

## Shorts

### History Center, Transportation of West Museum open

**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.

### DN Food Bank monthly distribution June 17

**DEL NORTE** — The Del Norte Food Bank will be open for its monthly food distribution from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 17.

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

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

### Del Norte community dinner is June 16

**DEL NORTE** — The Del Norte Christian Association is having a free hamburger and hot dog dinner at 6 p.m. on Friday, June 16, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 595 Pine St.

It is open to everyone. There will be Contra dancing after dinner. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

### D Mountain Park & Rec District meeting, grant

**DEL NORTE** — Exciting things are happening at the Del Norte athletic fields. D Mountain Park and Rec District and Rio Grande County want to hear from the community. There will be a gathering at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 20, in the RG County Annex Building.

“Bring your ideas, bring your family, and have dessert with us,” organizers stated.

**MLB - MLBPA Youth Development Foundation**, a joint initiative between Major League Baseball and Major League Baseball Players Association, recently awarded D Mountain Park and Recreation District (DMPRD) in Del Norte a grant of \$37,400 to renovate Voss Field. The renovation is supported by the Foundation, the Town of Del Norte, the Rio Grande County Commissioners, and DMPRD. The field will be closed during July and August as it undergoes renovations.

## 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

*Please see ADOBE on Page 7A*

**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.**

Photo courtesy Adrienne Garbini



## 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

*Please see WATER on Page 6A*



**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

## Saguache, Alamosa counties move forward on protecting water resources

By JOHN WATERS

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — County commissioners in Saguache and Alamosa have voted in favor of resolutions regarding protecting water resources.

The commissioners have also voted in favor of “1041” regulations that can protect resources, in

this case water, from development. The name 1041 is derived from the 1974 legislation, HB 1041, that allows local governments to identify, designate, and regulate areas of state interest they can regulate.

According to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, “The general intention of these powers is

to allow for local governments to maintain control over particular development projects even where the development has statewide impacts.”

Under the terms of the nine-page proposed Intergovernmental Agreement drafted by the San

*Please see RESOURCES on Page 4A*

## News Media owner passes

STAFF REPORT

**VALLEY** — Longtime media magnate John C. Tompkins, 69, passed away on June 2, 2023, in Tucson, Ariz., following a lengthy illness.

Tompkins was the principal owner of News Media Corporation (NMC) which he built to over 75 publications in nine states over a period of 48 years, including the Valley Courier daily and the seven publications of Valley Publishing, all in the San Luis Valley. NMC purchased the Courier in

November 1992 and added the weekly operations in June 1993.

According to his obituary, “John was not only a newspaperman, but he was also a visionary entrepreneur and gifted strategist who was not afraid to take risks. John loved his ‘business family’ and the unique communities that NMC serves.”

Valley Courier Publisher Keith R. Cerny, who has worked for Tompkins for 35 years, said he had a great relationship with his longtime mentor who was well known in media circles

across the country.


“He was not only my boss, but I also considered him a brother and a dear friend,” Cerny said. “We shared intense business discussions, but also a lot of laughs, and even some tears. He will be deeply missed in the NMC family.”

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 15, 2023, in the City First Church Chapel, 5950 Spring Creek Rd., Rockford, Ill., with Pastor Dan Qualls officiating.

A complete obituary may be found on page 2 of today’s edition.



John C. Tompkins




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# OBITUARIES

## Delma Dorothy Dooley

Longtime Creede resident Delma Dorothy Dooley, 94, died peacefully at home June 5, 2023, in Creede.

Delma's life began in Stonington, Colo., on Oct. 15, 1928, the daughter and oldest child of Theodore "T.A." Arnel Dickey and Amber Hazel Heriford Dickey. Graduating from Del Norte High School, she went on to Albuquerque, N.M., and attended business school. After graduation Delma moved to Denver and worked at Montgomery Ward Department store until meeting the love of her life, Clarence Eugene "Gene" Dooley. They were married on Sept. 7, 1950, in Taos, N.M., and they enjoyed 58 years until his death on March 28, 2008.

Delma worked for more than 20 years as the owner and operator of the Cobblestone Café in Creede. She sold Watkins for a time and loved to buy items from about any yard sale. She was an accomplished seamstress, also knitting and crocheting many items throughout the years. Delma was a very generous person and taught her family to emulate her example. She

gave to others, even before herself.

Delma was a member of the Ladies Aid Society of Creede and served as their president at one point and chaired the Bazaar and Rummage sale. She was also a member of the Woodfern Rebekah Lodge No. 62 for more than 70 years. Delma served in all chairs including Noble Grand, Secretary-Treasurer and Chaplain.

She is survived by her children William "Bill" (Lori) Dooley, Theodore "Ted" (Debby) Dooley, and Betsey (Mike) Strawn, all of Creede, Colo.; her grandchildren Beverlee (Karl) Keilman, Randy (Jessica) Dooley, Mike (Allison) Dooley, Tad Dooley, Christine (Zach) Davis, and David Strawn; her great-grandchildren Dustin and Madison Kyffin, Andee Dooley, Matthew and Abigail Dooley, Thatcher, Lilly, and J.J. Davis; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends.

Delma was preceded in death by her parents, spouse, and brothers Obbie Dickey, Ralph Dickey, and Quentin Dickey.

## Lela May Pierce

Longtime Del Norte resident Lela May Pierce, 88, passed away on May 30, 2023. She was born on a ranch 5 miles west of Del Norte, Colo., on April 4, 1935, to Paul E. and Sarah Frances (Love) Weaver.

She married Alfred Laverne Pierce on Feb. 3, 1958. The two had been together for 65 years. Lela May was a Registered Nurse and loved helping people. She was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and held numerous positions in the church. She was a member of the Columbine Girls State Dept. and served as a Brownie and Girl Scout Leader. Lela May loved to do family history work, crochet, sewing, knitting, and reading.

She is survived by her husband Alfred L. Pierce, her children, Cynthia Wojciechowicz of Monte Vista, Colo., Eric (Stephanie) Pierce of Del Norte, Colo., Gloria Harris of Del Norte, Martha (Steven) Jeffries of Cushing,



Texas, Josephine (Shane) Pierce-Carr of Niarada, Mont., and Elizabeth Hutches of Holyoke, Colo., 17 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, her siblings, Robert Weaver of Humble, Texas, Hazel Potter of South Fork, Pauline Cox of Colorado Springs, Colo., Rosalind Weaver of Del Norte, Butch Weaver of Del Norte, Steven Weaver of Alamosa, Dale Weaver of Del Norte and Kent

## Sam Keith

Sam Keith, 83, passed away peacefully at his home in Warren, Texas, on May 30, 2023. He was born on Oct. 3, 1939, in Wichita Falls, Texas to Sam Keith and Opal Thompson Keith.

Sam is survived by his wife of 66 years, Wanda Lewis Keith; brother John Keith and his wife, JoAnn; son Jimmy Keith and his wife, Margaret; and daughter, Tanya Behrens and her husband, P. D. Sam was known as "Papa Sam" or "Poppy" to his four grandchildren: Joshua Keith and his wife, Sara; Brady Behrens and his wife, Janaye; Cates Keith and his wife, Brandi; Samantha Templeton and her husband, Joshua and ten great-grandchildren: Elliot, LaKota, Paul, Landry, Lane, Sarabeth, Grant, Jamey, Gabe, and Lucy.

Sam grew up in Burkburnett, Texas, and graduated from Burkburnett High School. It was a debate amongst brothers who was the "genius" of the family, but anyone who knew both Sam and John would agree that they were both gifted in their own way. Sam married his high school sweetheart and perfect life partner, Wanda Adell Lewis, in 1957.

Sam and Wanda lived quite the adventure in their 66 years together. At 18, Sam began working as a labor hand for Magnolia Petroleum Company. Sam continued his

education over the course of 10 years while simultaneously working shift work, and eventually obtained his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Lamar University in 1973. Sam worked his way up and became the Plant Manager of the Mobil Olefins and Aromatics Complex in Beaumont, Texas then the Manager of the Yanpet Complex in Yanbu, Saudi Arabia.

During their 10 years living in Saudi Arabia, Sam and Wanda had the opportunity to travel to various parts of the world and made numerous friends along the way. After 40-plus years, Sam retired from ExxonMobil and started the pursuit of his second life.

Sam was a lifelong learner who drew inspiration from great music, great books, and dreams. He sought out mentors who then became his close friends. Sam became an accomplished painter, photographer, writer, marathon runner, cyclist, rancher, musician, and collector of books. He stayed current in researching the latest gear and technology and was the go-to expert for his kids and grandkids.

In 1993, Sam and Wanda discovered the charms and wonderful people of Creede, Colo., and became part-time residents of that community. The rest of their time was spent on their beloved farm in Warren, Texas. Together, Sam and Wanda had many friends whom they considered family.



Cremation was chosen and at her request, private family services will be held at a later date. Contributions are suggested to the Ladies Aid Society of Creede, P.O. Box 126, Creede, CO 81130 or to the Woodfern Rebekah Lodge No. 62, P.O. Box 186, in Creede, CO 81130.

To leave online condolences, tributes, and words of comfort for Delma's family, please visit [www.RogersFunerals.com](http://www.RogersFunerals.com)

Weaver of Alamosa as well as numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

Lela May was preceded in death by her parents, her children Mark Pierce, Albert Samuel and Samarah Majella and her siblings, Eileen Coombs, James Weaver, John Weaver, Howard Weaver and Stanley David Weaver.

A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at the Del Norte Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. A visitation will be held from 9 to 9:45 a.m. at the church prior to the service. Interment will follow services in the Del Norte Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions are suggested to the Church's Disaster Relief Fund and may be made in care of the funeral home office.

To express condolences, please visit [www.rogersfunerals.com](http://www.rogersfunerals.com). Rogers Family Mortuary in Alamosa is in care of the arrangements.



Sam left an incredible legacy through his family, friends, works of art, and pursued dreams. Sam always said that he was looking for the "light," both in his art as well as in life. He was interested in "the choices we make in life, the forks in the road, the freedom and spirit of living, and the many struggles in life." Anyone who knew Sam couldn't help but be impacted in some way. We can only imagine the journey of discovery that he is now on and know without a doubt that his spirit lives on...

A private celebration will be held with family and close friends to remember and celebrate Sam's incredible life.

Cremation services were held under the direction of Riley Funeral Home, Woodville, Texas.

## Sally Hubbard Towns Jan. 17, 1950-May 24, 2023

Sally Hubbard Towns, beloved wife, sister, aunt and great-aunt, passed away on May 24 due to complications from a stroke and dementia. She was born on Jan. 17, 1950, to the late Millard Farmer Hubbard and Dorothy Adams Hubbard in Jackson, Miss., the second of three children. She graduated from Murrah High School in 1968 and was named Junior Miss Jackson and first runner-up for Junior Miss Mississippi that year.

She attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, graduating in 1972 with a degree in Speech and Hearing Therapy. She later earned two Masters Degrees from LSU, one in Special Education and another in Social Work. Sally had an outstanding career with the Louisiana Department of Health and as an independent special education teacher and educational consultant. She worked for many years at the Margaret Dumas Mental Health Center in Baton Rouge and served as Project Coordinator and teacher for their pilot Evaluating Classroom and also as their Mental Health Program Manager. She finished her career as Program Manager in the Department of Health and Hospital's Quality Management and Program Evaluation Section of the Division of Research and Development.

In 1982 Sally married Dr. James Philip Towns IV, a clinical psychologist whom she met in the course of her career. He predeceased her in 2010. They lived in Baton Rouge for many years with their hound dog, Elvis, and spent their retirement years in Masonic Park in South Fork, Colo. They relished life in foothills of the San Juan Mountains with their two Golden Retrievers, Sunny and Digger. They had many adventures with their friends in the Silverthreaders Outdoor Recreation Club of the San Luis Valley. Sally was also a talented artist and enjoyed creating miniatures for her nieces'



dollhouses.

Sally was an elegant woman with a beautiful smile. She had a warm, loving heart and a quick wit. She loved to laugh and had the innate ability to light up a room. She was devoted to her family and had a special gift for connecting with children. She adored her two nieces, considering herself their second mother and surrounding them with her special love and attention. Her longtime friends in Baton Rouge and South Fork were a source of love and great times for her.

Sally is survived by her sister Jane Hubbard Anderson of Cary, N.C., her brother William Millard Hubbard of Jackson; nieces Catherine Anderson Beard (Charlie) of Seattle, Wash., and Mary Perrin Anderson Stark (Scott) of Davidson, N.C., and their children Anderson, Adrienne, Mary Catherine, Betsy and Everett.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Shirley Porter who has loved, companioned and cared for two generations of the Hubbard family. We also thank the staff at the Waterford in Ridgeland, St. Dominic's Hospital in Jackson, and Clinton Healthcare and Pax Hospice in Clinton for their compassionate care of Sally.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Sally's memory to the Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies, 15350 W. 72nd Ave., Arvada, CO 80007.

## John C. Tompkins

John C. Tompkins, 69, of Tucson, Ariz., passed away on June 2, 2023. Born Aug. 2, 1953, in Greensboro, N.C. John attended Culver Military Academy, Illiana Christian High School, and Calvin College.

John grew up in a newspaper family and at the young age of 21 purchased The Rochelle News-Leader (Ill.) in 1975. For the next 48 years, John grew News Media Corporation to over 75 publications spanning across nine states. Among his holdings were the Valley Courier and Valley Publishing's seven publications in the San Luis Valley.

John was not only a newspaperman, but he was also a visionary entrepreneur and gifted strategist who was not afraid to take risks. John loved his "business family" and the unique communities that NMC serves.

Anyone who knew John would concur that he was larger than life and an extremely generous man. John was also a man of great faith and spent many years teaching Sunday school at City First Church and mentoring young men. He was a voracious reader with a wealth of knowledge on copious topics. If you ever met with John, you likely left with a book in hand.

John had many hobbies; he loved rodeo, Kung Fu, sailing, and his beloved dog, Roscoe. John spent his final years "Out West" — where he felt most at home. John taught his children God's Word, to walk in faith,



and to trust in the finished work of the cross — this is his greatest legacy.

John is survived by his children Trina (Stephen) McNeilly, J.J. (Lindsay) Tompkins, and Amy Tompkins; former wife and life-long friend Cindy Tompkins; grandchildren Ella, Luke, Liam, and Rocco McNeilly, Grace Wolfe, Hope and Lily Tompkins; sister Patricia (Bob) VanTil; brother Michael (Mary) Tompkins; cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He was pre-deceased by his parents John Edward Tompkins and Hilda Tompkins and nephew David Tompkins.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 15, 2023, in the City First Church Chapel, 5950 Spring Creek Rd., with Pastor Dan Qualls officiating. Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. until the start of the service on Thursday at the church.

To express condolences online, please visit: [www.fitzgeraldfh.com](http://www.fitzgeraldfh.com)

# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## The Birthday Boy

This past week Ol' Dutch celebrated another one of those pesky days that thankfully come along only once a year. Yep, you guessed it. Another birthday rolled around and right on past like a freight train off a washed-out bridge. And I see that most of you missed it as I didn't see you at the party nor did you send an appropriate gift to the house. Which I guess is my fault for not announcing the whole affair so you could come and honor so great a guest as me.

We had a small celebration and Uncle Sigh and Miss Candy were kind enough to host it at their house with a few friends. And yes, I do have friends as hard as that may be to digest. But any who, Miss Candy whipped up about 2 gallons of homemade ice cream and Ol' Dutch did his best to consume the lion's share of that, having skipped meals all day just for the occasion. Because if you have never tasted her vanilla laced fluffy white ice cream goodness you cannot imagine just how scrumptious that is.

No gifts were exchanged except for a trout shaped cookie from Uncle Sigh's daughter Mountain Momma and some hearing aid batteries from my dear old friend Roy Rogers. And when that was opened let me tell you an applause erupted from the crowd as they are all tired of Ol' Dutch going around deaf as a post and saying "huh" to every conversation. I think Roy got them free somewhere, but they always say it's the thought that counts. Right? But regardless of where he got them, I sure appreciate having them and being able to hear at least half of the conversations around me.

A lot of people suffer from hearing loss for a variety of reasons, some of which are avoidable. Ol' Dutch worked for the railroad in a previous life and 2.3 million miles on a locomotive without hearing protection took its toll. Of course, way back when I was working on the rails, no one thought of hearing protection as we built the transcontinental railroad across the country. And the final nail in the proverbial coffin was probably from the noise as I drove the Golden Spike in the last rail at Promontory Utah way back in 1869. At least that is how old Miss Trixie thinks I am.



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

And of late, my old body has felt that old as the creaks and groans seem to increase on a daily basis. But Ol' Dutch is just like a one-legged man and still kicking so all is not lost yet. As a matter of fact, just yesterday I was able to visit my elk blind up around 11,000 feet in elevation and did just fine. I guess if you consider some huffing and puffing fine then I did good. But I made it up there and back down without incident and was proud as a peacock in heat about that accomplishment and didn't end up as dead as a dodo to boot.

Miss Trixie is off for some big adventures today working for Mountain Man Rafting/Narrow Ridge Outdoors and so Ol' Dutch is left to his own devices. Which means I don't know what to do all day nor how to do it without her instructions to guide me through the hours.

I am not sure I will make it honestly as it's been so long since I had to make any decision, but I will try and get by the best I can until she returns and barks out some new orders for me to follow. And since she is working all day today that means that preparing supper falls to Ol' Dutch and I have it all planned out to a tee. I chose the easy route of course and plan to take her out for a three-course meal at Creede Bingo for hotdogs, popcorn and maybe, just maybe if she wins, some ice cream at halftime.

Never let it be said that Ol' Dutch is not romantic. Miss Trixie will attest that is my middle name.

*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.*

## 'That's a bad call!'

There are probably a lot of past and present wrestling officials breathing a sigh of relief right now. One of their biggest critics is no longer with us.

My mother was one of the best wrestling fans I ever knew, especially when it came to following her sons and grandsons competing on the mat. She also was not afraid to get boisterous if she didn't agree with a call by the referee.

M. Elsie Cerny left us on May 27, 2023, and although rather sudden it was not unexpected as she battled various health conditions at the age of 83.

For the most part a stay-at-home mom, she was still involved in various church and community activities as well as supporting dad on the family farm. Above all, she was always there for her five sons and one daughter.

In a 2006 announcement that our family was named Nebraska Wrestling Family of the Year it was noted, "With 20 cumulative years of Nebraska high school wrestling action, 24 cumulative years of wrestling officiating and numerous other years of youth wrestling participation and coaching, the five sons of Bob and Elsie Cerny of

Rogers, Nebraska, have made an impact on the Husker state's mat sport."

Having officiated wrestling myself for 14 years, I was fortunate to not take the wrath of mom from the sidelines.

When the nation's agricultural economy took a serious downturn in the early 1970s, dad had to go find a job. That left mom, myself and one of my brothers with the chore of handling much of the farm work.

With mom at 4-foot, 11-inches, and I not much taller at the time, dad had to extend the pedals on our main tractor to accommodate our reach or lack thereof. After several years of spending 12 hours a day on a tractor it was an easy decision for me to move on to other pursuits after high school.

I thank my parents and those years on the farm for endearing me with a work ethic that I cherish to this day, and still occasionally miss.

Mom was very devoted to her Catholic faith and gave back to the church in many ways. She also enjoyed regular coffee gatherings with her gal friends, especially best friend Ann from just down the road.



**KC at Bat**  
By KEITH CERNY



She and dad made numerous trips to Colorado for my children's graduations, weddings and other events. Those days are especially missed now.

As a youth, mom was a Girl Scout, a cheerleader, played drums in the band and worked as a "soda jerk" in her local drug store. That's where she met dad.

As J.K. Rowling once wrote, "Love as powerful as your mother's for you leaves its own mark. To have been loved so deeply, even though the person who loved is gone, will give us some protection forever."

I love you mom.

## Mountains in wilderness don't need hardware

We humans want the most out of life, so why shouldn't we push to get more of what we want?

That's what some rock climbers must be thinking. They want to enter designated Wilderness in order to drill permanent anchors into wilderness rock faces, turning these wild places into sport-climbing walls.

When the Wilderness Act became

law in 1964, it put wildlife and wild lands first, decreeing that these special places should be left alone as much as possible. This unusual approach codified humility, arguing that some wild places, rich in wildlife and natural beauty, needed as much protection as possible.

So far, the Act protects less than 3% of



what Congress called "untrammelled" public land in the Lower 48. These are unique places free of roads and vehicles and most manmade intrusions that afflict the rest of America.

The Wilderness Act also prohibits "installations," but to get around this, a group called the Access Fund has persuaded friends in Congress to introduce a bill that would, in effect, amend the Wilderness Act.

Introduced by Rep. John Curtis, a Republican from the anti-environmental

delegation of Utah, and co-sponsored by Democrat Joe Neguse from Colorado, the "Protect America's Rock Climbing Act" (PARC Act) has been promoted as bi-partisan.

Yet over 40 conservation groups, from small grassroots greens to large national organizations, have written to Congress to oppose the bill. Wilderness is not about human convenience, they say, it's about safeguarding the tiny pockets of wild landscape we've

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**Writers on the Range**  
By DANA JOHNSON

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Courtesy photos

Mike Van Norstrand, Executive Director of ICBC; Anikah Roybal Scholarship recipient, and Joe Martinez, President of San Luis Valley Bank.

## SLV Federal Bank awards scholarship to 'extraordinary' student

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER

**ALAMOSA** — San Luis Valley Federal Bank, the oldest banking company headquartered in the Valley, made an investment in the future this week in awarding a scholarship to Anikah Roybal, a graduating student of Sierra Grande High School.

In a ceremony held at the bank on Wednesday, Joe Martinez, president of the bank, presented Roybal with a \$1,000 check, which Roybal will use to attend Regis College in the fall where she plans to study nursing.

At the request of the Valley Courier, Roybal's application was made available, and it reflected a student who already embodies the word "outstanding."

In addition to dual enrollment at Trinidad State College and Adams State University where she obtained college credit while enrolled in high school, Roybal found time to be a member of student council, a cheerleader (for six years), a teacher assistant, the basketball statistician, participate in Knowledge Bowl, the Spanish Club, the Art Club, 4-H and tutor in Math and English.

She was named "Outstanding Student" in more than seven subject areas and also placed two years in a row at the Region 2 Environmental Science Fairs. While in high school, Roybal also made time to volunteer for a total of more than 500 hours at school, church and community activities, including several that were devoted to veterans.

"This scholarship will help me

work toward my dream of becoming a labor and delivery nurse," Roybal said. "I'm looking forward to college because it's going to be a unique experience for me where I can experience new and exciting things. This award means I'm able to make that dream a reality."

"Community banks are all about our community," Martinez said. "And that means investing in our next generation. I was honored to present Anikah with this check. She's an extraordinary student and we hope this will spur her onward in her next journey."

San Luis Valley Federal Bank is a member of Independent Community Bankers of Colorado (ICBC). Each year, ICBC awards five scholarships to local students across the state to support their educational journey. As an organization, ICBC represents community banks throughout Colorado and promotes their members' local impact.

"These scholarships are just one of the many ways our members invest in their local areas. Community banks are involved in local chambers, 4-H programs, and a variety of other local non-profits. Community bankers are our neighbors, fellow members at church, and they know the importance of relationships and have a pulse on what their communities need," said Mike Van Norstrand, Executive Director of ICBC. "We are excited to see how these scholarships will impact each of the students in their future endeavors."

# RESOURCES

Continued from Page 1A

Luis Valley Council of Governments for the six Valley county board of county commissioners to consider, is the stipulation that all six counties in the Valley must agree to it for it to become effective.

The accord also states, "Member jurisdictions recognize that efforts currently and will foreseeably exist to transfer water from within the San Luis Valley to outside of the San Luis Valley and that such transfers will be significantly detrimental to the Valley's human and natural resources, environment, and abilities to continue to thrive as a community."

Essentially, the agreement will give the counties in the Valley the power to regulate any water export proposals.

During the June 6 Saguache County meeting, Commissioner Liza Marron said, "I will be very proud to be part of this six-county consortium that is working on areas of state interest, this is a moment and I'm proud to be a part of it."

The vote did not receive any public comment and had little discussion at the meeting.

Saguache County Commissioner Tom McCracken told the Valley Courier, "I was very happy and encouraged that the BOCC [Board of County Commissioners], was unanimous in supporting the adoption of the new 1041 declarations, and that there was no negative public comment. This is an important step in the process of implementation of the six-county Intergovernmental Agreement, which Saguache County has already signed."

On June 7, the Alamosa County Board of Commissioners passed the Intergovernmental Agreement and amended their existing 1041 to accommodate the water protection issue.

Commissioner Lori Laski told the Valley Courier, "I want to thank the SLV Council of Governments, for their facilitation of this 1041 for the entire valley. Even though Alamosa County has had a 1041 since 2009, it did not adequately address the potential



Photo by John Waters

**Water from the San Luis Valley will receive greater protection if all six counties in the Valley vote in favor a proposed Intergovernmental Agreement. Pictured here is the Rio Grande near Alamosa flowing strong from snowmelt.**

transfer of water, therefore it needed to be revised. With Alamosa County's Resolution, we acknowledge that many issues impact neighboring counties, and it is vital we have a process and guidelines that address this as a county within a larger region. Surface and groundwater resources are the Valley's lifeblood. The transfer of water from the SLV could endanger our viability."

Commissioner Vern Heersink offered, "I'm pleased that we passed the IGA and Resolution. It is my hope that history will prove this was a wise decision."

The proposed agreement, if adopted, will establish the San Luis Valley Joint Planning Area to Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Resources and the San Luis Valley Planning Board.

On May 16, at the regular meeting of the Costilla County Board of County Commissioners, the IGA proposal was tabled after county attorney Nicolas Sarmiento expressed concern over the agreement and the five-year plan stipulation. A date to consider the agreement has not yet been set.

Rio Grande County will consider the agreement on June 14. Conejos and

Mineral counties will vote on June 21.

The Valley Courier reached out to Renewable Water Resources (RWR), a company that has floated the idea of exporting water from Saguache County to the Front Range and has not received a response by press time.

In other RWR news, the Colorado Sun reported on June 8 that RWR has "poured money into Douglas County water district races." According to the Sun, RWR has donated thousands of dollars into the campaigns of candidates Robert Kennah and Kory Nelson for the Parker Water and Sanitation District board. Kennah won election to the board and RWR-backed candidate Nelson did not win.

Last year, Douglas County Commissioners rejected RWR's plan to export water from the Valley via a proposed pipeline to be constructed using COVID-19 relief funds.

Political pollster Floyd Ciruli, who has extensive experience working with Douglas County water providers said of RWR, "They have resistance at both ends. And it's interesting that [RWR] is contributing to these boards. It's really a long shot."

## Keeping the Peace in Your Relationships

God created you to be a unique individual. You've probably noticed that every person is not the same; we all have different personalities with various likes and dislikes. And while we are often drawn to people who are different than we are, it's these differences that can lead to strife in our relationships.

Sometimes we try to convince our spouses, coworkers and kids to be more like us, but that's not what the Bible teaches us to do. We're all created for freedom and liberty, and if we want to win with people, we need to give them a right to be who they are.

I can't tell you how many years I tried to get my husband, Dave, to stop watching sports. But it seemed the more I tried, the worse it got. One Saturday afternoon, I walked into the family room to find him shining his golf clubs while he watched one game on TV and listened to another game using his headphones. I thought, *Joyce, your plan is just not working!*

The truth is I wanted Dave to do what I wanted to do—I wanted him to be more like me. But trying to change him wasn't accomplishing anything, and it left me frustrated and upset.

I love what Romans 12:16 (AMPC) says: "Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty (snobbish, high-minded, exclusive), but readily adjust yourself to [people, things]...."

If we truly want to live in peace and harmony in our relationships, it's going to require some give and take. At times, we'll have to adjust our lives to accommodate someone else's needs or desires.

Sometimes this simply means being patient and understanding with those who don't share your own strengths. For instance, have you ever noticed yourself getting irritated with someone who takes

more time to make decisions than you do? Or maybe they don't catch on to things as quickly as you would like.

If we allow ourselves to get into prideful thinking, we can hurt people by acting out of our own self-importance and selfish interests. The Lord doesn't want us to have a lowly opinion of ourselves, but He certainly doesn't want us to think we're better than anyone else.

First Corinthians chapter 12 provides the perfect illustration. It says we are all part of one body, each with our own distinct and important role to play. Verse 25 (AMPC) tells us "there should be no division or discord...but the members all alike should have a mutual interest in and care for one another."

The truth is *we all need each other*, and when we learn to recognize and celebrate each other's gifts, it develops a respect that can heal our relationships.

### For Best Results, Try This...

When I'm having a hard time agreeing with others, there are a few things I try to do to maintain the right attitude.

When you need to confront someone about a problem or discuss a negative issue, choose your timing wisely. Pray about what to say and ask God to lead you in each conversation.

Be respectful, even if the other person doesn't agree with your opinion.

Listen with an open mind. Be willing to pray about what they say.

Keep looking for things to agree about, instead of focusing on your differences.

Use positive body language and voice tones, and choose every word with care.

There will be times when you won't find a thing to agree on, and in those circumstances, the best thing you can do is trust God, let it go, and become an expert at forgiveness. Yes, some things are very important and you need to stand your ground, but there are so many things



in life that really don't make a difference.

I don't agree with Dave about all his opinions or 100 percent of everything he does, but I *do* agree with Dave. He's a good man, and I love him and agree with his character and principles. Over the years, we've learned how to "disagree agreeably."

You won't always agree with your spouse, family or friends, but you can still respect and appreciate them. As you do your part to "keep the peace," God will not only honor your commitment, but He will also bless your life in greater ways than you can imagine.

I encourage you to trust God with your relationships. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you see the things you have in common with others. With God's help, we can begin to set aside our differences and love people for who they are.

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.

# PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



# 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



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).**

grains together, according to the park.

To better understand all that 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.**



Photo courtesy Cheryl Franklin-Rohr

**Forbes Park is hosting Woodfest on the following dates: Saturday, June 24, July 18, July 28, Aug. 12, Aug. 26, Sept. 9, and Sept. 23.**

## Free wood in Forbes Park

**COSTILLA COUNTY** — Forbes Park is hosting Woodfest on the following dates: Saturday, June 24, July 18, July 28, Aug. 12, Aug. 26, Sept. 9, and Sept. 23. First entrance is at 8 a.m. and last entrance is at 1 p.m. Trees have been cut down. People will need to bring their own chainsaw to trim the tree and cut the trunk into manageable sections and bring their own vehicle and trailer to haul it away.

Forbes Park is located 9.5 miles east of Fort Garland. Turn right on County Road 25, then turn left on Beekman Road. The entrance to Forbes Park is 2.5 miles to the east.

For more information, contact the Forbes Park Office, Monday through Friday at 719-379-3000.

All dates are subject to Costilla County Fire Restrictions. Contact Forbes Park at 719-379-3406, the Friday before the event.

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# WATER

Continued from Page 1A

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 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 flooding issues, but we 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.

# HARDWARE

Continued from Page 3A

allowed to remain.

The PARC Act directs federal agencies to recognize the legal use of fixed anchors in Wilderness, a backdoor approach to statutory amendment that even the U.S. Forest Service and Department of Interior oppose.

In a hearing on the bill, the Forest Service stated that "creating new definitions for allowable uses in wilderness areas, as (the PARC Act) would do, has the practical effect of amending the Wilderness Act. (It) could have serious and harmful consequences for the management of wilderness areas across the nation."

Beyond the permanent visual evidence of human development, fixed anchors would attract more climbers looking for bolted routes and concentrate use in sensitive habitats. That impact is harmful enough, but the bill also sends a loud message: Recreation interests are more important than preserving the small bit of Wilderness we have left.

What's coming next is clear. Some mountain bikers, led by the Sustainable Trails Coalition, have introduced legislation to exempt mountain bikes from the prohibition on mechanized travel in Wilderness.

Then there are the trail runners who want exemptions from the ban on commercial trail racing. Drone pilots and hang-gliders also want their forms of aircraft exempted.

What's confounding is that climbing is already allowed in Wilderness. This bill is simply about using fixed bolts to climb as opposed to using removable protection. That's apparently confusing to some people.

An article in the Salt Lake Tribune went so far as to wrongly state that, "a ban on anchors would be tantamount to a ban on climbing in wilderness areas."

But now, even some climbers are pushing back. The Montana writer George Ochenski, known for his decades of first ascents in Wilderness, calls the Tribune's position "Total bullsh\*t." In an e-mail, he said bolting routes "bring 'sport climbing' into the wilderness when it belongs in the gym or on non-wilderness rocks."

For decades, many climbers have advocated for a marriage of climbing and wilderness ethics. In Chouinard Equipment's first catalog, Patagonia founder and legendary climber Yvon Chouinard called for an ethic of "clean climbing" that comes from "the exercise of moral restraint and individual responsibility."

We don't like to think of recreation as consumptive, but it consumes the diminishing resource of space. And

protected space is in short supply as stressors on the natural world increase. With every "user group" demand, the refuge for wild animals grows smaller. Meanwhile, a startling number of our animal counterparts have faded into extinction.

As someone who loves trail running, I understand the allure of wedding a love of wild places with the love of adventure and sport. But I've also come to see that the flip side of freedom is restraint, and Wilderness needs our restraint more than ever.

*Dana Johnson is a contributor to Writers on the Range, a writer on therange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. She is a staff attorney and policy director for Wilderness Watch, a national wilderness nonprofit.*

**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 affects 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.**

**DISTRICT COURT, SAGUACHE COUNTY, COLORADO**  
Court address: 501 4th Street, Saguache, CO 81149  
Phone number: (719) 655-2522

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
**SADIE MARIE SKEFF a/k/a SADIE M. SKEFF a/k/a SADIE SKEFF,**  
Deceased.

**A COURT USE ONLY A**

Darin L. Buxman, #21061  
Buxman Kwitek & Shirley, PC  
Attorneys for Personal Representative  
601 N. Main St., Suite 200  
Pueblo, CO 81003  
(719) 544-5081; Fax: (719) 546-3457  
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Case No. 2023 PR 30012  
Div. No. C

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO §15-12-801, C.R.S.**

**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 barred.  
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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Interactive Services: ADT Command Interactive Solutions Services ("ADT Command") helps you manage your home environment and family lifestyle. Requires purchase of an ADT alarm system with 36-month monitoring contract ranging from \$45.99-\$59.99/mo. with GSP (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees ranging \$1,103.76-\$1,439.76), enrollment in ADT EasyPay, and a compatible device with internet and email access. These interactive services do not cover the operation or maintenance of any household equipment/systems that are connected to the ADT Command equipment. All ADT Command services are not available with all interactive service levels. All ADT Command services may not be available in all geographic areas. You may be required to pay additional charges to purchase equipment required to utilize the interactive service features you desire.  
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DF-CD-NP-G421

# Creed Repertory Theatre unveils 2023 poster

## STAFF REPORT

**CREEDE** — “Aspen at Dusk,” an original art piece by Christine Mercer Kraft, was revealed Saturday night as the 2023 official poster for the Creed Repertory Theatre. The signed, numbered limited edition poster is available at the CRT box office.

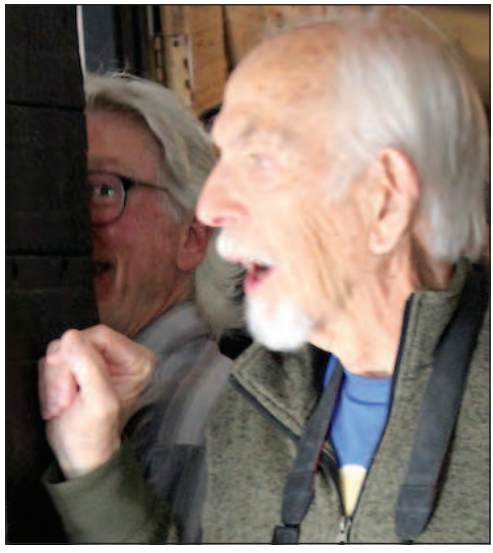
In an introduction at the unveiling, John DiAntonio, CRT’s producing artistic director, said Kraft “draws inspiration from nature in the San Juan mountains, incorporating the colors, textures and light in her paintings, prints and collages.”

After retiring from a successful and award-winning career as an art director with the University of Kansas, a marketing manager at Sprint and as an account supervisor for an advertising agency, she now enjoys creating her own artwork. Kraft and her husband have visited Creede for 25 years and now reside there.

Kraft has worked for the Quiller Gallery in Creede and recently served for three years on the board for the Creede Arts Council and currently has her work displayed at the Creede Hotel.

Chere Waters of CWaters Gallery was recognized for framing this year’s print.

In addition, longtime CRT photographer John Gary Brown, “Brownie,” was introduced as he is retiring this year. His photography work of the theatre over more than 40 years is on display on the second floor of CRT’s main stage and a special event will honor him in early September.



**John Gary ‘Brownie’ Brown, with camera in tow.**



**Creede artist Christine Mercer Kraft speaks at the unveiling of her painting Saturday night as the 2023 poster for the Creed Repertory Theatre.**

Courier photos by Keith R. Cerny

# ADOBE

Continued from Page 1A

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 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.

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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,



**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.**

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.



Courtesy photos

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



**San Luis Valley Health Registered Nurse Amy Oaks, center, who received a DAISY award for nursing excellence, poses for a photo with her family.**

## SLV Entrepreneurship Summit set for June 21

**CONTRIBUTED**

**ALAMOSA** — The San Luis Valley is set to host an Entrepreneurship Summit from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on June 21, followed by a Lenders Strategy Session until 3:30 p.m. presented by Downtown Colorado, Inc. (DCI) at the Adams State University Student Union Banquet Room. This event aims to connect entrepreneurs from diverse sectors, providing them with invaluable resources, and fostering collaboration to strengthen regional networks.

The San Luis Valley Entrepreneurship Summit will bring together aspiring and established entrepreneurs, industry leaders, and experts. The event will kick off with a review of the region's economic trends and networks, identifying existing strengths and opportunities for growth. This assessment will provide attendees with valuable insights and a comprehensive understanding of the local business landscape.

In addition, the San Luis Valley Entrepreneurship Summit will provide a platform for entrepreneurs to interface with lenders, training providers, and their peers. This interactive component will enable participants to explore financing options, gain access to crucial training resources, and forge valuable connections with like-minded individuals.

By connecting entrepreneurs with vital resources, the Summit aims to share solutions to overcome challenges, expand their businesses, and achieve long-term success. As part of the Summit, participants will have the opportunity to engage in small workshops focused on

key areas of interest, including recreation and retail, food systems, and work-based learning and shared services. These workshops will provide a collaborative environment for entrepreneurs to dive deep into these sectors, exchange ideas, and develop innovative solutions to drive economic growth and sustainability.

The San Luis Valley Entrepreneurship Summit is free of charge for all San Luis Valley participants, thanks to the generous support of USDA Rural Development, the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, and the Boys and Girls Club of San Luis Valley.

Entrepreneurs, business professionals, and community members are encouraged to mark their calendars for the San Luis Valley Entrepreneurship Summit and take advantage of this opportunity to connect, collaborate, and grow. Registration is free for San Luis Valley residents. RSVP is required. There are two ways to register:

- Follow this link (<https://downtowncolorado.app.neoncrm.com/eventReg.jsp?event=87&>) ad fill in your information and make sure you enter SLVB2B in the Coupon Code field for free registration or,
- Email Kylie Brown at [outreach@downtowncoloradoinc.org](mailto:outreach@downtowncoloradoinc.org) with your information and she will get you registered for free.

More information, including registration details and the event schedule, can be found at [www.downtowncoloradoinc.org/2023/06/21/148332/san-luis-valley-entrepreneurship-summit/](http://www.downtowncoloradoinc.org/2023/06/21/148332/san-luis-valley-entrepreneurship-summit/).



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## Anniversary of Navajo Treaty commemorated at Ft. Garland Museum

BY DIANE DREKMANN

**FORT GARLAND** — Members of the Navajo nation came to the Fort Garland Museum on June 4 to commemorate the 155th anniversary of the signing of a peace treaty which allowed the Navajo people to return to their ancestral land.

Shawn Price, director of the Dineh Tah Navajo Dancers, traditional orator, storyteller, and protector of sacred sites, gave a different perspective of the Civil War.

“Tecumseh” William Sherman is remembered in history for the burning of Atlanta-bringing a decisive change and ultimate victory for the Union, according to Price. That was only one side of Sherman.

Price said Sherman was a firm believer in maintaining good relations with Native Americans. He, along with Col. Samuel F. Tappan and six other men, including John Wesley Powell, of Colorado River fame, with similar beliefs, formed a peace commission and was instrumental in creating the peace treaty. The treaty was signed June 1, 1868, in Bosque Redondo, N.M. Many Navajo were still enslaved in Fort Sumner or suffering on the Long Walk, Price said.

The treaty was unique because it was written by a Native American named Ely Parker. He was a personal assistant to President Ulysses S. Grant and a tribal leader who wanted to end the war, end slavery, Price noted. In other

treaties, tribal leaders would make an X for their signature. Parker wrote the treaty in Navajo. It was translated into Spanish and then English.

Sherman also put Article 6 in the Constitution declaring “all treaties are Supreme Law,” Price said. He also gave \$150,000 to the Navajo people to buy sheep, cows, fabric... things they needed to start their life when they returned home. The Navajo

**Please see TREATY on Page 2**

**The Dineh Tah Navajo Dancers were part of the 155<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Navajo Treaty on June 4 at the Fort Garland Museum.**

Photo by Diane Drekmann



## RGNF hosts grand opening of new headquarters in Del Norte



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

The Rio Grande National Forest hosted a grand opening event at its new headquarters in Del Norte on Wednesday, May 31. The newly refurbished building was once home to Del Norte High School but was transformed into a new work environment for the forest Service.

BY LYNSIE FERRELL

**DEL NORTE** — Rio Grande National Forest leaders, community members, local officials and visiting supervisors gathered Wednesday morning in front of the old Del Norte High School building that has now been transformed into the new headquarters-supervisor office for the forest service.

RGNF Public Relations Officer Gregg Goodland welcomed guests to the event as people gathered around the front of the building that also housed the Del Norte School District office. Since the residents of Del Norte passed the bond for its

new campus, the district has worked closely with forest officials to save the old building and repurpose it.

“I am excited for you to see what we have done in the building and on the property. We are going to have some fun today and we are so glad you could join us to mark this special occasion. This is a neat, and amazing feat in my eyes, we have come a long way and we are glad to be here. I think it’s important that we recognize that the Rio Grande National Forest would like to acknowledge and share our pride in the fact that our forest and indeed this building here in Del Norte is a testament to the community’s commitment to the forest service.”

**Please see RGNF on Page 12**

## Ribbon cutting for Ice Hunters

The Alamosa County Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for Ice Hunters recently. The business was started by David Elwart and John Barndt. A grand opening was held on Saturday, May 27, at the Water Works car wash at 418 Main St., Alamosa. Ice Hunters has ice and water vending machines at two locations in Alamosa and one in Monte Vista.



Courtesy photo

## Rio Grande Hospital to host groundbreaking for wellness center

BY LYNSIE FERRELL

**DEL NORTE** — For the past three years, Rio Grande Hospital has been working to finalize plans for a wellness center near the hospital in Del Norte and recently announced that it will officially break ground on the project before the end of the month.

The conversation first started when Rio Grande Hospital CEO Arlene Harms held a presentation for the Upper Rio Grande Economic Development members in 2020, first announcing the plans for the wellness center along with the construction of a new clinic in South Fork. Harms stated that the hospital had been donated land located to the southwest of the main hospital grounds just outside of Del Norte and that they hoped to see the project begin after the

new clinic was completed.

The project plans include four homes and a communal building that could be accessed by the public for many different reasons. The homes would be placed on a portion of land near the hospital donated by the Off family and used to house people in need of temporary homes while dealing with the hospital as a patient, a student, or a medical professional.

Now that the clinic in South Fork is working on celebrating its first year in the small mountain town, the hospital has announced that they will be breaking ground on the wellness center at 11 a.m. on June 15 and invites the public to come join them in celebrating this milestone accomplishment. The ceremony will include details about the wellness center and a chance to see what the final product

will eventually look like.

During the initial presentation hosted by Upper Rio Grande economic Development three years ago, Harms explained that the goal was to provide a place for recovery and to provide housing for visiting hospital staff and family members. The wellness center would also be a place to host educational programs for the public such as healthy cooking classes, yoga and more.

Plans for the center took a screeching halt right before the COVID-19 pandemic shut things down in 2020 but have since been perfected and designed to fit all the needs of the hospital and the community. Designs for the model were made with the help of Colorado State University and several other members of the community and hospital board.

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# TREATY

Continued from Page 1

people remember this kindness to this day. It is in part why the Navajo felt deeply committed to America and were such an important part of World War II as codebreakers, Price said. They incorporate certain items, like fabric, into their ceremonies.

At the commemorative event at the Fort Garland Museum people could receive a piece of white cloth in honor of the fabric people received because of the treaty. Both Sherman and Tappan served at Fort Garland, and this was why the venue was chosen to commemorate the anniversary of the treaty's signing.

Price shared other interesting facts of history. The first American flag had a pine tree on it. This signified the will of the people, which is based on Native American beliefs, Price said.

The Belt of Hiawatha from 1773 used the pine tree in its design to show that America was not a monarchy and sowed the seeds for the Constitution. It kept the Iroquois out of the Revolutionary War. The belt is revered to this day as a symbol of the continued desire to forge peace. People planted a pine tree on the museum grounds.

Price and the Dineh Tah Navajo Dancers shared some traditional dances and their ceremonial meaning. In the Corn Grinding Dance, the drum represents a growling stomach. The Coming of Age Dance for young

women is an important ceremony. The baskets used in the Basket Dance have a small hole in the middle, reminding people that there is always a way out. And can make the impossible possible.

Price said of preserving the dances, "The past is asking us not to repeat the events of the past. Being detained, when they take your freedom, when you go through that, it changes a person."

Price urges people to "make the future better. Do something greater, wondrous things!"

The Fort Garland Museum has more upcoming events and activities for children and adults. Continuing with the subject of slavery, state historian Jared Orsi and poet Jodie Hollander will have a poetry workshop on the topic of "Unsilenced: Indigenous Slavery" from 2 to 5 p.m. on June 16. People are welcome to write their own poems. The event is free, but people are asked to register online because it is limited to 20 people.

June 24 is Fort Garland Day and will also be the opening day of the buffalo soldiers: reVision exhibit, featuring the works of eight artists. The event will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The first Thursday of the month the museum will have an English Tea Party from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Mess Hall.

There are still openings for the free children's Summer Camp. The

camp for elementary age children, 6 to 11 years old, is from June 12-29; middle school children, 12 -14 years old, is from July 10-27. Classes are from 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday. Breakfast, lunch, and snacks are provided.

To register for Summer Camp or the poetry workshop, visit [history-colorado.org/fort-garland-museum](http://history-colorado.org/fort-garland-museum).

**The 155th anniversary of the Navajo Treaty was commemorated on June 4 at the Fort Garland Museum. The event's main speaker was Shawn Price.**

Photo by Diane Drekman



## Silver Thread Studio Tour seeking participants

CONTRIBUTED

**CREEDE** — The Creede Arts Council is proud to be hosting the annual Silver Thread Studio Tour on Saturday, Aug. 12, and is seeking artists within South Fork and Creede to participate. The Studio Tour showcases artists in the area — from emerging artists to those with national recognition. Previous venues have included private homes, studios, and art galleries where artists may exhibit their work.

Artists will share ideas, answer questions, and or perform demonstrations to the public. Artwork will be showcased and available for purchase. All types of artists across mediums are encouraged to apply including painting, jewelry, pottery, glass blowing, stained

glass, photography, wood carving, papermaking, sculpture, wind chimes, metal arts, deer skin, rocks, furniture, ceramics; and fiber arts such as quilting, weaving, spinning yarn, knitting, felting and various surface design techniques.

Artist locations must be along the Silver Thread Scenic Byway, Highway 149, beginning in South Fork, through Creede and ending at The Studios at Bristol. Full or part time residents in these areas are eligible. To download an application visit [www.creedeartscouncil.com/silver-thread-studio-tour](http://www.creedeartscouncil.com/silver-thread-studio-tour).

For questions or more information, e-mail [creedearts@outlook.com](mailto:creedearts@outlook.com) or call CAC at 719-658-0312. The application deadline is Friday, June 23.



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# Baca National Wildlife Refuge welcomes new volunteer and new researcher

## New visitor center open

**By JOHN WATERS**  
**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — Kevin Sloan, a veteran of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who is now retired, will be offering his expertise as a volunteer, staffing the new visitor center at the Baca National Wildlife Refuge. Also new to the refuge, is wildlife researcher Valerie Tafoya.

In an interview with the Valley Courier, Sloan said he was excited to be at the refuge and in the area. "What really drew us to the area is the fact that it [The San Luis Valley] is totally supported by public lands, refuge on the west side, forest on the east side, national park to the south, forest on the west. All of that is very attractive," he said.

"Primarily, I will be working in the visitor center to help the public understand what the national wildlife system is all about, and the allowable activities on refuges. The national wildlife refuges and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the only federal agency with the primary mission is the conservation of wildlife and fish for the American

people." Sloan said he will be volunteering wherever the refuge needs him and that he recently took photographs for the wildlife management study area.

Sloan added he was optimistic that he may assist in offering guided interpretative tours of the refuge, "as a good and compatible way to use the national wildlife refuge. The proposed guided tours are in the very early planning stages."

As previously reported, the refuge has a new one-mile hiking trail that will eventually extend an additional mile to the Crestone Kiosk and is part of a plan the Eastern San Luis Valley Trail Coalition is working on. Ideally, an unbroken trail will connect the Baca National Wildlife Refuge, Colorado College Baca Campus, Crestone Charter School, Baca Grande Subdivision, and the Town of Crestone. The trail will offer non-motorized, multi-use recreation opportunities.

The 93,000-acre Baca National Wildlife Refuge was established in 2004 on the Baca Grant Ranch and is a highly diverse combination of shrublands, grasslands, wet meadows, playa wetlands, and riparian areas. The refuge was established as a haven for migratory and resident wildlife, and also as an important

piece in a broader conservation effort to protect the wildlife, habitat, and water of the north and eastern portions of the San Luis Valley. The refuge is a great place for visitors to view elk and for scientists to study them.

New to the refuge is researcher Tafoya, a graduate intern who will be working through the Directorate Fellow Program, a hiring program to engage college students in natural resource management at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The program is a paid, 11-week summer fellowship administered through a Hispanic Access Foundation. Tafoya will monitor the elk population on both the refuge and Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve. She will develop and report on elk distribution across these public lands. Tafoya told the Valley Courier she was looking forward to studying the intersection of elk migration between public and private lands. Tafoya will return to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor to complete her graduate studies.

plete her graduate studies.

For people interested in volunteering on the Baca National Refuge, contact Manager Ty Benally at ty\_benally@fws.gov.

Starting June 2, the visitor center at Baca National Wildlife Refuge will be open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Friday and Saturday, except for Saturday, June 10, when the

center will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Refuge management asks that due to prairie dog activity in nearby habitat, follow the 15 mph speed limit while driving on the gravel road that is between the visitor center and County Road T.

For more information, visit [www.fws.gov/refuge/baca](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/baca).



Photo courtesy U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Kevin Sloan (left) will be volunteering at the new visitor center at the Baca National Wildlife Refuge and Valerie Tafoya (right) is a new wildlife researcher at the refuge.

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- 63 TRUCKS
- 64 AUTOS FOR SALE
- SERVICES**
- 65 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- 66 CHILD CARE

## RATES

**15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications**  
**\$19.50 + 95¢ each additional word.**  
**Garage Sale Ads: 15 Words or less for 1 week**  
**\$12 + 35¢ each additional word.**  
**Free ads:** Lost & Found • Non Commercial items Sold for \$50 or less • Any Item or Animal being given away. (Limited to private party only, 2 ads per person, 4 weeks.)  
**Convenient ad placement:**  
 To place your ad in person come to the office at 835 First Ave. in Monte Vista, or call (719) 852-3531. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also fax your classified to (719) 852-3387 or email at montevisitaclass@gmail.com  
**Check your ad the first day:**  
 To ensure your ad is correct, check it the first day it appears in the paper. If there is an error in your ad, call us right away so we can correct it. If an error appears in your ad, Valley Publishing will credit you with one additional day of advertising.  
**Our ad policy:** Valley Publishing accepts all classified advertising except that which it deems objectionable to its readers. Credit or replacement ads will not be given for early ad cancellation.

## DEADLINE

**Thursday 5:00 pm**  
**Call 719-852-3531**  
 or email: awelch@valleypublishinginc.com

## Easy Payment Options

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



### 05 Notices

**WE BUY ANTLER: Spring Prices!** Use code "ELK18" and you will get \$18/lb for Elk Grade A and \$13/lb for Deer Grade A. 5

miles west of Del Norte on Hwy 160. 719-657-0942 (TFN)

For information on meetings for **ALANON NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS AND ALCOHOLICS**

**ANONYMOUS** Please visit slvaa.org or call 719-937-5083.

**Rio Grande County is soliciting design and bid proposals** from qualified contractors for the con-

## 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				Accumulated Water Use (ET)				
		Shown (in./day)				From 6/8 (inches)				
		6/8	6/7	6/6	6/5	2day	3day	4day	5day	7day
Moravian 69	04/05	0.24	0.19	0.18	0.19	0.43	0.61	0.80	0.97	1.34
Moravian 69	05/05	0.20	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.35	0.49	0.64	0.76	1.02
Early Wheat	04/05	0.24	0.19	0.18	0.19	0.43	0.61	0.80	0.97	1.34
Early Wheat	05/05	0.20	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.35	0.49	0.63	0.75	1.00
White Wheat	04/05	0.24	0.19	0.18	0.19	0.43	0.61	0.80	0.97	1.34
White Wheat	05/05	0.20	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.35	0.49	0.63	0.75	1.00
WinterWheat	10/01	0.24	0.19	0.18	0.19	0.43	0.61	0.80	0.97	1.34
<b>Potatoes</b>										
Norkotah	05/05	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.08	0.12	0.15	0.18	0.26
Centennial	05/05	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.08	0.12	0.15	0.18	0.26
Nugget	05/05	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.08	0.12	0.15	0.18	0.26
Alfalfa	Est.	0.27	0.22	0.20	0.22	0.49	0.69	0.91	1.11	1.54
Lawngrass	Est.	0.23	0.18	0.17	0.18	0.41	0.58	0.76	0.92	1.28

For the latest ET information, call 754-3494 extension x40 for Center, x36 fro Center #2, and x38 for La Jara. Use the crop maturity and planting data and weather station closest to your own. Find this upJune 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



"Loved the Hawaiian Cowboy and Hellfire. The garlic butter they use on the crust is fantastic, and the beer selection on tap is varied enough for all preferences. Hiked through and got my fill of 'za for sure!"  
 ~ Jordan P., Google Reviews

# Fresh Ingredients, BIG on TASTE!

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

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30483 Highway 160, South Fork  
 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. DAILY  
**Easy Online To-Go Orders:**  
[MountainPizzaTapRoom.com](http://MountainPizzaTapRoom.com)

# 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

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

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

# Valley Wide

# Classifieds

struction of additions to the Mc-Mullen Building Pavilion located at the Monte Vista Ski-Hi Complex beginning summer 2023. Sealed proposals will be received at the Rio Grande County Administration office until 4:00pm (MT), Tuesday, June 27, 2023. Contact the Rio Grande County Administrator at (719) 657-2744 or email rgadministrator@riograndecounty.org for additional Request For Proposals (RFP) details. (6-21)

## 07 Help Wanted

**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 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, bird-watching, 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 position 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 include inventory, loading cus-

tomers 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)

**Position of POLICE CHIEF:**



Now Booking  
- Quarters  
- Halves  
- Whole Bison

Contact: [valdezibison@gmail.com](mailto:valdezibison@gmail.com)  
With Inquiries or to Purchase

## EDWIN HOSTETLER MOVING AUCTION

June 17th, 10am

26503 COUNTY ROAD 6  
LA JARA, COLORADO

Directions from Monte Vista, go South on Hwy 15, 12 miles to end of pavement, continue 1.5 miles to Auction on Right. Watch for signs.

**Guns, Antiques, Tools, Buggies, Appliances, Sheds & More!**

All items sold is where is. Buyer is responsible to ascertain condition and value of items before bidding. Representations are believed to be accurate, but buyer responsible to do due diligence. Auctioneer not responsible for accidents. Announcements made day of sale take precedence over printed material. Lunch stand available. See [Auctionzip.com](http://Auctionzip.com) for listing and pictures ID#44158

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**FRONTIER AUCTIONS**



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**Independent Living Skills....**  
*More Important Now Than Ever*  
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*More Important Now Than Ever*  
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[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

*Bedroom need a little sprucing up?*  
We have beautiful quilts, pillows and throws to help out.

**The Holy Moses**  
Mon.-Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
658-2848  
121 N. Main Creede

## This Week's Feature



## THE HOLY MOSES

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

It's Worth The Drive

Mon.-Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 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.

# ValleyWide Classifieds

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 ob-

tain 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 Col-

orado (FPPA). The application and position 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)

**Rio Grande Hospital, located in Del Norte, Colorado, needs one Medical Laboratory Scientist** to perform general duties pertaining to the processing of patient samples to accommodate accurate and timely laboratory testing and procedures.

Responsible for accurately performing tests and reporting results in the fields of microbiology, coagulation, chemistry, hematology, transfusion medicine, serology and urinalysis. Performs duties independently with minimal supervision, operating from specific and definite direction and instructions. Communicates new material, equipment, and procedures to all members of the team. Adheres to the laboratory's policies and procedures for instrument calibration and maintenance. Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Medical Technology or related Laboratory Sciences, AMT or ASCP or

## 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](mailto:bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com)

# San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

**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](http://www.bernadettegingrassrealestate.com)

**PRICE REDUCED**

Stately 2,818 Sq Ft. Mountain Home with Stunning Natural Light on 3.19 acres. This beautiful 3 bed 4 bath home is your perfect retreat. Open Split floor plan with beautiful cathedral ceiling and fireplace, large windows taking in the breath-taking outdoor sunlight and mountain views. Complete with beautiful furnishing, accessories and decor. The kitchen with eat in counter, gorgeous custom cabinetry, granite countertops and butler pantry is your dream kitchen for entertaining your family and friends. Separate office space off the dining area with patio door leads out to the great outdoors. There are two guest rooms one with private bath could be considered a separate master bedroom. Large master bedroom with large walk-in closet, fireplace gorgeous walk-in shower and access to deck with hot tub. Take in the stunning views from the main floor outdoor balcony. Your perfect place for that hot morning cup of coffee or relaxing evening glass of wine. This is a luxurious home located with private access to the national forest in The Timbers subdivision of South Fork Ranches. All this, just moments from Rio Grande Golf Club, Rio Grande River gold medal fishing and world class skiing at Wolf Creek Ski area. Don't wait call and schedule your private showing today! **\$1,150,000** MLS #798101  
497 Timberline Drive • South Fork  
**Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty**  
(719)850-1993 • [bernadette@steffenscorealty.com](mailto:bernadette@steffenscorealty.com)



**SOLD**

You Found It! Home Sweet Home, Finely Crafted, Ranch Style 2,109 square foot 3 bed 2 bath split floor plan home with detached 4 car garage for all your outdoor tools and toys! Large master bedroom bath with jacuzzi tub. Beautiful open kitchen, dining area with eat in counter, living area with cathedral wood beam ceiling, custom cabinets and wood burning stove. This home has large windows that brings in lots of natural light. Patio doors leading out to your back and front deck with 360 views of the beautiful Colorado mountains. Perfect place to enjoy your morning hot cup of coffee. You have year-round access in Highland Meadows, South Fork, CO, with paved roads, your own well and South Fork water and sanitation. This home is situated on a beautiful 1.1-acre lot with room for your RV, gardens and so much more. Additional heating sources on demand water heater and radiant floor heat to keep you nice and warm all winter long and indoor laundry area. This could be your permanent residence, your home away from home or your perfect vacation home. Moments from skiing at Wolf Creek, A stone throw away from public access to gold medal fishing on the Mighty Rio Grande River. Enjoy nearby hiking, golfing, hunting and 4 -wheeling. Start Your Adventure - Won't last long, Call and Schedule your personal showing today!  
**\$489,900** MLS #801796  
74 Highland Court • South Fork  
**Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty**  
(719)850-1993 • [bernadette@steffenscorealty.com](mailto:bernadette@steffenscorealty.com)




**PRICE REDUCED**

Must See Custom-Built 5,350 sq. ft. Commercial Property in Fabulous South Fork, CO. Great Highway 160 exposure!! This building is extremely well built. The building was built for retail with many amenities. The environment is warm and welcoming. The 3,000 sq. ft. main floor consist of large receiving office, full kitchen and bath and several large open spaces and two additional design show rooms and large 1,000 sq. ft. heated warehouse with plenty of shelves for storage and 12-foot overhead door. Lovely concrete outdoor patio with new vinyl fencing wired for low voltage lights this property sits on two lots with wiring running outside for lighting off outside signage. 1,350 sq. ft. Spacious upstairs with large open space, several large storage closets two additional offices, New ¾ custom tile bathroom and large storage over warehouse. This well-built property has radiant floor heating downstairs and upstairs baseboard hot water heat. Property is wired for Cat 5 telephone jack in all offices, design rooms, kitchen bar, receiving office - etc. Cable tv jack, upstairs big room. There are 3 gas fireplaces, 2 wall thermostats with remote control. Wired for speakers though out the building for music. Swamp cooler and wired for electric dryer, set up for washer and has a Propane fired boiler and propane hot water heater. This property is a blank canvas with so much POTENTIAL for the right builder or person. Because there is no existing business at the present time, this makes this building available for a variety of Business opportunities: Professional Work Environment for Professionals, Restaurant, Brew Pub, Events Center, Lodge or Cottage hotel, Retail etc. Come Paint your Canvas and start Your Business Adventure, Call and schedule your personal showing today! **\$975,000** MLS #794078  
173 W Frontage Road • South Fork  
**Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty**  
(719)850-1993 • [bernadette@steffenscorealty.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bernadette@steffenscorealty.com)



This South Fork Beauty checks all the boxes, both his and hers - and is a fun place for family and friends. Custom built Log home tucked in the trees and backs up to the National Forest. The main floor consists of an open area with beautiful carved mantel stone fireplace, custom designed beautiful designer backsplash and large eat in counter space overlooking over the living area with custom soft close cabinets and plenty of storage and room for all your entertaining. Kitchen has wonderful large butler pantry with pantry sink and beautiful custom stained-glass door. The Detailed Check Boxes include radiant floor heating with four zones and two Rinnai on-demand water tanks. Light Touch lighting system and electrical in the floor. Master bedroom is on the main floor with sitting area with luscious mountain views. Master bath with beautiful large tiled walk-in shower. Guest bedroom and bath on main floor with elegant soaking antique tub. Upstairs spacious loft with two electronic skylights with rain sensors that will close automatically with additional sleeping areas including office space and additional large size bedroom with barn door and bath. Enjoy your 3-car garage with large workshop and more than enough room for all your mountain toys. Your family and friends will love the upstairs bungalow above the garage with kitchenette, living area, built-in beds additional bedroom and bath. Bring your family and friends to gather to enjoy the great outdoors! 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](mailto:bernadette@steffenscorealty.com)

**SOLD**



**CALL TODAY!**  
719-852-3531

*Valley Publishing*

**Sandra Marquez — [smarquez@valleypublishinginc.com](mailto:smarquez@valleypublishinginc.com)**  
**Brian Williams — [bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com](mailto:bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com)**

# Valley Wide Classifieds

equivalent certification, full-time employment. Complete application at [riograndehospital.org](http://riograndehospital.org). Send Resumes to Human Resources, 310 County Road 14, Del Norte, CO 81132. (6-14)

**Instructional Coach needed at Del Norte Jr/Sr High School.** Candidate should be proficient in all areas of teaching and learning, with an emphasis on professional practice and the teaching and learning cycle. The coach will be responsible for consulting with and supporting the instructional teaching staff in using resources that impact student learning. The coach will provide support and professional learning to instructional staff as needed. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to Annie Hardy, Principal at [ahardy@urtigers.co](mailto:ahardy@urtigers.co). (6-14)

**Elementary Teacher needed at Del Norte Elementary School.** We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Principal at [aduda@urtigers.co](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co) or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: [urtigers.co](http://urtigers.co). (6-14)

**Upper Rio Grande School District is seeking a positive, energetic and experienced candidate to fill the Administrative Secretary position for Del Norte Jr./Sr. High school.** Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED and clerical experience. Computer proficiency required. Please submit your resume and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, DNHS Principal at [ahardy@urtigers.co](mailto:ahardy@urtigers.co) or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. (6-14)

**10 Apartments**  
**Del Norte: 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)

**House for sale: 2 1/2 acres, 5bdrm, 2 bath, 4 car garage in Alamosa \$275,000 OBO 2 1/2 Miles West Walnut Hwy 160 720-217-7886 (6-14)**

## PART-TIME SALES

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Photo by Brian Williams

Nearly a half-dozen signs are posted at the Home Lake State Wildlife Area alerting the public to a mandatory closure to fishing at the lake through June 16.

## Fishing at Home Lake State Wildlife Area closed through at least June 16

CONTRIBUTED

**MONTE VISTA** — Colorado Parks and Wildlife implemented a mandatory closure to fishing at Home Lake State Wildlife Area effective June 2-16.

The closure was authorized Friday afternoon, June 2, after testing the lake water due to chemical exposure. The closure was recommended by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The direct cause of the chemical exposure is being investigated by multiple agencies, including CPW and the Colorado Department of Agriculture.

“Our early sampling has indicated that two herbicides used for agriculture have made their way onto the vegetation on the south end of the property and into the water,” said CPW Area Wildlife Manager Rick Basagoitia. “Out of an abundance of caution, we will halt fishing for a couple of weeks as we determine the appropriate course of action and monitor the affected areas.”

CPW will continue to sample the water and determine impacts in the reservoir. The herbicides detected can be toxic to aquatic life.

“We haven’t seen stressed fish

or a die off so far, just the dead snails along the shore,” said CPW Aquatic Biologist Estevan Vigil. “But we want to warn the public not to consume any fish from this lake at this time.”

Home Lake State Wildlife Area is located approximately 1½ miles east of Monte Vista and shares a boundary with Shriver & Wright State Wildlife Area and Rio Grande State Wildlife Area. It offers fishing for rainbow trout, channel catfish, largemouth bass, bluegill, and grass carp.

“Thankfully, this does not appear to have impacted those other two properties,” Basagoitia said. “The swath is approximately a mile but doesn’t seem to have extended to other properties. As part of the investigation, we will continue to monitor how far this does extend.”

CPW has limited the amount of water exiting Home Lake to prevent any further impacts downstream.

The lake will be marked with closure signs. The two-week closure will allow CPW and partnering agencies to monitor and sample the water to determine the extent of the exposure. It is possible the closure will be extended.



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

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# South Fork offers another year of rail biking with new trips

By LYNDIE FERRELL

**SOUTHFORK** — Revolution Rail is back at it again this summer and is excited to announce it has added longer trips on the old remaining tracks of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad.

The Denver and Rio Grande Railroad leading out of South Fork has been closed since owner Don Shank put the line up for sale. Through the years, efforts have been made to either purchase the line or revert it back to its natural state with none coming to fruition. Now, through combined efforts, Shank has started an adventure biking opportunity to South Fork.

Shank made it clear when he put the line up for sale that he wanted to see the tourism opportunity it presents to continue. Through the years, Shank has looked for every opportunity to see that the line be used for pretty much anything besides storage of rail cars. Shank found a company from New York that has created special bikes that can be used along the rail for tourism.

Now with Revolution Rail making headway in the tourism industry, South Fork is reaping the rewards and so are the people that venture out on the rails for a ride through time. Chief Operating Officer Edward LaScala has been having the time of his life getting the business up and running in what he terms “such a beautiful place to live and play.”

“We really have had a great time getting this up and running and the people are really enjoying the trips we provide. Our most popular request last year was for us to make the trips longer, so we did what the people wanted and



Courtesy photos

Revolution Rail out of South Fork has opened for its second season this summer and with it comes a new 12.5-mile round trip up along the Rio Grande.

added a 12.5-mile round-trip excursion up the tracks and across the Rio Grande Sliver Bridge,” he said.

LaScala invited everyone to come enjoy the new Silver Bridge run and pedal through stunning landscapes, including Collier State Wildlife Area and picturesque Palisades, with a riverside turnaround for relaxation. This trip lasts approximately 2.5 to 3 hours and while a relatively flat run, does require some exertion.

For more information or to book a trip, visit [revrail.com](http://revrail.com).

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# RGNF

Continued from Page 1

Norte is situated within ancestral lands of the Ute, Navajo, Apache, and multiple Pueblo Nations. It is an honor to be here," said Goodland.

Goodland introduced Rio Grande Forest Supervisor Dan Dallas who spoke to the crowd about the work that went into moving the office from Monte Vista to Del Norte.

"We had some bumps and hurdles along the way, but we are happy to welcome you to the new Rio Grande National Forest Headquarters. We spent over 50 years in the Monte Vista office and though it has been a long process to get to this historic occasion, it was due to the perseverance of so many," said Dallas.

Dallas thanked everyone in the audience including the Upper Rio Grande School District for the donation of the building, Rio Grande County Commissioners for their support, Andrew Perterson, Patricia Hesch, Fancina Martinez, Tom Malecek and Shoshana Cooper for their work to complete the property transfer, Meg Sullivan, Doug Wise, Todd Michael, Roger Pritchett, and Christina Schofield for their tireless work to get the new facility planned and finally to people who worked to complete the construction which included Meg Sullivan again, Jason Davis, Andy Kelher, Tanya Spanfeller, Kelly Shaw, Sheila Cross, and Kim Wheller.

"And last but not least, a big thanks to the citizens of Del Norte and Rio Grande County. The citizens

and those who attended school here said they wanted to see the buildings repurposed and it's because of them that we were able to be here today," finished Dallas.

Dallas then introduced Regional Forester Frank Beum.

"I don't think I would have had a career with the forest service if it wasn't for the Rio Grande National Forest. I started as a seasonal worker 42 years ago. I came out here for spring break to see if I could get a job and it worked out," he said.

Beum talked about his work with local forest officials and how important it was to have a good working environment.

"I welcome all of you who will be working from this office and hope it serves you well," Beum said.

The last speaker for the day was Upper Rio Grande School District Superintendent Aaron Horrocks who has been involved in the process since it began in 2019. Horrocks took over for previous Superintendent Chris Burr, who with the help of many community and school board members made it possible for the buildings from the old school district to be repurposed.

"I have hopes and I have goals," Horrocks said. "I hope this building serves you well and you find that it is a productive and positive environment. I hope that the school district through the forest service continues to foster a productive and positive



Photos by Lyndsie Ferrell

relationship that supports learning in this community, and I hope the forest service has a good experience with the community of Del Norte and that their presence in town helps support the town."

## ★ 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.

QUILTS	FARM & RANCH
<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: x-small; color: gray;">Approximately 20-30 quilts will be available on Sale Day</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>
<div style="background-color: #f08080; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">ANTIQUES</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antique Typewriter Desk</li> </ul>	<div style="background-color: #f08080; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">SADDLES - TACK</div> <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>
<div style="background-color: #f08080; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">CAMPER</div> <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>	<div style="background-color: #f08080; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">THIS IS ONLY A PARTIAL LISTING, MANY MORE ITEMS EXPECTED BY DAY OF SALE.</div> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: red; text-align: center;">Lunch will be available by school parents. Also, baked goods, doughnuts, fry pies &amp; other refreshments will be available. All Dollar items considered donations.</p>
<div style="background-color: #f08080; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">MISCELLANEOUS</div> <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>	<div style="background-color: #f08080; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">HOUSEHOLD</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 - Fireproof File Cabinets 4-door</li> </ul>
<div style="background-color: #f08080; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">FOR MORE SALE INFO:</div> <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.

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