

## Shorts

### Center Solstice is June 23-24

#### STAFF REPORT

**CENTER** — Radiant sculptural art by Mark Cowardin will highlight the third annual Center Solstice sponsored by Alluvium Studios and Center Motor Company on June 23-24.

Alluvium Studios will have an open house at 1 p.m. on Friday, June 23. The studio is located at 342 Worth St., Center.

The events are free and open to the public, with the Collage Party event scheduled for Saturday afternoon. It is open for public participation and all materials will be provided.

Alluvium Studios is owned by Krystal Anton and Steve Huey. Their private art studio has welcomed regional and national artists to work on projects in Center, including Rashawn Griffin, Tomashi Jackson, Mario Zoots Sanchez, Amber Cobb, and Ron Rael.

The Center Motor Building is owned by Bill Zeurcher of Denver and is a new event space that was opened in the former Ford Garage in Center. It hosted events for Solstice, Continuum Partners and the Local/Scenaria event last year. "Drifting" is being shown at the building, 295 E. Third St.

The event includes a field trip Saturday morning, departing from Alluvium Studios, to see the unveiling of the buffalo soldiers: reVision exhibition at the Fort Garland Museum & Cultural Center in Fort Garland.

Eight independent artists have created a new exhibition that disrupts the common narratives of manifest destiny and settlement of the American West. Titled buffalo soldiers: reVision this exhibition opens on Saturday, June 24, exactly 165 years after Fort Garland was commissioned by the United States and presents a more visual interpretation of the history and impact of all the Black Army regiments that were established in 1866 following the Civil War. Known as Buffalo Soldiers, these regiments, including the 9th Cavalry who were stationed at Fort Garland from 1875 to 1879, played a role in American westward expansion and the displacement of Indigenous populations.

Included amongst the artists working on the project are lead artist Chip Thomas, also known as jetsonorama, who created the Unsilenced: Indigenous Enslavement in Southern Colorado installation currently on display at Fort Garland; and Esther Belin (Diné), award-winning poet and author of "From the Belly of My Beauty."

## Sangre de Cristo School can keep its Thunderbird mascot after all

BY SUE McMILLIN  
*Colorado Sun*

**MOSCA** — The tiny Sangre de Cristo School District in the San Luis Valley can keep its Thunderbird mascot.

That decision Thursday by the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs capped two years of work

to rid public schools in the state of derogatory Native American mascots.

Sangre de Cristo and eight other schools were notified in June 2022 that their Thunderbird mascots were inappropriate under a state law adopted in 2021. Those notices came as the CCIA wrapped up a year

of work on getting mascots such as Indians, Braves and Savages changed at a dozen other schools or districts.

The choice for schools deemed noncompliant with Senate Bill 116 was to eliminate all Native American names and imagery from buildings, websites, uniforms and the like or enter into an agreement with a tribe

for permission to use certain names or images.

Most chose new mascots. A few sought to forge partnerships with tribal nations, but only two were successful: the Kiowa and Sangre de Cristo districts. Strasburg schools (Indians) and Arapahoe

*Please see MASCOT on Page 2A*



Photo by John Waters

All aboard! The Psychs Peak music festival is set for July 14-15 at the AREA 420 marijuana grow operation in Moffat.

## Psych-rock music festival set for Saguache County July 14-15

BY JOHN WATERS

**MOFFAT** — The Psychs Peak music festival is relocating this year to Saguache County at the industrial marijuana grow operation AREA 420 in Moffat on July 14-15.

Psych-rock, or psychedelic rock is a rock music genre inspired, influenced, or representative of psychedelic culture, centered on perception-altering hallucinogenic drugs. The music incorporates electronic sound effects and has extended instrumental solos and improvisation.

Early examples of this genre are The Grateful Dead and The Doors. A quick listen to "White Rabbit," from

the 1967 album, "Surrealistic Pillow" by Jefferson Airplane is a classic example of psych rock. Fast forward to 2023 and the lineup at the festival will include RITMO Cascabel, Love Gang, King Crawdad, and many others.

Psychs Peak Festival was founded by Dave O'Donnell, the drummer of the Denver-based psychedelic band Ploom. O'Donnell told the Valley Courier he started the festival in 2021 as a psych rock and camping event that attracted about 150 people. Last year, the festival was in the Pike National Forest and had 300 people and 12 bands. This year the festival will have 20 bands.

Psych-rock according to O'Donnell is, "Is obviously rock music, it incorporates a lot of crazy and different ideas, it is not just straightforward boring, formulaic pop music."

Mike Biggio, one of the owners of AREA 420 told the Valley Courier, "The event has been running for the last two or three years and the space where they were going to throw the party this year was on private property and when the county came out apparently, they discovered he had done a lot of building without permits so they ended up shutting the poor guy" *Please see FESTIVAL on Page 2A*

## Father's Day celebration ends in tragedy

### Teenager drowns at Hooper pool

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER

**HOOPER** — A family's celebration of Father's Day with swimming at the Hooper pool ended in tragedy on Sunday when the 14-year-old son, the oldest of three children, drowned.

According to Saguache County Sheriff Dan Warwick, the teenager was with his family at Sand Dunes Swimming Pool in Hooper and "was doing fine."

"The father was watching him," Warwick says, "and then he had to watch the two younger children. When he looked back, the boy was gone. He thought he might have gotten out of the pool to walk around. After a while of searching, they cleared everybody out of the pool so they could see just the pool and located him in the water."

When asked who all responded to the scene, Warwick said an off-duty deputy with the sheriff's office was at the pool when the incident happened. Another deputy was quickly dispatched. There were other law enforcement personnel *Please see TRAGEDY on Page 2A*

## Moffat Middle School archery aims high

BY MOFFAT SCHOOLS

**MOFFAT** — Chase Shellabarger who represented Moffat Archery, and coach Jack Sciacca, traveled to Myrtle Beach, S.C., for the 2023 National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) National Open Championship Tournament on June 8-10.

Chase competed in two separate venues — NASP National Open Bullseye Championships and NASP National Open IBO (International Bowhunter Organization) 3D Championships. A total of 3,838 scored round participants turned in

scores across the two venues.

Shellabarger qualified to shoot in the tournaments by competing in the NASP Western National Tournament in April. Shellabarger was the only representative from Colorado. He held *Please see ARCHERY on Page 2A*

**Chase Shellabarger represented the State of Colorado and Moffat PK-12 Middle School at the National Archery in the Schools Program, National Open Championships.**

Photo courtesy of Moffat Schools



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# OBITUARY

## Nathaniel David Watts

Nathaniel David Watts passed away June 14, 2023, in Jamestown, N.D. Nathaniel was a much-beloved son, brother, father and uncle. He graduated from Aztec New Mexico Highschool in 1987.

He worked as an oilfield technician and CDL driver for many years in San Juan County, N.M. Nathaniel was injured in a motorcycle accident in 2015 in which he suffered a brain injury from which he never completely recovered, and the injury finally caused his death.

He had many beloved co-workers and friends. He loved to ride motorcycles and ATVs and he was a talented water skier in his younger days. Nathaniel has been living in South Heart, N.D., with his parents: father David Watts, now deceased, and his mother Kathleen Watts. Nathaniel now rests in the arms of his beloved creator.

Nathaniel is survived by his sons Patrick Watts of Lubbock, Texas and Daniel Watts of San Juan County, N.M. He is also survived by his brother Aaron Watts (Mechel) and children Austin, Quiahna, Draven and Eli of South Heart, sister Melissa Countryman (Aaron) of Bayfield, Colo., their children Jason, Lindsey, Brian and Jesse, uncle Perry Watts and son Colin (Dana), aunt Betty Watts and cousins: Preston (Cynthia) Watts,



and Pam Collins, aunt Carol Dean cousins Todd Rohwer and April Doss, aunt Jeanette Ellis and cousins Hilary Soria and Jessica Stutz, aunt Sandy Schlauger and cousin Lisa Hartman.

Nathaniel was preceded in death by his grandparents Virgil and Margaret Watts, uncle Vernon Watts, and grandparents Manuel and Virginia Schlauger.

Graveside services will be Thursday, June 22, at 10 a.m. with a celebration of life following at family home in South Heart.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at [stevensonfuneralhome.com](http://stevensonfuneralhome.com)

Arrangements by Stevenson Funeral Home in Dickinson, N.D.

# Adams State free movie night set for June 30

ALAMOSA — The Adams State University Alumni Association is having Family Movie Night, an outdoor show featuring Disney's "Moana," on June 30. The fun begins at 5:30 p.m. and the movie

after sunset on the Richardson Hall Lawn.

The event includes free food, drinks, and popcorn for the first 100 people, as well as fire truck appearances by the Alamosa Fire Department. Food

from Suavecito Grill, lawn games, bouncy houses, fire trucks and more are planned for the event. Organizers ask that people bring lawn chairs, blankets, and a change of clothes in case of water games.

# TRAGEDY

Continued from Page 1A

at the pool, too, he says, along with nurses and doctors who were there as patrons.

When the page to dispatch went out, Alamosa ambulance and Center ambulance both responded along with Moffat Fire Department "because they're right there. A number of responded," Warwick said.

The moment the boy's body was located, he was pulled out of the water. Patrons of the pool

experienced in health care initiated life-saving techniques while law enforcement maintained the scene. Care for the boy was transferred to first responders upon their arrival.

The boy was loaded into an ambulance, which then headed toward the hospital, but was rerouted. According to Warwick, the decision to change destinations was made en route. Based upon the doctors' information on the scene, it was

decided that taking the boy to the hospital was no longer appropriate.

When asked about lifeguards on duty, Warwick says that a sign stating "no lifeguards on duty" is posted in multiple locations and the practice has been in place for years.

"This is a tragedy on any day, but on Father's Day..." Warwick said.

The Saguache County Coroner had not released the victim's identity as of Monday.

# FESTIVAL

Continued from Page 1A

down. They were looking for a new place, so we stepped up."

Initially, the festival for this year was planned on private property near Canon City.

About 500 people are expected to attend the festival this year according to Biggio. Last year, the Seven Peaks Music Festival, also in Saguache County, a production of the global music promotion firm Live Nation, attracted about 12,000 attendees.

Recently, Seven Peaks founder and musician Dierks Bentley announced that festival will not be returning to Saguache County. In an interview with the Colorado Sun Bentley said, "We didn't make any money. We lost

millions of dollars," regarding the Seven Peaks festival.

For the festival this year, O'Donnell said there will be 20 bands, six on Friday and 14 on Saturday with music starting at about 5 p.m. on Friday. The festival website includes over 25 music tracks from the lineup this year and a link to "millions more on Spotify." O'Donnell said the festival is a DIY [do it yourself] production that he is promoting and not a production of a multinational production company. He encourages people not familiar with the music to come and check out the festival.

The website of Psychs Peak describes the event as a camping music festival

that will offer, "perception-altering sounds of psych-rock with the majestic scenery of Colorado's mountains, all with a friendly chill vibe."

"It is local Colorado music," added Biggio. Most of the bands are Colorado-based said O'Donnell who added, "You are supporting local artists, we're not a big festival that is run by Live Nation."

Tickets for the festival are \$32 each for a pack of 10 tickets at \$320 or \$40 for a single ticket. Ticket prices increase on July 1. Camping is available from July 14-16, no dogs, no fires. Visit [psychs-peak.com](http://psychs-peak.com), for more information.

# MASCOT

Continued from Page 1A

High School (Warriors) had tribal agreements before the new law was passed and have retained their mascots.

In March 2022, the Elbert County School District board signed a memorandum of understanding with the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma allowing it to remain as the Kiowa Indians. The district agreed to implement a new curriculum and to promote a positive cultural exchange with the tribe.

This year, Sangre de Cristo schools entered into a similar agreement

with the Jicarilla Apache Nation in New Mexico, Superintendent David Crews said, noting they began working with Apache tribes last fall to get permission to retain the Thunderbird mascot.

"The positive thing that's come out of this, though, is we've developed a good relationship with Apache and Jicarilla Apache tribes," he said. "It's gotten bigger than just the mascot."

The district has about 260 students at its one-building campus in Mosca. Its enrollment dropped below 300 pupils in the wake of the pandemic.

It has learned about the Apache's historical presence in the San Luis Valley and is developing a curriculum that will be used in third grade and high school social studies. It is working with an Apache historian and education officials to develop the curriculum, which will be implemented in fall 2024.

The district was lauded Thursday by several CCIA commissioners for taking the time to work with the tribe.

"I'm so happy that Sangre de Cristo was willing to have an open

mind and learn the Native American history," said Alston Turtle, tribal vice chairman of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe in southwestern Colorado. "I'm very glad for this template. Good job to everyone that's done what they've done."

Shortly after Thursday's special session of the CCIA board — called to consider Sangre de Cristo's tribal agreement — references to Senate Bill 116 and the list of schools not in compliance with the law disappeared from the CCIA website. Thursday was the deadline for the second group of schools to comply, and no additional schools have been added.

Schools that did not comply could have been fined \$25,000 a month for continuing to use a derogatory mascot, although the law did not appear to include a mechanism for collecting the fines.

Initially, the work was expected to have been completed by June 1, 2022, but the Montrose School District questioned why it was being ordered to get rid of a Thunderbird mascot at one of its elementary schools when several other schools in the state used a Thunderbird

mascot. CCIA staff found nine other schools with Thunderbird mascots, and determined that the mythical bird was closely related to Native American culture and customs.

Legislators amended the 2022 school finance law to allow the CCIA to add schools to the noncompliant list after the initial deadline and to give them a year from the date of notification to make changes. The new deadline is June 16.

Although public support for the mascot changes was strong, some districts briefly fought to retain mascots they said honored Native American history and the names and images were part of their own history.

The Lamar School District floated the idea of a "Savage Thunder" nickname to preserve its Savages heritage, but the CCIA said no. Its nickname is now the Thunder, with an image of a charging buffalo.

The Mountain States Legal Foundation, in conjunction with the Native American Guardian's Association and plaintiffs from Lamar and Yuma, filed suit in 2021 against Colorado to block the law. It was tossed out by a judge last year.

# ARCHERY

Continued from Page 1A

a position on the top 10, leaderboard for Middle School Boys in the Bullseye competition, through the second day. He finished the bullseye tournament 28th out of 434 with a score of 284/300 points with 16/30, 10-point, bullseye shots. The score was Shellabarger's personal best in a tournament this season. Shellabarger turned in a 3D score of 279/300 points with 16/30, 10-point shots. He finished the 3D tournament 35th out of 313 middle school boys.

"Chase turned in six of his best scores

this season in national tournaments and won the 2023 Western National Centershot IBO/3D Championship title in April. I am proud and honored to be his coach," said Coach Sciacca.

Shellabarger has been part of the Moffat Archery Program since its inception four years ago. He has been the NASP Middle School Boys Colorado State Champion twice in his short career and has been part of two Moffat Archery, Colorado State Championship teams.

Moffat's archery program is

comprised of fourth through twelfth grade students from Moffat PK-12 School. Moffat's team is coached by Jack Sciacca and Megan Shellabarger.

For more information on the National Archery in the Schools Program, visit [naspschools.org](http://naspschools.org).

Donations to Moffat Archery to offset travel and registration costs are appreciated. Contact Sciacca, [jacksciacca@moffatschools.org](mailto:jacksciacca@moffatschools.org), for more information or mail a donation to:

Moffat Archery, Moffat Schools, PO Box 428, Moffat, CO 81143.

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# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## Playing Password with Miss Trixie

There may be a few readers who can remember the original game show Password invented by CBS Network in 1961. In its long multi-year run, it has called NBC and ABC home, as well, and continues today. For those of you who are not familiar with the game, it consists of two teams of two people. One of which is a well-known celebrity and the other one is chosen from a field of willing contestants.

Alan Ludden was the game show host for many years and his well-known wife, actress Betty White, often was one of the celebrity contestants. There have not been many Hollywood elite who have not been on the show so suffice it to say just about everyone you have ever heard of and more appeared to play the game at one time or another.

One of the contestants from each team was given a card with a word on it. That word might be something as simple as the word "elephant." Taking turns, the contestant would give one-word clues to their partners trying to elicit the correct answer for points which became cash or prizes if guessed correctly. If the first clue did not get a correct response, then the other team could add a word such as "trunk" or "circus" and hope that their partner could deduce the correct answer from that clue.

My parents bought us the Password game one time for Christmas, and I can recall playing that in the car on our way to the many places we traveled to on a weekly basis. I think it is a great learning tool to come up with clues and figure out the answers. It sure makes the old brain creak and groan a bit and Miss Trixie says all those noises from Ol' Dutch's cranium makes her crazy.

Of late, Miss Trixie and I have begun to plan a different game like Password but without the prize. In fact, our game between usually ends up in a fight or at least long periods of silence due to her frustration with my answers. Here is how our game goes. Trixie will begin a conversation let's say about going to the Amish Bakery. She might say something like "I hope they have some eggs."

Now this may seem like a pretty straight forward kind of conversation but what happens in the translation is what gets Ol' Dutch in, well, in Dutch. For what I heard her say is "The Pope is having to beg." This starts what is known as a complete panic on my part as I have no idea why the Pontiff would



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

be begging in the first place. But that's what I heard.

So anyhow, now the game has begun, and Trixie tries again to get the right words across to me and I try and read her lips while driving down the road until she screams that I crossed the centerline. I don't know what is wrong with her, but she often acts like she has something to really live for.

But anywho, this game progresses with more and more clues being given in a louder and louder voice much like people do when talking to foreigners thinking more volume will somehow get the message across. We will go through the "pope" part and once that is ironed out then progress down through the "eggs" and before long Ol' Dutch finally has the message that we need yellow-yoked yummys.

And so goes the days, weeks, months, and years for poor Miss Trixie. They say that after people live together so long that they begin to think the other person's thoughts even before they are spoken. And Ol' Dutch is holding out for that day when my Yellow Rose of Texas won't even have to speak but can just think a thought and I will get it. I guess most men are wishing for that day also. Sure, would be peaceful.

There is some loose talk from local rock climbing guide Curt Howell about getting Ol' Dutch to try out some rock climbing in Penitente Canyon. Stay tuned to see how this adventure goes with me, Miss Trixie, and Narrow Ridge Outdoors. And book your own trip for sure fire excitement and adventure.

*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.*

## Backcountry heroes always try to bring us back

When I was leading groups into the Wyoming wilderness in the 1990s, once we left a trailhead we were on our own.

If somebody got hurt, we could walk or carry the injured person out or send runners to the road to call for support. In the case of a life- or limb-threatening emergency, we could use a transponder to try to send a coded message to a passing aircraft, pleading for help.

Things have definitely changed. "People expect to be rescued," said Tod Schimelfenig, who has been on the search and rescue team for Fremont County, Wyoming, since the 1970s. "Maybe it's that a whole generation has grown up with instant communication, and that drives what they do when they go into the wilderness."

What they do, according to Schimelfenig, is go farther and attempt more difficult objectives, which means demands on search and rescue teams have increased sharply over the last decade.

The United States has a patchwork of search and rescue organizations charged with responding to backcountry emergencies. Who comes to your aid depends on where you are and what land management agency is responsible. Most have volunteer teams that report to a local law enforcement officer, although some national parks, like Yosemite or Grand Teton, have paid crews on call.

In the 1930s, The Mountaineers, a Seattle-based climbing group, came up with what they called the Ten Essentials to help prepare people for outdoor emergencies. The checklist became ubiquitous. But it's longer now, says Maura Longden, a member of the Teton County Idaho Search and Rescue, who trains teams across the country.

In addition to practical things like water, food, a map and layers of clothing,

the essentials list now includes cellphones, personal locating beacons and GPS devices. Communication is critical.

Carol Viau, who's been with Teton County, Wyoming, Search and Rescue for 23 years, says that many people choose climbing routes, ski descents and remote peaks just by surfing the Internet.

This past winter Viau helped rescue a skier who'd been injured in a fall while deep in the Tetons — a place he'd chosen online. He used his phone to call for assistance, and Teton County's SAR team brought him out.

Jim Webster has been involved in search and rescue since the 1970s and leads the Grand County, Utah, SAR team. He says today's outdoor recreationalists aren't as self-sufficient as they used to be.

This spring, Webster's team helped rescue a canyoner who realized — midway down a rappel into a slot canyon — that her rope failed to reach the ground. She hung suspended in the air until rescuers were able to find her and haul her back out of the canyon.

Another spring rescue involved a solo boater who decided he wanted out from descending a flood-stage river. He couldn't — or wouldn't — go farther. Webster said he called for help and a



**Writers on the Range**  
by Molly Absolon

rescue boat went to his aid.

Both of those calls had happy endings. But Webster's team has experienced the opposite, including recovering the body of a BASE jumper last fall.

Webster says his team of 30 to 35 people responds to around 120 calls per year, an average of two a week. But teams often get two or three calls in a single day. Most teams are made up of volunteers, though in the case of Grand County, volunteers get paid when they're on a call. Many have to take time off from work to respond.

This past winter in Wyoming, Viau says she was called out every day for a week — usually just as she was getting off her job as a guide at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. That stretched her eight-hour days into 12-plus-hour days. She's so busy, she says, she doesn't think she should own a dog.

It's undeniable that the volunteer search and rescue system is feeling the strain. Last October, Christopher Boyer, executive director of the National Search and Rescue Association, told the PBS NewsHour the current system was "broke."

What's the solution? In Colorado, you can buy an inexpensive SAR card that reimburses a county for the cost of your rescue. Or what about diverting some tax revenue to equip and pay teams?

For now, these unsung heroes keep bringing a victim back alive. They do it even when the desperate caller has gone somewhere they probably shouldn't have — somewhere they couldn't leave without help.

*Molly Absolon is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. She writes in Idaho.*

## Celebrating National Homeownership Month: Unlocking the path to prosperity

By TRACI HOLMES

June is National Homeownership Month, a time to celebrate the dreams and aspirations that come true when families step into their own homes. Homeownership has always been considered a cornerstone of the American dream, and for good reason.

It offers countless benefits that extend beyond mere property ownership, providing stability, financial security, and a sense of belonging.

With all the backyard barbecues, family gatherings and first lazy days of summer, June is a perfect time to celebrate the numerous advantages of homeownership and reflect on the impact owning a home has on individuals, families, and communities.

First and foremost, homeownership fosters stability. When individuals have a place to call their own, they gain a sense of security and permanence. It provides a stable environment for families to grow and thrive, offering children a solid foundation to develop their lives and pursue their dreams.

Homeownership can lead to stronger communities and tighter social bonds.

Financial security is another potential benefit of homeownership. Historically, real estate has been a valuable asset, typically appreciating in value over time. As homeowners pay down their mortgages, they accumulate equity, providing a financial cushion. This equity can be tapped into for future endeavors, such as funding education, starting a business, or ensuring a comfortable retirement.

Statistics overwhelmingly support the advantages of homeownership. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the homeownership rate in the United States reached 65.8% in the first quarter of 2023, reflecting a steady increase over the past few years. This rise signifies a growing number of families achieving their goals of homeownership and reaping the associated benefits.

Homeownership is not limited to personal benefits; it also has a positive impact on communities. Homeowners are more likely to be engaged citizens

who contribute to local economies and take pride in their neighborhoods. They invest in property maintenance and improvements, enhancing the appearance and desirability of an area.

A home is more than just a physical structure; it is a sanctuary where families create memories and find solace. Homeownership provides a sense of belonging and identity, fostering a stronger connection to one's community. Homeowners also have a vested interest in the success of local schools, community organizations, and town projects.

As we celebrate National Homeownership Month, let us recognize the influence of homeownership in transforming lives and communities. Let us strive for a future where everyone has the opportunity to realize their dreams of homeownership, ensuring a brighter and more inclusive community for generations to come.

*Traci Holmes is the Senior Vice President/Chief Lending Officer of Del Norte Bank.*

# CENTER POST - DISPATCH

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# Kester Ranch \$35K grant to conserve over 1,400 acres

**COSTILLA COUNTY**—The Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) board awarded a \$35,000 grant through Keep It Colorado to Colorado Open Lands to conserve the Chris and Carol Kester Ranch, a multigenerational working ranch in Costilla County.

The grant is part of Keep It Colorado's Transaction Cost Assistance Program (TCAP), which re-grants GOCO funds to nonprofit land trusts to help cover the costs associated with conservation easement transactions. It enables landowners who have urgent opportunities to conserve their properties, but who face financial barriers to facilitating the transaction, to conserve land more quickly.

Kester Ranch is 85% irrigated, supplied by both senior surface water rights and groundwater. The ranch owners, who are in the process of transitioning much of the ranch management to their daughter, have stewarded the ranch land and its water to support important wetlands and habitat for sandhill cranes and other wildlife.

Leveraging both the conservation easement tax credit and Natural Resources Conservation Service funding, the project will not only protect 1,471 acres of productive agricultural lands and wetland habitat, but also guarantees that water supporting both economic and ecological functions will remain in the San Luis Valley. Its protection provides connectivity from the

172,000-acre conserved Trinchera Ranch in the upper watershed across the valley floor to the mainstem of the Rio Grande.

"This is an incredible property that provides a critically important home for wildlife and agriculture in the San Luis Valley. We are honored to support the Kester family in their vision to protect this special place," said Tony Caligiuri, president of Colorado Open Lands.

"With this assistance, GOCO and Keep It Colorado ease the financial burden on landowners who've voluntarily chosen to conserve their land, protecting critical landscapes that make Colorado so special," said Linda Lidov, interim executive director of Keep It Colorado. "We're grateful to Chris and Carol Kester for making the decision to protect this land for generations to come."

To date, GOCO has invested more than \$6.4 million in projects in Costilla County and partnered to conserve more than 27,100 acres of land there. GOCO funding has supported SLV Generation Wild, one of 12 Generation Wild communities in Colorado, as well as the Brownie Hills acquisition, Fort Garland Park project, Costilla County Outdoor Fitness Center and Exercise Park, and Rio Grande recreation and habitat conservation efforts, among other projects.

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve

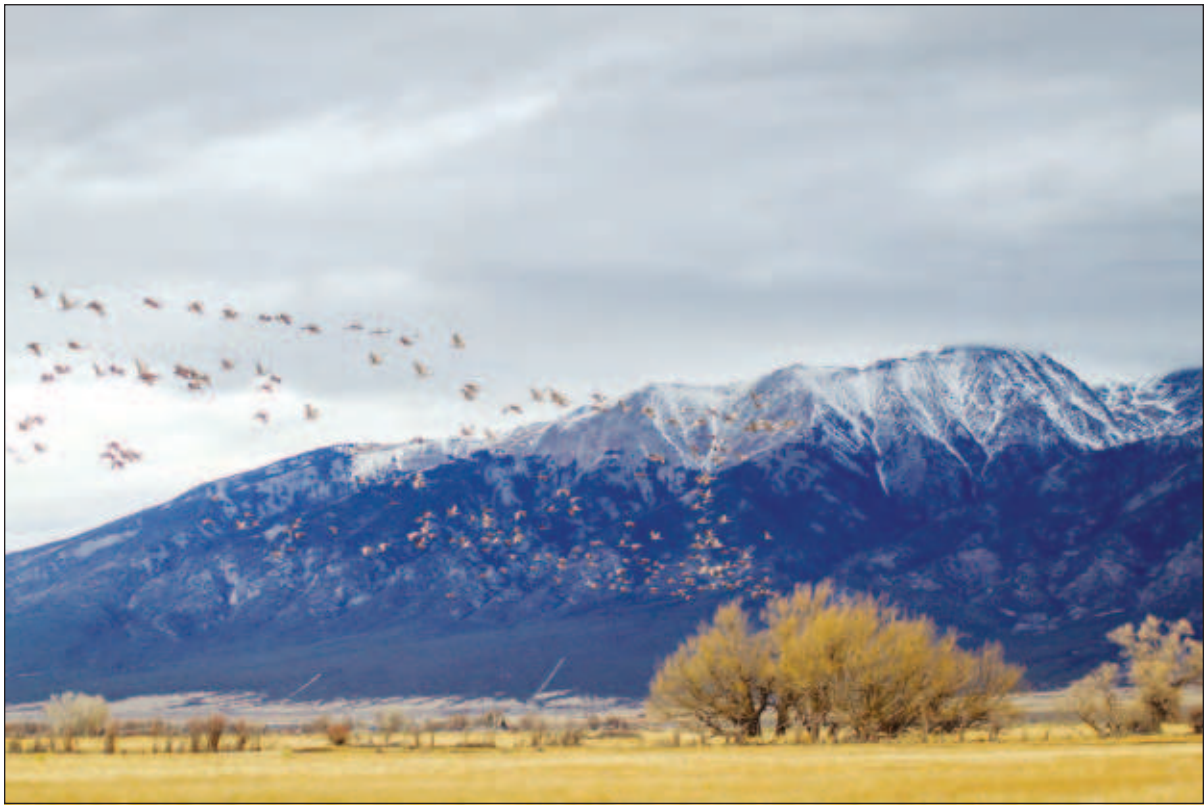


Photo courtesy of Great Outdoors Colorado

**A \$35,000 grant will help conserve the Kester Ranch in Costilla County.**

and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers, and open spaces.

GOCO's independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Created when voters approved a constitutional amendment in 1992, GOCO has since funded more than 5,600 projects in all 64 counties of Colorado without

any tax dollar support. Visit GOCO.org for more information.

Keep It Colorado serves as a unified voice for conservation organizations focused on private lands conservation, and does so by bringing together land trusts, public agencies and conservation champions around a vision to create a Colorado where people, lands, waters and wildlife thrive.

Keep It Colorado advocates for sound public policy; provides connection and collaboration opportunities for conservation partners; offers a forum to address emerging conservation issues and opportunities; pursues sustainable funding and programmatic tools and solutions; and works to advance a culture of conservation in Colorado. Learn more at [www.keepitco.org](http://www.keepitco.org).

# CPW Commission hybrid meeting June 22-23 in Alamosa

CONTRIBUTED

**ALAMOSA** — At a hybrid meeting in Alamosa, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission will review for final approval Chapter W-9 and requirements for, or restrictions on, use of wildlife properties controlled by the Division of Parks and Wildlife.

The commission will discuss the Colorado Natural Areas Program and designation of Coal Creek Tallgrass Prairie and expansions of Colorado Tallgrass Prairie and White Rocks Natural Areas.

The commission will also receive a Statewide Parks overview and discuss the Southeast Region Pronghorn Herd Management Plans.

On the consent agenda the commission will consider the Director's recommendation to deny a citizen petition to allow paragliding on Radium State Wildlife Area.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. on June 22 and adjourn at 1 p.m. for a Commission field trip. The commission will reconvene at 8:30 a.m. on June 23 and adjourn at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will be streamed live on CPW's YouTube page.

Additional agenda items include:

- Department of Natural Resources Update
- Department of Agriculture Update
- Financial Update
- GOCO Update
- Colorado Outdoor Partnership Update
- Halligan Water Supply Project Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan
- 2023-2024 Snowmobile Program Grants Funding Recommendations
- Legal Update
- Election of Officers

A complete agenda along with all materials for this meeting can

be found on the CPW website for public review. The public is encouraged to email written comments to the commission at [dnr\\_cpwcommission@state.co.us](mailto:dnr_cpwcommission@state.co.us). Details on providing public comments for hybrid meetings are

available on the CPW website.

The Commission meets regularly and travels to communities around the state to facilitate public participation. Anyone can listen to commission meetings through the CPW website. This opportunity

keeps constituents informed about the development of regulations and how the commission works with Colorado Parks and Wildlife staff to manage the parks, wildlife and outdoor recreation programs administered by the agency.

## Pursuing Peace When Relationships Are Difficult

Can you think of a time when you had an ongoing issue with someone in your life? Then, just when you thought you couldn't take another minute, God asked you to hang in there one more time and not give up? Maybe you've thought, *God, I have held my tongue and kept a good attitude with this person so many times, and now You want me to play the peacemaker again? This is just too much to ask!*

God calls each one of us to be an instrument of His peace. Many times this means being the first to ask forgiveness or sticking with someone who has tried our patience over and over again. And these situations are perfect opportunities God can use to build our character, causing other people to be the "sandpaper" that smooths down the rough edges in our personality.

This makes me think of Matthew 18, when Peter asked Jesus how many times he had to forgive someone who sinned against him. I'm sure he thought he was being generous when he said, "Up to seven times?" But Jesus answered Peter by saying, "Not seven times, but seventy-seven times" (vv.21-22 NIV).

You see, God is asking us to be long suffering with the people in our lives. He wants us to go the extra mile and stay determined to do the right thing, even when other people do the wrong thing to us. And I have found that it's almost impossible to stay in conflict with someone if you refuse to argue!

### When Dave Was Sandpaper in My Life

Over the years, the Lord has used my marriage to teach me important lessons in this area. I can vividly remember one occasion when my husband, Dave, and I had been arguing, and afterward, the Lord spoke to my heart and said, "I want

you to go apologize and ask for his forgiveness."

I said, "But God, he started it! *Dave* should be the first one to say he's sorry!"

The Lord wanted me to be a peacemaker, regardless of what Dave did or didn't do. He wanted me to see how taking this action brings unity and allows Him to bring healing in our relationships.

Conversely, if we always wait for the other person to apologize or be the peacemaker, we actually harm ourselves by losing our peace.

### Give Up Strife to Get Greater Peace

The Lord instructs us to *pursue* peace with others and "seek it eagerly" (1 Peter 3:11 AMPC). It's not always easy, but as we take steps to follow God's Word in this area, it opens the door for Him to bless us in so many ways.

One of my favorite examples is the story of Abraham and his nephew Lot. Genesis chapter 13 tells us how they each had a tremendous number of livestock. In fact, their possessions were so great that there wasn't enough land for both of them, and it inevitably led to strife. But look at how Abraham handled the situation:

"Abram said to Lot, Let there be no strife, I beg of you, between you and me, or between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, for we are relatives. Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself, I beg of you, from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if you choose the right hand, then I will go to the left" (Genesis 13:8-9 AMPC).

Because of Abraham's eager desire to keep peace in the family, the Lord blessed him abundantly. We see this in verses 14-17:

"The Lord said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, 'Look around from where you are, to the north



and south, to the east and west. All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you."

I encourage you to apply this lesson to your own life. Maybe somebody's trying to stir up strife and you find yourself in a situation like Abraham's. If so, let peace begin with you, *even if you know you're right.*

The truth is no person or relationship is perfect, and there will always be things to work through. But when you make a firm decision to *pursue peace*, you can conquer the spirit of strife, and many times, put a stop to conflicts before they ever begin.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-part teaching resource **Recognizing and Dealing with Strife**. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting [www.joycemeyer.org](http://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](http://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.

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# Two deceased bodies found in two counties over 72-hour span

*Authorities say cases are not connected*

**BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER**

ALAMOSA — Two bodies were found over a 72-hour span in Costilla and Alamosa counties. Law enforcement said the cases are not related.

On Friday, June 16, deputies with the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) found a dead body. On Monday, June 19, officers with the Blanca Police Department found a dead body in Costilla County.

According to Alamosa County Sheriff Robert Jackson, the cases are not related.

Deputies with the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a field in Alamosa County at 9:20 p.m. on Friday following a report of a dead body. Upon arriving on the scene, deputies discovered what appeared to be human remains.

According to Sheriff Jackson, the Alamosa County Coroner subsequently transported the remains to the El Paso County Coroner's office who will conduct an autopsy. Jackson states that new information will be released to the public pending the identification of the individual and the notification of next of kin.

At the request of ACSO, the Colorado Bureau of Investigations (CBI) is assisting with this case, as well.

A post from the BPD Facebook page states that, around 8 a.m. on Monday morning, human remains were located in the area of County Road 12 and 31st Street, south of the Town of Blanca.

BPD stated that this was an active and ongoing investigation by the Blanca Police Department with the assistance from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, Costilla County Sheriff's Office, and the Costilla County Coroner's Office. Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

# Montoya offers youth ballet classes at Adams State

**BY ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY**

ALAMOSA — The Adams State University Rex Activity Center can be a little more low-key during the summer as most people take advantage of the outdoors and many students take a break. This summer, the dance and Pilates instructor, Yula Cisneros Montoya, will offer ballet classes for San Luis Valley youth at the Rex Activity Center.

"Dance creates spaces of communication and socialization that are absolutely necessary for youth," Cisneros Montoya said. "However, I have seen how dance education and performance is very difficult to sustain because our society has changed due to the rise of new digital media and a shift in economics that places more burden on families. Yet, youth are not getting the heavy doses of kinesthetic experiences and embodied expressions that happen in dance and that are fundamental to feeling connected and feeling good."

Montoya, a dance educator with a BFA in dance and Pilates certification from Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle, Wash., teaches specialized dance techniques in ballet, modern, African and Afro-Latino dance aesthetics and dances. She has an eclectic dance background because she has performed or studied dance in Mexico (home country), Cuba, the Ukraine, Mozambique, South Africa, and the United States. She has worked in a range of dance projects such as the Shevchenko Opera and Ballet Theater in Kiev (Ukraine), the National Dance Company of Mozambique in Maputo (Mozambique), and the Chocolate Heads Band at Stanford University in Palo Alto (California, USA). As a result, she is also fluent

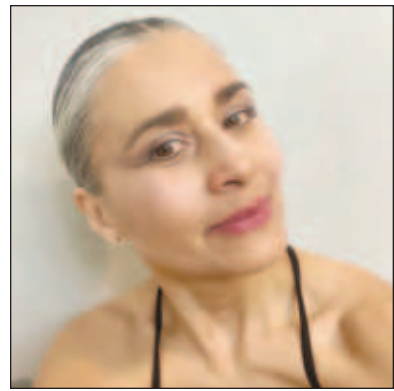
in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian. She believes passionately in the role of the arts.

"The COVID-19 pandemic only exposed the fragilities that we have been seeing in the arts for years," Montoya added. "Now, more than ever, youth need in-person, haptically and sensorially rich spaces to explore their skills and emotional and intellectual capacity. Virtual media have their place but we have seen how social media has taken our youth, and adults, down funnels of self-absorption and isolation at alarming rates."

To create more opportunities in dance, Montoya will offer ballet classes in four sessions. The Tiny group consists of 5- to 7-year-olds and will take place 9-11 a.m. Wednesday and Friday, June 21 and 23. The Mini group will be for kiddos 8- to 10-years-old and will be 9-11 a.m. Monday and Wednesday, June 26 and 28. The Junior group is for adolescents 11- to 12-years-old and will be Monday and Wednesday, July 10 and 12. The Senior group, for teenagers, 13-years-old and above and will take place July 17 and 19.

"Our ancestors in the Valley knew what they were doing when they danced paso doble, waltz, schottische, and contre-danse at fandangos," Montoya said. "They were building community. Let's not forget that building community is the power of dance."

In terms of ballet, Montoya was trained in the Vaganova technique and when she owned her own dance studio in Mozambique, she taught ballet using the Royal Academy of Dance (British) system. Since then, she has taught ballet in many dance schools including Cornish College Preparatory Dance and Pacific



**Yula Cisneros Montoya**

Northwest Ballet School. "Ballet is just one tradition of many, Montoya added. "But by accident of history or design, ballet is one of the most prolific techniques to become more skilled, more intelligent with our bodies. I believe in ballet as a solid base to becoming more intelligent movers and as long as there is a community who wants to learn it, I will teach it. Not because ballet is the end objective— and I am someone who danced ballet professionally— but because through ballet, youth can feel more connected, more whole. We need more of that."

Tuition is \$80 per participant for the Tiny and Mini sessions; and \$120 per participant for the Junior and Senior sessions. Payments will be made directly to Montoya on the first day of class. If you want your child to participate but are short on cash, then contact Montoya as she has the possibility to offer scholarships or get sponsorships from community members who believe all students should have the opportunity to dance.

To register for the summer ballet intensive, contact Montoya at 719-937-8049 or yulacisneros@gmail.com.

# Prescribed fires planned near Mogote

*Ignitions will begin only if conditions remain favorable*

**CONTRIBUTED**

LAJARA — Conditions are becoming favorable to begin ignitions on the previously announced Bighorn/Stalene Project near Mogote. Weather and conditions permitting, crews will begin burning on or around Saturday, June 24. This 700- to 900-acre prescribed fire will include 216 acres on the Carson National Forest in New Mexico and will be conducted in close coordination with their fire management staff.

"As a primary containment feature, the grass has greened up nicely while the targeted slash continues to dry out," said Conejos Peak District Ranger Andrea Jones. "With favorable live-fuels moistures, this should serve well to meet our remaining fuels reduction objectives on this previously thinned project."

Active lighting is expected to take

up to three days. Once ignitions are completed, fire crews will continue to patrol the area to ensure containment of the fire as interior fuels continue to slowly consume. The Bighorn/Stalene prescribed burn falls within the Rio Chama Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project boundaries.

After the Bighorn Stalene project is completed, fire crews plan to shift operations to the Conejos Canyon project. This 200-acre prescribed fire area is located on the northern edge of the Fox Creek subdivision. The burn is designed to reduce fuels buildup adjacent to the subdivision. Ignitions are planned for only 1 day, but crews will remain on site as long as needed to secure the fire.

Local residents will be contacted prior to initiation of the prescribed burns. Smoke may be more visible during active lighting times, and when the occasional tree torching in the interior occurs.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information, see [www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health](http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health).

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# Celebrate the 145th birthday of Alamosa 1878-2023

**BY ERIN MINKS, BARB KRUSE AND ALAMOSA DAY COMMITTEE**  
**ALAMOSA** — “Except for its magnificent setting, --- Alamosa, with its assortment of hand-me-down buildings and deeply rutted streets was no beauty spot.”

In the Spring of 1878, a muddy bend in the Rio Grande among some cottonwoods became Alexander Hunt's new railroad town in Conejos County.

Hunt was the president of the Rio Grande Railroad Construction Co. at the time, and he'd filed the plat in May 1878. The river would have been 400-500 feet wide and crossed by rope ferry before a stable railroad bridge could be safely built.

Survey and construction crews had been building tracks west from Garland City (present Ft. Garland) the previous winter and spring, following a route that met the river at the bend underneath the triangular peak to the west.

Once the tracks and bridge were complete, the town was moved over a couple of days, and officially incorporated on July 4, 1878.

At least four buildings were brought over on that first narrow-gauge train, the Perry Hotel, the Broadwell House, the Occidental Hotel, and the Gem Saloon. Breakfast was served in Garland City at the Perry Hotel and the hotel was reconstructed in time to serve dinner on the same day in Alamosa. Prosperity closely followed the addition of tracks south to Santa Fe, southwest to Durango, and northwest to Wagon Wheel Gap in the following years.

By the 1920's, Alamosa became the

place to go to the doctor, buy clothes, insurance, borrow money, get a haircut, get your picture taken, see a movie, buy furniture, get a watch fixed and purchase flowers for a funeral. Big top circus tents would pitch up in the alkali fields south of town. You could go to the Carnegie Library, Adams State Normal School, watch a ballgame, or learn to tap dance.

There have been multiple efforts over the years to celebrate the founding of Alamosa. One was called the Alarado Celebration in 1935 and another Golden Jubilee commemorating the 75th anniversary in 1953. The Alamosa Uptown River Association tried another series in the 2000s. This summer, Board members of the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area, Alamosa Historic Preservation Commission and other inspired folks are keeping this new annual tradition alive.

On Saturday, June 24, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Colorado Welcome Center, we will celebrate the founding of Alamosa in June 1878. There will be a brief ceremony and re-enact the moving of the Gem Saloon. To add fun, color, and accuracy, event participants should come dressed in period clothing representing miners, ranch hands, homesteaders, Union soldiers, and other characters. A photo booth will be set up at the Welcome Center and we will be collecting stories, photos, and memorabilia about the founding of Alamosa.

*With excerpts from "Alamosa" by Leland Fietz, Copyright 1976, Little London Press.*

# City of Alamosa accepting proposals from agencies serving vulnerable populations

*Deadline is 5 p.m. on Aug. 1*

**BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER**

**ALAMOSA** — The City of Alamosa is currently accepting proposals for funding from agencies that address the needs of vulnerable populations within the city limits. Proposals must include a description of a specific service that is provided along with measurable goals and outcomes and a copy of the agency's current budget.

This request for proposals is part of an existing outside funding program the city has had in place since at least 2013 and includes the requirement that funded agencies provide city council with an annual report citing accomplishments and specifics of how the funding was used.

“This has always been a relatively small pot of money to help programs address issues outside of the City's normal range of services,” says Alamosa's City Manager Heather Brooks. “The amount of funding is not final until council approves the budget in October, but the total budget for 2024 is anticipated to be the same as the 2023 budget. The total 2023 budget is \$70,000 and the funds come from the General Fund.”

Brooks says that, of that \$70,000 amount, there are three organizations that have a long history of funding, and the council has locked in their amounts so that they do not need to compete. The organizations are still required to provide results and report to the council on how the funding was used, but the services they provide are



File photo

**The City of Alamosa is currently accepting proposals for funding from agencies that address the needs of vulnerable populations within the city limits.**

ongoing and significant.

A total amount of \$54,800 is dedicated to three organizations, including \$20,000 to the Boys & Girls Club, \$17,000 to Alamosa Senior Citizens and \$17,800 to South-Central Colorado Seniors.

The city's request for proposals will decide how the remaining \$15,200 will be spent.

The agencies currently funded for the competitive 2023 funds include La Puente Food Bank — \$5,000, La Puente Crisis Prevention — \$2,000, Alamosa Veteran Services — \$4,000, Alamosa Bicycle Coalition — \$700, Veterans Coalition of the San Luis Valley — \$2,000 and Alamosa Senior Citizens — \$1,500, an additional allocation made based upon increased need.

Proposals are due by 5 p.m. on Aug. 1. All proposals should be submitted to the office of the City Manager and

should clearly state on the cover sheet that they are Requests for Assistance for Vulnerable Populations. Terms of service will be from Jan. 1, 2024, to Dec. 31, 2024. The city reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

San Luis Valley Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) will be conducting a record and file update this summer. We will be destroying all special education records of students whose files have been closed since July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. This effects students from Alamosa, Centennial, Center Creede, Del Norte, Moffat, Monte Vista, Mountain Valley, North Conejos, Sanford, Sangre de Cristo, Sargent, Sierra Grande and South Conejos school districts. If any students or guardians want their complete file you can request it from the SLV BOCES office at 719 589-5851 on or before July 13, 2023.

Please include the student's Name, date of birth and your relationship to the student. Identification will be required.

**No. 1672 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, June 15 and 22, 2023.**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Saguache County Land Use Office will be holding a series of education / outreach for the public on the passage of the Saguache County Nuisance Ordinance that was recently passed by the Board of County Commissioners. Dates, time, and location will be as follows:  
 June 20, 2023 – 5:00PM Center Kiwanis Club of Center – 510 S Broadway St., Center, CO 81125  
 June 21, 2023 – 5:00PM KV Homeowners Association – 26415 Woodward Ave., Moffat, CO 81143  
 June 26, 2023 – 5:00PM Tomichi Creek Trading Post – 71420 US-50, Sargents, CO 81248  
 June 27, 2023 – 5:00PM Baca Grande Property Owners Association – 68575 Co. Rd. T, Crestone, CO 81131  
 June 28, 2023 – 5:00PM Saguache County Road and Bridge – 305 3rd Street, Saguache, CO 81149  
 To view the Saguache County Nuisance Ordinance that was passed, you can go on the Saguache County Website at [www.saguachecounty-co.gov](http://www.saguachecounty-co.gov) or pick up a copy at the Saguache County Land Use Office, 505 3rd Street, Saguache, CO 81149.

**No. 1668 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, May 18 and 25 and June 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 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.**

<b>DISTRICT COURT, SAGUACHE COUNTY, COLORADO</b> <b>Court address:</b> 501 4th Street, Saguache, CO 81149 <b>Phone number:</b> (719) 655-2522	
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  <b>SADIE MARIE SKEFF a/k/a SADIE M. SKEFF a/k/a SADIE SKEFF,</b>  Deceased.	
<b>A COURT USE ONLY A</b>	
Darrin L. Buxman, #21061 Buxman Kwik & Shirley, PC Attorneys for Personal Representative 601 N. Main St., Suite 200 Pueblo, CO 81003 (719) 544-5081; Fax: (719) 546-3457 Email: <a href="mailto:dlbuxman@msn.com">dlbuxman@msn.com</a>	Case No. 2023 PR 30012  Div. No. c
<b>NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO §15-12-801, C.R.S.</b>	

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Estate of **SADIE MARIE SKEFF a/k/a SADIE M. SKEFF a/k/a SADIE SKEFF**, Deceased  
 Case No: 2023 PR 30012  
 All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the Personal Representative or to  
 District Court of Saguache, County, Colorado or on or before October 16, 2023 (date)\*, or the claims may be forever banned.  
 Robert B. Gjellum a/k/a Bob Gjellum  
 75 Juniper Trail  
 Del Norte, CO 81132

**No. 1673 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, June 15, 22 and 29, 2023.**

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1 "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2021. 2 "How might my oral and dental health change as I age?," [www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com), 11/30/2018. 3 American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute, 2018 Survey of Dental Fees, Copyright 2018, American Dental Association.

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# Colorado Vet Clinic welcomes new veterinarian with Valley ties

CONTRIBUTED

LA JUNTA — Colorado Vet Clinic (CVC), an established La Junta business since 1968, is getting a new “face” in the clinic. Zane and Barb Leininger recently become the sole owners of CVC, and announced the addition of Erica Shannon, DVM, to the long-running business.

Shannon was raised in the San Luis Valley, and graduated from Sangre de Cristo High School where she was active in National Little Britches Rodeo and FFA and received a National FFA American Degree in 2019. She completed her bachelor’s degree in Equine Science and Agriculture Resource Economics at Colorado State University/Fort Collins, and her DVM degree in May of 2023.

Shannon is interested in all aspects of large animal medicine, particularly beef production and equine care. During the summer of 2022, she participated in an Advanced Beef Production Medicine Rotation with the Veterinary Agrihealth Services in Alberta, Canada, and later finished the summer working an externship at a Corvallis, Mont., veterinary hospital.

Shannon enjoys all aspects of rural life and is looking forward to working with the agriculture community in southeast Colorado. She and her husband, Kolby, own and operate Carrizo Creek Cattle, LLC at Kim.

Colorado Vet Clinic is at 30488 East Highway 50 in La Junta. Appointments for veterinary services can be made by calling 719-384-8111.



Erica Shannon

# REC welcomes charging station



Courtesy photo

A ribbon-cutting took place at San Luis Valley REC recently to celebrate the new electric vehicle fast-charging station located at the coop’s headquarters. REC took advantage of funds available through Tri-State’s EV Infrastructure Program, which provided \$45,000 toward the project. REC continues to innovate and serve its members with responsible and reliable energy. Pictured are Tri-State’s Pete Rusin, Ellen Ross and Michelle Pastor, along with REC CEO Eric Eriksen, Board Member Scott Wolfe and REC Engineer Isaiah Abeyta.

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# Volunteers Needed for Final Phase of Greenie Mountain Trail

By JOHN WATERS

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — The nonprofit Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC) is seeking volunteers ages 16 and up for a volunteer project at Greenie Mountain on Saturday, June 24, and Sunday, June 25, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day, though volunteers can choose to sign up for one day or both days. Greenie Mountain is located about 10 miles south of Monte Vista.

Each day, volunteers will work to construct the final segment of the new single-track, multi-use trail, including some sections with mountain bike features. Volunteers will maintain and restore the sections of the trail that have already been completed in previous years to ensure it is in pristine condition for hiking and biking.

Volunteer tasks will range from moving thin layers of soil and clearing organic matter, such as grasses, yucca, and cacti, to moving large rocks and boulders. The experience is also fun and an opportunity to meet other outdoor enthusiasts. Food is also provided.

The project is helping establish and extend a sustainable trail system for visitors and residents alike, which in turn will help minimize the negative impacts on the environment.

VOC broke ground on the trail in 2018 and volunteers of all skill levels are welcome to help VOC complete the final phase of the new trail. Kimberly Gagnon from VOC told the Valley Courier the trail is nearing completion and volunteers will be working on its finishing touches.

According to Gagnon, "There won't be an official event to open the trail because it's on public lands so it's open to the public now, but the Greenie Mountain Project we have coming up in two weekends will be the final maintenance and will mark the completion of this section of trail.

"The section of single track that we've built is about 3 miles, but it connects to a system of 2-track dirt roads so if trail users are looking for something longer, they can make it into an 8-mile loop.

"Due to land protections that

are in place in the area, a large trail system can't be fully built out. So, the hope for the future of the area would be that in the coming years, 2-tracks would be built to connect Greenie Mountain with the Rock Creek area, which already has camping, cross-country skiing, etc."

Greenie Mountain is managed by the Bureau of Land Management. VOC has had numerous projects on the nearby Rio Grande National Forest and worked on the Willow Lake Trail near Crestone earlier this month.

Gregg Goodland with the Rio Grande National Forest said this about VOC, "The Rio Grande National Forest has enjoyed our valuable partnership with Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado for over 10 years. The VOC program has a direct tie into our agency's core value of interdependence. VOC provides a connection between us and the communities, increasing our capacity to get important conservation work accomplished while also connecting people to the land.

"Together, we've accomplished many goals and continue working together to set new goals for future work and achievements. We have logged thousands of volunteer hours that have a value in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. However, we are most grateful to all of our volunteers who have demonstrated and shared their passion for the land. It is the selfless stewardship we value the most."

Volunteers will camp at the base of Greenie Mountain and will get to enjoy freshly prepared meals from the volunteer Crew Chefs. They will also be entered into a volunteer appreciation raffle and will get to enjoy time at camp with fellow volunteers.

To learn more about the project and sign up to volunteer, visit <https://bit.ly/greeniemtn> or contact [outreach@voc.org](mailto:outreach@voc.org) or 303-715-1010 ext. 116. The project is just one of many that VOC is hosting throughout the year to address stewardship needs in the state. To learn more about Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC), visit [www.voc.org](http://www.voc.org) or call 303-715-1010.



Photo courtesy of Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado. Single-track trail work being done on the Greenie Mountain Trail in 2018. Volunteer opportunities for the weekend of June 24-25, are available to be part of a volunteer trail crew that will put the finishing touches on the project.

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## ASU business students rank 10th worldwide

BY ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALAMOSA — Eating junk food, discussing conspiracy theories, and listening to music bonded three Adams State University business capstone students, which resulted in their team tying for the Business Strategy Game (BSG) 10th best score worldwide.

The team of Evan-Emian Elijah-Emmanuel Bell, Aurora and Alamosa; Isaiah Coffey, Alamosa; and Wes DeVaul, Aurora and Alamosa; earned the highest ranking since the School of Business implemented BSG in the Global Business Strategies course, taught by Will Reed, Ed.D., assistant professor of business.

Throughout the class and working on the business simulation game model, Bell gained invaluable insights.

“One key takeaway has been the

importance of corporate reports in understanding a company’s financial health, strategic direction, and overall performance,” Bell said.

These reports offer a comprehensive view of business operations, guide decision-making and foster transparency in corporate practices.

The three students formed a simulated corporation, DWISE Athletic Footware, earning a Global Top 100 ranking on overall game-to-date score, 109.5, tied for 10th place; earnings per share (48th) and stock price (49th) for their company’s Business Strategy Game (BSG) performance the week of May 8.

DeVaul believes teams that collaborate enjoy the most success in the game and in their careers.

“I believe that, like the BSG, your career is what you make of it. You can certainly give a modicum of effort

**Please see ASU on Page 10**



Courtesy photo

Pictured, left to right, Evan Emian Bell, Isaiah Coffey, Will Reed and Wes DeVaul. The three students, wearing black shirts, achieved 10th world-wide in a BSG simulation in their business capstone class.

## Monte Vista Elks Lodge, MVPD host Bike Safety Rally

BY MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — About 15 children attended the Bike Safety Rally that the Monte Vista Elks Lodge hosted with the Monte Vista Police Department on Saturday, June 10, at Fullenweider Park.

This year a giant bouncy house was set up in the park to allow the children to play and stay busy, while other children used their bikes to maneuver through an obstacle course. The goal of the event was to teach children the importance of bike safety.

Children of all ages could be seen laughing and running up the giant bouncy house slide and bouncing and going down the slide, while parents could be seen speaking with each

other and enjoying baked goods from a bake sale that was set up in the park.

Shari Desautell of the Monte Vista Elks Lodge was at the rally and spoke about the rally and how it works.

“We have had this for several years now,” she said. “We try to do this right around Flag Day so we can incorporate a bit of a Flag Day ceremony. We also have some little girls here having a bake sale. The police will come in soon and have a nice obstacle course for the kids, where they teach them things. The police teach the kids hand signals and how to watch for cars, and all the bicycle etiquette. We also do drawings for bicycles, helmets, lights, and other things for the kids. We also have other games here for the kids. We have some prizes for the kids for

those games too.”

MVPD Officer Dylan Golden took the children through the obstacle course and spoke about the rally.

“I am here to teach the kids about bike safety, the importance of bike helmets, safe riding, and using signals when you are on the roadway. Bikes are just like cars, it’s important for the kids to know how to be safe out there when they are on the roadway,” he said.

**Please see RALLY on Page 3**

Monte Vista Police Department Officer Dylan Golden helps a child with their helmet on Saturday during the Bike Safety Rally in Monte Vista.

Courtesy photo



## Good year for water, good year for farmers



BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER

ALAMOSA — After a reasonably wet year with good snowpack, the Valley Courier reached out to Craig Cotten for a current read on the status of the rivers and their impact on water in the San Luis Valley. Cotten is the division engineer with the Colorado Division of Water Resources for Division Three.

His responses were positive and encouraging but, not surprisingly, tempered by the larger challenges that remain.

“Both the Rio Grande and Conejos rivers have peaked,” he said, “but we still have relatively high water on both rivers. Right now, water is flowing at about 4,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) on the Rio Grande. It peaked at about 5,600 cfs on May 21. The average peak is about 4,000 cfs, so it’s quite a bit lower than

where it was before but it’s higher than where it’s normally peaking.”

When asked about the Conejos River, Cotten said, “We peaked at about 2,100 cfs on May 17 and right now we’re at about 1,400 cfs, so that’s a fair amount down. Interestingly enough, the decrease is a lot slower than what we’ve seen recently and is back to an average kind of decrease instead of something more drastic.”

In general terms, “average” refers to conditions prior to the past 20 years when the Valley has been suffering from a severe, persistent drought.

Cotten then shared some interesting information gathered by colleague, Pat McDermott, staff engineer with the Colorado Division of Water Resources Division Three.

“On the Rio Grande, we had the highest total flow for the month of May in the last 55 years. On the Conejos, it was the second highest in 55 years. But our peak flows were

The Rio Grande flows through Alamosa as seen here from the State Avenue Bridge on June 13. Storm clouds obscure the Blanca Massif.

Photo by John Waters

**Please see WATER on Page 10**



# Great Sand Dunes celebrates new exhibits

By JOHN WATERS

**GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE** — Encompassing over 150,000 acres that includes sand dunes, forests, and alpine tundra, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve is a treasure that is enjoyed by over 461,000 visitors annually.

On June 9, park officials and guests gathered to celebrate the new exhibits and the park visitor center.

One of the many roles of the National Park Service is educating visitors about all the many wonderful attributes within the park. A first stop people make in a park is the visitor center.

For the past eight years, park employees in consultations with tribal leaders, contractors, the Western National Parks Association, and the Friends of the Sand Dunes have been busy at work, “giving us ideas and the stories to tell and what elements to incorporate,” according to park Chief of Interpretation Kathy Faz Garcia. Condensing the 150,000 acres of the park into visitor center exhibits is a herculean task.

Alamosa County Commissioner Lori Laske who attended the ceremonies said of the exhibits, “This is amazing, what a wonderful educational opportunity for hands-on learning.”

Also attending from Alamosa County were Commissioner Vern Heersink and County Administrator Roni Wisdom.

During his remarks, Park Ranger Dale Culver said, “The exhibits highlight the whole park and preserve in a way that allows the visitor to experience it in a way they may not have had a chance to. More importantly, we explain that the national park is here to protect all that is here, not just a

big pile of sand.”

Culver said the new exhibits are a great educational asset to the park and region.

In the June 7 edition of the Valley Courier, readers were encouraged to visit the new exhibits to have a greater understanding of all the park offers and to learn what a fulgurite and a Sabkha are, and that the answers would also be printed here. That article also referred to the ceremony as a ribbon cutting. In a late-minute change, park officials decided to do away with ribbons that would be thrown away as a measure to foster sustainability.

According to the park, “The explosive power of lightning is captured in blackish tubes of glass called fulgurites. At 50,000 degrees F — hotter than the surface of the sun — lightning blasts the sand, vaporizing the area where the bolt of electricity shoots through the sand and melting the surrounding sand into dark glass.” Visit the exhibit to see a fulgurite.

And please do not forget, the presence of fulgurites in the sand reminds us that lightning can and does strike the exposed dune field during storms. If you are out exploring when a storm approaches, come down off the dunes.

If you find a fulgurite in the dunes, please study, and enjoy it, but leave it in the sand for the next visitor to also enjoy. Natural and cultural resources in national parks belong to all Americans, protected by law for the enjoyment of this and future generation.

Sabkha is an Arabic word for salt flat. These are low-lying areas that turn into salty expanses when water evaporates and minerals are left behind in a crust cementing sand grains together, according to the park.

To better understand all that



Photos by John Waters

Celebrating new exhibits in Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve from left to right are Kathy Faz Garcia (NPS), Lucy Adams (Friends of the Dunes), Keith Hershey (Western National Parks Association), and Dale Culver (NPS).

Great Sand Dunes has to offer, visit the park and the new exhibits at the visitor center. For more information, [www.nps.gov/grsa](http://www.nps.gov/grsa).



Park Ranger Patrick Myers of Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve shows some of his photographs that are now part of the new interpretative exhibits at the park visitor center. Myers has been working and photographing the park for the last 30 years and his photos have appeared numerous times in the Valley Courier.

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~ B.Gullette

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# RN Amy Oaks receives DAISY Award for nurse excellence

**BY SAN LUIS VALLEY HEALTH**

On a regular, busy day in the work life of Registered Nurse Amy Oaks, she was called away from her patients in the San Luis Valley Health Cancer Center clinic to report to the chief nursing officer. What was awaiting her was a surprise celebration for the second DAISY award given at SLVH for nursing excellence.

Chair for the DAISY committee, RN Jennifer Walker was also busy on the OB floor but found someone to cover for her so she could attend

and give a little history of the award.

This was not Oaks' first nomination. She already has a pin from being nominated by her patient, Jeffery Leavitt, who shared his story about how helpful Oaks was putting him at ease for a complicated infusion.

Other patients nominated Oaks for the second quarter, and Chief Nursing Officer Roberta Bean, RN, summarized their compliments as she bestowed the award on Amy. She read these comments from her nomination:

"Amy has just always been a wonderful nurse the entire time we've

known her. She's been kind, professional, helpful, and just all-around a blessing. She came running to help my mother with her port once, knowing she wouldn't want to be in pain or discomfort. She really cares."

"Amy sure can cheer a person up, just by talking to them and she always goes that extra mile for someone and never complains at all..."

SLVH extended congratulations to Oaks and this quarter's nominees: Nik Steinrueck, Brandon Garcia, Lindsey Sandoval, Savanna Edgar, Fallon Crowther, Marche DePriest, Nina Crawford, Kerry Rockcastle,

Andrea Griego, Anna Montoya, Molly Robertz, and Lexi Hanna. All the nominees were recognized by their department leader and awarded a DAISY pin.

For more information on the history of this award or to nominate a nurse, visit this page, DAISY Nursing Excellence at slvh.org.

**San Luis Valley Health Registered Nurse Amy Oaks received a DAISY award for nursing excellence.**

Courtesy photos



San Luis Valley Health Registered Nurse Amy Oaks, center, who received a DAISY award for nursing excellence, poses for a photo with some of the hospital's staff.

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### CLUES ACROSS

1. Type of footwear
5. Studies a lot all at once
10. Adventure story
14. Hundred thousand
15. Former U.S. Vice President
16. Ruler
17. Indian city
18. Similar
19. Ship as cargo
20. Volcanic craters
22. Boxing's "GOAT"
23. Bullfighting maneuvers
24. London soccer team
27. Score perfectly
30. No (Scottish)
31. SoCal hoops team (abbr.)
32. Woman (French)
35. Unwanted attic "decor"
37. Peter Griffin's daughter
38. Broad, shallow crater
39. Large instruments
40. Low bank or reef
41. \_\_\_ and Venzetti
42. Oil group
43. Father
44. Aggressive men
45. Pairs well with green
46. Travelers need it
47. Digital audiotape
48. Midway between northeast and east
49. Chemistry descriptor
52. S. China seaport
55. Sound unit
56. Heavy cavalry sword
60. Thick piece of something
61. Spa town in Austria

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					65					66			
67					68					69			

63. Boyfriend
64. Norse personification of old age
65. Type of box
66. Tie together
67. Fiber from the coconut
68. Chicago mayor
69. Old English letters
27. A theatrical performer
28. 2-door car
29. \_\_\_ and flowed
32. Papier\_\_\_, art medium
33. City in Georgia
34. Irregular
36. College sports conference
37. Angry
38. Partner to cheese
40. S. American mammal
41. Self-immolation by fire rituals
43. Split pulses
44. Disfigure
46. Cow noise
47. Erase
49. Chadic language
50. Reward for doing well
51. Paid TV
52. Millisecond
53. Other
54. Colombian city
57. Necklace part
58. Every one of two or more people
59. Regrets
61. They come after "A"
62. Horse noise

### CLUES DOWN

1. Type of sauce
2. Pattern of notes
3. Plant with long seedpods
4. Map out
5. Numbers cruncher
6. Make a mental connection
7. Italian tenor
8. N. America's highest mountain peak
9. Witness
10. Arabic given name
11. Music awards
12. "The Immoralist" author
13. Area units
21. Units of loudness
23. Political action committee
25. Bar bill
26. Witch

### Solution to last week's puzzle

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



Courtesy photos

About 15 children attended the Bike Safety Rally that the Monte Vista Elks Lodge hosted with the Monte Vista Police Department on Saturday, June 10, at Fullenweider Park.

## RALLY

Continued from Page 1

Golden stated that he was really enjoying being out at the park, getting some sun, and seeing all the kids having fun. Golden said that kids wearing helmets was a definite mandate until the kids are at least 18 years of age and can make the decision for themselves.

"To all the parents out there, I would like to say to make sure your kids are wearing helmets, it's safer for everyone, definitely," he said.

Lunch was served at the rally — free hot dogs, and hamburgers for everyone. Four bikes were given away at the rally, along with some helmets,



The Bike Safety Rally included a bouncy house, bake sale and free lunch on Saturday at Fullenweider Park in Monte Vista.

lights, and other bike safety gear.

For more information on the rally, contact the Monte Vista Elks Lodge at 719-852-2456.

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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) From 6/15 (inches)				
		6/15	6/14	6/13	6/12	2day	3day	4day	5day	7day
		Moravian 69	04/05	0.19	0.20	0.18	0.21	0.39	0.57	0.78
Moravian 69	05/05	0.19	0.20	0.18	0.19	0.39	0.57	0.76	0.96	1.32
Early Wheat	04/05	0.19	0.20	0.18	0.21	0.39	0.57	0.78	0.99	1.40
Early Wheat	05/05	0.19	0.20	0.18	0.19	0.39	0.57	0.76	0.96	1.32
White Wheat	04/05	0.19	0.20	0.18	0.21	0.39	0.57	0.78	0.99	1.40
White Wheat	05/05	0.19	0.20	0.18	0.19	0.39	0.57	0.76	0.96	1.32
WinterWheat	10/01	0.19	0.20	0.18	0.21	0.39	0.57	0.78	0.99	1.40
<b>Potatoes</b>										
Norkotah	05/05	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.17	0.23	0.30	0.36	0.44
Centennial	05/05	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.15	0.19	0.27
Nugget	05/05	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.15	0.19	0.27
Alfalfa	Est.	0.22	0.23	0.21	0.23	0.44	0.65	0.89	1.14	1.60
Lawngrass	Est.	0.18	0.19	0.18	0.20	0.37	0.55	0.74	0.95	1.34

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

# Write your own Classified Ad

**Regular Classified Ad Deadline-Thursday 5 p.m.**  
**15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications**  
**\*\$19.50 + 95¢ each additional word.**  
**Garage Sale Ads: 15 words or less for 1 week**  
**\*\$12 + 35¢ each additional word.**  
 Free ads: Lost & Found • Non Commercial items Sold for \$50 or less • Any Item or Animal being given away. (Private party only) Call 719-852-3531 for details.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Check One  MasterCard  VISA  AMERICAN EXPRESS  DISCOVER NOVUS

Card#: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with check or money order to:  
 Valley Publishing Classifieds, P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144  
 Or drop by at 835 First Avenue

**All Classified Advertising must be pre-paid**

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24

Words: \_\_\_\_\_ Times: \_\_\_\_\_ Price: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Valley Wide Classifieds

office until 4:00pm (MT), Tuesday, June 27, 2023. Contact the Rio Grande County Administrator at (719) 657-2744 or email rgcadministrator@riograndecounty.org for additional Request For Proposals (RFP) details. (6-21)

## 07 Help Wanted

**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 application 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 be accepted until the position is filled. (7-5)

**Position of Visitor Center Director:** The Town of South Fork is seeking to fill the position of Visitor Center Director. The Director will welcome visitors on behalf of the Town of South Fork, with the objective of providing information and recommendations on activities, retail shopping, restaurants and accommodations, given specific

## VALLEY PUBLISHING SEEKS REPORTER IMMEDIATELY

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

visitor preferences. Information available at the Visitor Center – through displays, maps, handouts, retail items, business attraction racks and conversations with the VC Director will enhance visitor

overall experience and trigger future planning, thereby fulfilling South Fork as the Base Camp to Adventure destination of preference. The Visitor Center Director will manage visitor center operational, and facility needs, town-sponsored events and marketing activities, as well as provide guidance for other local events, business establishments, and outdoor recreational activities – including but not limited to fishing, camping, rafting, biking, birdwatching, snowshoeing, sledding, skiing, snowboarding, snowmobiling, etc. Experience with marketing and outdoor activities is preferred but not required. Candidates will undergo a background investigation and drug screening. The pay ranges between \$18.00 - \$19.00 an hour. The Town of South Fork offers an attractive benefits package. The application and po-

sition information is available at [www.colorado.gov/southforkcolorado](http://www.colorado.gov/southforkcolorado). Questions should be directed via email to [townadministrator@southfork.org](mailto:townadministrator@southfork.org). The Town will accept applications until June 29th, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. The Town of South Fork is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (6-21)

**Moffat Consolidated School District #2 open positions** for the 2023-2024 school year: High School English Teacher; MS/High School Science Teacher; 6th/7th Grade MS Teacher. For complete job descriptions and requirements or, to complete an application for one of these positions, please visit [www.moffatschools.org](http://www.moffatschools.org) or call the school at 719-745-0500. MCSD #2 is an equal opportunity employer. (6-28)

**Now hiring. Log truck drivers.**

Class A CDL. Starting at \$23/hr. Benefits available. Call 719-379-4066 or visit [JTTimber.com](http://JTTimber.com) to apply. (6-21)

**Ecodynamics Inc is hiring a general shop and field worker.** Tasks




Now Booking  
- Quarters  
- Halves  
- Whole Bison  
Contact: [valdezbison@gmail.com](mailto:valdezbison@gmail.com)  
With Inquiries or to Purchase

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**Independent Living Skills....**  
*More Important Now Than Ever*  
**Hands-On, In-Person Instruction...**  
*More Important Now Than Ever*  
**Lighthearted Positive Teachings...**  
*More Important Now Than Ever*  
**Top Quality Instruction....**  
*Our Specialty Since 1990!*

[earthknackschool@gmail.com](mailto:earthknackschool@gmail.com) for full descriptions, dates and pricing  
[www.earthknack.com](http://www.earthknack.com)

**Traditional Hide Tanning** MAY 18 - 23

**Buffalo Hide / Willow Frame "Bull Boat"** JUNE 16 - 20

**Ancestral and Survival Fishing** JUNE 23 - 25

**Fibers Fantastic! Felting - Spinning - Weaving - Dyes - Leather Strap Braiding** JULY 7 - 10

**Survival, Edible & Medicinal Rocky Mountain Plants** JULY 15

**Primitive Arrows** JULY 21-24

**Atlatl and Darts** JULY 28-31

**Fire! Fiber! Flint! Survival Basics** AUG. 12- 13

**Homestead, Blacksmith & Butcher Tools Repair and Maintenance** OCT. (dba)

**Earth Knack Outdoor Living Immersion 3 options:**  
JUNE 5 - 30 \* JULY 1 - 31 \* AUGUST 8 - 24

# Business Showcase

**Just arrived quilts with pillow shams to make your bedroom spectacular. Shop early for best selection.**

**The Holy Moses**  
Mon.-Sat.  
10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



## This Week's Feature



## THE HOLY MOSES

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

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Mon.-Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Nick & Vicki Kulyk  
121 N. Main • 658-2848 • Creede

## DISCLAIMER

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



# Valley Wide Classifieds

include inventory, loading customer orders, shop cleaning, pump tech. assistant in the field. Please drop off resume in person at 5492 US Hwy 160 E, M.V. For more info, call 719/852-2662 (6-21)

**PART-TIME SALES**  
**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**

**Position of POLICE CHIEF: The Town of South Fork, The Chief will be held accountable for providing a professional functioning police department to the community. Candidates who are seeking a short-term commitment to the Town of South Fork need not apply. The Chief of Police provides oversight of all activities of the Police Department including, but not limited to administration, communication, investigation, patrol, and supervision. The Police Chief also actively participates in routine daily patrol shifts and provides 24 hour on call police coverage for the Town. Qualifications: Colorado**

**POST Certification or ability to obtain POST Certification is required and minimum of five (5) years of supervisory level law enforcement experience for a similar or larger organization, with command level experience preferred. High School graduate or equivalent required and a Bachelor degree is preferred. Applicants must be willing to undergo; an Oral Board, Psychological Evaluation, Background Investigation, Drug Testing, and a Physical Exam. Salary range is \$58,000 to \$62,000 DOQ. The Town of South Fork offers an attractive benefits package and assigned police vehicle. The Town participates in the Fire and**

**Police Pension Association of Colorado (FPPA). The application and position information is available at www.colorado.gov/southforkcolorado. Questions should be directed via email to townadministrator@southfork.org. The Town will accept applications until June 29th, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. The Town of South Fork is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (6-21)**

**10 Apartments**  
**Del Notre: Apartment for rent 2bed/1bth 1145 French \$525 + deposit no pets, smokers. Unities include-electricity call 719-849-1942 (6-28)**

**17 Real Estate For Sale**  
**Beautiful well maintained mostly furnished cabin at HERMIT LAKES, app 1700 sq. feet, 2 bath, sleeps 10, log sided \$389,000 FIRM. TEXT ONLY 719-850-0863 for further information. (6-21)**  
**FARM FOR SALE in Waverly Area**  
 Sub-district #6, 1 1/2 center pivot 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

# San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

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



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

*We work hard for you!*

**FROM FOR SALE TO SOLD!**

*Call Bernadette today!*

**Steffens & Company Realty, INC**  
**719-850-1993**  
**Bernadette Gingrass, Broker Associate**  
 30635 US Hwy 160 • South Fork  
**www.bernadettegingrassrealestate.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




**SOLD**

Majestic Custom-Built Log Home! Fabulous 7 bed, 5 bath 4,619 Sq. Ft. Home with attached garage on 9.04 acres in Beautiful gated Bear Creek. This Home has several outdoor entertainment areas with wrap around decks too enjoy the 360 views of the San Juan Mountains. The main level has an open floor plan with great room and grand fireplace with vaulted ceiling 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



**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 compete with one car garage, storage shed, central well and town sewer. Cabin can be used as a full-time residence, or home-away-from-home winter or summer get-a-way! Rentals are not allowed in this subdivision. Don't wait! Start your adventure today! Only a short 17-mile drive from Wolf Creek Ski area. The mighty South Fork and Rio Grande River, Beaver Mountain reservoir & Million reservoir are just moments away. Bring your fishing pole and enjoy hours of world class fishing. Ski Wolf Creek, go 4 wheeling, hike, camp, hunt, Enjoying everything outdoors! Let's get started call /text and schedule your showing today! **\$325,000** MLS #800364  
 31517 Us Highway 160 • South Fork  
**Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty**  
 (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com




**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 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**

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



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

This South Fork Beauty checks all the boxes, both his and hers - and is a fun place for family and friends. Custom built Log home tucked in the trees and backs up to the National Forest. The main floor has a beautiful designer backsplash and large eat in counter space looking over the living area with beautiful carved mantel stone fireplace. Stunning entrance to behold! Custom designed beautiful ceiling. 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 bath 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 bath and room for all your entertaining. 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! Borders 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

**SOLD**





# Valley Wide Classifieds

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

## 23 Lawn and Garden

Sprinkler repair. Done at reason-

able rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. TFN

## 24 Garage/Yard Sales

**HUGE Multi-Family: Sale for Missions!** 58 Mountain Drive, South Fork, Fri/Sat June 23/24 8:00am. Furniture, 32' extension ladder, rugs, cookware, appliances, decorative lights, bicycle & Much More! (6-21)

## 28 Household Goods

**Dining Room Set American Drew,** Large table 6 padded-chairs, Large Hutch Beveled Glass on top Doors Drawers and Shelves on bottom (like new) Call Wilbur 719-580-4400 (6-21)

## 32 Fuel & Heating

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

## 36 Miscellaneous

**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

**SOLAR PANELS! 355 Watt and Smaller, We Stock Inverters, Charge Controllers, and Batteries in Brand Names of Outback,**

**Magnum, Aims, Rolls, and More. Custom Cables and PV Wire.** Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500. TFN

## 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

**Patrice Lucas, 817-253-4346. Dog Sitter Needed in July in your home.** 12 year old female standard Poodle (Molly) just wants to rest.

# San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

**SHAY REALTY, INC.** COLO. - KAN. - NEB. Farm & Ranch Real Estate Professionals!



**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



**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  
Video Walkthroughs  
Residential Photographer  
Licensed and Insured Drone Pilot



242 Landen Drive  
1 acre of land in South Fork - all utilities at the lot line. VRBO OK \$58,500

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



810 Grand Ave, Del Norte  
Prime business location, 3,000 sq ft. BUSHY CORNER LOT Text 134436 to 25678 for more info - Can become any business! MLS#779889 Call for price

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

**SHAY REALTY, INC.** COLO. - KAN. - NEB. Farm & Ranch Real Estate Professionals!




**Rio Grande Canal Water!**

**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



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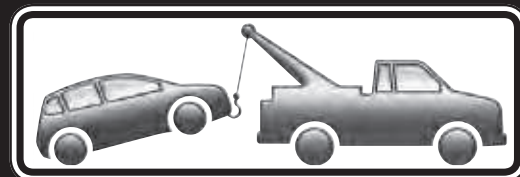
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## Monte Vista High School Honor Roll

*The Following Students Earned Recognition On The Honor Roll With A Cumulative Grade Point Average Of 3.50 to 3.749 For The 2022-23 School Year*

Faith Alexander	Veronica Kincannon
Laisha Arroyo	James Little
Heysenny Beltran-Garcia	Yaritza Lopez
Syriah Bernal	Manuel Ochoa
Jonathan Enderle	Ernesto Ochoa-Marquez
Evie Hinds	Katie Pacheco
Dejah Jacquez	Alina Perez
	Henry Seger
	Noelle Seger
	Aniya Torres-Lovato
	Jonah Waggoner
	Seth Waggoner

## Principal's Honor Roll

*The Following Students Earned Recognition On The Principal's Honor Roll With A Cumulative Grade Point Average Of 3.75 to 4.5 For The 2022-23 School Year*

Asia Alarid	Annika Holder
Allessah Archuleta	Azariah Hurtado
Zariah Archuleta	Stefanie Lopez
Analicette Arroyo-Archuleta	Marissa Martinez
Daylin Castro Angulo	Kaden Mellott
Isis Delgado-Cervantes	Augustus Miller
Keianna Duran	Madison Miller
Alycia Espinosa	Domyon Naranjo
Reagan Futrell	Jack Noonan
Kayleigh Garcia	Jackson Oberrick
Memphis Garcia	Carlos Ochoa-Marquez
Valerie Goodland	Adaliya Perez
Hannah Henderhan	Maria Rivera
Madison Henderhan	Jordan Rockey
Kahi Lee Herrera	Anastasia Sanchez
	Kiera Sanchez
	Annika Schaak
	Maria Sears
	Claire Seger
	Sydney Woodke

## Honor Roll Honorable Mention

*The Following Students Earned Honor Roll Honorable Mention With A Cumulative Grade Point Average Of 3.0 to 3.49 For The 2022-23 School Year*

Antonio Abeyta	Addan Heredia
Todd Adams	Kobe Jiron
Jenny Aguilera	Casandra Lopez
Deangelo Archuleta	Hailey Lopez
Preciosa Arias	Presley Lozoya
Layla Barajas	Kaden Madrid
Joel Barela Rivera	Alex Marquez
Julian Barela Rivera	Amyiah Martinez
Aayla Rhi Bate-Fichter	Jaxon Martinez
Joseph Benavides Jr	Ismael Medina
Jeremiah Cale	Addison Mondragon
Alyssa Campos	Joshua Montoya
Jose Castro	Angeleigha Mora
Felipe Chavez	Kate Moreno
Fernando Coss	Alyssa Ortega
Nolwenn Defaye	Augustine Pacheco
Xavion Duran	Destiny Pacheco
Zachary Gallegos	Jacob Pacheco
Tony Garcia	Brianna Perez
Alyssia Godbout	Sahara Rodriguez
Mason Gonzales	Alejandro Sandoval-Gonzales
Khegan Gunter	Kaedyn Serak
	Iverson Sisneros
	Zane Villeda
	Mason Weyers
	Jackson York

Information provided by schools.

## 2023 Skoglund Middle School 2nd Semester Honor Roll

Jaylah Atencio	Timone Dolan	Khloe Cazares
Elliot Cardoza	Auzzie Garcia	Ezekiel Hernandez
Jose Cendejas	Eva Trujillo	Jesus Perez
Karyme Chavez	Kimberly Valadez-Felix	Reyna Casanova
Elijah Garcia	Isaac Garcia	Esperanza Ontiveros
Maelyn Garcia	Veronica Gregorio Gomez	Alyse Dominguez
Arely Gonzalez	Janayah Martinez Villasenor	Keomi Chavez
Jairo Lino	Xavier Pacheco	Yanixan Padilla
Giselle Meraz	Nidia Chavez	Nayomi Galindo
Landry Neufeld	Jaylen Enriquez	Trey Inness
Caden Ruggles	Marely Maldonado	Osmany Roman
Keira Ruggles	Maliyah Romero	Camron Sanchez
Maya Swanson	Jose Tomas-Lopez	Anahlicia Villagomez-Juarez
Emiliana Valdez	Belinda Martinez Rodriguez	Lavine Casas Hernandez
Sofia Valdez	Camila Miranda Aguilar	Rebecca Gregorio Gomez
Charli Martinez	Jonathan Valadez-Felix	Jesus Martinez Garcia
Kaelyn Garcia	Kevin Tomas-Lopez	Nerien Martinez
Yarel Renteria	Eymy Bustillos Chavez	Shyanne Suazo
Aylya Garcia	Andrea Maldonado Baca	Neven Valdez
Oceana Garcia	Jordyn Trujillo	Yareli Villa
Raelynn Bouet	Feliz Bencomo	

## 2022-23 Center High School 2nd Semester Honor Roll

Jordan Duran	Stefany Lopez Moreno	Angel Baca-Ortiz
Arazeliz Garcia	Vanessa Lopez	Alanna Garcia
Dulce Gonzales-Rodriguez	Sonya Maez	Yulisa Maldonado
Cheyenne Martinez	Yadier Maldonado	Juan Trejo-Chaparro
Giselle Molina-Valadez	Ximena Miranda	Zuimi Perez-Lopez
Ciara Paiz	Yanelli Garcia	Lluvia Rosales
Alicia Rios	Kimberly Muro-Ornelas	Cristian Roblero-Santiz
Willa Seesz-Sanchez	Jesus Valadez-Felix	Azul Felix Macias
Isis Soto Gonzalez	Ivan Guaderrama	Charlene Martinez
Shayla Thompson	Areli Monge Orozco	Billy Martinez-Montoya
Leilany Soto	Devannie Nunez-Fierro	Luis Valadez-Felix
Elijah Swanson	Noah Swanson	Jaime Aguilar
Camila Carrasco	Jose Valadez-Gonzalez	
Hayle Larimore	Francisco Villa	

## 2023 Sierra Grande High School Scholarship Foundation Awards

Marissa Clark	\$2,800
Mia Esquer-Montoya	\$1,700
Mariana Loya	\$3,000
Aracely Minchaca	\$2,500
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Lindsay Paine	\$2,500
Maria Rodriguez	\$2,100
Anikah Roybal	\$2,400

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## History Center, Transportation of West Museum open for season

**MONTE VISTA** — The Monte Vista History Center at 110 Jefferson St. is open Tuesday and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Transportation of the West Museum at 916 1st Ave. is open Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is no charge at either site, and visitors are heartily welcomed.

## ASU Continued from Page 1

and be successful in life; however, if you are willing to go further in something that you care about and what matters to you, the results can be surprising," DeVaul said.

All three students started out with very different ideas and perspectives. As the game progressed, the team created common goals and obtained the same desired outcomes before even consulting one another.

"This experience taught me how to listen and take into account all different creative ideas," said Coffey. "Working as one and helping each other overcome blocks in our thought processes, and pitching ideas the rest hadn't thought of, demonstrated exactly how successful group effort is intended to work."

The class brings together all the lessons and skills learned from previous courses and provides a simulated experience that aligns with all aspects of managing a real-world company.

"This accomplishment is the first of its kind for Adams State and I am very honored to have been their professor this semester," Reed said. "I hope each student departs Global Business Strategies with key take-aways that will equip each of them with tools to elevate their successes going forward."

DeVaul expects to finish his business marketing major and graduate in the fall of 2023. He currently works full-time in the Adams State Foundation and Alumni Office as the manager of operations and annual giving.

"If you are with a group you genuinely care about, motivation to do good work will come, and you will enjoy the experience a whole lot more. I will truly miss those sessions together," DeVaul said.

The experience equipped Bell with the skills and knowledge necessary to navigate the complexities of the business world.

"I started implementing these lessons in my own venture, Alamosa Car Rentals, which I established in 2020. The understanding of corporate reports and commitment to corporate responsibility have greatly influenced the way I manage and grow my business," Bell said.

Bell also developed a deeper appreciation for corporate responsibility, recognizing the vital role businesses play in addressing social, environmental, and ethical issues in society.

"The course, BUS 480, is one of the very best values here at Adams State," Reed said. "As such, this achievement is merely a small sample of the many

# WATER Continued from Page 1

not drastically higher and not anywhere close to what we had in 2019," Cotten said.

When asked to what he attributed high flows but without the corresponding high peak flows, Cotten spoke about the weather.

"We got a lot of water in May, but the weather has been fairly cool and cloudy," Cotton said. "We didn't have those warm, sunny days that just melt everything all at once. So, we had a whole lot of water in the river, but it just came out very slowly. That was really good. That's really good news for the farmers and good news in terms of flooding."

At this year's Southern Rocky Mountain Ag Conference, McDermott shared information about warm temperatures causing spring runoff to occur earlier than normal, resulting in farmers often getting water but not when it is most needed to support crops.

When asked if that was the case this year, as well, Cotten said, "The peak was a little bit earlier than average, which is usually around the first of June. But we were still high on June 1, and it was relatively steady. This year has been a more normal type of year than we've seen in recent years."

Another concern identified is the impact of dry ground in the watershed, resulting in water being absorbed into the ground before it can make it to the river.

When asked if current conditions in the rivers speak of things improving in the watershed that feeds those rivers, Cotten said, "It's a little too early to tell the final results of this year but this spring runoff is encouraging. The fact that we've had this

nice, even flow and not a big peak and a long period of relatively high flows has really wetted up the system and allowed the ground to really soak up that water. We have a lot of areas that are inundated. We don't have a lot of standing water, everywhere, and I think that's going to be really a good situation in the future."

Cotten then spoke on a larger scale related to the Valley.

"We've also gotten a lot of water into the closed basin area, as well, and that's one of the main areas where we needed it, too, to bring up that aquifer. I haven't seen any results of the aquifer levels, but I suspect that we're going to see a fairly good increase of the aquifers," Cotten said.

With so much emphasis for so long on declining aquifers, Cotten was asked what his take is on the long-term forecast for water in the San Luis Valley.

"This was an above-average year, but it's not a huge year," he said. "We're going to see some increase in the aquifer levels but one year is not going to solve our problem. It's going to take many years to build the aquifers back up again. So, overall, we're still in a not great situation."

"I'm fairly certain that most farmers are aware that it's going to take multiple years to change the situation. But this is a good omen and a good sign that we're at least going in the right direction to recover our aquifers instead of continuing to decline," he said.



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# CSU SLV Area Extension Office holds a graduation ceremony for Master Gardeners

By Marie Mccolm

**MONTE VISTA** — Colorado State University San Luis Valley Area Extension Director Larry Brown hosted a dinner-graduation ceremony on June 7 for Master Gardeners. Rachel Velasquez, Regan Velasquez, and Carol Pastore were all awarded their Master Gardening diplomas. The dinner was held for the graduates, current members of the program, and past graduates of the program.

Master Gardening is offered as a series of 12 classes all online. The gardening classes consist of information on gardening basics, flowers, fruits and vegetables, diseases, master gardener publication notes, trees and shrubs, and yards. Classes have weekly quizzes and have a final exam. Students who take the course must have a 70% or above to pass the course. Students are also required to give 50 hours of volunteer work to the community. The volunteer hours are not work hours, but rather education hours, where the students provide educational information about gardening to the community. Students can take the course year after year. Every year, students must do 12 hours of continuing education in master gardening and 24 volunteer hours to remain in the Master Gardening program.

Master Gardener Rachel Velasquez, who just received her diploma, was at the dinner and spoke about the courses.

"We took the courses last year. Through the winter we had time to really study and take the 12 courses. It was more intense than you think. It was wonderful learning, and very challenging," she said.

Velasquez stated that it took her from December through May to complete her training hours.

"I really enjoyed it all. Personally, we are raising a huge garden, 5 miles west of Monte Vista," Velasquez said. "This area is very different than in the town of Monte Vista, where growing things are concerned. My favorite part on a professional level is going out to people's yards and trying to figure out, are they grubs, or something else, and then sending them the documentation of how to help them out. We have had a lot of fun with all of it. We went to the Holly Hock Festival, and we were gardener extraordinaires there. Also, just going out to the farmers' markets, you wouldn't believe the challenge of giving out so much information to everyone. I really enjoy that."

Velasquez stated she would recommend the course to people.

"Even if you are just doing this to kill time. You wouldn't believe how



A dinner was held for Master Gardener graduates, current members and past graduates of the program.

wonderful this is. You are taking college courses, it's not easy, but it's interesting and it's worth it," she said.

Regan Velasquez also received his diploma.

"I took the program last year. I have been a gardener most of my life, and a farmer all my life," Regan said. "I think deep down I am an educator too. I really enjoy that. As for volunteer hours, I answer questions about land management and gardening both. People will ask me about seeds. They will say I have a big field and I want to plant a new seed; what would you suggest I plant? I can then educate them on that sort of information."

Regan Velasquez stated that his favorite part of the program is continuing education.

"The classes that they offer on pruning and planting go above and beyond your Master Gardener program," he said. "I would recommend this to people who are interested in helping others and gardening. This is a great way to give back to the community."

Carol Pastore also graduated from the program and has been a Master Gardener since 2019.

"I cover the whole San Luis Valley for questions," she said.

Pastore said she attends the Monte Vista Farmer's Market, the art and crane festivals, and enjoys being a part of them, answering questions and giving out information.

"I enjoy being a part of it all. I have my own garden, and I garden. This has also helped me improve my personal skills. I enjoy it very much," Pastore said.

Brown said something new they are doing with Master Gardeners is having them answer questions at the CSU Extension Office on Wednesdays. People can call in and ask a Master Gardener specific things that they would like to know pertinent to gardening.

Some of the questions that Brown stated that people frequently ask Master Gardeners are, what type of

weeds they have growing in their yards, and how to handle a specific situation in gardening.

"We would like everyone to know that beginning this Wednesday we



Photos by Marie Mccolm

Colorado State University San Luis Valley Area Extension Director Larry Brown hosted a dinner-graduation ceremony on June 7 for Master Gardeners — Rachel Velasquez, Regan Velasquez, and Carol Pastore were all awarded their Master Gardening diplomas.

will have gardeners available to answer questions if people would like to call in to the office between 9-4," he said.

The next registration for new

master gardening classes will begin in October, with classes starting in January. For more information or to register, contact the CSU SLV Area Extension office at 719-852-7381.



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# Saguache adobe workshops offer hands-on learning

By JOHN WATERS

**SAGAUCHE** — The Town of Saguache Historic Preservation Commission is hosting a free adobe building workshop series this summer June 30-July 2, and Aug. 2-3.

The workshops will be led by Cornerstones Community Partnerships from Santa Fe, N.M., and will teach adobe brick making, building repair, mud plastering, and wall building. The workshops are hands-on and for all ages. Adobe is a sun-dried, hand-formed brick made of water, sand, clay, and some binding fiber like straw.

Adrienne Garbini, the Chair of the Town of Saguache Historic Preservation Commission, told the Valley Courier the commission was formed in 2009 with the goal, “of bringing resources into the area for the preservation of buildings.”

Cornerstones is dedicated to preserving the architectural heritage and cultural traditions of New Mexico and the greater Southwest, using a hands-on approach to teach and reinforce these methods.

According to Cornerstones, such involvement fosters a community’s pride in its historic buildings and strengthens cultural values and traditions. Cornerstones has worked throughout the southwest and has done restoration work at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in New Mexico and Joshua Tree National Park in California.

Garbini said a goal of having the workshops will be to foster best practices for adobe construction and restoration.

“We had a lot of people reach out over the years expressing frustration trying to get help or contractors when they are encountering problems with their walls [adobe] and that was what we were hearing as community members. We thought adobe education should be a priority...people are really excited about adobe here,” Garbini said.

The Saguache Library is an adobe building that was built in the 1950s and is the last large adobe constructed as a community endeavor, according to Garbini. Adobe structures are found throughout the Valley and include the Fort Garland Museum built in 1858.

Many adobe structures exist in the Culebra River Villages in Costilla County and date back to about 1850. In Conejos County, adobe cabins were built along the Guadalupe irrigation ditch in 1855.

In a 2016 interview with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Anita Mc Daniel from the Fort Garland Museum said, “Adobe preservation is a process, not a one-time thing.”

Reservations are required and space is limited. To RSVP, email [saguacheadobe@gmail.com](mailto:saguacheadobe@gmail.com) or call 719-580-6145 by June 24. Workshops will include lunch; there is



Photo courtesy Adrienne Garbini

**This adobe structure in Saguache will have renovation work done during adobe workshops sponsored by the Town of Saguache Historic Preservation Commission and Cornerstones Community Partnerships.**

a travel support fund available for people attending from San Luis Valley communities outside of Saguache. Residents from the entire San Luis Valley are encouraged to attend.

The Historic Preservation Commission is a board of the Town of Saguache dedicated to the protection and preservation of historic

and cultural heritage. The Saguache adobe workshops are made possible by support from the State Historical Fund and a Saguache County Sales

Tax Grant. Contact Town of Saguache HPC Chair Garbini at [saguacheadobe@gmail.com](mailto:saguacheadobe@gmail.com), with any questions.

## ★ 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LA JARA AMISH SCHOOL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2023 • 9 A.M.

LOCATION: Quality Timbers & Wood Products  
10725 St. Hwy. 285 • Antonito, CO 81120

Directions: From Alamosa, CO - Go south on Hwy. 285 23 miles to sale site on the right.  
From Antonito, CO - Go north on 285 5 miles to sale site on the left. Consignments accepted through Friday, July 7.

<p><b>QUILTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Double Wedding Ring 89-1/2" x 100-1/2"</li> <li>Log Cabin Star 100" x 111"</li> <li>Dalia 98" x 98"</li> <li>Twinkling Star 97" x 111"</li> </ul> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Approximately 20-30 quilts will be available on Sale Day</p>	<p><b>FARM &amp; RANCH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TL140 3700 HRS Skid Steer</li> <li>Oliver #23-B Horse Drawn Plow</li> <li>Hardinge Lathe</li> <li>Cincinnati Milling Machine</li> <li>Walter-Turner Drill Press</li> <li>Pending Hous Iron Worker 75 Ton</li> <li>9-Steel Horse Stall Doors</li> <li>Brand New 4 Tine 4' Bale Forks</li> <li>2018 16' Cargo Trailer Like New</li> <li>Trailer Load Used Hand Tools</li> <li>Approximately 14'x24x8' Pavilion All Wood</li> <li>1986 46' Reefer Trailer Storage Use Only</li> <li>3-point Forklift Attachment</li> <li>F-11 Farmhand Loader Attachment</li> <li>3-point 8' Blade</li> </ul>
<p><b>ANTIQUES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antique Typewriter Desk</li> </ul>	<p><b>SADDLES - TACK</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16" CaValga Mod., Association - New</li> <li>16-1/2" Handmade Roper Reconditioned</li> <li>Bio Driving Harness All SS</li> <li>Horse Pony &amp; Minni Size</li> <li>Pack Saddle &amp; Panniers</li> <li>Leather Tack by Weaver</li> <li>Headstalls • Reins</li> <li>Breast Collars</li> <li>Saddle Pads • Cinches and More</li> <li>Lots of Tack Related Items (New)</li> <li>Halters • Leads • Buckets • Wormer</li> </ul>
<p><b>CAMPER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2012 Forest River Sierra Camper 366FL - Air Ride, King Pin, 5th Wheel Hitch, Excellent Condition, Skirting Included</li> </ul>	<p><b>HOUSEHOLD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 - Fireproof File Cabinets 4-door</li> </ul>
<p><b>MISCELLANEOUS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Hickory Rockers</li> <li>1 Hickory Coffee Table</li> <li>1 Poly Picnic Table • Lifetime Table</li> <li>Picnic Tables &amp; Chairs</li> <li>1 Poly Garden Bench</li> <li>1 Poly Chair Set</li> </ul>	<p><b>FOR MORE SALE INFO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edward 719-992-8334</li> <li>Mose 719-982-8900</li> <li>Freddie 719-588-9558</li> </ul>

*Not responsible for accidents, lost or stolen items.*

*No merchandise removed until settled for.*

*All announcements on day of sale take precedence over printed matter.*

*Selling with 2 & 3 rings throughout the day.*

*Lunch will be available by school parents. Also, baked goods, doughnuts, fry pies & other refreshments will be available. All Dollar items considered donations.*

# \$500 CASH BACK

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# \$1000 TRADE-IN ASSISTANCE

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# \$39.99 OIL CHANGE

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Welcome

# Newcomers!

## Summer 2023

FREE  
Take One

### A Relocation Guide for New Residents in the San Luis Valley of Colorado

Valley Publishing

835 First Ave. • Monte Vista, Colo.  
719.852.3531

## HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

### Alamosa County

**Alamosa Family Medical Center**  
589-3658 • www.vwvhs.org  
1710 1st St., Alamosa

**Sierra Blanca Medical Center**  
106 Blanca Ave., Alamosa  
589-3658

**Convenient Care Community Clinic**  
1131 Main St., Alamosa  
589-2562

**San Luis Valley Health**  
589-2511 • www.slvrhc.org  
106 Blanca Ave., Alamosa

**RMC Clinic**  
106 Blanca Ave., Alamosa  
589-3000

**SLV Behavioral Health Group (SLV BHG)**  
8745 Cty. Rd. 9 South, Alamosa  
589-3671

**SLVBHG Mi Esperanza Wellness Walk-in Clinic**  
311 San Juan, Alamosa  
589-3671

**San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center**  
106 Blanca Ave., Alamosa  
589-2511

**Stuart Avenue Clinic**  
2115 Stuart Ave., Alamosa  
589-3000

**Adolescent Health Program**  
201 Carson Ave., Alamosa  
589-5860

**Davita Dialysis**  
612 Del Sol Dr., Alamosa  
1-800-424-6589

**Veterans Administration Outpatient Clinic**  
622 Del Sol Dr., Alamosa  
587-6800

**Rio Grande County Rio Grande Hospital**  
657-2510  
www.riograndehospital.org  
310 Cty. Rd. 14, Del Norte

**RGH Clinic-Del Norte**  
0310C Cty. Rd. 14, Del Norte  
657-2418

**Edward M. Kennedy Health Clinic - Valleywide**  
925 Second Ave., Monte Vista  
852-2512

**RGH Clinic- Monte Vista**  
1033 Second Ave., Monte Vista  
852-8827

**Monte Vista Community Clinic**  
103 Chico Court, Monte Vista  
852-9400

**RGH Clinic- South Fork**  
62 Park Drive, South Fork  
873-5494

**SLV BHG**  
402 4th Ave., Monte Vista  
589-3671

**SLVBHG Del Norte**  
14443 HWY 160, Del Norte  
589-3671

**SLVBHG South Fork**  
20 Lodge Dr. E, South Fork  
589-3671

### Saguache County

**Cesar E. Chavez Family Medical Center**  
186 N. Hurt St., Center  
754-2778

**HRRMC Saguache Health Center**  
405 Denver Ave., Saguache  
530-2000

**SLV BHG**  
260 Worth St., Center  
589-3671

**Moffat Family Health Center**  
545 Moffat Way, Moffat  
256-4025

### Conejos County

**Antonito Medical Clinic**  
115 Main St., Antonito  
376-2308

**Conejos County Hospital**  
19021 S. Hwy. 285, La Jara  
274-5121

**La Jara Medical Clinic**  
509 Main St., La Jara  
274-5000

**Guadalupe Health Center**  
10th and Dalia St., Antonito  
376-5426

**SLV BHG**  
322 Walnut St., La Jara  
589-3671

**SLV BHG**  
9th & Dahlia, Antonito  
589-3671

### Costilla County

**San Luis Health Center**  
233 Main St., San Luis  
672-3352

**SLV BHG**  
409 Trinchera, San Luis  
589-3671

### Mineral County

**RGH Family Practice-Creede**  
802 Rio Grande Ave., Creede  
658-0929

## ALAMOSA

Size: 723 square miles  
Population: 15,445

### GOVERNMENT

www.alamosacounty.org

**Courthouse**  
8955 Independence Way, 589-4996  
Open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

**Commissioner meetings**  
Second and last Wednesdays of every month

**Commissioners**  
Lori Laske, Arlan Van Ry, and Vern Heersink

**County Administrator**  
Roni Wisdom

**County Clerk**  
Nicole Jaramillo

**Assessor**  
Sandra Hostetter

**Coroner**  
Trace Larson

**County Attorney**  
Jason Kelly

**Treasurer/Public Trustee**  
Amy McKinley

**Sheriff**  
Robert Jackson  
County Jail  
1315 17th St., 589-6608

### MUNICIPALITY Alamosa

www.cityofalamosa.org  
City Hall  
300 Hunt Ave., 589-2593  
Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon. through Fri.

**Mayor**  
Ty Coleman

**Councilors**  
Charles Griego, Jan Vigil, Kristina Daniel, Liz Hensley, Dawn Krebs and Michael Carson

**City Manager**  
Heather Brooks

**City Clerk**  
Holly Martinez

**Police Department**  
425 4th St., 589-2548  
Chief Ken Anderson

**Volunteer Fire Department**  
Chief Don Chapman  
587-2530

**Finance**  
Lisa Sandoval

**Parks and Recreation**  
Alamosa Family Recreation Center  
2222 Old Sanford Rd.  
589-2105 • alamosarec.org

**Library**  
300 Hunt Ave.  
589-6592 • alamosalibrary.org

**EDUCATION Alamosa School Dist.**  
www.alamosa.k12.co.us

**Administration**  
209 Victoria Ave., 587-1600

**Alamosa Elementary School**  
Two buildings, K-2 and 3-5  
1707 W. 10th St., 587-6600/587-6650

**Ortega Middle School**  
401 Victoria Ave., 587-1650

**Alamosa High School**  
805 Craft Dr., 587-6000

### Sangre de Cristo School District

www.sdc.schooldesk.net  
8751 Lane 7 N.  
Mosca, Colo., 378-2321

### Adams State University

www.adams.edu • 587-7011

### Trinidad State, Valley Campus

www.trinidadstate.edu • 589-7000

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Chamber of Commerce/Colorado Welcome Center**  
Historic depot building  
610 State Ave., 589-3681/589-4840  
www.alamosa.org

**Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
589-4840  
1-800-258-7597

**La Puente Homeless Shelter**  
913 State Ave.  
589-5909

**Food Bank**  
513 6th St.  
589-4567

**Tu Casa**  
Violence, sexual assault  
589-2465 (24-hours)

### Basic information for every newcomer:

**Driver's licenses**  
715 6th St.  
Alamosa  
589-4274

Motor vehicle and voter registration at county courthouses

**Veterans affairs**  
Each county has a Veterans Service Officer on staff.

**Social Security**  
602 Del Sol Dr. No. 1A  
Alamosa  
589-2953

**Electricity**  
*San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative*  
3625 West U.S. Hwy. 160  
Monte Vista  
852-3538  
*Center Town Government*  
294 S. Worth  
754-3497

*Xcel Energy*  
1-800-895-4999

**Telephone**  
*CenturyLink*  
Residential  
1-800-244-1111  
Business  
1-800-603-6000  
*Charter Communications*  
877-906-9121

**Trash**  
*City of Alamosa*  
589-6631  
*Waste Management*  
852-6392  
*GT's Trash Service*  
672-3601  
*MDS Waste & Recycle*  
658-3060  
*South Fork Water, Sanitation District*  
873-5860  
*Silver Mountain Disposal*  
843-5354

## Dialing 9-1-1

9-1-1 is for true emergencies when every second counts, to save a life, to report a fire or to stop a crime.

Dial 9-1-1 to report child abuse, domestic violence, a robbery in progress, a traffic accident with injuries or another crisis situation. When calling 9-1-1, remain calm, provide an exact location of the emergency situation.

Do not hang up until the operator says to, even if you or a child has dialed 9-1-1 by mistake.

Do not dial 9-1-1 to ask about weather, report a barking dog, complain about trash in the road or report loud music. Dial 589-5807, 376-5921, 672-3302, 658-2600, 657-4000 or 754-2442.

Colorado State Patrol/Non-Emergency Dispatch

589-5807



# CONEJOS COUNTY

Population in: 8,256  
Land Area: 1290 Square Miles

## GOVERNMENT

376-5772 • www.conejoscounty.org  
**Courthouse**  
Open 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday  
Located within Conejos

**Commissioner meetings**  
First & Third Thursday and 15th of each month

**Commissioners**  
Carlos Garcia, Joseph Baroz and Mitchell Jarvies  
376-5772

**Administrator**  
Tressesa Martinez  
376-5772 Ext 1

**Accountant**  
Gary Gurule  
376-5772 Ext 2

**Accounts Payable**  
Cheryl Ruybal  
376-5772 Ext. 3

**Social Services**  
376-5455

**Assessor**  
Naomi Keys  
376-5585

**Clerk & Recorder**  
Nathan Ruybal  
376-5422

**Coroner**  
Richard Martin  
Cell 588-5019, Home 843-5815

**Sheriff**  
Garth Crowther  
376-2196

**Treasurer/Public Trustee**  
Mack Crowther  
376-5919

**Veterans Affairs**  
376-6725

## MUNICIPALITIES

### Antonito

**Town Hall**  
515 River St., 376-2355

**Police Department**  
376-5421

### La Jara

**Town Hall**  
221 Broadway, 274-5363  
Colorado.gov/townoflajara

**Police Department**  
274-5886

### Manassa

**Town Hall**  
401 Main St., 843-5207

**Police Department**  
843-5207

### Romeo

**Town Hall**  
149 2nd Ave., 843-5785

### Sanford

**Town Hall**  
390 Greenleaf, 274-4024

**Police Department**  
274-4040

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Conejos County Chamber of Commerce**  
376-2277

**Capulin Community Center**  
274-5520

## EDUCATION

### North Conejos School District

northconejos.com  
17890 U.S. Hwy. 285, La Jara  
274-5174

**La Jara Elementary**  
214 Poplar Ave., La Jara  
274-5791

**Centauri Middle School**  
17891 U.S. Hwy. 285, La Jara  
274-4301

**Centauri High School**  
17889 U.S. Hwy. 285, La Jara  
274-5178

**North Conejos Alternative Program**  
615 Main St., La Jara  
274-4220

**Manassa Elementary**  
200 S. 5th St., Manassa  
843-5277

### Sanford School District

www.sanfordschools.org  
755 2nd St., 274-5167

### South Conejos School District

13099 County Road G, Antonito  
376-7001 • southconejos.com

# SAGUACHE COUNTY

Size: 3,168 square miles  
Population: 6,108

**Courthouse**  
202 3rd Street, Saguache  
Open: 8 a.m.- 4 p.m., weekdays

**Commissioner meetings**  
First, second and third Tuesday

## GOVERNMENT

www.saguachecounty.net  
**Commissioners**  
Lynne Thompson, Liza Marron and Tom McCracken

**Assessor**  
Peter Peterson, 655-2521

**Treasurer/Public Trustee**  
Regina Swartz, 655-2656

**Clerk and Recorder**  
Trish Gilbert  
655-2512

**Sheriff**  
Dan Warwick, 655-2544

**Coroner**  
Tom Perrin, 850 2219

**Administrator**  
Wendi Maez, 655-2231

**Land Use**  
Amber Wilson, 655-2321

## MUNICIPALITIES

### Moffat

moffatcolorado.com  
**Mayor**  
Cassandra Foxx, 256-4538

**Town Hall**  
401 Lincoln • 256-4538  
Open 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Thursday (closed 12-1 p.m.)

**Clerk/Treasurer**  
Amy Hardin, 256-4538

**Town Trustees**  
Tyler Berger, Ken Skoglund, Jon Lopez, Ricardo Ellis, Ali Lopez and Jason Lewis

**Saguache**  
www.townofsaguache.org  
(county seat)

**Town Hall**  
504 San Juan, 655-2232  
Open 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays

**Mayor**  
Elvie Samora

**Town Clerk**  
Iris Garcia

**Deputy Clerk**  
Tina Sanchez

**Town Trustees**  
Jim Jaminet, Eric Frey, Alex DeCarli, Wyoma Hansen, Peggy Williams and Amber Wilson

**Center**  
www.centerco.gov  
**Town Hall**  
294 S. Worth, 754-3497

**Mayor**  
Tony Garcia

**Town Trustees**  
Peggy Martinez, Richie Barela, Daniel



# COSTILLA COUNTY

Population: 3,524  
Size: 1,227 Square Miles

**Courthouse**  
Open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., weekdays  
352 Main St., San Luis  
672-3681

## GOVERNMENT

costillacounty-co.gov/  
**Commissioner meetings**  
First and Third Tuesdays of every month

**Chief Administrative Officer**  
Ben Doon

**Chief Financial Officer**  
Julie Albert

**Commissioners**  
Lorraine Quintana, Robert Espinoza and Steven Romero  
672-3372

**Assessor**  
Thomas Aragon  
937-7670

**Clerk & Recorder**  
Najondine Placek  
937-7671

**Coroner**  
Sherri Vigil  
580-3426

**Sheriff**  
Danny Sanchez  
672-0673

**Treasurer/Public Trustee**  
Michael Ray Vigil  
937-7672

**Social Services**  
Tommy Vigil  
672-4131

## MUNICIPALITIES

### San Luis

**Municipal offices**  
408 Main St.  
672-3321 • townofsanluisco.org

**Mayor**  
Tiffany Gallegos

**Town Trustees**  
Roberta Romero, Jessica Durgan, Shantae Martinez, Brian Valdez

### Blanca

**Municipal offices**  
Main Street  
379-3461 • goade.org/~blancaco

**Town Clerk/Court Clerk**  
Rayna Sanchez

**Mayor**  
Myrrl Smith

**Trustees**  
Paul Wiescamp, Nancy Escalante, Edgar Martinez, Darlene Burns, June Welch and Lawrence Kawanabe

**Town Marshal**  
Paul Quintana

**Fire Department**  
379-3461

## EDUCATION

### Centennial School District R-1

centennial.k12.co.us  
14644 Hwy. 159, San Luis  
672-3322

### Sierra Grande School District

www.sierragrandeschool.net  
17523 U.S. Hwy. 160, Blanca  
379-3259



### THE SOUTH FORK TINES

Gateway to the Silver Thread  
www.southforktines.com

### THE MONTE VISTA JOURNAL

www.montevistajournal.com

### THE MINERAL COUNTY MINER

1892 - 2019  
www.mineralcountyminer.com

### The Del Norte Prospector

Gateway to the San Juans  
www.delnorteprospector.com

### CENTER POST-DISPATCH

www.centerpostdispatch.com

### THE CONEJOS COUNTY CITIZEN

www.conejoscountycitizen.com

Valley Publishing 719-852-3531 Find us on facebook





# RIO GRANDE COUNTY

Size: 913 square miles  
Population: 11,982

**Courthouse**  
925 6th Street, Del Norte  
657-3394  
Open 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. weekdays

**Commissioner meetings**  
Second and fourth Wednesdays

## GOVERNMENT

www.riograndecounty.org  
**Commissioners**  
Scott Deacon, Gene Glover and  
Tyler Ratzlaff

**Coroner**  
Stephen Hunzeker  
588-1289

**Administrator**  
Skip Schoen  
657-2744

**Clerk & Recorder**  
Cindy Hill  
657-3334

**Assessor**  
J.J. Mondragon  
657-3326

**Treasurer/Public Trustee**  
Rhonda Richardson  
657-2747

**Sheriff**  
Anne Robinson  
657-4000

**Social Services**  
1015 6th St.  
Jody Kern  
657-3381

**Public Health Director**  
Dr. Kolawole Bankole  
657-3352

## MUNICIPALITIES

**Monte Vista**  
www.cityofmontevista.com  
**City Hall**  
95 W. First Ave., 852-2692

**Mayor**  
Dale Becker

**Councilors**  
Victor Sigala, Loren Howard,  
Martha Lock and Jason Lorenz

**Police Department**  
95 W. First Ave.  
852-6161

**Police Chief**  
TBA

**Fire Chief**  
Patrick Sullivan  
401 Broadway St.  
852-3371

**Administration**  
**City Manager**  
Gigi Dennis

**City Clerk**  
Unita Vance

**Recreation**  
Dervin Tylor

**Public Works**  
Rob Vance

### Del Norte

delnortecolorado.com  
**Town Hall**  
140 Spruce  
657-2708

**Administrator Clerk**  
Bernadette Martinez

**Police Chief**  
Business and non-emergency office  
719-657-26000

**Mayor**  
Chris Trujillo

**Board of Trustees**  
Shelly Burnett, Marty Asplin, Louie  
Velasquez, Bob Muncy, Brenton  
Williams, Leigh Anne Lobato

### South Fork

www.southfork.org  
**Town Hall**  
100 Silver Thread Lane  
South Fork, 719-873-0152

**Mayor**  
Tyler Schmidt

**Board of Trustees**  
Jesse Entz, Sarah Sparrow, Trisha  
Taylor, Michele Cruse, Rick Morgan,  
Kevin Stickens

**Town Administrator**  
Hank Weber

**South Fork Fire Rescue**  
Chief Sean Burkey  
719-873-0095

**Police Department**  
Chief Hank Weber  
873-1040

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Tri-County Senior Citizens Center**  
311 Washington Ave.  
852-0386, 852-5778

**Monte Vista Kids Connection**  
134 Washington  
852-6966

**High Valley Community Center**  
595 Grand Ave.  
Del Norte  
657-2172

**Rio Grande County Museum**  
595 Oak St.  
Del Norte  
657-2847

## EDUCATION

### Monte Vista School District

www.monte.k12.co.us  
**Monte Vista High School**  
295 E. Prospect Ave.  
852-3586

**Monte Vista Middle School**  
3720 Sherman Ave.  
852-5984

**Bill Metz Elementary**  
545 2nd Ave.  
852-4041

**Marsh Elementary**  
215 Lyell St.  
852-3231

**Byron Syring Delta Center and Online Academy**  
345 Prospect Ave.  
852-2212

**Sargent School District**  
www.sargent.k12.co.us  
7090 N. Cty. Rd. 2E  
852-4025

### Upper Rio Grande School District

www.dncsd.org  
950 French St.

**Del Norte Elementary**  
657-4030

**Del Norte Jr./Sr. High School**  
657-4020

# SAGUACHE COUNTY

Continued from Page 2

Gallegos, Nivek Beiriger, Bernadette  
Duran, and Miriam Gonzales  
**Town Administrator**  
Brian Lujan

**Fire Department**  
754-3333

**Police Chief**  
Aaron Fresquez  
754-3497

### Crestone

**Town Hall**  
108 West Galena Ave., 256-4313  
Townofcrestone.colorado.gov  
Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Mayor**  
Kairina Danforth

**Town Trustees**  
Adam Kinney, Benjamin Byer,  
Stephen Hume, Kizzen Laki,  
Kimberly Martinez and Daya Scheide

**Clerk**  
Allyson Ransom, 256-4313

**Treasurer**  
Lisa Cyriacks

## EDUCATION

### Center Consolidated School District

www.center.k12.co.us  
500 Broadway, 754-3442

**Academic Recovery Center**  
754-2859

**Center High School**  
754-2232

**Skoglund Middle School**  
754-2232

**Haskin Elementary School**  
754-3982

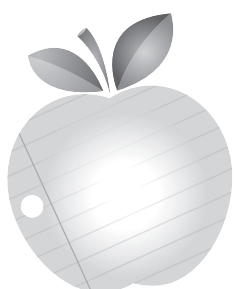
**Crestone Charter School**  
crestone-charter-school.org  
330 Lime Ave., Crestone, 256-4907

### Moffat Consolidated School District

www.moffatschools.org  
501 Garfield Ave., Moffat, 754-0500

### Mountain Valley School District

www.mountainvalleyschool.org  
403 Pitkin Ave.  
Saguache  
655-2578



## COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Saguache Chamber of Commerce**  
www.saguachechamber.org  
849-0240

**Crestone Chamber of Commerce**  
256-4313



Find us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/ValleyPublishing>



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719-852-5181

Emergency Outages 719-852-7979

MONTE VISTA COOP PETROLEUM

1901 E Hwy 160

Monte Vista, Colorado

M V C O O P . C O M



# MINERAL COUNTY

Size: 876 square miles  
Population: 712

**County Land Use Office**  
Roger Duncan  
658-2360

**Silver Thread Public Health**  
Tara Hardy  
658-2416

**Mineral County Volunteer Fire Department**  
Chief Robert Hosselkus  
658-2600

## MUNICIPALITY Creede

**City Hall**  
2223 Main St.  
658-2276  
www.colorado.gov/creede

**Mayor**  
Jeffrey Larson

**Trustees**  
Shane Castleberry, Dana Brink,  
Lori Dooley and Jack Wyatt  
Hannah

**Town Manager**  
Louis Fineberg

**Town Clerk**  
Sarah Efthim-Williamson

**Recreation**  
Kathryn Short Ash

**Public Works**  
Scott Johnson  
658-2003

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Chamber of Commerce**  
www.creede.com  
904 S. Main St.  
658-2374

## EDUCATION Creede School District

www.creedek12.net  
450 Corsair Drive  
658-2220

**Silver Thread**  
802 Rio Grande, Creede  
658-2416

**Rio Grande County**  
925 6th St., Del Norte  
657-3352

**Saguache County**  
505 3rd St., Saguache, 655-2533  
220 Worth St., Center, 754-2773

## GOVERNMENT

www.mineralcountycolorado.com  
1201 N. Main St., 658-2331

**Courthouse**  
1201 N. Main St.,  
Open 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., weekdays

**Commissioner meetings**  
First Monday and third Tuesday of  
every month

**Commissioners**  
Ramona Weber, Jesse Albright and  
Scott Lamb

**County Administrator**  
Janelle Kukuk  
658-2360

**County Assessor**  
Libby Lamb  
658-2669

**County Clerk/Recorder**  
Eryn K. Wintz  
658-2440

**County Treasurer**  
Amy Wetherill  
658-2325

**Court Clerk**  
Hollie Wheelwright  
658-2575

**Coroner**  
Jim Adelman  
658-2600

*The Mineral County  
Sheriff's Department serves  
both the county and Creede.*  
1201 N. Main St.

**Sheriff**  
Terry Wetherill  
658-2600

**Library**  
658-2220

**Road and Bridge**  
Danny Rogers  
658-2329

## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

**Alamosa County**  
8900A Independence Way, Alamosa  
589-4848

**Conejos County**  
19023 Hwy. 285, La Jara  
274-4307

**Costilla County**  
233 Main St., San Luis  
672-3332

## Ambulance Services

Alamosa - 589-5807  
Del Norte - 657-4000  
Monte Vista - 852-5111  
South Fork - 873-5544  
Creede - 658-2211  
Conejos County - 376-5921

**The area code for all  
phone numbers in the  
San Luis Valley is 719.**

### Editors Note

*\*We've made every attempt to verify the information in this edition;  
we apologize if there are any mistakes and/or omissions.*



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- ★ Julie Wynder - Loan Processor - MNLS #1161541
- ★ Scott Stecken - Loan Originator - NMSL #1242754

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