

## Shorts

### Minimum wage to increase to \$13.65 in 2023

#### STAFF REPORT

**DENVER** — Governor Jared Polis and the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment announced Tuesday, Sept. 13, in a press release that Colorado's minimum wage will increase in 2023.

The minimum wage will be \$13.65 an hour beginning Jan. 1, 2023. The current rate is \$12.56. The increase is an 8.6 percent increase.

Annually adjusting minimum wage for inflation is a voter-approved mandate in the Colorado Constitution.

"We are building a strong economy that works for all Coloradans," Polis said in the release. "This new minimum wage of \$13.65 builds upon our work to save Coloradans money, reduce the cost of everyday items and put money back into the pockets of hard-working Coloradans."

Polis signed a law that allows local governments to set a higher minimum wage than the state standard.

The wage adjustments are based on the Consumer Price Index in the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood Metropolitan Statistical Area. It is calculated and issued by the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### SLVREC, Ciello board meeting is Sept. 27

**MONTE VISTA** — SLVREC and Ciello will have the regular meeting of the board of directors at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 27, at 3625 Highway 160 in Monte Vista. Advance notice is required to attend the meeting — call Michelle Trujillo at 719-852-3538.

### House District 62 candidate forum is Sept. 26

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — The League of Women Voters of the San Luis Valley and Pueblo are holding a virtual Colorado House District 62 candidate forum featuring Democrat Matthew Martinez and Republican Carol Rigenbach on Monday, Sept. 26, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

This virtual event will be live streamed on League of Women Voters of Colorado and at <https://bit.ly/HD62CandidateForumLWVSLV>.

Contact Wanda Hawman at 505-506-6077, for more information.

## Township effort underway for Baca Grande POA

BY PATRICK SHEA

**BACA GRANDE SUBDIVISIONS** — With snacks and handouts on Sept. 19, a group of volunteers from the Baca Grande Property Owners Association hosted

an information exchange at the POA Hall to present the group's first efforts toward creating the Town of Baca Grande.

More than 35 people attended the meeting in person, and a couple dozen

observed via ZOOM, including the featured presenter of the evening, Michael McCall. McCall cut in and out throughout the meeting but nonetheless presented a financial snapshot and responded to member

questions and comments.

Until the district judge responds to the group's petition filed on Aug. 8, the initiative will not move forward. However, primary spokesperson

*Please see BACA on Page 12A*



Photo by Patrick Shea

Baca Grande POA board members and administrative staff hosted an information exchange about the 2023 budget on Sept. 20.

## Baca Grande property owners discuss budget

BY PATRICK SHEA

**BACA GRANDE SUBDIVISIONS** — Baca Grande Property Owners Association members met with the board on Sept. 20 for an "informational exchange" about finances.

The proposed 2023 budget for the POA includes six categories of income sources listed at the start on the first page, followed by three more pages of expenses subdivided into 29 categories. A 30th category for Reserve Expense is offset by a budgeted reserved income budget sparked by a \$100,000 transfer from the operating budget.

The proposed budget includes figures from 2021 and 2022 when the assessment amount per lot rose from \$426 to \$493. Assessment collections are the backbone of the 2023 budget, bulked up to \$640.90 under a formula that splits the check equally among lot owners. The 2023 assessment amount, if fully collected, accounts for \$2,293,140 of all projected income. Other sources add a hopeful \$673,649.

Throughout the country, POAs and Homeowners Associations suffer a 3-percent delinquency rate from owners who don't pay their assessments. An HOA with

a 6-percent delinquency rate is considered high.

The Baca Grande POA is far out of line with national averages. In 2019, 49.7 percent of the POA members did not pay. In 2020, this number dropped to 39.8 percent. Declines to 29.8 and 24.4 percent followed in 2021 and 2022.

Of the POA's total water expenses budgeted for 2023 (\$83,964.36), nearly half is diverted to the golf course, a \$40,000 price tag. Other expenses related to golf course operation include \$1,428.50 for building maintenance, \$7,957

*Please see BUDGET on Page 5A*

## Lazy K-V Estates addressing problems

BY PATRICK SHEA

**LAZY K-V ESTATES** — Since Lazy K-V Estates Homeowners Association president Mae Folsom took over in 2021 after the previous president resigned, neglected maintenance and other problems with the HOA have received attention.

A property owner for more than 22 years, Folsom watched the decline and has helped engineer improvements.

"Right now, we're just trying to get our infrastructure fixed up," Folsom said. "Everything had been ignored. The changes in the past year have been pretty good."

Crews started with well house renovations, and they installed two new holding tanks and put in another pump.

"But no one bothered to upgrade the electrical. One day there was a big bang," Folsom explained. "It was the breaker on the pole."

Fortunately, an electrician came from the Royal Gorge area and fixed the problem in four hours. The electrician returned within a week to install a new pump and make other costly repairs to pass inspection.

Folsom noted how the covenants have not really changed since

*Please see ESTATES on Page 5A*

## 'Deal reached in principle' for SLRG

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER

**ALAMOSA** — After operating for three years in Chapter 11 bankruptcy, there may be some movement in getting the San Luis and Rio Grande (SLRG) Railroad on track to being sold.

According to William Brandt, founder and CEO of DSI and the trustee handling the sale, there is no final agreement at this time, something that Luke Lyons with the Valley Courier reported Alamosa County Administrator Roni Wisdom emphasized during this week's commissioners meeting.

But Brandt has confirmed that, on Monday, Sept. 12, he signed a letter of intent.

"A deal has been reached in

principle," Brandt said. "But the deal is still being negotiated."

That deal is with OmniTRAX, a railroad company headquartered in Denver that currently operates more than a dozen short line railroads across Canada and the US, including Great Western Railway of Northern Colorado — an 80-mile short line railroad that runs to Fort Collins, Greeley, Loveland and other stops in the region.

An affiliate of the multi-million dollar, family-owned Broe Real Estate Group in Denver, OmniTRAX "specializes in freight shipping and freight logistics."

Currently, Brandt and OmniTRAX are negotiating an assets purchase

*Please see SLRR on Page 11A*



File photo

San Luis and Rio Grande Railroad trustee Bill Brandt told the Valley Courier that while the railroad is not officially sold, he has signed a letter of intent to pursue the sale to OmniTRAX.

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# OBITUARIES

## Cathryn Ann Mallow

On Saturday Sept. 10, 2022, our ray of sunshine, Cathryn Ann Mallow stepped through heaven's gates at the age of 54. She was adopted by Fred and Carolyn Morse and loved dearly by them and her two brothers David and Jon Morse.

She was a mommy to her daughter Amber Averette who lives in California and her son Dillon James who passed away in 2000 and met her at the gates of heaven.

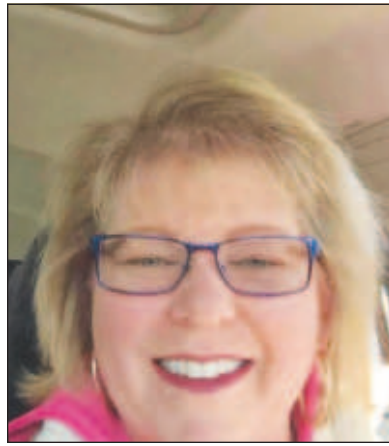
She married her beloved husband Michael V Mallow in 2001 in California and they lived a life full of immense love for each other.

They moved back to Colorado in 2007 and bought their first home together which they fixed up and added on to as their three granddaughters Autumn, Emily, and Ashley came to live with them.

They lived in their charming home until 2018 when they moved to the land they loved — Creede. There they built their gorgeous dream home on Hummingbird Lane.

Cathy loved nature and would get so excited to see the wildlife on her mountains, the sunsets over Bristol Head and the fish they caught in the lake. Her life was complete, and her dreams were filled.

Cathy brought so much love and joy to anyone and everyone that she met. She would walk into a room and that room would light up just from her presence. Her



smile warmed those it was directed towards, and her hugs made you feel like you belonged and never wanted to leave.

Cathy loved with her whole self and if you were on the receiving end of that love, you would walk away feeling complete.

She had a way to always bring a smile to anyone's face either by a joke, a simple giggle or just her radiant smile. Her laughter was so contagious that no matter how you were feeling you couldn't help but laugh with her. To know Cathy was to know love and happiness.

Cathy is survived by her Husband Mike, Daughter Amber, Mother Carolyn, Brothers David and Jon and Grandchildren Autumn, Emily, Ashley, and Gavin. We will be holding a Celebration of Life for Cathy Mallow in Creede in the summer of 2023.

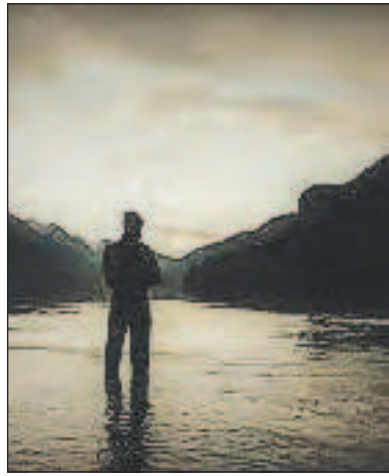
## Jimmy Preston Pierce

Jimmy Preston Pierce, 84, of Creede, Colo., passed away on Sunday, Sept. 11, 2022. He was born on Dec. 23, 1937, in Borger, Texas, to Leon Preston Pierce and Mary Wright.

He served in the National Guard and married the love of his life Bobbye on June 20, 1958. They raised two beautiful daughters, enjoyed their grandchildren, and shared 61 wonderful years before her passing.

Jim was active in his church and over the years Jim and his wife Bobbye sent many kids on mission trips to Glorieta Adventure Camps in Sante Fe, N.M. He enjoyed fly fishing in Creede, hunting and worked as a landscaper.

Jimmy is survived by his daughters Angela Horacek of California, Andrea (Tom) Davidson of Texas; grandchildren, Stephanie (Michael) Cartwright of Texas and Eric (Kasey) Davidson of Texas; great-grandchildren Pierce



Davidson, Camille Davidson, and Peyton Cartwright.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents Leon and Mary. His loving wife Bobbye "Jan" and grandson Tyler Davidson.

Graveside Service will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17, at 5 p.m. at the Creede Cemetery.

Services in care of Strohmayer's Funeral Home.

## Warren Clayton Hemphill

Warren Clayton Hemphill of Sonora, Texas, passed on to be with his Savior, Jesus Christ, on Sept. 1, 2022, at the age of 88. A private family graveside will be held Monday, Sept. 12, at 11 a.m. and a memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Sonora.

Warren, the youngest son of John and Ethel Clayton Hemphill, was born in San Angelo, Texas, on Oct. 10, 1933.

He is survived by daughter Karen and husband David Rooker of Dallas, Texas, and son Mark Hemphill and wife Sheila of Sonora, Texas, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

After losing his father at the age of 5, he and his mother and grandmother moved to Ozona, Texas. Warren attended high school at Kentucky Military Institute in Louisville, Ky. After graduation, he went on to the University of Texas where he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. It was at UT that Warren courted and married Elizabeth "Liz" Coleman on July 17, 1954, in Austin, Texas. They loved their summers in Creede, Colo., with their XIC family.

Their married life together can

best be described as an adventure of love. Their early marriage took them to Ulm Germany where Warren served in the US Army for two years while Liz traveled by ship to join him with their new baby girl, Karen.

Their many adventures during their stay in Europe brought forth a love for travel. From Germany, they returned to Hat-A Ranch south of Bakersfield, Texas, for one year of remote, no electricity living on the Harral Ranch.

In 1959, their son Mark was born, and they moved to Menard, Texas, where Warren ranched and began his banking career.

In 1965, they moved to Sonora, where Warren worked for First National Bank of Sonora, while completing his education at Southwestern Graduate School of Banking at SMU.

Warren was an active member of the First United Methodist Church in Sonora where he enjoyed singing in the choir.

Warren and Liz were blessed to spend much of their summers in Creede, Colo., where they attended the Creede Community Church and were frequent attendees and supporters of the Creede Repertory Theatre. He



greatly enjoyed fishing, quail hunting, Dutch oven cooking, singing, dancing and visiting with all those he loved so well. He was blessed with many travels and adventures with family, dear friends, and buddies.

Warren was a man who was well loved and knew how to love well! The family is so grateful for the loving care he received from so many. In lieu of flowers, please give memorials to your local food bank or charity of your choice.

He will be greatly missed, but the memories he left us will live on until we are all united in Glory with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Online condolences may be made at [lovefuneralhome.net](http://lovefuneralhome.net).

## Sharon Anne Atencio

Del Norte resident Sharon Anne Atencio, 66, passed away on Sept. 15, 2022. She was born on Nov. 20, 1955, in San Francisco, Calif., to Albert and Juanita (Marquez) LeBlanc.

She married Max E. Atencio and was a devoted wife for 40 years. Sharon was a devoted member of the New Life Fellowship Church in Del Norte and enjoyed going to the mountains, spending time with family and she especially cherished spending time with her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, Max Atencio, her children, Melanie LeBlanc, Sher (Sheldon) Duran and Dawn Medina, her grandchildren, Leroy Arellano III, Samantha Arellano, Isabella Arellano, Maribel Arellano, Denesha Pena, Isiah Lopez, Desiree Lopez, and Ignacio P. Down; her great-grandchildren, Wesley Vigil, Joe Vigil, and Wyatt Duran; her parents Albert and Juanita LeBlanc; her siblings Jerry (Luella) LeBlanc and Alberta (Darrin) Stacy; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.



Sharon was preceded in death by her grandparents Ed and Nora Marquez.

Cremation was selected and a memorial service will be held at a later time. To express condolences, please visit [www.rogersfunerals.com](http://www.rogersfunerals.com).

Rogers Family Mortuary in Monte Vista is in care of the arrangements.

## OBITUARY POLICY

Valley Publishing charges a flat fee of \$50 for each obituary published. Pending arrangements or death notices run for no charge.

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

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# OPINION & EDITORIAL



## Fall somewhere

This Thursday marks the Fall Equinox, the time when the tilt of the earth is neither away from nor closer to the Sun and in fact the Sun is shining directly on the equator. This provides those of us on Earth with “nearly” equal amounts of daylight no matter the latitude where you live.

Thankfully this column will come out in the paper early enough on the Equinox that you can all plan on celebrating with Ol’ Dutch and Miss Trixie.

This year the annual event occurs at exactly 7:03 p.m. and we plan on dancing naked in a heathen expression of sheer joy. Or we may just be playing cards with friends which will most certainly keep down the complaints from the neighbors.

Ever since man’s arrival on this planet it appears that he has at least been noticing the movement of the stars and planets and our part in that vast mix of Universe complexity. There are many examples of man trying to map out the seasons such as the great Stonehenge over there across the pond.

There, some guys got together in the off season from football, golf, hunting, and fishing and decided to cart some big old rock some hundreds of miles and erect them in a circle on their buddy’s land.

They are arranged in just such a fashion that they foretell the changing of the seasons and yearly astrological events.

Here in our own Southwest, we have some ancient circles and carvings of our own that also are able to predict just such happenings and it’s fascinating to think that such primitive people had such knowledge. Common thought is they used these predicting tools as a way to keep track of the seasons and hence planting dates in the Spring and the Elk Season opener in the Fall.

Well, it’s something like that as it’s been some time since Ol’ Dutch has studied up on carved rocks and their solar implications.

One other item of interest that occurs for some of us each year is the return to normal time from Daylight Savings time. Which means that on Nov. 6, a good share of the United States citizens will turn back their clocks one hour.

Well, that is except for Arizona and Hawaii who just leave their darned



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

clocks alone and somehow seem to get by just fine. And this is because having everyone using the same clocks and same times well, that just doesn’t make sense.

I find it a tad amusing too that the great Navajo Indian Nation chooses to participate in Daylight Savings Time in the Spring and hence have to fall back with most of us in November. For it was an old Indian who when told about how Daylight Savings Time would add an hour to his day said, “only a white man thinks if you cut off a foot from the top of a blanket and sew it on the bottom it will give you more blanket.”

Now Ol’ Dutch has heard all kinds of excuses for changing clocks around but all I know is I am glad I have Miss Trixie around to reset all the clocks around the house as it’s all a mystery to me which buttons to push.

Which is a total shock and mystery to her as she always says I know exactly which buttons to push on her to get a response.

God bless her anyway and God bless Motorola as my phone changes time on its own at the appointed hour and that’s all that Ol’ Dutch needs anyway.

So, get out there and celebrate the Equinox like you never have before and take heart that whether you are a morning or evening person, you will all have an equal amount of time on this day in September.

*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.*

## Wreaths Across America

Wreaths Across America™, a non-profit 501-c3 organization, was formed as an extension of the Arlington Wreath Project. The Arlington Wreath program was started by Morrill Worcester (Worcester Wreath) in 1992 with the donation and laying of 5000 Christmas wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery. This became an annual journey for Mr. Worcester.

It was relatively obscure until 2005 when a photo of the stones adorned with wreaths and covered in snow circulated around the internet. The project received National attention. Thousands of requests poured in from all over the country from people wanting to emulate the Arlington project at their National and State cemeteries spurred the creation of “Wreaths Across America™”. Unable to donate thousands of wreaths to each state, Mr. Worcester conceived the idea of sending 7 wreaths (one for each branch of the military as well as POW/MIA).

In 2007 the Worcester family established the non-profit group Wreaths Across America™ to further promote Veterans

remembrance. The mission Remember, Honor and Teach characterized the projects goals perfectly.

The wreath laying, held annually on a Saturday of December was unanimously voted by the US Congress as “Wreaths Across America™ Day”. WreathsAcrossAmerica™ would not be successful without the help of the volunteers, many active organizations and the generosity of the trucking industry.

We collectively thank our military and their families for “Our Freedom”!

Our goal is to have enough wreaths sponsored so that every veteran’s grave at the Homelake Veterans Cemetery will be honored. If you are interested in sponsoring a wreath, contact Pam Self at 825-8216 or 849-3154. The cost is \$15.00 per wreath with all orders and money needed by CUT OFF DATE OF December 2, 2022. Please send your request and money to Pam Self, P.O. Box 97, Homelake, CO 81135. Wreath sponsorship for the Homelake Veterans Cemetery



can also be completed online at [www.wreathscrossamerica.com/CO0031](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.com/CO0031). The wreaths will be delivered to the Colorado Veterans Community Living Center at Homelake.

This year’s ceremony will take place on Saturday, December 17, 2022 at the Homelake Veterans Cemetery at 3749 Sherman Ave., Monte Vista, CO at 10:00 a.m. The placement of wreaths will occur after the ceremony so volunteers who would like to help place the wreaths will gather after the ceremony.

## YOUR NIGHT SKY

BY DARLENE DANKO

### Milky Way constellations Cassiopeia and Perseus

Queen Cassiopeia is the wife of Cepheus. She’s represented as being chained upside down to her throne in the sky as punishment for boasting that her daughter Andromeda was more beautiful than the daughters of the sea god Nereus.

The gods became angered and sent a sea monster to destroy the coast of Cassiopeia and Cepheus’ kingdom. Not wanting the coast destroyed, Cassiopeia sought help from Zeus, King of the gods, who advised her to offer her daughter as a sacrifice. Andromeda sat on a rocky ledge waiting for the sea monster to devour her when Perseus rode out of the sky on his winged horse, Pegasus, and rescued her. They fell in love and were placed next to each other among the stars.

Cassiopeia is the “W” that’s visible all year as it circles the North Star Polaris. Currently, it’s high in the northeast. Perseus the Hero sits just below her in the sky. It’s a large

constellation in the shape of a man with a triangular shape body with legs, that’s viewed sideways.

Of its 14 stars, six are very bright. The brightest star, Mirfak, is a yellow white super giant. It’s in his lower left body where his leg begins. Blue-white Algol, the Ghoul Star, is to the right of Mirfak anchoring the other side of his body. It’s also depicted as the head of the Gorgon he kills.

Algol is an eclipsing variable that dims for 10 hours every 3 days. It’s actually a multiple star system with three stars that spin around each other changing its brightness. For a long time, no one knew why its brightness changed, so it was called the Ghoul Star.

Perseus, the half-mortal son of Zeus, is one of the more prominent Greco-Roman heroes. He went into battle with the Gorgon Medusa, who would turn any person into stone. Perseus used the shield as a mirror to avoid her glance. When he lopped off her head the winged horse Pegasus was born of the blood, and Perseus took the horse as his own. He then



used Medusa’s head as a weapon to rescue Andromeda from the sea monster Cetus, who was then turned into stone.

Between Perseus and Cassiopeia are twin star clusters NGC 869 and 884, which are just above his upper right arm. With the naked eye they look like a bright knot, but with binoculars you can see the beautiful stars. These are dense star clouds with many young blue and white stars. They are at the heart of Merlotte 20, a large cluster of stars scattered over the Milky Way. It looks like a large hazy patch.

Autumn begins on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and it usually gives us pleasant weather and great night sky viewing. Now that the new moon is on the 25<sup>th</sup>, the skies will be dark. So go out and enjoy viewing our magnificent sky.

# CENTER POST-DISPATCH

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# 'Roosters' director appreciates reality and cosmic combination in play

**CONTRIBUTED ALAMOSA** — When considering a play to open the 2022-2023 Adams State University Theatre season, director George McConnell knew "Roosters" would be a top pick.

"It is an amazing play. The focus is on a family and geographically speaking, the location was vague enough to match the San Luis Valley," he said.



"Roosters" is the first play by a LatinX playwright produced by the department since 2018. McConnell, assistant professor of theatre, also

## CSFS loan program partners with SLVDRG to reduce wildfire severity

**SUBMITTED ARTICLE FORT COLLINS** — The Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) delivered the first Wildfire Risk Mitigation Loan under a new partnership with the San Luis Valley Development Resources Group (SLVDRG) Business Loan Fund.

Along with the help of the Northwest Loan Fund, Marshall Forestry Solutions received this specialized loan that will be used for equipment to help maintain Colorado's forests.

Marshall Forestry Solutions, based in Steamboat Springs, was established in 2016. This company works on forest management and wildfire risk mitigation projects across Colorado.

"We work to create fire-resistant community landscapes while maximizing the utilization of forest products," said Jacob Marshall, founder and owner of Marshall Forestry Solutions.

"Our expertise in financing and lending coupled with the CSFS' work in forestry and with our wood products business community is helping reduce wildfire occurrence and severity across the state, resulting in more profitable and successful wildfire mitigation and wood products businesses," said Marc Bellantoni, business loan fund administrator with the SLVDRG.

"The Wildfire Risk Mitigation

appreciates the reality and cosmic aspects used by the playwright Milcha Sanchez-Scott.

The plot follows the dynamics of a family as the long-standing tradition of cock fighting is challenged by the son, who has a different vision for the future.

"The stage design feels as realistic as a movie set," McConnell says. "The vision is realistic with gestures to cosmic influence."

All the visual and performing art programs on campus contributed to the show, adding live music

Loan Fund provides financing to wildfire mitigation contractors and forest products businesses to invest in new equipment and working capital to address Colorado's increasing wildfire challenge. It is administered in partnership with the SLVDRG and other lenders like the Northwest Loan Fund," said Tim Reader, the wood products specialist with the CSFS.

The Wildfire Risk Mitigation Loan Fund Program, administered by the CSFS, is available year-round to eligible businesses. To receive financing through this loan fund, a business must be engaged in the harvesting or manufacturing of wood products from wood biomass removed from forest management and wildfire mitigation activities on public or private lands. Existing and startup businesses that have difficulty qualifying or accessing capital are encouraged to apply.

"Financing for Marshall Forestry will help them acquire and operate equipment to more efficiently remove and utilize trees on public and private lands in Northwest Colorado," said Anita Cameron, director of the Northwest Loan Fund.

For information on the Wildfire Risk Mitigation Loan Fund, contact Tim Reader, tim.reader@colostate.edu, or Marc Bellantoni, mbellantoni@slvdr.org.

to the performance and rooster masks.

Two of the 10 actors play roosters. "It engaged my creativity to make people roosters," McConnell added. "It was very exciting to collaborate with my theatre colleagues as well as the art and music programs to bring my vision to life."

"Roosters" is the senior thesis project for Aaron Corona, from Delta.

"All three seniors in the play exhibit the skills and techniques they have learned over the course of

their academic career," McConnell said. The LatinX characters are played by student actors who identify as LatinX. "My job is to support the work of the actors. I don't dictate their roles, instead I encourage their choices."

The play lasts about an hour and a half, including a 10-minute intermission. The theme is very much a confrontation between the cyclical nature of toxic masculinity and the possibility of redemption through the sacred feminine.

"The final scene has a surprise

for the audience and provides a thoughtful conclusion to the reality of family dynamics," he said.

"Roosters" opens at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23, on the San Luis Valley Federal Bank Main Stage in the Theatre Building and continues at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 24, 30, and Oct. 1; with a matinee scheduled for 2 p.m. Oct. 2. Tickets are free to Associated Students and Faculty, \$10 general admission, and \$9 for senior citizens and high school students. Call the Theatre Box Office at 719-587-8499 to reserve tickets.



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# SLV emergency managers continue Hazard Mitigation Plan work

BY LYNSIE FERRELL

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — San Luis Valley officials, including emergency managers, from all six counties met for their final Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting on Monday afternoon. The purpose of the meeting was to strategize about the few final steps of the plan and the final implementation of the plan once it receives approval from FEMA.

Amy Carr, deputy project manager and Hazard Mitigation Planning consultant, began the meeting by reviewing the steps that have been finished to create the plan. For the past several months, local and state officials have been working together to update the San Luis Valley Regional plan and now that it is in the final stages will be working together to put it into place.

The process begins with setting regional goals, creating more specific objectives that ultimately lead to the action plan tied to the original goal. An example may be to have a goal to improve public communications through several objectives during an emergency and then to act on that goal with steps moving toward achieving it within specific counties.

Five of the six counties — Alamosa, Saguache, Conejos, Mineral and Rio Grande — selected

## ESTATES

Continued from Page 1A — initially drafted in 1973. Working with the HOA attorney, they posted a redline version for review.

The Lazy K-V Estates HOA board includes five members who meet on the second Tuesday of every month at the HOA Hall next to the lake. The traditional start time of 5 p.m. might be moved until later, so attendees should confirm first — 719-256-4022.

Folsom said she will be president for one year and then be up for election.

“I don’t want to be there forever,” Folsom noted. “I’m not getting any younger. I would love to have some of these younger people. We have two younger people now, and I’m delighted. It would be nice to get some of these younger people moving in.”

## BUDGET

Continued from Page 1A — for electricity, \$6,000 for grounds maintenance, and another \$2,500 for propane and heating on top of \$2,000 for vehicle fuel and oil as well as \$377.25 for reserve expenses.

Debits to credits, the golf course income comes to \$3,361.50 with a projected \$2,000 from facility rental fees and possibly \$1,361.50 from greens fees. Golf course expenses total \$60,262.75. On paper, the golf course appears to be \$56,901.25 underwater.

A foursome strolled the course with their clubs at the start of the POA meeting on Sept. 15, smiling as they covered the green fairway. Frisbee players walk the same course, a benefit of POA membership. Others enjoyed the lush, green course before the Sept. 20 meeting as members entered the POA Hall.

Completely defunding and shutting down the golf facility without increasing other income or cutting other POA expenses would drop the projected 2023 assessment from \$640.90 to \$624.05.

three goals for the plan. The three goals were kept intentionally vague to aid with grant funding in the future through FEMA.

The first goal for this plan was to reduce loss of life and personal injury caused by hazards, to reduce damage to critical facilities, personal property and other community assets caused by a hazard, and to minimize economic losses associated with hazards.

Costilla County had a different set of goals than the other five due to the way its goals were selected but were still in line with the rest of the region.

It was explained that the plan will open funding opportunities for mitigation projects through FEMA and that only mitigation projects

focused on removing or decreasing the risk of a hazard during the emergency would be funded.

Carr explained that though funding would only be awarded to mitigation projects, requests or parts of the Hazard Mitigation Plan that highlighted a need for equipment and training could still be included.

The point of the plan was to alter hazards in the region by changing the environment around or near a hazard through means such as prescribed burns or fuel management to reduce wildfire severity, fixing damaged dams, bridges or other structures for example. The group also discussed how to avert a hazard by installing infrastructure like floodwalls,

drainage or fuel breaks.

There are steps within the plan to also help avoid hazards by literally moving structures from a hazard area or prohibiting building developments in areas that have been identified as hazardous locations, acquiring land to also prohibit building or utilizing open space to redirect a hazard such as flooding. The plan also looks at how to adapt to a hazard and plan accordingly with revised building codes, construction standards or land-use regulations.

One of the most recent steps taken in the process of finalizing the Hazard Mitigation Plan was to reach out to the public via a survey to learn what each community felt were areas of hazard concern. Some

of these topics included events like flooding, drought, earthquakes, fires, dam failures or winter storms.

The survey results were shared with the group, and it was determined that though some of the identified areas of concern were like what was included in the plan, the communities within the region also had other concerns that will be added before the plan is finalized.

The plan is updated about every five years and is a living document that can be changed or added to at any time to fit the needs of the region. Once the plan is approved through FEMA, state and local officials will work to implement the plan and put it to work within all six counties throughout the San Luis Valley.

# National Farm Safety & Health Week and National 4-H Week

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# ASU's Allen advocates for counseling students

**CONTRIBUTED**  
**ALAMOSA** — Adams State University Courtney Allen, Ph.D., associate professor of counselor education, has testified before state legislature which helped pass laws to improve education policies for professionals in public school counseling and in the classroom. Advocacy is her passion.



Most recently her testimony helped pass HB 22-1220 Removing Barriers to Educator Preparation Act. The bill will help address the current Colorado school counselor and teacher shortage by providing financial assistance to qualified educators-in-training. "My voice is amplified when joined with other voices to support college students who want to pursue careers in school counseling and classroom educators," Allen said.

Adams State University School of Education and School of Counselor Education will receive \$1,211,613 to implement the Educator Stipend Program and the Student Educator Test Stipend Program. The amount includes \$59,838 to be used by the program or institution for program

administration, \$1,089,000 for educator stipends, and \$62,775 for test stipends. "My passion for the field of school counseling and my love for training mental health and school counselors guides my actions to advocate for laws and policies to support them while they pursue their professional goals," Allen added.

According to Allen, the state and the nation continue to see a need for highly qualified professionals in the field of school counseling.

"We continue to see an increase in suicide ideation and mental health concerns in our public schools," Allen said. "This can have a great impact on the socioemotional growth and development of K12 students and affect academic success. Removing obstacles for school counselors to enter the profession is vitally important."

Colorado School Counselor Association (CSCA) Executive Director Matthew McClain appreciates Allen's continued dedication to her profession and students.

"There have been several times where we have leaned on Dr. Allen's

experience with graduate students and her knowledge of the field to provide testimony for the Colorado Legislature," he said.

Allen provided immense support and guidance to CSCA when creating a school counselor induction course

for licensed mental health providers entering the school counseling field through an alternative pathway.

"Her lens of academia and the counseling field continues to provide us with expert perspective time and again," McClain said. "In

the recent legislative session, she provided testimony on a bill providing educators, teachers and counselors, a stipend for practicum and internship. These monies will be lifesavers for many school counselors in preparation to enter the field."

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## Health fair set for Saturday in Creede

**CREEDE** — On Saturday, Sept. 24, there is a health fair from 8 a.m. to noon at the Creede school located at 450 Corsair Dr. Anyone 18 years old or older can participate in all screenings and, new this year, minors can participate in some free screenings.

Screenings available for a fee include: Blood Chemistry (\$45), Colon Cancer Screening Kit (\$45), Hemoglobin A1c Test (\$35), Prostate Specific Antigen (male, \$40), Testosterone (male, \$50), High-Sensitivity C-Reactive Protein (\$40), Blood Cell Count (\$30), Blood Type

(\$35), Vitamin D (\$60), Vitamin B12 (\$25). Combine the Blood Chemistry and Hemoglobin tests for \$70 and save \$10. Save \$20 by bundling Blood Chemistry, Hemoglobin, and Vitamin D for a total of \$120.

This year they can offer a free colon cancer test to any person who qualifies. Vouchers are available at Mineral County Public Health by calling 719-658-2416.

Register at [www.365health.org/health-fairs/fall/620/index](http://www.365health.org/health-fairs/fall/620/index).

The Mineral County Public Health Council is teaming up with 9Health:365 to bring this one-stop medical opportunity to Creede.

## San Luis Valley Scoreboard 2022 -2023

### FOOTBALL

<b>Sierra Grande 51</b>	<b>Hanover 0</b>
<b>Cotopaxi 71</b>	<b>Mountain Valley 14</b>
<b>Kim/Branson 74</b>	<b>Sangre de Cristo 0</b>
<b>Sargent 42</b>	<b>Custer County 20</b>
<b>Alamosa 38</b>	<b>Pagosa Spring's 15</b>
<b>Rye 48</b>	<b>Center 16</b>
<b>Sanford 56</b>	<b>Fowler 22</b>

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# Get out there and Capture Your Fall Scenery!!

Fall in the San Luis Valley means leaves are changing colors everywhere!

Valley Publishing would love to see your pictures of any scenery displaying Fall. The top 3 photos will be printed in our papers. Winners will get a T-shirt, a tumbler, and a year-long digital subscription to your paper of choice. Submit photos from Sept. 22 to Oct. 22. Winners will be announced on Nov. 9.

# 'Active shooter' report at Alamosa High School called a hoax

*APD chief called it a case of 'swatting'*

BY KEITH R. CERNY  
Regional Publisher

ALAMOSA — Alamosa High School issued an "all clear" message on Facebook about 3:20 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19, after a call came into 911 dispatch that an active shooter was on campus about 20 minutes prior. All schools were immediately placed on lockdown. Alamosa Police Chief Kenny Anderson and AHS Principal Andy Laviere said virtually every classroom and other rooms including closets were inspected by

law enforcement without finding a suspect.

Anderson referred to it as a case of "swatting" with other similar incidents being reported in Montrose and at least one school in Denver.

"Swatting" is defined as the action or practice of making a prank call to emergency services to bring about the dispatch of many armed police officers to a particular address. The term is derived from a form of harassment in which attackers try to trick police forces into sending a heavily armed strike force — often a SWAT team.

Anderson said the APD was on the scene in a matter of minutes and had assistance from law enforcement agencies from as far away as South Fork and Conejos County, as well the Alamosa

County Sheriff's Department and Colorado State Patrol. Alamosa Fire Department personnel were also on scene as well as Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

In a statement from the FBI's Denver office, KRDO television reported that numerous "swatting" incidents were reported across Colorado on Monday.

School officials reported on Facebook that 911 received a call from an administrative number regarding shots fired at AHS but confirmed that the call did not originate from the district.

Students were released at their normal "bell" Monday, but buses were delayed due to the call.

Hundreds of concerned parents and other citizens huddled around the vicinity of the high school as the incident unfolded.



Law enforcement converged on Alamosa High School about 3 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19, as reports came in of an active shooter on campus.

Photo by Keith R. Cerny

## Extended tax deadline is still Oct. 17

BY MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — Oct. 17 remains the deadline for people with a processed extension to file for 2021 tax year.

Many Coloradans are also wondering about the state's recent TABOR refunds, and if they can still apply. Colorado will be accepting tax returns, for TABOR refunds, through Oct. 17.

People with an extension in place may want to call a local tax office and make an appointment, or seek a place to file online, as the deadline of Oct. 17, is fast approaching.

Also, Colorado residents have been given an extension on the TABOR Colorado Tax refund. The TABOR refund comes from taxes that have been collected by the state, that exceed TABOR limits.

Colorado residents that file a State Income Tax Return by Oct. 17 are eligible to receive a Colorado TABOR Tax refund. The requirements to receive a TABOR refund: Individuals who were over 18 years of age before Dec. 31, 2021, qualify for the TABOR refund, as long as they were also a Colorado resident for the entire tax year of 2021.

Many Colorado residents, who filed by the original June 30 deadline, have already received their TABOR refund. Residents who file by Oct. 17, can expect to see their TABOR refund no later than January of 2022.

The Colorado Office of Taxation is asking all residents who have not received their refund if they filed by June 30, to allow until the date of Sept. 30, before they start to call regarding their TABOR refund.

Social Security recipients who do

not normally file taxes, or people that have other forms of non-taxable income and do not normally file taxes are still eligible for the TABOR refund, as long as they filed a Colorado Tax return by Oct. 17.

There are some requirements and additional information you will need to know when filing a Colorado tax return for the TABOR Refund. For more information, contact a local tax office or go to [co.colorado.gov](http://co.colorado.gov).

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Access: Door Decorating

Tiger Rag Tryouts (after practices, in auditorium)

**Tuesday, Sept 20**

Dress up Day: Twin Day

Access: Float building

Powder Puff FB/Macho VB (after practices)

Tiger Rag Practice (after practices, auditorium)

**Wednesday, Sept 21**

Dress up Day: Future Job Day

Access: Float building

Tiger Rag Dress Rehearsal 7:00pm

**Thursday, Sept 22**

Dress up Day: Orange/Black Tiger Gear

Report to First Hour and then Competitions

Tiger Pep Rally: Gym 11:30 a.m.-12:35 p.m.

Float Building 1:20-2:40 p.m.

Homecoming Parade 3 p.m.

Tiger RAG 7 p.m.

Bonfire (following Tiger Rag)

**Friday, Sept 23**

Community Tailgate, 2-5 p.m. at Tiger Field Parking Lot

Del Norte volleyball vs Pagosa, Tiger Gym at 4 p.m.

Del Norte vs Salida, Tiger Field at 7 p.m.

**Saturday, Sept 24**

Homecoming Dance (9-12th graders): 8-11 p.m.



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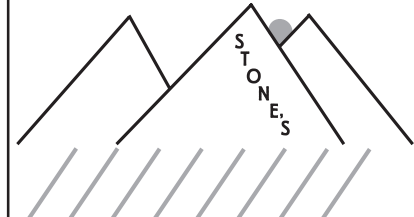
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## Hospice del Valle receives state award

ALAMOSA — The Board, leadership and staff of Hospice del Valle recently announced that the agency has been awarded a Performance Incentive Payment due to its high performance on its recent survey (audit) this Summer by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

This award constitutes a 10 percent discount on the agency's relicensure application fee.

Since Hospice del Valle is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, the award is particularly timely and affirming, officials stated.

# SLV Area Extension Office offers Cottage Foods Course

**BY JANA E NARANJO**  
 CSU Extension Agent  
**MONTE VISTA** — The San Luis Valley Area Extension Office is offering a Cottage Foods Course from 1 to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 20. This intense 3-hour food safety training provides a 3-year certification and meets the food safety training requirement for Colorado Cottage

Foods Act established and supported by the Colorado State Dept. of Health & Environment. Participants learn food safety guidelines and the specifics for operating a small home-based cottage food business from a home kitchen. Learn about the most current Colorado Cottage Food Act and get a food safety certificate that applies no matter where

you live in Colorado! The main sections of the training cover food safety guidelines for preparing foods in a home kitchen which is different from a food service site that would be inspected by the County and or State Health Depts. It covers the basics of proper hygiene; preventing cross contamination

and cross-contact of food allergens; temperature control for safe food preparation, storage, transporting produce and sales. The allowable food products are highlighted with CSU Extension fact sheets provided for each food product allowed. Then the instructor goes into product ingredient labeling, packaging requirements,

marketing, preparation at altitude and for going further with your business. The cost of the course is \$50. Register online at: <https://CF10.eventbrite.com>. A Zoom link for this online class will be emailed upon registration. For more information and application, contact Janae Naranjo at 719-852-7138 or [janae.naranjo@colostate.edu](mailto:janae.naranjo@colostate.edu).

# Middle School football action



Max Kincannon and Nehemias Sarinana tackle Caden Ruggles during a 30-0 football victory over the Center Vikings on Thursday, Sept. 15. The win brings the Pirates record to 4-0.



Photos by Sysqo Trujillo, MVMS seventh-grader  
 Nehemias Sarinana, a Monte Vista Middle School seventh-grade football player, picks up a first down against the Center Vikings on Thursday, Sept. 15.

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## God's Plan in Your Broken Pleaces

There's a story about a little boy who was very poor and needed shoes. He was standing in front of a shoe store, barefoot and shivering with cold. A woman approached him and asked him why he was standing there, looking through the window. He told her, "Well, ma'am, I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes."

The woman took the boy into the store, washed his dirty, bare feet and put new socks and shoes on them. The boy was so touched by her compassion that he asked her, "Ma'am, are you God's wife?" He assumed if she showed him that kind of love, she must be related to God.

This story is one of the best examples of what it means to walk in love. And our goal as Christians is to show God's love so people see Jesus shining through us.

### It Starts with Communion

Matthew 26:26 (NASB) says, "... Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body.'" It's interesting to see here that Jesus blessed the bread, broke it, and then gave it to the disciples.

We usually refer to this scripture when we have communion to remind us of the sacrifice He made for us. And just as He gave His life and was broken for us, we must be broken so we can live for Him.

We don't like to think about God breaking us, but it's really a wonderful thing. See, when we're born again, the seed of God's nature—all that He is—is planted in our spirits.

First Peter 1:23 says, "You have been born again not of seed which is perishable, but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God." And 1 John 3:9 tells us that as believers, "God's seed [His principle of life, the essence of His righteous character] remains [permanently]" in us (AMP).

This means we have what it takes to be like Jesus and love others the way He loves us. But we all need God to do a work in our souls for us to be able to walk in love. We have to grow spiritually for our soul—mind, will and emotions—to be molded into the image of Christ.

We don't need to pray for God to give us love, because we already have His love in us. We need to pray for Him to show us how to walk in love...for God to do whatever He needs to do in our lives so His love can flow through us to others. When we do, He will deal with whatever is in us that is standing in the way: pride, unforgiveness, selfishness, insecurity, fear or any other ungodly attitude or behavior.

### How Brokenness Works

Isaiah 64:8 says, "O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You our Potter, and we all are the work of Your hand" (AMP). I know what it's like to be broken and molded by God. I used to have so many problems; I was hard to get along with and harsh. There were a lot of things I didn't understand because I had been mistreated, and I thought it was good to be hard and not let anyone push me around. I believed everyone else had a problem, not me.

I remember praying so diligently for God to change my husband, Dave, because if he would just be the way I wanted him to be, then I would be happy. But one day God spoke to my heart so strongly and said, "Dave is not the problem." My response was, "Well, who is? It's just me and him. What do You mean Dave is not the problem?"

It was devastating to realize that I was the problem, but it was also the beginning of a beautiful work God wanted to do in me.

Even though I was hurting and hard to get along with, I really loved God and wanted to live for Him, but I had to give Him control so He could mold me into



Moving Up Higher with Joyce Meyer

His image. I began to pray things like, "God, do whatever You need to do in my life to change me. I'm the clay and You are the Potter. Romans 8:29 says You foreordained me to be molded into the image of Jesus, and I want to be everything You've created me to be."

The journey hasn't been easy, but I can honestly say that the hardest times in my life became blessings because God used them to bring me close to Him so I could know Him and grow spiritually. That's His plan for all of His children.

I want to encourage you today to spend time with God and search out the promises He has for you in His Word. Trust His wisdom and do what He shows you to do. As you put your faith in God to break you, mold you and make you what He's created you to be, the Potter will make you an amazing work of His hand!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-teaching resource *Live 2 Love*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 140 books, including *BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND* and *THE POWER OF THANK YOU (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.



# More cars than ever at Cruisin' the Canyon

By LYNSIE FERRELL

**CREEDE** — Every person who attended the annual Cruisin' the Canyon Car Show in Creede the past weekend was treated to a picture-perfect Colorado fall day. The blue skies seemed to stretch forever above the chrome, custom paint, and a crowd of over 500 people.

Main Street was packed with 131 hotrods, trucks, and unique vehicles of all makes and models.

"People really had a great time. We had the most cars we have ever had, and it was just an absolutely wonderful day," said event founder Vicki Kulyk. Vicki and her husband have been hosting the Cruisin' the Canyon Car show for 14 years, one of which was during the COVID-19 pandemic.

People wandered from one gorgeous vehicle to the next enjoying the beautiful day.

Vicki manned the People's Choice booth with oldies playing in the background.

"Everyone just adores our trophies and this year, the annual Best of Show award is just amazing," said Kulyk.

Each year the winner of the Best of Show award receives a custom designed radiator trophy and this year's sparkled in the late afternoon sun.

At the north end of Main Street, the Creede Arts Council was busy featuring local artists with the third annual steamroller event.

In the months leading up to the car show, local artists work to create stamps out of one of their pieces which are then coated with black paint and steamrolled onto a large piece of canvass.

Spectators stood and watched this unique come art be brought to life. Several of the prints sold and all



Courtesy photo

**Cruisin' the Canyon Car Show Best of Show — Greg Brumley's 1969 Dodge Dart GTS — pictured here at Chapman Park in Monte Vista. Brumley lives in Monte Vista.**

proceeds go to the Creede Arts Council and its future events.

Though the trees were still in their summer garb, the cruise up to Freemons was enjoyed later that afternoon. The local favorite burger joint was hopping for most of the afternoon while participants from the car show and spectators enjoyed a hamburger and bid farewell to summer for yet another year.

**Winners of this year's show are as follows:**

- Creede Elks Lodge 506
- Ivan Wright, 1948 Ford Coupe, Center
- Creede Olive Oil Company
- Larry Hargrove, 1952 Cadillac Coupe, Del Norte
- Tommyknocker Tavern
- John and Allison Strychnula, 1962 Dodge Pickup, Creede
- Snowshoe Lodge
- Clifford Chism, 1956 Chevy Belair

Convertible Mountainair, N.M.

Creede ATV  
Monica Noland, 1955 Studebaker Champion, Dolores

Downstream Gas & Mercantile  
Mike and Lori Olander, 1966 Ford F100 Pickup, Pleasant View

Pizzeria 8852  
Steve Carver, 1955 Willys Pickup, Gypsum

San Juan Sports  
Charles Riech, 1956 Chevy Sedan Delivery, Alamosa

Wander Off Broadway  
Lisa Pollard, 1978 VW West Phaiaa, South Fork

Tomkins Hardware and Lumber  
Dennis O'Dowd, 1957 Chevy 1/2-ton pickup, Alamosa

Coffee on the Fly  
Cecil and Betty Waldron, 1957 Ford Fairlane, Rifle

Kips Grill  
David King, 1957 Chevy Bel Air,



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

**The Creede Arts Council hosted its third annual print steamrolling event in Creede on Saturday. These unique works of art are created by local artists and then steamrolled onto large prints of paper.**

Couch, Mo.

Creede Baptist Church  
Matt Ratzloff, 1916 Ford Model T, Monte Vista

Cooley and Sons  
Cliff Herrington, 1960 Ford F100 Pickup, Silt

Rainbow Grocery & Fuels  
Dave and Misty Williams, 1953 Studebaker Truck, Rifle

4UR Ranch  
Phillip Whitmore, 1969 Chevy Camaro, Colorado Springs

Headwaters Alliance  
Jeff Kline, 1957 Chevy Bel Air, Alamosa

Creede Hotel  
Mike Bowers, 1941 2-door Police Car, Salida

Antlers Lodge and Restaurant

Parker Spence, 1957 Chevy Bel Air, Centennial

Elk Country  
John Whitmore, 1968 Ford Mustang, Colorado Springs

Northern New Mexico Street Rodder's  
Dave and Misty Williams, 1953 Studebaker truck, Rifle

People's Choice, Sponsored by Creede Repertory Theatre

Ray and Elaine Parnell, 2007 Chevy Corvette, Casper, Wyo.

Don Pacheco Award  
Julian Espinoza, 1971 Chevy Blazer, La Jara

Best of Show Sponsored by The Holy Moses  
Greg Brumley, 1969 Dodge Dart GTS, Monte Vista

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MKT-P0240

# County clarifies number of Tier II hazard sites

By LYNDIS FERRELL

**RIO GRANDE COUNTY** — In a meeting held on July 27, of the Rio Grande County Commissioners it was incorrectly stated that Rio Grande County had 13 Tier I hazard sites throughout the county.

In a statement on Sept. 9, Rio Grande County Emergency Manager Art Wittner clarified that the county only has five Tier II sites, and those sites will be included in the Hazard Mitigation Plan that is currently in the works and nearing completion. The information was reported during the 2022 Local and Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) conference in accordance with

CDPHE reporting guidelines.

Reporting accurate information on potentially hazardous sites in locations around the US is common practice. According to the EPA, a Tier II site involves reporting of hazardous material which can include propane, fertilizer and other material that is found around the country and is reported in tiers according to the amount of the material at any specific location.

“It was previously stated that there were 13 but that is not the case, and the corrected information has been included in the Hazard Mitigation Plan,” said Rio Grande County Commissioner Scott Deacon. Surveys

about the plan have been sent out to all local officials including commissioners, the sheriff, first responders and anyone who would help in the event of an emergency.

The process for the Hazard Mitigation Plan begins at the local level and works its way through state and federal government before it is approved and completed. It identifies local and state hazard risk and how each community would deal with emergencies on the local level before other state and federal resources are brought in during an emergency.

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), several

steps are taken to create a hazard mitigation plan. The current plan is in the final stages prior to approval through FEMA. State and local governments work together to begin the planning process, gather resources, assess risks in a location, develop a mitigation strategy and finally adopt and implement the plan.

Once the plan is in place, should an emergency occur, the plan will determine how much local agencies can handle before more aid is brought

in from state and federal resources. The plan includes communication protocols and other tools that help officials respond in the event of an emergency. This also includes the classification and identification of tier I and tier II locations throughout an area.

Once the plan is finished and approved by all local and state officials it will be submitted to FEMA for approval and implementation. For more information, contact Wittner at rgcoem@riograndecounty.org.

# SLV Area Extension Office recruiting Master Food Safety Advisor volunteers

By JANA NARANJO

CSU Extension Agent

**MONTE VISTA** — The San Luis Valley Area Extension Office is recruiting volunteers to attend in-depth training sessions in January-February 2023 on food preservation and safety, and afterward who will share their knowledge by volunteering in the community.

“We are excited about offering the

Master Food Safety Advisor program for adults who have an interest in food safety and food science or love to cook or preserve food,” officials stated.

The intensive training will cover food safety and prevention of foodborne illness, methods of canning, pickling, freezing and dehydrating.

Master Food Safety Advisors must apply for selection to be in the

program, must attend all trainings, work cooperatively with other volunteers and give a minimum of 30 hours of service each year to the community by sharing their knowledge and teaching others.

For more information and application, contact Janae Naranjo at 719-852-7138 or janae.naranjo@colostate.edu. Application deadline is Friday, Oct. 21.

# SLV Area Extension Office offering ServSafe course

By JANA NARANJO

CSU Extension Agent

**MONTE VISTA** — The San Luis Valley Extension Office is offering a ServSafe course on Nov. 10.

ServSafe is a nationally recognized program developed by the National Restaurant Association, that provides food safety training, exams and

educational materials to food service managers.

The Colorado Retail Food Establishment Rules and Regulations state that “at least one employee with authority to direct and control food preparation and service shall be a food protection manager who has been certified by an accredited

program.”

Class space is limited. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, contact Janae Naranjo at 719-852-7138 or janae.naranjo@colostate.edu. Application deadline to register is Oct. 10. To register go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/415000687227>.

District Court, Saguache County, Colorado Court Address: 501 4th Street/PO Box 197 Saguache, CO 81149		COURT USE ONLY Case Number: 2022CV030018
Plaintiffs: Michael H. Trujillo and Linda D. Trujillo v. Defendant(s): Sam Smith, Frank A. Lewis and Maryanna Gilmore Lewis, the County of Saguache, all heirs, creditors and all unknown persons who claim any interest in the subject matter of this action.		
Michael H. Trujillo, P.C. PO Box 862 Monte Vista, Colorado 81144 Phone Number: (719)852-5993 E-mail: michaelhtrujillo@yahoo.com	Atty. Reg. #5946	

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO  
**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT(S):**

You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 30 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 30 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

This is an action: COMPLAINT TO QUIET TITLE PURSUANT TO RULE 105  
 LOTS 18 AND 19, BLOCK 24, SIMS AND BENJAMINS SUBDIVISION, TOWN OF CENTER, COUNTY OF SAGUACHE, STATE OF COLORADO

Dated: August 15, 2022  
 Published in the Center Post-Dispatch  
 First Publication: August 25, 2022  
 Last Publication: September 22, 2022

Michael H. Trujillo  
 Michael H. Trujillo, P.C. #5946

(This summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4(g), Colorado Rules of Civil Procedure. This form should not be used where personal service is desired.)

(TO THE CLERK: When this summons is issued by the clerk of the court, the signature block for the clerk or deputy should be provided by stamp, or typewriter, in the space to the left of the attorney's name.)

\*Rule 12(a), C.R.C.P., allows 30 days for answer or response where service of process is by publication. However, under various statutes, a different response time is set forth; e.g., §38-6-104, C.R.S. (eminent domain); §38-36-121, C.R.S. (Torrens registration).

No. 1645 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, August 25 and September 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2022.

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# SLRG Continued from Page 1A

agreement. Assuming that agreement is reached, the deal will then be submitted to the bankruptcy court, followed by a bankruptcy hearing that Brandt estimates will take place sometime in mid-October.

"So, yes, at this time the railroad has not been sold," Brandt said.

The Valley Courier has also reported that, during Wednesday's commissioners' meeting, Wisdom informed the commissioners that a second group, North Central Railcorp, "may be interested in purchasing the railroad."

When asked to comment, Brandt said that, at the time OmniTRAX made the offer, he was negotiating with several bidders, including North Central Railcorp. In fact, the group, which he said is based out of Santa Fe, had signed a letter of intent a year ago but, to date, had yet to assemble all the financing needed to make the purchase.

When OmniTRAX made its offer, all negotiations with the other bidders stopped.

Brandt describes OmniTRAX as being a well-known, reliable operator across the country.

But while OmniTRAX has successes in its background it also has some failures, including the 2016 purchase of the Central Texas and Colorado River (CTXR) Railroad, a 67.5-mile short line railroad in central Texas.

OmniTRAX bought CTRX in anticipation of a market expansion in shipping sand used in fracking. That

# SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the period between Sept. 13 and 18, 2022.

Deputies and staff addressed one mental subject and a missing person, conducted a welfare check, executed four search and rescue operations, and assisted four citizens and other agencies. They patrolled Saguache six times, responded to 14 calls in Crestone, and managed eight controlled burns.

Six reports of suspicious activity and criminal mischief engaged staff, along with an assault in Center and a civil standby in Crestone. They also issued four traffic citations and one REDDI Report (Report Every Drunk Driver Immediately).

### ARRESTS

- A 38-year-old Pueblo West woman was arrested for failing to appear in Saguache County court multiple times.
- A 29-year-old man born in New Mexico was arrested for failing to appear in Saguache and Rio Grande counties courts.
- In the company of a bondsman, a 30-year-old Saguache man turned himself in and then paid a \$20,000 bond for a charge of theft in excess of \$100,000 but under \$1 million.
- A 50-year-old Ignacio woman was arrested for failing to appear on charges of larceny and dangerous drugs with separate bail amounts totaling \$12,500.
- A 50-year-old woman from Farmington, N.M., was charged with domestic violence and a separate assault charge.

market failed to expand.

According to an Aug. 29, 2019, document posted by the Surface Transportation Board (the federal agency that governs railroads), the CTRX line was embargoed on July 25, 2019, due to "bridge problems and unsafe track conditions."

On Aug. 9, 2019 — just three years after purchasing the line — OmniTRAX and CTRX petitioned STB to abandon the line, citing the loss of millions of dollars in acquiring and operating the line and asserting the cost of continuing to maintain and operate the line far outweighed the potential revenue from shippers. STB approved the petition, and the line was abandoned.

When asked to comment on the abandonment, Brandt said, "I wasn't looking for candidates for sainthood in finding a good buyer for the SLRG. And it's not my job to defend OmniTRAX. But they're one of the best-known operators in the country and their level of reliability and the

exacting management message they use is copied by a lot of folks in the industry.

"They've made a habit and a career out of trying to salvage short line railroads. They take a lot of risk in trying to salvage a company and not everything is a winner. A lot of railroads have a lot of problems right now, but SLRG is not one of them. I think SLRG has a bright future with a lot of expansion in the Valley. And I think (that expansion) is what's attracting OmniTRAX," Brandt said.

"There are no guarantees in life. But they can write a check to buy the railroad and they can write a check to improve it. And they have a very competent marketing team that knows what they're doing. OmniTRAX has no plans to abandon any trackage, including the trackage west of Monte Vista. Frankly, it's probably one of the more qualified operators we could be selling to. You couldn't put the railroad in better operator's hands," Brandt said.

OmniTRAX has offered a bid of \$5.75 million. However, SLRG is also carrying a significant debt related to back taxes. According to Brandt, using figures projected through Nov. 30 — when a sale might be approved — there is currently a debt of \$3,805,000 in property taxes due to the five counties where SLRG runs in the Valley plus \$141,500 in back withholding due to the Colorado Department of Revenue. That's a total debt of \$3,946,500 due out of a \$5.75 million sale price.

Brandt said that bankruptcy court allows for individuals protesting the sale, including those who may assert their offer is better than OmniTRAX, to make their case.

If Omnitrax's offer is accepted by the court, they will have to file an application with the STB.

"Omnitrax has a good reputation and, I'm assuming, the STB will look favorably upon the sale," Brandt said. "But you can't always tell what they're going to do."

## Alamosa Farmer's Market runs through Sept.

**ALAMOSA** — The Alamosa Farmers' Market welcomes locals and visitors to downtown Alamosa, Saturdays at the corner of 6th and State for our 2022 Market season.

Vendors will be selling regional farm fresh food products, other foodstuffs, and hand-crafted goods this season. Now that September is upon us expect to see more root vegetables, roasted Pueblo green chiles, fresh Olathe corn, Palisade peaches, and New Mexico apples.

Live Music will be back again. Kids will have two options for their activities this season. They can take home a to-go bag or do the activity right onsite at the market this year.

The Market accepts debit and credit cards, SNAP, Double Up Food Bucks, WIC vouchers, and cash. For information, see [www.alamosafarmersmarket.org](http://www.alamosafarmersmarket.org) or the Farmers' Market Green tent.

Date of Notice: September 15, 2022

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

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

You are hereby notified that Atmos Energy has filed with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado ("PUC"), in compliance with the Public Utilities Law, an application for permission to file certain changes in tariffs, affecting all residential, commercial, interruptible and other consumers in its Colorado divisions to become effective October 1, 2022, if the application is granted by the PUC.

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

<u>Class of Service by Division</u>	<u>Present Rates Total Volumetric</u>	<u>Proposed Rates<sup>1</sup> Total Volumetric</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
<b>North Colorado*</b>			
Residential	\$1.27625	\$1.41273	11%
Small Commercial, Commercial	1.14496	1.28144	12%
Irrigation	1.06205	1.19853	13%
Transportation	0.1570	0.15664	0%
	<u>Average Monthly Bill</u>	<u>Projected Average Monthly Bill</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
<b>North Colorado*</b>			
Residential	\$ 87.02	\$ 94.94	9%
Small Commercial, Commercial	447.82	497.64	11%
Irrigation	523.16	584.44	12%
	<u>Prior Year's Peak Month Bill</u>	<u>Projected Peak Month Bill</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
<b>North Colorado*</b>			
Residential	\$ 172.53	\$ 189.59	10%
Small Commercial, Commercial	789.02	879.50	11%
Irrigation	2,089.68	2,352.27	13%

\*Notification Published in our North Rate Area Newspaper

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

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

Anyone who desires to file written objection or written intervention documents to the proposed action shall file them with the PUC, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado, 80202 at least one day before the proposed effective date.

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

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

Atmos Energy Corporation  
Colorado-Kansas Division  
By: Kathleen R. Ocanas  
Vice President, Rates & Regulatory Affairs

# Gurule joins CSU Extension Team in the SLV to support youth

## SUBMITTED ARTICLE

**SANLUISVALLEY**—“Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world!” This quote by Nelson Mandela describes the core belief that defines who Carol Gurule is, and her fundamental cause in choosing this career move to serve San Luis Valley youth through CSU Extension SLV Area education programs.

“I am passionate about helping others and making a difference,” exclaimed Gurule. “What I’ve learned is that when you are kind to someone, you set in motion a chain of events that makes each life it touches a little bit better. One by one, that act of kindness is paid forward...till one day it comes back to you multiplied. I am especially passionate about helping our youth recognize the importance of remaining in school and that each and every one of them have possibilities of furthering their education.”

CSU has chosen Gurule to pioneer a specialized, youth development program called Juntos 4-H. Developed in North Carolina and now successful in 15 states, Juntos 4-H is specifically designed to help more students graduate high school, and then go on to whatever level of post-secondary training or education that best meets their own interests and goals.

Juntos is unique in that it serves the youth and their families who typically do not participate in the traditional 4-H program. Colorado will be the sixteenth state to implement Juntos, and Gurule will be instrumental in establishing it successfully in the Valley.

“Being a SLV Native, I have found that we are unique in our culture and in our upbringing,” Gurule explained, “especially as a Latina woman who grew up in the seasonal farmworker community. My father had many titles but the one I recall was ‘Patron’ (Boss) as the field workers called him.”

Gurule recalled being pulled out of school around late October to early November to work during potato harvest.

“We were picking potatoes off the ground with gunny sacks that had hooks on both sides hanging off a 2x4 tied around my waist,” Gurule said. “Bent over in the freezing, early winter morning or in the hot afternoon sun, picking up and down the potato field, making 50 cents a half sack. I also worked the fields in the hot summer months picking sweet pea for 25 cents a bushel, and thinning, cutting, and wrapping lettuce and spinach in the fields. The work was tough, to say the least, but we did it every year.”

And every year Gurule vowed she would not be a statistic.

“What changed my life was when I realized education was the best way to go, and I worked hard and even harder to make certain that every time my report card came out that I was holding a 3.0 GPA or higher and that no matter what, my name was always going to appear in the Valley Courier honor roll! And it did,” she said.

These experiences in her youth inspired Gurule’s purpose in life.

“I knew I had to work harder at everything, including my education,” Gurule said. “I knew then that the



Carol Gurule

difference I wanted to make in our community would be to assist those children left in the corners, not knowing who to turn to; not knowing that there are resources like CSU Extension and Juntos 4-H to help them. I knew then that my passion was to educate students and their families as their struggle is real.”

There are endless opportunities available to students and their families if they can simply envision that they do have a path to reach their goals and to reach their highest potential.

To learn more about the Juntos 4-H program, or to get to know Gurule as your newest San Luis Valley Extension educator, call 719-852-7381, or drop by the SLV Area Extension office in Monte Vista.

CSU Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

# BACA

Continued from Page 1A — Desiree Marceau promised another meeting on Monday, Sept. 26, also at the POA Hall at 6 p.m. The initial meeting, as Marceau repeated repeatedly, was merely to explain that the process had begun.

Audience members raised questions, made comments, and shared their concerns. Unanswered questions far outnumbered the explanations provided during this initial phase of township pursuit. Members of the Baca Grande POA board and administrative staff provided input and inquiries from the member point of view.

The Baca Grande POA has budgeted for a substantial assessment hike from \$493 in 2022 to \$640.90 for 2023. The proposed budget covers all the services funded through the POA, substantially paid for with assessments collected. When an earlier incarnation of the POA board increased assessments a few years ago, members recalled the board, and the fees were reduced.

Of the 2,240 property owners, between 1,200 and 1,400 are residents. As written on the group’s Web site (<https://townofbacagrande.info/>): “Once permission is granted by the court, residents within the proposed town that are also registered electors will get to vote a simple yes or no on becoming our own town.”

Residents who are not registered electors can register to vote in Saguache County to become eligible for the up-or-down vote for Baca Grande township. Without meeting the two requirements — residency and Saguache County voter registration — perhaps more than 1,000 property owners cannot vote, if the election comes to pass.

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# Centaury Falcons

## 2022 Homecoming Schedule

- Spirit Week: Sept. 19-22**
- Monday — Hawaiian Day
  - Tuesday — USA Day
  - Wednesday — Country vs Country Club
  - Thursday — Red out and homecoming assembly
- Bonfire: Sept. 22 at 8 p.m.**
- For Centaury High School students only
- Friday Night Games: Sept. 23**
- Home volleyball game against Cortez - C-team at 3 p.m.; JV at 4 p.m.; Varsity at 5 p.m.
  - Home varsity football game against Bayfield at 7 p.m.
  - Court and Queen announced at halftime
- Saturday Afternoon Game: Sept. 24**
- Home volleyball game against Bayfield - C-team at 12 p.m.; JV at 1 p.m.; Varsity at 2 p.m.
- Dance: Sept. 24, 8 to 11 p.m.**
- Announcing Homecoming Court, Queen, and King at 9 p.m.
  - King and Queen dance after announced

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# Lifestyles

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Supplement to The Monte Vista Journal, Center Post-Dispatch, The Conejos County Citizen, The Mineral County Miner, The South Fork Times, and The Del Norte Prospector.

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Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Fall is on the horizon for the San Luis Valley and the trees in the San Juan Mountains surrounding South Fork and Creede are beginning to change. Maps to help people make the most of their viewing opportunities are available at the South Fork Visitor Center.

## Fall color map available at SF Visitor Center

BY LYNDISIE FERRELL

**SOUTH FORK** — With the changing of the seasons happening all over the San Luis Valley, the coming weeks will be the perfect time to head out and see Colorado's famous fall colors.

South Fork is the perfect destination for people seeking a fall adventure, and the South Fork Visitor Center is the place to go to learn where some of the best location drives are to see the splendor of autumn.

The South Fork Visitor Center is offering free fall drive maps that will take travelers through some potentially gorgeous areas that offer people the opportunity to get out and take pictures, take a short hike or meander through aspen groves.

• Platoro Lake is a high mountain lake nestled in the San Juan Mountains just a short walk from the main trailhead. Take Park Creek Road

(Forest Service Road 380) toward Summitville. Take the turn to Ellwood Pass which will take you into Platoro. On the way down the pass, you will drive through canopies of aspen and have incredible views in all directions. There is a Lodge in Platoro that serves delicious burgers, among other things. The trip is around 40 miles one way and should take around two hours.

• Travelers can also head toward the historic town of Lake City to experience the Silver Thread Historic Scenic Byway. Take the Silver Thread Highway (149) from South Fork to Lake City for spectacular views of mountains and a patchwork of color. Be sure to stop at North Clear Creek Falls.

• Pool Table and Wheeler Geologic Area is a beautiful drive in the La Garita Mountains just before Creede. Take the Silver Thread Highway (149) **Please see FALL on Page 3**



Courtesy photo

Pictured, students from the Dr. Robert Benson Migrant STEAM Academy joined students from across the nation at the Space Center Houston, for five days in August.

## Adams State Migrant Education STEAM Academy students visit the Houston Space Center

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

**ALAMOSA** — The Dr. Robert Benson Migrant Science Technology Engineering Art and Mathematics (STEAM) Academy, was held June 2022, on the Adams State campus. High school students from regions around Colorado participated in a variety of activities and academics in science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics, taught by Adams State University faculty.

The students also visited the Great National Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve and Meow Wolf Entertainment Center. In addition to receiving high school and college credits, and getting an insight into future careers, 10 excelling students were selected to attend a five-day

program at Space Center Houston.

The students were selected based on their performance during the STEAM Academy, showing great interest in the material and fully participating in classes and activities.

For five days in August, students visited the Space Center Houston. Students were assigned a project tied to a real-life NASA career, including building and launching rockets; creating and researching a Mars habitat; constructing and operating end effectors for a robot; coding; learning to scuba dive; and creating thermal resistant spaceships.

Many of the Migrant Education Program STEAM students placed first, second, and third for several of these projects demonstrating their

knowledge, understanding and full capacities. In addition to these individual project winners, there were also overall winners of the whole program. Four of the MEP STEAM Pathfinder team took third place overall.

The students appreciated the variety of projects and received an in-depth understanding of the different tasks of NASA employees. Students had an unforgettable and influential experience, accompanied by Diana Gonzalez, Adams State MEP educational advocate; Koreena Montoya, MEP West Central regional director; and Shelly Grandell, MEP STEAM instructor. The Moore Foundation donated funding to purchase suitcases and other travel items necessary for students.

## People learn about resources at Stations of Suicide Awareness



BY DIANE DREKMAN

**SAN LUIS** — A gray day set the tone for a somber topic. The second Stations of Suicide Awareness event took place in San Luis on Sept. 10.

People joined together to remember loved

**Pictured in San Luis Park where apples trees were planted are the Stations of Suicide Awareness planning committee, from left to right, Nazaray Albert (SLV Behavioral Health Group), Cheryl Ruybal (Valley-Wide Health Systems), Amber Maestas (CCPHA), Paul Wertz (CCPHA), Merissa Vigil (CCDSS), Pam Taylor (VWHS), and Brittany Lobato (CCPHA). Not pictured is Sheriff Danny Sanchez.**

Photo by Diane Drekmann

ones and to learn about coping with the effects of suicide, how to recognize signs of someone having suicidal thoughts, where to go for help, and strategies to prevent feelings of hopelessness and depression.

The purpose of the event was to share information about the issue of suicide. Merissa Vigil, Amber Maestas, and Nazaray Albert want the community to know there are organizations and services available for those affected by and thinking about suicide.

The Stations of Suicide Awareness event began with a walk remembering loved ones, followed by presentations on various topics.

Marcia Candy, with SLV Behavioral Health Group, talked about places to go for help.

Melissa Marquez, also with SLVBHG, discussed strategies to survive such a loss.

**Please see STATIONS on Page 3**

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## Explaining precision agriculture

Few, if any, aspects of life in the 21st century have not been touched by technology. Advancements in technology have affected everything from the way students learn in the classroom to how senior citizens connect with their grandchildren. Technological advancements also have left their mark on industry, including the agricultural sector.

Modern agriculture bears some similarities to farming of past eras. Technology has affected the agricultural sector for centuries, and modern farmers know that's no different today. One of the more recent developments in the agricultural sector is the rise of precision agriculture, a farming management concept that can pay dividends for generations to come.

### What is precision agriculture?

Precision agriculture (PA) is rooted in improving crop yields through the utilization of technology. PA is designed to help the agricultural sector maximize resources and improve yields and the quality of crops. That's a critically important function as the world population

continues to grow and the demand for food increases as a result.

### What are some examples of PA technology?

Sensors are a prime example of PA technology that helps make farms more efficient and productive. Sensors serve various functions by helping farmers gather data on the availability of water in soil, the level of compaction in soil, leaf temperature, insect and disease infestation, and other areas.

Weather modeling is another component of PA that can help farms be more cost-effective and efficient. Whereas in years past many farms would need to manually assess certain variables to determine when to harvest, weather modeling technology has enabled some farmers to generate remote readings, saving time and money.

### How does PA help farmers?

Each situation is unique, but the principles of PA can help farmers access a wealth of information. It might have been possible to access such information in the past, but PA has sped up the process and made



Courtesy photo

it more hands-off, allowing farmers to save both time and money. PA technology can help farmers maintain accurate records of their farms; inform their decisions; make it easier to detect and identify problems, sometimes before they escalate into larger issues; and avoid potentially costly mistakes.

Technology has left no industry untouched. The growth of precision agriculture is a testament to the influence that technology is having on a vital sector of the global economy.

## Dig into tasty, nutritious potatoes

Potatoes are a staple of many people's diets. Versatile, affordable and tasty, potatoes are, not surprisingly, included in myriad recipes.

Potatoes are underground tubers that grow on the roots of the potato plant. Potatoes are from the nightshade family, which means they're related to tobacco and tomatoes. Potatoes are native to South America, and were likely brought to Europe, and later North America, by immigrants and tradespeople.

In addition to their versatility and flavor, potatoes happen to be nutritional powerhouses. Potatoes are one of the "good" carbohydrates because they are whole and complex. Whole carbs like potatoes are minimally processed and contain fiber found naturally, according to the health and wellness site Healthline. Carbohydrates are important for mental and physical performance because they provide the body with energy.

Here's a deep look at what a serving of one potato provides in terms of nutritional benefits, courtesy of Potatoes USA.

- Moderate caloric content: The average potato contains just 110 calories. That makes potatoes part of a healthy, low-calorie eating plan.

- Vitamin C: Potatoes are very good sources of vitamin C, although people might not think of potatoes as a major source of



Courtesy photo

this essential nutrient. One potato provides around 30 percent of the recommended daily value of vitamin C.

- Potassium: Each potato contains about 620 mg of potassium, which is more of this valuable nutrient than one gets from a banana.

- No cholesterol: Potatoes are cholesterol- and fat-free when boiled or baked. There are many ways to prepare and serve potatoes so they remain low in fat and cholesterol-free.

- Vitamin B and Iron: One potato provides 10 percent DV of vitamin B and 6 percent DV of iron.


- Fiber: The highest level of fiber in potatoes is found in the skin. Dried skins are about 52 percent fiber. If you don't eat the skin, one

potato will offer around 7 percent DV of fiber.

- Sodium-free: Potatoes are a smart choice for those watching their sodium intake.


- Gluten-free: People with Celiac disease or those who have gluten intolerances can turn to potatoes to include starchy carbohydrates in their diets. They're perfect as side dishes or dressed up with other ingredients to make a main course.

Potatoes come in many different forms and sizes, so they can be integrated into any meal. Because they can be cooked in various ways, potatoes also can be matched to particular diets and eating plans. Potatoes are a delicious, versatile and healthy option any time of the day.



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# Fun With 911 event set for Sept. 24

**BY DIANE DREKMANN**  
**LAJARA** — The Fun With 911 event offers people the chance to meet Conejos County first responders. After a 2-year absence because of COVID-19 pandemic, the third Fun With 911 event will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sept. 24 on 312 S. Main St. in La Jara. This is an opportunity to meet the local sheriff and first responders like EMS, paramedics, the Conejos County emergency personnel, and firefighters. The Fun With 911 event is sponsored

by the EMS program. Garrett Storm, EMT with inbound services who works with the EMS program explains, "The purpose is to promote health and meet the first responders in the community." The Fun With 911 event will offer several activities, including games for all ages. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served. The EMS program survives on donations. Thanks to the generous donations of various businesses, the event will hold a silent auction.

# FALL Continued from Page 1

toward Creede. Just past Cottonwood Cove, there will be a sign that says, "Pool Table". It is Forest Service Road 600 and is 14 miles. Travelers may drive a two-wheel drive vehicle to Hanson's Mill then take the hiking trail up 6.5 miles to the geologic area. After the mill you will need a four-wheel drive vehicle. Drive on top of the mesa to be surrounded by golden Aspen. Beaver Creek Road is a short distance from South Fork and a great place to view fall colors. Take Highway 160 west 3 miles to Beaver Creek Reservoir Road. This is Forest Service Road 360. The first 5-7 miles are through Aspen Forest. You will pass through the pines

then the spruce and fir for great views of the surrounding mountains. Willow Creek and Del Norte Peak is 17 miles south of South Fork near the town of Del Norte. Head two miles east of town on Highway 160 to Gerrard Road. This road is Forest Service Road 350 also known as Willow Creek Road. You may follow it south up to the junction of road 345 where you will turn back to the northeast then meander back to the northwest around Del Norte Peak for beautiful views of the mountain. To get a map of the fall drives described above, visit the South Fork Visitor Center located at the intersection of Highway 149 and 160 in South Fork.

# STATIONS Continued from Page 1

"There is no right or wrong way to grieve," Marquez said. "Everyone grieves and copes differently. It's important to be kind to yourself. Eat well. Exercise. Perhaps honor loved ones by making a memory box or painting a picture. Everyone heals in their own way. Truly, it takes one day, one minute at a time. You may be forever changed but you can survive and grow." Jerry Sierra, a clinician with emergency services, let people know about a walk-in crisis center open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

feeling of stress, better sleep, and appetite. Five small needles are placed in each ear and a person should sit quietly for 30 minutes. Marquez said it really works and is helpful. The last speaker, Cheryl Ruybal, behavioral psychiatrist for Centennial School, helps teens who are struggling. Although people feel there is a stigma about talking about suicide, Ruybal feels "people need to talk about it." The event ended with people going to San Luis Park to plant four apple trees donated by North River Farms. The hope is to put plaques there to commemorate loved ones. The support of many organizations and businesses made this event possible. Costilla County Public Health, SLV Behavioral Health, Tu Casa, and Valley-Wide Health Systems had informational booths at the event.

There was a demonstration of Acudetox (ear acupuncture), an alternative treatment for anxiety, withdrawal, and stress related issues. Through the ancient Chinese medical technique of acupuncture, needles are used to increase energy flow through the body and help rid the body of disease. The treatment creates relaxation, decreases

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### 04 Lost & Found

**REWARD OFFERED FOR A Nine-Month Old Australian Shepard Mix named Bear**, missing from 505 Salazar Street in San Luis, CO. Bear is Black with a White and Yellow chest and black and white spotted paws. Please call 720-229-8437.

### 05 Notices

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# Valley Wide Classifieds

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**Mineral County is currently accepting proposals for Design-Build services to replace the HVAC Components in the Mineral County Medical Clinic and Ambulance Building.** The medical clinic houses three different provider practices and is approximately 6,660 sq ft, and the ambulance facility provides parking for 3 ambulances, some Search and Rescue vehicles, storage for both organization and training space for both organizations. The buildings is currently heated using a forced air system fueled by Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) Units placed in mechanical rooms in an attic space (main floor closet in the case of the ambulance facility) and cooled by air conditioning units that reside outside the building. Proposals due EOB 10/31/22. Full RFP and related attachments are available on the Mineral County website, mineralcountycolorado.com. (9/21)

**Rio Grande County is seeking Dispatch/Detention Officers.** High School Diploma or GED, or one to three months related experience and/or training or equivalent combination of education and experience. Must be 21 years of age, pass background investigation and 5-panel drug test, including testing for marijuana. Inmate interaction required. \$16.84-17.42 per hour depending on associated experience and education. Pick up and submit applications to Human Resources 925 6th Street, Room 200, Del Norte, CO 81132. Applications also available online at [www.riograndecounty.org](http://www.riograndecounty.org). Full County Benefits. (9/28)

**Rio Grande County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for a Road Deputies.** Must be 21 years of age, pass a background check and drug test including marijuana screening, have good driving record, Colorado P.O.S.T. certification, and High School diploma or GED. Pick up/submit applications to Rio Grande County Human Resources, 925 6th Street, Room 200, Del Norte, CO 81132. Applications and job description also available online at [www.riograndecounty.org](http://www.riograndecounty.org). \$20.55-\$21.28 per hour depending on associated experience and education. Full County benefits.

**Rio Grande County Department of Social Services is accepting applications for a Child Protection Caseworker.** Full time position with County benefits. Pre-employment drug screening, including testing for marijuana, will be required. \$21.99-\$22.78 DOE. Full job description and application available at [www.riograndecounty.org](http://www.riograndecounty.org) or at Human Resources, 925 6th Street, Room 200, Del Norte, CO 81132. Until Filled

**Wolf Creek Ski Area is in need of an Accounting Assistant/Accounting Clerk.** Duties include clerical tasks, processing reports, recording transactions and typical Accounts Payable and Payroll duties. Experience with Microsoft Office products is required. Attention to detail and organizational skills are important. Those with bookkeeping, human

resources, or administrative assistance experience are encouraged to apply. Compensation is hourly and negotiable based on skill set. Reliable transportation and ability to commute to/from Wolf Creek Ski Area throughout the Winter is required. **Year-round position with longer hours during the ski season, and a shorter workweek in the off-season.** Would report to Accounting Supervisor as well as CEO/President. Please email resume to AP@WOLFCREEKSKI.COM or call 970-264-5487. (9/28)

**Wolf Creek Ski Area is accepting applications for all departments: accounting (assistant), lifts, ski school, food and beverage, base operations, rental, retail, ticket office, ski patrol, vehicle maintenance, snow removal, snow reporting and a freelance photographer.** To download an application and see job descriptions please visit the employment page of WolfCreekSki.com. Send resumes and applications to [wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com](mailto:wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com) or P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. All jobs are winter seasonal (November - April) with competitive wages.

**RG BANK** is now accepting applications for the position of **FULL TIME TELLER.** The job is primarily in Monte Vista, but work in Alamosa is also required at times. Interested parties can see more and download an application at: <https://rgbank.bank/contact-us/#employment> (9/28)

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**1+Bedroom, 3/4 Bath (Home or Office) Unit in 4-plex, in Del Norte, 1Person, NO PETS! \$600.00/MO + Security Deposit.** Inclusive of Water and Sewer. Call 719-850-0750.

### 12 Houses for Rent

**Cozy one-bedroom Dennis Street Monte Vista, partially furnished house, NO PETS! \$650/Month, \$650/Deposit call 719-580-5400.**

### 17 Real Estate For Sale

**35.71 acres between Monte Vista and Alamosa on County Line Road, borders highway, good grass, easy access, power and ready to build on. Priced \$109,000. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty Inc 719-873-1700. (9/22)**

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# Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



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### CLUES ACROSS

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

### Solution to last week's puzzle

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21	22			23				
			24	25				26				
27	28	29		30			31			32	33	34
35			36			37			38			
39					40			41				
42				43			44					
45				46			47			48		
			49			50			51			
52	53	54			55			56		57	58	59
60					61			62		63		
64					65					66		
67					68					69		

63. Boyfriend
64. Norse personification of old age
65. Type of box
66. Tie together
67. Fiber from the coconut
68. Chicago mayor
69. Old English letters

27. A theatrical performer
28. 2-door car
29. \_\_\_ and flowed
32. Papier-\_\_\_, art medium
33. City in Georgia
34. Irregular
36. College sports conference
37. Angry
38. Partner to cheese
40. S. American mammal
41. Self-immolation by fire rituals
43. Split pulses
44. Disfigure
46. Cow noise
47. Erase
49. Chadic language
50. Reward for doing well
51. Paid TV
52. Millisecond
53. Other
54. Colombian city
57. Necklace part
58. Every one of two or more people
59. Regrets
61. They come after "A"
62. Horse noise

### CLUES DOWN

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

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# Valley Wide

# Classifieds

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**32 Fuel & Heating**  
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**36 Miscellaneous**  
**FOR SALE:** Autocrate Antique Stove in Creede, Wood Burning & Propane. I have used it for over 50 years. Best offer takes it. Call 409-370-1815. (10/05)

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**38 Machinery, Tools, Equipment**

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**39 Sporting Goods**  
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**2000 Ford F250 4x4 extended cab long bed V10 89000 miles** excellent condition 20,000 call 719 580-2509

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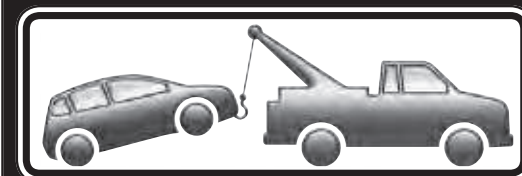
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# 2022



# Hunting IN THE San Luis Valley

## It's about the experience

**VALLEY**— For many, hunting is about making memories. It's not about killing a trophy or simply filling the freezer, it's about the experience.

I have been fortunate over my 60-plus years to hunt with my dad, my siblings, my wife, and especially my two sons. Early years saw deer, pheasant, and duck hunts in eastern Nebraska with my father and brothers, and even some bird hunts there with older son Zach, including one time when he claimed he was sprayed with birdshot from one of the stalkers.

Late fall last year saw me helping both of my sons retrieve bull elk off the Monte Vista Wildlife Refuge, an area that requires a general season permit from Colorado Parks and Wildlife as well as a special permit from CPW for the refuge. With second son Tyler serving as a District Wildlife Manager for CPW in the Monte Vista district, rules must be followed.

The refuge hunt with Zach became interesting in 2021.

Parked in an area on the east side of the

K.C. at Bat



Keith R. Cerny

refuge before sun-up, we waited to get enough light to scope the area to the west to "find the elk." As legal hunting time arrived, Zach noticed a small group of bulls just south of where we parked, although they spooked before he could get in position for a shot.

After walking across the alkali and sage covered turf to the west and not seeing potential game, we proceeded west to the "Gunbarrel" highway as a bull and a small herd of cows crossed in front of us from the mountains onto the refuge. As we found a parking area in the northwest area of the legal hunting area of the refuge, we stealthily moved up a trail where Zach got a shot. His first shot hit paydirt, but as is often the case, the bull got up and trotted off although he had fallen behind his harem and walked into a cattail filled pond.

Zach went to the right around the pond as I proceeded on the left, myself unarmed of course. Not my hunt.

Seeing not much more than antlers, with a quick, but quiet shout, Zach told me to stop as he propped his rifle on his shooting sticks and fired another shot at the bull. I didn't see it go down or run off, but I was convinced he finished him.

The next two hours were spent searching for the score, including more than an hour of Zach tromping through the pond in unfit footwear



Photo by Keith R. Cerny

**Tyler Cerny with his first archery bull, taken on the Monte Vista Wildlife Refuge in 2021.**

as I scoured the eastbound bank and beyond. Pacing back and forth, I was unsuccessful at finding him, or any trace of blood.

Soaked to the bones in icy cold, late October water, Zach called his wife to bring dry socks and waders. I stood watch as he walked the half mile back to his truck to change and return to continue the search.

After his return to wade the pond, I continued to pace the levy when suddenly I shouted to Zach, "I smell him!" Elk hunters know that this ungulate has a distinct odor produced by their scent glands in their hind legs.



**Courier publisher Keith Cerny, left, is shown with oldest son Zach after a successful bull elk hunt on the Monte Vista Refuge in late October 2021.**

As I stared into the water about 10 yards from shore, I finally spotted antlers. Man was I chastised for not seeing it earlier.

It was a chore retrieving the bull from the water, but well worth the effort even for this old man. No one wants to waste an animal as treasured as a Rocky Mountain elk. And remember, it's more about the experience.

## How to field dress wild game properly and safely

Fishing and hunting are popular outdoor activities. Many outdoor enthusiasts engage in angling or hunting so they can have trophies to put up on their walls. Others rely on hunting and fishing for supplemental food sources. Game animals will have to be cleaned and processed properly whether they're headed to the dinner table or to the taxidermist.

Pathogen contamination is one of the biggest risks when field dressing an animal. As with any animal, game can contain harmful bacteria, such as salmonella and strains of E. coli. Other animals, such as wild hogs, can infect people with a flu-like illness called brucellosis, which can be caught through contact with blood, fluid or tissue of an infected hog. Deer, elk and moose also may have chronic wasting disease, or CWD. Although there is no evidence that links CWD to human illness, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises caution.

Proper field dressing techniques and game transport can help reduce the risk of pathogenic contamination. Here are some tips for getting started, courtesy of Penn State and the CDC.

- Wear safety gear. When handling any

game animals, protect yourself with rubber gloves. This will prevent the blood and fluids from the game animal from getting on your skin. Eye protection is also advised when handling carcasses.

- Work quickly. The elapsed time from when the animal is downed until it is processed can affect the safety and the quality

of the meat if it will be consumed, according to Martin Bucknavage, food safety extension associate in the Penn State Department of Food Science. Field dress as soon as possible to ensure rapid loss of the animal's body heat, to prevent surface bacteria from growing and to preserve the quality of the meat. Eviscerate the animal to help the carcass dissipate heat and remove the internal organs, where spoilage tends to occur more quickly.

- Watch out for internal organs. Avoid cutting into internal organs, especially the intestines, where the largest amount of bad bacteria tend to reside.

- Chill the carcass. Deterioration will occur more quickly in temperatures greater than 40 F. Therefore, insert plastic bags of ice or snow into the body cavity of the animal to keep the carcass chilled. Move the carcass into a cooler or refrigerator as soon

as possible after field dress.

- Choose tools wisely. Use clean, sharp knives when field dressing and butchering to make it easier to cut through and process the carcass. Use clean water, premoistened wipes or alcohol wipes to clean the knife frequently between cuts to prevent bacterial contamination.

- Hang game by hind legs. Hang the animal by its hind legs with its head down when

aging or butchering. This prevents brain and spinal fluids from contacting the meat.

Most importantly during field dress, if any of the internal organs smell or look offensive, or if there is oddly colored discharge, do not consume the meat. Hunters and anglers are advised to learn more about field dress techniques to hone their skills. Speak with local fish and game officials about nearby courses.





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**JUST LISTED!**  
 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 seat for bird watching. Wonderful place to just sit with your morning cup of coffee, relax and enjoy. Off the sunroom is door to large 2 car garage with huge work bench 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**  
**Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty**  
 (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

**JUST LISTED!**  
 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 #796318

**115 La Lomita Circle • South Fork**  
**Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty**  
 (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

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

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

**SOLD**

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

**SOLD**

**\$433,000 MLS #789027**  
**83 Highland • South Fork**  
**Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty**  
 (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

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

**We work hard for you!**



*Call Bernadette today!*

**SOLD**

**\$658,000 MLS #785486**  
**441 Lande • South Fork**  
**Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty**  
 (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

**SOLD**

**107 Marmot Lane • South Fork**  
**Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty**  
 (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

**Steffens & Company Realty, INC**  
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