

Shorts

Monthly food distribution is Aug. 20 in DN

DEL NORTE — The Del Norte Food Bank will be open for its monthly food distribution from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 20.

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

“We will have a variety of fresh vegetables and fruit in this month’s distribution. Anyone in need of food assistance is welcome,” food bank officials stated.

MV seeking Urban Renewal Authority members

MONTE VISTA — The Monte Vista Urban Renewal Authority is seeking volunteers to sit on the board. Urban renewal in Colorado is a process for revitalizing and rehabilitating distressed properties, slums, and blight.

Although the purpose of urban renewal is to prevent and remediate blight, urban renewal often has other positive effects, including job creation and economic development.

“We would like for you to be part of our team to enhance the living within Monte Vista,” City officials stated.

If you are interested, send letter of interest to uvance@ci.monte-vista.co.us or 95 West 1st, Monte Vista, CO. 81144. For more information, contact MV City Clerk Unita Vance at 719-852-6171.

Costilla County Sheriff’s Office investigating a homicide

COSTILLA COUNTY — Few details have been made available by law enforcement about a homicide in the Sangre de Cristo subdivision.

On Saturday, Aug. 13, the Costilla County Sheriff’s Office announced that it and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation began investigating a homicide which occurred in the subdivision.

No other details have been made public.

Currently this homicide is still under investigation and as soon as they have more information, they will release it, the CCSO stated Monday morning, Aug. 15.



CPD hosting drag racing on Leach Airfield

By PATRICK SHEA

CENTER — The Center Police Department will host the inaugural “Center Drags” drag-racing event at Leach Airfield on Aug. 20, beginning with a banquet at 11 a.m. and races starting around 2 p.m.

Following a formula used in other counties across Colorado and the country, the controlled-racing event is designed to address illegal racing on residential streets and roads.

Young adults race throughout the Valley, according to CPD. As Interim Police Chief Aaron Fresquez explained to the Center Town Board a few weeks

Please see RACING on Page 4A



Car tires will squeal for ‘Center Drags’ on this Leach Airfield runway on Saturday, Aug. 20.

Photo by Patrick Shea



County residents get involved with elected officials

By PATRICK SHEA

SAGUACHE COUNTY — Crestone-area residents packed the Saguache County Commissioners meeting room on Aug. 16 with concerns about a zoning change request that would involve erecting a cell tower.

Like Moffat residents who responded to a proposed name change for their town by boosting meeting attendance, the residents from Crestone engaged the commissioners. Next stop: the Planning Commission

Please see INVOLVED on Page 8A

Crestone-area residents filled the Saguache County Commissioners meeting room on August 16 to express their disapproval of a zoning change request that includes erecting a cell tower.

Photo by Patrick Shea



South Central Colorado Beer Fest and Car Show Aug. 20

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — The second annual South Central Colorado Beer Fest and Car Show is coming to Monte Vista. The OptiMystics Citizens Action Network along with the Poor Boy Car Club are once again coming together to bring the San Luis Valley a Beer Fest and Car Show that will be held on Saturday, Aug. 20 at Chapman Park.

The event will include pre-registered and same-day car entry, along with a multitude of awards for different cars that enter. There will be various vendors on site along

with plenty of beer, face painting, a bouncy house, and games.

“The idea for the original car show actually came BC, before COVID,” OptiMystics member Ken Hamko explained with a chuckle. “There

Please see FEST on Page 7A

The OptiMystics Citizens Action Network along with the Poor Boy Car Club are once again coming together to bring the San Luis Valley a Beer Fest and Car Show that will be held on Saturday, Aug. 20 at Chapman Park.

File photo



SLV Fair concludes with Junior Livestock Auction



Kaysen Johnson shows the Grand Champion Market Steer at the San Luis Valley Fair on Thursday.



The San Luis Valley Fair Market Sheep Show was Wednesday night, Aug. 10, in Monte Vista. Corbin Myers showed the Grand Champion.

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — The SLV Fair comes once a year to Monte Vista. Children and adults from the San Luis Valley show their homemade projects and or livestock animals raised for the week-long event.

On Thursday, Aug. 11, the Market Goat and Beef Shows took centerstage in the Livestock Pavillion of the Ski-Hi Complex. Earlier in the week, the Market Swine, Lamb, and Rabbit Shows were held. The shows culminate with the Junior Livestock Auction on Friday night.

In addition to determining a grand champion for each show, showmanship is an integral part of the fair and awards are given out in three age groups — Junior ages 8-10, Intermediate ages

Please see AUCTION on Page 4A

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OBITUARIES

Robert Virgil Clark

Robert Virgil Clark, 73 (Robbie to everyone who knew him) went to join his little dog, Clara, in heaven on July 24, 2022, in Yuma, Ariz. Robbie was born on Nov. 10, 1948, to Delmar V and L Ruth Clark.

He and his wife, Connie, were married for 53 years. Robbie always thought his greatest accomplishments in life were being a good husband and a good father to their three sons, Fritz, of Ada, Okla., Justin (Kelli), of Grand Junction, Colo., and Jeremy (Bridget), of East Aurora, NY, and especially a good grandfather to his four grandchildren, Jesse and Mathew, of Grand Junction, Colo., and Brooklyn and Aiden, of East Aurora, NY.

He often expressed how proud he was of his sons and grandchildren. There was no limit to the support he gave whether it was football, baseball, wrestling, golf, soccer, volleyball, gymnastics, rodeo or their academic successes.

Robbie graduated from Monte Vista High School where he excelled in football, wrestling, and track. He laughed when he told friends that this "little fat guy held the school record in the 100 yard dash."

He also was a bull rider and later a team roper where he won the Ski-Hi Stampede with his son Fritz. He was on the Ski-Hi Stampede Committee for 20 years where he generated many great memories and a whole lot of great friends.

Later in life Robbie took up golf, mainly to spend time with his grandson Aiden. He also spent many hours elk and deer hunting.

Robbie owned and operated J & R Sales with his sons. When he sold the business, he was the equipment salesman for the Monte Vista COOP.

When they retired, Robbie and Connie made the decision to become snowbirds and spent the last six years between Monte Vista and Yuma, Ariz. They loved the warm weather and low elevation.

Robbie was preceded in death by his parents, Delmar V and L Ruth Clark and, of course, his special little traveling partner, Clara.

He is survived by his wife, Connie, his three sons, four grandchildren, and his two sisters, Nona (Kenneth) VanIwarden, of Monte Vista, Colo., and Lynette Freel, of Albuquerque, NM, his forever brother in law, Rod Freel, Belen, of NM. He is also survived by his nieces, Christy



(Monte) Smith, Tandy Freel, Blair (Brian) Lopez, and great nephews Luke and Trey Jones, and Joey and Alex Lopez.

A celebration of life will be held on Aug. 20, 2022, at 11 a.m. at the new Ski-Hi building with lunch to follow.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to "Ski Hi Stampede Committee for Tough Enough to Wear Pink Stephanie Miner Imaging Center" or "Ski Hi Stampede Scholarship," PO Box 391 Monte Vista, CO 81144.

James Edward Bradley

James Edward Bradley, 92, of Monte Vista Colorado was welcomed into heaven on Aug. 9, 2022, after quietly succumbing to the rigors of a long life, well spent.

Jim was born April 30, 1930, to Jess E. and Sarah (Kennedy) Bradley in Stillwater, Okla. After graduating from Stillwater High School, Jim enlisted in the Oklahoma National Guard, serving during the Korean War, where he rose as an 18-year-old to the rank of staff sergeant.

Following an honorable discharge, Jim returned to Stillwater to marry Nora Lee Blankenship also of Stillwater, and to attend Oklahoma A&M (now Oklahoma State) under the GI Bill. Jim graduated in 1956 with a degree in Agricultural Engineering and was hired by the Ralston Purina Company.

Jim's career at "Purina" took him to Kansas, Nebraska, Idaho, and finally to Denver, Colo. While in Denver Jim and Nora decided to stay in Colorado, as opposed to taking his next promotion and moving the Purina's corporate offices in St Louis. Jim worked in the agriculture industry in Denver and owned a dry cleaner for several years.

In 1973, Jim and son David bought a quarter section of land in the San Luis Valley of Colorado where together they raised wheat and barley. Jim ventured into the cattle industry during a short tenure

on his ranch near Moffat, Colo.

Shortly after giving up on ranching, Jim met his second wife Judith (Judy) Burnett Rodgers of Monte Vista, Colo. After a brief courtship Jim and Judy were married in 1985 at Monte Vista's United Methodist Church where they remained members for the remainder of their lives.

Jim worked for, and retired from the State of Colorado, after having worked at the Homelake Veteran's Center for 12 years. Ironically, this was the place where Jim passed away after a short stay. Through it all, Jim lived life with determination, a clear mind, a smile on his face, and a twinkle in his eye.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents Jess and Sarah Bradley, his eight siblings Aloysius (Abe), William Schafers (half-brother), John, Victor, Rita, Rebecca (Nasalroad), Mark, and Joe, his daughter Milissa Ann Bradley, as well as his beloved wife Judy.

Jim is survived by his children Thomas (Edward) of Aurora, Colo., David of Monte Vista, Colo., Paul of Boulder, Colo., and Michael of Brighton, Colo.; his stepsons Chris, and Kevin Rodgers, of South Carolina; 12 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends.

A Funeral Service will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 15, 2022,



at the United Methodist Church in Monte Vista. Interment will follow at the Monte Vista Cemetery.

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

SLVH Foundation honors Dr. Allen with appreciation award

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

ALAMOSA — The San Luis Valley Health Foundation awarded Dr. Jason Allen at the 2022 Bolos and Boots fundraising event for his service to the community in helping to grow the radiology department at San Luis Valley Health. The appreciation award is an expression of appreciation for contributions to the department and expansion of patient care and services that have occurred in the past few years as a medical director.

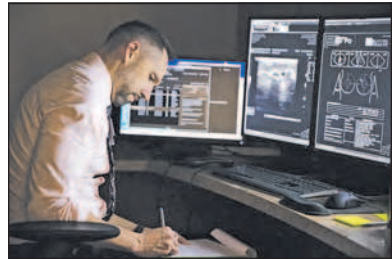
Dr. Allen started serving the San Luis Valley in July of 2016. He works full-time with Radiology and Imaging Consultants located in Colorado Springs, allowing him to commute back and forth between there and Alamosa.

Working within urban and rural communities pushed him to see technological advances in radiology that have the potential to progress Alamosa's hospital. His experience with a 3D mammography unit in Colorado Springs showed him the need for one in Alamosa. Because of the limits of the 2D mammography unit, such as not being able to see calcifications, many patients would be referred to a different clinic.

Weather conditions and individuals' financial situations can make travel difficult and sometimes impossible, limiting patients' access to advanced health care. Dr. Allen pushed for this addition, and when the opportunity came, he and Janet McGinnis, department director, put their heads together and purchased a 3D mammography unit that could also add a stereotactic biopsy unit onto it.

SLV Health patients can now visit the Stephanie L. Miner Women's Imaging Center where they can be screened using Tomosynthesis (3D mammograms) and ultrasounds. Tomosynthesis can increase the ability to detect breast cancer by up to 40% AND can also help reduce unnecessary callbacks (extra pictures) by up to 40% compared to standard 2D digital mammography.

The addition of Tomosynthesis to SLVH's breast imaging services has also made it possible for our breast radiologists to perform stereotactic (mammography-guided) biopsies. Onsite breast imaging specialists are available every Monday and Tuesday, as well as interventional specialists



Courtesy photos

The San Luis Valley Health Foundation awarded Dr. Jason Allen at the 2022 Bolos and Boots fundraising event for his service to the community in helping to grow the radiology department at San Luis Valley Health.

every Thursday and Friday.

Winning an award is honorable, but Dr. Allen would have done the same work regardless of an award.

"It's nice that people are paying attention and appreciating what we have done, but I want the best for my patients, and I would have continued to push for advancements without the recognition," Allen said. "I just want to make sure people are aware that we appreciate their confidence in us to provide services. We are always trying to work better and expand services that we currently offer to meet needs."

Dr. Allen hopes to continue contributing to the expansion of services offered here, specifically in breast imaging, with hopes of an addition of a breast MRI unit.

"Having these advanced services at SLV Health will allow patients to reach out to their local hospital rather than spending time and money on unnecessary travel," Allen said.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

Keeping track of my stuff

This summer in Colorful Colorado makes a welcome haven for Miss Trixie and Ol' Dutch from the Texas heat for sure. Other than being kept running like a madman by Miss Trixie and her busy social schedule, it's been fairly relaxing and fun, to boot.

One highlight of our summer is the annual Creede Women's Aid Bazaar which for Miss Trixie translates into finding "treasures" for \$1 and for Ol' Dutch translates into hauling her up there and back for several days so she can haul the junk home. I've told you before about our agreement: if something comes in, something has to go out. Now Ol' Dutch's stuff is all outside. Somehow that didn't work out quite as I had planned it.

But anyhow, the Creede sale was a fun time with friends and even I picked up a few items. While perusing the tables I did notice a plethora of old office appurtenances and there were probably no less than four rolodex filers there on the table.

Now for those of you that do not know what that is, it was a card file holder thingy that you could keep all the important phone numbers in and spin around. It was instant access at your fingertips all in alphabetical order making finding names and phone numbers very easy. And it was kind of cool as when you got a new number all you had to do was insert a new card in the appropriate spot and you were good to go. It was fast and efficient.

Fast forward to today and that has long disappeared and now we have everything on our phones or computers which promise instant access but, in Ol' Dutch's experience, oftentimes is a search in vain.

I think the worst part of having all our information on our electronic devices is now you must remember where it is? There is a myriad of places it can hide including Google, Gmail, spreadsheets, Google Docs, Word Docs and on and on and on.

So now instead of looking under M on the rolodex for Muddy, I must open a program, hoping it's the right one and then do a search. Which more than likely will lead me to "Old Muddy" which is a name for the mighty Mississippi which then leads me to reading about steamships traversing the river.

And that generally leads Ol' Dutch to thinking about Tom Sawyer and his adventures on the Miss and before you know it, I forgot who I was



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

supposed to call in the first place. Just recently I had to get a new password for my banking. Gone are the days when I could walk in the bank and the girls there actually knew me and had my account numbers handy. Now a person must keep track of multiple passwords and be supposed to call in the first place.

So, there I was doing all the steps and missteps to get the new password when up on the screen pops a message to please not use any of the past 45 passwords I have used before.

Of course, I try to use something I can remember but with so many places requiring updated passwords I have run out of familiar dates and numbers and am now relegated to using some random number that I cannot then remember for the next time I need it.

Oh, I know, Ol' Dutch is older than dirt as Miss Trixie likes to say but 20 years of making up passwords has finally come full circle and so now, I must keep a book with those in it. Which also leads me full circle to the point that if I must have a book for the password to access my contacts, why don't I just have one for the names in the first place?

So now Ol' Dutch is belatedly looking for an old Rolodex to sit beside my chair where I can simply look under "P" for "Peabody" without being sidetracked into a hours-long look at black eyed peas and peat moss production in Ireland on the Internet.

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



YOUR NIGHT SKY

BY DARLENE DANKO

Planets in the early morning

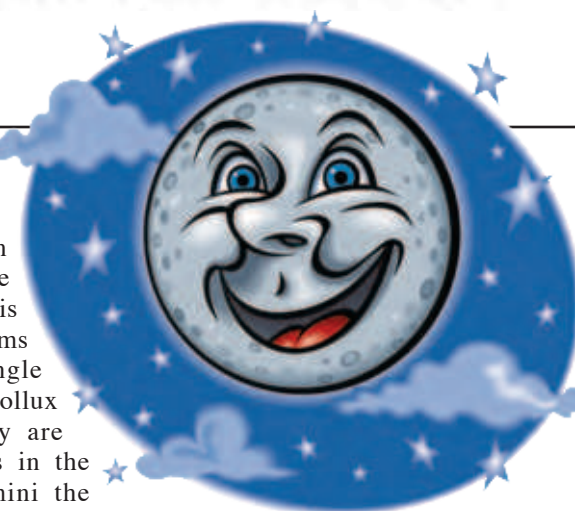
Close to dawn the brilliant Venus and the Beehive Cluster (M44) rise together in the ENE. The Beehive cluster shines with an apparent brightness of a 3rd or 4th magnitude star. So, you will need a dark sky to see it clearly. Fortunately, we have dark skies. You just can't have mountains in the ENE, because you probably won't be able to see them.

In the morning there is a last quarter moon, which is good for us to view the sky. Mars and the Pleiades present a pretty sight high above the Eastern horizon in the early hours of the morning. The Pleiades is called the Seven Sisters and is a huge star cluster.

They're part of the constellation Taurus the Bull.

On Aug. 23, in the dawn before the Sunrise, the moon is in Gemini, and forms an attractive triangle with Castor and Pollux in the ENE. They are the brightest stars in the constellation Gemini the Twins. Pollux is Yellow-Orange and slightly brighter. Castor is blue-white and slightly dimmer. In African mythology Pollux and Castor were known as the Wise and Foolish Antelope.

Venus is nearing the end of a long morning apparition that began in January. But August is a big month for Jupiter, and you should be able to see it all night from the evening to the morning.



The Perseids will continue until the end of this month. They're active from July 17 until Aug. 24. On Aug. 19 is the last quarter moon and the new moon is on Aug. 27. But the moon will get thinner by Aug. 22. In the evening you should see Saturn in the SE. The Milky Way runs from the South to the Northeast, and we should see it now.

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

be returned to the sender or discarded.

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

Political letters may be limited due to space constraints.

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AUCTION

Continued from Page 1A

11-13, and Senior ages 14-18.

Reese Anderson, who was showing goats in the Senior Division, said it was her sixth year attending the fair.

"I have been attending the fair every year since I was 8 years old. I am 14 now, and I think it's pretty cool," Anderson said. "Today, I have been washing goats and getting them ready for tonight's show. To enter a goat, you have to feed them a certain amount of food and get them to an acceptable weight for the show. It's a lot of hard work but I really enjoy it, it's fun."

Grand Champion Goat Showmanship awards were awarded on Thursday. Anderson was the Senior Grand Champion. Jocelynn Malouff was the Intermediate Grand Champion, and Khaleesi Reynolds was awarded the Junior Grand Champion.

In Market Beef Showmanship, Grand Champion Senior was Kortney Johnson and Grand Champion Intermediate was Trace Johnson.

The Junior Livestock Auction was on Friday, Aug. 12. The Grand Champion livestock led off the auction. Corbin Myers' Grand Champion Market Lamb was purchased by Consaul Farms for \$2,700.

Anderson sold her Grand Champion Market Goat for \$1,900 to Consaul Farms.

Elaina Consaul sold her Grand Champion Market Swine for \$4,000 to Roxanne Sittler.

Leah Sirocham sold her Grand Champion Market Rabbit for \$500 to Lincoln West.

Kaysen Johnson sold his Grand Champion Market Beef for \$16,000 to the Monte Vista Coop.

The fair can be a time of mixed emotions for exhibitors, who have worked hard on their projects for months.

Emily Seger sold a lamb at the auction and said this time of year can be tough. "It is sad sometimes because you do



Cason Mattive, right, showed the Reserve Grand Champion.

Photos by Brian Williams



Trace Johnson shows the Reserve Grand Champion Market Steer at the San Luis Valley Fair on Thursday.



The San Luis Valley Fair Market Swine Show was Tuesday night, Aug. 9, in Monte Vista. Elaina Consaul, standing left, showed the Grand Champion, a dark cross heavyweight. Kyle Liddell's light cross light weight was the Reserve Grand Champion.



get attached," Seger said. "I generally try to pick one that I don't really care for, and this year it's Picco, but being honest I will probably cry a little for Picco, too. My dad has always raised livestock, him and his brothers, so this

is all passed down. I really love it. I won Grand Champion for Intermediate Sheep Showmanship, and Bred Fed. It's

been really fun this year we have had a good fair, but yes, I am taking Picco to the Auction. I sell a lamb every year

and this year it's him." For more information on the San Luis Valley Fair, visit slvfair.com.

RACES

Continued from Page 1A

ago, in addition to a citation and potential jail time for illegal racers on the streets, racers also risk losing a new drag-racing event that has the potential to become a tradition.

Participants must register in advance — \$35 early registration and \$40 at the gate before 11 a.m. on Saturday. Racers must have a valid driver's license, insurance, and license plates. Only street vehicles will be allowed to race. All participants must sign a waiver.

The standard race works like a tournament bracket with drivers side-by-side for one-eighth of a mile. Racers who lose twice are eliminated from the competition, or they can buy a one-time re-entry option for \$25.

Winners will receive prizes for first, second, and third place.

Another fundraiser is built into the afternoon's activities, racers can pay \$15 for a chance to race a cop during intermission. Like their bracket races, they can pay \$25 for a second chance against a police cruiser, too.

In addition to a private auction and concessions for sale, all proceeds will benefit the Center Police Department. Children under 12 can watch for free, and General Admission tickets will cost \$5. Volunteers are also encouraged to help with this first-time event.

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Partners work together to acquire Shaw Reservoir for people and wildlife

ALAMOSA — The Bureau of Land Management, San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and The Conservation Fund have completed a multi-year partnership effort to acquire and manage Shaw Reservoir, located in the headwaters of the South Fork of the Rio Grande, with financial support from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The ongoing partnership will provide increased reliability of water supply for San Luis Valley residents, additional water supply for management of wetlands in the San Luis Valley, and secure permanent water levels for a popular recreational fishing destination.

“Working with our partners has paid off for people and wildlife. This acquisition of water supplies will help us achieve our priority of creating and conserving resilient landscapes within the Blanca Wetlands Area,” said San Luis Valley Acting Field Manager Dario Archuleta. “With climate change, drought, and a limited irrigation season, Blanca Wetlands is one of the few places in the Valley that offers wetland habitat year-round. As a result, Blanca Wetlands supports tremendous biodiversity, including 200 species of birds. We feel extremely privileged to be a part of restoring water to these wetlands, while also benefiting local water supplies and the recreation economy.”

The Conservancy District operates an augmentation program within five counties in the San Luis Valley to bolster water levels in the Rio Grande that have been drawn down due to domestic, commercial, and municipal wells.

Additionally, the Conservancy District works with partners in the local and state water communities to address timely issues such as groundwater sustainability, compliance with the Rio Grande Compact, and water supply protection.

“The Conservancy District is thrilled to be part of this effort,” said Heather Dutton, Conservancy District

Manager. “We intend to operate Shaw Reservoir, a pre-compact reservoir, in a way that strengthens our augmentation program, helps our agency partners steward the valley’s natural resources, enhances the ecological condition of local streams and rivers, and improves flatwater and in-stream recreation opportunities for the community.”

The Conservation Fund, a national non-profit with an office in Boulder, facilitated this transaction in which the Conservancy District purchased the privately-owned Shaw Reservoir Company and its assets, including the reservoir infrastructure and water rights. The Conservancy District will use the reservoir to store previously acquired water rights used to operate its augmentation program in the San Luis Valley.

“This complex deal is a win-win for many in the Upper Rio Grande basin. For the original Shaw Reservoir shareholders, the agency partners, the recreating public, and the wetlands-dependent wildlife — each is getting what it needs — all without causing further dry-up of irrigated lands,” said Christine Quinlan, Associate Director for The Conservation Fund in Colorado.

The Conservation Fund’s mission is to create solutions that make both environmental and economic sense. To date, the group has conserved more than 8.5 million acres nationwide, including over 278,000 acres in Colorado.

The BLM purchased the Shaw Reservoir water rights and a perpetual easement for 333 acre-feet of storage space from the Conservancy District. BLM received funding for its \$1.35 million purchase from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, part of a \$6.4 million appropriation passed in 2016 to benefit the Blanca Wetlands Area of Critical Environmental Concern.

The BLM intends to change the acquired water rights to allow their usage for irrigation of wetlands on the Valley floor, including wetlands at the Blanca Wetlands Area, located 10



Courtesy photo

The Bureau of Land Management, San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and The Conservation Fund have completed a multi-year partnership effort to acquire and manage Shaw Reservoir.

miles northeast of Alamosa.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife has developed agreements with the Conservancy District and the BLM, which allow BLM’s newly acquired water rights and the Conservancy District’s existing water rights to be stored at Colorado Parks and Wildlife’s Beaver Park Reservoir or other Colorado Parks and Wildlife controlled reservoirs.

In exchange for the storage space in Colorado Parks and Wildlife

reservoirs, the Conservancy District and BLM will maintain a conservation pool at Shaw Reservoir, which will stabilize the fish population and provide optimal conditions for recreational fishing.

Further, the Conservancy District and BLM will work with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to time the releases from Beaver Park and other Colorado Parks and Wildlife reservoirs to have multiple benefits. For example, releasing water for augmentation needs in the winter

would increase instream flows and improve the habitat and health of downstream fish populations.

“In effecting our mission to protect, preserve, and enhance wildlife and wildlife habitats in the San Luis Valley, we relish opportunities to work with partners in the water community to generate projects such as this that meet multiple goals while strengthening our bonds with one another for the benefit of all,” said Rick Basagoitia, CPW’s San Luis Valley Area Wildlife Manager.

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Potato Festival Sept. 10 at Chapman Park

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

MONTE VISTA — The San Luis Valley Potato Festival is set to return for its 14th edition on Saturday, Sept. 10. There will be plenty of opportunities for a day filled with fun at Chapman Park.

The day will begin with the 4th Annual Tater Trot 5K. Proceeds from the race will support pediatric diabetes patients throughout the whole valley. The cost to participate is \$25, early registrants get a free T-shirt.

There will also be an opportunity to join CPAC Executive Director Jim Ehrlich on a free Agricultural Tour. People who would like to attend can sign up to ride a bus from the festival site to visit the SLV-Research Center and see a field being harvested. The tour is free and provides the chance to learn about the breeding, seeding, growing and harvesting of Colorado's finest potatoes, right here in the San Luis Valley.

Festivities will continue throughout the day and will include free kid's games, the famous mashed potato dunk tank, a professional chef demo by Chef Jason Morse of 5280 Culinary, bouncy houses, and a trampoline quad jumper. There will also be food and craft vendors, live animals and much more.

The day will conclude with a live performance in Chapman Park by the Circus Foundry. This exciting entertainment for all ages will showcase high flying aerialists, daring acrobats, incredible jugglers full of amazing tricks and silly storytelling. This free, fun, family-friendly show is not to be missed.

There is something for everyone at the 2022 edition of the San Luis Valley Potato Festival.

For more information or to sign up for any of these events, visit coloradopotato.org/potatofestival or call 719-852-3322.

REC Energy Foundation donates to Alamosa Veterans Memorial Park

SAN LUIS VALLEY — The SLVREC Energy Foundation recently donated to the Alamosa Veterans Memorial Park Project to help with phase two — the concrete foundation.

The Veterans Memorial Park will feature a full-sized bronze sculpture by Huberto Maestas, outdoor lighting, seating and a trail system connecting the various entities that are in the area.

Honoring the approximately 4,800 veterans that reside in the San Luis Valley with a reflective area and stunning design, the park will represent all five branches of the military.

For more information on the project and fundraising efforts, follow their Facebook page Alamosa Veterans Memorial Park Project or email alamosamemorial@gmail.com.

The SLVREC Energy Foundation obtains funding through REC members' round-up funds. Under this program, monthly electric bills are rounded up to the next highest dollar amount, and that contribution goes toward the Foundation's mission of providing funds for charitable purposes.

The REC Foundation is excited to contribute to this cause in honoring the many Valley veterans and their



Courtesy photo

SLVREC Marketing Director Jennifer Alonzo presents a check to Alamosa Veterans Memorial Park Project President Frank Muniz. Also pictured are project board members Janet Yohn and Charlie Griego.

families. this project come to fruition,"
"We're looking forward to seeing SLVREC officials stated."

First case of monkeypox confirmed in the Valley

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

SAN LUIS VALLEY — The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment notified local public health officials on Thursday, Aug. 11, of the first confirmed case of monkeypox in the San Luis Valley.

The individual received testing through a local healthcare provider. Risk to the general public is low currently, according to local public health officials.

Symptoms of monkeypox can resemble the flu, followed by a rash that looks like pimples or blisters. Some people experience no symptoms before the rash appears. Individuals with symptoms should call their healthcare provider and avoid close contact with others.

When monkeypox is confirmed, those who have had close contact with the individual will be contacted by public health and given instruction on getting

Monkeypox vaccine. Monkeypox can be serious, but most cases resolve within 2-4 weeks.

"The Jynneos monkeypox vaccine can provide post-exposure protection for those who have had close contact with someone who has monkeypox. It is important for individuals with close contact who develop symptoms to call their healthcare provider to see if testing is needed. They should also avoid close contact with others since they may be in the infectious period," said Lilian Coll, San Luis Valley Regional Epidemiologist.

Although anyone can get monkeypox, the majority of cases have been among men who have sex with men. Individuals in this group who are age 18 and older and who have had multiple partners or partners they did not previously know within the last 14 days; or anyone age 18 and older who believes they may have been in close contact with someone who

has monkeypox in the past 14 days, may be eligible for free vaccine clinics hosted by CDPHE.

For more information, call 1-877-462-2911 or go to cdphe.colorado.gov/diseases-a-to-z/monkeypox.

Saguache County Government is accepting bids for a 14'x40' 12"x11.8# I-Beam office building for the Saguache County Assessor's Office. This office type building will be used to for additional office space for the Saguache County Assessor's office.

This building will require windows, interior and exterior doors, electrical, plumbing, HVAC unit, exhaust fans, cabinets and skirting. It will also require 140 mph wind rating and 30# roof load. For specific specifications of the building please contact Wendi Maez at wmaez@saguachecounty-co.gov.

Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope with "Saguache County Assessor's Office" written on the front of the envelope which contains the sealed bid. Bids must include proof of liability and workers compensation insurance coverage.

Bids must be submitted to Saguache County Administration, 505 3rd Street, or PO Box 100, Saguache, CO 81149 and must be submitted by Thursday, September 1, 2022 at 3pm.

For further information and you can also call Wendi Maez at 719-655-2231.

No. 1644 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, August 11, 18 and 25, 2022.

How You Can Have a Perfect Heart

Your heart is the most important part of you. It's not only a physical organ that keeps your blood pumping, but when the Bible refers to the heart, it's talking about who you really are. Each person has an inner and an outer life. There's the person we show to everybody around us and the part of us that only God can see, the part He really cares about.

The Bible tells us to have a perfect heart. Matthew 5:48 (NIV) says, "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." If you're a perfectionist, this is a scary verse, because it's a struggle to always try to be perfect. But this is not what it means to be perfect, according to Scripture.

The Amplified Bible translation of Matthew 5:48 says, "...Be perfect [growing into spiritual maturity both in mind and character, actively integrating godly values into your daily life], as your heavenly Father is perfect." A person with a perfect heart is someone who loves God and always wants to grow.

What God Is Really Looking For

Second Chronicles 16:9 (NIV) says, "For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him." This verse doesn't say that God can only work through those who are perfect but through those who are "fully committed to him."

Just as we don't have to make ourselves perfect before we come to Christ (which we couldn't do anyway), we don't need to behave perfectly in every area of our life before God will work in us and through us. When I first started teaching a home Bible study years ago, I wore short shorts and smoked while I taught the Word, sitting on my living room floor.

I had a lot of growing to do, but I really loved God and wanted to please Him. He

met me right where I was and worked with me to get me where I needed to be. I'll always have room to grow in my walk with Christ while I'm on this earth, and I'm so thankful that God keeps working in me and through me on every level of my journey, every day of my life.

How Committed Are You?

A person with a perfect heart is someone who loves God with all their heart, soul, mind and strength, and who is fully committed to Him. The question is: What areas of your life have you been holding back from God? Have you been giving Him your time, praying and studying the Word? Do you give of yourself to others, helping to meet their needs as you're able? Are you managing your finances the way God wants you to, living within your means, saving, spending and giving as He puts it on your heart to do so?

It's important to remember that whatever God asks us to do, it's always for our good. Initially, it may feel sacrificial, giving up things we like or want. But as we obey God, we find later on that there was so much more we didn't even know about, and what God wanted was much better for us in the long run.

More than anything else, the Bible says God wants us to love Him (Luke 10:27), and love sacrifices and obeys. The more we love Jesus, the easier it is to obey and trust Him, because when you really love someone, you want to please them and make them happy. What makes God happy is helping you do anything that will give you a better life.

Give Your Heart a Self-examination

It's possible to appear to be doing one thing while your heart is somewhere else. You can smile and act like you're good on the outside, while on the inside, it's a



different story. I remember times when I was in church, singing "I Surrender All" with my hands in the air, and thinking, "If Dave thinks I'm cooking something for him today, he's got another thing coming."

We all need to have a meeting with ourselves once in a while to examine what's really in our hearts. In Mark 7:15, Jesus says, "Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them." This verse makes it clear that it's what comes out of a person's heart that really matters.

My goal with this message is to help you make a committed decision to love God with all of your heart, and to fall in love with Him more and more every day. As you do, you'll discover how it's the key to having a heart that's more like His... a perfect heart.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's two-teaching resource *Secrets for a Healthy Heart*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 135 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.

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

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



3 arrested in connection to shooting death of minor

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — Three people, including two minor females, were arrested Thursday, Aug. 11, in connection to the reported shooting death of a minor female, according to the Monte Vista Police Department. According to published reports, based on court documents, the victim was shot in the head with a Glock 19-9mm while making TikTok videos.

At approximately 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 7, MVPD officers were dispatched to a shooting in the 300 block of Monroe Street in Monte Vista. Upon arrival, officers

found a juvenile female who had sustained a gunshot wound. Emergency medical services personnel arrived and pronounced the juvenile deceased.

On Aug. 11, after an investigation, reviewing evidence and conducting interviews, detectives with the Monte Vista Police Department established probable cause that led to arrest warrants for three people.

Two juvenile females were arrested on suspicion of reckless manslaughter and possession of a handgun by juveniles, MVPD reported. They are at the Pueblo Youth Detention Center.

Emiliano Vargas, 21, Monte

Vista, who was the owner of the gun, was also arrested on suspicion of secure firearm storage required and unlawfully providing or permitting a juvenile to possess a handgun, MVPD reported. He was booked into the Rio Grande County Jail.

“We remind the public a new law went into effect in July, which requires firearms to be properly and safely secured to prevent access by juveniles,” MVPD Police Chief George Dingfelder stated.

The case is now in the hands of the 12th Judicial District Attorney’s Office.

FEST

Continued from Page 1A

was something that was put together called ‘Taste of the Valley,’ and it was out at Chapman Park. To see all the people that showed up for this event, to see all the vendors, to see the food trucks there. Well, Adam and I started talking about it and we said, you know, what can we do as the OptiMystics to bring this many people together? The Beer and Car Show just evolved from there.”

Adam Lock of the Optimystics also spoke about the beginning of the car show idea.

“We met with a couple of people from the Poor Boy Car Club at our Cinco de Mayo event,” Lock said. “They said you know we do this car show in August, what about us doing some kind of joint venture together? We loved the idea, splitting the responsibility of this would be awesome. The Poor Boy Car Club brought the music and the cars, I mean this was just wonderful. They knocked it out of the park last year. We are just tickled that they are working with us again this year. Richard and his crew do such a wonderful job. They do so much. They bring music and cars and having us work together with the beer and the vendors, it’s such a great marriage. This just works. We are excited for this second event this year. We would like to thank our sponsors, and also thank the Poor Boy Car Club for the partnership. This is what the OptiMystics are all about, connecting people, creating community.”

Mark Renshaw of the OptiMystics spoke about the upcoming Fest.

“I think this is wonderful,” Renshaw said. “I think when you bring two opposing factors together like this, you just bring in more people. As a general rule, a car guy is not generally going to come to a park and bring vendors and beer, but together wow. I have been involved in the past with groups, who were a specific purpose, and when I started working with these other guys, well, these guys were people who actually wanted to do things, and not just talk about them. Once you see some of your efforts turn out and come together, it just blows you away. I am just hoping when we do this the second time, it’s twice as good as the first time, and I believe it will be.”

Richard Garcia of the Poor Boy Car Club also spoke about the upcoming fest.

“Last year’s car show, the concept came from us thinking about the ‘Homelake Vets,’” Garcia said. “We talked to the OptiMystics and they presented us with the idea of a joint

venture and it worked out well. We were able to raise last year \$4,500 for Homelake. It was such a nice partnership between the car club and the OptiMystics. It was such a positive thing to happen after COVID also. Last year, after the car show, we took some of the cars and ran a little parade through Homelake for the veterans, we are hoping to do the same this year, too. We also love to give checks to people who are in need of donation money. This year we have a couple of checks to give out, one to a woman who is battling cancer, and the other to a girl who received a heart transplant. Our club likes to do this, we want to give and enjoy giving back to the community. We have so many exciting things

planned this year. We already have about 30 cars that have entered the car show and we will also have same-day registration and entry, as well. We have tons of giveaways, along with a lot of fun things for the kids, too. We are family-oriented, all our family is involved in this, and we want to invite everyone to bring their kids and their families to attend this year, too. Between the cars, the vendors, and the music, this year is going to be fantastic. We would also like to thank all our sponsors and the OptiMystics for partnering with us. This is going to be a great event for everyone. Come on out and join us.”

For more information about the South Central Colorado Beer Fest and Car show, visit optimystics.org.

SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF’S REPORT

SAGUACHE COUNTY — The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff’s Office for the period between Aug. 8 and Aug. 14, 2022.

Sheriff personnel received reports of theft, lost property, and damaged property. They also monitored 11 controlled burns, assisted citizens and other agencies, and participated in seven welfare checks, ambulance rides, and search and rescue operations. Officers responded to four civil disputes, a dozen traffic complaints and incidents, criminal mischief and suspicious activity, and 10 animal and livestock problems. They also provided information to citizens, patrolled Crestone and Saguache, and issued two speeding violations.

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Photos by Patrick Shea

Special requests for mountain bike races and concerts require special Land Use Department attention in remote parts of Saguache County.

INVOLVED

Continued from Page 1A

meeting at the Saguache Road and Bridge Building at 5 p.m. on Aug. 25.

Commissioner Tom McCracken opened the meeting by making a statement, “to correct misinformation that has been on social media concerning a letter the commissioners signed in support of a grant for a Crestone Community Center to be built in the Elk Park area. It would be a grant awarded by DOLA [Department of Local Affairs]. There was no mention of a cell tower in the request or in the letter of support for the grant. We had no idea this had anything to do with a cell tower. But, there’s misinformation on the internet saying we supported a cell tower. I’m just stating for the record that that is not the case.”

Commissioner Chairperson Lynne Thompson noted that the Planning Commission was not fully aware of the cell tower issue, and following Commissioner Tim Lovato’s recommendation, they agreed to return the application to the Planning Commission.

Recognizing that their early-meeting decision made the discussion scheduled for the afternoon unnecessary, the commissioners agreed to keep the meeting agenda intact to hear from residents who already planned to attend the Land Use discussion at 1:30. Land Use Administrator Amber Wilson announced the decision online midmorning.

When the crowd arrived after lunch, Commissioner Thompson said, “Based on all the emails, letters, and postcards we have received regarding the cell tower and the zoning change request, we feel that we have more information than the Planning Commission had when it came before the Planning Commission, so we’re going to send it back to the Planning Commission. They’re going to hear it on Aug. 25, and at that point that’s when you can all come in and give your point of view and opinions.”

Also scheduled for the Planning Commission meeting on Aug. 25, a Conditional Use Request from Little Bear Productions at 46700 County Road P will include events and camping adjacent to the Russell Lakes State Wildlife Area. Petitions reportedly in circulation indicate a crowd might be interested in attending the meeting on Aug. 25. Public comments are limited to three minutes per person, a standard in many board meetings.

After the crowd left, Wilson addressed other Land Use requests, including a request to use Saguache County roads for a bike race that starts and finishes in Gunnison

Spud run time



Courtesy photo

The 2022 Potato Festival’s Tator Trot will be held on Saturday, Sept. 10, at Chapman Park in Monte Vista at 8 a.m. It’s \$25 per person to enter the race and each participant who registers early receives a commemorative T-shirt. All funds raised during this fun run or walk benefit juvenile diabetic patients in the form of a gift card to be used for traveling expenses. Many supportive services for these patients are not located in the Valley. If you or a loved one feels you could benefit from this resource, email Anna Walker at anna.walker@slvrmc.org. Go to the website for the 2022 SLV Potato Festival to register.

Date of Notice: August 5, 2022

NOTICE OF REVISION IN THE COLORADO P.U.C. NO. – 7 GAS TARIFF

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

You are hereby notified that Atmos Energy Corporation (the “Company”) has filed with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) an Advice Letter with revised tariff sheets proposing to increase base rates for all of the Company’s natural gas sales and transportation services. The annual revenue increase reflects the increase to base rates and the proposed recovery of Rate Case expenses.

The rate increases are proposed to become effective September 5, 2022. The Company is seeking a net increase in annual gas base rate revenues of \$7,681,233 (or 4.57 percent) and a return on equity (“ROE”) of 10.95 percent.

TOTAL PROPOSED MONTHLY BILL IMPACTS ON CUSTOMERS

9/5/2022 :

	Current Average Monthly Bill	Proposed Average Monthly Bill	Change	Percentage Change
Residential:				
North	\$ 84.58	\$ 91.11	\$ 6.53	7.7%
Southeast	\$ 70.32	\$ 76.42	\$ 6.10	8.7%
Southwest	\$ 72.21	\$ 78.79	\$ 6.58	9.1%
Small Commercial & Commercial				
North	\$ 429.91	\$ 431.91	\$ 2.00	0.5%
Southeast	\$ 238.63	\$ 240.05	\$ 1.42	0.6%
Southwest	\$ 311.22	\$ 313.04	\$ 1.83	0.6%
Irrigation:				
North	\$ 560.69	\$ 563.33	\$ 2.64	0.5%
Southeast	\$ 713.64	\$ 717.07	\$ 3.43	0.5%
Transportation:				
North	\$ 1,224.68	\$ 1,249.94	\$ 25.26	2.1%
Southeast	\$ 417.93	\$ 426.55	\$ 8.62	2.1%
Southwest	\$ 4,136.32	\$ 4,221.63	\$ 85.31	2.1%

The rates, rules and regulations ultimately authorized may or may not be the same as those proposed and may include rates higher or lower than those proposed or currently in effect. Additionally, the Company proposes to extend the System Safety and Integrity Rider and updates to its Class Cost of Service Methodology.

Copies of the proposed and present tariffs summarized above and as filed with the Commission, are available for examination at the Company’s business office located at 1555 Blake Street, Suite 400, Denver, Colorado, 80202 and at the Commission at 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado 80202. Customers who have questions may call the Company at 1-888-286-6700 or email the question to Jennifer.Altieri@atmosenergy.com.

Anyone who desires may file written comments or objections to this filing 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. The Commission’s mailing address is 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado, 80202 and their e-mail address is dora_puc_complaints@state.co.us. The Commission will consider all written comments and objections submitted prior to the evidentiary hearing on the filings. If you wish to participate as a party in this matter, you must file written intervention documents in accord with Rule 1401 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure and of any applicable Commission order.

The Commission may hold a public hearing in addition to an evidentiary hearing on the proposed revisions and if such a hearing is held members of the public may attend and make statements even if they did not file comments, objections, or an intervention. If the filing is uncontested or unopposed, the Commission may determine the matter without a hearing and without further notice.

Anyone desiring information regarding if and when a hearing may be held shall submit a written request to the Commission or contact the External Affairs section of the Commission at its local number of (303) 894-2070 or toll free number (800) 456-0858.

Atmos Energy Corporation
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By: Kathleen R. Ocanas
Vice President, Rates & Regulatory

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Larry Holder Exercise and Cancer Survivorship program seeking participants

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

ALAMOSA — The Adams State University Department of Kinesiology will continue research on the effects of exercise on the physical, mental, and social health of cancer survivors. The program is currently seeking volunteers to participate in the study this fall.

The Larry Holder Exercise and Cancer Survivorship program offers cancer survivors in the San Luis Valley the opportunity to participate in an individualized exercise program conducted in a group setting which meets three times per week for 10 weeks. The program also provides Adams State undergraduate and graduate kinesiology students with experience in fitness testing as well as guiding and supporting program participants throughout the exercise program.

All cancer survivors ages 18 years or older are welcome regardless of gender, type, or stage of cancer. This fall's research study begins the week of August 29 with appointments for individual fitness testing.

There is no cost to the participant but completing the entire 12 weeks

Please see PROGRAM on Page 2

Pictured, participants in the spring 2022 Larry Holder Exercise and Cancer Survivorship program complete a cool down stretch with Adams State kinesiology graduate student Ines Curti, program coordinator, leading the way. The program is seeking volunteers to participate in the study this fall following a successful fall 2021 and spring 2022 program.

Photo courtesy of Adams State University



Janae Naranjo Joins SLV Area Extension Team

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

SAN LUIS VALLEY — Janae Naranjo, a 20-year resident of the San Luis Valley, recently joined the Colorado State University SLV Area Extension team as the new Family and Consumer Science Educator.

"Helping people will always be my passion," said Naranjo, "and I believe this work is an investment in the lives of others. I believe the power of education is limitless and I jumped at this opportunity to be the new family agent for CSU Extension because I believe

I can develop education programs that will directly improve the quality of life of individuals and families in the San Luis Valley."

Naranjo will be providing educational workshops, seminars, and one-on-one consultations open to all SLV citizens in the areas of family health, family financial management, nutrition, food safety and food preservation.

Naranjo moved to the San Luis Valley after graduating from West Texas A&M University 20 years ago. She

is a fifth-generation agriculturalist who grew up on the family ranch in northeastern New Mexico.

"We at CSU believe Janae is a great fit for our SLV Area Extension team and will create great value for Valley residents, not only because of her training and previous career experience, but also because of her core values," SLV Area Extension officials stated.

Naranjo said, "Growing up 40 miles in the country required us to cook and budget. My mom gave me a lifelong

gift when she passed down family recipes and traditions. She taught me how to cook and plan meals from scratch and how to effectively budget for those meals. More importantly, she taught me the value of preparing meals and sharing fellowship with those around your table. If you show up at my mom and dad's, you will have a homemade meal and the best glass of iced tea. Mom makes everyone feel like family. Because of this upbringing, I learned the true

Please see NARANJO on Page 3



'Hope' may be coming to the Valley



Courier photo

Operating under the name 'Hope in the Valley,' Paul and Kim Reed are working to buy the building formerly known as 'Rite of Passage,' located behind the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office on 17th Street.

Residential treatment center to submit offer to county

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER

ALAMOSA — On Aug. 14, 2007, 33-year-old Paul Reed, a native of Sanford, was admitted to a residential treatment center for addiction to methamphetamines. The cost for treatment totaled roughly \$30,000, raised with the help of his family and friends.

Reed's story is not an uncommon one. He grew up in a farming and ranching family in Sanford and was helping out a friend who owned a roofing company in Alamosa. The friend had "gotten into trouble" with drugs and alcohol and, unable to pay workers, asked Reed to help out. That as-

sociation led to Reed being introduced to drugs, specifically methamphetamines.

In Reed's case, the intervention was successful. Following treatment, the trajectory of his life changed, and he now owns a successful nationwide roofing company based in Denver. But the awareness of the damaging impact addiction has on people's lives never left him. In homage to those who helped him and others who are working to overcome addiction, Paul and his wife, Kim, started a group called "Roofers in Recovery" in 2019.

"You can't keep anything until you give back," he says.

The Reeds — along with partners Justin Luke Riley and Jamie Reynolds, Paul's sister who is a registered nurse living in the Valley — are taking their efforts to the next level in the San Luis Valley

Please see HOPE on Page 8

HOME LOANS

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NMLS# 1079848

PROGRAM Continued from Page 1

of the study is essential to ensure accurate results are obtained. The study consists of one week of pre-testing followed by 10 weeks of exercise, with post-testing starting the week of Nov. 14. Federal and local COVID-19 guidelines for safe indoor activities will be followed.

Every participant will take part in the exercise program and specific participants, randomly selected following pre-testing, will be provided common nutritional supplements. At the end of the study, group results will be calculated, and the groups will be

compared for changes in fitness and overall health.

Interested participants are encouraged to attend a pre-registration meeting at 12 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18; or 1 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24 in the Adams State East Campus Building, room 101. An additional meeting for interested participants begins at 1 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25, in the Adams State East Campus Building, room 108. The East Campus Building is located on the corner of First Street and La Veta Avenue in Alamosa.

For more information, or for people who can't attend one of the scheduled pre-registration meetings, contact the Adams State Kinesiology Department program coordinator Ines Curti at 859-684-3511, email curtiines@gmail.com or Peggy Johnson at 719-589-0593, email pjohnson@adams.edu.

The program is funded through a two-year grant from the Colorado Cancer Coalition and support from the SLV Health Foundation, including the Larry Holder Memorial Golf Tournament.

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BACK to SCHOOL

Community service projects for kids

The importance of giving back to one's community is a value that parents can instill in their children at an early age. Learning about worthy causes in local communities can help develop empathy in children and give them insight into those who live outside of their social and economic spheres. In addition, encouraging children to take part in community service can teach them skills they would not necessarily learn in the classroom.

Getting involved in community service as a child may lead to a lifelong commitment to giving back. The following are some ways children can get involved in community service projects.

Spend time with seniors

Children can visit seniors in nursing homes or assisted living facilities, provided that the visits are cleared with the home's staff. Kids can work alongside seniors on craft projects or participate in games like bingo.

Collect food for the needy

Volunteering with a local soup kitchen can teach children about the plight of the less fortunate. Kids also can collect canned or boxed food and deliver it to food pantries so that no needy family has to go hungry.

Improve school grounds

Working with the principal of

a local school, children can make plans to improve the grounds. Ideas include repairing play equipment, planting trees, adding a vegetable or flower garden, or installing buddy benches where friends can find each other and hang out.

Donate eyeglasses

Kids can gather used eyeglasses and donate to an organization that recycles them for the needy.

Send care packages

Kids can reward first responders and military personnel who live in their communities by putting together care packages for them

and their families.

Pick up litter

Children can gather like-minded friends and participate in a beach or park cleanup.

Service projects are great ways for kids to get involved and give back to their communities.



The link between volunteering and academic performance

There are many reasons for parents to encourage children who express an interest in volunteering. Volunteering is a social activity that can help children develop their social and networking skills, and many parents credit volunteering with instilling a sense of perspective in their children that they might not have gained had they not been exposed to people from different backgrounds. Volunteering also has been linked to stronger academic performance. The Corporation for National and Community Service reports that students who indicate they're doing better in school are more likely to be volunteers than students who report doing less well. The broadened exposure to people

and places that students may otherwise not encounter without volunteering also can benefit them in the classroom, helping them more readily identify with cultures and societies they're studying. College applicants with volunteering experience also may set themselves apart in the increasingly competitive application process. Though a 2019 Pew Research study reported that most schools admit more than two-thirds of their applicants, that figure is significantly lower

at many of the more highly rated institutions in the United States. For example, Stanford University (4.3 percent) and Harvard University (4.9 percent) recently reported acceptance rates below 5 percent. Though volunteering alone won't help applicants gain acceptance to such competitive institutions, it can serve as a strong résumé builder and be even more effective if it also produces the previously noted improvements in academic performance.

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Monte Vista School District
719-852-5996

First day of school is Monday, Aug. 15, 2022

Please see our website for our Reopening Plan or information about our online options
<http://monte.k12.co.us>

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Good Speed Automotive supports SLV Area Extension and 4-H

SUBMITTED ARTICLE
MONTE VISTA — Good Speed Automotive in Monte Vista made a generous donation to start a Colorado State University gift account that will support the efforts of the SLV Extension team in its education for agriculture, families, and youth in the San Luis Valley.

“You cannot imagine my surprise and excitement when I received the call from Burke Cornum, manager at Good Speed Automotive, saying that they wanted to invest in our Extension program,” explained a grateful Larry Brown, SLV Area Extension Director, “and I didn’t even have to ask!”

The SLV Area Extension team believes in the power of lifelong learning — that every individual at every age from every walk of life is more likely to have a healthier, more productive life if they engage in lifelong learning. CSU Extension delivers these learning opportunities to the citizens of Colorado in the communities where they live.

“At SLV Area Extension,” continued Brown, “everything we do is designed to foster healthy youth and families, prosperous farms, ranches, and businesses, and strong, resilient, proud communities. We are in the process of rebuilding the Extension staff and program in the Valley. In the past year, all six Valley counties and CSU alike have done what they could to increase our funding, allowing us to add one new agent position, plus part-time, 4-H youth program coordinators in each county. All this has brought us back up to about half capacity of what we once were, and

yet we still have potential to provide so much more service and value if we can continue to rebuild.”

“This donation from Good Speed Automotive is going to help us to do things like purchase a truck that I can use to pull our livestock scales to 4-H members’ homes, pull our STEM and Career trailers to schools around the Valley, and transport our 4-H members to leadership conferences around the state,” said Morgan Young, SLV Area 4-H Youth Development Agent. “I envision this gift account growing to the point where we will be able to fund scholarships for every active 4-H member as they graduate high school to whatever postsecondary education or vocational training program they might choose.”

Now that the gift account has been established with Good Speed’s initial donation, Young has also established a relationship with City Market by which any community member who shops there can sign up for City Market’s “Community Rewards” and help support SLV Area Extension and the 4-H program.

“The best part is that it cost the shopper nothing,” explained Young. “If you have a City Market shopper’s card, simply select SLV 4-H and SLV Colorado State University Extension on the Rewards website, and while you earn your own rewards, we earn rewards, too.”

Using this Rewards program, SLV Area Extension will earn a percentage of the total purchase just like people earn on fuel points. All these monies will go toward the scholarship fund, or toward other 4-H and Extension

operational needs to keep the program growing and giving back.

To join Good Speed Automotive and City Market in supporting the growth and community educational efforts of your SLV Area Extension, people can contribute any amount from \$5 to a legacy donation which might fund an agent, build a building, or establish an endowment scholarship fund.

Make checks to CSU Foundation, and bring them to the Extension office in Monte Vista, or mail to Office of Engagement and Extension, Attn: Ali Eccleston, 4040 Campus Delivery, Fort Collins, CO 80523. A person may specify that the donation is to be used for a specific purpose or specify that it can be used for general needs as determined by Extension staff.

If you have questions or would like more information, contact Young or Brown at 719-852-7381.



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ESTIMATED CROP WATER USE

Weather Data from SLV Research Center located on the 9N and Hwy 285

Crop	Date Planted	Daily Crop Water use for Dates Shown (in./day)				Accumulated Water Use (ET) (inches)				
		8/14	8/13	8/12	8/11	2day	3day	4day	5day	7day
Moravian 69	04/05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Moravian 69	05/05	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.30	0.46	0.62	0.62	0.94
Early Wheat	04/05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04
Early Wheat	05/05	0.18	0.18	0.19	0.19	0.36	0.55	0.74	0.74	1.12
White Wheat	04/05	0.09	0.10	0.11	0.11	0.19	0.30	0.40	0.40	0.62
White Wheat	05/05	0.22	0.22	0.23	0.23	0.44	0.67	0.90	0.90	1.33
WinterWheat	10/01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Potatoes										
Norkotah	05/05	0.19	0.19	0.21	0.20	0.38	0.59	0.79	0.79	1.19
Centennial	05/05	0.25	0.25	0.26	0.24	0.50	0.76	1.00	1.00	1.44
Nugget	05/05	0.24	0.24	0.25	0.23	0.48	0.72	0.95	0.95	1.37
Alfalfa	Est.	0.28	0.28	0.29	0.27	0.56	0.85	1.12	1.12	1.62
Lawngress	Est.	0.24	0.24	0.25	0.23	0.48	0.72	0.95	0.95	1.37

For the latest ET information, call 754-3494 extension x40 for Center, x36 fro Center #2, and x38 for La Jara. Use the crop maturity and planting data and weather station closest to your own. Find this upJune 8d table each day at this web address: <http://aes-slvrc.agsci.colostate.edu/daily-crop-water-use-report/>

This information is provided by the SLV Research Center (Colorado State University) and the Colorado Potato Certification Service. For info, call 754-3494 x26 or e-mail: andrew.houser@colostate.edu

NARANJO

Continued from Page 1

value of family, which developed into a passion for investing my time in anything that makes individuals, families, and communities flourish.”

Naranjo also grew up in 4-H, primarily showing market steers and swine. She reflects fondly on the positive impact extension programs have had on her own life. She has continued those traditions with her own family. Her two girls love showing swine. Her family can be found in their pig barn during most of their free time.

Naranjo has served the past 16 years as a school counselor in both Del Norte and Sargent school districts.

When asked why she took this position, Naranjo said, “I have always wanted to help people, and not just help people, but really make a difference. As a mental health counselor and school counselor, I always told myself if I could help just one person and make a difference in one person’s life, it would all be worth it. I will carry that same thought process into my new position and strive to make a truly positive impact on the lives of my neighbors in the San Luis Valley.”

Naranjo can be reached at the SLV Area Extension office by calling 719-852-7381.

Conour *Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society*
www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org
 If you are interested in adopting, call 852-3366
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We’ll be at the 3rd Friday Monte Vista Art Walk this week! We are bringing dogs out, and adoptions will be half-off so please stop by and see us!

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valley-widehealth.org

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

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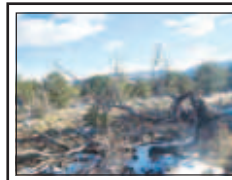


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SOLD

SOLD

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SOLD

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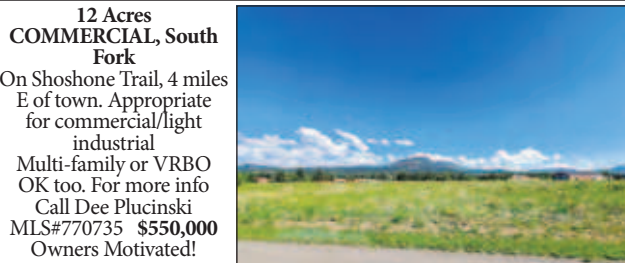
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05 Notices

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For information on meetings for ALANON NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS AND ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Please visit slvaa.org or call 719-937-5083.

07 Help Wanted

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. (8/31)

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> (8/24)
The Upper Rio Grande School District is accepting applications

for the position of Community Liaison. Applicants need to have strong networking skills, be able to develop relationships with students, and partner with multiple agencies to support families in the school district. Please send a cover letter and resume to Aaron Horrocks at ahorrocks@urtigers.co or mail to 950 French Street, Del Norte CO 81332. Please call (719) 657-4040 if you have any questions. (9/7)

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This 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom single level home is located in town of Monte Vista, close to the Park and other amenities. The home is towards the back of the lot giving it great privacy and a nice sized front yard. It has a large living room with fireplace making it very cozy. It has an open concept from Kitchen to the living room, New flooring and other upgrades. Inquire today. **PRICE REDUCED - \$155,000** MLS#794510

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Looking for land to build your new home or to just enjoy the outdoors? Take a look at this 80 acres in a quiet setting not far from Del Norte or South Fork. Beautiful valley views! Electric is near by if needed. Legal description for the 80 acres is N1/2 SE1/4 section 17, township 40 North Range 5 East N.M.P.M. The owner purchased 120 acres and is selling 80 acres north of the 40 acres that he will be keeping. **\$150,000** MLS#794691

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South Central Colorado Seniors, Inc. the Local Area Agency on Aging is looking for a Meal Server in Saguache. MUST HAVE training and experience in food preparation and nutrition. 3 hours per day, Monday through Friday. This position is responsible for Food Preparation according to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and must be familiar with Colorado Retail Food Establishments Rules and Regulations and certification Food Safety and Handling. Ideal Candidates: Must maintain meal-site according to Food Safety Regulations and be prepared and ready for inspection by State Health Inspector at any time. Will prepare for food delivery; warming of food, thermometer calibrations, etc. Will safely serve meals to incoming consumers at the meal-site and clean the meal-site location to Food Safety Inspection standards. South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc. is an EOE. Applications and Full Job Descriptions are available at South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc., 1116 3rd St. Alamosa CO or call 719-589-4511 for more information. (8/31)

10 Apartments

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17 Real Estate For Sale
153.66 deed acres in grass, 3 shares of Commonwealth Ditch, 350 gpm irrigation well, 2 X 50 gpm wells, totally fenced, corrals with loading chute. 4 miles from Alamosa. \$450,000. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-580-0770 or 719-873-1700. (8/31)

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HOPE

Continued from Page 1

where they plan to open a non-profit residential treatment center for drug addiction in Alamosa.

Operating under the name "Hope in the Valley", Paul and Kim Reed are working to buy the building formerly known as "Rite of Passage", located behind the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office on 17th Street.

The building is owned by Alamosa County and, according to County Administrator Roni Wisdom, the Reeds "have toured the building and have expressed a strong interest in it for a residential treatment facility. They are in the due diligence stage of their business planning process, so they have not made an offer nor has the county entered into any negotiations for the purchase of the building."

In a July 25 presentation to the SLV Commissioners, partner and co-founder of Hope in the Valley, Justin Luke Riley stated that they are looking to create a "community supported, best practice based" program with a life skills curriculum embedded in recovery.

"We already have a good network of people specializing in supporting recovery," Reed says, "with programs in place that can change lives and keep families together."

"Hope in the Valley" is planned to be a 30-bed facility — 15 for men, 15 for women — staffed with counsellors, nurses and support staff to ensure quality medical care. They will be focused on a specific patient population — veterans and young adults — and plan to provide services to address the full range of addictions.

The non-profit will create 30 full-time positions — all staffed by local professionals including a Medical Director, a licensed psychiatrist and licensed counselors.

"We want to use local people as much as possible," says Reed, "including the people we'll hire to do renovations."

The residential treatment facility is just part of what the four partners

envision. "The facility is just the first stage of the process," Reed says. "We really want this to be a community program where the community is involved in creating a network where people can find support as they're in recovery. Hopefully, that will be one way to remove the stigma that is always a part of addiction."

Addiction to opioids has been an enduring challenge in the San Luis Valley. A 2019 story published by Colorado Public Radio (CPR) and based on information obtained from the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) states, "drug companies distributed the highest number of pills per person in southern parts of the state where the epidemic has hit hardest."

According to updated data from the DEA website mentioned in the CPR article, from 2006 to 2014 there were 12,366,040 prescription pain pills — enough for 88 pills per person — supplied to Alamosa County each year. That is the highest per person rate in the state.

Since then, the Attorney's General Office, in conjunction with other AGs from other impacted states, has successfully litigated several significant lawsuits against pharmaceutical companies, resulting in millions of dollars in settlement funds being awarded.

Those funds will be distributed via the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council for programs addressing opioid addiction.

According to Alamosa Commissioner Lori Laske, who sits on the 45-member Region 18 Opioid Settlement Agreement Council, grant proposals are currently being developed to mitigate the impact of addiction.

But the cascading impacts of the disease of addiction continue to persist.

According to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Death Statistics Dashboard, 142 people in the San Luis Valley died as a result of a drug overdose from 2010

to 2020 and there were 812 visits to the Emergency Department involving drug overdoses from 2016 to 2021.

"Opioid and methamphetamine addiction is a huge problem for us," says Alamosa County Sheriff Robert Jackson. "And now we have people coming into the jail who are addicted to fentanyl — not opioids or meth, just fentanyl. We desperately need this treatment center."

"The County is excited about having a residential treatment center," says Wisdom. "The Commissioners have felt that this is something the valley has needed for a long time to help our citizens."

When asked why they are focusing their efforts on the San Luis Valley when they operate out of Denver, Reed says, "I grew up in the Valley. I know there's an addiction problem. I've made it for 15 years because people helped me in recovery. Now, I get to be the person who does that for someone else."

As an indication of just how serious the partners of Hope in the Valley are about making the residential treatment center a reality, Kim and Paul Reed told the Valley Courier on Monday that they will be submitting an offer to purchase the building to the Alamosa County Commissioners at Wednesday's meeting.

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

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

Solution to last week's puzzle

B	O	A	S		P	E	B	B	L	Y		
A	C	C	E	L	E	R	A	T	I	O	N	
H	A	M	B	U	R	G		U	N	K	I	N
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						C	O	M	A	S		D
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			E	P	O	C	H	S		D	A	S



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