

Shorts

Rally 'Round performing July 9 in Basham Park

CREEDE — Rally 'Round will be performing from 2 to 4 p.m. on July 9 at Basham Park in Creede as part of the Creede Arts Council's summer in the park concert series.

Rally 'Round hails from many different places and has many different musical styles. Rally 'Round comes together to produce a fun, danceable mix of reggae covers. They infuse their own style to classic roots reggae like Toots and the Maytals to more modern offerings like Sublime and Slightly Stoopid.

Rally 'Round hopes their cool island rhythms will bring warm vibes to this high mountain town. Rally 'Round is made up of Joe Baker, Malcolm Snead, John Goss, Steve Baxter, and Steve Reynolds.

Visit www.creedeartsCouncil.com/music-in-the-park to view the entire summer schedule.

SLVREC seeks Costilla County board director

SAN LUIS VALLEY — San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative currently has a vacancy for the Costilla County director seat. To be eligible to serve as an appointee in the vacant seat, the individual must be a current member of SLVREC in Costilla County.

If you or anyone you know is interested in filling the remainder of the current term through 2024, contact Michelle Trujillo at 719-852-3538.

"Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. It is imperative to our membership to have representation in this process," SLVREC stated.

Kraft performing July 9 at Sundays at Six

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Live Music Association's Sundays at Six continues July 9 with Alysia Kraft. Kraft and her band from northern Colorado will visit the Valley for the first time.

When asked, "What are you most excited for this year?" Kraft replied, "To fall in love with playing live all over again and curate newer, weirder experiences around live music."

Head over to Cole Park at 6 p.m. on July 9 for some quality live music. The Papa Murphy's food truck will be selling pizza (including a gluten-free option) and beverages.

Visit www.almaonline.org, for the complete summer lineup. People are asked to bring a non-perishable item for the food drive to benefit the Alamosa Food Pantry.

The show will be live streaming on ALMA's Facebook page www.facebook.com/almalivemusic.

Roadmap for ScSEED's success

CONTRIBUTED

SAGUACHE COUNTY — The non-profit organization known as ScSEED (Saguache County Sustainable Environment and Economic Development) is moving forward with its strategic plan implementation for 2023.

Shaped during a workshop held in February with board members and community affiliates, the two-page

document will steer ScSEED's future actions through alignment with its four foundational pillars, which are community-building, economic development, mindful land use, and health and social well-being. These four pillars were established in 1999 under a founding charter entitled, "Preserving Our Heritage, Designing Our Future. A Strategic Plan for Saguache County."

Ameille Warner, Development Director for ScSEED, presented the Implementation Plan to Saguache County Commissioners, stating to the commissioners that "ScSEED is open for business."

Warner went on to present the recent accomplishments of the organization, including an overview of the February workshop, the addition of a bookkeeper to assist

in keeping financials in order, the capable board now in place, and a review of the non-profit affiliates who rely on ScSEED as their fiscal sponsor.

ScSEED has a long history of enacting projects that support its mission, which is "To work together as a community to develop a sustainable economy that builds on our existing strengths, contributes to a strong,

Please see ScSEED on Page 6A

July 4th in Crestone



From left to right are the first-, second- and third-place runners in Crestone's 4th of July 5K race, Glenn Aanstoos, and Scott and Jenn Walkowski.



Photos by John Waters
Veterans lead Crestone's Freedom in Unity themed 4th of July Parade on Tuesday.



Left: Saguache County Commissioner Liza Marron celebrates in style during Crestone's 4th of July Parade on Tuesday.

RGSO deputy injured in two-vehicle crash

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — A deputy with the Rio Grande County Sheriff's Office (RGSO) was injured in a two-vehicle accident early Monday afternoon, July 3, on Highway 285 where it intersects with County Road 7N.

The Colorado State Patrol (CSP) is investigating the accident. Capt. Nathan Lyons, CSP Public Information Officer, confirmed with the Valley Courier that the deputy sustained serious injuries, which includes broken bones.

The driver of the other vehicle, Lyons says, was uninjured.

Neither the identities of the deputy and other driver nor the cause of the accident are being released at this time pending completion of CSP's investigation.

When asked for comment, Rio Grande County Sheriff Anne Robinson could only confirm the following in an email sent to the Valley Courier, "It was a two-vehicle crash also involving a utility pole. Our deputy was injured."

Sheriff Robinson stated she was unable to provide additional information as the CSP's investigation is still in progress. Further details will be reported in the Valley Courier as they become available from the CSP.

Bullfighters Only event and Ski-Hi Stampede headed to Monte Vista

BY MARIE MCCOLM

MONTEVISTA — The 101st Ski-Hi Stampede is almost here and to get people ready for the second straight-year the planning committee has brought back a Bullfighters Only event to the Ski-Hi Park Arena on July 8.

This year there will be nine bullfighters. They will compete in three pools of three fighters with the winner of each pool advancing to the championship round.

This year's field features only one Colorado bullfighter in Colton Orcutt of Kersey. The rest of the field includes Alex McWilliams of Paso Robles, Calif., Cole Bates of Sky Valley, Calif., Colt Carlisle of San Saba,

Texas, Connor Larrivee of Calgary, Alberta, Luke Ballard of Haviland, Nev., Tucker Lane of Oak Grove, Mo., Tyler Mansell of Caldwell, Idaho, and Weston Rutkowski of Haskell, Texas.

There are two judges as in regular rodeo and they will grade the bullfighter on a scale of 1-25 points, and the bull's performance will also be graded on the same scale.

Please see EVENT on Page 4A

For the second-straight year, Monte Vista will be hosting a Bullfighters Only event on July 8 at 7 p.m. at the Ski-Hi Stampede rodeo grounds.

Courtesy photo



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OBITUARIES

Isabel Marie Pacheco

Longtime Monte Vista resident Isabel Marie Pacheco, 89, died June 27, 2023, at the Rio Grande Hospital in Del Norte, Colo. It was with great love and sorrow that her children, all present at her passing, said their goodbyes.

Isabel's life began in the family home at Seven Mile Plaza, outside of Monte Vista, Colo., on March 15, 1934. She was the daughter of Juan F. Trujillo and Lydia Torres Trujillo. The Torres and Trujillo families were early pioneers in the San Luis Valley and Isabel was the granddaughter of Pedro "Pete" and Sofia Trujillo whose Trujillo homestead on the Medano near the Great Sand Dunes National Park is now a National Historic Landmark. She married the love of her life, Hipolito Q. "Paul" Pacheco, on Jan. 31, 1951. They enjoyed more than 65 years together until his death in 2016.

Isabel worked for 20 years as a receptionist at Monte Vista Eye Care where she enjoyed greeting and serving clients of the Center. Family members still encounter former clients who tell of missing her friendly greetings and great service. Other outside-the-home jobs during her lifetime included assistant manager at Montgomery Ward, sales associate at the old McDonalds clothing store, and counter girl at Hesteds Five and Dime. For a time, she and Paul became business owners when, along with a few partners, they purchased the old armory (now Hope's Castle). The venue with its large wooden floor served as a roller-skating rink during the day and a dance hall on Saturday nights. Local and outside live bands drew in revelers from across the Valley. Later, the couple became sole proprietors and the establishment became the El Toro Restaurant and Lounge specializing in home-cooked New Mexican dishes.

Isabel was an engaged community member. She served as treasurer for the Lariat Water and Sanitation Board and joined other community leaders

in working toward the annexation of the Lariat community into the City of Monte Vista. She served for a time as PTA president and was an avid Monte Vista Pirates fan supporting band and sports programs over the years, especially when her children and grandchildren were involved. Many hours were spent sitting through cold and windy weather even as she experienced mobility issues in later years.

Isabel was a lifetime member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Monte Vista. She and Paul were supporters of St. Joseph School during its existence and she served as a catechist in the parish religious education program for several years. Today, parishioners at the Saturday evening mass will miss seeing her in the fourth pew from the front. As her health issues became more pronounced, it was her strong faith that gave her strength.

Most of all, Isabel devoted herself to the tasks and challenges involved in raising a large family. This was the true work and contribution of her life. She loved her garden and the family enjoyed fresh vegetables in summer and canned fruits and jams in winter. With a family of six daughters, her sewing machine was kept busy on projects that included several prom, homecoming, and wedding dresses. She left behind several crochet afghans that will be treasured by their owners. As a grandmother, she delighted in visits with her grandchildren and was famous for remembering each one's birthday. In later years, she enjoyed television programs like Jeopardy!, Wheel of Fortune, EWTN, and House Hunters. She followed current affairs and was proud to never have missed an opportunity to cast her ballot.

Isabel is survived by her adult children, Shirley Atencio, Monica Wolfe, Michael Pacheco, Angela Mascarenas (Jim), Christi Martin, James Pacheco (Rhonda), and Natalie Martinez. She will be cherished and dearly missed by 67



grandchildren and great-grandchildren who were the joys of her life and by Chico, her pet chihuahua who, as family members attest, trumped all. She is also survived by the sisters she loved, Arcelia "Arcy" Valdez (Frank) and Martha Francisco (Andrew), and by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, neighbors and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Paul and daughter Debra Jean Cawley, as well as her grandson, Nicolas Wolfe, infant granddaughter Heather Pacheco, and sister Cordelia Trujillo.

In celebration and thanksgiving for Isabel's life, and in keeping with the practices of her faith, a Vigil, Rosary, and sharing of memories will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 30, at St. Joseph Catholic Church followed by a reception in the church hall. A funeral mass will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday morning, July 1, 2023, at the same location with interment to follow at the San Luis Valley Cemetery. Donations in Isabel's memory may be made to either St. Joseph Church in Monte Vista or to the Rio Grande Hospital in Del Norte, Colorado.

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

Martha Maria Valdez Hagan

Martha (Marty) Maria Valdez Hagan was called home by her Lord and Savior on June 18, 2023, surrounded by her family. She was born in Del Norte, Colo., on Nov. 23, 1942, the daughter of Abel Valdez and Teresa Pacifica Espinosa and sister to Marcella Gonzales Martinez.

She attended grade school in La Garita and Center, Colo., and graduated from Saint Joseph Catholic High School in 1962 in Denver, Colo. She married Frankie Dean Hagan on April 14, 1967, in Carson City, Nev. They had a daughter, LaDonna. Over the years, Martha welcomed her grandchildren Brittany (Cameron), Amber (Kyle), and Joshua (Selena), 10 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandbaby. She retired from the Phone Company and was a longtime resident of Thornton, Colo.

She was preceded in death by her parents Abel, Teresa, and her sister Marcella.

She was a devoted Christian who loved Jesus with her whole heart. Letting the Holy Spirit work through her in both word and deed. Through example she shared her genuine faith with all of her children and had compassion for many. She spent her life working hard, and loving deeply, while always caring for her family, friends, and anyone who was in need.

You would find her cleaning houses, helping neighbors, and shoveling snow, all of which she was exceptional. She loved to be outside doing yard work in her beautiful yard, playing Yahtzee, Scrabble, and card games. She



shared many stories about her life themed mostly around, fishing, raising sheep, picking potatoes, riding horses, shooting guns, finding arrowheads in the creek beds, playing pool, and all the silly things that had happened to her throughout her life that made her laugh.

She was always moving but never moved too fast or got too busy that she would miss the beauty in the world. She made sure that each of those she raised got to experience joy and always thanked the Lord for each new day, and the countless blessings He bestowed upon her.

Services will be held on Thursday, July 20, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Parish at 11385 Grant Drive, Northglenn, CO 80233. A rosary will be held at 10:30 a.m. followed by a funeral mass at 11 a.m. and a reception at 12 p.m., food will be provided.

Burial services will be held in Del Norte, Colo., in the Del Norte Cemetery located at 18844 County Rd. 15, Del Norte, CO. Date and time to be determined.

Randy Verne Glover

Randy wore his emotions on his sleeve; you never had to wonder what he was thinking. Whether sharing memories, good-natured razzing, or a spirited debate, you could always count on his huge smile, deep laugh, or eventual agreement to disagree.

Randy's bond with his big sister Lana was solidified before he was born, as she prayed for a baby brother and knew he belonged to her. This bond continued throughout their lives; they could fight, love, cry, and laugh within a moment. She was with him for every challenge and celebration in his life. She will forever cherish the time spent with him and is especially thankful for the many recent visits and days together over the last couple of months.

Randy had a very special relationship with his nephew Nivek and Christa

Beiriger, with whom he spent every holiday and special occasion at their home — the same house Randy grew up in. They will greatly miss his presence during special times and every day.

Randy was preceded in death by his parents Theron and Leona, as well as his stepfather Frank Crown; brothers Jerry Glover, Larry Glover, and Billy Glover; sisters Linda Schmadeke, and Bonnie Glover; and stepsister Verna Felmlee.

Randy is survived by sisters Lana (Bill) Reed, Corda Sullivan, and Vickie Glover; stepsisters Becky (Randal) Wilson and Ellen (John) Moser; and stepbrother Richard (Shari) Crown; many nephews and nieces whom he adored and loved spending time with, as well as too many close friends to list — they

know who they are and how much they each meant to him. Randy's family and friends will greatly miss his clever sense of humor, big bear hugs, smiles, laughter, and, most of all, just hanging out and visiting while enjoying a cold beer or Gatorade.

A Celebration of Randy's Life will be held at 48419 E. Hwy. 112, Center,

Colo., on July 14, 2023, at 5 p.m. All friends and family are welcome; please bring a camp chair and your favorite story to share.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of the arrangements. To leave online words of comfort, remembrances or tributes to Randy's family, please visit www.RogersFunerals.com.



Randy Verne Glover of Center, Colo., was born on Dec. 26, 1954, to Theron J. Glover and Leona McComb; he was reunited with them in heaven on June 24, 2023. He will always be remembered as a fun-loving brother, super uncle, and friend.

OBITUARY POLICY

Valley Publishing charges a flat fee of \$75 for each obituary published. Pending arrangements or death notices run for no charge.

This charge affects funeral homes, as well as family or other representatives, that directly place obituaries. All paid obituaries will continue to be published on our website(s) for no additional fee.

In the event the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit will be rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed. Obituaries can be emailed to: bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com or call 719-852-3531 for more information.

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

A lot of adventures over 10 years

Miss Trixie reminded me today that this is the 10th anniversary of my starting to write for the Valley papers. Since that time, I became syndicated, and it allowed me to meet many good people — and a few not-so-good ones — across the country. It's been a wild ride sometimes as you have traveled along with Ol' Dutch and Miss Trixie on all kinds of adventures from the headwaters of the Rio Grande river to the outlet of the same into the Gulf of Mexico. Not a few people have told me that "it seems like a lot longer" when I told them it was my 10th year.



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

But regardless of the naysayers I have enjoyed the ride. I had some big shoes to fill as I took over the space where Ernie Wilkinson shared his exploits from wolf trapping to grizzly bear control to Walt Disney wildlife specialist. But as happens, Ernie got old enough that he decided to give up writing weekly and I was fortunate enough to be able to follow in his footsteps, at least partially.

Miss Trixie was on board at the time I was thinking about writing, and she voiced her concerns that Ol' Dutch would get writer's block. She did have a lot of experience with ghost-writing best sellers so I knew something about when writers simply can't think of something interesting to write. Of course, back then, she had not been around Ol' Dutch long enough to know just how full of it I am.

Now here I am, some 500-plus columns published, and I started thinking about all the places and adventures we took you.

From one of the first columns about our first date bear hunting you learned about just how romantic Ol' Dutch is. I took you along for when I fell in love with Miss Trixie, which included peeing in the woods and catching nightcrawlers, not at the same time, of course.

And on a subsequent date, I had sprung for free tickets to the rodeo which allowed you to see frugality in its best form. You were there when we talked about not liking your given name and to experience firsthand my transition to Ol' Dutch and the creation of Miss Trixie in all her glory.

You got to watch as this Yankee toured the South, the birth of granddaughters, hunting adventures in various places, and Miss Trixie having to deal with Ol' Dutch daily. Mardi Gras, every Holiday imaginable, and even some short poetry penned by Ol' Dutch himself. Most of you stood amazed each week

that Miss Trixie stayed with me but soon you all learned just how patient and kind and considerate — not to mention handsome — that Ol' Dutch is and then you understood her hitching her caboose to my train. Or something like that.

I often took you to church with me to see just how funny people can be and more than a few times to bars for the same. Which is funny as that is where Jesus Himself hung out and was hated for it by all the preachers of the day.

We perused the Internet and found not a few scams along the way there. We fell back and forward with time changes, had a Christmas goose and even survived Covid plus the Ebola scare, with a healthy dose of humor. Birthdays, droopy drawers, knocking a tooth out by falling, found out that I don't like my potato buttered by a funny waiter, fished, and hunted, birthed calves, butchered the same, and generally had a big life.

The Taoist Book of Life says that "A journey of a thousand miles begins with one step," and I can attest to that fact as this journey began with a single letter typed on a page and before I knew it, I had traveled a great distance.

Thanks to all of you faithful readers out there who have stuck with me through thick and thin and laughed along the way at Ol' Dutch and Miss Trixie.

And if you are facing some decision that seems daunting, take heart that if you will simply take the first step in your journey, soon you, too, will be far down the road to success in whatever you choose.

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 or on Twitter at TroutRepublic.



LETTERS

Mineral County Veterans Service Office thanks Creede Elks Lodge for grant

Editor,

On behalf of the Mineral County Veterans Service Office and all the veterans in the county, we sincerely would like to thank Creede Elks Lodge No. 506 who received and distributed to us a \$1,000 Freedom Grant from the Elks National Foundation.

It is by their generosity that we were able to purchase a wheelchair,

two first-aid kits, two gaiter belts, two boxes of rubber gloves and two blankets. These items will be utilized during transportation of veterans who are going to or coming back from doctor's appointments, or hospital visits. These funds have also been used to purchase 10 \$50 grocery gift cards for veterans who need a little extra help during these tough times.

We would also like to thank Joni Adelman and Janet Reynolds from Mineral County Public Health for ordering these supplies and Henry Hosselkus and the representative of Elks and his dedication to this worthy cause.

*Timothy M. Thornton
Mineral County Veterans Service Officer*

Thank you to the wonderful people of Creede

Editor,

Once again, we find ourselves saying "thank you" to the wonderful people of Creede for the love and generosity you have shown our family in the months since Tracy's untimely death. Seeing the church

overflowing with her friends and family for her memorial service last week filled our hearts with an overwhelming feeling of knowing just how much she was loved and will be missed by all of us!

Our thanks to all who shared your

time, food, gifts, money, support (cards) and so much more with us. Creede is a special place to live, work, and raise a family and we are truly blessed to be a part of it.

*Dannie and Betsy Rogers
Creede*

Ray Berry family appreciates support of community

Editor,

The family of Ray Berry wishes to thank the Rio Grande Hospital for the care given during his illness, to

Rogers Family Mortuary, Jerry Clare, and everyone who sent flowers, cards, food and made donations. Also, for the prayers and support during this

difficult time.

Kay Keith and family, Barbara and family and Eugene and family

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Logger Days in South Fork less than two weeks away

BY **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

SOUTH FORK — Though South Fork is one of the newest communities in the San Luis Valley having been established in the early 1880s along with the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, it has a long history that enriched the Valley for just shy of 100 years providing lumber to build homes, the railroad, mining structures and more.

As a way of remembering their past, South Fork has held one of the area's most favorite events — Logger Days — for the past 29 years, bringing history and the logging industry into the spotlight. This year's event is sure to bring in the crowds and is a great way to celebrate mid-summer in the San Juan Mountains. The weekend will feature professional logging events, vendors, ax throwing clinics and more.

South Fork was incorporated in 1992 yet was established as a stage stop along the rigorous trail leading north to Creede in 1880. It began as a place for travelers to rest along their journey, catch a bite to eat and continue on their way.

After the railroad came to South Fork in 1882, a new type of industry bloomed out of the forests surrounding the one-stop town. Lumber from the area became a staple for the community of settlers that had gathered there. In what seemed to some like an overnight industry, timber and sawmills took over much of the area.

The mills produced lumber for railways and mining communities nationwide. Due to the timber industry and Creede's silver boom, the area became a destination place for rich people seeking a Colorado experience. People came from all around to hunt, fish and stay in the wilderness.

South Fork has come a long way through the past and into the present.

EVENT

Continued from Page 1A —

The bulls that are used are of one Spanish Bloodline. The breed Toro de Lidia is an exceptional breed of bull known for its aggression and attractiveness. The bull's lively way of moving and spontaneous instinct to charge, make the bull an exceptional competitor for the competitions.

The Bullfighters Only event will be from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. There will be a tailgate party before the event starting at 5:30 p.m., and a dance after the event featuring Zach Neil. All events will occur with individual ticket sales. These are the first of many events set to kick off the annual Ski-Hi Stampede.

Carly Pearce will be headlining this year's Stampede concert on July 27. Frank Ray will be opening.

Pearce is a 33-year-old singer-songwriter who began singing in her teens. Pearce has made her way up the charts with three albums and many great singles, including, "What He Didn't Do," "Dear Miss Loretta," and "I Hope You're Happy Now."

Ray is a former police officer turned country music singer, who is bilingual and currently climbing the charts with his single of "Somebody Else's Whiskey."

For tickets to these events and all other Stampede events, visit online www.skihistampede.com.

Once again Wright's Amusements will be bringing their carnival to town.

The Ski-Hi Stampede's PRCA action is July 28-30. Downtown parades step off at 10 a.m. on Friday and Saturday, July 28 and 29. The theme of this year's parade is Grow Something Greater.

The lumber boom is over, and it has left a mountain destination with a wide variety of outdoor recreational opportunities in its place. In the years since the lumber boom, South Fork has come to enjoy the rich history in the area and celebrate in unique and original ways.

The 29th annual Logger Days event kicks off on July 14 with a tomahawk throwing clinic for both youth and adults sponsored by the South Fork Friends Foundation. The clinic will start at 10 a.m. in the parking lot outside of the pickleball courts and South Fork Community Center. All are invited and come try their hand at throwing.

Afterward the day begins with Collegiate Logging Event, craft and food vendors as well as a performance by Hip Hop is Dead at 3 p.m. The South Fork Community Center is always packed full of vendors selling homemade wares, auction items for local organization fundraisers and more.

Be sure to come back both Saturday, July 15 and Sunday, July 16 for two full days of logging events and competitions. For more information or a full list of events, visit www.southfork.org.



File photo

With the annual 3rd of July celebrations complete, South Fork will be shifting gears and getting ready to honor its logging heritage with the 29th annual Logger Days festival on July 14-16.



JULY 8th

Bullfighters Only

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SKI-HI STAMPEDE

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HVCC's summer program halfway through

CONTRIBUTED

DEL NORTE — Hi, community members! Happy Independence Day! High Valley Community Center can't believe our summer program is already halfway over.

The past four weeks have been full of science experiments, crafting, tie-dyeing, playing outside, swimming, fishing, business projects, and on and on! The older kiddos participated in an HVCC Mock Career Fair and learned all about careers through the Forest Service, BLM, REC, Public Health, River Valley Rehab and Healthcare Center, National Guard, Rio Grande Public Library, and the Rotary Club.

We want to thank our local partners that volunteered to spend some time with the kiddos. It makes an impact on them to build relationships with members of the community.

Baseball season is behind us, and now we are looking forward

to our fall sports! Registrations for third-fourth and fifth-sixth grade volleyball are available on our website, www.TheHVCC.org, until Aug. 1. Flag football will be divided into first-second grades and potentially third-fourth grades depending on our number of registrations. Tackle football for ages third-sixth is available through Rise Above Football. Contact Rise Above Football for more information. Stay tuned for more sports updates as August approaches.

We will be closed the entire week from July 4-6. We will return on Tuesday, July 11, for regular programming. The kids can look forward to a field trip to Zapata Falls on July 12 as well as making pottery with Mr. Andy, water games, and an escape trailer to name a few. We're looking forward to having the kids back!

We hope you all have a wonderful week!



Photos courtesy of HVCC

There is more to the High Valley Community Center's summer program than meets the eye. Sometimes it's running and having fun with friends, playing sports and participating in activities.

Mineral County passes ordinance as part of agreement with EPA, State AG

BY LYNDSIE FERRELL

MINERAL COUNTY — For the past several months, Mineral County Commissioners have been working with the Colorado Attorney General's Office as well as the EPA, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and local landowners to create an agreement to stop liability issues pertaining to historical mining claims along the Bachelor Loop in the historical mining district north of Creede.

The next step in the process is to pass Ordinance 2023-1 which states, "An Ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Colorado for the regulation of land use, development and activities upon certain property within unincorporated Mineral County containing mine waste source areas where residual mine wastes and/or engineered components exist, specifically including the Nelson Tunnel/Commodore Waste Rock Superfund Site."

Through several conversations held throughout the past year, the above-mentioned entities drafted the ordinance for approval during the Mineral County Commissioner meeting on June 21 in the Mineral County Commissioner Chambers. Mineral County Administrator Janelle Kukuk read the ordinance into the record and asked for discussion on it before approval.

The purpose of the agreement and ordinance between Colorado Attorney General's Office, CDPHE and the EPA along with Mineral County is to preserve and protect the mining structures that are remaining from the mining district and to prevent further contamination from mining waste and the presence of existing engineered components in areas that were privately owned and susceptible to liability should contamination occur.

Local landowners Jack Morris from the Last Chance Mine and adjacent landowner Paul Franke were present to contest the ordinance and requested that their properties be removed from the ordinance before it was approved.

Franke began by explaining that his family owned a total of seven

claims that would be affected by the ordinance and that as far as he was aware, there were not any engineered components on the property and that the term "mine waste" needed to be better defined.

Throughout the course of the meeting, Franke and Morris listed reasons as to why their land and claims should not be included in the ordinance and though the CDPHE and EPA representatives were against the motion, Mineral County Commissioners voted to table approval of the ordinance until more research could be done and conversations with the two opposing landowners could take place.

Mineral County Commissioners reconvened the approval of the ordinance on Wednesday, June 28 to make a decision. Commissioners entertained more conversation on the issue, hearing again from both Franke and Morris.

Morris was the first to speak, stating that the ordinance would directly affect his Last Chance Mine operation to which EPA Attorney Erin Agee responded stating that any further work done on properties included with the ordinance would have to undergo approval by CDPHE and the EPA but that as long as it did not interfere with the remedial work they were doing to the Nelson and Commodore Tunnels, it would be allowed to happen.

Morris persisted that the ordinance would be harmful to several landowners and that it would set a precedence in Mineral County moving forward and that he and other landowners should have been involved in the process from the beginning. Mineral County Commissioners explained that the process was confidential until the agreement between all parties involved, including the private landowner, was and would remain confidential until the settlement was complete.

Mineral County Commissioners voted to approve ordinance 2023-1 with the stipulation that Morris's and Franke's land could be removed from the ordinance through a process and inspection by CDPHE and EPA later.



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Rio Grande County begins plans for 150th anniversary

STAFF REPORT

RIO GRANDE COUNTY — Next year will mark 150 years since the incorporation of Rio Grande County and an entire year of celebrations are in the works. As of Feb. 10, 2024, Rio Grande County will be turning 150 after severing from Conejos County in 1874. During that time, Hinsdale, La Plata, and Rio Grande County were established.

Rio Grande County Commissioners, with the help of several department heads, are preparing for the year ahead and are seeking input and partnerships with local towns and organizations to celebrate the anniversary in style.

“We want to include the entire county. We have some really great things planned but we would like to reach out to the communities and get their input as well,” said Rio Grande County Administrator Skip Schoen.

The year will kick off with a celebration at the end of February at the Rio Grande County Museum with details and dates coming soon. Each month will feature a different department within Rio Grande County that will include a historical spotlight on 150 years of elected officials including county

commissioners, sheriffs and more.

Plans also include raising funds to help preserve the Barlow and Sanderson Stagecoach and office, both of which are in dire need of repair.

“We have a very short period of time left to save the stagecoach office that is located by the Del Norte Town Hall. The roof is caving in, and the integrity of the entire structure is in jeopardy. We need to save this significant piece of history before it is too late,” said Rio Grande County Museum Director Lyndsie Ferrell.

The year will also feature historical figures of note displayed at the museum and along Grande Avenue in Del Norte.

Rio Grande County has a long rich history, and the county is hoping to capture as much of the past 150 years as possible. Now, they are seeking the help of the City of Monte Vista, Town of Del Norte, and South Fork to ensure that the event is representative of all the wonderful communities that make up Rio Grande County.

Plans for the event will be announced as they become available. To participate, email Schoen at rgadministrator@riograndecounty.org.

ScSEED

Continued from Page 1A

integrated community, and protects the environment, rural lifestyle, and character of Saguache County.”

With the implementation plan as a guide, ScSEED is looking forward to taking on new projects to benefit Saguache County.

ScSEED has a long-term vision of serving as the economic development entity for Saguache County, serving the social, environmental, and economic needs of the county. It will have programs and partnerships involving housing, land use, education, community healing, food access, cultural heritage, and social well-being.

Toward this goal, Development Director Warner is applying for grant funding to build capacity and establish the foundation for larger projects.

In addition to its own projects, ScSEED functions as a fiscal sponsor to a number of community organizations in the county, including the Crestone Energy Fair, SLV Seed Exchange, Crestone Artists, and Crestone Community Gardens, and

anticipates the addition of more affiliate partners in the future.

This fiscal sponsorship provides non-profit tax benefits to the affiliates without the need to be established as a nonprofit on their own. These affiliates apply for this partnership to prove that they align with the Mission, Vision, and Priorities established by ScSEED’s charter.

ScSEED is actively looking for civic-minded individuals from across Saguache County, and specifically a treasurer, to join the board and advance sustainable economic development, protect environmental resources, and address pressing community needs.

If you would be interested in joining ScSEED, or have a community group within Saguache County that might benefit from ScSEED’s fiscal sponsorship, contact Board Chair Max Gibson at maxgib@gmail.com or Warner at Development.ScSEED@gmail.com. Learn more about ScSEED at scseedco.org and on Facebook.

The Saguache County Board of Commissioners are accepting written offers for County Owned Property currently. The lots available will be accepted by the Commissioners, at their discretion, until July 25, 2024.

If you would like to submit a bid offer for any available properties a bid packet and a list of properties is available on the Saguache County website at www.saguachecounty.colorado.gov or you can call the Land Use office at 719-655-2321 or by email request to landuse@saguachecounty-co.gov.

Bids must be submitted on a County bid form. Funds must accompany bids. NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED.

****You must enclose the completed bid form in a sealed envelope marked “County Owned Property Bid” and indicate on the envelope the block, lot or lots and parcel number, the bid is intended for. ****

The Board reserves the right to refuse any bid submitted.

No. 1674 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, June 29 and July 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2023.

ANTHONY PECHENIK and SHERRY MIELING ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint in this action by filing with the District Court Clerk, Saguache County, an answer or other response to the following civil action.

This summons is in regard to Civil Action No. 2023CV30005, District Court, Saguache County, State of Colorado, Plaintiff Doree Newbery V. Defendants Anthony Pechenik and Sherry Mieling; and all unknown persons who may claim any interest in the subject matter of this action.

You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

This is an action in which the Plaintiff is seeking reversal of the fraudulent transfer of real property in her favor and against the named defendants. The property at issue is known as 2202 Spanish Creek Road, Crestone, CO 81131.

Plaintiff’s attorney-of-record is Gerald L. Jorgensen, Atty. Reg. No. 18855, 8001 Arista Pl., Suite 415, Broomfield, CO 80021.

No. 1671 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, June 8, 15, 22 and 29 and July 6, 2023.

Keeping Creede clean one closet at a time

CONTRIBUTED

CREEDE — The second week of July has become a tradition in Creede. The Ladies Aid Society will be hosting its annual Rummage Sale at the Virginia Christensen Multi-use Facility on La Guarita Street.

Once referred to as the largest and only department store in Creede, the doors will open on Wednesday, July 12, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and then open again from 5 to 7 p.m. in the evening for anyone who is working during the day and unable to attend during the day.

One of the highlights of Wednesday is the live and silent auction full of unique items. The rummage sale continues on Thursday, July 13 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

If you have items to donate, please bring your clean items on Monday, July 10, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. or Tuesday, July 11, from 8 a.m. to 2

p.m.

“We ask that your items be clean and in good working order and if possible, please label any bedding by size (twin to California King). The LAS cannot accept CS, textbooks, books on tape, encyclopedias, magazines, electronics, computers, large appliances, TVs, or mattresses/box springs,” organizers stated.

2023 is the Ladies Aid’s 124th year of service in the Creede Community. The money raised through the rummage sale and other Ladies Aid activities provides sewn fabric bags full of toiletries to migrant workers in the Valley, contributes to the senior lunch program in Creede, arranges meal trains for new parents and those recovering from surgeries, donates to the local veterinary clinic, hosts bereavement dinners for local families, donates to the Creede Repertory Theatre, assists

with heating, rent, and medical bills, sends cash gifts to all the Veterans at Home Lake during the Christmas season, hosts a Christmas Corner full of handmade crafts for sale in the community during Creede’s Chocolate Festival, donates to the multi-county Food Care and Share Program, donates to the Creede Early Learning Center including their Imagination Library program, donates to the Mineral County Search and Rescue team, and has a “Sewing Sisters” component that provides quilts for local newborns, sews quilts, neck pillows, blankets, walker bags, and more to the Veterans at Home Lake, and sews fabric bags filled with toiletries to be given to kids placed in emergency foster care.

“Recently, one of our members referred to the Ladies Aid Society as Creede’s version of the United Way,” organizers stated.

CO Highway 17 travelers will encounter two stops just north of the New Mexico state line

CONTRIBUTED

SOUTHWEST COLORADO — Travelers will encounter two brief stops on Colorado Highway 17 near the New Mexico state line this summer. Vehicles will be guided by a portable light signal through one-lane alternating traffic configurations at two locations where road and culvert damage has occurred.

third of a mile north of the CO-NM state line at Mile Point 0.3

- Site 2 — three miles north of the border and one mile south of the Cumbres Pass railroad station at MP 3

Travelers should also be aware of the newly decreased speed limits of 25 mph as they approach light signal sites.

Maintenance and engineering officials with the Colorado Department of Transportation have inspected the road damage sites and are continuing to explore

repair options.

Traffic Impacts

- Travelers will encounter full stops guided by a portable light signal at two locations just north of the state line
- Speed limit reduction of 25 mph is in place at the two sinkhole locations
- Motorists should slow down and obey all traffic signs
- Motorists are urged to use extreme caution when driving through the section of highway
- Allow for extra travel time

- Locations**
- Site 1 — approximately one-

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'Trail of the Espinosa Outlaws' author speaking at Ft. Garland on July 10

CONTRIBUTED

FORT GARLAND — The 1860s story of the rampaging Espinosa brothers keeps readers and researchers scrambling after 150 years. The newly-released book by retired attorney Michael A. Espinosa is a fictional account based on family narratives of the vengeful brothers in Southern Colorado.

Espinosa brings the fictional story of the outlaws to light with the release of "Trail of the Espinosa Outlaws: Reign of Terror 1857 to 1863."

The Fort Garland Museum and Cultural Center will host Espinosa's book talk at 1 p.m. on July 10. The free event is open to the public.

"Trail of the Espinosa Outlaws: Reign of Terror 1857-1863" gives a more complete version of the historical events in an exciting 346-page narrative.

In 1863, the Denver Rocky Mountain News Weekly printed the beginnings of the Espinosa story in the April 16 issue. At that point, several murders were discovered in South Park. Less than 30 days later, claims of 300 murders circulated in the press and hit national news.

The book was originally titled, "The

Other Side of the Peso." It has taken three generations of Espinosas to bring this book to light. Humberto Espinosa, Michael's grandfather, told the family stories of revenge in Colorado, New Mexico and Texas over murders and assaults committed by the invading Americanos after the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

Humberto's son, L. Andrés Espinosa (and Michael's father) wrote the book during his lifetime and sought a publisher to no avail. L. Andrés' son, Michael A. Espinosa, edited the book, vetting much of the information in the fictional narrative, and it was published in March 2023 by Vanishing Horizons of Pueblo.

Espinosa was the Director of the Area Agency on Aging in Huerfano and Las Animas counties for six years. He is also a lawyer currently doing Pro Bono work for Colorado Legal Services.

The western novel involves two families of Espinosas, their exploits, Spanish land grant issues, and treatment pursuant to the Treaty. Most of the action takes place in Southern Colorado.

Amidst a historical picture of life

in 1860s Colorado, the Espinosa outlaws evaded the Ft. Garland-based military and mercenaries until legendary frontiersman Tom

Tobin tracked them down, cut off their heads, and took them to Fort Garland for bounty.

The book can be purchased at the

event or through the publisher at www.VanishingHorizons.com. Call 719-561-0993 or 719-544-4040, for more information.

2023 Ski Hi Stampede Parade Entry Form

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY FRIDAY JULY 15TH TO: Ski Hi Stampede Committee, P.O. Box 909 Monte Vista, CO 81144

Deadline to return forms is Friday July 15th. Forms returned after that date will be subject to a \$10 late fee. Line up on parade day will begin at 8:00 AM.

There will be judging of parade entries. In order to be judged you have to be in the parade both days. **PARADE WILL TAKE PLACE JULY 28th-29th**

ENTRY NAME _____ Firm, Organization, Sponsor, etc.
TELEPHONE # _____

FLOAT: Senior _____ or Youth (1-18) _____

DAY(S) YOU WILL BE PARTICATING IN THE PARADE Friday _____ Saturday _____

If Small children are riding on floats, please park your vehicle away from the floats and walk the children to the float to avoid traffic congestion. Afterwards, please walk to the end of the route to collect them. During parade it is important to continue moving to avoid gaps, please do not stop. **DO NOT THROW CANDY FROM YOUR VEHICLES DURING PARADE.**

ANTIQUÉ VEHICLE (Circle all that apply)

NUMBER OF PEOPLE

PER Vehicle _____ Bikes _____ 4 Wheelers & Motorcycles _____

Walking/Marching Group _____ Car Group _____

Other (Describe) _____

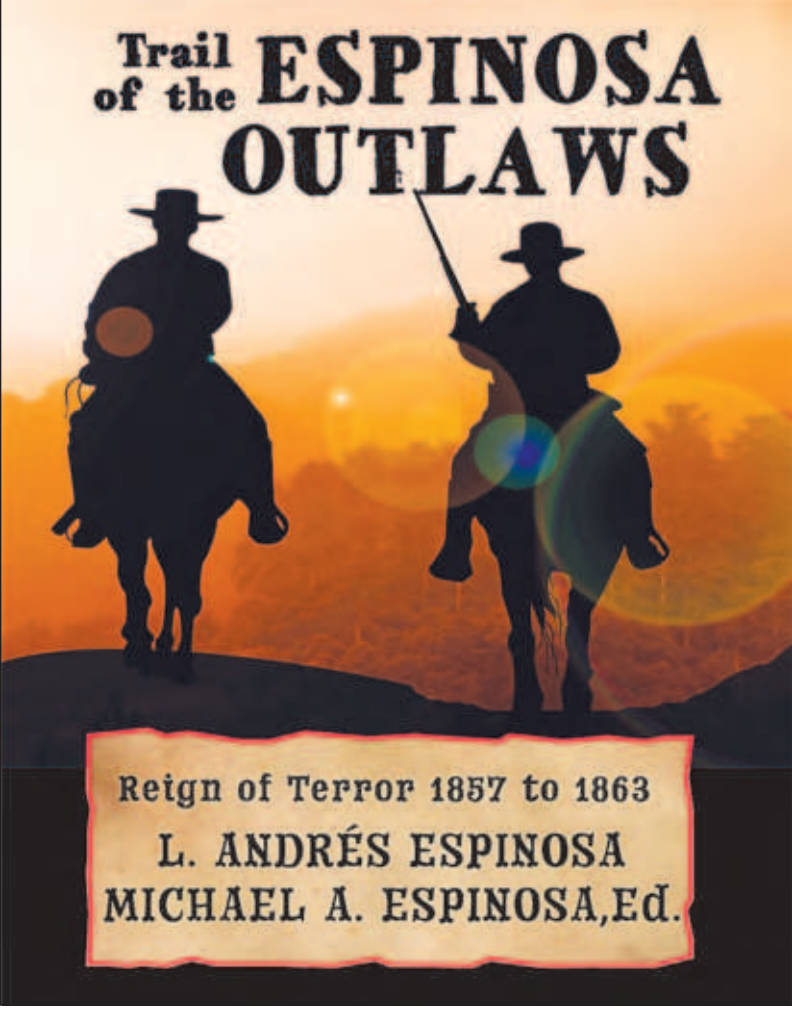
NUMBER OF HORSE RIDERS: Adult _____ Junior (13-18) _____ Juvenile (1-12) _____

Family/Group _____ Other (describe) _____

At the end of the parade, please ride your horse across the highway, then along the railroad track. For your safety do not ride them on the highway with the oncoming traffic.

PLEASE GIVE A FULL DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ENTRY TO AID OUR ANNOUNCER

PLEASE RETURN TO FINNER BLESSING



What Real Love Really Looks Like



I have made it a priority to study about love in the Word of God. Getting a revelation about how much God loves me and learning to receive His love has been life-changing for me. It's the key to being able to really enjoy my life because when I learned how to receive God's love, then I could love others.

This is so important because the best way—the only way—you can have a happy, powerful life is to get your mind off yourself and do something for someone else. Helping people, being a blessing and adding value to other people's lives is what it means to walk in love and follow the example of Jesus.

Ephesians 5:2 (NKJV) says, "Walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God..." Jesus—our perfect and holy Savior—gave His life for us, took all of our sin upon Himself, and shed His blood so we could have a personal relationship with Him and become the righteousness of God. That was His gift to us. And once we experience the gift of salvation, our gift to God is following Jesus' example in the way we live our lives.

Jesus says in John 13:34, "...Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (NIV). If we will learn how to follow this one commandment, everything else in our lives will fall into place. Because when we live a life filled with God's love, then we can become everything we're created to be.

Be a Good Samaritan
In Luke chapter 10, Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan to demonstrate what it means to love God and your neighbor as yourself. In verses 30-37, we read that a man was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho when "he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat

him and went away, leaving him half dead."

A priest and a Levite both passed by him and neither stopped to help. Verse 33 says, "But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion" (NKJV). Notice that he "had compassion" for this man and he was moved to do something to help him.

He dressed his wounds and took him to an inn where he could get the care he needed. He paid the innkeeper and told him, "Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you" (v35).

There are a few things I want you to notice here. First, the Samaritan was traveling the road and was probably going somewhere he needed to be; he had a plan but he was willing to stop and help this man even if it meant his plan was interrupted.

Also, he gave his best effort to make sure the man had good care and then paid for him to get it. He was obviously willing to pay whatever it was going to cost because he told the innkeeper, "Whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you." So he was planning to come back and make sure everything the man needed was covered.

This Is Love!
Jesus is showing us in this story what real love looks like. First Corinthians 13 lists the characteristics of God's love: it is patient and kind, never jealous, boastful or rude; it does not demand its own way, is not irritable and keeps no record of being wronged. Love rejoices when truth wins out. It never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. Love never fails!

Now, if you're thinking, "There's no way I can live up to this list!" I want to tell you, "Yes, you can!" You can love

others like this because as a born-again Christian, you have everything you need to be like Jesus.

It's not always easy because we have to resist the temptation to be selfish, but 1 John 4:4 says that the Spirit of God in us is greater than our enemy. So in Christ, we have the power we need to walk by faith and live a life of love.

It's important to understand that God is not expecting you to be perfect in your love walk or to do it without His help. What He wants is for you to seek Him through prayer and studying the Word, and as you do, lean on Him for the grace to do what He's asking you to do each day.

God is love, so you can rest in the truth that He is patient with you, He's always with you, He believes in you and He will not give up on you. With God's love in your life, you can learn how to live a life of love!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-part teaching resource **What Is Love?** 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 **THE ANSWER TO ANXIETY** (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.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



Hikers can now help researchers document pikas

BY ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD AND DENVER ZOO

COLORADO — With the winter snowpack mostly gone, hikers are once again pouring into Colorado's high peaks, and this year, some of them will come back with important data on how the cutest animal in Colorado, the American pika.

This is the first summer in which hikers can use the Pika Patrol, a new mobile app. Downloaded to a cell phone this application will allow hikers and climbers to track observations and monitor populations of climate-sensitive American pika.

This first-of-its-kind app for the at-risk species will be used by the roughly 650 volunteers affiliated with the Colorado Pika Project, but it also opens the door for hikers, residents, and visitors to easily record pika observations with their smartphones. Through Pika Patrol, the project expects to expand the area where it is studying this charismatic mountain dweller. The Colorado Pika Project is an initiative led by Rocky Mountain Wild and Denver Zoo that engages volunteers to study the impacts of climate change on the American pika in Colorado. and Denver Zoo that engages volunteers to study the impacts of climate change on the American pika in Colorado.

Pikas, close relatives of rabbits, are adorable small mammals that live at high altitudes in Colorado and across the West. Despite thriving in some of the harshest environments in the state, pikas in some areas may be vulnerable to climate change as temperatures rise and snowpack melts earlier across the intermountain west.

"Each summer, thousands of hikers see pikas dashing around rocky slopes above the tree line," said Megan Mueller, a conservation biologist at Rocky Mountain Wild. "With Pika Patrol, there is now a simple way for them to record these pika sightings and share their observations with scientists."

"Pika Patrol will really empower hikers to help scientists understand how pikas are coping with climate change in our state," said Dr. Johanna Varner, a biology professor and American pika expert at Colorado Mesa University. "The app makes it really easy for people to submit photos and sound recordings with their observations, which are really powerful data."

The app was designed to be easy to use. All you need to participate is a mobile device.

"Colorado Pika Project community scientists have been studying pikas at our long-term monitoring site for over a decade, but they had to be trained in a pretty rigorous scientific protocol. Now, all you need to use Pika Patrol is a smartphone," said Alex Wells, community conservation coordinator at Denver Zoo. "Even if you've never seen a pika before, the app will teach you to identify them by sight, calls, haypiles, and scat."

Volunteers who tested the app in 2022 are eager to get out and start using it in the field this fall.

"I am really excited about the Pika Patrol app!" said Lea Linse, a community scientist volunteer with the Colorado Pika Project. "It is so important that we understand how climate change is affecting our mountain ecosystems, and collecting data on our beloved

pikas is a key part of that research. Plus, it is really fun to explore new trails with a purpose, learn about the pikas, and hang out in beautiful places with these adorable critters."

"Pika Patrol shows you how to offset the carbon emissions from your drive through a donation to the Colorado Carbon Offset Partnership," said Dr. Nicole Rosmarino, founder and the previous executive director of the Southern Plains Land Trust. "These donations

directly preserve grasslands in Colorado that sequester carbon, which helps pikas cope with climate change and creates a permanent refuge for prairie wildlife."

Pika Patrol is available for free in the Google Play and Apple App Stores. Interested users can also visit the Pika Patrol webpage at www.pikapartners.org.

An American Pika having a field day.

Photo courtesy of the Denver Zoo



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Lifestyles

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Buffalo soldiers: reVision exhibit opens at Fort Garland Museum

BY DIANE DREKMANN

FORT GARLAND — The anticipated buffalo soldiers: reVision exhibit opened at the Fort Garland Museum June 24. Many hands came together to tell this important part of history.

Buffalo Soldier descendant, historian and member of the Southern Ute tribe, Johnny Taylor Valdez opened the exhibit by giving honor to his Native American and African American heritage.

He gave a blessing for “...the great people who came before and bless those who come.”

Valdez’s grandfather “Jack” John Taylor of the 108th Infantry in Ohio married Kitty Cloud, daughter of a Ute chief. Both cultures became intertwined. The Buffalo Soldiers were originally recruited to protect settlers from Indians. But, in some cases, people intermarried, and allies were formed.

“(The soldiers) worked for and with the natives. (They) created a constitution and House of Representatives,” Valdez said.

The Ute tribe is a sovereign nation today. Valdez appreciated “the kindness of the exhibit, honoring our teachers and artists.”

Fort Garland Museum Director Eric Carpio gave background and thanks to those who helped bring the exhibit to fruition. He had worked with world-renowned national artist Chip Thomas on the Unsilenced project and wanted “to do an artist-led program doing justice to the story. (They) wanted to show history in a creative way... native enslavement, art, with history. You can’t understand San Luis Valley without understanding the land and mountains. We’re doing the right thing.”

Carpio mentioned this came together with help from people around the country and the instrumental support from History Colorado and the community.

Eight artists, including Thomas, came from all over the country to be a part of the buffalo soldiers: reVision exhibit. Esther Belin, a Dine writer and poet, recited a powerful poem, “Prayer for the Flag.”

“To understand the land better, you have to understand the land and the story,” she said. Belin spoke of her ancestors who had to endure “... the Forced March through Santa Fe — showing them as a defeated



Photos by Diane Drekmann

John Bell, 82, attended the buffalo soldiers: reVision opening in Fort Garland on June 24. His father, grandfather, and uncle were Buffalo Soldiers.



Carolynne, Leticia, and Erwin Taylor are descendants of a Buffalo Soldier and attended the opening of the buffalo soldiers: reVision exhibit at Fort Garland on June 24.

people. Women were targeted.”

She and the other artists, Theodore A. Harris, Gaia, Tom Judd, and Andre Leon Gray have their art displayed in the exhibit. Mahogany L. Browne and Rosie Ray Carter have books available. State Representative Matthew Martinez from Monte Vista attended the opening.

A lunch with traditional San Luis Valley food was served — posole, elote, green chili and biscochitos for dessert. The afternoon brought sounds of spiritual songs one might have heard in the 1870s, as well as old favorites like “Row Your Boat Ashore,” and “When the Saints Come Marching In.”

Descendents of Bufalo Soldiers **Please see SOLDIERS on Page 3**

San Luis Valley embroidery exhibit in Taos, N.M., from July 1-31

BY JOHN WATERS

TAOS, N.M., and ALAMOSA — Artists from the San Luis Valley will be featured in an upcoming exhibition, Colcha Embroidery: Traditional and Contemporary at La Hacienda de Los Martinez in Taos, N.M., from July 1-31. After a three-year hiatus due to the pandemic and forest fires, this large display will fill several rooms. It includes works created by beginners to nationally recognized bordadoras (embroiderers).

Areas represented include the San Luis Valley and La Veta and the New Mexico communities of Taos, Penasco, Chamisal, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Las Vegas, Moriarty, and Las Cruces.

La Hacienda de los Martinez is a historic exhibition space, built in 1804 with adobe, and located on the bank of the Rio Pueblo de Taos. The exhibit’s unique feature appreciated by

needle-workers is the ability to observe works up close. Hacienda de los Martinez is open Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday noon to 5 p.m., located at 708 Hacienda Rd., Taos,



Image courtesy of The Range, Saguache, Colorado

Donna Madrid Hernandez, S.P.M.D.T.U in Chama 2022.

N.M..

Embroiderers from throughout the San Luis Valley will be featured in the exhibition and include Donna Madrid Hernandez, Irene Medina, Julia Mondragon, Connie Morrell, Marcella Pacheco, Mary Vigil de Rodriguez, Sandy Dolak, Adrienne Garbini, and Aurora Martinez.

Garbini told the Valley Courier,

“Colcha embroidery is a textile art unique to Southern Colorado and New Mexico, where the art form originated in the early 19th Century. The colcha embroidery technique employs a single needle and thread, laying long stitches secured to cloth with tacking stitches. The term colcha refers to the Spanish word for a bed covering. It is com-

Please see EXHIBIT on Page 3

Future of Conejos County Museum discussed at open house

BY DIANE DREKMANN

ANTONITO — Julie Chacon, Director of the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area (SdCNHA), held an open house on June 20 at the Conejos County Museum in Antonito to gather the community’s thoughts about its future.

Because of various issues, the museum has been closed. SdCNHA has partnered with Conejos County and agreed to take care of the inside of the building while the county takes care of the outside. Chacon said her grandparents were one of the original families in Capulin and have ancestors from Los Sauces.

Chacon then posed several questions to the crowd. “What do you want to see in the museum,” she asked. “Should we just highlight Antonito or tell about the surrounding areas — Platero, Ortiz, San Antonio, Los Lobatos? What stories? What displays? Focus on railroads, mountains, and agriculture? Or a little bit about all of it? What should we name the museum?”

Chacon mentioned she spoke to the Ute tribal council “To respectfully tell their stories.”

Chacon assured, “before the museum opens, they would review everything, and did not want anything untrue.”

Dan Lopez, of the dance group Los Vecinos Balia-dores, said, “to make sure to recognize the Veterans.”

There will be a section for Veterans and one idea is to have a slide show. Other members of the Antonito community shared their thoughts and memories. While looking at artifacts, a woman suddenly exclaimed with excitement upon spying a Hometown Stars cereal box with the 1966 Antonito High School

Please see MUSEUM on Page 3



Photo by Diane Drekmann

A woman holds a cereal box featuring the 1966 Antonito High School football team on it. An open house to discuss the future of the Conejos County Museum was held on June 20.

Feeling Good About Another Forestry Camp

Teaching my third forestry camp at the Beaver Creek Youth Conservation Camp on June 6 – 8 went off without a hitch, again. I wrote about it the past two years and shared how I was impressed by the level of engagement, enthusiasm and knowledge of the students. I have the same feelings about the camp again this year. The continually surprising thing for me is that I always find myself wanting to engage with our youth so much more after doing events like these. This year's conservation camp was no different.

For some reason, the presence of two of our camp students made me a bit nervous when I first read the roster. One is the son of a coworker and the other, the son of a partner agency's employee. I felt like they would have a higher level of scrutiny on us instructors. While that wasn't likely, they did display an impressive level of understanding of our agency, basic forestry and wildland fire concepts.

On the first day, we were just getting to know each other and after our blindfolded excursion of meet-



Land Water and People
By Gregg Goodland

ing new trees, the persistent claps of thunder announced a thunderstorm's eminent arrival. I relocated the group under a pavilion in time for the deafening sound of hail to cease all hope of presenting anything to the distracted youth. I mean, let's face it, hail is far more interesting than discussing the mission and differences of the land management agencies in the

San Luis Valley! True to Colorado form, the storm gave us a reprieve and the day ended with us outside.

Day 2 began bright and damp with a highly active game of predator and prey where the prey had to try to cross the field and avoid being tagged by the predators. I began as prey and got caught immediately by the faster young predators. I then became a very hungry predator. But the kids understood the concept of more predators and less prey and the converse.

We moved to the stream to conduct our annual review of macro-invertebrates. Only a couple of the students waded in the frigid water to lift rocks for the nets to catch all the critters disturbed by the action. Each student then had the opportunity to identify caddisflies, may flies, and the gamut of other miniature creatures we find in our wild waters. The ensuing discussion of when and where we might find greater populations of each species and all the variables that contribute to their survival was wonderful. The students also easily understood how other aquatic

species can be affected by changes in these populations. Again, how they pick this up so fast is truly impressive!

The afternoon brought a visit from a wildland fire engine and crew who discussed the relationship that wildland fire has with forest health and how the land management agencies use fire for their benefit. My two federal children got to hoist and wear the 45+ pound pack that the firefighters carry. The highlight was when they could all spray water on our imaginary fire.

The third day brought us to our quite place where the students used all their senses to learn about their surroundings. And quite the perceptive group they were! Finally, the big hike tries to bring many of the newly learned concepts together and even added a small

poetry activity in which many students showed a wonderful flair. It was a great end to a couple of great days working with our SLV youth.

Along with my partners, Katie Goodleaf, from Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado and Kelly Delfaye, from San Juan Mountains Association, I want to thank the Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative for hosting and inviting us to the Youth Conservation Camp at Beaver Creek. As always, it is an experience worth participating in that gives us great hope in our bright, future land stewards.

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

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EXHIBIT

Continued from Page 1

mon in the historical and modern San Luis Valley style to fill the entire surface of the fabric with embroidery. Valley colcha embroidery artworks often illustrate personal histories and local landscapes.”

According to Taos Historic Museums, “The Hacienda de los Martinez — One of only a few northern New Mexico style, late Spanish Colonial period, ‘Great Houses’ remaining in the American Southwest. Built by Severino Martin (later changed to Martinez), this fortress-like building with massive adobe walls became an important trade center for the northern boundary of the Spanish Empire. The Hacienda was the final terminus for the Camino Real which connected northern New Mexico to Mexico.”

Included in the show will be a work by Donna Madrid Hernandez, of the S.P.M.D.T.U in Chama.

According to the National Park Service, the building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2018, The Chama Sociedad Protección Mutua de

Trabajadores Unidos (SPMDTU) lodge hall in Chama is locally significant as the lodge hall of the United Workers’ Mutual Protection Society group since its construction in about 1920. Founded in 1900, the society served the fraternal and social needs of its Hispano membership. The organization arose at a time when ethnic mutual aid societies were springing up across the nation.

In the early 20th century, Hispanos often formed mutual aid societies to combat prejudice and exploitation: The primary function of these organizations was to build solidarity within the Mexican and Spanish American communities, to educate their members about the laws and institutions of the United States, to welcome new arrivals to the communities.

This colcha work is an embroidery representation of this important aspect of Hispano culture and history.

MUSEUM

Continued from Page 1

football team on the cover.

“I know the kids on that cereal box. They are grandparents now,” she said. She held a box, then handed it to her grandchildren.

People remember Antonito as a bustling, thriving town, “bigger than Alamosa. It was the main hub of the Valley,” Chacon said.

Les Salazar is a tour guide for the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad. His grandfather owned

the JC Penney in Antonito. There was also Sears, a flour mill, seven sawmills, a butcher shop and tractor dealership.

Mary Ann remembers, “dances and rodeos. Fields of onions and potatoes.”

Salazar recalls, “(his) father told him back in the 1960s that highways (like 285) is what’s killing small towns. It’s too easy to travel.”

Others remembered taking the steam train to the river.

Chacon said, “Antonito has some of the richest history in the whole USA. a unique history. The kids have no idea and no pride.”

Chacon hopes to have the museum open next summer. Contact her at 719-580-7366 to share thoughts and ideas about Conejos County Museum.

Del Norte Rotary Golf Tourney set for July 7

DELNORTE—The Del Norte Rotary Golf Tournament is set for July 7 at the Rio Grande Club and Resort in South Fork. The cost is \$125 per person and includes lunch. Shotgun start at 11 a.m.

The format is 4-person scramble, low foursome score.

To register or for more information, contact Julia York at 719-657-4546.

Karissa Rodriguez makes spring 2023 Dean’s List

TOPEKA, KAN. — Washburn University has announced its spring 2023 Dean’s List honorees. To qualify for the Dean’s List, a student must be enrolled in 12 hours of graded credits and earn a semester grade point average of 3.4 to 3.99. Karissa Rodriguez from Romeo is a spring 2023 Dean’s List honoree.

SOLDIERS

Continued from Page 1

were at the opening and continue to tell their story. John Bell is 82 years old. His father, grandfather, and uncle were Buffalo Soldiers.

Bell recalls “going to a meeting in Kansas City with his father when he was 6 years old. The old original soldiers said, ‘Tell our story’...and (Bell’s) been telling the story for 50 years.”

He has a private museum. Among the artifacts is an original gun from Custer. Bell will be on the Durango-Silverton train Sept. 16 -17, with a travelling exhibit.

Bell reminisces, “my parents never spoke about it. My grandma said it was so awful she didn’t want to think about it.”

Erwin Taylor, Valdez’s cousin, is the oldest descendent of a Buffalo Soldier, at 85. Taylor, and his wife of 63 years, Carolynne, shared memories of a bygone era. His grandmother was Kitty Cloud, the daughter of a Ute chief married to John Taylor.

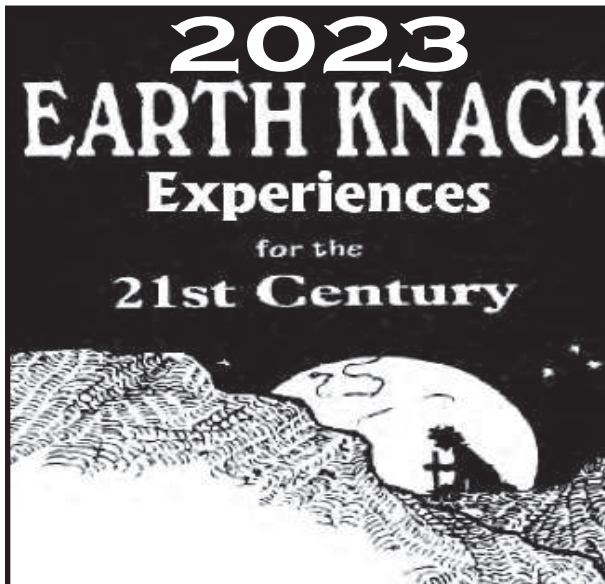
She spoke only Ute, “She tanned and slept on animal skins on an abode dirt floor, kept her things in a gunny sack, hated chairs and always sat on the floor,” Taylor said.

Despite being crippled in a riding accident, Cloud farmed for many years. The Taylors raised short-horn cows for 40 years. Taylor has weathered a few traumatic storms. As a child, his house blew up in a propane explosion. Taylor almost lost his foot.

“An old Army doctor saved my foot,” Taylor said. Through all his traumatic experiences Taylor says, “Put God first. You will be OK.”

Taylor’s granddaughter, Leticia Taylor, was also at the buffalo soldiers: reVision event. She realized the Ute language was dying. She got a \$1 million dollar grant for Elders to teach the Ute language and put it into the curriculum of a local Montessori school. Taylor needed 15 people to participate. The program started during the COVID-19 pandemic and there are currently 27 teachers certified through Fort Lewis College.

The Fort Garland Museum is at 29477 Highway 159 in Fort Garland. The museum is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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ESTIMATED CROP WATER USE

Weather Data from SLV Research Center located on the 9N and Hwy 285

Crop	Date Planted	Daily Crop Water use for Dates Shown (in./day)				Accumulated Water Use (ET)				
		6/29	6/28	6/27	6/26	From 6/29 (inches)				
		2day	3day	4day	5day	7day				
Moravian 69	04/05	0.21	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.50	0.79	1.07	1.36	1.93
Moravian 69	05/05	0.21	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.50	0.79	1.07	1.36	1.93
Early Wheat	04/05	0.21	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.50	0.79	1.07	1.36	1.93
Early Wheat	05/05	0.21	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.50	0.79	1.07	1.36	1.93
White Wheat	04/05	0.21	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.50	0.79	1.07	1.36	1.93
White Wheat	05/05	0.21	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.50	0.79	1.07	1.36	1.93
WinterWheat	10/01	0.19	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.44	0.71	0.98	1.26	1.82
Potatoes										
Norkotah	05/05	0.22	0.29	0.28	0.26	0.51	0.79	1.05	1.31	1.77
Centennial	05/05	0.10	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.23	0.34	0.45	0.54	0.70
Nugget	05/05	0.11	0.15	0.14	0.13	0.26	0.40	0.54	0.66	0.89
Alfalfa	Est.	0.24	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.57	0.90	1.23	1.56	2.21
Lawgrass	Est.	0.20	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.47	0.75	1.02	1.30	1.84

For the latest ET information, call 754-3494 extension x40 for Center, x36 for Center #2, and x38 for La Jara. Use the crop maturity and planting data and weather station closest to your own. Find this up June 8d table each day at this web address: <http://aes-slvrc.agsci.colostate.edu/daily-crop-water-use-report/>

This information is provided by the SLV Research Center (Colorado State University) and the Colorado Potato Certification Service. For info, call 754-3494 x26 or e-mail: andrew.houser@colostate.edu



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

Del Norte Bank is seeking to fill a full-time position for a Teller in the Del Norte Branch. Duties will be to accept deposits, loan payments and process withdrawals while maintaining a balanced cash drawer. Must be personable and pleasant answering the phone and greeting customers. Many other duties will be assigned as needed. The position is permanent, full-time, M - F, 8am - 5pm with a robust benefits package. Application available at TrueLocalBank.com/careers or inquire at 705 Grand Ave, Del Norte or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Dawn. EOE. (7-5)

WANTED: Saguache County Road and Bridge is hiring for Operator I positions....starting at \$18.00/hour NO CDL REQUIRED! Or \$19.68/hour for those with a CDL License! REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must have a current and valid Drivers License. Applicants should have a high school diploma or GED and six months or more of relevant experience. Prospective employees applying with Saguache County, please note that the chosen candidate will be required to submit and pass a pre-employment drug screening and criminal background check, prior to being hired. In addition to the increased hourly rate, the County Employee benefit package includes: vision, dental and health insurance coverage, paid time off, and a generous 401k retirement plan. Operator I is a full time position - applicants must be able to operate light and heavy equipment and perform manual labor in the maintenance, repair and minor construction of roads, streets, bridges, signs, markings and related facilities. Applicants must be physically capable of periods of sustained physical exertion and may be required to lift and move up to 75 lbs. to 150 lbs. Applications are available at the Saguache County Road and Bridge Office 305 3rd Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 - 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website - saguachecounty.colorado.gov under the Road and Bridge Department tab. Please fill out and submit the County Application. A complete job description is

available at the Road and Bridge Office. Completed applications can be hand delivered or mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge - at the address listed above, sent by email to mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov or faxed to: 719-655-2543. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until qualified candidates are hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (8-2)

WANTED: Saguache County Road and Bridge is looking to hire a Shop Foreman....Starting at \$27.00/hr SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must possess a current Class-A CDL license with heavy semi-truck endorsement and a current medical certificate. Applicants should have a high school diploma or GED equivalent, along with extensive knowledge of vehicles, equipment and mechanical maintenance procedures. Prospective employees applying with Saguache County, please note that the chosen candidate will be required to submit and pass a pre-employment drug screening and criminal background check, prior to being hired. Shop Foreman is a full time salaried position - qualified candidates will be able to perform a variety of skilled and semi-skilled duties associated with the supervision of assigned road crew which include installing, repairing and maintaining Saguache County Road and Bridge's property within the Right-Of-Way. This position is expected to work during road emergencies so you should be available to work nights, weekends and holidays when needed. In addition to the salaried rate, the County Employee benefit package includes: vision, dental and health insurance coverage, paid time off, and a gener-

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LIBRARY DAYS!
FREE FOR KIDS 5-12

MONDAY, JULY 17
 10:00AM - 2:30PM, LUNCH INCLUDED

TUESDAY, JULY 18
 10:00AM - 2:30PM, LUNCH INCLUDED

Address:
 Carnegie Public Library
 120 Jefferson St
 Monte Vista, CO 81144

Hosted By:

Restoration Anglican Church

Questions?
 719-649-0810

Conour *Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society*
www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org
 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.

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Hundreds of loving pets lose their homes every day through no fault of their own. Stop in & visit us today to meet the incredible dogs and cats looking for immediate adoption, and forever change the life of a pet in need.



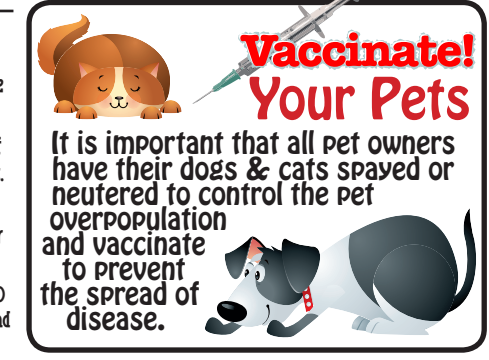
Cremation Service: Cats, Dogs, Ferrets, Birds...

Animal Weight	Semi-Private/Group Fee	Private Fee	Vessel Size needed
Small/ Pocket Pet	\$40.00		Mini - Small vessel needed
Cats	\$80.00		Petite - Small vessel needed
0 - 25 lbs.	\$80.00		Petite - Small vessel needed
26 - 50 lbs	\$140.00		Small-Medium Vessel needed
51 - 75 lbs.	\$175.00	\$200.00	Medium-Large Vessel needed
76 - 100 lbs.	\$200.00	\$275.00	Large Vessel needed
101 lbs. & up	Animals over 101 lbs. are ineligible for Group fee	\$300.00	Extra Large Vessel Needed

Payment is required at time the animal is dropped off.
 Animal may be dropped off during business hours only.
 Please allow 7 working days from drop off date for animal's return.
 Ashes not picked up after 60 days will respectfully be spread over our Conour Garden.

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It is important that all pet owners have their dogs & cats spayed or neutered to control the pet overpopulation and vaccinate to prevent the spread of disease.



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.
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ous 401k retirement plan. Applications and a complete job description are available at the Saguache County Road and Bridge Office 305 3rd Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 – 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website – saguache-county.colorado.gov under the Road and Bridge Department tab. Please fill out and submit both applications: The Saguache County Application and the Drivers-Application. Completed applications can be hand delivered or mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge – at the address listed above, sent by email to mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov or faxed to: 719-655-2543.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (8-2)

The BOE of Center Schools is now accepting application for 2- Preschool Teacher for the 2023-2024 School Year. Qualifications: AA in Early Childhood Education preferred or willing to obtain qualifications. Experience working with Preschool age children in an educational environment, or; such alternative to the above qualifications as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. All candidates must pass background checks. For information and ap-

plication materials please call (719) 754-3442 or visit the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE (7-12)

Center School District is now accepting applications for the positions of 2-Elementary Teacher, Elementary CLD Teacher, Elementary Physical Education Teacher and High School Science Teacher, for the 2023-2024 School Year. Center Consolidated School District 26Jt is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Qualifications; Must hold a valid

State of Colorado Teacher's License or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE (7-12)

The San Luis Valley Irrigation District is accepting applications for a full-time ditch rider/equipment operator. Must have a Colorado driver's license. For more information or to submit an application please call: 719-754-2254 or email: robert@slvid.org. Applications will

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For the Saguache area. 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

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

135 Aspen Drive West - South Fork
4 bed 2 bath log cabin with fenced yard and 2 car garage in the heart of South Fork. VRBO OK. MLS#804126



NEW

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320± AC. SAN LUIS VALLEY PASTURE / DEVELOPMENT LAND! Native grass with a lot of potential and excellent location. 15-gpm solar well with catch pond and water piped to tire tank. Additional flood water from old Lateral 10 and Carnero Creek run-off crosses the pasture. There is a mile of U.S. Hwy 285 & ½ mile of County Road J frontage. Located 1.5 mi. W & 7 mi. N of Center; 15 mi. S of Saguache; T42N-R7E; Sec. 25: E/2. CALL REESE FOR MORE INFO!

Reese W. Shay 970-630-5006 or email Reese@ShayRealty.com

www.ShayRealty.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



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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)



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Commercial Duplex
used as a very profitable VRBO property AND a commercial excavation business with ALL equipment for sale at the Forbes Park Gate, Fort Garland. This is an impressive setup! \$799,000 for the Duplex and Property, or \$1,240,000 includes all excavation equipment and supplies. MLS#804495



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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



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600± AC. GRASS WITH RIO GRANDE CANAL STOCK! Quality native grassland with 10 shares Rio Grande Canal, irrigation well, 2 solar wells, & all of Seller's rights to Rocky Hills Ditch. The pasture gets additional water from run-off ditches & La Garita Creek run-off. There is a mile of U.S. Hwy 285 & mile of La Garita Road frontage. Located 1.5 mi. W & 6 mi. N of Center; 16 mi. S of Saguache; T42N-R7E; Sec. 36: All except NE/NE/4. CALL REESE FOR MORE INFO!

Reese W. Shay 970-630-5006 or email Reese@ShayRealty.com

www.ShayRealty.com



Steffens & Company Realty
719-873-5605
30635 US HWY 160 South Fork
dee@steffenscorealty.com



Dee - formerly known as Diane Chapman - is a 4th generation South Fork Native and 1994 graduate of Del Norte High School. Licensed in 2011, Dee knows the area and knows local real estate.



All Dee's properties are detailed in her blog.

3D Virtual Tours • Prompt, Easy Communication
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Hubbards Trail
Gorgeous, bright, and spacious 5 bedroom 3 bath home bordering National Forest in South Fork. Numerous exterior outbuildings and RV setups/shelters - all engineered for snow load. MLS#803458



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Sandra Marquez — smarquez@valleypublishinginc.com
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be accepted until the position is filled. (7-5)

10 Apartments

Apt For Rent: Center CO 719-657-3221 \$1100/month no Pets \$500/Dep, 2 BDRM, 1 Bath, Great view

12 Houses for Rent

3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Lower Alpine, South Fork, CO \$1,200 plus deposit. (719) 850-8680 (7-19)

16 Vacation

Vacation Cabin for rent by the night only. Full bath, queen bed, microwave & refrigerator. 469-446-2499. (9-27)

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. (TFN)

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.

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)

23 Lawn and Garden

Sprinkler repair. Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings.

719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593.

28 Household Goods

Kenmore gas dryer \$300. Antique lounge chair \$100. Large metal shelf \$50. Oak/glass coffee table \$50. Sears Craftsman router \$50. All in great shape 719-588-5679 (7-26)

32 Fuel & Heating

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

36 Miscellaneous

Free-Box-Cameras 4x5 Camera, Zone VI, Need to get rid of, 719-496-6929

Cash for quality non-fiction books and LP records. Jeff 720-315-9145 (TFN)

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 TFN

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

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

PRICE REDUCED

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 complete 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



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 to 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 opening 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 trees and backs up to the National Forest. The main floor has a dining area and Mighty Rio Grande with world class fishing. The main floor consists of an open area with beautiful carved mantel stone fireplace ceiling. Stunning entrance to behold! Custom designed beautiful 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 door. 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**
37 Million Court • South Fork

Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

PRICE REDUCED



Check out this small diverse farm. The home is a 2bed/2bath, 1703.2 sq foot, historic adobe that has been fully and beautifully restored. Enjoy Colorado from the large (768 sq ft) open porch. This home sits on 126.06 deeded acres of land

situated in the bottoms of the old Culebra River Drainage. The soil is sandy and loamy and has been used for vegetable crop production in the past w/o the use of pesticides or herbicides. It is watered by the San Acacia acequia with an early decree for 1.62 CFS. There is a domestic house well permit number 284703. The property also has a holding pond for irrigation water. The owner is installing a new side roll sprinkler, which will irrigate up to 80+ acres M/L. The new side roll irrigation system will be installed before closing and will increase production. There are several outbuildings useful for storage and/or animals. The farm is located in Costilla County, Colorado just north of the New Mexico state line. It is about one hour to Taos. The Rio Grande River is about 12 miles away. Red River Ski area and Rio Grande del Norte National Monument are near Questa, New Mexico about 40 minutes away. The Sand Dunes National Park is about 45 minutes north. **\$550,000 MLS #797313**
12272 County Road R5 • San Luis

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! **\$489,900 MLS #801796**



74 Highland Court • South Fork
Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

PRICE REDUCED



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 3/4 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! **\$975,000 MLS #794078**
173 W Frontage Road • South Fork

Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

PRICE REDUCED

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
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Sandra Marquez — smarquez@valleypublishinginc.com
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47 Horses & Cattle
Need Horses Trained or Shod? Call Glen at Diamond GB Performance Horses and Farrier Service. 719-398-3757 Reliable Professional services. (7-5)

48 Pets and Supplies
Bird cage complete with stand, some accessories for \$40 cash please. 719 480 2500, leave message. (7-26)

Patrice Lucas, 817-253-4346. Dog Sitter Needed in July in your home. 12 year old female standard Poodle (Molly) just wants to rest. Occasionally we have a 2 year old female Yorkie (Haylee) who only wants to play. Probably 1 time a week pay \$16.00 hour. Sitter age 13 to... (7-12)

51 Boats and Equipment
2007 Lowe 16-foot fishing boat. 50-hp Mercury 4-stroke with trailer. Pictures on request. \$8,500. 719-580-9463 (7-19)

64 Autos for Sale
For Sale: 1981 CJ-7 \$2000 OBO, needs work on clutch, have all the parts! 719-496-6929 (7-12)

65 Professional Services
Fire Mitigation: Weed And brush mowing to reduce fire danger. Call Darrell 715-699-3679 (8-16)

RELIABLE CARPENTRY 40-plus years-experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-496-7630. (TFN)

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

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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.

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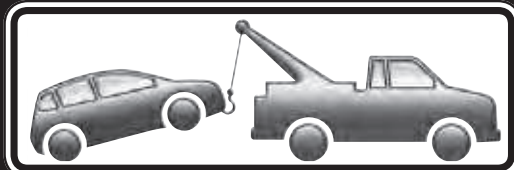
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CPW Commission approves standardizing regulations for permissible activities on State Wildlife Areas

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — At its June 22 meeting in Alamosa, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission unanimously approved changes to regulations that standardized and clarified language for permissible activities on State Wildlife Areas. This is the next phase of work that began in 2020 to address impacts to State Wildlife Areas due to increased visitation and the impacts to wildlife habitat.



“These revisions will help CPW protect critical wildlife habitat across the state for current and future generations,” said CPW Director Jeff Davis.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife manages about 350 State Wildlife Areas. SWAs are paid for primarily

by sportspersons and managed for the benefit of wildlife. These areas may also offer wildlife-related recreation and potentially opportunities for other forms of recreation when not in conflict with wildlife or wildlife recreation.

In December 2019, the Area Wildlife Managers, in consultation with CPW staff managing the SWAs, began analyzing what negative impacts were occurring and coming up with ideas and solutions to these problems.

To help manage increasing recreation at SWAs, CPW began requiring either a valid hunting or fishing license, or an SWA access pass, for anyone 16 or older accessing most SWAs.

Additionally, a working group of CPW staff and stakeholders

proposed updates to the SWA general provisions (regulations applicable to all SWAs) and property-specific regulations. General provisions are regulations that are applicable to all SWAs, except for State Trust Lands (or if explicitly allowed or disallowed in property-specific regulations).

The public was also invited to submit comments on the proposed changes before adoption by the Parks and Wildlife Commission. The comment period was open for a six-week period from April 12 through May 24.

While the general provision changes include new restrictions, some restrictions may not apply to all SWAs.

These new regulatory changes will go into effect on August 1, but Lamb said CPW wildlife officers would be implementing an education campaign for the first year to ensure everyone is aware of how new regulations may be affecting their favorite SWA before handing out citations for any violations of new regulations. “Making these updates to our

regulations was the culmination of a lot of hard work by staff, stakeholders and with key input from the public throughout the process,” said Lamb.

The 2023 Colorado State Recreation Lands Brochure has all the updated regulations for SWAs and will be available online and in CPW offices in early August.

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- One who regrets
 - Time zone
 - Subway dweller
 - Bend in a river
 - Alias
 - Isodor __, American Nobel physicist
 - Very (music)
 - Zero
 - Phil __, former CIA
 - Competitions
 - Unwell
 - Puts in place
 - Gets rid of
 - Allows light to pass through
 - Climbed quickly
 - We all have it
 - There's a North & South
 - Emaciation
 - Supervises flying
 - Very dark colors
 - Unwanted
 - Grants
 - Three visited Jesus
 - Wife of Amun
 - Broadway actress Daisy
 - A Spanish river
 - I (German)
 - French opera composer
 - Six (Spanish)
 - Last letter
 - Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
 - A curved shape

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
11			12		13		14					
15					16		17					
	18			19	20		21					
				22	23		24					
25	26	27	28	29								
30						31						
32							33	34	35	36	37	
				38	39	40		41	42			
					43		44					
	45	46	47									
48					49			50	51	52	53	54
55					56				57			58
59					60				61			
62					63					64		

- Make a mistake
 - Tall plant
 - Where birds fly
 - Midway between north and northeast
 - Chaotic states
 - Comedic actress Gasteyer
 - Kids' dining accessory
 - Snakelike fish
 - Midway between south and southeast
 - Assign lifelike qualities to
 - One who cites
 - Midway between east and southeast
 - North wind
 - One or the other
 - Cavalry sword
 - Of the Hungarian language
 - Life stories
 - Flat tableland with steep edges
 - Swiss river
 - Plant that makes gum
 - French cleric
 - One point east of northeast
 - Free from
- CLUES DOWN**
- Computer memory
 - “Et __”: “And wife” (Latin)
 - Ancient Syrian city
 - College army
 - Cassava
 - Talented
 - Capital of Estonia
 - Finger millet
 - In a way, assists
 - Men's fashion accessories
 - Misery
 - Skin disorder
 - Selling at specially reduced prices
 - Good friend
 - Stationary portion of a generator
 - Expression of disappointment
 - The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet

Solution to last week's puzzle

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

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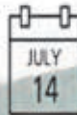
Join us for family-oriented archaeological education throughout the San Luis Valley!

Programming is all free of charge and geared toward youth ages 11-17. Parents & guardians are welcome to attend but not required to.



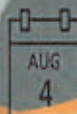
Rio Grande County Museum

What's the difference between a petroglyph and a pictograph? Learn about prehistoric rock art and paint some for yourself!



Fort Garland Museum & Cultural Center

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RSVP HERE



Programs are expected to run 9am to 3pm. RSVP required by the Monday before the event. Detailed schedules will be sent by email.

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2023 Ski Hi Stampede Parade Entry Form

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY FRIDAY JULY 15TH TO: Ski Hi Stampede Committee, P.O. Box 909 Monte Vista, CO 81144

Deadline to return forms is Friday July 15th. Forms returned after that date will be subject to a \$10 late fee. Line up on parade day will begin at 8:00 AM.

There will be judging of parade entries. In order to be judged you have to be in the parade both days. **PARADE WILL TAKE PLACE JULY 28th-29th**

ENTRY NAME _____ Firm, Organization, Sponsor, etc.
TELEPHONE # _____

FLOAT: Senior _____ or Youth (1-18) _____

DAY(S) YOU WILL BE PARTICATING IN THE PARADE Friday _____ Saturday _____

If Small children are riding on floats, please park your vehicle away from the floats and walk the children to the float to avoid traffic congestion. Afterwards, please walk to the end of the route to collect them. During parade it is important to continue moving to avoid gaps, please do not stop. **DO NOT THROW CANDY FROM YOUR VEHICLES DURING PARADE.**

ANTIQUÉ VEHICLE (Circle all that apply)

NUMBER OF PEOPLE

PER Vehicle _____ Bikes _____ 4 Wheelers & Motorcycles _____

Walking/Marching Group _____ Car Group _____

Other (Describe) _____

NUMBER OF HORSE RIDERS: Adult _____ Junior (13-18) _____ Juvenile (1-12) _____

Family/Group _____ Other (describe) _____

At the end of the parade, please ride your horse across the highway, then along the railroad track. For your safety do not ride them on the highway with the oncoming traffic.

PLEASE GIVE A FULL DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ENTRY TO AID OUR ANNOUNCER

PLEASE RETURN TO FINNER BLESSING

Great Sand Dunes National Park hosts youth archaeological expeditions

BY LYNDIE FERRELL

SAN LUIS VALLEY — Ever wonder what it was like to be an archaeologist? The Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, with the National Park Service, is hosting two expeditions throughout the summer for area youth ages 11 to 17. Participants will see an inside look at what archaeologists do and learn about local history.

On July 7 beginning at 9 a.m. participants are invited to sign up for a walk through time and to learn about prehistoric Native American rock art here in the San Luis Valley with retired Rio Grande National Forest Archaeologist Ken Frye. The Rio Grande County Museum is home to several professional photographs of rock art located here in the Valley and Frye is the leading expert on the subject.

Frye will teach the difference between petroglyphs and pictographs and what some of the symbols might have meant according to research Frye and several others, including Ute elders have completed over the years. These fascinating views into a prehistoric life are in several locations around the Valley and though many reside on private land or have been closed off to the public for preservation purposes, there are a few that can still be seen, and Frye is eager to share their locations with participating students.

After a brief presentation and a talk about rock art and how to protect it, students will have an opportunity to create rock art that will be displayed in the museum alongside prehistoric photographs.

In addition to the Rio Grande County Museum program, participants can visit one of the Valley's most unique museums, the Fort Garland Museum. This old military fort was a location many significant figures visited throughout history as they traveled into the San Luis Valley as far back as the mid-1870s.

This portion of the program will introduce students to the Ute people who resided here long before the settlers that helped create the Valley into what it is today. Students will be taught about how Ute people used science, technology, engineering and math long ago and how they survived in a wild, rural location. This portion of the program is on July 14.

The program will end at the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve on Aug. 4. Park Rangers will guide students through the newly remodeled visitor center and museum archives. Later in the morning, students can walk along a historic mountain pass and end the day with an experiment with ancient weapons.

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Improvements ahead for two Colorado National and Scenic Historic Byways

Silver Thread Byway to benefit from funding

CONTRIBUTED
DENVER — Two of the state's southwestern byways will be getting some enhancements after receiving a \$640,250 grant from the Federal Highway Administration's National Scenic Byways Program.

Several improvements are planned for the Alpine Loop Byway, connecting Lake City, Ouray, and Silverton, and the Silver Thread Byway, between Blue Mesa Reservoir and South Fork, including:

- An open-air picnic pavilion (Silver Thread)
- Eleven toilets (seven double ADA vault toilets; three composting vault toilets; one single ADA vault toilet) (Alpine Loop/Silver Thread)
- Safety pullouts on Engineer Pass and Cinnamon Pass (Alpine)
- Additional safety pullouts between Eureka and Animas Forks (Alpine)
- Installation of an open-deck Dark Skies observatory and interpretive site on Slumgullion Pass in the decommissioned Slumgullion Campground (Silver Thread)

The grant application was a collaborative effort between four counties, four municipalities, two ranger districts, one Bureau of Land Management field office, and several nonprofit organizations.

"Our region is experiencing a steady increase of tourism in this scenic and historic region," said Hinsdale County Commissioner Kristie Borchers. "We are pleased to accept this grant award for vital upgrades to infrastructure."

Both also are designated as Colorado Electric Byways, requiring each route to have sufficient charging infrastructure in place for electric vehicles to complete the entire length of the byway. Fourteen of the state's byways are designated Electric Byways. More information is available at: <https://oedit.colorado.gov/electric-byways-tourism-toolkit>.

FHWA awarded \$21.8 million to 33 byways in 29 states, including five Tribal lands. These are the first National Scenic Byways Program grants awarded since 2012.

Thirteen of Colorado's 26 byways, including Alpine Loop and Silver Thread, are designated as America's Byways, meaning they are nationally recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation for their outstanding scenic and historic attributes. Colorado has the most nationally designated byways in the U.S. The collection also includes 10 National Forest Scenic Byways and two Bureau of Land Management Back Country Byways. Learn more about these scenic and historic road trips that preserve the state's culture, history and natural wonder by visiting www.ColoradoByways.org.

CDOT established the Scenic and



Courtesy photo

CDOT established the Scenic and Historic Byways program in 1989. In addition to supporting the state's 26 byways, the program includes two All-American Roads, 10 National Forest Scenic Byways, and two Bureau of Land Management Backcountry Byways.

Historic Byways program in 1989. In addition to supporting the state's 26 byways, the program includes two All-American Roads, 10 National

Forest Scenic Byways, and two Bureau of Land Management Backcountry Byways. The statewide system is comprised of nearly 2,600 miles of

roadway through 48 of Colorado's 64 counties. More information is available at www.codot.gov/travel/colorado-byways.

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CPW provides tip for keeping you and your pets safe from rattlesnakes

CONTRIBUTED

DENVER — Colorado Parks and Wildlife is sharing important information to keep you, your family and your pets safe from rattlesnakes. Recently, an 11-year-old boy was bitten by a rattlesnake while biking near Golden. He survived thanks to his father's quick action.

Why are people bitten and what is the result?

Rattlesnakes have an elaborate defensive strategy, seeking to avoid the need for a venomous bite if possible. Most of the time, rattlesnakes will not strike at people unless they feel threatened or are deliberately provoked.

While attacks on people are rare and usually not fatal for a healthy adult, bites are very painful and should always be taken seriously. Bites can have an increased effect on children and pets due to their smaller size.

Ecology and Behavior

A basic understanding of the biology and behavior of rattlesnakes can help you avoid unwanted encounters. Rattlesnakes often warm themselves in the sun, hunt, migrate and den in the same areas year after year.

Rattlesnakes are not built for speed, waiting in the same locations for hours, or days for a prey animal to walk by. Because of their slow speed, rattlesnakes will usually stand their ground when threatened.

Rattlesnakes use camouflage to blend in with their surroundings and in most cases will ignore people, thinking you cannot see them.

If a snake coils up, or makes a rattle noise, you are too close and should move away slowly. Stepping back just a few feet can convince the snake you are not a threat.

Rattlesnakes shelter in winter dens during the coldest months and resume activity in April or May, migrating several kilometers in search of food.

Snakes are often seen during the spring and fall when cool temperatures require them to bask in the sun on warm surfaces such as pavement or rocks near trails or roads.

Hunting usually occurs in the late afternoon and evening once the snakes have warmed up their bodies.

When temperatures allow, rattlesnakes may also prowl for food in the early afternoon or at night.

Awareness and Avoidance

The best way to avoid dangerous encounters with any wildlife is awareness and avoidance. Always be aware of your surroundings using your eyes and ears, and avoid wildlife that you see or hear.

Watch for snakes basking in open, sunny areas such as pavements, rocks, trails or roads. It is acceptable to walk off trail to avoid them.

Watch where you place your hands and feet at all times, watching for areas such as rocks or logs that could be sheltering a rattlesnake.

Do not hike with headphones or earbuds in so you can listen for a rattlesnake's distinctive rattle.

Protect your feet and ankles as they are usually closest to rattlesnakes. Sturdy leather boots afford good protection; do not hike in sandals or flip flops.

Use extra caution around dusk when human visibility drops. Use a light and be sure to wear boots, even in camp.

Travel in groups. More people means more opportunities to see or hear a snake and more people to call emergency services in the event of a bite.

What to do if a snake is encountered

If an encounter with a snake is unavoidable, take these precautions to stay safe:

Freeze in place. Snakes are often heard before they are seen. If you hear a rattlesnake, FREEZE in place until you or a companion can locate the animal. Attempting to move away from a snake you can't see may lead you closer to it! Even if the snake is in plain view, freezing movement will reduce the threat you pose to the snake and help you calmly assess the situation.

Establish space between you and the snake as they can strike from a long distance. A good rule of thumb is to put at least five feet between yourself and the snake. If possible, move slowly back the way you came.

Leave the snake alone. NEVER, under any circumstances, should you try to catch, kill, provoke or move a rattlesnake. One-third of people who suffer snake bites were bitten as a result of trying to handle or kill the snake. Move around the rattlesnake at a safe distance out of its way.

If you find a snake in your home or garage, call your local wildlife office for directions. In urban areas, many pest control companies can remove them for you.

Keeping your pets safe

The best way to keep your pets safe from rattlesnakes is to keep them on a six-foot leash as required on most public lands in Colorado. Dogs in particular are known to be curious animals that ignore a snake's defensive posturing.

If you live in an area where rattlesnakes are common and must let your pets outside, try to eliminate rock piles or grassy areas that could harbor snakes or common prey. Do a quick patrol of the area before letting your pets roam free.

Many dog training facilities in Colorado offer snake avoidance training for dogs, teaching them to avoid the sight, scent and sound of a snake.

A rattlesnake bite can have an increased effect on pets due to their small size. In the event of a bite, seek immediate veterinary attention and call the clinic ahead of time. Do not attempt to kill or catch the snake for identification.

What to do if a human is bitten by

a rattlesnake

According to the Colorado Poison Center, if bitten by a rattlesnake you should:

- Call the Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222 for instructions, then go to the nearest hospital.
- Remove any jewelry and tight-fitting clothing.
- Stay calm and avoid excess movement.
- Do not cut and try to extract venom.
- Do not use ice, heat, or tourniquet.
- Do not try to capture or kill the snake.



Photo courtesy of Wayne D. Lewis/CPW

It is common for rattlesnakes to bask in the sun on roads or trails to warm their bodies. Use caution when biking or hiking in areas with rattlesnakes.

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Summer 2023

Consumer **How To** CHOOSE THE RIGHT UNIVERSITY FOR YOU

Tips for Finding the Right University

While a fresh crop of high school graduates is set to walk across the stage at high school commencement ceremonies across the country, for the many students about to become high school seniors now is an important time to start thinking ahead. That's because the college application process is about to begin.

Choosing a college is a big choice for parents and children alike. For parents, it's a financial commitment they've likely been preparing to make since the day their child was born. For kids, it's more than likely the biggest decision they've ever faced. Before the process begins, consider the following tips for choosing the right college.

- Consider a possible career path. Most 18-year-olds have no idea what they might want to do for a living, and that's perfectly fine. When looking at colleges, kids should look at all of the programs they offer, and make a list of the programs that most interest them. This isn't choosing a career (as many students change majors while in college), but rather doing some preliminary research about what you may want to study. For students who really have no idea what they might want to study, consider applying to a larger state school, as those often offer the most programs of study, meaning a student won't have to transfer once they do decide on a course of study.

- Make a list of what you want out of a school. For some kids, going to school too far away from home is a frightening prospect, while others might embrace the freedom. Also, schools vary greatly depending on the size of the college. Some students might prefer a smaller, more close-knit college community, while others might prefer a larger school with more students. Students should make a list of what their personal preferences are and seek out schools that match those preferences.

- Discuss finances. Thanks to the ever-increasing costs associated with higher education, finances figure heavily into the college decision. While parents would love to send their children to their first choices, sometimes finances mandate otherwise. Parents and children should discuss how much they can afford to spend, and how realistic some college choices might be. While financial aid and scholarships are options, they aren't always enough to cover tuition and room and board costs. Rather than risk a heated argument when it comes time to make a decision, parents and children should get on the same page with respect to what's affordable as soon as possible.

Most high school students dread junior year. Not only is it one of the most difficult, but it is also one of the most important years when it comes to applying to colleges. Students have to take the SATs, visit schools and make other college-related decisions. With so many colleges out there, how do you know which ones to apply to, let alone know which one to finally go to? Believe it or not, you can make these decisions stress free. Here are a few simple steps for kids to follow that will make the whole process easier on everyone.

- Write down reasons for wanting to attend college. Though your reasons can be to become a doctor or study art history, they don't have to be limited to getting a degree. You might want to live in another part of the country or be in a community with a lot of artists. Then, prioritize the list of criteria. (Revise the list a few times during your search since your priorities are likely to change.) By deciding what's important to you and what takes priority, it will be easier to find schools that interest you.

And if this still sounds overwhelming, many students also factor in school size, location, academic philosophy, courses of study, reputation and extracurricular activities when applying to various colleges.

- Make a list of ideal colleges. Once you've established why you want to go to a school, try to find schools that offer what you're looking for. Michael Fleischner, vice president of college guide publisher Peterson's, says you should apply to between four and seven schools. You want to name at least seven schools, preferably more. Place schools that meet all of your criteria towards the top of the list and colleges that only have one towards the bottom. However, don't disregard the schools at the bottom of the list. What's important to you might change as you go through the process. If this school has a great architecture program and is within your price range (we'll get to that in a minute), it might end up being a better possibility than you first thought.

- Get information. See as many colleges as you can in person. Though a cafeteria might look really fun and full of life in an online virtual tour, you'll never get its real vibe until you have lunch there. While at the school, take advantage of it as much as you can. Take a tour of the campus, ask current students questions, and sit in on a class. Some schools even offer a chance to stay in the dorms with a current student — a great opportunity to experience dormitory life firsthand.

Of course, if it's completely unrealistic to head cross-country just to visit one campus, a virtual tour is better than nothing. Also, many university Web sites include student pages and blogs by current and former students which can provide insight into campus life. Read the college paper online to get in the loop on campus happenings and issues. On top of that, there are numerous books and magazines that describe campuses and schools. College fairs enable you to pick up information and chat with alumni. And local alumni branches can put you in touch

with previous students.

- Think about money. Figure out who will be paying for college. If you, the parent, will be paying for everything, establish how much you are willing to spend. If the student will be responsible for part of or all of his educational costs, he or she will need to figure out how to pay for it, such as taking out student loans, applying for financial aid or working a part-time job while going to school. Whoever is responsible, it's important to get an early start on researching financial aid since federal forms are usually due in January of a student's senior year in high school. In the end, be realistic about how much you want to spend on education. But if you love one school that is out of your price range, apply to it anyway. Check out [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafs.ed.gov) for information on federal loans and college Web sites for financial aid information on individual schools. You might be surprised by how much merit-based financial aid you may receive and end up paying less than you would if you attend a state school.

- Narrow down your options. Now that it's time to figure out where you'll actually apply, take a look back at your initial list and assess if your priorities are still the same. If they're not, juggle your list as well as the ranking of schools based on your criteria. Also, you might be able to eliminate some schools based on what you found out when you were gathering information. For example, if you want to go to a school with a football team and found out that George Washington University doesn't have one, it would be a waste of money and time to apply there.

Now is also the time to assess how your academic standing matches up with that of the university and how your financial situation factors in. Keeping all of these things in mind, you should now be able to select four to seven schools that you would like to apply to. According to CNN Money, it's a good idea to choose both an academic and financial "safety" school. That way, even before your acceptance letters and financial aid packages are sent out, you will not only have a school on your list that you will most likely get into, but it will be one that you can afford as well.

- Reevaluate acceptance schools. After the applications were sent in and you've received your acceptance letters, there's one more big step: Deciding on which school to attend. Reevaluate the schools you were accepted to based on your list of priorities and financial situation, considering how much financial aid you've received, student loans, and whether you'll have to work during school. If you can, revisit the colleges. It might sound silly, but it's different looking at a school once you've been accepted, and a second visit can answer any last-minute questions or concerns.

Whatever college you finally decide on, make sure that it is your decision and that you feel good about it. Don't go to a school just because a friend, boyfriend/girlfriend or even a parent wants you to go there. If you listen to your inner voice, you'll make the right decision for you.



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Emma Gilmore graduated Cum Laude in the 2023 Spring Commencement Ceremony

Visit adams.edu for more information

YOUR COMMUNITY HOSPITAL



Wellness Center coming to San Luis Valley in 2024

Exciting things are happening with Rio Grande Hospital (RGH). The annual Keeping the Dream Alive event is on August 12, 2023. This community fundraiser helps support the hospital and its services. It also helps with future growth, like the Wellness Center in Del Norte. The future Wellness Center’s groundbreaking was held on June 15, 2023, and is due to open in 2024!

When completed, Rio Grande Wellness Center will occupy five acres, and a 9,000-square-foot building will adjoin the existing hospital’s campus and will include multi-purposeful areas. The Center will also have four to six small housing units and four RV hookups. The housing and RV hookup features will enable those who don’t live nearby or visit the area to spend time with loved ones in treatment.

The Wellness Center will help to advance health, wellness, and healing, moving beyond sick care treatment to prevention and well-being. The facility will include:

- A kitchen for healthy cooking and educational classes for healthy eating.
- Fitness room to promote daily exercise.
- Private meditation rooms.
- Meeting rooms.
- A community lounge.
- A large community conference room, among other amenities.

These features are all connected by an educational hallway displaying instructional information on nutrition and mindfulness.

The capital campaign is underway to procure funding for the Wellness Center. “Support has been great,”

said Eva Timberlake, Development & Communications Officer for Rio Grande Hospital, “the more people we get involved in giving to this campaign, the better it will be to fulfill this need in the community. We were fortunate to receive an initial million-dollar donation boost from The Outcalt Foundation. Ralph Outcalt supported the hospital, and The Outcalt Foundation Board realized the Wellness Center’s importance to the Valley and those who visit. Our CEO, Arlene Harms, had this vision based on the needs she saw in our community and put a plan in place. This project is at the forefront of healthcare”.

Naming opportunities will also be available for those interested. To donate or for more information, contact Eva at 719-657-3266. Updates will be available on RioGrandeHospital.org.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

EMAIL EVA TIMBERLAKE AT EVA@RIOGRANDEHOSPITAL.NET OR CALL 719-657-3266



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If you do not have health insurance, you may qualify for financial assistance. We have a program to assist uninsured, low-income patients with payment of medical bills.

Consumer

How To SAVE BIG AT TRINIDAD STATE

— *eSports comes to Trinidad State*

20% off for local residents who take at least 15 credit-hours

From Center to San Luis, from Aguilar to Weston, southern Colorado residents are taking advantage of **Trinidad State's Learn Local Scholarship**. The scholarship, backed by the Trinidad State College Educational Foundation, helped pay tuition during the fall 2020 semester for 92 full-time students who live Las Animas, Huerfano, Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache counties. Their total savings was \$42,320.



1011 Main Street
Alamosa, Colorado 81101
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trinidadstate.edu

eSports is an explosive industry encompassing the world of competitive, organized video gaming representing the next generation of sports and entertainment. Trinidad State College is excited to present the first collegiate eSports team in Colorado at the community college level and part of the National Junior College Athletic Association eSports (NJCAA). Equivalent to traditional sports offered at Trinidad State, such as cross country and softball, eSports offers digital gaming experiences to promote teamwork, social skills, strategic thinking and planning, managing success and failure, maintaining academic standing, and promoting pro-social values. Competition is fierce, and the Trinidad State team will be playing in tournaments with colleges from around the country for prizes and championships. Games will be streamed with a live streaming service called Twitch, in addition to opening up the arena for in-person spectators during competitions.

In the fall of 2021, eSports players will be invited to play in Trinidad State's new, state-of-the-art gaming area. The well-equipped

eSports arena will be furnished with heavy-duty gaming computers, ergonomic furniture, and a comfortable atmosphere to enhance the players' gaming experience. eSports is a growing industry; the U.S. experienced an increase of 118 percent in full-time jobs in 2019, and the eSports market is on track to surpass \$1.5 billion by 2023. Players can also begin to prepare for a career in eSports. Jobs in eSports include playing professionally, marketing, coaching, advertising, arena maintenance, shout casters, videographers, reporters, influencers, video game design, consultants, and owners. Collegiate eSports

players are the new generation of sports athletes, gaining attention and momentum worldwide.

Trinidad State will also offer computing and technology courses in fall 2021, including computer networking. Computer networking courses will start students on a path towards cybersecurity, network administration, cloud computing, or preparing to be a computer information systems specialist. Technology and careers in technology are only growing in demand; education, industry certifications, and hands-on learning will prepare students for well-paying and stable employment in technology.

Please contact Serena "Sully" Sullivan by email at serena.sullivan@trinidadstate.edu for more information. An interest form for eSports is available at trinidadstate.edu/esports/index.html



Fall classes begin August 21st

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