

Shorts

Town of Center election results not available

CENTER — Town of Center preliminary results from the April 5 election were not available prior to publication.

Six people were running for three seats — Bernadette Arellano, Richard Barela, Miriam Gonzalez, Bill McClure, James Sanchez, and Herman Sisneros.

C-Town Classic Car Show is April 9

CENTER — C-Town Classic and Custom Car Show will be held in Center at Center Community Park on April 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The entry fee is \$20 per car

San Luis Valley Rattlers are looking for a Mountain Bike Team

MONTE VISTA — The San Luis Valley Rattlers are currently looking for bicycle riders and coaches to join the SLV mountain bike team for the fall season. The Rattlers are looking for interested riders, grades 6 through 12.

The Rattlers are a group of bikers who hold races and special events. If you do not have a bike but would like to join the team, the Rattlers can lend you a bike. You can also join the team without being required to race.

The riders are also looking for adult coaches. Practice for the riders will begin July 15. To sign up, email slvrattlers@gmail.com or call Larry Roberts at 719-580-0129.

Rep. Boebert's Office announces mobile office hours

VALLEY — Staff from Rep. Boebert's office will be available to help constituents in the San Luis Valley during the following mobile office hours.

• April 13 — Rio Grande County Mobile Office Hours, Court House 925 6th St., Del Norte, 1-2 p.m.

• April 13 — Rio Grande County Mobile Office Hours, Monte Vista City Hall, 95 West 1st Ave., Monte Vista, 3-4 p.m.

• April 19 — Costilla County Mobile Office Hours, City Hall, 408 Main St., San Luis, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

• April 25 — Alamosa County Mobile Office Hours, The Depot, 610 State St., Alamosa, 2-3 p.m.

Police warn of vehicle burglaries

BY MECHEL MEEK
CENTER — The Center Police Department is notifying people in the Center area to be cautious regarding an increase in

Provide tips to avoid becoming a victim

vehicle burglaries in town. "We have several vehicles that have been entered in the Casa de Cortez and

Tierra Nueva complexes," CPD Chief Dale Meek said. "The vehicles have all been unlocked and several items have been taken. This is the first outbreak of vehicle burglaries we have had in over a year. Please make sure you and your loved ones are locking

your vehicles. Do not leave any cash, firearms, purses, or valuable items in the vehicles.... Especially in plain view. Always notify law enforcement if you see suspicious subjects. These behaviors would include people carrying backpacks in the early morning hours as school is not in session and very few are heading to the gym or work during these hours.

Watch for people loitering around vehicles or pulling on door handles. When you call dispatchers, try to have a description of the person with where they are or where they are headed. Take a photo or video if it is safe to do so. Please know your neighbors and when they are home or when they are away."

See BURGLARIES on Page 2A

CPD recognizes achievement of Sgt. Aaron Fresquez

BY MECHEL MEEK
CENTER — In a press release Center Police Department Chief Dale Meek recognized the achievement of CPD Sgt. Aaron Fresquez.

"I wanted to take this moment to recognize Sgt. Aaron Fresquez," Meek stated. "He recently completed his 'Trilogy' with the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association (FBI LEEDA). This is three separate courses in Supervisory Leadership, Command Leadership and Executive Leadership. When these courses are completed, a person receives their Trilogy recognition. I am proud of how Sgt. Fresquez has applied these courses to his leadership within the department and for the

See FRESQUEZ on Page 2A

Center Police Department Sgt. Aaron Fresquez recently completed specialized training with the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association.

Courtesy photo



Crestone Mayor Danforth survives recall

STAFF REPORT

CRESTONE — Based on unofficial, preliminary voting results from April 5, Crestone Mayor Kairina Danforth survived the recall.

Fifty-one people voted against recalling Danforth and 25 voted yes. Danforth has been mayor for 10 years.

Also before voters was "Reallocation of a Portion of Dedicated Sales Tax to a Special Reserve Fund for Water and Sewer Capital Improvements." Voters overwhelmingly favored this 55-7.

In the trustees' race, five candidates were running for the four seats. Leading after Tuesday's unofficial results were Daya Scheide (54), Kizzen N. Laki (52), Stephen J. Hume (49), and Adam Kinney (45). Ginny Ducale was fifth with 40 votes.

Results are unofficial until the election is certified later this month.

CSU announces new potato breeder for San Luis Valley Research Center



Jessica Chitwood-Brown

BY MECHEL MEEK
CENTER — According to Colorado State University's San Luis Valley Research Center welcomed a new potato breeder — Jessica Chitwood-Brown.

"We are pleased to have her join the potato research team as the new potato breeder," CSU San Luis Valley Research Center officials stated.

Chitwood-Brown will be working closely with David Holm on the transition of the important and impactful breeding program.

This transition will happen over the next several months. Holm

retired after almost 44 years as the head of the potato breeding program at the SLV Research Center.

Chitwood-Brown is formerly a research scientist from the University of Florida and is originally from Arkansas.

Chitwood-Brown earned a doctorate in horticulture from the University of Florida and specializes in implementing molecular tools in a breeding program.

While her focus in Florida was mainly on tomato crops, she stated that she was excited to focus on potato disease resistance, water

use efficiency, and the impact of genomics on breeding.

"We wouldn't have civilization in the way that we do without established agriculture. For thousands of years, people have been selecting plants that make better crops to feed and clothe people. Genetics are the underlying cause, the blueprint," stated Chitwood-Brown in an interview by Sarah Ehrlich in the March issue of Potato Grower Magazine.

The SLV Research Center has been searching for a successor to Holm since he announced his decision to retire last year.

Del Norte Bank's Mobile Deposit Capture

719-657-4558
705 Grand Ave.
Del Norte

DEL NORTE BANK
TRUST • LOCAL • BANK

719-658-0126
106 S. Main St.
Creede

Member FDIC
EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

www.TrueLocalBank.com

Boebert highlights 2022 Congressional Art Competition

STAFF REPORT COLORADO

Congresswoman Lauren Boebert (R-District 3) recently announced that high school students can participate in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition. The winning artist will receive roundtrip tickets to attend a special national reception in Washington, D.C., and his or her artwork will be on display for one year in the U.S. Capitol.

"Each Spring, I'm always amazed at how incredibly gifted Colorado's Third Congressional District's students are," said Congresswoman Boebert. "Colorado has some of the most talented artists in the nation, and I encourage them to take advantage of this remarkable opportunity to showcase their work in a national exhibit."

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to

provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition.

Last year, Arianna from Centennial High School in Pueblo won Colorado's Third Congressional District's 2021 Congressional Art Competition.

Interested students should review 2022 Rules for Students and Teachers and complete the 2022 Student Release Form.

• **Qualifying Students:** Any High School Student in Colorado's Third Congressional District.

• **How to Submit Artwork:** Students must mail or deliver their artwork to their respective Third Congressional District Regional Office by April

27, 2022. (Mailing addresses available at Boebert.house.gov)

• **Grand Junction Regional Office** includes schools in: Mesa, Delta, Montrose, Ouray, Gunnison, Pitkin, Lake, Eagle, Jackson, Routt, Garfield, Rio Blanco, and Moffat counties

• **Pueblo Regional Office** includes schools in: Pueblo, Huerfano, Costilla, Conejos, Alamosa, Rio Grande, Mineral, Saguache, and Custer counties

• **Durango Regional Office** includes schools in: La Plata, Archuleta, Montezuma, San Juan, Dolores, San Miguel, and San Juan

counties

• **Winners:** Winners will be announced in early May. The winning artist will receive roundtrip tickets to attend a special national reception in Washington, D.C., and his or her artwork will be on display for one year in the U.S. Capitol.

• **Artwork Requirements:** Artwork must be two-dimensional. Each framed artwork can be no larger than 26 inches high, 26 inches wide, and 4 inches deep. If your artwork is selected as the winning piece, it must arrive in Washington, D.C., framed. Even when framed, it must

still measure no larger than the above maximum dimensions. No framed piece should weigh more than 15 pounds.

Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate U.S. copyright laws. Any entry that has been copied from an existing photo or image (including a painting, graphic, or advertisement) that was created by someone other than the student is a violation of the competition rules and will not be accepted.

For questions, or to make in-person delivery arrangements, call Naomi Dobbs at 970-317-6130.

BURGLARIES

Continued from Page 1A

CPD also offered some tips to help people avoid becoming a victim of car burglary.

• Remember to always lock your car and put the keys in your pocket as 20% of all stolen vehicles have keys already in them.

• It is also important to lock the trunk as well as the hatchback or the tailgate of the station wagon or sport utility vehicle (SUV).

• Do not leave your vehicle registration, insurance policies, credit cards, or other important papers in the glove compartment.

• Checkbooks, credit cards, or other credentials, which a thief could misuse, should not be left in a vehicle.

• When at the gas station, convenience store, or any other store, do not leave the keys in the vehicle when you go inside.

• Never hide a second set of keys in your vehicle, instead store a spare key in your wallet or purse.

• Avoid parking next to vans, pickups, and other large vehicles as the large vehicles can hide your vehicle and make it more difficult

for others to observe any type of suspicious behavior.

• Periodically check your license plates to make sure they haven't been stolen, switched, or altered.

• Don't invite a vehicle burglary by leaving packages or valuables, such as radar detectors, in plain sight.

• Take valuables with you, put them under the seat, or lock them in the trunk.

• Park in well-lit and busy areas.

• For each vehicle you own record the following information and keep it in a safe location, but not in the vehicle; make and model, model year, plate number, VIN (Vehicle Identification Number), color, insurance information, and any special attributes (like dents, stickers).
• Use a locking gas cap, not only to prevent theft of gasoline but also to limit a thief to the amount of driving the thief can do on one tank of gasoline.

These are just some simple tips that everyone should do to help to avoid becoming a crime victim.

YOUR NIGHT SKY

BY DARLENE DANKO

Boötes the Bear Driver

Boötes is a kite-shaped constellation with eight stars and is known as the Bear Driver since it looks like it is chasing the big bear constellation Ursa Major.

One of the Spring Triangle stars Arcturus is part of this constellation, the name Arcturus is a Latin word which means "guardian of the bear." It's the brightest star in the constellation. Currently it's about a third of the way up in the east but will be rising higher as the summer comes. His

head faces NE and his bottom with Arcturus faces SE.

It shines with an orange glow and is currently the fourth-brightest star in our sky. It's also one of the closest stars at 36.7 light years from us. Arcturus is an orange giant with a diameter 25 times our Sun, and it shines 170 times brighter.

The Big Dipper constellation is next to Boötes' upper arm and is the constellation Ursa Major the Great Bear. Boötes practically touches the tail of the Big Dipper. So, when you look in the eastern sky, see if you can find the two of them together.



The new moon was on April 1, and the first quarter moon is on April 9. So right now, is a good time to observe the sky. The morning is still a good time to observe the planets in the SE. When the moon gets brighter, you'll only be able to see Venus since it's so bright. The Lyrid Meteor Shower is coming up, and I will write about it next week.

FRESQUEZ

Continued from Page 1A

professional standards these courses represent to our department."

Chief Meek explained that he requires each of the officers in the CPD to take advanced training courses and to pick a specialty that the officer finds interesting and furthers their career.

Examples of specialties for the officers include investigative techniques, school resource officer, K-9, and investigations.

It has been shown that officers who receive specialized training are more

engaged with their community and it increases officer professionalism.

"If you see Sgt. Fresquez over the next couple of weeks, please make sure to congratulate him for his award and hard work," Meek added.

The FBI LEEDA Trilogy is intended to advance the science

and art of law enforcement leadership and promote the discussion of knowledge to improve law enforcement management procedures through training, education and networking among police professionals, according to FBI LEEDA.

EASTER SERVICES at Home

Pioneer United Church

630 Spruce St., Del Norte • (719)657-3375

We will be having Services on 4/10, 4/15 & 4/17

Palm Sunday, April 10. Sunday school 9:30am,

Fellowship hour 10:30 - 11am, Worship Service 11am

Community Good Friday service, April 15 10am -12pm.

Sponsored by Del Norte Ministerial Alliance

Easter Sunday, April 17. Sunrise Service 7:30am,

Fellowship Branch 9:00-10:30, Worship Service 11am

Sunrise Service will be at Lloyd & Judy Wright's home,

769 FRISCO CREEK DR, Del Norte, CO

VALI3Theater
719-628-2015
139 Adams • Monte Vista
www.vali3theater.org



**Friday, April 8
7:00 p.m.**

\$15 Tickets

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



Call 852-3531



San Luis Valley Federal Bank

COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS

Spend more time together.

Open your account online today!

START TODAY

www.slvfed.bank



OPINION & EDITORIAL

Mexico or bust

As you read this Miss Trixie and I will be on a short vacation to South Padre Island, Texas for a little R&R with a side journey into the land of Mexico for meds, teeth and tortillas. In that order.

Trixie's mother and father first put me onto going down there for dental work and not having any insurance or enough money to buy my local tooth puller a boat, I soon caught on to how that all works.

I can still recall how I first went across the imaginary line at Progreso, Texas and was a little bit apprehensive about it all. But thinking that I was going to be able to add a stamp to my pretty much bare passport and also get to see some native people in their own local environs, I put my big girl panties on and stepped across.

Let me tell you I was ill-prepared for what I experienced that day.

Instead of a quiet village of indigenous peoples going about their daily business, I found myself surrounded by a seething mass of white-haired old Canadians and Americans. All of whom were queuing up for medicine and dentist visits, tequila and tortillas, plus presents for spoiled grandkids by the bushel basket.

While old men sat in the local sidewalk bar laughing at the size 64 women's panties on the wall for the 251st time, the women shopped store to store filling bags with everything from meds to handbags to vanilla extract, which by the way comes in jugs the size of which make me wonder just what these gals are cooking up at home?

I usually get a wallet for about \$5 and something for the grands and eat a free homemade tortilla that comes down a conveyor belt right into the sidewalk storefront. And I do like to peruse the big pharmacy and watch the old men buy Viagra and other male enhancement products, all of course out of sight of their wives who are by now down the street imbibing in \$2 shots.

And while that is always a sure highlight of the trip, Miss Trixie likes to go to the thrift stores stateside and always finds some kind of deal saying "look how much I saved you."

O! Dutch also gets to dip a shrimp in the gulf and catch some fish and lucky for them it's too much trouble to bring them home. So, they merely pose for a photo up and off they go to bite another day.

There is one big, huge flea market there that probably has over a mile of booths and if that is open when we drive by, I may be tempted to see what they have.



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

Which got me to thinking (Miss Trixie just rolled her eyes at me. That poor girl and her ailment) about the different kinds of sales a person can find.

We all know about a yard sale and that is simply two women with a table in front of their house. This is different from a garage sale which requires an old man sitting at a table with a cash box looking for shoplifters.

And then there is the estate sale which normally includes items in the yard, garage and house where Aunt Mildred used to live, until just recently. These items all smell musty with a whiff of Elizabeth Taylor perfume.

A flea market is another type of sale that in my experience pretty much speaks for itself. Sometimes it has actual fleas included in the items sold.

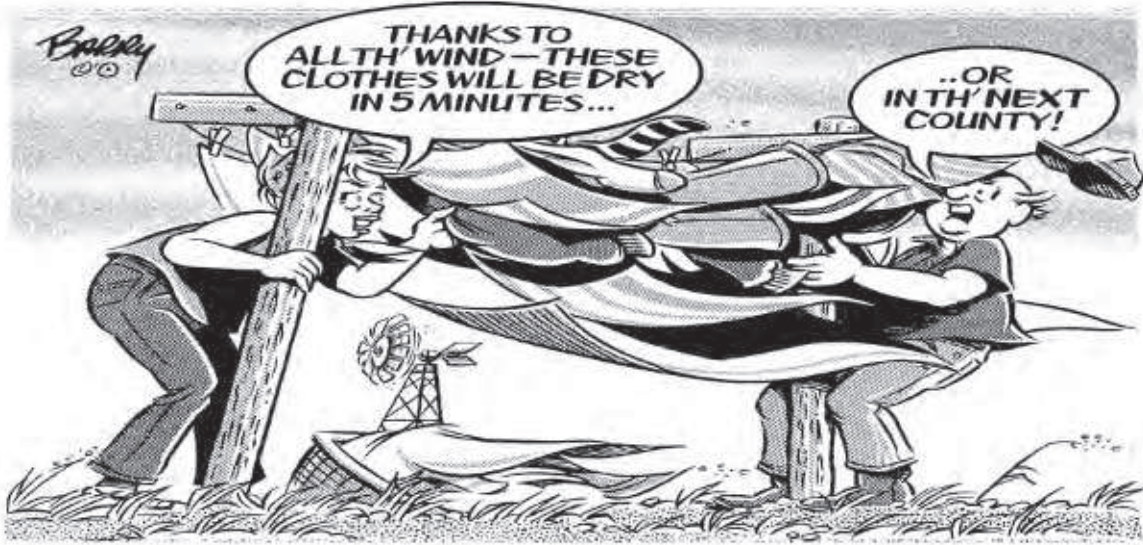
And last but not least, the rummage sale, which is a fancy word for selling things that belong in the dumpster. Just someone's trash that they are trying to unload rather than pay the landfill tipping fee. Junk.

Except for one rummage sale in particular that I know of. I just got notice about the annual Ladies' Aid sale to be held in Creede, Colo.

Let me tell you this, I don't care what they call that sale as it's the place to be if you need anything at all. It's a plethora of things you cannot believe and if you do not go away with a truck load, it means you didn't get off the curb.

You can bet Miss Trixie will be there digging through the countless tables of good stuff while O! Dutch sits out front having coffee and eating a cinnamon roll with his new choppers, purchased in Mexico. We'll see all of you there July 13 and 14.

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.



Delivering conservative victories for rural Colorado

By CONGRESSWOMAN LAUREN BOEBERT

The time for platitudes and kicking the proverbial can down the road when it comes to making the tough choices to reduce our deficit spending and rein in our national debt has passed. For far too long, too many politicians have talked a good fiscal game while running America into a pending financial collapse.

The U.S. government is over \$30 trillion in debt and will spend \$900 million per day in interest payments on this debt. To pay off our country's debt, every man, woman, and child in the United States will currently have to pay \$90,000. Instead of focusing on reducing the federal government's spending problem, many D.C. politicians are back to their old ways and again spending massive amounts through the process known as earmarks.

From 2011 to 2021, earmarks were banned in Congress, and for good reason. First, earmarks are wasteful. Recall the "Bridge to Nowhere," that spent nearly \$400 million and accomplished nothing.

Second, earmarks foster corruption. Members of Congress and lobbyists have gone to jail for misusing earmarks to get Members to vote for things they wouldn't otherwise vote for, and Members of Congress have even been caught using earmarks to pave roads

they live on and build airports for their own personal convenience.

This is bill crap. Republicans and Democrats should reject earmarks, use the normal appropriations process to fund the government, and have the best local projects compete, as has traditionally been done when not using earmarks, for worthy expenditures. This isn't an archaic or outdated process, it's actually an effective way to approve the spending of your tax dollars with necessary accountability.

Since joining Congress, I've proven that members of Congress can successfully advocate for local priorities while rejecting the corrupt earmark process. In fact, I recently secured nine important victories for rural Colorado through the regular, non-earmark process. These include:

- \$1.74 billion for Community Health Centers to serve rural communities;
- \$515 million for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program so counties can fund education, law enforcement, and infrastructure;
- \$48 million for the U.S. Forest Service to address the bark beetle infestations ravaging Colorado and to actively manage our forests;
- \$1 million to compensate farmers for livestock lost to wolves;
- Important pro-life protections like the Hyde and Weldon amendments;

• Preventing the greater sage-grouse from being listed as an endangered species and locking up our lands;

• Exempting livestock haulers from burdensome Department of Transportation electronic logging device mandates;

• Important federal resources for NASA and Colorado's space programs; and

• \$10 million for the Indian Irrigation Fund to benefit the Southern Ute Tribe and combat drought.

Advocating for local issues and being a fiscal conservative aren't mutually exclusive, and I reject the thought that earmarks are the best way for Congress to appropriate the tax dollars of hard-working Americans.

I will continue to not request earmarks and recklessly spend America further into financial bankruptcy. But I will go to bat for our communities and continue to secure more wins, like the nine above, through the normal appropriations process.

I was sent to Congress to legislate as a Conservative and that's exactly what I've done. And as your Congresswoman, I'll continue to deliver Conservative victories for rural Colorado.

Lauren Boebert is a member of the Republican Party. She serves as the U.S. Representative for Colorado's 3rd Congressional District.

LETTER

Hats off to grass-roots patriots and parents willing to stand strong

Editor,

What a pleasure it was to read the two letters in last week's newspaper! One letter showed great wisdom and insight regarding the state of our nation and the incompetency and or willful disregard of President Joe Biden for our nation's best interests. Regardless of your political affiliation, it is impossible to ignore or whitewash the path he's leading us down. And we do mean down.

Likewise, the other letter writers clearly have their heads on straight and eyes wide open. Sargent School has

long stood as a pinnacle of sound reason and nurturing guidance for every child who attends.

Our own family history extends through six generations in that community. We are proud of and grateful for the solid foundation provided therein but alarmed at the "woke" direction certain members of the faculty want to go in a headlong rush to certain derailment of our religious, moral and political freedoms.

School boards and faculty will determine whether our kids are guided

toward a loving, supportive attitude of true inclusiveness to others, or taught to divide the world by fear, hatred and skin color.

The letter writers are clearly on track to raise responsible, productive citizens. They are not raising kids destined to "allow" their parents and the government to support them forever after but are raising adults.

Here's to the grass-roots patriots of our country and parents willing to stand strong for the kids of the Valley!

Albert and Lorna Warren, Del Norte

Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyPublishing>

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>

Brian Williams..... GM/Editor
Marie Mccolm Monte Vista Journal Reporter
Mechel Meek Center Reporter
Lyndsie Ferrell South Fork/Creede Reporter
Sandra Marquez Advertising Sales Associate
Shasta Quintana Circulation
Ellie Bone Composition
April Welch Classified
Vernon Trujillo Production Foreman

www.centerpostdispatch.com

Nature trail dedicated to Ray and Colette Skeff

Ribbon cutting held March 31 at trailhead in Monte Vista

BY MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — On Thursday, March 31, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the newly named Ray and Colette Skeff Nature Trail, located off Chico Camino in Monte Vista.

There were about 125 people at the ceremony, including Monte Vista Police Chief George Dingfelder, Mayor Dale Becker, City Manager

Gigi Dennis, City Clerk Unita Vance, Public Works Director Rob Vance, the OptiMystics, and Monte Vista City Council members.

The idea for the wetlands trail took place in March of last year, with a few members of the community coming together to form the idea of a trail. The idea was presented to City Council members, and after being approved the trail was funded by a grant through SLV Great Outdoors. SLV GO Operations Director Patrick Ortiz stated after looking into trails in Monte Vista, it was decided that the new trail would be located off Chico Camino, behind Big R and the San Luis Valley Federal Bank.

Production for the trail began, and although the original anticipated date of opening was in July of 2021, the trail officially opened in October of 2021. The trail accommodates people running, walking, or strolling, by themselves or with their animals,



Photos by Brian Williams

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Ray and Colette Skeff Nature Trail in Monte Vista was held on Thursday, March 31. The trail is in the area behind Big R and SLV Federal Bank off Chico Camino.

and is the first non-motorized trail in Monte Vista.

In a City Council meeting in February, it was decided that the trail would be named after longtime beloved residents Ray and Colette Skeff. The official name of the trail was announced at the meeting as “The Ray and Colette Skeff Nature Trail.”

Ray and Colette Skeff were present at the ribbon-cutting ceremony, and there were guest speakers present as well.

The ceremony began with the unveiling of the sign by SLV GO Director Mick Daniel.

“This trail was built in partnership with SLV Great Outdoors, SLV GoCo, and the City of Monte Vista, and dedicated to Ray and Colette Skeff, for their selfless leadership, devotion and numerous benefactions that enrich the culture, vigor, beauty, and serenity of the Monte Vista community. Congratulations,” Daniel said.

City Manager Dennis also spoke at the ceremony, thanking everyone for coming out.

“It’s such an honor to be here today and to celebrate with all of you,” she said. “The turnout is just awesome and that is reflection of the love of Ray and Colette, as well as the love for the outdoors and what this project is and what it means to our community. There’s a quote by Henry David Thoreau that says, ‘An early morning walk is a blessing for the whole day.’ But for Monte Vista, the blessing is Ray and Colette Skeff.”

Mayor Dale Becker also spoke at the ceremony and presented a plaque from the city to the Skeffs commemorating the day.

“These folks are a pillar of this community,” Becker said. “It is an honor to present you guys with this plaque to put in your home, to remember this because this is very special.”

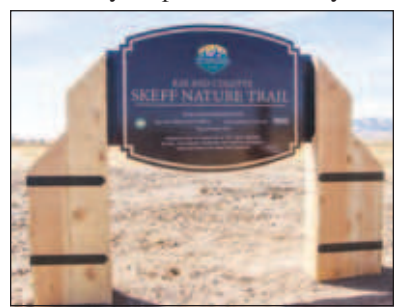
Colette Skeff also spoke at the ceremony.

“It’s so emotional, I know you understand our feelings, just thank you for being here and thank you for being our friends,” Colette said. “Ray and I want to thank you and we are grateful

for this special ceremony. It is an honor to have this wetland trail named the Ray and Colette Skeff Nature Trail. Ray and I are natives of the Valley. We have been proud and honored that we have been able to donate to so many worthwhile projects throughout the years. We feel we are truly blessed for the people we have helped and the friendships we have made that we will cherish forever. Thank you again for this special honor. We can’t thank you enough.”

Ray Skeff also spoke at the ceremony.

“Every time you guys do this; you always give more for just a couple of bucks. All of this for this,” Ray said. “Thank you much, I think it’s outpriced but that’s your problem. Thank you.”



Charges dismissed against Joergensen, will be released from state hospital

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER

After almost four years of court proceedings, including being found incompetent to stand trial multiple times, Chief Judge Gregory Lyman with the Colorado District Court has dismissed all charges against Jesper Joergensen.

Jesper Joergensen, 56, is a Danish national who was in the country illegally when he was initially charged in 2018 with 349 felony counts of First Degree Arson in connection with the 2018 Spring Creek Fire. The fire ultimately burned more than 108,000 acres, destroyed 141 structures and cost \$32 million to fight. According to court documents, in early March, District Attorney Alonzo Payne had moved to dismiss all charges in the case with the intention of transferring custody of Joergensen to Department of Homeland Services and Immigration and Customs Enforcement, after which Joergensen could potentially be deported back to Denmark.

When that failed, Payne declared his intention to refile charges against Joergensen out of a fear that, if set free, the defendant posed a danger



File photo of Jesper Joergensen

to himself and others.

When counsel and the defendant appeared in court on Monday, Judge Lyman dismissed the case. DA Payne told the Courier that his office, with assistance from the DA’s office in Huerfano County, planned to file an appeal.

It is presumed that, following Monday’s court ruling, Mr. Joergensen will be released from the Colorado State Hospital. Where he will go from there is unknown.

dish BRING EVERYTHING YOU LOVE TOGETHER!

Blazing Fast Internet! ADD TO YOUR PACKAGE FOR ONLY \$19.99/mo. where available

2-YEAR TV PRICE GUARANTEE

America's Top 120 Package **\$69.99 MO.** for 12 Mos. **190 CHANNELS** Including Local Channels!

FREE VOICE REMOTE Hey Google

FREE SMART HD DVR INCLUDED

FREE STREAMING ON ALL YOUR DEVICES

CALL TODAY - For \$100 Gift Card Promo Code: DISH100

1-866-397-0345

Offer ends 4/13/22.

*All offers require credit qualification, 24-month commitment with early termination fee and eAutoPay. Prices include Hopper Duo for qualifying customers. Hopper, Hopper w/Sling or Hopper 3 \$5/mo. more. Upfront fees may apply based on credit qualification.

Home Loans...

Purchase | Refinance | Construction

Available For...

Primary Home | Secondary Home | Investment Properties

San Luis Valley

Call Brent at 719.852.5933 or Joel at 719.589.2536 today!

Brent Logan
Chief Lending Officer

Joel Polkowske
Alamosa Branch Mgr. / Loan Officer

RG BANK

www.RGBANK.bank

NMLS# 421822

Member FDIC

Round-UP tickets on sale now

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — Alamosa Round-UP tickets went on sale Wednesday, March 30. Visit the Alamosa Round-UP website to purchase, and for details about this year's event www.alamosaroundup.com.

The 2022 Promo Code FaithFreedomRodeo (all one word) will save early ticket buyers 10%, but only until June 1.

The Alamosa Round-UP's 2022 theme is "Faith, Freedom, Rodeo."

The 2022 Alamosa Round-UP will be held at the Alamosa Rodeo Grounds on June 23-26.

The 2022 Alamosa Round-UP will have six-time PRCA Clown of the Year, Troy Lerwill. Lerwill's antics and comedy are one of a kind. His signature painted face, and Giant Yellow Cowboy Hat can't be missed in the rodeo arena. Three times, he has entertained the fans at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas. This year, one of his stops in June is Alamosa.

The 2022 Saturday Night Rodeo and Concert will look a little different. Sold as one ticket this year, the concert will immediately follow the Saturday Night PRCA Rodeo. Fans are welcome to remain in their seats or come down into the arena. If fans choose to only come to the rodeo, that's fine. If fans choose to only come out to the concert, that is fine too. Tickets are \$25 for adults, and \$15 for kids (4-12) and include both. This year, there will be no need to leave the rodeo grounds and re-enter. Just come early, stay late, and



enjoy the best of PRCA Rodeo and a concert.

This year's main concert is Justin Lawrence, a PRCA Saddle Bronc Rider, and country music artist. His top song to date is "Tonight we Ride." It can be heard on Youtube.

Opening for him is "Up and Comer" Tiffany Johnson. You can listen to a number of her songs on Spotify. You may not have heard of these two yet, but you will.

Tickets will remain available online, and will also be available at the gate each night. Mutton Bustin' entries are only available online. The Mutton Bustin' and Local Barrel Race Qualifier will be Thursday June 23 at 6 p.m.

The 2022 Round-UP will conclude with the Fan Favorite- Demolition Derby, Sunday June 26 at 4 p.m.



Courtesy of Adams State University

Adams State University will host a special screening of 'American Exile' on April 11.

Filmmaker Valadez will visit Adams State

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — Adams State University will host a special screening of "American Exile," a film by John J. Valadez and Carleen L. Hsu, at 6 p.m. Monday, April 11, in McDaniel Hall room 101.

A question-and-answer session with filmmaker Valadez will follow the screening. The event is free and open to the public. Masks are now optional and a personal choice at Adams State.

The hour-long documentary is about exiled veterans and their families and the movement to bring them home.

According to americanexilefilm.com, brothers Valente and Manuel Valenzuela volunteered and fought in Vietnam. Now, 50 years later, they are being deported but they are not

the only ones.

Manuel Valenzuela served in Vietnam in 1971 as part of the 3rd Marine Division. His platoon was tasked with extracting troops who were pinned down in combat situations. Valente Valenzuela joined the US Army at 17 and was assigned to the 101st Airborne. He was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic service in combat. Their mother was a natural born American citizen from New Mexico, and their father was a naturalized US citizen. Both brothers were born in Mexico.

The film features the brothers as they learn about exiled veterans and embark on a journey to bring them back home.

The event is sponsored by Latino Public Broadcasting, PBS SoCal, KCET, Voices, and WKAR.

Current 'bird flu' poses low risk to humans

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — A "bird flu" known as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) that has been identified in many states including Colorado poses low risk to humans, according to the CDC. No human infections with the currently circulating virus have been detected in the United States, but health officials are monitoring the situation.

Although this virus is currently

low risk for humans, it is a good reminder that poultry can sometimes carry harmful germs that make people sick.

- Remember to wash your hands thoroughly after touching poultry or anything in the area where they live and roam.

- Avoid direct, unprotected contact with wild or domestic birds that appear ill or are dead.

- Avoid surfaces that may be

contaminated with saliva, mucous, or feces from wild or domestic birds.

- If contact with sick or deceased birds cannot be avoided, use protective equipment such as gloves, eye protection, and a medical facemask, and wash hands afterward.

- Change clothes after contact with birds.

- In the United States, it is safe to eat poultry that is properly cooked and handled.

Go Beyond Spring Cleaning.
REPAIR AND PROTECT YOUR GREATEST ASSET.

WET BASEMENT **CRACKING WALLS** **NASTY CRAWL SPACE**

Foundation, basement, and crawl space damage can affect your home's safety, appearance, and value. These problems only get worse with age. Repair your home's issues now... and save money in the future.

COMPLETE BASEMENT SYSTEMS.
A Groundwork Company

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION

(719) 626-4236

- FOUNDATIONS
- BASEMENTS
- CRAWL SPACES

+ Easy Financing
+ Nationally-backed Transferable Warranties

SPRING SAVINGS

\$500 OFF
YOUR NEXT PROJECT*

*Ten percent off any job over \$2500 up to a max of \$500. Coupon must be presented at time of inspection. Offer may not be combined with any other offer. Limit one per customer. Ask inspector for further details. Promo valid through 04/30/2022.

Congratulations Class of 2022!

Valley Publishing will be printing the annual San Luis Valley Graduation edition on April 27th... don't miss this opportunity to wish the Class of 2022 congratulations!

This special edition will be included in the Center Post Dispatch, Conejos County Citizen, Del Norte Prospector, Mineral County Miner, Monte Vista Journal, South Fork Times and SLV Lifestyles.

Investment:	Deadline:
2col.x2" - \$130	Tues., April 19
2col.x3" - \$160	Other sizes & prices available...
2col.x4" - \$240	Call your sales rep today!
2col.x5" - \$260	

Call Today to find out how you can be a part of the Great Section!

Valley Publishing

719-852-3531
Sandra Marquez
smarquez@valleypublishinginc.com
Brian Williams
bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com

What is a SART?

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

ALAMOSA — A Sexual Assault Response Team, or SART, helps minimize the retraumatization of a survivor when engaging with the criminal justice system. SARTs initiate a collaborative response to provide support, information, and resources. This trauma-informed response not only benefits survivors but the agencies survivors engage with as well. For example, SARTs have identified many improvements to victims' participation in the criminal justice system, including:

- Increasing likelihood of receiving referrals to advocacy services
- Increasing likelihood of receiving referrals to medical services
- Increasing the number of assaults reported to law enforcement
- Increasing clients' engagement with investigation and court prep

SART models range from informal partnerships to more formal and coordinated responses on local, regional, state, tribal, or territory

levels. SARTs typically include law enforcement investigators, advocates from community based sexual assault organizations, forensic examiners/nurses, and prosecutors.

In general, SARTs are committed to victims' rights and needs, organize their service delivery to aid evidence collection, and educate the community about services available for intervention and prevention of sexual assault.

Unfortunately, sexual assault happens in all communities and not all communities are equipped with a SART. The earliest SARTs date back to the early 1970s, including one started by sexual assault advocates at Colorado State University in Fort Collins in 1974. Later, the Pueblo Rape Crisis Center initiated a SART to provide a more comfortable, less traumatic environment for forensic evidence collection and law enforcement investigation in 1998.

Our very own SART, serving the entire San Luis Valley, has been persisting through funding hardships

for almost a decade. Tu Casa Inc., the organization charged with SART coordination, remains committed to serving survivors of sexual assault, strengthening relationships with other agencies, and encouraging growth in the realm of trauma-informed sexual assault response. Tu Casa Inc.'s new SART coordinator, Amanda McClanahan, has a background in the helping professions and is excited to start working towards increasing the number of agencies participating in SART meetings.

Tu Casa, Inc. is committed to empowering all children and adults to live healthy, violence-free lives. Their services are free, voluntary, and confidential and can be accessed through a 24-hour hotline at 719-589-2465. Throughout April, known as Sexual Assault Awareness and Child Abuse Prevention Month, you can stay updated on events and activities by following our Facebook: www.facebook.com/TuCasaInc and Instagram: www.instagram.com/slvucasa/.

Passenger dies in crash Saturday night on Highway 285

STAFF REPORT

CONEJOS COUNTY

— Colorado State Patrol is investigating a fatal two-vehicle crash that occurred April 2 on Colorado Highway 285 at the intersection of Colorado Highway 15. Four others suffered minor to serious injuries.

At approximately 8:02 p.m. on Saturday, a 2008 blue Honda Fit was traveling northbound on Colorado Highway 285 when a 1989 blue Volkswagen Cabriolet who was traveling southbound attempted to make a left turn onto

Conejos County Road X, CSP reported.

The Honda struck the Volkswagen on its front passenger side in the middle of the northbound lane as the Volkswagen attempted to make the left turn. After impact, the Honda rotated clockwise and continued north for a short distance and came to rest on the northbound lane.

The Volkswagen rotated counterclockwise after impact continuing in a northeast direction and collided with the northbound shoulder guard rail.

After colliding with the guard

rail, the Volkswagen rotated clockwise and also came to rest in the northbound lane.

The front passenger of the Volkswagen suffered fatal injuries and succumbed to their injuries at the scene. The driver and right-rear passenger of the Volkswagen suffered serious injuries along with moderate injuries to a third passenger. The driver of the Honda who was traveling alone received minor injuries.

The crash is still under investigation by the Colorado State Patrol Vehicular Crimes Unit.

Practical Steps to Boost Your Confidence

God has a great plan for each person's life, and He wants us to enjoy every day of our lives. But we can't do it if we live in fear and lack confidence. Confidence is the belief that you're able to do what you need to do or what you want to do. God gives us confidence, but we need to know how to access it by faith.

God-given confidence is actually the grace of God. We usually hear grace defined as God's undeserved favor or God doing something for you that you don't deserve. But it's really more than that.

It was life-changing for me to learn that grace is also God's power, freely given to me, to enable me to do with ease what I could never do on my own with any amount of struggle or effort.

Think about this for a minute. Everyone who accepts Christ as their Savior is taught that we're saved by grace through faith. Ephesians 2:8 (NIV) says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God."

But the same way we are saved is the way we are supposed to live. In other words, once we are born again, God wants us to do everything in life by grace through faith.

This has been one of the greatest revelations of my life. I remember how exciting it was to realize that God is not just there to help us when we have an emergency. God wants to be involved in every single thing we do on a daily basis.

There's nothing you're involved in that God doesn't care about, and He wants you to pray and ask Him to help you with every detail of your life. He doesn't want you to live striving in your own effort to do anything. God wants to be your close, personal, intimate friend.

I was a Christian for years before I learned how to access God's grace—

His power—to live my everyday life. First, I had to get an understanding that once I was saved, God didn't expect me to live right by my own strength.

Just as I couldn't "earn" salvation through my own works or effort, I also couldn't really change my heart or behavior in my own strength. Jesus says in John 15:4 (NIV), "No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."

Every day we need to come to God and tell Him, "God, I can do nothing without You. Nothing in my life is going to work without You. Apart from You, there is nothing good in me. My confidence is in You. I need You all the time. I believe You and trust You, Lord."

When we humble ourselves before God and ask Him for help, we can access His grace through faith.

To help you do that, I want to share three things that commonly short-circuit our faith, cutting off our access to God's power: complaining, self-pity and pride.

- Complaining is a negative attitude that keeps us from being thankful for all God has done, what He's doing, and what He will do. It is a sin we need to repent of, and then be determined to thank God in all things, at all times. His grace and blessings always outweigh the things we think are wrong in our life.
- Self-pity is simply a "poor me" attitude. It is a form of idolatry because it causes you to focus on yourself and think, "What about me?" We can't be pitiful and powerful at the same time, so let's decide to give up all self-pity.
- Pride takes credit for what God has done and steals His glory. It makes us independent of God, and we can't bear good fruit apart from Christ.



Before I learned how to live my life by God's grace, I was a mess. I was a nagging wife, manipulative and controlling. And I wasn't satisfied living like that. Then God helped me by opening my eyes to see that I couldn't really change until I started taking His Word seriously, trusting Him to change me.

When I made a firm decision to pray and study the Word in areas where I was weak, then God's grace gave me the power I needed to overcome the things that were wrong. And I keep going forward in my journey with God the same way today.

God has all the power you need to do anything you need to do. He loves you and wants to give you His power to live your everyday life with joy. Trust His wisdom and goodness, and you'll live with God-given confidence!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's teaching resource *Knowing Who You Are in Christ*. 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.

Resurfacing project begins on US 160 east of Monte Vista

Work also includes repaving of CO 370 and pedestrian improvements in Alamosa, Monte Vista

STAFF REPORT

RIOGRANDE and ALAMOSA COUNTIES — The Colorado Department of Transportation announced work on US Highway 160 and Colorado Highway 370 in Rio Grande and Alamosa counties began this week. The project will improve US Highway 160 for approximately 16 miles east of Monte Vista from mile point 215 to 226. Additionally, four miles of Colorado Highway 370 will be improved between MP 4 and MP 8. CO 370 is located south of the US 160 corridor.

The project includes resurfacing the roadway and will incorporate shouldering improvements, erosion control, guardrail replacement, concrete curbing, signing, and final striping. Pedestrian features will also be constructed at intersections within the communities of Monte Vista and Alamosa. Enhancements include the construction of new concrete curbs and Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant ramps in both communities, as well as the installation of reflective flashing beacons at Lyell Street in Monte Vista.

"The project will enhance safety for San Luis Valley travelers on this busy two-lane highway," said

CDOT Regional Transportation Director Julie Constan. "When this project is completed, motorists will find a smoother roadway surface with high visibility markings and stabilized shoulders. The pedestrian improvements will enhance safety for those walking or biking within the Monte Vista and Alamosa communities."

The project was contracted to APC Southern Construction, of Golden, for \$10.4 million and is expected to be completed in October 2022.

Travel Impacts

Project work will take place during daylight hours, Monday through Friday. No weekend work is currently anticipated. Motorists will encounter brief closures with single lane alternating traffic and should allow for travel delays of up to 15 minutes. Flagging personnel will be on sight to direct travelers. Speed limits will be reduced to 40 mph in the project work area. During work hours motorists are asked to use caution when approaching and driving through the work zone.

Project Contact Information

For additional information about this project, contact the project team.

- Project Hotline — 719-480-9890
- Project email — jlopez@apc.us.com
- Project website — www.codot.gov/projects/us160-co370-resurfacing

Special Offer FOR VETERANS!

NORTH AMERICA'S

#1 Selling Walk-In Tub

Featuring our Exclusive Shower Package



Now you can finally have all of the soothing benefits of a relaxing warm bath, or enjoy a convenient refreshing shower while seated or standing. Introducing Safe Step Walk-In Tub's exclusive **Shower Package!**

- ✓ First and only walk-in tub available with a customizable shower
- ✓ Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for your height and pivots to offer a seated shower option
- ✓ Now with 10 Hydro Jets, 16 Air Bubble Jets, and MicroSoothe® Advanced Air Therapy System
- ✓ High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub
- ✓ Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price

Now you can have the best of both worlds—there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!



Call today and receive exclusive savings of **\$1600 OFF** PLUS A FREE SHOWER PACKAGE

Call Toll-Free 719-259-4323



www.WhySafeStep.com

*With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase.

719-259-4323

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT





CSLB 903032 F13200012885 13HV0743200

CRT returns indoors for 57th season

STAFF REPORT

CREEDE — From May 28 through Sept. 17, Creede Repertory Theatre (CRT) will present its 57th season, welcoming audiences back with a return to fully live, indoor performances, audience enrichment opportunities and thriving education programs.

“From a variety of popular and thought-provoking works, to introducing new voices and educational programs, Creede Rep has unending options to engage our guests this season,” said CRT’s Producing Artistic Director John DiAntonio. “There are so many reasons to ‘Go Rep!’ this summer.”

The season begins at the historic Mainstage Theatre with “Always... Patsy Cline” created and originally directed by Ted Swindley. Directed by Michael Perlman (“Annie Get Your Gun”), the musical, which enjoyed a successful run off-broadway, stars Emily Van Fleet (“9 to 5”) as Patsy Cline. Based on the true story of her friendship with honky-tonk fan Louise Seger, played by perennial favorite Caitlin Wise (“Pride and Prejudice”), the show includes 27 of Patsy’s greatest hits like “Crazy,” “I Fall to Pieces” and “Sweet Dreams.”

Also on The Mainstage is “Native Gardens” by Karen Zacarias and featuring CRT legend Christy Brandt. This moving comedy, directed by Julia Rosa Sosa Chaparro, introduces young professionals Pablo and Tania as they move into their dream home, right next door to community stalwarts Frank and Virginia, starting

an all-out war of the roses over a long-standing fence line dispute.

The Ruth Humphreys Brown Theatre (The Ruth) welcomes audiences back this season with all new LED lighting technology, keeping it cooler to increase audience comfort. Here patrons can enjoy Robert Harling’s hilarious and devastating “Steel Magnolias,” directed by Amanda Berg Wilson. Audience engagement opportunities are returning for select shows this season, including a conversation with CRT alumna and current board member Pam Berlin, who directed the world premiere production of “Steel Magnolias” in 1987.

Also playing at The Ruth is the swashbuckling and family-friendly “Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood” by Ken Ludwig (“Crazy for You”).

“It’s a story we all know, told like we’ve never heard it before,” said director DiAntonio. “It captures the adventurous spirit that represents Creede and CRT. Plus, there is nothing more the world needs right now than to be swept away in an epic romance!”

Next is “The Royale” by Marco Ramirez, which is directed by Kyle Haden, who also directed the world premiere of “Hazardous Materials” at CRT in 2018. Inspired by the life of Jack Johnson, this sports drama set in the early-20th-century world of racially-segregated boxing and featuring Lavour Addison (“An Iliad”), brings to life the ultimate fight for a place in history.

If it’s improv that delights, “Pants

on Fire!: A Totally Made-Up Musical for Kids” returns to The Ruth, Fridays at 11 a.m. from July 1 through Sept. 2. Boomtown! Improv Comedy also returns Fridays, July 1 through Sept. 4, now at 9:30 p.m. so you can be in bed by 11 p.m. after all of the frivolity.

CRT’s 10th annual Headwaters New Play Festival is also back this season, featuring new work by playwrights Beth Kander (“Hazardous Materials,” “To the Moon”) and Michael Perlman (“To White Plains”).

Education at CRT will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of “The KID Show with Music Box” written by KID Show alumna, Allison Quiller, and directed by KID Show founder, Renee Prince. This coming-of-age adventure follows Maggie, a young magician while she makes new friends, faces dangers and ultimately must use her skills to save her father — and the world. Running July 7 through July 9 at The Ruth, The KID Show offers a professional theatrical experience for students ages 10 and older through the creation of an original show. Additionally, the Education Department hosts camps for learners of all ages July 12 through Aug. 5.

CRT’s flagship program, The



Photo courtesy of CRT

The Creede Repertory Theatre returns for its 57th season on May 28.

Young Audience Outreach Tour, now in its 39th season, is staging the World Premiere of “Casa Alfonso” by Diana Grisanti, Aug. 26 and Aug. 27, at the Virginia Christensen Multi Use Facility. Featuring the creative team of last season’s “El Guayabo/The Guava Tree,” “Casa Alfonso” is an upbeat bilingual musical following

cousins as they help their family navigate grief and regulate emotions, while keeping their family restaurant afloat.

For tickets, or information about multi-show, flex and VIP passes, visit www.creederep.org, call the box office at 719-658-2540 (Opt. 1) or email boxoffice@creederep.com.

Mountainfilm on Tour coming to Monte Vista on April 8

MONTE VISTA — Mountainfilm on Tour brings a selection of culturally rich, adventure-packed and incredibly inspiring documentary films curated from the Mountainfilm festival in Telluride.

The tour will visit Monte Vista at the Vali 3 Theater on Friday, April 8 with films that explore themes connected to Mountainfilm’s mission of using the power of film, art and ideas to inspire audiences to create a better world. There is also a virtual program option the following weekend from April 15-17.

The Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce and SLV GO! will welcome guests on April 8 at Rain Brews beginning at 4:30 p.m. for a silent auction fundraiser, drinks,

and appetizers while learning more about the current and future work of SLV GO!

Silent auction items include local artwork, gift certificates for local eateries, outdoor gear, hot spring passes, and more. The Vali 3 Theater opens its doors at 6:30 and the show kicks off at 7 p.m.

Tickets for Mountainfilm on Tour in Monte Vista can be purchased online at www.mountainfilm.org/tour. Tickets will also be available at the door of the Vali 3 Theater the day of the event. Tickets for both the live and virtual showing are \$15 and support the work of SLV GO! For a sneak peak, see the complete playlist at www.mountainfilm.org/tour/schedule.

Rio Grande Hospital is organizing Easter Egg Hunt on April 16

STAFF REPORT

DEL NORTE — Rio Grande Hospital is seeking volunteers and donations for an Easter Egg Hunt that is scheduled on April 16, at the Del

Norte Town Park.

The family event is sponsored by Rio Grande Hospital. If you or someone you know can donate to the event, they need plastic eggs, candy,

prizes and volunteers.

For more information, to donate or volunteer, contact Rio Grande Hospital Chief Finance Officer Greg Porter at 719-849-8415.

Notice of Accepting Bids
The Center Fire Protection District is accepting bids for two trucks. One is a 1983 Ford F800, 800 gallon pumper truck. The second is a 1969, Jeep, 2 1/2 ton Brush truck, 1,200 gallon. Bids shall be a minimum of \$5,000 per truck. Sealed bids will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on April 8, 2022. Bids can be mailed to P.O. Box 845, Center, CO 81125. Bids will be opened at the Board’s regular meeting on April 12, 2022. To view the above trucks, please call John Anderson at 719-588-8005 for an appointment. The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

No. 1630 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, March 24 and 31 and April 7, 2022.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Colorado Gators Inc., 9187 Pyrite Circle, Mosca, Co, 81146, (719) 580-2306, has filed an application for a Construction Materials (112) Reclamation Permit with the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board under provisions of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Act. The proposed mine is known as Mystic Soil, and is located at or near Section 22, Township 41N, Range 10E, 6th Prime Meridian.
The proposed date of commencement is Summer 2022, and the proposed date of completion is, Fall 2032. The proposed future use of the land is industrial/commercial and rangeland.
Additional information and tentative decision date may be obtained from the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203, (303) 866-3567, or at the Saguache County Clerk and Recorder’s office; 501 4th St. Saguache, CO, 81149, or the above-named applicant. A complete copy of the application is available at the above-named County Clerk and Recorder’s office and at the Division’s office.
Comments concerning the application and exhibits must be in writing and must be received by the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety by 4:00 p.m., 20 days after the publication of this notice.
Please note that under the provisions of C.R.S. 34-32-101 et seq. Comments related to noise, truck traffic, hours of operation, visual impacts, effects on property values and other social or economic concerns are issues not subject to this Office’s jurisdiction. These subjects, and similar ones, are typically addressed by your local governments, rather than the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety or the Mined Land Reclamation Board.

No. 1632 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, April 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2022.

FREEDOM. TO BE YOU.

If you think oxygen therapy means slowing down, it’s time for a welcome breath of fresh air.

Introducing the Inogen One family of portable oxygen systems. With no need for bulky tanks, each concentrator is designed to keep you active via Inogen’s Intelligent Delivery Technology.® Hours of quiet and consistent oxygen flow on a long-lasting battery charge enabling freedom of movement, whether at home or on the road. Every Inogen One meets FAA requirements for travel ensuring the freedom to be you.



- No heavy oxygen tanks
- Ultra quiet operation
- Lightweight and easy to use
- Safe for car and air travel
- Full range of options and accessories
- FDA approved and clinically validated

Call 1-719-490-4844 for a free consultation and info guide.



SdCNHA 2023 grant cycle now open

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

ALAMOSA — The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area (SdCNHA) recently announced its 2023 grant application cycle is open.

Grants awarded from SdCNHA are intended to encourage local cultural and historic heritage preservation activities, educational programs and support Heritage Tourism within the heritage area. Our past grantees have used grant funds to restore historic buildings; provide historical and cultural interpretation; restore or promote scenic, artistic and recreational resources; and to document culturally significant components of the way of life in the heritage area. Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area is administered by a non-profit board of volunteers who represent Alamosa, Conejos and Costilla Counties.

Heritage area grants are available to local schools, municipalities, and non-profits annually. Visit the SdCNHA website for more information about its mission, vision, and a list of past grants.

The selection process is competitive, and applicants are encouraged to develop proposals carefully utilizing SdCNHA's Management Plan Goals and Objectives. You can find these resources on management plan page www.sangreheritage.org/management-plan/. Funding is available up to \$25,000. Applications and guidelines can be found at www.sangreheritage.org/collaborate/. SdCNHA funds development projects, archeology projects, survey and planning projects, and education projects.

Development projects involve excavation, preservation, stabilization, restoration, rehabilitation, or reconstruction of a designated property or site. Two examples of development

projects funded by SdCNHA are the Rehabilitation and Restoration of the Denver and Rio Grande Depot at Antonito and Coach 256.

Rehabilitation and Restoration of the Denver and Rio Grande Depot in Antonito was an exterior rehabilitation which included stucco repair and stone repointing. In addition, the historic exterior lighting was restored and new low profile, wood storm windows was fabricated and installed over the restored historic wood windows.

The Denver and Rio Grande Depot at Antonito was placed on Colorado's Most Endangered List in 2007. Coach 256 is part of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad Engine 168 and Historic Car Project, which has been returned to a complete, vintage 19th century passenger train, adding a new heritage tourism attraction to the area.

Engine 168 and the four other passenger cars are important elements of this project. This has successfully recreated a passenger travel experience popularly known as "The San Juan" as it was in 1915.

Archaeology Projects involve the identification, documentation, preservation, and interpretation of archaeological resources. This includes prehistoric and historic sites as well as artifact collections. Section 106 compliance/consultation of the National Historic Preservation Act will be required and should be part of your planning efforts. Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area will assist with the completion of a Section 106 application.

The following three projects received grants from the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area. An example of an archaeology project that was funded by SdCNHA is the Archaeological

and Biogeographical Investigations at the La Botica Site. This exceptionally large and complex archaeological site located in the La Jara Canyon; preserves a unique record of American Indian lifeways spanning at least 8000 years.

The site is an important locality for the San Luis Valley's Hispano residents, who have gathered medicinal plants there in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The demonstrated complexity and time depth of the site's occupation, combined with its unique biological setting, make La Botica one of the most significant sites in the San Luis valley.

The Paleo-cultural Research Group's multi-disciplinary project aimed to better understand the site's place in the regional cultural landscape as well as the factors that have shaped it over time. There primary goal was to better document the site and its current condition, and to gather the baseline data needed to reconstruct the history of human use and changes in the local plant community.

Education Projects provide historic preservation information or information about historic sites to the public. These projects can include curriculum development, youth training, lectures, interviews, archiving and preservation of cultural information, etc.

Two examples of an education project that were funded by SdCNHA are Congreso de Acequias and the Lifeways of the San Luis Valley Course and Lecture Series.

Lifeways of the San Luis Valley Course and Lecture Series is a course and lecture series explored the cultural richness of the San Luis Valley within the context of the multitude of Southwestern and Rio Grande traditions. The SLV geography, ecology, languages, and



literature along with other elements of regional heritage, such as acequia systems, were exemplified in order to better understand local values and spiritual expressions of place.

Congreso de Acequias is a unique event which brings together the acequia community each year to celebrate and strengthen Colorado's oldest farming communities. Acequias are a critical piece of the Heritage Area's living history, celebrating the ancestors of those who settled under the Mexican land grants.

The 2021 Congreso will give community members an opportunity to participate in the living history of the Acequia Community. It also provides critical water rights information to irrigators, as well as the opportunity to learn, cropping types, estate planning and the protection of an individual acequia through by-laws.

The Congreso also showcases Costilla and Conejos County student artwork and writing skills about the Acequia's using the annual poetry, coloring and poster contests.

Survey and Planning Projects involve identification, recording, evaluation, designation, and planning for the protection of significant historic buildings, structures, sites, and districts. This is not for the acquisition

of property. Section 106 compliance/consultation of the National Historic Preservation Act may be required for this project type and should be considered for your planning efforts. Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area can help with the completion of a Section 106 application.

An example of a survey and planning grant that was funded by SdCNHA is Rainbow Trout Ranch Conservation Project. The historic property is a guest ranch, which has been in operation for over 85 years. Located on the Conejos River, it encompasses 590 acres. Highly visible from Highway 17 (Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway) it provides substantial wildlife habitat. Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust worked with the owners to protect the land through a permanent conservation easement.

For more information about the grant process, email SdCNHA at info@sdcnha.org, call 719-580-7366 or visit the office located at 231 State Ave. in Alamosa.

Applicants will be notified of status in October of 2022 and funding will be available in 2023.

Application submission deadline is June 1, 2022, by 5p.m. — Postmarked: SdCNHA, P.O. Box 844, Alamosa, CO 81101, or delivered by hand — 231 State Ave., Alamosa.

LeafGuard
Get it. And forget it.®

*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

QUALITY TESTED
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING
Since 1909
LIMITED WARRANTY - please.com for details

LeafGuard
18 YEARS BACKED BY THE SEAL

Call Today for Your **FREE Estimate!**
719-493-9644

RECEIVE A \$50 DARDEN GIFT CARD

ONLY \$99 INSTALLATION*

*Does not include cost of material. Expires 4/30/22. All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 gift card. No purchase is necessary. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings, Inc. Limit one gift card per household. LeafGuard procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or have a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a valid photo ID, understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of LeafGuard or affiliated companies or entities; their immediate family members; previous participants in a LeafGuard in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former LeafGuard customers. Promotion may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that LeafGuard may substitute a gift card of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card and terms and conditions (<https://www.darden.com/gift-cards/terms-and-conditions/>) of such gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class US Mail within 21 days of receipt of promotion form provided at consultation. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Darden Restaurants and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Offer ends 4/30/22.

- LIFETIME NO-CLOG WARRANTY
- MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME
- THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM.
- SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH

Summer on the Rio Grande

2022

Valley Publishing Inc.
P.O. Box 607 • 835 1st Ave. • Monte Vista • 719-852-3531

2021 Summer on the Rio Grande Southern Colorado

FREE San Luis Valley Official Visitors Guide

Why advertise in the Summer on the Rio Grande publication?

- We deliver over 30,000 copies locally at hotels, RV parks, tourist destinations and more and throughout the state at Welcome Centers and Visitor Centers, as well as to our readers through our weekly newspapers.
- We deliver your message to a broad audience for a small investment.
- We have proven readership of our publications based on decades of publishing.
- We know and promote the Valley on a daily basis and have been for over 75 years.
- We won't charge extra costs for graphic design/production! • We've been printing Summer on the Rio Grande for many years.... we're not new to this!
- We work with the advertisers all year and know their budgets, concerns, and the best way to display their message effectively.

Alamosa County
Conejos County
Costilla County
Mineral County
Rio Grande County
Saguache County

©2021 Valley Publishing, Inc.

Give us a call to see how Valley Publishing's Summer on the Rio Grande can work for you!

Lifestyles

Serving the entire San Luis Valley

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

BOXHOLDER LOCAL-RURAL CAR-RT SORT STANDARD MAIL RATE U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 70 Alamosa, CO 81101

April is both Child Abuse Prevention Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Child Abuse Prevention Month (CAPM) is a time to highlight the importance of individuals and communities working together to prevent child abuse. Our goal is to increase awareness about child abuse and neglect and to decrease it from occurring. During 2021 in the San Luis Valley alone, there were 1172 child abuse reports made to the Colorado Department of Human Services.

In honor of CAPM, the Children's Advocacy Center of the San Luis Valley would like to invite you to wear a blue ribbon throughout the month and to participate in "Wear Blue Day" on April 1. The blue-ribbon trend began after a grandmother used it to honor her grandson who was killed while being abused. The blue ribbon is a symbol of hope that one day no child will suffer from abuse and gives you the opportunity to tell others that you support child abuse prevention. By wearing blue on Friday, April 1, you will join communities across Colorado in taking a stand. If you need a blue ribbon to wear, contact Tu Casa, Inc. at 719-589-2465.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) is a campaign to raise public awareness about sexual assault and educate the community about how to prevent sexual violence. This year marks the 21st anniversary of SAAM, however, efforts to end sexual violence began decades before with advocates like Rosa

Parks and led to events in the late 1970's like the first Take Back the Night event, which was held in San Francisco. The Take Back the Night event protested rape and sexual assault that women encountered while walking the streets at night. This event caused a movement across the U.S. which helped form SAAM.

Tu Casa, Inc. would like to invite you to help raise awareness about sexual assault throughout the month of April by wearing a teal ribbon and participating in "Wear Teal Day" which is observed on Tuesday, April 5. By wearing teal, you will be taking a stand against sexual violence with others across the U.S. and showing your support for efforts to end sexual violence. If you are interested in wearing a teal ribbon but do not have one, contact Tu Casa, Inc. at 719-589-2465.

Throughout the month of April, Advocates from Tu Casa, Inc. will be hosting a Clothesline Project. The Clothesline Project began in 1990 as an effort to educate people about violence against women and to break the silence. It was developed after this striking comparison was made by the Men's Rape Prevention Project: During the Vietnam war 58,000 soldiers were killed and during that same period 51,000 women were killed by interpersonal violence.

The Clothesline Project has allowed communities to come

Please see MONTH on Page 2

Dwight Yoakam headlining Ski-Hi Stampede Concert

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — The SLV Ski-Hi Stampede recently announced that Dwight Yoakam will be headlining the 100th anniversary concert on Thursday, July 21, at the Ski Hi Complex. Tickets are currently on sale at the Ski Hi Stampede website, www.SkiHiStampede.com.

The Josh Abbott Band is opening for Yoakam.

The Ski-Hi Stampede is celebrating its 100th anniversary, July 22-24. It is Colorado's oldest pro rodeo. It began in 1919, but two years were deducted because of World War II, when no events were held. The first rodeo was held Aug. 11-13, 1919, and was called the Ski-Hi Stampede.

Yoakam has sold more than 25 million albums worldwide, and he is a 21-time nominated, multiple Grammy Award winner. He has 12 gold albums and nine platinum or multi-platinum albums, with five of those albums topping Billboard's Country Albums chart and another 14 landing in the Top 10. Nearly 40 of Yoakam's singles have charted on Billboard, with 14 peaking in the Top 10.

Yoakam is a recipient of the Artist of the Year award from the Americana Music Association, the most prestigious award offered by the organization.

A staple in the Texas music scene since forming in 2006



at Lubbock's Texas Tech University, the Josh Abbott Band has weathered many storms including divorces, burying their fathers, the Route 91 Harvest shooting and a pandemic. Josh Abbott Band consists of drummer and

Please see CONCERT on Page 2

Prescribed burns planned at Alamosa and Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuges

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be conducting prescribed burns this spring on the Alamosa and Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuges to remove old, matted vegetation to improve wildlife habitat. The burns will be conducted by professional fire personnel from the Mid-Plains Fire Zone Unit. The exact burn dates will depend on weather

conditions and other prescription requirements. Target dates started March 28 but may extend through April 30.

Smoke will be visible to adjacent neighbors, towns and highways during and for a few days following burning operations. Signs will be posted along the nearest major roads and all burns will be monitored until they are declared completely out.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information, see www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health.

For up-to-date information, Like Us on our San Luis Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SanLuisValleyRefugeComplex or contact Alamosa and Monte Vista Refuge, Wildlife Refuge Specialist Dean Lee at 719-589-4021.

Promoting good land stewardship during mud-season

The weekend weather was amazing and, for some reason, I just had to get out and enjoy it. I am certain I was not alone in that feeling. Spring is here, right? I really wanted to get my mountain bike and head for the hills! I found myself reflecting then on the words from one of America's great Naturalists, John Muir. Well over 100 years ago Muir coined his oft-repeated phrase, "The mountains are calling and I must go." Looking up to the mountains I admired their snow-covered peaks. The sun was warm on my face, and I knew it was warm on the mountains too. It is melting the snow and letting the water seep into the soil, trickle across rocks, and course down the mountain creeks.

I decided that I should slightly edit Mr. Muir's statement, balance it with my current yearning to be outside and the desire to not damage my public lands with my activity. I came up with this revised announcement: "The foothills and low country are calling and I'm going to go see what I can do without leaving tracks." I'm sure that 100 years from now, folks won't be quoting me.

I mentioned earlier that spring is here. In the high valleys and surrounding peaks you'll experience the unique and unpredictable weather in the mountains. Spring brings a trend of increasingly warmer weather mixed with the occasional heavy snow or wintery mix. Sometimes in the same day. As temperatures increase, so do millions of people's appetites to be outside and visit our favorite places in the mountains or discover new places. Access to the mountains can be tricky in the early season so we must be good steward of our public lands.

Since they are public lands, we all have the responsibility to respect them and use them with the mantra of being able to enjoy them forever. You know, sustainable use. Spring mud season is when the most damage occurs to our trails and roads, each year. The melting snow and daily freeze / thaw cycle softens the land, drastically increasing the potential for damage from non-natural activity. This damage can persist throughout the year and make our trips less enjoyable for the rest of the season. Our

Land, Water and People

BY GREGG GOODLAND

land managers do their best to help protect trails and roads with seasonal closures.

Before you head out to enjoy the warm sunshine and our public lands, keep in mind these few tips for springtime use:

Plan your trips keeping aspect in mind. Trails along north-facing slopes, in gullies, or under tree cover tend to be muddier this time of year because they receive less of that warm and drying sunshine.

If the ground is soft, don't venture onto it. Tire prints and footprints can make depressions that may change how water is distributed and flows in that area leading to increased erosion.

Respect road closure gates and signs. Just because the road looks dry where you are, doesn't mean it is dry farther up. Walk the

roads and enjoy the scenery. When it gets soft or muddy, turn around.

If you encounter a muddy section or puddle, walk through it instead of around. This will prevent widening the trail. Sure, your boots might get wet or muddy, but that is part of mud season.

After another minute of listening to bird song and staring at the mountains, I decided to bike one of my favorite low country trails. I know the coming summer rides will be much hotter here than in the high country, so I plan to take advantage of this perfect weather to be in the low hills. Sure, I wanted to head to the mountains right away, but I knew that I would enjoy this bike ride too. I'll be working on getting back into biking shape so I can tackle the bigger trails of the high country later this year.

Gregg Goodland is the Public Affairs Officer for the Rio Grande National Forest. An avid outdoor enthusiast, you'll find him enjoying all public lands as often as possible.

Advertising That Works Hard for You

If your business can benefit from targeted exposure to a local audience of professionals and entrepreneurs, call today, and see what makes us a great fit for your advertising needs!

Valley Publishing

835 First Ave. | Monte Vista | 719-852-3531
www.montevistaads@gmail.com

SLV Health prepares for Community Health Needs Assessment

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

ALAMOSA — Every three years San Luis Valley Health completes a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

Planning and preparations for the 2022 CHNA is currently underway. While the CHNA is a federal require-

ment of the IRS for non-profit hospitals to demonstrate their value by addressing the unmet health needs of communities served, SLVH also uses the information to help guide strategic priorities to improve its services.

“The timing of this needs assessment is important as SLVH begins its work to

set our strategic priorities for the next year. It’s a direct way for SLVH to respond to the various patient populations we serve,” said Christine Hettinger-Hunt, Chief Operating Officer.

SLVH will work with the Colorado Health Institute to facilitate discussions with key stakeholders from San Luis Valley counties to review evidence-based health care research and data, identify health needs, and then prioritize those needs.

SLVH will also collect health surveys from Valley residents to provide

input on top areas of concern. Based on community feedback, SLVH then determines how to use its capacity and resources to respond to identified needs.

SLVH conducted its last CHNA in 2019 and identified Access to Care; Chronic Disease Management; Mental Health Prevention and Improvement; Substance Abuse Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery; and Poverty Mitigation as top priorities.

San Luis Valley residents are encouraged to participate in the 2022 process by completing a community health

survey, following the links below to give input:

- English: <https://forms.gle/59TCbUqRSVaFbD6Y6>
- Spanish: <https://forms.gle/FKG-GUod2nFx2bsmp6>

Survey responses are confidential and need to be returned by April 22 to help inform priorities. Survey participants will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card. If you have questions about this survey, contact Hettinger-Hunt at 719-587-1243 or Donna Wehe at 719-587-1209.

OptiMystics to host Cinco De Mayo celebration

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — The OptiMystics Citizens Action Network recently announced that it will be hosting its second annual Cinco De Mayo celebration on Thursday, May 5, in Downtown Monte Vista.

An estimated 1,000 people attended last year’s event, and the OptiMystics are hoping this year’s event will bring even more people to celebrate.

More than 24 vendors and food trucks have already reserved space for this year’s celebration. Blocks 100 and 200 on Adams Street will be closed off for the event.

A car show will also be part of the celebration and will begin at 9 a.m. The OptiMystics are also

looking into a special car ride around Homelake on the afternoon of the event. More information will be available on this as it becomes available.

This year’s festival will include arts and crafts vendors, a bouncy house for children, live music, face painting, food and drink, and much more.

There is still time to be a vendor or get into the car show. Vendor packets and car show registration forms are available on the OptiMystics Citizens Action Network website.

The OptiMystics announced that participating local businesses will be offering specials on the day of the event.

For more information, visit the website at optimystics.org.

CONCERT Continued from Page 1

founder Eddie Villanueva, who joined in 2008 after Abbott and banjo player Austin Davis had been performing at open mic nights together and realized they needed to add more musicians to the group. Guitarist Caleb Keeter came on board in 2010 while keys player David Fralin joined

the band in 2015 before bassist Jimmy Hartman entered the fold in 2018.

The concert kicks off the Stampede and is followed by amateur and professional rodeo action July 22-24 and a parade in downtown Monte Vista on July 23. The event includes nightly dances and a carnival.

MONTH Continued from Page 1

together and to expose the truth about violence and its impact. An opportunity for you to participate in the Clothesline Project and play SAAM themed bingo will be held on April 8 at 5 p.m. at the Square Peg Brewwerks. The items created during the event will then be put on display throughout Alamosa.

In addition to the Clothesline Project, Tu Casa, Inc. joins The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) in its SAAM campaign each year by organizing a poster-making contest with the Alamosa elementary schools. The previous year’s winners will be on display throughout the San Luis Valley. Please look for the posters in your community and learn more about this year’s campaign “Building Safe Online Spaces Together” by heading over to their page, www.nsvrc.org/saam.

Throughout April you can stay updated on events and activities by following our Facebook: www.facebook.com/TuCasaInc and Instagram: www.instagram.com/slv-tu-casa/ pages. We also request that you share photos of how you are raising awareness to the same pages.

Child abuse and sexual assault can no longer be ignored. We must work together to raise awareness and to end violence. If you or someone you know needs assistance, call the Tu Casa, Inc. 24-hour hotline at 719-589-2465. If you would like to donate in honor of those who have been impacted by abuse visit our website www.slv-tucasa.net, and click on the link to donate. If you are interested in volunteering with our agency or would like more information about events, contact us at 719-589-2465.

Tu Casa, Inc., which houses Tu Casa, the Children’s Advocacy Center of the



Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society

www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org

If you are interested in adopting, call 852-3366
 Open Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Sat. & Sun. 1:30 - 5 p.m.
 Monday & non-business hours by appointment only
 2825 Sherman Ave. • Monte Vista

Visit Our Facebook Page 

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.

Thank You to everyone for all the donations we’ve been receiving lately, you have really been helping out the doggos here quite a lot, and we really appreciate all of you!

 <p>Baby is a Red Nose Pit Bull and is turning 5 in August, but you would never know it. She’s got lots of energy, loves to play ball, and enjoys long walks where there is plenty to sniff. Baby is best as the only dog. She has been with us for almost 8 months, in an effort to help her find a furever home we’ve reduced her adoption fee by half. Please stop by and meet her today!</p>	 <p>Buster is an American Staffordshire Terrier and is a little over 2 years old. 1 of those years was spent here with us at the facility, and we would really like to see him not spend another here (as much as we love him). He’s a really playful guy with lots of energy to burn! Great with older kids and most other dogs as long long as they aren’t rude to him. Buster is also a part of our Reduced Adoption Program and his adoption fee is reduced by half. Come take him for a walk and meet him today!</p>
 <p>Ms. Piggy is a Staffordshire Terrier with a unique physique, and more love than her little self can contain! Her birthday is April 7th, and she is turning 4 years old! We are hoping that she gets the best birthday gift of all; a furever home! Ms. Piggy is a nervous girl at first but once she opens up she’s a spring loaded ball of joy and snuffles. Ms. Piggy is also coming up on being here with us for 1 year and is a part of our Reduced Adoption Program with a half off adoption. Come meet your new best friend today!</p>	 <p>FOUND! at 3rd and Broadway in Monte Vista on 3/28/22</p>

Please note we are on a first come first serve basis.
 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




Come shop, look for the “Golden Egg” and win a prize. Only 4 prizes are available

The Holy Moses
 Open Mon.-Sat.
 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

658-2848
 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



Courtesy photo

The annual Runoff Runoff is open for early registration and will be coming to Creede on June 4.

Annual Runoff Runoff registration is open

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

CREEDE — The annual Runoff Runoff marathon registration is open and runners from across the US have already signed up for the event that takes place in early June.

The event has gone from a small fundraiser to one that brings in over 100 participants from all over the US to the small mountain town of Creede at the beginning of June.

The event is an area favorite and was missed during the 2020 summer. Those who participate every year are pleased to have the event back and are ready to hit the road running. There will be some changes this year due to COVID, but the heart of the event will remain the same as will the marathon itself.

The Runoff Runoff started as a way to educate the public on the importance of preserving the nation's headwater rivers like the Rio Grande. In the early days, when

Forrest Getz and Heather Dutton began the event, it was known to locals as the High Country Hustle and was the only fundraising event for the Willow Creek Reclamation Company (WCRC) for the year. The funds went directly to WCRC projects for the coming year and usually took place in April.

Now the race has gained speed and national attention from runners all over the globe. What began as a small local fundraiser has now become a large event for the education of water preservation and restoration throughout the region. All funds now go to preservation efforts through the Headwaters Alliance.

This year the event will take place on June 4 and early registration is open through the end of April. There is a new course that takes runners along the Rio Grande along Deep Creek Road. The marathon and

half marathon runners will enjoy a picturesque route that keeps running along Highway 149 limited, allowing for a more enjoyable race.

In addition to the new course, participants will have to run an additional 1.6 miles to complete the full marathon event.

"The Runoff Runoff started as a World Water Day event to raise awareness of local and global water issues. The distance of the 6K is the average distance that people have to walk to get clean water in developing countries according to USAID. In Creede, the distance to fresh water in the Rio Grande is 6.6K," organizers stated.

Hence the change from 6K to 6.6K. The event is always well attended and the after-party is worth the run from one end of Mineral County to the other. For more information or to register for the event, visit www.runoffrunoff.com.

Monte Vista Chiropractic & Wellness, LLC
L. Blair Nielsen DC • (719) 849-8091

Monday through Saturday by appointment with Chiropractic and Wellness Care @ \$30
 *Pain Relief *Movement and Function Restoration
 *Sports Injury Rehabilitation
 *Nutritional Guidance *Multiple Treatment Approaches



"Very good eats & drinks. Great atmosphere"
 ~ Darryl P., Google Reviews

New Menu Items Coming!



Fresh Ingredients, BIG on TASTE!

\$9 Combo Deal: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Everyday!

Law Enforcement, Firefighters, EMTs and our Veterans always receive 20% off!

30483 Highway 160, South Fork
 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. DAILY

Easy Online To-Go Orders:
MountainPizzaTapRoom.com

New Teeth in Just One Day No More Dentures!

No Cost Consultation: Know what's possible for You! Includes preliminary evaluation and CBCT image. \$500 value. Expires: 4/30/2022.



Dr. Thornell helped save my life. I was having constant health problems that were getting worse every day. My diseased teeth and gums were draining me of my energy and it was impossible to stay healthy. After removing all of my bad teeth, Dr. Thornell placed dental implants and I got a new set of teeth in just one day. I am now healthier and feel better than I have in a long time. I also have a great smile. Dr. Thornell you are a life saver! I can't thank you enough.
 ~ B.Gullette

Medicare will help pay: Save Thousands!

Medicare
 Certified Provider

Convenient payment plans and financing options available.

Credit Cards Accepted

Pagosa dental Implant Center

William F. Thornell
 DDS, MAGD, DICOI
 35 years implant and oral surgery experience

Medicare
 Certified Provider

pagosadentalimplantcenter.com



189 Talisman Dr., Suite E • Located above Higher Grounds Coffee • 970-444-1298

Go Beyond Spring Cleaning.
REPAIR AND PROTECT YOUR GREATEST ASSET.



Foundation, basement, and crawl space damage can affect your home's safety, appearance, and value. These problems only get worse with age. Repair your home's issues now... and save money in the future.

COMPLETE BASEMENT SYSTEMS.
 A Groundwork's Company

- FOUNDATIONS
- BASEMENTS
- CRAWL SPACES

- + Easy Financing
- + Nationally-backed Transferable Warranties

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION



(719) 626-4236



SPRING SAVINGS

\$500 OFF
 YOUR NEXT PROJECT*

*Ten percent off any job over \$2500 up to a max of \$500. Coupon must be presented at time of inspection. Offer may not be combined with any other offer. Limit one per customer. Ask inspector for further details. Promo valid through 04/30/2022.

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

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



CLASSIFIED INDEX

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 01 TICKETS
- 02 CARD OF THANKS
- 03 MEMORIALS
- 04 LOST & FOUND
- 05 NOTICES/BAZAARS
- 06 PERSONALS
- EMPLOYMENT**
- 07 HELP WANTED
- 08 WORK WANTED
- 09 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

FOR RENT

- 10 APARTMENTS
- 11 ROOMS
- 12 HOUSES
- 13 MOBILE HOMES
- 14 BUSINESS PROPERTY
- 15 WANTED TO RENT
- 16 VACATION
- REAL ESTATE**
- 17 REAL ESTATE
- 18 LOTS & ACREAGE
- 19 FARM & FARMLAND
- 20 BUSINESS PROPERTY
- 21 MOBILE HOMES
- 22 PROPERTY WANTED

MERCHANDISE

- 23 LAWN & GARDEN
- 24 GARAGE SALES
- 25 AUCTIONS
- 26 ANTIQUES
- 27 APPLIANCES
- 28 HOUSEHOLD GOODS
- 29 MUSICAL ITEMS
- 30 ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS
- 31 HEALTH
- 32 FUEL & HEATING
- 33 BUILDING MATERIALS
- 34 OFFICE EQUIPMENT
- 35 HEAVY EQUIPMENT
- 36 MISCELLANEOUS
- 37 WANTED
- 38 MACHINERY, TOOLS & EQUIPMENT
- 39 SPORTING GOODS
- 40 AUTO PARTS
- FARMER MARKET**
- 41 FARM EQUIPMENT
- 42 FEED & SEED
- 43 FARM PRODUCTS
- 44 FARM SERVICES

ANIMALS

- 45 ANIMAL BREEDING
- 46 PASTURE FOR RENT
- 47 HORSES & CATTLE
- 48 PETS & SUPPLIES
- 49 ANIMAL CARE
- 50 LIVESTOCK
- RECREATIONAL**
- 51 BOATS & EQUIPMENT
- 52 CAMPING EQUIPMENT
- 53 TRAILERS
- 54 SNOWMOBILES/ATV'S
- 55 R.V.'S/CAMPERS
- FINANCIAL**
- 56 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
- 57 INVESTMENTS
- TRANSPORTATION**
- 58 MOTORCYCLES
- 59 VEHICLES WANTED
- 60 CLASSIC CARS
- 61 4X4'S
- 62 VANS
- 63 TRUCKS
- 64 AUTOS FOR SALE
- SERVICES**
- 65 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- 66 CHILD CARE

RATES

15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications
\$19.50 + 95¢ each additional word.

Garage Sale Ads: 15 Words or less for 1 week
\$12 + 35¢ each additional word.

Free ads: Lost & Found • Non Commercial items Sold for \$50 or less • Any Item or Animal being given away. (Limited to private party only, 2 ads per person, 4 weeks.)

Convenient ad placement:

To place your ad in person come to the office at 835 First Ave. in Monte Vista, or call (719) 852-3531. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also fax your classified to (719) 852-3387 or email at montevisitaclass@gmail.com

Check your ad the first day:

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

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

DEADLINE

Thursday 5:00 pm

Call 719-852-3531

or email: awelch@valleypublishinginc.com

Easy Payment Options

We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover, Checks, Money Orders & Cash



05 Notices

Saguache County Government is accepting bids for a 30'x8' office building for the Saguache County Landfill. This office type building will be used to for an office building for our Landfill. This bid request will also require the installation of a sewage disposal system and solar system for electric. 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 "Saguache County Landfill Office" written on the front of the envelope which contains the sealed bid. Bids must include proof of liability and workers compensation insurance coverage. Bids must be submitted to Saguache County Administration, 505 3rd Street, or PO Box 100, Saguache, CO 81149 and must be submitted by Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 3pm. For further information you can also call Wendi Maez at 719-655-2231 or Randy Arredondo at 719-655-2554.(4/13)

of Sargent. This shop will be used to house Road and Bridge equipment with a monolithic 6000 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, April 14, 2022 at 3pm. For further information you can also call Wendi Maez at 719-655-2231 or Randy Arredondo at 719-655-2554.(4/13)

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

07 Help Wanted

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS: Laborers & sorters needed for potato packing warehouse.

Mountain King Potato has positions available. Experience preferred but willing to train. Applications can be picked up @ Mountain King Potato 0840 N Hwy 285 Monte Vista, CO Monday – Friday 8am -4pm. Benefits include paid vacation, paid sick days, health insurance available & 401-K benefits.(4/14)

Elementary Special Education Teacher needed at Del Norte Elementary School. We are seeking an experienced, hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Prin-



<https://www.facebook.com/ValleyPublishing>

Looking to Hire Nurses, CNA'S

RN's \$30.00 - \$40.00 Hr
LPN's \$24.00 - \$32.00 Hr
CNA's \$14.50 - \$19.49 Hr

Night-Shift Differential \$1.00 an Hr
Other Positions Available!!!
Please APPLY In-Person

River Valley Inn Nursing Home

1335 Sixth Street • Del Norte, Colorado 81132 • 719-657-1105



Valley Publishing will be printing the annual San Luis Valley Graduation edition on April 27th... don't miss this opportunity to wish the Class of 2022 congratulations!

This special edition will be included in the Center Post Dispatch, Conejos County Citizen, Del Norte Prospector, Mineral County Miner, Monte Vista Journal, South Fork Times and SLV Lifestyles.

Investment:
2col.x2" - \$130
2col.x3" - \$160
2col.x4" - \$240
2col.x5" - \$260

Deadline:
Tues., April 19
Other sizes & prices available...
Call your sales rep today!

Call Today to find out how you can be a part of the Great Section!

719-852-3531

Sandra Marquez
smarquez@valleypublishinginc.com

Brian Williams
bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com



Your Hometown Excavation & Dirt Work Experts

Our heavy construction services include earthwork and flatwork, underground utility site work, septic systems, demolition, road development and maintenance, aggregate trucking and more.



22357 US Highway 160
Del Norte

719.850.0450
office@riograndecivil.com

www.riograndecivil.com

Valley Wide Classifieds

principal at aduda@urtigers.co or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co.(4/14)

Help Wanted- Landscaping Top pay/Paid weekly Seasonal with possible year-round employment 40 hours weekly guarantee plus bonus Must have dependable transportation Located in Creede 719-588-0838. (4/27)

MONTE VISTA HEAD START is accepting applications for a Family Services Manager. This position is a year-round 40 hours/week. Must have a baccalaureate degree preferably in an area related to social work, human services, counseling or family services. The Family Services Manager is responsible for Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, Attendance, and Communication. The FSM serves as a liaison between Monte Vista Head Start and agencies with whom we have or will establish a Community Partnership. Applications are available at Monte Vista Head Start, 2863 Sherman Ave., Monte Vista, Colorado. For more information, you may contact the director by email, director@mvheadstart.org or call 719-852-3215. An employment application must be complete. Position open until filled.(4/14)

MONTE VISTA HEAD START is accepting applications for a Program Assistant. This position is part-time, 20 hours/week. The Program Assistant must have a High School diploma or equivalent. The Program Assistant will assist in the recruitment of children and serve as a link between families, staff, and community, data entry, and other office duties. Applications are available at Monte Vista Head Start, 2863 Sherman Ave., Monte Vista, Colorado. For more information, you may contact the director by email, director@mvheadstart.org or call 719-852-3215. An employment application must be complete. Position open until filled. (4/14)

"S Lazy U Trout Club located between Creed and Lake City desires Caretaker for the summer season, serious inquiries only to rocknredfish@yahoo.com" (4/13)TFN

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION Job Vacancy #29-22 Area Extension Agent
Family & Consumer Sciences San Luis Valley Area, Monte

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

Vista, CO -San Luis Valley Area Extension agents deliver community education which fosters healthy youth and families, prosperous farms, ranches and businesses, and strong, resilient, proud communities. This specific, Family Consumer Science Agent position is a very important full-time position which can have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of families in the San Luis Valley. The Area Extension Agent for Family & Consumer Science (FCS) is a local representative of Colorado State University and the San Luis Valley Area and will have a proven track record of developing, promoting, delivering, and evaluating non-credit programming for individuals and families. A completed master's degree is required. One degree must have been conferred in family & consumer science, family financial management, food science and nutrition, public health, food safety, or a closely related field. To view the job vacancy announcement and apply, click link: <https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/101138>. **For full consideration, all materials must be RECEIVED no later than 11:59 PM Mountain Time on Sunday, April 10, 2022.** For questions regarding the job vacancy, responsibilities, and salary, please contact Laura Griffin, Pueblo County FCS Agent and search committee chair at 719-583-6566 or laura.griffin@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. (4/6)

The San Luis Valley Irrigation District is accepting applica-

tions for a temporary ditch rider for the 2022 water season. Must have a Colorado driver's license. For more information or to submit an application please call: 719-754-2254 or email: robert@slvid.org. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. (4/6)

Driveline is Hiring in our area. For more Information visit www.drivelinetail/careers.com (4/27)

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. Call 719/852-2662 for more info, prefer drop off of resumes in person at 5492 US Hwy 160 E, east of Monte Vista.(4/27)

RG BANK is now accepting

applications for the position of FULL TIME TELLER. The job is primarily in Monte Vista, but work in Alamosa is also required at times. Interested parties can see more and download an application at: <https://rgbank.bank/contact-us/#employment> (4/27)

12 Houses for Rent Del Norte Country House 3-bedroom, 2-bath, wood stove.

Summer on the Rio Grande 2022

Valley Publishing Inc.
P.O. Box 607 • 835 1st Ave. • Monte Vista • 719-852-3531

Why advertise in the Summer on the Rio Grande publication?

- We deliver over 30,000 copies locally at hotels, RV parks, tourist destinations and more and throughout the state at Welcome Centers and Visitor Centers, as well as to our readers through our weekly newspapers.
- We deliver your message to a broad audience for a small investment.
- We have proven readership of our publications based on decades of publishing.
- We know and promote the Valley on a daily basis and have been for over 75 years.
- We won't charge extra costs for graphic design/production! • We've been printing Summer on the Rio Grande for many years.... we're not new to this!
- We work with the advertisers all year and know their budgets, concerns, and the best way to display their message effectively.

Give us a call to see how Valley Publishing's Summer on the Rio Grande can work for you!



ADOLESCENT ADDICTION SUPPORT WORKSHOP

DEL NORTE: APRIL 29&30

For Parents & Care Givers

LICENSED COUNSELORS - PEER SUPPORT
PARENTING TOOLS - ADDICTION EDUCATION
RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION - SAFETY PLANNING

CAAMHPFORHEALTH.ORG



Valley Wide Classifieds

appliances, W/D included. \$1250/ Month, 1-year lease. NO PETS! Call Mark at 719-873-1078. (4/20)

23 Lawn and Garden

Sprinkler repair. Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (4/27) TFN

32 Fuel & Heating

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

36 Miscellaneous

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 (4/27)

STEEL STORAGE CONTAINERS – Sales, Rentals & Modifications! Containers are water & rodent proof. 8' wide, 8'-53' in length. Call for more information and pricing. **Healthworks, Inc.** – Your Total Storage Solution! 719-850-0346 (04/27 TFN)

SOLAR PANELS! 335 Watt and Smaller, We Stock Inverters, Charge Controllers, and Batter-

ies in Brand Names of Outback, Magnum, Aims, Rolls, and More. Custom Cables and PV Wire. Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500. (4/27)

42 Feed & Seed

Premium alfalfa and alfalfa/grass, small bales, barn stored, \$9.00 per bale. Call 719-580-2509 (4/6)

43 Farm Products

Attention Farmers and Ranchers: Seal your leaking livestock tanks, ponds and reservoirs with bentonite. Call 719-580-6652. (5/17)

48 Pets & Supplies

Bunnies for sale, very cute \$15 each OBO, County Rd 16 Antonito call 719-843-0252. (4/27)

59 Vehicles

Wanted

Wanted to Buy: Used car, good running condition. Must be 8+ years or older. Under 50,000 miles, no wrecks or off road use. Front, AWD, 4WD needed. Any year, make, model, appearance. Call 719-852-5124. (4/20)

65 Professional Services

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. (04/27)TFN)

THE BLIND GUY window coverings. Free measuring, free estimates. Professional instal-

lation. Guaranteed lowest prices. Call Tony, 970-903-1403. (05/31/2022)TFN

RELIABLE CARPENTRY & HANDYMAN SERVICES - 40+

years-experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-496-7630. (4/13)

United States Post Offices in the San Luis Valley

Alamosa	589-4909
Antonito	376-5914
Blanca	379-3654
Capulin	274-5437
Center	754-2215
Chama	672-3123
Conejos	376-5934
Creede	658-2615
Crestone	256-4760
Del Norte	657-3155
Fort Garland	379-3481
Hooper	378-2111
Jarosa	672-4269
La Jara	274-5331
Manassa	843-5894
Moffat	256-4050
Monte Vista	852-3431
Mosca	378-2401
Romeo	843-5808
Saguache	655-2511
San Luis	672-3968
Sanford	274-5164
South Fork	873-5611
Villa Grove	655-2333

SAN LUIS VALLEY SERVICE DIRECTORY

ROOFING BUILDINGS

Metal Roofing Panels & Trims • Garages, Horse Barns, Hay Sheds
Complete Building packages • 26/29 Gauge, 20 Colors, Numerous Profiles
 Let us find your contractor! • Free Estimates/Quick Turnaround
Your Local Metal Roofing Manufacturer!
SKYLINE METAL
 (719)852-0113 M-F 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

A&M

~VINYL WINDOWS~

NEW CONSTRUCTION OR REPLACEMENT
CUSTOM MADE TO YOUR SIZE.

MANUFACTURED RIGHT HERE IN THE VALLEY

ALL TYPES OF DOORS & DOOR HARDWARE
AVAILABLE

(719) 589-9952

WINDOWS & DOORS L.L.C.

Quality Spray Foam Insulation LLC

Let us fill your needs with **SPRAY FOAM insulation!**
Alvin • (719) 849-5233
 Fax (719) 852-4040
 7268 S. County Road 4 E •Monte Vista



Mystik LUBRICANTS
PREMIUM OILS & GREASES
DIAMOND OIL CO. LLC
 Agricultural • Industrial • Oilfield
 Commercial • Automotive • Irrigation
 Peter Koehn (719) 250-5143 Myron Koehn (970) 209-1142
DIVERSE INVENTORY!

Sheri Bongers
Independent Broker Agent
720-543-2188
 Sheri@DenverInsuranceTeam.com

Tom Bongers
Independent Broker Agent
720-543-2189
 Tom@DenverInsuranceTeam.com

Auto | Home | Life | Commercial | Workers Comp



DENVER INSURANCE

Sanchez Plastering & Masonry

Synthetic Traditional Patches Interior/Exterior Paint



Fully Insured & Bonded

Fully Licensed Work Guaranteed

Owners: David D. Sanchez Jr. & Brandon Sanchez

Call Today (719) 486-6781

GOT CLUTTER? CLEAN UP WITH THE CLASSIFIEDS.



You'll find yourself with money in your pocket and room in your garage when you sell your stuff in the **SLV Lifestyles Classifieds.**

Advertise in our **SPECIAL GARAGE SALE SECTION** of SLV Lifestyles for **ONLY \$12 per week** (15 words or less - 35¢ per word over 15)

Call Today!
719-852-3531

Shopping That's Just Your Style

The Rena Marie Boutique

Specializing in memorial, holiday, any occasion t-shirts, apparel, tumblers, coffee mugs, keychains, car and big vehicle vinyl and decals, business cards, and much more.
 Call Marie at 719-849-1494 to place your order today or email mariemedina30@hotmail.com

Your Great **Specializing in**
Outdoors Vinyl Fencing

Wood, Barbed Wire and All Types of Residential & Commercial Fencing
Serving the SLV-Free Estimates
Good Fences Make Good Neighbors!*
(719) 849-1568

* We make no guarantees of your neighbor quality, just high quality fences.

Cash for Junk Unwanted Cars & Trucks



**No Tittle
No Keys
No Worries!**

719 937 7935
719-849-8491 or Text

MONTE ELECTRIC

Would like thank our awesome customer!

To take better care of you we are now open 7:30 - 5:30

ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE

1325 N. Hwy. 285 on North Gunbarrel • Monte Vista

REWINDING & REPAIR
1/4 HP through 300 HP
ELECTRIC MOTORS
MOTOR CONTROLS

852-2832

NEW Baldor Motors
A.O. Smith Motors

After Hours call Glenn Slingerland 588-1081

Spring fishing forecast looks bright for coming season

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

SAN LUIS VALLEY — Spring is in the air and as ice begins to melt off the surfaces of local waters, Colorado Park and Wildlife (CPW) prepares for the coming fish stocking season. Though winter's fishing was up to par, CPW Aquatic Biologist Estevan Vigil was optimistic about the coming spring and summer season.

"First off, I think it is important to note that ice fishing this past year was pretty good. The lakes and reservoirs on the western side of the Valley were full of anglers and the few times I went out I was more than successful. With that being said, now, with spring on the horizon, it is time to be cautious of the ice. Warmer temperatures in the day and cooler temps at night make the ice weak and dangerous," said Vigil.

Vigil and local officials urge anyone heading out on the ice to fish this time of year to be extremely cautious as conditions can change and be precarious. Once waters in the western end of the San Luis Valley begin to open, it is an optimal time to head out and fish just before the spring runoff causes the conditions to worsen with rising water levels and colder water temperatures.

Beginning in April, CPW will begin its annual stocking schedule which will begin with Beaver Creek Reservoir just outside of South Fork.

"We are really excited that we will be stocking Beaver Creek with Kokanee Salmon again this year," Vigil said. "The fish go in small and are allowed to grow. We start the first few weeks of April. We will also stock Rainbow Trout beginning in May and Brown Trout in July. We will continue this schedule every two weeks until September."

Big Meadows Reservoir located just up Highway 160 toward Wolf Creek Pass will be filled with naturally producing Brook Trout as it is every year. "Big Meadows is an area favorite, and people really have a great time fishing the natural Brook Trout," Vigil said. "The best time to go at Big Meadows is early in the morning. We will also be stocking 10-inch Rainbow Trout from mid-May until September."

Shaw Creek is another small lake that local and visiting anglers like to fish throughout the spring and summer seasons. This lake will be home to Cutbow Trout which is a highbred species of Rainbow and Cutthroat Trout.

"Cutbows are really fun to catch, and people say they are delicious to eat," Vigil said. "The fish is really very similar to Rainbow, and we begin to stock those in Shaw Creek in July. They are about 4 inches when we introduce them to the lake, but they grow rather quickly."

Rio Honda Reservoir up north-east of Creede will remain drained for another year. The dam repair project that began two years ago is still underway and Vigil anticipates that it will be another two to three years before the reservoir will be full again.

A little further south of Rio Hondo is the Road Canyon Reservoir which is one of the busiest fishing locations around Creede. According to Vigil, the reservoir provides optimal fishing early in the summer before weeds overrun the lake. In April CPW stocks Road Canyon with 3-inch Brook trout, 3-inch Rainbow Trout and 10-inch Rainbows again in June.

"Road Canyon is a really great place to go fishing and people do really like the easy access and the area,"

Vigil said.

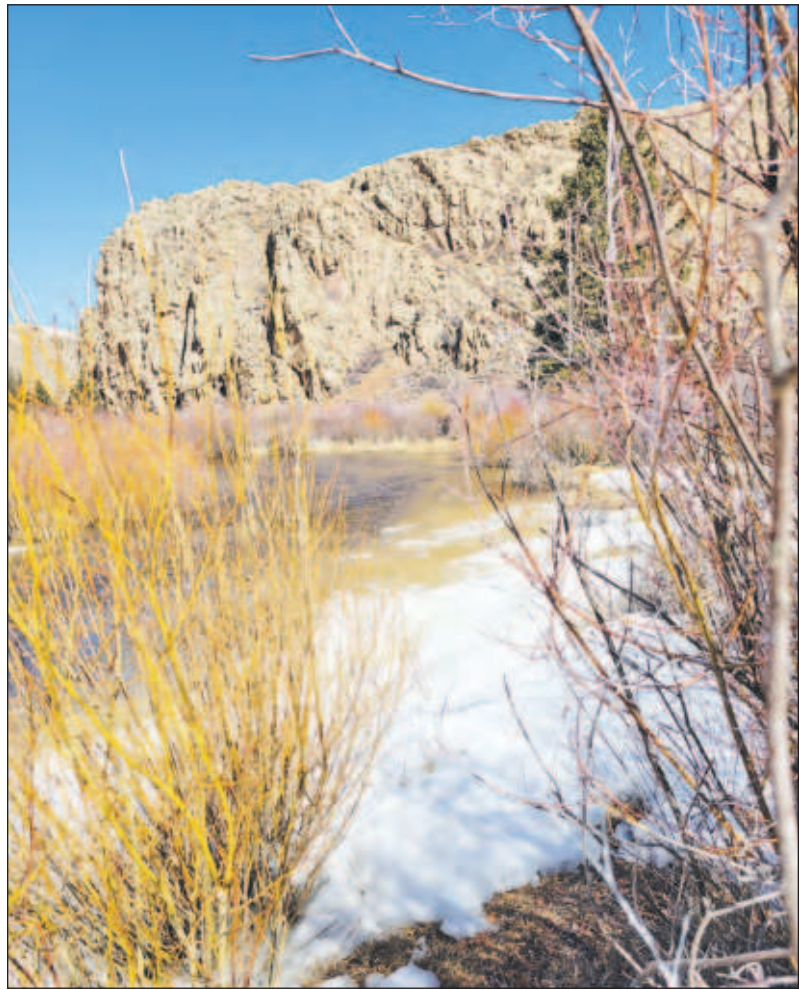
Continental Reservoir is another fishing destination near Creede where anglers can begin to catch early-season Brook Trout, Splake and Cutbow Trout. All the species in Continental are put in small and allowed to grow so later in the summer season is the prime time to catch larger fish.

Rio Grande Reservoir is still recovering from dam repair that was completed in recent years. The lake is still filling with spring runoff and CPW is currently working to re-establish the fishery. This year the reservoir will be stocked with Rainbow and Splake in June and July. The fish go in at 10-inches and are allowed to grow.

Directions to all locations in this article can be found at <https://cpw.state.co.us/fishing>.

Rivers and reservoirs are beginning to melt with warmer spring-time temperatures which marks the beginning of spring season fishing in the western end of the San Luis Valley. Colorado Parks and Wildlife recently spoke about their fish stocking schedule.

çPhoto By Lyndsie Ferrell



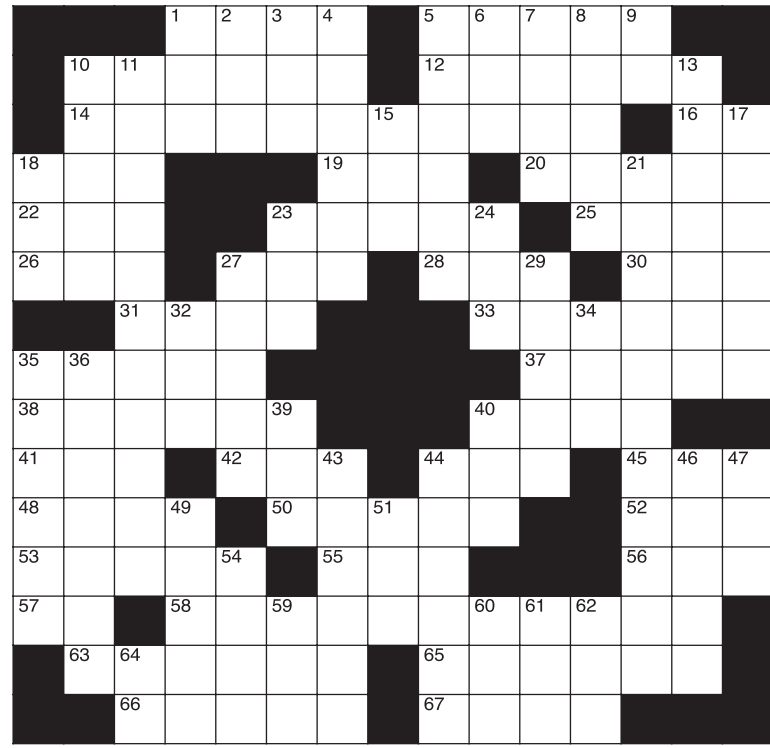
Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL • TRASH REMOVAL
RECYCLING • DUMPSTERS • ROLL-OFFS
CREEDE • SOUTH FORK • DEL NORTE • MONTE VISTA
(719)658-3060 • www.MDSWasteAndRecycle.com**

CLUES ACROSS

1. Chinese Muslim group
5. Alternative name
10. Resounds
12. Supporter
14. Furnishes anew
16. Beloved Hollywood alien
18. Supervises flying
19. Ballplayer's tool
20. Coarse edible red seaweed
22. Former CIA
23. Basketball player
25. Travel necessities
26. Honey producer
27. Military analysis (abbr.)
28. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
30. Mental sharpness and inventiveness
31. Popular Easter meal
33. Man (Spanish)
35. ___ de la ___
37. Counterweights
38. Made a harsh, grating noise
40. Monetary unit
41. Commercials
42. Cool!
44. Partner to cheese
45. Expression of creative skill
48. Unit of angle
50. Transported
52. N. American people of Kansas
53. Computer game character Max
55. Moved swiftly
56. Everyone has one
57. Tin
58. A mole is one



63. Nocturnal hooved animals
65. Oppositional to
66. Monetary units
67. Not on time
24. Cheer of encouragement
27. Wartime American escort carrier
29. Polish river
32. Current unit
34. Life form
35. Painful contractions
36. Glowing
39. Press against lightly
40. Melancholic
43. Something you can be under
44. Of the mind
46. E. Indian cereal grass
47. Couple
49. Sharpshoot
51. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
54. ___ Blyton, children's author
59. Human gene
60. Data mining methodology (abbr.)
61. Examines animals
62. Mineral
64. Cools your home

CLUES DOWN

1. Hogshead (abbr.)
2. Misery resulting from affliction
3. Defunction European group
4. Line on a map
5. Becomes less intense
6. Back muscle
7. Frosted
8. Ethiopian town
9. Midway between south and east
10. Wipe from the record
11. In a continuous way
13. Breathe
15. Cleaning device
17. Male organ
18. Tab on a key ring
21. Criminals
23. Taxi

Solution to last week's puzzle

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

LeafGuard®
Get it. And forget it.®

*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

QUALITY TESTED
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING
Since 1909
LIMITED WARRANTY - pleaseal.com for details

LeafGuard
18 YEARS BACKED BY THE SEAL

Call Today for Your FREE Estimate!
719-493-9644

RECEIVE A \$50 DARDEN GIFT CARD

ONLY \$99 INSTALLATION*

- LIFETIME NO-CLOG WARRANTY
- MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME
- THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM.
- SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH

*Does not include cost of material. Expires 4/30/22. All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 gift card. No purchase is necessary. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings, Inc. Limit one gift card per household. LeafGuard procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or have a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a valid photo ID, understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of LeafGuard or affiliated companies or entities; their immediate family members; previous participants in a LeafGuard in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former LeafGuard customers. Promotion may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that LeafGuard may substitute a gift card of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card and terms and conditions (<https://www.darden.com/gift-cards/terms-and-conditions>) of such gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class US Mail within 21 days of receipt of promotion form provided at consultation. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Darden Restaurants and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Offer ends 4/30/22.

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

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

We work hard for you!

Call Bernadette today!

Steffens & Company Realty, INC
719-850-1993
Bernadette Gingrass, Broker Associate
30635 US Hwy 160 • South Fork
www.bernadettegingrassrealestate.com

SOLD

\$658,000 MLS #785486
441 Lande • 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

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

SOLD

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 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

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

Under Contract

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

SOLD

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

Your Real Estate Listings could reach over 18,000 prospective buyers!
Get in on this Great Deal and see the results.
Reserve space for a minimum of twelve (12) weeks for ...

- 3.4" wide x 2" tall** ----- \$35 per week
- 3.4" wide x 4" tall** ----- \$70 per week
- 3.4" wide x 6" tall** ----- \$105 per week
- 7" wide x 2" tall** ----- \$70 per week

Valley Publishing **CALL TODAY!**
719-852-3531

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

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

SOLD

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! \$82,500 MLS #788938
651 Escondida Drive • South Fork

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

Level building spot on the 10th Fairway at the Rio Grande Club and Resort with stunning views. Just minutes away from World Class skiing and the Rio Grande River known for Gold Medal fishing- This is a perfect spot for your dream home on a Championship Golf Course. Don't let this one slip away! \$47,000 MLS#781025

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

TOP AGENT AWARD WINNER
2022

Kazie Hayes
MOST VIEWED AGENT AWARD

Ready to buy or sell?
You can find Kazie at (719) 850-2827, (719) 852-0450, or kazie_h@hotmail.com

Legends Premier Properties

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 bedroom 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 719-852-0450
810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
www.legendspremierproperties.com

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

Legends Premier Properties
Debbie Milne, Broker 719-850-9532 (cell) • 719-852-0450
810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
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! \$435,000 MLS#790848

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

2 Country homes on 40 acres of property! This is a great chance to have either rentals, or a home and rental. Each home has 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, but do need a little work. The property has 2 domestic wells and possibly 2 shares of Rio Grand water. Value priced! Call to set up a showing today \$239,000 MLS#791563

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

This lot has beautiful views all around with year round access, and is close to the Alamosa River, Rio Grande National Forest, La Jara Reservoir State Wildlife area, and Hot Creek SWA for easy access to hunting and fishing. The area would be a great place to build a comfortable home on. Call to view! \$5,999 MLS#787432

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

This long time restaurant and laundry mat are a wonderful investment opportunity! You can either operate the business yourself, or invest and lease it out. Located in the heart of Monte Vista, just off highway 160; the property comes with the land, building, and equipment. Turn key and ready to go! Inquire within! \$279,000 MLS#791564

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