

## Shorts

### SLVREC scholarship deadline approaching

**MONTE VISTA** — San Luis Valley REC makes secondary education a priority when giving back to the Valley. With just over \$235,000 given in the past seven years, REC annually awards up to 11 scholarships to local students. The 2022 scholarship deadline is quickly approaching; for full requirements and details, see the application online at [slvrec.com/scholarships](http://slvrec.com/scholarships). The deadline to apply is Feb. 3.

### Rep. Boebert's office announces mobile office hours

U.S. Representative Lauren Boebert's office will be having mobile office hours in the San Luis Valley on Jan. 19.

Staff from Boebert's office will be available to allow constituents to request assistance with a federal agency, like veterans having trouble with the VA, travelers having difficulties applying for a passport, taxpayers being harassed by the IRS, and senior citizens having issues with Social Security or Medicare. Additionally, constituents are invited to come to the office hours to express their viewpoints on legislative issues and have their voice heard.

Mobile office hours will be available at the following times and locations on Jan. 19:

- Alamosa County Mobile Office Hours — The Depot, 610 State St., Alamosa, from 9 to 11 a.m.

- Rio Grande County Mobile Office Hours — Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, 1305 Park Ave., Monte Vista, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

### Republican candidate for Governor, Lopez coming to Monte Vista

**MONTE VISTA** — A Republican candidate for Governor, Greg Lopez, is coming to town. Lopez will be in Monte Vista on Saturday, Jan. 22, from 8 to 11 a.m. for a meet-and-greet at Rain Brews.

Lopez is no stranger to politics. *Please see LOPEZ on Page 2A*

## CORRECTION

Last week, two stories on the front page of the Center Post-Dispatch did not continue completely on the inside pages. The two stories appeared in their entirety in this week's SLV Lifestyles.

## Charitable acts mark holiday season for school district



### Vikings wrestlers grab fifth place at Pagosa

BY MECHEL MEEK

**CENTER** — In the latest edition of Center of Focus, Center Consolidated School District Superintendent Carrie Zimmerman outlined some of the

**Center Consolidated School District received donations for a coat drive from the Knights of Columbus.**

Photo courtesy of Center Consolidated School District

activities and accomplishments of the first half of the school year.

Zimmerman stated, "2021 is in the rearview mirror and I know some people are happy to see it behind us. Even though the year presented a number of challenges, there were some bright spots along the way. It's important to take the time to look for the good and not get caught up in all the negativity that seems to surround us."

Zimmerman discussed some of the achievements of the students and staff, such as in-person instruction

*Please see SCHOOL on Page 4A*

## Scheunemann sworn in as Saguache County judge

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER

**SAGUACHE** — In a ceremony officiated by Chief Judge for the 12th Judicial District Judge Michael Gonzales, attorney Craig Scheunemann was sworn in as the 22nd judge to serve Saguache County since the county was formed in 1866.

Scheunemann was appointed to the position by Gov. Jared Polis after being one of two finalists recommended by the 12th Judicial Nominating Committee, charged with nominating a new judge when Judge Anna Ulrich stepped down to go into private practice.

Scheunemann brings to the bench a distinguished career. Born in a "typical blue collar family" in a small town in Wisconsin, Scheunemann excelled in high school in both sports and academics. Upon graduation from high school, he applied and was accepted to attend the United States Naval Academy.

While at the Academy, he played on the Navy football team and then, following several injuries,

*Please see JUDGE on Page 6A*



Photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Left to right: Chief for the 12th Judicial District Judge Michael Gonzales, Saguache County Judge Craig Scheunemann, and District Court Judge Crista Newmyer-Olsen.

## Suspect sought in violent assault in Center

BY MECHEL MEEK

**CENTER** — The Center Police Department is asking for the public's help in locating a man wanted for assault with a knife.

On Jan. 8, in the evening hours, CPD officers were dispatched to a report of an assault with a knife. The victim was stabbed in the face area and received a severe injury.

**Jonethan Lopez**  
Courtesy photo



CPD stated that the suspect is Jonethan Lopez. According to CPD Chief Dale Meek, "Saturday night, Jonethan Lopez was involved in a violent assault with a knife. There is a current arrest warrant for that assault. He will frequent the areas of Sylvester and Garcia Streets and often travels through the alleyways. Jonethan travels in a white Nissan Murano with front-end damage. If you see Jonethan, please contact

the Center Police Department immediately."

CPD also stated that the suspect was recently arrested on suspicion of harassment-domestic violence, trafficking narcotics and resisting arrest.

The suspect was described by CPD as 31 years of age, 5-foot-8-inches tall, 150 pounds, shaved head or short hair, brown eyes and has multiple tattoos.

## How to help people devastated by the Marshall Fire

BY MECHEL MEEK

**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — On Dec. 30, 2021, Colorado looked on in horror at images of the devastating Marshall Fire in Boulder County.

The unusual winter fire swept through two towns in Boulder County, destroying entire neighborhoods and businesses.

To date, 991 structures were destroyed in the Marshall Fire. The devastation was immense, with 553 homes in Louisville, 332 homes in Superior, and 106 homes in the rural areas as of Jan. 8, with possibly more added to the total in the coming weeks.

Three people were still reported missing, many people lost their beloved family pets, farm animals, and their businesses.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation, and theories range from downed power lines to a structure fire, according to Boulder County officials.

"We don't know that the shed or *Please see FIRE on Page 2A*

**A man stands in the rubble of a destroyed house in Boulder County following the Marshall Fire.**

Photo courtesy of Boulder County Wildfire Fund



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## SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the period between Monday, Jan. 3, 2022, and Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022.

The Sheriff's Department's activity on the road included two crashes with property damage, three traffic stops and one traffic complaint, one abandoned vehicle. They also patrolled the Town of Saguache eight times, assisted a motorist two times and responded to one lockout call.

In addition, there was one report of suspicious activity, one assault report, two alarm calls, one burglary report, two theft

reports, three civil dispute reports, one animal problem report, one report of forgery, and one suicidal subject report.

They also responded to five controlled burns, three ambulance calls, provided information nine times, assisted nearby agencies three times, and conducted four welfare checks, two citizen assists, a deceased person call.

### ARRESTS

- A 41-year-old Manassa man was arrested on a failure to comply charge.

- A 27-year-old Center man was arrested on assault second and third degree and domestic violence charges.

## FIRE Continued from Page 1A

anything else around it was the start of the fire or if it was secondary and it's complicated," stated Boulder County Sheriff Joe Pelle of the investigation. "We're going to bring in the best people in the country. We're going to do this right and we're not going to rush."

The fast-moving fire was fanned by over 100 mph wind gusts and was exacerbated by drought conditions.

With this type of extreme event, many people are wanting to help the people who lost everything. The best option to help those affected by the Marshall Fire is to give to a reputable charity organization.

It is a sad fact that scammers often use well-publicized tragedies to take money from people wishing to help victims. Fake Go Fund Me pages, false Facebook donation pages, calls from people posing as charity workers and similar scams

## LOPEZ Continued from Page 1A

In 1992, Lopez was elected Mayor-Town Manager of Parker Colorado at age 27 and has since worn many different public hats. After Lopez's term as Mayor, he became the first Director of a Scholarship Foundation for ACE, a non-profit organization, that gives out scholarships to students of low-income families, which allows the students to attend schools of their liking.

have been seen so far.

The best way to avoid these scams is to donate directly to the charitable agencies in the Boulder County area. The Boulder County Community Foundation has created the Boulder County Wildfire Fund and is accepting cash donations for victims of the fire. You can donate at [www.coloradogives.org/bouldercountywildfirefund](http://www.coloradogives.org/bouldercountywildfirefund). This is a tax-deductible donation as the Boulder County Community Foundation is a non-profit organization. As of Jan. 5, the fund had raised over \$12 million to help those affected by the fire.

Neptune Mountaineering was also holding a coat and shoe drive. They were accepting donations of new or like-new winter layers and shoes for people who lost clothing in the fire. Donations can be made at their store in Boulder at 633 South Broadway.

Lopez also served as the President and CEO of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, President and CEO of the Rocky Mountain Minority Supplier Development Council, and he also became the Director of the United States Small Business Association and served as such from 2008 to 2014. Lopez toured Colorado during his term as Director and became well known all over the state.

## OBITUARY POLICY

Valley Publishing charges a flat fee of \$50 for each obituary published. Pending arrangements or death notices run for no charge.

This charge affects funeral homes, as well as family or other representatives, that directly place obituaries. All paid obituaries will continue to be published on our website(s) for no additional fee.

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## OBITUARIES

### Michael (Mike) Crawford Gates

Michael (Mike) Crawford Gates, of Fort Collins, died peacefully at Poudre Valley Hospital of complications of COVID-19. He was 62.

Mike was born to Melvin and Barbara Gates and was the youngest brother to sister Shelly and brother Mark. He was raised in Del Norte, Colorado and graduated from Del Norte High School in 1977.

After high school Mike moved to the Denver area to continue his education and see a bit more of the world. He married Betty Buch in 1984 and adopted his first two children, Jon-Mikel and Alicia, in 1985. The birth of his daughter Whitney followed in 1986.

After divorcing in 1991, he married Barbara Olson in 1995, and together they adopted two more daughters, Hannah and Makayla.

Mike had an open heart and love to share with everyone he cared for. Mike worked for Otter Box for many years in information technology and was truly proud of his work and his employer; the family wishes to thank Otter for their support during this time.

Mike was a devout Christian and attended Citipointe Church in Loveland. He was also an avid Colorado Eagles fan and held season tickets since their very first season.

He enjoyed going to hockey games with his daughters, especially with Whitney.

He also enjoyed the outdoors, and treasured many weekends spent fishing with his brother across the state. Mike loved to hike, camp, and toss around a football. He also loved tinkering with computers and other electronics.

Mike loved having pets and was pet-dad to several cats and dogs over the years. One thing that was always evident about Mike was the tremendous amount of love that he had to share, and that he shared freely and willingly.

Mike is survived by his parents, Mel and Barbara Gates, his brother Mark Gates, his sister Shelly Vanderpool, his wife Barbara and his children: Jon-Mikel Tuttle-Gates and his husband John, Alicia Guardado and her husband Andrew, Whitney Jiles and her husband Patrick, Hannah Gates and Makayla Gates; and by his grandchildren Reilly Guardado and Drew Guardado.

The family would like to thank all of the doctors and nurses at Poudre Valley Hospital for their kindness and care, and they would like to thank all of Mike's friends, coworkers, and family for their support during this



hardship.

A Celebration of Life was held in Mike's honor on Friday, Jan. 7, 2022, at Christ United Methodist Church in Fort Collins. A recording of this service will be available at [www.goesfuneralcare.com](http://www.goesfuneralcare.com).

An additional memorial for family and friends in Del Norte will be held in the spring, date to be determined.

Flowers may be sent to Goes Funeral Home in Fort Collins, and a GoFundMe (<https://gofund.me/52e8b303>) has been established to help the family during this time.

### Antonio Felix Cebreros

Antonio Felix Cebreros, 71, of Rocky Ford, Colo., formerly of Monte Vista, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 4, at his residence.

Antonio was born in Guajino, Sinaloa, Mexico on Jan. 5, 1950, a son of the late Manuela Cebreros Rodriguez and Antonio Felix Quintero.

He was the husband of Teresa (Salazar) Felix.

Antonio was a hard worker, a man of values and traditions, a kind and loving father who enjoyed his days spending time in the mountains, hunting, fishing, and logging. He also enjoyed doing carpentry, building garages, installing windows and gardening. He especially enjoyed spending time with family and loved ones. He had such loving softness with his great grandchildren which gave him profound joy.

He was employed as a Farm Laborer for 35 years retiring from Worley McCullough.

He is survived by wife Teresa

Felix, of Rocky Ford, Colo.; daughter Manuela, wife of Noel Heredia, of Alamosa, Colo.; daughter Gloria, wife of Isaul Padilla, of Monte Vista, Colo.; and son Antonio Felix Jr., husband of Melissa Felix of Monte Vista, Colo.

He is also survived by six grandchildren, Keisha Padilla, Brittany Heredia, Noel Heredia Jr., Keyshawn Martinez, Maribel Heredia and Davion Felix, three great-grandchildren, 10 siblings, Abundio Felix (Bertha), Martin Felix (Celia), Maria Felix, Virginia Felix, Candelario Felix, Flor Felix (Rafael), Guadalupe Felix (Humberto), Ramona Garcia (Vicente), Alicia Felix (Pablo) and Rosa Felix.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters and one brother.

A Vigil Service will be held on Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022, at 7 p.m. and a Memorial Mass will be held on Friday, Jan. 14, at 10 a.m., both at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Monte Vista, Colo.



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# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## Let me pull you pork

They say the secret to the success of any project, product or endeavor is good marketing. With a good presentation and enough exposure, you may not be able to make a silk purse from a sow's ear, but you can make people believe that you can.

It was just such grand advertising campaigns that somehow convinced the American public to turn from the muscle cars of the '60s to the microcars of the '70s and '80s.

And, another time, it was minivans followed by full-scale Tahoes and Suburbans. Today, the soccer moms all drive 4x4 SUVs with names like Yukon, Everest, Equinox, Escape, Outback and Patrol for use in places with no snow and a grocery on every corner. Now that's some kind of convincing.

Some years past, in one of our winter sojourns to the Gulf Coast, Ol' Dutch was talking to a man who owned a big fish market right on the coast.

I loved going there and seeing all the different fish brought to land for sale to the public. I related to the owner of that shop that I was not a fan of eating Redfish, a southern staple, as it was just a freshwater drum in a cheap disguise.

And he told me that some time back in the not-to-distant past, fishermen on the coast threw the redfish back as "trash fish." No one would eat them.

But some smarter-than-Ol'-Dutch-marketeers began to tout the wonderful qualities of the poor old red drum and soon people everywhere were ordering them off the menus of every fish chop shop there was.

Now the redfish are caught and eaten all over the south and you would think from all the hubbub they have made a silk purse. But no matter how you wrap it Ol' Dutch thinks it tastes more like a sow's ear.

That is just one example of what you can do with enough ads run and enough money spent on them. And there are probably thousands of just such examples out there but one, in particular, came to mind last week when we were at a store and they had brisket sandwiches for sale.

Now I don't know if you know it or not but the lowly (literally low on the cow) brisket was one of those cuts of meat that was less than desirable for many years as it is full of fat and greasy. People had ground it up for cheap hamburgers ever since Cain killed the animal-loving Abel, but now it holds a



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

place of dubious honor as some specialty meat extraordinaire.

Gone are the days when that fatty old hangy-down part of the cow was tossed aside and now it's smoked, cured, salted, jerked, boiled and barbecued at every turn.

Men stand on street corners all over the nation now hawking greasy, fatty smoked sections of this cut of meat and, due to advertising, you may have to auction off your first born child to afford a sizable chunk of it.

Not only can you get great tasting slices of this cut on wheat, sourdough, and rye but someone found out that with enough cooking, you can pull it apart and sell that too.

No more are the fatty portions sliced off and discarded as they can simply mix that into the now popular pulled beef, slather on some cheap BBQ sauce and no one is the wiser.

The same has been done with all the cheaper cuts of pork and just last week Miss Trixie scored some good buys in that department for us.

So, we had some scrumptious pulled pork which then led to pulled something in about everything you can imagine for Ol' Dutch, short of an egg sandwich.

And she led off each meal describing it in French, German and Italian languages and even a forgotten Fiji dialect which made Ol' Dutch all the more eager to try it.

It was just pulled pork no matter how she sliced it but say what you will about Miss Trixie, she is great with advertising.

*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.*

## The time is now to plan for solar energy

### COMMENTARY

By **THOMAS MCCrackEN**

Here in Saguache County, some of my constituents are customers of Xcel Energy others are members-owners of San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, which in turn purchases virtually all its power from Tri-State Generation and Transmission per a contract that runs until 2050.

Tri-State is in the process of long-term resource planning which is, for the first time ever, overseen by Colorado's Public Utilities Commission. This is an important opportunity for the PUC to insist that Tri-State reduce the cost burden of our electricity while ensuring that our abundant solar resources here in the San Luis Valley are fully utilized to supply our electricity.

San Luis Valley has, arguably, the best solar exposure and potential for solar power not just in Colorado, but on the planet. And yet too much of our electricity through Tri-State still comes from outdated and expensive coal from far away. This has to change.

I applaud Tri-State's efforts to date to switch to renewable energy, such as its commitment to shut down all coal in CO by 2030, and recently securing 200MW of new wind power from the Nyo wind plant. But these steps must continue and this 20-year resource

planning process, is our best chance yet of bringing our power supply in line with the latest technologies, thereby lowering costs and reducing emissions as is now required by state law.

I'm on the Development Resources Group in San Luis Valley, where I continue to advocate for Xcel and SLVREC to build out transmission lines so that we can take advantage of one of our most important assets: solar gain.

Currently we only have one inbound electric line that is shared by Xcel and REC. Exporting power must be explored. Xcel is building a new power line from Alamosa to Antonito, on new easements and new poles, but is not including an option to add a line to export power to the south.

In my view a line to Santa Fe-Albuquerque is an important option for the Valley to export power. As our aquifer disappears, solar transmission is a huge economic potential for us.

Rural Colorado has some of the lowest wages and highest cost of living in the state, including paying some of the highest electricity rates in the west. With the uncertainty of the federal government's ability to promote sweeping energy change, the states must take matters into their own hands for creating clean-energy-economy jobs, retiring coal, and reducing costs for disproportionately

impacted communities. Tri-State's high rates, due to its \$3.3 billion debt load of coal assets, are unfair.

With this resource plan, the Public Utilities Commission should assure that Tri-State will utilize least-cost resources and shave peak charges by investing in batteries and other storage technologies on the horizon. Additionally, Tri-State should be required to shut down expensive out-of-state coal plants that are supplying electricity to Colorado customers, as soon as possible.

Here in Saguache County, we are seeing and feeling the undeniable effects of climate change in our everyday life. Each summer seems to break the previous year's record for heat; smoke in our skies, once rare, is now ubiquitous.

Our aquifer on which we all rely has been in decline for many years and climate change is a huge factor. We must act now to quickly transition away from fossil fuels toward abundant, renewable resources.

Citizens and farmers-ranchers of the San Luis Valley are working hard to reduce their own carbon footprint, but without the state's largest electricity providers also doing everything possible, our hopes for averting the worst impacts of climate change may be futile.

*Thomas D. McCracken is Saguache County Commissioner, District No. 1.*

## LETTER

### Abuse of American Rescue Plan Act funds

Editor,

We are outraged and extremely disappointed in former Governor Bill Owens investing in and supporting a scheme to transport our valuable water resource out of the San Luis Valley. Working with his former Deputy Sean Tonner, they have submitted a proposal to Douglas County Commissioners to use \$20 million dollars of their COVID-relief funds to help their selfish cause to export water out of the San Luis Valley.

COVID-relief funds — What? These are federal dollars that all of us pay into every year to the IRS!

When elected as our 40th Governor, Owens thanked rural Coloradoans for his win, defeating Gail Schoettler by only 8,300 votes. And if you recall, in November of 2002, "Colorado voters rejected Owens' water storage initiative, Referendum A. The referendum failed to win a single county in the state....and was opposed by the environmental community and many of Colorado's Western Slope who feared it would lead to the Front Range using more Western Slope Water." (Wikipedia).

Owens supposedly stood up for those of us in rural Colorado. He also led us to believe that he supported rural economic development and agriculture. Rural Coloradoans legitimately are fearful of politicians who claim they have our best interest at heart, but when it comes to something they want, they become the hammer that cripples our growth and future prosperity.

The San Luis Valley is in a 20 year drought. Last spring the State Water Engineer shut down irrigation wells in Sub district 5. By the time the wells were allowed to be turned back on, it was too late in the season for many of the ranchers to grow enough hay to feed their cattle this winter.

Our aquifer is depleting. There is declining runoff in the Rio Grande Basin. The idea that there is an abundance for water for Douglas County suburbia to continue to sprawl at the San Luis Valley's expense is shameless.

The Renewable Water Resources (RWR) and Commissioner Teal claims this is "just emotional" for the San Luis Valley. Well, damn right it is emotional,

but it is our livelihood, our family, our heritage, our wildlife and environment.

Douglas County Commissioner George Teal recently wrote, "By coming together now, and with the right approach for all of Douglas County, we can develop a guaranteed water solution that will serve our county now and for decades to come." He goes on to say, "The vital resource would come from exporting just 2.5% of the water that recharges (or refills) into the San Luis Valley." — Jan. 4, 2022 Douglas County News-Press

Get engaged folks! Write to Owens at shelley@owensllc.com and the three Douglas County Commissioners: Abe Laydon alaydon@douglas.co.us, (he has ties to Blanca) George Teal gteal@douglas.co.us, and Lora Thomas lthomas@douglas.co.us and tell them this is an abuse of the American Rescue Plan Act funding and it is also wrong to pit one community against another.

*Dale Becker, Mayor, Monte Vista  
Victor Sagala, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Martha Lock, Councilwoman  
Larry Foster, Councilman  
Jason Lorenz, Councilman  
Gigi Dennis, City Manager*

# CENTER POST-DISPATCH

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# Central Pump recognized by Reinke with dealer award

DESHLER, Neb. — Reinke Manufacturing, a global leader in irrigation systems and technology, has recognized Central Pump, LLC, in Center with a Diamond award in recognition of their success in the past year.

“We are proud to honor the team at Central Pump with this award,” said Chris Roth, Reinke president. “They’ve dedicated themselves to supporting the growers in their area. We appreciate those efforts as Reinke continues to develop and implement irrigation equipment and technology designed to increase agriculture production.”

Reinke dealerships from across the United States and Canada come together annually for the company’s sales convention to recognize select Reinke dealers for their hard work and commitment to serve growers. The



Reinke Pride awards are determined as part of an incentive program that distinguishes superior achievement levels according to an evaluation based on a dealership’s exterior and interior housekeeping and maintenance, indoor and outdoor displays, safety, retail environment, merchandising, professionalism, promotions, event participation and market share.

With hundreds of dealers in more than 40 countries, Reinke Manufacturing is the world’s largest privately held manufacturer of center pivot and lateral move

irrigation systems. Family owned since 1954 and headquartered in Deshler, Neb., Reinke develops products and technology designed to increase agriculture production while providing labor savings and environmental efficiencies. Reinke is a continued leader in industry advancements as the first to incorporate GPS, satellite-based communications, and touchscreen panel capabilities into mechanized irrigation system management. For more information on Reinke or to locate a dealership, visit Reinke.com.

# SLV receives \$150,000 for health

## STAFF REPORT

DENVER — The Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) on Thursday announced \$9 million in funding awarded to county departments of human or social services across the state. The funding is for the expansion or improvement of local or regional behavioral health disorder treatment programs.

The San Luis Valley was awarded \$150,000 through the Rio Grande County Department of Social Services Collaboration involving all six SLV counties. The award is targeted at expanding and supporting the continuation of the SafeCare Colorado behavioral health service program in the Valley.

Eighteen proposals were awarded funding, ranging from \$90,640 to \$1,080,984, through a competitive application process.

The county behavioral health grant program was established through Senate Bill 21-137 to provide grants to counties for purposes including peer training; augmentation of direct therapy; acute treatment units; inpatient treatment programs; outreach and education; navigation or care coordination; capital investments in the behavioral health infrastructure; services for individuals for who do not speak English; culturally responsive and attuned services; suicide prevention and intervention; crisis response; workforce development; supporting regional service delivery; or other purposes that would expand behavioral health programs.

Counties had to provide either matching funding or in-kind resources, or they had to submit a plan for regional collaboration between no fewer than three counties to be eligible for the

grant program.

“We are glad to put this funding into the hands of counties to invest in their communities,” said Robert Werthwein, Office of Behavioral Health director. “Colorado’s behavioral health system is undergoing a transformation, thanks to leadership by Governor Polis and partners statewide, and expanding services to Coloradans is a key part of that reform effort.”

The \$9 million in funding came from the American Rescue Plan Act and can be spent through June 30, 2023, per statute. Applicants were required to have a sustainability plan for how services will continue beyond the grant period. If the grant money is to be used for capital projects, applicants demonstrated how they would continue those services past the grant cycle for at least an additional five years.



Photo courtesy of Center Consolidated School District

# SCHOOL

Continued from Page 1A

and sports programs resuming activities after the COVID-related restrictions of the 2020-21 school year.

The school system has ordered two new buses to better serve the student population.

Also, several grants were applied for and received to help the school address the needs of the students.

The superintendent also discussed some of the altruistic acts of staff and students. Several students and teachers helped families with the holidays by collecting donations and other charitable acts.

The students also received help from local organizations to help them succeed, including donations of winter coats.

“We had a generous donation from the Knights of Columbus. The district would like to recognize and thank Claude Trujillo and

the Knights of Columbus for their gracious donation of 30 winter coats for our students. We appreciate the support and partnership that we have with this organization. We still have some coats available, so if you have a need or know of one, please come over to the administration office,” she stated. The Center Vikings wrestling team took fifth place overall in Pagosa Springs with 130.5 points. Individual results were as follows; Jordan Duran, first place, Omar Hernandez, first place, Aaron Valadez, second place, Jesus Valadez, second place, Martin Palma, fifth place, Andree Meraz, sixth place, Francisco Villa, seventh place, and Manny Morales, eighth place.

The Center Vikings basketball teams are also in the midst of their season. The athletic calendar can be viewed on the district website.

## San Luis Valley Scoreboard Basketball 2021-2022

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

Alamosa 51	Salida 30
Monte Vista 46	Gunnison 15
Delta 60	Centauri 28
Sangre de Cristo 46	Cotopaxi 14
Centennial 62	Lake City 29
Delta 55	Alamosa 44
Sanford 53	Mancos 34
Centauri 53	Pueblo East 26
Peyton 47	Center 29
Centennial 48	Antonito 35
Sargent 52	Swink 40
Sangre de Cristo 44	Del Norte 32

### BOYS BASKETBALL

Alamosa 52	Salida 44
Centauri 65	Northfork 29
Centauri 50	Delta 38
Pagosa Springs 47	Sanford 31
Creede 41	Moffat 33
Cotopaxi 80	Sangre de Cristo 18
Gunnison 39	Monte Vista 26
Primero 66	Sangre de Cristo 27
Mancos 55	Sanford 51
Alamosa 62	Delta 50
Del Norte 71	Sangre de Cristo 30
Centennial 46	Antonito 19
Swink 71	Sargent 22
Peyton 69	Center 49

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# Sharp increase in COVID-19 cases in San Luis Valley

## At least 329 active cases in SLV

### STAFF REPORT

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — The San Luis Valley saw a steep increase in COVID-19 cases over the past week. As of Monday afternoon, Jan. 10, there were at least 329 known active cases in the San Luis Valley, according to the SLV public health officials. Local COVID-19 hospitalizations have also begun to increase again, although at a slower pace.

Illness is affecting many households, workplaces, childcare providers, and schools. Add to that the recent flurry of updated guidance, and it may feel frustrating and overwhelming. If you need support, call SLV Behavioral Health Group at 719-589-3671 or call Colorado Crisis Services at 1-844-493-TALK(8255) or text TALK to 38255.

The Omicron variant is causing a higher number of breakthrough cases than previous variants in those who have previously had COVID-19 illness, and in those who have received vaccinations, local health officials reported. A layered approach to preventing the spread of illness is recommended. Three doses of COVID-19 vaccine provides the highest level of protection against the virus.

COVID-19 vaccination guidelines have been updated:

- Those aged 12 and older who received 2 doses of Pfizer should receive an additional dose after 5 months.

• Those who initially received 2 doses of Moderna should get an additional dose after 5 months.

• Those who received a Johnson and Johnson vaccine should get a follow up dose of either Pfizer or Moderna after 2 months.

• Those who are immunocompromised and received 3 doses as part of the initial series should get an additional dose after 5 months.

• Children ages 5-11 may receive an initial two-dose series of the Pfizer vaccine.

COVID-19 vaccines are free and available at many locations, including healthcare providers, public health agencies, and pharmacies. Valley-Wide Health Systems offers Moderna, Pfizer, and J&J vaccines every Friday at the ASU Neilson Library parking lot in Alamosa in its mobile unit — 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for adults, and 1:30-3:30 p.m. for pediatrics. Pediatrics must have an appointment. Call 719-587-9610 to schedule.

Mobile vaccine bus clinics offer both flu and COVID-19 vaccines to anyone age 5 and up. Walkups are accepted, appointments are available and encouraged for pediatric vaccines at <https://www.mobilevax.us/southwest>. Upcoming mobile vaccine clinics are scheduled as follows:

- Jan. 15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Alamosa
- Jan 15-16, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at ASU Nielsen Library in Alamosa
- Jan. 17-18, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Walmart in Alamosa
- Jan. 18, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Sanford School
- Jan. 19, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Del Norte School

### Testing

• Those who need testing prior to travel may go to SLV Health Regional Medical Center or Conejos County Hospital laboratories during business weekday hours and ask for direct-to-consumer testing. Results are usually available within 24 hours. There is a charge for this service.

• Free COVID testing is available at Convenient Care at 1131 Main St. in Alamosa seven days a week from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Advance pre-registration is not required, but it may reduce your wait time.

• Free COVID-19 testing is available at Costilla County Public Health, by appointment only, Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., 719-672-3332

• Free COVID-19 testing is available to the public through mobile clinics on the dates and locations listed below. Register when you arrive, or register online in advance at [www.affinitycarecolorado.com](http://www.affinitycarecolorado.com).

- Mondays, 2-6 p.m. at the Blanca Fort Garland Community Center
- Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Rio Grande County Social Services, 1015 6th St. in Del Norte
- Tuesdays, 3:30-6 p.m. at Rainbow Grocery in South Fork
- Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Chapman Park in Monte Vista
- Wednesdays, 2-6 p.m. at the Community Center in Saguache (Cancelled this week only)
- Thursdays, 12-4 p.m. at La Jara Town Hall
- Thursdays, 9-11 a.m. at Antonito Town Hall

County level COVID-19 data, vaccination information, and testing location information is available at [www.slvphp.com](http://www.slvphp.com) or by calling 719-480-8719.

# Winter emergency training underway



**Mineral County Search and Rescue spent time training in winter conditions with snowmobiles. The team is learning new skills that will help them with future calls.**

Courtesy photos



# Three Simple Steps to Activate Your Faith

What is faith? And what does it look like to actually live by faith?

These are important questions, because we receive and experience the blessings God has for us through faith.

Hebrews 11:1 says, "Faith is the assurance (title deed, confirmation) of things hoped for (divinely guaranteed), and the evidence of things not seen [the conviction of their reality — faith comprehends as fact what cannot be experienced by the physical senses]" (AMP).

I like to define faith as the hand that reaches out and receives what God has for us. By faith we believe what God says in His Word is true, that it's for us, and that we will receive everything He wants to give us. We believe we have His promises before we get them or experience them.

Everyone has faith, but not everyone puts their faith in God. For example, when a person sits in a chair, they have faith that the chair will hold them. People drive to work because they have faith in the traffic laws that make it possible to travel on the roads.

But first and foremost, we need to put our faith in God and the truth of the Bible.

Romans 1:17 says, "For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed, both springing from faith and leading to faith [disclosed in a way that awakens more faith]. As it is written... 'The just and upright shall live by faith.'"

This verse reveals that we're saved by faith and we are created to live by faith. In order to live by faith, we have to release it, and there are three ways we do that: praying, saying and doing.

### The Privilege of Prayer

Prayer is the greatest privilege we have! It's amazing that we can personally communicate with Almighty God, the Creator of the Universe. That means we can talk to Him and He hears us, and He wants to talk to us.

One of the main ways we hear God's voice is through His Word, which is why it's critically important for us to study the Bible. When we diligently study the Word, we get revelation of who God is, how He loves us, and what His will is for our lives. We learn how to pray for the things He wants to give us...the kind of life Jesus died for us to have.

James 4 says that people live in strife, quarreling and fighting, because they try to get what they want and they're jealous of what others have, but they can't make it happen for themselves. Verses 2-3 say, "You covet but cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures" (NIV).

Have you been trying to get something or make something happen and you're frustrated because you can't achieve it? Maybe you're struggling because you're striving to do it in your own strength or you're going after things that aren't right for you or in God's plan for your life.

We need to pray and ask God for what we want, but we need to ask for the blessings He wants to give us. I often pray like this: "God, I'm going to ask You for everything I want, but if I ask for something that's not right for me, please don't give it to me. I really only want what YOU want for me, because You know what's best for me."

### Praying for the Promises of God

There are some situations where we may not know for sure what God's will is, and that's when we need to trust that if we don't get what we think we want, it's because He has something better for us. But there are many things we can ask for with assurance and confident expectation that God will give them because He promises them to us in His Word. Here are a few...



You don't have to be lonely because God is always with you (Psalm 73:23; Hebrews 13:5).

You can have peace in every situation (John 14:27; Philippians 4:6-7).

You can have God's wisdom for every decision (James 1:5).

You have the strength, in Christ, to do whatever you need to do (Philippians 4:13).

God loves you and He has an amazing plan for your life (John 3:16; 1 John 4:9-10; Jeremiah 29:11).

God has so much more for you than what you have experienced so far in your life. Make it your number one priority to spend time with Him every day in prayer and Bible study, and begin boldly asking Him to give you every good thing He's planned for you.

Put your faith in God in every area of your life and everything you do, and you'll discover how living by faith really is an amazing adventure!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's two-teaching CD series What Is Faith and How Does It Work? You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

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

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

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# JUDGE

Continued from Page 1A

switched and became a member of the Navy's wrestling team. Schuenemann graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Economics from the Naval Academy in 1999. His performance at the Academy qualified him for acceptance in the Naval Flight School, where he ultimately completed training in 2001.

Scheunemann went on to fly helicopters — specifically the Navy's Seahawk helicopters, which is the equivalent of the famous "Blackhawk" helicopter flown in the U.S. Army.

"A 20-something kid being entrusted to fly a \$20 million helicopter says a lot about Craig Scheunemann's character," Judge Gonzales said.

Scheunemann was deployed overseas as a helicopter pilot several times, including South America where he flew missions related to drug interdiction plus an eight-month deployment supporting combat operations in Iraq.

In 2005, Scheunemann continued his service as an active duty Naval officer at the Pentagon where he served as the military assistant to the General Counsel of the Navy. During this time, Scheunemann decided to go to law school, attending George Washington University Law School

— one of the most prestigious law schools in the nation. After three years spent working at the Pentagon during the day and attending law school at night, Scheunemann earned his J.D. from GWU in 2008.

After graduating from law school, Scheunemann headed west to Nevada where he clerked for the Honorable Charles Weller in Nevada's Second Judicial District. Upon completing his clerkship in 2009, Scheunemann entered private practice working for several law firms along Colorado's Front Range.

"While living in Denver, Judge Scheunemann fell in love with the outdoors," Judge Gonzales said, "and has spent a decade coming to the San Luis Valley. He and his family moved to Saguache a year ago."

Gonzales went on to describe the "job" of being a judge, which involves being patient, open-minded, compassionate and firm, humble and common sense.

"Judge Scheunemann may be new but he has a passion for the San Luis Valley," Gonzales said.

At the podium, Scheunemann, who stands a good head taller than anyone in proximity, thanked all those who had both welcomed and supported him. He then spoke of "those who have questioned his

choice" to become a judge. "Why am I so excited despite all the skeptics? Because Saguache is a special place — the people, the geography, the environment," he said, adding that everywhere he has gone in Saguache, people have reached out to engage him in conversation.

Scheunemann also listed several other motivators, the most noteworthy being his desire to "return to service" and the opportunity to "be part of something bigger than himself" that he had experienced in earlier years in his career.

"This job has meaning," he said, "and it can be done right...it involves action not rhetoric and can impact people's lives and make those lives better."

"County court is the people's court," Judge Gonzales said. "What people experience in county court forms their opinion about the judicial system. And the people of Saguache are in good hands with Judge Scheunemann."

On behalf of all the judges in the 12th Judicial District, Judge Gonzales welcomed Judge Scheunemann to the bench, stating they were pleased to have a person of his quality in the 12th district.

# SLVH's first baby of the New Year



Courtesy photo  
Opie Jeremiah Casias was born to Adaleyna Casias at 12:10 a.m. on Jan. 2, San Luis Valley Health's first newborn delivery of 2022. He is the La Jara native's fifth son. Pictured is mother with Opie and her 2-year-old son, Jaxx.

**Saguache County Sales Tax Grants now available!**  
The Saguache County Board of Commissioners will be taking Grant Applications for Saguache County Sales Tax Grants until 3:00PM, Friday, February 14, 2022.  
To be eligible grant applications must be for either: Emergency Services/Public Health and Safety; Youth and Senior programs, projects, or organizations; or Renewable Energy projects/Business Opportunities and Job Creation.  
Grant applications are available on our website at [saguachecounty.colorado.gov](http://saguachecounty.colorado.gov) - use "sales tax grant application form 5" or you can contact the Saguache County Administration office at 719-655-2231 to request a copy of the grant application.  
No. 1620 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, January 13, 20 and 27 and February 3, 2022.

**Saguache County Road and Bridge is Accepting Bids for the following item.**  
**Trailer with a pintle hitch to Haul rubber tire Paver/ Backhoe 1. Deck length** 24 foot long, 102 inches OD wide wood rubber inlay, cross members 9" on center min. Or 1 1/2 oak rubber inlay 16" oc or less. **2. Beaver Tail** - 6 foot wood with rubber inlay with min. 9 inch crossmembers **3. Ramps Rear** - 7 foot min. min 3 foot wide plus tapered approach, wood, Rubber inlay, air operated w/ bolt on legs, Cross member 9 inches on center min. Self contained electric /hydraulic is acceptable, longer ramps are acceptable. **4. Deck Height** - Less than 37 inches **5. Tie Downs On the Deck** - min. every two foot on both sides 1" D rings, **6. Tie Downs on Beavertail** - min. 1 on each side 1" D rings **7. Brakes** - Air, ABS 2s/1M, Meritor WABO 9 Parking Brakes on all axles **8. Axles** - 25000 lb. oil bath, Two Axles **9. Suspension** - 49" Spread Spring 9700 Hutch 25000 lb. Heavy Duty 3 leaf springs, for hutch 9700 **10. Tires & Wheels** - 235/75R 17.5 J., 8 Bolt (17.5 x 6.75) outboard Hub Pilot **11. Hitch Length** - Center of Coupler to Headboard, Appx. 5.3 Feet **12. Hitch Type** - 3" Adjustable Lunette Eye/ Pintle, (C) 66000 lb Plate Mount 3/4" Bolts **13. Jack** - Twin 2 speed (39000 lb Lift Capacity) **14. Plug** - 7 plug Semi **15. Lights** - LED lights Sealed wiring Harness, Meeting All DOT. regs. **16. Color** - Black, DOT. tape installed **17. Tool-box** - Lockable in the Hitch **18. Steps** - 3 steps, 1 on the Hitch, one in front of both axles on both sides **19. Safety Chains** - 1/2" Grade 70 20. GVWR - min. 53,900 lbs. **21. Mud Flaps** - Behind Rear Tires **22. Spare Tire and wheel** - 1 **23. Safety headboard on main deck** - min. 4" **24. Delivered To Saguache Colorado 81149**

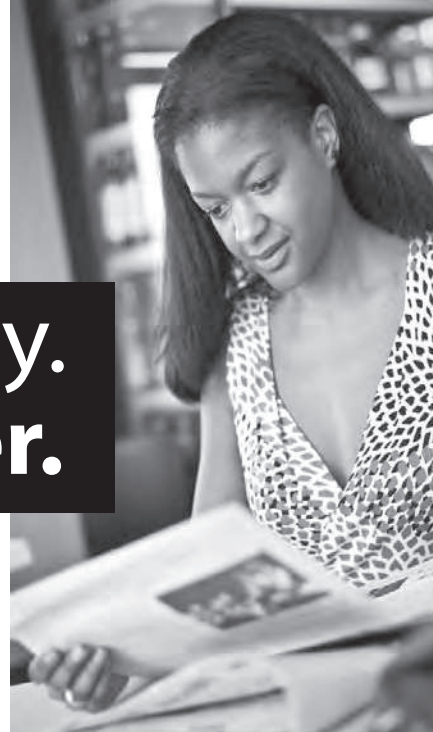
Trailer Bid Page 2 Bid Deadline February 3/2022 At 4:00pm Sealed Bids TO : Saguache County Board of County Commissioner ATT. Wendi Maez PO. Box 100 Saguache CO. 81149 Bids good for 45 days after Bid deadline Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
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No. 1618 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, January 13 and 20, 2022.

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# Need a New Year's resolution? Be a 4-H volunteer

BY MORGAN YOUNG

Each year, we spend so much time wondering what my New Year's resolution will be. Will it be losing weight? Or maybe cleaning the house more often? Instead of picking a resolution that is hard to follow through on, create a resolution to become a part of a caring and supportive community for youth!

4-H is a nationally recognized non-profit organization that focuses on youth development. From cooking and sewing to welding and woodwork there is something for all youth. In fact, you could consider it an Opportunity4All. The San Luis Valley has 13 4-H clubs located throughout the whole valley. We offer over 30 different projects for youth. However, the success of this program depends on our volunteers. A volunteer's skills and mentorship are the heartbeat of our program. Volunteers guide 4-H members in becoming productive citizens, outstanding communicators, effective leaders and successful learners.

So, what do volunteers in the 4-H program do? Volunteers offer the nurturing, vision, commitment, skills, creativity, dedication, and wisdom that can significantly impact the development of young

people. 4-H volunteers help 4-H members to learn by doing, develop leadership and life skills, make new friends, give back to the community and build connections with others. Our 4-H members learn with hands-on immersive programming. We have learning curriculum books that 4-H members have for reference for each of their projects. Your mentorship allows those members to have a local expert in their corner to teach them the ropes and to help the members develop life skills to help them succeed in the future. Giving back to our program is a cornerstone of our program. Through community service activities our members learn the value of their community and nation.

There are three different levels of volunteerism throughout our 4-H program. An afterschool or school enrichment volunteer teaches 4-H curriculum, such as gardening, science or arts and crafts, to an Afterschool group or school class(es). An organizational leader leads a community club. In this role, you do not need to be experienced in any project or skill you will lead a club on learning parliamentary procedure, community service activities, and encouraging youth leadership. In a project leader role,

you will create an environment that focuses on one or more of our many projects. We will consider you the source of knowledge for that project area. Most likely you will do one on one or group classes to work on specific skills that the project requires. Specific project areas that we are looking for volunteers in are; Leathercraft, Sewing/Clothing Construction, Photography, Robotics, Gardening, Scrapbooking, Cooking, Ceramics, Welding, Woodworking, Sportfishing, and Vet Science. If there is a project or area of interest that you would like to mentor that is not listed, please call our office we still have a place for you.

Volunteering for the San Luis Valley 4-H program is quite simple. You can enroll as a volunteer on v2.4Honline.com. From there, the 4-H Agent, Morgan Young will contact you for three references. Once references are contacted, a soft background check will be completed. Then you will work one on one with Young to go through a 1-hour training. After that, you are good to go! Call our office at 719-852-7381, for any questions you may have in becoming a 4-H volunteer.

If you are interested in your child joining 4-H as a club member, call our office at 719-852-7381. Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

Morgan Young is Colorado State University 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent.



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**Saguache County – Request for Proposals**  
**Re: Tandem Axle Snowplow Truck**

Saguache County is requesting price quotes on a Tandem Axle Snowplow Truck

Bid specifications may be obtained by contacting Joe Gilbert, Asst. Road Supervisor, at the Saguache County Road & Bridge 719-655-2554, 719-221-2135 cell.

Copies of the Proposal (inclusive of the specifications checklist and company information sheet) must be sent in a sealed envelope with the title and mailed or hand-delivered to: Saguache County Board of County Commissioner Wendi Maez - hand delivered to 505 3rd Street or mailed to PO Box 100 Saguache, CO 81149. 719-655-2231, \* BIDS ARE DO 02/03/ 2022 By 4:00 PM

Awarding of this bid is not based solely upon low quote price, but on an overall service, quality and "best value" to the county in accordance with the Saguache County Purchasing Manual. Saguache County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, as deemed in the best interest of the county.

Specifications for: Tandem Axle Snowplow Truck

The following conventional non-sleeper cab/chassis will be bid (no exceptions). Check the model you will be bidding:  International HX,  Kenworth T800,  Western Star 49X

Check If Specifications Can Be Met – please put a checkmark on any line before all numbers below, if you can meet or exceed the listed requirements. (\*note – exceptions and variations to the specifications of "Equal to or Better than" quality may be considered and may be listed in the table provided on the Company Information Page.)

Engine

- Cummins X15 or Detroit DD15 (Front Engine Power Take Off)
- 1850 Foot Pounds Torque (minimum)
- Turbocharged, no exceptions
- Engine must meet latest EPA regulations
- HP (horsepower) being bid 510 -565
- Torque being bid 1850
- Engine Manufacturer Cummins X15, Detroit DD 15
- Engine Compression Brake Factory
- Cruise Control Electronic
- Fuel Filter Primary and secondary fuel with Davco Heated water Separator
- DPF Filter With initiate on demand switch
- DPF Filter Located on the right side under the cab between frame and steep
- Air Cleaner Outside/inside hood air intake for snow, in -cab restriction monitor
- Lubrication System Full flow with spin on filters
- Exhaust Systems 6" vertical exhaust pipe and muffler cab mounted with turnout
- Cooling System
- Block Heater
- Transmission Fuller RTLO – 18918B 18 Speed UltraShift Plus
- Power Steering 20,000 # capacity, four -quart power steering reservoir, dual gear and power steering cooler
- Steering Column Adjustable tilt, telescope
- Electrical System 12 volt with four (3) low maintenance 2800 cold crank batteries, battery box shall be complete enclosure front, side ,bottom with steel cover, battery disconnect
- Electric Circuit Protection 12 volt automatic self- reset circuit breaker in main dash power distribution box
- Diagnostic Tool Software for trouble shooting and interpreting codes
- Alternator Software for trouble shooting and interpreting codes
- Windshield 1-piece tinted curved gasket mounted heated windshield
- Windshield Wipers 2-speed electric moto with intermittent feature
- Gauge Instrumentation Transmission oil, primary and secondary air pressure gauges, speedometer , engine tack, hour meter, turbo temp, water temp, oil pressure and fuel level. Both diff. temps. ( all gauges graduated type)
- Dash Mounted Switches Four dash -mounted switches to be mounted at factory for use with work lights and miscellaneous attachments (no exceptions)
- Horns Dual electric and air (2) two -cabmounted air horns
- Brakes ABS self- adjusting, full air "s" cam type, rear brakes to include four (4) spring-loaded 30/30 air chambers, spring parking brake ( all brake drums to be outboard)
- Hub Pilot Front bearings oil bath
- Brake Chamber Location Chambers on rear most carrier/axle shall be mounted on the top or front side or rear axle carrier to permit dumping into hoppers on lay-down machines and chip spreaders
- Air System 18.7 C.F.M. compressor min. , Wabco Heated dryer, automatic Wabco drain valve heated
- Front Axle Set back 20,000 # w shock absorbers, multileaf suspension
- Rear Axle 46,000 # capacity to include two magnetic drain plugs, power divider lock/lockout with in cab control and lube pump, (filled synthetic oil) full locking front/rear carries with individual front and rear switches
- Rear Axle Ratio Geared for city or highway use with top speed 75 MPH 4.11 gear ratio
- Rear Axle Suspension 46,000lb capacity Hendrickson haul max, Tuf Trac or Chalmers suspension with 54" axle suspension spacing with four (4) heavy duty shocks
- Frame Heat treated alloy steel, clean frame left and right side from back of cab to rear axle , 4,800,000 RBM minimum from front of 12" parent front frame extension to rear of frame rails
- Wheelbase Approximately 212".
- Cab Suspension Dual frame mounted air suspension system
- Cab passenger daylight doors conventional cab with stainless exterior sun visor
- Steering Wheel 18" diameter
- Seats Driver seat to be air-ride, high back with lumbar support and upper backrest, dual armrests, passenger seat to be mid back, both cloth upholstery
- Air Conditioning Factory installed
- Radio am/fm, axillary input, with speakers and antenna and Hands free and prep kit for auxiliary CB radio w mirror mounted antennas. UHF/VHF harness
- Radio Brackets additional bracket/base for cb and county radio
- Mirrors heated west coast bright finish, full view , door mounted motorized both sides and convex mirrors
- Tires and Wheels steel wheels w 315/80R22.5 Michelin XZU S2 20 ply, load range L, radial front tires. Steel wheel w 11R24.5 Michelin XD2 16ply, load rating H, traction rear tires. All tires to be tubeless Hub pioletd
- Front Bumper Heavy duty chrome plated/or powder coated with two (2) tow hooks
- Rear Tow Hooks Two (2) mounted to the frame
- Tilt Hood Front tilting fiberglass, heavy duty tilt w closing mechanism.
- Fuel Tank side step mount , non polished aluminum driver side, 100 gallon capacity
- Lights No day time running lights, led to meet DOT. specs
- Trailer Towing Pintle hitch with air and electric to rear of chassis and hydraulic lines (2) to run pup
- Paint Exterior color White with base coat/clear coat and black frame single stage
- Manuals Operator manual , shop repair manual, parts manual, and electric system manual in paper form or electronic manual, provisions for engine operation software for engine diagnostic Can you provide yes or no
- Warranty Vendor shall provide price on extended warranty . Engine , emission, clutch, transmission and rear carries for 5 years and 200,000 miles. Please provide detailed warranty information and optional pricing
- Hitch Pintle hook 24" off ground. Bottom of hitch plate 16" – 19" , 66000 lb pintle
- dump box 14ft steel, 1/4" Tailgate, 1/4" Floor, and 3/16" Sides, Double acting high- lift tailgate, spreader chains, body props, air latch tailgate, ¼ cab shield, trap arm brackets 8" spreader apron, hoist/ cylinder, tarp, steel side boards, pintle hook, Plate ,glade hands, electric plug, vibrator
- Bids good for 45 days after final BID date
- Hydraulics hydraulics ran for front plow (lift, and turn), rear v box sander. (2) lines to run pup. Manual levers to run those functions. Hydraulics will be Force and have options for plow and sander controls.to run pup trailer will need hydraulic diverter, hoses, and cab controls. Sloping tail gate to keep Material off Hitch ect.
- Note plow and V box sander will not be added at this time.

**No. 1619 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, January 13 adn 20, 2022.**

# Summer snowstorm in 2020 results in widespread bird deaths

By JOHN J. RAWINSKI

A recently published article in Colorado Birds magazine has assessed the amounts of bird mortality from the 2020 September snowstorm that blanketed the San Luis Valley. In the article titled "An Assessment of the Bird Mortality from the 2020 Summer Snowstorm in the San Luis Valley, Colorado" it is estimated that more than 100,000 birds likely died in the freakish summer snowstorm.

Local field ornithologist and author John J. Rawinski of Monte Vista conducted the research based on information obtained from volunteer birders within a five-county area including Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Rio Grande and Saguache counties.

On Sept. 8-9, 2020, an abnormally cold snowstorm descended on the San Luis Valley covering most of the Valley with deep snow and freezing temperatures. Alamosa reported 15 inches of snow in this strange summer snowstorm. Temperatures plummeted from 87 F. to 27 F. the next day. The cold temperatures persisted for additional days, keeping the snow present and deep upon the ground.

The calendar season said summer, the bird season said fall, and the storm looked much like winter. The drastic changes in weather conditions had direct impacts on both migratory and resident songbirds that resulted in scores of bird deaths.

Rawinski surveyed numerous birders in the San Luis Valley, and they provided data on the numbers and kinds of birds they saw deceased on their property. Bird data were then extrapolated to the number of rural residences in the San Luis Valley. Bird mortality was estimated to be in the hundreds of thousands. Those rural residences acted like beacons in a storm and drew birds desperately looking for shelter. The mortality is a conservative estimate since no urban areas were surveyed, and it is likely birds died within towns as well.

Insect-eating birds suffered the greatest losses, comprising 93 percent of all the documented mortality — warblers, bluebirds, thrushes, flycatchers and swallows. The deep snow and cold effectively shut down insect activity, leaving the birds in a desperate situation. Seed-eating birds also had less available food and suffered to a lesser extent.

Many of the respondents reported seeing birds in torpor. Torpor is defined as a state of inactivity in birds that is brought about by physiological changes such as lowering heart rate, breathing rate, metabolism and a reduced response to external stimulation. Cold temperatures or lack of food seem to be contributory factors. In their weakened condition, birds were unafraid and could be easily approached.

It is believed that the deep snow and cold made food sources unavailable, and birds went into torpor to maintain dwindling energy. The snow on the ground lasted for a few days, and this was a circumstance from which they could not recover.

Another source of bird mortality from the snowstorm was that large numbers of birds perished as a direct result of highway collisions. The deep snow effectively cut off food sources for birds, so they were forced



A Wilson's Warbler was one species heavily affected by the snowstorm. Here a bird is shown in torpor, and is easily approached.



Wilson's Warblers suffered tremendous mortality from the snowstorm. This bird was lucky enough to find a spider at the water's edge.

to gather along plowed roadsides where plants and seeds were exposed along the highway edges.

When vehicles passed by, the birds would flush, and collisions resulted. It is estimated that more than 11,000 birds perished along the roadsides alone in the five-county area. Collision mortality was not limited to insect-eating birds and now included a wide variety of species such as Green-tailed Towhee, Vesper Sparrow, Mountain Bluebird, Wilson's Warbler, American Robin, and Hermit Thrush.

Respondents observed no significant dead birds in their locations in weeks prior to the summer snowstorm. It was concluded that any pre-existing conditions from wildfire smoke, migration fatigue or drought was not directly resulting in massive bird die-offs in the San Luis Valley.

However, based on this research, it is believed that the abnormal summer snowstorm had direct, primary, and acute impacts causing massive bird mortality in the San Luis Valley region, Colorado. Birds likely starved to death from lack



Photos by John J. Rawinski

Mountain Bluebirds had a difficult time in the storm. Many succumbed to the cold and snowy conditions.

of food and in combination with extremely cold temperatures, were unable to sustain their metabolism.

Did the storm affect local bird populations the following year? In general, the spring migration 2021 in the San Luis Valley had fewer overall bird numbers and this trend

was apparent in many parts of Colorado based on broader chatroom dialogues. Local surveys near Mosca showed bluebird numbers to be much lower in 2021 than in prior years. The full paper is available through Colorado Birds magazine or by contacting the author.

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Photos by Linda Relyea

Adams State students pick up their diplomas and cross the stage in the historic Richardson Hall Auditorium.

## ASU graduates will continue their journeys well prepared

### STAFF REPORT

**ALAMOSA** — Armando Valdez exuded positive energy and shared encouraging advice at the Adams State University Fall Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 18.

“Today’s cheer is for you, your hard-work, your leadership, and your followership in your journey of learning, growth, enhancement and refinement,” Valdez said.

Assistant Professor of Marketing Valdez capped his tenure at the University as the commencement speaker before continuing his professional career as the State Director of the United States Department of Agriculture-Rural Development for Colorado. He spoke to the students about their responsibilities to share their new skills and knowledge to support family and community.

“Part of your responsibilities are to be ambassadors to the world on behalf of Adams State University,” Valdez said. “Take this as additional confidence in your talents, skill sets, ideas, creative approaches, logical and analytical evaluations, and your ability to help others and cultivate relationships.”

Valdez spoke from his background in business and as a farm and ranch owner encouraged the Class of 2021 to be strategic, conceptual, and entrepreneurial.

“Being entrepreneurial is not exclusive to business functions,” he said. “It is about idea implementa-

tion. Be creative, develop ideas and work on action plans to put your ideas into tangible outcomes which benefit you and others. It is okay to be a dreamer. Dreamers offer progress and lead to the evolution of our collective success. We all need creative dreaming, but find ways to make your dreams a reality. Focus on big dreams, and big ambitions...it is your pursuit and ambition that matters.”

He sent the newest Adams State graduates off to continue their exciting journey, “which will lead to fulfillment and contribution.”

Welcoming the graduating class **Please see ASU on Page 2**



San Luis Valley native Armando Valdez was the Adams State Fall 2021 Commencement Ceremony speaker.

## Golden Pick Ice Hockey Tournament Jan. 15-16

BY LYNSIE FERRELL

**CREEDE** — With 2022 just around the corner, now is the time to mark the calendars and make plans to attend the 15th annual Golden Pick Hockey Tournament in Creede. Now that the weather has finally decided to bring winter to the small mountain town, the Silver Ice Ponds are being prepared for the coming event and open to everyone who wants to ice skate for free.

Tommyknocker Tavern in partnership with Kip’s Grill will be hosting the annual Golden Pick Hockey Tournament at Silver Ice Park underneath the steep caldera cliffs of Creede. The tournament is set for Jan. 15 and 16 with teams coming in from all over southwestern Colorado. Some parts of the event will be subject to state and local COVID guidelines.

The event began years ago with two business owners from the Creede area wanting to have some friendly fun among residents during the slow winter months and has turned into one of the largest pond



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

The 15th annual Creede Golden Pick Hockey Tournament is set to hit the ice on Jan. 15 and 16.

hockey tournaments in southwestern Colorado. Tommyknocker Tavern and Kip’s Grill came together with a few people at the beginning and allowed it to grow into a full-on hockey event.

Several years ago, while visiting a neighboring bar that Kip Nagy,

owner of Kip’s Grill, happened to come across a friend that owned a production company called Pride of Gypsies. After hearing about the picturesque Creede scenery, the company decided to come and film a series of commercials for **Please see PICK on Page 3**

## MVS students raising funds for trip to Europe in 2023

### SUBMITTED ARTICLE

**SAGUACHE** — Mountain Valley School students — also known as “The Travelers” are fundraising for a trip to Germany, France and Switzerland in March of 2023.

Twenty percent of MVS students have committed to the “Adventure Awaits” trip. To cover the cost, The Travelers need to raise \$75,000.

The Mountain Valley School District in Saguache has the third-highest childhood poverty rate in the state. Due to the limited resources and financial stability of many of the families in the district, opportunities for students are limited, organizers stated. They have raised about \$13,000.

“We know none of this would be possible without the support of all of our generous donors and fundraising efforts,” MVS officials stated. “There was a lot of wood to stack and leaves to rake around Saguache, and the bake sale was a huge success, too.”

The Travelers have several fundraisers scheduled for the start of 2022. They will be hosting a free community dinner on Jan. 5 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Mountain Valley School.

“We will be playing Bully Prevention Bingo and

giving away prizes from local businesses and other donated items,” organizers stated. Masks are currently a requirement at MVS until Jan. 18.

The Travelers will also be hosting a 4-on-4 volleyball tournament on

Jan. 15 starting at 10 a.m. Call 719-221-9942, to register a team, \$40 per team. Must be 18 and older to play. First place will receive a movie and pizza from The Village Pub and Cozy Castle Cinema in Saguache. Second place will win a soak

pass from Joyful Journey Hot Springs. While in Europe, students will explore the Notre Dame Cathedral, Arc De Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Louvre in France, ride the TGV train to Switzerland to explore Lucerne and eat authentic Swiss Fondue during an evening full of Swiss traditions in the form of yodeling, and folk dances.

They will finish the trip with a stop in Germany to learn more about the Dachau Concentration Camp and tour the Olympic Stadium.

Monetary donations can be mailed to Mountain Val-

**Please see EUROPE on Page 3**



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# ASU Continued from Page 1

and guests, Adams State President Cheryl D. Lovell remarked on the significance of ending the 100-year anniversary of the University in Richardson Hall Auditorium.

“The very foundation of Adams State began in this one building, named in honor of the first president, Ira Richardson,” Lovell said.

The intimate space filled with cheers as students crossed the stage to receive their diploma.

Among them, Mathew Burcin, molecular and cellular biology major, delivered the class message. An Eagle Scout, Burcin graduated with highest honors in three-and-a-half years. He compared a tough climb up Mt. Whitney, the tallest mountain in the continental United States, with his academic journey at Adams State.

“Now my story of climbing Whitney serves to represent our academic story, you all get to hike to the top with me,” Burcin said. During his analogy, he recalled getting closer to the top.

“...We can see where we began but that mountain top is still quite a distance away. The semester is coming to a close and we make the final push up the mountain, see the top, touch it, and let out a sign of relief,” Burcin said.

Burcin inspired the audience to continue their great story.

“...Every moment you wanted to

quit, you ignored, kept hiking and accomplished an incredible feat,” he said. “You learned a lot, matured, and now have the skills to conquer the next mountains you face... As our time here at Adams State University comes to an end, many more and greater mountains are to come. But we are prepared now, we have the tools for success. All our hardships and challenges strengthened us. We are certified mountaineers.”



Photos by Linda Relyea  
**Mathew Burcin, 2021 cellular and molecular biology major, aptly surmised a hike up Mt. Whitney with the journey from incoming freshmen to graduating seniors.**



Few noticed the near-freezing temperatures as they gathered after the commencement ceremony on the front lawn of Richardson Hall to reunite with flowers, hugs and smiles for the class of 2021.



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# Adams State Applied Sport Psychology Program in Top 20

ALAMOSA – Recent events involving top-level, world-class athletes, such as Simone Biles and Naomi Osaka, withdrawing from competitions, have brought attention to the issue of mental health and performance in athletes, and Adams State University seems well equipped to take on that issue, as the school's online Master of Science degree in Applied Sport Psychology program recently earned designation as one of Sports Degrees Online's "Best 20 Sport Psychology Master's Programs for 2022," coming in at #18.

with the intention of helping "the thousands of passionate athletes who didn't make it to the top tier," pursue careers in areas like injury recovery, strength and conditioning, or sports analytics, according to their "about us" page.

Adams State's degree is an "intriguing option," according to Dr. Matthew Jones, assistant professor at Southern Illinois Univ. Evansville, who reviewed the programs. The program benefits from its connections to the Adams State's kinesiology department, which also offers coaching, exercise science, and sport administration master's programs, according to Jones.

The applied sport psychology curriculum also offers an impressive number of Association for Applied Sport Psychology qualifying courses, making the process of becoming a Certified Mental Performance Consultant "very straightforward," Jones wrote. Students also have the choice to take courses related to coaching or sports

administration. "This current ranking as a top program, paired with Adams State's recent rankings as the No. 1 most affordable sport psychology program the last couple of years, demonstrates the quality and affordability of the program" according to Brian Zuleger Ph.D., CMPC, associate professor

of sport psychology and graduate program coordinator for applied sport psychology in Adams State's School of Kinesiology and Health Sciences. The website based the ratings on factors such as *program flexibility, internship opportunities, AASP preparation, and financial aid availability, according to Jones.*

# Nielsen Library helps North Conejos students research history at ASU

## STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — About 80 students and their teachers from the North Conejos School District conducted research on Dec. 1, as they prepared for National History Day competitions at the Adams State University Nielsen Library.

This was the first time since Fall 2019 the library had hosted an on-site visit, where students worked with print and other tangible collections to further their research, according to Library Director Jeffrey Bullington.

The students were very respectful of the university masking policy, and "did a great job of cleaning up as they left. They put chairs back in place everywhere and they brought books

to the carts so we could get them back to their proper places" among other things, Bullington said.

Bullington credited Donna Mae Keyes and her colleagues from North Conejos schools for helping students prepare for their site visit, working with them on-site, and keeping them focused and engaged.

Bullington also thanked library staff, including Mary Walsh, who helped students access materials in Special Collections and Archives and supported students the entire time, providing directional support and additional research. Amanda Langdon also helped guide and support students. Melissa Tuioti-Mariner and her circulation students gathered, sorted, and re-shelved

the materials students used.

The visit was similar to what the library had done pre-COVID when teachers in area school districts would contact Nielsen Library to schedule similar visits, Bullington said. The library also had traditionally coordinated with the State History Day Office for teacher education workshops as well as student research visits. Those activities stopped because of COVID, according to Bullington, but he wants the library and partners to build them back up.

"Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences" is the 2022 theme for National History Day. Bullington is looking forward to serving as a judge at the regional competition on Jan. 29, 2022.

# EUROPE

Continued from Page 1

ley School, Adventure Awaits, 403 Pitkin Ave., Saguache, CO 81149.

Upcoming Fundraisers

- Jan. 18 — Beekeeping Class taught by Joel Johnson at MVS. Cost by donation
- Feb. 2 — Free Community Dinner Spaghetti, 5-7 p.m. at MVS.
- Feb. 11 — Talent Show and Silent Auction. Be sure to sign up to share your talent. 5:30 p.m. Silent Auction; 6 p.m. Talent Show. Concessions will be available.

Trip organizers thanked the following businesses and individu-

als for their support: The Village Pub, Pizza, and Spiritz; SJ Coleman Enterprises; Salida Mountain Sports; Arby's of Alamosa; Ihop of Alamosa; Sand Dunes Recreations; Northern Saguache County Public Library; The American Legion Garcia Post; Saguache Town Market; SLV REC Electric/Ciello; The Reeds at Cattails; Big Valley Hobby Town; Gunni Lash Lounge; the Harrisons; the Luijits; the Olivers; the Garouttes; the Woorelys; the Leachmans; the Garcias; the Grosses; and the Henriksons.

# PICK

Continued from Page 1

Carhartt. After filming was completed, a shed that was built for prop purposes was donated by Carhartt to be used as the warming hut during the hockey tournament. The shed now has a permanent home next to the lower pond.

In the years since, the ponds above town have gone from mere recreational ponds to becoming a designated city park, suitably named for Creede's unique mining history as Silver Ice Park. The City of Creede adopted the ponds during a series of meetings in 2015 and helped with funding that purchased several lights that now line the outer edges of the ponds to allow for late-night skating. The ponds are lined with burn

barrels to keep players warm and bleachers for fans to come and enjoy the two days of friendly hockey fun. The ponds are located at 8,900 feet elevation which adds an additional challenge to the tournament and its players. The views surrounding the rinks add an incentive to those who travel to take part in the hockey tournament.

The tournament consists of two levels of competition and is set to ensure that each participating team gets to play at least one playoff game. The tournament is a round-robin format with three-on-three team play. Registration is now open. Visit [www.creedehockey.wordpress.com](http://www.creedehockey.wordpress.com), to sign up.



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

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

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## Solution to last week's puzzle

T	A	B	E	S		M	B	D		R	E	B	S		
H	I	L	A	R		T	A	R	O		E	L	U	L	
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E	M	I	R		D	A	R			M	E	M	O	S	

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# Rio Grande Hospital launches new MA program

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

**DEL NORTE** — Rio Grande Hospital recently announced it was launching a new program that will help people earn a Medical Assistant license.

The program is expected to last six weeks and offer training and certification for people looking to gain their Medical Assistant license. The course will include medical billing coding, clerical training with practitioners and certification at the end of the course.

“Rio Grande Hospital is in the same boat as a lot of the medical field. It has been difficult to obtain applicants and to keep employees throughout the last several years and more so in the most recent years. This was a chance to try to maintain interest in the medical field and offer a full-time position as well as to be paid while attending school. It is a great opportunity, and we are excited to see how it goes,” said RGH representative and program coordinator Jannelle Gallegos.

According to Gallegos, “The Certified Medical Assistant Trainee Program is a hands-on, six-week on-the-job training program that prepares students to take the Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) exam through the National Healthcare Association. Trainees will be hired by Rio Grande Hospital while

completing their Medical Assistant training through self-driven online courses offered by US Career Institute.”

Once the program begins, students will have a year to complete their clinicals and will work alongside Medical Assistants in the field to complete on-the-job requirements needed for certification.

“After Medical Assistants complete the course, we will give them a 24-month contract and a full-time position with a practitioner. We hope

this will encourage some to continue school or stay on with us after the contract is complete,” Gallegos said.

Medical Assistants help with a wide range of daily duties in the hospital and surrounding clinics throughout the Valley. Often referred to as MAs they help check in and out patients, take temperature, weight and complete EKGs for their practitioners as well as administer shots and take samples.

“Honestly they can do pretty much everything as a nurse does besides

the more complicated medical procedures and they help with clerical duties around the office, including medical billing and insurance,” continued Gallegos.

This will be phase one of the program, and the hospital hopes to add more programs similar to this. Gallegos said the hospital is currently working out details with Trinidad State Junior College to launch a potential CAN program that would also include paid positions and on-the-job training.

Students who participate will be required to complete 40-hour work-weeks with the program which will most likely be broken down into classes and then on-the-job training according to Gallegos.

“The first of the week will be dedicated to classes and lessons. The second part will most likely be dedicated to on-the-job training which helps cover all the bases,” she said.

For more information, contact Gallegos at 719-657-4114 or email at jennelleg@riograndehospital.net.

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### ALMA Presents Marbin at Society Hall on January 14,

**ALAMOSA** — The Alamosa Live Music Association announced Marbin will be performing at Society Hall on Friday, Jan. 14, 2022, at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 for ALMA 2022 members and \$15 for general admission. No advance tickets are for sale. Masks required for entry to the concert.

Marbin is a progressive jazz-rock band based in Chicago. With a do-it-yourself approach, Marbin started touring extensively in 2011, bringing their original instrumental music to every part of the United States. Through word of mouth, Marbin has gained hundreds of thousands of devoted fans all over the world and has sold tens of thousands of albums. Marbin regularly plays in clubs all over the US and in jam and jazz festivals around the world.

Marbin will be offering a free musical workshop at Society Hall at 2 p.m. that same day. In the workshop, Marbin is going to explore their process of improvising, composing, and arranging. From the way they use Solkattu (Indian Solfege) to enrich their rhythmical vocabulary, to the unique harmonic system they apply when improvising over various structures and styles. Marbin will also share their expertise in the field of music business and explain, with many fun stories and anecdotes, how they built a fusion band into a viable business over the course of a decade.

For more info on Marbin, go to [www.marbinmusic.com/](http://www.marbinmusic.com/).

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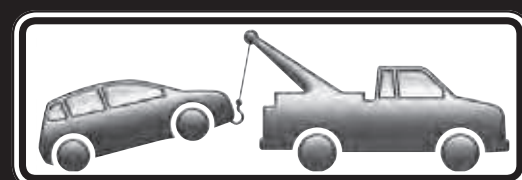
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# MVHS Students give special gifts to Homelake residents

By **MARIE MCCOLM**

**MONTE VISTA** — Residents of the Colorado Veterans Community Living Center at Homelake sat in the main common area awaiting a bus of Monte Vista High School students bringing them special gifts on Thursday, Dec. 23.

The residents were excited to see the bus pull up to the community living center and the students pour out of the bus. Many of the residents smiled and thanked the students as they were handed a jewelry box.

“We made about 150 boxes to give out here, so there is definitely enough for everybody here,” said the students’ teacher Aaron Woodke.

Members of the Monte Vista High School shop class created unique jewelry boxes made from aspen wood for the residents at the Community Living Center.

“The kids have worked very hard on this project, and this is just a start,” Woodke said.

Woodke said that he knows there are other nursing homes in town, and emergency personal and other members that help the community, and he would like to expand the project to more people, but they will need some help.

“If anybody would like to help us with this project, and provide support to the kids, they can contact the school,” Woodke said.

Woodke explained how each student



in the shop class made the commitment to take shop for the next two years as part of a certification program.

“This is just a token of what they are doing,” Woodke said. “We are proud to distribute these to the residents here today.”

Colorado Veterans Community Living Center at Homelake Admissions and Marketing Director Pam Self was with the residents as the teens were distributing the jewelry boxes.

With tears in her eyes, Self said, “This is extremely wonderful. Anytime we have opportunities to have intergenerational, you know not only does it mean a lot to our residents, but I think it’s very important for the kids to have that opportunity, especially this time of year, to do something for those who have given to our country. So, this is an awesome way for them to give back.”



Photos by Marie McCollm

Members of the Monte Vista High School shop class created unique jewelry boxes made from aspen wood for the residents at the Community Living Center. On Dec. 24, the students hand-delivered the boxes to the residents.

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



**Tavin** is about 7 months old, and is a Black Lab. He is definitely going to be a big boy, but he'll be full of love! Tavin is very playful, great with kids, and likes other dogs as well. He's a bit of a digger, but we think a little practice will take care of that. Come visit him today!



**Noodle** is a Bull Terrier mix, going on 8 months old. She is very energetic, true to her breed and very vocal when she wants to be. Noodle needs lots of exercise and a home that understands her breed. She needs a meet and greet with any other animals in the house, but she's good with kids. Can she come home with you?



**Midgee** is about 7 months old and is a Staffordshire Terrier mix. She's your typical playful puppy looking for a wonderful home. She is a very talkative young lady who loves to play. Midgee gets along with dogs of all sizes, she just forgets her own size! Please come by and see her today!



**Xena** is a lovely young girl, about 2 and a half years old with all the love and energy your house can hold! She loves to play, gets along well with new people and does good with other dogs. She is a big girl so she has a heavy play style. She's been with us about 6 months now, and we're hoping her special people are soon to find her!



Meet **Chase**. He's about 2 years old, and is a Black Lab mix. Chase is the perfect family dog. He loves everyone he meets, he's just a little choosy on who his dog friends are, definitely prefers calmer dogs. Great with kids, very calm and smart fellow, and he's looking for his forever home!

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This 2500 sq. ft. building is located at 102 North Main St., in the thick of tourist traffic, in historic Creede, Colorado. The building is divided into two separate and operating retail spaces, but a common interior door could make this a large operating space. 1. Elk Country Boutique on the corner of the building is a T-shirt Shop. 2. Creede Olive Oil Shop. Both businesses draw visitors as they walk the town shopping for unique gifts. Utilities include electric, pellet stove, Creede water & sewage, and phone. Each business has its own electrical meter and is paid for by that tenant. 1. Elk Country Boutique T-shirt Shop has an extremely high recap rate but will need to be kept as a T-shirt shop to obtain maximum income on the building. 2. Creede Olive Oil shop rents for \$1300 per month year-round. The estimated total recap rate based on the above description is 15% to 20% annual return on investment. This historic building is located on Main Street in Creede, Colorado, and is a thriving business. Creede is a major vacation destination and sportsmen's dream paradise. \$692,000 MLS #774985 • 102 N Main Street • Creede

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*\* \* \* There's No Place Like Home \* \* \**  
 for the **HOLIDAYS**

*Thank you to everyone who let me help them find a home in 2021*

*Call Bernadette today!*

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

Perfect level building site with VIEWS of both the 1st green at the Rio Grande Club and the Rio Grande River. Just minutes from Epic skiing at Wolf Creek, golfing, fishing, hunting and much more. Time to get out of the city for work or play! \$25,000 MLS#774034



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

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

**SOLD**

• 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**



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**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 magnetic 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  
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This charming home has been recently updated with new paint and carpet. With 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom this home also has a sun-room, and an extra lot that is service ready! Value at a great Price! Call for more details! \$109,000 MLS#785391

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



Charming home on Oversized Lot! This nice 2 bedroom home sits on an oversized lot, so there is plenty of room to add on if you wanted. Has good space, and some updates. Has been a rental, so great for the investor looking for a rental investment. Some outbuildings, and established yard. Call today for more details. \$153,000 MLS#786169

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**Tracy Gosar, Broker/Owner**  
 719-850-1815(cell) • 719-852-0450  
**810 First Ave. • Monte Vista**  
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**FOR SALE**

Custom built, impeccable quality, full log home located just minutes from the town of South Fork, Colorado. The 4443 sq. ft. home and 1015 sq. ft. bunkhouse provides a total sq. ft. of 5458. Features in the home include a massive rock fireplace, 3 bedrooms, 3-1/2 bathrooms, loft that boasts a futon plus two window beds, office, playroom, and a large living room for you to enjoy with family and friends. The wrap around deck will allow you to experience world-class high mountain views. Above the garage is a custom log guest quarters with a spectacular kitchen, bath, large living room, and bedroom combined into one unit. Bear Creek subdivision offers controlled access through a gated entrance. MLS #738155



**107 Marmot Lane • South Fork**  
**Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty**  
 (719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

**FOR SALE** Organic Peddler Casita Bonita Inn

located in Del Norte, Colorado DEEDED ACREAGE: .47 Acres +/- Almost 3 full lots IMPROVEMENTS: Currently there are a total of 4 great rental units on the property with a historic small log cabin that provides a lot of possibilities. 1. 648 sq. ft. Cozy 1 Bedroom Casita includes a living room, bath, and kitchen. 2. 920 sq. ft. Log cabin has an open floor plan with one bedroom, bath, and kitchen. 3. 2240 sq. ft. Building has been remodeled into 2 separate rental units: \*\*The beautiful Cordwood unit is 861 sq. ft. with one bedroom, bath, living room, gourmet kitchen, gas fireplace, and fabulous attached courtyard. \*\*The Historical adobe 1556 sq. ft. home has 3 bedrooms, one bath, full kitchen, living room, and nice front yard. 4. 168 sq. ft. historic log cabin that can be remodeled into an additional rental unit. The views are panoramic in all directions providing a peaceful atmosphere. ACCESS: Year-round off U.S. Hwy 160. ZONING: Residential/Commercial \$690,000 MLS # 770529 14475 US 160 • Del Norte



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Nice building spot with spectacular views! \$17,500 MLS#786767

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

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

Immaculate & charming home! This lovely 4 bedroom, 2 bath home has been in a family for several decades, and loved and cared for as you can see in the pictures. It has open spaces, wood laminate floors, lots of storage, and a big kitchen that is great for cooking and entertaining. There is a laundry area with closets, a pellet stove hot water baseboard heat, a 2 car garage, a nice patio area, and an additional shed in the back. Call today to preview! \$289,000 MLS#787149



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

This lot is ready to build with utilities installed underground to property. This lot is on the 13th fairway of the renowned Rio Grande Club & Resort. Sit on your back deck and enjoy the views of the golf course, cliffs along the mountainside and views looking down the valley of the course to Del Norte Peak. Water and sewer to the property including paved roads maintained by the HOA. Enjoy fishing close by, mountain hiking, ATving, and the Wolf Creek ski resort approximately 20 miles away. \$59,900 MLS#787736



**Legends Premier Properties**  
**Keith Bratton, Associate Broker**  
 719-852-0450  
**810 First Ave. • Monte Vista**  
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Great access with 101 feet of exposure just off of US Highway 160! This property offers multiple options! It would work great for mobile homes, developments, or a commercial building. All utilities are available, but would need to be tapped into. This is the perfect property for your next project! Call to view! \$175,500 MLS#789021

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