

Shorts

Pedestrian hit by truck on Saguache County Road 49.5

SAGUACHE COUNTY — A person suffered life-threatening injuries when they were hit by a pickup early Friday morning, May 6, on Saguache County Road 49.5, Colorado State Patrol reported.

At approximately 2:40 a.m. on May 6, CSP responded to a vehicle versus pedestrian crash on Saguache County Road 49.5 just south of Saguache County Road B.

Investigation revealed that the vehicle, a blue 1995 Chevrolet 1500 pickup, was traveling south on Saguache County Road 49.5 approaching a vehicle that was stopped on the right shoulder. A person was near the center of the road, next to the stopped vehicle, CSP reported.

The Chevrolet struck the pedestrian with its front while swerving to the left, CSP reported. The Chevrolet left the scene and drove home. The driver called and reported the crash after returning home.

The pedestrian suffered life-threatening injuries and was transported to Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs.

The incident was still under investigation, CSP reported.

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.

City of MV celebrating Arbor Day on May 12

MONTE VISTA — The City of Monte Vista Tree Board, and Colorado State Forest Service will be celebrating Arbor Day by planting a tree at 1 p.m. on May 12 at the Monte Vista Skate Park. The Skate Park is located on Highway 160 across from Marsh School.

CORRECTION

In the May 4 article, Sargent Board Trustee Mitchell censured by board, Matthew Smartt said he voted "present" and that our reporting, his vote of "not-present" was incorrect. We regret the error.

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta brings fun to downtown Saguache

BY MECHEL MEEK
SAGUACHE — H.E.A.R.T of Saguache/KV hosted the 7th annual Cinco de Mayo Fiesta in Saguache on May 7. The event consisted of activities provided by H.E.A.R.T of Saguache/KV, Adventure Awaits (Mountain Valley School), The Range, and The Cozy Castle Cinema (The Village Pub).

The car show portion of the festival was held in front of the Saguache County Court House with a total of 16 cars on display.

According to Jacob Chavez of H.E.A.R.T of Saguache/KV, Jim Kernodle took first place with his 1970 Dodge Challenger R/T along with the Best Interior Award.

Pat Eastmon took second place with his 1965 Ford Thunderbird along with *Please see FIESTA on Page 4A*



The Range hosted the San Luis Valley Colcha Embroidery on May 7 during the Cinco de Mayo Fiesta in Saguache with more than 200 people coming to celebrate the artists. The event drew visitors from across Colorado and New Mexico, with attendees traveling from as far as New York, California, and Ecuador for the occasion.



Photos courtesy of H.E.A.R.T of Saguache/KV and Jacob Chavez
Jim Kernodle took first place with his 1970 Dodge Challenger R/T along with the Best Interior Award.

Center Schools honor students, award scholarships

BY MECHEL MEEK
CENTER — The Center Consolidated School District held a High School Awards Night on May 9 and presented students with scholarships and academic achievements. The auditorium was crowded with parents, extended family and students in attendance to congratulate and celebrate the achievements of the students.

While the class of 19 seniors was smaller than usual, they were not lacking in educational and community achievements. The list of the winners is as follows according to Superintendent Carrie Zimmerman.

- KiwanisScholarship, presented by Don and Janet Noland
- Deisy Estrada-Majalca - \$1,000
- Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro - \$1,000

Please see HONOR on Page 6A



Photo courtesy of Kiwanis Club of Center

Members of the Kiwanis Club of Center award four \$1,000 scholarships to deserving Center High School Seniors of the Class of 2022 on May 9. Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro, Deisy Estrada-Majalca, and Alexis Varela each received the Kiwanis Club of Center Scholarships and Mica Garcia received the Jim Miller Kiwanis Memorial Scholarship. Pictured from left to right are Kiwanian Janet Noland, Mica Garcia, Alexis Varela, Deisy Estrada-Majalca, and Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro.

San Luis Valley enters Stage 1 fire restrictions

STAFF REPORT
MONTE VISTA — The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) San Luis Valley Field Office entered Stage 1 fire restrictions on May 6 due to dry conditions and high fire danger. The fire restrictions apply to all BLM-administered public lands within the boundaries of Alamosa, Conejos, Saguache, Rio Grande, Mineral, and Costilla counties.

"Gusty winds and low relative humidity have dried fuels in the San Luis Valley, priming them for ignition," said San Luis Valley Field Manager Melissa Garcia. "In order to reduce the risk of wildfire ignition and loss of values at risk, Stage 1 fire restrictions that go into effect tomorrow will remain in effect until further notice."

Under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions the following acts are prohibited:

Please see FIRE on Page 7A

Everyone wins at CPD, CFD fundraiser basketball game

BY MECHEL MEEK
CENTER — The Center Police Department and the Center Fire Department met at the Center High School gym to entertain the crowd and to raise money on Sunday, May 8, for the victims of the recent fire in Monte Vista.

The game started with a bang as CFD rode to the gym with full lights and sirens.

The CPD team and the CFD team were well matched, and the game was back and forth throughout.

In the last few minutes of the second half, CPD managed to put on the pressure, stealing the ball, causing turnovers and scoring in a mad rush to beat CFD 68-63.

According to CPD Chief Dale Meek, "The firefighters made it interesting but went down *Please see GAME on Page 8A*



Photo by Mechel Meek

The Center Police and Fire departments played a charity basketball game on May 8 at Center High School. The proceeds were donated to victims of the Monte Vista Fire.

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OBITUARIES

Wilma Faye Schaffer

Wilma Faye Schaffer, 74, was born on Nov. 26, 1946, to George and Ruth Skinner. She was the oldest of five children. Wilma lived in several other states, before her parents decided to make Saguache, Colo., their forever home.

On April 18, 1964, she married her husband of 50 years Jimmy Wayne Schaffer who preceded her in death in 2015.

Together they had two children: Jeff Schaffer and Danette (Chris) Hansen. Wilma was blessed with three grandchildren: Michael (Breann) Dickey, Andrea (Albert, II) Martinez, and Jessica (Chris) Tidwell.

She was also blessed with seven great-grandchildren: Delaney and Danica Dickey, Emily and Albert Martinez III, and Aaron, Alec, and Allison Tidwell.

Wilma was preceded in death by her mother, father, and her husband.

She is survived by her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren as well as her siblings: Winnie (Steve) Eubanks, Wanda (Tony) Harrison, Wyoma (Ron) Hansen, and Elton (Pam) Skinner and many nieces and nephews.

Wilma loved to be outdoors. She loved to ride horseback, go camping, hiking, boating, fishing, exploring Native American culture and their ruins, waterskiing, and snow skiing. Later in life when she was unable to get around due to a bum knee, she liked to go for rides around lakes and parks in a wheelchair. Go for drives around the area, and travel



when possible. She was able to get an electric scooter, which she enjoyed greatly.

Wilma wore many hats, she was a nurse (LPN), belly dancing instructor, EMT, CPR instructor, surgical tech, administrative assistant, and dispatcher/jailer.

Although she wore many hats her most fulfilling job was as an LPN. She retired from the Rio Grande Hospital Clinic when her husband became ill.

In September 2016, she was diagnosed with Ampullary Cancer. She fought a hard fight, but it took a lot out of her.

In October 2017 Wilma decided to move to Arizona. She did not want to deal with the snow and cold anymore. In Arizona, she found doctors that could help her fight the cancer. She had been on Chemo for 4 and a half years. She had only been off the Chemo for about 8 months.

Wilma moved into a senior independent living apartment in September 2019, there she made many new friends. She liked to play Bunco with the other ladies, which she enjoyed greatly. Wilma enjoyed visiting the ladies in her apartment complex.

She enjoyed spending time with family. Holidays were always special. She was loved by many and will be missed.

A Memorial Service will be held on May 14, 2022, in Del Norte, Colo., at the Del Norte Lodge Hall, 598 Spruce St., Del Norte, CO 81132 at 2 p.m. With the inurnment at the Schaffer Ranch to follow. There will be refreshments after at the Del Norte Lodge Hall. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to the American Cancer Society or your favorite wildlife foundation.



Darlene Ann Morgan

Monte Vista resident Darlene Ann Morgan, 78, earned her heavenly wings on May 6, 2022, at the Rio Grande Hospital in Del Norte with her kids by her side.

Darlene was born in Cleveland, Ohio on Oct. 17, 1943, the daughter of Clarence and Anna Hunter. She married Gene Morgan in Las Vegas, Nev., on March 21, 1995. She and her husband Gene moved to Arboles, Colo., for a time and she loved living in that area. They enjoyed 26 years together until his death in 2021.

Darlene worked for the Monte Vista School District for many years. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and Job's Daughters International. She loved quilting and crafting and enjoyed making things for her loved ones.

Darlene is survived by her children C.E. (Shari) Glunz, Monte Vista, Colo., and Dawn Martin of Alamosa, Colo.; her step-children Sue (Darrel) Plane and family, Gordon (Cindy) Morgan and family, Janet (Jim) Gonzales and family; her grandchildren J.R. (D'Anna) Martin, Jarrad Martin, and Angela DeSautell; her great-grandchild Maverick Martin; as well as her sister Karen Berger of Duck, N.C., and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

Darlene was preceded in death by her parents, Clarence and Anna, her husband Gene, her sister Gini Garner, her brother-in-law Richard Berger, and her son-in-law Harold Martin.

Cremation was chosen and a Celebration of Life gathering will be held 10 a.m. Monday, May 16, 2022, at the Rogers Family Mortuary, 404 Morris St. in Monte Vista. A Memorial Luncheon will be held at Monte Vista Elks Lodge, 121 Washington St. in Monte Vista. Everyone is invited to attend.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Rio Grande Hospital or the Monte Vista Community Ambulance Fund in Darlene's name.

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



Phil Leggitt Memorial Service

A Memorial Service for long-time sheriff Phil Leggitt is planned for May 21 at 12 p.m. at Seime Park, next to the Creede Cemetery. Bring a chair, umbrella or hat. You never know about the Creede weather so

pack a blanket just in case. A Thanksgiving-style meal will be served at the old gym at 2 p.m. for family and friends. Stories must be told.

Memorial donations can be

made in honor of the Phil Leggitt Scholarship Fund, in care of Diana Leggitt, PO Box 313, Creede, CO. 81130.

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



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OPINION & EDITORIAL

Here's your sign

Probably most of my readers out there can recall the comedian Bill Engvall doing the routine about people asking dumb questions. He contends that stupid people need to wear a sign so that anyone in contact with them will know they are, well, stupid.

Typical of his routine is a guy carrying a stringer full of fish and some bystander asking "hey, did you catch those fish?" To which he replies, "nope, they jumped in the boat with me. Here's your sign."

We all can relate to that type of situation where someone asks us about the most obvious thing in the world and Ol' Dutch has caught himself doing the same on occasion. To which Miss Trixie just nodded in agreement and said, "Here's your sign."

And I have to admit that maybe I am slipping a little bit after the events of this past week when Miss Trixie took a sabbatical from the wonderful personage of Ol' Dutch to help relatives.

She began her sojourn in the land of kith and kin (look it up) last week and she got up bright and early on her day of departure.

Which does not fit into my idea of a good start to a day so Ol' Dutch was stretched out in the bed like a big ole beached whale when she left the house.

Which meant it was so quiet that it woke me up not hearing Miss Trixie's normal slamming the front door repeatedly trying to get Cooper to poop.

I finally stumbled out of the old fart sack and found my way to the water closet only to find my first, yes you guessed it, sign.

For there on the vanity was a note to Ol' Dutch with instructions about mundane tasks that she was just sure I needed information about.

Smiling to myself that she thought I would not remember to hang up my towel I found my way to the kitchen to get the coffee started and found another sign again with detailed instructions about what pans to use to cook with.

Again, I had to grin as most of you know that men don't really listen when spoken to and it was kind of cute to think she felt like she had to instruct me on cooking. Ol' Dutch had done his own cooking for many a year before Miss Trixie was even a glimmer in my eye, so I was not going to starve, regardless.

So, coffee in hand I moved to the living room and found another sign with details about how to treat Cooper's allergies. These were so detailed that even I cannot mess it up, so it seems, but I am sure I did.

Having negotiated the minefield of notes and signs thus far without



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

too much interference with my daily activities, I soon settled into the bachelor living which included leaving my dishes in the sink until they really "needed" washing; leaving my shoes in the middle of the floor; going around half-naked to keep cool; walking Cooper when he wanted to go instead of when Miss Trixie thought he did; sweeping the floor when I thought she was about to return home and a host of other things I cannot get by with in her presence.

A few days went by and Ol' Dutch was skating along like the little Dutch kids on the canals in Holland when I suddenly found myself out of food and had to access the chest freezer.

And lo and behold there on the top of the freezer was another sign. I am not sure what it said as I am typical of most men and have too much to think about normally to keep insignificant facts floating around in the old noggin. But I recall it being there.

There is one thing that men learn after getting married or cohabiting with a person of the female persuasion and that is they really do not know how to do anything. Regardless of past experience of living on your own and surviving and even prospering, once you turn from a stallion into a mule immediately.

And soon you will be finding out how little you know and that you too will find signs posted around the house. At least that saves us from having to actually wear one around our necks that says, "I'm stupid."

I wonder if Miss Trixie really thinks Ol' Dutch can't do anything right? She just said, "here's your sign Dutch."

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.

LETTERS

Mitchells rebuff investigation, say there is more to story

Editor,
My husband Clay and I have two children in the Sargent School District, and I am a member of the Sargent School District Board of Education. We focus on resilience and grit in everything we do. We recognize the need for continual self-improvement and growth, and we are working on that with the district.

Imagine our feelings when we received death threats. Imagine our frustration when after three years of advocating for our child, we had to use outside services for assessment and diagnosis of learning disabilities. Imagine our concern in observing mistreatment of staff members who leave the district mid-year. Currently, allegations exist against my husband and myself related to our actions within the Sargent District. These allegations contain false information and information taken out of context.

In truth, my husband and I have been critical of the district because of challenges with our children. These challenges include a failure to provide assessment, failure to provide agreed upon services for speech therapy and reading interventions, lack of gifted and talented programming, and disclosure of confidential information. These problems continue.

This year, we were asked to complete gifted and talented programming for our child at home and in the most recent round of state testing, necessary accommodations for our child were not provided. Additionally, sensitive meeting notes about our child were found on the playground in April of 2022.

Also of great concern, the district has created situations where individual students and staff members are marginalized based on association, race, and religious belief. These issues represent the basis of the complaint I filed in January.

To be clear, I am not worried about the prayer of one student, at one event. I am concerned about the culture of the district and the creation of an inclusive environment where all families feel welcomed.

The investigation conducted on the complaint was a sham — the investigator did not interview material

witnesses or identify the legal standards she used to reach her conclusions. Unfortunately, on April 25 at a public meeting, the Board and staff members compounded this problem and retaliated against me for complaining about civil rights violations.

The investigative reports by Mrs. Martinez were incompetent in every respect. She did not describe the legal standards under review, she did not interview relevant witnesses, and she was tainted by bias from the start.

This is textbook arbitrary and capricious conduct, and it was rubber stamped by a majority of the Board in its vote of censure.

Other individuals have complained about racism, religion, and freedom of expression. A 2021 complaint from a parent group noted that a district employee used a racial slur. In a parent survey it was reported that "Also if your ethnicity is not Caucasian and have money, then people look down on you and don't talk to you. Makes people feel like they do not belong."

My husband and I believe in standing up for what is right in all cases. Critically, standing up for a person's rights, including civil rights and Constitutional rights, is not "blackmail" or "harassment."

The only media posts my husband and I have created related to the district are presentations of data and facts. We have shared information on district performance levels, district enrollment, etc. This information is publicly available. It was done in the spirit of improvement. To address and solve problems we must acknowledge their existence and look for solutions.

I am accountable for my actions as a Board member. However, during the April board meeting staff members attempted to re-write history related to my voting record. It was stated that I abstained on Mr. Crowther's contract due to a conflict of interest, but then voted noon Mrs. Hemmerling's contract when an investigation was ongoing.

I never stated that I had a conflict of interest. I abstained because the motion that was made to renew Mr. Crowther's contract also contained a motion to approve a leave of absence for another staff member. Please listen to the Feb.

28 board recording, you will hear that I asked a question related to the leave of absence and then voted to abstain. I was advised by district legal counsel that I could sit on the interview committee for Mrs. Hemmerling and that I could vote on the renewal of her contract.

Staff members have stated that I refused to return keys. Neither my husband nor I have ever been asked to return keys. In fact, in January we were issued an additional key fob. Additionally, Mr. VanBibber himself loaned us his keys on April 16.

Conflict that exists between the district and my husband and I is not related to the religious views of anyone, nor is the conflict directed at any one person. Rather it is related to fundamental differences in opinion on education and inclusivity.

The attempt to re-write history and place blame on us is a deflection from the difficulties the district faces related to educational performance and in serving children.

For example, in 2021, only 13% of sixth grade students were proficient in math. It is important to remember the lack of credible information that has already been supplied to the public.

In February, we heard that I was attempting to remove the Pledge of Allegiance from the school and that I filed a lawsuit against teachers. As can be seen from the release of my complaint, these rumors are not true.

Clay and I continue to volunteer for the district. We have coached almost every pee-wee sport imaginable, we have installed playground equipment, pulled weeds, picked up trash, fixed and installed projectors, donated money, served on committees, coordinated fundraisers, and volunteered in the classroom.

There is much more to this story, but we are limited in space. We hope you will recognize the passion we bring to advocating for children.

We ask you to critically think about the materials that are being presented to you and carefully consider allegations brought forth without evidence and conclusions that have been created by only looking at one side of the story.

*Gina and Clay Mitchell
Monte Vista*

We can't wait any longer to rebalance the Supreme Court

Editor,
When former President Donald Trump was in office, he and Mitch McConnell made three lifetime appointments to the Supreme Court. McConnell went so far as to defy Ruth Bader Ginsburg's dying wish — that the next president appoints her replacement — by packing the Court with Amy Coney Barrett just eight days before the 2020 election. The result? Today's Supreme Court

has been taken over by a hyperpartisan supermajority that is on the verge of dismantling abortion care in America.

But there's something we can do. The Judiciary Act of 2021 would add four seats to the Supreme Court bench — restoring balance to the court. It's the solution we need to move away from the extremely partisan rulings that now threaten our fundamental freedoms. Recent polling showed that the majority of voters support

expanding the court.

Congress has changed the size of the Supreme Court seven times already in our nation's history. It's time to do it again. I'm urging our representatives to back this important bill now so we know they want to protect the rights of the American people. The stakes are too high to stay quiet on this important issue.

*Julie Null
Mosca*

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FIESTA Continued from Page 1A

the Peoples' Choice Award. Martin Garcia took third place with his 1987 Mazda pickup.

Emilio Lujan won the Best Paint Award with his 1968 Plymouth GTX. Brad Atencio won the Best Custom Award with his 1972 Chevy Chevelle. Dale Harrison won the Best Wheels Award with his 2008 Dodge Challenger Srt8.

The Chili Cook-Off was hosted by Adventure Awaits with eight competitors vying for first place. Maritza Arroyo came in first, followed by Heather Lawson in second place, and Phyllis Christensen in third.

H.E.A.R.T of Saguache/KV hosted four contest drawings at the Cinco de Mayo Fiesta along with a fifth one at the Oasis Afterparty. Kaelyn Taylor won the Laser Tag Package. Harley McGee won the Splash Pad Package. Colton Murphy won the \$600 value Blackstone Grill Package. Dale Harrison won the Car Cleaning Package. Arthur Garcia won the Car Lift and Creeper Package. Dave Martinez won the Fishing/Camping Package.

The Range hosted the San Luis

Valley Colcha Embroidery on May 7 during the Cinco de Mayo Fiesta in Saguache with more than 200 people coming to celebrate the artists. The event drew visitors from across Colorado and New Mexico, with attendees traveling from as far as

New York, California, and Ecuador for the occasion.

Saguache resident Lorraine Lopez led a special storytelling gathering for the artists to share stories about their lives and their artwork. The exhibition featured 65 artists and more than 130



The Chili Cook-Off was hosted by Adventure Awaits with eight competitors vying for first place. Maritza Arroyo came in first, followed by Heather Lawson in second place, and Phyllis Christensen in third.



Photos courtesy of H.E.A.R.T of Saguache/KV and Jacob Chavez

H.E.A.R.T of Saguache/KV hosted the 7th annual Cinco de Mayo Fiesta in Saguache on May 7.

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On May 8, artists Julia Gomez of Santa Fe, N.M., Annette Gutierrez Turk of Albuquerque, N.M., and Ric Rao of Las Cruces, N.M., led a packed all-ages Mother's Day colcha embroidery workshop, with three generations of San Luis Valley families learning together.

The San Luis Valley Colcha Embroidery will be on display until June 19 at The Range, 307 4th St. in Downtown Saguache. The support for San Luis Valley Colcha Embroidery was provided by a Colorado Creative

Corps ARP grant funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and a Saguache County sales tax grant.

Partner organizations participating in the exhibition include the Alamosa Public Library, the Chicano Humanities and Arts Council (CHAC), the Chicano/a Murals of Colorado Project, H.E.A.R.T of Saguache/KV, History Colorado, MSU Denver Chicana/o Studies, the Northern Saguache County Library District, the Sangre de Cristo Heritage Center, and Sisters of Color United for Education.

I am a Beautiful Butterfly

The sun is shining. My sweet is racing down my face: drip, drip.

The soles of my feet are hurting, but more so my soul.

My body aches and wishes I hadn't woken up at dawn.

I saw little girls playing with Barbies at age 12 and enjoying their summer. I was in the hot field. My only toy was the shovel I carried at the age of 12. After that long day I looked in the mirror and saw the color of brown dirt. This is what I am: brown, like dirt, because I'M Latina. I heard every day, "this is where you belong, working in the fields." Inside I knew this was not true. I was a caterpillar trying to become a beautiful butterfly. Becoming a girl of responsibility, earning her education, and working at helping others.

The butterfly graduated from high school, the best of her class, she wore honors that day, honors hanging down her neck. The butterfly was the first in her family to spread her wings and fly. She went to college.

C.A.M.P. gave her this opportunity.

Capable of following my dreams, to become an even more beautiful butterfly than the one that I already am.

Announcing one day my success.

Maintaining my education and giving me hope.

Propelling me to be someone in life.

I'm brown like dirt, but I'm proud to be a girl that worked in the fields. I am more than a number, a minority.

C.A.M.P. gave me a great opportunity to start my educational career path
I have a family: CAMP!



— Genesis Villa
Adams State University
C.A.M.P. 2015-16

We are so proud of you and your wonderful achievements. We watch you fly and soar to amazing heights with your own little butterflies hanging on tight. Through struggles you continue to grow and build a future that we can be proud. You accomplished it despite all the things you thought were set backs. Being a single mother wasn't your weakness but strength!

The City of Alamosa and numerous other local governments and organizations are urging voters to recall District Attorney Alonzo Payne

Official Statement of Grounds for Recall

Alonzo Payne fails to perform the basic functions of the office of District Attorney, and what he does is misguided and dishonest.

Fails to perform basic duties:

- 20+ arrest warrants for serious felonies, from just one community, sat unprocessed in the DA's office for weeks, including domestic violence, assault, menacing, forgery, burglary, leaving perpetrators on the streets.
- Constant failures to comply with the Victim's Rights Act, including 8 violations in just the first year in office for treating victims with disrespect and failing to consult with and keep them informed. Reduced an agreed upon plea deal to spite a victim that filed a complaint.
- Backlog of 116 serious cases not filed in 6 months or more since law enforcement referral. Of those, 29 are more than a year old.
- Can't keep deputies.

Dishonest and unfit:

- Cited for contempt of court for lying to the court.
- Lies to victims about the status of their cases.
- Allows and promotes an unprofessional environment including alcohol in the office.

Misguided

- Has stated doesn't think jail is appropriate.
- Grants lenient plea deals for serious offenses such as murder, assault, drug distribution.
- Refuses to file or dismisses charges related to serious animal cruelty cases.

The community has 60 days to collect approximately 4,000 signatures throughout the district to start the official recall election. The goal is 6,000 signatures to ensure sufficient valid signatures have been collected.

To sign the petition please stop by City Hall located at 300 Hunt Avenue by May 23, 2022.

For more information regarding the recall including other petition locations visit: www.cityofalamosa.com/daconcerns or call Chief Ken Anderson at 719-589-2548.

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Center Schools recognize National Nurses Week, hold fundraiser, capstone project presentations

By MECHEL MEEK
CENTER — This week is recognized throughout the country as National Nurses Week.

According to Center Consolidated School District Superintendent Carrie Zimmerman, “This week gives us the opportunity to honor the important role that nurses play in our lives. We are especially fortunate in Center to have three amazing nurses supporting our students, staff and families. Wendy Murillo, Rani Asbell, and Tiffany Smith all work hard to keep our district healthy and safe.

“We’ve seen the tremendous impact they have made in our district over the last few years, especially during the challenges of the pandemic. All three ladies have gone the extra mile to put the necessary precautions in place and because of their efforts we have been able to be in school onsite this year. Thank you Wendy, Randi

and Tiffany for the great work you do each day. You are valuable members of our Center family!”

Also of note, the Sunshine Committee hosted a year-end event on Thursday, May 5, of bowling, socializing and fun. The event was a fundraiser to benefit the first responders from the recent fire in Monte Vista.

Also of note, the high school juniors presented their capstone projects. The projects were the culmination of an entire year’s worth of work for these students.

“This is a culminating project for our juniors, focused on student outcomes, and aligned with graduation requirements,” Zimmerman said.

The projects were varied and included several different types of projects, such as painting an interactive storyboard for the preschool, entrepreneurship projects, and revitalization efforts in Downtown Center.



Photos courtesy of Center Consolidated Schools
The Sunshine Committee hosted a year-end event on Thursday, May 5, of bowling, socializing and fun. The event was a fundraiser to benefit the first responders from the recent fire in Monte Vista.

After a two-year hiatus, Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is back

STAFF REPORT
COLORADO — With the help of sponsors, volunteer organizations and U.S. Postal Service employees in 10,000 communities nationwide,

the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) will conduct its 30th annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive on Saturday, May 14. Stamp Out Hunger is the nation’s largest single-day food drive.

Donating is easy. Customers should leave their non-perishable food donations in a bag near their mailbox on Saturday, May 14, before their letter carrier arrives. In the days leading up to the food drive, letter carriers will be delivering special bags along with your mail that may be used to make donations. Food collected during Saturday’s drive will be delivered to local community churches, food banks and food pantries for distribution.

While all non-perishable donations are welcome, foods that are high in protein such as canned tuna, salmon, beans and peanut butter are most needed. Canned fruits and vegetables, whole grain, low sugar cereals, macaroni and cheese dinners and 100% fruit juice also top the list of

most needed items.
WHAT TO GIVE: Most-wanted foods include:

- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon).
- Canned and boxed meals (soup, chili, stew, macaroni and cheese).
- Canned or dried beans and peas (black, pinto, lentils).
- Pasta, rice cereal.
- Canned fruits.
- 100 percent fruit juice (canned, plastic or boxed).
- Canned vegetables.

- Cooking oil.
- Boxed cooking mixes (pancake, breads).

WHAT NOT TO GIVE:
• Rusty or unlabeled cans.
• Glass containers.
• Perishable items.
• Homemade items.
• No expired items
• Noncommercial canned or packaged items.

- Alcoholic beverages or mixes or soda.
- Open or used items.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.



Center High School juniors presented their capstone projects. The projects were the culmination of an entire year’s worth of work for these students.

The Only Way to Make Everything All Right

We all have a deep need to feel all right. And we can spend a lot of time and energy trying to do things that make us feel like we’re okay – okay with ourselves, with others and even God. But we don’t need to wear ourselves out trying to be right with God through our own effort. The truth is we can’t make our lives right on our own, but we can receive the righteousness of God by putting our faith in Christ.

Romans 3:20 (NIV) says, “Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.” That means the reason God established the law was to show us how much we need a Savior who can make us righteous before Him.

Self-righteousness is believing we are made right with God through our own works. For example, a person might think, “Well, if I read through my Bible every year, then God will be pleased with me.” But the truth is we read the Bible because it helps us in our everyday life, not because it makes us right with God. In the same way, my preaching doesn’t make me a righteous person. The only way we are made righteous (right with God) is by having faith in Jesus Christ—it’s not something we can ever earn in our own effort.

I used to really struggle with self-righteousness. I remember years ago when the pastor at the church I was attending encouraged us to read through the Bible in a year. Every Sunday he’d ask, “Who’s been doing your Bible reading?” Well, I didn’t want to be the one not standing up, so I got really serious about it.

We all got a calendar so we could check off the days we read the chapters. As long as I had all my checkmarks, I liked that calendar. But then I got 36 chapters behind and had these big, gaping holes! It was like a nightmare for me.

So one day I decided I was going to catch up, and I zipped right through the chapters. And honestly, when I closed my Bible I felt relieved. But then I heard the Holy Spirit speak to my heart, saying, “So, what did you learn?” And I realized I could not remember one thing!

God taught me an important lesson that day. He would rather we read one verse and actually get something out of it and connect with Him than read 36 chapters and learn nothing.

The point is we need to have the right motives for the things we do and stop making laws out of tasks that make us feel better about ourselves but are unfruitful.

In 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV), Paul writes, “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” Every day of my life I say, “I am the righteousness of God in Christ.” Now, I’m not righteous because I do everything right—no one is perfect, and none of us do everything right. The Bible says in 1 John 1:8 (NIV), “If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.”

Now, it’s important that we try to do what is right, but God wants us to live through faith in Christ. Then, as we have a personal relationship with Him, He puts the desire in us to do what’s right and we can do it by His grace because we want to do it.

In Philippians 3:3 (AMP), Paul explains that we “take pride and exult in Christ Jesus and place no confidence [in what we have or who we are] in the flesh.” He says he obeyed the law without fault, and if any person had a reason to have confidence in himself by the law’s standard, he had more of a reason than anyone.



of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.”

Paul is saying that in order to have a relationship with Christ, he had to be willing to gather up all of his accomplishments and the things he had worked so hard for and be willing to get rid of them. That’s because it’s nothing but trash compared to the priceless privilege of knowing Christ as our Lord and Savior.

I want to be clear and say that what we do matters, but our good works do not make us acceptable to God. We are only made right with Him by putting our faith in Jesus Christ. That’s when we can rest in knowing that everything is all right.

For more on this topic, order Joyce’s four-teaching CD series Self-Help. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 135 books, including *BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND* and *THE POWER OF THANK YOU* (FaithWords). She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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

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THE CONEJOS COUNTY CITIZEN

HONOR

Continued from Page 1A

Alexis Varela - \$1,000

- Kiwanis Jim Miller Scholarship, presented by Don and Janet Noland
- Mica Garcia - \$1,000
- Outstanding Junior Boy and Girl, presented by Karen and Dusty Little
- Cael Ruggles and Karina Maez
- Patricia Lucero Memorial Scholarship, presented by Mike Roque
- Deisy Estrada Majalca - \$1,000
- Adams State University - Russell Shawcroft
- Victor Almeida - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Rafael Bolanos - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Vice President's Merit Scholarship - \$1,000
- Santos Cruz-Giron - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Abraham Echaury - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Deisy Estrada-Majalca - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Larry and Janice Reed Scholarship - \$3,000
- Raul Gonzales-Rodriguez - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Daniel Gutierrez - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Hector Hernandez - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Omar Hernandez-Mendoza - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Karen Holguin-Guzman - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Vice President's Merit Scholarship - \$1,000
- Stephane Molinar-Almeida - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Marian Baughn Sims Scholarship - \$2,000
- Yahiy Quintana - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro - Grizzly

Partner - \$3,200

- Vice President's Merit Scholarship - \$1,000, HAPPSS Ed Memorial Scholarship - \$750, Lorraine Young Woodard Memorial Scholarship - \$732
- Alexis Varela - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Vice President's Merit Scholarship - \$1,000
- Charles Willis - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Priscila Zapata-Chavez - Grizzly Partner - \$3,200
- Extended Studies & Concurrent Enrollment, presented by Renae Haslett
- Victor Almeida
- Abraham Echaury
- Judah Harrington
- Mica Garcia
- Omar Hernandez-Mendoza
- Karen Holguin-Guzman
- Yahiy Quintana
- Alexia Varela
- Priscila Zapata Chavez
- College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), presented by Genesis Escalon and Kaylee A. Gomez
- Priscilla Zapata - \$4,700
- Daisy Estrada - \$4,700
- Santos Cruz-Giron - \$4,700
- Omar Hernandez-Mendoza - \$4,700
- Karen Holguin - \$4,700
- Yahir Quintana - \$4,700
- Stephane (Fani) Molinar-Almeida - \$4,700
- Aexis Varela \$4,700
- Trinidad State College Scholarships, presented by James Kynor
- Hector Hernandez - Franklin D. Azar Scholarship - \$500

Yahiy Quintana - Alex Eccher Scholarship - \$250

- President's Scholarship
- Karen Holguin Guzman
- Yahiy Quintana
- Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro
- Alexis Varela
- Rafael Bolanos
- Merit Scholarship - Mica Garcia
- Raul Gonzalez
- Deisy Estrada-Majalca
- Omar Hernandez-Mendoza
- Jaelin Padilla
- Priscila Zapata-Chavez
- Learn Local Scholarship - Victor Almeida
- Rafael Bolanos
- Elizabeth Chavez
- Abraham Echaury
- Deisy Estrada-Majalca
- Mica Garcia
- Raul Gonzales-Rodriguez
- Hector Hernandez
- Omar Hernandez-Mendoza
- Stephane Molinar-Almeida
- Jaelin Padilla
- Yahiy Quintana
- Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro
- Alexis Varela
- Charles Willis
- Priscila Zapata-Chavez
- Science Fair Awards, presented by Stephanie Archuleta
- Selah Harrington
- Society of Women Engineers, presented by Stephanie Archuleta
- Excellence in science and mathematics
- Hayle Larimore
- Sonya Esmyah Maez
- Principal's Scholarship, presented by Kevin Jones
- Yahiy Quintana - \$500
- Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro - \$500
- Viking Athletic Association

Scholarship, presented by Kevin Jones

- Alexis Varela - \$1,000
- Western Colorado University, presented by Kevin Jones
- Priscila Zapata-Chavez - East Merit Award, \$2,500 per year
- Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro - Slate Merit Award - \$3,500 per year
- Yahiy Quintana - Slate Merit Award - \$3,500 per year
- Center Educator's Association Announcement, presented by Susan Banning
- Valedictorian - \$200
- Salutatorian - \$100
- Biel Make a Difference Scholarship, presented by Susan Banning
- Deisy Estrada - Majalca - \$300
- Yahiy Quintana - \$400
- Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro - \$500
- McCormick/Roesch Scholarship, presented by Carrie Zimmerman
- Elizabeth Chavez - \$500
- Hector Hernandez - \$500
- Skeff Scholarship, presented by Carrie Zimmerman
- Priscila Zapata-Chavez - \$500
- Jaelin Padilla - \$500
- Stephanie Molinar-Almeida - \$500
- Will Weatherford STARS Memorial Scholarship, presented by Katrina Ruggles
- Deisy Estrada-Majalca - \$500
- Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro - \$500
- Center Service Scholarship, presented by Adele Alfson
- \$1000 - Yahiy Quintana
- \$500 - Deisy Estrada-Majalca
- \$500 - Yamileth Trejo-Chaparro

Each of the scholarship recipients was congratulated and presented with certificates and gifts to recognize their achievements.



Photos courtesy of Superintendent Carrie Zimmerman and Mechel Meek

The Center Consolidated School District held a High School Awards Night on May 9 and presented students with scholarships and academic achievements.

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'Final call' heard for firefighter Harold Cordova

By **KEITH R. CERNY**

MANASSA — Alamosa County dispatch placed a "final call" for "Manassa Fire 3" as more than 100 gathered at the Manassa-Romeo Cemetery on Friday, May 6, to pay their last respects to longtime firefighter Harold Cordova.

A 66-year Conejos County Fire Board member and Manassa volunteer firefighter, Cordova, 83, died Sunday, May 1 after helping fight a grass fire here.

Funeral services were held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Conejos, the oldest Catholic church in Colorado, followed by a procession to the Manassa-Romeo Cemetery.

Over 100 family members, friends and first responders from across the San Luis Valley participated in the procession under a large flag hanging from two fire ladder trucks parked in front of the Manassa fire hall.

Sobbing could be heard throughout the gathering as the "final call" came



Photos by Keith R. Cerny

Local first responders and a member of the City of Pueblo Fire Department Honor Guard give one of several salutes Friday in honor of Harold Cordova at his graveside services. A longtime Manassa firefighter, Cordova died May 1 after assisting with a grass fire.

from dispatch to a radio held by Devin Haynie, Deputy District Chief for Colorado Division of Fire Protection and Control.

Father Sergio Roblis proceeded over the services which concluded with the toning of bells by two



Firefighters and other first responders from across the San Luis Valley participated in a procession in honor of longtime Manassa firefighter Harold Cordova, 83, as they passed the flag supported by two ladder trucks in front of the fire station on the way to the Manassa-Romeo Cemetery where Cordova was laid to rest with honors.

members of the City of Pueblo Fire Department Honor Guard, who also completed the ceremonial folding of the flag draped over Cordova's casket.



Two members of the City of Pueblo Fire Department Honor Guard retire the flag from the casket of Manassa firefighter Harold Cordova at this graveside service Friday. The flag was presented to Assistant Manassa Fire Chief John Comstock (far right) who then presented it to Maria Cordova. Also shown, left center, is Devin Haynie, Deputy District Chief for Colorado Division of Fire Protection and Control.

The flag then was presented by Manassa Assistant Fire Chief John Comstock to Cordova's widow Maria.

FIRE Continued from Page 1A

- Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire or campfire except within agency-provided fire grates at developed recreation sites. Devices using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel are permitted.
- Smoking, except in an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
- Operating a chainsaw without a USDA or SAE approved spark arrester properly installed and working, a chemical fire extinguisher of not less than 8 ounces capacity by weight, and one round point shovel with an overall length of at least 36 inches.

- Using a welder, either arc or gas, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame, except in cleared areas of at least 10 feet in diameter with a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher of not less than 8 ounces capacity.
 - Using exploding targets.
- These fire restrictions are in addition to the year-round wildfire prevention restrictions on BLM-administered public lands in Colorado. These are:
- Leaving a fire unattended or unextinguished.
 - Possession, discharge, or use of any fireworks.
 - Discharge of a firearm using incendiary or tracer ammunition.
 - Burn, ignite, or cause to burn any tire, wire, magnesium, or any other

hazardous or explosive material. Operate any off-road vehicle on public lands unless the vehicle is equipped with a properly installed spark arrester pursuant to 43 CFR 8343.1 (c). For information about BLM Colorado Fire restrictions visit BLM Colorado Fire Restrictions. For general information about fire restrictions on all lands in Colorado, visit Colorado Emergency Management.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Saguache County Government is accepting bids for a 60'x26' equipment shop in the Town of Sargents. This shop will be used to house Road and Bridge equipment with a monolithic 5000 PSI concrete pad.

For specific specifications of the building please contact Wendi Maez at wmaez@saguachecounty-co.gov or Randy Arredondo at raredondo@saguachecounty-co.gov.

Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope with "Road and Bridge Sargents shop" written on the front of the envelope which contains the sealed bid. Bids must include proof of liability and proof of workers compensation insurance coverage.

Bids must be submitted to Saguache County Administration, 505 3rd Street, or PO Box 100, Saguache, CO 81149 and must be submitted by Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 3pm.

For further information you can also call Wendi Maez at 719-655-2231 or Randy Arredondo at 719-655-2554.

No. 1635 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, April 28 and May 5 and 12, 2022.

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SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the period between Monday, April 25, 2022, and Sunday, May 8, 2022.

The Sheriff's Department's activity on the road included:

Four traffic stops, four abandoned vehicles, one crash (injury), one stolen vehicle, and three traffic complaints. They also patrolled the Town of Saguache 20 times, responded to three lockouts, inspected VIN three times, a report of debris in roadway, and assisted a motorist.

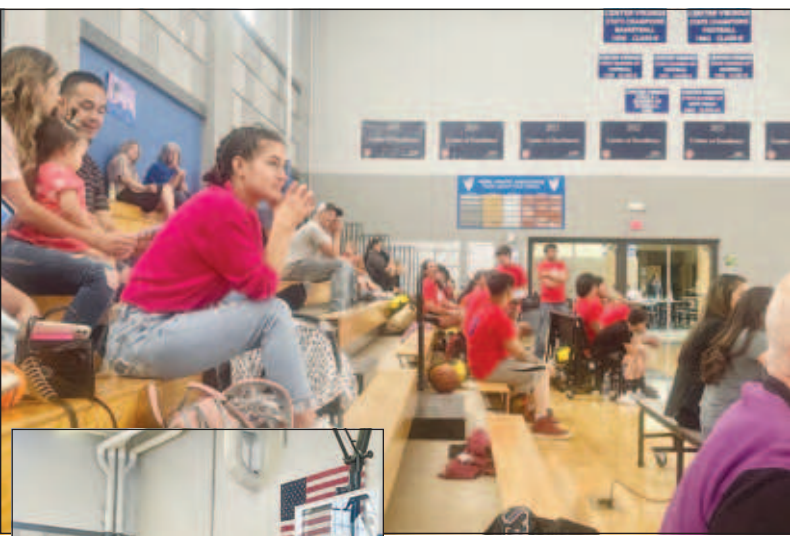
In addition, there were two reports of threatening, one report of assault, one report of criminal mischief, three reports of suspicious activity, one report of fraud, three warrant checks, one report of harassment, one report of stolen property, three reports of trespassing, one report of juvenile problem, and one report of theft.

They also responded to three civil disputes, one deceased person, five ambulance calls, five animal problem reports, one report of animal cruelty, three alarms, five welfare checks, three citizen assists, 20 controlled

burns, two fires (other), one structure fire, one fire (brush, grass, forest), one fire (arson), one civil standby, provided information 13 times, one report of loose livestock, one report of suicidal subject, one utility problem (other), and assisted nearby agencies five times.

ARRESTS

- A 26-year-old Alamosa woman was arrested for parole violation.
- A 48-year-old Floral City, Fla., man was arrested for fugitive of justice out of Florida.



Photos by Mechel Meek

GAME

Continued from Page 1A

like a maple bacon doughnut to the police! We raised \$500 and had a blast doing it. I appreciate our volunteers jumping in to help and thank you to all those who showed up to support those affected by the fire in Monte Vista.”

The game was well attended by the Center community, with over 50 in attendance, not counting the numerous volunteers.

Volunteers staffed the donation table, concessions, refereed the game and cleaned up the gym. As a result of the generous donations of food, time and use of the gym, all money raised was donated with none needed to cover the costs of the event.



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2022 Cumbres and Toltec schedule to feature new trips

ANTONITO — The 2022 Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad kicks off on June 11. The later opening addresses the variable weather on Cumbres

Pass and ensures a



more pleasant outdoor experience for passengers. The season will run through Oct. 23.

The new 2022 schedule features a mix of offerings, including:

Full Excursion Trips travel by train the full line between Chama, N.M. and Antonito and includes a one-hour bus ride. These trips are called the *Antonito All Aboard* and the *Chama All Aboard* and include lunch and motorcoach service.

Half Limited Trips travel half the C&TS line from either Chama, N.M. or Antonito to the mid-way point of Osier Station and back. Lunch is included and the trips, are called the *Chama Limited* or the *Antonito Limited*,

are solely via train, with no bus service.

Short Express Options are perfect for people short on time, families and people who want to “chase the train” as well as ride it. The three-and-a-half hour *Cumbres Express* departs from Cumbres Pass at 11:10 a.m., heads to Osier for lunch service (included in the price) and returns to Cumbres at 2:45 p.m. On Fridays in July, the *Chama Express* will depart Chama at 1 p.m. and travel to Cumbres Pass, the highest operational railroad pass in the country and back to Chama by 3:30 p.m. Lunch is not included.

Special Trips are trips that do not run weekly, including the monthly *168 Brunch*

Special, the *168 Dinner Special*, the *Geology Train*, which will run twice this year and the annual *Wildflower (Botany) Train*. In addition, there will be a special photography charter and Moonlight Dinner Train Trip only available to members of the Friends of the Cumbres and Toltec. Tickets prices vary depending on the Special Trip. See website for more information.

About the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad

The Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad follows the original 64-miles of tracks first laid down in 1880, crossing the borders **Please see CUMBRES on Page 8**

Fourth grade students with URGSD step back in history

By LYNDIS FERRELL

DEL NORTE — The Upper Rio Grande School District opened its doors on Thursday, April 28 to parents and friends of the fourth-grade class who came to see historical exhibits created by students.

The front commons area at the school was transformed into a museum-like setting and over 20 students lined the room ready and eager to share their historical figure with family and friends.

Students spent the past several weeks researching a historical figure of their choice and preparing a presentation for those who attended.

Students chose figures ranging from Cleopatra who lived in 69BC to Stephen Hawking who was born in 1942. Each student had a small black mark on their hands that served as a button. A family member or friend could push the black button and the student would begin telling the

Please see HISTORY on Page 2



Photos by Lyndis Ferrell

The Upper Rio Grande School District fourth-grade class awed family and friends on Thursday, April 28, with a historical presentation and live-action museum. Students welcomed family and friends who learned about each student’s historical figures through interactive presentations by the students.

Sgt. Martinez Memorial Scholarship Run and Golf Tournament May 28

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — The 12th annual 5K Run/Walk and Veterans Golf Tournament will be held at the Monte Vista Golf Course on Saturday, May 28. All proceeds benefit the Sgt. Glen E. Martinez Memorial Scholarship Fund, in which \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to a senior boy and senior girl of Monte Vista High School.

The 5K run/walk will begin on Saturday, May 28 at 7 a.m. at the Monte Vista Golf Course and will include breakfast, t-shirt and ribbons (eight different age groups). Cost is \$20 pre-registration or \$25 day of the event. Deadline for mail-in registration and online registration is May 25. Send mail-in registration to P.O. Box 181, Monte Vista, CO 81144 and register online at www.glenmartinez.org. For more information, call Ron or Carol at 719-850-3758 or 719-849-1830.

The Veterans Golf Tournament will begin on Saturday, May 28 at 10 a.m., shotgun start at the Monte Vista Golf Course. It will be a 4-man team scramble, 18 holes and will cost \$180 per team. The tournament is limited to 18 teams. The cost is \$45 for singles; they will be grouped up. The cost includes golf cart (limited to 18 carts), team entry fee, complementary range balls, and a gift certificate for first and second place teams and lunch after the golf tournament. To sign up or for more information, call Michelle or Grace at the Monte Vista Pro-shop, 719-628-0130.

Martinez was a Sgt. in the United States Marine Corps when



he and three other Marines were killed in action on May 2, 2008, while on a combat mission. The Humvee they were riding in hit a roadside bomb in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq.

Martinez knew the value of education and the value of physical fitness. Growing up in Monte Vista, he participated in nearly every sport available including football, wrestling and baseball. He played in the band and was an excellent student. He was quarterback for the Pirate football team for three years and competed four years on the state wrestling team and played baseball all four years. Glen chose to play baseball for Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kan. on an academic and baseball scholarship where he earned his bachelor’s in mathematics.

He subsequently earned a surveying degree from Westwood College and was going to work on his Master’s in Hydro-Engineering at Boulder, Colorado University, when he made his decision to join the Marine Corps.

Living in Boulder, he explained, “he got tired of hearing people

See MEMORIAL on Page 3



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HISTORY

Continued from Page 1

person about their historical figure.

Students were also dressed according to their historical figure and completed a full report and presentation that accompanied them for the living museum.

The event was well attended and lasted about 45 minutes.

Students were as follows: Shane Robertson- Jesus, 6BC; Sydnee Beltrane Quintana – Cleopatra, 69BC; Catolina Martinez - Leonardo DaVinci, 1452; Uriah Martinez - George Washington, 1732; Azilea Gallegos – Sacajawea, 1788; Jayden Powell-Gates - Chief Walkara, 1808; Payden Marshall-Olivera - Abraham Lincoln, 1809; Alex Sequra - Clara

Barton, 1821; Carlos Valdez - Chief Red Cloud, 1822; Christopher Coleman - Chief Sitting Bull, 1831; Dereck Cereceres - Chief Ouray, 1833; Sawyer Roesch - Chief Crazy Horse, 1842; Victor Najera - Thomas Edison, 1847; Nidia Garcia - Laura Ingalls, 1867; Gracelynn Trujillo - Marie Clark, 1867; Mercedes Heredia - Helen Keller, 1880; Amelia Hobbs - Amelia Earhart, 1897; Samieul Spounias - Louis Armstrong, 1901; Richard Dickson - John F Kennedy, 1903; Emmah Valasquez - Martin Luther King, 1929; Ethan Estrada - Neil Armstrong, 1930; Lenny Gallegos - Muhammad Ali, 1942; DeAndre LeBlanc - Stephen Hawking, 1942.

CUMBRES

Continued from Page 1

of Colorado and New Mexico 11 times, as it skirts along canyon walls through Toltec Gorge, burrows through tunnels, steams over Cascade Trestle (137-feet above a roaring river), and climbs to the top of 10,015-foot Cumbres Pass, the highest point reached by any steam railroad in North America.

The railroad has been featured in more than 40 motion pictures, including the current number one film on Netflix, “The Harder They Fall” as well as “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade,” “Hostiles” and more. The railroad also has the country’s largest collection of

narrow-gauge locomotives and cars.

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To book your trip and for complete information, visit www.cumbrestoltec.com or call 1-888-286-2737.

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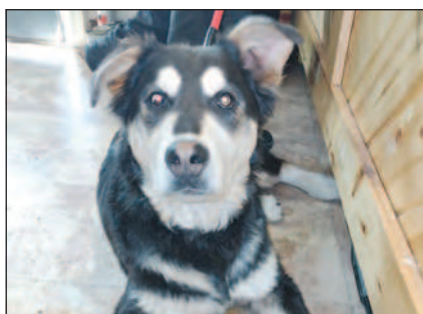
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We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who have contributed to the success of the Upper Rio Grande Animal Society by contributions, donations, volunteering and general support at Conour Animal Shelter.

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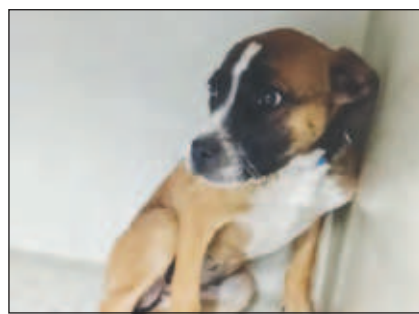
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SLV Health welcomes new provider Jackie Bennett

By DONNA WEHE
San Luis Valley Health

MONTE VISTA — Jackie Bennett, Family Nurse Practitioner, has joined San Luis Valley Health to deliver personal and compassionate primary care in the Monte Vista Community Clinic.

She offers evidence-based high-quality care and has a passion for working with a diverse population of all age groups. She embraces the challenge of managing patients with complex comorbidities.

Bennett earned her Master's in Nursing with a focus of Family Nurse Practitioner from the Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

In 2012, she graduated from Adams State University with her Bachelor's in Nursing and prior to that she received her Associate's in Nursing from Mount Hood Community College in 1995.

She has a great deal of experience, including primary care, hospital rotations, supervising, and teaching.

During her free time, Bennett and her husband enjoy the outdoors and can be frequently



found mountain biking or riding a tandem. She is also an avid knitter and reader. Perkins at the Monte Vista Community Clinic and is accepting new patients. The clinic may be reached by calling 719-852-9400.

Bennett is joining Dr. Susannah

Mountain Shoot Out entries due by June 3

CREEDE — The 2022 Mountain Shoot Out call for entries is now available on the Creede Arts Council website. The deadline for entry is June 3. The traditional Opening Reception will be on June 24 at 5 p.m. at the Creede Visitors Center. The photographs will be displayed in the Visitor Center through Sept. 12.

This year's judge, John Gary Brown, will select first through third place awards and Honorable Mentions. Visitors can vote for their favorite photo, and the winner will receive the People's Choice Award.

For more information and to download the call for entries, visit the Creede Arts Council website here: <https://creedeartsCouncil.com>.

MEMORIAL

Continued from Page 1
cutting down his country," so he decided to do something positive. He could have gone directly into officer candidate school but chose to start at the bottom like all the other recruits. Should he go on to command, Sgt. Martinez said, he wanted to have hands-on experience rather than classroom philosophy. "I want those I command to know that I have been where they are," he said in an interview just after basic training. He was ready for whatever came. After a childhood filled with the challenge of athletic competition, staying in peak physical shape was second nature to him and he strongly supported the discipline and leadership skills learned on the mat, football field, baseball diamond and the school room.



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05 Notices

Zoomerang VBS at Gateway Church May 31-June 03 6:00-8:30 PM. All kid preschool – high school welcome! (5/25)

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

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

07 Help Wanted

Instructional coach needed at Del Norte Jr/Sr High School. Candidate should be proficient in all areas of teaching and learning with an emphasis on professional practice and the teaching and learning cycle. The coach will be responsible for consulting with and supporting the instructional teaching staff in using resources that impact student learning. The coach will provide support and professional learning to instructional staff needed. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be

able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: David Grabowski, Principal at dgrabowski@urtigers.co or contact David at 719-657-4020. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co (5/18)

Elementary Teacher needed at Del Norte Elementary School. We are

seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Principal at aduda@urtigers.co or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Ap-

plications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co.

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Husqvarna Gas Weed Eater	Trekker Sleeping Bag - oversized	Ammo
Stihl Gas Blower	Lifetime Folding Tables	.225 cal. 22 cal. 270 cal.
Stihl Elec. Hedge Trimmer	Cabela's Folding Cot	.40 cal. Pistol rounds
Stihl Chain Saw	Folding Camp Chairs	410 ga. 20 ga. 12 ga.
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Schauer Battery Charger	Stainless Propane Deep Fryer	Inversion Table w/heat
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The Del Norte High School Athletic Department is currently seeking High School football assistant coaches for the 2022 football season. Applicants must be able to meet all CHSAA and District certification requirements for coaching. If you are interested or have any questions, please email Richie Madrid, Athletic Director (rmadrid@urtigers.co) or Coach Henry Castillo (lcastillo@urtigers.co). (5/18)

Economic Development Services Director: The Upper Rio Grande Economic Development (URGED) is seeking proposals from firms/individual consultants interested, experienced and knowledgeable in providing Economic Development Services under a Professional Services Agreement. The deadline for submittal of responses is May 13, 2022. For more information and a full copy of the RFP, contact Linda Robinson – oficemgr@urg-ed.com. Or visit www.urg-ed.com (5/11)

The Upper Rio Grande School District has received a grant for a K-12 **school counselor** - the first year is 1/2 time, then full-time for the next 3 years, starting in the 2022/2023 school year. Applicants must have a Master's Degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain an appropriate Colorado school counselor license. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Amy Duda, DNES Principal at aduda@urtigers.co or contact Amy at 719-657-4050; or to David Grabowski, DN Jr/Sr High Principal at dgrabowski@urtigers.co or contact David at 719-657-4020. Applications for certified staff positions can be picked up at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co.

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

Ecodynamics Inc is hiring a pump technician! This includes, but is not limited to, pulling & resetting water well pumps, shop time, cleaning & maintenance. Valid driver license and drug free are non-negotiable requirements. **No experience required.** Call 719/852-2662 for more info, prefer drop-off of resumes in person at 5492 US Hwy 160 E, east of Monte Vista.

Mineral County, Colorado/Museum/Com. Center seeking Managing Director. Candidate will be self-starter, good public rapport, able to manage/operate day-to-day opera-

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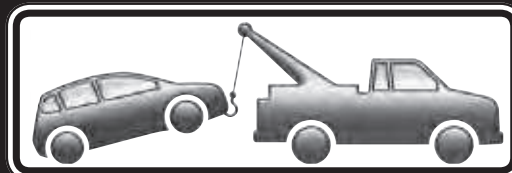
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			7	6			4	
							8	3
4	3	7		5			1	
	4	3			8			
	7	9	2	3				1
	6			7	4		3	
	1	4	5	2				
	9							2
6	2		1	8			7	

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

Solution to last week's puzzle

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

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Dierks Bentley headlining Seven Peaks Music Festival at Villa Grove

VILLA GROVE — Multi-Platinum entertainer Dierks Bentley and the world's leading live entertainment company Live Nation revealed the lineup for Seven Peaks Music Festival — taking place on Labor Day Weekend, Sept. 2-4, against the picturesque new location of Villa Grove in the San Luis Valley.

Praised for its “can’t miss,” curation with “major star power”, the festival returns in its third edition with headliners Dierks Bentley and Morgan Wallen, with additional main stage performances by Boy Named Banjo, Ashley Cooke, Jordan Davis, Jackson Dean, Travis Denning, Hardu, Kendall Marvel, Ashley McBryde, Old Crow Medicine Show, Caitlyn Smith, Rapidgrass, Alana Springsteen and Lainey Wilson.

Friday night of the festival will kick off with a special stacked lineup of 90’s acts including Hot Country Knights, Tracy Lawrence and The Frontmen while Aydamn will be deejaying throughout the weekend.

Passes are on sale now at sevenpeaksfestival.com.

With fans previously traveling from 49 states and as far as Australia, festival-goers can expect an eclectic variety of outdoor adventure, excursions, surprise guests and much

more across three days. Follow further Seven Peaks Festival updates on Facebook: Seven Peaks Festival, Twitter: @sevenpeaksfest and Instagram: @sevenpeaksfest.

Bentley continues to be a dominant voice for the genre with over 6.4 billion streams and 20 No. One hits as his new single “Beers On Me” with Breland and Hardy races up the radio charts.

Reaching a new creative high while “making music designed to challenge”, Bentley co-wrote 10 of 13 tracks on his latest full-length release “The Mountain, which earned him the highest debut sales of his career and became his seventh chart-topping release.

Last year, Bentley surprised fans with his “Live From Telluride” collection that was touted as “a gift that Country music fans didn’t know they needed.”

Bentley celebrates his 16th year anniversary as a member of the Grand Ole Opry and was inducted into the Music City Walk of Fame. He also has created professional endeavors outside of the music with his Flag and Anthem lifestyle collection Desert Son, along with his “Dierks Bentley’s Whiskey Row” franchise hosting four locations.

For more information, visit www.Dierks.com.

What is a Children’s Advocacy Center

BY SHELLY MARTINEZ
SLV CAC Program Director

A Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC) is a child-focused, facility-based program in which representatives from many disciplines, including law enforcement, child protection, prosecution, mental health, medical and victim advocacy, child advocacy, work together to conduct interviews and make team decisions about investigation.

The Children’s Advocacy Center of the San Luis Valley (SLV CAC) has been serving the community of the San Luis Valley since 2013. The services provided are to children ages 0-17 and their non-offending caregivers. Services are free and consists of family advocacy, forensic interviews and Sex Assault Nurse Examinations (SANE) and wellness exams.

Family advocacy is offered to the non-offending caregiver and family members. A Family Advocate provides support to the family from beginning to end of a case. Forensic interviews are for children who have experienced sexual abuse/assault, severe abuse/neglect and/or have witnessed a crime. Forensic interviews are neutral, unbiased and aimed at eliciting facts from children in a developmentally appropriate manner. There are currently three forensic interviewers and bilingual interviews are available. The Tu Casa, Inc. SANE program is also a key program that works within the SLV CAC service area. The program offers acute sexual assault examinations within four days of the assault and a wellness exam any time after the fourth day.

Referrals for forensic interviews and SANE services must be made by the Department of Social/Human services, Law Enforcement or the District Attorney’s Office. The number of interviews completed in 2013 was 20. The number of interviews completed in 2021 was 102. The SLV CAC is located in Alamosa, CO, but provides services to all six counties in the SLV.

The number of referrals received for services decreased significantly during the two years of the COVID-19 Pan-

demic. Prior to the COVID-19, the SLV CAC was completing anywhere from 130 interviews to 175 per year.

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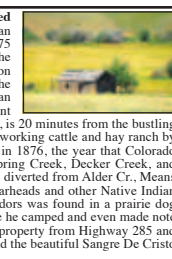
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The historic Stoddart Ranch is a rare mountain property that hasn't been offered for purchase in the last 48 years. It is a tract of fertile meadow land outlined by an upland bench. San Luis Creek flows through the lush fields of native grass for over 1.75 miles. Spring Creek from the West and Decker Creek from the East flow through the property to confluence at San Luis Creek. The waterways have an abundant population of Brook Trout and are natural habitat and water source for many wildlife species. The rare Gunnison Sage Grouse along with bird species such as Mallard Ducks, Canadian Geese, Red Tailed Hawks are found here. Antelope, Elk, and wiley Coyote are frequent visitors. The mountain ranch located in the headwaters of Colorado's San Luis Valley, is 20 minutes from the bustling town of Salida and the Arkansas River. The ranch has been owned and operated as a working cattle and hay ranch by the same family for the last 48 years. The first private ownership of this ranch was in 1876, the year that Colorado became a state. Deeded water rights were established in 1880. Diversions from Spring Creek, Decker Creek, and San Luis Creek are established through water rights known as the Means #1 which is diverted from Alder Cr., Means #2, Richards #1 and Richard #2. The property is rich with history. Arrowheads, Spearheads and other Native Indian artifacts have been found over the years. A Silver Spur from the Spanish Conquistadors was found in a prairie dog hole. Captain John Gunnison chronicles his journey in 1853 across these lands where he camped and even made note of Sage Grouse that would one day bear his name. There is convenient access to the property from Highway 285 and electric power is nearby. The majestic Collegiate Peaks can be viewed to the North and the beautiful Sangre De Cristo mountain range tower above the ranch to the east. **\$2,800,000** MLS#790744



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