

## Shorts

### Center, MV police to hold charity basketball game

**MONTE VISTA** — The Center Police Department will play the Monte Vista Police Department in a charity basketball game at 1 p.m. on June 11 at Monte Vista High School. Admission to the event will be \$2 with all proceeds going to charity.

### Fundraising dinner in Creede set for June 18

**CREEDE** — A fundraising auction and dinner for local families is scheduled for June 18. It is being organized by the Creede Mining Museum.

The \$25 plate includes a prime rib dinner with baked potatoes and salad.

The live auction will feature a signed guitar by the Rolling Stones, starting bid \$1,500. There will be a dessert auction, silent auction and cash bar.

Doors and silent auction open at 5 p.m. Dinner served at 5:30 p.m., live auction and dessert auction at 6 p.m. Silent auction closes at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call 719-658-0811 or email [creedeminingmuseum@hotmail.com](mailto:creedeminingmuseum@hotmail.com).

### Ribbon cutting planned for two businesses in Monte Vista

**MONTE VISTA** — The Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce is hosting a ribbon cutting for Kim Marquez Photography and FLUID Space Wellness at 11:30 a.m. on June 10, at 38 Washington St., Monte Vista.

### SLV REC electric maintenance work underway

**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — San Luis Valley REC has begun working on system maintenance in the Baca area along Wagon Wheel Road to improve reliability.

JKL Associates has been doing preliminary work, and Cooley and Sons Excavating began work on June 1. No electric outages or road closures are anticipated.

The work will take place from the west intersection of Wagon Wheel Road and Spanish Creek Road to the east intersection of the two roads.

### DNHS Class of 1972 seeking classmates

**DEL NORTE** — The Del Norte High School Class of 1972 will be having a class reunion on Aug. 5-7 and is trying to locate fellow classmates. Members of the DNHS Class of 1972 are asked to call or text Dorothy at 719 850-1794 or email [dorothychambers55@yahoo.com](mailto:dorothychambers55@yahoo.com), for more information.

## Saguache County Sheriff recommends closing jail

*Staffing issues a major problem; Warwick looking at options*

**BY MECHEL MEEK**

**SAGUACHE** — Saguache County Sheriff Dan Warwick told county commissioners that he does not have enough staff to keep the county jail

open and is looking into an agreement with neighboring Alamosa County to house Saguache County's inmates. The jail will remain open until Warwick can strike a deal.

On Tuesday, June 7, during the regular Saguache County Commissioners meeting, Sheriff Warwick outlined the ongoing problems with the Saguache County

Jail, and why they will need to close the jail as soon as possible.

"At this point I am going to close the jail," Warwick said. "I cannot staff my jail. I can't staff it and keep it safe, not only for the staff but for the inmates."

He said that the jail does not have adequate staff to continue to run safely and efficiently. At the current

staffing level, there is only one jail deputy working at a time, and that person is also responsible for running the dispatch for the sheriff's office road patrol.

Warwick said he was looking into the cost for Alamosa County to house the inmates for Saguache County.

Saguache Commissioner Lynne *Please see JAIL on Page 6A*

## Vehicle pursuit ends in rural Saguache

**STAFF REPORT**

**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — Two men on parole were arrested after crashing a stolen vehicle while trying to evade law enforcement on Sunday, June 5.

At about 6 a.m. on Sunday, CPD was notified of a vehicle pursuit heading toward the town, Center Police Chief Dale Meek reported.

The incident began when a man who lives in South Fork observed his Jeep being stolen at his house. He began chasing the thieves in his other vehicle.

The suspects, later identified as Zachary Wymer, 25, and Jimmy Gollighugh Jr., 44, were in separate vehicles — Wymer was driving the stolen Jeep and Gollighugh was driving the Ford F150 truck. The victim chased the vehicles through Del Norte and down Highway 112 until they turned north on County Road 43.

The suspects continued through the La Garita area until the Jeep was wrecked by the suspect a few miles north of town.

The driver of the Jeep got into the white truck and crossed over U.S. 285 into the Russell Lakes State Wildlife area.

Meek explained he and another CPD officer continued to pursue the truck through the dirt roads around County Road 50 moving south toward County Road G. As the truck reached the intersection of C.R. 50 and C.R. G stop sticks, a tire deflation device, were deployed as the suspect vehicle ran the stop sign at the intersection.



Courtesy photo

### Wrecked Ford F150 courtesy of Center Police Department

Meek said they continued to follow the vehicle through the dirt farm roads as a front tire on the truck deflated and started to fragment due to the stop stick deployment.

The truck continued on C.R. G toward State Highway 17. The suspect vehicle turned north on C.R. 59 going back onto the Russell Lakes State Wildlife Preserve land.

The suspect vehicle attempted to cross fields but became stuck in the sand due to the damage to the front tire. The two suspects fled on foot across the preserve land into the sandy dunes.

Colorado State Patrol assisted with the chase by sending up a helicopter to help search for the suspects after they abandoned the vehicle.

*Please see PURSUIT on Page 6A*

## MVS students keep busy during summer



**BY MECHEL MEEK**

**SAGUACHE** — Mountain Valley School District students are keeping up their activities even in the summer.

According to Mountain Valley School, "Even during the summer our students are up to great things. Incoming senior Keladrae is off for a week of American Legion Girl State at UNC Greeley 2022. This program is

sponsored by the Saguache American Legion Woman's Auxiliary. Keladrae will learn more about the political process by electing officials for all levels of state government and actively running a mock government."

The girls are assigned to mock cities and either the "Federalist Party" or "Nationalist Party." Assistance from dedicated ALA volunteers ensures the

program's nonpartisan governmental, patriotic, and civic objectives are carried out through interactive learning.

"Though the week is filled with many learning opportunities, there is always time for fun and the formation of long-term friendships. Go Keladrae, we are so proud of you," MVS officials stated.

## ASU trustees terminate president's contract

*Dr. Kent Buchanan named acting president*

**BY KEITH R. CERNY**  
*Regional Publisher*

**ALAMOSA** — In a unanimous vote Friday, after an apparent several hour executive session, Adams State University Board of Trustees terminated the institution's contract with President Cheryl Lovell. Kent Buchanan was named acting president effective immediately.

Buchanan has been Vice President of Academic Affairs at ASU since March 1, 2020. ASU Trustees

Amanda DeLaRosa and Jen Mueller were named by board chairperson Michelle Lueck to head up a search committee for a new president.

The trustees passed two resolutions during the noon hour meeting Friday, the first terminating the contract with Lovell and a second appointing Buchanan as acting president.

Chairman Lueck and several members of the board cited a lack of leadership from Lovell while terminating a contract signed on June 1, 2019. Lovell was originally hired as interim president in September 2018 and her "interim" title was removed by the board in February 2019.

*Please see ASU on Page 2A*



Dr. Cheryl Lovell and Dr. Kent Buchanan

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# OBITUARIES

## Daryl Lee Vanderpool

Daryl Lee Vanderpool, 76, a longtime resident of Monte Vista, Colo., known for his friendly personality, playful sense of humor and the gift of gab, died May 26, 2022, in Pueblo, Colo., after a lengthy battle with COPD.

Daryl was born on Sept. 2, 1945, in Rifle, Colo., to Bernie M. Vanderpool and Nellie Marie (Duncan) Vanderpool. He spent most of his childhood in Saguache, Colo. His family moved to Monte Vista when he was a teenager, and he graduated from Monte Vista High School in 1963 where he was voted "class clown" by his senior class.

In Monte Vista, Daryl met Darlene Ann Spencer, his high school sweetheart, and they were married in 1964. Two sons, Tracy and Eric, soon followed.

Being an avid "gearhead" of the 1950s and 1960s, Daryl enjoyed all aspects related to automobiles. This led to his career choices working in collision repair and automotive parts supply. His love of cars carried over as a hobby when not at work, resulting in Daryl building and repairing cars for family, friends and neighbors.

Daryl was an avid supporter of his sons' endeavors, including hauling the family camper all over Colorado to summer weekend swim meets, helping Eric with science fair projects, and then later becoming a fixture in the stands at Tracy's football and basketball games.

Daryl also liked to spend time in the mountains, fishing, backpacking, camping, and cutting firewood.

Once Tracy and Eric were grown, Daryl retired early. He became a video game enthusiast, a fan of cable news, a history buff, a Cajun music and food aficionado, a robust walker and bicyclist, a keeper of detailed weather records, and a skilled woodworker.

When living at the Valley's high



altitude became too much because of his COPD, Daryl and Darlene moved to Pueblo, where Daryl spent the last six years of his life. Even after COPD robbed Daryl of much of his joy, ice cream always brought a smile to his face. His freezer was always stocked with multiple kinds and flavors. Please have some ice cream in his memory.

Daryl is survived by his wife Darlene, sister Doris Abeyta, sons Tracy (Colleen) and Eric (Joseph), grandchildren Mitchell (Brooklyn) and Blair, great-granddaughter Kaycie Rae, many nieces and nephews, and his Maltese dog Princess Mia.

Celebrations of life 1 p.m. Thursday, June 16, 2022, Oakshire Trails, 2300 Oakshire Lane, Pueblo, and 10 a.m., Friday, June 17, 2022, Monte Vista Cemetery Chapel.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations in Daryl's name be made to Sangre de Cristo Hospice, 1920 Valley Drive, Pueblo, CO, 81008, or at [www.sangre.org](http://www.sangre.org). To share online condolences, please visit [www.romerofamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.romerofamilyfuneralhome.com).

## James Larry Mitchell

James Larry Mitchell, 79, of South Fork, Colo., passed away on June 3, 2022, with his loving wife by his side.

James was born March 5, 1943, in Corsicana, Texas, born to W.B. and Geneva Mitchell. James entered the U.S. Air Force in 1962 and retired in 1992, earning the rank of Chief Master Sergeant.

James met Roseline in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1963, while he was in the military. They married in 1964 and spent 57 years together. James and Rosalyn had two sons, Jerry and Barry.

James and Rosalyn moved to South Fork, Colo., in 1992.

James was a retired Chief Master Sergeant of the US Air Force, a Vietnam and Desert Storm veteran, past State Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, member of

VFW Post 8121, Past Master of Del Norte Masonic Lodge 105, Member of Amethyst Masonic Lodge 94 in Creede, 32 Degree Scottish Rite, in the shrine with Al Kaly Shrine, Order Eastern Star Bethlehem chapter 56 and past Grand commander Military Order Cooties (MOCA).

James liked traveling, rock tumbling, fishing, hunting, golfing, and reading

James was preceded in death by his father and mother.

He is survived by his sons Jerry (Tracy) Mitchell and Barry (Shelly) Mitchell, grandchildren Faith and Jake Mitchell and brother Gary (Jane) Mitchell.

A viewing will be held Thursday, June 9, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Strohmayer's Funeral Home, 205 S. Broadway St., Monte Vista, Colo. Interment will be at the Homelake



Veteran Cemetery on Friday, June 10, 2022, at 10 a.m. with full military honors.

Arrangements in care of Strohmayer's Funeral Home of Monte Vista.

## ASU Continued from Page 1A

"This was not an easy decision," Lueck said. "However, we believe Dr. Buchanan and the entire executive council will transition to a new era with grace and skill."

In reading the first resolution terminating Lovell's contract, Lueck cited concerns about the "behavior of the current administration" and added "it is time for a leadership change at ASU." Speaking individually, most of the board members echoed those feelings.

Trustee David Tanberg said it was made "quite clear" to Lovell a year ago what changes she needed to make and what the consequences would be if improvements weren't made.

Trustee Pam Bricker said it was a difficult and stressful decision for the board to make, but that the "university needs to move in a positive direction," adding that a different "set of skillsets are needed" at ASU.

One of the newest trustee appointees, Mark Martinez said, "transparency and trust are paramount" and a change was necessary in ASU's leadership.

Trustee DeLaRosa added that a different leader is needed to "carry out the directions of the board."

After appointing Dr. Buchanan as

acting president, trustee Arthur Orregon said, "we're turning the keys over to you in continued trying times," and her encouraged him to continue putting the students first.

Faculty trustee Beth Bonsetter wouldn't comment on the termination of Lovell's contract but did say the faculty supports the appointment of Buchanan.

When hired by President Lovell, Buchanan brought more than 25 years of experience in higher education to ASU. He served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at Oklahoma City University for the previous 13 years. He was also a tenured professor of biology at two other universities, including Tulane

University Health Sciences Center.

He has been credited with leading efforts to add new academic programs at ASU in online platforms as well as strategic planning, budget development, accreditation, and faculty development.

In a statement Friday afternoon, Buchanan said, "I am willing to step in as acting president of Adams State. I accept this role because I have absolute confidence in our faculty and staff's commitment to their profession and dedication to our students. Together we will keep moving Adams State forward."

The board of trustees and the executive council met throughout the afternoon Friday to determine next steps in the university's leadership.

## SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

### Damian Trow Memorial Service

A Celebration of Life for Damian Trow, son of Tracy Rogers Trow of Creede; David and Amber Trow of Buena Vista; and grandson of Dannie and Betsy Rogers of Creede is planned for Saturday, June 18, 2022, at 2 p.m. at the Virginia Christensen Multi-Use Facility (Newton Memorial Gym) in Creede. A time of gathering and light refreshments will follow.

## 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

## Backing into a divorce

Miss Trixie and I have finally arrived in the bountiful state of Colorado and the cool temperatures sure are a nice change from the hot Texas sun. Before we left the Lone Star State, we experienced some 90 degree days there and while that might be a nice spring day to those hardy Texans, it was too much for Ol' Dutch and his sensitive disposition.

When we arrived our camping spot was not quite ready for our summer stay, so we are staying at a friend's house for a few days. Our friends are out of town for a few days, so we get the unexpected pleasure of lounging inside their wonderful and welcoming abode. One thing that was so nice about staying there was Miss Trixie, and I could stand up at the same time, which is impossible in the RV. That thing has a one-buttkitchen and it's been a long 11 years bumping derrieres every time you need a drink of water.

The day we arrived in South Fork, Colorado, Ol' Dutch, ever the Rainman, conjured up a nice rain shower and hopefully I can continue right on into a long and soaking monsoon season. The river looks pretty good right now, but talk is it won't last all summer so if you are going to get in some quality rafting, now is the time to get wet.

And speaking of rafting, Miss Trixie is taking a daily vacation from wonderful, kind and patient Ol' Dutch and helping Mountain Man Rafting in South Fork. So, if you want a great whitewater ride on the mighty Rio Grande, now is the time to put on those shorts and book a trip. And as a bonus you will get to meet Miss Trixie and judge for yourself just how rough Ol' Dutch has it cohabitating with her Highness.

One part of Miss Trixie's job will be backing up the trailer to the boat ramp. Boy, I'm sure glad I won't be around for that as it would be certain death to our relationship. As it is, our annual "big fight" is the one that happens when we back the camper into our spot here in South Fork. If you have not ever tried backing up a 37' fifth wheel, it's not too bad except that Miss Trixie in her ever sensitive and gratuitous manner stands in the blind spot when trying to help Ol' Dutch. Or more than likely she will strike up a month-long conversation with whomever is present at the time totally ignoring the task at hand. This results in what is known as a "rhubarb" as Ol' Dutch about loses what mind he has left as he waits



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

blocking traffic in every direction. From campgrounds to boat ramps, you will see more arguments and fights in one day than you thought possible as previous loving spouses try and back something into somewhere. That is why in the manuals you get for campers or boats there is a section on backing them up safely under the chapter titled "Divorce." Which I find hilarious as most people finance their toys long-term and in doing so may be headed for a short-term marriage.

Whoever said camping was fun? Well probably someone who hasn't backed into a tight spot with directions from a waving, shouting, screaming spouse. I look forward to it every year, like folks look forward to a good case of the stomach flu and multiple runs to the store for toilet paper for that back-end event.

But we will survive our upcoming event and Miss Trixie gets an added benefit this summer of hanging with the cool kids at Mountain Man Rafting. As happy as she was the first day she came home from her job, it kind of made Ol' Dutch wonder about her happiness (or lack thereof) of living with me 24-7. But I soon discarded that nonsensical train of thought as I am sure she is just enjoying the fresh mountain air as I am the catch of the century still.

And at this juncture I think Ol' Dutch just may have backed himself into a corner with her much like a donkey backing into a barrel cactus in Sonora, California. So, I best close this down and see if I can find a way to pluck out those sharp spines from my backside.

*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.*



## LETTER

### Martinez family thanks community for scholarship support

Editor,

We, the Martinez family, would like to thank all of you runners, walkers, and golfers who participated in the Sgt. Glen Martinez Memorial Scholarship 5K Run/Walk and Veterans Golf Tournament on May 28 to support and honor Glen for his service to our country and his Ultimate Sacrifice to fight for our precious freedom.

We want to thank the people who so graciously donated their time to volunteer their services to make these two events possible. A very huge thank you to Becky Tonso, Pat and Cathy Sullivan, Pete and Annette Gonzales, Anika Velasquez, Jeri Gonzales, Brian Lujan and Jim Whitney, who registered all the participants of the 5K and coordinated the finish line activities that made it all run so very smoothly. Big thank you to Glen's sister, Lori Martinez, for singing the national anthem so heartfelt prior to the start of the 5K race. Thank you to Ron and Pat Rinebarger for lending us your side by side 4-wheeler for Ron to lead the 5K racers. Thank you to Mike Sanchez and family for making all the most delicious breakfast burritos and the oh so scrumptious Green Chili for all the hungry racers. Thank you to Peggy Martinez who made sure all the participants were well taken care of with the coffee, burritos and green chili.

Thank You to all the Veterans Golf Tournament Hole Sponsors: Dr. Dave and Annavee Hinkley, Dr. Brian and Mary Kay Roberts, Brad

and Jamie Swartz, Ron Swartz, American Legion Post #53, Taqueria Jose Lopez, SLV Federal Bank, Rio Grande Bank, State Farm Insurance Troy Plane, KSLV Radio Station Bob Richards and I Conergy Ltd.

Thank you to all our local stores, Top Value, Safeway of Monte Vista and Safeway of Alamosa, and Walgreens for donating water, Gatorade and fruits for our runners and walkers, we say thank you very much.

We appreciate Bob Richards from KSLV Radio Station for being at the race from approximately 5:30 a.m. doing a live broadcast with the runners and walkers and we thank Bob for the announcements for Glen's events.

Thank you to the Monte Vista Journal and the Alamosa Courier for advertising these events across the San Luis Valley.

We would like to thank all the Line Sponsors for the 5k Run/Walk and Veterans Golf Tournament: James and Janina Medina, Grant and Emily, The American Legion Jas G. Hamilton Post #53, Hair Experience — Peggy Martinez (In Loving Memory of Justin Moore), Kris, Jess, Jaxxon and Andrew Gonzales and Andrea Craft, Hogue's Glass-Stan and Jeannie Crowder, Brian Roberts DDS. and Mary Kay, SLV Building Components-The Polkowske Family, Ron and Pat Rinebarger (In Loving Memory of Tracy Aaron Rinebarger), Gunbarrel Station-Skip and Sue McClure, Eddie and Carey Sanchez (In Loving Memory of Rico Nicholas

Sanchez), Country Curls — Della Kimberling (In Loving Memory of Van Kimberling and AnneMarie Stone), Kentucky Fried Chicken-Jeff and Sandy Lickeig, Monte Vista Takedown Club, SLV Ski Hi Stampede, INC., The Rio Grande Seed and Grain, Peace of Art-Art and Lori, Lexi, Shane, Spencer, Jasmine and Leia, Southwest Liquor, & Park Avenue Liquor owned and operated by Michael and Tabitha Valdez.

A special thank you to Wayne Pacheco — Widowmaker Apparel for T-shirts and hats, Jed Ellithorpe and Family, Michelle Burkhart and staff at the Monte Vista Golf Course.

The result of these two events benefits a senior boy and girl with a \$1,000 financial boost with the beginning of their higher education.

Glen made the ultimate sacrifice on May 2, 2008, while serving in the United States Marine Corps, Operation Iraqi Freedom. We know Glen would be very proud to know all the support and participation he received from our communities in the Valley and from friends and families from various parts of Colorado, Florida, Kansas, Idaho and South Dakota to honor him this Memorial Weekend. We hope that you all enjoyed yourselves, got to visit with long-time friends and relatives and got some good exercise. The Martinez family hopes to see you all next year! May God bless you all! Semper Fi!

*Martinez family  
Monte Vista*

# CENTER POST-DISPATCH

THE CENTER POST-DISPATCH (USPS 775-900) Published weekly (every Thursday) by Valley Publishing. (719) 852-3531 at 835 First Ave., Monte Vista, Colorado 81144-1423. Official newspaper of the Town of Center, and a legal newspaper in Saguache County.

Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144

Main office, Want ads and Subscriptions: (719) 852-3531

Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, Colo., 81144

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144

Subscriptions: \$45 one year in the San Luis Valley; \$40 one year seniors (65 and older) in the San Luis Valley; and \$55 one year out of the San Luis Valley. (719) 852-3531

News Media Corporation website: <http://www.newsmediacorporation.com>

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# Sgt. Glen E. Martinez Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament winners

MONTE VISTA — May 28 was a warm, windy and sunny day for the Glen Martinez Veterans Scholarship Golf Tournament which was a 4-Man Team Scramble beginning at 10 a.m. and consisting of 15 Teams from different parts of the San Luis Valley with participants from Denver, South Dakota, Kansas and Florida.

The team of John Allen, Chad Hess and Jeremy MacDonald from Kansas had a 2-way tie for first place with a score of 64 with the team of Jacob Jiron, Vicente Barbosa, Brandon Cordova and Greg Castro of Monte Vista with a score of 64.

A ScoreCard Playoff was calculated and John Allen's team from Kansas won first place by one point which

they turned around and donated their Gift Certificate for golfing at Colorado City at the Holly Dot Golf Course so, Jacob Jiron's team took first place with a score of 64, second-place winners with a score of 67 was the team of Lyle Dye, Rich Stecklien, Todd Harrison and Will Albertson winning a gift certificate to play golf at the Alamosa Cat Tails Golf Course and therefore, the Martinez family decided to award the last-place team of Jeri Gonzales, Aadin Gonzales, Lottie Whitmer and Anne Henningsen with a score of 86 the gift certificate to Salida Golf Course.

The Martinez family thanked all those participants who came out to enjoy a day of golfing and the



Pictured from left to right are Chad Hess, Benny, John Allen, front row; and pictured from left to right are Dylan Mars, Jeremy McDonnell and Derrek McDonnell, back row (Kansas Team).



Pictured from left to right are Jacob Jiron, Greg Castro, Vicente Barbosa, and Brandon Cordova (Team Jiron).

volunteers who so graciously fried the hamburgers and hot dogs, Phyllis and Bob Gil.

# Sgt. Glen E. Martinez Memorial 5K Run/Walk Results

MONTE VISTA — On a beautiful but cool morning on May 28, the Monte Vista Golf Course welcomed 50 men and women to participate in the 12th Annual Sgt. Glen E. Martinez 5K Run/Walk to honor and remember U.S. Marine Sgt. Glen E. Martinez, 31, who was killed in action along with three other Marines when the Humvee they were riding in hit a roadside bomb in Iraq on May 2, 2008.

The following are the results from the Sgt. Glen Martinez Memorial 5K Run/Walk: It was a really tight race to the finish for the men, overall runners with Keith Brockhurst — 20 minutes and 13.44 seconds for first in the 21-30 age division then John Naranjo — 21:11.17 for second and for third place Ignacio Lopez — 22:16.82 both in the 41-50 age division. We also had a very exciting

women, overall runners finish with Julissa Naranjo — 28:27.64 in the 5-9 age division and is also John Naranjo's daughter, Jenny Owsley — 28:54.26 for second place in the 31-40 age division, and Joelle Boos — 32:56.95 for third place finish in the 41-50 age division. Maybe next year John Naranjo will be running to beat his young daughter Julissa.



Courtesy photos Pictured from left to right are John Naranjo, second place, Keith Brockhurst, first place, and Ignacio Lopez, third place.

Pictured from left to right are Jenny Owsley, second place, Julissa Naranjo, first place, Joelle Boos, third place.

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# Adams State Board of Trustees approve FY2023 budget

**SUBMITTED ARTICLE**

**ALAMOSA** — The Adams State University Board of Trustees recently adopted a \$70 million operating budget for fiscal year 2022-23.

The new budget further strengthens the University's financial position, currently ranked in the top tier of the Composite Financial Index, a measure of financial health used widely throughout higher education.

The budget addresses compensation for faculty and staff with a 3 percent across the board pay increase while also budgeting additional salary increases for eligible exempt staff positions which follows last year's budgeted increases for faculty.

The fiscal year 2022-23 budget will

see a modest increase in tuition, \$4 per credit hour for in-state students and \$11 per credit hour for out-of-state students, and a 3 percent increase in housing rates

"With the due diligence of President Lovell, the budget and finance office, and the buy-in of the entire campus community, we are able to maintain a radically affordable living-learning environment and look to retain some of the top professors and staff in the state and region," noted Michele Lueck, Chair of the Board. "Although there are small increases in tuition and housing, this gives the university flexibility for strategic investments on campus, including housing."

Also included during the meeting was the Board's approval for state-

funded capital projects requests to include an annex to the Computing Services Building and a replacement for the University Facilities Building, located on the corner of First Street and Murphy Avenue.

"This budget and our growth plan keeps Adams State as the most affordable four-year residential college in the State of Colorado when considering tuition, fees, room, and board," added President Cheryl Lovell, Ph.D. "As I enter my fifth year, I can confidently say this University is in solid financial shape and our growth potential has never been better."

With summer courses currently underway, the University's fall semester will begin Aug. 22.

# Victim, suspect identified in Costilla County shooting

**BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER**

**COSTILLA COUNTY** — Costilla County Sheriff Danny Sanchez has released the name of individuals involved in a May 27 shooting in Costilla County.

Costilla County deputies were dispatched to County Road 11 west of Blanca at 9 p.m. on May 27 where they found the body of a man who was the victim of a gunshot wound.

The man, who was deceased, has been identified as Omega Revelation McCullagh, 36. According to Sanchez, it is believed that McCullagh was living in Costilla County for about six months.

The suspect in the shooting was

identified as David Delotta, 38, also of Costilla County.

According to Sheriff Sanchez, Delotta called the Costilla County Sheriff's Office and told authorities he had shot someone following an altercation. He was subsequently taken into custody on property southwest of CR 11 where he had been living with his mother in a tent.

Delotta, who is being held in the Costilla County Jail, has been charged with suspicion of second-degree murder and bond set at \$150,000.

Sanchez emphasized that is an ongoing investigation and more information will be released as it becomes available.

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6247-0121

# YOUR NIGHT SKY

BY DARLENE DANKO



## Cygnus the Swan

Cygnus the Swan is another Summer Triangle constellation. It's a bird flying through the sky. This is Deneb's constellation with 13 stars, and it is one of the easiest to find. Vega is up high, and Deneb is at the lower left of the Triangle in the ENE just on the edge of the Milky Way. Cygnus is also known as the Northern Cross. In December it stands upright in the NW and is also known as the Christmas Cross. This time of year, it's high in the sky.

This constellation is in front of the Milky Way and is a water bird flying over the river. The word Deneb comes from the Arabic word tail and is the Swan's tail. Albireo represents the swan's head and is 3 stars to the right of Deneb. It's a blue, white star 430 LY away

from us. With a telescope you can see that it's a double star with the brighter one orange and the dimmer one blue.

The Swan's body, wings and head lie inside the Triangle. Cygnus is one of the most prominent constellations in the Northern Sky. It lies in a rich area of the Milky Way and contains many nebulae and open clusters. Its most distinctive feature is the Great Rift which is a relatively close dark cloud of dust that blocks light from the Milky Way. Try viewing it with binoculars or a telescope to find its many treasures.

This constellation represents a swan flying down the WNW, recalling the Greek God Zeus' disguise while seducing Leda the wife of the King of Spaita. She later gave birth to the Gemini twins Castor and Pollux which apparently

came from Zeus.

The bird's wings span the Milky Way at a location packed with stars and deep sky objects. It's highest in the sky late summer into fall. The North American nebula is a colorful gas cloud on the Swan's southern border just below Deneb. So, when you find Deneb, explore the sky to the right of it and discover the Swan. Then use binoculars or a telescope to see all the wonderful things in that area of the sky.

The full moon is on the 14th, but it's going to do some unusual things this time. When you see it, it will be very yellow and low in the sky. Normally the full moon is very high in the sky and very bright white, but this time it isn't going to rise. It will stay low in the sky and not become white. This event will happen every June for the next 5 years. It's also going to be late in

rising, so you may not even see it until after midnight. So have fun looking at it.

I wondered if any of you saw the meteor shower on May 30. I live in South Fork and our sky was very cloudy when I went to bed. Then when I got up at 1 a.m. the sky was still cloudy. I went out, but I only could see a few stars. So, I went back to bed and got up at 3 a.m. That's when the sky had finally cleared, and it was

beautiful. I enjoyed looking at the stars. Unfortunately, I didn't see any meteors. When I read the article that I got in the e-mail the next morning, people saw a few of them at 11 p.m.

# PURSUIT

Continued from Page 1A

Meek and a Saguache County Sheriff's deputy, who responded from his residence, chased the suspects on foot about 1 mile through the wildlife area and arrested the suspects.

Meek said that they recovered a firearm, ammunition, multiple burglary tools, stolen license plate and illegal drugs.

"Rio Grande County Sheriff's Office will be handling charges for the vehicle theft and a possible attempted assault with a deadly weapon on the vehicle owner," Chief Meek said.

Charges from CPD for Gollighugh Jr. were suspicion of reckless driving,

vehicular eluding, possession of weapons by previous offenders, possession of burglary tools, and theft of motor vehicle parts. Gollighugh was also out on parole and will have a potential parole violation.

Wymer charges included suspicion of conspiracy, vehicular eluding — related to the conspiracy, possession of weapons by previous offenders, possession of burglary tools, possession of a controlled substance — fentanyl, and theft of motor vehicle parts. Wymer was also out on parole and will also have a potential parole violation.

"The apprehension of both suspects is an example of the

cooperation between various police agencies in the San Luis Valley," Chief Meek said.

The agencies involved in this incident were the Saguache County Sheriff's Office, Rio Grande County Sheriff's Office, Colorado State Patrol and Center Police Department.

Two responding units were not "on duty" when called to respond to this incident but were able to successfully affect an arrest, Meek said. According to Chief Meek, the suspects had burglary tools and were armed with firearms, and as such were considered a significant threat to the community.

## Three-day closure on US 160 in Monte Vista set to begin on June 13

### Crews to replace rails at train crossing between Monroe and Euclid streets

#### STAFF REPORT

RIO GRANDE and ALAMOSA COUNTIES — The Colorado Department of Transportation announced there will be a temporary closure of US Highway 160 in Monte Vista while crews repair a railroad crossing between the intersections of Monroe Street and Euclid Street, near the Safeway store.

The three-day closure will begin on Monday, June 13, and

continue through Wednesday, June 16. Local traffic will be able to access all business along US 160 within Monte Vista.

#### Detour for Through Traffic

• Motorists traveling east and west through Monte Vista will be detoured south of US 160 through city streets.

#### Eastbound

• At the intersection of 1st Avenue and Broadway Street (US 160 and US 285), travelers will turn south onto South Broadway Avenue (CO 15). Travelers will turn east at 6th Avenue, then travel north on Henderson Road to US 160.

#### Westbound

• Travelers will take Henderson to 6th Avenue, then north on South Broadway to US 160.

# JAIL

Continued from Page 1A

Thompson asked why staffing was such an issue for the Saguache County Jail.

Warwick responded that people do not want to come to work for the jail because of the low pay, lack of housing in the area and lack of amenities in Saguache.

"You can't keep people here for \$15 an hour," Warwick said.

Warwick pointed out that all the other counties in the San Luis Valley pay jail deputies more than Saguache County. He also said that having employees perform both jail duties and dispatching duties was unsafe.

Sheriff Warwick was currently discussing the costs of housing the inmates in Alamosa County's facility and what needs to be done to move all housing to that facility.

According to Warwick, transport costs will be challenging for both the Saguache County Sheriff's Office and the Center Police Department as the

departments will have to transport all inmates to Alamosa and then bring them back to Saguache for court dates.

The Saguache County Sheriff's Office will continue to have a dispatch office in the current sheriff's office building.

Sheriff Warwick said that he wants to do a 5-year contract with Alamosa County to house inmates.

The plan would be to eventually have a new jail facility built in Saguache County and that this would buy the county time to decide on an area for the facility and to complete construction.

Over the past few months, the county has been unable to find a suitable location to build a jail facility.

#### NOTICE

217 E 3rd st center co property is going to be re-zoned from Commercial to Residential. Any comments or questions please call Town Hall 719-754-3497 or Danny Villagomez 719-850-6451.

No. 1637 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, May 26 and June 2, 9 and 16, 2022.

#### Public Notice


"San Luis Valley Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) will be conducting a record and file update this summer. We will be destroying all special education records of students whose files were closed in the school year 2016-2017 (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017). This includes student who graduated, staffed out of SPED or transferred out of one of the 14 SLV school districts in the 2016-2017 school year. This affects students from Alamosa, Centennial, Center Creede, Del Norte, Moffat, Monte Vista, Mountain Valley, North Conejos, Sanford, Sangre de Cristo, Sargent, Sierra Grande and South Conejos school districts. If any students or guardians want their complete file you can request it from the SLV BOCES office at 719 589-5851 on or before June 30th, 2022. Please include student's Name, date of birth and your relationship to the student. Identification will be required".

No. 1638 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, June 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2022.

#### Budget Notice

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Education of the Center Consolidated School Joint District Number 26 for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023 and has been filed in the Office of the Superintendent located at 550 South Sylvester Avenue, Center, CO 81125 where it is available for public inspection. This budget is also available on the District's Website at: www.center.k12.co.us within the Financial Transparency module. Such proposed budget will be considered for adoption at a Regular or Special meeting of the Board of Education of said District on or before June 30, 2022.

Any person paying taxes in said District may at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget may file or register his/her objections hereto.

By:   
Enrique R. Aguilar, Board Secretary/Treasurer

No. 1639 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, June 9, 2022.

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File photo

# Cumbres and Toltec Scenic RR delays opening day to July 1

## SUBMITTED ARTICLE

**ANTONITO** — The Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad (C&TSRR) announced that it would delay its scheduled Saturday, June 11 Opening Day until Friday, July 1. The decision was made out of an abundance of caution and in the highest regard for the railroad’s stewardship of the land where it operates.

“In 50-plus years of operation, the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad has maintained an excellent safety record and established a hard-earned reputation for a proactive and vigorous approach to fire safety,” said Scott Gibbs, president and CEO of the C&TSRR. “It was a difficult — but vital — decision to proactively postpone our start date. Our mission is to preserve an important part of our nation’s history, while ensuring the safety of our passengers, employees, local communities and the environment through which we travel.”

Jointly owned by the states of Colorado and New Mexico, the C&TSRR is the nation’s

highest, longest and most authentic steam railroad and travels between Antonito and Chama, N.M. Despite the delayed opening, C&TSRR employees were offered the opportunity to begin seasonal work as originally scheduled with duties that will vary until the railroad is back in service.

Passengers with reservations for any June departures are being contacted directly by the C&TSRR. People who choose to rebook their June reservations for a later date in 2022 will receive a gift card for 10 percent off in the Gift Shop. Passengers can also opt for a full refund if preferred.

The C&TSRR is closely monitoring the situation and in constant communication with the National Forest Service, fire departments in Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado, New Mexico and Colorado State Forestry Departments, the Tourism Offices for both states and other partners. The C&TSRR is committed to ensuring a safe and enjoyable

heritage railroad experience that safely showcases the beauty of the great states of New Mexico and Colorado.

“We are deeply disappointed that the whistle won’t blow to open our season in June as originally planned,” said Gibbs. “The C&TSRR is vital to the Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico economies. We thank our passengers for their understanding as we all work through extreme conditions this year and we are very hopeful they will continue to support the wonderful towns where we operate and plan to visit us later in the year when we return to normal operations.”

The C&TSRR season is planned to open on Friday, July 1, with daily departures running from both Chama, N.M. and Antonito. Due to the unprecedented conditions, the Railroad encourages all passengers to check the website for updates the day prior to their scheduled departure.

For more information, visit [www.cumbrestoltec.com](http://www.cumbrestoltec.com).

# The Key to Controlling Your Feelings

I’ve learned from experience that feelings are fickle. One day they can be up, one day they can be down, and other days they are just all over the place!

God gave us feelings, and they are not wrong in and of themselves—they are an important part of enjoying life. We don’t need to deny that we have them, but we do need to prevent them from controlling us.

In 1 Corinthians 3:3 (AMPC), the apostle Paul is talking to new Christians, and he says, “For you are still [unspiritual, having the nature] of the flesh [under the control of ordinary impulses].”

The flesh is our desires—what we want, think and feel. And Romans 8:8 says that “those who are living the life of the flesh [catering to the appetites and impulses of their carnal nature] cannot please or satisfy God, or be acceptable to Him.”

The Bible is saying that always doing what we feel like doing will hinder us from doing what God wants us to do. We need to get to the place in life where we are not controlled by our emotions so we won’t miss out on His good plan for our lives.

I realize that some people are more emotional than others. However, with God’s help, we can get to the point where we obey God and do what His Word says to do —regardless of our feelings.

Let me give you an example. You may know I was sexually abused by my father for years. My mother eventually found out but never confronted him because she was afraid of him. Needless to say, the abuse and pain I experienced as a child deeply affected me, and it took years for the Lord to help me receive emotional healing and truly forgive my parents.

When they reached a point where they needed someone to help take care of them, the Lord spoke to my heart

that He wanted us to bring my parents to St. Louis, buy them a house, and take care of them until they died.

I shared it with Dave, secretly hoping he would resist the idea. But he said, “If you think this is what God is leading you to do, then we better obey Him.”

We didn’t have a lot of money in the bank, and it was going to take most of it to do what God was asking. But the more I prayed, the more the Lord made it clear that He wanted us to take good care of them and treat them as if they had been the best parents in the world.

So we moved my parents to a house just eight minutes away from us, bought them a car and furniture, and met their every need. My father showed some appreciation, but he still remained the same mean and cranky man he had always been.

But one morning, three years after we had moved them to St. Louis, my mother called to say my father had been crying all week and asked if we could come over. Dave and I went to their house, and that day my father asked me to forgive him for what he had done to me as a child. He cried and cried and also asked Dave to forgive him.

We assured him that we had forgiven him and asked if he wanted to ask God to forgive him so he could begin a relationship with Jesus Christ. He said yes, and we all prayed right there on the spot. Ten days later, I had the great honor of baptizing my father at church.

I can truly say that for the next four years, prior to his death at age 86, I saw a true change in my father. I know without a doubt that he’s in Heaven. My mother had asked my forgiveness years before this, and I had the joy of knowing her last years were peaceful.

The point I’m trying to make is when the Lord asked me to help my parents, I certainly didn’t feel like doing it. I had a choice to obey Him and do what I knew was right or follow my feelings



and miss out on what He wanted to do in their lives and mine in the process.

I want you to take a moment and think about this: Are your feelings preventing you from doing something God has asked you to do? In the moment, it may seem that getting “your way” is the most important thing or that you’ll be giving up too much if you go along with God’s plan.

But the truth is while you can’t always control how you feel, with God’s help, you can control what you do. And when you obey God, He always rewards you beyond anything you can imagine.

I encourage you to pray and ask the Lord for strength in this area. Ask for His help to choose His will over what you want, think or feel in the moment. Because you’ll never regret making good decisions, doing things God’s way!

For more on this topic, order Joyce’s three-teaching CD series *Spiritual Maturity*. 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 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](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

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# Chris Griffith to serve as acting Divide District Ranger

**STAFF REPORT**  
**DEL NORTE** — The Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) announced Thursday, June 2, that Chris Griffith will begin serving immediately as the acting District Ranger on the Divide Ranger District based out of Del Norte. Griffith comes to the RGNF from the

Carson National Forest in New Mexico where he has been serving as the Deputy District Ranger on the Canjilon Ranger District since July 2020. Griffith has had a lively Forest Service career having served in several different positions on numerous national forests across the country.

“We are pleased to have Chris join us on the Divide Ranger District,” said Rio Grande National Forest Supervisor, Dan Dallas, who appointed Griffith. “Chris’ vast experience in forestry, fuels management and silviculture will serve us well.” Griffith added “I am excited to work with the staff and community in such an amazing place.”

Griffith will serve in a four-month appointment behind District Ranger, Martha Williamson, who is taking a leave of absence from her position as



she finds time to engage with other activities in the area.

In his free time, Chris and his wife “Timber” and exploring new rivers to enjoy traveling with their yellow lab float and fish to chase.

## Saguache Sagebrush Quilters Show is June 11

**STAFF REPORT**  
**SAGUACHE** — June is the birthday month for Saguache Sagebrush Quilters. It was decided to use the June meeting day to celebrate their love of fabric and quilt designs. Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 11, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the Saguache Sagebrush Quilters Show at Mountain Valley School, 403 Pitkin Ave., Saguache.

can vote for their favorite quilts in five categories: Machine Quilting by Quilter (blue tags), Wall Hangings and Lap Quilts (pink tags), Hand Quilting (yellow tags), Machine Quilting by Computer or Others (green tags) and Miscellaneous (grey tags) such as table runners, clothing, and household items.

The voting ballot allows people to choose three favorites in these five categories. You then decide by circling one quilt from your ballot choices as the Best of Show item. Voting ends at 3 p.m..

This event is made possible by members of Saguache Sagebrush Quilters, donations from community members and grants from the Town of Saguache and the Saguache County Tax Grant 2021 cycle.

For the first time at the quilt show, a lunch concession will be provided as a fundraising event for MVS Adventure Awaits Club. Delicious food and home-baked goods await just down the hall from the quilt show. MVS Adventure Awaits will serve from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. As done at past shows, visitors

## Menkhaven Fire 90% contained

**STAFF REPORT**  
**LAJARA** — The Menkhaven Fire was reported to be 90% contained at 242 acres on Saturday, June 4, Rio Grande National Forest officials stated. Management of the fire was transferred to a Type 4 Incident Commander at 9 p.m. on June 3.

agency leadership from Conejos County, the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control and the Rio Grande National Forest would like to thank the community for their graciousness and commitment to the management of the fire and their contribution to handling all the other ways that it affected our community. They also want to thank of all the firefighters and responders for their hard work. Our appreciation runs deep,” RGNF officials stated.

This will be the final update on the fire from the Rio Grande National Forest. The Inciweb page may be updated if significant new information is made available. Find the incident here: <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/8124/>.

The remaining two engines and handcrew continue to seek out any remaining hotspots within the fire perimeter. Crews are also removing all unneeded equipment from the area. Firefighters will remain on scene for several more days as additional hotspots may be found. Smoke is expected to occasionally be seen from the fire’s interior.

“The incident commanders and

### IN MONTE VISTA

Tarah Castleberry, DO, MPH  
**Monte Vista Medical Clinic**  
*of Rio Grande Hospital*  
[riograndehospital.org](http://riograndehospital.org)




**Welcome, Dr. Tarah Castleberry, to our Monte Vista Medical Clinic in June!** Dr. Castleberry brings a wealth of knowledge with her. She has been the Flight Surgeon for Virgin Galactic since August 2015 and VG’s Chief Medical Officer since June 2020. She is board certified in Aerospace Medicine, Family Medicine, and General Preventive Medicine. She is an alum of Grand Canyon University and the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. She began her career with 7 years in the US Navy, earning a Master of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and completing an Aerospace Medicine residency before serving as a flight surgeon, including a 2-year tour with the Blue Angels Naval Flight Demonstration Team. Upon leaving Naval service, Dr. Castleberry completed a Family Medicine residency at the Mayo Clinic in Arizona. After family medicine training, she served as a contracted NASA Flight Surgeon from 2009 to 2012. In this capacity, Dr. Castleberry has provided support for US and International Partner astronaut operations in Russia, Kazakhstan and International Space Station missions at Johnson Space Center. In addition, she served as the program director for the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB)/NASA Johnson Space Center Aerospace Medicine Residency program from 2013 to 2017 and as the Program Director for the UTMB General Preventive Medicine Residency program from 2013 to 2018. She is an adjunct associate professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Population Health at UTMB. With her connection to her family in Creede, she was excited to come to the San Luis Valley. Dr. Castleberry’s knowledge and caring spirit is contagious!



**To schedule your appointment with Dr. Castleberry, call 719-852-8827**

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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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## A behind-the-scenes look into Creede Repertory Theatre

BY LYNSIE FERRELL

**CREEDE** — When attending a performance at the world-renowned Creede Repertory Theatre (CRT) it is sometimes hard to imagine the work that goes into each play. When you add the fact that the theatre is known for its repertory schedule, it is even harder to think of how much work goes into the organization of the productions and how on earth they pull off award-winning plays every season.



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

CRT Director John DiAntonio as well as staff and cast members gave an extensive interview that not only pulled back the curtain and let the behind-the-scenes crew shine but also rolled out the red carpet and opened doors to the public that usually are shut.

Please see CRT on Page 11

## We live in a noisy world

BY LINDA VAUGHAN  
SLVH Audiologist

**ALAMOSA** — Audiology was born in the 1940s after thousands of American soldiers were returning from the War with noise-induced hearing loss. The Army wanted all these veterans to be fitted with hearing aids, and the scientists they enlisted in these efforts suggested that something should be done to protect the soldiers from getting hearing loss in the first place.

Little did those early hearing health pioneers know just how loud not only the war front would get, but how loud the world would get! And yet, 80-plus years later, and despite all the developments in hearing protection... custom earplugs, musician's earplugs, noise suppression circuitry, softer more comfortable earplug materials, and sound abatement technologies, noise exposure is still one of the most common causes of permanent hearing loss.

Loudness is measured in what's called decibels (dB). Over time, any sound that's 85dB or higher can cause hearing loss — or other hearing problems, like tinnitus (a sound in your ears that won't go away). The louder a sound is, and the longer you listen to it, the more it can damage



Courtesy photo

your hearing. For example, a whisper is approximately 30dB, normal conversational speech is 55-65dB, a movie theater is 70-104dB, a stereo in a closed cab tractor is 85-100dB, music through earphones/earbuds at the highest volume is 96-114dB, a chainsaw is 105dB, and a shotgun is 150dB-160dB! And remember, listening to any sound that exceeds 100dB for any amount of time risks permanent hearing loss.

The CDC estimates that 12.5% of children and adolescents ages 6-19 years (approximately 5.2 million)

and 17% of adults ages 20-69 years (approximately 26 million) have permanent damage to their hearing from excessive exposure to noise. And to think that this kind of hearing loss can be prevented by using appropriate hearing protection and hearing conservation practices!

- Turn down the volume.
- Use appropriate hearing protection devices (such as earplugs and earmuffs) when you cannot avoid loud sounds.
- Use quieter products (power tools, etc.)

Please see NOISY on Page 2

## Forest Service gives presentation on coming fire season

BY LYNSIE FERRELL

**RIO GRANDE COUNTY** — Rio Grande County Commissioners listened to a presentation by Colorado State Forest Service Supervisory Forester Adam Moore about the current conditions of the state managed forest during their meeting on April 27.

Moore was accompanied by Forester Sam Scavo who spoke briefly to the board about some of the projects that were being completed this year to help spread education on fire mitigation in and around homes.

Moore began the presentation by handing out a publication being distributed throughout the community that gave a detailed account of what the forests are experiencing during the current drought conditions.

"The emphasis of this year and this report is the current draft conditions which significantly affect the health of the forest and whether or not the trees can fight off infections and disease," explained Moore.

Moore continued to explain that as of June of 2021 snowpack in the region, specifically the Upper Rio Grande, was only 23% of normal. "We are at 23% of normal,"



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Colorado State Forest Service Supervisory Forester Adam Moore and Forester Sam Scavo met with Rio Grande County Commissioners to discuss the current drought conditions and what that might mean for the coming fire season in this region.

Moore said. "We are looking a little better this year, but the number is going down quick. During the most recent windy day, in one warm day, we lost 7% of our snowpack. A

large portion of the snowpack this year, before it was even able to flow into the streams, it was absorbed by the soil. Depending on the soil type and how dry it is, that is 10 to 20%

of the snowpack gone before it has a chance to come down in streams." Moore said as has previously been reported, that the spruce beetle is the number one "killing agent"

around the state and that drought conditions have not helped in the fight against the damage caused in forests from the beetle.

Please see SEASON on Page 2



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# SLV Quilt Guild Stash Buster sale is June 11

MONTE VISTA — Quilters and crafters have carefully perused their cabinets, closets, drawers, bins, boxes and baskets to bring people a treasure chest of deals on quilt and craft items including fabric, notions, pat-

terns, books, hand-crafted pieces and Stampin-Up products.

The San Luis Valley Quilt Guild is holding a "Stash Buster" Basement Sale on Saturday, June 11, in Monte Vista from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Enter the

sale from the north door of the Methodist Church located at 215 Washington St. Come and visit with skilled, passionate quilters and crafters who are ready to share a treasure chest of great deals on quilt and craft items.

## SEASON

"For 10 years in a row it has been the largest killing agent. We have not seen as big of an increase in activity because basically we peaked in 2015 and 2016," explained Moore, adding that the reason was because the food source in local forests was no longer sustainable for the beetle. "They have basically already consumed most of the trees."

With conditions continuing to deteriorate, the need for moisture is apparent. As the warmer summer months quickly approach, fire danger due to these conditions continues to rise and concerns from local and state officials rise with them. Moore said that the Colorado State Forest Service is looking to educate the public on preventative measures to mitigate fire danger around communities.

"We are looking at how the current conditions affect communities. With the dry conditions and not having the snow, the Division of Fire Prevention and Control Center has stated that we have a lot of fuels that were not pushed down.

Continued from Page 1

We have opportunities for fire that aren't going to look for us potentially for the year," Moore said.

Moore spoke briefly on the Community Fire Protection Plan that is in the final stages of completion. Colorado State Forest Service in partnership with South Fork fire Rescue and other stake holders have been working to revise the plan since the beginning of the year and hope to have a final document for public release in coming weeks.

Forester Scavo also spoke to commissioners about fire mitigation around homes which includes cleaning out gutters, trimming trees and branches from trees that are close to the home as well as dead debris from the previous fall and winter. All of which help play a role in protecting homes from fires. Commissioners thanked Moore and Scavo for giving them an update on current conditions and for their continued work in helping to engage and educate the public on the dangers of fire for the coming 2022 summer season.

All information provided to

commissioners during this meeting can be found online at [www.csfscolorado.edu](http://www.csfscolorado.edu).

## NOISY

Continued from Page 1

toys, recreational vehicles) whenever they are available. (For more, visit CDC's Buy Quiet webpage.)

- Reduce equipment noise by replacing worn, loose, or unbalanced machine parts. Keep equipment well lubricated and maintained.
- Move or stay far away from the loud sound-producing sources, especially if attending with children.
- Limit the length of time of exposure to loud sounds.
- Bring hearing protection devices with you. Keep them in your car, pockets, or other easy-to-access places.

Linda Vaughan, MA, CCC-A, joined the Audiology Clinic at San Luis Valley Health in July 2010, bringing to the practice 30-plus years of experience.

"I chose a career in audiology because I was attracted to the science and I wanted a career that would make a difference and have a positive impact on people's lives," Vaughan said.

She is proud to be a third-generation Colorado native. Read more about Vaughan on the SLVH.org website, or schedule with her by calling 719-589-8025.

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### 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

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Courtesy photo

# SLV Health employee artists display their talents

**SUBMITTED ARTICLE**

**ALAMOSA** — The public is welcome to join SLV Health in celebrating talented employee artists at the SLV Health Regional Medical Center.

- Madison Adams, Physical Therapist, prefers working on subjects that include nature, travel postcards, and portrait/human figure drawings.
- Daniels Boone, EMS, has a passion for transformation work with organic and recycled materials.
- Lucy Francisquez-Gaspar, Laboratory, likes to paint for fun.
- Lisa Garcia, Authorization Manager, is always learning new techniques and loves to get lost in her canvas.
- Kathy Hostetter, RN, Women's Clinic, provides us with a Leo Moss tribute of paper mache dolls, inspired by his sad story and how it relates to today's world.
- Jessica Kloepfel, Finance Department, recently started pursuing the medium of the graphite pencil.
- Shanda Langford, Administra-

tion, loves to capture life's magical moments through her camera lens.

- Destination Lopez, Admitting Clerk, draws from her life experiences as a young woman and mother.
- Barbara Samora, Coding, feels like painting landscapes is a great stress reliever.
- Margaret White, Quality & Safety, switched from ceramic to painting and has been inspired by the New Mexico art scene. Several of these pieces are for sale.

Three artists, Lisa, Kathy and Barbara, also contributed their talent by painting cranes. Their 2020 "Swoop of the Cranes" are also part of this exhibit and then will be back on display in the Monte Vista Community Clinic.

The art is displayed in the SLV Health's Regional Medical Center's Artrium, 106 Blanca Ave., Alamosa. Take Elevator A or C to the second floor during normal business hours, Monday-Friday. Masks are required. The exhibit will be on display through July.

## BENEFIT DINNER & AUCTION

### Friday, June 10, 2022

**Dinner: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. ♦ Auction 7:00 p.m.**

### at Quality Timbers & Wood Products

**10725 St. Hwy. 285 ♦ Antonito**  
*2 miles South of Romeo or 5 miles North of Antonito*  
*(Meal is by donation only)*

**Dinner Buffet:** Farmers' Style Dinner and Grilled Chicken, Pie & Ice Cream  
**Auction Items:** Quilts and Baked Goods  
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Proceeds to benefit community hospital bills

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:**  
 Freddie (719) 588-9558 • Edward (719) 992-8334 • Mose (719) 298-8187

## Carnegie Library Summer Reading Programs underway

**SOUTH FORK** — The Carnegie Library in Monte Vista and the Carnegie Library in South Fork will have Summer Reading Program the weeks of June 13, and June 20.

Participating children will be required to read 120 minutes each week. All three sessions must be completed and reading logs turned in by June 28 to be entered into a drawing to win a grand prize.

Registration starts Monday, June 6 at each Library during regular hours. A parent and or guardian must be present with the child to sign up. This program is for children entering kindergarten through sixth grade.



# Business Showcase

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

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



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### Check your ad the first day:

To ensure your ad is correct, check it the first day it appears in the paper. If there is an error in your ad, call us right away so we can correct it. If an error appears in your ad, Valley Publishing will credit you with one additional day of advertising.

**Our ad policy:** Valley Publishing accepts all classified advertising except that which it deems objectionable to its readers. Credit or replacement ads will not be given for early ad cancellation.

## DEADLINE

Thursday 5:00 pm

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## 05 Notices

**SUNSHINE COUNTRY GROCERY STORE** (10978 S Co Rd 5 E Monte Vista) **WILL BE CLOSED** Monday & Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>. (6/9)

**GUN/KNIFE/COIN SHOW PAGOSA SPRINGS:** Tables \$60, Food Trucks \$80. Archuleta County Fairgrounds. June 17-19th. Mike (970)946-2841 (6/22)

**WE BUY ANTLER: Great NEW FALL Price:** Tell us the code «ELK17» and you will get \$17/lb for Elk Grade A and \$13/lb for Deer Grade A. 5 miles west of Del Norte on Hwy 160. 719-657-0942 (TFN)

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

## 07 Help Wanted

Part-Time Legal Assistant, experience preferred. 719-850-852-5101. (6/29)

**Substitutes needed at Upper Rio Grande School District in Del Norte!** We need subs for Teachers (must have sub license), Classified Employees (must have sub license), cafeteria worker, and bus drivers. Call or email: Aaron Horrocks at 719-657-4040 (ahorrocks@urtigers.co) for more information, go on-line: urtigers.co, or stop by the district office at: 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO to pick up an application. (6/29)

Assistant Cook in our Cafeteria needed at Upper Rio Grande School District. Must have a high school diploma and some knowledge of working in a kitchen or a willingness to be trained. Pay is dependent on prior experience. Please contact Leslie Martinez at 719-657-4040, x1100 or email her at lmartinez@urtigers.co. (6/29)

Upper Rio Grande School District is seeking a positive, energetic and experienced candidate to fill the position of **Secretary to the Superintendent/School Board**. Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED and previous secretarial experience. Duties also include some HR work, CDE reporting, substitute teacher organization and calling, etc. Computer proficiency required. Please submit your resume and cover letter to: Aaron Horrocks, Superintendent at ahorrocks@urtigers.co or contact Aaron at 719-657-4040. (6/29)

**Jr/Sr High School Athletic Director** needed at Upper Rio Grande School District. Responsibilities will include to direct and manage the athletic program, budget, and facilities for grades 7-12 in the Upper Rio Grande School District; recruit and manage coaches in conjunction with the principal for all sports and extracurricular athletic activities; provide students with the opportunity to participate in athletic activities; and ensure compliance with all federal, state, CHSAA, and local requirements. Additionally,

# ESTIMATED CROP WATER USE

Crop	Date Planted	Daily Crop Water use for Dates Shown (in./day)				Accumulated Water Use (ET) From 6/5 (inches)				
		6/5	6/4	6/3	6/2	2day	3day	4day	5day	7day
Moravian 69	04/05	0.17	0.22	0.19	0.22	0.39	0.58	0.80	1.06	1.49
Moravian 69	05/05	0.13	0.16	0.13	0.15	0.29	0.42	0.57	0.74	1.00
Early Wheat	04/05	0.17	0.22	0.19	0.22	0.39	0.58	0.80	1.06	1.49
Early Wheat	05/05	0.13	0.16	0.13	0.14	0.29	0.41	0.56	0.72	0.97
White Wheat	04/05	0.17	0.22	0.19	0.22	0.39	0.58	0.80	1.06	1.49
White Wheat	05/05	0.13	0.16	0.13	0.14	0.29	0.41	0.56	0.72	0.97
WinterWheat	10/01	0.17	0.22	0.19	0.22	0.39	0.58	0.80	1.06	1.49
<b>Potatoes</b>										
Norkotah	05/05	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.15	0.20	0.28
Centennial	05/05	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.15	0.20	0.28
Nugget	05/05	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.15	0.20	0.28
Alfalfa	Est.	0.20	0.25	0.21	0.25	0.45	0.66	0.91	1.21	1.70
Lawngress	Est.	0.16	0.21	0.18	0.21	0.37	0.55	0.76	1.01	1.42

For the latest ET information, call 754-3494 extension x40 for Center, x36 for Center #2, and x38 for La Jara. Use the crop maturity and planting data and weather station closest to your own. Find this up June 8 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

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

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Cats	\$80.00		Petite - Small vessel needed
0 - 25 lbs.	\$80.00		Petite - Small vessel needed
26 - 50 lbs.	\$140.00		Small-Medium Vessel needed
51 - 75 lbs.	\$175.00	\$200.00	Medium-Large Vessel needed
76 - 100 lbs.	\$200.00	\$275.00	Large Vessel needed
101 lbs. & up	Animals over 101 lbs. are ineligible for Group fee	\$300.00	Extra Large Vessel Needed

Payment is required at time the animal is dropped off.  
Animal may be dropped off during business hours only.  
Please allow 7 working days from drop off date for animal's return.  
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# Valley Wide Classifieds

the AD will lead the athletic staff in a positive and professional manner which builds character in both staff and students; lead and represent the Upper Rio Grande School District and athletic department in a manner that builds pride and success for the Del Norte Tigers, and communicate with and engage all stakeholders to maintain connection from our athletics to our parents and community partners. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to Aaron Horrocks, Superintendent at [ahorrocks@urtigers.co](mailto:ahorrocks@urtigers.co), or call 719-657-4040.

**SLV Federal Bank is now accepting applications for Teller in our Monte Vista Office.** Applications and position descriptions are available at [www.slvfed.bank](http://www.slvfed.bank) or at each branch location. Equal opportunity Employer, including considering individuals with Disabilities and Veterans/Affirmative Action Employer. (6/22)

**2022 OPEN POSITIONS FOR ONE-CENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE-City of Monte Vista seeks two citizens with a desire to volunteer and serve the Monte Vista One Cent Oversight Committee.** The One Cent Oversight Committee consists of persons residing in the City of Monte Vista who have been appointed by the Monte Vista City Council. One Cent Oversight Committee members serve in an advisory capacity to the City of Monte Vista Council in matters relating to the appropriation of funds on the 1-cent tax passed in 2019. Interested applicants please send letter of interest to [uvance@ci.monte-vista.co.us](mailto:uvance@ci.monte-vista.co.us) or 95 West 1st Street Monte Vista, CO. 81144 no later than June 30, 2022. Please make sure that your letter of interest contains your email address, as this will be a main source of communication. City Council will appoint members at the July 7, 2022 City Council Meeting. (6/29)

**The Upper Rio Grande School District is seeking applications for a Jr/Sr High School Principal.** Applicants must hold a current Colorado Principal license and previous experience as a Principal or Asst. Principal is preferred. Applications may be obtained online at [www.urtigers.co](http://www.urtigers.co). Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Aaron Horrocks, Superintendent, [ahorrocks@urtigers.co](mailto:ahorrocks@urtigers.co), or call at 719-657-4040. (6/8)

**Bowen Community Church of Monte Vista, CO, is seeking a ¼ time Pastor.** This Independent Christian Church seeks a Pastor to provide scripturally-based sermons, and other pastoral duties as time allows.

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

For complete job description/application email: [forage1@gajade.org](mailto:forage1@gajade.org), or call 719-580-2562 (6/8)

## PART-TIME SALES

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

**The Northern Saguache Fire Protection District, a special taxing district, is accepting letters of interest for the position of Administrative Secretary.** This is a part time position that will be working with the District Fire Chief and District Board Members as a contract employee. The position is

responsible for monthly accounting work and financial statement preparation, compliance with Colorado Sunshine Law, attendance at monthly meetings, preparation of agenda, meeting minutes, budgets and other administrative duties as required. The successful candidate must be able to work independently, using sound judgement in making decisions and maintaining confidentiality. High School diploma or equivalent and experience in governmental or special district accounting and bookkeeping is required. The ability to use QuickBooks, Excel, MSWord, the internet as well as the willingness to learn programs provided by the State for reporting and requesting funds is required. The applicant must provide an office area and necessary office equipment including computer with access to internet and e-mail. Compensation

will be determined by experience and qualifications. To apply send a letter of interest and resume including 3 references to PO Box 556, Saguache, CO. 81149. Drug testing and Background checks will be completed on final applicants.

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## Pitch Hit and Run 2022/ Jr. HomeRun Derby

The pilot's baseball Academy invites kids 7-14 to compete (free) in this year's Pitch, Hit, and Run and Jr. Run Derby held on June 11th at the Adams State University Baseball field. Please register at: <https://www.mlb.com/pitch-hit-and-run/on-site-registration>

**Check-in starts at 10 am and the contest begins at 11 am**

Check out our podcast at SLV voices. Take your skills to a pro-level. Join the SLV American Legion Baseball Team Professional Pitching and Hitting Training (ages 18-14) Founder Coach West- Always play to a Higher Competition and higher age group. Coach West has over 200 kids in colleges and 4 kids in the Major Leagues(25 years coaching)

<https://slvoices.com/2022/05/16/pilots-baseball-academy/>



# Mercado Del Norte Returns to Spruce Street for Summer 2022

This block-party style farmers market and live music event will celebrate its 2nd year in the town of Del Norte!

Where: Spruce Street and HWY 160, next to Simple Foods & Carthers Roadhouse.

When: Every Thursday from 2PM-6PM, starting June 4 through September

Mercado Del Norte is a lively farmers market event featuring fresh local vegetables and meat, coffee, soaps, CBD, art, jewelry, clothing, and more! The event will also feature live music from local musicians and large bands.

The market has an EBT and Double-Up Food Bucks for purchasing fresh produce.

Bring the whole family along to celebrate community, enjoy the summer vibes, and boogie down to some live tunes! Mercado is an inclusive event that welcomes folks from all backgrounds, celebrating the diversity of all cultures, ethnicities, genders, and races.

Mercado Del Norte is also accepting more vendor applications! Vendors can apply online at [SolMountainFarm.com/Mercado](http://SolMountainFarm.com/Mercado). Check us out on Facebook and our website, and see you at the Mercado!

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# Cancer survivors enjoy exercise and celebration

**SUBMITTED ARTICLE**

**ALAMOSA** — It all started in the spring of 2018. Danielle Smith had an idea for her master’s research project. She was drawing from personal experience when she hypothesized that exercise, and exercising with others, might help improve a person’s outcome in battling cancer. The thesis took on a life of its own when it combined forces with the Adams State University undergraduate Kinesiology practicum class. ASU’s Human Performance & PE Department later benefited from a grant from the Colorado Cancer Coalition and receives supportive ongoing funding from the Larry Holder annual memorial golf tournament fundraiser.

On May 5 a celebration was held at the Alamosa Family Recreation Center. Tracey Robinson, Ph.D., Adams State University professor, Instructor Ines Curti, ASU graduate student, and her team of kinesiology students, and Peggy Johnson, retired ASU instructor, greeted the participants and celebrated with them in their journeys.

Karen Holder introduced herself and her son, Jeffery, and his wife, Susan, to the room full of ASU students and teachers, cancer survivors and their families, and SLV Health staff. She said, “My husband Larry would have loved this exercise program. He was socially outgoing and this is exactly what would have kept him on track with healthy activities.”

As the participants from current and past years filled the room for the celebration, they were greeted with a slide show created by the students. They laughed, reminisced, and greeted each other warmly. Kelly Gurule, Director of the SLV Health Foundation, welcomed everyone and stated, “This is not a graduation, because it is not an ending. This is a celebration and chance to thank everyone for their involvement.”

Kelly welcomed comments from the participants after thanking all those who made the program an ongoing success.

“I started my cancer treatments at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Albuquerque. I was not sure how my care would be here, but I’m telling you, Dr. Cooper and her staff are the best. They are right up there with my former care center. This program has meant a lot to me and my husband who came with me to each exercise class with enthusiasm. It was a huge pick-me-up. I believe our future generation is in good hands after having such positive interactions with these students.”

“This program did a lot for my wife as she always came home with a great attitude,” commented one of the spouses.

One survivor emotionally shared her gratitude. “I am so grateful for this program. I took a lot away from each class and it filled my heart. It was a great bonding experience.”

One former Manassa resident shared, “When I returned (to the Valley) after a 21-year absence, I really didn’t have any friends. Every time I came to this class, I felt like I belonged. I began forming new friendships. There’s no judgment, just acceptance.”

Rose, a two-time cancer survivor, said, “We had the common bond of cancer. I enjoyed the class so much and plan to keep up with my exercise. I hope none of us ever have to go through cancer again.”

One of the participants also requires ongoing therapy for a different health condition. He commented, “These classes meant so much to me. The people who have worked with me are so good, I feel so blessed.”

As more of the participants shared their experiences, the last one summa-



ASU Kinesiology Students



Courtesy photos

Mary Morgan, Cancer Survivor and Participant, brought her granddaughter Breslin to many of the classes. They are pictured here with Karen Holder and Dr. Penny Cooper.

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# South Fork Youth Fishing Clinic set for Father's Day weekend

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

**SOUTH FORK** — Nothing says summer like the annual Youth Fishing Clinic at Tucker Ponds near South Fork. The annual Father's Day weekend event is a way to spend the day with family and friends learning the fundamentals of fishing.

The South Fork Visitor Center in partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) hosts the event every year to help educate up-and-coming anglers on the dos and don'ts of fishing in Colorado.

Tucker Ponds is 16 miles outside of South Fork. Young anglers can, in a sense, get their feet wet. CPW sets up stations and divides participating children into groups to learn about Colorado fishing regulations, the type of aquatic life in the area, how to bait and cast a fishing pole and so much more. Each station is hands-on and geared toward educating youth on the basics of catching fish and what to do once it's been caught.

Colorado State rules and regulations can be confusing, even for adults and this event gives local CPW officers a chance to start teaching future anglers at a young age. Several

volunteer officers come and show participating children how to identify certain species of fish that reside in local waters, how to be safe while in the woods, and how to follow important rules and regulations.

South Fork is home to some of the best fishing in the state with Gold Medal waters all along the Rio Grande and the plentiful lakes and reservoirs within 20 miles of the town, which includes Tucker Ponds.

For the event, CPW stocks the two small ponds so that participants are pretty much guaranteed to catch a fish and there is nothing better for Father's Day than to hear the laughter as young anglers reel in their first fish for the day.

After the stations, children with family and friends are allowed to hit the shores and fish. Each child has a chance to go home with a fishing pole if they do not already have one thanks to the donations made by CPW. A hotdog lunch will be served in the afternoon and families are encouraged to make a day of it and stay to fish.

The event begins at 8 a.m. on June 18. For more information, visit [www.southfork.org](http://www.southfork.org).

# Del Norte High School Class of 1972 seeking classmates

**DEL NORTE** — The Del Norte High School Class of 1972 will be having a class reunion on Aug. 5-7 and is trying to locate fellow classmates. Members of the

DNHS Class of 1972 are asked to call or text Dorothy at 719 850-1794 or email [dorothychambers55@yahoo.com](mailto:dorothychambers55@yahoo.com), for more information.

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# SURVIVORS

Continued from Page 7

alized the feelings of just about everyone in attendance. "I've enjoyed everyone. The ASU trainers were wonderful. Thank you to the Holder family for your support. When I started this program, my sister had just passed away from cancer. I found so much support from everyone. We socialized and had fun as we worked to stay healthy." More photos from the celebration may be found on the SLVH.org website.

Maureen "Penny" Cooper, MD, San Luis Valley Health Cancer Center's Oncologist, was wearing her sunglasses to protect her eyes from recent cataract surgery. She joked, "We are all rock stars!" She thanked everyone for the ongoing participation and enjoyed joining Karen Holder to give an encouraging certificate of participation to each survivor. An extra special certificate was given to the granddaughter of one of the participants, who enjoyed dancing for much of the class time. The foundation sponsored a luncheon and everyone enjoyed reconnecting with each other. The upcoming Larry Holder Memorial Golf Tournament fundraiser supports this program and will be held on June 25 in Monte Vista.

Roughly 115 San Luis Valley cancer survivors have been enrolled in this program thus far; 35-40 ASU graduate and undergraduate Kinesiology students have been actively involved with the program since spring, 2018. The next session of the Larry Holder Exercise and Cancer Survivorship program will begin at the end of August 2022. For more information or to receive sign-up information, contact Ines Curti, program coordinator, at [curtiines@gmail.com](mailto:curtiines@gmail.com), 859-684-3511; Peggy Johnson at [pvjohnson@adams.edu](mailto:pvjohnson@adams.edu); or Tracey Robinson at [trobins@adams.edu](mailto:trobins@adams.edu).

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# Man hikes Continental Divide Trail toward recovery

BY LYNDSE FERRELL

**CREEDE** — With 600 miles behind him and 2,400 more to go, Asheville, N.C., musician and videographer Ben Phan — stage name Ben Phantom — is hiking the Continental Divide Trail (CDT) in support of PIVOT-Point WNC, a nonprofit therapeutic adventure group that helps those in recovery and those at risk of substance use disorder.

After dodging forest fires in New Mexico, Phan has just crossed into Southern Colorado. He's sharing his five- to six-month journey through video updates filmed on the trail.

"As a person in recovery who has really benefited from the therapeutic experience of being in the wilderness, I want to help others who are struggling have that level of healing," says Phan. "Because many people don't have the resources or skills or confidence to experience the benefits of being in nature, PIVOTPoint fills a real need. Wilderness adventures can be life-changing — they have been for me."

Serving the Southeast region, PIVOTPoint provides community-based, behavioral health interventions that focus on inter- and intra-personal skill-building. Through hiking, rafting, mountain biking, rock climbing, and paddleboarding, PIVOTPoint is stepping in to provide what Executive Director Matthew Nannis sees as a powerful enhancement to more traditional, standalone offerings.

"We are providing practical, usable skills and strategies for people trying to reframe a relationship with either substance use or underlying factors hindering growth, health, and pro-social development. Our work supports folks in reflecting on the internal landscape while exploring the wilderness through outdoor engagement," said Nannis.

Phan openly shares his journey of recovery and says that for him, the wilderness itself is healing.

"When I'm a part of something greater than myself, the wilderness and big mountains, I feel right-sized — it feels good to be 'a part of,' instead of thinking everything's about me," he says. "And it forces you to be present — the decisions that you make have immediate consequences."

The CDT is a "choose your own adventure trail," says Phan, offering alternatives as hikers wind their way through its mountains, valleys, and deserts. Phan started at the Mexico border and is following a continuous footpath through New Mexico, Colo-



Courtesy photo

**Ben Phantom has spent the last several months hiking the Continental Divide Trail in the name of recovery. Along his journey, he has earned the trial name 'Shredder' and has found personal growth in learning how to take responsibility for himself and plan his journey accordingly. vv**

rado, Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana, all the way to the Canadian border in Glacier National Park. The route can add up to anywhere between 2,800 and 3,100 miles.

If Phan makes it to Canada, he'll have completed the "Triple Crown" of hiking the three long-distance trails in the U.S. He hiked the Appalachian Trail (AT) in 2008 and completed the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) in 2014.

"I first started writing songs on the PCT," says Phan. "Every so often it's important for me to take an extended journey into the wilderness, to have time to step back and reflect and listen — to get in touch with that true creative source that comes from something bigger than me, that doesn't originate or end in me."

Phan will be carrying a guitalele, a guitar-ukulele hybrid, that he'll play on some of his trail videos.

Through Phan's trek across the CDT this year, Nannis says he hopes that others are inspired by the transformative powers of the natural environment.

"PIVOTPoint is creating this peer-2-peer campaign to celebrate Ben and raise funds to purchase the equipment needed to outfit our 3-day, 2-night mini-immersion programming. These therapeutic camping excursions provide the at-risk and recovery communities with a foundation of the connection that Ben finds out on the trail," says Nannis.

To follow Phan's journey and to make donations, go to [pivotpointwnc.org/hike-with-ben](http://pivotpointwnc.org/hike-with-ben) or text HIKEWITH-BEN to 44-321.

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

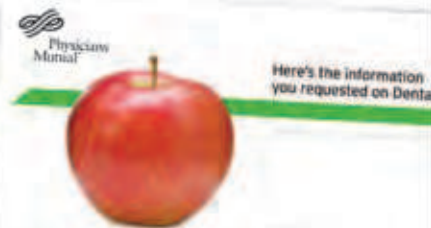
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# CRT Continued from Page 1

Many steps must be taken to prepare a production for the stage. Everything from countless hours rehearsing scripts to perfecting lighting cues and electrical connections to preparing costumes, props and so much more. The theatre relies heavily on its backstage crew to make the magic become exactly that, magic.

One of the most important pieces to a great production comes from above, below, and all around and it's something many audiences never think twice about while they are engrossed with what is happening on stage, but it is something Lighting Manager Willow McGinty loves to create. This will be the third season McGinty has worked for CRT.

"I started in high school and at first was just an electrician for theatres but then when I was going to college in Denver, I heard about Creede. Working here is great because you feel like you're part of a community within a community and though I feel like we are waiting to see what the audiences will be like post-pandemic, I am really looking forward to the impactful and powerful productions here at CRT," said McGinty.

The love McGinty has for the electrical part of backstage work shows in each production. Lights are programmed to help cue cast members, show emotion, sync with the musical accompaniment and much more.

"Most of the time when we do a good job, people don't notice. It takes a community to put on a show and one to keep it going," McGinty said.

Marcus Carroll is beginning his first year with CRT as the Production Stage Manager for "Native Gardens" and "Always... Patsy Cline."

Stage managers act as the hub of the community wheel behind the stage at CRT and make sure that lines of communication are clear between each department.

"I had known about Creede for a few years and after being in the theatre scene in Chicago for several years and looking for work, Creede jumped out and I figured why not," explained Carroll.

Carroll felt it was kind of meant to be seeing as he had passed through Creede while hiking the Continental Divide Trail a few years prior and though he hadn't spent too much time in Colorado, it didn't come as much of a shock to come and live in the rural mountain town.

"After I visited, I decided to apply again and here I am. Sometimes I wake up and can't believe I'm here," Carroll said.

In his off time as production stage manager, Carroll enjoys being able to socialize with fellow staff members and loves being able to just walk to work.

"In places, like Chicago, you have to plan to be social because everyone is so busy. Here, it's completely different," he said.

Even though this is his first-time doing repertory theatre, Carroll has embraced the challenge and is looking forward to the season.

"My job is to track the progress, technical and artistic elements of a show and to maintain it throughout the season-long run," he said.

Erin Lavpene is the Costume Manager for "Steele Magnolias" and "Sherwood" this season and gets involved in the process of creating a production long before most of the other backstage crew does.

"I start by reading the script and getting to know the characters. I work with the director's vision of what each character looks like or how they may

change throughout a show and work from there. I do research on specific time frames and specific places and use it to create the costumes," explained Lavpene.

This is the first year Lavpene has been with CRT and is also her first time in Colorado.

"I spent time in other rural communities. One was a tiny town on an island off the coast of Maine and let me tell you about rural," laughed Lavpene. "Here at CRT though the company interacts differently than other places I've been. The people I work with are easygoing and more cheerful. It's just more personable."

Lavpene is excited and terrified of the coming season but knows that above all, this has been a cohesive and fun experience and one she will never forget.

Fellow Costume Designer Rossina Lozoya is more than happy in her new role and looks back to what brought her to Creede.

"When I was in school, I didn't even know costume design was an option. I started out in graphic design, and I was miserable. One of my professors could tell. He pointed to a stage in the Theatre Department and said, 'Those are your people,' and he was right. I didn't even know how to sew at the time."

Lozoya is excited for the coming season and one particular production for sure.

"I'm very excited about 'Native Gardens' because we'll have three Latina women involved in the process, the director, our scenic designer and myself. It's important to have the voices onstage backed by the people creating the story. It makes a difference," she said.

The Assistant Stage Manager for the Ruth Humphreys Brown Theatre, Olivia Zapater-Charrette knows how important the role she holds is and how important it is to be organized while keeping communications rolling during production.

"You really have to see the big picture and be aware of everything all at once. You know the script, all the movements of actors, all of the costume changes and props. It is such a joy to be the one who knows everything. The nitty-gritty of it is knowing when people need you and being there when they do," said Zapater-Charrette.

Not only does Zapater-Charrette know everything there is to know about the production, but she also takes the time to know the people she is working with as well.

"Stage managers take on the support of all the people and make sure it is a positive space and positive environment and help is all ways possible," she said.

Though she wasn't particularly prepared for her first season at CRT, her second season this year was a lot better.

"I came much better prepared this year than last time I was here, and I am so thankful to my mom for taking me to Costco before we came up," laughed Zapater-Charrette. "Even though I was nervous, I received a warm welcome. People are so warm and supportive, and it comes from every direction."

Willhelm Peters is also experiencing Creede for his first year and also came from Chicago.

"I started out as an actor and then a friend of mine suggested I try to be a stage manager and that was 14 years ago. In the spring, I came to Creede and it wasn't too much of a change for me but driving here was interesting. My job here is to take care of all the people. Cast members, backstage members, designers, all of them. I imagine myself as a host of a party and that while we



Photos by Lyndsie Ferrell

**The faces of those who work behind the scenes of Creede Repertory Theatre share a passion and a love for the process of production and the desire to create an experience for the entire team at CRT.**

I've been here 30 days and I have friends," he said.

Peters is the stage manager for "Sherwood," "Steele Magnolias" and "The Royale."

"Our backstage crew works really hard to bring productions to life. They are real people with real lives that are making this happen. What you are

seeing as audience members is just the surface and our relationship with you starts when you walk in the door," Peters said.

The 57th season at CRT kicked off on Sunday, May 29, and is packed with fun, thrilling and inventive shows. For more information, visit [www.creederep.org](http://www.creederep.org).

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

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S	E	P	I	A	S		S	A	B	O	T	S		
B	O	O	T	L	E	G		A	U	G	U	S	T	A
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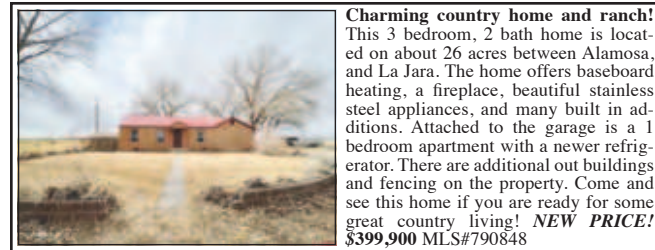
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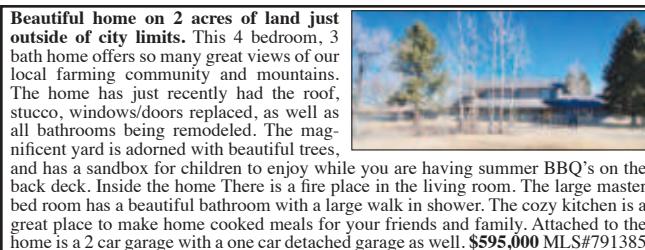
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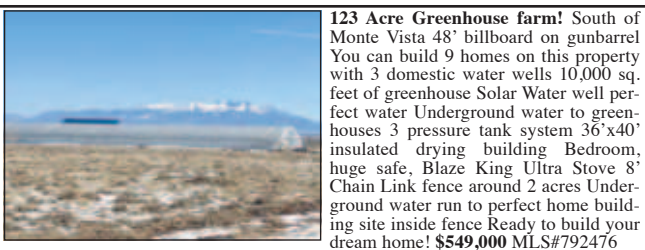
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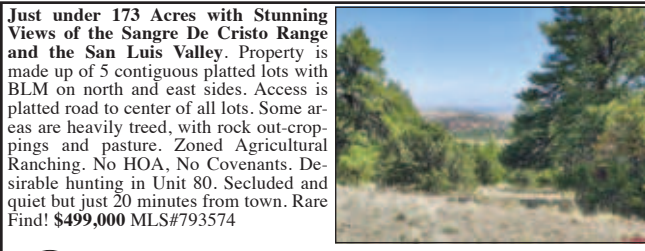
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