



**Inside this week's
Center
Post-Dispatch!**

Shorts

Conejos County Willow Pit dates announced

CONEJOS COUNTY — The Conejos County Willow Pit will open to Conejos County residents on Saturday, May 20, and June 17, July 15, Aug. 19, Sept. 16, and Oct. 21 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The property is located 4.5 miles east of Manassa on the north side of Highway 142.

It accepts yard waste — tree branches less than 5 inches in diameter, willows, limbs, leaves, shrubbery, and grasses.

No household trash, tires, furniture, or construction demolition debris. No large tree stumps will be accepted.

Donations of non-perishable, not-expired, food items will be accepted at the entry. Call 719-496-6615 or the Land Use Office at 719-376-2014, for more information.

Eight to be inducted into SLV Medical Hall of Fame

ALAMOSA — The public is invited to celebrate the induction of eight new members into the SLV Medical Hall of Fame on Friday, May 19.

The reception will be on the First Floor Atrium of the Regional Medical Center in Alamosa, beginning at 5 p.m.

Jack Brown, DDS, Lois Booth, RN, Ted Morrison, PAC, and Esther Houser, RN will be honored for the Class of 2020-2021.

Jim Robbins, CRNA, Kristina Steinberg, MD, William Brinton, M.D., and Julie Geiser, RN will be honored for the Class of 2022-2023.

Colorado Gator Farm recovering from pre dawn fire

PETA calls for immediate closure of facility

BY PATRICK SHEA
HOOPER — Less than a week after a pre-dawn fire torched the Reptile Barn at the Colorado Gator Farm on April 18, operators confronted a variety of unexpected challenges.

According to family co-owner Erin Young on April 25, all the surviving animals have been moved to safety, but the demolition and rebuilding operations will require more moves after they restore exhibits and make

changes. As they shuffle survivors and continue to care for them, they continue to discover more work to be done in the charred rubble.

At the same time, while crews continued cleaning over the weekend, a group of alligators decided to move to a new pond on the geothermal property. This required a small but unexpected change in procedure.

Then the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) demanded the facility's immediate closure. Officials from Colorado Gator Farm took time away from their clean-up effort to issue the following response.

"We take every concern seriously, and *Please see GATOR on Page 4A*



Photo by Patrick Shea

The Reptile Barn at the Colorado Gator Farm caught fire before sunrise on April 18, killing snakes, lizards, and tortoises that were in the barn.

Veteran Viking teacher wins award



Courtesy photo

Center Consolidated Schools educator Susan Banning earned the outstanding service to public education award from the Colorado Education Association (CEA) at the CEA Awards banquet in Westminster, Colo. on April 22.

BY PATRICK SHEA

CENTER — A teacher for 36 years, Susan Banning received recognition at the Colorado Education Association (CEA) Awards banquet on April 22 for her outstanding service to public education. CEA bestows the honor on one of 36,000 CEA members each year.

In her acceptance speech, Banning said, "This is a humbling honor as working for a small local school, you cannot very well nominate yourself."

Banning thanked Sharon Stanford for nominating her and finding people to write letters of support. For the first time in more than 18 years, a rural educator from the San Luis Valley received the award. Among different categories, recognition for "outstanding service to public education" is the highest honor from CEA.

Not long after she started teaching at Center Schools in 1993, Banning attended meetings and became involved with different organizations, starting with the San Luis UniServ Unit (SLUU) Membership Cadre. During her first SLUU meeting, after she took a restroom break, she returned to her seat and learned she was elected representative of the CEA Cadre.

In 1996, Banning attended her first National Education Association (NEA) meeting as a rural representative. Two years later, she was elected to the CEA Board of Directors. She represented Colorado at the NEA resolutions meetings for six of her nine

Please see AWARD on Page 6A



David Tandberg

Tandberg is the 12th President of ASU

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — David A. Tandberg was selected by unanimous vote on April 21 of the Adams State University Board of Trustees as the 12th president, to take effect after finalizing contract terms, already agreed to in principle

Please see ASU on Page 7A

Saguache County celebrates on Earth Day

BY PATRICK SHEA

SAGUACHE COUNTY — Residents and town officials across Saguache County pitched in for Earth Day spring cleaning on April 22. The cleaning fever hit households and neighborhoods too with people hauling trash and debris to landfills.

Center Police Department Officer Kendra Adolph gathered early in Center Community Park along with town board members and other residents. In Moffat, crews gathered

Please see EARTH on Page 6A

On Earth Day, volunteers and residents gathered trash, enjoyed live music, and shared a meal in Casita Park, a subdivision of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association.

Photo by Patrick Shea



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OBITUARIES

Ruth Blanche (Dye) Pope

Longtime Bayfield resident, Ruth Blanche (Dye) Pope, died April 13, 2023, at Mercy Hospice House in Durango, Colo. She was 77 years old.

Ruth was born in 1946 in Ansley, Neb., a tiny town in the Nebraska Sandhills. One of nine children, Ruth learned at an early age how to care for others and how to be creative and resourceful. She shared stories of her father's substantial garden that helped to feed their large family, and of the hard work her mother did to keep everyone fed and clothed.

Following the death of her mother when Ruth was just a young girl, she helped to care for her two younger siblings. When her father also died a few years later, the younger kids were taken in by their older siblings.

Ruth eventually went to live with her older sister and brother-in-law, Doris and Rod Golden. Following her graduation from high school in Lexington, Neb., in 1964, Rod took a job with San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative in Monte Vista, Colo., where Ruth's older brother, Orville Dye, worked and lived with his family.

Rod and Doris moved their family to Monte Vista, taking Ruth with them. Within a few months of living in Monte Vista, Ruth met Gary Pope of Sargent, Colo., on a blind date to the Ski-Hi Stampede dance. The couple fell in love and married five months later, Dec. 17, 1964, in a small ceremony at the home of Orville and Alice Dye. In the following 8 years the couple had three daughters: Kyla in 1965, Mindy in 1969 and Ashli in 1971.

In 1974, Ruth and Gary, who worked for Public Service, moved their family from Monte Vista to Salida. It was while they lived in Salida that Ruth and Gary accepted Christ and became active in the church. The family spent 3 years in Salida and 1 year in Silverthorne before returning to Monte Vista, where their daughters finished school and left the home, and where the couple remained until 1993.

Gary was then transferred to Durango, and the couple settled in Bayfield. Ruth was a loyal and faithful wife and mother for 58 years. Throughout her life, Ruth was a loving mother, caregiver and homemaker, and worked at elementary school lunchrooms in both Monte Vista and Bayfield. She also cared for and helped raise many of her grandchildren. She was active in the church and at the local senior center and loved being outdoors and going to the "hills" to camp and fish or just to take a drive. She was an outstanding photographer and enjoyed watching wildlife in their natural habitat, but also watching the wild deer and variety of birds, especially hummingbirds, that frequented their back yard. She was an avid scrapbooker and, at the time of her death, was working to complete a beautiful family history project to keep memories alive.

Family was everything to her. She was fascinated by her family's stories



and genealogy and was instrumental in organizing family reunions for decades. She was also a talented crafter and over the years enjoyed making things with her hands. She also enjoyed gardening and playing card and board games. Ruth adored people and people adored her. She made and maintained lifelong friendships and was well loved by neighbors and the people in her community. She had a strong work ethic, a great sense of humor and a loving and generous heart. She also fiercely loved the Lord and was a faithful, God-fearing woman.

Ruth is survived by her husband, Gary Pope of Bayfield, daughter and son-in-law Kyla and Richard Dubberstein of Phoenix, Ariz., daughters Mindy Blazer of Denver and Ashli Pope of Ignacio; grandchildren Logan Blazer and Diana Watson of Littleton, Hayden and Andrew Peterson of Colorado Springs, Lydia and Ben Culhane of Phoenix, Ore., Josiah Woody of Ignacio and Grace Smith of Ignacio. She is also survived by her sisters Doris Golden of Monte Vista, Mary Halsted of Columbus, Neb., brother and sister-in-law Clarence (Junior) and Patsy Dye of Greeley, brother and sister-in-law Lyle and Sandy Dye of Monte Vista, sister and brother-in-law Ella and Art Porter of Smith Center, Kan., sister-in-law Alice Gibson of Monte Vista, and many nieces and nephews.

Waiting for her at Heaven's gates are her parents Lydia Almeda and Clarence Dye of Nebraska, her brother Orville Dye of Monte Vista, brother and sister-in-law Louis and Madeline Dye of Broken Bow, Neb., sister and brother-in-law Margaret and Lyle (Skeeter) Smith of Hazard, Neb., brothers-in-law Rod Golden and Bill Gibson of Monte Vista and grandson Karl Beaman, Jr. of Denver.

A service will be held 11 a.m. on Friday, May 5, at Rogers Family Mortuary in Monte Vista, Colo. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Ruth's name to Regeneration Reservation at <https://regenerationreservation.org/or/Sansum> Diabetes Research Institute at <https://sansum.org/>.

To leave online condolences, words of comfort for her family, or remembrances of Ruth, please visit www.RogersFunerals.com.

Arnulfo Bolaños-Mateo (El Paisa), 76, of Center, Colo., was born on Sept. 8, 1946, in Los Angeles, Michoacan, Mexico, and passed away on April 21, 2023, in Colorado Springs surrounded by his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents Fidel Bolaños and Guadalupe Mateo. He was the third out of 14 children, which include four that are still living — Margarita, Veronica, Carmen, and Cleotilde.

Since he was young, he was a hard-working man, working with his dad in the sugarcane fields. When he moved to Center, Colo., he worked in fields and potato warehouses.

He was known for his gardens and took pride in his yard. One of the things he loved doing was watching his two sons play soccer, he would even have celebrations in his yard after the soccer season was over.

His wife and four kids will always remember when he would take them to La Garita and they would spend all day enjoying being in the mountains.

His entire family will never forget his sense of humor. He always knew how to put smiles on their faces even up to the end.

He is survived by his loving wife Elvia Bolaños of Center, Colo., and his four children Armando and wife Crystal from Monte Vista, Rafael and wife Marisol from Monte Vista, Maria and husband Sergio from Denver and daughter Guadalupe from Center. He also has many grandchildren which include Victoria, Armando Jr., Rafael, Gerardo, Omar, Carmen, Isabel, Soledad, Sergio Jr., Raquel, Adela, Joaquin, and Gabriel.

Rosary will be Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 7 p.m., at St. Francis Jerome Catholic Church in Center,



Colo., and Mass will be Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 10 a.m. at St. Francis Jerome Catholic Church in Center, Colo. Funeral arrangements in care of Strohmayer's Funeral Home.

Garry Lee Gustafson

Garry Lee Gustafson of Monte Vista, Colo., passed away of natural causes in his home at the Homelake Veterans Center on Saturday, April 22. He was 78 at the time of his death.

Garry was born on June 10, 1944, to parents Stasie and William Gustafson. The second of three children, Garry was proud of his military service, and being from Creede.

He served as a Marine Sargeant in Vietnam. Garry had many stories about his time in the service and could explain, in amazing detail, the different trips and experiences he had.

Garry spent the majority of his life on the Gustafson Ranch in his hometown of Creede, Colo. He had many jobs over his years, working for Mineral County, Kolish Lumber, and even the Creede Hardware store. Garry hauled logs, could run any kind of equipment, and could fix anything.

He helped his sister and mom in the laundry and always enjoyed visiting with everyone as they dropped off or picked up their items.

Garry also spent some time in Alaska, working construction and also helping his brother Charles build his house.

Garry's garage at the ranch was a hangout for many friends. He restored numerous vehicles for friends and was always willing to help anyone. Garry helped the elk one year, using the ranch to coordinate hay deliveries during a large snow year.

Garry is survived by his brother Charles Gustafson and wife Carolyn; nephew Sven Gustafson and wife Kathy, niece Gwen Welch and husband Roy, along with grand-nieces and nephews Steven Gustafson, Julie Gustafson, Bryce Welch, and Cassie Welch.

Garry was preceded in death by parents William and Stasie Gustafson and sister Janet Postelle.

Garry's ashes will be buried at the Colorado State Veterans Cemetery at Homelake in Monte Vista. A gravesite

Sally Bills Peck

N.J., to raise project animals for over 20 years.

In their 70s, Sally and Harold pulled up stakes in New Jersey to pursue yet another dream: running their own ranch in Colorado. Throughout her life, Sally was never without a trusty canine companion (or, three), and she happily spent the final decade of her life riding her horses and running with her dogs on her ranch in Del Norte.

The daughter of the late Sarah "Sally" Ames Bills and Charles T. Bills, Sally was preceded in death in 2018 by her beloved husband, Harold Wescott Peck.

She is survived by her daughter, Jessie Peck Martin and son-in-law, David, of Branchville; two grandsons, Bryn Charles Martin and Aaron Peck Martin; and two granddaughters, Natalie Sarah Martin and Mary Elizabeth Martin.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Father John's Animal House at 50 Father John's Lane, Lafayette, NJ 07848. Online donations can be made at the following link: <https://bit.ly/403G2q5>.



ceremony will be held on Friday, April 28, at 11 a.m. Following the service friends and family are welcome to gather at Dos Rios in Monte Vista for visiting and stories.

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



Arrangements are under the direction of Smith-McCracken Funeral Home, online condolences may be made at www.smithmccrackenfuneralhome.com.

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See more Obituaries on Page 4A

SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

SAGUACHE COUNTY — The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the period between April 16 and 22, 2023.

Officers issued a speeding ticket on April 16, made four traffic stops, and heard two traffic complaints. They also assisted a motorist, conducted

two vehicle identifications, and filed one REDDI Report (Report Every Drunk Driver Immediately). They arranged six ambulance rides, conducted two welfare checks in Crestone, patrolled Saguache five times, and tended to a fire on Highway 285 in Saguache.

Staff managed civil disputes

in Moffat and Gunnison County, and they responded to threats in Moffat and a drug violation in Saguache. They also monitored seven controlled burns, three reports of theft, animal problems, and loose livestock.

ARRESTS

• A 53-year-old Center man was

arrested and detained for violating a protection order.

• A 30-year-old Center man was arrested and detained for contempt of court (failure to comply).

• A 27-year-old Montrose man was arrested and detained for assault in the second degree.

OPINION & EDITORIAL

You're next



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

Spring is perking right along and even though some recent pics of places like Yellowstone show a plethora of snow still on the ground, it won't be long now until the buffalo there will be head butting noses, picture taking tourists once again.

And all over the mountainous regions people are preparing for the summer migration of old retired folks to come rushing westward like the proverbial lemmings over a cliff. Campers will be packed, gas bought, and motels and RV parks will be full once again of buffet emptying hordes of gray-haired old men and their blue haired old wives.

Miss Trixie and I have been busy as usual with family and friends and work on the farm so not too much time to spare every week, so it seems and that's all good when you are retired like Ol' Dutch. Idle hands are the Devil's workshop they say, and I get in enough trouble on my own without old Beelzebub adding to that list of infractions.

This past week we were saddened to hear of a close friend passing on to his Heavenly reward and since he was kin to Miss Trixie of a sort, we attended the funeral and burial. It was good to see a lot of the old friends from the area and I don't use that term lightly as I noticed just how old they all had gotten since last we shook hands. I mean Ol' Dutch feels kind of old some days but hanging with that bunch made me feel like a Spring chicken once again let me tell you what.

Hugs were exchanged all around and conversations flowed as to where they all were living now, grandkids born and of course the inevitable surgeries they all had in the last year. This is always accompanied by the display of the scars to prove it baring old skin that had long lost any elasticity it may have had and ended up ruining my lunch of turkey on rye.

The old married women always inquire as to Miss Trixie and I as to when we will get married as they want her to get my pension and inheritance. And the old men also push me towards matrimonial entanglement as they hate to see anyone single and happy when

they were long ago lassoed and piggin string tied into submission by their wives.

Ol' Dutch has long suffered under the constant barrage from these married old folks and finally I broke under the strain, and I think I finally found a way to get them to leave that subject alone. They have a sneaky way to bring it up about someone getting married then saying "you're next" with a lively grin from their denture filled mugs.

This time however, Ol' Dutch was ready for them. When they tried to steer me toward the black tuxedo clad aisle of no return, I would bring up poor old Joe passing at the young age of 87 and smilingly chime in "You're next." As you can imagine this led to a quick change of the subject and often a fast exit from the conversation by some of the people so set on getting Ol' Dutch before the Justice of the Peace in the Great State of Texas or anywhere they can hold me down long enough to do the deed.

I know of no other greater cause of divorce than getting married and so I am trying to keep those statistics from increasing any more in this country if I can. Don't ever say Ol' Dutch doesn't do his part in making America great again. For I have seen the promised land and I will lead you to it.

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.

Adams State University's Title IX

By DELILAH CHAVEZ

With Sexual Assault Awareness Month underway, Adams State University is working hard to bring awareness to the struggles sexual assault survivors face, while highlighting the work being done by the University and its community partners to support and advocate for those affected by this important issue.

According to statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's most recent National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey published in June of 2022, nearly 35% of female survivors, and almost 30% of male survivors of sexual assault experienced it for the first time between the ages of 11 and 17. This means that, by the time students reach the Adams State campus, an estimated third of them have already experienced sexual violence in some form. Sexual and gender-based violence is an issue that impacts our entire community and one that the University takes very seriously. In recognition of this concern, Adams State University is coming together with Tu Casa, Inc. during the month of April to show its support for those affected by sexual assault while bringing awareness to the resources provided by the University, Tu Casa, and other community partners.

With these staggering numbers in mind, it is important to recognize the ASU community members who work diligently to provide crucial resources and education to the campus community

throughout the year. Departments such as the ASU Counseling Center, the ASU Police Department, the Offices of Equal Opportunity and Title IX, Student Affairs, and Residence Life are all available to provide specific support to students experiencing sexual or gender-based violence, harassment or other mistreatment, and work together to ensure the safety of students on campus.

Each of these offices provides specialized programming throughout the year, specifically designed to educate and meet the needs of students depending upon current trends and issues. Additionally, representatives from these and other University departments meet regularly as part of a Coalition for Sexual Assault Education and Prevention, to discuss new opportunities to support students experiencing these issues, and to prevent occurrences on campus. Supplementing these programs, the staff at Tu Casa is available around the clock to provide victim services to all students on campus. Awareness programming, such as Chalk the Walk, Denim Day and other informational booths are also provided throughout the year to Adams State students by the knowledgeable staff at Tu Casa.

In addition to police, victim, and counseling services available on and off campus, students experiencing sexual assault or other forms of abuse also have the option to file informational reports, request an investigation through the Office of Title IX, as well as

other accommodations. Each of these avenues seeks to protect students from discrimination while ensuring the completion of their educational programs.

Furthermore, Adams State University works closely with other outside agencies to provide an extra layer of protection to students on and off campus. This year, Adams State is working in conjunction with "It's On Us," a national non-profit organization focused on peer-to-peer sexual assault prevention and education to empower students to teach one another sexual assault awareness, consent and health relationship education, bystander intervention and survivor support. Additionally, Adams State University has established a partnership with BC4U, a statewide organization providing free educational resources and other sexual health services to students 24 years old and younger.

With another summer quickly approaching, Adams State University invites all members of the campus and San Luis Valley communities to participate in Denim Day on April 26 to show support for survivors of sexual assault and strongly encourages all students, faculty, and staff to take advantage of the many resources available to them, on and off campus.

Delilah Chavez is the Director of Clery Compliance & Assistant Director of Title IX with the Adams State University's Title IX Office. She can be reached at delilahchavez@adams.edu.

LETTER

Annual 5K Run/Walk and Veterans Golf Tournament canceled, but scholarship continues

Editor,
The Martinez family would like to announce that the annual 5K Run/Walk and Veterans Golf Tournament will not be held this year. We will still award the scholarship to an outstanding Monte Vista boy and girl, in honor of Sgt. Glen Martinez.

As many of you know, Ron Martinez suffered a heart attack and had to undergo quadruple bypass surgery at the end of March. He will continue to work on resting and healing during this time.

Every year, we look forward to celebrating Glen's life, listening to stories, laughing, sharing memories to keep his spirit alive. His love and light still spreads throughout our community as many people continue to share his story.

Glen was a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps when he and three other Marines were killed in action on May 2, 2008, while on a combat mission. The Humvee they were riding in hit a roadside bomb in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq.

Glen knew the value of education and the value of physical fitness. Growing up in Monte Vista, he participated in

nearly every sport available including football, wrestling and baseball. He played in the band and was an excellent student. He was quarterback for the Pirate football team for three years and competed four years on the state wrestling team and played baseball all four years. Glen chose to play baseball for Ottawa Univ. in Ottawa, Kan., on an academic and baseball scholarship where he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics.

Glen subsequently earned a surveying degree from Westwood College and was working on his Master's Degree in Hydro-Engineering at Boulder, CU when he made his decision to join the Marine Corps.

Living in Boulder, he explained, "I got tired of hearing people cutting down my country," so he decided to do something positive. Glen could have gone directly into officer candidate school, but chose to start at the bottom like all the other recruits. Should he go on to command, Glen said, he wanted to have hands-on experience rather than classroom philosophy. "I want those I command to know that I have been

where they are," he said in an interview just after basic training. Glen was ready for whatever came. After a childhood filled with the challenge of athletic competition, staying in peak physical shape was second nature to him and he strongly supported the discipline and leadership skills learned on the mat, football field, baseball diamond and the school room.

Please take the time to walk or run a 5K or play a round of golf or just do something with family or friends during memorial weekend in Honor of Glen. Please share pictures of your activities on Facebook (tag Glen Edward Martinez) to help keep Glen's memory alive.

Donations would be greatly appreciated, if you would like to make a donation, you can mail it to San Luis Valley Federal Bank, c/o Janette Jaramillo or Amy Duran, P.O. Box 248, Monte Vista, CO 81144. Make checks payable to Sgt. Glen Martinez Memorial Scholarship Fund. Donations will be applied to future scholarships.

*Martinez family
Monte Vista*

LETTERS POLICY

Letters are welcome and encouraged. They should be fewer than 300 words, unless arranged beforehand with the editor, and they are subject to editing for length and clarity.

All letters must be signed by the author and include a phone number and address where the author can be reached (these are not for publication). Letters forwarded from other organizations or sent to staff and not for print must be designated as such. Letters over 300 words and without contact information will be returned to the

sender or discarded.

We will accept one letter per person, per subject, per four issues. We reserve the right to reject letters for reasons we believe are appropriate. Please send letters to Letter to the Editor c/o Valley Publishing, PO Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144 or e-mail to bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com (Attention: Letter to the Editor). Deadline for letters is 5 p.m. Friday.

Political letters may be limited due to space constraints.



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Significant valuation increases expected for county property owners

CONTRIBUTED SAGUACHE COUNTY — Property owners in most of rural Colorado can expect tremendous valuation increases when they receive their 2023 Notice of Valuation on or about May 1, including Saguache County. Over the past two years, a strong demand for real estate, increased building material costs, historically low mortgage rates, and a steady migration from larger cities into rural Colorado have all contributed to these historic valuation increases. Rural Colorado has been discovered and people are paying much higher prices for properties for the opportunity to live here.

Under Colorado law, county assessor offices throughout the state conduct a complete revaluation of all properties in their county every two years. The previous valuations were based on a June 30, 2020, level of value.

These valuations used market sales data from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2020. The new 2023 valuations are based on a June 30, 2022, level of value and were established using market sales data from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2022. These new valuations will be used for tax years 2023 and 2024 (payable in 2024 and 2025 respectively). Any sales transactions occurring after June 30,

2022, cannot be used or considered until the next reappraisal in 2025. The Colorado Legislature sets the appraisal date, the market sales data collection period, and the annual calendar for the assessment process.

In addition to lowering assessment rates, the Colorado Legislature has also provided an actual value exemption of \$15,000 per residential property and \$30,000 per improved commercial property for tax year 2023. These actual valuation exemptions will not be reflected in the Notices of Valuation (NOV), but will be applied prior to the 2023 tax bills being sent.

Tax calculations also take mill levies into account. Mill levies are established by the county commissioners, school districts, and the boards of the various taxing entities such as fire, recreation, library, sanitation, cemetery, etc. A summation of these various individual levies is applied to the assessed value to determine the taxes due. It is undetermined at this time what the 2023 mill levies will do since the taxing entities will not set their 2023 mill levies until later this fall during their budget hearings.

The assessor's office is solely responsible for establishing valuations, not taxes. To accomplish this, the assessor uses actual market sales transactions to build a mass

appraisal valuation model that is then used to set the values on all properties within the county. With the 2020 repeal of the Gallagher Amendment to the State Constitution, assessment rates are now dictated by the Colorado Legislature for all 64 Colorado counties.

Ultimately, the assessor's goal is to equalize property values and ensure that the tax burden is distributed fairly and equitably among property owners within the statutory and constitutional guidelines of the State of Colorado.

Property owners have recourse through exemptions for those who qualify, and protests.

"There are exemptions for seniors, disabled veterans and gold star spouses," Saguache County Assessor, Peter Peterson, explained. "Veterans and gold star spouses must apply through the Division of Veterans Affairs, while seniors may apply through the Assessor's Office. Seniors must be 65 years old as of January 1 and have owned/lived in their house as their primary residence for 10 years or more. The exemption exempts half of the first \$200,000 of property's actual value from taxes."

The protest deadline has been extended to June 8 this year.

For questions about your property value, call 719-655-2521 or email ppeterson@saguachecounty-co.gov.



Photo by Patrick Shea

The Colorado Gator Farm is home to 270 crocodiles and alligators. This photo was taken before a pre dawn fire on April 18 that destroyed the Reptile Barn.

GATOR

Continued from Page 1A

work closely with CPW in resolving any issues. We have always been committed to providing the best care possible for all the rescues, even when they come to us in poor condition. We spend tens of thousands of dollars each year on veterinary care. We have been constantly upgrading our facilities every year, as many of our regular visitors can tell you, and constant improvement is our mission. While we are devastated and heartbroken about our recent tragedy, we still have hundreds of healthy animals to care for. Thousands have offered love and support and urged us to continue. We are already getting calls about more animals in need and will take them in as soon as our new facility is ready. Thank you for your continued support," CGF officials stated.

CPW Southwest Region Public Information Officer John Livingston issued the following statement regarding the Colorado Gator Farm.

"The Colorado Gator Farm is a licensed zoological park," Livingston stated. "It is subject to inspections from CPW, has met all the minimum requirements to maintain its license and has accommodated additional recommendations made previously by

CPW. We hate to hear about any kind of incident like this fire where animals have been harmed in any way."

Organized by Mark Young on behalf of Lynne Young, a GoFundMe campaign with a goal of raising \$150,000 had gathered \$54,318 from 646 donations within a week. The comments from donors consistently praise the Young family for their stewardship of the enterprise. They receive an estimated 40,000 visitors every year.

Members of the Mosca-Hooper Volunteer Fire Department rescued a tortoise called Thing 2, and Jay Young discovered Thing 4 in the rubble, a red-foot tortoise. In total, they saved eight of roughly 40 tortoises. The lone survivor among approximately 50 lizards is called Phoenix. The 270 crocodiles and alligators survived, and the surviving Tilapia and sharks in different buildings are now roommates with displaced survivors.

Eight full-time employees are helping to clean up and enhance the Colorado Gator Farm. Volunteers have showed up with elbow grease, and others continue to donate funds to help reopen the operation.

OBITUARY

John Dale Velasquez

John Dale Velasquez passed away at the Washington Oddfellows Nursing Home in Walla Walla, Wash., on Jan. 8, 2023. He was one day shy of his 91st birthday.

John was born on Jan. 9, 1932, in Monte Vista, Colo., son of Guadalupe and Juanita Velasquez. He married Tillie Gonzales in Monte Vista on May 29, 1948. They were married 73 years.

They moved to Montrose, Colo., in 1958, where they made their home until 1970 when they moved to Madras, Ore. He was involved in farming and other outdoor work most of his life. While in Montrose, he worked for a sawmill, supervising all aspects of operations. They lived in Oregon until John retired from the North Unit Irrigation District in Madras, Ore. After retiring they moved back to Del Norte, Colo., until illness forced him into a nursing home in Walla Walla close to his son, Dale Velasquez.

He is survived by his four children, Cindy Byrd (Eric), Lorraine Grebb (Kelly), Dale Velasquez (Kathy), and Ben Velasquez (Elaine), as well as many grandchildren and great-



grandchildren. He also has a surviving sister, Irene Thompson and brother, Ernie Velasquez.

John was preceded in death by his wife Tillie, father Guadalupe, mother Juanita, sisters Eloisa, Celia, Julia, Urciñia, Edubijen and brothers Ben, Albert, Tony, and Milo.

A graveside service will be held at the Del Norte cemetery at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 6, 2023.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

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

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

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Third Annual Rio Trio triathlon fast approaching

CONTRIBUTED
ALAMOSA — With signs of Spring in the air and runoff picking up in the Rio Grande basin, the 3rd Annual Rio Trio adventure triathlon is fast approaching. The unique Alamosa event which features trail running (5k), paddling the Rio Grande (3 miles), and biking City trails (8 miles) is set for Saturday, May 27.
 The event is becoming a community tradition thanks to Alamosa Parks and

Recreation and San Luis Valley Great Outdoors — the two organizations that put on the event. The race has seen growth year over year — 140 people competed in 2022, but 2023 is expected to be the biggest yet. Registration is up 25% from where it was last year with a month to go, according to the City of Alamosa. The Rio Trio is popular with locals and attracts outdoor adventurers from all over Colorado.
 The Rio Trio is an event with

broad appeal — from the hardcore endurance athlete to the leisurely participant to the youngsters competing in the kid’s race. This year, families with children will get the extra treat of getting to meet Wilder, the 7-foot-tall half mountain goat half yeti “spokescreature” of Great Outdoor Colorado’s Generation Wild initiative.
 After the race, eventgoers will get local food from the San Luis Valley Food Company, drink beer from Spare

Keg Brewwerks, enjoy live music, and witness an awards ceremony for the top racers in various categories.
 With roughly 50% of attendees expected to be coming in from outside of Alamosa, there will be primitive camping options for out of towners

on the City Ranch next to the Alamosa Disc Golf Course.
 Prices for registration increase May 1. To register and to find more information, visit rioraces.com or call the Alamosa Family Recreation Center at 719-589-2105.



The Rio Trio adventure triathlon is set for Memorial Day weekend in Alamosa. Registration is up 25 percent from this time a year ago, according to organizers.

Courtesy photos

Respect nature, leave young wildlife in the wild

CONTRIBUTED
DENVER — As trees and flowers begin to bloom, Colorado’s wildlife is experiencing new life and growth as well. Bears are coming out of their winter dens to find food, and the next generation of young wildlife is being born.
 Through the end of June, wildlife will become more visible in backyards, open spaces and on trails. Some young wildlife you may see include deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, rabbits, foxes, skunks, raccoons, bats and birds. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) reminds the public to respect wildlife and their space, especially this time of the year.
 Every spring, CPW and local parks receive an increase in office visits and calls from people that report they “rescued” young wildlife. Many people wrongly believe they are “helping” young animals by picking them up, bringing them to a CPW office or even taking them home to feed them. People routinely orphan young wildlife by essentially kidnapping them from their natural environment.



Courtesy photo

Each Spring, Colorado welcomes an abundance of young wildlife across the state. Colorado Parks and Wildlife reminds people to help keep wild animals wild and leave young wildlife alone.

this time of year. Be sure to keep dogs on leashes. Dogs can trigger aggressive behavior and both moose and elk will chase a dog right back to their owner, presenting a dangerous situation.”

Other dangers of approaching and feeding young wildlife include exposure to rabies, Salmonella, fleas, ticks and other parasites, bacteria or viruses that may be present in or on the animal. Likewise, humans can also inadvertently expose diseases carried by people to baby wildlife.

What should you do if you see a baby bird out of a nest?
 • Every year, baby birds are picked up by people, but the animal’s best chance of survival is to be raised by its parents. Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is a major concern for wild birds, especially waterfowl and scavenger birds, and also carries a possible risk to human health. Although rare, some strains of HPAI can infect people.

• If a nestling baby bird (eyes closed and featherless) has fallen from a nest that you can easily see and safely reach, it is ok to put that bird back into the nest but wear gloves and a mask to prevent transmission of diseases between you and the bird.

• If you find a fledgling bird (eyes open, feathered, can hop around but cannot fly) on the ground, do not pick up that bird. The parents will continue to care for it on the ground and it will soon be able to fly. Keep cats inside to prevent them from killing birds.

• If you find a sick or dead bird, do not touch the bird. Contact CPW to report the sick or dead bird.

Colorado has a robust wildlife ecosystem; a valuable reminder that we are just a part of the animal world around us. If you see unsafe human behavior such as feeding or harassing wildlife, report it to the local CPW wildlife office.

The best practice is to leave young wildlife untouched in their natural habitat so they can grow and thrive in the wild. How can humans help young wildlife?
 • Do not approach, touch or feed wild animals.
 • Enjoy wildlife from a safe distance.
 • Keep your dog on a leash on trails.
 • If you find a wild animal that appears sick or injured, leave it alone. Call your local Colorado Parks and Wildlife office and consult a trained wildlife officer for guidance.
 “If you see a newborn fawn without its mother nearby, that is normal,” said CPW Area Wildlife Manager Jason Duetsch. “Deer, elk and pronghorn mothers hide their young for long periods of time while foraging. Young that have been removed cannot be successfully returned to the wild, as the mother will not continue searching for a missing baby or reject it because it was handled by humans and may no longer smell like her fawn. We have a human responsibility to keep wild animals wild and leave young wildlife alone to support their natural growth in the wilderness.”
 CPW also urges the public to refrain from feeding wildlife on trails, in backyards or on decks. Under Colorado law, feeding wildlife is illegal because it puts wildlife’s health and safety at risk. Those in violation are subject to fines, and even worse, can cause the animal to become sick and die.
 In addition to humans causing harm to wildlife, wildlife can also pose physical danger to humans. Wildlife is just that, wild, and can act in unpredictable ways. Animals such as elk, moose and deer with newborn calves and fawns can become aggressive to defend their young.
 “Wildlife will be exhibiting normal protective behavior of their young,” said Duetsch. “Give wildlife extra space

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Photo by Patrick Shea

EARTH

Continued from Page 1A

around noon. In the Baca Grande Property Owners Association, residents dropped loads at two sites across the five subdivisions.

Providing a festive ending to Baca Grande cleanup efforts, the Friends of Casita Park hosted a post-scrubbing celebration with food and live music. The newly formed nonprofit had already orchestrated cleanup days in the past and is currently raising funds to plant new trees. Nick Nevares from Mountainside Realty sponsored the picnic. Residents sampled from tables full of food and two smoking grills, as well as a performance by a band called The Audience.

More than 30 volunteers helped gather at least 70 loads of trash across the Baca Grande subdivisions. They filled four industrial dumpsters from Conley Waste Management, and Nevares had help picking up trash along two highway miles between Casita Park and Crestone.

AWARD

Continued from Page 1A — years serving on the CEA resolutions committee.

A devastating car crash put Banning in a wheelchair, and she attended her first CEA meeting five months after the accident. She helped update the bylaws to create board alternates when members are unavailable for an extended period. Still, Banning only missed three board meetings over the course of the year after the wreck.

For the past 12 years, Banning has served as SLUU chair or co-chair. She continues to work with educators in the Valley and across the state, in addition to teaching younger Vikings on campus.

DNHS Theatre presents 'The Play That Goes Wrong'

DEL NORTE — Del Norte High School's Theatre Company is performing "The Play That Goes Wrong" at 7 p.m. on May 5 and 6 inside the high school auditorium. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

"Break a leg" takes on a whole new meaning for a misguided troupe of players at the Cornley University Society's opening night performance of "The Murder at Haversham Manor". An unconscious leading lady, a corpse who can't play dead, a ruffled detective, and a word-mangling butler (among others) must battle against technical gaffes, forgotten lines and sabotaging scenery in a quest to arrive all in one piece at the final curtain call. Part Monty Python, part Sherlock Holmes and total mayhem, this 1920's whodunit is disastrously delightful.

Helping Officer Adolph in Center, members of the fire department and town board met at Center Community Park along with residents and volunteers

from Alamosa. They picked the park clean and tidied up the streets around downtown. Moffat officials left the town park spotless too.

DISTRICT COURT, SAGUACHE COUNTY, COLORADO Court Address: 501 4th Street Saguache, CO 81149 (719) 655-2522		▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲
Plaintiff: BABYLON HOLDINGS LLC, a New York limited liability company		
v. Defendants: ELVA ENDICOTT, DOUGLAS KOSS, and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM UNDER OR THROUGH THE NAMED DEFENDANTS AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION		Case Number: 2022CV030034
Attorneys for Plaintiffs: Zachary A. Grey, Atty. Reg. 49269 Frasca, Joiner, Goodman and Greenstein P.C. 4750 Table Mesa Drive Boulder, CO 80305 Telephone: 303-494-3000 Facsimile: 303-494-6309 Email: zac@frascona.com		Division: C Courtroom:
SERVICE BY PUBLICATION		

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT(S):
 You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within **21** or **35** days after the service of this summons upon you. 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 **21** or **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.

Dated: April 6, 2023
 Published in the Center Post Dispatch Newspaper.
 First Publication: Thursday April 6, 2023
 Last Publication: Thursday May 4, 2023

Frascona, Joiner, Goodman and Greenstein, P.C.
/s/ Zachary A. Grey
 Attorney for Plaintiff

No. 1667 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, April 6, 13, 20 and 27 and May 4, 2023.

Date of Notice: April 15, 2023

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN TARIFFS ON LESS THAN 30-DAYS' NOTICE

Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos Energy")
 1555 Blake Street
 Denver, Colorado 80202

You are hereby notified that Atmos Energy has filed with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado ("PUC"), in compliance with the Public Utilities Law, an application for permission to file certain changes in tariffs, affecting all residential, commercial, interruptible and other consumers in its Colorado divisions to become effective May 1, 2023, if the application is granted by the PUC.

The purpose for this filing is to change rates by revising the Company's existing gas cost adjustment tariff to reflect changes in the rates charged Atmos Energy by its suppliers for natural gas purchases. The present and proposed natural gas rates are as follows:

<u>Class of Service by Division</u>	<u>Present Rates</u> <u>Total Volumetric</u>	<u>Proposed Rates¹</u> <u>Total Volumetric</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
North Colorado*			
Residential	\$1.42687	\$1.16970	-18%
Small Commercial, Commercial	1.28980	1.03263	-20%
Irrigation	1.20629	0.94912	-21%
Transportation	0.1636	0.1591	-3%
	<u>Average Monthly Bill</u>	<u>Projected Average Monthly Bill</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
North Colorado*			
Residential	\$ 95.79	\$ 80.87	-16%
Small Commercial, Commercial	500.72	406.85	-19%
Irrigation	587.95	472.48	-20%
	<u>Prior Year's Peak Month Bill</u>	<u>Projected Peak Month Bill</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
North Colorado*			
Residential	\$ 191.39	\$ 159.24	-17%
Small Commercial, Commercial	885.08	714.57	-19%
Irrigation	2,367.23	1872.44	-21%

*Notification Published in our North Rate Area Newspaper

The proposed and present rates and tariffs are available for examination at the business office of Atmos Energy Corporation located at 1555 Blake Street, Suite 400, Denver, Colorado, or at the Public Utilities Commission at 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado, 80202.

Anyone who desires may either file written objection or seek to intervene as a party in this filing. If you only wish to object to the proposed action, you may file a written objection with the Commission. The filing of a written objection by itself will not allow you to participate as a party in any proceeding on the proposed action. If you wish to participate as a party in this matter, you must file written intervention documents under the Commission's rules.

Anyone who desires to file written objection or written intervention documents to the proposed action shall file them with the PUC, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado, 80202 at least one day before the proposed effective date. The Commission's e-mail address is dora_puc_website@state.co.us.

Members of the public may attend any hearing and may make a statement under oath about the proposed change whether or not a written objection or request to intervene has been filed.

Atmos Energy Corporation previously filed a separate gas purchase report in accordance with Rule 4607 of the Commission's Rules Regulating Gas Utilities to begin the initial prudence review evaluation for the gas purchase year ended June 30, 2022.

Atmos Energy Corporation
 Colorado-Kansas Division
 By: Bart W. Armstrong
 President

NEPA is a four-letter word

Land, Water and People

BY JUDI PEREZ

The Nixon presidency from January 1969 to August 9, 1974, created a lot of history. While history is not always positive, this administration was responsible for establishing some of the most important environmental laws for our country's natural resources. These include the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Clean Water Act of 1972, and the Clean Air Act of 1970. The Nixon administration also established the Environmental Protection Agency in 1970 and the very first Earth Day that occurred on April 22, 1970, in response to the growing environmental movement.

The National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, signed on January 1, 1970, is arguably one of the most important environmental protection laws created. The NEPA (we'll just say NEPA going forward) was the first law that provided a foundation of reasonable, balanced, and transparent protections for the environment.

NEPA requires the federal government to engage in a review process to identify and consider significant impacts to the natural, physical, and human environment before deciding and implementing Federal actions. NEPA applies to all projects that are under the control and responsibility of the Forest Service; projects that will cause effects to the natural and physical environment; and projects that are not otherwise exempted.

NEPA provides a process that assesses the effects of a proposal before reaching a final decision and offers opportunities for the public to be involved and provide feedback before a decision is made. This process results in better informed and more transparent decisions. All federal agencies must follow NEPA.

There are three pathways to a Forest Service decision under NEPA. They are built to expand upon each other, if needed. A Categorical Exclusion is based on the agency's experience with a specific kind of action. These actions are those that have been done often and that do not have significant environmental effects. These categories are developed through different avenues including newly penned laws and regulations such as the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 or the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021.

When there is no category that fits a project, or if there is uncertainty regarding the environmental effects of an action, an Environmental Assessment is prepared. If the project does not result in any significant impacts (as defined by the act), then the agency prepares a Finding of No Significant Impact and a decision notice that documents how the project

will proceed.

The final form of documentation under NEPA is an Environmental Impact Statement or EIS. These are prepared when the action will result in a potential significant effect. These tend to be larger scale projects that result in more analysis and time necessary to complete.

Below will focus on the heart of NEPA, the Environmental Assessment or EA and how you can be involved in this process.

The first step is the proposal development. This begins with an idea that can come from anywhere, the public, agency personnel, Forest Service permit holders, basically anyone! Once the idea is planted, we develop the purpose and need. This defines why we need to do the project, including why at this location and why it needs done now. Then the idea is further developed. We identify what the project is, how it will be done, when and where it will occur.

When the purpose and need and proposed action are clear, we reach out to get your input on the project. When you read the article in the paper or online that describes an upcoming project, we are seeking your input to help us refine the project, consider any factors related to the project that we may not be aware of, and are seeking any unresolved issues. All of these are used to focus the project analysis or to create alternative methods to complete the project while meeting the purpose and need for the action being proposed. Design features?

Every comment letter we receive is read and evaluated. The amount of letters we receive can range from very few to literally hundreds and primarily depends on the scale of the proposed action.

After reviewing the comments and developing any needed alternatives, resource specialists set out to analyze the effects of the proposal and alternatives on their specific specialty areas. For an environmental assessment, the analysis supports a finding of no significant impact. If it doesn't support that finding, an EIS must be completed. The significance of the effects considers the potentially affected environment and the degree of those effects on that environment. When assessing the degree of effects short and long-term effects, beneficial and adverse effects, effects on public health and safety, and any effects that would violate Federal, State, Tribal or local environmental

protection laws are all considered.

Once the analysis is complete, and a finding of no significant impact is prepared, the documents are sent back to the engaged parties that previously submitted comments. Appeal regulations provide an opportunity to object to the proposed decision and establish an agency review process to consider the analysis and objection points. Upon completion of all the analyses and processes, the decision is signed, and the proposal is, most likely, implemented.

This article presents a grossly oversimplified version of the NEPA process. Like other government processes, NEPA ties into countless other laws, regulations, policies, and guidance. If you are interested in learning more about the process, check out the Forest Service NEPA website at: www.fs.usda.gov/emc/nepa. To learn more about how to effectively participate in the process, check out A Citizens Guide to NEPA at <https://ceq.doe.gov/docs/get-involved/citizens-guide-to-nepa-2021.pdf>. To learn more about projects and analyses on the Rio Grande National Forest, head over to www.fs.usda.gov/projects/riogrande/landmanagement/projects.

Since NEPA was established in 1970, it has largely remained unchanged. However, in 2020, the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), who oversees the NEPA regulations, significantly revised them in 2020. CEQ under the current administration amended the NEPA again in March 2022.

Judi Perez is the Strategic Planner for the Rio Grande National Forest. She has been with the Forest Service for over 30 years, 7 of that on the Rio Grande.

ASU

Continued from Page 1A

with all finalists.

Tandberg has guided Adams State through the last 10 months as interim president. His dedication and strong leadership skills and practical management style stood out among the finalists, stated a press release from ASU.

Tandberg holds a Ph.D. in Higher Education from Penn State University.

"To say that I am excited to accept the position of Adams State University president, would be a great understatement," Tandberg said. "Since this summer, my wife and I have deeply connected with the campus and community. It strengthens my resolve to be a strong leader who knows how to listen, when to take action, and can visualize a path for a successful future."

Co-chair of the Adams State University Presidential Search Committee Mark Martinez, Class of 2013, said the hard work by the committee has paid off.

"We worked with a national search firm WittKieffer, and developed an original pool of nearly 60 applicants; David Tandberg is the best candidate to be 12th president of Adams State University. Jonathan Marquez (Class of 2013 and co-chair of the search committee) and I appreciate the due diligence of the entire committee, campus, and community to help select Dr. Tandberg," Martinez said.

Tandberg, the only Adams State alumnus in the final pool of candidates, remembers overcoming challenges as a student and the mentors who saw a potential in him, he had not seen for himself.

"I've said it before, I wasn't a strong student academically, but that didn't prohibit Dean of Students Frank Sanchez or Dr. John McDaniel (emeritus professor of history) from providing guidance and opportunities for me. Through their, and others, belief that I was worthy of attention and could reach my potential, not only in academics but throughout all aspects of life, I started on a path that has brought me full circle," Tandberg said.

Tandberg has been in higher education for nearly 20 years. His latest position as senior vice president for Policy Research and Strategic Initiatives for the State Higher Education Executive Officers Associates (SHEEO) provided

experience working with other executive leaders involved in all aspects of leading the organization. He led SHEEO's policy evaluation and research initiatives and efforts to connect empirical research to state practice and policy.

Board of Trustees Chair Michele Lueck believes President Tandberg has proven his experience and leadership qualities are a perfect fit for Adams State.

"I have the utmost confidence that Dr. Tandberg will continue to demonstrate his commitment to this campus and community. He has a solid understanding of what it takes to be a successful leader," Lueck said.

As a data-driven and evidence-based decision maker, Tandberg has the confidence to make decisions to increase enrollment and retention of students.

"I will move Adams State forward with broad collaborative initiatives that focus on public leadership, student success, policy design, strategic planning and program development," he said.

"With the support of the Board of Trustees, the Executive Team, faculty and student leaders, I have laid groundwork to move Adams State into a successful and vibrant University as we enter our second century," Tandberg said. "I am so grateful to continue this meaningful work in a place I consider home."

Tandberg has been the interim president of Adams State since July 2022.

"Over the last 10 months I have witnessed the commitment to Adams State from faculty and staff. They inspired me to apply for the position as president. I look forward to working with the campus and community to create a stronger institution that as an Hispanic Serving Institution continues its mission to serve all students," Tandberg said.

Tandberg earned a bachelor's in history-social studies education from Adams State in 2002 and was elected president for the Associated Students and Faculty while a student. He earned a master's degree in political science and a doctorate in higher education from Penn State University.

Tandberg's wife, Darin, is also a graduate of Adams State, Class of 2002. They have three children Allyson, 22, Bryce, 20, and Evanie, 15.

The Truth About the Words You Speak

Words are wonderful when they are used in a good way. They can encourage, edify and give confidence to the hearer. A right word spoken at the right time can actually be life-changing (Proverbs 15:23).

But words can also keep us from experiencing God's plans for our lives. Proverbs 18:21 (NKJV) says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue..."

Words are containers for power and we need to choose them carefully.

The Bible shows us that there is a heart-mouth connection for the words we choose to speak. Matthew 12:33-34 (NIV) says, "Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit... For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of."

What's in your heart will come out of your mouth if it's in your heart in abundance. This means if you think about something long enough, it's going to come out in the words you speak.

Now, we need to understand that we cannot tame our tongue without God's help. James 3:7-8 (NIV) says, "All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison."

The good news is God will never tell us to do something without giving us His grace—the ability to do it—when we lean on Him. And He wants to help us tame our tongue because the quality of our life can't rise above our own confession.

Speaking God's Language

Confession means "to say the same thing as." And we need to say what God says in His Word. Hebrews 4:14 tells us that Jesus is the High Priest of our confession, and this means He can only do what we're saying that lines up with His Word and His will for our lives. So

it's vital for us to learn how to speak the Word of God.

We need to say what God says—to speak His Word—not what our feelings, other people or our circumstances are telling us. And when we say what He wants us to say, we're going to have what He wants us to have.

For example, when our words line up with God's Words, we are going to have greater faith and confidence that He will answer our prayers. Isaiah 58:9 (NIV) says, "Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger, and malicious talk."

God is saying here that it's just as important to glorify Him through the words you speak when you're not praying as it is when you are praying.

Speak Words That Will Boost Your Joy

We can also have the benefit of increased joy by controlling our tongue. Every word is like a seed and it brings a harvest in our life. Proverbs 18:20 (NIV) says, "From the fruit of their mouth a person's stomach is filled; with the harvest of their lips they are satisfied."

When we speak faith-filled words and pray, asking God to change something in our lives, we are releasing our faith for His will to be done. But whenever we speak negativity, we are opening the door for the enemy.

Praise is God's language and complaining is the enemy's language. Your joy will increase when what you speak agrees with God and His Word.

I really want you to get this today: **Changing the way you talk will change your heart.**

Do you need a change of heart? All of us can say yes to that because we all have room to grow in our relationship with God. And one way to make progress is to speak His language. Here are some practical ways you can do that:



- Bless everything you can possibly bless. The Bible says we have the power to bless or curse with the words of our mouth. (James 3:8-10)
- Be thankful and say so! (Psalm 100:4) Don't just think about how much you appreciate someone – tell them!
- Be an encourager. Make an effort to give someone an encouraging word every day. (Ephesians 4:29-32)
- Tell the truth! (John 8:31-32)
- Speak the Word of God. Recite and memorize verses that deal with things you want to change or overcome – anger, unforgiveness, insecurity... (Psalm 1)
- Don't talk too much. Be quick to hear and slow to speak. (James 1:19) Remember: "Death and life are in the power of the tongue" (Proverbs 18:21), so choose wisely. When you do, it will change your life!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-part teaching resource *The Power of Thoughts and Words*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 140 books, including *BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND* and *THE ANSWER TO ANXIETY* (FaithWords). She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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Mountainfilm on Tour to screen in Monte Vista on April 28

CONTRIBUTED
MONTE VISTA — Mountainfilm on Tour brings a selection of culturally rich, adventure-packed and incredibly inspiring documentary films curated from the Mountainfilm festival in Telluride. The tour will visit Monte Vista at the Vali 3 Theater on April 28 with films that explore themes connected to Mountainfilm's mission of using the power of film, art and ideas to inspire audiences to create a better world.

Mountainfilm on Tour in Monte Vista is hosted by San Luis Valley Great Outdoors (SLV GO!) in partnership with Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce, The Law Office of Mark Loy, LLC, Rio Grande Bank, Sweetgrass Therapeutics, and San Luis Valley Health.

SLV GO! has been organizing Mountainfilm on Tour for three years and has been working to provide residents and visitors throughout the San Luis Valley with accessible and inclusive outdoor recreation opportunities that balance conservation, connect communities, improve wellness, encourage stewardship, and contribute to the economic vitality of the region for 10 years.

SLV GO! believes that by practicing a collective impact model and bringing stakeholders together they can provide leadership for effective collaboration among partners with shared goals that reflect the organization's mission and the SLV vision.

While hosting an inspiring collection of films, the show is also an opportunity to raise funds for SLV GO! to support ongoing projects to



Courtesy photo

'This is Beth' will be shown during the Mountainfilm on Tour on April 28 at the Vali 3 Theater in Monte Vista. Seven short-film documentaries will be shown.

inspire conservation efforts of Dark Sky. SLV GO! has gathered a unique bundle of locally made items as part of the fundraising giveaway, learn more by stopping by Rain Brews starting at 4:30 p.m. on April 28 to donate to the cause and put your name in a hat to win.

The show kicks off at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 28. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets for Mountainfilm on Tour in Monte Vista are on sale now online at eventbrite.com, search mountainfilm Monte Vista. Tickets will also be available the day of the event at Vali 3 Theater on Adams Street in Monte Vista. The cost for each show is \$15 for general admission.

See the complete playlist at www.mountainfilm.org/tour-show/monte-vista-co/.

mountainfilm.org/tour-show/monte-vista-co/.

Mountainfilm is a documentary film festival that showcases stories about environmental, cultural, climbing, political and social justice issues. Mountainfilm is held every Memorial Day weekend in Telluride. Along with exceptional documentaries, the festival goes beyond the film medium by bringing together world-class athletes, change makers and visionary artists for a multi-dimensional celebration of indomitable spirit. Mountainfilm's mission is to use the power of film, art and ideas to inspire audiences to create a better world. To learn more about Mountainfilm, visit www.mountainfilm.org.

El Pomar awards \$35,000 in the San Luis Valley

CONTRIBUTED
VALLEY— Three San Luis Valley entities are sharing in \$35,000 in grants awarded by the El Pomar Foundation recently.

High Valley Community Center, Inc. in Del Norte is receiving \$15,000 in general operating support through the foundation's competitive grant process. Both the City of Monte Vista and the SLV Habitat for Humanity are receiving \$10,000 each.

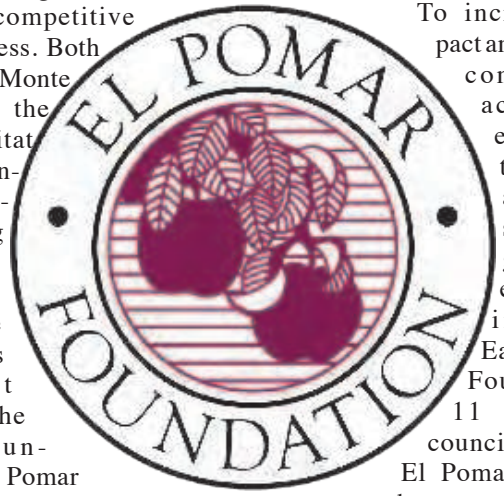
Monte Vista's grant through the SLV Council for El Pomar will assist with Ski-Hi Complex upgrades while Habitat's competitive grant will support an affordable housing project.

Founded by Spencer and Julie Penrose in 1937, El Pomar Foundation has an established legacy of general-purpose grant making. The competitive process remains the foundation's primary vehicle for organizations to receive fund-

ing. Also, over the past 85 years, El Pomar has either developed or been entrusted with the stewardship of other funds and presenting merit grants in each region recommended by trustees and regional council members. Competitive applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

To increase impact and establish connections across the entire state, the Regional Partnerships program was established in 2003. Each of the Foundation's 11 regional councils advises El Pomar Trustees and recommends grants to help support its communities.

The San Luis Valley Regional Council recommends grants in Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache counties. Council members are regional leaders in the business, nonprofit, and public sectors and provide first-hand information about current needs in their own communities.



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Photo by Amy Kucera

The fifth annual Rio Grande State of the Basin Symposium is May 6. The event is free and open to the public. Register now at adams.edu/about/salazar-center.

Rio Grande State of the Basin Symposium May 6

CONTRIBUTED
ALAMOSA — Registration is open for the fifth annual Rio Grande State of the Basin Symposium on Saturday, May 6, on the Adams State University campus. Craig Childs will deliver the keynote address. The event is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Adams State Salazar Rio Grande del Norte Center, the symposium will begin at 8 a.m. with registration and breakfast in Rich-

ardson Hall. The symposium begins with brief introductions and reports by Adams State Interim President David Tandberg, State Senator Cleave Simpson, Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Nathan Coombs, and Regional Assistant Commissioner of the Colorado Department of Agriculture George Whitten. A panel discussion, The Future of Water, begins at 9:20 a.m. Panel- **Please see BASIN on Page 2**

Trinchera Blanca Foundation, Cielo Vista Ranch and Early Iron Club bring AVSAR's dream of better night searching to reality

CONTRIBUTED
ALAMOSA — It may not look like much, but to those in the know, that green glow means game changer. As a result of support from the Trinchera Blanca Foundation, the Cielo Vista Ranch and the Early Iron Club, Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) recently announced that they have purchased two sets of Night Vision Goggles. They have long sought to be able to search better at night and they can now do so. The goggles are currently military issue items and are of a quality that comes with an enormous expense. AVSAR was

only able to make the purchase due to these extremely generous donors. The team has a goal of four sets for the team, and with these generous donations, they are already halfway there. By using night vision while flying with their aviation partners, Guardian1 out of Alamosa, REACH29 out of Salida, Lifeline5 out of Pueblo, and Life Guard 4 also out of Pueblo, AVSAR's Search and Rescue Technicians can perform searches from the air while the pilots are freed up to concentrate on flying. The team hopes to be able to locate individuals sooner and be able to get help to them in the night rather than waiting

for sunrise. Crystal Wilson, president of Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue, said, "Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) is a 100% volunteer organization that is funded by fundraisers, donations and grants. We are fortunate to have received donations specifically for the purchase of these goggles. We have many donors, but we would specifically like to thank three that donated directly to this cause. We sincerely thank the Trinchera Blanca Foundation, the Cielo Vista Ranch and the Early Iron Club. Without these donors, it is hard to say when **Please see AVSAR on Page 2**



Courtesy photos

As a result of support from the Trinchera Blanca Foundation, the Cielo Vista Ranch and the Early Iron Club, Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) recently announced that they have purchased two sets of Night Vision Goggles.



Sanford History Museum spotlights businesses



Photo by Diane Drekman

Warren Crowther shared the story of his family's dairy farm in Sanford. Crowther's Dairy was an institution in the San Luis Valley.

BY DIANE DREKMAN
SANFORD — The Sanford History Museum put a "spotlight" on its history April 15, featuring local people who shared their memories growing up in Sanford. Sanford History Museum was started in 1995 by Mary June Miller, who wrote a number of books about local history, Madge Perko and Gary Bailey. "The building was built in 1937 as a WPA project, and has been a town office, library, kids held band practice, and it acted as school after the school burned down," said Frankie Colton, president of the museum's board of director. The Sanford History Museum is run by volunteers and managed by the board of directors. Volunteer Kimberly Christensen was happy to share the exciting events coming to the museum. She began the spotlight program to focus on different aspects of Sanford history. The program

started in February and runs every other month. For April, Warren Crowther shared the story of his family's dairy farm. Crowther's Dairy was an institution in the San Luis Valley. Generations of children grew up on the milk from Crowther's Dairy. Warren's grandfather started Crowther Dairy in 1949. He had been a shepherd. Sold his sheep and started milking cows. "We were the first dairy," Warren said. "Now, we are the last." He remembered a time when there were half a dozen dairies. "People got their milk delivered door to door in glass bottles," Warren said. "They would leave a ticket telling how much milk they wanted. They put the milk in a panel truck and delivered it from Fox Creek to Monte Vista Wildlife Refuge to La Jara and Mogote." They supplied milk to the schools and community. Warren Crowther

recalls, "The dairy gave employment, used local supplies. Kids would come for a tour." The dairy, like others, homogenized and pasteurized their own milk for 15 years. Then the government required their milk to be transported in refrigerated trucks. No longer could the dairies process their milk in San Luis Valley. Meadow Gold bought Crowther's Dairy and sold their milk for 20 years, but now the milk went 300 miles to Colorado Springs to get homogenized and pasteurized. Dairy farms became bigger and more expensive to maintain. That led to the decline in local family dairies. "Everyone is old. Kids don't want to continue the tradition. People don't want to miss family time because of the business," Warren said. Life on a dairy farm is hard. The cows need to be milked 2-3 times a day around the clock. Crowther's Dairy currently has 175 cows. **Please see MUSEUM on Page 4**

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New Statistical Profile of San Luis Valley released

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — Increases in median household income and retail sales, and a drop in public school enrollment were the notable takeaways from the 2023 San Luis Valley Statistical Profile, according to the San Luis Valley Development Resources Group and Council of Governments (SLVDRG).

The 2023 San Luis Valley Statistical Profile uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Colorado State Demography Office, and other reliable public sources to illustrate changes in population, housing, school enrollment, and labor force.

“Three trends, or at least substantial changes from last year’s profile, jump out,” said SLVDRG Regional Grants Navigator Craig Barraclough, who compiled the 2023 regional profile. “First, is median household income for the San Luis Valley. There was an estimated 13.1 percent increase from 2020 to 2021: \$40,368 to \$45,644.”

Median household income is a key indicator of a region’s wealth and economic health. While an increase

of 13.1 percent is welcome news and a sign of economic growth, the Valley’s median household income still lags significantly behind the statewide level of \$80,184.

“Second, public school enrollment is down across the board. Specifically, K-12 fall enrollments in the Valley has dropped significantly, showing a 9.2 percent decrease from 2018 to 2022,” Barraclough noted. That is a trend echoed statewide. Colorado’s K-12 fall enrollment has declined 6.6 percent over the past five years.

“Third, retail sales in the Valley went up 9.5 percent from the last year’s statistical profile, with an overall positive trend from 2017 to 2022 of 67.5 percent — quite a jump,” Barraclough said. That noteworthy jump compares to an increase of 20.4 percent for the period of 2016-2021.

Some of the increase in retail sales can be attributed to two factors. The region saw an influx of millions of dollars in relief by the federal government during the pandemic, bolstering

business and personal spending during shutdowns. Secondly, the state began collecting taxes on online retail sales during this period, which enabled tracking of previously unrecorded online sales transactions.

Besides illustrating trends over periods of years, the statistical profile also shows single-year numbers for population, area incomes, poverty rates,

and wages.

“The statistical profile is essential for local governments and other organizations because it identifies economic drivers for the region as a whole in a single snapshot,” according to SLVDRG Executive Director Sarah Stoeber. “Armed with this knowledge public officials, non-profit leaders and local business owners can leverage the

information to make informed decisions in the allocation of resources, strategic planning, workforce development and forecasting for future growth. It can also identify areas of socio-economic inequality which further highlights areas of needed investment.”

The 2023 San Luis Valley Statistical Profile is available for viewing or download at www.slvdr.org.

BASIN

Continued from Page 1

ists include Rio Grande Farm Park Program Director Seth Armentrout, Costilla County Conservancy District Manager Ronda Lobato, Fairfield and Woods, P.C. Director Philip E. Lopez, and Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD) Deputy General Manager Amber Pacheco.

Following a short break, Colorado Division of Water Resources (CDWR) State Engineers Kevin Rein will address interstate issues; and Craig Cotton will address interstate issues and Valley water supplies, respectively.

Just before lunch, Utah State University graduate research assistants will present on “Evapotranspiration Trends in the San Luis Valley.”

Participants will then move to the

Student Union Building for lunch and keynote address by Childs.

According to Amazon, Childs is an Arizona native who now lives in western Colorado. Winner of the 2009 Rowell Art of Adventure Award, he is part deep traveler, part writer who focuses on natural sciences, archaeology, and journeys into the global wilderness. He is a commentator for National Public Radio’s Morning Edition, and his work has appeared in The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Men’s Journal, Outside, the Sun, and Orion. Subjects range from pre-Columbian archaeology to US border issues to the last free-flowing rivers of Tibet and Patagonia.

For more information, or to register, visit adams.edu/about/salazar-center.

AVSAR

Continued from Page 1

we would have raised enough to get our night vision program off the ground. We are beyond grateful to them. We also need to thank the crew of Guardian 1, a medivac helicopter based in Alamosa. Guardian 1 has been helping in the training of our SAR techs with the use of NVGs. “Being able to get in the air and fly the areas we search at night under night vision is invaluable!”

“Having the right equipment is essential for the brave men and women who conduct search and rescue missions in the Valley,” said Louis Bacon, chairman of the Trinchera Blanca Foundation, the local affiliate of the Moore Charitable Foundation. “These advanced night-vision goggles are a critical aid to search and rescue technicians who are now able to play a more active role during night searches, and we are proud to support AVSAR and their life-saving work in our community.”

“We have been part of many night searches, many from the air. Without night vision, we have relied on the pilots to not only navigate the Sangre de Cristos at night, but also be our eyes on the search while we rode blindly in the back of the helicopters. We felt that it was too much to ask. Flying these mountains is tough enough during the day and tasking the pilots with searching and flying at night is a lot. Now we can share the responsibility,” said Stephen Cline from AVSAR.

If anyone has any questions for the team or would like to help the team

raise more funds for the remainder of the goggles, the team can be contacted at alamosavolunteersar@gmail.com.

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In recognition of National Child Abuse Prevention Month



Courtesy photo

The San Luis Valley Quilt Guild presented comforting quilts, well-stocked, handmade hygiene bags and colorful pillowcases on Thursday for children and families seeking support from Tu Casa's Child Advocacy Center of the San Luis Valley. The guild presents such items, each year during April in recognition of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. For more information about the services provided by Tu Casa, call 719-589-2465. Visit the San Luis Valley Quilt Guild online at <https://slvquiltguild.weebly.com/> to learn more about its meetings, classes and community-based activities. Pictured from left to right are: Trina DeHerrera, Shelly Martinez, Rose Molina-Wesley, Anjolei Cohen, Tiffany Martinez, Megan Lang, Sue Foster, and Janet Davis.

Mountain Shoot Out Call for Entries opens

CREEDE — The 2023 Mountain Shoot Out Call for Entries is now available on the Creede Arts Council website. The deadline for entry is May 26. We will have our traditional Opening Reception at 5 p.m. on June 16 at the Creede and Mineral County Visitor Center. The photographs will be displayed in the Visitor Center through Sept. 10.

This year's judge, Robert Seago, will select first through third place

awards and Honorable Mentions. Visitors will vote for their favorite photo, and the winner will receive the People's Choice Award. The winning photo will be purchased by the CAC, framed, and displayed at the Creede and Mineral County Visitor Center.

For more information and to download the call for entries, visit CAC's website <https://creedeartscouncil.com>.

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Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive set for May 13

CONTRIBUTED
COLORADO — Saturday, May 13, marks the 31st anniversary of the National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive.

Letter carriers walk through the community every day, often coming face to face with a sad reality for too many, hunger.

So, each year on the second Saturday in May, letter carriers across the country collect non-perishable food donations from customers. These donations go directly to local food pantries to provide food to people in Colorado.

Over the course of its 30-year history, the drive has collected well over 1.82 billion pounds of food, thanks to a postal service universal delivery network that spans the entire nation, including Puerto Rico, Guam, and U.S. Virgin Islands.

The need for food donations is great. Currently, more than 35 mil-

lion Americans are unsure where their next meal is coming from. More than 12 million are children who feel hunger's impact on their overall health and ability to perform in school. And nearly 5.2 million seniors over age 60 are food insecure, with many who live on fixed incomes often too embarrassed to ask for help.

Food banks and pantries often receive most of their donations during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons. By springtime, many pantries are depleted, entering the summer low on supplies at a time when many school breakfast and lunch programs are not available to children in need.

Participating in this year's Letter Carrier Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is simple. Just leave a non-perishable food donation in a bag by your mailbox Saturday, May 13, and your letter carrier will do the rest.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Chop up
5. Ones who utilize
10. Sings with closed lips
14. South American hummingbird
15. Serves as a coxswain
16. Liquor distilled from coconut or rice
17. Spur
18. Senile
19. Tanzanian people
20. Cruel
22. Boxing's "GOAT"
23. Yokels
24. London soccer team
27. Chinese chess piece
30. Supervises flying
31. 007's creator
32. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
35. A spider makes one
37. Liquefied natural gas
38. Opaque gem
39. Brazilian palm
40. Periodical (slang)
41. You might step on one
42. Marvin and Horsley are two
43. Partner to cheese
44. Unpleasant smell
45. Field force unit (abbr.)
46. Fashion accessory
47. Cool!
48. Time zone
49. Songs to one's lover
52. German river
55. Go bad
56. Sword
60. Very eager
61. Leaf bug

Solution to last week's puzzle

1	2	8	9	4	7	3	6	5
5	9	7	6	3	2	8	1	4
4	6	3	8	1	5	7	9	2
3	8	1	5	9	6	4	2	7
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9	5	2	4	7	3	1	8	6
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60					61			62		63		
64					65					66		
67					68					69		

63. Italian seaport
64. Napoleon Dynamite's uncle
65. Member of Jamaican religion
66. Large wading bird
67. Carries out
68. Eternal rest
69. It holds up your headwords

CLUES DOWN

1. Not low
2. Small water buffalo
3. A mark left behind
4. Archaic form of have
5. Fiddler crabs
6. Popular Hyundai sedan
7. Depart
8. Making over
9. Midway between south and southeast
10. Arabic masculine name
11. Type of acid
12. Popular 1980s Cher film
13. Outdoor enthusiasts' tools
21. Chinese city
23. "Star Wars" character Solo
25. The bill in a restaurant
26. Old, ugly witch

27. Burn with a hot liquid
28. To claim or demand
29. "A Doll's House" playwright
32. Involuntary muscular contraction
33. Pea stems (British)
34. Double or multiple fold
36. No longer is
37. Lakers' crosstown rivals (abbr.)
38. S. American plant cultivated in Peru
40. Cloth or fabric
41. Flanks
43. Disfigure
44. Angry
46. Baltic coast peninsula
47. Large, flightless birds
49. Plants of the lily family
50. Medieval Norwegian language
51. Polio vaccine developer
52. Not soft
53. Exchange rate
54. Voice (Italian)
57. Baseball's Ruth
58. Famed guitarist Clapton
59. Take a chance
61. Wife
62. Elaborate handshake



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MUSEUM

Continued from Page 1

“That used to be considered a medium size herd. Now 1,000 cows is a small farm. The trend is everything is getting bigger,” Warren said.

Sharlene Barr-Gowdy, another life-long resident of Sanford, shared her memories of growing up in Sanford. Her parents owned a successful store that saw a similar fate.

Eugene and Gladys Barr (Jim and Sis) owned Barr’s. Her father was a sheepherder, and master butcher.

“He cut everything up with his cleaver,” Sharlene said. Her father would be gone six months out of the year while the family ran the store. Kit Carson’s grandson had a store in Sanford, and he sold the Barrs his inventory, but not the building for a flock of sheep. They moved into the Peterson building.

“It was a grocery and also sold dry

goods and clothes. It was a department store,” Sharlene said.

She loved that store, taking care of customers. They used to bring the customers’ things home and put them away.

“The cash register had a marble top,” she said. “That was a counterfeit measure. Silver pennies made a ping. You knew that was a good coin. Lead pennies made a thud, therefore knew it was counterfeit.”

They also used a particular fluid to check for counterfeit, like a process used today. Although some robbery occurred when an inmate escaped from Canon City prison, generally people used the honor system.

“There was no need to steal,” Sharlene said. “There was a party line. If someone attempted to shoplift,

everyone would know right away. Your word was golden.”

Sharlene wanted to buy the store after her parents retired, but her father would not let her.

“He said, ‘You’ll never make it. The big stores are coming in,’” she said.

Indeed, as Alamosa grew, businesses went there, and her dad’s words were prophetically true. Sharlene remembered Sanford had something for everyone.

“Sanford had everything here,” she said. “There was no need to go anywhere. There was a bakery, doughnut shop. A popular dance club called Tivoli (named after the Danish settlers who came to San Luis Valley.)”

The museum has pieces of the Tivoli floor, which had springs in it for a bouncy experience.

“Kids used to get together from surrounding La Jara and Manassa for bare-knuckle fighting,” Sharlene said. “Schools, businesses, the town did stuff together. Everyone was accepting of everyone. If a kid got lost, everyone would stop what they were doing and help look for the kid. It was fun times. It was a good place to grow up.”

Later, when looking at her senior class of 1967, Sharlene remarked, “half of my classmates are gone.”

Scott Kreps, a volunteer at the Sanford History Museum recalled, “playing in the swamps of Frogland,” another name for Manassa. Before the dams and reservoirs, Manassa was always flooded. Kreps grew up on a dairy farm with all the milk he could drink. Then his family moved to Las Alamos for the school year and later

moved back to the family farm. His daughter, Trudy, owns the only store left in Sanford — the Sanford Country store, which has been operating for 40 years.

Kimberly Christensen, although not raised in San Luis, returned to Sanford, and works at the Sanford History Museum to learn more about her family’s history there. She has organized a logo contest; the deadline is May 31. More information is available on the Sanford History Museum Facebook page.

The Sanford History Museum in June will spotlight the history of Sanford School from Superintendent Kevin Edgar, who will be retiring in July. Because the museum is run by volunteers, there are no regular hours. For more information, call Colton at 719-580-4114.

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

UNDER CONTRACT IN 7 DAYS

701 County Road 20
3 bedroom 3 bath full log home on 1 acre. Two-car garage with unfinished apartment above. Air B&B OK
MLS# 800522




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Between the Post office and the Church of Christ
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429 Lake Drive, South Fork
6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 4,632 Square feet. Luxury log home with home theatre, gorgeous views.
6.25 acres, Willow Park, South Fork.
MLS# 795671
\$1,550,000



SOLD

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Sandra Marquez — smarquez@valleypublishinginc.com
Brian Williams — bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com

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

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



CLASSIFIED INDEX

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- 03 MEMORIALS
- 04 LOST & FOUND
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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 MonteVista, 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 montevistaclass@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

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04 Lost & Found

Lost, 2 tool tubs, black and grey with misc. tools and hardware on Hwy 112 between 285 and Del Norte, Tim 719-221-3228 cash reward.

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.

07 Help Wanted

Rio Grande County is soliciting bids from qualified contractors

for the construction of additions to the McMullen Building Pavilion located at the Monte Vista Ski-Hi Complex beginning late spring or no later than early summer 2023. Sealed proposals will be received

FOR SALE!



Must See Custom-Built 5,350 sq. ft. Commercial Property in Fabulous South Fork, CO. Great Highway 160 exposure!! This building is extremely well built. The building was built for retail with many amenities.

The environment is warm and welcoming. The 3,000 sq. ft. main floor consist of large receiving office, full kitchen and bath and several large open spaces and two additional design show rooms and large 1,000 sq. ft. heated warehouse with plenty of shelves for storage and 12-foot overhead door. Lovely concrete outdoor patio with new vinyl fencing wired for low voltage lights this property sits on two lots with wiring running outside for lighting off outside signage. 1,350 sq. ft. Spacious upstairs with large open space, several large storage closets two additional offices, New 3/4 custom tile bathroom and large storage over warehouse. This well-built property has radiant floor heating downstairs and upstairs baseboard hot water heat. Property is wired for Cat 5 telephone jack in all offices, design rooms, kitchen bar, receiving office - etc. Cable tv jack, upstairs big room. There are 3 gas fireplaces, 2 wall thermostats with remote control. Wired for speakers though out the building for music. Swamp cooler and wired for electric dryer, set up for washer and has a Propane fired boiler and propane hot water heater. This property is a blank canvas with so much POTENTIAL for the right builder or person. Because there is no existing business at the present time, this makes this building available for a variety of Business opportunities: Professional Work Environment for Professionals, Restaurant, Brew Pub, Events Center, Lodge or Cottage hotel, Retail etc. Come Paint your Canvas and start Your Business Adventure. Call and schedule your personal showing today! **\$1,250,000** MLS #794078
173 W Frontage Road • South Fork

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

This South Fork Beauty checks all the boxes, both his and hers - and is a fun place for family and friends. Custom built Log home tucked in the trees and backs up to the National Forest. The main floor has a large and Mighty Rio Grande with world class fishing. The main floor consists of an open area with beautiful carved mantel stone fireplace ceiling. Stunning entrance to behold! Custom designed kitchen with beautiful designer backsplash and large eat in counter space overlooking 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 Rinrai 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 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
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San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

FARM 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

FOR SALE!

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! **\$345,000** MLS #800364
31517 Us Highway 160 • South Fork

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UNDER CONTRACT



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

This Home has several outdoor entertainment areas with wrap around decks to enjoy the 360 views of the San Juan Mountains. The main level has an open floor plan with great room and grand fireplace with vaulted ceiling opening into the dining and kitchen area. Entertain in this beautiful large kitchen with large island, custom cabinetry, granite countertops and state of the art stainless steel appliances. The Master bedroom suite is located on main floor with walk out patio, your perfect place to enjoy that hot cup of morning coffee. From here you can access your private boardwalk leading to your entertainment area with fire ring and Jacuzzi. Upstairs beautiful reading sitting loft with additional guest bedrooms, bath and great bunk room for additional family and guest. Lower level of this home includes a large family room with fireplace and pool table. Great for all your entertainment needs, additional bedrooms, and office. Beautiful furniture, furnishings and accessories are all included with this home. Bear Creek also offers a wonderful river adventure for rafting, gold medal fly fishing with a 20-acre area on the Rio Grande River exclusive to Bear Creek property owners. Minutes away from everything outdoors - gold medal fly fishing, hunting, four wheeling and thousands of acres of public land. Start your Adventure! Don't wait, Call, and schedule your showing today! **\$1,650,000** MLS #792162
2951 Bear Creek Circle • South Fork

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Residential/Commercial/Ranch
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719-850-1993
Bernadette Gingrass, Broker Associate
30635 US Hwy 160 • South Fork
www.bernadettegingrassrealestate.com

FOR SALE!

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! **\$1,250,000** MLS #798101
497 Timberline Drive • South Fork
Bernadette Gingrass •Steffens & CO. Realty
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

Valley Wide Classifieds

at the Rio Grande County Administration office until 9:00 am (MT), Wednesday, May 17, 2023. Contact the Rio Grande County Administrator at (719) 657-2744 or email rgadministrator@riogrande-county.org for additional Request For Proposals (RFP) details. (5-10)

CSU Extension and Rio Grande County are hiring a part time 4-H youth program coordinator to assist members with their projects and to deliver life and leadership skills curriculum to other students. This is a 9-month pilot program. Hours are variable and flexible, up to 30 hours per week. \$16-\$18 per hour depending on experience. Call Larry Brown 719-852-7381. CSU is an equal opportunity employer. (5-17)

Bus Drivers needed for the Upper Rio Grande School District. CDL and Non-CDL drivers. Will pay for CDL license and training with contract. Must be able to pass a background and pre employment drug test. If interested, please contact Demo Trujillo, 719-657-4040 x4007, dtrujillo@urtigers.co. Applications can be retrieved online at: www.urtigers.co. (5-17)

Cafeteria Cooks needed at Upper Rio Grande School District for the 2023-2024 school year. Must have a high school diploma and some knowledge of working in a kitchen or a willingness to be trained. Pay is dependent on prior experience. Please contact Leslie Martinez at 719-657-4040, x1100 or email her at lmartinez@urtigers.co. (5-17)

Del Norte Elementary School is seeking an energetic, caring candidate to serve as a ParaEducator. Applicants must have a high

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

school diploma. Please submit your application to Amy Duda, DNES Principal at 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO 81132; aduda@urtigers.co; or call at 719-657-4050. The position will be open until filled. You can pick up an application at the District Office or online at urtigers.co. (5-17)

Del Norte High School is seeking an Assistant Volleyball Coach for the 2023 volleyball season. The individual would be responsible for developing the junior varsity program and assisting the varsity coach in all aspects of the high school volleyball program. If interested, please email Gilbert (Gibbs) Sanchez, Del Norte Jr/Sr High School Athletic Director at gsanchez@urtigers.co or contact him at 719-657-4020. (5-17)

Creede Family Practice of Rio Grande Hospital has a full-time Creede receptionist available. Full Benefits Job includes Answer phones, schedule appointments for patients, notify patients of their appointments the following day, scan reports into patient charts, medical records requests, collect copays, insurance eligibility, daily reconciliation, other duties as assigned. Please apply online at riograndehospital.org or contact Jennelle Gallegos at jennelle@riogrande-

Conour *Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society*
www.urgaseconouranimalshelter.org
If you are interested in adopting, call 852-3366
Open Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Sat. & Sun. • 1:30 - 5 p.m.
Monday & non-business hours by appointment only
2825 Sherman Ave. • Monte Vista

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

Visit Our Facebook Page

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

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

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

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

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

All breeds & ages of animals are a "best guess" and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping.
This ad space donated by Valley Publishing Inc.

PUBLIC AUCTION
We have sold our ranch therefore we will offer the following Equipment, Vehicles, Trailers, and Miscellaneous Items At Public Auction located from Saguache Co 4.9 Miles West on Denver Avenue Co Rd 2 (Turn West Conoco Alta Quicksip) Then North at Sale Site, From Gunnison Co North on HWY 50 To East HWY 114 West to Saguache Co Rd 42, South 1.9 Miles to Sale Site.
TUESDAY MAY 2, 2023
Sale Starting at 10:00 o'clock sharp

TRACTORS-LOADERS
2015 Massey Ferguson 4610 Tractor w/Loader 6' Bucket, 100 Hp 4X4 Cab 564 Hrs
Case Magnum 8920 Tractor 150 Hp, 4X4 MFD Cab Duals 5724 Hrs
Ford Versatile 276 Tractor Loader Hay Rack Forks 8 Bucket, 116 Hp, 4X4, Cab, 7325 Hrs

FORD 2110 Tractor Hyd Front Blade, 40 Hp MFPWD 2200 Hrs
Case 870 Tractor 70 Hp 4X2, 2966 Hrs

HAY EQUIPMENT
2021 MF-Ferguson WR 5960 Windrower 13' Header, Rotary Disc, Diesel, 158 Hrs
Hesston 4760 Baler, 3X3, Computer, 1023 Hrs
2015 Kuhn Ga 6501 Double Rake
NH 2450 Windrower 12' Sickle, Diesel 2549 Hrs
NH 1033 Bale Wagon, Pull Type
NH 1282 Baler, Twine, Self Propelled
NH 283 Baler, Pull Type, Needs Knotters

TRUCKS
2003 GMC 7500 Delivery Truck, Diesel Crew Cab 20' Flat Bed, Piggy Back Mount 41246 Miles
99 Princeton E2-3RX Piggy Back Fork 14R, 1813 Hrs Sell With GMC Truck
98 IBC Eagle Semi Truck, Diesel, 10 Spd Engine Overhaul 27,079 Miles
92 Ford F-350 Service Truck w/Cambell Hunsfeld Gr3200 Generator, Welder, Air, 2 Fuel Tanks

TRAILERS
2017 PJ D-D Trailer, 20' Hyd Dump Bed, Tandem Duals 4' Side Walk 2 Way Dump Gate, Gooseneck
2020 PJ 16' Utility, Trailer, Dual Axle Fold Down Ramp Bumper
78 Bar C 30' Horse Trailer, Gooseneck
74 Bar C 30, Flat Bed Trailer, Gooseneck
13 Homemade 16' Flat Bed Trailer Gooseneck
60 Frushauf 37' Low Boy Semi Trailer, Dovetail
53' Flat Bed Semi Trailer, Tandem Duals
Tim B 26' Low Boy Semi Trailer, Dovetail

ATV
96 Honda Rubicon ATV 500cc, 4X4, 11504 Miles
00 Kowaski Prairie ATV 300cc, 4X4, 160 Hrs

CONSTRUCTION-HEAVY-EQUIPMENT
Cat D-6 Digger, Cab
Allis Chalmers M-100, Road Grader, Cab
MRS 1-70 Paddle Wagon 8' Scraper, All Wheel Drive

TILLAGE- MISCELLANEOUS-EQUIPMENT
2016 Hyd Earth Auger 12"Diameter 4' Loader Mount
2016 Hyd Snow Blade Wing Kit, 8' Wide, Loader Mount
2018 R2 Rinsahl, Tm57 5' Power Harrow-Scuder, 31 pts
Taylor Made Back Hoe 8' Reach 3pt, pto
Land Rover 36"X9", Water Filled
2021 Cooney Line Roto Tiler, 3pt
2010 12' Land Plane, Hyd
Woods 10' Double Rotary, Bush Hog, pto
Woods 6' Rotary, Bush Hog, 3pt, pto
Woods 6' Rotary Mower
Woods 7' Rock Rake, 3pt
7' Scraper Pull
6' X 34' Auger
24' Antique Dump Rake
3 Old Potato, Equipment
Antique Drill 11
Antique 2 Bottom Plow
300 Gallon Fuel Tank on stand
Luster 721XR, 7 shock summer w/ 132" cut
Rainflo 29HP High Pressure Pump; new engine
Brand New Rainflo 16HP High Pressure Pump
Craftsman Riding Lawn Mower
2 - Kifer 56" x 2" poly Traveling Irrigation Sprinkler
John Deere #5 Mowing Machine

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
9-22"X 36' Steel Trusses
6 8"X 30' used Alum Pipe
Various Used Culverts
58 18"X 7' Vent Pipe
30 3"X 25' Sheets Metal Roofing
1000 Gal Fuel Tank
900 Gal Tank Wagon, Pistle Hitch
400 Gal Tank Wagon
Water Tank Trailer
2 Steel Lading Ramps
Cattle Scratcher- Older
Various Used Culverts
14 30' Telephone Posts
Miscellaneous Wood Fence Posts
Various Fencing Supplies
P.H. Tool Box
Generac Generator, Intermittent
2 21L-24 Backhoe Tires
Ecodor Wood Stove

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Clerk of Sales: Jim Higel
719-589-2116

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Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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

Words: _____ Times: _____ Price: _____
Class: _____ Start Date: _____
Card#: _____
Expiration Date: _____

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Valley Publishing Classifieds, P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144
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Valley Wide Classifieds

hospital.net 719-657-4114 RGH is an EOE (5-10)

Ecodynamics Inc is hiring a general shop and field worker. Tasks include inventory, loading customer orders, shop cleaning, pump tech. assistant in the field. Please drop off resume in person at 5492 US Hwy 160 E, M.V. For more info, call 719-852-2662 (5-3)

Farm Credit of Southern Colorado (FCSC) is seeking an Appraisal Assistant to join our team. The chosen candidate will be responsible for researching sales and market data. The intention of this position is a true assistant to our Appraisal department in our Southern Colorado Territory. This position is full time and is benefits eligible. Reporting to the Assistant Appraisal Manager the Appraisal Assistant researches sales and market data and maintains the association appraisal department sales database; reviews appraisal request for complete information and starts work files. The Appraisal Assistant will be responsible for market data research, real property appraisal services and chattel appraisal services. This position will provide support and assistance to our existing Appraisal team. Research and assignments are primarily office / computer based, with some travel required. Please visit aglending.com/careers for more information. EOE/M/F/D/V (4-26)

The Upper Rio Grande School District has received a grant for a full-time 7th-12th grade School Counselor - for the next 3 years, starting in the 2023-2024 school year. Applicants must have a Master's Degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain an appropriate Colorado school counselor license. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, DN Jr. / Sr. High Principal at ahardy@urtigers.co or contact Annie at 719-657-4020. Applications for certified staff positions can be picked up at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co. (5-3)

Del Norte Elementary School Teacher needed at the URGSD. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team for the 2023-2024 school year. 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 or contact Amy at 719-657-4050.

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.

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Valley Wide Classifieds

Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co. (5-3)

Center School District is now accepting applications for the position of Preschool/Toddler Teacher for the 2023-2024 School Year. Center Consolidated School District 26Jt is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Qualifications; AA in Early Childhood Education preferred or willing to obtain qualifications. Experience working with Preschool/Toddler Age Children in an educational environment, or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. All candidates must pass background checks. Current or former Head Start or Early Head Start parents encouraged to apply. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE (4-26)

Center School District is now accepting applications for the position of BOE Secretary Administrative Office Assistant beginning May 2023. Center Consolidated School District 26Jt is paying single health insurance benefits, beginning salary \$36,154.00. Qualifications; Post-secondary education preferred, with experience in office manage-

ment, bilingual, computer use, word processing and bookkeeping, or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: 4/20/23. EOE (4-26)

12 Houses for Rent
Beautiful fairly new 3-bedroom 2-bath home on the river partly furnished \$875 plus deposit ready by May 1 719-672-3146 (5-10)

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

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

35-80-plus acre parcels on San Francisco Creek south of Del Norte. Very private, views, 3 miles from town, electric and phone. Call

Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-580-0770. TFN

23 Lawn and Garden

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

24 Garage Sales

Fifth annual 3 family sale: 56 Meadow Lane, Monte Vista, April 28-29 7A.M. Lawnmower, antique, furniture, books, C.D's, seasonal décor, linens, and much more. (4-26)

32 Fuel & Heating

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

36 Miscellaneous

WANTED: vintage license plates; cash paid based on age, rarity, condition. Call/text Colin: 970-367-7594 (5/24)

Cash for quality non-fiction books and LP records. Jeff 720-315-9145 (4-26)

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

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44 Farm Services

Attention Farmer and Ranches: Seal your leaking livestock tanks, ponds & reservoirs with bentonite Spring Special 10% OFF. Rio Grande Bentonite. 719-580-6652 (5-3)

47 Horses & Cattle

Horses for sale: 10YO gray mare, 15.5H, good horse, needs experienced rider, \$1,200. Older bay gelding. 16.2H, good horse, may

be a good packer, \$1,200. Call Ben 605-290-9869 (4-26)

65 Professional Services

RELIABLE CARPENTRY 40-plus years-experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-496-7630. (5-10)

Squeegee Luigi's Washing Services: Window Washing, Concrete Cleaning, Exterior Washing - FREE ESTIMATE: (719) 490-9047 TFN

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

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

4-Ever-Cleaning Homes, Air B&B And More Call Rene 719-480-4273 For More Info. (5-3)

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Take One

Congratulations San Luis Valley Graduates

Class of 2023

Schedule of San Luis Valley Graduations

Alamosa

May 27 • 10 a.m. • High School Gym

Antonito

May 26 • 6 p.m. • High School Gym

Byron Syring DELTA Center/ Monte Vista Online Academy

May 20 • 10 a.m. • Jean Ritchey Central Auditorium

Centauri

May 27 • 10 a.m. • Centauri High School

Centennial

May 27 • 10 a.m. • High School Gym

Center

May 27 • 10 a.m. • Viking Gym

Creede

May 27 • 6 p.m. • High School Gym

Crestone Charter

May 19 • 2:30 p.m. • Crestone Charter School

Del Norte

May 26 • 2 p.m. • Upper Rio Grande School Gym

Moffat

May 25 • TBA • Moffat School

Monte Vista

May 27 • 10 a.m. • High School Gym

Mountain Valley

May 20 • 10 a.m. • High School Auxiliary Gym

Sanford

May 26 • 7 p.m. • Sanford High School

Sangre de Cristo

May 26 • 6 p.m. • High School Gym

Sargent

May 26 • 7 p.m. • High School Gym

Sierra Grande

May 26 • 5 p.m. • High School Gym



Index of High Schools

Antonito.....2
 Byron Syring DELTA Center/Monte Vista Online Academy..... 3 & 4
 Centauri 4, 5 & 6
 Centennial 6
 Center 7
 Creede.....8
 Crestone Charter 8
 Del Norte..... 8 & 9
 Monte Vista 10 & 11
 Mountain Valley 12
 Sanford 13
 Sangre de Cristo 15
 Sargent 15
 Sierra Grande 16

Good luck and Congratulations!

Antonito High School



Lexie Maez



Jerome Ruybal



Patricia Silvas



Airyanna Sisneros



Christine Vigil

Graduation:

May 26 • 6 p.m.

Antonito High School

Class Colors: Lavender & Emerald Green

Class Flower: Lotus

Class Song: Five More Minutes — Scotty McCreery

Class Motto: I'm not afraid of anything. That's just the way I am. — Paul Walker



You Get an A+

Congratulations on your graduation. Keep up the great work!



THE CONEJOS COUNTY
CITIZEN

Valley Publishing

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Byron Syring Delta Center - MV Online Academy



Aaliyah Archuleta



Desiderio Ceballos



Lauren Connell-Thomson



Sofia Delgado



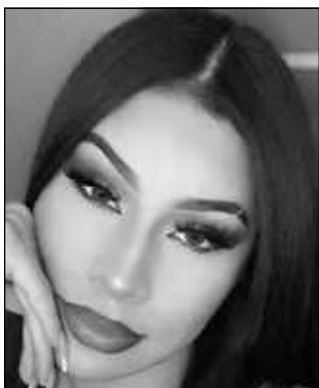
Emilio Duran



Aneesa Flores-Guiterrez



Zadela Gallegos



Symaria Garcia



Alex Gaspar



Shaylin Gates



Henley Gerlach



Javon Grabowski



Jacob Grove



Joseph Grove



Riyaen Haas



Nayeli Hernandez



Lauren Karschnick



Mason Kimberlin



Kolton Kugler



Kimberly Lang



Carlos Lopez



Olivia Martinez



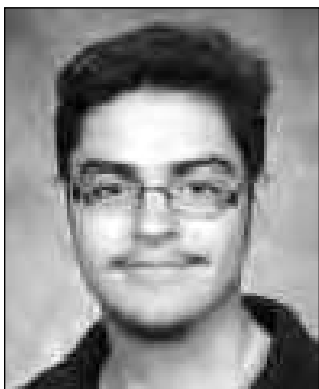
Julianna Mendez



Adam Miller



Charlie Mischke



Quentin Naranjo-Garcia



Alyssa Ortiz



Emmanuel Picciano



Josh Reynolds



Juan Robles

You Have Arrived

**Congratulations on your graduation!
A bright future awaits you, and
we hope it will be filled with much
happiness and continued success.**



Byron Syring Delta Center - MV Online Academy



Victorio Sigala



Caleb Sims



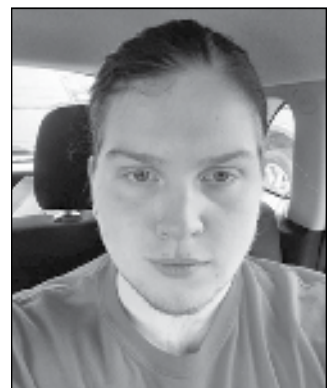
Brittany Smith



Logan Smith



Kaiya Southard



Jordyn Tipton



Ethan Van Doorn



Ison White



Amber Williams



Graduation:

May 20 • 10 a.m.

**Jean Ritchey Central
Auditorium**

Class Colors: DELTA – Black; OLA – Blue
and White

Centauri High School



Blade Absmier



Ruby Aragonz



Jonathan Bohn



Marcus Bright



Joshua Burrola



Martinez Lorenzo Cavangh



Taylor Christenson



Daija Cisneros



Melanie Clark



Ryan Cormun



Rebecca Cornum



Caitlin Creel



Jaren Crowther



Leighton Curtis



Jazmine Espinoza



Aubriana Flores



Analise Gallegos



Amaya Garcia



Tarzan Gomez



Mckenna Guymon



Tytan Gylling



John Hernandez



Haley Hicks



Grady Hostetter

Centauri High School



Jesse Hostetter



Monte S Huffaker



Kolten Johnson



Conner King



Cody Kreps



Hayley Langford



Madison Lobato



Ivan Lopez



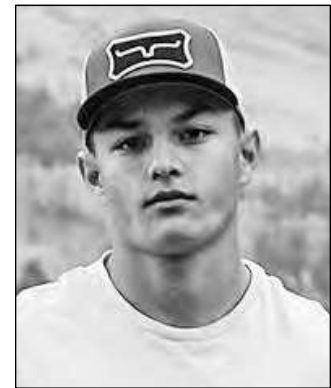
Xander Lopez



Manuel Lucero



Mariah Maez



Ace Martinez



Alexis Martinez



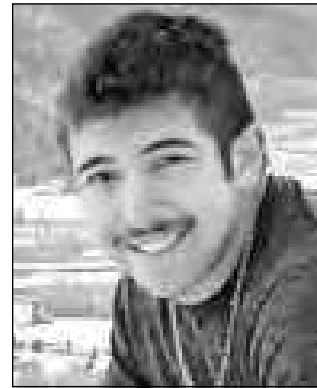
Anaya Martinez



Robert McCarrol



Jared McDaniel



Erik Mestas



Madison Montoya



Roderic Valentino Montoya



Selena Garcia Morales



Kiana Muniz



Taylor Munson



Daiviana Ortega



Adrian Prieto



Damian Quintana



Elyssia Quintana



Hagen Reed



Arianna Rodriguez



Ryann Romero



Tiana Romero



Addie Russell



Alyssa Ruybal



Rebekah Ruybal



Kalee Salazar



Cyrus Sandoval



Austyn Shawcroft

Centauri High School



Samantha Shelton



Abbey Smith



Abigail Sowards



Eliza Sowards



Jace Sowards



Mason Sowards



Austin Stockebrand



Jace Taylor



Joshua Taylor



Coby Thomas



Hyrum Tibbitts



Olivia Trenholm



Addison Valentine



Nathaniel Vara



Dylan Vasquez



Estevan Vega



Karyme Villasenor



Maya Zambrano

Graduation:
May 27 • 10 a.m.
Centauri High School

Class Colors: Red and Silver

Class Flower: Columbine

Class Song: Good Old Days — Macklemore featuring Kesha

Class Motto: Success is a journey, not a destination. — Arthur Ashe



Centennial High School



Mya Benton



Jayden DeLeon



Jared Lee Gurule



Nathaniel Gutierrez



Xiomara Maestas



Jude Mascarenas



Carmelita Rael



Diego Romero

Graduation:
May 27 • 10 a.m.
Centennial Gymnasium

Class Colors: Royal Blue, Black, White, and Silver

Class Flower: Blue Lily

Class Song: Forever Young — Jay-Z featuring Mr. Hudson

Class Motto: If you can imagine it; you can achieve it.



Center High School



Jenice Almeida



Samantha Eve Arellano



Alexia Mia Guadalupe Badachi



Gerardo Fidel Bolaños



Miguel Dennis Casanova



Molly Chávez



Kamryn Elizabeth Garcia



Kelly Jareth Gardea



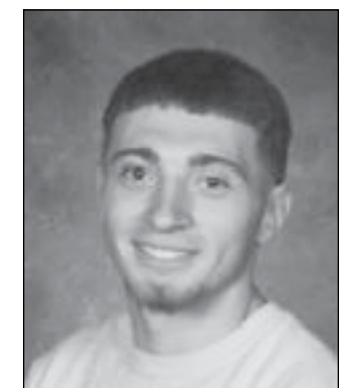
Alan Uriel Gonzalez



Daniela Gonzalez



Mark Maldonado



Ricardo Maldonado-Chavez



Roselyn Samara Mejia Torres



Giselle Fernanda Molina-Valadez



Joaquin Joseph Moreno



Alicia Maribel Pedro-López



Cruz Antonio Reyes



Cael Eugene Ruggles



Alexis Villagomez-Ramirez



Arleth Mitzel Villalobos

Graduation:
May 27
10 a.m.
Viking Gymnasium

Class Colors: Blue and Black

Class Flower: Rose

Class Song: Graduation — Benny Blanco and Juice WRLD

Class Motto: Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory. — Dr. Seuss



Congratulations!

Hats Off to the Graduates

You've overcome the challenges and risen to the occasion, and today we salute your hard work and accomplishments. Congratulations on this milestone achievement, and we wish you all the best as you take the next step.

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



Congratulations, Center Graduates!

Del Norte 719-657-3376
Creede 719-658-0126

DEL NORTE BANK FDIC www.TrueLocalBank.com

Best Wishes to the **Class of 2023**

JV Smith COMPANIES

719-754-2681 • 55 Torres St. • Center




CONGRATULATIONS
What a way to cap off the school year! Congratulations on this fine achievement. We're proud of you, graduates, and we wish you all the best.

GOOD LUCK!

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Congratulations! Center Vikings Class of 2023

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Hats Off to Our Grads!

We're Proud of You, Graduates!
Center Consolidated Schools
754-2232 • 500 S. Broadway • Center



Creede High School



Gabe Limon



Jaden Twite



Kaden Johnson



The Sky is the Limit!
"And it's a Great Day to be Alive, I know the Sun's Still Shining When I Close My Eyes" -Travis Tritt

Congratulations to the **Class of 2023**
CREEDE SCHOOL DISTRICT
 credek12.net 719.658.2220

We honor your achievements and celebrate your future!



Ryder Whitehorn

Graduation:

May 27 • 6 p.m.

School Gymnasium

Class Colors: Periwinkle and Pink

Class Flower: Blue Heart Lily

Class Song: Good Life — OneRepublic

Class Motto: One step at a time, but always forward.

Strive to be all you can be, enjoy being all that you are.

Best of Luck Class of 2023!

The Holy Moses 658-2848
 NEW HOURS 121 N. Main
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Creede Class Of 2023

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 DEL NORTE BANK FDIC www.TrueLocalBank.com

Crestone Charter School



Makai Toven Clendening



Ava Guidry



Kaelen Gregory Hollyer

Graduation:

May 19 • 2:30 p.m.

Crestone Charter School

Class Colors: Black and Rose Gold

Class Flower: Lilies and Orchids

Class Song: Do You Remember — Dave Matthews Band

Class Motto: Bring it on, we survived a global pandemic.

Del Norte High School



Arielle Atencio



Marisol Bernal



Taylor Butler



Kirsten Chiles



Aven Colville



Camden Crowell



Jackson Dalton



Micheal Day



Brianna Fernandez



Isabelle Fernandez



Tyler Gallegos



Elizabeth Gandy

Del Norte High School



Aden Howell



Deanna Ingham



Micheal Laymon



Kelci Madrid



Gabriel Maravilla



Angelica Martinez



Jose Martinez



Blanca Montoya



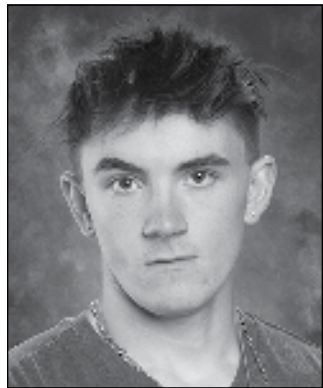
Makenna Moore



Riley Orr



Benjamin Parra



Heston Plucinski



Abigail Rivera



Adan Robles



Adrian Sanchez



Thomas Sanchez



Kenzie Smith



Brandon Trujillo



Shelby VanZalinge



Reece Velasquez



Not Pictured:
Aidan Baca

Graduation:

May 26 • 2 p.m.
High School Gymnasium

Class Colors: Silver, Black and White

Class Flower: Tiger Lily

Class Song: Backseat Driver — Robert Counts

Class Motto: I grew up cursing a lot. — Adam Sandler



Three Cheers for the Class of 2023

You did it! Years of hard work have led you to this day, and now is your moment to enjoy the accolades. We wish you all the best on your graduation day and in your future endeavors. Good luck, graduates.

Rio Grande County Museum and Cultural Center
(719) 657-2847 • 580 Oak Street • Del Norte

Del Norte Class of 2023

Del Norte Creede
719-657-3376 719-658-0126

DEL NORTE BANK FDIC www.TrueLocalBank.com

SLVREC 2023 Scholarship Recipients:

ASU Four-Year: TBA

Martin Christensen Lineworker: Leighton Curtis, Centauri
Michael Rierson: Madison Miller, Monte Vista
Robert Wolfe: Aden Howell, Del Norte
Past Director: Estevan Vega, Centauri
Past Retired GM & CEO Villyard:
Peyton Metz, Sangre de Cristo
San Luis Valley REC: Arielle Atencio, Del Norte; Jaden Twite, Creede; Ryder Whitehorn, Creede; Peyton Willett, Sanford
Tri-State G&T:
Kashley Canty, Sanford & Burke Temple, Sargent

REC

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Monte Vista High School



DeAngelo Archuleta



Preciosa Arias



Laisha Arroyo



Joseph Benavides Jr



Syriah Bernal



Alexandra Carmona



Andrew Chavez



Nikayla Cleghorn



Yasmin Contreras



Fernando Coss Jr



KeiAnna Duran



Alejandro Felix



Memphis Garcia



Amyiah Garcia



Alyssia Godbout



Jordan Gomez



Khegan Gunter



Zachary Hatton



Addan Heredia



Adrian Hernandez



Kahi Lee Herrera



Annika Holder



Christian Ibarra



Casandra Lopez

Onward & Upward

Wishing our Class of 2023 graduates much success and happiness on the road ahead.

Thanks for setting the example with your hard work and dedication. We're very proud of you.

Congratulations!

THE *Monte Vista*

JOURNAL



Monte Vista High School



Damian Lopez



Vianney Lopez



Esteban Lujan



Dulce Maldonado



Alexia Marquez



Jaxon Martinez



Marissa Martinez



Madison Miller



Joshua Montoya



Carlos Ochoa-Marquez



Alyssa Ortega



Yareli Perez



Josiah Porter



Rosemary Rodriguez



Sahara Rodriguez



Anastasia Sanchez



Daniel Santiago de Jesus



Lailah Scaggs



Henry Seger



Noelle Seger



Joseph Segura



Josiah Velasquez



Jonah Waggoner

Graduation:

May 27 • 10 a.m.
High School Gymnasium

Class Colors: Baby Pink

Class Flower: Carnation

Class Song: Young, Wild and Free — Snoop Dogg and Wiz Khalifa featuring Bruno Mars

A Big Hand for Our Graduates



Congratulations Class of 2023!

You Get an A+
Keep up the
great work!



Stone's Farm Supply

719-754-3453 • 771 E. 3rd • Center

Three Cheers for the Class of 2023

You did it! Years of hard work have led you to this day, and now is your moment to enjoy the accolades. We wish you all the best on your graduation day and in your future endeavors. Good luck, graduates.

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719-852-3531
235 First Ave. • Monte Vista

THE Monte Vista JOURNAL

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SLV GRADUATES!

CONGRATS!



MVCOOP.COM

Mountain Valley High School



Logan Boyles



Luke Bradford



Keladrae Brooks



Hali Lawson



Kain Lucero



Keith Merritt-Armenta

Graduation:

May 20 • 10 a.m.

Auxillary Gymnasium

Class Colors: Midnight Purple and Royal Blue

Class Flower: White Rose and Water Lil

Class Song: FWaterfalls — TLC

Class Motto: Remember, some things have to end for better things to begin.

CHEERS TO YOU!



Seize the Day!

As you celebrate your graduation, we'd like to take a moment to express how proud we are of your hard work and achievement. We hope you will continue to aim high and reach for the stars. Your potential for success is limitless, and we wish you all the best in every future endeavor!

Congratulations and warmest wishes to the Class of 2023!

Valley Publishing

Sanford High School



Texa Bond



Kashley Canty



Ren Canty



Kenedie Crowther



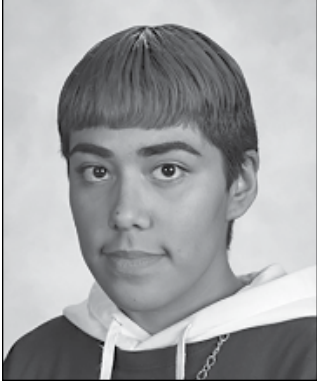
Alyssa Edgar



Hailey Edwards



Craig Ford



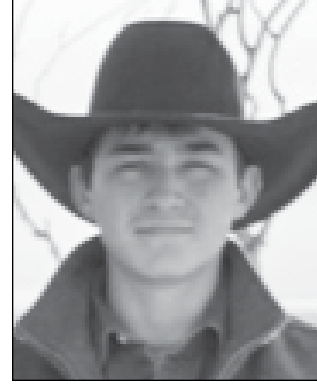
Sabrina Garcia



Jonathan Gardunio



Christian Hansen



Cayden Claunch



McCray Larsen



Gauge Lewis



Joseph Linares



Darrel Maestas



Justin McCarroll



Emery Mortensen



Timothy Polley



Olivia Reed



Kaden Reynolds



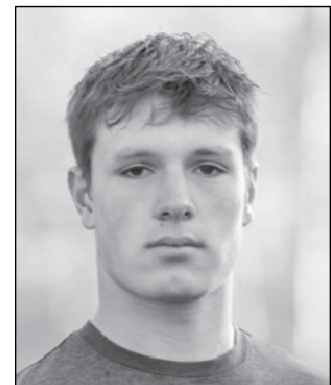
Makenzie Reynolds



Jessica Smith



Jeffery Soffel



Parker Vannoy



Peyton Willett

Graduation:

**May 26 • 7 p.m.
Sanford High School**

Class Colors: **Gold and Silver**

Class Flower: **Morning Glory**

Class Song: **Sweet Child of Mine — Guns N' Roses**

Class Motto: **If it's flipping hamburgers at McDonalds, be the best hamburger flipper in the world. Whatever it is you do, you have to master your craft. — Snoop Dogg**

Congratulations to the Distinguished Graduates



**Congratulations
Sanford Mustangs
Class of 2023!**



Sanford Country Store
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You're a Wise One!

Aim high and reach for the sky! We look forward to celebrating your future successes, as you continue to achieve great things.

Congratulations and Good Luck!



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Sangre de Cristo High School



Rachael Fritz



Anthony Garcia



Maya Garcia



Peyton Metz



Alysha Ojeda



Jenna Sinclair

Not Pictured:
Stella Anderson
Melody Snow

Graduation:

May 26 • 6 p.m.
High School Gymnasium

Class Colors: Orange and White *Class Flower:* Calla Lily

Class Song: I Lived — OneRepublic

Class Motto: It ain't how hard you get it hit, it's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward.
— Rocky Balboa



Sargent High School



Madelyn Beiriger



Melina Bustamante



Wyatt Cross



Marissa Floriani



Bryliegh Fuller



Antonio Garcia Jr.



Matthew Gonzales



Stephanie Johnson



Harley Juhre



Caleb Lane



Megan Peterson



Mitchell Plane



Destiny Quintana



Burke Temple



Alexis Urbina



Neveah Villagomez



Maximus Vitale



Evan Watts

Graduation:

May 26 • 7 p.m.

High School Gymnasium

Class Colors: Baby Blue and Charcoal Gray

Class Flower: Lily

Class Song: Say It Ain't So — Weezer

Class Motto: We go hard. — John Willis

Congratulations, Graduates!

Congratulations Graduate!

Sargent Farmers
Class of 2023!

K&J 345 S. Worth St.
THRIFTWAY Center
(719)754-1937

Sargent Grads Keep Shining

You're a bright one, Class of 2023!
Keep up the good work.

"Sprouts Went-Away"
Wenta Nip & Sanitizing, LLC

Monte Vista, Colorado
(719) 852-0353 • www.wentanip.com

Sierra Grande High School



Eduardo Ambriz



Evelyn Carrell



Marissa Clark



Damian Ferran



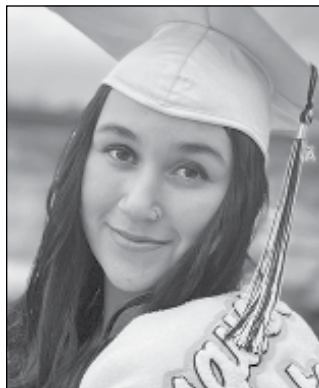
Mariana Loya



Angelo Valencia Lucero



Aracely Minchaca



Mia Esquer-Montoya



Stephen Navarro



Lindsay Paine



Maria Rodriguez



Anikah Roybal

Graduation:

May 26 • 5 p.m.

Auxiliary Gymnasium

Class Colors: Sage Green and Whitn

Class Flower: White Peony

Class Motto: Together, we have experienced life. Separately, we will pursue our dreams. Forever, we will hold on to our memories.



Class of 2023!
Wishing you all the best at graduation!

Stone's Farm Supply
719-754-3453 • 771 E. 3rd • Center

Smart Move, Graduates!

Your diploma opens the door to opportunity and success, and we are very proud of your achievement today.

As you celebrate this milestone, please be smart about your safety and the safety of others. Drinking and driving can take away all of your future dreams in an instant. Never get in the car with a driver who has been drinking, and make sure the friends you love stay safe and sober behind the wheel.

