

## Shorts

### MV Historical Society meeting is Oct. 21

**MONTE VISTA** — The Monte Vista Historical Society will hold its annual meeting for 2022 on Oct. 21 at the back room of Nino's restaurant.

The meeting will include Dutch lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Two board members will be elected. All are welcome to attend.

### RG Public Health flu shot clinic Oct. 20

**DEL NORTE** — Rio Grande Public Health will be offering a flu shot clinic from 3 to 6 p.m. on Oct. 20 at the Del Norte Annex, 965 6th St.

This clinic will provide both regular and high-dose flu shots. Several insurances including Medicare will be accepted. No appointment needed.

For more information, call 719-657-3352.

### Councilman Carson, Heather Brooks guests at October Councilor Connections

**ALAMOSA** — The City of Alamosa will host its monthly Council Connections at 7 p.m. Oct. 13 at The Roast Cafe.

City councilman Michael Carson and City Manager Heather Brooks are this month's guests.

Council Connections was created to allow community members to informally engage and learn about projects happening in Alamosa as well as ask any questions they may have.

### ASU athletics to host 3rd annual Toys for Tots

**ALAMOSA** — Adams State University Athletics Department will host its 3rd annual drive for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Saturday during ASU's homecoming game.

Those who wish to donate can bring new, unwrapped toys for children ages 1 to 6.

Donations can also be made through [alamosa-toys-for-tots.org](http://alamosa-toys-for-tots.org).

**LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY: Spend Locally!**

## Lazy KV Estates HOA looking ahead

By PATRICK SHEA

**LAZY KV ESTATES** — The Lazy KV Estates Homeowners Association meeting at the HOA Hall on Oct. 11 touched on a number of issues, including a recap of septic issues presented earlier during the County Commissioners meeting in Saguache.

HOA President Mae Folsom steered the discussions of old and new business with more than a dozen residents in attendance. The HOA's attorney will send out foreclosure letters soon.

A member survey will include questions about updating bylaws and covenants (and becoming a Dark Skies community).

The greenbelt water will be shut off before the first hard freeze.

They will announce an increase in dues for 2023 soon, and they will be hearing from SLVREC's insurance company soon regarding water from the lake well seeping under Highway 17.

For new business, Folsom said they will host a Trunk-or-Treat gathering. *Please see ESTATES on Page 2A*

**Mae Folsom, president of the Lazy KV Estates Homeowners Association, shows the first phase of the association's Walipini Greenhouse construction outside the HOA meeting hall.**

Photo by Patrick Shea



Photo by Patrick Shea

Don McDonald gave the Saguache Board of County Commissioners a code enforcement update during their working meeting on Oct. 11.

## Saguache County codes dominate working meeting

By PATRICK SHEA

**SAGUACHE** — The Saguache County Commissioners met on Oct. 11 to address code violations and septic requirements, a sensitive subject that attracted representatives from the Lazy KV Estates.

Mae Folsom, the president of the Lazy KV Estates Homeowners Association, brought a crew of volunteers to propose a long-term plan for septic management in not only Saguache County, but perhaps all of Colorado. Commissioners set aside a full

hour for the discussion.

Folsom collected recent cease-and-desist letters from the county addressed to the HOA because previous administrators for the Lazy KV Estates failed to update documentation. Rather than go *Please see CODES on Page 2A*

## Baca Grande Township petition requires response

By PATRICK SHEA

**BACA GRANDE SUBDIVISIONS** — Residents and legal representatives have been active since Aug. 8 when a volunteer group from the Baca Grande Property Owners Association submitted a petition to Saguache County District Court to form the town of Baca Grande.

The volunteer group spent a year researching and preparing the petition, followed by notifying POA members. They initiated weekly information-sharing meetings on Sept. 19.

Held via ZOOM on Oct. 3 and 10, the meeting agendas included financial analysis, the election

process, and grant-writing resources for rural towns.

Another meeting is scheduled for Oct. 17 to discuss affordable housing, a potential solar farm, and the democratic challenge of becoming a town.

In separate meetings since September, the Baca Grande POA board met with members to discuss *Please see BACA on Page 2A*

**On the afternoon of Oct. 6, board members and administrators from the Baca Grande Property Owners Association provided music and food for their members to enjoy.**

Photo by Patrick Shea



## Rio Grande BOCC to join Rural Jumpstart Program

By Lyndsie Ferrell

**RIO GRANDE COUNTY** — Rio Grande County Commissioners listened to a presentation by Morgan Vankat through the Colorado Rural Jumpstart Program and Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) Director Sarah Stoeber.

The program is designed to offer tax incentives to new, out-of-state businesses who are looking to start a business in areas like the San Luis Valley.

Vankat began her presentation *Please see BOCC on Page 7A*

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# CODES Continued from Page 1A

to the proper owners, these code violation letters reached the HOA board. Other letters to specific owners echoed the same demand to come into compliance with county septic codes.

Leading the presentation, Lisa Bodey emphasized code compliance while asking for greater collaboration between property owners, code enforcement, engineers, contractors, and state and county agencies responsible for inspections and approvals.

Bodey also stressed how stressed-out residents don't respond to letters that sound threatening. As they are worded, the letters seem to call for a completed septic system within six days.

Another volunteer offered that the short deadline is impossible to meet, although county administrators said they would work with property owners who respond to the letters. Bodey noted how suppliers, engineers, and inspectors also complicate calendars.

On top of vendor scheduling delays, the costs of installing traditional septic systems have tripled in the last decade, particularly for property owners in the Lazy KV Estates. Soil tests in the area uncover impermeable clay and other soil conditions that rule out a standard Gravity Flow System (GFS).

Installing a GFS can cost between \$10,000 and \$15,000. When owners pay about \$1,300 for a percolation test and learn that the depth is insufficient for a leach field, their only alternative is a more expensive Pressure Dosed System — \$20,000 to \$35,000.

Meanwhile, the history of septic solutions means that "grandfathered" systems in the county conflict with updates to state regulations in 2018.

Following guidance from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), water control regulators amended the state's On-Site Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) regulations in 2018.

Acting as the Saguache County Board of Health, the Saguache County Board of County Commissioners voted to adopt the amended OWTS Regulation 43 through a resolution passed in 2019.

"We are compassionately looking at the whole community while staying in compliance with Reg 43," Bodey said.

Initiated through communication with commissioners in early August, the whole-community approach that Bodey presented will require more discussion during commissioner meetings in November and December (assuming they are on the agenda).

Long-term, Bodey proposed creating a grant-funded task force to work through regulations while pursuing middle-ground solutions currently unavailable to property owners.

New technologies like cassette toilets and incinerators may be more cost-effective and require less water for managing greywater and blackwater (sinks and toilets).

Commissioner Tim Lovato asked questions and encouraged more communication with CDPHE and other state agencies.

As Commissioner Tom McCracken noted at the close of discussion, "We're listening," adding that support from representatives at the state level would help steer the changes here in Saguache County.

The current cost to install a traditional septic system prevents many cash-strapped owners in the county from addressing their code violations.

Bodey breezed through a string of cost-effective alternatives, but she noted how existing regulations need to be addressed before adopting

alternate sanitation.

According to resident Tyler Berry, a small family can install an alternative system for \$800 to \$1,200. A similar system designed for 15 to 20 people can run around \$5,000.

According to Brett Buchanan, a local contractor, only a few organizations in the San Luis Valley can install a complete septic system, and their schedules are already full. Engineering firms are also difficult to find, and many residents cannot afford to meet the requirements.

# ESTATES Continued from Page 1A

for children outside the POA Hall on Oct. 29, starting at 6 p.m.

They discussed progress on the Walipini Greenhouse under construction near the hall.

The pit has been dug to reveal a prime example of the soil composition in the Lazy KV Estates area.

Joseph Gonzales cleaned up around the white fence surrounding the lake, and it will be repainted before winter. The lake well repairs will continue.

Maureen Eich VanWalleghan recapped the presentation to commissioners at the courthouse earlier in the day. Although blight and code violations exist throughout the county, the Lazy KV Estates

received a significant number of cease-and-desist letters.

Coming into compliance is cost-prohibitive for many property owners. At the same time, alternative methods like cassette toilets, composting toilets, bio-digesters, incinerators, and other methods can meet safety requirements and use considerably less water. However, current codes do not accommodate alternatives.

As proposed during the county commissioner meeting, a paid task force with representation from state agencies, suppliers, property owners, and county administrators could create solutions.

Collaboration between county and Lazy KV Estates grant-writers

could provide necessary funding.

President Folsom also recapped her experience attending meetings to turn the Baca Grande Subdivisions into the Town of Baca Grande. The long process of establishing township is currently tied up in court, but Folsom said she learned lessons that might apply to her HOA.

"I'm trying to understand the process," Folsom said. "I've been asked about becoming a town many times this past year. I don't know that we're quite there yet. As we grow, we need to look at grants, and we need to work on our water."

The next board meeting would have landed on election day, so they rescheduled it for Nov. 15, starting at 6 p.m.

# BACA Continued from Page 1A

the 2023 POA budget and other issues.

On Oct. 6, they hosted a picnic outside the POA hall, complete with hot dogs and music.

During the same timeframe, the general counsel for the Baca Grande POA filed a Motion to Intervene and a Motion to Dismiss with the Saguache County District Court.

On Oct. 4, the court issued an order granting the Motion to Intervene. The township petitioners have until Oct. 21 to respond.

As the POA board communicated to

members on Oct. 4, "These Motions should not be construed to mean we are against different ideas or even the thought of exploring various paths forward; however, our responsibility is to protect the property values of our Members and preserve the desirability of the Baca Grande. We feel the petition, as filed, and currently pursued, poses significant risks to our collective future. We are open to different approaches. We believe it is constructive and healthy for the community to research, discuss and

explore various responsible paths forward in a deliberate manner which may help us collectively provide needed services, maintain our property values, maintain our way-of-living, and preserve the unique rural nature of the Baca Grande. We also believe any such effort should ensure upfront, with the utmost rigor and care, that these goals can be achieved in a cost-effective equitable fashion."

The Baca Grande POA annual meeting, board member election, and 2023 budget approval will take place at the POA Hall on Oct. 14, starting at 7 p.m.

# SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the period between Oct. 3 and Oct. 9, 2022.

In addition to four speeding tickets and a citation for failing to yield to an emergency vehicle, deputies issued five REDDI Reports (Report Every Drunk Driver Immediately). They patrolled Saguache five times and made 10 visits to Crestone for suspicious activity, fraud, assault, theft, a drunken driver, and a car crash.

Throughout the county, deputies checked up on 11 controlled burns, two cases of loose livestock, and four animal problems. They conducted three welfare checks, assisted

motorists and other agencies, handled harassment, and addressed a juvenile problem.

### ARRESTS

• A 25-year-old Center man was arrested and detained on multiple charges (first-degree aggravated motor vehicle theft, unlawful possession of a controlled substance, protection order violation, and driving while license under restraint).

• A 27-year-old Alamosa woman was arrested and held for contempt of court (failure to comply).

• A 40-year-old Saguache man was arrested and detained for multiple weapons violations, menacing, and a protection order violation.

# OBITUARY

## Margaret Mary (Malouff) McKenna

Margaret Mary (Malouff) McKenna, age 85, of Ellis, Kansas passed away Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022, at the Good Samaritan Society, Hays. She was born June 11, 1937, in Capulin, Colo., to John and Mary Malouff.

Margaret was a farmer and owned the Red Vest Inn restaurant in Plainville. She enjoyed decorating especially at Christmas time, cooking, fishing, and time with her family.

Survivors include: Her son, Robert Reilly and wife Jennifer of Denver., their children, Samuel and Frankie Reilly; her son, Daniel Reilly of Denver, his children, Jacob, Paige and Joshua Reilly; her daughter, Patricia Kitzman of Ellis, her children, Jamie Linden, Erin Hobbs and Joseph Kitzman; her daughter, Pamela Gnad and husband John of Ellis, her children, Zachary Gehring, Matthew Gehring, Nicholas Gering; stepdaughter, Madelynn Rudzik and stepson, Maverick Gnad; as well as 14 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a grandchild, Patrick Reilly; brothers, Robert, John and James



Malouff, a sister, Sarah Freeman and a son-in-law, Randy Kitzman.

Margaret's family will hold a celebration of life service at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022, at the Monte Vista Cemetery.

Memorial contributions are suggested to: St Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Condolences may be left by guest book at [www.keithleyfuneralchapels.com](http://www.keithleyfuneralchapels.com).

Arrangements in care of Keithley Funeral Chapel 400 E. 17th Ellis, KS 67637.

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# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## Water, water everywhere

There is an old poem written by Samuel Taylor Coleridge named "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" and before you say I have a typo in the title of the poem and it should be "Rhyme," it's not. I guess he didn't have a spell check on his laptop back in 1798 at the time he wrote it or something.

The poem is about a sailor who is surrounded by the sea and even though it's technically made up of water, it's too salty to drink. Hence, he penned the lines:

Water, water, every where,  
And all the boards did shrink;  
Water, water, every where,  
Nor any drop to drink.

And even though we are far from the vast expanses of that salty abys, we often find ourselves in a situation just like that, especially in a flood or storm. Hurricanes and other major weather events often knock out our normally safe water supply and soon we are dependent on bottled water brought in by the literal truckload to save us.

Now Ol' Dutch has often been called a Rain Man of sorts as it seems that wherever I go it does rain in copious enough amounts that people soon ask me to leave. Why just this last summer I was in Colorado, and it rained for about 60 days straight and, let me tell you, it was wet. But soon enough it came time to remove myself from the beautiful Rocky Mountains and head south to escape the coming snows. So, Miss Trixie and I packed up the old Conestoga and pulled East and South for warmer climates.

It didn't take long before we hit the dry plains of Eastern Colorado, then New Mexico and Ol' Dutch felt that old familiar stirring inside and began to pray for rain for those poor folks. And as usual it came with a vengeance soon along the trail we chose. We found flooded streets and fields in all the bergs along our path. It got so bad and so dark that even Ol' Dutch, mountain man extraordinaire, had to stop and spend the night at the Big Box store.

But alas, morning pretty much brought cooler temps and drizzle and so it was a wet drive into the farm. But arriving there we were met with the horrors of the past summer drought as there are cracks in the ground big enough to swallow small children and old people, and the lake I own has shriveled up like a prune on steroids.

Ol' Dutch parked the RV and proceeded to hook up the utilities while the cows stood around me in



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

a circle begging for some cold tap water that they seem to prefer to pond water. So I took a minute to get the hose out to fill their tanks but when I turned on the spigot nothing came out. Which elicited a huge "oh no!" from my lips or something of that kind, at least. For I knew we were in for our own version of the ancient mariner. Water in the main line enough to dunk every Baptist in Texas but none at my hydrant.

Miss Trixie and I live out in the middle of our acres so the waterline to the meter is long. And I mean long. It's probably about 1,000 feet so finding a leak in that length I knew was going to be a challenge of immense proportions. Finding two welding rods I made some divining rods and quickly located the line across the pasture and walked it several times looking for a wet spot. This seems to work on any underground object and yes, not only am I a Rain Man but deviner of no little measure. But try as I may, I could not find the leak and so headed over to shut the water off and Miss Trixie luckily rode along. For it was she who discovered the water coming out of the field to the roadside ditch and so began a digging contest to find the break.

I would like to say that we are done with that saga but with the backhoe suffering issues, Ol' Dutch has already worn out one shovel and will have to break out a new one today and get that fixed.

It appears I have my work cut out for me and prayers have begun for rain to return to Texas so expect flooding and "water water everywhere but nary a drop to drink."

*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.*

## YOUR NIGHT SKY

BY DARLENE DANKO

### Autumn Equinox

We've been getting a lot of rain which is good, but hopefully the sky will have cleared, and we can welcome the Harvest Moon!

The full moon closest to the autumn equinox is known as the Harvest Moon. This year the Harvest Moon is on the 19th, followed by the autumn equinox on the 22nd. Don't forget that the Orionid meteor shower peaks on the 21st, but it lasts a long time. It started on Oct. 2 and lasts until Nov. 7.

So why is the Harvest Moon so special? Like any full moon it rises at sunset and sets at sunrise. On average, the moon rises about an hour later each night, but the Harvest Moon rises only 30 minutes later for several evenings in a row. This is because in the fall, the ecliptic that the Sun and Moon travel along is closer to the horizon at night, resulting in a shorter time between moon rises. This longer bright light

helped farmers harvest their crops. Hence the name Harvest Moon!

Because the Moon is so low in the sky, it appears larger and brighter than normal. This is merely an optical illusion. Also, being so low causes its reflected sunlight to pass through more of Earth's atmosphere, making the light redder. The atmospheric particles scatter the bluish component of light, which is why the sky appears blue. They allow the reddish light to travel straight to our eyes, so any light low on the horizon appears red.

So, when the Sun is close to the spring and fall equinox, it sets faster than it does near the summer and winter solstice. This is because the Sun sets due west and hits the horizon at the steepest possible angle.

On the solstice, the Sun is either its farthest north or south and sets at a shallower angle, which takes longer. This also applies to sunrise. The solstice is either the longest or shortest day of the year, depending on whether



it occurs in June or December.

Equinox is when the Sun crosses the equator, and either moves above or below it is heading toward summer or winter.

Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are October's major attractions. Saturn is east and is visible at nightfall. It doesn't set until 3 a.m. in early October, and shortly before 1 a.m. by the end of the month. Jupiter is the brightest object in the sky aside from the bright Moon. It's visible all evening. It dims slightly by the end of the month. Jupiter is also in the east. Mars isn't visible until midnight. The Moon joins Mars on the 14th. Mercury rises in the east 60 minutes before sunrise. Venus is now out of view.

## LETTERS

### Re-elect Attorney General Phil Weiser

Editor,

As a community member who has long worked in land and water conservation here in the San Luis Valley, it's clear that our future, from our economy to the health of our land and communities, relies upon the sustainability of our water.

While we work hard together locally toward solutions, we also need strong allies at higher levels of our state government to help secure our water for the future. That's why I wholeheartedly support the re-election of Attorney General Phil Weiser.

Phil's many, many visits to the

Valley over the last four years, mean that he has come to know us, to understand our issues, and to join with us in finding solutions, on water as well as so many other critical needs and challenges we face.

This was very evident when Attorney General Weiser stepped up as the first state official to join the San Luis Valley community in opposing the proposed water exportation scheme of so-called "Renewable Water Resources."

It's also worth noting that leaders across the political spectrum have endorsed Phil Weiser's reelection,

including his predecessor as Attorney General, Republican Cynthia Coffman.

Here in the Valley, we know the importance of having dedicated leaders like Attorney General Weiser supporting us and we know the profound effect they can have on the future of our land, water, and communities. Phil has our back and is a proven ally.

Please join me in supporting Phil Weiser for reelection as Colorado's Attorney General!

*Rio de la Vista  
Del Norte*

### Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars opposes Colorado Ballot Amendment F the Charitable Bingo and Raffles Amendment

Editor,

The Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars opposes Amendment F on the November 2022 Colorado ballot. The amendment will grind down one of the larger revenue streams nonprofit organizations have for use in your community.

Community benefits and causes

Trust and reliability, earned respect in your community, that is what religious, charitable, labor, fraternal, educational, volunteer firefighters, or veterans' organizations have brought over the years. Communities within Colorado benefit from the operation of nonprofits each day and in many locations around Colorado. Nonprofits are the sole community asset that is the

anchor of the population that enhance the economic, social programs, the unique spirit, and cultural well-being of their respective communities.

Credibility to insecurity

If Amendment F is passed this will allow any fly-by-night operator to invade Colorado, operate, and then flee as fast as they came, as they depart Colorado with the profits. Thereby leaving the nonprofits of Colorado without one of their larger revenue streams.

According to Amendment F, starting Jan. 1, 2025, the Colorado legislature can further reduce an important element toward obtaining a gaming license. The most important element is an organization's stability,

that is the number of years of proven stable financial management.

The lobbyist who produced the legislation in the first place argues that if the amendment passes, then the non-profits can testify against it and hope for the best when the Colorado legislature acts to reduce the three-year organizational stability requirement to zero.

Let's stop the nonsense now. Vote No on Amendment F and simply come back for a simplified amendment that only reduces the stability requirement to three years without the chance to go further.

*Steve Kjonas  
Legislative Director-Past VFW  
Western Conference Chairman*

# CENTER POST-DISPATCH

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# Communities unite to rescue Meadow

BY LYNDSIE FERRELL

**SOUTH FORK** — Snow was in the forecast two weeks ago in the high country and just as the pending storm was coming over the San Juan Mountains, Barbara Cowman drove up to the entrance to Big Meadows Reservoir, Forest Service Road 410 in hopes of seeing the large trap they had set the night before full of one amazing lost dog.

“She had already escaped the trap twice. She somehow had gotten in there and ate all the food and got back out without setting the trap off, so we weren’t sure if she would be in there,” said Cowman.

To her surprise and absolute delight, the adjustments 8200 Sports owner Joel Condren had made on the trap the night before paid off and the dog, later named Meadow was sound asleep on the pillows that Cowman

had left inside.

For the past several months, locals and guests alike who ventured up to Big Meadows Reservoir had reported seeing a dog near the main entrance off Highway 160 leading to the reservoir. The dog had a broken leash attached to a collar, and would run and hide when someone would try to coax her to them.

“People had been seeing her for at least two months. I just don’t know how she survived. It was a miracle really,” said Cowman.

Cowman got involved after seeing a post from fellow South Fork resident Laurie Robertson who had posted about the dog on Facebook.

“I had never met Laurie before this and it wasn’t the first time, I had rescued a dog that had gotten lost or abandoned this year, but I knew I had to help,” said Cowman.

According to Robertson, she had taken her dogs up to Shaw Lake to go for a walk and that was the first time she spotted the dog. She tried to get the animal to come to her, using her dogs as a way to make her feel comfortable but it didn’t work.

“I just kept going back and I finally saw her and took some blurry pictures and posted them on Facebook, hoping someone would come forward. No one ever came out and claimed the dog but man, did the community pull together! It was a fabulous experience,” said Robertson.

From that point forward, people from all over pulled together to save the dog. Cowman and Condren worked to get a large dog trap from Conour Animal Shelter and were finally successful in trapping the dog after three days of trial and error. Miraculously, the dog, Meadow, was

in good health for having been in the wilderness for so long.

“The new vet Jodi Duff has been an enormous help. When we called her, she jumped in her car and came right up. That was when I first met her. I was up at Big Meadows looking for Meadow and she came up to me and asked if I was looking for the lost dog. When I said I was, she said to bring it to her the minute we get her,” said Robertson. “She was amazing right from the start.”

Once Meadow was safe in the hands of the vet, she underwent some treatments for malnourishment and a tick born disease that she will most likely recover from. Other than those two things, Meadow is in perfect

health and is looking for her forever home.

In the meantime, the community from all over the Valley and beyond has donated money to help with expenses, toys, blankets, food and more.

“I just couldn’t believe the response we got. We have hundreds of people following her story and willing to help. It has been amazing to see,” said Cowman.

Cowman and Robertson will be choosing Meadow’s next family and they will be doing so with great care. A huge furry thanks goes out to everyone who helped in some form or another to bring this fuzzy friend safely home.



Courtesy photos

People from the San Luis Valley and the community of South Fork teamed up this past week to rescue a dog that was stranded near Big Meadows Reservoir on Wolf Creek Pass. The dog was safely captured and is currently being fostered until her forever home can be found.

## NOTICE OF ELECTION RIO GRANDE COUNTY

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2022

#### TO THE ELECTORS OF RIO GRANDE COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a General Election will be held by Mail Ballot on Tuesday, the 8th of November, 2022 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. If you are a registered voter, you will receive a ballot at your mailing address beginning October 17th. Mail Ballots may be dropped off at the Rio Grande County Clerk’s Office, 965 Sixth Street, Del Norte, Colorado, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ballots may also be dropped off on Saturday, October 29th & November 5th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 8th. A 24-Hour Drop Box is available on the west side of the building at 965 Sixth Street, Del Norte. Ballots can also be mailed using the envelope enclosed with the ballot. Ballots must be received at the County Clerk’s Office by 7:00 P.M. on November 8th. The Postmark does not count as being received.

Your ballot will contain only the Races or Issues on which you are eligible to vote.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the office of the County Clerk and Recorder this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022.

Cindy Hill

Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorder



### Don't Miss Another Moment...



## Schedule Your Flu Shot Today.



San Luis Valley HEALTH

### Flu Shots are available at Primary Care Clinics.

Walk-ins may be available. 719-589-3000

## GET YOUR FLU SHOT

Rio Grande Public Health will be offering flu shot clinics at the **Del Norte Annex on October 20th from 3 - 6 p.m.** at 965 6th Street. Please Bring your Insurance Card

This clinic will provide both regular and high-dose flu shots. We accept several insurances including Medicare. No appointment needed

For Information Call us at (719) 657-3352





# Halloween courtyard



Courtesy photo  
Tri County Senior Center of Monte Vista spent the past few fall days decorating its courtyard for Halloween. The scene is sure to bring all the little goblins and ghouls seeking sweet treats.

# Del Norte Chamber of Commerce announces start of Scarecrow Bash

**CONTRIBUTED**  
DEL NORTE — The Del Norte Chamber of Commerce’s annual Scarecrow Bash is happening.

“We’re doing things a little differently this year, so be sure to read through the flyer and form. We’re also breaking it down, step-by-step, right here,” organizers stated.

Step 1: Build your scarecrow.  
Step 2: Register your scarecrow with the Google form (<https://forms.gle/EbGG5eTJNZoCAyi5A>) and on the chamber’s website).

Step 3: The chamber will swing by the address you provided to take a photo of your scarecrow and post it to their social media channels.

Step 4: Share. The most Facebook likes will win. The chamber also encourages Instagram likes.

The contest ends on Oct. 28 and the chamber will have prizes for “Residential” and “Business” winners.



# Man’s body recovered below Mt. Ouray

**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — The body of a missing man was found below Mt. Ouray, according to the Saguache County Sheriff’s Office.

At approximately 3 p.m. on Sept. 30, Saguache County Sheriff Dan Warwick was contacted by Sheriff John Speeze of the Chaffee County Sheriff’s Office regarding a search and rescue operation being performed in Chaffee County for a missing man, Jonathan Yarborough, 49.

Yarborough had gone hiking and had not returned or contacted any of his family and friends in several days,

according to reports. He was reported missing to the Chaffee County Sheriff’s Office on Sept. 28.

Sheriff Speeze told Sheriff Warwick that while doing an aerial search for Yarborough they located him just inside Saguache County. Yarborough’s body was located just below Mt. Ouray.

The Chaffee County Sheriff’s Office Search and Rescue team handled the recovery efforts with assistance from DFPC with air support.

Yarborough’s body was transported to the Chaffee County Coroner’s Office.

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- Fight the RWR proposal and protect our water!
- Pass a Rural Colorado Economic Incentive Package
- Expand funding for Community Health Centers and local hospitals
- Start a Colorado Veterans Mental Health Initiative

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# Chuck Owsley is the 2022 Billy Adams Award recipient

**By GARRETT CARROLL**  
**ALAMOSA** — It's early 1968, and Chuck Owsley is finishing his degree at Adams State University. In the meantime, with his wife Becky and two kids, he is also running a little furniture store called Buy-low Furniture in downtown Alamosa. When the time approaches to head to campus, Owsley draws up a sign for the door that says, "Gone to graduate," locks up, and heads to his night classes. Attending Adams State on a golf scholarship, Owsley finished his studies, graduating with a bachelor's in business administration and a minor in art in 1968. He was 23. Since then, he has gone on to have an illustrious career in the legacy of Alamosa here in the San Luis Valley. Owsley is the 2022 Billy Adams Award recipient. He will receive the award at the Homecoming Alumni Banquet on Oct. 7.

"I'm incredibly thankful and honored," he said. Owsley has lived his entire life here in the Valley. "The Valley has changed immensely. Because of Adams State, and because of the medical facilities, transportation and businesses, we [Alamosa] became the center of the San Luis Valley," Owsley said. While many come to call the campus home, Adams State has been home for Owsley since he was little. He was born and grew up on Richardson Avenue. "As a little boy, I played a lot on campus, almost every day of my life," said Owsley. As an Alamosa High School student, he played football and basketball on the Adams State campus as AHS didn't have a football field or indoor basketball court at that time. After graduating he owned and operated Curtis Brothers Furniture, a large store in downtown Alamosa,

where he would remain for 42 years until his well-deserved retirement. For a number of years, he was a board member for the Alamosa Chamber of Commerce, and in 1975 he was president on the board. He was a member of what is now the Grizzly Club and on the Alumni Board during the 1970s. The Owsley Family has a long legacy in the valley and at Adams State. His father graduated in 1936, and his children and grandchildren earned Adams State degrees. Much of the campus's 100-year history has unfolded before his eyes. "I've watched almost every building be constructed [on campus] since the 1960's. I've lived in the valley all my life." Since retirement, Owsley has spent a number of years on the Adams State University Foundation Board and owns some commercial rentals. He used to play a lot of golf, however an injury caused him to limit the activity.

He also owns a cabin in South Fork, where he and his wife enjoy spending time together. Owsley is also an avid gardener. Having grown up and lived in the valley his whole life, Owsley has also been a lifelong Adams State athletics fan, and has missed very few events. "In 2014, Becky and I received the Grizzly Club Individual Partners of the Year Award, and that was a big honor," he said. Owsley encourages current students to do their best in college for future success in the world. "The motto for Adams State is 'great stories begin here,'" said Owsley, "It was for my father, for myself, for my kids, and for my grandkids."



Courtesy photo  
**Pictured, Chuck and Becky Owsley, Chuck is the 2022 Adams State Billy Adams Award recipient.**

## Rio Grande County Museum partners with Windsor for holiday event

*Fundraiser will support Barlow and Sanderson Stage office restoration*

It is no secret that the stage was the reason many people traveled to the area in 1874, which was seven years before the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad brought the train this far west in the San Luis Valley and changed the course of history from that moment on.

is housed in the museum and will be on display the night of Nov. 12 for all to see. There will also be several other artifacts surrounding the history of the Barlow and Sanderson Stage as well as the Windsor Hotel.

**STAFF REPORT**  
**DEL NORTE** — As part of the celebration of Del Norte's 150th anniversary and to raise funding for the Barlow and Sanderson Stage office restoration project, the Rio Grande County Museum is partnering with the Windsor Hotel to host an evening of fun on Nov. 12 and a chance to literally bring history back to life. For the past year, local resident Suzanne Off has launched an effort to raise funding to restore the old Barlow and Sanderson Stage office which has fallen into disrepair.

During those long-forgotten days, the Windsor Hotel, originally called the Whitsett house was built between 1874 and the spring of 1875 to encourage the traveling public to visit the growing town of Del Norte. The stage was what brought people here and the hotel was where they stayed until they found their forever homes or moved on to other locations.

This event will feature a three-course meal and wine pairing as well as a cash bar and a chance to be a part of something special. Each plate will cost \$100 per person with all proceeds going to the preservation and relocation of the stage office. RSVP to the Rio Grande County Museum at 580 Oak St., Del Norte, and for more information, call 719-657-2847 or email the museum at rgmuseum@riograndecounty.org. There are limited seats available.

# VOTE

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## San Luis Valley Scoreboard 2022-2023

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<b>Mountain Valley 76</b>	
.....Sangre de Cristo 17	
<b>Sierra Grande 102</b> .....	<b>La Veta 58</b>
<b>Sargent 52</b> .....	<b>Dolores 0</b>
<b>Monte Vista 68</b> .....	<b>Trinidad 6</b>
<b>Ignacio 42</b> .....	<b>Center 6</b>
<b>Centauri 57</b> .....	<b>Del Norte 0</b>
<b>Alamosa 49</b> .....	<b>Lamar 7</b>

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## Simple Keys for Learning to Think Like Jesus Thinks

For many years I went to church faithfully, week after week, but I wasn't living a victorious Christian life. I read my Bible every day, served on the evangelism board and went door-to-door telling people about Jesus because I really wanted to serve God. But even though I was doing those things, I was still miserable most of the time.

While I learned a good foundation about salvation—experiencing new life in Christ—through God's grace at my church, I wasn't learning how to be transformed into the image of Christ by renewing my mind, according to God's Word.

It caused me to live in a frustrating cycle: Go to church on Sunday, fight with my husband during the week, get frustrated with my kids a lot and feel miserable, depressed, angry—like a mess—and then go back to church on Sunday to get "right" with God again. I felt like I couldn't be a sane human being.

Ephesians 4:23-24 (AMPC) says to "be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude], and put on the new nature (the regenerate self) created in God's image..."

This is so important, because it's impossible to have a positive, peaceful life and at the same time have a negative mind.

But when we take time to renew our minds with God's Word, we learn how to think like God thinks, say what God says, and act like He wants us to act. Then we can have what He wants us to have—abundant life in Christ, filled with His righteousness, peace and joy. (See John 10:10 and Romans 14:17.)

**How Are You Supposed to Think?**

The first thing we need to understand is that when we become new creations in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17), what is normal for the world is no longer normal for us. There's a way we're

supposed to live that reflects the image of Christ in the world.

For example, many people think it's normal to worry, but as a Christian, worrying is not a normal way of thinking. Philippians 4:6 says, "Do not be anxious about anything" (NIV). This doesn't mean we won't ever feel worried, but when we do, we can pray and give it to God so we can have His peace while we go through the challenges of life.

First Corinthians 2:16 (NIV) says "we have the mind of Christ." This means no matter what our circumstances may be, we can have God's wisdom, discernment and peace to guide our decisions in the midst of them.

We can live with these mind-sets:

**The Made-Up Mind:** Colossians 3:2 says to "set your minds and keep them set on what is above...not on the things that are on the earth" (AMPC). The only way we can accomplish what we really want to do in life is by determining what God has put in our hearts to do and then setting our minds to do it. With the help of the Holy Spirit, you can make up your mind and stop over-thinking your decisions.

**The Humble Mind:** Philippians 2:5 says, "Let this same attitude and purpose and [humble] mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus..." (AMPC). A person with a humble mind is peaceful because they can wait on God's timing and follow His direction; they don't constantly struggle with wondering why or when. And they aren't judgmental or critical of others.

**The Focused Mind:** We live in an age of distraction! It's amazing how much information is coming at us most of the time through technology, the media and the busyness of the world around us. I've decided that the world probably isn't going to change, so I have to change. I'm learning how

Moving Up Higher

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to keep my mind on what I'm doing, rather than thinking about several things at once or what I want to do next.

**You Can Choose**

There is a way to have righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit—to have victory in our circumstances and not live based on what the world views as "normal." And it all begins with renewing our minds. *The choice is up to us.*

Make the decision to spend time each day reading and meditating on God's Word. Pray and ask God to help you understand how to apply the wisdom you discover to your everyday life. As you do your part to renew your mind, God will do His. And you'll love the transformation that comes with having a "normal" mind—the mind of Christ!

*For more on this topic, order Joyce's CD audiobook **Battlefield of the Mind**. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).*

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 140 books, including **BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND** and **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](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

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



# CRT Young Audience Outreach tour in full swing

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

**CREEDE** — As the curtains closed for Creede Repertory Theatre’s 2022 season, one of its other programs hit the ground running and has, to this point, visited six states and has performed this year’s production of “Casa Alfonso” for 9,000 students.

The program is in its fifth week and is about one-third of the way through. By the end of the program, CRT’s Youth Outreach crew hopes to interact with 40,000 students in rural areas throughout the western United States.

The Youth Outreach performers use their expertise in theatrical education to teach students in underserved areas about the importance of theatre. This year’s production focuses on the need to deal with conflict resolution and regulate their emotions in stressful situations.

The book included with the program is written by Diana Grisanti, who also wrote the lyrics for the play itself. Music is by Emiliano Messiez and the play is directed by Ismael Lara, Jr. and choreographed by Bethany Eilean Talley.

According to the description, “Cousins Bruna and Fernando belong to the third generation of a busy restaurant family. They spend their

days together, doing homework in the kitchen and making Shirley Temples behind the bar. It’s a pretty good life! That is, until their beloved grandmother, Alfonso, passes away. Not only was Alfonso an amazing chef, but she was also the glue that held the family together. Now her grown children — Bruna’s mom and Fernando’s dad — won’t stop fighting. It’s up to the cousins (and of course, Alfonso’s ghost!) to help the grownups navigate their grief, regulate their emotions, and keep the restaurant afloat. Casa Alfonso is an upbeat musical featuring song, dance, and many, many puppets.”

Now in its 39th season, the program is growing each year. Right now, the team that makes up the Youth Outreach Tour goes to schools throughout Colorado, New Mexico, Kansas, Arizona, Oklahoma, Utah, Nevada and Texas, with the hopes that more schools will learn about and sign up for the tour. Each school gets the chance to see the play and each student receives a book based on the production to take home.

This year CRT’s educational program is also offering a Tiny Tour which focuses on audiences in the 5-and-younger students in preschools.

“The Tiny Tour is an engaging,

interactive performance designed specifically for our youngest learners, ages 5 and under. The Tiny Tour can be performed right in your preschool classroom or young learner space,” organizers stated.

It is a way to include younger audiences and CRT brings the program right to their classroom.

This year, the production being offered is titled “Ms. Joy” and according to the description, “Ms. Joy isn’t particularly joyful. She has a set routine that she sticks to every day. There is a time and place for everything. Until, one day, she receives a surprise visit from an unexpected canine friend, and he turns her routine upside down.

“Running approximately 25 minutes, ‘Ms. Joy’ is a story for our youngest learners (ages 5 and under), told through clowning, puppetry, and sound. It teaches students the power of play, friendship, and laughter.”

Both programs are a one-of-a-kind opportunity for classrooms around the western US and a chance for students to be engaged in the theatrical arts.

In addition to the outreach tours, the theatre will also be offering Friday Day Camps starting on Oct. 14. For more information, visit [www.crederep.org](http://www.crederep.org).



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

**Morgan Vankat with the Colorado State Rural Jumpstart Program gave a presentation to Rio Grande County Commissioners on Wednesday, Oct. 5, to talk about the program and the potential benefit it may have for new business owners coming from out of state to start a business in the county.**

## BOCC Continued from Page 1A

by pointing out that of all the rural jumpstart areas that have formed throughout Colorado, the San Luis Valley is pretty much the only place that doesn’t have the program and that she wanted to see that change.

“As you can see, pretty much the last few areas throughout the state that don’t have the Rural Jumpstart Program consists of pretty much the entire San Luis Valley, and I want to see that change,” Vankat said.

Rio Grande County and other counties in the Valley offer a few different incentives to new businesses including Enterprise Zone tax breaks and other grant-funded loan programs that assist new businesses in getting established and being successful for years to come. The new Jumpstart Program would be similar and add to the growing “toolbox” the county has to offer businesses the perfect place to open their doors.

The Rural Jumpstart Program helps economically distressed communities attract new businesses and jobs. Counties, municipalities, higher education institutions and or economic development organizations work together to apply for this program. When a community is a designated

Rural Jumpstart zone, new businesses can receive incentive payments and tax relief including credits, exemptions, and refunds from: state income tax, state sales and use tax and county and municipal personal property taxes. Employees of new businesses receive a tax credit for 100% of state income taxes on their wages for work in the Rural Jumpstart zone. The Rural Jumpstart Program began in January 2016 and will accept applications through Dec. 31, 2025.

This program is a two-fold opportunity that cultivates economic activity in specifically targeted rural counties while providing tax breaks to new companies that chose to locate within those counties. The counties receive the benefit of attracting new businesses to their communities, and these businesses can boost the local economy while receiving tax relief for four years with the opportunity to apply for an extension of an additional four years.

Some of the more challenging setbacks with the program make it difficult for businesses to qualify for but due to the nature of the economy at the present time, Vankat is confident that it wouldn’t take long for a

business to be interested in the San Luis Valley and move here.

For instance, the program requires a business to be completely non-competitive. If someone in the business of making soap wants to move into the San Luis Valley and be part of the program, it would only be allowed to do so if there are no other soap making businesses in the county it is moving to or neighboring counties within a certain range. This is only one example of the qualifications a business must go through to be part of the program. The qualifying business also must be from outside of Colorado.

The biggest incentive of being a qualifying business is the grant opportunities built into the program that allows up to a certain amount of grant to be awarded and used for operating costs. This is a one-of-a-kind grant opportunity for the business as no other similar grant programs exist that allow the grant funding to be used for operation of the business.

Rio Grande County Commissioners opted to join the program and be a part of the Rural Jumpstart community and will be drafting a resolution to be approved within the coming month.

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# SLV Health receives HCI grant



Courtesy photo

Health Colorado Inc. (HCI) is a system of integrated healthcare providers. They are Colorado's Region 4's organization helping healthcare systems improve health, wellness, and life outcomes. One of their tools to help SLV Health achieve solutions to improve health outcomes was to award a community reinvestment grant to offset the costs associated with improving access to employee housing. SLV Health is thankful to HCI for this award as well as the ongoing working relationship to address the social determinants of patients and the community. Left to right are Lori Roberts, CEO and Program Officer; Christina Brown, Director of Community Engagement and Transformation; Audrey Reich Loy, SLVH Director of Program Operations; Betty Nufer, CHI Board member and Community Engagement Chair.

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Simply put — without dental insurance, there may be an **important gap** in your healthcare coverage.

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

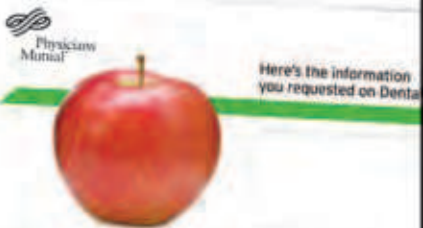
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# Center Vikings Homecoming 2022!



## October 10-15 Lights! Camera! Action

### Monday, October 10:

-Pajama Day (Have a comfy Monday in your favorite PJs!)

-Powder Puff Football @7pm

### Tuesday, October 11:

-Adam Sandler Day (Dress like Hollywood legend Adam Sandler!)

-Pep Assembly during HS Advisory

-Volleyball v. Monte Vista @5pm

-Bonfire @7pm (More details to come!)

### Wednesday, October 12:

-On Wednesdays We Wear Pink Day (Wear your pinkest pink!)

-Parade @3pm

-Ruff 'n' Tuff Volleyball @7pm

### Thursday, October 13:

-White Lies Day (Wear a white shirt with a white lie about yourself on the front!)

-Knowledge Bowl @ ASU @9am

-Volleyball @ Trinidad @4:30pm

### Friday, October 14:

-Cross Country @ Monte Vista @9am

-Football v. Del Norte @7pm (Neon Night!)

\*Homecoming Royalty Coronation @ halftime

### Saturday, October 15:

-Homecoming Dance @ 7-11:30pm

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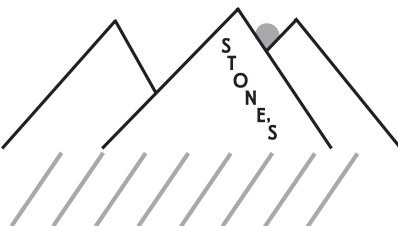
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## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October was first proclaimed as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in 1989. Since then, October has been a time to acknowledge domestic violence survivors and be a voice for those who may be experiencing it. Domestic violence is prevalent in every community, and affects all people regardless of age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality.

Every October, Tu Casa, Inc. joins with its partners, supporters, and allies across the country to recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). From August 2021 to August 2022, Tu Casa, Inc. has served 285 clients: 192 of which were provided services through Tu Casa and 93 of which were provided

services through the SLV CAC.

Tu Casa, Inc. encourages everyone to get involved and help raise awareness about domestic violence. We have seen the power each and every one of us have in making a difference by bringing awareness to domestic violence. This year you can participate by getting involved with the #Weareresilient. This is the official hashtag for the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence's DVAM activities, a campaign to "Recognize Our Resilience". Tu Casa, Inc. also hopes to spread awareness by asking staff and the community to wear purple every Friday in the month of October. The color purple has been nationally recognized as the symbolic color

**Please see MONTH on Page 7**

## Adelante San Luis providing youth a 'spark' again

BY DIANE DREKMANN

**SAN LUIS** — Adelante was created in 2015 by the Colorado Trust to address the needs of several rural communities — specifically San Luis, Antonito, and Saguache.

The health equity of these towns was addressed — health care, education, preserving culture and economic development. A grassroots organization made up of 25 community members spent three years finding ways to address these issues. They interviewed community members, asking "What are your needs? What can be done to improve your community?" They had focus groups with youth and adults and conducted surveys.

In 2018, Judith Sanchez became the director of Adelante San Luis. Antonito Together and Heart of Saguache are the other two branches of

**Please see ADELANTE on Page 7**



Photo by Diane Drekman

**Pictured left to right, Florinda Hernandez, Moses Hernandez and Director of Adelante San Luis Judith Sanchez at the Fiesta de Otono in San Luis. Adelante San Luis hosts the event each year.**

## Garden tractor pull contest slowly approaching

BY PATRICK SHEA

**ALAMOSA COUNTY** — Competitive garden tractor drivers will convene at the Del Monte Gun Club in Alamosa County on Oct. 15 to see who can pull a sled the farthest. Without exceeding 3 mph, drivers will try to cover as much ground as possible until they can't move forward anymore.

The contest continues a tradition that the San Luis Valley Antique Iron Club (SLVAIC) started more than 22 years ago.

"The first events we had were some tractor pulls at Ski Hi Park," noted club historian, bylaws writer, and active competitor Jim Clare. "We probably had 25 or 30 tractors," Clare added, emphasizing that people came from the Arkansas Valley and other parts of Colorado to show off their antiques in action.

Today at the Del Monte Gun Club on Highway 160 between Monte Vista and Alamosa, Clare explained, "we try to have at least three major events on the track every year."

With 37 years experience working for the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative (SLVREC) and 25 years as a volunteer firefighter, Clare also helped other organizations and was familiar with creating bylaws and assembling a board.

"I helped them put together bylaws and the procedures to become a 501(3)(c)," Clare said, noting how other members also contributed two decades ago. "Our main intent of becoming a 501(3)(c)," Clare continued, "was to maybe start a museum somewhere."

The veteran competitor and restoration enthusiast said the group hopes to fence off an outdoor display on the empty lot across from the Rio Grande County Museum in Del Norte. SLVAIC

has previously displayed farm implements in the museum, and Clare family artifacts are on display at the Saguache County Museum as well.

The Del Monte Gun Club is a designated recreational park area in Alamosa County. In addition to shooting facilities, the park includes the SLVAIC pull track with spectator seating and tillage equipment and thrashing machines on display.

"We're hoping to get quite a few people to show up," Clare anticipated. Separated into at least eight weight classes, the old equipment must be manufactured before 1960 to qualify. Clare said entry into the world of competitive pulling is lower for garden tractors. "We're trying to get more FFA [Future Farmers of America] and 4-H kids involved."

One of at least four clubs in Colorado, SLVAIC meets once a month at the Colorado Potato Administration Council (CPAC) office next to Safe-way in Monte Vista. Dating back to the group's roots, renovating old equipment to honor antiquity is as much a part of SLVAIC as the competitions and museum curation. Newcomers are welcome to stop by the CPAC office at 7:30 on Oct. 5 to learn more about the club and upcoming events.

Clare recalled having more than 100 spectators for competitions at Ski Hi Park in the past, yet he also added, "Some of the wives say it's kind of like watching the grass grow. But an old farmer will say, 'I was raised on one of those.'"

Tractor pulls and drag races are exact opposites. Before most of the two-car duels at the Center Drag Races on Leach Air Field in Saguache County this summer, racers spun out their tires before reaching the start line. Tractor pullers, on the other hand, hit their finish line when their tires spin out and they're basically stuck.



Using their facility with bleachers and antiques at the Del Monte Gun Club, the San Luis Valley Antique Iron Club (SLVAIC) will host a garden tractor pull competition on Oct. 15.

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# RG Headwaters Land Trust preserving San Luis Valley

By DIANE DREKMAN

**DEL NORTE** — The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust is an organization working to preserve the way of life in the San Luis Valley. Established in 1999, this non-profit land trust protects working farms and ranches as well as river systems and wildlife habitat through conservation easements that keep the land and water intact for future generations. It is the only land grant that services all the counties in San Luis Valley.

The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust partners with private landowners to create a conservation easement, which is a voluntary legal agreement that protects the land forever.

The purpose of a conservation easement is to support and keep working ranches and farms intact and wildlife habitat protected. The conservation easement states that a landowner cannot subdivide the land or sell the water rights.

Both need to be protected to preserve the whole ecosystem, beneficial to wildlife and agriculture. The landowner retains 100% ownership and is ensured that the property will continue to be used for agriculture for future generations.

Each conservation easement is different, in a way that would be most beneficial to the landowner. The easements are paid for by grants. An example of their work is Crowther Meadows Ranch outside of Manassa. This 160-acre ranch is a haven for birds and other wildlife because of its marshes. The ranch is also used for hay production and grazing.

The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust is focusing on protecting the Conejos and Rio Grande rivers' (riparian) systems.

The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust is for and about the community. They offer workshops for landowners



Photo by Diane Drekman

**The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust held its annual Hoedown and Cornhole Tournament Throwdown on Oct. 1 at the Colorado Farm Brewery outside Alamosa.**

and business owners to learn more about conservation easements and other conservation issues, like water and sustainable farming. The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust realizes the importance of getting children involved.

Board member Steve Russell says, "We provide hands-on activities for children, like planting willows, to get children involved. They don't know about the land. Being involved, the children learn more about their land and Valley."

The hope is by teaching and engaging children in real-life activities, they gain an appreciation and sense of ownership of their way of life. Children go to sheep farms to learn about wool. They collect water samples and learn about water systems.

The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust has events throughout the year to connect with the community. The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust held its annual Hoedown and Cornhole Tournament Throwdown on Oct. 1 at the Colorado Farm Brewery outside Alamosa.

The brewery are big supporters of the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust

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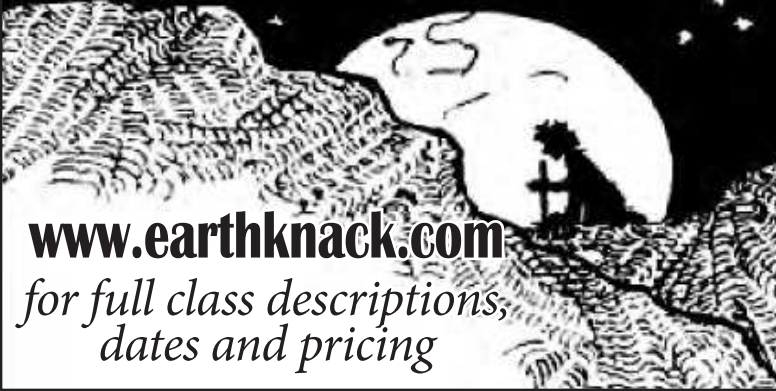
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Courtesy photo

Rio Grande Inn, in La Jara, has new ownership and is renamed Rio Grande Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center. The staff of the 60-bed subacute and skilled nursing facility provide long- and short-term care and rehabilitation, in an intimate and compassionate environment.

# Rio Grande Inn has new ownership

*Renamed Rio Grande Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center*

**CONTRIBUTED**

**LA JARA** — Rio Grande Inn recently announced it has changed ownership. Renamed Rio Grande Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center, the 60-bed subacute and skilled nursing facility provides a broad spectrum of care, including long- and short-term care and rehabilitation, in an intimate and compassionate environment.

The new ownership team is a group of skilled nursing facility managers and operators based in Colorado and the Midwest. The ownership change was effective Sept. 1. The seller was C & G Health Care Management, of Cortez.

“In these challenging times, it is very reassuring that our new ownership team has years of know-how, shared values and a great group of experienced experts — based right here in our region — to support our care team,” said Jacob Duke, the center’s administrator.

Rio Grande Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center, at 39 Calle Miller, in La Jara, will benefit from the hands-on attention that comes from a smaller, but skilled “non-corporate” ownership and management team. The team has overseen operations at similar-sized care centers, in rural and suburban communities around Colorado and the Midwest and brings many new ideas that have been suc-

cessful at other facilities.

“Our new owners view Rio Grande Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center as a world of family and friends,” said Duke. “They share core principles and standards that reflect the people and beliefs of our region: Genuine Hometown Care, Community Integration, and Employees are Family.”

Rio Grande Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center is known for its focus on providing hometown care with a commitment to fully integrating with the healthcare needs of the La Jara community. As it continues to grow, the center will benefit from working with a skilled, hands-on regional ownership team.

“The ownership group has significant experience in overseeing operations at similar-sized care centers,” Duke noted. “We anticipate incorporating new ideas that have been successful at their other facilities as we work to advance our mission of excellence in care.”

## Legal Resource Days Oct. 11-13

**ALAMOSA** — The 12th Judicial District Access to Justice Committee will hold Legal Resource Days Oct. 11-13.

Free educational sessions will be conducted by local attorneys and court staff in the areas of family law, estates, and guardianship/conservatorships in person at the Alamosa County Justice Center, and virtually in Conejos, Costilla, Rio Grande, and Saguache county courthouses as needed.

RSVPs for attendance are recommended.

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## SUDOKU

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

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Level: Advanced

### Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

### Solution to last week’s puzzle

R	U	E	R			M	S	T			R	A	T						
O	X	B	O	W		A	K	A			R	A	B	I					
M	O	L	T	O		N	I	L			A	G	E	E					
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S	E	I	S			Z	E	E				R	A	B	B	I			
A	R	C				E	R	R					R	E	E	D			

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## CLASSIFIED INDEX

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
01 TICKETS  
02 CARD OF THANKS  
03 MEMORIALS  
04 LOST & FOUND  
05 NOTICES/BAZAARS  
06 PERSONALS  
**EMPLOYMENT**  
07 HELP WANTED  
08 WORK WANTED  
09 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES  
**FOR RENT**  
10 APARTMENTS  
11 ROOMS  
12 HOUSES  
13 MOBILE HOMES  
14 BUSINESS PROPERTY  
15 WANTED TO RENT  
16 VACATION  
**REAL ESTATE**  
17 REAL ESTATE  
18 LOTS & ACREAGE  
19 FARM & FARMLAND  
20 BUSINESS PROPERTY  
21 MOBILE HOMES  
22 PROPERTY WANTED

**MERCHANDISE**  
23 LAWN & GARDEN  
24 GARAGE SALES  
25 AUCTIONS  
26 ANTIQUES  
27 APPLIANCES  
28 HOUSEHOLD GOODS  
29 MUSICAL ITEMS  
30 ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS  
31 HEALTH  
32 FUEL & HEATING  
33 BUILDING MATERIALS  
34 OFFICE EQUIPMENT  
35 HEAVY EQUIPMENT  
36 MISCELLANEOUS  
37 WANTED  
38 MACHINERY, TOOLS & EQUIPMENT  
39 SPORTING GOODS  
40 AUTO PARTS  
**FARMER MARKET**  
41 FARM EQUIPMENT  
42 FEED & SEED  
43 FARM PRODUCTS  
44 FARM SERVICES

**ANIMALS**  
45 ANIMAL BREEDING  
46 PASTURE FOR RENT  
47 HORSES & CATTLE  
48 PETS & SUPPLIES  
49 ANIMAL CARE  
50 LIVESTOCK  
**RECREATIONAL**  
51 BOATS & EQUIPMENT  
52 CAMPING EQUIPMENT  
53 TRAILERS  
54 SNOWMOBILES/ATV'S  
55 R.V.'S/CAMPERS  
**FINANCIAL**  
56 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY  
57 INVESTMENTS  
**TRANSPORTATION**  
58 MOTORCYCLES  
59 VEHICLES WANTED  
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## 05 Notices

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**For information on meetings for ALANON NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS AND ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** Please visit [slvaa.org](http://slvaa.org) or call 719-937-5083.

## 07 Help Wanted

**Head Wrestling Coach** needed at Del Norte Jr/Sr High School. Experience as a wrestling coach or assistant coach at the high school or level is preferred. Must possess: effective coaching techniques and skills; a thorough knowledge of the rules, regulations, strategies, and

techniques of the sport; and have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with school administrators, parents, and students. Please contact Gibbs Sanchez, Athletic Director, at: [gsanchez@urtigers.co](mailto:gsanchez@urtigers.co) 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at: [ahardy@urtigers.co](mailto:ahardy@urtigers.co), 719-657-4020.

Full-time **Custodian/Maintenance** position open at the Upper Rio Grande School District. This is a 4-10 hour day (Monday-Thursday with some weekends needed) position with a salary range of \$25,000-\$32,000 based on experience. Applicant must pass a background check, be able to work independently, and be a forward-thinking

individual with an overall team approach to all tasks at hand. Applicant must also be able to work in all weather conditions (snow removal/general landscaping). If interested, please contact Demo Trujillo, 719-657-4040 x4007, [dtrujillo@urtigers.co](mailto:dtrujillo@urtigers.co). Applications can be retrieved online at: [www.urtigers.co](http://www.urtigers.co).

**Seeking Director of Single-Family Housing Development** for Alamosa nonprofit company, CRHDC. Oversees SLV Self-Help & Contract Housing Development. \$63K-68K +benefits. See full description at [www.crhdc.org](http://www.crhdc.org) Resume and cover letter to [melanie@crhdc.org](mailto:melanie@crhdc.org)

**Cafeteria Cook** needed at Upper Rio Grande School District.

Must have a high school diploma and some knowledge of working in a kitchen or a willingness to be trained. Pay is dependent on prior experience. Please contact Leslie Martinez at 719-657-4040, x1100 or email her at [lmartinez@urtigers.co](mailto:lmartinez@urtigers.co).

**Bus Drivers** needed for the Upper Rio Grande School District, CDL and Non-CDL drivers. Will pay for CDL license and training with contract. Must be able to pass a background and pre employment drug test. If interested, please

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# Valley Wide Classifieds

contact Demo Trujillo, 719-657-4040 x4007, dtrujillo@urtigers.co. Applications can be retrieved online at: [www.urtigers.co](http://www.urtigers.co). (10/19)

**MAINTENANCE TECH.** Experienced individual needed for maintenance services with responsibility for maintenance or Saguache County facilities. This is a Full-time position working 32 to 40 hours a week, with variable hours which include evening and/or early morning work times. Starting salary will be \$15.05/hr. To view the job description and an application they are available at Saguache County Administration office 505 3rd Street, Saguache or printable at [www.saguachecounty.colorado.gov](http://www.saguachecounty.colorado.gov). Call 719-655-2231 for more information. Position opened until filled. Saguache County is an EEO employer. Valid Driver's License, Drug testing which includes marijuana and a background check will be required also a physical exam may be required for final applicants.

**Wanted: K-12 Tutors for Math and Reading/ Language.** Center School District is seeking qualified hourly and part time tutors for excellent pay. Get paid up to \$40 an hour. Pay depends on experience and credentials. Tutors will need to commit to at least one hour of tutoring 2x per week. This is a wonderful opportunity for someone searching for a flexible and professional work experience. Tutors can work anywhere from 3-29 hours per week during school hours (8am-4pm) and/or after school hours (anywhere from 4pm-8pm depending on the needs of our students.) Bilingual is preferred but not required. To apply, send a Cover Letter, Resume, and application found at [www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities](http://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities) to Carrie Zimmerman, Superintendent of Schools, Center School District 26JT, 550 S. Sylvester Avenue, Center, CO 81125. Email [kktola@center.k12.co.us](mailto:kktola@center.k12.co.us) or [Kruggles@center.k12.co.us](mailto:Kruggles@center.k12.co.us) for more information. (10-26)

**Position for a full-time permanent AR clerk at Mountain King Potato** in Monte Vista, Colo. Requires computer skills, must be dependable with strong organizational skills. Duties include invoicing and freight allocations. Must be able to multi-task and work some Saturdays. Will train right person. Benefits include paid vacation, insurance and 401(k). E-mail questions and resume to [dchapman@mntking.com](mailto:dchapman@mntking.com). (10-26)

**Del Norte Bank is seeking to fill a full-time position for a Teller**

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

**in the Creede Branch.** Duties will be to accept deposits, loan payments and process withdrawals while maintaining a balanced cash drawer. Must be personable and pleasant answering the phone and greeting customers. Many other duties will be assigned as needed. The position is permanent, full-time, M – F, 8am – 4:30pm with ½ hour lunch and a robust benefits package. Application available at

[TrueLocalBank.com/careers](http://TrueLocalBank.com/careers) or inquire at 117 N. Main, Creede or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Dawn. Job closes 9/30/22. EOE. (10/12)

**12 Houses for Rent**  
Cozy one-bedroom house, Dennis Street Monte Vista, partially furnished house, NO PETS! \$650/Month, \$650/Deposit call 719-580-5400.  
Del Norte country living, furnished

## Open House

Beautiful log cabin home in La Garita area with a quiet, private road for sale! There will be an open house on October 15 and 16 from 8 until 5. Home is located near Penitente Canyon with spectacular views and recreational opportunities just out the back door! Come by 6705 County Rd 42 and see this prime piece of property first hand.

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*Dental Hygienist in Monte Vista*  
Providing quality, preventative oral health care to adults and children.  
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# Valley Wide Classifieds

duplex, two bedrooms, mature adults. \$800 per month, \$800 deposit. No pets. Call 719-580-5400.

**23 Lawn and Garden**  
**For Sale or Rent: 35 Ton Log-splitter** available at County Line Small Engine Repair LLC. Call 719-589-6466. (10/12)

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

**28 Household Goods**  
**Want used Washer and Dryer.** Call 719-398-1026. (10-26)

**32 Fuel & Heating**  
**NEED FIREWOOD? Call Elam** at Cozy Glo LLC. 719-480-5047. \$175.00, Delivery available.

**35 Heavy Equipment**  
**For rent construction equipment.** Skidloader CAT 262 D-2017, bucket, pallet forks, brush hog, auger with 1 foot bit and 2 foot bit. Excavator CAT 306 CR 2021, 2 foot and 3 foot buckets. Dozer 2022 CAT D3, weighs approximately 30,000 pounds, blade in front and ripper in back. Call only 719-849-0367.

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

**STEEL STORAGE CONTAINERS** – Sales, Rentals & Modifications! Containers are water & rodent proof. 8' wide, 8'-53' in length. Call for more information and pricing. **Heald-works, Inc. – Your Total Storage Solution!** 719-850-0346 (9/28)

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**37 Wanted**  
**WANTED: 5-40 acres in Costilla County** Hwy 159 or along-side Hwy

160. Call Shawn at 217-851-2078.

**43 Farm Products**  
**Half-share of commonwealth irrigation water for sale** \$30,000. Call 719 580-2509. (11-2)

**48 Pets and Supplies**  
**Golden Doodle pups,** hypoallergenic. Super friendly and curly. Up to date on vaccinations. \$500-\$800. Call 719-588-3687. (10-26)

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**RV STORAGE.** Safe and secure open-air storage conveniently located off of Hwy. 285, north of Center. For more information call: 719-580-0638 (10-12) TFN

**63 Trucks**  
**2000 Ford F250 4x4 extended cab long bed V10 89000 miles** excellent condition \$17,000 call 719 580-2509 (11/02)

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

**FIRE MITIGATION**-Brush Mowing around homesteads and out buildings. Center, LaGarita Area. Call (715)699-3703 (10/26)

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**Loans – We deal in commercial and farm/ag financing.** Call 719-580-1296.

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

Visit Our Facebook Page

In honor of National Dog Adoption month all adoptions are half off for the month of October! Please stop by and meet our wonderful dogs and puppies!

**Big Dogs. Small Dogs. Puppy Dogs. Senior Dogs.**

*Take me home!*

**We will be at the October Art walk on the 21st in Monte Vista please visit our booth and see who we bring for adoption and meet new people!**

*Thank you to everyone who has been donating blankets and food for winter, we really appreciate all of you, and the dogs do too!*

**Please note we are on a first come first serve basis.**  
 All breeds & ages of animals are a "best guess" and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping.  
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# MONTH

Continued from Page 1A

to show support for those who have experienced domestic violence and let them know that help is available for themselves and their families. We encourage you to ask co-workers, friends, and family members to join Tu Casa, Inc. in this month's activities in order to start conversations about domestic violence.

Tu Casa, Inc. invites everyone to our 2nd Annual 'Light up the Night' event on Oct. 14, at 6:30 p.m. under the West pavilion in Cole Park, Alamosa. This event is free to attendees and works to honor victims, survivors, those who have passed, and anyone who has been affected by domestic violence. Refreshments will be served while you are provided with an opportunity to mingle and learn about resources within our community and at Tu Casa, Inc. We will start the ceremony at 6:30

p.m. with a warm welcoming introduction and guest speakers from our community and partners. We will take time to drop flowers in the river with a moment of silence and a performance by the ASU percussion group in honor of the survivors in the San Luis Valley. The night's event will culminate with a candlelight vigil to light up the night and an opportunity for anyone who wants to share their stories or experience. Attendees are encouraged to take photos and participate in the activities.

Throughout October you can stay updated on events and activities by following our Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TuCasaInc](http://www.facebook.com/TuCasaInc) and Instagram: [www.instagram.com/slvtucasa/](http://www.instagram.com/slvtucasa/) pages. We also request that you share photos of how you are raising awareness about this topic and tag us!

Domestic Violence can no longer

be ignored; we must work together to raise awareness and to end violence. If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, call the Tu Casa, Inc. 24-hour hotline at 719-589-2465. If you would like to make a donation in honor of those who have been impacted by abuse, visit our website at [www.slvtucasa.net](http://www.slvtucasa.net), and click on the link to donate. If you are interested in volunteering with our agency or would like more information about events, contact us at 719-589-2465.

Tu Casa, Inc., which houses Tu Casa and the Children's Advocacy Center of the San Luis Valley (SLV CAC), is a non-profit agency that works to empower children and adults to live healthy, violence-free lives throughout the San Luis Valley. All services are free, confidential, and available in English and Spanish.

# ADELANTE

Continued from Page 1A

Adelante. They all work to improve the community.

Sanchez knew economic development could provide opportunities for the youth of San Luis to become successful and prosperous. In 2019, Adelante San Luis received a four-year grant. The funding ends this December and Sanchez is retiring due to health issues.

But the town of San Luis will continue to fund Adelante San Luis, providing much-needed business skills and learning opportunities for the youth in San Luis.

"The mission of Adelante is to ensure that our youth and young adults are economically prosperous, socially connected, and retain their culture," Sanchez said.

A focus of Adelante is the Student to Career Pathway program where students learn how to create a resume, learn public speaking, learn how to make a business plan, and get funding. There are career fairs, entrepreneur camps, three-day business camps, and internships.

Before COVID-19, the University of New Mexico had created a curriculum for the Manito dialect spoken by some in the San Luis Valley. There used to be a student activity center on Main Street in San Luis with Chrome-books, snacks, and community youth leaders who would connect with their peers outside of school.

A group of Adelante San Luis students went to Washington, DC and met with House District 62 Representative Donald Valdez, who showed the students how a bill becomes law.

This all ceased due to the pandemic, but now people are coming together again. The Student to Career Pathway program is once again helping youth.

The program shows students how they can turn their interests and hobbies into a job. Children from high school age to 21 are involved with Adelante. They work in local businesses or at the visitor center.

"It doesn't matter where you start from, it's where you are going," Sanchez said.

Adelante San Luis hosts four events a year to bring the community together to celebrate their culture. Founder's Day on April 5 to celebrate San Luis becoming a town — 171 years strong now. July celebrates the patron saints at the Fiesta de Santiago y Santa Ana.

They had the recent fall festival Fiesta de Otono and in December is Manito Christmas, celebrating the language and culture of San Luis Valley.

A group of Adelante San Luis students are going to Mesa Verde National Park in October to learn about careers in the national park service. They will meet with the mayor

of Durango to learn about more job opportunities.

Sanchez wants "the kids to be proud of, have pride, and come back to their

communities with the skills they've learned." She wants the opportunities provided by Adelante to create "a spark" in the kids.



"This is our first time to stop here. The pizza was made fresh with quality ingredients and was delicious! We will definitely come here again! side note: Yes, they have DR PEPPER!"  
~ gaylez77 Yelp

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**Text 134434 to 25678 for more info**  
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**634 Arapahoe Road, South Fork**  
3 bedroom 2 bath home on 0.36 acres. No covenants, Air B&B/VRBO OK. Great Views, incredibly well kept.  
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**Steffens & Company Realty**  
**719-873-5605**  
30635 US HWY 160 • South Fork  
dee@steffenscorealty.com  
*Dee is a 4th generation SOUTH FORK NATIVE with a love for the upper end of the San Luis Valley.*



**FOR SALE**

**12 Acres COMMERCIAL, South Fork**  
On Shoshone Trail, 4 miles E of town. Appropriate for commercial/light industrial Multi-family or VRBO OK too. For more info Call Dee Plucinski  
MLS#770735 \$550,000 Owners Motivated!



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**FOR SALE**

Charming D-Log 1,807 sq ft 2-bedroom 2 bath mountain home with attached garage and circular drive. Your perfect get away or full-time residence located in the well sought-after neighborhood, Ponderosa Estates. This home has a large Master/Guest room upstairs with full bath that could easily be used for large family rec room or used as a bunk room with plenty of sleeping space for guest if so desired. You have lots of options! There is an additional room upstairs you can use for craft/hobby room or small home office. Top of the stairs landing is adorable sitting area that would make the perfect spot for a relaxing reading hook to enjoy a good book. This home has an open floor plan with eat in kitchen and large living room area with wood burning stove that will keep you cozy and warm all winter long. Kitchen door leads out to a nice back deck with large yard and beautiful views of the mountains. Perfect for that first hot cup of coffee in the mornings. Downstairs bedroom off the kitchen area has been used as the main bedroom with hallway bath and located on the main floor. This residence is close to town and only moments away from the Rio Grande River, Golf Club, and 20 minutes from Wolf Creek ski area. Off your front deck is a wonderful place for viewing all the mule deer and wild turkeys that frequent this neighborhood! No active HOA and in an area that does allow short term rentals. Close to skiing, fishing, hiking, four wheeling, hunting and everything outdoors. Start Your Adventure! Call and schedule your showing today! \$450,000 MLS #797758  
298 Aspen Drive • South Fork

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

**UNDER CONTRACT**

Charming setting in Mill City with a back yard oasis. Zoned Commercial Highway, great location for a home business featuring a huge 24'x36' SHOP w/ wood stove. Seller has recently updated with new appliances, toilets, tankless water heater & auto garage door @ shop.

New ext/int kitchen. Heat pump/furnace recently serviced. 3rd bedroom has a slider to backyard making a great office space. \$315,000  
MLS #797475

520 NW Alder Street • Mill City, OR  
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**418 Loveland Road - South Fork**  
.90 acres in Upper Alpine. No covenants, Air B&B OK. Call Dee Plucinski 719-873-5605.  
MLS #796652 \$38,000



**Text 134123 to 25678 for more info**  
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**FOR SALE**

Unique historic log cabin compound in the sweet spot of Peachtree Corners. Once featured in Better Homes and Garden Traditional Homes, this secluded private property sits on 3.48 acres and has multiple out buildings including a guest cottage. Not your typical log home this 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, master on the main home was constructed of 100 plus year old Logs milled locally of termite and rot resistant Heart of pine wood. Reclaimed materials were used in the construction of the home and outbuildings from Neely Farms and Tennessee. The walls and ceilings are made of various types of wood and no sheetrock was used. The property has been subdivided with 2 lots and is ready for your future family builds. Up to 5 additional homes could be constructed on the lots with an exemption plat recorded with the county. The home has several years of deferred maintenance and needs your TLC. All furniture and personal belongings have been moved out and ready for a quick close. Walking distance to Life Time Athletic Country Club a indoor/outdoor tennis and swim facility. Minutes from Technology Park. Twenty five minutes to Downtown Atlanta, 35 minutes to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International airport. \$1,250,000 MLS #7073139  
3755 Jay Bird Alley • Norcross, GA

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

Custom built, impeccable quality, full log home located just minutes from the heart of South Fork, Colorado. The home and 1015 sq. ft. bunkhouse provides a total sq. ft. of 5458. Features in the home include a massive rock fireplace, 3 bedrooms, 3-1/2 bathrooms, loft that boasts a futon plus two-window beds, office, playroom, and a large living room for you to enjoy with family and friends. The wrap around deck will allow you to experience world-class high mountain views. Above the garage is a custom log guest quarters with a spectacular kitchen, bath, large living room, and bedroom combined into one unit. Bear Creek subdivision offers controlled access through a gated entrance. MLS #738155  
107 Marmot Lane • South Fork

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**IMPROVED PRICE \$649,900 THIS HOME YOU HAVE TO SEE TO BELIEVE!**

• 3 bedroom • 2 bathroom

This could be your new home. Amazing Custom - Built Full log Home - Entry room, living room, large kitchen with island, lots of cabinet space, laundry. This home has beautiful wrap around porches that offer great views of the mountains and cliffs. The attached double garage is 576 Sq. Ft. with concrete floor. The home is fully fenced. Additional 2,000 sq. ft. workshop. MLS#772697  
181 Doe Circle • South Fork

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**SOLD**

\$658,000 MLS #785486  
441 Lande • South Fork

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**SOLD**

\$433,000 MLS #789027  
83 Highland • South Fork

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

**We work hard for you!**

*Call Bernadette today!*

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

**FOR SALE**

**Incredible views from this Mountain property!** Varied topography with mature Fir, Aspen, Pine and Piñon trees. This 5.02-acre property allows you several building sites to choose from. Paved roads located in gated Bear Creek subdivision. This property gives you great sun exposure with access to the forest service and a common area for homeowners located on 20+ acres of the Rio Grande River. Utilities and Good Well already in place 15 GPM. Gold Medal fishing, hunting and 4 wheeling just moments away. Not to mention fabulous skiing at Wolf Creek Ski Resort! Bring Your house plans this is the perfect property to build your Dream Home! Start your Adventure! Call and schedule your showing today! \$149,500 MLS #795402  
4495 Bear Creek Circle • South Fork

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**JUST LISTED!**

Lot in great neighborhood with no HOA just a hop, skip and jump from the majestic South Fork River. This is the perfect place to build your dream home. Water, sewer, electricity and highspeed internet! Beautiful views and close to all the amenities the town of South Fork has to offer. Moments from the South Fork River as well as the mighty Rio Grande, World class fishing, hunting, hiking, snowmobiling, 4 wheeling and all things outdoors. Start your adventure and schedule your showing today!  
Price can't be beat! \$29,900 MLS#796452  
63 Rivercrest Drive • South Fork

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**SOLD**

2,023 Sq. Ft. Mountain Oasis Home with Charm and Elegance in Lo Lomita at South Fork Ranches. This 3-bedroom 2 bath home with attached 675 Sq. Ft. 2 car garage is magical! Home is adjacent to BML Land & National Forest with amazing mountain views of Del Norte Peak, Beaver Mountain and Aqua Ramon from the front porch and additional large wrap around rear deck with concrete pad and hook up ready for your own personal hot tub. Open floor plan with kitchen, dining and living area beautifully hand troweled on walls with cathedral ceilings, wood floor, large bay windows, wood burning stove, propane rock fireplace, radiant floor heating and propane on demand water system. This home has three heat sources to keep you warm and comfortable all winter long. Master bedroom has large his & her master walk-in closets and patio door leading out to the back deck. Perfect place to enjoy your hot morning cup of coffee. The master bath has a beautiful large walk-in tile shower and dual sinks. There are two additional nice size guest bedrooms for your company to stay and enjoy. The kitchen overlooks the living area with large eat in counter and plenty of counter space and lots of built-in cabinets. There is a butler pantry for extra storage that features a beautiful, frosted glass door. This is an outstanding property with abundant wildlife surrounded by national forest and BML land and close to the mighty Rio Grande River, Wolf Creek Ski area and the Rio Grande Golf Resort. There is numerous hiking, four wheeling, mountain biking trails in the area for you to have fun and explore! Don't miss this opportunity! Start your adventure! call/text me and schedule your personal showing today! Price \$669,500 MLS #796518  
115 La Lomita Circle • South Fork

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**SOLD**

Beautiful 1,728 Sq. Ft. Mountain Home property, 3 beds, 2 baths with additional large lot. Welcoming entrance with closed in front porch. Beautiful Kitchen with matching appliances and custom-made cabinets with soft close drawers that include spice rack and corner round with plenty of storage for all your cooking entertainment needs. Dining area just off the kitchen and living room area with propane stove and beautiful brick fireplace with wood burning stove in living area. Perfect place with beautiful views to curl up enjoy the fire and devour a good book. This home has three heat sources to keep you cozy and warm all winter long. Off back side of the kitchen is a bright sunroom currently being used for a wonderful craft room with large sliding door looking out to the back deck with stunning views of trees and mountains perfect for bird watching with the many varieties of birds that visit this area. Downstairs Master/Guest bedroom with large closet and cozy picture window set for bird watching. Wonderful place to just sit your morning cup of coffee, relax and enjoy. Off the sunroom is door to large 2 car garage with huge workbench and cabinets for all your tools and woodworking needs. Upstairs you have an additional bath and two guest bedrooms with large windows where you feel as if you are sleeping amongst the beautiful pine trees. Off the Sunroom and out the back garage door awaits a wonderful deck to the back yard with a gas grill hooked up to propane for grilling and entertaining friends and family. Out back you will be charmed by the little fly shop with electricity and all its storage amenities with extra shelving. There's an additional shed which is used and perfect for wood storage. This home is one you must see! Located in Ponderosa Country Estates with no HOA, paved roads and Town of South Fork water and sewer system. You will love visiting with the abundant wildlife that visits this neighborhood, moments from the Rio Grande River, Rio Grande Golf Club, Wolf Creek ski area and everything outdoors! Don't let this one pass you by! Won't last! Call me and schedule your personal showing today! \$585,000 MLS #796641  
484 Conifer Drive • South Fork

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**FOR SALE**

This South Fork Beauty checks all the boxes, both his and hers - and is a fun place for family and friends. Custom built Log home tucked in the trees and backs up to the National Forest. The majestic South Fork River and Mighty Rio Grande with world class fishing is just a short walk from the property. The main floor consists of an open kitchen, dining and living area with beautiful carved mantel stone fireplace with large log cathedral ceiling. Stunning entrance to behold! Custom designed kitchen with beautiful designer backsplash and large eat in counter space looking over the living area with custom soft close cabinets and plenty of storage and room for all your entertaining. Kitchen has wonderful large butler pantry with pantry sink and beautiful custom stained-glass door. The Detailed Check Boxes include radiant floor heating with four zones and two Rinnai on-demand water tanks. Light views. Master bath with beautiful large tiled walk-in shower. Guest bedroom and bath on main floor with elegant soaking antique tub. Upstairs spacious loft with two electronic skylights with rain sensors that will close automatically with additional sleeping areas including office space and additional large size bedroom with barn door and bath. Enjoy your 3-car garage with large workshop and more than enough room for all your mountain toys. Your family and friends will love the upstairs bungalow above the garage with kitchenette, living area, built-in beds additional bedroom and bath. Bring your family and friends to enjoy the great outdoors! Boarders National Forest, with streams, creeks, lakes rolling topography, open fields, pine, fir, aspen trees, mountain views and abundant wildlife! Beautifully designed home tucked peacefully into the woods and easily accessible to town, Wolf Creek Ski Area and the Rio Grande Golf Course Resort. Once in a lifetime Opportunity! This property perfectly captures the best of both worlds between outdoor recreation and exceptional entertainment. Start your dream and Call/Text me to schedule your personal showing today! \$1,395,000 MLS #796960  
37 Milton Court • South Fork

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