

Shorts

Pregnant woman, child held in residence escapes from captor

BY MECHEL MEEK
CENTER — On Thursday, Sept. 2, a Center Police Department officer was flagged down by a terrified pregnant female victim. According to police reports, the victim was held in her residence for five days by the suspect, Michael Sisneros, 41, of Center. She was allegedly held under the threat of death to herself, her unborn child and her infant. The victim sustained injuries during her captivity and was allegedly choked while being told that her unborn child would be cut from her womb so she could see it as she died. The infant was also allegedly threatened with choking and harmful actions were perpetrated on this child.

After a five-day ordeal, the victim escaped and found help. According to CPD Chief Dale Meek, "The victim was able to make an escape in the couple's vehicle while the suspect was distracted after changing a tire." The suspect attempted to stop the victim from leaving in the vehicle and he was almost run over by the victim as she fled from him. Since violent felonies occurred and there was a potential for a barricaded suspect with an unknown mental state and a history of drug use, an on-call request went out to all Center PD officers. All CPD officers and reserves responded to the scene. An operational plan was made and implemented. The suspect was taken into custody without incident.

Sisneros was arrested on suspicion of kidnapping with injury, a first-degree felony, felony menacing, child abuse, and assault third-degree with domestic violence enhancement. Sisneros was previously arrested in June during the execution of a search warrant by CPD.

CPD asks that the community report any suspicious activity and be vigilant. No further information is available regarding this case currently due to the pending investigation.

New County Attorney appointed by board

BY MECHEL MEEK
SAGUACHE — On Sept. 6, the Saguache County Board of Commissioners met to discuss several items. Saguache County Sheriff Dan Warwick went before the board for several issues. First was the purchase of a new fingerprint machine, a computer server upgrade, and building an enclosure fence on the back side of the Saguache County Jail for a prisoner exercise yard.

These expenditures were approved. Please see **BOARD** on Page 2A



Photo by Mechel Meek

Saguache County Commissioners discuss pay raises for Sheriff's Office

Housing study looks at smaller communities



Photo by Mechel Meek

A recently completed housing study by the San Luis Valley Housing Coalition will help Town of Center officials with the planning of the North 90 acreage when it is annexed.

Results show more affordable housing is needed

BY MECHEL MEEK
CENTER — The San Luis Valley Housing Coalition has completed a housing study on the San Luis Valley, including the Town of Center. According to the San Luis Valley Housing Coalition, "A group of San Luis Valley organizations, businesses, and leaders have come together to work on a solution for the lack of housing and the current high housing costs versus the low wages of our area. The San Luis Valley is made up of six counties including Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache. Please see **HOUSING** on Page 2A

Commission releases newest Congressional map

First of three maps as process enters final phase

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER
SAN LUIS VALLEY — As the deadline for completion rapidly approaches and with more than 30 public hearings held across the state, thousands of comments made online, and numerous drafts created by non-partisan staff members, the newest map for Congressional redistricting in Colorado was released late Friday

afternoon, Sept. 3.

The release of the map signals the final phase of the process and is the first of three maps to be released, all based upon 2020 census data recently provided to the commission.

However, the commission could approve this map if eight of the 12 delegates on the commission voted to approve.

Of primary interest to residents of the San Luis Valley is a reconfigured District 3 which includes the San Luis Valley plus Durango, Eagle and Pitkin counties. The district also contains

two relatively large population centers — Mesa County and Pueblo County — and is 26% Hispanic.

In an equally significant change, the reconfigured District 3 would also not have an incumbent as Republican Rep. Lauren Boebert would no longer live inside district boundaries. Instead, she would be one of two incumbents included in a reconfigured District 2 along with Democratic Congressman Joe Neguse of Lafayette.

Even though she does not live in the proposed District 3, she could still run for the office as district

residence is not a requirement in a Congressional race.

An initial map divided the San Luis Valley, a proposal that was met with sharp and quick criticism. Another version moved the Valley to the fourth district, which would have extended to the Kansas border and farther north to include Weld County, which concerned several local citizens.

A third map created a southern district that ran the length of Colorado and included both the San Luis Valley and southern counties on the Eastern

Please see **MAP** on Page 2A

Potato Festival returns on Sept. 11



STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — After taking a year off due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the San Luis Valley Potato Festival returns on Sept. 11 in Monte Vista. Come prepared to spend the day at Chapman Park.

Start the day with the 3rd Annual Tater Trot 5K or join Colorado San Luis Valley Potatoes Executive Director Jim Ehrlich on a free agricultural tour. This bus will take people to the SLV-Research Center and into a field being harvested. Tour attendees can learn about breeding, seeding, growing and harvesting of Colorado's finest potatoes, right here in the San Luis Valley. To reserve your seat on the tour, visit coloradopotato.org/potatofest and fill out the online form or contact office at 719-852-3322 or info@coloradopotato.org.

To participate in the 5K, people can pre-register at coloradopotato.org/potatofest or register at 7:15 a.m. on Sept. 11 at the park. Registration is

\$25 per participant and all proceeds will benefit SLV Pediatric Diabetes Patients.

Stay at Chapman Park throughout the day to enjoy the free kid's games, the famous mashed potato dunk tank, professional chef demo by Carley Smith, bouncy houses, and a trampoline quad jumper.

There will also be food and craft vendors, games for the family, live animals, an antique tractor display with homemade ice cream, a truck and semi-show and much, much more.

Be sure to stop by the Colorado Potato booth to join Octane Addictions' X-Game Riders for a photo and autograph session.

Returning this year is Octane Addictions, a family friendly motorsport aerial freestyle show featuring X-Game medalists. This will be at the Ski-Hi Park Arena at 6 p.m., and tickets can be purchased at potatofest.eventbrite.com.

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MAP

Continued from Page 1A

Plains. However, that map drew criticism at the redistricting hearing in Alamosa as it also contained significant parts of El Paso County. That version did draw enough support to warrant a vote from the commissioners but failed to pass.

Additional evidence of the focus on this part of the state is reflected in a preliminary staff memo composed by the non-partisan staff members who drew the newest map and released it as a separate document.

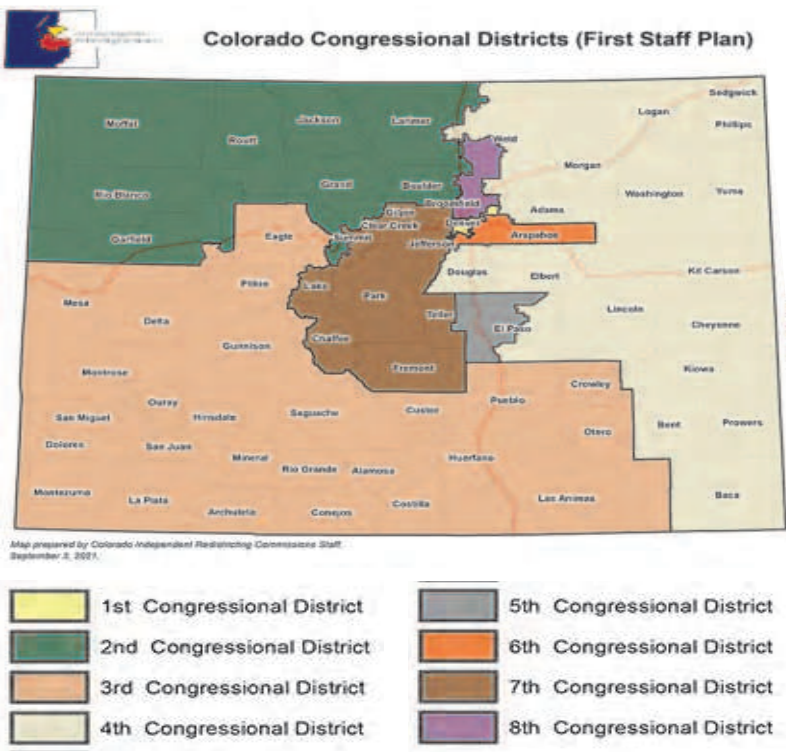
According to the memo, "At its meeting on Sept. 1, 2021, a majority of the Congressional Commission voted to recommend to non-partisan staff that, due to expressed communities of interest, the following should be kept together in a single congressional district: (1) The six counties of the San Luis Valley; (2) Huerfano, Las Animas, Otero, and Pueblo Counties; and (3) The Southern Ute and Ute Mountain

Ute tribal lands in Archuleta, La Plata, and Montezuma Counties."

The memo goes on to make it clear that it is up to the commission to make the decision.

Although this non-partisan process is the result of the passage of Amendment Y, which received support from the majority of voters, the Colorado Congressional district map had to be redrawn to include an eighth district, the result of census figures that showed an increase in Colorado's population.

The newest map, along with other versions that have been presented, was drawn by non-partisan staffers and guided by criteria laid out in the amendment, including the protection of minority group voting, geographically connected borders, preservation of communities of interest, political competitiveness and fair and effective representation of constituents using politically neutral criteria.



HOUSING

Continued from Page 1A

Each county, and the communities within, have a different aspect of life depending on the location. Therefore, we cannot treat them all the same. We must create unique solutions to fix each communities housing problems."

There has been a problem in the past where studies completed were done with inequity where the smaller communities who did not have the financial resources were not able to have their housing studies completed, according to officials. This is the first time a housing market study and an action plan have been completed for the small communities of the Valley. The study assessed the current housing stock and housing needs. They studied 14 of the smaller communities within the San Luis Valley. The purpose of the study was to determine the best locations for future housing and meeting the current and future needs of the communities. The City of Monte Vista was not included in this study due to the large availability of affordable housing. The City of Alamosa will be conducting its housing study and was not included.

The study of the Town of Center was completed in June. According to the Town of Center Housing Publication, "Homes in Center are relatively old and there has been little new construction over the past 20 years. Half (50%) of homes are more than 50 years old. Just under half (47%) are 20 to 50 years old. Only about 3% have been built since 2000."

The local economy of Center is dominated by jobs in agriculture and associated industries. The study pointed out that a large portion of the workforce in Center commutes from out of the area. This brings up the overwhelming need for affordable housing within the town, the publication stated. This study will help Center and the other communities in the Valley gain grant opportunities, funding, and partnerships with private parties. With the future annexation of the North 90 acreage, Center and the Town Trustees can decide the necessary development goals and housing needs on this land and how to improve the current state of housing.

YOUR NIGHT SKY

BY DARLENE DANKO



The Moon and its Missions

This day on the 9th is three days past the new moon. About 1/2 hour after sunset, the Moon joins up with Venus low in the west-south-west. The star Spica flickers to the low right of the pair. It is the brightest star in the constellation Virgo the Maiden. There is also a chance that you might see Mercury low in the sky at this time. Mercury and Spica will set 1 hour after the Sun, and Venus and the Moon will stay visible for another 1/2 hour.

The 1st quarter moon is on the 13th, so on the 12th, you will see it doing things. It has moved further to the south now

and joined up with other constellations. This night it will meet up with Antares, which is Scorpion's heart and is a red supergiant. She is his brightest star.

You might remember that Antares is the main star in Scorpius which is at the base of the Milky Way in the south. Now the moon is in the south-south-west. If you take out your binoculars to view the Moon 30-45 minutes after sunset, you should be able to see Antares which will be just below to the left of the Moon. If you look at it later it will be easier to see, but its color will be less dramatic.

On the 15th the moon moves further to the east and joins up with Jupiter and Saturn. The 3 of them will form a graceful line. On the 16th the Moon will be just below Saturn. On the 17th is will

join up with Jupiter and be just below it to the right. The full moon will be on the 20th. So, it moves quickly and lines up with various items in the sky.

In case you are interested, the Lookout Mountain Observatory will be having a meeting on Saturday the 11th and will start at 7 p.m. This will be at the Rio Grande County Courthouse Annex, 965 6th St. in Del Norte. This will be followed by a star party at the Del Norte observatory that is next to the Courthouse. You will have to walk up the rocky mountain a little bit. A flashlight will help you walk up and down the mountain which is not steep. It is just dark.

BOARD

Continued from Page 1A

and to be paid from the public safety budget.

Next, Warwick discussed a raise for Saguache County Sheriff's Office employees. Commissioner Tom McCracken brought a pay raise template that he devised based upon time in grade, education and other factors.

"I did try to use the salary scale as much as I," said McCracken.

Warwick countered this idea from McCracken.

"I'm not going for an individually based pay increase. I want pay increases for our entire staff," Warwick said. "We are having a hard time recruiting people and when we do we lose them to other agencies it is because we don't pay enough. I'm trying to make it so we can retain the people we have."

Warwick requested a flat pay raise of \$4 per hour for all hourly employees except for the cooking staff for the jail who would receive a \$3 per hour raise.

"I don't agree with just giving everyone \$4 an hour, without taking into account longevity," McCracken said to Warwick.

When asked if he would consider McCracken's salary scale, Warwick responded, "I do want it across the board. And I appreciate everyone giving it some thought."

Commissioner Lynne Thompson motioned to "approve the sheriff's salary increase of \$4 per hour for Sheriff's Office employees with the exception of the pay difference for the jail cooks, the cooks would receive \$3 an hour."

The motion received no second and died for lack of a second.

After the death of the motion by Thompson, McCracken motioned for the pay increases as he lined them out. This motion was seconded by Tim Lovato. McCracken and Lovato approved and Thompson opposed. The raise was passed, 2-1, with modification.

Also of note was the appointment of a new County Attorney. Todd

Starr, the current County Attorney is moving to another position in Grand Junction. The Commissioners unanimously voted to hire G. Brad Crowell, to the position. Crowell's firm is located in Del Norte, and he has over 30 years of experience as an attorney in various law specialties, including land use and civil litigation.

Two community members brought before the board the issue of County Road AA, past County Road 63 which is not maintained by the county or BLM. According to landowners in that area, people have been camping on the road and driving into private property. The landowners have been maintaining the road themselves with their equipment. The landowners would like to install a gate to make the area only accessible to those who own property in that area.

"I think we need to do a site visit to see what is going on with this," Lovato said.

According to the County Attorney, a gate can be added, but if the road is for the benefit of the public it cannot be locked. If it is not needed for public access, then it can be locked and all landowners are given a key.

Lovato said he was going to do a site visit to the area. The commissioners also requested more research be done to understand the access regulations, since part of the land is BLM and Forest Service land, before making a decision.

The commissioners discussed the opening of a child care facility in a home in Crestone. This would be the first fully licensed child care facility in that area. The facility would need a letter from the county recognizing that address (home) as a childcare facility. The letter, which was approved by the commissioners, is to comply with HB 21-1222 which contains several new laws. The bill states that no special use permit is needed to run a childcare in a home. The childcare facility would fall under the same regulations as a residence.

"Family childcare is an essential in Colorado. Most families rely on family or neighbors, which is



Photo by Mechel Meek

Brad Crowell was hired as the new Saguache County Attorney by the Saguache County Commissioners on Sept. 6.

unlicensed," said Executive Director of Early Childhood Council of the San Luis Valley Sherri Valdez. Most childcare available is for school-age children and these services are only available during the school year.

Also decided by the commissioners was for the county to pay for a right-of-way survey of the town of Sargent. It was decided to put out a competitive bid for companies to survey the entire town to identify the roads, and accessory spaces that are owned by the county. Concerned citizens expressed to the commissioners during the meeting that the roads are being encroached upon by some landowners.

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

SLV Public Health answers COVID-19, vaccine questions

BY SLV PUBLIC HEALTH

SANLUIS VALLEY — Recently, many good questions about COVID-19 were posed on the opinion page of the Valley Courier. Here are answers from San Luis Valley public health agencies to some of those questions.

that received the instructions begin to manufacture spike proteins. Your immune system creates antibodies to get rid of the strange proteins. Some people feel sick for a few days as their systems practice fighting against this new invader. After this process is completed, the antibodies remain and stand ready to fight anything in the future that is covered with that same kind of spike protein. You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine because it does not contain the virus. The vaccine does not enter the part of the cells where DNA is located and cannot change your DNA.

Why does the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) have such large numbers in 2021 compared to all the previous years?

Vaccines, like any other medication have the potential for side effects. The VAERS system was created in 1990 as a way for the public to report possible negative outcomes, known as adverse events, following vaccination. This data is monitored and analyzed to look for trends and serious events that may warrant deeper investigation to see if the adverse events were caused by the vaccine. Before the pandemic, most people had never heard of VAERS. The effort to vaccinate as many people as possible for COVID-19 in a short period is the largest such effort since VAERS was established. More people are recently vaccinated and aware of VAERS, and thus more people have submitted reports. This is a very good thing from the viewpoint of scientists who monitor data. More reports make it more likely that scientists will be able to identify potential vaccine risks as soon as possible.

Why aren't good old infection control procedures being explained as to how to keep oneself healthy?

Standard infection control procedures such as hand washing have long been an important part of stopping the spread of disease, and they remain important during a pandemic. Actions such as social distancing, masking, and ventilation are infection control measures that can add a layer of protection, especially where there are people present who may be at higher risk or who are not able to get the vaccine. Isolation and quarantine are infection control measures used when someone has been infected or been exposed to someone who is infected with a disease. Although the current emphasis is on vaccines as the best way to fight the pandemic, public health has long encouraged healthy habits such as good nutrition, exercise, getting enough sleep, and avoiding tobacco. Those good habits are still useful for keeping oneself healthy.

How does the human cell take up the spike protein in the vaccine?

The vaccine does not contain spike protein. To better explain how this works, let's start with how the virus works. The outside of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19 is covered in a specific kind of spike protein. These spike proteins attach to the outside of a human cell and allow the virus to enter the cell and replicate itself. If your body can learn to recognize the spike proteins on the virus, it can be better prepared to fight the virus. While the vaccine does not contain spike proteins, it does teach your immune system to recognize and fight them.

Does the vaccine act like other vaccines that I am used to?

Vaccines that have been around for a long time, like measles or polio vaccines, contain a bit of weakened virus that give your body a preview of the enemy and prepare your body's immune system to fight the disease in the future. Moderna and Pfizer messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines do not contain any virus because they use a different approach.

How does the vaccine help me not get COVID-19?

The vast majority of people in the SLV who have been vaccinated have received Moderna or Pfizer vaccines, which are mRNA vaccines. Messenger RNA (mRNA) is a molecule that is naturally present in human cells. Its job is to carry instructions for making proteins. Rather than using actual viruses, mRNA vaccines carry a set of instructions to your cells telling them to manufacture spike proteins like the ones on the outside of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Once the message has been delivered, enzymes in your cells destroy the mRNA within a few days. Meanwhile, cells in your body

Hurricanes are Hell

I don't know about you, but I think weather events known as hurricanes have gotten worse throughout my lifetime. And not only that, but there also seems to be more tornados, volcanic eruptions, famines, and diseases than ever, too. And of course, the preachers are sure to point out that the Bible predicts such things which sell books, put money in the offering plate and produce fear in a lot of folks.

Miss Trixie says that we just hear about such events more these days as the 24-hour news channels are launching at the bit for any tidbit of information to splatter across the news networks and the Internet. They found out with the advent of smartphones that the demand for news far outweighs any actual interesting things that happen. And Ol' Dutch has to admit that even the most primitive of people's holding cell phones these days lets us into the lives of people that have no impact on our lives. Through that invention, we learn that some aborigine in New Guinea had a baby pig with two heads or other such useful information.

This past week we witnessed Hurricane Ida come ashore in Louisiana with huge rains, ocean surges and high winds. I do find it funny that after every event like this some lame-brained reporter will ask a lifetime resident Cajun how bad it was only to be informed that "well it flooded me just like the last 22 times." To which the reporter will add, "there you have it."

This past week also saw the Weather Channel get caught in some on-air hijinks showing good old Jim Cantore out in full rain gear and a helmet reporting that it was raining and blowing hard. Unbeknown to him two electrical linemen were walking around in the background without any gear oblivious to the fact that Jim was about to get "blown away" according to him.

And that, my friends, shows you just exactly what we are being fed sometimes by the news organizations in their rush to one-up the next network. The last hurricane found a reporter up to her waist in water reporting on the air. Later it was found out that she was standing in a deep ditch beside the road. And they wonder why no one trusts them anymore?

The hurricane did bring to mind Ol' Dutch's sojourn into the land of Utah pre-Trixie when I was chasing a buxom blonde from Hurricane Utah. It's pronounced Hurricun over there in the land of Brigham Young but Ol' Dutch soon found out that he was caught up in a storm of his own with this woman.



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

Just like the storm that came ashore on the Southern Coast this past week, this young lady blew into my life and the intensity increased faster than a tropical storm forming over the Caribbean. She had definite designs on my peaceful existence and Ol' Dutch barely escaped with his life on that one. Well, at least I escaped with what was left of my fortune as she was a gold miner from way back. A very experienced gold digger.

The impact of those storms is felt far and wide and this one was no different as it raced up the eastern seaboard and flooded many of the states along the way. People lost their lives and livelihoods plus homes and possessions of a magnitude that is hard to imagine.

One story that hit the news was some famous rich guy from that southern region who was stranded in California at his beach house and could not return to Louisiana. Can you imagine the loss and inconvenience that poor man was going through? I mean honestly. How much discomfort can a fellow stand?

I do think it's probably our fault for demanding 1,000 channels on the television and so we have pretty much made the news organizations go to all ends in trying to fill that many time slots.

Ol' Dutch does find it useful, though, when there is a rabies outbreak in the house cats in Australia and that news is flashed across my phone at 3 a.m. Such news is vital to me honestly as you never know when I may want to go down under and pet a kangaroo.

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.

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Care and Share Food Bank names new SLV Development Director



STAFF REPORT
ALAMOSA — Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado recently announced its newest team member — Sarah Stoeber, San Luis Valley Development Director.
 “Care and Share Food Bank is thrilled to have Sarah join our dynamic

and passionate team. She will bring an abundance of talent and experience to our fundraising efforts, helping us further our mission and feed more people, not only in the Valley, but across Southern Colorado,” said Lynne Telford, Care and Share CEO.
 Stoeber has over 25 years of experience in the areas of finance, grants administration and community-building. Stoeber has been at the forefront in support of creating jobs through providing access to capital for Valley businesses and raising scholarship funds for young agriculturalists wanting to pursue a college degree through the Sangre de Cristo FFA Alumni for over a decade. Her work has contributed to local businesses developing a thriving economy through reinvestment in the region.
 “I am extremely excited to join the Care and Share team,” said Stoeber.

“The organization’s staff, volunteer positive impact, not only in the San Colorado. To be a part of such great corps and leadership make a huge Luis Valley, but across all of Southern work is incredibly gratifying.”

Adams State receives grant to launch a mentor training program for teachers

STAFF REPORT
ALAMOSA — The School of Education at Adams State University (ASU) received \$82,500 in funding from the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) to launch a Teacher Mentor program. The program will launch in partnership with Center Consolidated School District (CCSD).
 The underlying purpose of the Teacher Mentor program is to retain new teachers by increasing their access to effective mentors. Through the Teacher Mentor program, experienced teachers are prepared with the knowledge and skills required to serve as mentors for teacher candidates and newly employed teachers.
 “When experienced teachers are trained to serve as mentors, we find that both preservice and beginning teachers are better prepared to teach and to make a difference with students,” says Curtis Garcia, Ph.D., Director of Adams State’s School of Education. “Research shows that beginning teachers who receive high-quality mentoring early in their careers are also more likely to remain in the profession.”
 Mentoring as a Statewide Priority
 Mentor teachers play a critical role in teacher candidate and novice teacher development. In recognition of this relationship, the General Assembly passed SB19-190, “Growing Great Teachers Act.” Signed by Governor Jared Polis, the law allocates funds annually to invest in partnerships between educator preparation programs, such as Adams State’s education department, and local school districts.
 These partnerships are tasked with creating and providing mentor training programs. The funds also provide stipends to teachers who take the mentor training and serve as mentors for teacher candidates and newly employed teachers.
 “This funding will help small school districts that lack the resources to improve the mentoring of teacher candidates and early career teachers on their own,” says

Michele Mann, Ph.D., assistant professor of Teacher Education. “There is a need for this program in the San Luis Valley, and we at Adams State are dedicated to continuing our 100-year tradition of high quality teacher training and support.”
 The Teacher Mentor Program at Adams State
 The partnership between ASU and CCSD will establish a 12-credit hour mentorendorsement program. Mann and Garcia are serving as Co-PIs for the grant and instructors for the coursework that mentors will complete through the Teacher Mentor program, which will launch with a cohort of up to 15 mentor teachers.
 Mann and Garcia will meet with mentors regularly to provide coaching and support as they mentor beginning teachers and ASU teacher education students during the 2021-2022 school year.
 Funding from the CDHE grant and partial tuition funding from CCSD will allow teachers to participate in the program at no cost. At the end of the program, participants earn a mentor endorsement through the Colorado Department of Education and are eligible to pursue a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction through Adams State.
 “The mentor training will enhance our students’ field experience, support student success, and provide our students with a superior mentor/mentee experience,” says Garcia. “CCSD benefits from having highly trained mentors to strengthen the development and practice of newly employed teachers, many of whom come straight from our program. It is win-win effort for ASU and CCSD and we look forward to scaling this program to other school districts in our region over the coming years.”
 For more information, contact Dr. Curtis Garcia at curtislgarcia@adams.edu or Dr. Michele Mann at mmann@adams.edu.

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ASU Cloyde Snook Gallery hosts a year of painting by Coni Grant

Big Marks and Small Marks

ALAMOSA — The Adams State University Art Department presents “Big Marks and Small Marks,” a show of new work by Alamosa artist Coni Grant. The public is invited to an artist reception from 5 until 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 10, in the Cloyde Snook Gallery, located in the Adams State Visual Arts Building.

Grant, an award-winning local artist, earned a master’s in painting from Adams State, runs the PleinView painting studio, and has taught painting in Alamosa for

more than 15 years.

Grant became a full-time painter after a career as an art director-graphic designer, in San Francisco and Los Angeles. She uses her design background to create work that is colorful and contemporary.

Grant is also a dedicated plein air (outdoor) painter, and some of her local landscapes will be featured along with larger studio work created specifically for her exhibit in the Cloyde Snook Gallery.

The exhibit continues through September. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, visit www.ConiGrant.com or the PleinView Studio, 6800 Highway 17, Alamosa.

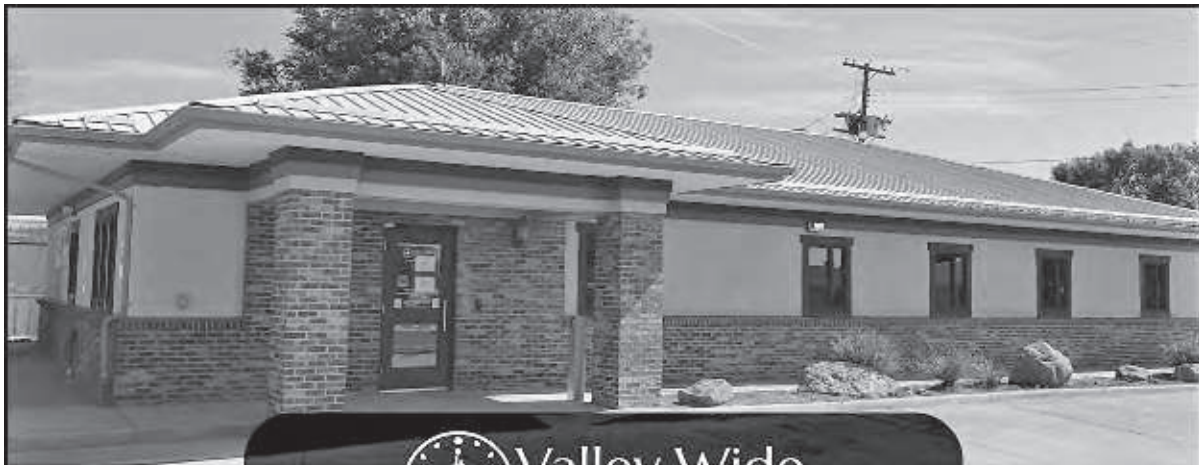


Photo courtesy of Adams State University
New work by Coni Grant will be on exhibit in the Cloyde Snook Gallery. A reception is scheduled from 5 until 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 10, in the Adams State Visual Arts Building.

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September 11
Monte Vista



S Friday, Sept. 10th- Chapman Park
 6 P.M. BBQ'ing Potatoes Class- Chef Jason Morse

C Saturday, Sept. 11th- Chapman Park
 7:15 A.M. Registration Desk Opens- Tater Trot 5K 8 A.M. - 9 A.M. Tater Trot 5K
 8 A.M. - 11 A.M. Agricultural Tour (Depart @ 8 A.M.)
 8 A.M. - 4 P.M. Potato Festival
 Kid's Games
 Quad Jumper & Bouncy Houses
 Food & Craft Vendors
 Colorado Gator Reptile Park Reptiles
 Potato Decorating
 Mashed Potato Dunk Tank
 Free Baked Potatoes!

H 9 A.M. - 4 P.M. Semi & Truck Show
 11 A.M. - 1 P.M. Pictures and Autographs
 with OCTANE ADDICTIONS

E 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. Mashed Potato Dunk Tank
 1 P.M. - 2 P.M. Professional Chef Demo- Chef Jason Morse
 2 P.M. - 3 P.M. Agricultural Tour (Depart @ 1 P.M.)
 1:30 P.M. - 3 P.M. Archery Demonstration & Target Shooting

D Saturday, Sept. 11th- Ski-Hi Park Arena
 5 P.M. Gate Opens for OCTANE ADDICTIONS
 6 P.M. OCTANE ADDICTIONS
 Motorsport Aerial Freestyle Show 

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Allison gang terrorized Rio Grande County

Editor's Note: This is part one of a two-part series.

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**
RIO GRANDE COUNTY —

Enter Rio Grande County 1874. The famous Barlow and Sanderson Stagecoach which ran from the eastern part of the U.S. into the west made an appearance in Del Norte mid-summer, just after the designation of Rio Grande County and decided to make Del Norte their hub for the San Luis Valley. The town had grown exponentially over the previous two years, having been incorporated in 1872. At this point there were small communities popping up all along the shores of the Rio Grande, including Del Norte, West Del Norte, Loma, and more.

This small area grew by the day and within the next seven years, was the up-and-coming community of western dreams. The land was rich in possibilities and gold. Summitville was on the map and people from all over and from all walks of life were venturing into the rough and tumble parts of Colorado where only the brave and resilient ventured. With the growth came change and with change, the need to survive.

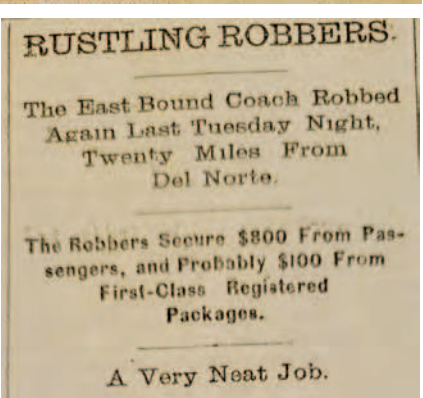
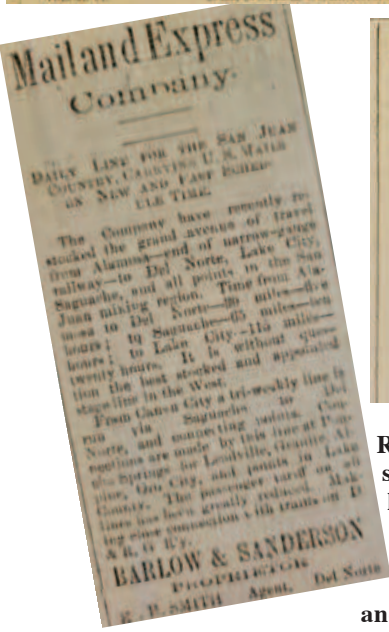
Some survived righteously while others found it easier to prey on the weak. Enter 1879 and the beginning of stagecoach robberies in the San Luis Valley. Barlow and Sanderson Stage only employed the best when it came to drivers but even these sharp shooters could be caught off guard. Just like out of a western, the communities of the Valley succumbed to robberies on a regular basis and more so between the years of 1879 and 1881.

Most researchers delving into Rio Grande County's past have attributed most of the robberies that took place during those years to the LeRoy brothers, the famous highwaymen of the Valley. But upon further review, it seems that there was another gang, one that was even more cunning than the LeRois in their own way and one that terrorized stagecoaches from as far as Pagosa Springs to Albuquerque, N.M.

While sifting through the 1879 San Juan Prospector, it was evident that more than one desperado was out to make a living as a thief and though LeRoy was beyond good at what he did, a man by the name of Charley Allison and his gang were better. Allison was an alias for Charles Ennis or Annis depending on the documents recovered.

Little is known about Allison's origins but some venture to agree that he was born sometime in the early 1850s in Chicago, Ill. Some research leads to the possibility that Allison was born into a wealthy family and at some point, lost his parents at a young age. It is here that Allison may have inherited a large sum of money that he was not able to access due to his youth and it is at this time that he may have left the family home and set out on his own.

Allison disappears for years at this juncture, but potentially pops up again in 1870, now 20 some years old, in Montana. The census that records his name as Annis, (most likely a misspelling on the



Contributed art
Rio Grande County was the home to several stagecoach robbers during the late 1800s. The communities along the Rio Grande were growing, gold was plentiful, and the beginnings of the San Luis Valley were bright and prosperous.

census taker's behalf) and he is put down as a teamster. For those who do not know, a teamster is what they called stagecoach drivers during those days. During his time as a driver, he would have gained valuable knowledge of the working of a stagecoach which would later serve his life of crime.

Again, Allison disappears before he shows back up later in Conejos County Colorado as a deputy

sheriff. Allison served and became good friends with the sheriff at the time and spent a few years upholding the law. In 1879 an article hits the San Juan Prospector stating that a gang of men have murdered two individuals and left their bodies for the birds. While following the research, it would appear that this may have been the start of Allison's shift from upholding the law to breaking it.

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing at the Saguache County Road and Bridge Meeting Room located at 305 - 3rd Street, Saguache, Colorado, on the following date:

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2021 at 2:30 PM
to consider proposed changes to the Saguache County Land Development Code changes
To view the proposed changes, you may contact the Saguache County Land Use Department - PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 or atorrez@saguachecounty-co.gov, or by calling 719-655-2321 or you may view the changes on our website at www.saguachecounty.colorado.gov.
Written comments will be accepted until Friday, September 24, 2021 at 3pm, and may be sent to Saguache County Land Use Department at PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 or email to atorrez@saguachecounty-co.gov.

By: Tim Lovato, Chairman
Chairman, Saguache County Board of Commissioners
No. 1604 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, September 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2021.

Saguache County is requesting comments on a proposed resolution to support wildlife habitat preservation and mitigation and migration corridors.

The Board would like to hear from the public on how you feel about this proposed resolution! Draft Resolution included!

Let us know what ya'll think!!
Your written public comment needs to be back to the Administrator by Friday September 20, 2021 at 3pm.

You can mail the comments to PO Box 100, Saguache, CO 81149 or email to wmaez@saguachecounty-co.gov. Comments can also be hand delivered to 505 3rd Street, Saguache, CO.

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT WILDLIFE HABITAT PRESERVATION AND MIGRATION CORRIDORS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Saguache County, Colorado is concerned with the health safety and welfare of the citizens of Saguache County; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Saguache County, Colorado is concerned about declining populations of wildlife and beneficial insects locally, nationally and globally.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Saguache County Colorado declare their support for:

- 1) actions that preserve wildlife habitat in Saguache County on Private lands, Conservation Easements, State and Federal Lands.
- 2) actions that minimize human impact in areas that are critical to maintain Wildlife populations.
- 3) actions that maintain or enhance Wildlife Migration Corridors that may cross political and or Managing Agency Boundaries.
- 4) Work with various Non-Profit, County, State, and Federal Agencies to accomplish the aforementioned goals.

READ, MOVED and APPROVED this _____ day of August, 2021.

Voted as follows: Commissioner Tim Lovato: _____
Commissioner Lynne Thompson: _____
Commissioner Tom McCracken: _____

Chairman/Commissioner

Commissioner

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of the Board

No. 1605 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, September 2, 9 and 16, 2021.

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High Valley Community Center opens for fall semester

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

Hello community members! Happy September! We hope everyone is staying healthy. The long wait is finally over! High Valley Community Center opened for the fall semester on Tuesday, Sept. 7.

Children attending the Upper Rio Grande School District are welcome to take the bus from school to HVCC. All you need to do is notify the school and they will let you know which bus your child needs to take. We also welcome students from other districts! Program will be Tuesdays-Thursdays from 4-6:30 p.m. We are also open Fridays from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. September is full of lots of

delightful things including swimming lessons at the Sand Dunes Swimming Pool in Hooper every Friday. The kids will have an opportunity to learn to swim with trained staff members for free! For more information on all the upcoming activities, grab a September calendar at the HVCC front desk or online at TheHVCC.org.

Volleyball and football are in full swing. Thank you to all of those involved. Without you, these events would not be possible! Basketball registrations are now available. Please visit our website and look under the "Sports" tab to register your child. If you have any questions,

please contact us at 719-657-2172.

Are you a superhero or do you know a superhero who loves working with children? We are on the lookout for individuals interested in volunteering at HVCC. All skill levels are welcome! If you are interested in giving back to your community in other ways, we gladly accept donations as well. Any amount is helpful. All donations are tax deductible and go toward our programming and overall operations.

For more information, please contact us! We love to share our story and encourage you to stop by to chat with us if you would like to know more about our program.

Winter Coat Drive runs Sept. 11-Oct. 9

By **MARIE MCCOLM**

MONTE VISTA — A Winter Coat Drive is being held in Monte Vista. The drive benefits people in Monte Vista and its surrounding areas, who need winter coats. It begins Sept. 11 and goes to Oct. 9.

New or gently used coats, gloves, and hats of all sizes and colors are being accepted.

Director Hanna Ortega is excited about the drive.

"We are happy that we are able to distribute these items to folks in need," Ortega said. "I just want to be able to help those in our community who may not be so lucky. We take a lot of things we do have for granted, and something as little as a winter coat can make a

world of difference for someone else. Colorado winters can be very harsh. It is good to know that people in need will benefit from these items and stay warm this winter because of those willing to donate in our community."

This is the first year of the drive and Ortega is happy to do this for the community. Ortega wishes to thank everyone in advance who donates to the drive.

Currently, there are two drop-off locations for the drive — Top Value in Monte Vista and Family Dollar in Del Norte. Donations will be accepted during business hours at each location from Sept. 11 to Oct. 9.

For more information, call Ortega at 719-850-1466.

Accident near Mile Post 190 closes Highway 160 for an hour

STAFF REPORT

RIO GRANDE COUNTY — Highway 160 at Mile Post 190 was closed for nearly an hour due to a two-vehicle crash Tuesday night, according to the Colorado State Patrol. On Tuesday, Sept. 7, at approximately 8:35 p.m., CSP responded to a two-vehicle crash on Highway 160 at Mile Post 190 in Rio Grande County. One of the crashed vehicles was blocking the roadway. A pickup driven by a 39-year-old South Fork woman was eastbound

on Highway 160 making a left turn onto Pima Trail. Her 6-year-old son was in the right-rear seat, properly restrained in a child safety seat.

A westbound minivan driven by a 37-year-old South Fork woman was unable to avoid the pickup and struck it broadside. The minivan was also occupied by a 14-year-old female in the rear seat and a 32-year-old male in the right-front seat.

After impact, the pickup rotated off the northwest corner of the intersection where it struck two

delineator posts and a stop sign before coming to rest on its wheels facing south. The minivan rotated and came to rest on its wheels facing north in the roadway. The highway was closed for nearly 1 hour.

The occupants of the pickup were not injured. The driver of the minivan was uninjured. Both the drivers were wearing seatbelts, as were the passengers of the minivan. The two passengers in the minivan were transported to the hospital and later released.

SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

SAGUACHE COUNTY — The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the period between Aug. 30 and Sept. , 2021.

The Sheriff's Department's activity on the road included 13 traffic stops, one traffic complaint, one abandoned vehicle and one stolen vehicle. They also assisted with one lockout, assisted with ambulances three times, patrolled the Town of Saguache seven times and the Town of Crestone four times, and conducted one VIN inspection.

In addition, there were two civil dispute reports, five reports of

suspicious activity, two reports of harassment, two alarm reports, one animal cruelty report, one report of harassing phone calls, five animal problem reports, one report of assault, one report of criminal mischief, two missing person reports, one burglary report, three welfare checks, four citizen assists, one lost property report, and one robbery report.

They also monitored eight controlled burns, provided information 11 times, assisted with five search and rescue calls, and assisted local agencies three times.

Arrests

• 37-year-old Center man, warrants.

• 41-year-old Center man, kidnapping, menacing with deadly weapon, child abuse, and domestic violence.

• 45-year-old Center man, warrants.

San Luis Valley Scoreboard 2021-2022

Football

Sierra Grande 51	Hanover 8
Sargent 24	Springfield 18
Gunnison 18	Del Norte 12
Center 28	Olathe 22
Centauri 47	Colorado Springs Christian 0
Alamosa 32	Monte Vista 14
Cheraw 55	Mountain Valley 18
Sanford 60	Dayspring Christian 32

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Practical Keys to Overcome Enemy Attack

As children of God, we have power and authority over the devil. And we are to use that power and authority for good...and for service to others. That almost sounds like something you could say about a superhero, doesn't it? It reminds me of a letter I once received from a woman, telling me about her four-year-old son and his cousins playing together one day. They were all pretending to be superheroes. One of them exclaimed, "I'm Superman!" Another said, "I'm Superwoman!" And this lady said her son proudly wielded his imaginary sword and proclaimed, "I'm Joyce Meyer!"

What a compliment to the *Christ in me!* That child saw something in me that he thought was "super" and wanted to imitate! What he saw is simply a result of the work God has done in my life through His Holy Spirit. And isn't it interesting that while the other kids' superhero gear included a cape, his little weapon was a *sword!* (See Ephesians 6:17.)

We are often referred to as soldiers in the Word of God. Soldiers are well trained in combat; they carry all kinds of offensive, as well as defensive equipment, and are taught to be vigilant, alert, and aware.

Whether we view ourselves like soldiers or superheroes, our warfare is spiritual. And our weapons and armor are also spiritual.

Doing Warfare God's Way

In this spiritual war, we fight on the battlefield of the mind. Every day we are subjected to unrelenting attacks in our thoughts, such as worry, fear, doubt and other concerns. The devil is behind many of our problems, and *some* we create ourselves.

But Ephesians 6:11 tells us to "put on the full armor of God, so that [we] can take [our] stand against the devil's schemes" (NIV). Our thoughts are very important in this warfare...what we think of ourselves as well as what we think of others or of our circumstances. The reason is that "our struggle is not

Moving Up Higher with Joyce Meyer

The Battle Plan

To win our battles, we have to learn to cooperate with the Holy Spirit as He leads us, according to His purpose and plan for our lives. Practically speaking, we do this as we commit to seeking God in prayer and by studying His Word, and then choosing to trust what He says above and beyond anything else. That means we believe the Truth of who God is and His promises to us in the Bible no matter what our circumstances look like, what we feel, or what lies the enemy is trying to put in our mind.

So, tighten up your belt of Truth (Ephesians 6:14). In other words, learn the truth of God's Word, especially what His Word says about you. Then do what you know to do...what you can do...and God will do what you can't. Don't be so concerned about how everything will work out; just trust God to do what's right for you!

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

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored 130 books, including **BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND** and **HOW TO AGE WITHOUT GETTING OLD** (FaithWords). She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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

Gallegos, Team USA win ISDE Women's World Trophy

By MARIE MCCOLM
MONTE VISTA — Monte Vista's Britney Gallegos helped Team USA defend its International Six Days of Enduro women's title in Italy. Gallegos, 28, was part of Team USA's championship team along with Brandy Richards and Rachel Gutish. ISDE began Aug. 30.

ISDE consists of 8 hours of off-road racing per day. Each racer competes and their times are combined at the end of each day. The team with the lowest overall total at the end of the six days is the winner.

Gallegos was returning from Italy and was not available for an interview with Valley Publishing.

Her father, Louis Paul Gallegos, did speak to Valley Publishing.

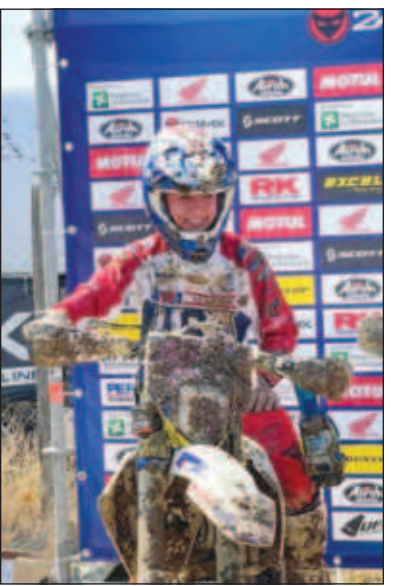
"It's amazing how things played out for Brit, I watched her go from peewees to women's beginner to mid-pack pro, to almost there, and the whole time she never thought about quitting," he said. "She's always had a drive that I could never explain, and I did my best at helping her with whatever she needed. We truly are so blessed. Love you Brit! Good Job on this one kid."

Team USA won the ISDE Women's Trophy in 2019 but was unable to defend the titles in 2020 as the event was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

An enduro motorcycle is an off-road racing motorcycle used in

enduros, which are long-distance cross-country time trial competitions. Enduro motorcycles closely resemble motocross motorcycles.

ISDE is the oldest "off-road" motorcycle event on the International Motorcycling Federation (IMF) calendar.



Courtesy photos



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Potato Festival to feature ag tours

STAFF REPORT
MONTE VISTA — It's that time of year again. The 2021 Potato Festival will be Saturday, Sept. 11 at Chapman Park in Monte Vista.

There is another exciting opportunity available at the Potato Festival for people who want an in-depth look at the potato industry. The annual agriculture tour will be departing from Chapman Park by bus in Monte Vista at 8 a.m. and returning at 11 a.m.

Hosted by the Executive Director of Colorado Potatoes, Jim Ehrlich, this tour will visit the San Luis Valley Research Center and a local grower's field. Passengers will get to talk directly with growers and researchers and get to see firsthand how potatoes are grown in the San Luis Valley.

This year we will have a second tour departing at 1 p.m. from Chapman Park; this tour will stop at a local grower's field. Guided by a local grower, we're excited to offer a second tour.

These tours are free of charge as well, but spots are limited. People who are interested should visit coloradopotato.org/potatofestival or contact Colorado Potatoes at 719-852-3322 or info@coloradopotato.org to reserve a space.

After the tour, passengers can stay for the 2021 San Luis Valley Potato Festival at Chapman Park, and all the other fun activities it has to offer. All day at Chapman Park there will be a 5K race, kid's games, the famous mashed potato dunk tank, professional chef demo, bouncy houses, and a trampoline quad jumper.

There will also be food and craft vendors, games for the family, live animals, an antique tractor display with homemade ice cream, a truck and semi show and much, much more.

That evening, as an added feature, there will be a motorsport aerial freestyle show featuring X-Game medalists. This will be at the Ski-Hi Park Arena, and tickets can be purchased at potatofest.eventbrite.com.



Photo courtesy of Potato Festival



Photos by Brian Williams

Four steam locomotives were lined up on Aug. 23 in front of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad engine house in Antonito for people to view and take photos of during their 50th anniversary celebration.

Victorian Iron Horses draw crowds

STAFF REPORT
ANTONITO — The Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad last week hosted the "19th Century Victorian Iron Horse Roundup" — a celebration of the scenic railroad's 50th anniversary. Four 1880's locomotives were under steam simultaneously.

All week long, the collection of historic steam locomotives from Colorado and Nevada steamed 64-miles over the Rocky Mountains pulling trains of historic passenger and freight cars. Train rides behind the "Iron Horses" were sold out for

this celebration. C&TSRR also had free activities, including photo opportunities in the historic rail yards of Antonito and Chama, N.M., railyard tours, and equipment demonstrations.

"The Iron Horse Roundup will feature two 1875 steam locomotives from Nevada, the Eureka and the Glenbrook, and they will be joined by our own recently restored 1883 engine No. 168 and engine No. 425 (315). All four steam locomotives will pull historic consists of passen-

Please see TRAINS on Page 2



Hints for the Hired Man

1. If the new boss's hat isn't sweat stained, you can pretty much figure whose will be.
2. Phrases like, "My dad never paid me a dime till I was twenty-five", or "I haven't had a day off since dad's funeral in 2017", should put you on guard.
3. Expensive equipment doesn't guarantee you'll be paid well. That might be where the money's all gone.
4. This should send up a warning flag, "My son is all-state in every sport in school, president of the senior class, engaged to the banker's daughter, building a hot rod and learning to fly an airplane. He'll be helping you with the chores."
5. If the words "day off" or "insurance"

- bring a quizzical look to the boss's face, you better think it through.
6. You may want to reconsider when the new boss says, "I never had any use for dang new fangled gadgets like milking machines, PTO post hole diggers or a round baler. They just breed sloth."
7. It should be a tip off if the prospective employer complains that he can't keep a hired man on the place.
8. Be suspicious if the boss's own dogs run for cover at the sound of his voice.
9. If the boss himself lives in a 1999 New Moon single-wide, don't expect much from his offer of 'housing furnished'.
10. And if the term "retirement plan"

is mentioned, you can rest assured it's not your's he's talking about.

But the best hired man learns that critical skill for gettin' along with a good boss - when to listen to him and when not to. The most successful arrangement I've seen, that lasted for years, was between a couple ol' compadres of mine named George and Jake. George summed up their perfect relationship this way, "Wouldn't nobody else work for Jake and nobody else would hire me. I've got a job for life."

Baxter Black, former large animal veterinarian and irregular commentator on National Public Radio, is America's best-selling cowboy poet. He is a frequent performer at national stock shows and rodeos as well as in many smaller local events. He is author of several books, including Cactus



Tracks, Croutons on a Cow Pie, Hey, Cowboy, Wanna Get Lucky? and Dunny and the Duck. Baxter Black can be contacted via e-mail at: vikki@baxterblack.com



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Woodsy Owl is Turning 50!!

The original symbol of outdoor stewardship is celebrating 50 years in 2021. Woodsy Owl is the ambassador for the U.S Forest Service, encouraging visitors / users of National Forest lands across America to “Give a Hoot, Don’t Pollute” and “Lend a Hand, Care for the Land” since 1971. Because he is Smokey Bear’s counterpart, he highlights the other aspect of responsible use of the forest, which encourages users to not litter or pollute their public lands. While not quite as popular or famous as his counterpart, Woodsy presents a very important message because keeping our lands clean is a huge part of what makes them enjoyable. Woodsy is truly a piece of American history.



us to, “Give a hoot; don’t pollute!” Since his creation in 1971, Woodsy has been instrumental in helping teachers and parents inspire children to care actively for the environment. Like his good friend Smokey Bear, Woodsy Owl is part of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service, and a protected symbol under Public Law 93-318. *Forest History Today* has noted that Woodsy Owl was the result of a public-private partnership. Kovar and Williams were employees of the Forest Service, who at the time were consultants to the television show, *Lassie*. Bell was a merchandising agent who managed accounts for Lassie, Smokey Bear, Walt Disney, and others. With the weight of the government public relations behind him, Woodsy quickly entered the American popular culture mainstream. Publications such as Time magazine and newspapers such as the Denver Post, Minneapolis Tribune, New York Times, Los Angeles Times, and Stars and Stripes all celebrated the birth of America’s new leader in the fight against pollution and littering. Images of Woodsy standing alongside Secretary Hardin were splashed across the pages of publications large and small. Woodsy

even appeared on a Rose Parade float on New Year’s Day in 1972. However, it was not until June 1974 that Woodsy was given official protection by a new federal law under his own name. The Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Act declared the name and character “Woodsy Owl” and the associated motto as the property of the United States. Management of the property was designated to the secretary of Agriculture. Since that time, dozens of children and adults alike have been introduced to the basic principles of caring for the great outdoors. While some of the design concepts and campaign slogans have changed over time in the interest of remaining relevant, the basic principles have largely remained the same. Those principles include:

Land, Water and People

BY HELEN SMITH

- Pick up and pack out all trash
- Dispose of all human and pet waste properly by burying at least 6 inches deep (including toilet paper)
- Camp at least 200 ft. away from water
- Utilize previously established sites
- While these principles are relatively simple, they can greatly reduce the impact that visitors leave on the land, if they are followed properly.
- Because of the events of the past 2 years, the rather timeless message that Woodsy Owl brings is arguably more relevant than ever before. Thousands of visitors who have never experienced the outdoors have

been flooding to the public lands. Proper usage of these treasured resources is not only respectful, but essential. The need to educate the next generation on how to care for the outdoors is ever-increasing. It is vital that the message of responsible use continues to be spread and encouraged, because the beauty and sustainability of the places that we enjoy depends heavily on every person taking the time to do their part.

Helen Smith is the San Juan Mountains Association’s Visitor Information Specialist at the Rio Grande National Forest in Monte Vista. She is a native of the San Luis Valley.

ESTIMATED CROP WATER USE

Weather Data from SLV Research Center located on the 9N and Hwy 285

Crop	Date Planted	Daily Crop Water use for Dates				Accumulated Water Use (ET)						
		Shown (in./day)				From	9/2	Inches				
		9/2	9/1	8/31	8/30			2day	3day	4day	5day	7day
Moravian 69	04/05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Moravian 69	05/05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.13	
Early Wheat	04/05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Early Wheat	05/05	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.09	0.14	0.20	0.33		
White Wheat	04/05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
White Wheat	05/05	0.06	0.04	0.07	0.09	0.11	0.18	0.28	0.38	0.59		
WinterWheat	10/01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Potatoes												
Norkotah	05/05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Centennial	05/05	0.12	0.08	0.13	0.16	0.20	0.33	0.49	0.65	0.99		
Nugget	05/05	0.13	0.08	0.14	0.17	0.21	0.35	0.52	0.70	1.05		
Alfalfa	Est.	0.16	0.10	0.17	0.21	0.26	0.44	0.64	0.85	1.28		
Lawnglass	Est.	0.14	0.09	0.15	0.18	0.24	0.39	0.57	0.76	1.13		

For the latest ET information, call 754-3494 extension x40 for Center, x36 for Center #2, and x38 for San Acacio. Use the crop maturity and planting date and weather station closest to your own. Find this updated table each day at this web address: <http://aes-slvrc.agsci.colostate.edu/daily-crop-water-use-report/>
 This information is provided by the SLV Research Center (Colorado State University) and the Colorado Potato Certification Service. For info, call 754-3494 x26 or e-mail: andrew.houser@colostate.edu

TRAINS

Continued from Page 1

enger and freight cars, creating living images that have not been seen on this planet for 140 years,” said Scott Gibbs, interim CEO of the C&TSRR. “The railroad tracks they are traveling on were laid in 1880, and the surrounding mountain, river canyon and high plains scenery they will be traveling through is unchanged, so

people will be able to travel back in time to see transportation exactly the way it was a century and more ago,” he added.

Photographers and train enthusiasts came out on Monday, Aug. 23, to view and take photos of the locomotives including the visiting Eureka and Glenbrook lined up in front of the engine house.

Later that same evening, a night photo session in front of the engine house with all locomotives with headlights on low was held.

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September 11 Monte Vista

SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept. 10th- Chapman Park
 6 P.M. BBQ'ing Potatoes Class- Chef Jason Morse

Saturday, Sept. 11th- Chapman Park
 7:15 A.M. Registration Desk Opens- Tater Trot 5K 8 A.M. - 9 A.M. Tater Trot 5K
 8 A.M. - 11 A.M. Agricultural Tour (Depart @ 8 A.M.)
 8 A.M. - 4 P.M. Potato Festival
 Kid's Games
 Quad Jumper & Bouncy Houses
 Food & Craft Vendors
 Colorado Gator Reptile Park Reptiles
 Potato Decorating
 Mashed Potato Dunk Tank
 Free Baked Potatoes!

9 A.M. - 4 P.M. Semi & Truck Show
 11 A.M. - 1 P.M. Pictures and Autographs with OCTANE ADDICTIONS
 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M Mashed Potato Dunk Tank
 1 P.M. - 2 P.M. Professional Chef Demo- Chef Jason Morse
 2 P.M.- 3 P.M. Agricultural Tour (Depart @ 1 P.M.)
 1:30 P.M. - 3 P.M. Archery Demonstration & Target Shooting

Saturday, Sept. 11th- Ski-Hi Park Arena
 5 P.M. Gate Opens for OCTANE ADDICTIONS
 6 P.M. OCTANE ADDICTIONS
 Motorsport Aerial Freestyle Show

Rio Grande County agrees to new 4-H program coordinator

It will be similar to position created in Mineral County

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

RIO GRANDE COUNTY — For the past month, Rio Grande County commissioners have been working with Larry Brown, the SLV Area Extension Director, to hire a new San Luis Valley Area Extension Program Coordinator for Rio Grande County to help with the 4-H program. According to Brown, the SLV Extension has been severely understaffed for several years and with the growth

of the 4-H program, he proposed the new position.

In a meeting of the board on July 28, Brown introduced the idea to the Rio Grande County Commissioners and asked they consider funding the new position.

“Colorado State University, SLV Area Extension stands for the belief that any person, at any stage of life, who will continue to engage in the learning process, dramatically improves their chances of living a healthier, happier, more prosperous and more generous life. Everything we do fosters healthy youth and families, prosperous businesses, farms and ranches and

strong, resilient, proud communities,” Brown said.

Brown explained further, “4-H, Extension’s flagship youth development organization, already has a multitude of existing programs which provide extraordinary opportunities for youth to learn life skills, leadership skills, socialization skills, and community contribution. The 4-H model incorporates two fundamental beliefs: First, the belief in the power of youth to be partners in developing their own potential and their own success; Secondly, the belief in mentoring youth as they develop by surrounding them with

exceptional people, competent, well-prepared Extension staff and community volunteers.”

During the meeting on Aug. 25, Brown returned to clarify that should the county choose to fund this position, it would strictly be a person that served youth within the county. Brown recently gained approval for another similar position in Mineral County and shared this with the Rio Grande County Commissioners.

“If you fund this position, it will be strictly a Rio Grande County para-professional. All of the other counties have the same option to hire a program coordinator just like you and Mineral County has opted in at this point. I felt like you

needed further explanation beyond what I provided you with on July 28,” Brown said.

The position would be part-time and would be funded on a short-term basis as a pilot program. Brown stated that for Rio Grande County he estimated the position to be for 20 to 40 hours a month and that he felt he would find someone with no problem.

“We only got one applicant for Mineral County, but we were blown away with her credentials. I think there are several people out there that want to give back and are not looking for anything full-time,” Brown said.

Commissioners agreed to a 30-hour position for three years.

Stephanie L. Miner 5K Walk and Run is set for Sept. 18

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

ALAMOSA — “On the path of life we are looking to up our game.” The San Luis Valley Health Foundation is asking people to put those words into action by attending and participating in the 18th annual Stephanie L. Miner 5K Walk and Run with a theme of Game On!

It takes place at Cole Park, on Sept. 18, with all proceeds benefiting SLV Health’s pharmacy, which will score big with the cancer patients.

Get a Clue and meet at Cole Park in Alamosa at 9:30 a.m. for announcements and the quilt auction. At 10 a.m., get your game on. Wear your SLM shirt, good running-walking shoes, stay out of Trouble and take off toward a Trivial Pursuit to put a

Check mate on cancer. There are no Chutes and Ladders to climb, just a Start and Finish line.

There are three paths available — take a 1-mile healthy walk, 2.5-mile walk-run or the full stretch, 5K walk-run. This is a Risk worth taking toward The Cure.

Call or email Kelly Gurule at 719-587-5707, Kelly.gurule@slvrmc.org or Jamie Mortensen 719-587-6359,

Jamie.Mortensen@slvrmc.org to register.

Registration is \$30 per person, and teams of 10 or more can register for \$25 per person. Shirts are available starting Sept. 1, at SLV Health Foundation, located at the SLV Health Education and Conference Center, 1921 Main St., or starting Sept. 3 at City Market. Day of event registration is \$35 per person.



Bikers’ peace rally Sept. 9-11

STAFF REPORT

MOSCA — The San Luis Valley is the perfect place for the second annual Pilot 4 Peace Biker’s Rally. First, the High Desert Ranch will host this year’s Rally in the Valley Veteran’s Biker Run and Party for Peace.

As always, the Rally will be held Sept. 9-11. This date is picked with a specific desire to turn sacrifices into gain. People are invited to come join in the intention of a “Call for Peace” and a “Call for Action” to unify communities to use resources better and use force multiplier to “get-er-done.”

In addition, fun is a priority, with a biker games, and a concert celebration, there is something to do for nearly everyone’s comfort level and some things to dare people to try something new.

This unique 3-day event is designed to help the community learn how to work together as part of a community.

- Sept. 9 features The Gathering, coming together and progresses to a scavenger hunt and tour of Crestone’s Spirituality and Scenic Nature. A ribbon cutting will be held at Mosca Pit Stop at noon to kick off the weekend welcome.

- Sept. 10 is Community Training Day. Learn how to self-organize, evaluate, initiate and work together on a Community Project. Skills that can be applied for self-accomplishment, and for working with a larger group.

A music and comedy show at 7 p.m. features Miss Bubbles and Ron Ferguson.

- Sept. 11 features games, poker run, concert and the “Party for Peace,” featuring “Society Burning.”

Society Burning is a Coldwave Industrial Rock band that has been

gnawing away at the digital consciousness for over 30 years. Wandering in from the wastelands of New Mexico and Colorado, they have commanded dance floors around the world featuring intelligent, heartfelt lyrics stretched over raging synths and pulsating rhythms.

For more information, visit online www.societyburning.com.

Juliet Schaub and Black Rose Dance Studio’s offers a Fire Dancing Workshop on Friday, Sept. 10, with final Performance on Sept. 11. Interested people are asked to contact 720-366-6684.

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05 Notices

Wanted: Need Fix-up Trailer
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FREE: Old Upright Piano from the Princess Theater in Del Norte. Call 719-433-2980.(9/1)

WE BUY ANTLER: New Summer Price Bonus: Use the code "ELK16" and you will get \$16/lb for Elk Grade A and \$12/lb for Deer Grade A. 5 miles west of Del Norte on Hwy 160. 719-657-0942(TFN)

07 Help Wanted

ONE FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE Person needed for apartment complex in Monte Vista. Interested persons will have a minimum 2 years maintenance experience, valid driver's license, clean background check and pass a drug test. Maintenance duties include but not limited to minor plumbing & electrical, grounds keeping, maintaining buildings & common areas, and

painting, etc. Interested persons should pick up an application at 551 Monroe Street, Monte Vista CO 81144. If any questions or further information is needed, please call 719-852-5505 or send resume to mvha04@yahoo.com Attn: Alonzo or John. Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer.(9/15)

Warehouse-Ranch hand: Need hardy individual for ranch chores and warehouse duties west of Del Norte. Must work at least 8 to 10-hour, 4-5 day/week flexible schedule, sometimes including weekends. We train. Computer skills a plus. Wage range: +\$13/hr, as per work and wage history. Send to: antler333@gmail.com or drop at 19612 US-160, Del Norte, CO 81132. (9/23)

Wolf Creek Ski Area is accepting applications for all departments: retail, ski school, lifts, ski patrol, base operations, ticket office, food and beverage, rental, vehicle maintenance and snow reporting. Please see details of job descriptions on Wolf Creek's em-

ployment page. Applications can be downloaded from WolfCreek-Ski.com employment page. Send resumes and applications to wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com or P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. All jobs are winter seasonal (November - April) with competitive wages. (10/27)

Del Norte Jr./Sr. High School is seeking an energetic, caring individual to serve as a Special Education ParaEducator. Applicants must have a high school diploma and prior experience working with students with special needs is preferred.

Please submit your application to David Grabowski, DNHS Principal at 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO 81132; dgrabowski@urtigers.co; or contact David at 719-657-4020. The position will

be open until filled. You can pick up an application at the District Office or on-line at urtigers.co. (9/29)

Rio Grande County Department of Social Services is seeking a

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Meet Sara. She's about a year old, already spayed and is dog friendly. She just needs work on her boundaries.

Hello everyone!
We could use some items donated if you can help! We need laundry supplies like bleach and soap, as well as treats, toys and wet food. Anything helps! Thank you all for supporting us!

This is Buster. He's our longest resident currently, almost a year now. He's a great boy, dog friendly, playful great for active kids or adults. Please come meet him!

Lost dog found in Del Norte

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

All breeds & ages of animals are a "best guess" and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping.
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Single Entry Point Case Manager. Position provides a full range of intake and ongoing case management services to clients in the Options for Long Term Care Programs. Bachelor's degree in one of the human behavior science fields required. May substitute experience as a case worker or case manager with long term care. \$18.19/hr. plus full benefit package. Pre-Employment drug test, including screening for marijuana, and background check are required. Job Descriptions and application available online at www.riograndecounty.org or pick up and submit to Human Resources, 925 6th Street, Room 200, Del Norte, CO 81132. (9/15)

The Upper Rio Grande School District is accepting applications for a Community Liaison. Applicants should be experienced with community involvement, planning events, managing food and family "meet" programs and networking with outside agencies. If interested please send a completed application, resume, and cover letter to Aaron Horrocks at ahorrocks@urtigers.co or call (719) 657 - 4040 for more information. Applications can be downloaded from www.urtigers.co. (8/29)

Help wanted - CO Department of Agriculture Fruit and Vegetable Inspector \$16.44 per hour We have multiple vacancies for temporary positions expected to work 9 months or less. Option to be hired on permanently after successful performance for future

vacancies. Permanent positions offer benefits, paid sick, vacation and holiday leave, plus PERA retirement options. This temporary position will assist in providing inspection, upon request, for commercial shipments of fruits and vegetables, as mandated by state law; issuing federal inspection certificates documenting quality (grade). Learn more about the position and submit your application via <https://bit.ly/3t3tqAy> or contact Ruth.Strauss@state.co.us 303-869-9008. (8/29)

Alamosa County Treasurer is seeking a skilled accounting person to join their team. Position is Accounting Tech I. This person must have 2-3 years experience in bookkeeping and cash management. Prefer 2 years banking experience. Must have good clerical and customer service skills. Proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel. Familiarity with Treasurer's Deeds and Releases of Deeds of Trust preferred. \$15 per hour, negotiable depending on qualifications, full time which is 37.5 hours per week, eligible for vacation and sick leave and health insurance benefits. Background check and drug screening required. (9/23)

Rio Grande County Department of Social Services is accepting applications for a Full-Time Case Aide to assist the Child Protection Team. \$14.55-\$15.12 hour/37.5 hours per week. Full benefit package offered. Pre-employment drug screening, including testing for marijuana,

will be required. Application and additional information are listed in the job description which is available online at www.riograndecounty.org or pick-up/submit applications to Human Resources 925 6th Street Room 200, Del Norte, CO 81132. (9/8)

"Trout Club between Creede and Lake City needs Caretakers for next season, inquiries to rocknredfish@yahoo.com" (9/23)

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Explore a career in ag

The agricultural industry provides a variety of opportunities to professionals interested in this often misunderstood field.

According to the employment resource AGCareers.com, more than 250 career profiles are available to people interested in a career in agriculture. And while jobs in agriculture may not be as prevalent as they were a few centuries ago, when 72 percent of the workforce was employed in farm occupations in the United States, agriculture remains a booming industry that greatly affects the nation's economy. Today, one in 12 American jobs is depends on agriculture, according to the career resource Payscale.

The following are some potential professions for those considering careers in agriculture.

- **Agricultural business manager:** This person oversees the business operations of a farm by providing organization and leadership during the production process. He or she contacts creditors, selects seeds, buys new equipment, and ensures the distribution of product.
- **Agricultural lawyer:** Attorneys who specialize in agriculture deal with water and environmental issues, represent agricultural labor in disputes, ensure proper marketing techniques are followed, handle real estate and



land use issues, and much more.

- **Animal control officer:** These officers enforce local and regional laws that pertain to the treatment and care of animals. They patrol for distressed animals and ensure cruelty-free practices are adhered to.
- **Grain buyer:** Grain buyers build relationships with producers so they can purchase grain for their particular companies. They negotiate purchase agreements, source grain supplies and issue purchase orders.
- **Poultry hatchery manager:** Hatchery managers oversee all of the aspects involved in poultry hatching. These can include management of personnel, handling and sorting

of eggs, maintenance of equipment, coordination of pick-ups and deliveries, and overseeing quality control.

- **Soil scientist:** Among the many tasks they might perform, scientists in the field of agriculture test soil samples for minerals and contaminants. By studying the soil, scientists can recommend which crops the land can support, how much livestock can feed in an area and the implications of agriculture on the area as it pertains to managing natural resources.

A career in agriculture presents many exciting opportunities in a number of different applications. It's a vast industry that utilizes professionals with an array of skillsets.

Facts and figures on farm safety

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, agriculture is among the most hazardous industries. Fatal and nonfatal injuries pose a significant threat to farmers, including the many young people who work on farms. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, in an effort to promote productive and safe workplaces, supports programs that conduct research on injuries associated with agriculture as well as pesticide exposure, pulmonary disease, musculoskeletal disorders, hearing loss, and stress. Studying the results of such research, compiled by NIOSH, may compel veteran and novice farmers to further

emphasize safety measures and promote practices that can reduce risk for accidents on the farm.

- Estimates indicate that there were roughly 2.1 million full-time workers employed in production agriculture in 2017 and between 1.4 and 2.1 million hired crop workers employed annually on crop farms in the United States.
- An estimated 893,000 young people under 20 years of age resided on farms in 2014. More than half of those young people performed farm work, and an additional 266,000 youth were hired to work on farms in 2014.
- Each day, roughly 100 agricultur-

al workers suffer injuries that cause them to miss time at work.

- In 2014, 12,000 youth were injured on farms, and 4,000 of those youths could trace their injuries to farm work.
- In 2016, 417 farmers and farm workers died from work-related injuries. Tractor overturns and other transportation incidents were the leading cause of death for these farmers and farm workers.
- A rollover protection system, or ROPS, is a structure, similar to roll-cages and rollbars in cars and trucks, intended to protect farm equipment operators from injuries caused by overturns or rollovers.

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Families enjoy LOCAL! Harvest celebration

By Liza Marron

CAPULIN — The camels in Capulin performed their antics for area residents during the LOCAL! harvest celebration at the Mudita Camel Dairy on Sunday, Aug. 22. Families from the south San Luis Valley enjoyed a pristine summer day with the San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition at the new homestead camel farm in Conejos County.

The six Mudita camels provided entertainment, kisses, and photo opportunities for adventurous participants. Owners Meghan and Matt Stalzer and their small son Liam came to the La Jara Canyon on La Jara Creek about three years ago after first establishing the Mudita Camel Dairy in Saguache County about five years ago.

The dairy exists for the medicinal properties of camel milk as well as their fiber which was available in fudge treats, camel milk soaps and yarns on Sunday. “Mudita” from the Sanskrit language has no counterpart in English, but roughly translates to “our happiness comes from your happiness” — a great way to describe the atmosphere at this year’s celebration of the harvest.

Festival master of ceremonies and DJ Abe Rosenberg kept the crowd delighted with dancing and a youth dance-off, a camel calling contest, stories, and music. Local Conejos County band “Bittersweet” then took center stage and played the classics that took folks back to the 50’s and 60’s and some twisting and shouting was going on in the prairie dirt.

La Jara forager Maury Grimm of Nature’s Table shared foraged delicacies and took people down on the creek for a plant walk that had eager participants learning Latin such as Rhus integrifolia, also known as lemonade sumac, and tasting its citrusy berry, identifying sage, yarrow, goldenrod, and a plethora of other tasty and medicinal plants common to the area.

Coalition director Liza Marron was delighted with the turnout from the community. “The Coalition festival planning team wanted to get out of its pattern to host celebrations only at its Rio Grande Farm Park in Alamosa County. Board member Meghan Stalzer offered their off-grid southern homestead as an ideal spot to venture out in the San Luis Valley to make new friends and to celebrate those who till the earth and tend to the animals nourishing the historic roots of self-sufficiency and community sustainability in Conejos County and the greater SLV.”

The event was advertised in the Conejos Citizen newspaper, with flyers up at local businesses and on Conejos County Facebook pages. Of the 200 people that flowed through the event and mostly stayed, over half of them were from the southern Colorado county of Conejos.

Most of these festivalgoers stayed for the whole event and enjoyed the tours, music, vendors, and most of all — local food dishes and delicious locally sourced drinks and brews.

Teresa Martinez of Tacos Martinez featured San Luis Valley meats and vegetables in her delicious tacos al pastor, asada and chicken taco stand. The Coalition’s mobile kitchen “MOKI” served chard wraps and squash blossom poppers with fresh calabacita salad and a delicious peach crunch for dessert...all sourced from this region’s family farms and ranches and western slope fruits. Colorado Farm Brewery brew, Vino

Salida fine Colorado wines and 1874 Distillery vodka in the Mosca Camel and Peach Oasis drinks.

Another exciting component to the LOCAL! Harvest Celebration was the unveiling of the 4th edition of the Local Roots Guide — a farm guide publication of the Coalition that provides the SLV community access to local foods and to learn about all the producers and markets here. You can get one at any of the farmers markets in the SLV or from the Alamosa Welcome Center.

The Coalition has a lot of gratitude to share for the LOCAL! Harvest celebration starting with Meghan and Matt Stalzer for hosting us at their lovely camel homestead. Thank-you to Zoila Gomez for translating for our Spanish-speaking attendees. We are all thankful to the band “Bittersweet” for their beautiful music and all the vendors that showed up to share the fruits of their labor with the community. We could not have put on the event with our big crew of volunteers who helped with setting up, helped to run the event and with takedown.

We appreciate all the members of the community who attended and all who let us borrow tents and equipment when our two big festival tents did not work out in the prevailing wind.

And finally — we are so grateful to our sponsors which allowed this event to be free to the public: Host

Sponsor First SouthWest Bank, SLV Federal, ShangriLah/Milky Way Mountain Caprines, Conejos County Hospital, Salazar Meats, Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, Carole Counihan, Indiana Jones Bed and Breakfast, Vino Salida, Colorado Farm Brewery, 1874 Distilling, Alan Simpson and Albert Francis.

The San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition works to “foster an equitable local food system that restores the health of the people, community, economy and ecosystem.”

For more information on the San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition, go to www.slvlocalfoods.org.



Photos courtesy of Liza Marron

The camels in Capulin performed their antics for area residents during the LOCAL! harvest celebration at the Mudita Camel Dairy on Sunday, Aug. 22. Families from the south San Luis Valley enjoyed a pristine summer day with the San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition at the new homestead camel farm in Conejos County.

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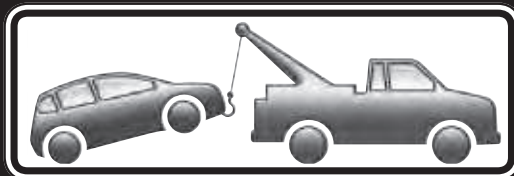
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Silver Threads Quilt Show is back, better than ever

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

CREEDE — The biannual Silver Threads Quilt Show is scheduled to take place Sept. 17-19 after having to cancel last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This event brings quilt lovers from all over the U.S. to the Creede Underground Community Center for two days of quilts, food and offers a place to purchase holiday gifts.

For the past 17 years, every other year, the Silver Threads Quilt Show has awed crowds from all walks of life and this year is expected to be no different.

“Our first show was in 2004, which was titled ‘Mining for Treasures.’ The reason for the title was because the show is held in a mine in Creede. We are the only underground quilt show and the venue is unique. Plus, we always chose this time of the year because of the changing of the leaves. It gives people one more thing to look forward to while visiting Creede,” said Silver Threads Quilt Guild member Vi Koch.

This year’s theme is “Quilting Through the Ages” one that shows the longevity of a quilt once it has been made. In previous shows, the guild has had antique quilts on hand to show during specific times during the event and some are a sight to be seen. This year the Challenge category for the guild was to create a quilt from a collection of fabrics, some of which were over 100 years old.

Other categories include Bed Quilts, Lap Quilts, Wall Hangings, Holiday, Children, Creative Panels, Art, Modern, Quilter’s Origin, (this piece describes/depicts something about the area where the quilter is

from, born, grew up, lives, etc.), Vintage (this allows the quilter to make something new out of something old) and fits the theme of the show.

“We have approximately 140 quilts made by the members. Also, we will have a display of antique quilts. There will be a demonstration of the antique quilts at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. both Friday and Saturday. Information will be given on the history of the quilts, care of quilts, ideas on finishing unfinished quilts, and other suggestions for avid quilters,” organizers stated.

There will be five onsite vendors, the Quilter’s Café which offers sandwiches, drinks and desserts, and a place to rest before heading back to the show. There will also be a scavenger hunt for children who attend with their parents. In the past, the scavenger hunt has been a huge success, and everyone is looking forward to having it again this year.

Show dates are Sept. 17-19 — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$4.

The raffle quilt, which has been appraised for \$2,000, will be on display. Raffle tickets will also be available to purchase. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. The drawing will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday. Participants do not need to be in attendance to win.

Ticket sales from the show raffle quilt go to various community organizations in the Creede area and to make quilts for veterans, Ronald McDonald House, disaster relief victims and care centers.

Creede will also be hosting its annual Cruisin’ the Canyon Car Show that same weekend.



File photo

The biannual Silver Threads Quilt Show is back. This year’s theme is ‘Quilting Through the Ages’ and has been a work in progress for going on three years. Last year’s event was canceled due to COVID.



Courtesy photo

The drawing for the raffle quilt takes place on Sunday, Sept. 19, during the Silver Threads Quilt Show.



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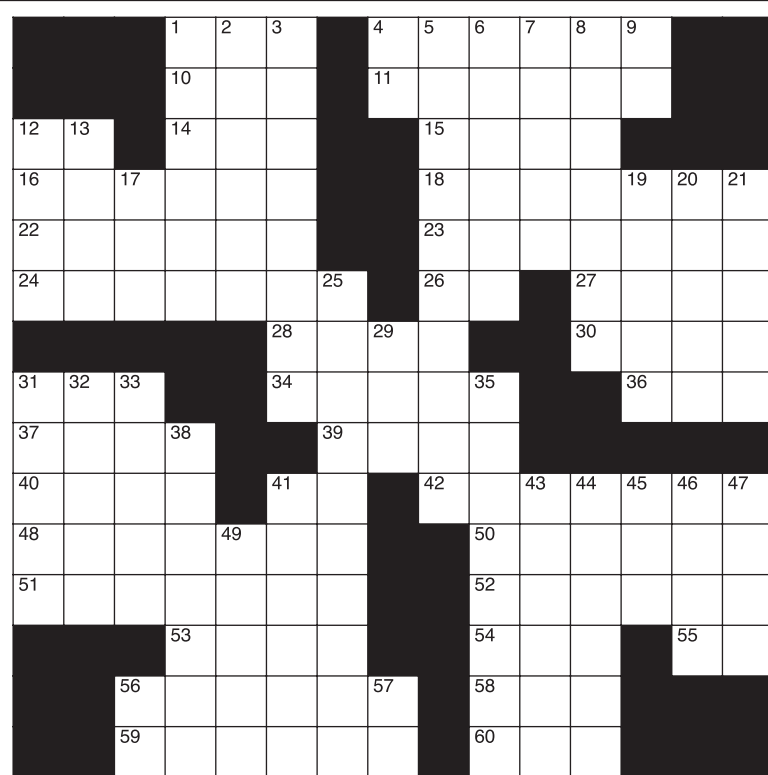
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41. Of I
42. Ad __: tirelessly repetitive
48. Item
50. Produce
51. Seedless raisin
52. Bond in a third party's control
53. Legendary character __ Finn

Solution to last week's puzzle

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



54. Space station
55. Note at the end of a letter
56. In a way, contradicted
58. Midway between northeast and east
59. Bears important traffic
60. Brooklyn hoopster

CLUES DOWN

1. Presides
2. Artist's tool
3. On a higher floor
4. Commercial
5. Something to watch
6. Chased
7. Commercial producers
8. Keyboard instrument
9. Blue grass state
12. Phonograph recording
13. Unusual
17. Popular average

19. A native or inhabitant of Asia
20. N. Sweden river
21. Related on the mother's side
25. Mediator
29. Partner of to
31. Arm bones
32. Korean seafood dish
33. Tap of the foot
35. Astronauts
38. Carolina footballer
41. Indiana city
43. Of or relating to bears
44. Not widely known
45. Body part
46. At the peak
47. High-pitched cries of a cat
49. A way to intimidate
56. Prosecutor
57. Atomic #66

Saguache Commissioners approve ballot question regarding marijuana sales tax

By MECHEL MEEK

SAGUACHE — The Saguache Board of County Commissioners met Tuesday, Aug. 24, to discuss a ballot question to be sent to voters to increase the marijuana retail and medical sales tax to 5% throughout Saguache County on top of the current state-collected sales tax.

This would be a county-wide sales tax on the sales of marijuana and the sales of retail marijuana products to be collected by any type of dispensary within the Saguache County limits.

This tax will be used to fund new services, administration of marijuana businesses and miscellaneous county improvements.

The Commissioners discussed the fine points of the ballot question including a problem with the

document, where it was written that the county was going to collect the proposed tax however, the document was then amended to have the State of Colorado collect the new taxes.

“If the state does all that, why would we need to do that?” Commissioner Tom McCracken stated.

The cost of the addition of the question to the election ballot will be paid from the county’s general fund.

If the marijuana is cultivated in Saguache County and sold in another county, Saguache County would not receive the money from the new sales tax allocation as it would only

apply to retail sales taxes within the County by local dispensaries.

The ballot question title was then discussed by the Commissioners. The title was agreed upon as, “County ballot issue on marijuana sales tax.”

According to the State of Colorado, counties can levy sales tax on both recreational and medical marijuana and it was agreed that this proposed tax would be on both types of sales.

The estimated amount to be collected from this tax is \$350,000. The resolution was passed by the Commissioners and will be put before voters this November to decide if the tax will be implemented.



Conejos Peak Ranger District to close Road 250 near Jasper for repair

STAFF REPORT

LA JARA — The Conejos Peak Ranger District announced Friday, Aug. 27, the planned closure of the popular 250 road for an upcoming major repair project.

The project will be repairing damage from the Spring 2019 extreme run-off event that damaged the road well beyond the capabilities of the Forest’s resources to conduct a full repair.

Additional federal funds were received to assist the permanent repair project which will begin soon. The details are:

- Location: Forest Service Road 250 between mile markers 22.5 and 23 — on the west side of the community of Jasper.

- Closure dates: Monday, Sept. 13, through Friday, Sept. 17.

- Exception: Only emergency vehicles will be allowed passage during the closure.

“The closure will affect all through-traffic for 5 days,” said Acting Conejos Peak District Ranger Vincent Dupont. “We understand this will be an inconvenience for many people and appreciate the public’s understanding as we con-

duct this critical long-term repair on this popular road.”

Contractors plan to begin bringing in equipment during the week of Aug. 30. They will begin working and installing traffic signs on Sept. 7. The closure will not take place until Sept. 13. Continued work after the week of the closure is anticipated and motorists should use extra caution when in the construction area.

For information on the Rio Grande National Forest, call 719-852-5941, visit the forest website, or follow us on our Facebook page or Twitter.

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San Luis Valley Area Real Estate



Take a look at this open land with beautiful views of the mountains! This is approximately 41 acres with fresh air all around! There is septic installed but a well would need to be drilled if needed. There is no electricity near by as of now. There was a manufactured home on the land at one time so the slab is still there. \$21,500 MLS#784371

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 810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
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Great business opportunity located in the town of Platoro. The Gold Pan offers many different opportunities, and is surrounded by the Rio Grande National Forest where you can have access to trails, lakes, streams, and is close to Platoro Reservoir. The Gold pan has seven cabins that can be used for rentals, a general store, a cafe, twenty rv sites with W/S/E 30amp full hookups, and open stalls and corrals available. Call for more information on this outstanding business in God's Country! 1,395,000 MLS#783164

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Historic Del Norte home with loads of character and tons of space. 4 bedrooms, an office/work out room, a craft room and a great room with 2 3/4 baths gives you plenty of options. The office has a separate entrance, so set up for a home based business. There is a kitchen upstairs and downstairs. Big fenced in yard with sprinkler system, huge mature trees and hot tub. One car garage and a carport for a boat, toys, car...conveniently located in town with easy access to shopping, schools, restaurants, hospital and offices. This charming newly re-wired home boasts natural gas radiators, pellet stove, 2 wood burning fireplaces and a Rinnai heater. Original wood floors and high ceilings remind you of the days when homes were built to last. Security system and fenced dog run. \$430,000 MLS#785391

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Feel the freedom and quietness on this 40+ acre land with National Forest bordering on three sides. Views from living area and deck take in Del Norte Peak. At the base of Aqua Ramon mountain where one can take off into the forest to hunt or for a nice drive. No covenants or HOA where one could use this as a vacation rental. Main floor master with open kitchen to living area to enjoy the views. Large two car garage. Furniture is included to start enjoying the serenity from day one. \$649,900 MLS#783758

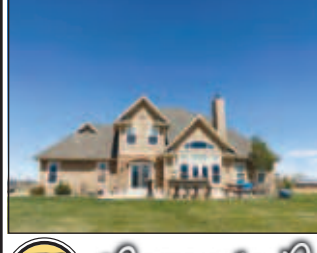


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This sweet little home is located in the heart of Alamosa that is within walking distance to downtown, Cole Park and Adams State University! With 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom this home offers a porch/sunroom with nice windows that you can enjoy while having your morning coffee. Inside the house you have a natural gas fireplace and a Wood Stove to keep you warm on those cold winter evenings. The good sized yard has beautiful mature trees and a sprinkler system. The back deck offers privacy so you can enjoy the hot tub. It also offers a garage to store all your toys and a vehicle. Don't miss out on this great opportunity. Call for more details. \$175,000 MLS#785146

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Beautiful Charming Custom Home! Situated on 12.69 Acres in the country but close to town. Lots of open space, large family area with custom fireplace. Great kitchen for the gourmet cook, stainless appliances, and great for entertaining. Office, wood floors, tile & granite. Master Suite, and walk in closets. Radiant heat floors, beautiful windows, and doors. 2 Car attached garage, and additional garages/RV Garage. Established yard with sprinkler system. Outdoor patio area to enjoy the views of the San Juans! Call to preview this very special custom home that offers living in style, and comfort! \$835,000 MLS#781327

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This one acre lot has great mountain views and NO HOA. Water tap available will have to install your own septic. Easy to build on lot with electric at property line. Check this one out before it is gone. \$61,900 MLS#780959

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FOR SALE



Look Improved Price! \$54,000
 Beautiful parcels, Lot 11 and 12 with scenic views of the surrounding mountains in Deer Park. Paved roads with water / city water and sewer and utilities in place and ready to build. Minutes from the Rio Grande River. Enjoy the mule deer and wild turkeys that visit Deer Park often. Moments from skiing, fly fishing, hiking, hunting and everything outdoors. Start your adventure and schedule your showing today!
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LOOK IMPROVED PRICE!
 • 2 bedroom • 2 bathroom • \$335,000
 Charming 1,518 SQ FT Home with attached 672 SQ FT Cement Floor Garage with Workshop and additional 2 storage units. Bright and cheery with large living area with fire place and large windows with beautiful view's of Beaver Mountain and plenty of sun shine. This home is complete with 4 heat sources! 2 ETS systems, Base board heating (all rooms), Solar heat on Paved. Complete with water and sewer system on fire placed roads. MLS#777866
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BACK ON THE MARKET

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
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LOOK IMPROVED PRICE!

\$69,900 Beautiful 8.01 Acre parcel located in Crow's Nest subdivision in South Fork, CO. Paved roads, city water and sewer with water tap that is currently paid. Wonderful mountain views over looking the Rio Grande River and the town of South Fork. Your perfect location to build your dream home. Moments away from Gold medal fly fishing, hiking, camping, skiing, 4 wheeling, hunting and everything outdoors. Call and schedule your showing today! MLS #775764
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FOR SALE

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

• 3 bedroom • 2 bathroom
 This could be your new home. Amazing Custom - Built Full log Home - Entry room, living room, large kitchen with island, lots of cabinet space, laundry. This home has beautiful wrap around porches that offer great views of the mountains and cliffs. The attached double garage is 576 Sq. Ft. with concrete floor. The home is fully fenced. Additional 2,000 sq. ft. workshop. MLS#772697
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UNDER CONTRACT

SOLD

Your Stunning Colorado Mountain Oasis!
 Beautiful 3,140 SQ. FT. 3 bedroom 3 bath home located on 9.59 Acres in Beautiful South Fork Ranches Bear Creek. The large master suite/bath is on the main floor. Open dining room, kitchen and living room with propane fireplace and windows from floor to ceiling with amazing mountain and Rio Grande river views. The beautiful kitchen includes an eat in island with custom countertop and large soft close storage drawers. Convenient large inside laundry room and foyer is right off the kitchen and the 4 car attached garage/workshop. The upstairs has two bedrooms, full bath with jet tub and office loft area. Start your Colorado Adventure and schedule your showing today! \$639,900 MLS#781345
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FOR SALE

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