

Shorts

Kiwanis Club of Center Pancake Supper is Feb. 20

CENTER — The Kiwanis Club of Center's 67th annual Presidents' Day Pancake Supper will be held from 4:30 to 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 20, at the Center School Cafeteria. The cost is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children. Children younger than 6-years-old are free. Package sausage will be available for \$5 per pound.

SEH Consulting to present data on Del Norte's codes

DELNORTE — On Wednesday, Feb. 22, at 10 a.m., Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH) will give a presentation at Del Norte's Town Hall, 140 Spruce St. SEH Consulting was hired to do an audit of the Town of Del Norte's municipal codes. SEH will update on their progress and discuss slides of the town's zoning map and matrixes of the town's density, vacancy, and constraints.

The SEH team's goal is to deliver the necessary land use code updates for Del Norte to incentivize the construction and renovation of affordable workforce housing for entry level, starter homes — both rent and sale.

RGNF Specialist Series focusing on timber management

DEL NORTE — The Rio Grande National Forest covers over 1.8 million acres, much of which is forested. How are timber management decisions made about these forests?

Join Kevin Duda, Vegetation Program Manager, as he answers these questions and more. Duda will be speaking about various aspects of forest management including tree planting, logging, and monitoring. He will talk about the processes for evaluating management needs of the thousands of acres of the forest. He has been working on the Rio Grande National Forest since 2005.

The online program will be held at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 22, in partnership with the San Juan Mountains Association. Visit the Rio Grande National Forest website or Facebook page for event information, www.fs.usda.gov/riogrand.

This event is part of the Rio Grande National Forest's Forest Specialist Series, a once monthly online presentation.

Land Board considers Little La Garita Creek

BY PATRICK SHEA

LA GARITA — At the end of January, the Saguache County Commissioners headed west from La Garita to visit a 640-acre parcel proposed for State Land Board Stewardship Trust management. The Little La Garita Creek parcel is one of many proposed around Colorado.

On Feb. 14, Lindsey Brandt from the State Land Board described the proposal via ZOOM. She also provided an overview of properties statewide and specifically in Saguache County. Of the roughly 2 million acres in the county, the State Land Board owns almost 60,000 acres (about three percent).

Please see LA GARITA on Page 2A

At roughly 18,000 acres, the Biedell Creek area is the largest of three properties currently under the State Land Board Stewardship Trust in Saguache County. If selected, the Little La Garita Creek area will add another 640 acres of Stewardship Trust management within Saguache County.

Photo by Patrick Shea

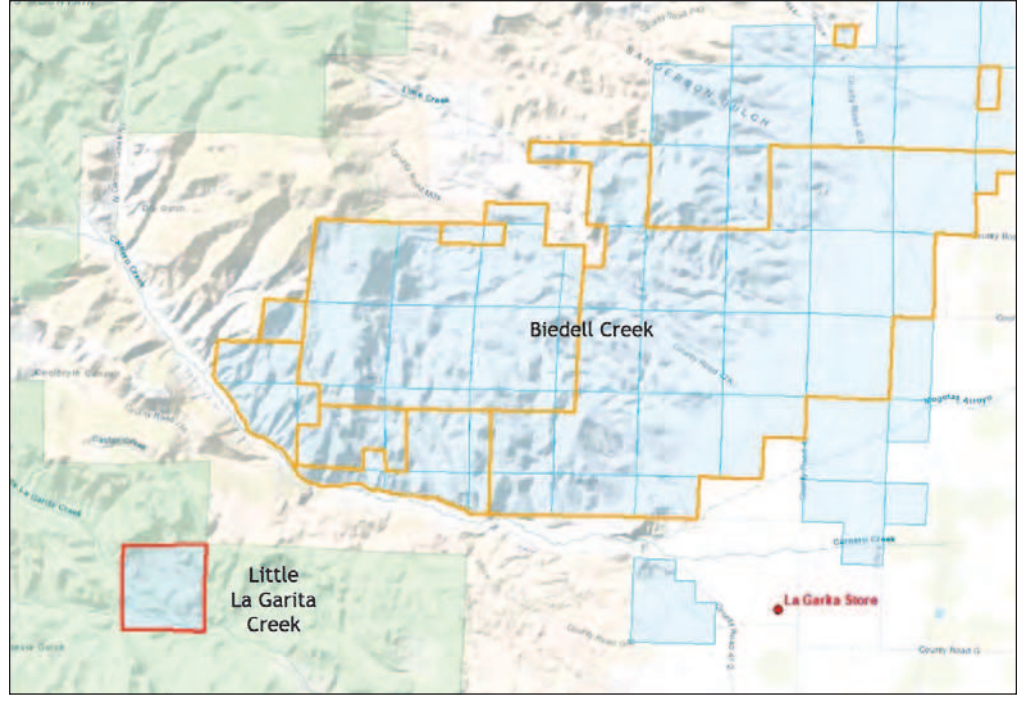


Photo by Patrick Shea

Delivering the Keynote Address at the 41st Annual Southern Rocky Mountain Agricultural Conference and Trade Show in Monte Vista on Feb. 8, Jimmy Emmons presented, 'Grazing Beyond the Yield — How we changed our soil and water efficiency to improve profitability.'

Emmons makes a cry for cover crops

BY PATRICK SHEA

MONTE VISTA — Keynote speaker Jimmy Emmons shared his soil expertise during the second day of the 41st Annual Southern Rocky Mountain Agricultural Conference and

Trade Show at the Outcalt Event and Conference at SLV Ski Hi Complex in Monte Vista on Feb. 8.

An international leader in the soil health movement, Emmons and his wife Ginger manage 2,000 acres

of cropland and 5,000 acres of rangeland in Dewey County, Okla. In 2017, they received Oklahoma's first Leopold Conservation Award for their regenerative agriculture practices. He *Please see COVER on Page 6A*

Senator Simpson faces new, old challenges in legislative session

'I have a significant hill to climb'

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER

ALAMOSA — Republican Senator Cleave Simpson had some significant wins in last year's 73rd Colorado General Assembly, his second legislative session after being elected to serve in 2020. But 2023 may prove to be more difficult, especially when it comes to his impact on how the state manages water, the issue that drove Simpson to run for the Senate in the first place.

"The climate is changing," he

says. "We can't call this a drought anymore. It's lasted 20 years. What we're seeing is aridification, which means the issue of water is going to look very different in the future. My whole reason to run for the Senate was to add to that discussion about water. To elevate the conversation and help guide the state in crafting good water policy and legislation."

Last year, in addition to rallying broad-based, bi-partisan statements of opposition among legislators to RWR's attempt to export water from the San Luis Valley, Simpson was the primary sponsor of SB22-028

Please see SIMPSON on Page 7A



Barracough named SLVDRG Regional Grants Navigator

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — This week, San Luis Valley Development Resources Group announced the appointment of Craig Barracough as the Regional Grants Navigator for the San Luis Valley. In this new position, Barracough will serve as a resource for counties and municipalities throughout the Valley assisting in identifying and applying for grant opportunities that might fund important projects in communities.

Last week, the State of Colorado, through the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), announced the creation and funding of 14 Regional Grant Navigator (RGN) positions within Colorado's designated Planning and Management Regions. These positions will aid local governments in their pursuit of funds from the historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, passed in November of 2021, which will invest a historic \$550 billion in

Please see SLVDRG on Page 2A

OBITUARY

Mark William Wetherill

Mark William Wetherill, son of Hank and Joy Nichols and Clayton Wetherill, was 50 years old when he left this world to enter the next one on Aug. 11, 2022.

He is survived by his brother, Terry Wetherill, and his sister, Robin (Wetherill) Hilsabeck.

Mark graduated high school from Moscow High School in Moscow, Kan. He earned a bachelor's degree in Communications from Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kan., and completed an associate's degree in Radiology from Bethesda College of Health Sciences in Boca Raton, Fla., in June 2022.

Mark's early career was as a call center manager, but he became interested in health care and aspired to be a radiology technician. He was quick-witted and loved the outdoors, especially hunting and fishing in the mountains of Colorado.

A memorial service for Mark will be held in his beloved mountains in Creede, Colo., where his ashes will be scattered in Summer 2023.



YOUR NIGHT SKY

BY DARLENE DANKO



Orion's Dogs

Orion has two dogs, Canis Major and Canis Minor. After Orion was stung by Scorpion and died, he asked the gods if he could bring his favorite two hunting dogs with him into the sky to help him fend off the menacing Taurus the Bull. The gods agreed.

Canis Major is to his lower left on the right side of the Milky Way, and Canis Minor is to the upper left of Canis Major on the left side of the Milky Way. It's also just above the constellation Monoceros.

Canis Major doesn't seem to be helping Orion much since he's busy chasing after a bunny rabbit. The constellation Lepus is just below Orion and just to the left of Eridanus the river. Lepus looks like a bunny wandering along the river looking for something to eat.

Canis Major has eight stars and looks like a dog with the brightest star Sirius as his eye. The fainter star Mirzas to the right is his nose. Below Sirius are the dog's neck, body and two legs. The other stars Aludra and Adhara are his fainter back legs that are in the constellation Puppis.

Sirius is also called "the dog star". It is the brightest star that we can see.

It's bright because it's only 8.6 light years away, so it's the seventh-closest star to us after the Sun. Ancient Egyptians worshipped it as the King of Suns. Its rising and setting told Egyptians when to plant, harvest and when the Nile was going to flood.

Of course, Sirius is easy to find. It's that bright star in the southeast with Orion's belt pointing down to it. It often twinkles red, white and blue when it's low in the sky. There are several star clusters and nebulae in Canis Major. The open star cluster NGC 2862 is easy to find with unaided vision. It's down in the lower part of the dog's body where the legs come out.

Canis Minor is the fainter little dog. We can only see two stars. Gomersal the head is the top star, and Procyon the body is below it. Procyon is bright enough to be easily seen since it's the eighth-brightest star in our sky. It's a sparkling white star, and its Greek name means Before the Dog since it rises before Sirius.

Procyon and Sirius are part of the 6-star Winter Circle. They also make the Winter Triangle with Betelgeuse in Orion. Procyon is only 11.4 LY from us. Gama is brighter than

Procyon, but its dimness is since it's 150 LY from us. There's a faint meteor shower from the Minor's head called the Canis Menurids. They occur in early December.

When the sky is clear and the moon isn't shining, the evening sky is amazing! I can see so many stars and constellations. So go out and look around 9 p.m. to see all the amazing stars. Remember that it will take your eyes several minutes to acclimate to dark skies. That's why I turn off the bright lights in the house by 8:30.

The planet Venus is still blazing in the SW as it climbs higher in the sky. Jupiter reaches its greatest eastern elongation from the Sun on Feb. 10. A half hour after sunset it'll be 10 degrees above the horizon to the lower right of Venus. Depending on your mountains, you may or may not be able to see it. Just so you know, the full moon was Feb. 5, and the new moon will be on Feb. 20.

LA GARITA

Continued from Page 1A

Approximately 75 percent of this acreage is in the public access program for hunting.

The State Land Board currently manages three Stewardship Trust areas in Saguache County. The smallest, Alder Creek, is the northernmost parcel of 480 acres just south of Poncha Pass. The Biedell Creek property immediately west of La Garita is the largest property in the county, stretching across approximately 18,000 acres.

Like the proposed La Garita Creek area southwest of Penitente Canyon and the Biedell Creek area, Jack's Creek northwest of Saguache also covers 640 acres.

Statewide, the State Land Board is the second largest landowner behind the federal government. The trust manages 2.8 million acres of surface area and 4 million acres of mineral estate. To raise money, they have 10 separate lines of business, leasing land under terms that meet the mission of land stewardship.

According to Brandt, "We are an entirely self-funded agency. We do not have any tax funding, and we're also not a regulatory agency. So, all of our lessees have to comply with local regulations and have necessary permits. We're simply a land management agency."

Since the start of the State Land Trust when it was written into the Colorado Constitution in 1876,

K-12 public education receives the revenue. Brandt noted that Saguache County schools have received seven different Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grants over the last several years.

Among the 89 active leases currently under State Land Board management in the county, the majority are for rights-of-way and agriculture purposes. Lessees are expected to adopt consistent stewardship practices.

In 1996, a voter-driven initiative for the 16th amendment to the Colorado Constitution created the Stewardship Trust, in addition to other changes to the State Land Board structure. Stewardship trust properties number about 110 in Colorado today, covering 296,426 acres.

When the State Land Board meets again in March, they will consider proposed areas around the Centennial State, including the Little La Garita Creek area.

"We're considering this property for the Stewardship Trust," Brandt said, "because of the riparian area, the wetlands area on the property, the beaver activity, and its habitat for Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout."

Brandt added that the habitat for bighorn sheep, elk, and other animals is surrounded by federal land. It's currently part of the public access program for hunting and lies within grazing permit boundaries.

CAC announces return of Variety Show

CREEDE — After a 3-year hiatus due to COVID-19, the Creede Arts Council recently announced the return of the Variety Show. If you sing, dance, act, perform magic, juggle, all the above, then the Creede Arts Council is looking for you to perform at the 28th Annual Variety

Show, April 1 at the Ruth Theatre. Auditions for the show will be from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on March 13 and from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on March 14 at the Creede Community Church.

All types of acts are encouraged to audition. Acts must be performance ready and appropriate

for a wide range of audience, including families.

For more information or to schedule an audition, call 719-658-2333.



SLVDRG

Continued from Page 1A

new infrastructure investments nationwide over the next five years. San Luis Valley Development Group is the designated planning agency for the State's Planning and Management Region 8.

Local governments identify "lack of capacity" as one of the greatest challenges in pursuing funding opportunities, according to a news release from DOLA. While Colorado took swift action by passing SB22-215 which established the IJA Cash Fund, and transferred \$80.25 million of General Fund to the Cash Fund, Regional Grant Navigators will be the on-the-ground help that is needed.

"This is a transformative opportunity and we want every corner of Colorado to be able to maximize their ability to receive funding from this legislation. We are excited to partner with local governments and provide support so that Colorado can draw more

from this legislation to fix our roads, invest in protecting our water supply, defend against climate change, and develop Front Range Rail," said Governor Jared Polis.

Barracough will be familiar with regional and local plans, objectives, and strategies to understand what grant opportunities are most relevant, prioritizing outreach to rural and underserved communities. This includes research into grant opportunities as well as facilitating technical support, which may include connecting communities to relevant grant writing experts. As an RGN, Barracough will follow the progress of all grant submissions and provide technical assistance, ongoing monitoring and compliance as needed in the different regions.

Most recently, Barracough served as County Administrator for Rio Grande County and Operations Manager for a pipeline corrosion control company in West Texas.

Local government has been a mainstay throughout his career, and he enjoys collaborating and partnering will all levels and diversities of organizations. He may be contacted by email at cbarracough@slvdr.org, or by phone at 719 589-6099.

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

Importance of news literacy

Here Comes Peter Cottontail

A fictional story written by Thornton Burgess was the first introduction to Peter Rabbit way back in the year 1910 in Sandwich, Massachusetts. And even more important, you now have some excellent conversation fodder with that little bit of information to carry you through the next church pot-luck dinner. You are welcome. I do not think it really was all that popular until much later when a song was written about Peter and his desire to be The Easter Bunny and made famous by none other than that singing cowboy himself Gene Autry.

Now even though Ol' Dutch is not old enough to recall those days of old, I can still remember having an old 45 rpm record and hearing the lyrical words enough that I can come up with the first lines at least off the top of my head.

Here comes Peter Cottontail
Hoppin' down the bunny trail
Hippity hoppin', Easter's on its way
Bringin' every girl and boy
Baskets full of Easter joy
Things to make your Easter bright and gay

Now the actual song may not seem that important to some of you newcomers or those of you that have never heard that song but to several generations of us, hearing that on the radio meant one thing and one thing only.

Easter was on its way.
And even though there is a plethora of hearts and cards still adorning the shelves of every store in the area, I already see the Easter adornments and eggs everywhere.

Way back in the stone age when Ol' Dutch was in grade school Easter became a time when we had to get a cheesy card for each member of the class. These were to be deposited in a brightly decorated shoe box we had all put together during art class some weeks previously and placed on the windowsill for all to see.

Now I don't know about you but all that did for me was cause me several weeks of undue stress thinking about what cute girl might send me promises of unrequited love. If that were not bad enough, there was the worry too that some homely little yet to blossom young lady would take the stupid valentine that I had sent her to heart.

As you all know, when you buy a 24 pack of anything the variety tends to bend toward the mundane if not repetitive and the same was true with the little heart cards our mothers bought at the store.



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

Every day we all had to sit there eyeing our box on the windowsill and wondering what surprises might await us inside them. 4,398 math problems, 3 chalkboard exercises and 27 recesses later we all were finally allowed to open the boxes and see who had sent us a Valentine.

Today this would lead to some confusion as we would often get some sappy heart card from one of our guy friends, but we learned early on that 24 cards can only have so much variety, so we just left it at that. Only later after Ol' Dutch was gone and grown did the safer Star Wars themed cards become available thereby alleviating the problem of sending mixed signals to the wrong person of the same gender.

We now know that the idea of a bunny and Easter eggs come along, both steeped in pagan worship but that entire story must be withheld until another day and time. For now, we will just enjoy it with the candy eggs, the Big Ole Bunny and sure to be poisonous dye we all used on the hard-boiled eggs supplied by our mothers.

And yes, I know Ol' Dutch is getting an early start on Easter this year but what with the price of real eggs and the presence of those plastic ones already adorning shelves, I got to thinking about it way ahead.

And honestly, it may be a good idea to get your Easter stuff way ahead of the masses as the closer we get to that actual day, the 4th of July decorations and explosives will dominate the shelves and you won't be able to get your usual Cadbury Egg.

Kevin Kirkpatrick and his Yorkie, Cooper, fish, hunt, ATV or hike daily. His email is Kevin@TroutRepublic.com. Additional news can be found at www.troutrepublic.com or on Twitter at TroutRepublic.

By **CASSIDY DAVIS**

News literacy is the ability to recognize the standards of fact-based news in order to trust, share, and act on accurate information. In a Digital Age where information spreads like wildfire, it is becoming more challenging than ever to separate fact from fiction. Anyone has the ability to create and share information, whether true or false. News literacy teaches about the importance of a free press in our democracy while also demonstrating how to decipher credible information to determine what is trustworthy.

The Digital Age poses four major threats to the functioning of a democracy:

- The constant, overwhelming flow of information we receive daily makes it difficult to determine what is fact or fiction.
- The creation of new, widespread platforms leads to more ways for misinformation to be published in a way that makes it look like it is coming from a credible source.
- The desire for information to be distributed as fast as possible results in more room for inaccuracy and increases the chance that information shared will be wrong.
- New algorithms have made it so

that much of the information we see reinforce our preexisting beliefs rather than opening us up to alternative perspectives.

Residents of the San Luis Valley are fortunate to have the community newspapers as a source of credible information.

However, the closure of hundreds of local newspapers in neighboring rural communities has led to the creation of "news deserts" in places with smaller populations, leaving individuals to struggle for access to credible news sources and causing vulnerability to misinformation.

According to the 2022 State of Local News Report, more than one-fifth of the U.S. population, 70 million people, are currently living in news deserts. For this reason, it is now more critical than ever for individuals to assess their news literacy skills and build habits to determine what is true and credible.

A healthy society can only exist if the public is well-informed. If we can't agree on a set of basic facts, we are unable to make knowledgeable decisions that are for the betterment of our democracy. Although it is impossible for the sharing of misinformation to be eliminated, our

society can begin to build habits that fight the spread.

The News Literacy Project invites readers of the this paper to be part of the movement and "Think Before You Share" by answering the following questions to evaluate the credibility of a claim:

- Is the information I am sharing authentic?
- Has it been posted or confirmed by a credible source?
- Is there evidence that proves the claim?
- Is the context accurate?
- Is it based on solid reasoning?

A new generation of news-literate individuals that demand credible, accurate information will not only amend the foundations of journalism but will also reshape the standards of a healthy democracy. For more information, visit www.newslit.org, follow @thinkb4share on Instagram, or connect with the ThinkB4UShare group on Facebook.

Cassidy Davis is an undergraduate senior at the University of Colorado Boulder. She submitted this on behalf of the News Literacy Project. For more information, visit <https://newslit.org>.

LETTERS

Saguache County Commissioners urge SLVREC to make most of IRA

Editor,
Dear SLVREC Board Members and General Manager,

We are writing to you as a Saguache County Commissioner, and as a San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative member, to encourage you to make the most of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA.) The IRA offers great opportunities for Rural Electric Cooperatives (REAs), giving you access to direct money for low-cost, clean energy that will help lower costs for SLVREC members and help us all move toward cheaper, safer renewable energy. As you are well aware, SLVREC members pay some of the highest electric rates in the country.

Here are some examples of ways SLVREC can tap into IRA funds:

- The IRA introduces a "direct payment" option for electric cooperatives who have not before

been able to take advantage of the existing suite of tax credits available for clean energy technologies. The bill also makes significant reforms and additions to those credits.

- The IRA creates a \$9.7 billion financial assistance program specifically for electric cooperatives to purchase or build new clean energy systems.

• Funds from the IRA can help create new clean energy jobs at the local and utility scale, which will help with rural economic development in San Luis Valley.

- There's \$2 billion available to finance new transmission projects. SLV counties will soon be asking the PUC to prioritize a new redundant power transmission line connecting the Valley to transmission lines outside the Valley that will enhance our energy security while also allowing us to utilize the bountiful sunshine we receive by

building solar collection facilities and marketing the power generated to major population centers.

- The IRA contains investment tax credits and production tax credits for virtually all clean energy technologies and provides additional bonuses for investments in low-income communities and other marginalized or impacted communities.

These programs are not automatically applied to cooperatives. REAs like ours must move quickly to develop plans that will qualify us for credits, grants, and loans.

We look forward to hearing how SLVREC is planning on utilizing IRA funds. Please come make a presentation to our Board of County Commissioners about how SLVREC plans to utilize IRA funds, and if there are ways Saguache County can help you in this effort.

Saguache County Commissioners

Monte Vista Crane Festival Committee asks town to prepare for visitors

Editor,
Hey Monte Vista — are you ready for Crane Festival March 10-12?

It's kind of hard to remember what a "normal, pre-COVID" crane festival feels like. Crane Festival brings about \$3.35 million to the San Luis Valley, nearly \$120,000 in tax revenue alone! During the month of March about 18,000 people visit the refuge (and our town) to see the cranes. The peak of that visitation is over crane fest weekend. These visitors stay in our hotels, eat at our restaurants, fill their gas tanks, go to the grocery store, and our

other businesses.

After last year's festival, a waitress at a local restaurant reported a long, tiring, busy weekend but that she made a car payment (\$600 plus) with the tips she earned during crane fest weekend!

This year is the 40th Annual Crane Festival and your Crane Festival planning committee (Friends of the Refuge, MV Chamber, and City of MV) are planning a full festival with bus tours, speakers, craft and nature fair at Ski Hi, and special events including a movie premiere to mark the 40th anniversary.

Monte Vista — get ready for this event and these visitors — if you are a business owner increase your supplies and staffing for the weekend to handle crowds and consider extending your hours. This is especially important for restaurants — stock up and be ready for thousands of people looking for food and drink.

Let's show our visitors a good time, if we do, they will visit again at other times of the year.

Jenny Nehring

Monte Vista Crane Festival Committee

CENTER POST - DISPATCH

THE CENTER POST-DISPATCH (USPS 775-900) Published weekly (every Thursday) by Valley Publishing. (719) 852-3531 at 835 First Ave., Monte Vista, Colorado 81144-1423. Official newspaper of the Town of Center, and a legal newspaper in Saguache County.
Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144
Main office, Want ads and Subscriptions: (719) 852-3531
Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, Colo., 81144
POSTMASTER: Send change of address to P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144
Subscriptions: \$45 one year in the San Luis Valley; \$40 one year seniors (65 and older) in the San Luis Valley; and \$55 one year out of the San Luis Valley. (719) 852-3531
News Media Corporation website: <http://www.newsmediacorporation.com>

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Courtesy photo

Some of the Adelante staff, (left to right), Carolyn Guymon, Family Navigator; Charlotte Orr, Working Together Family Advocate; Sarita Estrada, Family Navigator; Tara Bay, Director; and Jamie Snow, Assistant Director. Not pictured are Leslie Echavarría, Data Analyst; Becky Story, Working Together Family Advocate; and Veronica Lozoya, Housing Case Manager.

Adelante — Helping community members move forward with their lives

CONTRIBUTED

Many families and individuals benefit from a local program called Adelante. For the past 10 years, employees at San Luis Valley Health have adopted some of the families at Christmas, fulfilling their wish lists and adding gift, gas, and grocery cards.

The children's gifts are not wrapped by SLV Health. Each adult guardian along with staff, wrap gifts for their children at the office. The staff wraps the adults' gifts, so everyone gets the chance to open gifts on the special holiday. SLV Health also donates wrapping paper and gift bags. The huge undertaking is orchestrated by clinic leadership, including Administrator Antonio Gurule and Clinic Admin Assistant Ressa Gonzales.

Many of the adults do not ask for gifts for themselves, often asking for practical help such as cleaning supplies or clothes for their children. They are prompted to develop a gift-wish-list for the excited shoppers in the community. Mountain West Insurance and other individual community donors adopt other Adelante individual clients. Several days before Christmas, the Adelante office turns into a regular "Santa's workshop."

Adelante Director Tara Bay and Assistant Director Jamie Snow sat down with SLVH Communications Director Donna Wehe to talk about their programs and their families.

"Transitional housing has grown into supportive housing," commented Bay. The programs and services at Adelante have changed through the years as well. Bay has been with Adelante for over eight years and knows exactly what program, grant, or resource best benefits their clients.

"Our program has been modeled around the state and the region," Bay

said. "We are involved as advocates, from the court room to the bank. We assist our clients with access to resources because getting your life back on track is full of roadblocks for a lot of people."

She explained how one client enrolled as a full-time student only to find out that she would lose access to her food benefits, which would not work in her situation due to having young children.

"We are not here to give handouts; but to educate, remove barriers, support, and assist those who are ready to move forward with their lives," commented Snow, who has been with Adelante for seven years. When clients first get referred to Adelante, they sometimes ask about the resources that might be available.

But Snow likes to turn the question back to them, asking, "What do you want? What do you need help with?"

After building trust, the staff at Adelante often form close, personal bonds with their clients.

"But we do not want to be their only resource. We are not their friend or emergency contact. We are their advocate, their guide, their coach, their teacher," added Snow.

Often families and individuals fall between the cracks, meaning there are government or non-profit resources available; but navigating the roadmap can be daunting if they try to do it by themselves. For example, Adelante conducts home visits, helps individuals map out their goals, helps with transportation, and assists with applying for benefits such as Medicaid.

As the clients become stable and self-sufficient, they often lose access to safety net programs, so again, Adelante is there to help them through that time of transition with their many

tools and resources.

They operate under the Building a Family's Five Protective Factors, which guides their work:

- Parental Resilience
- Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development
- Children's Social and Emotional Competence
- Concrete Supports in Time of Need
- Social Connections

Some of their other guiding principles, explained Bay and Snow, are "nothing about me without me," so that each decision is based on the client's expectations. They use the "Housing First" model and like to shift the focus to "what are your strengths as an individual" rather than "what's wrong with you."

In closing, both Bay and Snow emphasized their gratitude for the community partners, as it takes a whole village to make the village whole again.

For more information about Adelante, visit their website at <https://lapuentehome.org/adelante/>.

Visiting Angels of SW Colorado receives 2023 Best of Home Care – Leader in Experience Award

CONTRIBUTED PAGOSASPRINGS

— Visiting Angels announced recently that it received the distinguished 2023 Best of Home Care – Leader in Experience Award from HCP, the leading firm in experience management for home care.



The Leader in Experience Award is the highest recognition awarded by HCP and is given to select home care businesses that consistently rank among the very highest in 10 or more quality metrics. As a Leader in Experience, Visiting Angels is now recognized among the top 10% of home care providers participating in the nationwide HCP Experience Management Program.

This accomplishment demonstrates Visiting Angels' long-term dedication to excellent care and quality improvement. To qualify for this award, 10% of Visiting Angels' clients and caregivers were interviewed each month by HCP. Over a 12-month period, Visiting Angels received high client and caregiver satisfaction ratings in areas such as caregiver training, compassion of caregivers, communication, scheduling, client/caregiver compatibility, and more. Using feedback from clients and employees, as well as quality benchmarks from HCP, the Visiting Angels management team set goals to reach the highest level of Experience possible.

The Best of Home Care – Leader in Experience Award highlights the top-performing home care businesses in the nation. HCP believes that by honoring these providers, families looking for in-home care for a loved one will be able to recognize and choose a trusted home care provider.

"At Home Care Pulse, our mission is to help home care businesses create an experience that goes beyond client and caregiver expectations," says Todd Austin, President of HCP. "When we see agencies like Visiting Angels of SW Colorado that have so effectively provided outstanding care and employment experiences, we know we're on the right track. This award allows them to show proof of quality to potential clients and caregivers."

To find out more about Visiting Angel's commitment to experience, visit visitingangels.com or call 970-264-5991.

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Sen. Hickenlooper has been quietly convening Colorado River Basin senators to discuss Western water woes

By **JESSE PAUL**
The Colorado Sun

John Hickenlooper has been quietly convening fellow U.S. senators from six other Colorado River Basin states over the past year to assist in the increasingly frantic conservation negotiations around the parched and overtaxed waterway that some 40 million people in the Southwest rely upon.

Hickenlooper, a Democrat, sees the informal, bipartisan caucus as a way to mediate interstate disagreements over how the river should be managed — and who should have to use less of its water — in the hope of preventing federal intervention. While states' governors may not meet regularly, senators from across the river basin are often together in Washington, D.C.

"The idea here is that we're looking at how to use more carrot and less stick," he said. "The key here is the federal government is not the best one to force a deal. The best solution is going to be a solution that all seven states sign off on."

The group of senators has been meeting every few weeks to discuss Colorado River Basin issues. The gatherings have become more frequent amid Biden administration deadlines

for basin states to come to a water conservation agreement that prevents Lake Mead and Lake Powell levels from dropping too low.

The reservoirs are already at historically low levels, yet the negotiation deadlines have come and passed without a deal.

"I think the senators can provide additional information that maybe the states don't all have," Hickenlooper said, "and make sure that everyone is working together."

Hickenlooper did not provide details on what the caucus has discussed, but he said the group has met with Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Camille Touton, who warned that 4 million acre-feet in existing water use must be pared back.

"We're all really hearing what priorities and specific issues are with each state and with the water users in each state," he said. "As long as we understand that and are working from the same set of facts, we're probably going to come up with a much better solution than if things degenerate into lawsuits."

Hickenlooper said the caucus is looking to formalize itself with a chair and subchairs from the upper and lower Colorado River Basin.

SLVH celebrates its first DAISY Award honoree

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — San Luis Valley Health Registered Nurse Dwayne Candy was recently awarded the first nurse excellence DAISY award at SLVH. Candy is in the OR/Surgery Department.

He was nominated by two separate patients.

"Dwayne has been our nurse for two procedures for our family," one of the nominating patients said. "He is always compassionate, caring, considerate, helpful, professional, and thorough! We can tell it's more than a job for him, but a calling. Our family has huge respect for nurses in general — the unique combination of medical knowledge and expertise along with the gift of loving compassion for people going through difficult situations. Dwayne exemplifies the best of nursing."

A second nominating patient said, "I am a 79-year-old cancer patient who has had three surgeries at SLV Health...Dwayne has been one of my surgical nurses during each of these occasions. While I feel I have received good care from all, I think Dwayne exemplifies the combination of procedural competence and human warmth which has made a difficult experience more tolerable for me. A person can do their job, but in healthcare, the dimension of empathy is essential, and Dwayne has a very mature and concerned demeanor which is comforting under stressful conditions."

The other award nominees for the first quarter of 2023 were also nominated by patients. They include Amy Oaks, Dawn Arellano, Niklas Steinrueck, Shaalynn Sanchez, and Lexi Hanna. All nominees received a DAISY pin to recognize their nomination and celebrate the "excellent patient-focused care" that they provide.

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses became part of recognizing nurses at SLV Health in the fall of 2022. The DAISY Award is a nationwide program that recognizes nursing excellence. In memory of Patrick Barnes, the Barnes family recalled the skillful and compassionate care Patrick received from his nurses during his eight-week hospitalization.



Courtesy photo
Jennifer Walker, RN, San Luis Valley Health DAISY Committee Chair, awards Dwayne Candy, RN in the OR/Surgery Department, the first nurse excellence DAISY Award at San Luis Valley Health.

Identity of body found in Monte Vista released

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — The Monte Vista Police Department and the Rio Grande County Coroner have released the name of the man whose body was found in a yard in the 700 block of Clay Street on Feb. 2.

The body of Edward "Jimmy" Quirova, 72, a long-time resident of Monte Vista, was found Thursday morning, Feb. 2. The Monte Vista Police Department at the time labeled it an unattended death and out of an abundance of caution was treating it as a "suspicious death."

After gathering more information, MVPD Chief George Dingfelder said it was a tragic incident, but felt it was accidental.

"We are waiting for the official autopsy results from the RG Coroner," Dingfelder said. "Once we get the official autopsy report, we will be able to release much more information."

Around 6:50 a.m. on Feb. 2, MVPD officers were dispatched to the 700 block of Clay Street on a report of a male laying in a yard.

When officers arrived, they found a male, deceased, laying in the yard, Dingfelder reported on Feb. 2. The Rio Grande County Coroner pronounced the male deceased.

The Colorado Bureau of Investigation was called in to assist with the investigation. Clay Street was closed to traffic in the morning during the investigation.

The identity of the man will be released later, Dingfelder stated. More information regarding this investigation will be released when appropriate.

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CDHS to put \$1.15M toward services for survivors of sexual violence

New program will provide funds to community-based organizations across state

CONTRIBUTED
DENVER — The Colorado

Department of Human Services (CDHS) is devoting \$1.15 million to a new project that will benefit survivors of sexual violence, the organizations that serve survivors, and the statewide network that works to end sexual violence in Colorado.

Financial support for this new Sexual Violence Services Project comes from federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) stimulus funds.

Through this new project managed by CDHS's Domestic Violence Program (DVP), sexual violence

survivors will have increased access to community-based crisis intervention and healing services. Those services include free, voluntary confidential crisis intervention, advocacy, counseling, group support, safety planning, access to community resources, support for medical appointments, and more.

programs. Additionally, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) has awarded stimulus funds to Colorado specifically to support services for sexual assault survivors.

"Today is a very exciting milestone as CDHS begins funding sexual violence response services across our state for the first time," said OCYF Director Minna Castillo Cohen. "People in Colorado who experience sexual violence deserve no-cost confidential support as they heal."

Sixteen community-based organizations across Colorado successfully applied for this project funding and began work on Feb. 1. Services provided by these organizations include free, voluntary confidential crisis intervention, advocacy, counseling, group support, safety planning, access to community resources, support for medical appointments, and more for survivors of sexual violence and their families.

Coloradans seeking support, can visit <https://youhavetherightco.org/support-services-2-2/> to find local resources, or call the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE (4673).

COVER Continued from Page 1A

travels 200 days a year meeting with farmers and giving presentations while raising cattle and crops at home.

In the early 1980s, Emmons said that between Ginger, his mom, himself, and his dad, they spent at least 1,000 hours apiece in a tractor seat every year. Now his wife never runs a tractor. He said she prefers the "no-till" approach of planting cover crops for running cattle instead.

"How do we grow a cover crop with limited water," Emmons asked, followed by, "I'm sure that's part of the conversation here. I realize I'm in a potato region and no-till won't work with potatoes. I understand that. You have to do what you have to do to get a potato in the ground and out of the ground."

Emmons showed pictures of their first test in the drought year of 2011. They planted a cover crop and left a small area bare. Then they placed moisture and temperature probes to compare the areas over time.

He showed pictures of the next crop of wheat on the same ground, another Oklahoma drought year in 2012. They probed the formerly bare soil where the wheat didn't look as good as the second-year crop next to it. They discovered a hard layer about 16 inches down. When they probed the adjacent cover crop, they didn't hit the hard layer. So, they returned later to take detailed samples and confirmed the 16-inch layer in the small, patchy area. A few feet away, the same hard layer was 33 inches below the surface.

"Growing cover crops and building soil health is like building a retirement plan or a savings account," Emmons

said. "When it's good, stash it back because you're going to need it when it doesn't rain."

In addition to helping maximize water, cover crops cool the ground and allow the soil to mature. Emmons watched the evaporation rate fall. One day last summer when it was 113 degrees fahrenheit in Oklahoma, the temperature within the cover crop was 81 degrees. On the same day, the temperature on bare ground registered 130.

At that temperature, Emmons explained, "the biological community that we really need is fried. They're done. They're dormant. They've moved down. They're not going to help us."

Emmons ran his cattle on the cover crop and noted how the water use went up as the plants were chewed down. But he earned \$120 to \$160 an acre from the beef to offset the cost, an option not available on dirt. Spring measurements showed a rebound in water efficiency.

"We were water-ahead," Emmons recalled. "We were starting to build soil."

In 2010, Emmons also started measuring water infiltration rate. As the soil improved over 13 years, the rate went from a half-inch to as much as a dozen inches an hour. He said his pivots haven't gotten stuck since his soil has improved, citing the soil structure. He wanted to see how his ground responded when he dumped more than seven inches of water on it in 100 minutes. With earthworm burrows and other open spaces in the improved biological community underground, it took in all seven-plus inches.

"If you're an elephant or a microscopic organism," Emmons asked the audience,

"do you know the difference? There is none. We all have to have water. We all have to eat. We all have to have air. And we've got to get rid of CO2."

Emmons showed multiple examples of standing water in tilled fields next door to green pastures with healthy soil following rainstorms.

"This guy never did get to plant," Emmons noted on one side of the slide, "because it was either blowing, too wet to get in, or standing water."

Emmons said, "We can't continue to export 1.7 billion tons a year to the Gulf of Mexico. You heard me right. About 1.7 billion tons of erosion a year in the United States goes down the rivers."

Emmons celebrated one field he planted in 2009 that now requires "zero inputs on this corn." When they harvest cereal rye from the same field before planting corn on July 15, they deliberately let enough fall off the back of the combine to ensure cover crop for the calves he'll be weaning later on the same field.

Healthy soil can increase revenue with the right balance of inputs and sales, particularly when running livestock on the same ground. Emmons compared the costs and revenue of one of his areas over the course of a year. He invested \$285 and received \$1,783 in return.

Emmons will begin a new job on Feb. 13 with Trust in Food, a Farm Journal Initiative. He said the organization will be putting, "about \$10 million in producers' hands across about 15 states."

The 41st Annual Southern Rocky Mountain Agricultural Conference and Trade Show completed its three-day run on Thursday, Feb. 9.

DNFD responds to Sunday fire

STAFF REPORT

DEL NORTE — On Sunday, Feb. 11, at 5:44 a.m. the Del Norte Fire Department with the aid of Monte Vista Fire Department was dispatched to 1262 Cattle drive Rd., five miles outside of Del Norte for a report of a structure fire.

The Del Norte Fire Department responded with one engine and two water trucks and upon arriving at

the scene saw smoke coming from the home.

Both departments responded with an offensive interior attack. Their efforts resulted in successfully extinguishing the fire. There were no reported injuries of residents or firefighters during the incident.

Del Norte FD thanked Monte Vista FD and the Colorado Division of Fire Protection for their help with the fire.

San Luis Valley Scoreboard	
Basketball 2022-2023	
GIRLS	
Class 1A	
McClave 59	Sierra Grande 17
Centennial 66	Antonito 39
Moffat 36	Lake City 12
Sangre de Cristo 56	Sierra Grande 43
Antonito 49	Primerero 30
La Veta 53	Creede 19
Sierra Grande 51	Centennial 47
Class 2A	
Del Norte 40	Monte Vista 32
Center 43	Custer County 39
Del Norte 38	Crested Butte 31
Monte Vista 48	South Park 9
Sanford 31	Sargent 25
Hoehne 39	Del Norte 27
Monte Vista 46	Crested Butte 28
Sargent 46	South Park 34
Sanford 58	Cotopaxi 21
Class 3/4A	
Centauri 50	Alamosa 31
Centauri 70	Ignacio 39
Montrose 41	Alamosa 36

BOYS	
Class 1A	
McClave 46	Sierra Grande 44
Sierra Grande 60	Sangre de Cristo 41
Centennial 70	Antonito 22
Primerero 63	Antonito 43
Sierra Grande 56	Centennial 39
La Veta 78	Creede 62
Class 2A	
Del Norte 51	Monte Vista 45
Custer County 76	Center 36
Del Norte 62	Crested Butte 45
Sanford 52	Sargent 16
Monte Vista 47	South Park 15
Monte Vista 53	Crested Butte 39
Sargent 55	South Park 41
Sanford 59	Cotopaxi 26
Hoehne 43	Del Norte 40
Class 3/4A	
Centauri 43	Alamosa 40
Centauri 50	Ignacio 36
Alamosa 58	Montrose 50

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Don't Waste your Time with Worry Anymore

Worry and I used to be very close companions. We spent a lot of time together and back then, I thought that was a normal way to live. But through the years, God has helped me end my relationship with worry. And He did it with the help of my husband, Dave.

Dave and I have been married for more than 55 years now, and every time I have come to him with a problem, he has had only one thing to say: "Cast your care."

It's not very appealing to hear those words from your spouse when you're feeling frustrated and upset, but it's exactly what the Bible tells us to do.

First Peter 5:7 says to cast "all your cares [all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares about you [with deepest affection, and watches over you carefully]" (AMP).

The word cast means "to pitch or to throw." I think that description says a lot because if you're going to end your relationship with worry, then you're going to have to get aggressive about it.

For example, we don't have to accept every thought that comes into our head. We can be selective, casting out the wrong ones and helping the right ones take root. Also, I find that my whole outlook changes as I say simple prayers: "God, I believe You're working in my life, and I'm expecting something good to happen today."

I'm not saying we should ignore our problems, wishing they'd just go away. It's good for us to look at our problems honestly, but we can't let them keep us from adopting a hopeful attitude that says, "I believe God is in control!"

Timing Is Everything, and Everything Takes Time

Typically when we have a problem, God will do one of two things: He'll either remove the problem or He'll give us the ability to get through our time of

difficulty with a good attitude. I've found that as I grow in my relationship with God, I become more comfortable leaving that choice up to Him. Because if He leads me through something I really don't want to go through, then I know for sure He has a purpose in mind.

As a child I experienced years of sexual and emotional abuse, which was absolutely tormenting. The amazing thing is, everything God has done in my life through that horrible situation—all of the healing and restoration—has prepared me to do what He's called me to do today. I didn't always understand why things were happening the way they did at the time, but I learned how to walk by faith and trust God's goodness even when my circumstances didn't make sense to me.

It's absolutely wonderful when we can feel completely comfortable not knowing the "why" behind what's happening in our lives.

Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in and rely confidently on the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight or understanding. In all your ways know and acknowledge and recognize Him, and He will make your paths straight and smooth [removing obstacles that block your way]."

We don't always have to know what God is going to do or when He's going to do it. All we really need to know is that God has a plan and He is in control. We can rest in the truth that at the right time, God will execute His plan.

Trusting God Brings the Best Results

Maybe there's something happening in your life right now that you just don't understand, and it's causing you a lot of worry and frustration. Wouldn't it be wonderful to just be able to say, "I don't understand this and it hurts right



now, but I believe God is going to work it out?"

If you've already wasted a lot of your time with worry, I encourage you to cast your cares. Instead of giving way to anxious emotions, you can choose to rest in the truth that in time, God's good plan will be revealed.

Romans 8:28 says, "We know [with great confidence] that God [who is deeply concerned about us] causes all things to work together [as a plan] for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan and purpose."

Not everything that happens is good. But it can work out for good for those who keep loving God and keep pursuing His will in their lives. So don't waste your time worrying, because there's nothing God can't turn around if you'll put your trust in Him!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-teaching resource The Fearsome Four. 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 LOVING PEOPLE WHO ARE HARD TO LOVE (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.

SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

SAGUACHE COUNTY — The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the period between Feb. 6 and Feb. 11, 2023.

Sheriff's staff arranged four ambulance rides, conducted two welfare checks, searched for a missing person near Hooper, and performed a search and rescue operation on Marshall Pass. They also assisted motorists and monitored three controlled burns. Staff responded to reports of suspicious activity in the Penitente Canyon Campground, Moffat, and Saguache, as well as criminal mischief in Crestone and

Moffat. On the roads, deputies made six traffic stops, issued three traffic tickets, filed three REDDI reports (Report Every Drunk Driver Immediately), and responded to a car crash that caused property damage. Staff dealt with an animal problem near Del Norte, loose livestock in Center, a noise complaint and fraud in Saguache, and assault in Moffat. They patrolled Saguache seven times.

ARRESTS

• A 27-year-old Layton, Utah man was arrested and detained while being

held for another jurisdiction.

• A 43-year-old Crestone man was arrested and detained on 10 charges, including domestic violence, menacing, harassment, false imprisonment with threat of force, second-degree burglary, and failing to appear in Alamosa County Court and Chaffee County Court five times. Total bail was set at \$63,500.

• A 33-year-old Moffat man was arrested and detained on two charges of menacing and domestic violence.

• A 19-year-old Moffat woman was arrested and detained on charges of criminal mischief and domestic violence.

SIMPSON

Continued from Page 1A

“Groundwater Compact Compliance Fund”, a bill that designated \$80 million to help finance groundwater use reduction efforts in the Rio Grande River basin and the Republican River basin, including efforts to buy and retire irrigation wells and irrigated acreage in the river basins.

SB22-028 passed unanimously in both the House and Senate without a single no vote being cast — not in committee and not on the floor of either chamber. Even Simpson, who shies away from boasting about legislative victories, admits that a unanimous vote throughout the entire legislative process “doesn’t happen very often.”

But this year, Simpson is facing new challenges.

Out of the 100 members who make up the General Assembly, 40 are new to the office, including some senators Simpson has not met yet and others whose “mood” toward legislation is still unknown. For a senator who makes it a practice to reach across the aisle and gain bi-partisan support whenever possible, that’s a big unknown.

State resources, instrumental in building programs to support water conservation, are also more limited than in the previous two years when significant federal funding was allocated to the state.

According to Democratic Senator Rachel Zenzinger, who chairs the powerful Joint Budget Committee, the state has a budget excess of \$1 billion but “inflation is eating it up”, which means there will be “no funding for any pilot programs or big agenda items.”

When Senate President Stephen Fenberg was recently asked by the Colorado Sun about legislative priorities for this session, he listed protecting reproductive rights, gun safety and — topping the list — providing enough affordable housing to meet the state’s growing population. When asked the same question, Sen. Zenzinger brought up funding for public education as her top priority.

Water was not mentioned by either leader.

Simpson was not surprised by the omission, even as issues with the Colorado River Compact and water scarcity are gaining more attention. When asked if water is still viewed by legislators as primarily a rural issue instead of one that impacts the entire state, Simpson is careful in his answer.

“I don’t have great confidence that there is awareness (among legislators). I think they’re sensitive to the issue but I don’t know that it matters,” he said. “I don’t know that they care. Last year, to get a bill through without a single no vote in committee or on the floor is pretty spectacular. That happened because they had an appreciation for the challenges, at least in that instance.

But in regard to water, overall, I don’t have great confidence that they do. I have a significant hill to climb but

we’re working in that direction.”

That “work” starts with education. Legislators need to be educated on a broad range of complex issues, Simpson says, and cites himself as an example.

“I spent the last two years learning about criminal justice reform and diversion programs and getting more funding for DAs to help people get the help they need. These are complex issues. You have to carve out the time to learn,” he said.

Water is an especially complex issue to understand in a governing body where “time to learn” is limited, and Simpson is only one of a few in office who actually holds water rights. That complexity, and the ineffectiveness that results, have prompted him to start out at the basic level with some of his colleagues who are new to the issue. “If I can get them to understand that an acre-foot of water equals a football field filled with a foot of water, that helps them grasp that 13 or 14 million acre-feet of water is the same as 13 or 14 million football fields of water,” he said.

That provides legislators with a sense of scope.

“That’s a good start,” he said.

But that simple goal is not enough. In a further effort to “climb that hill” in bigger strides, last week, Simpson was the primary sponsor of the bi-partisan SB23-010 concerning the functions of the Water Resources and Agricultural Review Committee, a committee that has been interim and, in Simpson’s view, not functioning at the level that is needed.

“(That bill) really was the result of an extremely high level of frustration about the lack of effectiveness. Given all the challenges in water, I didn’t think the committee lived up to its potential,” he said. “Let’s elevate the importance of the water conversation here. One way to do that is to elevate the committee. Remove the interim status, make it permanent and let the chair call the committee. Let’s get organized and have the state engineer come here and spend an hour with committee members and explain the river compacts and other issues.”

He also has other legislative priorities that he hopes to act on.

“I’m an advocate of water conservation and land conservation and more intricately connecting the two,” he said. “I have two sessions under my belt experiencing the policy space. I don’t want to make bad policy, so I take my time in making sure that the policy crafted is good policy.”

In the beginning of his third year representing a district with a new name (District 6) and new borders making it more mountainous, more politically diverse and includes western counties up to the Utah border, Simpson continues to be adept at looking at the massive issue of water through

two lenses.

There is the day-to-day legislative work of educating colleagues, building relationships and crafting policy that helps him on that uphill climb.

But there is also the bigger picture with a hill that only seems to get higher.

“The first Colorado Water Plan was finalized in 2015 and there was the recognition that the state needed to devote \$100 million per year to close the gap between the supply of water and the demand. Last year was the first year that almost happened. But typically we aren’t even close,” he said.

And with a budget that is expected to allow little room for projects not listed as a priority for leadership, “not even close” may be the norm, again.

“At some point, you run out of resources,” he said. “There isn’t enough water. You can’t breathe the air. At some point, I think natural barriers are going to kick in.”

PUBLIC NOTICES

ATTENTION GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

The Saguache County Board of County Commissioners are accepting scholarship applications for graduating seniors who will be graduating high school in 2023. Commissioners will be awarding graduating seniors’ college scholarships that will be paid through the Marijuana Excise Tax funds. Scholarships may be used at a trade school, college or university but you must reside in Saguache County to apply and possibly receive scholarship funds. Applications are due by April 14, 2023 and are available through our website at www.saguachecounty.colorado.gov to download the application or by contacting Wendi Maez at 719-655-2231 or by email at wmaez@saguachecounty-co.gov.

No. 1662 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, February 9, 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 2023.

A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS CENTER SANITATION DISTRICT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and, particularly, to the electors of the Center Sanitation District of Saguache and Rio Grande Counties, Colorado.

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN that an election will be held on the 2nd day of May, 2023, between the hours of 7:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m. At that time, three (3) directors will be elected to serve 4-year terms, and two (2) directors will be elected to serve 2-year terms. Eligible electors of the Center Sanitation District interested in serving on the board of directors may obtain a Self-Nomination and Acceptance form from the District Designated Election Official (DEO);

Janet J Beiriger
Center Consolidated Administration Office
550 S. Sylvester Ave
Center, CO 81125
719-850-8922

The Center Consolidated School Administration Office is open on the following days: Monday through Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The deadline to submit a Self-Nomination and Acceptance is close of business on Friday, February 24, 2023 (not less than 67 days before the election). Affidavit of Intent to Be a Write-In-Candidate forms must be submitted to the office of the designated election official by the close of business on **Monday, February 27, 2023** (the sixty-fourth day before the election.)

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, an application for an absentee ballot shall be filed with the designated election official no later than the close of business on Tuesday preceding the election April 25, 2023

CENTER SANITATION DISTRICT
Janet J Beiriger

No. 1664 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, February 16, 2023.

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

AND CERTIFIED STATEMENT OF RESULTS

§1-13.5-513(6), 32-1-104, 1-11-103(3) C.R.S.

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN by the Center Sanitation District, Saguache and Rio Grande Counties, Colorado, that at the close of business on the sixty-third day before the election, there were not more candidates for director than offices to be filled, including candidates filing affidavits of intent to be write-in candidates; therefore, the election to be held on May 5, 2020 is hereby canceled pursuant to section 1-13.5-513(6) C.R.S._____

The following candidates are hereby declared elected: Until May 2023

Anthony Garcia (3)
Christopher Martinez (3)

(Signature of the Designated Election Official)

(DEO’s Printed Name)
Contact Person for the District: Janet J. Beiriger
Telephone Number of the District: 719-850-8922
Address of the District: PO BOX 400, Center, CO 81125
District Email

No. 1663 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, February 16, 2023.

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Wrestling Preview 2023

36 SLV wrestlers qualify for state

By **KEN HAMRICK**

ALAMOSA – A total of 36 wrestlers from the San Luis Valley have qualified for their respective state tournaments in tournament action this past weekend.

The State Tournament takes place Thursday, Friday and Saturday at Ball Arena in Denver.

Class 3A Region 2

Alamosa won the Class 3A Region 2 Tournament which took place in Glenwood Springs. The Mean Moose scored 204 points, which was five points better than second-place Moffat County.

Alamosa qualified nine wrestlers for state, which included five regional finalists. Dempsey Gibbs (120) and Kyler Liddell (150) were both champions, while Jeremiah DeLaCerde (106), Dyson Woodward (132) and Donovan Valdez (144) were all second.

The remaining Mean Moose qualifiers were Dario Valdez who was third at 126, James Sanchez who was third at 285, Anthony Griego who was fourth at 113, and Sage Rockcastle who was fourth at 138. Rockcastle had to win a wrestle-back to qualify.

Class 3A Region 4

Centauri finished third in the Class 3A Region 4 Tournament which occurred at the Classical Academy in Colorado Springs. The Falcons scored 165 points behind Brush with 240 ½ and Pueblo Central with 213.

Six Falcons qualified for state including five finalists. Matthew Salazar (106), Josh Polkwaske (165) and Erik Mestas (175) all won championships, and Aundree Chavez (113) and Riley Valdez (120) were both runners-up.

The remaining qualifier was Parker Buhr who was fourth at 138.

One more Centauri wrestler, Ivan Lopez (144) lost in a wrestle-back.

Class 2A Region 3

Monte Vista placed fourth at the Class 2A Region 3 Tournament which was at Otero College's McDivitt Center in La Junta. The Pirates scored 134 points, which was behind Buena Vista with 199, Rocky Ford with 198 ½ and Trinidad with 148 ½.

Monte Vista had seven qualifiers including four finalists, all of whom placed second. The list includes Damian Lopez (126), DeAngelo Archuleta (138), Jeremiah Baumgardner (157), Jaxon Martinez (175) and Matthew Wright (285).

The remaining qualifiers were Jacob Pacheco who was fourth at 150 and Kevin Cisneros who finished third at 132 pounds..

Sargent placed eighth with 78 ½ points. The Farmers had two qualifiers in Garrett Thompson who was second at 144 and Trenton Lovelace who was second at 215.

Sierra Grande/Centennial was 10th with 35 points. The Panthers had one qualifier in Reyin Goudace who was fourth at 285.

They almost had a second qualifier, however, Garrick Pettigrew (106) lost a wrestle-back.

Del Norte finished 11th with 32 points and it had two qualifiers. Going to state for the Tigers are Paul Neal who was fourth at 144, and Wyatt McLehaney who was fourth at 190.

Antonito and Mountain Valley had no qualifiers. The Trojans finished 12th with 16 points, and the Wolves were 13th with 11.

Class 2A Region 4

Center finished third at the Class 2A Region 4 Tournament in Rye. The Vikings scored 165 ½ points placing behind Cedaredge with 266 and Highland with 175 ½.

Center qualified seven wrestlers including four final-



Courtesy photos

Center qualified six wrestlers including four finalists. Aaron Valadez won the 144-pound championship.



Center qualified six wrestlers including four finalists. Martin Palma won the 157-pound championship.

ists. Aaron Valadez won the 144-pound championship and Martin Palma won the 157-pound championship, while Jordan Duran (106) and Jesus Valadez (165) were both second.

The remaining qualifiers included Lorenzo Trujillo who was third at 138, Devin Thompson who was third at 175 and Francisco Villa who was fourth at 113.

Girls Region 4


The Alamosa girls wrestling team finished 11th at the Region 4 Tournament at Battle Mountain High School in Edwards. The Lady Mean Moose scored 35 points.

Sarah DeLaCerde was the only girl state qualifier as she finished second at 110 pounds.



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Spring-like ice conditions are thin as ice

By LYNSIE FERRELL

SAN LUIS VALLEY — Spring is on the horizon for the San Luis Valley and though warmer temperature tease residents from one day to the next, current ice conditions on local waters is a reason for caution. With warming and freezing temperatures changing from one minute to the next, it is time to beware of ice conditions and proceed with caution.

With warmer days and nights, the past week, ice around the west end of the Valley has been giving up its hold on the Rio Grande and open waters can be seen all along the winding path of the river. Even at reservoirs such as Beaver Creek and Big Meadows the ice is beginning to thin.

Though this means that spring-summer fishing is just around the corner, it also means that ice anglers need to be cautious when heading out. This time of year, it can be difficult to navigate safely on the ice when out for a day of fishing. Be sure to look for open water, thin ice and be prepared for adverse weather conditions that can and will change at a moment's notice.

CPW reminds people to stay **Please see ICE on Page 3**



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Ice along the Rio Grande is beginning to thin as warmer temperatures move into the Valley. Though spring is still a way off according to the calendar, now is the time to be cautious of changing conditions, especially while venturing out on ice covered water.



Courtesy photo

Adams State University held a groundbreaking Thursday morning, Feb. 2, for a \$1.6 million addition to William Porter Hall. Pictured, left to right, Ken Marquez, Adams State El Centro Sierra Blanca Grant project director; Margaret Doell, Adams State Academic Affairs associate vice president; Logan Semones, Adams State/CSU mechanical engineering student; Erin Minks, regional representative for Senator Michael Bennet; Kent Buchanan, Adams State Academic Affairs vice president; Marshall Tringham, Alcon Construction; Adams State interim President David Tandberg; Matt Nehring, director of CSU/Adams State mechanical engineering program; Scott Clayton, Colorado State University Undergraduate Teaching Labs Engineer; and Billy, Adams State mascot.

Adams State breaks ground for mechanical engineering addition

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — Adams State University held a groundbreaking Thursday morning, Feb. 2, for a \$1.6 million addition to William Porter Hall.

Participating in the ceremony were Ken Marquez, Adams State El Centro Sierra Blanca Grant project director; Margaret Doell, Adams

State Academic Affairs associate vice president; Logan Semones, Adams State/CSU mechanical engineering student; Erin Minks, regional representative for Senator Michael Bennet; Kent Buchanan, Adams State Academic Affairs vice president; Marshall Tringham, Alcon Construction; Adams State interim President David Tandberg;

Matt Nehring, director of CSU/Adams State mechanical engineering program; Scott Clayton, Colorado State University Undergraduate Teaching Labs Engineer; and Billy, Adams State mascot.

“We are thrilled that construction of this new engineering space is finally underway, and I am excited **Please see ASU on Page 3**

Friday is happening at Fort Garland Museum

By DIANE DREKMAN

FORT GARLAND — The Fort Garland Museum has some hands-on activities for youth and adults on Fridays.

Every Friday until April 21, the Fort Garland Museum is offering an all-day program, from 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m. on different topics, like Dark Skies to designing a zipline and folklorico dancing, a type of dancing from Mexico. The class is open to first- through fifth-graders in the San Luis Valley. The program is \$25 per week and there is tuition assistance. The class is limited to 20 students. The class is currently full and will be offered in the fall.

Museum Educator Antonia Ortiz explains, “The goal is to participate in hands-on activities, have physical activity and provide wrap-around care for low-income families.”

The class starts every morning with meditation and the museum provides healthy snacks like fruit in the morning and afternoon.

The program is provided through Hands On History, which began in

2014 to provide positive opportunities for youth and help with childcare. Museums in Trinidad, Denver, Montrose, and the Ute Indian Museum offer this program also.

Each week, students learn more about the solar system through the Dark Skies offering, there is a class called Survivor SLV, students are designing a zipline in a STEM class taught by Museum Educator, Antonia Ortiz, and a folklorico dance class taught by Sierra Grande Spanish teacher Javier Gonzalez. Gonzalez was a member of a dance group at Adams State University, Semillas de la Tierra.

Each week Gonzalez focuses on a different area of Mexico, like the Jalisco region. Students are expected to learn four dances by May 4, and then will perform on May 5 at Sierra Grande School for Cinco de Mayo.

There is also a folklorico dance class for sixth-graders to adults from 4-5 p.m. on Fridays at the Fort Garland Museum. Intern Iava Williams also teaches classes.

Please see MUSEUM on Page 3



Community garden coming to Sierra Grande School

BY DIANE DREKMANN
FORT GARLAND — Sierra Grande School Biology teacher Jeanette Moore noticed an empty greenhouse on the property. She learned the building has sat idle since 2019. The 18-foot-by-36-foot greenhouse was built in 2017 with 30 volunteers. Moore approached the school district about using the greenhouse as part of the classroom and partnering with the community of Fort Garland to create a community garden. The students are enthusiastic about having a garden, Moore said.

“The kids cleaned the weeds around the raised beds in about 45 minutes,” she said, and they are starting to plant seeds in the classroom.

The first meeting about creating a community garden took place at Sierra Grande School on Jan. 27. Various members of Fort Garland participated.

Ayesha Williams and Pam Thompson of the Fort Garland Revitalization Committee, Josette Sandoval of the Fort Garland Museum, Diane Linder whose grandson attends Sierra Grande, gardeners Sherry Rosenwunkeo, and Nana Scott all attended.

The preliminary steps of fixing infrastructure, what to plant, responsibilities of all parties, etiquette, and benefits to the community were some of the subjects discussed.

Williams stressed the importance of “the taste of real food, learning the history of food, teaching kids responsibility and respect for food.” She is willing to teach cooking classes. Her daughter, Iava Williams, works with the Moki Kitchen in Alamosa, specializing in fresh local food. Moore said, “Kids feel invested when they know where their food comes from.”

Josette Sandoval shared that a gar-

den “gets the children and the whole community involved.”

Building Grounds Supervisor Robert Taylor mentioned some concerns. He said there had been a couple attempts at a community garden in the past but each time interest from the community waned, and the grounds crew wound up shouldering the whole responsibility of the garden.

The challenge is to have consistent interest and long-term commitment in bringing crops to fruition. Some ideas were to give the high school students credits for their community

service obligation. Another idea was to have summer interns.

The hope is to have a large enough harvest to provide not only for families, but for the school cafeteria and area grocery stores as well.

The greenhouse will be an opportunity to learn what types of crops grow well here, and different methods of gardening, organizers said. There was talk about planting flowers, herbs, vegetables.

Scott, a retired physical therapist, is an expert in vermiculture using worms. Rosenwunkeo mentioned

hügelkultur, using branches and other organic matter as a base.

Moore has heirloom seeds, which create different, unusual, rare plants. So often in American culture, whether plants or animals, only 1 or 2 varieties are grown or bred, resulting in limited resources. There are hundreds of varieties of plants and animals that could create a much more diverse food system.

There are many lifelong benefits to gardens. Families bond and are healthier, diabetes decreases, people who garden will never go hungry and will be to provide for their families. Some may make a career out of gardening, organizers said.

The next meeting about the community garden at Sierra Grande will be at the Fort Garland Museum at 5 p.m. on Feb. 15.



Photos by Diane Drekman

Thanks to the effort of Sierra Grande School teachers and the local community a greenhouse and garden will once again be used to grow minds and vegetables.



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Boot camp for entrepreneurs set for San Luis

BY DIANE DREKMANN

SAN LUIS — There is opportunity for economic growth through a program called Envision San Luis. The town of San Luis received a \$100,000 grant through the Colorado Trust to create a 12-week boot camp for entrepreneurs — people interested in owning their own business or wanting to expand and gain business knowledge. The grant also provides for hiring interns.

The class is free and open to everyone. There is a limit of 25 participants, but the class is offered twice: April 7-June 23, and July 7-Sept 15.

The town of San Luis chose Mikela Tarlow to head the entre-

preneur boot camp program and teach several classes.

Tarlow has lived in the San Luis Valley for 25 years, and during that time, worked with several Fortune 500 companies, like Coca-Cola and Boeing creating innovation teams. The 12-week course covers everything from the financial end of business to branding, marketing, and the importance of social media. Classes will also be taught by local entrepreneurs, like David Aragon, co-owner of a new restaurant in town, the San Luis Coffee Company.

Tarlow will have an open house from 9 a.m. to noon on March 3 at the Costilla County Conservancy District, 324 Main St., San Luis,

to discuss the program and answer any questions.

After successfully completing the 12-week program, participants will receive \$500 in start-up money to help jumpstart their businesses.

Questionnaires are available at the Town Hall in San Luis for people interested in attending the program. Call 719-672-3321, for more information.

MUSEUM

Continued from Page 1

Spring break is March 20-24. At the end of the program on April 21, Antonia Ortiz hopes to have telescopes available for the Dark Skies class for students and their families. The program has been wildly successful.

In the future, Ortiz hopes to have a program for middle school students with topics like Can You Dig It? exploring the archeological and fossil treasures of the San Luis Valley.

The Fort Garland Museum also partners with the Boy's and Girl's Club in Alamosa, the Blanca-Fort

Garland Community Center, and the Community Garden in Fort Garland to provide positive, healthy opportunities for San Luis Valley community.

There are exhibits in museums in Denver, Pueblo, Trinidad, Ute Indian Museum, Montrose, Georgetown Loop, Leadville, and in the Fort Garland Museum. There were a series of lectures and professional development classes on that subject.

A national travelling exhibit about the Borderlands through the Smithsonian will be coming to the San Luis Valley Museum in Alamosa in fall.

ASU

Continued from Page 1

for the educational opportunities and experiences that these labs will provide for our students," Nehring said. "There is something satisfying and tangible about the construction progress that we will begin witnessing tomorrow. I know the students are excited and I hope the community views this partnership as a point of pride."

The renovations to Adams State Porter Hall will include laboratory and classroom space for the CSU/ASU mechanical engineering program. Funding for the project included a \$1.1 million federal community project funding supported by U.S. Senator Michael Bennet and U.S. Senator John W. Hickenlooper.

Additional funding comes from Adams State institutional funds and the Adams State El Centro Sierra Blanca Grant. Although not used in the construction costs, Colorado State University received \$1 million from the federal community

project funding supported by U.S. Representative Joseph D. Neguse to assist with the mechanical engineering program.

Adams State partnered with Colorado State University to establish the mechanical engineering bachelor's degree. Students have the opportunity to earn the CSU degree, delivered entirely on the Adams State campus. Adams State provides all lower-division coursework for the first two years of the program and CSU provides all upper-division coursework with face-to-face instruction for the last two years by CSU faculty who are located in Alamosa.

The late William A. Porter, Class of 1951, was founder and chairman of E*TRADE Group, Inc. Porter donated \$4.6 million worth of stock in E*TRADE Group, Inc. in 1998. He received the Adams State Associated Alumni's 1991 Outstanding Achievement Award and the 2005 Billy Adams Award.

ICE

Continued from Page 1

safe on the ice this winter. While a great reason to go outdoors in the winter months, ice can be dangerous without proper preparation and an understanding of the dangers.

Conditions
 • Weather conditions along Colorado's weather can change quickly; it is important to check weather and ice conditions before trekking out onto the ice.

• Check with the agency that manages the body of water for current conditions before you head out.

• Always assume that unsafe ice conditions may exist.

• Ice conditions can vary across different areas of the same lake.

• Ice near a structure like a dock or log will be significantly thinner than ice in the center of a lake.

• Ice near moving water like an inlet or outlet will be thinner as well.

• Drill test holes to measure thickness in different areas as you venture out.


• Four inches of ice is generally considered safe for people ice fishing and ice skating.

• OHVs need at least 6 inches of ice thickness. Cars and medium trucks require 8-15 inches of ice.


Equipment
 • Bring the right equipment to make an ice trip more enjoyable and potentially save your life.

• Dress appropriately in warm clothes and layers.



For more information and current conditions, visit www.cpw.state.co.us.



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Bridge Office 305 3rd Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 – 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website – saguachecounty.colorado.gov under the Road and Bridge Department tab. Please fill out and submit the County Application. A complete job description is available at the Road and Bridge Office. Completed applications can be hand delivered or mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge – at the address listed above, sent by email to mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov or faxed to: 719-655-2543. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until qualified

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Likely to see increase in avian flu during Spring migration

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

ALAMOSA — According to figures compiled by the USDA and Colorado Department of Agriculture, Colorado reported the loss of 6.26 million domestic birds in 2022 to the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), also known as avian flu.

But the devastation does not end there. HPAI is also killing wild birds in increasing numbers.

“This has been the largest outbreak in Colorado and the nation, ever,” Olga Robak, communications director for the Colorado Department of Agriculture, reportedly said in December.

And it is not likely to end soon.

In fact, according to Colorado State Veterinarian Maggie Baldwin, “With wild bird migration beginning soon, we anticipate that we will see an increase in virus activity through late winter and spring.”

With thousands of Sandhill cranes migrating to the San Luis Valley in about a month, the Valley Courier reached out to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) to see what impact HPAI might have on the birds who are a celebrated part of the Valley landscape every spring along with the abundance of other birds who grace the Valley’s skies.

“Unlike prior strains of HPAI in North America, this particular strain is causing widespread mortality in some species of wild birds, particularly in snow geese, raptors and vultures,” says John Livingston, CPW’s Southwest Region Public Information Officer. “Across the state, we’ve seen a variety of hawks, ducks, geese, magpies, crows, and turkey vultures test positive. We have yet to detect HPAI in Sandhill cranes, at this time.”

As Livingston describes it, an outbreak of HPAI involving a new strain of H5N1 emerged in North America in the winter and spring of 2021-2022. Now, almost a year later, avian influenza outbreaks in wild birds and poultry continue to rise at a national level, and the U.S. is approaching a record number of birds affected compared to previous bird flu outbreaks.

“To date, HPAI has been detected in all four North American migration flyways,” he says, going on to echo the state veterinarian. “It’s expected that the disease will persist through spring migrations.”

For context, a few months ago, there were several incidents that provide a sobering glimpse of what is possible with the virus.

In late November 2022, CPW began receiving increasing reports of sick and dead snow geese in northeastern Colorado associated with large-scale HPAI mortality events. Staff with CPW recorded the deaths of close to 2,000 birds on multiple waterways in Morgan and Logan counties.

Shortly thereafter, large-scale deaths began occurring in southeast Colorado in Kiowa, Bent, Otero, and Prowers counties. Livingston says there was a die-off of approximately 600 snow geese at John Martin Reservoir, and CPW has observed a lower level of die-off at most reservoirs in the Lamar area.

“We have continued to see positive cases of this avian flu in every corner of the state, though in fewer numbers than those other mass events,” he says.

HPAI is also largely fatal to raptors — such as eagles, hawks, and owls — who become sick after feeding on the carrion of infected birds or by coming in contact with their feces or saliva.

Bald eagle deaths caused by HPAI have been found in four Colorado counties, including Adams, Boulder, Douglas, and Larimer.

When asked about the impact on raptors in the San Luis Valley, Livingston — who is stationed in Durango — offered a slightly brighter picture of the current situation.

“So far, we’ve felt pretty lucky in the Valley and across Southwest Colorado in that we’re not seeing a high-level of raptor mortality related to HPAI,” he said. “While folks have seen bald eagles eating the carcasses of Canada geese that have died of avian flu, we have yet to find or have reported to us a bald eagle death related to HPAI in our area.”

“But we did have one great horned owl in Rio Grande County test positive for HPAI. Our only other HPAI positives in the Valley have been from Canada geese,” he added.

When asked to speculate about the coming months, Livingston declined, saying that is difficult, “especially in populations such as snow geese where populations have been thriving and absolutely booming in some areas.”

The wild birds CPW staff see most affected continue to be snow geese, vultures, and raptors.

“But, as the sandhill cranes migrate through the Valley this spring, we’ll certainly monitor to see if there are any impacts and what kind of effects HPAI has,” he said.

Livingston continues to look at the bigger picture.

“As the state wildlife agency, we manage with the best available science and will make fact-based decisions and avoid making speculations,” he said. “While it’s difficult to see any dead animal, Colorado and North America as a whole have made incredible strides in wildlife conservation to bring numerous species back from the brink of extinction in the 1800s and early 1900s to the place where wild birds and wildlife thrive and expand their population every year. Sound conservation practices and laws related to the protection of wild birds will be of benefit as we navigate the HPAI situation.”

In the meantime, Livingston offers some general instructions to the public.

“If you find three or more dead wild birds in a specific area within a two-week period or if you see live birds showing clinical signs of disease, please contact the local Colorado Parks and Wildlife office in Monte Vista. Please be aware that CPW will not be able to respond to all calls and is focusing responses based on surveillance and management priorities,” he said.

There has only been one documented case to date of a person becoming infected by the virus. That case, which happened in Colorado in April of 2022, was detected in a man who was working with infected domesticated birds. He suffered only mild symptoms and recovered fully.

Even so, Livingston offers a precaution.

“Although rare, some HPAI strains can infect people, so it’s important to protect yourself,” he said. “The main protection for the general public is to avoid handling sick or dead birds and keep your distance from wildlife.”

According to a fact sheet on the CPW website, the current strain causes disease in many species including swans, gulls, geese, grebes, pelicans, raptors, vultures, cranes, some species of ducks, turkeys, and other game bird species. Typical symptoms include swim-



Photo by Brian Williams

Sandhill cranes in the San Luis Valley.

ming in circles, moving slowly, incoordination (may appear drunk), and head tilt or inability to lift the head. Most affected birds are seen on the

ground, but occasionally sick birds may be seen flying low and alone. Additional background information and precautionary measures can

be found by going to <https://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/Wildlife-Health/HPAI-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza.pdf>.

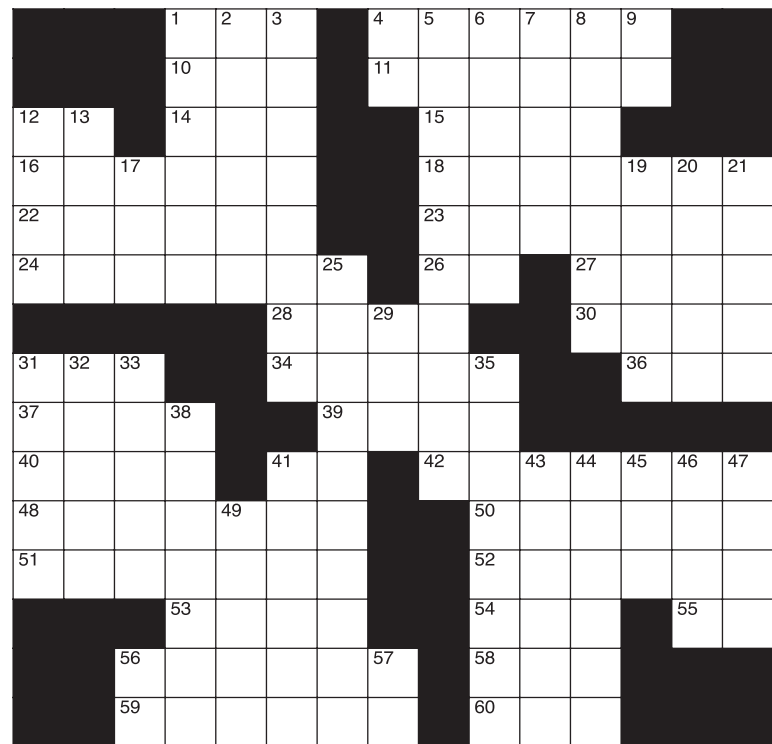
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16. Set up to blame
18. States of rest
22. Complete
23. Be around longer than
24. Instructs
26. Childless (abbr.)
27. Coffee machines do it
28. Bowfin
30. A group separate from established Church
31. Soviet Socialist Republic
34. Mends with a needle
36. When you hope to get there
37. Popular 80's pop duo
39. Beloved Mexican dish
40. Extremely small amount
41. Special therapy
42. Cause to move slowly
48. A person's natural height
50. Elicited
51. Legislator
52. Baking ingredient
53. Sandwich store



54. Peyton's little brother
55. Southeast
56. Popular Mexican beer
58. Baglike structure in a plant or animal
59. Car body manufacturer
60. Midway between south and southeast
19. Exclamation used for emphasis
20. Expel from one's property
21. Philly transit body
25. Small amount of something
29. Retirement account
31. Holey type of cheese
32. Young pig
33. Climbing palm
35. Discomfort
38. Bullfighter
41. High-level computer language
43. Fleishy extensions above the throat
44. Request
45. Equal to 10 meters (abbr.)
46. Bruce and Spike are two
47. Precipice
49. Wombs
56. A radio band
57. Emphasizes an amount

CLUES DOWN

1. Colorless volatile acid
2. A way to tangle
3. Jam rock band devotee
4. The nation's highest lawyer (abbr.)
5. Inviolable
6. Collision
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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
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FROM 'FOR SALE' TO 'SOLD'

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



FOR SALE!

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. \$600,000 MLS #797313
12272 County Road R5 • San Luis
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.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. Walk 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



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 fenced back yard with gate opening to the national forest. Hike for miles out your own back door. Downstairs has a master bedroom and a full bath. Upstairs additional bedroom, bathroom and nice size sitting nook, great space to enjoy that best-selling book or use for your office den. This cabin comes complete with one car garage, storage shed, central well and town sewer. Cabin can be used as a full-time residence, or home-away-from-home winter or summer get-a-way! Rentals are not allowed in this subdivision. Don't wait! Start your adventure today! Only a short 17-mile drive from Wolf Creek Ski area. The mighty South Fork and Rio Grande River, Beaver Mountain reservoir & Million reservoir are just moments away. Bring your fishing pole and enjoy hours of world class fishing. Ski Wolf Creek, go 4 wheeling, hike, camp, hunt, Enjoying everything outdoors! Let's get started call /text and schedule your showing today! \$345,000 MLS #800364
31517 Us Highway 160 • South Fork
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty
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