasting business impact on the San Luis Valley will be Alpine Title Inc.

Most of all Gary was a man of God, Family, and Country. A true patriot, he would have given his life for his country if called upon. Instead, he gave his life in service to his family — working till his dying day to provide for and protect them. His life's mission was to see his family securely into God's fold. Gary will be remembered as a man whose heart was as big as his hands were strong. He loved deeply and lived passionately.

Gary is survived by his wife Elise Hostetter of La Jara, Colo.; his children Tomena (Marlin) Reed of Sanford, Graham (Sandee) Hostetter of La Jara, Lance (Kayla) Hostetter

of La Jara, Annie (Jed) Bradley of Pocatello, Idaho, Laurie (Brandon) Zaffini of Beaver Falls, Pa., Lani (Dan) Baker of Temple, Texas, Garrett (Kaleigh) Hostetter of Orem, Utah, and Emma Hostetter of Salt Lake City, Utah; 37 grandchildren, one great-grandchild; his siblings Barbara (Richard) Openshaw of Lehi, Utah, Evelyn (Victor) Petersen of Gilbert, Ariz., Harman (Dianne) Hostetter of La Jara, and John (Chris) Hostetter of Grand Junction, Colo.; as well as sisters-in-law, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents Warren and Edith, his brother Dan Hostetter, and his grandchildren Sam Carbutt and Robinson Reed.

Visitations for Gary will be held Sunday, Oct. 8, 2023, from 4-6 p.m., and Monday, Oct. 9, 2023, from 8:45-9:45 a.m., followed by a funeral service Monday at 10 a.m., all at the La Jara Ward Building of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Interment will follow at the Sanford Cemetery.

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

Colorado Parks and Wildlife secures source population of gray wolves

Clears way to meet reintroduction deadline of Dec. 31

By COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

DENVER — In a one-year agreement announced Friday, Oct. 6, between Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon will be a source for up to 10 wolves for the Colorado gray wolf reintroduction effort. These wolves will be captured and translocated between December 2023 and March 2024.

The CPW Commission approved the final Colorado Wolf Restoration and Management Plan in May, clearing the way for CPW biologists to introduce gray wolves in the Western Slope area and meet the voter-approved deadline of reintroduction by Dec. 31, 2023.

"In 2020, Colorado voted to reintroduce wolves to our great state by the end of 2023. Colorado Parks and Wildlife and our administration have worked tirelessly to safely reintroduce wolves consistent with that voter-mandated deadline. To that end we have met with many stakeholders, held public meetings, and collected feedback from more than

3,400 Coloradans. The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission voted unanimously in support of the wolf reintroduction plan. We are deeply grateful for Oregon's partnership in this endeavor, and we are now one step closer to fulfilling the will of the voters in time," said Colorado Governor Jared Polis.

"We are grateful to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for working with our agency on this critical next step in reintroducing gray wolves in the state," said CPW Director Jeff Davis. "This agreement will help ensure Colorado Parks and Wildlife can meet its statutory mandate to begin releasing wolves in Colorado by Dec. 31, 2023."

"Oregon has a long history of helping other states meet their conservation goals by providing animals for translocation efforts. Some of our wildlife populations were also restored thanks to other states doing the same for us, including Rocky Mountain elk, bighorn sheep and Rocky Mountain goat," said Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Director Curt Melcher. "The wolves will come from northeast Oregon, where wolves are most abundant in the state and where removal of 10 wolves will not impact any conservation goals."

CPW will begin capture operations this December, with ODFW providing some assistance by shar-

ing wolf location information and best practices for wolf capture. CPW will be responsible for all costs associated with capture and transport of wolves.

- CPW staff will work with contracted helicopter crews and spotter planes to capture wolves

- Wolves will be tested and treated for disease at the source sites

- Collars will be placed on wolves and physical measurements will be done in the field in Oregon

- Wolves will be crated in sturdy aluminum crates and transported to Colorado either by truck or airplane

- Animals with major injuries — things like having several broken canines, missing eyes, fractured or missing limbs, mange or lice infection — will not be chosen for reintroduction. CPW will make efforts to transplant wolves that have not been involved in repeated depredations.

"The wolves will be released at select sites in Colorado as soon as possible once they arrive in the state to minimize stress on the animals," said CPW Wolf Conservation Program Manager Eric Odell. "CPW will aim to capture and reintroduce an equal number of males and females. We anticipate that the majority of animals will be in the 1- to 5-year-old range, which is the age that animals would typically disperse from the pack they were born in."

National PA Week is celebrated at SLV Health

By SAN LUIS VALLEY HEALTH

ALAMOSA — "I started my first career in healthcare as a registered Medical Technologist. After 12 years, it became obvious to me that what gave me the greatest joy and satisfaction in my work was the direct interactions with patients. Leaving the laboratory and pursuing a career as a certified Physician Assistant seemed like the best and fastest way to get closer to patients and their families. It certainly was the best choice for my family," said Ed Kulp, PA-C, Primary Care, Stuart Ave Clinic, SLV Health.

PAs provide Primary Care as well as specialty care in Orthopedics, Oncology, Cardiology, General Surgery, Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine, and Occupational Medicine at SLVH. Over the last five decades, PAs have enjoyed practicing with steadily increasing amounts of autonomy in their day-to-day work. PAs perform examinations, order and interpret diagnostic tests, diagnose and treat a wide range of illnesses across the entire age span, write prescriptions, perform procedures, and assist in surgery.

PAs help fill a need in rural healthcare delivery, where it is often difficult to retain a doctor. Physician assistants are cost-effective, especially in underserved areas. Physician assistants work in collaboration with licensed medical doctors. SB 23-083 became law in Colorado on Aug. 7. This law does not change the scope of practice for PAs in Colorado. Senate Bill 23-083 required the Colorado Medical Board to make changes to Rule 400 of the Medical Prac-



Courtesy photo

Tylen Pavlovsky, PA-C, assesses a high school student-athlete as part of San Luis Valley Health's annual physical checks they provide for the community.

tice Act, which allows PAs to practice without a "supervising physician." Instead, PAs enter a "collaborative" relationship with MD and DO physicians that allows for more flexibility creating greater access to medical care in Colorado.

At SLV Health, seven PAs serve patients in the Emergency Department and are contracted with Innova Emergency Medical Associates. They are Paul Amriott, Andrea Cherne, William Welker, Lisa Conner, Heather Damon, Matt Wark, and Jessica Anaya.

There are currently eight PAs in SLVH's Primary and Specialty clinics, and during Physician Assistant Week, their work, education and training, and healthcare delivery to our community is celebrated. Ed Kulp, Cathy McCurdy, Laticia Hollingsworth,

Mark Rice, Brian Jackson, Amy Blakeslee, Bailey Buhr, and Tylen Pavlovsky deliver exceptional care to patients in the San Luis Valley.

School Menu

Monday

October 9, 2023

BREAKFAST

Pop Tarts
Fruit & Milk

ELEMENTARY

Sweet & Sour Chicken
Egg Roll/Stir Fry Veggies
Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sweet & Sour Chicken
Egg Roll/Stir Fry Veggies
Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

HIGH SCHOOL

Sweet & Sour Chicken
Egg Roll/Stir Fry Veggies
Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

Breakfast & Lunch Free for all students

Alamosa School District

To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

Valley News

Hoedown today

ALAMOSA — The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust will be holding its annual Headwaters Hoedown at the Gilmore Ranch on October 7th from 2-5:30. The Family friendly event will include Live Music from Waverly Road, a Cornhole tournament,

the finale of our virtual auction, local food trucks and fun games for the kids.

Tickets are available at the door for \$25.00, food will be available for purchase from SLV Foods and Gosar Sausage. There will not be any alcohol available

for purchase or serving.

Directions: From Alamosa, take Hwy 160 west for 5 miles then turn North on County Rd 105 S. Drive 1.5 miles to the end of the dirt road and you will be at the Gilmore Ranch. See you there!



Courier photo by John Waters

The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust will have its annual Headwaters Hoedown today on the Gilmore Ranch. In this photo, the Rio Grande flows near Alamosa.



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Summitville offers travelers breath-taking views of the fall foliage.

Colors

Continued from Page 1
ning of Wolf Creek Pass for seven miles before making a left-hand turn onto Park Creek Road 330.

The road heading to Summitville is a maintained dirt road that is easily accessible by most vehicles. There are some steep inclines and caution is urged as logging and mining trucks can be met along the drive. Forests of pine and Aspen trees line the road with several areas to pull off and take photos. At the top of Summitville and the site of the old mining district, there are restrooms, interpretive locations and signs, and old mining buildings nestled against autumn backgrounds that can make for the perfect fall day to enjoy with the family.

For people wanting to

stay on a more-traveled path, the Silver Thread Scenic Byway can be the way to go. This amazing road leads travelers through some of Colorado's oldest mining districts, including Creede, Slumgullion Pass, and Lake City. Travelers will need to turn right onto Highway 149 out of South Fork and follow the highway through each township. The road is well marked and has several opportunities to pull off and take in the scenery.

Once again traveling up Wolf Creek Pass outside of South Fork, adventurers looking to explore or perhaps wet their fishing line while out for a day of fall colors, can head to Big Meadows Reservoir. Travelers will go 12 miles up Highway 160 and turn right onto Forest Service Road 410. This short drive can bring some of the best results as those headed to the

area will follow along a creek to the reservoir and then hike along the many marked trails along the lake shores to view fall foliage.

After leaving Big Meadows, people still seeking fall colors can continue on Highway 160 heading west up Wolf Creek Pass. This drive will bring adventurers to several places where they can pull off safely and enjoy some high-country scenery. At the bottom of the pass on the west side, travelers are urged to stop at Treasure Falls which offers a short, intermediate hike up the base of the waterfall and to a beautiful place to take fall photos.

No matter where travelers head out this weekend, the fall colors will be in full swing and will offer plenty of opportunities to see the foliage. For more information or a list of suggested fall drives, visit www.southfork.org.

Poetry

Continued from Page 1

Oct. 12, with a reading at the Crestone Charter School at 6 p.m. Local poets will open the event, followed by Saguache County students, some of whom will be receiving awards for their submissions to a student contest sponsored every year by the festival committee. The Thursday evening reading will conclude with a lively appearance by Adrian Molina, an exciting poet and performer from Denver.

Beginners and seasoned poets can choose from a wide range of workshops offered from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Friday and Saturday at the Colorado College Baca campus in Crestone. Those wanting to share their work informally can join a poetry circle on the campus each day from 12 to 1:30 p.m.

Open mics will be held where poets can perform their work with a musical backup. Seth and the Word Mechanics, coming to us from the stage of the Mercury Café in Denver, will provide poets with that opportunity at T-Road Brewery from 8 to 10 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13. Black Market Translation, a band that frequents the Front Range poetry community, invites poets to join them on Saturday night, from 8 to 10 p.m., at the auditorium on the Colorado College Baca campus.

Early evening readings, offered on Friday and Saturday from 6-7:30 p.m., will feature poets from various watersheds around our region.

For more schedule details including these evening readings and other popular events like the closing poetry circle on Sunday led by Art Goodtimes, go to poemfest.com.

com. Poets from all over the southwest are coming to Crestone for the 6th annual Crestone Poetry Festival. Readings, workshops, performances, and open mic opportunities are scheduled throughout the weekend. More information is available at www.poemfest.com.

Music

Continued from Page 1
people who create it."

In starting a non-profit that makes a career in music more viable, HDMG founders Don Richmond and Teri McCartney know they're on a journey into uncharted territory, doing something that has never been done. They also know that, if music as they know it is going to survive, it's a journey that must be made.

How did we get here? The world of music changed in ways no one could have predicted in 2006, when two guys from Sweden decided to fight the online piracy of music by forming a digital streaming platform.

It soon became apparent that allowing access to a staggering amount of music for the monthly price of a Starbucks was an idea whose time had come. By 2018, when the company went public on the New York Stock Exchange, the U.S. Securities and Stock Exchange reported the small Swedish start-up company was worth \$23 billion.

The name of that company is Spotify, and, in 2023, they tout 551 million monthly active users, including 331 million who have access to 100 million

songs for free. While it's a great deal for listeners, the artists whose music makes Spotify so successful only receive \$.003 each time one of their songs is played.

"It's this dichotomy," Richmond says. "My music can be in front of the whole world but there's no way that I can make anything that even resembles a living."

Spotify also boasts 11 million artists on its platform, but of those 11 million, only 165,000 — less than 2% — have 10,000 monthly listeners.

"Even with putting a lot of money into it and pushing a lot of promotion, it's almost impossible for a new regional artist or a regional artist with a collection of CDs to stand out as one in 11 million," Richmond says. "People are kind of siloed and that's just the way it is."

Streaming platforms like Spotify and others have also rendered CDs almost useless, ending for many musicians the revenue stream they relied on in the past to support themselves and their families.

"Nobody buys CDs anymore," McCartney says. "It's hard to even find CD players. And why buy CDs when the music is available for free?"

It's a perfect storm of

frustration, but, luckily, the story doesn't end there.

Light on the horizon
At its core, HDMG is built upon the idea of a collaboration among people who are committed to being "a transformative force for positive change." That change starts where the music always starts, with the artists themselves.

Making a good, professional recording is out of reach for many artists. It's just too expensive and, with the difficulty of selling physical media (CDs or vinyl, for example), the investment doesn't pay off. Knowing that's the reality, HDMG will directly invest in selected artists' projects, including access to high quality recording and production of their music.

Although having a high-quality recording may not directly pay off in sales, it does help create a following, which pushes "live" performances, which, in turn, creates another revenue stream.

Knowing these things and being a successful artist also involves learning from those who have known success. Learning "the business" is another of HDMG's areas of focus.

The decades of music that the artists who founded the non-profit have created is a legacy

all its own, but their vision goes beyond now and themselves. A third goal of the non-profit is to collect and create a digitized archive of regional music — professional and otherwise — that preserves the extraordinary richness that has come out of this part of the country.

It's about the audience
More than any other art form, the relationship between artist and audience is at the heart of things. Gilkyson, Hearne, Richmond and truly countless others have all said that it's the audience that makes the music come alive. Keeping the music alive is now about the audience, too.

The non-profit plans to apply for grants to support them in making their vision a reality, but in going the distance and making it sustainable, the journey is reliant upon those who love the music that they hear financially supporting its continued creation.

"Will there be troubadours in the future if it gets too impossible to do," Richmond asks. "We want to make it less impossible."

"That's what Howlin' Dog Music Group is all about," McCartney says.

For more information, go to www.howlindogmusicgroup.org.

ASU

Continued from Page 1

peak in 2026 and then level out. That prediction along with continued declines in state funding means Adams State needs to implement plans and programs to keep tuition affordable and attract and retain students.

"We need to aggressively pursue new student recruitment strategies," Tandberg added.

To that end, Adams State contracted with an external entity to rethink the approach to financial aid; continues working directly with SLV school districts; established partnerships

with other public Colorado colleges and universities; launched new academic and athletic programs; renewed focus on the health, wellness, and safety on campus; has become more engaged in Denver for state advocacy; and is building local, regional, state, and national partnerships in addressing capital infrastructure needs.

"Currently, the State of the University is looking positive," Tandberg said. "But now is not the time to relax, now is the time to move forward with purpose and with attainable goals, to enrich the lives of all current and future students, alumni, and our beloved community."

www.adams.edu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

SUNDAY • 8	MONDAY • 9	TUESDAY • 10	WEDNESDAY • 11	THURSDAY • 12	FRIDAY • 13	SATURDAY • 14
W Soccer vs Black Hills State University (S.D.) 1 p.m. Soccer Field Play: <i>Tiny Beautiful Things</i> Directed by Jenna Neilsen 2 p.m. Theatre Building Xperimental Stage 719-587-8499 adams.edu/theatre	Indigenous People's Day: Fry Bread Fundraiser 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. Student Union Building Solarium www.adams.edu	Research Symposium: STEM Student Presentations Porter Hall Atrium 12 p.m. Free Glenn Miller Orchestra: 6 p.m. Richardson Hall Auditorium Donor Recognition Dinner	Lunchtime Talk in STEM: Student Presentations Porter Hall 130 12 p.m. Free Hispanic Heritage Month: <i>LatinX Trivia</i> 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. McDaniel Hall 101 Zacheis Planetarium Free Movies: 5:30 p.m. <i>Natural Selection and Stars of the Pharaohs</i>	Fall Recess - No Classes M Soccer vs Colorado State University Pueblo 3 p.m. Soccer Field Zacheis Planetarium Free Movies: 5:30 p.m. <i>To Space and Back</i> and <i>Life: A Cosmic Story</i>	Fall Recess - No Classes Swimming vs Texas Permian Basin Plachy Hall Pool Through November 2 Cloyde Snook Gallery: <i>Forever a photographic exhibition</i> Paul Rider Hatfield Gallery: <i>Wildness and Imagination</i> Mary Wilhelm Gallery Hours: 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday	Football vs Chadron State College 1 p.m. Rex Stadium

Opinion

Adventures in Fall Foliage

The forecast was favorable, predicting a sunny fall day as is typical of the high mountain valleys this time of year. It started out cold but with each mile we drove, it seemed to get warmer. We made the familiar left turn onto County Road 14 and started the gradual climb toward the beckoning San Juan Mountains. A few miles, up the familiar brown sign announced our turn onto Forest Road 333. I reached down to engage the four-wheel drive on the truck because I have heard the reputation of this road before. There was no hurry and if there was it wouldn't have mattered. The road just does not allow a fast drive. No matter. Nothing we wanted to do would change in the next couple of hours.

Creeping up the road, we first experienced the openness of what I call the "PJ," meaning the area of forest that is dominated by pinyon and juniper trees. Open parks and well-established timber "stringers" characterize the PJ in this area, making it prime habitat for elk and deer. I suspected that this area is well-used by those animals during the winter months. We pushed through a small section of private land, respectfully staying on the road and closing each gate behind us. The rough road encouraged me to pay attention, but all I really wanted to do was look around. I love exploring places I've never been, and I often declare it unfair that I have to concentrate on driving, so I don't hit a tree or bash into an unsuspecting rock. Regardless, we crept up the road because I knew there were sights to see.

I got through "the narrows" without incident but couldn't imagine meeting another vehicle or two in that area. The landscape opened up and provided several tantalizing opportunities to set out on foot to gain higher ground and ever better views. But we remained in the truck, skirting the edge of the forest and forcing resting cows to evacuate their comfy rock and dirt roadbeds, and eventually reached the end of the road at the edge of a massive aspen glade.

We quickly added another layer of clothing to combat the cool breeze, grabbed the backpack and water and headed out up the open hillside, purposely avoiding the Schrader trail. We just wanted to wander. The aspens were early in their fall color splendor but still wonderful to admire from within the stand as well as on the ridge to the west. We looped back toward the truck as I crashed noisily through the aspens; the irony of me silently hoping to see elk was amusing. I didn't see elk and we stopped to snap a couple of photos just before loading back up. It was a short hike, but nonetheless fulfilling. Just being in the fall colors in the middle of nowhere serves as a reset to my soul. I often will just drive up to a favorite location and sit in the truck listening to the leaves rustling in the breeze.

There are many forest roads that do not require four-wheel drive where you can enjoy miles of leaf peeping bliss. Most will offer some opportunities for a short hike that doesn't have to be difficult at all. I like to wander, leaving trails as often as I can. But I encourage you to only do that if you are fully aware of your surroundings and have a plan in case you turn up somewhere you weren't expecting.

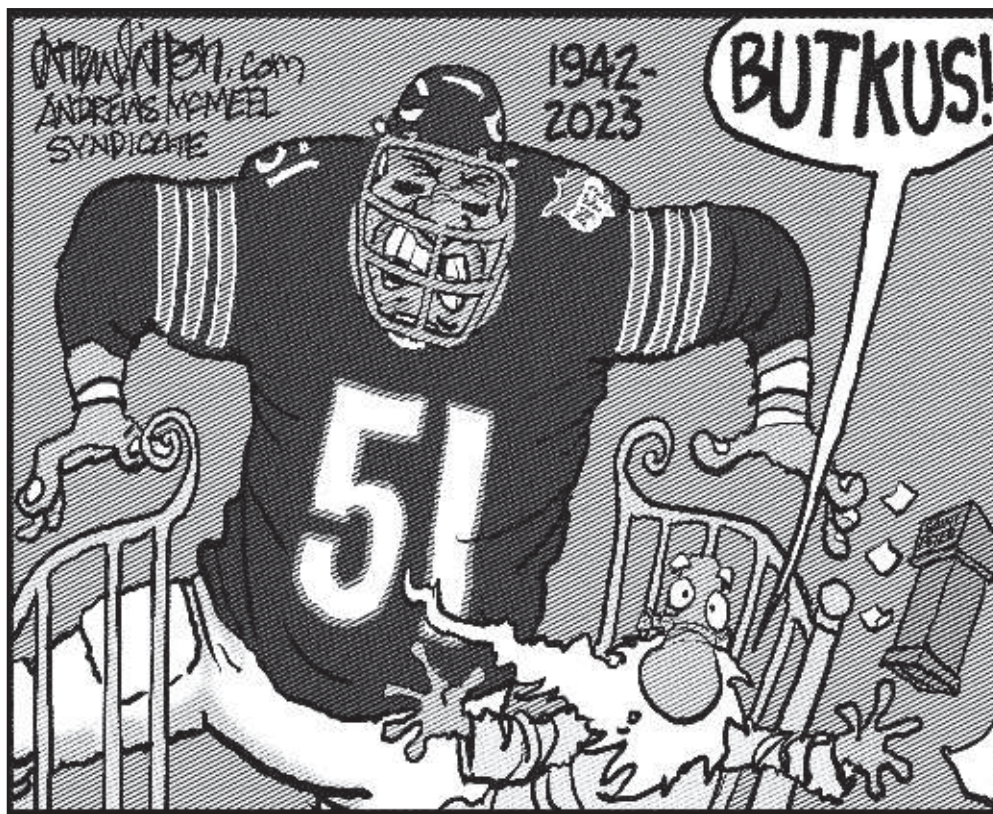
We bounced back down the rough, rocky road and made it home with a quiet contentedness about us that day. That's what I always get when I spend time in the woods, especially without a specific purpose. If you haven't done that, I encourage you to try it. I posted a couple of the photos my wife took of the aspens in Schrader Creek that day on the Rio Grande National Forest's Facebook page.

Gregg Goodland is the Public Affairs Officer for the Rio Grande National Forest. An avid outdoor enthusiast, he promotes the responsible and safe use of our public lands.

Land, Water and People



Gregg Goodland



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."

Dark yarns for Halloween viewing

I've been watching some scary movies lately. I don't really like the ones of recent decades like the remake of "The Exorcist," or "Friday-the-Thirteenth," or "Chucky."

I think that the dislike came when I rescued a dark-colored cabbage-patch doll with a pull string for voice messages. It looked cozy up on an old wooden Pepsi crate repurposed into a shelf. One night, I woke to the eerie child-like voice, "I want to be friends!" coming from near the ceiling where the doll sat. I shined a flashlight on it, and Yikes, it silently smiled at me.

I looked around the room; I listened for moving creatures in the walls; and I noticed there was no other action character around. At that time some 20 years ago now, Flash, the cat (borrowed from my cousin to catch the mice roaming in from the banks of the Rio Grande) sat curled and unfettered by the mid-night run of voices.

"I must have imagined or dreamed that I heard it talk on its own." "Hmm," I thought, then shut the lights out and called my dogs Tiffany and Aloha back to bed.

Again, I woke before five a.m. to the creepy voice from above. I was unnerved. This pattern repeated for the next week until I had had enough, and I threw the cursed toy back in the alley where I found it — abandoned. It disappeared after a few days. (Did some gullible soul see the doll

as a harmless toy?)

So, "Living with Chucky?" NOPE, I won't watch that show; it's been enough to see the trailers of it; neither will I watch Jason or the rotating bed and head. Nope. It's the classics for me.

I recommend these classics for Halloween entertainment: Boris Karloff as The Mummy, Steve McQueen as a teen in "The Blob," Spencer Tracey as Dr. Jeckyll and Mr. Hyde; and the 1958 or 1993 version of the "Attack of the 50-foot Woman"! These are classics driven out of the inner fears like atomic fallout and radiation deformities. Frankenstein also has many versions based on Mary Shelley's weekend writing around medical innovations. I also enjoy the cult classic "Rocky Horror Picture Show" and "Beetlejuice" that may have a sequel soon. Don't forget "Hocus Pocus" with Bette Midler.

Last night I watched a season of the "X-Files," and "Attack of the Crab Monsters" directed by Roger Corman and starring the Professor from Gilligan's Island (Russell Johnson). "The Beast with a Million Eyes" could be construed as an early version of the National Security Administration (NSA) and stars Dick Sargent — AKA

Darrin Stephens of "Bewitched" fame.

If you want to watch all the monsters on "X-Files," the series, Hulu-Plus has them all sorted out and a click away. Just today one episode entitled "2Shy" was about a scorpion-like alien that eats his victims by removing all the fatty acids, which reduces the human to a puddle. Another was about an alien afflicted with lightning that spews when he growls like the Hulk. All of these are good for 45 minutes alone or in full with others and with or without popcorn.

Halloween is the night before All Saints Day when Christians celebrate long-gone saints. I for one might think when prepping for a creepy colonoscopy, or Cologuard, or some sort of tissue biopsy, or eyeing the solemn fast on the calendar, we might as well gorge on the pumpkin pie the night before and add some Halloween entertainment like the "Creature from the Black Lagoon."

Better yet, carve the pumpkin and watch the classic flick, Them!

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

Movin' On with Nellie



Nelda Curtiss

LETTERS

Open letter to Bishop Berg of the Diocese of Pueblo

Editor,

I am a member of the Parish of Sangre de Cristo in San Luis. I am a former seminarian and lifelong Catholic with deep roots in this community.

The Parish of Sangre de Cristo is comprised of the whole of Costilla County. Our ancestors, who settled here beginning in 1847, established 12 churches in every village so that the priest could come to celebrate Mass where the people lived.

These missionary churches have be-

come difficult to maintain for the ever-shrinking population. Local residents committed to church, culture, and history have maintained them.

We have become aware that the money that was granted to our parish by the Colorado Historical Fund for the preservation of our churches was rejected by you, as the Bishop of Pueblo, because of an agenda which is in opposition even with the teachings of the Pope and the Universal Church. The fact that these churches would have to be closed and

sold. The diocese continues to reel from lawsuits that would certainly be alleviated by selling these properties.

The parish is in an historically poor, predominantly Hispanic area. Despite our important role in the development of the Hispanic Church of Colorado, these decisions impact Hispanics primarily. It is obvious that the local Hispanic population has become irrelevant and superfluous.

*Richard de Olivas y Córdoba
Los Fuertes*

Response to Sept. 29 letter to editor on renewable energy

Editor,

I write in response to Larry Crowder's September 29 letter to the editor regarding how the San Luis Valley was made for renewable energy.

The basis of Mr. Crowder's argument in favor of bringing renewable energy to the San Luis Valley is the necessity of transmission of this solar and renewable energy. While I am supportive of solar and renewable energy, the problem is in the transmission. These are not solar panels to be placed on the rooftops of houses and businesses. These are solar farms placed on existing good farm and ranch land. And the transmission of this energy to communities outside the Valley is tantamount to "mak-

ing a bargain with the devil."

Once corporations and public utility companies begin purchasing or leasing existing farm and ranch land, the independence of the farmer and rancher is gone. Public utility companies have a history with the way they transmit energy that will make the San Luis Valley look like the land between the cities in California — peppered with high powered transmission lines going through private property wherever it is most expedient.

If one has land that is the pathway of transmission lines, it doesn't matter if the landowner sells or leases land for a solar farm; and it doesn't matter if the landowner wants nothing to do with

renewable energy or the transmission of this energy out of the Valley. Public utility companies will figuratively put a gun to the property owner's head and take whatever land they want for their transmission lines and power stations through Eminent Domain. Indeed, Eminent Domain is a standard operating procedure if the landowner is reluctant to sell for the offered price. Once this land has gone to the big energy corporations and public utility companies, it will be gone forever — and the residents of the San Luis Valley will be beholden to the energy corporations.

We need to exercise more foresight than just thinking about the money we can bring to the Valley today — during this period of drought. We need to protect our independence from the big corporations owning the Valley; we need to protect the beauty of the Valley; and we need to protect our food source in both farming and ranching (i.e., the agriculture produced in the San Luis Valley is a component of the global food source by which humanity is dependent for survival). While the drought and shortage of water is a concern, let's find other ways to weather this storm that will protect what we have for future generations.

When we start hearing about selling and leasing our land to energy corporations for the transmission of renewable energy, let's send a clear and resounding message that the San Luis Valley is not for sale.

*Kerry Hart
Alamosa*

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Valley Courier

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Your FIRST Source for Local News

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

Religion

Pope Francis signals openness to bless some same-sex unions

The same-sex blessings near Cologne Cathedral were a public salute to scores of private ceremonies among European Catholics in recent years.

On Religion



Terry Mattingly

The crowd waved rainbow flags and, according to media reports, sang "All You Need Is Love" by the Beatles. The mid-September rites included Catholic priests reciting blessings for same-sex and heterosexual couples and, though held outside of Cardinal Rainer Maria Woelki's cathedral, represented a bold ecclesiastical affront to the city's conservative archbishop.

church should avoid rites giving the "impression that something that is not marriage is recognized as marriage."

Nevertheless, Pope Francis -- writing in July -- urged "pastoral charity" in this issue. Thus, the "defense of objective truth is not the only expression of this charity, which is also made up of kindness, patience, understanding, tenderness, and encouragement. Therefore, we cannot become judges who only deny, reject, exclude."

"For this reason, pastoral prudence must adequately discern whether there are forms of blessing ... that do not transmit a mistaken conception of marriage. For when a blessing is requested, one is expressing a request for help from God, a plea for a better life, a trust in a Father who can help us to live better."

This drew praise from Francis DeBernardo, leader of the New Ways Ministry, for Catholics seeking changes in centuries of Christian doctrine on sexuality.

"The allowance for pastoral ministers to bless same-gender couples im-

plies that the church does indeed recognize that holy love can exist between same-gender couples, and the love of these couples mirrors the love of God," he wrote. The pope's declaration represents "an enormous advance. ... This statement is one big straw towards breaking the camel's back of the marginalized treatment LGBTQ+ people experience in the Church."

The Vatican's release of these "dubia" documents underlined the importance of the historic global synod -- which will address issues in church life including the ordination of women, the status of LGBTQ+ believers, clerical celibacy and changes for divorced Catholics seeking Holy Communion.

A strategic leader is Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich, who led the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union until recently and was the pope's choice as "relator general" for the synod, shaping official documents produced before and after the two-year process.

In a 2022 interview with the Catholic news agency KDA, he said Catholic teachings on "homosexual relationships as sinful are wrong. ... I believe that the sociological and scientific

foundation of this doctrine is no longer correct. It is time for a fundamental revision of Church teaching, and the way in which Pope Francis has spoken of homosexuality could lead to a change in doctrine."

That kind of shift would shake centuries of doctrine, noted the "dubia" authors -- American Cardinal Raymond Burke, German Cardinal Walter Brandmuller, Mexican Cardinal Sandoval Iniguez, Guinean Cardinal Robert Sarah and Cardinal Joseph Zen, former Bishop of Hong Kong.

Thus, they asked: "Is it possible for the Church today to teach doctrines contrary to those she has previously taught in mat-

ters of faith and morals, whether by the Pope ex cathedra, or in the definitions of an Ecumenical Council, or in the ordinary universal magisterium" of bishops around the world?

Pope Francis discussed development in doctrines, and claims of absolute truth, during recent remarks in Lisbon, according to a transcript from the Jesuit journal La Civiltà Cattolica. He criticized Catholics guilty of "backwardness," including Americans who let "ideologies replace faith" and cause divisions among Catholics.

"I would like to remind those people that indietrismo (being backward-look-

ing) is useless and we need to understand that there is an appropriate evolution in the understanding of matters of faith and morals," he said. Thus, it's important to accept that "our understanding of the human person changes with time, and our consciousness also deepens. The other sciences and their evolution also help the Church in this growth in understanding. The view of Church doctrine as monolithic is erroneous."

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.

CHURCH DIRECTORY Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

Church directory listing various denominations including All-Denominational, Catholic, Hooper Church, Meditation, Kriya, United Church of La Jara, Christian Science Services, Pioneer United Church in Del Norte, Christian, Christian Independent, Christian Reformed, Churches of Christ, South Fork Baptist Church, Calvary Bible Chapel, Calvary Baptist Church, South Fork Baptist Church, United Presbyterian Church of Antonito, and Episcopalian.

Bible Digest

Saturday, October 7 "And they shall whip him, and put him to death: and the third day he shall rise again." (Luke 18:33 AKJV)

Sunday, October 8 "For you, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy to all them that call on you." (Psalms 86:5 AKJV)

Monday, October 9 "And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger." (Luke 17:17-19 AKJV)

Have you thanked the Lord for His blessings on your life? Thanks to God will make us whole.

Tuesday, October 10 "For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." (Psalms 84:11 AKJV)

Wednesday, October 11 "The heavens are yours, the earth also is yours: as for the world and the fullness thereof, you have founded them." (Psalms 89:11 AKJV)

Thursday, October 12 "And when he was at the place, he said to them, Pray that you enter not into temptation." (Luke 22:40 AKJV)

Prayer is a great weapon against temptation.

Friday, October 13 "He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? he that formed the eye, shall he not see?" (Psalms 94:9 AKJV)

Saturday, October 14 "And also all that generation were gathered to their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel." (Judges 2:10 AKJV)

Are we losing a generation to the Lord? Let's be sure to pass the faith along to our children and grandchildren.

Growing in Christ — Little by Little



Moving Up Higher with Joyce Meyer

I often teach on a variety of subjects, but I believe my primary calling is to help Christians grow up and mature in Christ and really begin to enjoy the great life He has in store for them.

As a young woman, I went to church for years, but I really didn't know much about spiritual maturity. I loved God with all of my heart, but I wasn't changing—I was still as critical, judgmental, and rebellious as ever. And even though I knew my life should be getting better, I was still miserable from dealing with all of the same problems.

I believe this is one of Satan's greatest strategies. If he can't keep people from hearing the Gospel and accepting Christ, he will do everything he can to make sure they never grow spiritually and experience the peace and joy that's promised to them in the Bible.

You see, when we're born again, the Holy Spirit comes to live in our heart—God plants a seed of everything He is in our spirit. He instantaneously deposits inside of us everything we need to live a great life.

For instance, Galatians 5:22-23 (AMP) says, "The fruit of the [Holy] Spirit the work which His presence within accomplishes] is love, joy [gladness], peace, patience [an even temper, forbearance], kindness, goodness [benevolence], faithfulness, gentleness [meekness, humility], self-control..."

Well, when it comes to the maturity process, we have a part to play. Our part is to cooperate with God to cultivate and develop His character in our lives so we can grow and become more like Him. How do we do that?

It all begins by spending regular time in God's Word. Hebrews 4:12 (AMP) says, "The Word that God speaks is

alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]..." When we spend time in God's Word, we are spending time with God. His Word changes us—it changes how we think and how we act. It changes how we see God, ourselves, and the world around us.

Romans 12:2 is a great scripture that shows us how we grow spiritually: "Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God." (AMP)

God has a "good and acceptable and perfect" plan for our lives, but we must renew our minds with His Word before we can experience it.

It's important to remember that growing spiritually is a process. When I first began to read and study God's Word, I immediately saw things I needed to change. For a while, I felt guilty and condemned that I wasn't "measuring up."

But as I learned God's Word, I saw that my behavior toward my husband, Dave, was wrong. The Lord was asking me to walk in love with Dave in my speech, attitudes, and actions. This was easier said than done! But God always gives us the grace to do what He is asking us to do. He doesn't expect us to do it all on

our own. So, little by little, by God's grace, I began to change. The Lord transformed me from being rude, critical, harsh, and rebellious into someone who has real peace, love, and joy. But it was a process—it didn't happen overnight.

Look at 2 Corinthians 3:18 (AMP). It says we "are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another..."

The Lord changes us a little at a time. None of us will ever be perfect until we get to heaven, and that's okay. But as long as we're here on this earth, God desires for us to continually cooperate with Him to learn and grow.

As we do—as we continue to grow spiritually and change "from glory to glory"—we will experience the incredible peace, joy, and fulfillment that only God can give us. And we will show the world around us what God is really like.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-part teaching resource Developing the Character of God. 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 (Faith Works). 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.

You are loved. Sunday School 9am Sunday Service 10:15am 1861 Rd 10 S ALAMOSA www.alamosacr.org

See you at Sunday School



Sports

Mean Moose pick up first win of year by crushing Lamar

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – The Alamosa High School football team finally broke into the win column on Friday as it soundly defeated Lamar 48-8 at the AHS stadium.

“It was nice for things to come together,” said Alamosa coach Drew Sandlin. “All three phases of the game played pretty well tonight. We’ve been challenging the guys. We’re not a bad football team. Our record doesn’t show who they are. They came out and prepared all week for this game. So they came out ready to play.”

The Mean Moose had the first possession and they went on a methodical 87-yard, 13-play drive. Dyson Woodward threw a 25-yard scoring strike to Kevin Gonzales for the first touchdown of the game. The point-after attempt was mishandled and was no good.

Lamar attempted to drive down the field but fumbled the ball away. Micheal Motz picked up the loose ball and raced 70 yards down the right sideline for a defensive touchdown. Alamosa went for two points but came up short and it led 12-0.

The Thunder drove to the Alamosa 21 on their next possession but turned the ball over on downs. The Mean Moose went on another long scoring drive with Karter Tolsma finishing the drive on a 16-yard run. Ryan Higareda made the extra point and Alamosa led 19-0.

After a Lamar punt, Alamosa had another long drive with Woodward capping off the possession, this time on a 2-yard quarterback keeper. Higareda made the extra point and the Mean Moose led 26-0.

Lamar had good field position late in the second quarter, but Higareda intercepted Deyago Vasquez to end the threat. A personal foul put the ball on the Alamosa 38, and Tolsma scored on the final play of the half, this time on a 62-yard run. R.J. Meis scored the two-point conversion and the Mean Moose led 34-0 at halftime.

The Mean Moose scored again late in the third quarter as Woodward tossed a 34-yard touchdown pass to Motz. Higareda again made the point-after for a 41-0 advantage.

The Thunder averted the shutout as the ensuing kickoff bounced to the Lamar 5. Raif Kee picked up the ball and eluded several tacklers for a 95-yard touchdown return. Vasquez threw to Cael Buxton on the two-point conversion to cut the Alamosa lead to 41-8.

The Mean Moose scored one more touchdown late in the game as Jace Montoya ran in on a 2-yard quarterback keeper. Higareda made the extra point to wrap up the scoring.



Left: Alamosa High School's Michael Motz (14) and Riley Honeycutt (50) tackle Lamar's Cason Pollart in Friday's game at the AHS stadium. Right: Karter Tolsma runs for a touchdown. The Mean Moose defeated the Thunder 48-8.

Courier photos by Ken Hamrick

Alamosa had 402 yards of total offense – 275 rushing and 127 passing.

The Mean Moose had two 100-yard rushers as Tolsma ran for 111 yards on 11 carries and Meis had 107 yards on 16 carries.

Woodward completed four out of 13 passes for 88 yards and Montoya completed two of four for 39 yards. Motz had two receptions for 49 yards, Gonzales had two catches for 39 yards, and Brant Jackson had two receptions for 39 yards.

The Mean Moose defense limited Lamar to just 110 yards of total offense. Vasquez completed 11 of 18 passes for 80 yards and he also led the running game with 21 yards on seven carries. Cason Pollart was the leading receiver with five catches for 18 yards. Zaidyn Daniels had three receptions for 14 yards, and Buxton had two receptions for 24 yards.

Alamosa (1-5, 1-1 Tri-Peaks League) will attempt to

make it two wins in a row as it will travel to Manitou Springs this coming Friday.

“It’s the first time we go to Manitou,” Sandlin said. “They’re a good football team as well and we’re going to have to have another good week of preparation.”

Kickoff is at 7 p.m.

Alamosa 48, Lamar 8				
Lamar	0	0	8	0 – 8
Alamosa	12	22	7	7 – 48
First quarter				
A – Gonzales 25 pass from Woodward (run failed), 5:47				
A – Motz 70 fumble return (pass failed), 3:46				
Second quarter				
A – Tolsma 16 run (Higareda kick), 11:03				
A – Woodward 2 run (Higareda kick), 7:08				
A – Tolsma 62 run (Higareda kick), 0:00				
Third quarter				
A – Motz 34 pass from Woodward (Higareda kick), 4:37				
L – Kee 95 kickoff return (Buxton pass from Vasquez), 2:06				
Fourth quarter				
A – Montoya 2 run (Higareda kick), 2:08				

Registration for adult basketball league

ALAMOSA – Registration is taking place for the Alamosa Parks and Recreation adult basketball league.

For adult basketball, the regular registration period is now until Oct. 15 with the fee of \$175 per team. There will be a last chance registration from Oct. 16-29 with the fee of \$200.

There are three divisions – men’s, women’s and coed.

There will be a captains’ meeting on Nov. 1 at 6 p.m. at the Alamosa Family Recreation Center.

Team may register online at www.alamosarec.org or in person at the rec. center.

Sports Bulletin

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

SCOREBOARD THURSDAY

Prep boys soccer
 Pueblo County 5, Alamosa 0

Prep girls volleyball
 Sangre de Cristo def. Mountain Valley in three sets – scores not reported

FRIDAY

Prep football
 Alamosa 48, Lamar 8
 Ignacio at Center – no report
 La Veta 36, Sierra Grande 31
 Monte Vista at Trinidad – no report
 Norwood at Sanford – no report
 Sargent 42, Dolores 12

Prep girls volleyball
 Centauri def. Montezuma-Cortez 25-16, 25-13, 25-16
 Centennial at Creede – no report
 Custer County def. Center 25-21, 14-25, 25-18, 15-25, 15-9
 La Veta def. Sierra Grande 25-10, 25-14, 25-12
 Sanford def. Escalante (N.M.) in five sets

– scores not reported
 South Park def. Mountain Valley in three sets – scores not reported

College men’s soccer
 Regis 1, Adams State 0

College women’s soccer
 Regis 3, Adams State 0

College women’s volleyball
 Westminster (Utah) def. Adams State 25-16, 25-20, 25-23

SCHEDULE SATURDAY

Prep football
 Antonito at Manzanola, 1 p.m.
 Sangre de Cristo at Mountain Valley, 1 p.m.
 Centauri at Del Norte, 3:30 p.m.

Prep cross country
 Alamosa, Antonito, Centauri, Centennial, Center, Del Norte, Monte Vista, Sargent at Centauri Invitational (at Cole Park), 9 a.m.

Prep girls gymnastics
 Alamosa at Pueblo Central Invitational, 10 a.m.

Prep girls volleyball
 Montezuma-Cortez at Alamosa, 9 a.m.
 Dove Creek, Sangre de Cristo at Monte Vista, 10 a.m.
 Del Norte at Fountain Valley, 11 a.m.
 Cotopaxi at Sargent,

1 p.m.
 Creede at Dolores, 1 p.m.
 Bayfield at Centauri, 1 p.m.
 Antonito at Manzanola, 4 p.m.

College football
 Adams State at Colorado State Pueblo, 2 p.m.

College women’s volleyball
 Colorado Mesa at Adams State, 4 p.m.

College swimming
 Western Colorado at Adams State, 11 a.m.

SUNDAY

College men’s soccer
 Adams State at South Dakota Mines, 11 a.m.

College women’s soccer
 Black Hills State (S.D.) at Adams State, 1 p.m.
College swimming
 Adams State at Western Colorado, 11 a.m.


MONDAY

College men’s golf
 Adams State at Colorado State Pueblo Invitational, TBA

TUESDAY

Prep girls volleyball
 Sargent at Buena Vista, 5 p.m.

College women’s golf
 Adams State at Colorado State Pueblo Invitational, TBA






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Fall Car Care

Maintenance intervals drivers should know

Vehicles are among the most costly expenses individuals have. According to data from Kelley Blue Book, the average price paid for a new vehicle in the United States in September 2022 was \$48,094. Canadian car buyers face an equally expensive reality in their country, where the average MSRP for a new car is more than \$45,000.

Since vehicles are such sizeable investments, it behooves motorists to do as much as they can to keep their cars and trucks running smoothly. Vehicle owner's manuals typically recommend maintenance intervals and should be drivers' first resource for information regarding how to take care of their cars and trucks. But the following are some standard

maintenance intervals drivers can keep in mind.

3,000 miles

The 3,000-mile marker used to be the benchmark for changing oil, but modern vehicles can now go longer between oil changes. However, it's still a good idea to check other fluid levels every 3,000 miles. Windshield washer fluid, coolant, brake fluid, transmission fluid, and power steering fluid should all be checked every 3,000 miles and topped off if levels are low.

It's wise for drivers to perform some additional maintenance checkups every 3,000 miles. Check tire pressure, inspect hoses (which should not be leaking or bulging) and clean the interior of the vehicle every 3,000 miles.

5,000 miles

Many vehicle manufacturers now recommend oil changes every 5,000 miles. Tire rotations also can be part of service visits at this interval, and drivers can ask their mechanic to check their fuel filters and batteries every 5,000 miles as well. Many may already do this as part of their comprehensive maintenance packages, but it's still good to confirm if they do and request they do so if it's not part of the plan.

Drivers also can request that cabin air filters are inspected at this point, though they can generally last a year before they need to be replaced.

Around the 5,000-mile mark, wiper blades also may begin to show signs of wear and tear, includ-

ing streaking on the windshield or scratching noises when in use. Each of those signs indicates the wipers need to be replaced. However, drivers should take note of these signs regardless of when they appear. Some may not make it 5,000 miles before they begin to wear down. In such instances, they should be replaced immediately regardless of how many miles it's been since they were installed.

10,000 miles

Some vehicles may only require oil changes every 10,000 miles. That's not uncommon in vehicles that use synthetic oil, though drivers are urged to consult their owner's manuals.

Brake pads also may need to be replaced around



this time, and one telltale sign of that is a squeaking noise whenever the brakes are applied.

Drivers can ask their mechanics to check the alignment of their vehicles around this interval as well. Though many vehicles won't develop alignment issues, it's best to check for such issues every 10,000 miles or whenever

a vehicle feels as though it's pulling in one specific direction.

Maintenance intervals are created to serve as a guideline for drivers. Any issues that arise should still be brought to the attention of a mechanic regardless of how many miles have been added to the odometer since the most recent trip to the garage.



3 simple maintenance strategies that can keep cars running longer

The last few years have not proven the most advantageous times for new car buyers. According to the Consumer Price Index Summary from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, buyers paid 12.2 percent more for new vehicles in January 2022 than they had in January 2021. Faced with such a significant increase in price, many drivers understandably want to keep their current cars longer than they might have initially planned.

Data released by S&P Global Mobility in early 2022 indicated that the average vehicle on the road is 12 years and two months old, which marked the highest number in the 20-plus years such information was tracked. A host of variables affect how long drivers keep their cars, but the rising cost of new vehicles has undoubtedly compelled many drivers to aspire to keep their cars for longer periods of time.

Aging cars may require a little more TLC than vehicles that are right off the dealership lot. But the following are three simple tips that can help drivers keep their cars running longer.

1. Become a more careful driver. A careful approach when behind the wheel is safer than aggressive driving and beneficial for your vehicle. When starting, avoid revving the engine, which needlessly wears it down. When out on the road, avoid rapid accelerations, which also contributes to needless wear and tear. Even excessive idling can adversely affect the engine, so keep winter warm-ups to around 30 seconds to prevent damage to engine components.

2. Know when and how to fill up. Every

driver has likely visited a filling station when an oil tanker is busily filling the tanks. That's traditionally been considered a less than ideal time to fill up, as the theory is that filling the tanks stirs up sediment that could then find its way into consumers' gas tanks, adversely affecting their vehicles. However, that's often dependent on the station itself and how much its owners prioritize maintenance of the tank and filtration systems. Drivers who trust their local station owners can likely fill up when the tankers are present without worry. In addition, avoid topping off once the nozzle clicks when filling up. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notes that topping off is harmful to the planet and the vehicle, as gasoline needs room to expand. When you top off, the extra gas may damage the vapor collection system and cause the vehicle to run less efficiently.

3. Change oil more frequently as the vehicle ages. It's true that modern vehicles no longer require oil changes for every 3,000 miles driven. However, as vehicles age, drivers and their vehicles' engines may benefit from more frequent oil changes than the owner's manual necessarily recommends. Oil changes remove dirt and metal particles from the engine, potentially contributing to a longer life expectancy. More frequent changes can be especially beneficial for vehicles that are routinely driven in stop-and-go traffic.

Rising vehicle costs have compelled many drivers to keep their cars longer than they initially planned. Some simple strategies can help drivers achieve that goal.

Charge up your car battery knowledge

Vehicles consist of many essential components to keep them running efficiently and effectively. Car and truck owners should have an understanding of how their vehicles function so they can diagnose and address problems as they arise.

Car batteries are an important component of any vehicle. Even though engines are the powerhouse of any car or truck, without a battery, the engine wouldn't be able to work. According to Firestone Complete Auto Care, car batteries work by providing a jolt of electricity necessary to power all the electrical components of the vehicle. This is achieved through a chemical reaction that changes chemical energy into the electrical energy needed to deliver voltage to the starter. In addition to initially starting the car, the battery also keeps electric current steady to keep the engine running.

The battery also works in conjunction with the alternator to power the electronics in the car, according to the automotive information blog Autosessive. While the car is running, the alternator reverses the current produced by the battery, recharging it as a result.

This happens during long journeys, so people who drive for short bursts of time may find that their batteries will not have a chance to recharge and may not have the longevity desired.

There is quite literally a lot riding on a functioning battery. No one wants to be caught stranded by a dead battery, so drivers may wonder if there are any indicators that may signal the battery needs replacement.

- Slow turnover: If a vehicle does not immediately start or if the cranking is sluggish and takes longer to start, it may mean the battery is starting to fail.

- Frequent, short trips: Drivers who make frequent, short trips may find their car batteries do not have time to fully recharge. This, coupled with overtaxing thanks to a lot of accessory use, may cause the battery and the alternator to have shortened life spans.

- Low battery fluid levels: If the fluid level is below the energy conductor inside, it is often indicative of overcharging and excessive heat.

- Corrosion: Corrosion buildup, dust, dirt, and grime on battery connections may cause performance problems. Inspecting and



Courtesy photo

Learn the function of a car battery and how to keep it operational.

cleaning the terminals can prolong the battery life.

- Odors and leaks: Battery leaks can produce a sulfur odor similar to the smell of a rotten egg. This can become problematic over time, and leaks may indicate an aging or damaged battery.

- Age: Most batteries have a finite life span. A well-maintained battery can last up to five years. Neglect can reduce that life expectancy considerably.

- Bloated or cracked battery case: Replace the battery immediately if the case is cracking, as it could be because excessive heat is swelling the battery.

Understanding how car batteries work can help drivers keep their cars running smoothly.

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SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT IS accepting applications for a **SECONDARY PARAPROFESSIONAL**. Applications can be downloaded at www.sanford-schools.org. Sanford School is an EOE&E. (10/18/23)

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SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for a **JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL COACH**. Applications can be downloaded at www.sanford-schools.org. Sanford School is an EOE&E. (10/18/23)

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FIRST SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY FUND is seeking an **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** who is a visionary leader with a passion for making a lasting impact in rural entrepreneurship and the financial system, and a track record of driving organizational growth and fostering positive change. For details and to apply, visit <https://fswcf.org/careers/>. (10/18/23)

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OTERO COLLEGE CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES is accepting applications for Migrant and Seasonal Head Start - MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST. Job descriptions and applications are available at the CDS website: www.cdshdstart.com. For more information contact Michelle Weaver, 719-384-3103 or at michelle.weaver@otero.edu. Otero College Child Development Services is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Title IX/Section 504 employer. (10/17/23)

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Accepting applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Rent based on income for qualifying households.
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404 W. 8th Antonito, Colo.
376-2025

TTY
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606 - BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

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

611 - HOUSES FOR RENT

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

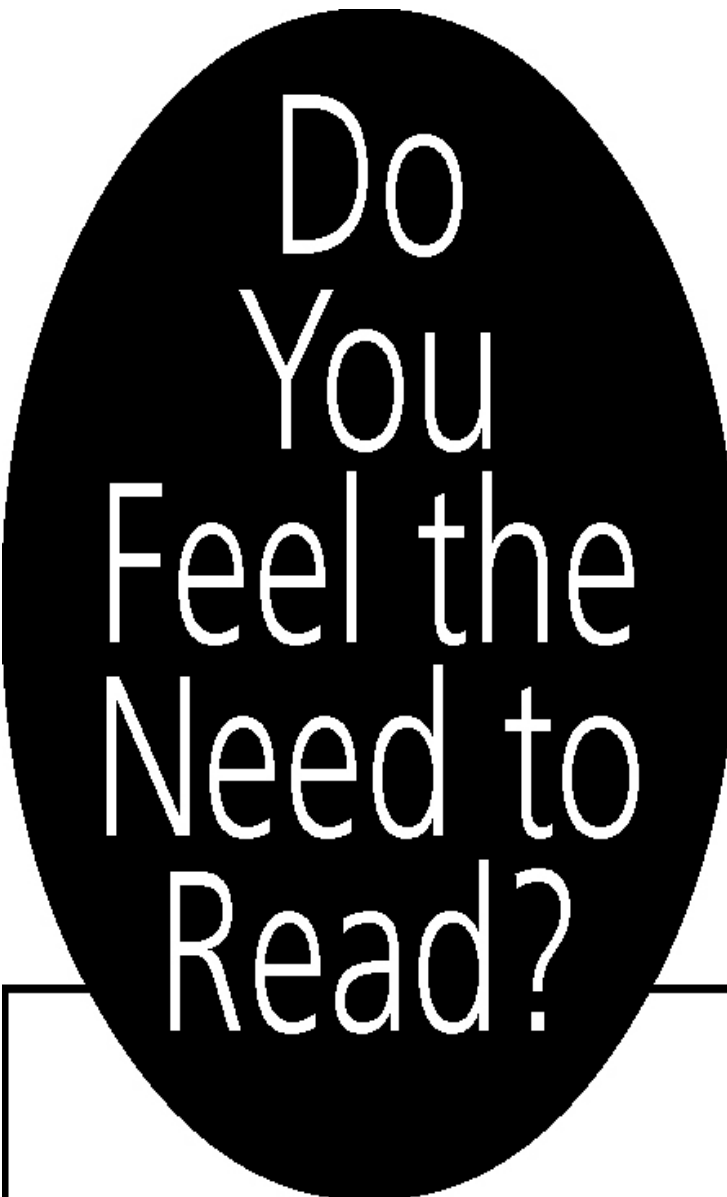
HOME FOR RENT: DEL NOTE, available 1 October, 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 car garage. 719-850-2027. (10/10/23)

630 - ROOMS FOR RENT

ROOM FOR RENT, ALAMOSA; private bath. \$700 month, utilities included. Call 408-533-2701. (10/14/23)

701 - AUTOS FOR SALE

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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1 Sharp point
5 Soft food for babies
8 — and polish
12 Reverberate
13 Down Under bird
14 Beer buy
15 Cultivated
16 Bupkis
17 Cheese end
18 Water-proofed
20 NOLA footballers
22 — de parfum
23 Recede
24 Surprise
28 Produce
32 Cow chow
33 Compulsion
35 Have being
36 DDE's nickname
37 Arab ruler
38 Man of rank
39 Puts one within another
41 Chef's dominion
44 Choose

46 Movie VIP (abbr.)
47 Tropical fruit
50 "The — of Extraordinary Gentlemen"
54 Wading bird
55 Farm sound
57 Full of creeping plants
58 Forwarded
59 Soft shoe
60 Chills and fever
61 Courtroom fig.
62 Biblical boat
63 McGraw and Robbins
DOWN
1 Implores
2 "God's Little —"
3 Flightless bird
4 Derby hat
5 Grandfather clock part
6 " — my brother's keeper?"

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

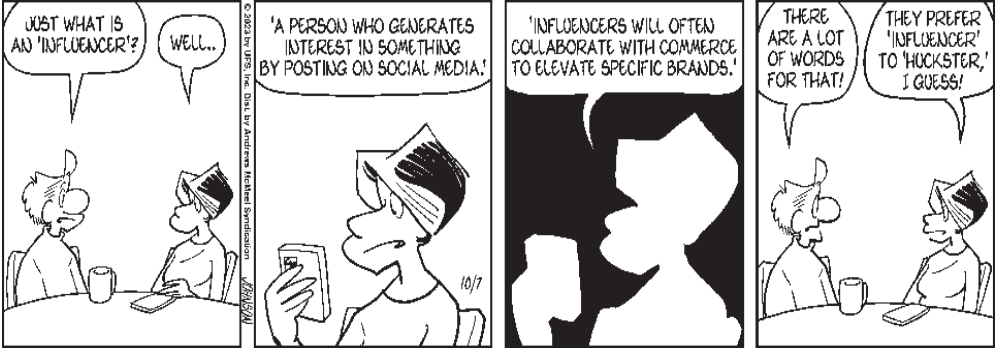
7 Throb
8 Copyist
9 Patient's symptom
10 " — that so?"
11 Spreads to dry
19 Break a fast
21 French cleric
24 Leg part
25 Money brought in
26 Some votes
27 Actor — Estrada
29 Deep cut
30 Toledo's lake
31 Marine bird
34 Traffic problem
37 See
40 Nice and warm
42 Train track support
43 Ascot
45 Gulf Coast city
47 Where a tower leans
48 Further in wrongdoing
49 Pub order
51 Leslie Caron film
52 E pluribus —
53 Peepers
56 Scull

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				13				14		
				16				17		
				19			20	21		
			22				23			
24	25	26				27	28	29	30	31
				33		34		35		
			37					38		
39			40			41		42	43	
			44			45		46		
47	48	49				50		51	52	53
				55	56			57		
58				59				60		
61				62				63		

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



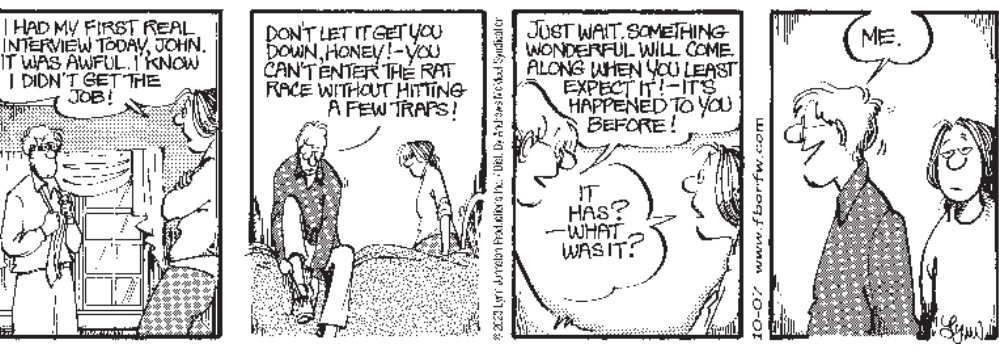
BIG NATE



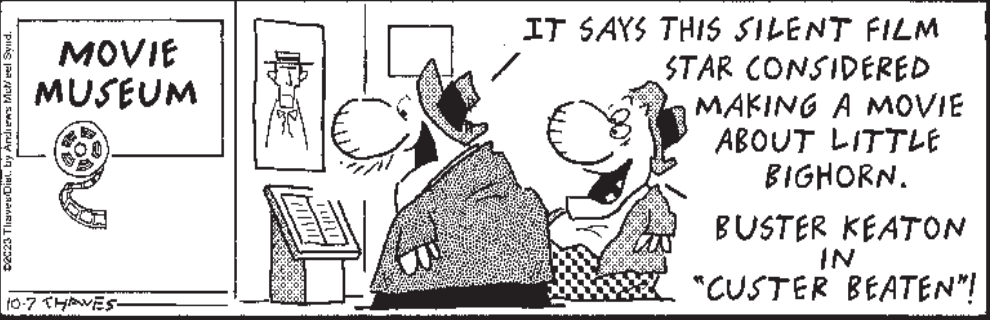
THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



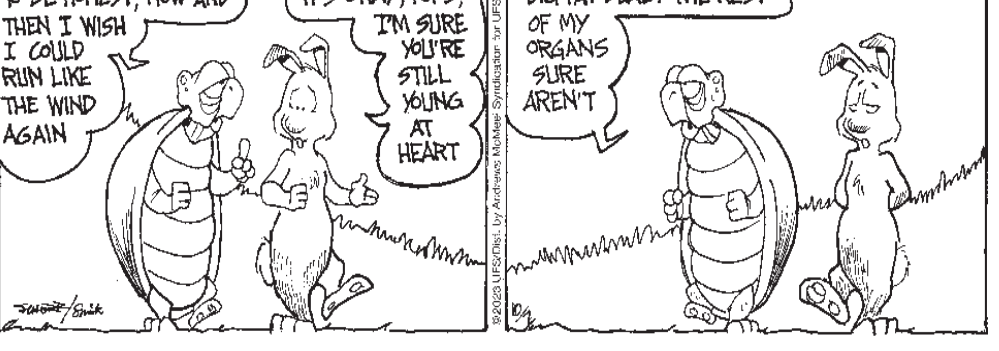
FRANK & ERNEST



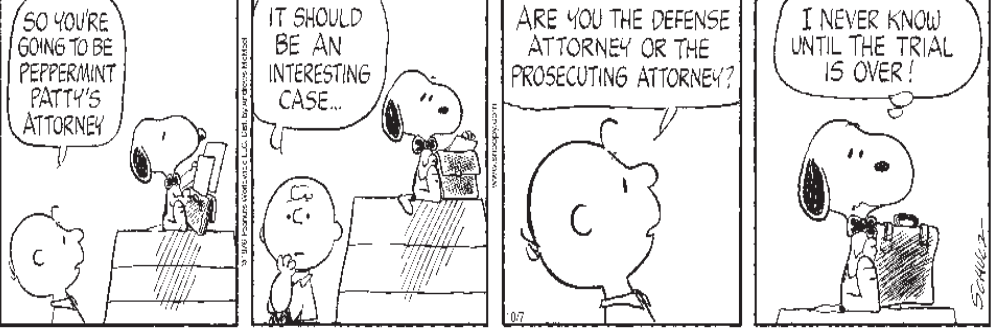
GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

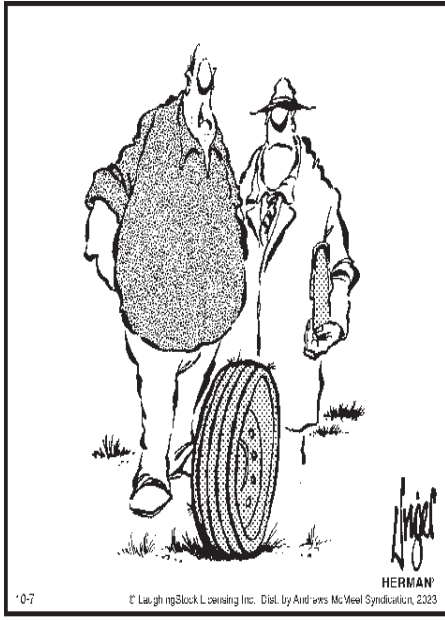
5				6	4					
				7	4	1				5
			1	6						
2			6							4
		5			9			2		
8					7					9
				3	1					
1		3	7	5						
		6	2							3

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

HERMAN



Relationship with new dil gets off to a rough start

DEAR ABBY: Right after high school, our son joined the military and left home. We are proud of him and keep in touch mostly by phone because he's stationed across the country. Since he has been away, he met a young lady on a dating website. I met her briefly on a quick visit. I had concerns about the relationship, and I shared them with my son. She doesn't drive, works only intermittently and displayed no desire to get to know me in the short time we had for my visit. Well, they ended up getting married behind our backs a few months ago. What's done is done. The only thing I want now is to have some kind of basic relationship with her. I have reached out multiple times, but she won't budge. I love my son and, by extension, her. I don't think I should be punished for bringing up my concerns. She refuses to communicate with me at all. -- WANTING BASIC COMMUNICATION

DEAR WANTING: The only person who can fix this is the person who started it -- your son. You were within your rights as a mother to voice your concerns to him. He should not have run to his (then) girlfriend and blabbed. Although you say his wife refuses to communicate, I

assume that he still does. Tell him that if he would like to have a relationship with his parents, and for them to function as grandparents, he needs to start smoothing this over with his bride. The ball is now in his court.

DEAR ABBY: I need advice about a friend who is constantly downcast and clinically depressed. I have tried praying for her, lifting her up and encouraging her, but to no avail. At this point, I feel like she is determined to stay this way.

Sometimes I have to distance myself for a while because seeing her is exhausting. I have known her for two years, and she's always like this. Who DOESN'T have problems?! This is life. Sometimes we're happy, sometimes we're not.

She takes it personally and starts to question our friendship if I don't call her, check on her or visit. It has become overwhelming for me. I honestly don't have the energy for her. I have my family to be concerned about.

I recently told her that sometimes she can be "a bit much," and not to take it personally if I'm not always available. I also said my focus has shifted because my kids have classes and I'm back at work. I really need some advice on what to do



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

about her. -- STRAINED FRIENDSHIP IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR STRAINED: You stated that your friend is "clinically depressed." Has she been diagnosed by a medical professional? If the answer to that question is yes, you should be telling her she needs to consult her physician because, after two years, her depression has not improved.

If she HASN'T been formally diagnosed, point her in that direction, which would enable her to gain access to medications and/or therapy that might help her. Do not allow her to guilt you into doing anything that's too much for you because, if you continue, your resentment will only increase.



NATIONAL

4-H WEEK

OCTOBER 1 - 7, 2023

• San Luis Valley 4-H Clubs •

- | | |
|--|---|
| Blue Crew 4-H Club – Conejos County | Sand Dune Drifters 4-H Club – Alamosa County |
| Blue Spruce 4-H Club – Rio Grande County | Sangre de Cristo Peaks 4-H Club – Saguache County |
| Final Drive 4-H Club - Alamosa County | Sargent Community 4-H Club - Rio Grande County |
| 4-H Cavalry 4-H Club - Rio Grande County | Silver Sage 4-H Club – Costilla County |
| Lucky Shoe 4-H Club - Rio Grande County | Silver Sheep 4-H Club - Conejos County |
| Mineral County 4-H Club – Mineral County | Udder Delight Dairy Goat - Rio Grande/Saguache County |
| Purple Circle 4-H Club – Conejos County | Upper Rio Grande 4-H Club - Rio Grande County |



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