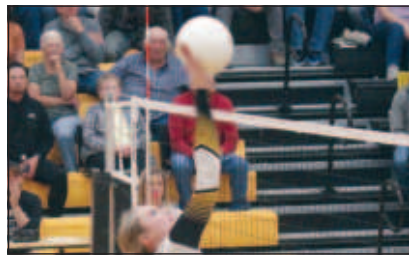




Center second-graders learn about fire safety from firefighters

— Page 3



Sargent volleyball ends regular season with loss to Ignacio

— Page 6

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Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

October 27, 2023

\$1

SLV Today

Bennet staff listens to Rio Grande County

Do you need help dealing with the Department of Veterans Affairs, IRS, Social Security Administration, or another federal agency? Do you have a suggestion for Congress that will help your family or community? If so, Senator Michael Bennet invites you to speak one-on-one with a member of his staff during upcoming office hours.

Erin Minks, Senator Bennet's San Luis Valley Regional Director, will hold office hours on Nov. 8 in Rio Grande County from 1-3 p.m. at the Monte Vista City Hall.

Coloradans who live in Rio Grande County are encouraged to schedule an appointment with Minks by emailing at Erin_Minks@bennet.senate.gov or calling 719-587-0096.

Please include your name, address, phone number, and a brief description of the issue you want to address, as this will help her assist you. If you are already working with someone in Bennet's office, include that information in your email, as well.

Conejos County online tax lien sale Nov. 15

CONEJOS — The Conejos County Treasurer's Office is hosting its annual online tax lien sale on Nov. 15. The APY is 15 percent for investors this year.

Registration is open Oct. 30 through Nov. 14. More information is available on the county website: conejoscounty.colorado.gov under the Treasurer or call the office at 719-376-5919.

Halloween Corrections

• The Spooky House at 701 San Juan Ave. on Oct. 27 has been canceled.

• The Trunk or Treat at the Early Childhood Council, 401 Santa Fe Ave., Alamosa, is Oct. 27 from 6 to 8 p.m.

SLV WEATHER

Mostly Sunny, Breezy 63/27

Sat: Mostly Sunny, Breezy 60/21

Sun: Rain/Snow Likely 45/10

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APD Chief Anderson opens up about his resignation

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — On Tuesday afternoon, Alamosa's Chief of Police Ken Anderson submitted his letter of resignation to City Manager Heather Sanchez. The decision was a long time coming and not one he'd envisioned himself making when he was hired as a patrol cop 23 years ago. Now, at 44 years old, Anderson has spent more than half of

his life with the Alamosa Police Department (APD), the last five as Chief of Police.

"I was a 21-year-old kid when I signed up to be a cop," he said in a 2021 interview with the Valley Courier. "I grew up in this job."

On Wednesday, when he sat down for an interview, he admitted to being very stressed, not just from resigning but from the public reaction after news broke he was leav-

ing the department.

"It's been like this all day," he says, scrolling on his phone through screen after screen of text messages he'd received and phone calls he'd missed. "This is crazy. I didn't expect any of this."

He then pushes the phone away from himself on the table, sits back in his chair and thinks for a moment before speaking.

"Look. I don't want to bash anybody," he says. "I just want to walk away,

like 'into the sunset', right? But there are some things I need to say first. There are things I think the public deserves to know."

When Anderson applied for the position as Chief of Police, he did so because he was "sick of seeing police chiefs hire on," and then leave after two or three years.

"I wanted to bring leadership and stability to the job, and I did that. I

■ See CHIEF page 3



Ken Anderson

Alamosa County recognizes employees

Alamosa County Commissioners paid tribute to employees for their dedication at the commissioner meeting on Oct. 25. Recognized for their service were employees, Linda Mitchell, Fred Garcia, Malachi Sandavol, Porfirio Garcia, and Catarina Villarreal. Left to right, Commissioner Vern Heersink, Linda Mitchell, Fred Salazar, Commissioner Arlan Van Ry, Commissioner Lori Laske, not present for the award was Villarreal.



Courier photo by John Waters

Applications open for El Pomar Foundation's 2024 Fellowship and Internship programs

By EL POMAR FOUNDATION

COLORADO SPRINGS — El Pomar Foundation is seeking applicants for its 2024 Fellowship and Summer Internship programs. The Fellowship is a paid, two-year program for recent college graduates and early career professionals. The Internship is a similar, condensed 10-week summer opportunity for current undergraduate students. Applications for the Fellowship are open through January 7, 2024, and for the Internship through Febru-

ary 9, 2024.

The Fellowship develops high-achieving, service-minded individuals into dynamic community leaders primed to make an impact across multiple sectors. Fellows are employed full-time with the Foundation, working with the leadership team and staff to help execute the work of El Pomar's leadership development, community engagement, and administrative programs. They spend 80 percent of their time in hands-on

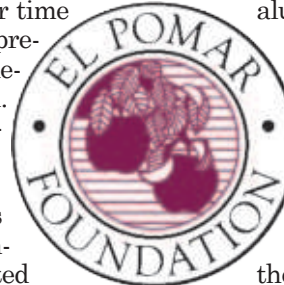
support for the programs and grant making work of El Pomar

and 20 percent of their time participating in a comprehensive professional development curriculum. Fellows obtain valuable learning opportunities through direct exposure to Colorado's philanthropic and non-profit arenas, targeted professional development,

and connection with an engaged network of nearly 300 alumni.

To learn more about the Fellowship or to request a conversation with a current Fellow, visit El Pomar's website or email recruiting@elpomar.org.

To learn more about the Internship, visit our website or email internship@elpomar.org.



Trail Springs Fire is about 900 acres



By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

SAN JUAN NATIONAL FOREST — As of Thursday morning, the Trail Springs Fire had grown to almost 900 acres according to the forest service.

The Trail Springs Fire, located about 12 miles northwest of Pagosa Springs has expanded by about 100 acres in the past 24 hours due to fire crews employing drip torches to prevent further uncontrolled growth of the fire. A helicopter was also deployed to the fire to drop incendiary devices as a control method. The fire was ignited by a lightning strike on Oct. 21.

On Thursday night, an aircraft was deployed to map the fire with a special infrared camera that detected the fire was producing mostly scattered heat.

Crews are actively working on the edges of the fire to stop the progression. The forest service will continue these control methods and increased smoke is expected on Friday.

Little to no activity has been observed on the Mill Creek 2 Fire for the past several days and no suppression actions are being taken on that fire.

A firefighter uses a drip torch as a control method on the Trail Springs Fire on the San Juan National Forest.

Courtesy photo

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Record

OBITUARIES

Marcella Archuleta



Marcella Erminda Archuleta, lovingly known as Marci, passed away peacefully on Oct. 23 at her home in Manitou Springs, Colo. She was born on May 11, 1938, in Center, Colo., to Solomon and Flora (Luna) Jaramillo.

Marci is survived by her husband of 69 years, Celestino Archuleta (Tino); her children Cathy, Dennis (Moir), Anthony (Rhoda), Paul (Donna) and Maria (Barry); her grandchildren Nicholas, Katherine (Tim), Nathan (Nicole), Carolyn (Trevor), Alex, Ryan, Landon, Oscar (Harley) and Joseph (Amy); her great-grandchildren Benjamin, Ariana, Oliver, Sam, Luna, Emma, Francisco, and Ander.

Marci was a strong, brave, beautiful, and talented woman with the ability to reach out with wonderful kindness to family and friends as well as anyone she might meet. She was the matriarch of a large family whom she loved dearly. Throughout her life, Marci was devoted to her Catholic faith. She was continually active in her Catholic community at a very young age when she began to participate with her mother in various in Catholic organizations that provided Catholic prayer services for funerals and other religious events that inspired Catholic values for Hispano families in her hometown located in the San Luis Valley. Although after moving from the San Luis Valley after she was married and settling in Colorado Springs, she continued to participate in these Catholic activities during her long visits with her family as well as her local church.

In 2009, she encouraged and worked alongside her family to restore the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, a historical mis-

Floyd, Robert, and Claude Jaramillo.

Visitation and Rosary service for Marci will be held Monday, Oct. 30, 2023, at 9 a.m., followed by a Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 2030 W. Colorado Ave., Colorado Springs, Colo. A graveside burial service will take place in the San Luis Valley at Carnero Creek Cemetery in La Garita, Colo., on Nov. 1, 2023, at 11 a.m.

MI AMIGA
UNA MUJER MUY FINA
TRULY A LIFE-LONG FRIEND
SU CORAZON GRANDE Y PURO
WILL BE THERE TILL THE END
SU CARA TAN LINDA LIKE A FLOWER IN BLOOM
SU RIZA Y SU VOZ LIGHTS UP ANY ROOM
CON SU QUIRERIDO ESPOSO
THEIR CHILDREN SHE BORE
CON CARINO Y MUCHA PACIENCIA
TOGETHER SET OUT TO EXPLORE
LA ROSA MAS BRILLANTE
NOR A BLAZING FALLING STAR
PUEDEN COMPETIR CON SU AMISTAD
THAT IS SPREAD NEAR AND FAR
SU VOZ COMO UN PARAJITO
SOFT AND WITH AFFECTION
CANTA CON TODA SU ALMA
WITHOUT ANY HESITATION
NO SE OLVIDARÁ UNA AMIGA
WHO RUNS BY THE NAME 'MARCI'
LE DESEO LO MEJOR DE TODO
FOREVER A FRIEND TO ME

Written for Marci by Alfi Salazar

Marci was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers Sam, Leroy, Nabor, and Phillip. She is survived by her sisters, Jennie Sanchez and Nancy Arellano, and her brothers

Thomas Jimmy Pena Jr.



ing mud bogs to a simple ride in the mountains listening to music.

Thomas was a loved Son, Brother, Father, Grandfather, and Friend.

Thomas is survived by his sisters, Peggy (Ernie) Romero, Phyllis Gonzales, Vera Gonzales, Elaine Dominguez, brothers James Gonzales, Chris Gonzales, Nobert Gonzales. Daughters, Dayami Pena, Denesha Pena, Ashanti Pena (Damian Ramirez), Luz Aguilera (Cruz Villa), sons Cruz (Anastasia) Gurule, Jonathan (Lisa) Gurule, Joe (Kristin) Pena, David Moreno. He is also survived by Nina Joann Sierra, Nino Luis Sierra, many nieces, nephews, cousins, grandchildren,

and God son Isaiah Romero. He also shared a close friendship with his Ex-wife Julie Lopez Pena. Thomas was preceded in death by, Mother Cora Pena, Father Thomas J. Pena Sr., Nephew Isaac Medina, Paternal Grandmother, Josephine Pena, Paternal Grandfather, Jose Pena, Maternal Grandfather, Aldophita Trujillo, Maternal Grandfather, Claude Trujillo.

Rosary will be on Friday, Oct. 27, 2023, at 7 p.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Monte Vista, Colo. Services will be held on Oct. 28, 2023, at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Monte Vista, Colo. Burial Services to follow at the Del Norte Cemetery.

Melissa Rae Arguello-Bennett



Alamosa resident Melissa Rae Arguello-Bennett, 43, passed away Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Melissa was born in Evanston, Wyo., on July 9, 1980. The daughter of Eddie Arguello and Karen Louise Hayes Quintana. She was united in marriage to Ronald Joseph Bennett on March 30, 2018, in Pueblo, Colo.

Melissa loved taking long Harley rides with her husband and friends. She also enjoyed spending time in the mountains, camping, and fishing. She always had a good time, going to concerts.

Along with her husband, Melissa is survived by her daughter Brianna Lucero of Pueblo, Colo.; Mother, Karen (Ralph) Quintana of Pueblo, Colo.; siblings, Micheal Alires (Ann) of Aurora, Colo., Christy Arguello of Jaroso, Colo., Manuel Arguello of North

Carolina, Billie Jo Arguello of Pueblo, Colo., and William Arguello of Pueblo, Colo. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews Litisha Quintana, Alonzo Martinez, Abbaleigh Muller, Marris Baca, Jacob Arguello-Ybarra; Grandmother Anita Geis of Pueblo, Colo., numerous aunts, and uncles. Melissa is also survived by her stepsons Anthony Bennett and Kenneth Bennett.

Melissa was preceded in death by her Father as well as her grandparents

Jose Arguello, and Eutima Arguello, and Bill Hayes and great-grandparents Fred and Adela Alires.

A visitation will be held Saturday, Oct. 28, 2023, from 10 a.m. to noon at Rogers Family Mortuary, 205 State Ave., Alamosa, followed by a Recitation of the Rosary at 12 p.m. On Saturday the 4th of November at 10 a.m. there will be a Funeral Mass at the Amalia Santo Niño Church in Amalia, N.M., committal of ashes will follow in the Amalia Cemetery. After services, join her family to celebrate Melissa's life at the Sagrado Corazón Parish Center in Costilla, N.M., food will be served at approximately 1 p.m.

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

Glenn Burnham



Glenn Burnham of Lewiston, Utah, formerly of Monte Vista, Colorado, and a Native of the San Luis Valley, died on Sunday, October 22, 2023, in Logan, Utah.

Glenn Marold Burnham was born on January 30, 1935, in Del Norte, Colorado, the only son of Robert and Evelyn Burnham. His preschool childhood was spent in the Center, Colorado, community and on a nearby farm. In 1941, the family moved to Monte Vista, and he graduated from Monte Vista High School in 1953.

He earned both the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley and, later, the Doctor of Education Degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Glem married Shirley Marie Jones in 1956. The couple had two daughters, Pamela and Cindy.

Glenn Burnham served his country in the United States Army, was a public school teacher and principal, and for 17 years, held faculty and administrative positions at Adams State College, including eight years as Vice President for Academic Affairs and a year and a half, as Interim President of the College. He left Adams State in 1989 to accept the position of vice President for Academic and Student Affairs of the System of State Colleges in Colorado located in Denver, which at the time included Adams State, Mesa State, Metropolitan

State, and Western State colleges.

In 1990, Glenn was appointed President of the System of State Colleges in Colorado and served until his retirement in 1994. He and Shirley moved to a mountain home near Bailey, and for three years, Glenn worked part-time with Adams State transfer programs in the Denver area community colleges.

After Shirley's death in 1999, He moved to Arizona. He remarried in 2003, and he and his wife, Kerry Jean, moved back to the San Luis Valley and Monte Vista and recently relocated to Lewiston, Utah.

Glenn was active in several professional organizations, including the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, and served a term as chairman of the Associated Public College and University Presidents in Colorado. He traveled extensively, working for a time with the Partners of the Americas in Brasil (Brazil) at the Federal University of San Joa del Rei in the State Minas Gerais. Glenn also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Adams State Foundation, and he and his wife, Kerry, have supported the Foundation financially for many years. Glenn was honored by Adams State with the 2007 Billy Adams Award. The highest service award given by the University.

In his personal life, Glenn was a nurturing and supportive father and husband, an avid runner, skier, and fisherman. Growing up, he spent much time on the Marold ranch near Saaguache, owned by his mother's family for gen-

erations. He often said this experience was the most important of his life.

Glenn is survived by his wife, Kerry Jean, whom he always called his right hand, "and left, too," his daughters Pamela and Cindy, and his grandchildren, Robert Sturdevant and Nathan Barela. Moreover, Glenn would not ever forget his 16-year love affair with Sadie, his beloved Bearded Collie always at his side.

At his request, no funeral services will be conducted. Please share a favorite memory of Glenn or offer condolences to the family by leaving a tribute at www.franklincountyfuneral.com

PENDING OBITUARIES

Ruben Pacheco

Alamosa resident Ruben Pacheco, 68, passed away Oct. 25, 2023. Arrangements are pending and will be announced through Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

Erma King

San Acacio resident Erma King passed away Oct. 24, 2023. Arrangements are pending and will be announced through Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

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Friday
October 27, 2023

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Valley News



Courtesy photos

Center Elementary second-graders visited the Center Fire Department on Wednesday, Oct. 18, for Fire Safety Month.

Center second-graders learn about fire safety from firefighters

By MARIE MCCOLM

CENTER — Center Elementary second-graders visited the Center Fire Department on Wednesday, Oct. 18, for Fire Safety Month.

Elementary teacher Christine Mikeljack said it is something the second-graders have been doing for the past three years.

“The firefighters show the kiddos various things,” Mikeljack said. “They take the kids through the stop, drop, and roll technique. The firefighters also talk to the kids about what to do, in the instance a firefighter would need to come into their house. They let the kids know that they should run toward the firefighter and not away from them. They allow the students to also try on the gear. The kids also got to climb in and out of several of the fire

trucks and the ambulance that was there. The kids really enjoyed it. They are still talking about it now, almost a week later.”

Mikeljack said that she incorporates some fire safety activities for the children in class, usually the same week that the students are scheduled to visit the fire department.

“This year, we read a scholastic newspaper about firefighting. I also put together a little packet of fire safety games and worksheets for the kids to do, too,” Mikeljack said.

Mikeljack said the kids got to spray the water hose. “The kids were so excited, they got to spray the water hose this year, every single second-grader got to spray the hose,” Mikeljack said.

Mikeljack said at the end of the tour each child received a bag of treats from

the firefighters.

“One of the best things that the kids were given in their treat bag was a sticker that they can put on the outside of their window at home, to alert firefighters that there are kids in that room. So, if there ever was a fire, the firefighters know to look for that sticker,” Mikeljack said.

Mikeljack said that the tour was really nice and fun for the kids.

“The kids don’t know that they do it every year, but we do, and it’s cute to see how they have so much fun. The firefighters are always super kind, nice, and very patient with the students, too,” Mikeljack said.

Mikeljack said that the trip to the fire department went well.

“As a class we will do little thank you cards, and notes. The teachers will



A Center Elementary second-grader tries on firefighter gear during a visit to the Center Fire Department on Oct. 18.

also do some kind of baking or some kind of a treat and take it to the firefighters to thank them,” Mikeljack said.

Chief

Continued from Page 1

planned on staying until I retired from the department.”

At the start of his tenure, Anderson says the city manager Sanchez was “great”, offering support in getting him through “a rocky period” and giving him the tools he needed to “put a stop to the drug dealers” and other criminal activity.

“I absolutely loved my job, and the department was doing magnificent things.”

He also commended the city manager and city council for “putting their necks out for the good of the community” when they found out there was a dysfunctional District Attorney in office.

“We did something that doesn’t happen very often. We accomplished what needed to be done. We finally brought accountability back to the lovely San Luis Valley.” A “brilliant” DA was brought on, he says, and the police continued to do their job.

But as time went on, Anderson realized the focus was changing with continued growth of the homeless encampment and, now, a new housing project being built on Airport Road. It’s something he has “a hard time getting his head around.”

“I understand the logic,” he says. “City council put a lot of thought into this and needed to do something. But that should have been done with creating the camp. The focus is now on a much bigger fix, and I think there needs to be more research before diving in headfirst.”

“I’ve been to other towns roughly the same size as ours and they don’t have problems like we do. Durango is twice the size of Alamosa, but our homeless population is equivalent if not bigger. So, what the hell is going on?”

Anderson struggles with the decisions because they have a direct impact on the community. And they also have a direct impact on his department.

“These developments attract more calls. More

violent calls. The calls at the homeless camp are non-stop. Non-stop. First degree assaults, drug dealing, sexual assaults, domestic violence, assaults on police officers, resisting arrest, drug overdoses. EMS calls. You name them, we get them. These are calls my officers have to deal with every day.

“And now we have another community where my officers will have to respond. I don’t know how our department can handle the workload when we continue to make these new developments. We can’t do that and be a proactive law enforcement agency, and that’s what our community deserves.”

In all of this, the one area that keeps being forgotten is the police officers.

“This department needs more attention and it’s at the point where it needs to grow. I can’t continue to watch my officers suffer from bad decisions that are made by command staff and some — not all but some — of city council. 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 those decisions.”

He also has issues with the LEAD program, which “has a good intention but has been overrated since it was implemented by the city in 2018.”

“Since it started, our police department has stepped up and done as much as they can to support the program, but decisions made by LEAD management have made it clear they’re not willing to put in the time to make sure the program is delivering what was promised. I have a problem with making an agency extremely busy and then continue to work with a program that’s not on the same page.

“The program stood for Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion but now it stands for Let Everyone Advance with Dignity. Ok, I get the concept, but the focus no longer includes law enforcement.

To us, that explains why the program fails. The police department has gone above and beyond to support LEAD, but it’s been shoved down my throat for five years. It needs to be acknowledged that the program is not for this department.”

And that opens the door to Anderson discussing what has forced his hand to resign. “It’s hard knowing that, at this point, my professional opinion isn’t asked for or even heard.”

Anderson said he has shared his opinion of LEAD with the city manager, “and she said she ‘disagrees.’

When asked if he’s expressed to the city manager his professional disagreement on some of the city’s decisions, he says yes, but she either disagrees with him or doesn’t appear to listen.

Asked if his opinion is solicited in advance of decisions like building the project on Airport Road, he says no. He was told about the project after it had already been approved by city council.

Regarding whether his job allows him to speak with the city council about his opinion on the city’s approach to homelessness, he says no, he has to follow the chain of command.

He then goes on to say, “I have knowledge and experience that people in law enforcement don’t have. If you have a question about crime in Alamosa or want to know if expanding services for people who are homeless is a good or bad thing for the community, the one place you would want to start is the police department. In this case, that’s me because of my position and 23 years in the community. But you also want to talk to the officers with the boots on the ground because they know better than anyone else what’s going on and what the impact on will be.”

Asked if the city council has ever asked to speak to officers with APD, Anderson says no.

Anderson said he told the city manager he needs more resources, “Yes, every year. She gave me the co-responder program and that’s been excellent.

I can’t say enough good things about them. And she gave me a code enforcer for St. Benedict’s. But I have the same number of patrol officers I had when I started, and the demands of the job are a lot greater.”

When asked what her response was to more patrol officers, he says, “She says ‘not at this time’. I asked for more resources this year and she said it couldn’t happen because of the new pay plan.”

That leads to asking about the final challenge Anderson faced. He chooses his words carefully. “Police chiefs are independent people. They’re leaders. A police chief can’t be effective when he isn’t treated as a professional and given the freedom and independence to manage his department, like being required to get decisions cleared first, even the most basic decisions like promoting an officer.

“If there’s an issue, a police chief’s professional opinion should be taken seriously. Requiring approval before an officer can be promoted? I’ve never had to do that before.”

In giving an interview, Chief Anderson’s primary concern was “muddying” the waters for the person who will be Alamosa’s next Chief of Police.

“Look. What I want people to know is that Alamosa is a great place to live and to raise kids. The police department is a fantastic department with dedicated young men and women. We have a law enforcement friendly community and that’s rare. Yeah, it’s hard to swallow...it’s really hard to swallow leaving all the officers but I wish them all the best, and I’ll still see them around.”

With that, Anderson turns his focus toward his next adventure, which tentatively involves working for the Alamosa County Sheriff’s Office.

“It’ll feel really good to work for a sheriff and a department that values my experience and what I bring to the table. That’s going to feel really good. I’m only 44, you know? I’ve got a lot left in the tank.”

Prescribed burns planned at Alamosa and Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuges

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be conducting prescribed fire operations on the Alamosa and Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuges to remove old and matted vegetation to improve wildlife habitat.

Professional fire personnel from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mid-Plains Fire Zone, State, and Federal Partners will conduct the fire operations.

Planned target dates for burning will be during the months of October and November. The Refuges’ Auto Tour Routes and Walking Trails may be closed to the public during fire operations for safety concerns. Areas will re-open as soon as possible based on fire activity and safety.

Smoke will be visible to local residents, towns, and highways during the day and may last for a few days following burning operations. Signs will be posted along the nearest major roads and all burns will be monitored until they are declared completely out.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect a person’s health. For more information, see www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health.

For up-to-date information, contact Alamosa and Monte Vista Refuge Manager Suzanne Beauchaine at 719-589-4021, Ext. 1003 or Assistant Refuge Manager Dean Lee at 719-589-4021, Ext. 1008.



OBITUARY

Gerald Lee Poe

Gerald Lee Poe, 81, of Sandy, Utah, passed away on Oct. 19, 2023, after a long battle with kidney disease.

Jerry was born June 25, 1942, in Bisbee, Ariz., the eldest son of Leon Frank Poe and Laphrona Williams Shugart.

He was employed by the U.S. Forest Service for 29 years and lived in multiple places, such as Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, Nebraska, and Colorado. His favorite place was Paradise Valley, Nev., where he lived and worked on a ranch for four years.

Jerry was passionate about horse racing, and he was never happier than when he was in nature. He had many hobbies, including rockhounding, hunting, fishing, birdwatching, writing stories, and making jewelry. He made beautiful earrings, bracelets, and necklaces for family and friends. His jewelry will be a cherished reminder of his love for all those in his life.

In 2017, Jerry moved to Utah to be closer to some of his children and grandchildren. He treasured spending time with his family most of all. He enjoyed cooking, gardening, and sharing his life stories with anyone he came across. He loved talking about his children and grandchildren and their accomplishments. He was so proud of all of them.

Jerry served in the Vietnam War with the U.S. Army from Sept. 7, 1967, to July 4, 1969, earning a National Defense



Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and a Bronze Star. He was Honorably discharged in 1973.

Jerry was a 1960 graduate of Superior High School in Superior, Ariz. He also studied at the University of Arizona and earned a bachelor’s degree in Range Management.

Jerry is survived by his five children: Levi (Miklyn) Poe of Guthrie, Okla.; Justin (Andrea) Poe of Lehi, Utah; Renee Poe of Sandy, Utah; Tanner (Julie) Poe of Sandy, Utah; and Lara (Banny) Umar of San Antonio, Texas. Jerry is also survived by 15 grandchildren: Camryn, Clayton, Jaxon, Alivia, Journi, Avalyn, Nico, Max, Oliver, Marley, TJ, Troy, Riya, Kenna, Avren, and one nephew, Eric Burden.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Marsha Burden.

Private Family Services will be held. His final resting place will be in the mountains of Paradise Valley, Nev.

We want to give a special thanks to Valeo Home Health and Hospice for their exceptional care of our dad during his final days.

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Opinion

The great escape

Many of you probably remember the movie "The Great Escape" produced back in 1963 and had a star-studded cast like no other films before or since. Steve McQueen was the main protagonist in the movie and his motorcycle stunts are still talked about today.

He was all man for sure and always did most of his own stunts in any film he was in. Tragically he died at age 50 and I guess the old saying "only the good die young" was true in his case, at least.

This past weekend just so happened to be Grand #1's birthday and we celebrated all weekend long. Saturday she felt the urge to get poor old Grandpa up on a pair of roller skates at the local rink. It had been about two years since the last time I went with the grands and way back then I did pretty good. This time however was a horse of a different color. I was shaky, wobbly, and just could not seem to get the hang of it. About my third trip around the rink my wrist began to ache, and I was reminded of when I fell on the jetty at South Padre and how bad that hurt. This sent me to the sidelines as Ol' Dutch is in the middle of building a house and I cannot afford to be hurt. Now before you make too much fun of me for quitting like that, let me tell you that soon my son Bubs also took the bench as he said he could not afford to be hurt either.

Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick



Of course, his wife Tinkerbell the dancer, skated forward and backward and sideways all over that rink and laughed at us for our cowardice.

Right out of Shakespeare however comes some wisdom that addresses those actions, and a slight warping of the actual quote says, "discretion is the better part of valor." Meaning don't be brave and skate and get hurt trying to look cool. So, we survived without any pain and even Miss Trixie skated until all the wild rollers drove her to the sidelines with their roller derby, bumper car skating techniques.

The next day meant more birthday fun and we went to an Escape Room. Now for those of you that do not know what that is you basically pay a lotta money to be locked in a room to solve puzzles to get out. I know, right? Grand #1 chose the Mad Scientist ex-

perience and soon we were all locked in a tiny room trying to solve a mystery about some virus and needing to find the antidote, so we didn't all die. We were given one hour to figure it out and they all dove into it like lemmings over the proverbial cliff. They scurried around like rats in a sinking ship all the while a running clock showed us just how much time we had left to solve the mystery.

Cooper and I sat over on a chair and watched the madness as they tried to unravel the clues. They were pretty good at it and Miss Trixie dove in like the senior crowd at the local buffet. She loved it. Finally with four minutes to spare they found the last clue and got us out of the room just in time to miss being infected by the virus and all dying a miserable death.

Toward the end of the experience

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."

when we feared time would run out, Grand #1 came and sat on my lap and told me goodbye and we fake cried about our failing to solve the puzzle and our impending death. She is always good for a laugh for sure. And true to her nature to cheat at games, she always wanted to hit the button on the wall for tips on progress.

If you get a chance to go to one of these rooms for your own "great escape" my suggestion is don't. It's too much like detention in high school where you have to perform certain tasks to gain your freedom. You can thank me later.

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

100 years ago in the San Luis Valley — October 1923

By BARBARA KRUSE

SAN LUIS VALLEY — The State Fair in Pueblo was held late in September 1923. More than 400 boys and girls competed from around the state. Four local kids participated in the fair entirely at state expense and two local members had their transportation paid for by Rio Grande County. Once there, the fair furnished meals, rooms, and beds for the participants.

As of Oct. 1, 210 cars of head lettuce had been iced and shipped at the Monte Vista ice plant. This was 40 more cars expected, valued at \$600 per car. A standard car requires 13 tons of ice for lettuce transport. To-hill Ice Co. has the best-equipped railroad icing plant in the state. "Agriculture has just started the most important phase of its life" stated a guest speaker at the Rotary Club.

One farmer reported a lower yield

of potatoes on his 100 acres. The average at the time was 200-250 sacks per acre, this yield was 140 sacks/acre. He paid out \$1,252 for picking at \$4 to 4.50 /day labor and spent 7 1/2 cents for the sacks. "It is readily seen that it costs a farmer quite a sum of money to raise and harvest a crop."

The Predatory Animal Inspector for Monte Vista received a complaint that a rancher lost 17 calves to wolves on the Piedra River. The inspector discovered it was lions and set traps at once. He trapped two lions the next day.

Typhoid fever continued to threaten some families and a reported death later in the month. (Typhoid is caused by Salmonella bacteria.)

John Million was driving a shaft in search of ore at Beaver Creek.

Advertised was Cenol Bed Bug De-

stroyer (DDT) A Tutts Pills advertisement said that they enable dyspeptics to eat whatever they wish because it causes food to be assimilated so it can nourish the body, give appetite, and develop flesh.

J C Penney advertised Lady-Lyke Corsets for \$1.98, wool blankets \$8.90, Men's coats \$10.90 sheepskin lined with beaverized collar and Women's' coats \$24.75.

Meanwhile, furniture was advertised for National Home Beautiful Week, October 8-14, offering 20 patterns of beds, a brass bed for \$45, a solid oak dining table for \$16.95, and a walnut dining table, buffet, and 6 chairs for \$195.

A Durango woman, originally from the Valley, reported that her husband had been drinking heavily for a month. She left him on Sunday night, stupefied with liquor, under the din-

ing room table. She spent the night with friends and upon her return she found him in the bedroom, shot and covered with blood, unable to say who fired at him.

A small statement in the paper said gluten or brown bread is healthy, and it has more nourishment than white bread.

The annual potato show was scheduled for November in November in Center. Every grower should bring in the best they produce.

Write them

GOVERNOR

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

STATE HOUSE

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

STATE SENATE

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

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John Hickenlooper (D)

Washington office: B85 Russell Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510 (202) 224-5941
Contact: www.hickenlooper.senate.gov

LETTER

Why no on Proposition HH

Proposition HH is a huge tax increase that ends taxpayer refunds. Prop HH will take TABOR refunds away permanently. The state should be working to limit tax collections to avoid the over collection that results in TABOR refunds! The state wants to keep an extra compounding 1% every year, above current taxing limits, that should be returned to the taxpayers. It allows the state to continue keeping refunds forever without additional voter approval.

This will result in taxpayers losing \$10 billion in refunds over the next 10 years. There is no guarantee where this \$10 billion will go. A slight decrease in your increasing property valuations in exchange for exponential growth in state government expenses is not good policy.

The Colorado General Assembly does not need to ask the voters to reduce property taxes. They do need voter approval to raise taxes. Prop HH is an ef-

fort to raise taxes.

The biggest losers if Prop HH passes will be the 33% of Coloradans who rent their homes. They will get no tax relief from Prop HH and will lose their TABOR refunds forever.

Vote no on Proposition HH. It will result in the largest tax increase in the history of Colorado.

Cathy Simpson

On behalf of the SLV Republican Women

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Keith R Cerny
Publisher

Brian Williams
Managing Editor

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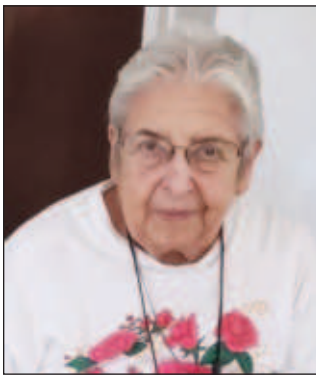
Record

OBITUARIES

Olive Manuelita Carmelita George

Olive Manuelita Carmelita George was born on July 9, 1930, in No Agua, N.M., to Juan Suazo and Adelia Herrera. She married Albert K. "Pepper" George on July 23, 1963, in Taos, N.M.

She was Merchant and grocery store manager as well as she owned and operated Peppers Cafe for many years. Her hobbies were cooking, crocheting, doing puzzles, reading books and she loved watching western movies and the "Price is Right." She always made sure she prayed her rosary nightly. Her favorite thing in the world was spending time with her sons and all of her grand and great-grandchildren.



Olive is survived by her sons Julian George, Ricky (Denise) George, grandsons Jonathan and Antonio George, great-grandsons Andre, Nicholi, great-granddaughter Aaliyah, sisters Jane Pacheco, Viola Trujillo, brother Manuel Suazo. She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Olive was preceded in death by her parents Juan Bautista Suazo and Adelia Ortega, loving husband Albert George, sisters Francis Gallegos and Ursula Huereña.

Vigil Service will be held on Friday, Oct. 27, 2023, at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. Mass of the Resurrection will be held on Saturday, Oct. 28, 2023, at 10 a.m. also at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. Interment will follow at the La Jara Cemetery.

To leave online condolences, please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. Romero Funeral Home of Antonito has been entrusted with the care of arrangements.

Henry Pete Martinez

Henry Pete Martinez was born on March 29, 1984, to Betty Tafoya and Roy Pete Martinez in Monte Vista, Colo.

He is survived by his wife Danielle Martinez of Monte Vista and his five kids, (Daughters Francesca and Daniesha Martinez) and (Sons Henry Jr., Zephaniah, and Emmanuel Martinez), his mom Betty Tafoya (Delta, Colo.) siblings Roy Martinez and Randy Martinez of Alamosa Colo., Antonio and Michelle Martinez (Toppenish, Wash.), Mandy Martinez of Center Colo., Emilio Martinez of Delta, Colo., Mother-in-Law Rachel Salazar (Del Norte), Brother's in law Josiah (Stella) Espinoza (Tampa, Fla.), Jesse Salazar-Espinoza (Monte Vista), Sister's in law, Larissa (Cisco) Aguilar, (Del Norte), Jasmine Salazar Espinoza (Monte Vista),

Noami Salazar-Espinoza (Monte Vista), and Yarika Salazar Espinoza (Monte Vista), and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by Father-in-Law, Paul Espinoza (Monte Vista).

Henry was a very family-oriented man who enjoyed spending time with his family, was a talented artist who loved drawing pictures for his family and friends, and he loved to dance and listen to music. He was an excellent cook who worked several different places as a cook but was known for his many years as a cook at Ninos in Monte Vista, who became his other family. He loved joking around, was a big kid at heart and loved playing with the kids.

His unique personality and talents live on in his kids. Celebration Services will be held Saturday,



Oct. 28, at 2 p.m. at Valley Church of the Nazarene, 228 Madison St., Monte Vista, CO, 81144 with a viewing at Strohmayr's Funeral Home from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. prior to the service. Graveside services will follow the service and will be at Center Assembly of God Cemetery in La Garita, with a meal following at the Nazarene Church. If possible, wear his favorite colors purple, black, green.

Darrell Joseph Meis

Longtime and well-known Alamosa resident Darrell Joseph Meis, 64, died Oct. 24, 2023, at his home in Alamosa after a 2-year battle with cancer. Upon his diagnosis, Darrell attacked his challenge with positivity, humor, and courageousness.

Darrell's life began in Denver, Colo., on Dec. 1, 1958; the son of Eldon Meis and Agnes (Grande) Meis. He married Kim Buron on June 6, 1981, in Denver, Colo., and their marriage was sealed in the Denver Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Feb. 26, 1994.

Darrell is survived by his wife Kim of the family home; his father Eldon Meis of Federal Heights, Colo.; his children DJ (Megan) Meis of St. George, Utah, (children) Trey, Pace, Sawyer, Bronx, Sway; Brandon (Brittney) Meis of Albuquerque, N.M., (children) Resese, Zander, Tatum, Hattie Mae; Ashlee (Michael) Meis-Trujillo of Alamosa, Colo. (children), Ilexya (Eddie), RJ, Damian, Zaryah; Jesse (Eva) Meis of Plano, Texas; (child) Ciao Meis, and great-granddaughter, Leah. He is also survived by his brother Norman (Stephanie) Meis of Parker, Colo.; sister Ginny (Ron) Seyfer of Arvada, Colo.; his mother-in-law Pamela Buron of Alamosa; brother-in-law Otto (Cammie) Buron of Albuquerque, N.M.; sister-in-law Tracy (Werner) Hahnlein of Albuquerque, N.M.; Kelly (John) Francis of Redondo Beach, Calif.; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends.

Darrell was preceded in death by his mother Agnes, and several aunts and uncles.

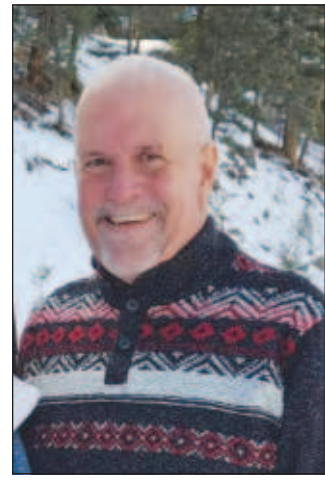
As a kid, Darrell loved all sports; especially football. As a teen at Pomona High School, he participated in football, basketball, and track. He was a stand-out athlete, but his passion was football. Darrell was recruited to play football at Adams State College, where he was a four-year starter. His senior year his team won the RMAC League Championship and played in a post-season bowl game. They finished their season ranked No. 10 in the nation. His 1980 team was inducted into the ASU Hall of Fame in 2016. When at Adams State, he met his wife, Kim; they shared 42 years of marriage. Upon graduation from Adams State, he started a 41-year football coaching career at Alamosa High School and Ortega Middle School where he had the opportunity to coach his sons and grandson.

Darrell was never shy of hard work, starting his first job at 16 with Purina Dog Food Company. Next,



he worked for Rocky Mountain Fireworks for 5 years. With the knowledge he gained, Darrell became a licensed pyrotechnician. He coordinated and helped shoot off the Alamosa Fireworks Show for 40 years. Once married, Darrell started working for SLV Federal Bank as a loan officer. He then went on to be the Bookstore Director at Adams State College for 30 years. Upon retirement, he returned to SLV Federal Bank as a loan officer. Darrell was involved in the Alamosa Noon Lion's Club, Alamosa City Parks and Recreation Board, and served in various church positions.

Darrell was always involved in his children's lives and supported all their activities. Darrell's passion for his grandchildren was evident in all that



he did.

The family would like to thank Dr. Allen Cohn and his team at Rocky Mountain Cancer Center-Midtown, pulmonologist Dr. Majd Kobitany of PSL Hospital, and Hospice Del Valle of Alamosa.

Cremation was chosen and a Celebration of Life will be held on Nov. 20, 2023, at 1 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 927 Weber Dr., Alamosa, Colo. If you would like to attend Darrell's Celebration of Life, the family asks that you wear Denver Broncos colors or attire.

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

Steven Gregory Martinez

Steven Gregory Martinez was born Feb. 9, 1970, in Monte Vista, Colo., and passed away into the Lord's care, at the age of 53, surrounded by his family and friends who he loved so much on the morning of Oct. 24 just after 1 a.m.

His life and career encompassed a broad range of work and devotion to the communities of Del Norte, Center, and the county he lived in. His work and passion included coaching high school wrestling, football and working with athletes.

He was driven to attain the best from those he met, to encourage, direct and positively influence all he passionately supported.

Early in his career, Steve worked in heavy construction, logging, landscaping but eventually the Lord led him into law enforcement with the Rio Grande County Sheriff's Department and later, the Del Norte Police Department where he worked for a large part of his career.

He transitioned to the



Director for Behavior and Safety for the Center Consolidated School District, there he worked with the students, faculty, and members of the community. His passion was in full display as the Director, exhibiting his creativity in a liaison capacity, coordinating the needs of students, the responsibilities of the school and handling the challenges of education, family, and student life.

His life was filled with a long list of hobbies and passions, hunting, and fishing with his family, traveling and learning new methods of behavior management,

loving the outdoors and Jeep riding in the mountains, singing, and playing instruments.

Music was a large draw to his life, and he was known for his creativity when he would ad lib music. His personality was infectious, his charm was endless, his giving was unending. If you ever knew Steve, he left an impression.

He will be missed immensely by his wife Karen and son Seth.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He has an amazing and large family extending from his three sisters and one brother, two sisters-in-law, one brother-in-law, countless nephews and nieces, uncles, aunts, cousins, and countless friends who his life intertwined and interfaced.

He was an extraordinary man who loved freely and shared without end his talents and love of service to others.

Donations can be made to Steve Martinez Memorial Fund at the Del Norte Bank.

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Sports

Sargent volleyball ends regular season with loss to Ignacio

CHSAA announces state cross country qualifiers



By KEN HAMRICK
Courier sports editor

SARGENT SCHOOL—The Sargent High School volleyball team had a tough end to the regular season on Thursday as the Lady Farmers lost to Ignacio in four sets at the Sargent gym.

The Lady Bobcats won the first set 25-23, but the Lady Farmers won the second set 25-14. Ignacio then took the final two sets by scores of 25-17 and 28-26.

Sargent coach Sami Cotton said she was satisfied that the Lady Farmers didn't give up especially after trailing by large margins during the match.

"They kept fighting," Cotton said. "We just had some mental errors and lack of discipline, so we're looking at fixing that for next weekend."

Ignacio scored the first point of the first set, but Sargent went on a 4-1 run to take a 4-2 lead. The Lady Bobcats tied the score, but the Lady Farmers regained the lead at 5-4.

Ignacio then went on an 8-3 run to take the lead at 12-7. Sargent scored two straight points, but the Lady Bobcats also scored two in a row and led 14-9.

The Lady Farmers then had a 14-7 rally to take the lead at 23-21. However, Ignacio scored the final four points of the set to take a 25-23 victory.

The Lady Bobcats scored the first point of the second set, but the Lady Farmers scored four straight points for a 4-1 lead. Ignacio also scored four in a row for a 5-4 edge.

Sargent scored three consecutive points to take a 7-5 lead, but Ignacio tied the score at 7-7.

The Lady Farmers dominated the rest of the second set by going on an 18-7 run for a 25-14 win and to tie the match at a set apiece.

Ignacio scored the first point of the third, set, but Sargent came back with a 4-0 run. The Lady Bobcats then ran off eight unanswered points to take a 9-4 advantage.

The Lady Farmers narrowed the deficit to 9-6, but the Lady Bobcats won an 11-3 rally to increase their lead to 20-9.

Sargent attempted a comeback as it scored eight of the next 14 points



Sargent High School's Makayla Brown hits the ball over the net in Thursday's match against Ignacio at the Sargent gym. The Lady Farmers lost in four sets.

Courier photo by Ken Hamrick

to reduce the deficit to 24-17. Ignacio, however, scored the final point for a 25-17 win.

The Lady Bobcats opened the fourth set by scoring the first two points, but the Lady Farmers went on a 3-1 run to deadlock the score at 3-3. Ignacio then scored three points in a row to regain the lead at 6-3.

The teams exchanged side outs until Sargent went on a 3-0 run to knot the score at 11-11. Ignacio also scored three consecutive points for a 14-11, but Sargent had a 7-3 run to go in front at 18-17.

The Lady Bobcats scored five unanswered points to take a 22-18 advantage. The Lady Farmers scored three straight points to close within 22-21, but Ignacio scored two points for a 24-21 edge.

Sargent went on a 4-0

run to regain the lead at 25-24. Ignacio tied the score at 25-25, but the Lady Farmers took back the lead at 26-25.

The Lady Bobcats, however, scored the final three points to garner a 28-26 win.

Reese Anderson led the Sargent offense with 37 assists. Makayla Brown led the hitting game with 14 kills, followed by Kandace Pargin with 13, and Kimmy Pargin, Catie Deacon and Regan Curtis each with four.

Deacon and Kandace Pargin led in service aces with two apiece. Kimmy Pargin, Makenzie Consaul, Anderson and Azzy Lister each had one.

Sargent finished the regular season with a record of 16 wins and seven losses. It will play in a regional tournament next weekend, but the date, place and opponents

are yet to be determined. "We're expecting to travel, but I think we can take whoever we have," Cotton said. "I'm looking forward to it."

CHSAA will release the region volleyball brackets next week.

By KEN HAMRICK
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA — The Colorado High School Activities Association announced the official qualifiers for the state cross country championships on Tuesday.

In Class 3A, Alamosa qualified both of its teams for state. For the Mean Moose boys, the qualifiers include seniors Thaddaeus Cody, Dylan Crowder and Mario Villalba, juniors Tyler Dokson, Emilio Martinez and Cody Williams, and sophomore Jeremiah DeLaCerde.

The Lady Mean Moose qualifiers are seniors Madeline Castillo and Sarah DeLaCerde, junior Elizabeth McQuitty, sophomore Victoria Gifford, Raecia Gonzales and Vanessa Villalva, and freshman Kailynn King.

In Class 2A, Centauri also qualified both of its teams for the state meet. Qualifying for the Falcon boys team are seniors Mason Finehout and Richardson Tuilleur, juniors Carson Bagwell and Tyrel Hostetter, sophomore Ammon Reed, and freshman Rhett Taylor.

The Lady Falcons qualifiers include senior Kaia Skadberg, juniors Hannah Guymon and Erica Miller, sophomores Brooklyn Shawcroft and McKenzie Torres, and freshman Bailey Graber.

Qualifying as individuals in Class 2A are Del Norte freshman Frannie Edelen, Sargent seniors Westen Burkhardt and Kaylee Ann Martinez, and Sargent freshman Madeline Mitchell.

The state meet takes place Saturday at the Norris Penrose Event Center in Colorado Springs. The Class 2A girls run at 9 a.m., the 2A boys race is at 10:20 p.m., the 3A boys run at 12:20 p.m., and the 3A girls run at 1:40 p.m.

How to get to the Norris Penrose Event Center

Here are directions to the Norris Penrose Event Center.

Take Route 160 to Walsenburg and enter Interstate 25.

Take Interstate 25 north to Colorado Springs and get off at Exit 141.

Go west on Route 24 and proceed to Cimarron Street.

Turn left onto Cimarron and proceed to South 8th Street.

Turn left onto South 8th Street and proceed to Lower Gold Camp Road.

Turn right onto Lower Gold Camp Road. The event center is on the left.

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Sports Bulletin

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

SCOREBOARD TUESDAY

Prep girls volleyball
Hoehne def. Sargent 25-15, 28-30, 25-21, 25-14

Pagosa Springs def. Monte Vista 25-15, 26-24, 20-25, 25-16

Sanford def. Sangre de Cristo 27-29, 25-23, 25-17, 25-21

THURSDAY

Prep girls volleyball
Ignacio def. Sargent 25-23, 14-25, 25-17, 28-26

Alamosa at Fowler - no report

College women's soccer
Colorado State Pueblo 1, Adams State 0

College women's volleyball
Adams State def. New Mexico Highlands 25-16, 25-17, 25-20

SCHEDULE FRIDAY

Prep football
Sierra Grande at

Granada, 1 p.m.
Sangre de Cristo at Miami-Yoder, 2 p.m.
Dolores at Sanford, 6 p.m.
Monte Vista at Centauri, 6 p.m.
Sargent at Dove Creek, 6 p.m.
Woodland Park at Alamosa, 6 p.m.
Center at Trinidad, 7 p.m.
Ignacio at Del Norte, 7 p.m.

Prep girls volleyball
Cotopaxi at Antonito, 1 p.m.
Cripple Creek-Victor at Creede, 3 p.m.
Sanford vs. Trinidad (Rye Invitational), 4 p.m.
Sangre de Cristo, South Park at Center, 4 p.m.
Sanford at Rye (Rye Invitational), 5:30 p.m.

College men's soccer
Adams State at Colorado Mesa, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY
Prep football
Mountain Valley at Antonito, 1 p.m.

Prep cross country
Alamosa at Class 3A State Meet (at Norris Penrose Event Center), 12:20 p.m. (boys), 1:40 p.m. (girls)
Centauri, Del Norte, Sargent at Class 2A State Meet (at Norris

Penrose Event Center), 9 a.m. (girls), 10:20 a.m. (boys)

Prep girls gymnastics
Alamosa at Class 4A Regional Tournament (at Arvada West), 10 a.m.

Prep girls volleyball
Center at Sierra Grande, 11 a.m.
Centauri vs. Clear Creek (Buena Vista Invitational), noon
Custer County at Sangre de Cristo, noon
John Mall at Del Norte, noon
Monte Vista vs. Atlas Prep (Mitchell Invitational), noon
Centauri vs. Rifle (Buena Vista Invitational), 2 p.m.
Centauri vs. Meeker (Buena Vista Invitational), 4 p.m.
Centauri vs. Gunnison (Buena Vista Invitational), 6 p.m.
Sanford at Rye Invitational, TBA

College football
South Dakota Mines at Adams State, 1 p.m.

College women's volleyball
Chadron State (Neb.) at Adams State (RMAC Power Pod), 6 p.m.

College women's basketball
Adams State at Colorado (exhibition), 1 p.m.

Public Notices

San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

1/1/24

Table with columns: Rate Name, Charge Type, 2023, 2024. Rows include A-Single Phase Residential, C-Single Phase Commercial, A-TOD Single Phase, B-Three Phase, A-TOD Three Phase, I-Irrigation, LP-A Large Power, LP-B Large Power, YL Yard Light, Renewable Resource Surcharge, EV TOD.

No. 3641 Published in the Valley Courier on October 27, 2023.

District Court of Conejos County, Colorado

PO Box 128 Conejos, CO 81129 (719) 376-5465 In the Matter of the Estate of: Waldo Benjamin Torres aka Waldo Ben Torres aka Waldo B Torres aka Waldo Torres Deceased

COMMUNITY RESOURCES & HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Our organization is accepting competitive proposals for 12 self-help homes in Monte Vista: In the Tierra del Sol Subdivision.

NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the following individuals are indebted to Alamosa Storage for past due rent. Auction will be conducted pursuant to 38-21.5-103 (1)(c)(III) thru 36-21.5-103 (e)(j).

099 - ANNOUNCEMENTS STROKE AND CARDIOVASCULAR disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association.

109 - HEALTH & WELLNESS INJURY RECOVERY: VICKI uses the gently touch of Craniosacral Therapy and neural manipulation to treat the whole body to restore balance in your bones, joints, nervous system, and organs for longer lasting recovery.

173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES LICENSED PLUMBER DOES all types of plumbing & plumbing repairs. Quick service! Call anytime, weekends & evenings: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (10/27/23-monthly)

221 - HELP WANTED 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.

RADIOGRAPHER, CT TECHNOLOGIST (Full-Time) Specific duties and responsibilities: All X-ray, CT, OP, IP, and ER trauma exams. Join our incredible patient centered and service-oriented team!

WARD CLERK, NEEDED Full-Time days at RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL. Amazing opportunity to join our incredible patient-centered and service-oriented team. Must be motivated and available to work flexible shifts.

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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

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

221 - HELP WANTED

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

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

AUTO TECHNICIAN: HIRING BONUS. Competitive wages. Health, dental, 401k, PTO and paid holidays. Monday-Friday. Pick up application at **AUTOMOTIVE CONCEPTS** in ALAMOSA or email resume to info@autoconcepts.us (11/3/23)

221 - HELP WANTED

SLV REGIONAL LANDFILL is accepting applications for a full-time **EQUIPMENT OPERATOR**. Benefits include 100% Paid Employee Only Health, Dental & Vision Insurance, Sick/Vacation Leave, Retirement Match. Applications & Job Description can be picked up at the SLV Landfill office or visit our website <http://slvlandfill.com> for more information. Starting wage \$17.00 per hour depending on experience. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. For more information, contact Leonard Brown (719)-852-3810 or lbrown@slvlandfill.com (11/11/23)

HELP WANTED: COOK & WAITRESS (will train) at the Wagon Wheel in LA JARA. Contact Margie, 719-274-5965. (11/1/23)

RED HILL LAVA PRODUCTS is looking for a **LABOR/MAINTENANCE PERSON**. Please call Jon Armenta at 719-480-9595. (11/10/23)

CDOT IS LOOKING for **TEMPORARY HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS** for Monarch Pass for the winter season. Positions would be 40 hours/week with the opportunity for overtime. Pay is \$24.44/hour. This position will receive per diem and CDOT will arrange for employee to stay in a hotel for their scheduled working days. If interested, apply at <https://bit.ly/wolfereekpass> (11/10/23)

221 - HELP WANTED

LUBE TECH/GENERAL SERVICE: HIRING BONUS. Competitive wages. Health, dental, 401k, PTO and paid holidays. Monday-Friday. Pick up application at **AUTOMOTIVE CONCEPTS** in ALAMOSA or email resume to info@autoconcepts.us (11/3/23)

ANTONITO HOUSING AUTHORITY IS accepting applications for **OFFICE ASSISTANT**. Applications can be picked up at 526 River St., ANTONITO. (10/28/23)

ALAMOSA SCHOOL DISTRICT is now accepting applications for the following position: **GIRLS HEAD BASKETBALL COACH (AHS)**. Applications are available online at <https://www.alamosa.k12.co.us/> For more information, contact Tracy Vigil at 719-587-1600. Application deadline is until filled. EOE. (10/28/23)

NEEDED PART-TIME PERSONAL CARE PROVIDER in ANTONITO. A must: dependable, trustworthy, and loving individual for a female who can execute transfers and other duties. Interested call 719-376-2348 or 719-588-9430. (10/27/23)

WANTED LOCAL DRIVER WITH CDL license to HAUL HAY. Driving experienced preferred. Must have clean MVR, drug testing required, off weekends & holidays. If interested, call 719-843-5446. (11/7/23)

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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT IS accepting applications for a **CUSTODIAN**. Applications can be downloaded at www.sanfor.schools.org. Sanford School is an EOE&E. (11/4/23)

TOWN OF LA JARA is accepting applications for a full-time **MAINTENANCE WORKER**. Applicants must have experience operating heavy equipment such as backhoes and tractors and lawn equipment, as well as knowledge of general maintenance repairs, street repairs, weed control, mosquito spraying and understanding or willingness to gain knowledge of water and sewer operations. Applications may be picked up at La Jara Town Hall, 221 Broadway. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. For more information call 719-274-5363. (11/3/23)

TOWN OF LA JARA is accepting applications for **POLICE OFFICER**. Must be currently Colorado POST certified; willing to submit to background and criminal history checks as well as a psychological test. Salary ranges from \$43,000.00 to \$45,000 depending on experience. The Town of La Jara offers an excellent benefit package that includes vision, dental and medical insurance, PTO and paid holidays. Applications may be picked up at La Jara Town Hall, 221 Broadway. (11/3/23)

NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is currently accepting applications for (1) **MANASSA ELEMENTARY PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER**, start date of November 6, 2023. Applicants must hold a current Colorado Teaching License or the ability to obtain one. Applications are available at the Administration office, 17887 US Hwy 285, La Jara, CO 81140 or can be downloaded at www.northconejos.com. Application deadline is until position is filled. Submit application to Mr. Darren Edgar, Superintendent. EOE. (11/1/23)

UNABLE TO DRIVE. NEED TRANSPORTATION biweekly for shopping. Live 2 miles from Splashland. Text 719-480-1990, Robert will return call. Prefer senior citizen, retired individual. (11/1/23)

WORKING TOGETHER FAMILY ADVOCATE- LA PUENTE seeks a motivated, qualified person to improve parent/child education, increase family self-sufficiency and build community partnerships. We will train the candidate with the best written and oral communication skills. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of serving others. Send resume/work references to hr@lapuente.net. (10/31/23)

SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT IS accepting applications for a Junior High School **GIRLS BASKETBALL COACH**. Applications can be downloaded at www.sanfor.schools.org. Sanford School is an EOE&E. (10/31/23)

FULL-TIME CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE POSITION open at the UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. This is a 4-10 hour day (Monday-Thursday) with some weekends as needed. Applicant must pass a background check, be able to work independently, and be a forward-thinking individual with an overall team approach to all tasks at hand. Applicant must also be able to work in all weather conditions (snow removal/general landscaping). If interested, please contact Demo Trujillo, 719-657-4040 x4007, dtrujillo@urtigers.co. Applications can be retrieved online at: www.urtigers.co. (11/10/23)

CAFETERIA STAFF NEEDED at UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. Must have high school diploma and some knowledge of working in a kitchen or a willingness to be trained. Pay is dependent on prior experience. Please contact Leslie Martinez at 719-657-4040, x1100 or email her at lmartinez@urtigers.co. (11/8/23)

221 - HELP WANTED

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26 is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the position of **ELEMENTARY PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER**, for the remaining 2023-2024 School Year. Qualifications: Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (11/4/23)

WANTED RELIEF DRIVER hauling US Mail. 1-2 days a week, \$25 hour. 719-850-9866. (11/1/23)

LOCAL NONPROFIT ALPINE ACHIEVERS INITIATIVE is hiring a **DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**. Full-time/part-time TBD. Position can be mostly remote. Major responsibilities include creating a development strategy, writing grant applications, working with donors, and building a fundraising plan. Salary \$34.37-\$39.78/hr. Applications will be reviewed beginning 10/20/2023. Visit alpineachievers.org for position description and instructions. (10/31/23)

SUBSTITUTES TEACHERS NEEDED at the UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT in DEL NORTE! Call or email: Sophia at 719-657-4040, x4000 (scrutz@urtigers.co) for more information, go on-line: urtigers.co, or stop by the district office at: 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO to pick up an application. You do not have to hold a college degree or be a certified teacher to substitute; however, you must be a high school graduate and have a substitute license from CDE (Colorado Department of Education). (10/27/23)

UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT has received a grant for a full-time **JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR** - for the next 3 years, starting in the 2033-2024 school year. Applicants must have a Master's Degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain an appropriate Colorado school counselor license. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, DEL NORTE Jr./Sr. High Principal at ahardy@urtigers.co or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. Applications for certified staff positions can be picked up at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co. (10/27/23)

INSTRUCTIONAL COACH NEEDED at DEL NORTE JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL. Candidate should be proficient in all areas of teaching and learning with an emphasis on professional practice and the teaching and learning cycle. The coach will be responsible for consulting with and supporting the instructional teaching staff in using resources that impact student learning. The coach will provide support and professional learning to instructional staff as needed. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to Annie Hardy, Principal at ahardy@urtigers.co. (10/27/23)

INTERVENTION-IST NEEDED AT DEL NORTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. We are seeking a hard-working and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team. Applicants must have a Colorado Teaching License. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Principal at aduda@urtigers.co or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co. (10/27/23)

221 - HELP WANTED

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

NEED A SECOND INCOME? child support? Car Repairs? Taxes Due? Earn up to \$800/month **DELIVERING THE VALLEY COURIER**. Contact Keith at 719-589-2553. (2/26-TFN)

304 - LAWN & GARDEN

SPRINKLER WINTERIZATION, REPAIR & INSTALLATION. Quick Service! Call evenings & weekends: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (10/27/23-monthly)

307 - APPLIANCES

KENMORE 4-BURNER ELECTRIC STOVE: very little use, like new, \$200. Call 719-588-4663. (12/26/23)

USED WASHER & DRYER, great condition, \$500/obo. Call 719-589-6254 or 719-589-3134. (11/1/23)

324 - SEED & FEED

HORSE & COW HAY: GRASS, GRASS/ALFALFA, ALFALFA. 3x3 and 4x4 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917. (11/1/23-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)

I NEED A supply of ASPEN LOGS to be **DELIVERED TO GUFFEY, Colorado**. Up to 500-1,000 cords, cut to 16-20' lengths, limbed, self-loader. Call Chuck Rinkor 719-689-0586 with price and any questions. (11/1/23)

353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK

KID'S HORSE, TENNESSEE Walker, 13 years old. Good price to good home! \$700. Rick 719-293-0806. (11/29/23)

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

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

LARRS MINI - Therm JVH GAS FIRED BOILER, 160,000 BTU; \$450. 1/2 HP INLINE CAST IRON PUMP 1-inch inlet/outlet; \$150. 719-379-3921. (11/4/23)

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362 - HOME FURNISHINGS

BEAUTIFUL GOLDEN OAK HEAD BOARD: 64"Wx48"H, \$50. Call 719-256-4058 or 719-429-9900. (10/28/23)

368 - PETS & SUPPLIES

LARGE DOG HOUSE made of fiber glass. Will accommodate any size dog; \$50. Must pick up. Call 719-379-3921. (11/4/23)

PUPPY NEEDS GOOD HOME: Blue Merle Australian Shepherd mother and Border Collie dad. 10 weeks old, had first shot. Very playful. Home check necessary. Please call 719-580-4014. (10/27/23)

FREE KITTENS TO GOOD INSIDE HOME(S). Call or text 719-250-7597. (10/31/23)

368 - PETS & SUPPLIES

FEMALE GREAT PYRENEES looking for a **NEW HOME**. Good disposition, friendly. 719-992-1110. (10/27/23)

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)

410 - AUCTIONS

ALAMOSASCHOOL DISTRICT will be having an **AUCTION** for **ARTIFICIAL TURF** on Saturday, October 28, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at Ortega Middle School north of the Baseball Fields. There will be 64 Artificial Turf Rolls ranging from 18-30 inches in diameter, as well as artificial Turf Scraps - Various sizes. Purchased turf must be removed the day of sale. (10/28/23)

401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES

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426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

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

525 - GUNS

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

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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

606 - BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

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

611 - HOUSES FOR RENT

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

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

701 - AUTOS FOR SALE

1 DAY ADVERTISED IN THE VALLEY COURIER. **SOLD MY CAR!** GREAT SERVICE! Samuel.

720 - HEAVY EQUIPMENT

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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 — o' — shanter
 - 4 Drivel
 - 7 Consider to be
 - 11 "Gotcha!"
 - 12 Island east of Java
 - 13 Run in neutral
 - 14 Captain's record
 - 15 Garden of —
 - 16 — monster
 - 17 Actress — Carter
 - 19 Make more desirable
 - 21 Borrower's letters
 - 22 Timecard abbr.
 - 23 Musical group
 - 25 Creature of myth
 - 29 Pittance
 - 30 Christmas-tide
 - 32 Tax pro
 - 33 Chapeau
 - 34 "Death on the —"
- DOWN**
- 1 Lofty
 - 2 Chips —! cookies
 - 3 Importance
 - 4 Walk with soft steps
 - 5 Pub pints
 - 6 Spinning toy

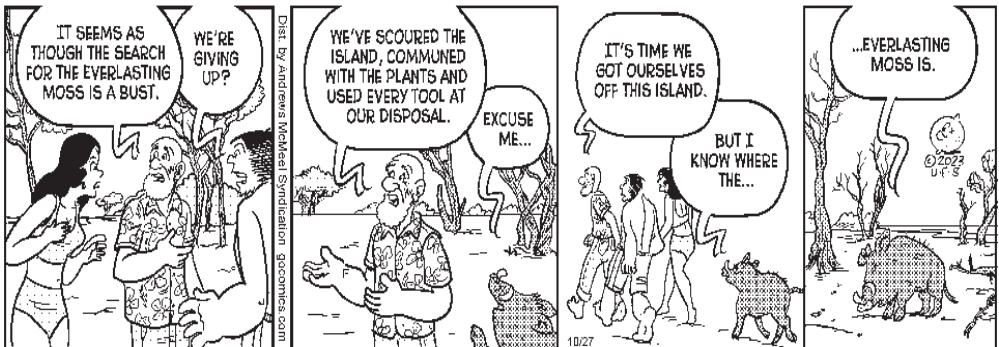
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 7 Compendium
- 8 Use a blue pencil
- 9 Fashion magazine
- 10 Catty
- 12 Attractiveness
- 18 Deer
- 20 Sea eagle (var.)
- 23 Port city in Norway
- 24 Coconut fiber
- 25 Muse of history
- 26 Ancient Greek citadel
- 27 Tied — knots
- 28 Tatters
- 31 Expendable
- 35 This or that
- 38 Seabird
- 39 ABA member
- 41 Hotel in Vegas
- 44 Elapse
- 45 "Right away!"
- 46 Money — object
- 47 Wander
- 49 Marathon
- 50 Hearty meal
- 53 Recently built

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11			12				13		
14			15				16		
17			18			19	20		
21						22			
23	24				25		26	27	28
29			30	31			32		
33			34			35		36	
37			38	39		40	41		
			42			43			
44	45	46			47	48		49	50
51					52	53		54	
55					56			57	
58					59			60	

ALLEY OOP



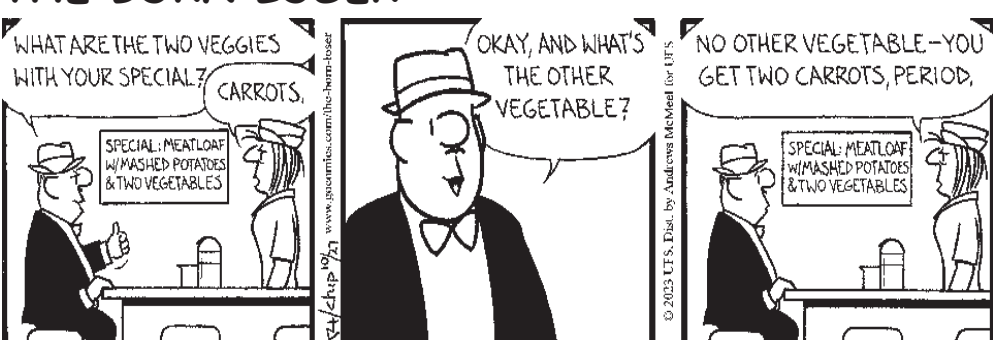
ARLO & JANIS



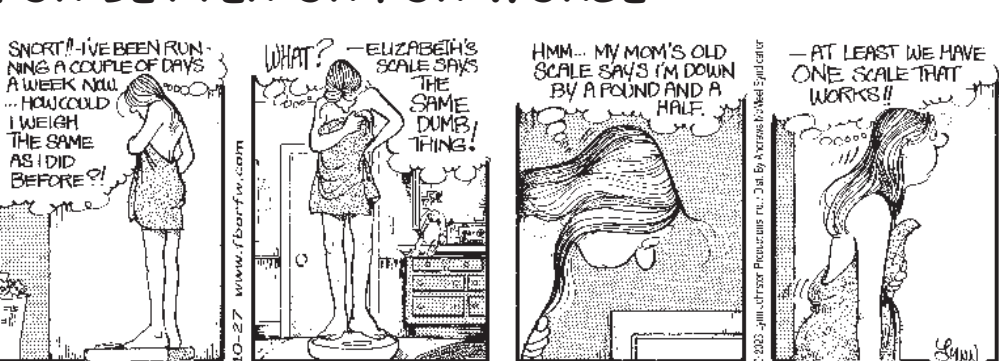
BIG NATE



THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



FRANK & ERNEST



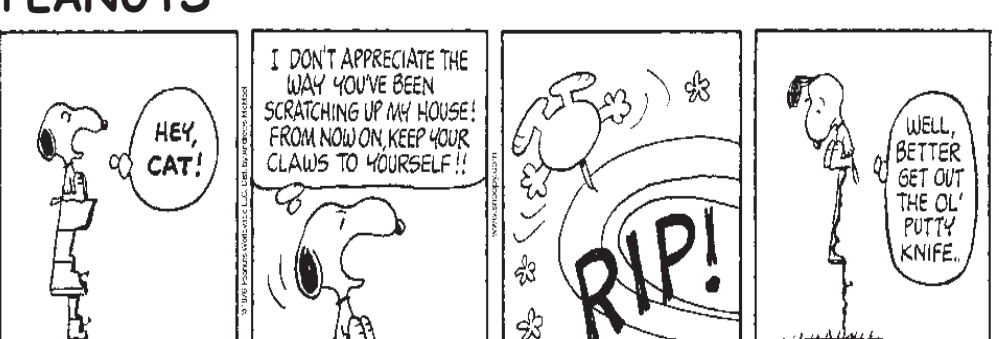
GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

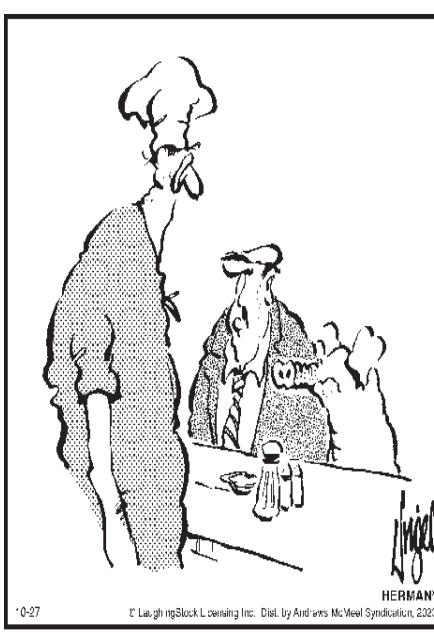
			2	7	8				
	6		1					5	
		2	6	3				1	4
			4					9	
		6	8	9	1	5			
8			7						
1	5		6	8	9				
2								6	
		4	9	1					

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

HERMAN



Family has stuck together despite many differences

DEAR ABBY: I am one of nine children who all still get along. One sibling belongs to a religious order. At least one (for sure) is not a Christian. One is a born-again Christian. One of us is gay and married. We are not all of the same political persuasion. Yet somehow, after all these years, we have managed to get along and still gather for family fun, whether it's a holiday or just a cookout. We don't all live in the same state, but more often than not, most of us are there.

There's no secret to us still loving as well as liking each other. We simply respect each other's opinions and realize that although we don't always agree, it's not worth cutting out of our lives someone we have known "forever." I can't imagine losing even one sibling over a silly disagreement. That's not to say we haven't had arguments, because we have certainly had our share, but we simply take the high road and agree to disagree. I love my siblings with all my heart. Just wanted to share an uplifting note with you. -- NO PROBLEMS HERE

DEAR NO PROBLEMS: Most of the mail I receive concerns relationships that fractured because of a lack of re-

spect for someone's feelings. Thank you for your, frankly, refreshing letter. If more people emulated your family's example, this world would be a happier, less complicated place in which to live. I wish your attitude were contagious.

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Paul" for several years. He lives about an hour away, and we see each other a few weekends a month. I know he loves me. A few months ago, his dog suddenly died from cancer. It was traumatic because "Bruiser" was his best friend.

Paul has been different since Bruiser's death. He has zero interest in anything physical. To me, touch is important -- not just sex. There's shared intimacy in holding someone's hand or kissing. I feel like a plant that's wilting with no sun. I know Paul is struggling, but I don't know how to help him through. We talked about it once, but other than acknowledging he's struggling, he has done nothing further.

I don't want to force the issue, but time is precious. I know what it's like to struggle with depression, and I recognize the signs, but he won't get help. How can I support him through this and get over my self-



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

ishness? -- IN THE DARK IN NEW YORK

DEAR IN THE DARK: Tell Paul you know he is hurting because since Bruiser's death, his behavior has changed. Explain that he may be depressed -- AND WITH GOOD REASON -- and that it might help him to contact his veterinarian and ask if there are grief support groups for pet owners who have lost their furry family member. His vet may be able to suggest one or more. However, if that doesn't appeal to Paul, he should consider talking to his doctor because he is exhibiting some classic signs of depression. After that, the ball's in his court.