

Shorts

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, patterns, 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.

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 dorothyhambers55@yahoo.com, for more information.

MV History Center, Transportation of West Museums open

MONTE VISTA — The History Center of the Monte Vista Historical Society at 110 Jefferson St. will open Tuesday, May 31 for the season. The Center is open Tuesday and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Transportation of the West Museum at 916 First Ave. will be open Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The museums are open from Memorial Day to Labor Day and do not charge admission. Of interest in the Transportation Museum is an old potato sorter found in a potato cave in South Park.

MVHS Class of 1972 seeking classmates

MONTE VISTA — The Monte Vista High School Class of 1972 will be having a class reunion on July 22-23 and is trying to locate fellow classmates. Members of the MVHS Class of 1972 are asked to call 719-852-5474 or email mvhsirates72@yahoo.com, for more information.

Menkhaven Fire at 50 percent containment

Sheriff Crowther grateful for the quick response

STAFF REPORT

CONEJOS CANYON — The Menkhaven Fire was at 50 percent containment as of Monday night and people were being allowed to return to their homes and Colorado State Highway 17 was reopened.

Conejos County Sheriff Garth Crowther announced Tuesday that the Menkhaven Fire was caused by sparks from a tree dropping on a powerline

in the Menkhaven area west of Fox Creek on May 28 at approximately 3:15 pm. Sheriff Crowther stated that the owners of the powerline have cooperated with the investigation from the beginning. The investigation was conducted in cooperation with federal agents and law enforcement officers and remains ongoing.

Please see FIRE on Page 7A

A heavy air tanker dumps retardant on the Menkhaven Fire as seen from the command post.

Photo courtesy of Alamosa Emergency Management



The Center High School graduating class of 2022 consisted of 18 students.

Courtesy of Vikings Blue Crew

Center High School celebrates graduating class

BY MECHEL MEEK

CENTER — The graduating class of 2022 for Center High School walked across the stage to the delight of their family and friends on Saturday, May 28.

It was a moving ceremony with the gymnasium decked out for the occasion with signs, decorations in

blue and gold, and a golden doorway.

The celebration began with speeches by Center High School Principal Kevin Jones, who also gifted the students with a children's book titled "Have You Ever Wondered What You Will Be?" by author Junia Wonders. Jones said that the book was to show the students that what

they are today was not what they may be in the future, and that they should continue to grow and strive.

"What I am telling you is to go forward and look for your dreams," said Jones.

The students held an air of palpable anticipation waiting for their chance

Please see CLASS on Page 8A

Crowd celebrates Sargent High School graduates

BY MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — The Sargent High School gymnasium had at least 500 people, anxiously awaiting the class of 2022, as 25 students marched in eager to graduate on Friday, May 27.

To begin the ceremony Teacher of the Year James Holmes and Staff Member of the Year Shelly Vanderpool were announced.

Salutatorian Montana Younkerman then approached the podium and began to speak.

"All of us here have accomplished something great. I know some of you are thinking, I didn't do anything or thinking about how some people here may not have really accomplished something that

good, but all of you here today were able to graduate," Younkerman said.

"You've accomplished something that more than 25 percent of the United States is unable to achieve. We made it through the struggles that we went through, and now we are going into what the adults out there call 'The Real World.' This time in our lives is so important, we are making some of the most important decisions in our lives. We are moving all over the world or staying here. No matter your decision, this is such a valuable time in each one of our lives."

Younkerman went on to say that she hoped that her fellow students had great support to help them

Please see GRADS on Page 6A



Photo by Marie Mccolm

CPD, SCSO recover stolen property, arrest two people

Tactical vehicle intervention used to stop suspect's car

STAFF REPORT

LA GARITA — A Center Police Department officer used a tactical vehicle intervention to stop a dark-colored BMW on Friday, May 27, on County Road 42 at the County Road G curve ending a pursuit that started in Gunnison.

The BMW 328i's driver, Shylo Holden, 27, and the passenger, Troy McGibbons, 28, were taken into custody, CPD reported. Multiple confirmed stolen items were recovered in addition to numerous other suspected stolen items. Narcotics were recovered in the vehicle. Holden and McGibbons were transported to Rio Grande Hospital as a precaution as it was suspected both parties had ingested narcotics.

Please see ARREST on Page 7A

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18 Del Norte High School seniors receive diplomas

By MARIE MCCOLM
DEL NORTE — The Upper Rio Grande School District gymnasium was filled with more than 300 excited people as 18 Del Norte High School seniors marched in with “Pomp and Circumstance” playing on Friday, May 27.

To kick off the graduation Valedictorian Hannah Trujillo walked up to the podium and addressed the audience.

“Who are we as a class? Well, we’ve been described as funny or jokesters, but most importantly we have been described as close,” Trujillo said. “That’s been us for years now. People left and people came, and it’s all led to the 18 of you that are still here.”

Trujillo went on to describe a few funny instances where the class had played jokes on each other and then said, “I better stop now; they can still change my grades and take back my diploma,” she said. “Honestly think that the hardest part of this whole process is not seeing you guys every day. I hope most of us will stay in touch.”

She added, “It’s OK though, it’s time to move on to a new chapter, and create new memories, because time goes by, and the clock doesn’t stop. While we have grown up together and helped each other become who we are, it’s time to take our experiences and use the outcomes for the real world.”

She ended by saying, “Thank you to all our teachers, parents and other faculty members, for teaching us how

to be functioning adults. I know we will do well in life because of you.”

Salutatorian Malachi Gallegos took the podium and addressed the audience.

“I would like to start off, by thanking all the teachers, administrators, and workers of the school that have guided us and taken us in,” Gallegos said. “You will all leave a mark on our lives. While you may have been hard on us, you also knew how to put a smile on our face, and help us to have fun, no matter how hard our day was. You made learning fun, whether it was a life lesson, learning a new trade skill, or some basic knowledge, you used phrases or actions to help us learn information that we would be tested on.”

Gallegos went on to thank different members of the staff and workers at the school, noting that even though students didn’t say so all the time they appreciated them all each day.

Gallegos ended his speech by saying, “Once again, thank you all for being here and showing your love for us, this day is a big day for a lot of us and everyone here helps make this day a little more special. I have one last quote by J. Cole, ‘Life is a movie, pick your own role, climb your own ladder, or dig your own hole.’”

Gallegos then announced that Darren Mondragon would take the stage to give a salute to their teachers. Mondragon took the podium, and with an emotion-filled voice said.

“Teachers are God’s gift to students; students are God’s gifts to teachers. Teachers and students are God’s gift to mankind and civilization. Without

teachers and students, there will be no progress, or no future to dream for,” Mondragon said. “Our teachers play many roles in our lives as students, they are our mentors, friends, advisors, and coaches. They have taught us respect, leadership, and most importantly how to be successful in our adult lives. We owe our teachers a big chunk of gratitude. Lastly, I would like to close this off by saying, to the class of 2022, we greatly appreciate that you have helped us become successful adults, in the real world, in our new chapters of life. To Ma Bell, I will always be your little baby. Once again if it weren’t for everyone here, I don’t know where we would be. Thank you all.”

Class President Kelsie Dahle also spoke at the ceremony.

“Today is a big day for all of us, I know I can’t believe it’s real, either,” Dahle said. “At the beginning of this four-year long journey, we all walked through the doors of high school, with no clue as to how we would be walking out of them. I am sure we all had expectations of how we would advance in these four years.”

Dahle went on to say that she appreciated the teachers at the school and said that the teachers were all one of the biggest blessings a child could receive.

“Many of us sitting here today, know exactly what we would like to do after graduation, like going off to college, or the workforce, or the military,” Dahle said. “Some of us don’t though, and that’s OK we have the rest of our lives to



Photo by Marie McColm
A Del Norte High School graduate poses for a picture after receiving his diploma on Friday, May 27.

decide what we want to do with them.”

She ended by saying, “So, class of 2022, As I leave here today, I go with a little piece of each of you.”

A slide show with all the graduates was then shown. A presentation of flowers to all the families of the graduates was held right after the slide show, by the students. Students hugged family members as they gave out flowers to the people who were at the graduation.

Two, “Pass it Forward Grants” were awarded. The grants were for Adams State University and were each for \$1,000. They were awarded to Jazmariah Miranda and Brennan Velasquez.

Dusty Little presented the Del Norte Masonic Lodge Scholarships to Trujillo

one for \$500 and one for \$7,000.

Two Colorado River Watch scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each were also presented, to Dante LeBlanc, and Garrett Mondragon.

The Community Foundation of the San Luis Valley also awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Jazmariah Miranda.

The Outcalt Foundation awarded a workforce scholarship of \$5,000 to Megan Small.

The presentation of diplomas followed the presentation of scholarships. One by one the graduates were called in alphabetical order to receive their diplomas. The class president Dahle then addressed the class for the changing of the tassels.

RWR proposal to Douglas County is ‘dead in the water’

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
DOUGLAS COUNTY — After months of “due diligence” meetings, including seven that were attended by water users, water organizations and water experts from the San Luis Valley, Douglas County Commissioners decided 2-1 to decline allocation of \$10 million of ARPA funding to support water developer Renewable Water Resources’ proposal to export 11,000 acre-feet of water from the Valley to Douglas County.

The decision was made public in a work session on Tuesday, May 24, where Commissioner Abe Laydon, who had been the sole undecided vote of the three commissioners, indicated he would be voting against the proposal.

Laydon, who came to the Valley on April 23, had consistently said throughout the process that he would only support the proposal if it was a “win-win”. Yet, despite being presented with an abundance of data from numerous water experts with water conservation districts in the San Luis Valley that laid out the negative impact of exporting 22,000 acre-feet of water each year, Laydon still gave the appearance of being undecided.

Two memos the commissioners received addressed Laydon’s hesitation in making a decision.

The memos, both generated by Stephen Leonhardt — Douglas County’s legal counsel who attended the public meetings, including the one held April 23 — presented a 26-point list of significant obstacles the county would have to overcome if deciding to vote for the export, not the least of which involved the need to “develop a legislative strategy” to change state law and “numerous

hurdles to obtain federal, state and county permits for the project”, including obtaining approval from the Secretary of the Department of Interior.

As the memo explains, that may be problematic in relation to the Wirth Amendment, which specifically applies, at the federal level, to conditions that must be met for any project to export water from the San Luis Valley.

The memo also suggests that that will be a solo effort, stating, “The RWR project is not consistent with the Colorado Water Plan so it likely will not qualify for any state assistance in meeting permit requirements.”

Many of the points also validated concerns raised numerous times by opponents throughout the meetings, such as “RWR has not yet developed an augmentation plan in sufficient detail”, “there is no unappropriated water available in the confined aquifer for RWR’s proposed pumping” and RWR is presenting an inaccurate picture of how much water is available.

Throughout the due diligence meetings — plus an op-ed written by former governor Bill Owens who was closely tied to the RWR effort — those concerns were either ignored or summarily dismissed as being invalid.

Given that RWR’s entire proposal was based on receiving \$10 million of American Rescue Plan Act funds from Douglas County, point number 26 — the last point listed by Leonhardt — was significant in its own right: “The RWR proposal is not eligible for ARPA funds under current federal regulations.”

When asked for a comment about

Commissioner Laydon’s announcement that he would be voting against the proposal, Commissioner Lora Thomas — who was a vocal opponent of supporting the project from the beginning — said, “I wrote an op-ed in January of this year opposing the plan to take water from the San Luis Valley after researching the issue. I’m pleased to, finally, after spending \$40,000 on private water counsel and numerous hours and efforts by many others, get a second no vote to put an end to this matter.”

In a statement posted on the SLV Coalition “Save Our Water” website, Senator Cleave Simpson said, “This is good news for the San Luis Valley, and it speaks to the hundreds and perhaps thousands of people who spoke out against this unviable proposal. The San Luis Valley residents, water providers, environmental and conservation groups,

agricultural interests, businesses and even many Douglas County residents submitted letters expressing opposition and attended numerous work sessions presenting a mountain of evidence why the RWR proposal is not a win for Douglas County nor the San Luis Valley. We greatly appreciate Governor Jared Polis,

Attorney General Phil Weiser, Senators John Hickenlooper and Michael Bennet, and Congresswoman Lauren Boebert and other leaders who joined us in this fight. We will remain vigilant to continue to monitor Douglas County’s ongoing discussions with RWR to ensure that we continue to fight this at every turn.”

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

YOUR NIGHT SKY

BY DARLENE DANKO



Put on your long pants

Once again Miss Trixie and I return to Colorful Colorado for what will hopefully be a cool summer of relaxation and fishing. If you have never visited the Rocky Mountain State, I encourage you to do so as it is so full of wonderful things to do and see.

Miss Trixie reminded me that this is the beginning of our 11th summer together. And if you have your own partner of the female persuasion, you will understand how keeping track of those dates seems to be important to them for some reason.

I guess it's like driving stakes in the ground to make sure you are making forward progress toward some goal or something like that. I always say it's been seven wonderful years and she quickly reminds me that it's longer than that. But, folks, you know that a good seven out of 11 is pretty good odds in Las Vegas, any time of day or night.

And speaking of keeping track of progress every time I pull the big old camper across the Texas panhandle and over Raton Pass, I always think of the early pioneers that came across in wagons.

What difficulties they must have faced and traversing a meager 10 miles a day must have seemed like a snail's pace to those weary travelers. With rattlesnakes, Indians, lack of water and food, diseases, and injuries ever-present it had to be a horrendous hardship to endure.

I am sure the kids along on such an adventure probably fared the best out of all the family members as to them it would have been akin to Tom Sawyer riding a raft on the Old Mississippi. Something new to see and do every day.

They all must have been a hardy bunch to even attempt to cross the great plains and mountains on their way west and I am sure if they had known the hardships ahead, they never would have left St. Louis.

I believe the women maybe had it the worst of all, what with kids to look after, food to cook, clothes to wash and mend, all the while wearing long dresses as was required in those days.

Many women shed those long garments for a pair of men's pants not caring what anyone thought as they had probably just had enough of the bother with plentiful skirts in a dirty



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

and nasty environment.

How hot they must have been also as the sun was unrelenting in its tortuous summer sojourn in the plains latitudes. Which is probably about as hot as Miss Trixie said she was last night while we slept.

It seems that on our first night back in the cool temps of the Colorado mountains, Ol' Dutch got a case of the chills and sometime in the middle of the night set the thermostat to "just short of Hell." At least that is what she is saying but I think she just has a case of the post pause as she has been a bit grouchy of late too.

It has to be that as you all know Ol' Dutch is so easy to get along with and live with nothing that I do would ever send her off on a tangent of rants and rages.

Well, it may not be that bad, but I have to have something to complain about or lose my man card that I have worked so hard to maintain.

But anyway, we did land once again in beautiful South Fork and look forward to friends, cool weather, and hopefully more rain than you can even believe. For Ol' Dutch, ever the dutiful Rainman has already been doing his thing and soon the rains will surely come.

If you can get away this summer, I encourage you to visit this mountainous state and enjoy all of what God has created for our pleasure.

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.

Then drive a spike to Spica

How many times have I quoted the phrase "follow the Big Dipper handle arc to Arcturus, and then drive a spike to Spica"? Orange Arcturus is the first bright star the handle points to, and blue, white Spica is the next brightest.

Virgo the Maiden is the second-largest constellation in the sky, and Spica is its brightest star. It marks the ear or spike of wheat being held by Virgo. The word Spica is Latin for ear and is believed to refer to ear of wheat. Although the winged maiden stands upright in the sky holding the ear of wheat in her left hand, Virgo is not easily identified due to the long rambling cluster of stars that make up her body.

Spica and Virgo are often associated with the Greek Goddess of Harvest, Ceres. The word cereal is derived from her name. The asteroid-dwarf planet Ceres is also named for her and is currently located in Virgo just slightly northeast of Spica but does

require optical aid for viewing.

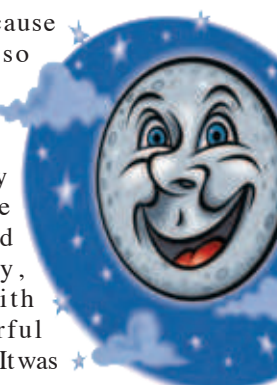
The star Antares in the Scorpius constellation and Spica are tied for the 15th-brightest star visible from Earth. Although it's not visible as a binary, or double star, due to its 262 light years distance from us, Spica is a whirling double star. Both of its stars are larger and hotter than our sun. They are 11 million miles apart and orbit each other every 4 days. Can you imagine how fast they're going? The primary star is more than 10 times the mass of our Sun, and about seven times wider. The secondary star is seven times the mass of the Sun, and about four times wider. That's huge!

The combined light from both stars is 2,200 times brighter than the Sun. In fact, every star you see unaided, without binoculars or a telescope, is bigger and brighter than our Sun. Since the new moon was on May 30, this is a good time to look at them. The first quarter moon will be on June 7.

Considering their distance from us, they're one of the nearest binary systems to our solar system. Despite

that, because they're so close to each other, they can't be separated visually, even with a powerful telescope. It was a spectroscope that revealed Spica's dual nature. A spectroscope is an instrument that splits light into its component colors and reveals the color shift between the two stars.

It's also thought that both stars are egg shaped, with pointed ends facing each other. This is due to their mutual gravity as they rapidly whirl around each other. The best viewing of Spica is spring and summer, so go out and look slightly more than halfway up in the southern sky. And while you're looking at Spica, try to envision those two giants whirling stars.



LETTERS

Summitville is no place for an RV park

Editor,
Summitville, Colo., — most Valley residents know of it.

Located at 11,500 feet in the San Juan Mountains in Rio Grande County, its mines helped build the towns of Monte Vista, Del Norte and South Fork. Later, waste from the mines polluted the watersheds and led to one of Colorado's worst ecological disasters and a Superfund designation.

Today its collection of crumbling mine buildings and modern waste treatment facilities, all among the fragile tundra and stellar mountain views deep in the mountains.

There is a proposal by Erwin Young to build, on private property, a 54-site RV park. I feel this is the wrong project for this location for so many reasons.

Just reaching the site entails driving up 30 miles of narrow, winding dirt

roads that are not suitable for many RVs. To have so many of these large vehicles navigating these roads would have negative impacts on traffic and the roads themselves, which are susceptible to erosion and deterioration. It is already difficult enough to navigate these roads due to heavy traffic from off-highway vehicles. This project would exacerbate the problem.

But my greatest concern is for the landscape itself. The area consists of fragile tundra and spruce forests that are home to many varieties of wildlife. Aside from the ghost town and the mine cleanup site, there is very little development in this natural area, a handful of cabins used by skiers in winter.

An RV park would be a use that is not consistent with neighboring properties. Human-wildlife conflicts would abound.

And I understand the applicant is proposing to not have restrooms, trash service or water. This is absurd. The idea that campers will drive 2 hours every time their chemical toilets are full, or they have trash to dispose of is ridiculous. Rather, the area will become a dumping ground of refuse and human waste.

Rio Grande County Commissioners and land use regulators are studying the proposal. I urge them to deny the application, or if they feel they must approve it, require modern sanitation, sewage, water and trash service, just as they would at any RV park in South Fork.

Summitville was already the site of one of Colorado's biggest environmental disasters. Can we spare this fragile landscape another?

*R. Scott Rappold
Del Norte*

Moore family grateful to community for support of Lane

Editor,

From the family of Lane Moore, we would like to extend our greatest thanks and appreciation for all your prayers, donations and fundraisers during his battle with Wilms, a tumor that was cancerous and had to be removed.

Our little hero underwent radiation and chemo and is now in remission. We also give a big thank you to Rio Grande

Hospital ER doctors, Air Med, Del Norte Ambulance, Children's Hospital in Denver and Colorado Springs, Ruth Brown from the Green Spot in Alamosa for all the help and especially for the great time Lane spent with Santa Claus, Danny Rios, Mrs. Jones and to the Monte Vista Head Start, Monte Vista Police Department for the escort, the Monte Vista junior high school band

and cheerleaders, and the Monte Vista Fire Department.

You are all real heroes in our eyes. It is really heartwarming to see the great people in our community that cared for Lane. If I forgot anyone this also includes you. God bless you all.

*Shawn Moore (father) and Linda Moore (grandmother)
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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REC Energy Foundation donates to local Care and Share

SAN LUIS VALLEY — The SLVREC Energy Foundation recently donated to Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado to help with needs at the new San Luis Valley distribution center.

Care and Share works to gather and sort food from multiple sources, distributing to 282 partners across 31 counties with 12 food pantries and meal programs in the San Luis Valley alone. The organization receives donated or low-cost food from suppliers, community partners and federal nutrition programs. Dedicated staff and volunteers then sort and organize the food to be supplied and dispersed to partner food pantries.

Opening in September 2021, the new distribution center, located just outside of Alamosa, will allow Care and Share to streamline this process in the San Luis Valley and cut lengthy and expensive stops out of a supply chain to help feed southern Colorado. Hopes are to have the new distribution center remodeled by late summer or early fall.

After it is completed, racking, and shelving will be installed, and then food can be brought in following food safety audits.

Until the remodel is complete, food is being brought into the center daily via semi-truck. A truck picks up the incoming load and takes it further west to Durango or the Four Corners area based on need, and the original incoming truck switches trailers and returns empty for a reload the next day.

Care and Share plans to host a grand opening after the building is complete and will invite the community to catch a vision of the work.

"We are so grateful for the San Luis



Courtesy photo

SLVREC Marketing Director Jennifer Alonzo, right, presents a check to Sarah Stoeber, Care and Share San Luis Valley Development Director.

Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Foundation and the contribution they have made toward our mission in the fight against hunger. Their generous gift will make it possible for us to get more food to our neighbors in need, quite literally, by allowing us to purchase a new forklift. The addition of our San Luis Valley distribution center will change the way we serve our neighbors across the Valley for the better, and we certainly couldn't do our work without the support of community partners," said Lynne Telford, CEO of Care and Share Food Bank.

For more information on Care and Share, visit <https://careandshare.org/>

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

Weekend fun with a side of wind at Taste of Creede

By LYNDIE FERRELL

CREEDE — The famous San Luis Valley wind was the hot topic this weekend in Creede as participants and guests from all over the country ventured to the small mountain town. Though the breeze caught many visitors off guard, the weekend was still packed full of fun.

For the last 34 years, the Taste of Creede festival has brought crowds to celebrate not only the coming summer, but the artistic talent and delicious food created by local chefs and, of course, the Memorial Day weekend. This year artists, unfortunately, had a hard time keeping their art from flying away, but several stayed strong and fought the breeze to create beautiful and unique works of art. Easels lined the north end of Main Street with crowds wandering from artist to artist to watch as their works of art came slowly to life.

As the day wore on, the weather warmed, and the crowds gathered to listen to live music and began to gather around the tent set down by Basham Park.

The Creede Museum had its door wide open, and patrons graced the small rooms learning about the town's rough and tumble western past.

Though the park was temporarily out of service while new grass was being put in, the younger crowd enjoyed a bouncy house and other fun activities while their parents watched the Silver Chef Cooking Competition.

Thanks to the generosity of Shamrock Foods, yet another table full of food was supplied for the cooking competition. Local chefs Kip Nagy from Kip's Grill, Director and main chef for the Mineral County Senior Lunch Program Jonathan Ruggiero, Creede School District Chef Malcolm Snead and Arp's Chef gathered under the big tent to pit their cooking skills against each other to win bragging rights for the rest of the year.

Shamrock Food supplied the chefs with a variety of Italian sausage that they

had to use to prepare a formal lunch for the three randomly chosen judges. The lunch had to include at least two meat choices from the sausages provided and at least one selection of produce which was also provided by Shamrock Foods.

The Monte Vista Coop donates to the Taste of Creede every year and as the chefs fired up their gas grills, the crowd cheered from the sidelines. One testy gust of wind just about took the big tent right on down Main Street but besides

that one moment, the afternoon cooking competition went on without a hitch.

Chef Snead won the day with his delectable meal and will have bragging rights for the rest of the year.

New Creede and Mineral County Chamber Director Julie Meiser stated that the festival was off to a great start.

The weekend ended with the Artist Quick Draw competition and those that participated in the event had nothing but good things to say.

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Photos by Brian Williams

The City of Monte Vista has been coordinating the cleanup of the Monte Vista Fire with the respective land and homeowners and announced on Friday, May 27, that the cleanup was beginning. Heavy equipment was working at the intersection of Acequia Drive and Euclid Street.

Cleanup of Monte Vista Fire begins

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — Cleanup of the Monte Vista Fire began on Friday, May 27, with heavy equipment working at the intersection of Acequia Drive and Euclid Street.

Two homes located here burned to the ground in the April 20 fire that covered 17 acres and destroyed or damaged 15 structures between West Sickles Street and Acequia Drive in north Monte Vista. As many as six families were left homeless by the fire.

The City of Monte Vista has been coordinating the cleanup with the respective land and homeowners and announced on Friday, May 27, that the cleanup was beginning.

“The City cannot thank Cooley and Sons Excavating and RMS Utilities enough for providing these services to those affected,” city officials stated in a press release.

Cooley and Sons Excavating will be the first on scene, city officials explained. Their crews will be beginning the cleanup process.

“We ask that our residents and the motoring public please be aware and provide Mr. Cooley and his team safe passage and limit the time spent in area so they can efficiently complete their tasks,” city officials stated. “Please be aware that their trucks

will be using the roads in and near the fire burn area to transport debris to the landfill.”

The cause was due to “trash or rubbish burning” on the east side of Absolute Shine, an auto body repair shop in the 800 block of Acequia Drive, the Monte Vista Police Department reported on May 11.

Monte Vista Police Department Sgt. Michael Martinez said the department had concluded its investigation into the fire and met on Monday, May 9, with 12th Judicial District Attorney Alonzo Payne.

“From here I believe the district attorney’s office will make some type of public statement about their decision in reference to the criminal portion of the case,” Martinez said on May 11. “We did investigate this as a possible criminal case. But the decision for charges and liabilities is not up to my entity, it is up to the office of the district attorney.”

A wind-driven fire broke out shortly before noon on April 20. Resources from throughout the San Luis Valley and the state responded to the fire and worked well into the night containing the blaze.

The cost to fight the fire and total damage in dollars was still being determined.



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

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GRADS

Continued from Page 1A

through their lives.

She concluded by saying, "Lastly, I just want to say thank you class of 2022. You have taught me things that I will always look back on with a smile upon my face," she said. "Thank you to my mom for teaching me how to be strong, and how to love even when I sometimes don't feel loved in return. Thank you to my dad for teaching me about my love for all things outdoors. My brothers have always been people I have looked up to my whole life. I am grateful for this opportunity. I love each one of you guys, and I am grateful to see where our lives lead. Congratulations class of 2022."

Valedictorian Ashlyn Rockey also spoke at the ceremony.

"Today is a day to be inspired. We made it, you made it. Each one of you made it to this very moment," Rockey said. "At times we didn't think we could do it, well we are here. I stand before you looking back at 4 years of a legacy, we all leave together. I would like to thank all the individuals who took the time and effort to get us to this moment."

Rockey went on to talk about how her father would call people "good farmers", and the meaning behind good farmers. Rockey said that good farmers are dedicated and always strive to do good in the world.

"So, now let us go out into the world and be our own good farmers, whatever that might look like for you," Rockey said. "That's all I have Sargent High School grads, congratulations on all your hard work to get you to this moment. Let's go ride this life with pride."

Rockey then introduced the next Valedictorian, Taylor Rockey. Taylor said, "Welcome beloved family, teachers, administration, and staff. As I stand here today, I can't help but look back at the memories of everything this class has endured. We've been through a lot together

and faced many changes along the way. Just like everything else in life, everything must change. Change to each of us looks different. I have personally learned that with change good things come. Experiencing a global pandemic halfway through our high school years was no easy thing, but it's a prime example of how change regardless of how extreme it may seem can shape us."

Taylor Rockey went on to say, "To my class, I hope that each of you continues to embrace the changes about to come with a smile on your face. I hope you accept the challenge and persevere no matter how hard. A final thank you to my class. I will forever be grateful for all the wonderful memories we have shared. I wish each one of you good luck."

Taylor Rockey then introduced the third Valedictorian, Katherine Sewell.

Sewell said, "It's real now. As I write these words, I realize that this speech marks the day that I say goodbye to Sargent High School and the day that I say goodbye to Sargent. I remember when this high school was built, and my sister and I got our names written on the bricks that lined the sidewalks by the preschool. I could never imagine the year 2022."

Sewell went on to talk about the memories that she had in school, including homework and class trips, and even pandemic memories of being quarantined. Sewell also spoke of a Sargent alumni member that went to the school and told the students of her experience at Sargent and how the experience had shaped her into who she was today.

"We are lucky enough to be graduating today having survived a global pandemic, the death of Betty White, and other things, but we don't want to get too negative," Sewell said.

Sewell ended her speech by saying

thank you to everyone in Spanish because as she stated, she was proud to learn Spanish as part of her high school experience.

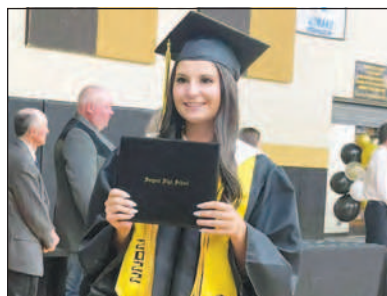
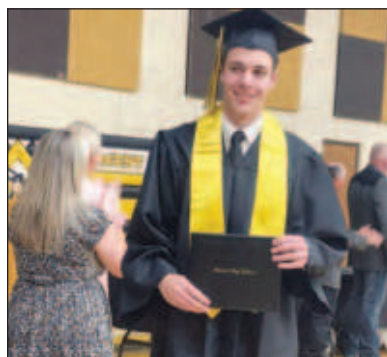
"I am proud of us, class of 2022, and I know we will grow wherever we are planted," she said.

A tribute was also given to Librarian Diana Rice by Kamryn Holland.

"Mrs. Rice has been the librarian through all our 13 years at Sargent," Holland said. "Everyone that knew her will recognize her by her love of books, animals and kids. The lessons our class have learned from Mrs. Rice goes far beyond reading. In the past, our class watched as Mrs. Rice fought and beat Leukemia. Sadly, this past year Mrs. Rice was diagnosed with breast cancer and is currently undergoing treatment. She has shown such strength, perseverance, and heart, and has been such a great example for us all of determination. To Mrs. Rice, the class of 2022, would like to thank you for helping us become the individuals you see on the stage today. We wouldn't be the same people without your lessons, guidance, and nicknames. Thank you for being an example of character and strength and thank you for being a friend to us all. We are with you always and you have a special place in each of our hearts. Thank you."

The Sargent senior class then showed a slide show of the students that had been put together. The class then gave out their appreciation of flowers and love to their family and friends that were at the graduation and provided support to them.

The Sargent School District Board of Education then presented the students with their diplomas. One by one each of the students was called up and received their diplomas. The closing of the ceremony was the class moving their tassels and throwing their caps in the air.



Photos by Marie Mccolm
A commencement ceremony was held on Friday, May 27, for the 25 seniors of Sargent High School.

Growing Into Your Full Potential

As a young woman, I went to church for years, but I really didn't know much about spiritual maturity. I loved God with all of my heart, but I wasn't changing—I was still as critical, judgmental and rebellious as ever. And even though I knew my life should be getting better, I was still miserable from dealing with all of the same problems.

I believe this is one of Satan's greatest strategies. If he can't keep people from hearing the Gospel and accepting Christ, he will do everything he can to make sure they never grow spiritually so they can experience the peace and joy that's promised to them in the Bible.

You see, when we're born again, the Holy Spirit comes to live in our heart—God plants a seed of everything He is in our spirit, giving us everything we need to live a great life.

For instance, Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV) says, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control..."

Did you know all of these things already exist on the inside of you? You may wonder, Well, if that's the case, then why aren't I experiencing any of it in my life?

When it comes to the maturity process, we have a part to play. Our part is to cooperate with God to cultivate and develop His character in our lives so we can grow and become more like Him. How do we do that?

It all begins by spending regular time in God's Word. Hebrews 4:12 (AMPC) says, "The Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]..."

When we spend time in God's Word, we are spending time with God. His Word changes us—it changes how we think and

how we act. It changes how we see God, ourselves and the world around us.

Romans 12:2 is a great scripture that shows us how we grow spiritually: "Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God..."

God has a "good and acceptable and perfect" plan for our lives, but we must renew our minds with His Word before we can experience it.

It's important to remember that growing spiritually is a process. When I first began to read and study God's Word, I immediately saw things I needed to change. For a while, I felt guilty and condemned that I wasn't "measuring up."

However, God helped me to understand that He never shows us these things to condemn us and make us feel guilty. He convicts us of our behavior in order to help us grow and come up higher in that area.

For example, I was extremely rebellious in the early years of my marriage. Because my father sexually abused me when I was growing up, I had developed a distrust of men. I vowed that no man would ever again push me around.

But as I studied God's Word, I saw that my behavior toward my husband, Dave, was wrong. The Lord was asking me to walk in love with Dave in my speech, attitudes and actions. This was easier said than done! But God always gives us the grace to do what He is asking us to do. He doesn't expect us to do it all on our own.

So, little by little, by God's grace, I began to change. The Lord transformed



me from being rude, critical, harsh and rebellious into someone who has real peace, love and joy. But it was a process—it didn't happen overnight.

Second Corinthians 3:18 says we "are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another."

This means that the Lord changes us a little at a time. None of us will ever be perfect until we get to Heaven, and that's okay. But as long as we're here on this earth, God desires for us to continually learn more about Him and grow in our faith.

As we do—as we continue to grow spiritually—we will experience the amazing peace, joy and fulfillment that only God can give us. And we will show the world what God is really like.

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.

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.

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FIRE

Continued from Page 1A

Sheriff Crowther was grateful for the quick response from within the county and from outside the area. "They have been putting in nearly 24-hour days working the fire," Crowther said. "I know they are all exhausted but they just keep going. I'm proud of each and every one of them."

Crowther explained how the resources came together when the fire was reported at about 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 28, near the Menkhaven subdivision at Milepost 20 on Colorado State Highway 17 between Horca and Fox Creek. "At the very start of the fire, I started yelling for help," Crowther said.

Officers from Manassa Police Department, Adams State University police, Colorado State Patrol, US Forest Service law enforcement, and the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office quickly responded.

The Colorado Department of Transportation closed down Highway 17 and roads in the area.

People were evacuated from homes north of Highway 17 between Horca and Fox Creek, although the communities of Fox Creek and Horca were not ordered to evacuate. All residents on the south side of Highway 17 were on pre-evacuation notice.

An evacuation center was established at a church parish hall in Antonito.

Conejos County Emergency Manager Rodney King and Public Information Officer Connie Ricci established an Incident Command Center.

Conejos County Victim Advocate Nadia Flores "called her team into action and was outstanding taking care of the evacuees and first responders," Crowther said.

The Conejos County Sheriff's Office began allowing residents that were evacuated back into their homes Monday night.

"I have to talk about the people that were evacuated," Crowther said. "To have a sheriff's deputy tell you to evacuate from your home and property is very stressful. Then to be placed in a shelter not knowing the status of your property. I want to thank all those who were evacuated."

Conejos County Ambulance sent an ambulance that stayed on the scene.

Numerous fire engines from across Conejos County were first on scene Saturday, later joined by equipment



Courtesy photo

Steep canyon walls were making it difficult for firefighters to battle the Menkhaven Fire in Conejos Canyon, but air resources have been successful in keeping the blaze at bay.

and personnel from the Rio Grande National Forest and the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC).

Heavy tankers, single-engine air tankers, and helicopters were in use Saturday and Sunday as firefighting from the ground had been difficult due to the steep canyon where the blaze originated.

According to Paul Duarte, an incident commander with Colorado DFPC, no structures or other personal property had been lost as of noon Monday.

Monday ground firefighters worked to finish and strengthen the hand lines, especially on the east and west flanks of the steep canyon slopes. At the top, crews continued to work with dozers to construct and secure both the main fire and spot fires. No fire spread was reported Monday morning, according to an update on Inciweb, the national wildfire tracking site.

Duarte said about 168 personnel were on scene Monday, including four hotshot crews and various overhead resources. Helicopter assistance originally ordered was grounded due to high winds, according to the forest service.

"Everyone needs to have the opportunity to watch Colorado State Fire Command Devin Haynie and Paul Duarte work. The two of them and their people are amazing," Crowther said.

Crowther gave a couple of special

thanks to the Conejos County Fire Departments, Colorado State Fire, and hotshots and firefighters from the US Forest Service.

"These people are amazing, they have no fear charging right into the fire. Their pilots fly the aircraft into places that are unbelievable," Crowther said.

Crowther was thankful for the outpouring of support from the community.

"I cannot believe how the citizens of Conejos County and the San Luis Valley respond in times of crisis. The food, snacks, and water were a huge help. A more caring giving people will not be found anywhere on this Earth," Crowther said.

Colorado Highway 17, west of Antonito, was reopened Tuesday morning to reduced traffic. Delays were expected due to one-lane alternating traffic being escorted by a pilot vehicle, between mile points 19.5 to 21.5, near the fire activity.



Photo courtesy of Center Police Department

A Center Police Department officer used a tactical vehicle intervention to stop a dark-colored BMW on Friday, May 27, in the La Garita area.

ARREST

Continued from Page 1A

As the investigation into the stolen property is ongoing, the exact charges for the suspects are pending and all other information related to this incident will be released later.

On Friday, May 27, the Saguache County Sheriff's Office was notified by the Gunnison Police Department of a dark-colored BMW 328i with a temporary tag that was involved in some thefts and had led Gunnison officers on a high-speed vehicle pursuit. Gunnison stopped pursuing the vehicle but asked for assistance from SCSO in locating the vehicle.

At 5:47 p.m., a Saguache County Sheriff's Office deputy spotted the vehicle on US Highway 285. The deputy initiated a traffic stop on the BMW, but it sped off. The deputy chased the BMW as it turned west on County Road T and down the mostly dirt roads in the County Road 42 area. The vehicle drove recklessly but with no other traffic on the roads, the deputy continued his pursuit.

CPD officers responded to the La Garita area as the vehicle was headed toward the community. Stop sticks were

set up and multiple CPD and SCSO patrol vehicles arrived in the area.

The suspect entered the La Garita area with no tires on the front of the BMW and the rims in various states of deterioration as metal pieces were breaking off of the wheels. The BMW drove along fences and off the roadway to avoid stop sticks deflating the rear tires.

As the BMW entered the paved portion of County Road 42 at the County Road G curve, it was decided to use a tactical vehicle intervention (TVI) to cause the suspect vehicle to spin out and end the pursuit before it could make it back onto heavily traveled US Highway 285.

The TVI maneuver successfully stopped the suspect vehicle, and the occupants were arrested.

One Saguache Sheriff's Office patrol vehicle was damaged as it went off the road to avoid other cars while responding to the area. The Center police vehicle used in the TVI had minor damage. There were no injuries to any deputies, officers, residents, or motorists.

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CLASS Continued from Page 1A

to walk across the stage and receive their diploma.

The stands and chairs were filled with proud family and friends from the Center community.

The motto for the class of 2022 was "Chase your dreams, but always know the road that'll lead you home again," by an unknown author.

Before the diplomas were presented, there were speeches by the Valedictorian, Salutatorian and the commencement address was presented by Jan Vigil.

Vigil played the classic song, "Lean on Me" by musician Bill Withers and spoke about needing to help others and to accept help when you need it.

The students spoke of their future plans, and how much they appreciated their families and community for their support.

Salutatorian Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro and Valedictorian Yahiy Quintana both spoke to their classmates regarding their time at Center High School.

Trejo-Chaparro said, "In just the blink of our eyes, our journey here has ended."

Quintana said, "High school was full of good and bad moments, but I wouldn't change a thing." After the speeches, the graduating students went among the crowd of family members and presented them sunflowers and red roses in appreciation of their support while a slideshow of the graduating students played in the background.

The students then lined up in front of the stage to each be called up to receive their diplomas.

Each student after receiving their diploma participated in the time-honored ceremony of moving their tassels from the right to left side of their



Photos by Mechel Meek

The graduating class of 2022 for Center High School walked across the stage to the delight of their family and friends on Saturday, May 28. It was a moving ceremony with the gymnasium decked out for the occasion with signs, decorations in blue and gold, and a golden doorway.

cap to signify that they had graduated in a simple but significant ceremony and then tossing their cap into the air in celebration.

The graduating class of 2022 consisted of 18 students — Valedictorian Quintana, Salutatorian Trejo-Chaparro, Victor Almeida, Rafael Bolanos, Elizabeth Chavez, Santos Cruz-Giron, Abraham Echauri, Deisy Estrada-Majalca, Mica Garcia, Raul Gonzales-Rodriguez, Daniel Gutierrez, Hector Hernandez, Omar Hernandez-Mendoza, Karen Holguin-Guzman, Stephane Molinar-Almeida, Jaelin Padilla, Alexis Varela, and Priscilla Zapata-Chavez.



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Adams State business students achieve high performance rating throughout the semester

By LINDA RELYEA

ALAMOSA — Global Business Strategies, an Adams State University business capstone course taught by Zena Buser, Ph.D., professor of business, earned a Global Top 100 ranking for their company's Business Strategy Game (BSG) performance several times over the course of the spring 2022 semester.

Running a simulated corporation, School of Business students had the opportunity to virtually run a professional business.

"This class brings together all they've learned over the past few years and provides a simulated experience that aligns with all aspects of managing a real-world company,"

organizers stated.

Throughout the semester two groups in Buser's class, Company E and Company F, scored in the Global Top 100 ranking in the weekly competitions, where they competed with other colleges worldwide.

Company E tied for 24th best **Please see BUSINESS on Page 2**

Pictured, left to right, Adams State School of Business students Michael Bathauer, Professor of Business Zena Buser, Ph.D., Brennan Grass, and Jolene Carrica, achieved high performance ranking in a worldwide simulation through BSG in their capstone class.

Photo courtesy of ASU



Photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Representative Donald Valdez (second from the left) along with Commissioner of Agriculture Kate Greenberg (center left), Governor Jared Polis (center) and USDA Undersecretary Jenn Moffitt (center right) pose with producers from the San Luis Valley during Polis' visit to Monte Vista celebrating the recent trade agreement with Mexico.

Mexico holds great promise for SLV potato growers

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

MONTE VISTA — For almost a quarter of a century, potato growers in the United States have wanted full access to the market in Mexico. That goal was finally accomplished on May 11 when the first shipment of U.S. potatoes crossed into Mexico, headed south past the border zone and into the interior of the country.

Since that first shipment, 11 more trucks have crossed the border carrying fresh potatoes from the U.S.

On Monday, Governor Jared Polis, USDA Undersecretary Jenn Moffitt

and Colorado Agriculture Commissioner Kate Greenberg joined Jim Ehrlich, executive director of the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, in Monte Vista to celebrate the achievement.

"Mexico is a huge market for agriculture," Polis said. "Up until now, we've been left out of reaching those markets. This agreement has changed all that."

The National Potato Council states that the U.S. exported \$60 million of fresh potatoes to Mexico in 2021. According to Polis, opening up all

of Mexico to U.S. grown potatoes could result in a possible increase of \$190 million export value increase — or \$250 million each year — in the next five years, a figure that Polis suggested was conservative. That equates to a four-fold increase in the amount of potatoes exported south over current levels.

Locally, the expansion will have a significant impact.

"We shipped 1.22 million cwt. of potatoes to Mexico from our 20-21 crop. That represents \$17 million in

Please see GROWERS on Page 3

Rhythms on the Rio moves to Del Norte location

Music festival Aug. 5-7 returns after 2-year hiatus

By R. SCOTT RAPPOLD

DEL NORTE — Rhythms on the Rio, held annually in South Fork since 2006, is back this summer after a 2-year hiatus.

And this year the event will be just outside Del Norte, a new chapter for the venerable music festival, with three days of music Aug. 5-7.

The COVID outbreak forced the cancellation of the 2020 festival after organizers had sold some 2,000 tickets. Continuing pandemic concerns put a 2021 revival in doubt, and then the land a few miles east of South Fork where it was held was sold for an RV park, leaving festival organizers to wonder if it would ever happen again.

Rhythms on the Rio has evolved from a one-day concert in the parking lot of the Visitor Center in South Fork to a three-day camping festival, attracting music lovers from across Colorado for the family-friendly atmosphere, affordable prices and idyllic mountain setting.

"We were very concerned. We didn't really have a direction as far as another site," said Scott Stecken, president of the South Fork Music Association, founded in 2005 to use the festival's revenue to help connect local children with music instructors and instruments. To date, the organization has donated \$25,000 to San Luis Valley schools for music programs.

"All of us on the board were not too sure what we were going to do and where we were going to go," he said.

Then Kathy Willschau stepped in.

Her family owns 35 acres just across the river from Del Norte, the site of a former sawmill. They offered up the land for the festival, free of charge.

"I think it's going to be fantastic for Del Norte and the area," she said. "It's a great location for that."

Coincidentally, she's never been to the festival.

"But this year I'm going to be there," Willschau said. "I'm going to see this craziness go on."

She added she has no concerns about the impact of a couple of

See RHYTHMS on Page 7



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Ancient Valley Open Mic Season Six, Summer 2022

DEL NORTE — Ancient Valley Open Mic, a free community performance arts series, begins its sixth season, Summer 2022, on Wednesday, June 8, sponsored and hosted by Simple Foods Market.

Shows are scheduled every Wednesday, 5-7 p.m., to Aug. 31. The location is an outdoor, shaded courtyard at 680 Grand Ave, Del Norte. Individual shows may be cancelled due to rain.

Updates and photos appear on social media: Ancient Valley Open

Mic, Southern Colorado. Music and spoken-word performers, all ages, styles, and experience levels are welcome. Show up and sign up to perform.

Sign-up begins at 4:30 p.m. each date. Staging includes two standing mics, and a 10-channel PA. Participants are encouraged to bring the additional equipment they need.

To get on the mailing list and ask questions, contact jenni@jennimansfieldpeal.com.

BUSINESS

Continued from Page 1

Overall Score the week of March 14-20. Adams State co-managers were Josh Bechaver, of Manassa; Laura Gutierrez, of Rio Rancho, N.M.; and Noah Jiles, of Monte Vista.

Company F tied for the best Overall Score on three different occasions: 38th place, the week of April 22 through May 1; 41st place, the week of April 18 through April 24; and 88th place, the week of March 28 through April 3. They tied for 84th place, on Best Return on Average Equity the week of Feb. 28 through March 6.

Adams State co-managers of Company F were Brennan Grass, of Golden; Jolene Carrica, of Rocky Ford; and Michael Bathauer, of Kingman, Ariz.

“There are many larger and more prestigious universities in the competition,” said Bathauer. “We are putting into practice all the knowledge we learned about business in previous classes like accounting, finance, production and operation.”

The class had six other companies besides Companies E and F, and competed against other colleges and universities across the globe. “Placing in the top 100 on any metric is a fantastic accomplishment,” Buser added.

During the Adams State 2022 Spring Commencement Ceremony, Bechaver, business administration/banking and finance; Carrica, business administration/marketing; and Grass, business administration/marketing; received their Bachelor of Science degrees.

Grass is pursuing an internship in sales for Daktronics.

“Until I had to apply my skills, I didn’t realize how much I actually

learned in my business classes. I feel well-prepared for my chosen profession,” Grass said.

Carrica began working as an administrative assistant for the chief executive at Valley Wide Health Services as a student and is remaining with the organization.

“At Adams State there is a close personal connection with your teachers and their support and encouragement definitely added to my success,” Carrica said.

BSG, marketed by McGraw-Hill Education, Inc., is designed to give students in higher education the opportunity to compete in a global marketplace through the simulated environment.

“The simulation engages students to learn how real-life businesses achieve goals,” Buser added.

SG authors including Art Thompson, Greg Stappenbeck and Mark Reidenbach, said the performances, by Adams State companies E and F, reflect quite well on Buser and the caliber of instruction the students receive at Adams State.

“Adams State provides so many opportunities and because of its small size has the ability to connect with each student,” Bathauer said. “Professors here really care about their students’ success. If a student wants to better themselves, this is the place to do it.”

Each week was a year in the virtual BSG marketplace. Every Monday, BSG compiled lists of the prior week’s best-performing companies worldwide based on four measures: Overall Score (current year), Earnings Per Share, Return on Average Equity, and Stock Price.

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GROWERS Continued from Page 1

their market,” Ehrlich said. Polis touched on the effort put into the agreement by Colorado’s Department of Agriculture, including a trip where he and Greenberg travelled to Mexico to meet with officials and officials from Mexico coming to Colorado to observe productions in the state.

Undersecretary Moffitt echoed Polis, saying that “the San Luis Valley showcased to Mexico what American production is all about.”

She added that standard healthy farming practices in the Valley, like crop rotation, were discussed.

“Their observation of production has given full confidence to Mexico. Growers here are some of the best in the world.

You produce a high-quality product, and we will only ship the best product south,” Moffitt said.

Polis added that Mexico President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador recognizes the importance of establishing a “western hemisphere supply chain,” the value of which has become even more apparent in recent years.

“We reached an enduring agreement,” Polis said.

Until recently, the U.S. exported potatoes to Mexico but they were limited to a 22-mile stretch along the border. Anything further than that was prohibited, with the reason going back more than a decade.

Twenty years ago, the United States entered an agreement with Mexico to open trade with the import of avocados from Mexico in

exchange for exporting potatoes from the U.S. However, while the import of avocados increased, potatoes from the U.S. were unable to make it across the border, largely due to resistance from growers in Mexico protecting their market.

In 2011, Mexico finally opened up to importing potatoes, but limited delivery to a zone of about 20 miles that ran the length of the border. That led to a wave of legal cases filed by growers’ organizations in Mexico trying to protect their domestic production and prevent competition from importers.

Those cases finally made it to Mexico’s Supreme Court in 2018.

Three years later, in March of 2021, the court issued their ruling, rejecting the cases filed by Mexican producers and granting full access by U.S. potato growers to all of Mexico.

Polis praised the assistance of numerous officials in helping make the agreement possible, including U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack.

After heralding the agreement as being important to potato growers in the Valley, Ehrlich made special mention of the efforts Colorado U.S. Senator Michael Bennet made in opening Mexico’s markets to Colorado potato growers.

In closing, Polis acknowledged that most view Idaho as the number one potato grower in the U.S.

“Watch out, Idaho, here we come,” he said.





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South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc. the Local Area Agency on Aging is looking for a Meal Server in Center. MUST HAVE training and experience in food preparation and nutrition. 3 hours per day, Monday through Friday. This position is responsible for Food Preparation according to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and must be familiar with Colorado Retail Food Establishments Rules and Regulations and certification Food Safety and Handling. Ideal Candidates: Must maintain meal-site according to Food Safety Regulations and be prepared and ready for inspection by State Health Inspector at any time. Will prepare for food delivery; warming of food, thermometer calibrations, etc. Will safely serve meals to incoming consumers at the meal-site and clean the meal-site location to Food Safety Inspection standards. South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc.

is an EOE. Applications and Full Job Descriptions are available at South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc., 1116 3rd St. Alamosa CO or call 719-589-4511 for more information. (6/1)

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION- Job Vacancy #48-22 Area Extension Agent 4-H Youth Development, San Luis Valley Area, Monte Vista, CO. **Colorado State University and the San Luis Valley are hiring a 4-H Youth Development Agent** who is passionate about helping youth recognize their opportunities beyond high school, create goals, and achieve their dreams. This specific 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent position is a full-time position working with youth in the schools and the Juntos 4-H program throughout the

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

San Luis Valley Area. A completed bachelor's degree is required. Degree must be conferred in education, public health, social sciences, public relations, agricultural sciences, agricultural education, youth development or a closely related field. To view the job vacancy announcement and

apply, click link: <https://jobs.colorado-state.edu/postings/104248>. **For full consideration, all materials must be RECEIVED no later than 11:59 PM Mountain Time on Friday, June 3, 2022.** For questions regarding the job vacancy, responsibilities, and salary, please contact Robin Young

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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. Check us out on Facebook and our website, and see you at the Mercado!

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MercadoDelNorte.org | Facebook: Mercado Del Norte
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Valley Wide Classifieds

at (970) 264-5931 or robin.young@colostate.edu We are committed to increasing the diversity of our staff and providing culturally responsive programs and services. Therefore, we encourage responses from people of all backgrounds and abilities. We invite you to review Colorado State University's Principles of Community that guide our mission and vision of access, teaching, service, and engagement. CSU is an EO/EA/AA employer and conducts background checks on all final candidates. (6/1/22)

Saguache County, Colorado, is seeking to fill the position of Public Health Office Manager. Must have great phone skills, computer skills, knowledge of Google Documents, organized and be able to multitask. Spanish language skills helpful. All inquiries should be directed to: Mona Lovato, Public Health Director E-mail: mlovato@saguachecounty-co.gov Applicants must submit a job application. The job application is available online at saguachecounty-colorado.gov/jobopportunities Send applications to the following address no later than 3:00 p.m. on Monday May 23, 2022. Faxed and emailed applications are accepted 719-655-2635 or aquintana@saguachecounty-co.gov or mlovato@saguachecounty-co.gov.

Bowen Community Church of Monte Vista, CO, is seeking a 1/4 time Pastor. This Independent Christian Church seeks a Pastor to provide scripturally-based sermons, and other pastoral duties as time allows. For complete job description/application email: forage1@gojade.org. or call 719-580-2562 (6/8)

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, MS-Word, 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

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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.



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/>

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including 3 references to PO Box 556, Saguache, CO. 81149. Drug testing and Background checks will be completed on final applicants.

Driveline is Hiring in our area. For more Information visit www.driveline-retail/careers.com (6/25)

10 Apartments
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17 Real Estate For Sale
35.71 acres between Monte Vista and Alamosa on County Line Road, borders highway, good grass, easy access, power and ready to build on. Priced \$109,000. Call **Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty Inc** 719-873-1700. (5/25)

7 Quarters with pivots, 9350 GPM well water, 25 Shares of Rio Grande Canal, 3 decrees of good water rights out of Carnero Creek, fenced, new 200 pipe corral calf feedlot, good production and locations. Call **Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty Inc** 719-580-0770. (5/25)

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

24 Garage Sales
Yard Sale-716 Adams Street Sat & Sun 8-12. All items in good condition. 1-8 ft. alum. Motorcycle ramp, 1-8 ft. alum. step ladder, 1-inch receiver and ball. 2-end tables refinished, 3-4 ft. shop lights, 1-3 gal. air compressor running w/25 ft. hose, 1-24 ladies bicycle w/child seat restored, 1-child's bike new tubes. 1-girls 10 speed bike, 1-brace and 10

bits w/box old, 1-10 gun metal safe/2 keys and much more. (6/1)

Moving sale, Saturday June 4th, 10am to 3 pm. 424 Davis Street, Monte Vista.(6/1)

32 Fuel & Heating
NEED FIREWOOD? Call Elam at Cozy Glo LLC, 719-480-5047, Delivery Available. (6/22)

Finewood Vail, Farmerboy Sawmill has firewood bundled slabs for \$15.00 a bundle thru June 30, or while supplies last Call 719-480-4059. (6/22)

36 Miscellaneous
Craft Lawn Tractor 19.5 HP Variation Speed with 42-in Deck New Basler assembly \$1,100. Bissell Pro & Carpet Shampooer used only once \$125.00, Clean Sweep Bail Seed Oil 5 Gallons \$60.00 Call Earl 719-274-5371

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

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Zapata Land for Sale 719-937-3850. 3/30) 75 Gallon Gas Tank for Pickup or Truck, Wind Guard for Pickup or Truck Pickup tool box. 719-937-3850

50 Livestock
For Sale 2yo laying hens. Price varies by quantity. Call or txt 719-

588-0248. (6/22)

64 Autos for Sale
Jeeps for Sale: CJ7 62 Wheelie Wagon as is. CJ7 clutch probles 81 Wheelie fuel pump call 719-258-5389. (6/22)

Jeeps for Sale: 81 CJ-7 62 Wheelies Wagon as is. CJ7 clutch problems 81 Wheelie, fuel pump Problems Text 719-248-5389. Price is Firm! (6/22)

65 Professional Services
FIRE MITIGATION—Brush Mowing around homesteads and out buildings. Center, LaGarita Area. Call (715)699-3703 (6/29)

LICENSED PLUMBER does all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodels at reasonable rates. Quick service. Call anytime, available weekends and evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (6/1) TFN

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TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022
SKI-HI COMPLEX
2335 SHERMAN AVE. • MONTE VISTA
5:30 P.M.
Registration Opens
7 P.M.
START OF Business Meeting

If you are planning to attend, RSVP with the number in your party by June 6. Call 719-852-3538 or email: 2022AnnMeet@slvrec.com

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All members welcome!

Candidate bios are online at slvrec.com/annual-meeting

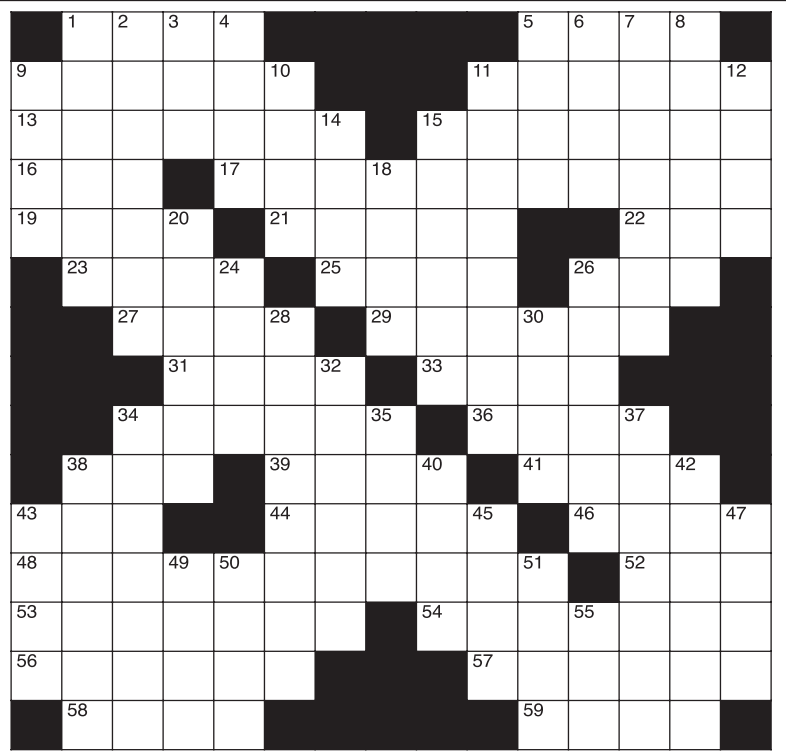
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CLUES ACROSS

- Breathe noisily
- ___ Nui, Easter Island
- Reddish browns
- Simple shoes
- Produce alcohol illegally
- Home to famed golf tournament
- Tax collector
- Famous people
- Urban area
- Units of syllable weight
- Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
- Dismounted
- Actor Damon
- Vietnamese offensive
- Retail term
- Netted
- Partner to carrots
- Witnesses
- Caulked
- Satisfy
- R&B performer ___ Lo
- Monetary units of Macao
- Give advice, explain
- Possesses
- Turn back
- Gentlemen
- One who fertilizes
- Italian monk title (prefix)
- Parties
- Type of horse



- Cuts in half
- Raises
- Expresses contempt or disgust
- Ancient Italian-Greek colony
- Becomes less intense
- Geological times
- Hooray!
- Monetary unit
- Male reproductive organs
- Earnings
- Close by
- Small integers
- Fixed in place
- Used to treat Parkinson's disease
- Large, imposing building
- A rooflike shelter
- Stiff, hairlike structure
- Print errors
- To show disapproval
- Body of traditions
- Without
- ___ Clapton, musician
- Dangerous illegal drug
- Infrequent
- Sound unit

CLUES DOWN

- Illinois city
- One of the original disciples chosen by Christ
- Young form of a louse
- Type of powder
- Finger millet
- Share a common boundary
- Assumed as a fact
- Provide clear evidence of
- Invests in little enterprises
- A way to be
- Monies given in support
- Fashion accessory
- Steal

Solution to last week's puzzle

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

PUBLIC AUCTION

We have quit farming and leased our land, therefore we will offer the following Equipment and Miscellaneous Items At Public Auction located from Monte Vista Co North on HWY 285 7 miles to road 7N then West 2 miles. From Center Co (Gunbarrel Station) South on HWY 285, 5 miles to road 7N then West 2 miles

TUESDAY JUNE 14, 2022
 Sale Starting at 10:00 o'clock sharp

TRACTORS-COMBINE-WINDROWER-LOADERS

11 JD 8260R Tractor FWD, Duals, 2000 Hrs, GPS	08 MacDon M150 Windrower, 15' D600 Draper Header, Dual Direction, 1250 HRS
01 JD 8410 Tractor FWD, Duals, 6000 Hrs, GPS	42 JD H Tractor
Bob Cat 5185 Skid Loader, Forks, Bucket	39 JD L Tractor
Bob Cat 843 Skid Loader, Forks, Bucket	
Case I-H 1680 Combine, Axial Plow 1015 F.U. Header 1780 HRS	

TILLAGE AND FERTILIZER

Case IH 530B Ecotiger 3pt Crumple	34' Flex Harrow w/Carrier	Bush Hog 26' Flail Beater
Great Plains 5329 Disc 32'Fold w/Roller	24' Flex Harrow Hitch	3pt Hiller
JD 17 Shank Chisel w/ Dyna Drive	JD 24' Renovator Chisel	JD Diskers
Brillion 36' Roller Packer	JD 4600 6 Bottom Plow,	4' X 16' Loader Hopper, Metal
JD 11 Shank Deep Chisel w/ Brillion Packer	Roller	Set of Wylie Saddle Tanks
EversMan 2400 Land Plane 28'	JD 5 Bottom Plow, Drag	Set of Broyhil Saddle Tanks
JD 28' Chisel	JD HYD Lift	500 Gallon Sprayer on Trailer
M&M 24' Rotary Hoe	JD H X 20 Beater, Flail	1000 Gal Sprayer on Trailer
	LoftNess 24' Beater	30' Boom

GRAIN AND HAY

Crust Buster 3400 Drill Fold 6" Double Disc	8" X 70' Auger, PTO	12 Wheel Rake
Conveyor 4505 Grain Vac PTO A-1	Case IHC 8545 Baler	Miller Pro 1100 Rake
Mayral 10" X 90'. PTO Auger Fold Out	Darf 917 Wheel Rake	NH Side Delivery Rake.

POTATO

Lockwood 4741 4 Row Harvester	Mile Stone Seed Cutter 40", A-1	24" X 30 Conveyor
Lockwood 2 Row Harvester, Case IH 4390T Diesel	2- Mile Stone Telescope Pilers	24" X 28' Conveyor Stinger
Lockwood 4 Row Digger	24" X 60'	30" X Rock Eliminator
Lockwood 2 Row Digger	Mile Stone Telescope Piler	12" X 24' Seed Conveyor
Kverneland Under Hog 3300	30" X 60'	18" X 28' Seed Piler
Planter 6 Row	Mile Stone 16" X 24' Seed Piler	22' Bulk Bed Trailer
	2- 30" X 72' Telescope Conveyors	18' Bulk Bed Trailer

PICKUP AND TRUCKS AND TRAILER

95 Ford F-250 Pickup	58 Chevy Truck, Fuel Tanks w/ Pump
72 IHC 1700 Truck, 18' Grain Bed & Hoist, Auger	40' Flat Bed Trailer, Dollie Pinall Hitch
59 Ford 700 Truck 22' Bulk Bed	

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

220 Power Cords	2 300 Gal Fuel Tanks on Stands	12' Poly Feeder
24 A Frame on Wheels	200 Gal Nurse Tank Trailer	5' Round Water Tank
1000 Gallon Plastic Tank	110 Gal Nurse Tank, Trailer,	Digger - Harvester - Chains
5 Injection Tanks	Electric Motor Pump	Rollers - Sprockets
Several Center Drives	Buzz Saw	Chisel Points - Shanks
Buzz Saw	Wire Roller	11 Chain Boomers
2 500 Gal Fuel Tanks on Stands	2- 14.9-24 Sprinkler Tires	3 Come-a-Longs

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South Fork Friends Foundation gearing up for annual yard sale

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

SOUTH FORK — The South Fork Friends Foundation is ready for its annual town-wide yard sale but is still hoping to draw more interest from homes.

The map is growing every day and will consist of private locations and those that are set up at the South Fork

Visitor Center on the day of the event.

Now is the time to get rid of the old and maybe come out to find something new. The annual event also corresponds with the annual town-wide clean-up event which gives residents in the 81154 zip code a chance to clean up their yards, garages, and homes. Two dumpsters

will be available throughout the day on June 11. Residents can bring everything except paint, chemicals, electronics and large appliances to be disposed of for free.

For people that wish to set up a table or booth at the Visitor Center, the town has a minimal number of tables that can be leased. The map with private residences participating in the yard sale will be released the night before on social media and a paper copy can be picked up Saturday morning, June 11.

In other news, the foundation was

recently awarded two grants that will partially help pay for a multi-use cement pad to be laid in Rickel Park. The cement pad will serve as basketball courts during the summer and as the ice-skating rink in the winter.

According to the foundation, "Other uses can be pickleball, rollerblading, roller skating, ice hockey, bicycling, etc. We are working with the Town of South Fork and True Grit Excavation to get this project started soon and expect it to be done mid-to-late summer. One grant for \$20,000

is from the Robert Hoag Rawlings Foundation in Pueblo and the other is for \$30,000 from Rio Grande County. The cost of the project is \$98,560. SFFF will be starting a fundraising drive soon to come up with the rest of the money needed.

This is only the beginning of events and fundraising opportunities to come this summer including the first-ever Arts and Craft Festival later in July and a pack burro racing event up Alder Creek in the fall. More details about these events and more will be released as they come available.

Carnegie Library Summer Reading Programs begin June 6

MONTE VISTA — The Carnegie Library in Monte Vista and the Carnegie Library in South Fork will have Summer Reading Program the weeks of June 6, 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.

MVHS Class of 1972 seeking classmates

MONTE VISTA — The Monte Vista High School Class of 1972 will be having a class reunion on July 22-23 and is trying to locate fellow

classmates. Members of the MVHS Class of 1972 are asked to call 719-852-5474 or email mvhsirates72@yahoo.com, for more information.

RYTHMS

thousand people on the property.

Said Stecken, "It's a great property, heavily wooded and right on the river, so we get to keep the name."

While the South Fork location was usually a self-contained event, Stecken expects concert attendees will spread out to visit local restaurants and attractions, such as the river water park and the nearby trail network. They're encouraging it, delaying the start of music on Saturday so concertgoers can walk into town to enjoy the parade at Covered Wagon Days, another longtime event held the same weekend.

The new site is about 10 acres smaller than in South Fork, so the number of tickets with camping will be limited to 1,600. RV campsites sold out fast, though tickets for car and tent camping remain on sale. A three-day pass with camping is \$160 per person, and children 15 and under are free.

Tickets for Valley residents who don't want to camp will be on sale early this summer at Rhythmsontherio.com. A price has not been announced.

A dozen musical acts have been announced, including headliner Railroad Earth, and Stecken expects more to be announced in the coming weeks.

Asked why the festival remains so popular people will buy tickets without knowing who all the bands will be, Stecken said music lovers believe in the brand.

"Our festival is never going to be a festival where you walk in and start getting hit up by corporate sponsorships. Our goal is to put on great music at an affordable price for families and individuals to come and enjoy," he said. "Our lineup is stacked. We could have potentially 10, 12 Grammy winners."

Stecken hopes the festival will become an annual one in Del Norte, and that it will enhance the town's profile and put it on Colorado's musical map.

"Maybe people won't see Del Norte as such a traveling-through town," he said. "Concerts are a

Continued from Page 1

place where nobody cares about anything except what's going on in front of them and that's the music. Nobody cares about your political affiliation. Nobody cares about what clothes you have on. It's just the music and I want to see that continue in the future. I want my kids to have that ability. We just want to keep music going."

Other announced acts are the Bluegrass Generals, featuring Andy Hall and Chris Pandolfi of Infamous Stringdusters with a special guest to be announced; the Travelin' McCourys; Hip Abduction; The Texas Gentlemen; Pixie & the Partygrass Boys; Laney Lou & the Bird Dogs; Cole Chaney; The Jauntie; Branjae; and The Smelter Mountain Boys.

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Animal Society**

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www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org

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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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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.
Ashes not picked up after 60 days will respectfully be spread over our Conour Garden.

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Your Pets**

It is important that all pet owners have their dogs & cats spayed or neutered to control the pet overpopulation and vaccinate to prevent the spread of disease.



All breeds & ages of animals are a "best guess" and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping.
This ad space donated by Valley Publishing Inc.

Business Showcase

Fishing for a gift for Dad? Let us lure you in for a special present for him.



The Holy Moses
658-2848
Open Mon.-Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
121 N. Main Creede

This Week's Feature



THE HOLY MOSES

An enchanting Collection of Cabin Decor, Colorado Pottery, Quilts, Linens & Specialty Foods!

It's Worth The Drive

Open Mon.-Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Nick & Vicki Kulyk
121 N. Main • 658-2848 • Creede

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate



Nice area to build with beautiful views! 1+ acres in Alpine Vista. \$31,500 MLS#786764

Legends Premier Properties
Debbie Milne, Broker 810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
719-850-9532(cell) • 719-852-0450 www.legendspremierproperties.com



Great access with 101 feet of exposure just off of US Highway 160! This property offers multiple options! It would work great for mobile homes, developments, or a commercial building. All utilities are available, but would need to be tapped into. This is the perfect property for your next project! Call to view! \$175,500 MLS#789021

Legends Premier Properties
Klayton Gosar, Associate Broker 810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
719-852-0450 www.legendspremierproperties.com



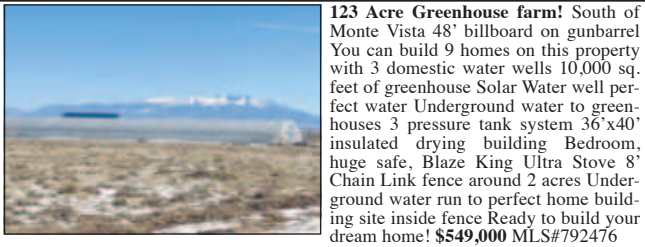
Charming country home and ranch! This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home is located on about 26 acres between Alamosa, and La Jara. The home offers baseboard heating, a fireplace, beautiful stainless steel appliances, and many built in additions. Attached to the garage is a 1 bedroom apartment with a newer refrigerator. There are additional out buildings and fencing on the property. Come and see this home if you are ready for some great country living! **NEW PRICE!** \$399,900 MLS#790848

Legends Premier Properties
Tracy Gosar, Broker/Owner 810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
719-850-1815(cell) • 719-852-0450 www.legendspremierproperties.com



Beautiful home on 2 acres of land just outside of city limits. This 4 bedroom, 3 bath home offers so many great views of our local farming community and mountains. The home has just recently had the roof, stucco, windows/doors replaced, as well as all bathrooms being remodeled. The magnificent yard is adorned with beautiful trees, and has a sandbox for children to enjoy while you are having summer BBQ's on the back deck. Inside the home there is a fire place in the living room. The large master bed room has a beautiful bathroom with a large walk in shower. The cozy kitchen is a great place to make home cooked meals for your friends and family. Attached to the home is a 2 car garage with a one car detached garage as well. \$595,000 MLS#791385

Legends Premier Properties
Klayton Gosar, Associate Broker 810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
719-852-0450 www.legendspremierproperties.com



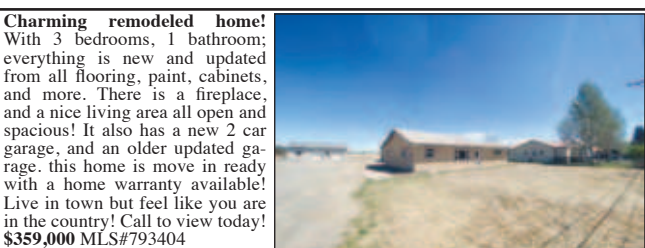
123 Acre Greenhouse farm! South of Monte Vista 48' billboard on gunbarrel You can build 9 homes on this property with 3 domestic water wells 10,000 sq. feet of greenhouse Solar Water well perfect water Underground water to greenhouses 3 pressure tank system 36'x40' insulated drying building Bedroom, huge safe, Blaze King Ultra Stove 8' Chain Link fence around 2 acres Underground water run to perfect home building site inside fence Ready to build your dream home! \$549,000 MLS#792476

Legends Premier Properties
Tracy Gosar, Broker/Owner 810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
719-850-1815(cell) • 719-852-0450 www.legendspremierproperties.com



Just under 173 Acres with Stunning Views of the Sangre De Cristo Range and the San Luis Valley. Property is made up of 5 contiguous platted lots with BLM on north and east sides. Access is platted road to center of all lots. Some areas are heavily treed, with rock out-croppings and pasture. Zoned Agricultural Ranching. No HOA, No Covenants. Desirable hunting in Unit 80. Secluded and quiet but just 20 minutes from town. Rare Find! \$499,000 MLS#793574

Legends Premier Properties
Kazie Deacon, Associate Broker 810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
719-850-2827 www.legendspremierproperties.com



Charming remodeled home! With 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom; everything is new and updated from all flooring, paint, cabinets, and more. There is a fireplace, and a nice living area all open and spacious! It also has a new 2 car garage, and an older updated garage. This home is move in ready with a home warranty available! Live in town but feel like you are in the country! Call to view today! \$359,000 MLS#793404

Legends Premier Properties
Tracy Gosar, Broker/Owner 810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
719-850-1815(cell) • 719-852-0450 www.legendspremierproperties.com

Under Contract

LOOK IMPROVED PRICE! \$88,000 Beautiful 8.01 Acre parcel located in Crow's Nest subdivision in South Fork, CO. Paved roads, city water and sewer with water tap that is currently paid. Wonderful mountain views over looking the Rio Grande River and the town of South Fork. Your perfect location to build your dream home. Moments away from Gold medal fly fishing, hiking, camping, skiing, 4 wheeling, hunting and everything outdoors. Call and schedule your showing today! MLS #775764
0 Escondida Drive • South Fork
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

SOLD

LOOK IMPROVED PRICE \$66,900 Seller Motivated! This Parcel is located in the mountain town of South Fork, Colorado. Located in the majestic San Juan Mountains. You will find a variety of historic motels, hotels, medical clinic, grocery store, repair shops restaurants, shopping for the active sportsman, RV and ATV dealers. The avid golfer will enjoy the play at Rio Grande Golf Club and Resort. The winter sport opportunities are boundless as well. Wolf Creek Ski Area is famous for the most snow in the country and only 20 minutes away. South Fork, Co is a popular destination for skiing and those who love snowmobiling, four wheeling, hiking and camping. Come enjoy this majestic place. MLS #781184
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

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We work hard for you!

Call Bernadette today!

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3.4" wide x 4" tall ----- \$70 per week
3.4" wide x 6" ----- \$105 per week
7" wide x 2" tall ----- \$70 per week

CALL TODAY!
719-852-3531

Valley Publishing

Sandra Marquez
smarquez@valleypublishinginc.com
Brian Williams
bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com

SOLD

\$658,000 MLS #785486
441 Lande • South Fork
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

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

• 3 bedroom • 2 bathroom

This could be your new home. Amazing Custom - Built Full log Home - Entry room, living room, large kitchen with island, lots of cabinet space, laundry. This home has beautiful wrap around porches that offer great views of the mountains and cliffs. The attached double garage is 576 Sq. Ft. with concrete floor. The home is fully fenced. Additional 2,000 sq. ft. workshop. MLS#772697
181 Doe Circle • South Fork
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

SOLD

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

SOLD

Custom built, impeccable quality, full log home located just minutes from town of South Fork, Colorado. This home and 1015 sq. ft. bunkhouse provides a total sq. ft. of 5458. Features in the home include a massive rock fireplace, 3 bedrooms, 3-1/2 bathrooms, loft that boasts a futon plus two window beds, office, playroom, and a large living room for you to enjoy with family and friends. The wrap around deck will allow you to experience world-class high mountain views. Above the garage is a custom log guest quarters with a spectacular kitchen, bath, large living room, and bedroom combined into one unit. Bear Creek subdivision offers controlled access through a gated entrance. MLS #738155
107 Marmot Lane • South Fork
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

FOR SALE

2.07 AC Lot in beautiful Beaver Mountain Estates. Level building site with views of the surrounding mountains. Plenty of wildlife roam this area and are a joy to see, including mule deer and wild turkeys. Central sewer and water tap, paved roads and local utilities. Moments away from the South Fork River, Rio Grande River, national forest, champion golf club and Wolf Creek ski area. Call and schedule your showing today! \$2,500,000 MLS #788938
651 Escondida Drive • South Fork
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

FOR SALE

Wonderful custom home site located on the Rio Grande Golf Course in South Fork, Colorado. Beautiful fairway and mountain views and just moments from the Rio Grande River. A perfect place to to build your dream home or vacation home with year round access and public South Fork water and sewer. Enjoy the beautiful outdoors, great golfing, fishing and magnificent skiing at Wolf Creek during the winter season. Call and schedule your viewing today! \$62,900 MLS #784728
134 Rio Grande Club Trail • South Fork
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com