

Dune Valley Distillery to host Valley Roots Shindig Oct. 28



By MARIE MCCOLM

MOSCA — On Oct. 28, the Dune Valley Distillery at 5301 Terry Street, in Mosca, will be hosting The Valley Roots Shindig. The Shindig will allow the public and other local farmers to meet their local farmers, and enjoy a dinner comprised entirely of local foods.

The Shindig will also include live music by the Gypsy Jazz Social Club. Doors will open at 5, and dinner will be served at 6. Tickets for the event are currently available online. The cost per ticket is \$25. Children 12 and under are free and costumes are

optional in lieu of Halloween.

Nicholas Chambers of Valley Roots spoke about Valley Roots and the history of the Shindig. Valley Roots is a Colorado local food distributor that reaches outlets across the state.

“We have over a hundred producers in our network and that’s across produce, meat, dairy, and value added,” Chambers said. “We run online markets, where customers place orders. We have trucks out on the road. We have such huge geographical distances between producers and customers and all that type of stuff. We just really want to get everyone in the same room to break bread. This is a big-producer appreciation-type event. Our sponsorships and our sponsors help with some of the costs so we can treat all our producers. We invite everybody that puts vfood

Locally produced food will be the centerpiece of the Valley Roots Shindig on Oct. 28 at the Dune Valley Distillery.

Courtesy photo

Please see ROOTS on Page 7A

Shorts

Del Norte Food Bank distribution Oct. 21

DEL NORTE — The Del Norte Food Bank will be open for its monthly food distribution from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21.

The Del Norte food bank serves Del Norte and South Fork and is situated in the alley behind the Pioneer United Church at 630 Spruce St., Del Norte. Anyone in need of food assistance is welcome.

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

SLVREC, Cielo board meeting is Oct. 24

MONTE VISTA — San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Cielo and the SLV Energy Foundation will have the regular meeting of the board of directors at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 3625 US Highway 160 W, Monte Vista.

Advance notice is required to attend the meeting, call Michelle Trujillo at 719-852-3538.

Trunk or Treat RG Hospital on Oct. 31

DEL NORTE — Rio Grande Hospital’s annual Trunk or Treat is set for Oct. 31 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at 310 County Road 14.

Businesses that are interested in decorating a trunk can call 719-657-3883.

SEE IT!
TOUCH IT!
SHOP LOCAL
.....and have it home with you today!

Saguache United Methodist to celebrate 150 years

By BILL HAZZARD

SAGUACHE — The Saguache United Methodist Church marks a major milestone this year. The church is celebrating 150 years of sharing faith and ministering to the community of Saguache and nearby areas. The actual date of the incorporation was Nov. 3, 1873, but the Saguache church will celebrate a couple of weeks early.

Five original trustees made the Article of Incorporation for the Methodist Episcopal Church at Milton, an early settlement of Saguache County which sat a little over a mile southeast of Saguache. About all that remains of that town today is an old barn, but in its day, Milton was a thriving village competing for importance with Saguache.

The church body had its beginning at Milton and within just a few months, the church itself was constructed. Milton, however, had lost a very contentious county seat election to Saguache and over time, many of the citizens moved from Milton into Saguache.

The church building, after some neglect, was eventually lifted intact and slowly rolled into Saguache in late 1884 and dedicated the following July. Therefore, the history of the Saguache United Methodist Church began with that church in Milton.

Please see 150 on Page 7A



Photos courtesy of Bill Hazzard

The Saguache United Methodist Church marks a major milestone this year. The church is celebrating 150 years of sharing faith and ministering to the community of Saguache and nearby areas.

Baca Grande Library to host the Unexplained in Saguache County

By MARIE MCCOLM

CRESTONE — The Northern Saguache County Library District will be hosting the Unexplained in Saguache County event at 5 p.m. on Oct. 25, at the Baca Grande Library, at 67581 County Road T.

The public is welcome to attend the free event and share their personal unexplained stories of the San Luis Valley.

Eden Elderberry, of the Saguache County Library District, spoke about the event and its spooky fun.

“This is the second year that we are hosting this event,” Elderberry said. “The event was a lot of fun last year. We actually had four of them last year, two in Saguache and two in the Baca Grande Library. This is a great event. Basically, the public is invited to tell their story of unexplained things that

Please see LIBRARY on Page 2A

Nevares receives ‘Realtor of the Year’ for Central Colorado

By MARIE MCCOLM

CRESTONE — In a ceremony that took place at the Realtors of Central Colorado’s annual ordination meeting, Real Estate agent Nick Nevares, of Crestone Mountain Realty, was named “Realtor of the Year” by the organization.

The award is given out annually and voted on by the realtor’s peers within the same constituency. The requirements for the award include a realtor taking a good initiative and embracing their work, someone who goes beyond helping others.

Nevares is no stranger to helping others, over six years ago, Nevares left a large event production backdrop, to move to Crestone and help revitalize the town with aspiring ventures and festivities.

Nevares is currently the Event Producer for the Crestone Energy Fair, the longest running sustainability fair in the country. Nevares takes pride

in engaging in everything that is a part of the fair including the speakers, the home tours that take place, and enjoys educating people about the fair year-round. Nevares has grown the event, and he takes pride in his fundraising endeavors that help to ensure that all participants in the organization are paid fairly for their contributions.

Nevares has also been serving on the Crestone Music Festival board. He has ideas on how to reinstate the festival and incorporate new and fresh ideas into the event, to help revive it so that it thrives again. Recently Nevares was also able to raise funds through sponsorships to help pay for and construct a stage that will be placed in Crestone’s Central Park. Through local volunteers and employees, the first level of the structure has been completed for the stage.

Nevares is also the event producer for the Fourth

Please see NEVARES on Page 2A



Nick Nevares

It Doesn’t grow on trees.
But it might with this rate!
4.25% APY*
For 13 month Certificate of Deposit

DEL NORTE BANK
Member FDIC
4.25% APY*
*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 8/15/23. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. CD will automatically renew at the end of the term for 12 months. Fees on account may reduce earnings. Minimum balance to open is \$500. Minimum balance required to earn the APY is \$500.

State Speaker of the House to address JFK Dinner

By RIO GRANDE COUNTY DEMOCRATS

RIO GRANDE COUNTY — The Colorado Speaker of the House, Julie McCluskie, will address the Rio Grande County Democrats' 3rd Annual John F. Kennedy Dinner on the evening of Saturday, Nov. 4.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the program and dinner will begin at 7:30 p.m. The event which is back after a 3-year hiatus, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will be held at the Outcalt Event and Conference at SLV Ski Hi Complex in Monte Vista.

Speaker McCluskie has served as a State Representative since 2018 and was re-elected in 2022 to represent House District 13, which includes Chaffee, Grand, Jackson, Lake, Park, and Summit counties. She is the first woman Speaker elected from the Western Slope.

Speaker McCluskie is a strong advocate for saving people money and protecting the mountain way of life. Over Speaker McCluskie's time as Chair of the JBC, she carried the state's budget — which made record investments in public schools, higher education, and health care.

Born and raised in Colorado and a graduate of Colorado State University, Speaker McCluskie and her husband, Jamie, have spent most of their married years in the

Rocky Mountains. They are proud parents of two children, Ian and Cait, and enjoy spending family time in Colorado's great outdoors.

The JFK Dinner will also welcome other special guests from the Colorado government. State Representative Matthew Martinez, a freshman legislator in 2023, who has accomplished an impressive agenda in higher education, veterans issues and keeping utility companies accountable is confirmed to address the crowd. Candidate for CU Regent Elliot Hood is also expected to attend. More candidates and elected officials are expected to attend and will be announced as information becomes available.

"We are excited to once again hold our highly successful John F. Kennedy Dinner. We have always strived for our event to be a gem in the mountains, and past keynote speakers and attendees have been impressed with the quality of the show. Our past special guests have included the current governor, previous senate majority leader, and current state representatives and state senators. The Colorado Speaker of the House addressing our dinner is a culmination of this caliber of guests and hard work to ensure our rural communities can hear from and meet our policy



Julie McCluskie

makers. We look forward to a continued successful event," stated Jesse Anthony Guerrero, chair of the Rio Grande County Democrats.

Tickets for the event are on sale. Prices are \$15 in advance, or \$20 at the door. Advance purchase of tickets is highly encouraged and preferred as space is limited. Sponsorship opportunities and VIP tickets are also available. To purchase tickets, email riograndedems@gmail.com.

For up to date information on confirmed special guests and additional information, follow Rio Grande County Democrats on Facebook.

OBITUARY

Don Wagnon

Don Wagnon, loving son, brother and spouse, fought a long and courageous battle with Alzheimer's, passing away at the age of 75. Born in Texas, Don was the son of Manford and Mary Louise Wagnon and brother of Susan Clagett.

Don's early family life involved frequent relocations in the U.S. and abroad due to his father's fully decorated WWII military service. Settling in Texas, Don attended Southwest Texas State University (Texas State University), San Marcos, earning his BBA.

His business career included retail sales and Fleet & Auto Leasing. He met his wife of 39 years, Sandy, and moved to their dream location, Creede, Colo., where he became General Manager of the Creede Hotel and Restaurant and a Realtor at Rincon Real Estate.

But most of all, throughout Don's life, his passion was certainly antiques and collectibles. Starting his own company, he specialized in vintage advertising. Don's other interests were music (a college DJ), classic cars, and living in such a beautiful, remote area as Creede.

He loved hiking with Sandy and their dogs, Blu and Artic, caring for the horses, and looking out the cabin window to watch a herd of elk.

Don was a true gentleman. His



quiet demeanor, quick wit, wry sense of humor, consideration of others and winning smile said it all.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister-in-law, Penny (Dennis) Knuckles.

He is survived by his wife, Sandra (Sandy) Wagnon, and his sister, Susan (Jack) Clagett.

Don chose cremation without services.

The family requests that any donations be made in memory of Don Wagnon to the Creede Community Church and/or the Ladies Aid Society of Creede.

To read his full obituary and leave online condolences, visit www.hoodmortuary.com.

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 1A

have happened to them. There's a lot. Even just talking about it when I was passing out flyers. People would tell me oh well this happened to me, and that happened to me. I was like OK awesome, come and tell your stories, and yes, a lot of people have some great stories to tell."

Elderberry said last year people talked about UFO's and more.

"We had ant people, people who had beetles rain down on their house, and cow mutilation," Elderberry said. "It was interesting last year too, people came with one story to tell, and then

they would suddenly remember something when someone else would talk about something and they would bring up something else. We had one lady talking about beetles raining down on her house, and suddenly one of her neighbors remembered it happening, too. It was just really great."

Elderberry said that the event is lighthearted. She said people sat in a circle and introduced themselves, and then told their stories.

Event Producer of Crestone, Nick Nevares was recently featured on a podcast through Spotify with a

story that he told last year, about an unexplained occurrence that happened to him, and his reason for moving from a big city to Crestone.

Nevares spoke about how he used to be a big event producer in New Orleans, La. Nevares said that after doing that for a long time he wanted to change his life. He had been traveling to various places, living in an RV, and helping feed homeless people by cooking and then serving them in different places, such as Wal-Mart parking lots.

Nevares said after traveling

extensively that he met up to a homeless man, and fed him, and was told by the homeless man, that he should move to Crestone. Nevares listened to him, and he moved to Crestone, finding nothing but success and a place to call home.

After moving to Crestone, he also happened upon the same homeless man who also never forgot him and

asked him if he had moved to Crestone. Nevares said, "I picked up this homeless man and took him grocery shopping and he looked at me and said, 'Did you move to Crestone?' I stated yes, and he said OK now I know why I was born, and he walked away from me. That's a true story that is how I got to Crestone."

NEVARES

Continued from Page 1A

of July festival. Under his leadership, the festival has grown beyond what it was, bringing thousands of July Fourth participants into the town.

Another notable contribution to the town of Crestone is the scholarship Nevares started through his company Mountainside Realty. The scholarship is entitled "The Pay it Forward Scholarship." It will be given to students who put in 200 or more hours of community service and is designed to help teach charitable mentorship to students.

At the annual realtor meeting,

Nevares was recognized with many words before he was given his award. He was said to strive to put the good of his community first in his business ventures and through humanitarianism.

His real estate business, Mountainside Realty, was also credited for giving back to the community, and setting the bar high for others in the business. He was also recognized for preparing a free meal for the community, three times a year, for an average of almost 200 attendants. Nevares was also recognized for hosting Crestone's

annual Thanksgiving Potluck that fed more than 600 people. It was noted that Nevares also made 600 meals and served them "to go" during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nevares and associate Shirley Motz started Mountainside Realty in 2022. They specialize in providing resources for residents seeking alternative housing options and have continued to progressively grow. The brokerage currently has more than 40 listings and has made more than \$7 million in sales.

For more information, contact Mountainside Realty at 719-256-4444.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Your ad could be here for only \$12/week!

Call 852-3531

Meet Belinda, a foodie who loves dining out at **The Roast - Craft Coffee & Libations**

With our debit card, she earns reward points on every purchase, including today's delicious smothered burrito.

Sign up now to start earning rewards and redeem them for amazing experiences!

WWW.SLVFED.BANK/REWARDS



REGISTER

EARN

REDEEM



San Luis Valley Federal Bank

COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS



FDIC

(719) 589-6653



OPINION & EDITORIAL

Understanding intimate partner power and control dynamics

The root of all evil

For those of you who follow Ol' Dutch and Miss Trixie on their weekly adventures, you know there is never a dull moment. And just like the character Roseanne Roseannadanna, who was played by the great Gilda Radner, used to say, "it's always something."

And this past week did not disappoint although the stress did get to Ol' Dutch more than usual as it involved money. And most importantly His money.

I don't think there is anything that stresses me out more than dealing with money whether it be an abundance or lack thereof and this past week dealing with a Credit Union sent me off into orbit. I was so high I probably could have seen John Glenn circling the earth had I stopped long enough to look out the window.

It all started so innocently enough when Ol' Dutch found himself with a little bit of extra mammon to invest. And interest rates being what they are, I had perused the Internet until the keys on the computer wore out but finally found a 6.1% interest rate at a local credit union. Now it's been a long, long time since I had been in one of these financial institutions as I normally use a bank for all transactions but I thought how hard can it be to just get a CD.

So off I went and soon I was embroiled in a process and I found out it can be about four-hours-hard which should have been my first clue that something was about to go awry. Finally dotting the i's and crossing the t's I escaped from there albeit without a free toaster for opening a new account. But nonetheless I felt pretty good about getting a high rate of return. That is until I got home and Miss Trixie checked the account for me. And it's a good thing she did as I soon was made aware that by the time I drove home the Credit Union had reduced the interest from 6.1 to 4.79%.

I soon found out that there was no way to actually call the branch which raised my blood pressure a notch or two. But what they did not know is that there is one thing that you never do to Ol' Dutch and that is come between him and his money. I do love it and I know that is a sin but I pray a lot and ask forgiveness so all is good on the eternal life part of me anyway.

But any who, the next morning found me back at the credit union and sans a mandatory appointment, I walked into the offices of the fearless leader there unannounced. Miss Trixie had tagged along with me so that I



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

didn't blow a proverbial gasket at the poor little Dominican Republic girl who had found herself in over her head.

Finally she got a manager and he tried to explain that the extra interest was still under approval and was now going to be 5.98%. It appears to me that these folks who deal only with money and only with numbers could not even run a calculator.

There is a story about the Kirkpatrick clan that says they were riding with Robert Bruce the future King of Scotland and he had stabbed a man in a saloon. The Kirkpatricks went back and "made sure" the man was dead. Hence the "I Make Sure" on our family crest. So when they asked what I wanted to do I motioned with historical accuracy and finality by drawing my finger across my throat. I was done with that place.

This caused a mad mass confusion as they had to figure out how to cancel a year long CD and get my money back but two hours later I left, check in hand and found a real bank with working calculators and a matching rate.

Now I know that all credit unions are probably not like this branch as some of them are sure to have calculators this late in civilized history and a few may actually have bank officers with more than a month's experience but if this had been the Lottery, Ol' Dutch hit all those numbers on his first try out of the bank box.

Thinking this was a portent of good luck to come, I did buy the big Lottery ticket but alas, didn't win the billions. Looks like therefore I will be writing this column again next week as I cannot afford to bug out.

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.

By TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY

I met with her early in the morning before court started that day. The bruises and cuts on her face were glaring. I was a prosecutor just starting my career and had only a superficial understanding of the dynamics of intimate partner violence. Police arrested her husband after repeatedly punching her in the face. After reading the police reports and seeing the physical results of that assault, I was highly motivated to prosecute this man. I was not prepared for what she was about to tell me. She told me she wanted to drop the charges. She did not want me to prosecute the man that caused so much obvious pain and humiliation. As a young, eager prosecutor, I could not understand her position. Today I do.

Over the course of my career as a prosecutor, this scenario has played out with many variations on the same theme. Prosecutors and law enforcement officers alike sometimes become discouraged and disheartened by these scenarios because we want to keep victims safe and hold offenders accountable. The most effective and compassionate way to address these challenging cases is to develop an educated understanding of the complex dynamics that drive an offender's behavior and a victim's response.

What has become clear to me through my connections with victims is that intimate partner violence is often just a piece of a larger dynamic. The driving force in these relationships is one partner's goal of achieving power and control over the other. Offenders with the goal of power and control use violence as only one of the methods of achieving that

goal. A controlling violent offender has a toolbox of methods designed to keep their partners scared, obedient, compliant and loyal. The effect? Victims may be unable to protect themselves, envision a way out or participate in the process of holding their offenders accountable.

It is critical to look deeper into the violence to understand and recognize the other "tools" at play. One of the most effective methods of controlling an intimate partner is using psychological or emotional manipulation. I have seen offenders beat down their partners with words designed to ensure the destruction of a victim's sense of self-worth and dignity. Offenders may manipulate their partners by threatening suicide or other self-harm if victims talk about ending the relationship. This creates an impossible burden of guilt that keeps victims trapped. Offenders will often attempt to disconnect their partners from their support systems like family or friends who may notice the offender's behavior and intervene. Victim blaming apologies and threats keep victims in a state of hypervigilance and fear. "I'm sorry for that, but if you would just stop doing (fill in the blank), I wouldn't react that way." "If you don't call the police and recant your statement, we will lose the house, the kids, etc."

Another common method offenders use to control their partners is to gain access to their partner's electronic devices to monitor communication and track their partner's location. I have seen a dramatic increase in violent offenders' use of hidden or not so hidden apps that track who a victim is talking to and whether they took a detour on their way home from work.

For our community members who are fearful of immigration status, offenders may threaten to "call the authorities" and "have you deported" if victims report the violence to the police. This particular barrier to safety for our immigrant community is especially powerful and devastating for victims of intimate partner violence who may not have access to contrary information. Threatening a crime victim with deportation or other immigration consequences is a class four felony. Because of the gravity and impact of such a threat, I am committed to aggressively prosecuting that behavior.

The methods offenders use to control their partners makes it challenging for victims of intimate partner violence to participate in the prosecution of their offenders or to protect themselves from future violence. We live in a community that takes care of one another. It is incumbent upon us to recognize the signs of a controlling violent relationships and support victims caught in this trap of power and control. The District Attorney's Office is committed to holding these violent offenders accountable, but our community can do its part by recognizing these dangerous signs of abuse and supporting our friends and neighbors where they are at. The District Attorney's Office works closely with community groups like Tu Casa to increase awareness of the challenging dynamics of intimate partner violence and provide support to victims.

If you are in an abusive relationship or have concerns about someone's safety, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 or Tu Casa in Alamosa at 719-589-2465.

Op-Ed: RG County Commissioners oppose Prop HH

Dear Citizens of Rio Grande County and Other Colorado Voters,

The Rio Grande County Board of County Commissioners firmly believes citizens should have a say in matters of taxation and public spending. The November 2023 ballot presents this opportunity. The Commissioners also believe an informed vote requires clear and concise ballot language adequately describing the impact of a "yes" or "no" vote. The Colorado General Assembly passed legislation signed into law by the Governor on May 24, 2023, known as Senate Bill 23-303 "Reduce Property Taxes And Voter-approved Revenue Change" which is a lengthy 48-page bill that is neither clear nor concise and contains a question referred for voter approval identified on the ballot as "Proposition HH".

The referred ballot measure language specified is "SHALL THE STATE REDUCE PROPERTY TAXES FOR HOMES AND BUSINESSES, INCLUDING EXPANDING PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR SENIORS, AND BACKFILL COUNTIES, WATER DISTRICTS, FIRE DISTRICTS, AMBULANCE AND HOSPITAL DISTRICTS, AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND FUNDS SCHOOL DISTRICTS BY

USING A PORTION OF THE STATE SURPLUS UP TO THE PROPOSITION HH CAP AS DEFINED IN THIS MEASURE?"

The Commissioners believe the ballot question is intentionally misleading and fails to specify several important facts to inform a voter's choice. The ballot question does not specify the amount of taxes to be reduced; does not specify what the expanded property tax relief for seniors consists of; does not specify the amount of backfill to local governments and special taxing districts; does not indicate the "state surplus" consists of tax dollars collected over the current Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) cap that would otherwise be refunded to tax payers and; does not specify the new TABOR cap would allow government to grow at a greater rate than inflation and population.

If approved, Prop HH would allow government entities to increase their mill levies, over and above the "revenue limitation," without a vote of the taxpayers. It would also authorize a 25% increase in the annual growth rate in the state spending limit, adding dollars to the state's largest budget on record and would allow the state of Colorado to collect and spend an additional \$9 billion funded by this significant increase in taxes.

The ballot question also allows the

state legislature to extend Prop HH through 2040 producing a \$21 billion net tax increase, all without voter approval. Conservative estimates indicate the average homeowner would face a net tax increase of more than \$400 per year through 2032 due to the loss of TABOR refunds.

Prop HH also threatens local control of property tax revenue for local governments and its tax-paying base. Prop HH transfers decision making from the local level to the Governor's office and the state legislature. This measure strikes down more than 100 years of precedence in Colorado and further consolidates power at the State level.

The Rio Grande County Commissioners are strongly opposed to Prop HH and urge all citizens of Rio Grande County and the State of Colorado to vote "NO" on Prop HH on the November 2023 ballot as it clearly violates the State Constitution, seems purposefully written to mislead voters, and obscures the fact that passage would eliminate future TABOR refunds and reduce the limits placed on the growth of state government.

Sincerely,
Gene Glover, Scott Deacon, Tyler Ratzlaff
Rio Grande County Commissioners

CENTER POST - DISPATCH

THE CENTER POST-DISPATCH (USPS 775-900) Published weekly (every Thursday) by Valley Publishing. (719) 852-3531 at 835 First Ave., Monte Vista, Colorado 81144-1423. Official newspaper of the Town of Center, and a legal newspaper in Saguache County.

Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144
Main office, Want ads and Subscriptions: (719) 852-3531
Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, Colo., 81144
POSTMASTER: Send change of address to P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144
Subscriptions: \$45 one year in the San Luis Valley; \$40 one year seniors (65 and older) in the San Luis Valley; and \$55 one year out of the San Luis Valley. (719) 852-3531
San Luis Valley Publishing, LLC

- Brian Williams..... GM/Editor
- Marie Mccolm Monte Vista Journal Reporter
- Lyndsie Ferrell South Fork/Creede Reporter
- Diane Drekman..... Conejos/Costilla Reporter
- Sandra Marquez Advertising Sales Associate
- Shasta Quintana Circulation
- Ellie Bone Composition
- Roxie Beutler Classified
- Richard R. Quintana Mailroom Supervisor/Press

www.centerpostdispatch.com

South Fork Chili Cookoff heats up bowls of success

By LYNDSIE FERRELL

SOUTH FORK — The South Fork Visitor Center Chili Cookoff was considered a smashing success on Thursday, Oct. 12. Eager tasters filled the South Fork Community Center and more than 21 contestants competed in the best of the best in three categories.

This year's theme was "Star Wars," and each competitor did a wonderful job decorating the tables and surrounding room which made for a wonderful evening of neighborly fun. Chili contestants lined the expanse of the community center offering their own take on green chili, red chili, and salsa. People gathered outside and waited for their chance to come in and taste some of the best chili and salsa around.

Like many of the other events that took place in South Fork over the past summer, the Chili Cookoff was given new life thanks to the partnership of the Town of South Fork, the South Fork Visitor Center, and the South Fork Friends Foundation.

Over the past month, the event came close to being canceled until one last marketing ploy from South Fork Friends Foundation president Luke Brennan paid off and brought in about 15 contestants who were eager to keep the event going.

Brennan's determination coupled with new visitor center Director Larry Tumbleson and his wife Sharon's creative spark made for an evening of fun, hospitality, and the chance to meet with family, friends, and neighbors. In the years past, the event was something everyone looked forward to and now that the cookoff has received new life, the hope is that the community will look forward to it once again.



Courtesy photos

The annual South Fork Chili Cookoff saw more than 200 people decide the winners.

"Great job and thank you to all our wonderful supporters and volunteers. Thanks goes out to the Rio Grande Club and Resort for their generous contribution of two food and beverage certificates and rounds of golf certificates for raffles and awards. Huge thanks to the South Fork Friends Foundation for supporting, getting the word out and rounding up more contestants. To Dennis Shepherd and the Silverthreader Club for providing drinks and desserts. To volunteers Travis Cross, Dustin Hund and wife Casey for cleanup and support and to all the contestants for their time and effort in providing some of the best and uniquely flavored chili in Colorado!"

The event's winners were as follows: first place for the Red Chili Category was Ali Butler and Caitlyn Steffens and second place for the Red Chili Category went to



More than 21 contestants participated in the South Fork Chili Cookoff on Thursday, Oct. 12.

the South Fork Friends Foundation. First place for the Green Chili Category was Jim and Monica Pemberton and second place went

to Ramones Mexican restaurant. First for the Salsa Category went to South Fork Fire Rescue and second place went to Jones Riley.

The South Fork Friends Foundation also earned the Best Table Decoration award for the night.



2023 Statewide Ballot Issues

The Colorado Constitution (Article V, Section 1(7.3)) requires the Colorado Legislative Council to publish the ballot title and legal text of each statewide ballot measure.

A "YES/FOR" vote on any ballot issue is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances, and a "NO/AGAINST" vote on any ballot issue is a vote against changing current law or existing circumstances.

Proposition HH Reduce Property Taxes and Retain State Revenue

Question:

Shall the state reduce property taxes for homes and businesses, including expanding property tax relief for seniors, and backfill counties, water districts, fire districts, ambulance and hospital districts, and other local governments and fund school districts by using a

portion of the state surplus up to the proposition HH cap as defined in this measure?

Proposition II Retain Nicotine Tax Revenue in Excess of Blue Book Estimate

Question:

Without raising taxes, may the state retain and spend revenues from taxes on cigarettes, tobacco, and other nicotine products and maintain tax rates on cigarettes, tobacco, and other nicotine products and use these revenues to invest twenty-three million six hundred fifty thousand dollars to enhance the voluntary Colorado preschool program and make it widely available for free instead of reducing these tax rates and refunding revenues to cigarette wholesalers, tobacco product distributors, nicotine products distributors, and other taxpayers, for exceeding an estimate included in the ballot information booklet for proposition EE?



Asuntos de la Boleta Estatal de 2023

La Constitución de Colorado (Artículo V, Sección 1(7.3)) exige que el Consejo Legislativo de Colorado publique el título y el texto legal de la boleta de cada medida de boleta a nivel estatal.

Un voto de SÍ/PRO sobre cualquier asunto de boleta es un voto a favor de cambiar las leyes actuales o circunstancias existentes, y un voto de NO/CONTRA sobre cualquier asunto de boleta es un voto en contra de cambiar las leyes actuales o circunstancias existentes.

Propuesta HH Reducir los impuestos a la propiedad y retener los ingresos estatales

Pregunta:

¿Debe reducir el estado los impuestos a la propiedad para hogares y negocios, incluyendo ampliar la desgravación del impuesto a la propiedad para las personas mayores, y además subvencionar a los condados, los distritos de agua, los distritos de bomberos, los distritos de ambulancias y hospitales, y otros gobiernos locales y financiar los distritos escolares

utilizando una parte del superávit estatal hasta el límite de la propuesta HH como se define en esta medida?

Propuesta II Retener los ingresos fiscales por nicotina que excedan la estimación del Folleto de información

Pregunta:

Sin aumentar los impuestos, ¿puede el estado retener y gastar los ingresos de los impuestos sobre cigarrillos, tabaco y otros productos de nicotina y mantener las tasas impositivas sobre los cigarrillos, el tabaco y otros productos de nicotina y usar estos ingresos a fin de invertir veintitrés millones seiscientos cincuenta mil dólares para mejorar el programa preescolar voluntario de Colorado y hacerlo ampliamente disponible de forma gratuita en lugar de reducir estas tasas impositivas y reembolsar los ingresos a los mayoristas de cigarrillos, a los distribuidores de productos de tabaco, distribuidores de productos de nicotina y otros contribuyentes, por exceder una estimación incluida en el folleto de información de la boleta estatal para la propuesta EE?

Rio Grande Wellness Center on track

By RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL

DEL NORTE — Currently under construction, the Wellness Center project at Rio Grande Hospital is a venture in moving from illness to wellness.

Arlene Harms, CEO of Rio Grande Hospital and Clinics, compares the new Rio Grande Wellness Center to common denominators of the world's five "Blue Zones." Blue Zones are areas in the world where people have been able to reduce disease and live longer.

As an investment in prevention and well-being for the citizens of the Valley, the Wellness Center promotes four principles: nutrition, moving naturally, connecting, and mindfulness.

Nutrition means eating for wellness, eating real food, eating in moderation, and incorporating more plants into your diet.

The Blue Zones prove eating wisely helps us feel better and may help us live a longer life. The Wellness Center's Teaching Kitchen will coach people with dietary needs on how to select and prepare meals utilizing nutrient-dense foods, which are available locally. Learn what ingredients are best and how to create a lifestyle of healthy eating.

Encouraging teams of people with common needs to provide support to one another can help with people's success in attaining health goals.

With a focus on good ingredients, the Teaching Kitchen will use fresh herbs grown from the Living Herb Wall in the Center's Garden Meeting Room or food grown in the geodesic dome greenhouse.

Nutrition classes will be offered, and participants can learn how a plant-slant diet leads to a healthier life. Benefits include boosting immunity, strengthening bones, and helping the digestive system function.

People living in the Blue Zones stay active; they daily partake in low-intensity activities like gardening, cooking, housework, yard work, kneading their own bread, walking, dancing, and socializing.

Moving matters. The concept of keeping active and moving naturally throughout each day

is crucial to longevity. Exercise reduces stress, boosts your energy and mood, enhances memory and ability to focus, improves sleep quality, and helps with weight loss and maintenance.

The Wellness Center's Fitness Center and Studio will facilitate physical activity. Take a new movement therapy class or release endorphins by testing out a variety of equipment.

The center will offer classes such as Tai Chi or get your hands in the dirt and work in the greenhouse gardens to be located in the Geodesic Dome nearby.

Exiting the Fitness Center door, you can connect to eight miles of natural single-track walking trails in Del Norte's Lookout Mountain Park. Research has shown there is a correlation between happiness and time outdoors spent in nature and around nature.

Another Blue Zone concept is mindfulness. Simple practices such as focusing on moment or gaining more self-awareness and self-regard are all part of developing a healthy outlook.

The Wellness Center provides Quiet Rooms for folks to downshift, focus on their breathing, relax, reflect, and perhaps meditate.

The Center will provide information on community events and opportune ways people can gain satisfaction and pride by giving back to their community, improving the quality of life of others in the Valley may additionally improve your well-being.

Connecting with others is another Blue Zone concept. According to specialists, if you have strong family and social connections, you are more likely to have stronger immune systems and live longer. The Wellness Center's Community Lounge will be a great location to meet with friends. Face-to-face time with other people helps with a sense of belonging. Surrounding yourself with a circle of friends who share your commitment to a healthy lifestyle plays a role in happiness and managing stress in your daily life.

Other benefits include lowering the risk of depression, anxiety, and heart disease.

Among the goals of the Wellness Center are social and economic



Courtesy photos

Construction of the Rio Grande Hospital Wellness Center is beginning to reveal shape and scale with design elements that are noninstitutional.

health through programs, activities and classes. It encourages engaging with others in your own social circle while making new inter-generational connections.

If we want to feel better, sometimes we must rethink our lifestyles. At the Rio Grande Wellness Center, the public can learn behaviors that are critical to our future wellness,

take them home and practice them every day.

This is the third in a six-part series of articles about the Rio Grande Wellness Center.

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT 11 Month Special

4.31% APY

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



RG BANK

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.

719-852-5933

719-589-2536

Monte Vista

Alamosa

Member FDIC • Equal Housing Lender

San Luis Valley Scoreboard 2022 -2023

Football

Sierra Grande 67	Primero 64
La Veta 52	Sangre de Cristo 6
Centauri 63	Trinidad 0
Sanford 1	Sargent (F)
Monte Vista 42	Ignacio 7
Del Norte 14	Center 12
Alamosa 36	Manitou Springs 14
Kim/Branson 53	Mountain Valley 18

COLLEGE

Chadron State 53	Adams State 14
------------------	----------------

You could be a supporter for San Luis Valley Sports!

Find us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/ValleyPublishing>

Your ad could be here!

719.852.3531

smarquez@valleypublishinginc.com
bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com

Proud Military Parents and Supporters seeking donations

Organizing its first Coffee with a Veteran event

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — The Proud Military Parents and Supporters group is asking for donations for care packages for the holiday season.

Group founder and president Kelly Avila said, “Right now we are putting together care packages for local military men and women. We send them wherever they need to go. Some are overseas, and some are local. We want to show these folks that we care about them.”

The Proud Military Parents and Supporters group was founded in 2019. Avila said that the idea for the group came as her son was leaving for basic training from Canon City. Representatives from Canon City sent care packages with the new enlistees the day that they left.

Instead of sending something with the military bound recruits the day they leave, the Proud Military Parents group sends its packages during the holidays.

“Waiting to send out these packages is also a way for us to get the community involved. We have had the police department involved and the fire department involved, and other community members get involved as well,” said Avila.

The group raises funds and takes donations to help send Christmas care packages to local military members who are presently serving. The group also holds sendoff ceremonies for local people who are leaving home after enlisting in a U.S. military branch.

“We do ceremonies for kids and adults alike. If anyone is going to the military and would like a sendoff ceremony, they can contact us, and

we would be happy to hold one for them,” she said.

Group treasurer and secretary Michelle Velasquez spoke about what it was like to have a child in the military.

“My son is in the Navy. I didn’t find out about the group until right after Christian left, but I am a supportive parent,” Velasquez said. “I found out about the group and thought it was a neat idea. I have traveled many miles to see my son Christian when we are able to see him. I have also participated in a few send-offs for other children. If we know when the children are going to leave, we can give them a send-off ceremony. We try to put together a package before they leave with a little bit of money and other things that they may need.”

Velasquez said the group provides support to parents, too.

“It’s honestly a support group, too, we can call each other and talk to each other about our children. I am not going to lie, it’s tough being a military parent, but we are there for our kids, and being a part of this group helps a lot, too,” she said.

The Proud Military Parents group accepts money and individually packaged items—like snacks including dried fruit, chips, gummy’s, snacks, hot chocolate, trail mix, and nuts. The group asks that chocolate candy be avoided due to climate changes. Toiletries, and hygiene, including toothbrushes, body wipes, Q-tips, dental floss, hand sanitizer, writing utensils, puzzles and card games are being accepted.

The group is hosting its first annual Coffee with a Veteran from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11. This event will take place at the Colorado Veterans Community Center of Homelake. The



Courtesy photo

Proud Military Parents and Supporters seeking donations for its annual holiday care packages.

event will be open to the public.

The group is accepting donations through Oct. 27. The care packages will be boxed and sent out the first week of November. The group is also willing to pick up items. For more information or to donate, visit their Facebook page or call 719-580-6280 or 719-580-5048.

NOTICE OF BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Directors of the San Luis Valley Irrigation District for the ensuing year of 2024; that a copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the office of the San Luis Valley Irrigation District where same is open for public inspection; and that such proposed budget will be considered at a Regular Meeting of the San Luis Valley Irrigation District Board of Directors to be held at 296 Miles Street, Center, Colorado, on November 8th, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Any interested elector of the San Luis Valley Irrigation District may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the Budget.

No. 1683 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, October 19 and 26 and November 2 and 9, 2023.

NOTICE OF COORDINATED ELECTION TO BE CONDUCTED BY MAIL BALLOT CENTER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN and particularly the electors of the Center Fire Protection District of the Counties of Alamosa, Rio Grande, and Saguache, Colorado:

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that a coordinated election of the Center Fire Protection District shall be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. The election is being conducted as a mail ballot election. Mail ballots are required to be mailed to eligible electors between October 16, 2023 and October 23, 2023.

At said election, the electors of the District shall vote on the following ballot issue:

Ballot Issue 7A:

SHALL CENTER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$86,752.00 ANNUALLY BEGINNING IN COLLECTION YEAR 2024, AND BY SUCH AMOUNT AS MAY BE GENERATED THERE AFTER BY THE IMPOSITION OF AN ADDITIONAL

TWO (2) MILL LEVY INCREASE, BRINGING THE TOTAL DISTRICT MILL LEVY TO 6.924 MILLS, FOR THE PURPOSES OF MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING FIRE PROTECTION, EMERGENCY SERVICES, AND AMBULANCE SERVICES, AND SHALL ALL REVENUE AND ANY EARNINGS ON THIS TAX CONSTITUTE A PERMANENT VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE

LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-1-301 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTE, AND ANY OTHER LAW?

ASUNTO PAPELETA ELECTORAL 7A

INCREMENTARÁN LOS IMPUESTOS DEL DISTRITO DE PROTECCIÓN CONTRA INCENDIOS DE CENTRO A \$86,752.00 ANUALMENTE A PARTIR DEL AÑO DE RECAUDACIÓN 2024, Y POR LA CANTIDAD QUE PUEDA GENERARSE POSTERIORMENTE MEDIANTE LA IMPOSICIÓN DE UN AUMENTO ADICIONAL DE DOS (2) MILÉSIMAS, LLEVANDO EL TOTAL DE LA RECAUDACIÓN DEL DISTRITO A 6.924 MILÉSIMAS, 924 MILLS, CON EL FIN DE MANTENER Y MEJORAR LA PROTECCIÓN CONTRA INCENDIOS, LOS SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA Y LOS SERVICIOS DE AMBULANCIA, Y ¿CONSTITUIRÁN TODOS LOS INGRESOS Y CUALQUIER GANANCIA DE ESTE IMPUESTO UN CAMBIO DE INGRESOS PERMANENTE APROBADO POR LOS VOTANTES EN VIRTUD DEL ARTÍCULO X, SECCIÓN 20 DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN DE COLORADO Y UNA EXCEPCIÓN A LAS LIMITACIONES ESTABLECIDAS EN LA SECCIÓN 29-1-301 DEL ESTATUTO REFORMADO DE COLORADO Y CUALQUIER OTRA LEY?

Eligible electors may apply for new or replacement mail ballots and return voted mail ballots to the offices:

Rio Grande County Residents

Rio Grande County Annex Building
965 Sixth Street
Del Norte, Colorado

Monday through Friday (Oct. 30th – Nov. 6th) 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Saturday (Nov. 4th) 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Tuesday, Nov. 7th (Election Day) 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Saguache County Residents

Saguache County Courthouse Basement
501 4th Street Saguache CO 81149
Monday – Friday (10/23/2023 - 11/06/2023)
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday (11/4/2023) 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Election Day (11/07/2023)
7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Alamosa County Residents

Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC) at the Alamosa County Building, 8999 Independence Way Ste 101, Alamosa, CO 81101.

Monday, October 30th through Tuesday, November 7th, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

• on Saturday, November 4th, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.
• Election Day, November 7th, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

No. 1682 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, October 19, 2023.

Early morning crash results in one fatality, one seriously injured

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

MONTE VISTA — An early morning head-on collision north of Monte Vista resulted in the death of one driver with the second driver being transported to a hospital.

According to Capt. Nathan Lyons, Public Information Officer (PIO) for the Colorado State Patrol (CSP), at 8:10 a.m. on Wednesday morning, a 34-year-old male driving a Toyota Corolla was heading northbound on County Road 4 North when he apparently drifted into the southbound lane, colliding head-on with a Dodge Ram 3500 being driven by a 71-year-old man.

The accident occurred at Mile Marker 54 where, Lyons says, it is a two-lane road.

The driver of the Toyota Corolla, the only car occupant, was pronounced deceased on the scene. The driver of the Dodge Ram 3500, also the only occupant, was transported to a hospital where he is being treated for serious injuries that are not life-threatening.

The victims’ names are not being released now, pending notification of family members. However, Lyons stated that both men are local residents and believed to be from the Monte Vista-Del Norte area.

FALL SUPER SALE

KICKOFF THE BIGGEST SAVINGS OF THE YEAR!!!

Call Today for Your **FREE Estimate!**

719-493-9644

SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE

Leafguard
Get it today. Protected for life.

*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

- ☑ LIFETIME NO-CLOG WARRANTY
- ☑ MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME
- ☑ THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM.
- ☑ SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH

*All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 Visa Gift Card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both collaborating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Offer not available in the states of CA, HI, PA and NJ. Expires 10/31/23. LeafGuard operates as LeafGuard of DC in Maryland under registration number MHC License #136993.

150 Continued from Page 1A

There were a few Methodist ministers who came through the area well before 1873. The Rev. Joseph Williams, according to his diary, passed over Cochetopa Pass and through the Saguache area in 1842. After Colorado became a territory, several Methodist circuit riders came through and preached in homes here and there on an irregular basis.

The first of these traveling ministers was the Rev. John L. "Father" Dyer in 1867, followed by the Rev. Jesse Smith and the Rev. George Murray and possibly others.

It was the Rev. John L. Rickards and the Rev. B.A. Washburn, though, who were both assigned to this area from

1873-1874. They organized the church body at Milton, along with local men Samuel Ashley, P.H. Wilcox and Preston Hotchkiss. These five men made and signed the Article of Incorporation.

The church has experienced many highs and lows in its 150 years. There have been many periods when it was difficult to find and keep a pastor. There were other years when the church enjoyed huge growth in membership and pastors who remained for several years.

In more recent years, the church yoked with the Center United Methodist Church, a yoke which lasted 60 years. Through the entire history of the church, it has been the members, and

ROOTS Continued from Page 1A

into our network to come at no cost to them. We want to treat them to dinner."

Chambers explained that the event is also an opportunity for the public and their customers, including wholesalers, restaurants, grocers, and people to meet the farmers.

"We do all the food in-house. It's all 100 percent Valley Roots, Colorado local foods," Chambers said. "We have a band that's coming in from Crested Butte, Gypsy Jazz Social Club, which will be fun. This is going to be just a real authentic farm-at-the-table experience. A summit of Colorado agriculture, too. This is an event to get people together, and talking, have a little facetime, and that type of thing."

Chambers said it is important for Valley Roots to get its name out there.

"We're going on nine years. We are a project of the nonprofit in Alamosa called the San Luis Valley Local Food Coalition," Chambers said. "We operate in Mosca, and we operate out of White Rock Specialties, which is a potato and quinoa plant. We are all about just small-, medium-, and large-scale Colorado local foods. We essentially aggregate all the products from those hundred producers that we have in our network. We put them all together for buyers to see. Buyers will get one invoice representing over 100 producers. This is again across, meat, dairy, produce, and value added, all those categories."

Chambers said they operate on a produce model, so the idea is to sell the produce before it is harvested. Chambers said this gives farmers fresh numbers to know exactly what to harvest.

"When the food is harvested, it is picked up and aggregated in our warehouse in Mosca, and then it has a very quick turnaround time to our customers, since it's already sold, of about 24 to 36

hours, from warehouse to customer establishments," Chambers said.

Chambers also said that there is a CSA Market specifically for people who are just at home, and like shopping from home.

"We do home deliveries for them. We also have a bunch of pick-up locations in their communities where they can pick up their goods once per week," Chambers said.

Chambers said that for as many stakeholders and moving parts as Valley Roots has, they are also mission driven as well.

"We come out of the pioneers for organic food, are some of the founders of our board. We really want to promote soil health and growing food. We really wanted to bring that to the forefront of consumers' buying choices," Chambers said. "We really try to encourage the development of the economy and community. It really starts with the buying choices that all our community members have. We really want to be the ones that people buy from. We also know that if we keep the buying local, that's how we create wealth and abundance in our community."

Chambers said that there is more than just food and customers and consumers involved.

"We are much more than just food, we want to help people, and the community thrives as well," Chambers said. "We hope everyone will come out to the Shindig, buy tickets, and obtain all this wealth of good information. We have sold out in previous years for the Shindig and look forward to selling out again. It will be a great time for all who attend."

For more information on the Valley Roots Shindig at the Dune Valley Distillery in Mosca, or to purchase tickets, visit their Facebook page.

often the women of the church, who have sustained it during the lean and difficult times.

Raising money for church needs, continuing Sunday School and prayer meetings held the church together even during the worst periods. This up-and-down history illustrates quite clearly that a church is not the building, it is not the pastors, it is not the conference, but it is

the body of people of the community. Seventy-some ministers later, after Rickards and Washburn, the Saguache church is still sharing the faith in the community.

The Saguache UMC, therefore, is holding a 150th Year Celebration on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023, and it will begin with a worship service at 11 a.m. This will be followed by an open house and

reception in the Fellowship Hall from about 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

There will be a community Bible display and a historical photo display of pastors, the church over the years, and weddings and other special events.

The Saguache congregation is preparing for a remarkable day. The Saguache UMC is located at Christy Avenue and 6th Street in Saguache.

NOTICE OF ELECTION RIO GRANDE COUNTY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023

TO THE ELECTORS OF RIO GRANDE COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a General Election will be held by Mail Ballot on Tuesday, the 7th of November, 2023 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. If you are a registered voter, you will receive a ballot at your mailing address beginning October 16th. Mail Ballots may be dropped off at the Rio Grande County Clerk's Office, 965 Sixth Street, Del Norte, Colorado, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ballots may also be dropped off on Saturday, November 4th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 7th. A 24-Hour Drop Box is available on the west side of the building at 965 Sixth Street, Del Norte. Ballots can also be mailed using the envelope enclosed with the ballot. Ballots must be received at the County Clerk's Office by 7:00 P.M. on November 7th. The Postmark does not count as being received.

Your ballot will contain only the Races or Issues on which you are eligible to vote.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the office of the County Clerk and Recorder this 2nd day of October 2023.



Cindy Hill

Cindy Hill
Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorder

A Sign of Spiritual Maturity

Recently I felt like God gave me a simple definition of what spiritual maturity is. I'm sure it involves more than what's in this sentence, but I want you to think about it: Spiritual maturity is asking God what you can do for Him, not only asking God what He can do for you.

I wonder how many of us, every day, when we say our prayers, ask God, "What can I do for You today? Who can I bless? Who can I help? I want to serve You."

I started doing this on a daily basis about three or four years ago, and it's amazing what happens when you ask God to show you someone to bless—He does. In the process, I've learned that if you form a habit of simply listening to people, they'll tell you what they need, where they're hurting, or what they might like to have.

I think sometimes we feel like someone has to be desperate for us to help them. But everyone has times when they simply need to feel blessed. They may even have more money than you, but they still need the love and encouragement that comes with someone else doing something nice for them.

Luke 6:38 (NIV) says, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Giving to others is one of the greatest things that you can do. If you want joy in your life, then become a giver! Our natural tendency is to think about ourselves—all of our own needs and wants. But the thing that really makes us happy is to give of ourselves and focus on helping other people. When we do, it gives us a joy that we can never achieve on our own. I encourage you to make giving a lifestyle. You can certainly give money, but you can also give others your time, talents, and friendship.

I used to be miserable, focused solely on what I wanted and how

people could do things for me. But as I began to shift my focus onto loving others, I became happier than I'd ever been. I challenge you to do the same. Each day, begin to think of ways you can bless someone else. Ask God what you can do for Him and see how it changes your life.

That's what spiritual maturity really is—it's getting yourself off your mind. This kind of maturity is what the apostle Paul meant when he said, "...It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God" (Galatians 2:20 NKJV). Or when he said, "In Him we live and move and have our being..." (Acts 17:28 AMPC).

In 1 Corinthians 15:31 (NKJV), Paul also said, "...I die daily." He didn't mean that he died physically every day. He meant that he died to "self" and being selfish every day.

I want to tell you a funny story. We have a 4-year-old grandson named Brody and he's quite a little character, and he can sometimes lose his temper. About a month ago, he was having kind of a cranky, rough, I'm-going-to-have-a-fit-every-time-I-don't-get-my-way day, and he was out with his mother. She was doing some shopping and he wasn't acting very nice.

She said, "Brody, we're going to pray about the way you're behaving." So, she wrapped her arms around him and prayed, "Lord, we just ask you to help Brody be a good boy today and help him feel better and not feel so cranky. Help him smile and listen to what I tell him." She finished with her prayer and said "Amen." But Brody said, "Not Amen!" He didn't agree with that prayer!

When God gives us some instruction that's good for us, I think this can sometimes be our attitude as well: "Not Amen!" Because Amen means, "Yes, let it be so," and we're not sure if we want to do what He is asking.

The truth is, we can sometimes behave like spiritual babies—we want our own way! But the good news is



God never gives up on helping us grow. After we begin a relationship with Him, we begin a wonderful process of becoming more like Jesus, and it's a process that goes on all of our lives.

Whenever we spend time in God's Word and begin to do what it says, we grow. Every time we talk to God in prayer, it makes a difference, and we make progress. And in the process, He never stops showing us ways that we can improve and have an even greater life.

I'm so grateful that God doesn't leave me alone and let me stay the way I am. Instead, He keeps nudging me and showing me ways that I can improve. And He does this for every single one of us. He slowly but surely transforms us and makes us more like Him.

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 (FaithWords). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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

**TOURISM
in Saguache County
OPEN HOUSE**

**Oct 25th from 4pm-6:30pm
at Saguache Road & Bridge**

**Complimentary food
and beverages will
be provided.**

RSVP: mimi.mather@colorado.com
Brought to you by Saguache County Tourism Council
with support from the Colorado Tourism Office
Visit: www.Mystic-Colorado.com

SLV community shows support for RGC Museum

STAFF REPORT

DEL NORTE — For the second straight year, the Rio Grande County Museum partnered with the Windsor Hotel for an annual fundraiser dinner that this year benefitted the restoration and preservation of the Barlow and Sanderson Stage Office.

As the sun set in Del Norte on Friday, Oct. 13, people wandered into the Windsor Hotel to enjoy an evening of mystery and ghostly delight. The hotel provided the perfect ambiance for the dinner setting that included tales of local lore.

Windsor and museum staff greeted people as they gathered in the front rooms of the building and then at 6 p.m. sharp, the first of two tours kicked off throughout the property led by the Windsor Hotel's Melissa Archuleta. Archuleta is well versed in both local history and the history of the hotel.

The tour included tales about the days when the Windsor served as the local morgue, some of the guests and their untimely deaths as well as tales of ghosts who still linger along the hallways and room of the hotel.

"We have always wanted to hear the stories about the Windsor, and we really enjoyed listening to Melissa while she set the stage for the evening," said attendees Jeff and Lynn Weiser.

The evening also included a three-course meal created by Chef Tim Alfrey who is well known for his creative flare and delicious pairings. Each course was named after a notorious tale from Rio Grande County's history including the Leroy Brothers, the Fremont and LaLlorona.

"The meal was superb. We are never disappointed, but this was almost as if Chef Tim made fall into a meal," laughed diner Mary Vine.

Just as dessert was being placed

on the tables, Rio Grande County Museum Director Lyndsie Ferrell thanked the attending crowd for their support.

"It was so nice to see so many new faces here this evening. It just goes to show how far our supporters reach and we are very grateful for your generous donations and for joining us this evening," she said.

Ferrell also thanked Suzanne Off, one of the remaining few people that have worked over the years to ensure the Barlow and Sanderson Stage Office was cared for and preserved for future generations. The Rio Grande County Commissioners were also thanked for their generosity in donating \$25,000 this past summer to the project.

A huge thanks goes out to the Rio Grande County Museum for its continued support and to the Windsor Hotel which has been one of the biggest supporters of the museum

and the Barlow and Sanderson Preservation Fund and to the Del Norte Public Library for collecting

donations and continuing to support the cause through several different means.



The Windsor Hotel's Melissa Archuleta took diners on tours and spoke about the spooky history of the hotel and the area.



Photos by Lyndsie Ferrell

The Rio Grande County Museum in partnership with the Windsor Hotel hosted their annual fundraising event and Mystery Dinner on Friday, Oct. 13. The evening was well attended and highlighted local history, mystery and lore. All proceeds went to the preservation and relocation of the Barlow and Sanderson Stage Office.

RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL'S ANNUAL

trunk or treat

OCTOBER 31
FROM 4:30PM-6:00PM

310 COUNTY ROAD 14
DEL NORTE, CO 81132

If businesses are interested in decorating a trunk, please contact Adrienne at 719-657-3883

Rio Grande
HOSPITAL & CLINICS
a non-profit organization

Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

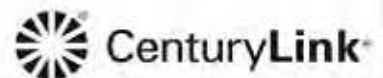
The Colorado Public Utilities Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$30.50 per month and business services are \$43.50 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

CenturyLink also participates in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which provides eligible households with a discount on broadband service. The ACP provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

For both programs, a household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Services are not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in these programs. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain these discounts can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from these programs.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/community-development/lifeline.html> for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.



Lifestyles

Serving the entire San Luis Valley

Supplement to The Monte Vista Journal, Center Post-Dispatch, The Conejos County Citizen, The Mineral County Miner, The South Fork Times, and The Del Norte Prospector.

BOXHOLDER LOCAL-RURAL CAR-RT SORT STANDARD MAIL RATE U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 70 Alamosa, CO 81101

K-9 ACSO officer Blitz, 'no better partner'

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

ALAMOSA — Walking into Patrol Sgt. "Gilley" Gilleland's office at the Alamosa County Sheriff's Department (ACSO) it's hard to believe that Blitz, the handsome, 120-pound bloodhound snoring in the corner, is capable of amazing feats. But just ask Gilleland, Blitz's handler, partner, and best friend, and the list of the bloodhound's accomplishments will make a believer of even the worst skeptic.

"He found his first suspect in Mosca," Gilleland says. Blitz was barely half-a-year-old, and they were tracking a man with new felony charges. "It was a short track, but he picked up the scent from the seat in the suspect's car and led us right to the house where he was."

Blitz has been a member of the sheriff's office since Nov. 3, 2019, when the 10-week-old pup was donated by the Alie Foundation, a non-profit named in honor of a little girl who was kidnapped, assaulted, and killed in the early 1990s. The child was found by a bloodhound who, along with the little girl, is honored as the nonprofit donates bloodhounds to law enforcement agencies across the state.

Sgt. Gilleland was the natural choice to be Blitz's partner. Not only was he the most willing, but the former Marine also has four "hounds" of his own. Gilleland immediately reached out for training with Bloodhound Man-trackers, a company owned and operated by former law enforcement officers and handlers who train bloodhounds across the state and the nation.

Please see BLITZ on Page 6

Alamosa County Sheriff's Department
Patrol Sgt. 'Gilley' Gilleland and his amazing K-9 partner and friend, Blitz.

Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner



Photo courtesy of CPW

A pair of wolves.

Colorado to source up to 10 wolves from Oregon this winter for reintroduction efforts

By CHASE WOODRUFF
Colorado Newline

Colorado wildlife officials have cleared one of the last and largest hurdles to the state's efforts to begin the reintroduction of gray wolves on the Western Slope by the end of this year.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife said Friday that it had reached a one-year agreement with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to receive up to 10 wolves from that state beginning in December, just ahead of a deadline set by Proposition 114, the wolf reintroduction ballot measure passed by Colorado voters in 2020.

"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," Gov. Jared Polis said in a press release.

CPW officials plan to capture up to roughly 15 wolves this winter and transport them to Colorado for release within a large region centered on Glenwood Canyon. The agreement with Oregon ends the uncertainty over where the first of those wolves will come from, and whether the state would be able to put "paws on the ground" before the statutory Dec. 31 deadline.

Officials in states including Wyoming, Montana and Idaho — where ranching and hunting interests have fueled a conservative backlash to wolf reintroduction programs begun in the 1990s — have pointedly declined to assist Colorado's efforts. Wildlife officials in Washington, another possible source, expressed openness to assisting Colorado but said it was unlikely.

Please see WOLVES on Page 2

West end of SLV sets plans for Halloween

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

RIO GRANDE COUNTY — Spooky season is just around the corner and there are several family friendly events planned for the western end of the San Luis Valley. With Halloween taking place on a Tuesday this year, most of the events will take place the weekend before.

Starting in Del Norte, the Del Norte Community Ambulance Service will be hosting a Halloween party inside the new Del Norte Fire Station located at 955 French St. in the old Del Norte High School Field House. This event will feature free games, fun family activities and, of course, candy.

In addition to the Halloween fun, the organization will also be having a chili dinner with all proceeds going toward the ambulance

service. The event is set for Oct. 29 from 3 to 7 p.m. The chili dinner is \$10 for adults, \$7 for children ages 6 to 12 and children 5 years old and younger are free.

For the past seven years, the South Fork Fire Rescue and South Fork Fire Rescue Ladies Auxiliary has brought spooky fun to the South Fork community and this year the two organizations plan on putting on a hauntingly good time. The Halloween Extravaganza will be on Oct. 31 from 4 to 7:30 p.m. at the South Fork Fire Rescue Fire Station and will feature Trunk or Treats, costume contests and more.

South Fork Fire Rescue Ladies Auxiliary is seeking volunteers for the event. Anyone who would like to host a Trunk or Treat or to host a game for attendees can reach out to the organization at 719-588-0656 or message them on Facebook under South Fork Fire Rescue Ladies Auxiliary page. The event

does include a free dinner of hotdogs, chips and a drink. The organization is also accepting donations of candy.

The fun moves up to Creede where those looking for some more frightfully fun events can come to a PG-rated haunted house at the Creede Underground Mining Museum on Oct. 28 and 31. On Oct. 28, people can come enjoy a Trunk or Treat and Halloween Party and then wander through the underground mining museum that will be transformed into a haunted house.

Another PG-rated haunted house will take place on Oct. 31. Times will be announced soon. For more information, contact the underground mining museum at 719-658-0811 or follow them on Facebook for additional details.



Advertising That Works Hard for You

If your business can benefit from targeted exposure to a local audience of professionals and entrepreneurs, call today, and see what makes us a great fit for your advertising needs!

Valley Publishing

835 First Ave. | Monte Vista | 719-852-3531
www.montevistaads@gmail.com

WOLVES

they could meet the Dec. 31 deadline. Under the agreement, Oregon wildlife officials will share information about wolf locations and best practices for capture, with CPW staff and private contractors responsible for the capture operations themselves and all associated costs.

In addition to screening wolves for disease and other health problems, "CPW will make efforts to transplant wolves that have not been involved in repeated depredations," the agency said. While the majority of wolves don't routinely prey on livestock herds, the specter of "problem wolves" that become habituated to the behavior has been cited as a concern by ranchers and state lawmakers who have remained skeptical of reintroduction.

Another key hurdle for the state's efforts was cleared last month, when federal officials approved an exemption that will allow wolves that threaten livestock to be killed in certain circumstances, which the Endangered Species Act would otherwise prohibit. Proposition 114 requires the state to provide compensation to agricultural producers for confirmed wolf depredations of livestock.

Colorado's 11-member Parks and Wildlife Commission finalized the wolf reintroduction plan in a unanimous vote in May. CPW staff plan to capture, transport and release 10 to 15 wolves in the winter months between December and March, repeating the process for the next two to four years until a stable population is established.

"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," Eric Odell,

Continued from Page 1 —

CPW's wolf conservation program manager, said in a statement. "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."

Alamosa Cemetery cleanup planned for Oct. 23

ALAMOSA — City crews will be at the Alamosa Cemetery on Monday, Oct. 23, at 8 a.m. for a thorough cleaning of the cemetery grounds.

Maintenance staff will be disposing of items that are not permanent. If there are items people would like to keep, they must pick

them up before Monday, Oct. 23, the city stated.

For more information, contact Danny Govea at 719-496-7368.

Business Showcase

McCalls Fall and Holiday Candles.



The Holy Moses
Mon.-Sat.
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

658-2848
121 N. Main
Creede

Shop early for best selection.

This Week's Feature

THE HOLY MOSES



An enchanting Collection of Cabin Decor, Colorado Pottery, Quilts, Linens & Specialty Foods!

It's Worth The Drive

Mon.-Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Nick & Vicki Kulyk
121 N. Main • 658-2848 • Creede

Affordable Teeth In Just One Day...

We Make It Possible With Dental Implants

Replace all your failing and missing teeth. Throw away your bad dentures. Get a complete set of new teeth in one day



Dr. Thornell and his team are the best in the dental field. Your dental implants have given me my smile back!! Great customer service start to finish. Thank you for everything you have done for me! BJK



Dr. Thornell and his staff are so awesome! They are caring and very professional. I now have full mouth implants and I love my new teeth!! This is life changing for me! Thank you Dr. Thornell. RH


Payment Plans for Every Budget

- 100% Financing — 12-24 months, Nothing Down. No Payments. No Interest
- OR CHOOSE:
- Low Payments — with up to 12 years to pay with attractive fixed interest rates.
- Instant Approval
- No Early Prepayment Penalty

*Payment plans with approved credit

No Cost Consultation: Know what's possible for you!

Includes preliminary evaluation and 3D image.
\$500 Value
Offer expires: 7-31-2023

Pagosa dental  Implant Center



William F. Thornell
DDS, ABOI, MAGD, DICOI

35 years implant and oral surgery experience

pagosadentalimplantcenter.com

189 Talisman Dr., Suite E • Located above Higher Grounds Coffee • 970-444-1298

Valley-Wide Classified **FREE!** ON LINE! **MARKETPLACE**

Sell your household items for FREE. Total value of items must be \$50 or less. See details below.



CLASSIFIED INDEX

ANNOUNCEMENTS
01 TICKETS
02 CARD OF THANKS
03 MEMORIALS
04 LOST & FOUND
05 NOTICES/BAZAARS
06 PERSONALS
EMPLOYMENT
07 HELP WANTED
08 WORK WANTED
09 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
FOR RENT
10 APARTMENTS
11 ROOMS
12 HOUSES
13 MOBILE HOMES
14 BUSINESS PROPERTY
15 WANTED TO RENT
16 VACATION
REAL ESTATE
17 REAL ESTATE
18 LOTS & ACREAGE
19 FARM & FARMLAND
20 BUSINESS PROPERTY
21 MOBILE HOMES
22 PROPERTY WANTED

MERCHANDISE
23 LAWN & GARDEN
24 GARAGE SALES
25 AUCTIONS
26 ANTIQUES
27 APPLIANCES
28 HOUSEHOLD GOODS
29 MUSICAL ITEMS
30 ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS
31 HEALTH
32 FUEL & HEATING
33 BUILDING MATERIALS
34 OFFICE EQUIPMENT
35 HEAVY EQUIPMENT
36 MISCELLANEOUS
37 WANTED
38 MACHINERY, TOOLS & EQUIPMENT
39 SPORTING GOODS
40 AUTO PARTS
FARMER MARKET
41 FARM EQUIPMENT
42 FEED & SEED
43 FARM PRODUCTS
44 FARM SERVICES

ANIMALS
45 ANIMAL BREEDING
46 PASTURE FOR RENT
47 HORSES & CATTLE
48 PETS & SUPPLIES
49 ANIMAL CARE
50 LIVESTOCK
RECREATIONAL
51 BOATS & EQUIPMENT
52 CAMPING EQUIPMENT
53 TRAILERS
54 SNOWMOBILES/ATV'S
55 R.V.'S/CAMPERS
FINANCIAL
56 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
57 INVESTMENTS
TRANSPORTATION
58 MOTORCYCLES
59 VEHICLES WANTED
60 CLASSIC CARS
61 4X4'S
62 VANS
63 TRUCKS
64 AUTOS FOR SALE
SERVICES
65 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
66 CHILD CARE

RATES

15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications
\$19.50 + 95¢ each additional word.

Garage Sale Ads: 15 Words or less for 1 week
\$12 + 35¢ each additional word.

Free ads: Lost & Found • Non Commercial items Sold for \$50 or less • Any Item or Animal being given away. (Limited to private party only, 2 ads per person, 4 weeks.)

Convenient ad placement:

To place your ad in person come to the office at 835 First Ave. in Monte Vista, or call (719) 852-3531. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also fax your classified to (719) 852-3387 or email at montevisitaclass@gmail.com

Check your ad the first day:

To ensure your ad is correct, check it the first day it appears in the paper. If there is an error in your ad, call us right away so we can correct it. If an error appears in your ad, Valley Publishing will credit you with one additional day of advertising.

Our ad policy: Valley Publishing accepts all classified advertising except that which it deems objectionable to its readers. Credit or replacement ads will not be given for early ad cancellation.

DEADLINE

Thursday 5:00 pm

Call 719-852-3531
or email: rbeutler@valleypublishinginc.com

Easy Payment Options

We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover, Checks, Money Orders & Cash



05 Notices

Invitation To Bid: Baseball Field Spectator Fencing Upper Rio Grande School District. Bids are being sought for a fencing project at the Baseball Field located on the Upper Rio Grande School District property in Del Norte, Colorado. The fence will be 261 linear feet, 8 ft. tall with black vinyl slats, schedule 40 piping, 9 gage wire, with two six foot gates. Please contact Adelmo Trujillo at (719) 657 - 4040 for more information and specifications of the project. Bids will be accepted through October 12, 2023. (10/25)

We buy antler: Use code "ELK17" and you will get \$17/lb for Elk Grade A and \$12/lb for Deer Grade A. 5 miles west of Del Norte on Hwy 160. 719-657-0942 (TFN)

For information on meetings for ALANON NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS AND ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Please visit slva.org or call 719-937-5083.

07 Help Wanted

MDS Waste and Recycle is hiring! Interested in furthering your skill set? We are hiring under CDL drivers with a company sponsored, fast-track program to getting your CDL. Job based out of Del Norte or Creede (your option). Call 719-658-3060, 719-221-3811 or email info@mdswasteandrecycle.com.

Saguache County Land Use Department is accepting applications for a full time third Code

FULL-TIME SALES

Valley Publishing has an immediate need in advertising sales (full-time). Any sales experience is appreciated but will train. Email resume to General Manager Brian Williams at bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com

Enforcement Officer position. Salary to be determined on experience starting at \$35,000/year. Applicants must have a valid Colorado Drivers License, must pass a criminal background check as well as a pre-employment drug test. The County Employee benefit package includes vision, dental and health insurance coverage, paid time off, and a generous 401k retirement plan. The employment application and job description can be found on www.saguachecounty.colorado.gov, picked up at the Saguache County Administration Office, 505 3rd Street, Saguache, CO or can be emailed to you, please contact April Quintana at 719-655-2231.

Completed applications can be hand delivered to the Saguache County Land Use Department, Attention Amber Wilson, 505 3rd Street, mailed to PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 or emailed to atorrez@saguachecounty-co.gov. Applications will be accepted until filled. (11/2)

Interventionist needed at Del Norte Elementary School. We are seeking a hardworking 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. (10/25)

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. (10/25)

The 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 2023-2024 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

VALLEY PUBLISHING SEEKS REPORTER IMMEDIATELY

For Center and Saguache areas. Writing and photography experience necessary. Send resume, writing and photography samples to Valley Publishing Inc., P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144 or email bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com

at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co. (10/25)

Substitutes Teachers needed at the Upper Rio Grande School District in Del Norte! Call or email: Sophia at 719-657-4040, x4000@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

GET YOUR FLU SHOT!

RIO GRANDE PUBLIC HEALTH (RGPH) WILL BE OFFERING FLU SHOT CLINICS THIS OCTOBER 2023. THESE CLINICS WILL PROVIDE BOTH REGULAR AND HIGH DOSE FLU SHOTS. RGPH CAN BILL SEVERAL INSURANCES INCLUDING MEDICARE. CASH PAY WILL BE \$60.00 FOR HIGH DOSE FLU SHOTS AND \$25.00 FOR REGULAR FLU SHOTS.

THEY WILL BE LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING DAYS/TIMES:

- ◆ THURSDAY 10-12-23 from 3-6 PM
DEL NORTE ANNEX 925 6th ST DN
- ◆ THURSDAY 10-19-23 from 3-6 PM
MV SCHOOL CENTRAL AUDITORIUM 545 2nd ST MV
- ◆ THURSDAY 10-26-23 from 3-6 PM
SARGENT SCHOOL ELEMENTARY GYM 7090 N CTY RD 2 E MV



For information call
657-3352
www.riograndecounty.org

WINTER WORK!

Full & Part-Time/Holiday Positions: Winter Seasonal: November - April
ALL POSITIONS OFFER SKIING PRIVILEGES & A STARTING WAGE OF \$18/HOUR
Merit increases based on performance & experience

Lift Department
Food & Beverage
Bakers
Ski School
Base Operations
Retail
Ticket Office
Snow Removal
Grooming
Custodial Building
Maintenance
Ski Patrol
Onsite Call Center/Customer Service
Applications at

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



WOLF CREEK
THE MOST SNOW IN COLORADO™

DISCLAIMER

Please read your ad on the first day of publication. If there are mistakes notify us **IMMEDIATELY**. We will make changes for errors and adjust your credit **but only if we receive notice on the first day the ad is published**. We limit our liability to you in this way and we do not accept liability for any other damages which may result from an error or omission in an ad. All ad copy must be approved by the newspaper which reserves the right to request changes, reject or properly classify an ad. The advertiser and not the newspaper is responsible for the truthful content of the ad. All classified advertising must be pre-paid.

Valley Wide Classifieds

teacher to substitute; however, you must be a high school graduate and have a substitute license from CDE (Colorado Department of Education).

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 Apartments

Apt. for Lease in Del Norte. Lg. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Adults only. Non-smoker, No pets. All utilities incl. \$900. mo., \$900. deposit. 1 year Lease. Available Oct. 1st. 719-850-2738 (10-18)

12 Houses for Rent

Beautiful stucco home for rent: 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car garage. Available now. Please call 719-850-2027. (11-1)

House for rent in Saguache. Three Bedrooms. Two Baths. One-car garage. \$1,225/month.

Water included. No smoking. Text: 303-905-8240. (11-1)

14 Business Properties For Rent

Freshly painted professional office or residential space located in a quiet four-plex in Del Norte. Approximately 700 sq ft with a spacious living room, separate office or bedroom, kitchen area with newer appliances, and 3/4 bath. \$800/month, inclusive of water and sewer, and a small storage shed. No pets. Please call 719-850-0750. (10/25)

17 Real Estate For Sale

FARM FOR SALE in Waverly Area Sub-district #6, 1 1/2 center pivots in grass and alfalfa, large hay shed, 2 bedroom home, 3 steel grainers, numerous out buildings on 8 Mile Road. Ready to farm 2023 season. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-580-0770.

35-80+ acres parcels with good grass on County Line Road north of Hwy 160. Fully surveyed and ready to build on. Perfect location between Alamosa and Monte Vista. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-580-0770. (TFN)

35-80+ acre parcels on San Francisco Creek south of Del Norte. Very private, views, 3 miles from town, electric and phone. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-580-0770. (TFN)

40 Acres 5 miles west of Monte Vista on Lariat Road with power, phone and year around access on county road. \$60,000. Call Bruce Steffens 719-580-0770 at Steffens & Company Realty Inc. (TFN)

FOR SALE: Beautiful 3,280 sq. ft., 3 bath, 3 bedroom, large kitchen and 2 living room with mountain setting, separate 2-3 car garage with nice apartment upstairs, large horse barn, chicken house and OWNER FINANCED!! Price to sell \$895,000.00. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc

719-580-0770. (TFN)

FOR SALE: 35 shares of Santa Maria Reservoir Water. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-580-0770. (TFN)

23 Lawn and Garden

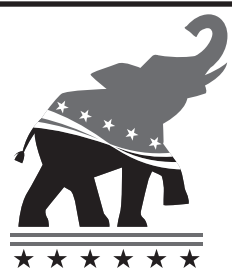
Kenmore Snowblower, Model 247.881900, Serial 1I186B10071, pull or electric start. \$400 obo. call

George: 719-657-0756 (11-1)

Sprinkler repair and winterizations. Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. TFN

27 Appliances

Kenmore Freezer, 10 cu ft with lock, Model 253.8291080, Serial S910297892, Mfg 10/89. \$200 obo. call George: 719-657-0756 (11-1)



REGISTER REPUBLICAN "STAND AGAINST SOCIALISM"
Less government, lower taxes
REGISTER ONLINE at www.sos.state.co.us
or at your local County Clerk's office
 Paid for by the Rio Grande County Republican Central Committee

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate



Steffens & Company Realty
719-873-5605
 30635 US HWY 160
 South Fork
 dee@steffenscorealty.com
Dee - formerly known as Diane Chapman - Local Luxury Home Broker. Licensed in 2011, Dee knows the area and knows local real estate.



3D Virtual Tours • Prompt, Easy Communication
 Video Walkthroughs
 Residential Photographer
 Licensed and Insured Drone Pilot

12 Commercial acres in South Fork Shoshone Trail
 Flat, rectangular parcel with easy, paved access off Hwy 160. This parcel is zoned commercial/light industrial and is located 4 miles East of South Fork near Holiday RV and Brooke Stone.
 MLS#774884
\$550,000



Dee Plucinski • Steffens & CO. Realty
 (719) 873-5605 • dee@steffenscorealty.com

23 Fairway Drive - OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE
 - this beautiful lot is a 1-minute walk from the Clubhouse on the Rio Grande Club and Resort in South Fork. Flat and easy to build, this lot has water, sewer, electricity, landline phone and high-speed internet at the lot line. MLS#794077.
\$56,000



Dee Plucinski • Steffens & CO. Realty
 (719) 873-5605 • dee@steffenscorealty.com

5042 E. County Road 1 S. Monte Vista
 This gorgeous brick home sits on 5 acres just East of Monte Vista. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms PLUS a large office and an INCREDIBLE shop. Scan the QR code below Dee's Picture and check out this listing in her blog for 3D interior scans of the home and shop plus a video and drone tour. This home features a domestic well and a fenced acre with a lean-to for horses.
 MLS#806831 **\$550,000**



UNDER CONTRACT

Dee Plucinski • Steffens & CO. Realty
 (719) 873-5605 • dee@steffenscorealty.com

340 Lake Drive - ON THE CREEK in Willow Park Ranch - this four-bedroom, three-bath home borders the National Forest and has incredible views of the San Juan mountains. Newly renovated, this home is a must-see for those looking for privacy, a live, year-round creek with trout, and hike-out access to public lands from a secure, gated community. MLS #807635. **\$968,500**



Dee Plucinski • Steffens & CO. Realty
 (719) 873-5605 • dee@steffenscorealty.com

Rito Hondo Estates - 18 Rural Mountain Lots Available
 West of Antonito in the Conejos Canyon OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE
\$950,000 home on 35 acres located on lot #2
\$85,000 (6 acre lots)
\$200,000 (17.5 acre lots)
\$400,000 (35 acre lots)
\$950,000 (35 acres with home)



Dee Plucinski • Steffens & CO. Realty
 (719) 873-5605 • dee@steffenscorealty.com

682 Bear Creek Circle South Fork
 This luxurious mountain home has 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms and sits on 15.6 acres in the gated community of Bear Creek in South Fork. Perfect for horses!
 MLS#806411
\$1,425,000



Dee Plucinski • Steffens & CO. Realty
 (719) 873-5605 • dee@steffenscorealty.com

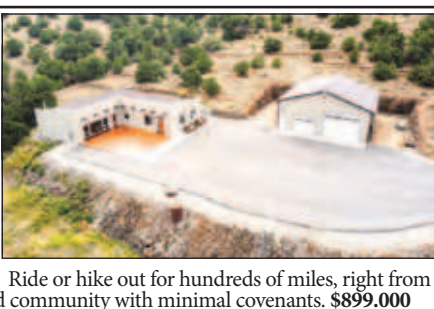
654 Vail Pass Road South Fork
THE BEST VALUE IN SOUTH FORK! This 3 bedroom 1 bath home sits on 1 acre and has a well and septic. It's a stick-built home, not a modular or mobile home. Scan the QR code - this one has an interior 3D scan, video tour and drone video too!
 MLS# 804011
\$199,900



UNDER CONTRACT

Dee Plucinski • Steffens & CO. Realty
 (719) 873-5605 • dee@steffenscorealty.com

4100 Wilderness Canyon Road - Mountain Luxury at the end of the road, secluded and private, this gorgeous, bright, energy-efficient home sits on 42 acres bordering the National Forest with views of the Natural Arch. Ghost Mine Ranch, near Del Norte. Ride or hike out for hundreds of miles, right from your backyard. Gated community with minimal covenants. **\$899,000**



Dee Plucinski • Steffens & CO. Realty
 (719) 873-5605 • dee@steffenscorealty.com

5299 County Road 12 S. Alamosa
 160 acres currently planted in alfalfa with a center pivot, 3 shares of the Commonwealth Ditch, and use of the Carmel Drain.
 MLS#804160
\$400,000



Dee Plucinski • Steffens & CO. Realty
 (719) 873-5605 • dee@steffenscorealty.com

3023 Bear Creek Circle
 Mountain cabin on 20 acres bordering National Forest in gated Bear Creek. Fully furnished - paved driveway. 4 bedrooms. 2.5 bathrooms. MLS#803394



Dee Plucinski • Steffens & CO. Realty
 (719) 873-5605 • dee@steffenscorealty.com

Valley Wide Classifieds

32 Fuel & Heating

NEED FIREWOOD? Call Elam at Cozy Glo LLC. 719-480-5047. \$190 per cord. Delivery available.

Lump Coal and Anthracite Hard Coal available.

Supplement your wood heating with "lump coal". Burns more consistently & lasts longer so you can do more of what you want & less time carrying wood. 719-849-8261 (3-1)

36 Miscellaneous

For Sale: New 9,000 lb car-lift, matching fridge and stove, and a new baseboard trim. 719-850-2027

Cash for quality non-fiction

books and LP records. Jeff 720-315-9145

Propane Refrigerators Sold Here.

Call For Options and Prices. We Also Stock Solar Powered Refrigerators and Freezers. Bontrager's Variety Store, 9726 S. County Road 3E, Monte Vista. (719) 852-0500

STEEL STORAGE CONTAINERS

- Sales, Rentals & Modifications! Containers are water & rodent proof. 8' wide, 8'-53' in length. Call for more information and pricing. Healdworks, Inc. - Your Total Storage Solution! 719-850-0346 TFN

SOLAR PANELS! 400 Watt and Smaller, We Stock Inverters,

Charge Controllers, and Batteries in Brand Names of Outback, Magnum, Aims, Rolls, and More. Custom Cables and PV Wire. Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500. TFN

39 Sporting Goods

Free 11-foot trampoline frame. Bed and netting need to be replaced. 719-852-2242, leave message. (11-1)

51 Boats and Equipment

1968 Duracraft 14' fishing boat with trailer 18HP Evinrude motor.

Electric Start, \$1,000. 303-358-1352 (11-8)

54 Snowmobiles/ATV's

60" ATV Show Blade Inelydes. Extended for tracks universal mount, \$300 OBO 303-358-1352. (11-8)

65 Professional Services

4-Ever-Cleaning Homes, Air B&B And More Call Rene 719-480-4273 For More Info. (11-8)

RELIABLE CARPENTRY 40-plus years-experience in carpentry,

painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-496-7630. (TFN)

Squeegee Luigi's Washing Services: Window washing and pressure washing services - Free estimates 719-588-2820 (TFN)

LICENSED PLUMBER does all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodels at reasonable rates. Quick service. Call anytime, available weekends and evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. TFN

Need beautiful window blinds at the best prices? Call THE BLIND GUY at 970-799-0388 for a free estimate. (TFN)

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

SOLD



Majestic Custom-Built Log Home! Fabulous 7 bed, 5 bath 4,619 Sq. Ft. Home with attached garage on 9.04 acres in Beautiful gated Bear Creek.

This Home has several outdoor entertainment areas with wrap around decks too enjoy the 360 views of the San Juan Mountains. The main level has an open floor plan with great room and grand fireplace with vaulted ceiling open-

ing into the dining and kitchen area. Entertain in this beautiful large kitchen with large island, custom cabinetry, granite countertops and state of the art stainless steel appliances. The Master bedroom suite is located on main floor with walk out patio, your perfect place to enjoy that hot cup of morning coffee. From here you can access your private boardwalk leading to your entertainment area with fire ring and Jacuzzi. Upstairs beautiful reading sitting loft with additional guest bedrooms, bath and great bunk room for additional family and guest. Lower level of this home includes a large family room with fireplace and pool table. Great for all your entertainment needs, additional bedrooms, and office. Beautiful furniture, furnishings and accessories are all included with this home. Bear Creek also offers a wonderful river adventure for rafting, gold medal fly fishing with a 20-acre area on the Rio Grande River exclusive to Bear Creek property owners. Minutes away from everything outdoors -gold medal fly fishing, hunting, four wheeling and thousands of acres of public land. Start your Adventure! Don't wait, Call, and schedule your showing today! **\$1,650,000** MLS #792162

2951 Bear Creek Circle • South Fork

Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty

(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

This South Fork Beauty checks all the boxes, both his and hers - and is a fun place for family and friends. Custom built Log home tucked in the trees and backs up to the National Forest. The main floor has a wrap-around deck and Mighty Rio Grande with world class fishing on the property. The main floor consists of an open area with beautiful carved mantel stone fireplace ceiling. Stunning entrance to behold! Custom designer backsplash and large eat in counter space looking over the living area with custom soft close cabinets and plenty of storage and room for all your entertaining. Kitchen has wonderful large butler pantry with pantry sink and beautiful custom stained-glass floor. The Detailed Check Boxes include radiant floor heating with four zones and two Rinnai on-demand water tanks. Light Touch lighting system and electrical in the floor. Master bedroom is on the main floor with sitting area with luscious mountain views. Master bath with beautiful large tiled walk-in shower. Guest bedroom and bath on main floor with elegant soaking antique tub. Upstairs spacious loft with two electronic skylights with rain sensors that will close automatically with additional sleeping areas including office space and additional large size bedroom with barn door and bath. Enjoy your 3-car garage with large workshop and more than enough room for all your mountain toys. Your family and friends will love the upstairs bungalow above the garage with kitchenette, living area, built-in beds additional bedroom and bath. Bring your family and friends to gather to enjoy the great outdoors! Boarders National Forest, with streams, creeks, lakes rolling topography, open fields, pine, fir, aspen trees, mountain views and abundant wildlife! Beautifully designed home tucked peacefully into the woods and easily accessible to town, Wolf Creek Ski Area and the Rio Grande Golf Course Resort. Once in a lifetime Opportunity! This property perfectly captures the best of both worlds between outdoor recreation and exceptional entertainment. Start your dream and Call/Text me to schedule your personal showing today! **\$1,395,000** MLS #796960

SOLD



Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty

(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

SOLD

Stately 2,818 Sq Ft. Mountain Home with Stunning Natural Light on 3.19 acres. This beautiful 3 bed 4 bath home is your perfect retreat. Open Split floor plan with beautiful cathedral ceiling and fireplace, large windows taking in the breath-taking outdoor sunlight and mountain views. Complete



with beautiful furnishing, accessories and decor. The kitchen with eat in counter, gorgeous custom cabinetry, granite countertops and butler pantry is your dream kitchen for entertaining your family and friends. Separate office space off the dining area with patio door leads out to the great outdoors. There are two guest rooms one with private bath could be considered a separate master bedroom. Large master bedroom with large walk-in closet, fireplace gorgeous walk-in shower and access to deck with hot tub. Take in the stunning views from the main floor outdoor balcony. Your perfect place for that hot morning cup of coffee or relaxing evening glass of wine. This is a luxurious home located with private access to the national forest in The Timbers subdivision of South Fork Ranches. All this, just moments from Rio Grande Golf Club, Rio Grande River gold medal fishing and world class skiing at Wolf Creek Ski area. Don't wait call and schedule your private showing today! **\$1,150,000** MLS #798101

497 Timberline Drive • South Fork

Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty

(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

IMPROVED PRICE



Look Reduced Price!! \$875,000 Owner Willing to Owner Finance for Qualified Buyer! Must See Custom-Built 5,350 sq. ft. Commercial Property in Fabulous South Fork, CO. Great Highway 160 exposure!! This building is extremely well built. The building was built for retail with many amenities. The environment is warm and welcoming. The 3,000 sq. ft. main floor consist of large receiving office, full kitchen and bath and several large open spaces and two additional design show rooms and large 1,000 sq. ft. heated warehouse with plenty of shelves for storage and 12-foot overhead door. Lovely concrete outdoor patio with new vinyl fencing wired for low voltage lights this property sits on two lots with wiring running outside for lighting off outside signage. 1,350 sq. ft. Spacious upstairs with large open space, several large storage closets two additional offices, New ¾ custom tile bathroom and large storage over warehouse. This well-built property has radiant floor heating downstairs and upstairs baseboard hot water heat. Property is wired for Cat 5 telephone jack in all offices, design rooms, kitchen bar, receiving office - etc. Cable tv jack, upstairs big room. There are 3 gas fireplaces, 2 wall thermostats with remote control. Wired for speakers though out the building for music. Swamp cooler and wired for electric dryer, set up for washer and has a Propane fired boiler and propane hot water heater. This property is a blank canvas with so much POTENTIAL for the right builder or person. Because there is no existing business at the present time, this makes this building available for a variety of Business opportunities: Professional Work Environment for Professionals, Restaurant, Brew Pub, Events Center, Lodge or Cottage hotel, Retail etc. Come Paint your Canvas and start Your Business Adventure, Call and schedule your personal showing today! **MLS#802191 Improved Price \$925,000! \$875,000** MLS #802191

173 W Frontage • South Fork

Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty

(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

Thinking of Selling Your Home? If so, I can help! Residential/Commercial/Ranch Call 719-850-1993



We work hard for you!

Call Bernadette today!

Steffens & Company Realty, INC

719-850-1993

Bernadette Gingrass, Broker Associate
30635 US Hwy 160 • South Fork
www.bernadettegingrassrealestate.com

UNDER CONTRACT

Darling authentic 1,232 Sq. Ft. 2-bedroom 2 bath log cabin with upgrades galore!

Located in Log Haven. Tucked along the mountain side backing up to national forest with beautiful views of the surrounding cliffs. Open living room, dining, kitchen area with new propane Vermont Casting stove to keep you cozy and warm all winter long. Kitchen is quaint and bright with custom granite countertops. This cabin has a covered front porch and wonderful back deck. The perfect place to enjoy the wildlife, peace and quiet and that first hot cup of morning coffee. Nice fence back yard with gate opening to the national forest. Hike for miles out your own back door. Downstairs has a master bedroom and a full bath. Upstairs additional bedroom, bathroom and nice size sitting nook, great space to enjoy that best-selling book or use for your office den. This cabin comes compete with one car garage, storage shed, central well and town sewer. Cabin can be used as a full-time residence, or home-away-from-home winter or summer get-a-way! Rentals are not allowed in this subdivision. Don't wait! Start your adventure today! Only a short 17-mile drive from Wolf Creek Ski area. The mighty South Fork and Rio Grande River, Beaver Mountain reservoir & Million reservoir are just moments away. Bring your fishing pole and enjoy hours of world class fishing. Ski Wolf Creek, go 4 wheeling, hike, camp, hunt, Enjoying everything outdoors! Let's get started call /text and schedule your showing today! **\$325,000** MLS #800364

31517 Us Highway 160 • South Fork

Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty

(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com



SOLD

You Found It! Home Sweet Home, Finely Crafted, Ranch Style 2,109 square foot 3 bed 2 bath split floor plan home with detached 4 car garage for all your outdoor tools and toys! Large master bedroom bath with jacuzzi tub. Beautiful open kitchen, dining area with eat in counter, living area with cathedral wood beam ceiling, custom cabinets and wood burning stove. This home has large windows that brings in lots of natural light. Patio doors leading out to your back and front deck with 360 views of the beautiful Colorado mountains. Perfect place to enjoy your morning hot cup of coffee. You have year-round access in Highland Meadows, South Fork, CO, with paved roads, your own well and South Fork water and sanitation. This home is situated on a beautiful 1.1-acre lot with room for your RV, gardens and so much more. Additional heating sources on demand water heater and radiant floor heat to keep you nice and warm all winter long and indoor laundry area. This could be your permanent residence, your home away from home or your perfect vacation home. Moments from skiing at Wolf Creek, A stone throw away from public access to gold medal fishing on the Mighty Rio Grande River. Enjoy nearby hiking, golfing, hunting and 4-wheeling. Start Your Adventure - Won't last long, Call and Schedule your personal showing today!

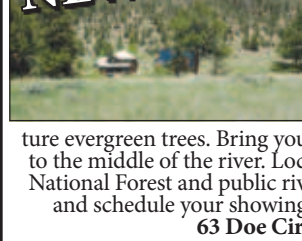


74 Highland Court • South Fork

Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty

(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

NEW



Amazing Riverfront property located in beautiful well established Deer Park subdivision in South Fork, Colorado. This property is complete with paved streets, with sewer and water tap available. Flat building site overlooking the Mighty Rio Grande River with mature evergreen trees. Bring your fishing pole this property extends to the middle of the river. Located only a stone throw away from National Forest and public river access. Start your adventure call and schedule your showing today! **\$175,000** MLS #804121

63 Doe Circle • South Fork

Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty

(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

Valley Publishing **CALL TODAY!**
719-852-3531
Sandra Marquez — smarquez@valleypublishinginc.com
Brian Williams — bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com

BLITZ

Continued from Page 1

When training was completed, Gilley was presented with a medallion bearing the image of St. Hubert, patron saint of hunting. He still wears it today. Since then, Gilley has continued to train Blitz, one-to-one, on his own.

"Blitz is trained to track and trail," he says, meaning he can both track a scent on the ground and in the air. "No canine has better smell. Dogs have 50 million more scent receptors than humans. Bloodhounds have 300 million more scent receptors than any other breed of dogs."

He smiles, and says, "He's basically a nose with a dog's body."

Gilley and Blitz have tracked distances ranging from 50 yards to 13 miles, an extraordinary find that involved a trek through rough mountain terrain on a very dark night in search of two lost hikers. They had to turn back because of the weather, but when conditions cleared, Blitz had led searchers to less than a mile from where the hikers were ultimately found.

"He's tracked off a single footprint in the snow, in the middle of winter in 20 degrees below zero weather. He tracked two suspects off a single footprint in the snow in Alamosa." At one point, Gilley says, the suspects split up and then came back together, but the move failed to throw Blitz off the scent.

In the three-and-a-half years they've been partners, Gilley and Blitz have found between 50 and 60 suspects.

As the bloodhound also "does cadavers," Gilleland estimates Blitz has found between 20 and 25 bodies and helped every agency in the Valley, each time with Gilley following at the end of a 15-foot lead. "He's also worked on CBI [Colorado Bureau of Investigation] cold cases. In one case, he found a body that was missing for five years."

Together, they have accomplished amazing things, but equally inspiring is the relationship between the bloodhound and man. They come to work together every day and go home together. Blitz is part of the Gilleland family and part of the Gilleland pack. In an extraordinary move by Alamosa County Sheriff Robert Jackson — who has had two K-9 partners in his career — Blitz is Gilley's dog. If Gilleland leaves the force, Blitz leaves with him. "He doesn't think it's right to separate a dog and his handler," Gilleland says.

"But there's no better partner than Blitz. He's always watching my back. If I'm somewhere and maybe a couple of guys who are drunk or whatever walk by, he's on alert, barking and letting me know what's going on."

One experience stands out among the rest.

"We were on the worst case we'd ever been on. It was grisly," Gilleland says. "Even Sheriff Jackson and Undersheriff Woods said they'd never seen anything like it. We were there for probably eight hours and whenever I looked back at the car, Blitz was standing in his kennel, watching me the whole time."

"When I got in the car to leave, I admit, the murder had gotten to me. Blitz put his head over the seat and buried it in my shoulder and rode like that all the way home. He knew. He knew what I felt. He's helped me out with a lot of tragic things you see in a job like this."

And now, thanks to a donation from Spike's K9 Friends, Blitz has a new \$3,000 Kevlar vest for his protection.

"It's good that he's got that. You never know what someone will do," Gilleland says.

As if on cue, Blitz gets up, stretches and then sits by his partner's side.

"Yeah, that's a real good thing," Gilleland says.

In addition to Patrol Sgt., Gilleland is a Firearms Instructor, on the SWAT team and teaches firearms training at Trinidad State's Police Academy.

SAN LUIS VALLEY SERVICE DIRECTORY

ROOFING BUILDINGS

Metal Roofing Panels & Trims • Garages, Horse Barns, Hay Sheds
Complete Building packages • 26/29 Gauge, 20 Colors, Numerous Profiles
Let us find your contractor! • Free Estimates/Quick Turnaround
Your Local Metal Roofing Manufacturer!
SKYLINE METAL
(719)852-0113 M-F 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

A&M
WINDOWS &
DOORS L.L.C.

~VINYL WINDOWS~
NEW CONSTRUCTION OR REPLACEMENT
CUSTOM MADE TO YOUR SIZE.
MANUFACTURED RIGHT HERE IN THE VALLEY
ALL TYPES OF DOORS & DOOR HARDWARE
AVAILABLE
(719) 589-9952

Quality Spray Foam Insulation LLC

Let us fill your needs with **SPRAY FOAM** insulation!
Alvin • (719) 849-5233 catpower@ibyfax.com
7268 S. County Road 4 E • Monte Vista
Call us for all your **LOOSE-FILL & BLOW** in Attic Insulation needs!

Mystik
LUBRICANTS
PREMIUM OILS & GREASES
DIAMOND OIL CO. LLC
Agricultural • Industrial • Oilfield
Commercial • Automotive • Irrigation
Peter Koehn (719) 250-5143 Myron Koehn (970) 209-1142
DIVERSE INVENTORY!

Sheri Bongers
Independent Broker Agent
720-543-2188
Sheri@DenverInsuranceTeam.com



Tom Bongers
Independent Broker Agent
720-543-2189
Tom@DenverInsuranceTeam.com

Auto | Home | Life | Commercial | Workers Comp

Your Great Outdoors Specializing in Vinyl Fencing

Wood, Barbed Wire and All Types of Residential & Commercial Fencing
Serving the SLV-Free Estimates
Good Fences Make Good Neighbors!*
(719) 849-1568
*We make no guarantees of your neighbor quality, just high quality fences.

Sanchez Plastering & Masonry

Synthetic Traditional Patches Interior/Exterior Paint
Fully Insured & Bonded Fully Licensed Work Guaranteed
Owners: David D. Sanchez Jr. & Brandon Sanchez
Call Today (719) 486-6781

CUSTOM MARBLE DESIGN

Call for Free Estimate!
719-849-3990
E-MAIL: cmd@ibyfax.com
Solid Surface Countertops
Kitchen Countertops
Vanity & Table Tops
Window Sills
and More

Fast, Affordable • Store Front
WWW.SMARTPHONETABLETREPAIR.COM
(719)937-2646
2101 Main St. Unit A, Alamosa
www.facebook.com/alamosaphonerepair
Like us on Facebook for discounts!

Cash for Junk Unwanted Cars & Trucks

No Tittle
No Keys
No Worries!
719 937 7935
719-849-8491 or Text

David Miller, Owner
719-480-2145
9318 County Road 16
Antonito, CO
Cozy Home Insulating
For All your Foam Insulation Needs
Call us for a free estimate!
Specializing in open and closed cell spray foam insulation for all applications
• Residential
• Commercial
• New or Existing Construction

Shopping That's Just Your Style
The Rena Marie Boutique
Specializing in memorial, holiday, any occasion t-shirts, apparel, tumblers, coffee mugs, keychains, car and big vehicle vinyl and decals, business cards, and much more.
250 Adams Street, Monte Vista
Call Marie at 719-937-9629 to place your order today or email mariemedina30@hotmail.com

Your ad could be here for only \$22/week!
Call 852-3531

TAHR SERVICES
Tax and HR Solutions for You!
Schedule Free Consult today!
www.tahrservices.com
800.875.8609
info@tahrservices.com

Make A Difference Day is Oct. 28

CONTRIBUTED

MONTE VISTA — Make A Difference Day will be held from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 28. The day is made possible by the Baer family, community donations and the San Luis Valley Regional Waste Authority.

People can use the San Luis Valley Regional Landfill by making a food donation that will be donated to the Monte Vista Food Bank.

- Pickup or carload of trash or yard waste can be made for 16 food items.
- Single-axle trailer with trash or yard waste can be dumped for 16

food items.

- Loaded pickup and single-axle trailer with trash or yard waste can be dumped for 32 food items.
 - Double-axle trailer with trash or yard waste can be dumped for 32 food items.
 - Loaded pickup and double-axle trailer with trash or yard waste can be dumped for 48 food items.
 - Dump truck with trash or yard waste can be dumped for 64 food items.
- There are some items that require a food donation and additional fee.
- Passenger tire off rim \$3; on rim \$4.

- Semi-truck tire with no rim \$9.
 - Tractor tire with no rim \$18.50.
- Tire count by tire type will be needed at time of check in. Ten or more tires require a waste tire manifest form signed at time of check in.
- Electronics and TV recycling fee schedule available at the slvlandfill.com
 - Mattress or box springs \$8 each.
- No commercial haulers or businesses admitted for the donation prices. All loads must be secure and covered. All landfill regulations will be enforced, visit slvlandfill.com
- For more information, call 719-852-3810.

 Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyPublishing>

Join Our Team!
Full or Part Time starting \$15 hr. plus tips!

Halloween Special!
free kids pizza for kids that come in costume with their parents on Halloween day



Google
Customer Reviews: ★★★★★
"Perfect place to grab our first bite after spending three days camping in the San Juan's. Jessica took our order and was a gem. So sweet and accommodating. Food was delicious! We'll definitely be back!!"
~ Lia K., Google Reviews

Law Enforcement, Firefighters, EMTs and our Veterans always receive 20% off!
30483 Highway 160, South Fork
Open DAILY — 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Easy Online To-Go Orders:
MountainPizzaTapRoom.com

12th Judicial District hosting warrant clearance day and community resource fair

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — Is there an outstanding warrant for your arrest and you are tired of worrying about a run-in with law enforcement? Do you need access to free community resources? The 12th Judicial District's warrant clearance day and community resource fair may hold the key to clearing up your past and moving on with your future.

On Friday, Oct. 27, from noon to 6 p.m. at the Alamosa Combined Court, 8955 Independence Way, Alamosa, the courts, public defender, and district attorney for the 12th Judicial District — Ala-

mosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande and Saguache counties — will come together to help people clear their warrants and get connected with resources to be successful in moving forward and resolving their legal matters.

Offenses that are eligible for warrant clearance include most misdemeanor, traffic, and petty offenses including many drug charges. To see if your warrant qualifies, contact the Clerk of Court's office at 719-589-4996.

In addition to clearing warrants, attendees can connect with a variety of community resources and

other assistance. Organizations in attendance will include Adelante Family Resource Center, La Puente Crisis Prevention, San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group, Tu Casa, Colorado Legal Services, and the Immigration Resource Center.

For more information about the event, contact Lisa Mizell at 719-589-7621 or caitlin.mizell@judicial.state.co.us.

Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL • TRASH REMOVAL
RECYCLING • DUMPSTERS • ROLL-OFFS**
CREEDE • SOUTH FORK • DEL NORTE • MONTE VISTA
(719)658-3060 • www.MDSWasteAndRecycle.com

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Solution to last week's puzzle

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

Gear Up for Fall



Whether you're planning a road trip or simply want to protect your investment and safety, we have helpful advice to help you take great care of your car and keep more money in your pocket!

GOOD CENTER TIRE STORE

Tires of All Sizes, Cars, Trucks, Industrial and Agricultural Vehicles
Ask about our discount for Firefighters!

Center Tire Store
754-3421
335 E. 3rd Center



Clark Auto

- Oil Changes, Brakes, Tune-Ups and More!
- Computer Diagnostics
- Free Pickup and Delivery in Alamosa
- Classic and Custom Rebuilds

Repair & Maintenance for all makes & models

589-4485 • 1817 Tremont Ave. • Alamosa



Jim's Tire Store



New • Used Recapped

711-1/2 State Ave. • Alamosa
589-9690

Nursing and Therapy Services of Colorado embraces inclusive care for disabilities community in Alamosa

By NURSING AND THERAPY SERVICES OF COLORADO

ALAMOSA — Nursing and Therapy Services of Colorado DBA (NTSOC) is providing an inclusive home health service to the disability community in the town of Alamosa. With a strong dedication to fostering a supportive and empowering environment, NTSOC aims to address the unique needs of individuals with disabilities, promoting their independence and enhancing their overall quality of life.

As a leading home health agency in Colorado, NTSOC recognizes the importance of delivering personalized care that respects the diverse backgrounds and abilities of the community it serves. By incorporating an inclusive tone throughout its operations, NTSOC seeks to create a safe and welcoming environment where individuals with disabilities can thrive, receiving the highest standard of care.

“At NTSOC, we firmly believe that everyone deserves access to quality healthcare, regardless of their abilities,” said Daunte Davis, the agency’s spokesperson. “[We] committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities in the city of Alamosa and its surrounding

communities receive the compassionate care they deserve, tailored to their unique needs and goals.”

To ensure exceptional care for individuals with disabilities, NTSOC has implemented a range of measures. These include specialized training for their healthcare professionals to address the specific challenges faced by individuals with disabilities. The agency’s team undergoes ongoing education and development to stay up to date with the latest advancements in disability care and to provide the highest level of support possible.

Furthermore, NTSOC actively collaborates with local organizations and advocacy groups to foster a strong network of support for the disability community in Alamosa. By working closely with these organizations, the agency strives to enhance its understanding of the community’s needs and provide tailored services that promote independence and well-being.

The agency offers a wide range of services, including skilled nursing care, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, Certified Nursing Assistant training and hiring for family caregivers and more. These services support individuals with disabilities in their own homes, allowing them to

access the care they need in a familiar environment.

NTSOC welcomes inquiries from individuals with disabilities and their families and caregivers in the San Luis

Valley area. [NTSOC] committed to providing personalized care plans that address the unique needs and goals of each individual. By fostering a culture of inclusivity, they aim to empower indi-

viduals with disabilities to lead fulfilling lives in their community.

For more information about NTSOC and their inclusive home health services, please visit www.ntsoc.com.



MONTE VISTA HEAD START
HOME of the LYNX
 2863 SHERMAN AVE. (719) 852-3215

NOW ENROLLING FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR!!!

Full Day Preschool 8:30 AM - 4 PM

For Children Ages: 3 – 5 Yrs.

Families Receiving SNAP Benefits Automatically Qualify!!

- Highly Qualified Staff
- Nutritious Meals & Snacks
- Social/Emotional Curriculum

Online Enrollment Available through Child Plus to Access the Link go to:
 Facebook: Monte Vista Head Start
 or
 Website: <https://www.mvheadstart.org>

\$500
CASH BACK

\$1000
TRADE-IN ASSISTANCE

\$39.99
OIL CHANGE





Fastest Growing Dealer In Colorado

Alpine
PUEBLO Ford

2828 Highway 50 West Pueblo, CO 81008 • AlpineFord.com

Sales: (719) 319-3576 Service: (719) 319-3576 Parts: (719) 319-3576

Conour

www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org

Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society

If you are interested in adopting, call 852-3366
 Open Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Sat. & Sun. 1:30 - 5 p.m.
 Monday & non-business hours by appointment only
 2825 Sherman Ave. • Monte Vista

We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who have contributed to the success of the Upper Rio Grande Animal Society by contributions, donations, volunteering and general support at Conour Animal Shelter.

Visit Our Facebook Page



LOST & FOUND



Found on 10/11 in Monte Vista at 1155 Grande Ave



Found on 10/10 in Center at 6th and Warden





The Aussie/Border Collie puppies are ready for meet and greets! Please stop in and meet your new fur-family member!

With all these puppies clean-up is almost constant! We could really use some laundry detergent, bleach and dish soap. We appreciate any and everything sent our way! Have a great week!

Please note adoptions go in order of contact made.

All breeds & ages of animals are a “best guess” and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping.

This ad space donated by Valley Publishing Inc.