

## Shorts

### Del Norte Food Bank distribution on May 22

**DEL NORTE** — The Del Norte Food Bank will hold its May distribution on Saturday, May 22, from 9-11 a.m. The Del Norte Food Bank serves residents of the Del Norte and South Fork areas.

### Sargent HS graduation is May 28

**MONTE VISTA** — Sargent High School's graduation ceremony will be at 7 p.m. on Friday May 28. It will be held at the high school gymnasium. Masks will be required with families sitting in their own cohorts. Only people with tickets will be allowed to enter. There will be 30 seniors graduating this year from Sargent.

### Del Norte HS graduation May 28

**DEL NORTE** — The 2021 Del Norte High School graduation will be at 2 p.m. on May 28, in the Upper Rio Grande School District's Gymnasium. Guests will need to enter at the main entrance to the building.

Doors will open at 1 p.m. and the Commencement will start at 2 p.m.

Graduates are allowed up to 25 invited guests and only guests with invitations will be allowed to attend the ceremony.

The high school is asking that graduate groups sit together and social distance from other groups.

Sanitizing stations will be located at the entry to the school, gym, and bleachers. Masks will also be available at the door, and it is recommended that all participants wear a mask.

### Creede to host graduation on May 29

**CREEDE** — The 2021 Creede High School graduates will be celebrating their graduation on May 29 at 1 p.m. at the Creede School Gymnasium. Due to Mineral County being in Green status for the state's COVID-19 requirements, the school will not be issuing tickets. Masks and social distancing will be required to attend.

## 4 of 7 in 'Love Has Won' group facing more serious charges

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER

**SAGUACHE** — Seven members of the controversial religious group "Love Has Won" were in Saguache County Court on Wednesday, May 12, in individual, continued proceedings related to their involvement in the body of Amy Carlson, also known as "Mother God" and leader of the group, being discovered in a house owned by the group in Moffat.

All defendants were appearing — either virtually or via telephone — on return filing of charges, a decision 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Assistant Deputy District Attorney Alex Raines stated was coming when he announced in court last week his intention to increase the charges against some members of the group.

Each of the seven were originally charged with two counts of child

abuse, a second-class misdemeanor, and abuse of a corpse, a class six felony.

While felonies are the most serious classification of charges, class six felonies are the least serious with sentencing that ranges from one year to 18 months in prison and or a fine from \$1,000 to \$100,000. Being convicted of a class six felony also carries a mandatory one-year parole.

Colorado law allows for alternatives to incarceration, which, depending upon the circumstances of the crime committed, can include a sentence that does not involve going to jail. However, if someone convicted of a class six felony has already been convicted of a felony twice before — in any state, not just in Colorado — a fine in lieu of spending time in jail is *Please see CHARGES on Page 2A*



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

**Colorado federal, state and local leaders as well as several San Luis Valley conservation champions gathered at the Rio Grande Natural Area located between San Luis and Manassa on Saturday for a celebration and ribbon cutting in observance of the newly installed interpretive signs which highlight the historical and cultural significance and natural resources of the area.**

### Officials gather in Valley on Public Lands Day Gov. Polis and former Secretary of Interior attend ceremony

BY LYNSIE FERRELL

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — Colorado blue skies stretched out over the Rio Grande River near Manassa on Saturday, May 15 as

local, state and federal leaders, including Gov. Jared Polis, and conservation organizations gathered to celebrate Public Lands Day and in observance of the newly installed

interpretive signs located at the Rio Grande Natural Area.

Native American dancers performing the Danza Azteca de *Please see LANDS on Page 5A*

## COVID-19 cases rise to over 200 in Valley

STAFF REPORT

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — Active COVID-19 cases increased to over 200 in the San Luis Valley for the first time in months. As of Monday, May 17, there were 219 active cases in the Valley, a new high for 2021.

Mid-January was the last time the Valley had over 200 active cases. On Jan. 14, SLV officials reported 202 known active cases.

Over the next couple of months, active cases continued to drop, reaching a low of 17 on March 29, before rising again in April and May.

While cases are on the rise, some local public health agencies report an increase in interest in receiving vaccinations among those in their 40s and 50s, as well as among youth ages 12 and above.

If this trend continues, it could make a big difference in our fight

*Please see COVID on Page 7A*

## TSJC Law Enforcement Training Academy celebrates graduates

BY REBECCA COPLEY

**MONTE VISTA** — Family and friends of the 18 graduates from Trinidad State Junior College's Law Enforcement Training Academy honored the accomplishments of the class of 2020 on Friday, May 14 at Chapman Park.

A graduation ceremony was held at the park. Trinidad State College Vice President James Kynor gave an address to the 2020 class.

Kynor spoke about how people who wear uniforms are a different breed, sharing about the bravery of astronauts, nurses, doctors, soldiers, firefighters, and law enforcement.

"Then there is the law enforcement. Our deputies, our troopers, our officers," *Please see LAW on Page 2A*



Photo by Rebecca Copley

**Trinidad State Junior College held its Law Enforcement Training Academy Graduation on Friday, May 14, in Monte Vista.**

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# OBITUARY

## Larry D. Shaw 82 May 25, 1938 to April 29, 2021

Larry D Shaw lived in Monte Vista Colorado. He was born to Alice Brown and Tony Shaw in May of 1938. He made it to the 8th grade in school before he dropped out to help his parents with the family farm. He then went on to serve 9 years in the National Guard. He worked most of his life in construction, even in his later years he had a handy man service. He is proceeded in death by both his parents Alice Brown and Tony Shaw, his older brothers Robert Shaw and Anthony Shaw and younger brother Jim Shaw and his wife Barb Shaw. He is survived by 2 brothers Arthur Shaw and Dave Shaw also his 5 children. Hazel Reed, Cynthia Montgomery her partner Willy, Terry and his wife Cheri, Scott and his wife Carter, Tammy also



numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He was loved by all and will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

# CHARGES

Continued from Page 1A

not an option. Three of the defendants — Sarah Rudolph, Chris Royer and Karin Raymond — continue to be charged with a class six felony, abuse of a corpse, and two counts of child abuse. Raymond has also been charged with false imprisonment, a class five felony. According to the arrest warrant, Raymond “unlawfully, feloniously, and knowingly confined or detained Miguel Lamboy, without the victim’s consent and without proper legal authority. Further, the defendant used force or threat of force to confine or detain the victim and she confined or detained the victim for twelve hours or more.” The remaining four members — Jason Castillo (aka “Father God”), John Robertson, Ryan Kramer and Ma Obdulia Franco Gonzales — are no longer charged with a class six felony but with a class three felony, for tampering with a deceased body,

instead. As stated in the arrest warrant, “On or about April 28, 2021, [Castillo, Robertson, Kramer and Franco Gonzales] believing that an official proceeding was pending, in progress, or about to be instituted, and acting without legal right or authority, unlawfully and feloniously willfully destroyed, mutilated, concealed, removed, or altered a human body, part of a human body, or human remains with intent to impair its or their appearance or availability in the official proceedings.” According to sentencing guidelines in Colorado, the minimum sentence for a person convicted of committing a class three felony is four years in prison and or \$3,000 in fines. The maximum sentence is 12 years in prison and or \$750,000 in fines. However, again, anyone convicted of a class three felony who has been convicted of a felony twice before is

not allowed to pay a fine in lieu of incarceration. Class three felonies also carry a five-year mandatory parole. More people have bonded out of jail, including Castillo, while several remained behind bars. One defendant, Rudolph, has requested a different attorney, stating she “doesn’t like the direction [her attorney] is taking.” Several of the attorneys have said they have received “very little evidence” and may be contesting the charges next time their client appears in court. However, one order of the court was repeated several times throughout the seven hearings. Saguache County Judge Anna Ulrich reiterated that taping of the proceedings is prohibited — specifically citing that livestreaming was explicitly not allowed in response to one attorney suggesting that someone was livestreaming the hearings on social media.

## BLM and US Forest Service to conduct prescribed burn west of Saguache

**STAFF REPORT**  
**MONTE VISTA** — Firefighters from the Bureau of Land Management-Rocky Mountain District Fire and the Rio Grande National Forest will be conducting a prescribed burn approximately 17 miles west of Saguache when conditions permit in the coming months. The burn will treat a total of approximately 549 acres — 297 acres of BLM land and 252 acres of US Forest Service land — to reduce accumulated fuels and improve resiliency of the timber stand. The prescribed burn is expected to take two days. Crews will remain in the

area through the weekend to monitor the burn and take containment actions as necessary. Smoke may be visible in the area both during and after the burn operations. Smoke will be most visible during the warmest part of the day. With cooler temperatures in the evening, smoke may linger and accumulate in low-lying areas. A public information phone line and an Inciweb webpage have been established for the public and media to get updates on the prescribed burn. Information is also available through the @BLMcoloradoFire Facebook page.

## RGNF transfers landfill to Mineral County

**STAFF REPORT**  
**DEL NORTE** — The Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) Divide Ranger District announced Tuesday, May 18, the conveyance of the landfill to Mineral County. For decades, the county has operated the site under a special use authorization with the Rio Grande National Forest. The deed was executed on Nov. 9, 2020. Forest Service policy discourages solid waste disposal on National Forest System lands. Transferring the land, prior to the landfill special use authorization’s expiration, was a win for both parties. “I really appreciate teamwork between the Mineral County

officials and USFS personnel who worked towards this milestone for many years,” said Divide District Ranger, Martha Williamson. “This is also a testament to the district’s commitment to working with the communities to which we belong to find solutions that make sense for all of us.” Mineral County embraced the idea of owning the land which gives the County the opportunity to expand and extend the life of the landfill. This allows the community to have access to the landfill close to home, rather than a potentially expensive transfer station or being made to travel to the Regional Landfill in Monte Vista to dispose

of debris. The county is ecstatic that the transaction is complete, and they can begin planning for expansion. To commemorate the change in ownership of the landfill property, officials from the Forest Service and County will be on hand during the County’s annual “Free Dump Day” on Saturday, May 22. Free hot dogs, chips and drinks will be available from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. that day. In the words of Mineral County Administrator, Janelle Kukuk, “this is a momentous occasion for the future of Mineral County’s landfill. You know, buying a landfill is worth celebrating.”

# LAW

Continued from Page 1A

who when they put on their uniform to get ready for their shift never know what fate might await them,” said Kynor. He gave examples of the dangerous ways in which they may have to serve. “Not all superheroes wear capes. “Each of you graduates have residing in you an innate desire, a deep calling to protect and to serve,” said Kynor, later adding, “Most human beings protect those that they love, but as police officers, you will be called upon to render aid to complete strangers. You will be called upon to protect those who distrust you because of the career that you’ve chosen.” After Kynor’s address keynote speaker a County Sheriff Richard Valdez addressed the graduates. Valdez who also instructed the class during their training spoke about how impressed he was with this class of graduates who went through nine months of training when a normal police academy is four months. “That’s nine months, working every day, going to classes every night, and on

the weekends,” said Valdez. “I want to say that this is a very impressive class. I had the opportunity to talk to them one on one and get to know them and realize just how hard working they truly are.” Valdez shared some of what graduates can expect as they begin their careers in law enforcement, telling them that they will have to make major decisions in a matter of seconds. “But then you’re going to be subjected to those Monday morning quarterbacks, be ridiculed about the actions you either did take, or you didn’t take,” Valdez said. “You’ll be challenged on such things as your integrity and your honesty and your ethics.” Valdez also said a career in law enforcement will be rewarding. “Being a law enforcement officer has many rewards,” he said. “Those rewards will not come in a paycheck; they’re found right here in your heart.” He encouraged them to remember their families and to move forward with the same discipline they have already displayed.

“Remember your oath and respect the authority that you were given. Don’t abuse your authority but rather respect it and be humbled by it,” Valdez said. Student representative Stacey Kiesel spoke next. “Our journey has been comprised of thousands of steps to get us to today,” said Kiesel. “When I think back to that first day I remember sitting in a room, with such a diverse group of people. We all came from different places, we all had different backgrounds and we all shared the same goal, one that as of today we have achieved.” She talked about the strong team they became. Kiesel also took the opportunity to thank their instructors, family and friends who helped them get to where they are today. Awards were then handed out. Brett Crowther received the Driving Award. Jamie Coffman received the Arrest Control Award. Antonio Edwards received the Firearms Award, and Austen Reneau received the Academics Award.

After this, the graduates were presented with their certificates. Sheriff Garth Crowther read the Peace Officer’s Creed. Then law enforcement agencies from around the Valley swore in their cadets and presented them with their badges. Monte Vista Police Chief George Dingfelder closed the ceremony by sharing that May 15 was Law Enforcement Memorial Day. “We would be remiss if we did not pause and honor the men and women in law enforcement that have made the ultimate sacrifice and gave their lives in service of their community,” said Dingfelder. A moment of silence was held for the lives of law enforcement officers lost in the line of duty, with special recognition given to Boulder Police Officer Eric Talley who bravely enter the King Soopers in Boulder during the mass shooting on March 22 and died protecting others. The Trinidad State Junior College Law Enforcement Training Academy graduates

for 2020 are as follows: Jareb Aziz, Steven Bagwell, Marcy Baker, Angel Barrera, Sergio Cazares, Jamie Coffman, Brett Crowther, Corey Dye, Antonio Edwards, Cristian Guaderrama, Mollee Heeney, Stacey Kiesel, Twila Martinez, Saul Martinez, Javier Moreno, Austen Reneau, Eduardo Soria, and Kenneth Wilson.

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# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## Rain Man Cometh

Years ago, there were men who traveled around the countryside in horse-drawn, colorful wagons who claimed to be able to make it rain. They would move from area to area literally “drumming” up business with drought-stricken farmers and stockmen.

Some of you may recall the song by Tanya Tucker called Lizzie and The Rain Man that tells the story of just such a man. The lyrics begin with:

He came ridin' in on the sunrise of a hot west Texas day

A fancy man in a painted wagon with some fancy things to say

Looks like you folks need some water, well water is my game

And for the small price of \$100 I betcha I can make it rain...

It goes on to tell the story about how the Rainmaker would employ someone to beat a drum and someone to keep a fire going as that was his method for making it rain. Noise and smoke.

During the great cannonades of wars, it was noted that rain always followed those engagements. This was probably due to the drops of rain forming around the residue of the burned gunpowder as it wafted into the atmosphere. So, the rainmakers of the day latched onto such information and legends were formed.

It appears to Ol' Dutch that just such a service might be needed in the days ahead as many parts of the Southwest are suffering horribly with dry conditions. And while I do not personally know of anyone with a wagon and a drum or even a cannon, Ol' Dutch has been known to make it rain about everywhere he goes.

Why just a few years ago Miss Trixie and Ol' Dutch took a trip Westward to the land of fruits and nuts, California, and soon after began a time of copious rainfall and a winter of record snowfalls.

That next summer, they were skiing on July 4, no joke. My trips to the normally dry South Padre Island means those poor people will have rain all winter and I can ruin a Spring Break faster than a wife can spend your paycheck.

Normally all I need to do is get out my fishing pole and the Heavens open, and the rains descend like in the times of Jonah. Or was that, Noah? I guess they both got wet, and Ol' Dutch is oft seen to be a certified Rain Man in the places he has been.

Miss Trixie and I have had a winter sojourn in North Texas this past year and these poor people are



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

so tired of the rains that they are about to take up a collection just to see us leave. Every other week since mid-March, storms delivering six-plus inches of rain have left them all soggy and unable to even plant gardens, so I guess it's about time for us to head out for our next rain making location.

Until now no one has seemed too anxious to pay Ol' Dutch for his services which seems a little bit odd since they do pay the weatherman for his and all he does is report on what may occur. That seems just a tad messed up to me.

It may be time for Ol' Dutch to pull out all the stops and get me a painted wagon, an old dapple gray mare and have Miss Trixie dress up like the black-haired, gypsy girl she is and start traveling the circuit. We can set up shop at farmers markets, craft and trade shows, county fairs and church garage sales and really put on a great demonstration of modern science. Well, something like that.

Patented elixirs will be sold, wordy speeches will be made, and you too may get a chance to beat the drum or keep the fire burning all in an effort to alleviate the drought.

Rest assured, The Rain Man is coming and this year I have two fishing poles with which to wizard that reluctant rain from the sky so you may want to look on Amazon for a raft while they are still available. Ol' Dutch seems to be able to make it start but for the life of me cannot figure out how to make it stop. You may want to come up with another remedy for that, ASAP.

*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.*



## YOUR NIGHT SKY

### Full Super Moon

By DARLENE DANKO

Our Full Moon on May 26 is the closest and biggest full moon of the year, so it's called a Super Moon. What's interesting about this one is that it's going to be a lunar eclipse that morning.

In the morning the Sun rises in the east and the moon sets in the west. When the moon is at a certain position, earth can block the Sun from lighting the moon. That's when we get a lunar eclipse.

When the moon passes through Earth's shadow, the lunar eclipse can last for an hour. This year the moon

isn't in the full position to do that. So, the eclipse will only last about 15 minutes. This time occurs when the Sun rises, and Earth is between the Sun and Moon.

The major area for seeing this is the Pacific Ocean. So, if we were in Hawaii, it would be an hour-long eclipse. But we will see some of it here. So, you must plan to get up a little early.

You may have to get up at 5 a.m. and look at the moon in the west — 5:20 may be the perfect time to see the eclipse. At first the moon will be a brilliant orange-red color. Then it will get shadowed and become very dark for a few minutes. By 5:30 it will be over.

That's the schedule that I read, but it may be a little different here. So, you need to observe the moon until it



sets. It's hard to tell what we're going to see from here. So, just look to see if there are any shadows on the moon.

The only reason you have to get up so early is because it's almost summer when the days are longer, and the nights are shorter. You might want to get up at 5 a.m. the day before and look at the moon. That's when you can see if it looks OK, or if the sky is getting too light. If it is, you will have to get up earlier on the 26th. I'm looking forward to doing this.

## LETTER

### To parents of young children

Editor,

I am Shannon Gonzales Certified Nurse Midwife at San Luis Valley Health, and I would like to talk directly to expecting parents, new parents, and guardians about childhood vaccines. Not the COVID-19 vaccine in the news today, although it is important, but the other vaccines such as HepA, measles, mumps, and polio, that protect us from other diseases.

I have a passion for taking care of expecting mothers throughout their pregnancies and immediately right

after. However, my real passion is being a mother to my three amazing boys. My boys are very busy and active, playing in the dirt, riding 4-wheelers, and participating in almost all sports. Vaccines have been a very important part of my boys' life. They have kept them healthy and safe. With staying up to date on their vaccines, I am at ease about preventable childhood illnesses and knowing that they are vaccinated against Tetanus if there are any unfortunate accidents with

such active kids.

I want to encourage all parents to review the recommended vaccinations for infants and children. Visit the San Luis Valley Health pediatrics page for a link to a parent-friendly chart to understand the optimal time for your children's immunization schedules. Please speak to your provider if you have concerns or hesitations.

*Shannon Gonzales  
Certified Nurse Midwife and  
Mother, San Luis Valley Health,  
Women's Health Clinic*

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# Law enforcement recognized at ceremony

By **STEPHEN JIRON**

**ALAMOSA** — A breeze brought many flags in front of the Police Department to life for the annual San Luis Valley Peace Officer Memorial Ceremony in Alamosa on Wednesday, May 12. Leaders from local law enforcement agencies and elected officials spoke at the event including Alamosa Chief of Police Ken Anderson, Alamosa County Sheriff Robert Jackson and Alamosa Mayor Ty Coleman among others.

Peace Officer Memorial Day began on Oct. 1, 1962, with a proclamation from former President John F. Kennedy designating May 15 as Peace Officer Memorial Day and the encompassing week as Police Week.

Anderson spoke first at the memorial.

“Tonight, we are here to pay tribute to the law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and to voice our appreciation to all those who currently serve on the front lines of the battle against crime,” he said.

The event was attended by several local police departments as well as fire departments and first responders. Alamosa Fire and Monte Vista Fire ladder trucks hoisted the American flag to welcome a procession of law



enforcement vehicles to the street in front of the Alamosa Police Department.

“Not only do (law enforcement officers) have to deal with the

physical toll that the job places on their bodies they also have to deal with the mental strain as well,” said Coleman of the difficulties of the job. Coleman Also told the story of

his mother, Virginia Coleman, who was a police officer in the city of Houston, Texas.

Sheriff Jackson was the last to speak before the customary rifle salute to the fallen accompanied by a trumpet rendition of Taps and the lowering of the flag to half-mast.

“We pay tribute to those law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty. We gather

as witnesses, when words like courage and sacrifice are no longer abstract ideals but instead part of reality,” said Jackson.

Mayor Coleman thanked the officers and first responders.

“Law enforcement officers and first responders, we appreciate all the things you do for our community. And for all the caring things you do, we love you, Blue,” Coleman said.



**Alamosa Mayor Ty Coleman speaks during the San Luis Valley Peace Officer Memorial Ceremony in front of the Alamosa Police Department on Wednesday, May 12, in Alamosa.**



Photos by Stephen Jiron

**Numerous law enforcement, fire and first responders' departments were in Alamosa for the annual Peace Officer Memorial Ceremony.**

## SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the period between May 10 and May 16, 2021.

The Sheriff's Department's activity on the road included four traffic stops, two traffic complaints and one motorist assist.

In addition, staff recorded one case of theft, two cases of harassment, two cases of suspicious activity, one case of assault, two cases of criminal

mischiefs, three stolen vehicle cases and two welfare checks.

They also monitored 10 controlled burns, one fire (brush, grass or forest), provided information five times, assisted one citizen, checked on one alarm, transported an individual, assisted on three ambulance calls, inspected two VINs, and assisted other agencies two times.

Arrests

• Nicholas Isaiah Lucero, 25, Center, warrant out of Saguache,

fugitive of justice Alamosa PD, Denver Marshal and Weld County.

• Mark Christopher Ray, 50, Moffat, warrant out of Saguache.

• Charles Brandon White, 38, homeless, warrant, fugitive of justice Chaffee.

• Christopher Michael Bugbee, 37, Pueblo, warrant out of Saguache.

• Maya Lynae Jarmillo, 28, Clifton, third-degree assault, second-degree criminal trespassing, criminal mischief, theft of less than \$50.

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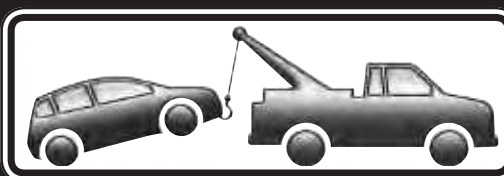
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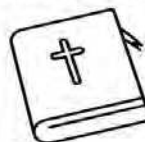
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# LANDS

Continued from Page 1A

Anahuac started the event in the morning inviting the crowd to join them in a moment of peace to honor those who were suffering or had lost their lives and to give thanks for the great water of the Rio Grande. Those who participated spread rose pedals along the banks of the Rio and shared a moment of silence before the rest of the festivities began.

According to the event coordinator and Director for the Salazar Rio Grande Del Norte Center, Rio de la Vista, this preservation area has been a work in progress for many years and now that it has a natural designation, the interpretive signs will help to educate the public about the cultural and natural resources contained in the natural area and bring visitors from all walks of life to that area of the San Luis Valley.

This event was part of a long-term effort that started with the designation of the Rio Grande Natural Area by Congress — thanks to the work of then-Sen. Ken Salazar, who later became the 50<sup>th</sup> U.S. Secretary of the Interior — in 2006, supported by many local San Luis Valley conservation organizations and the Rio Grande Water Conservation District. The designation encompasses a quarter-mile on both sides of the Rio Grande, from the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge for 32 miles south to the Colorado-New Mexico State Land. Subsequently, the RGNA Commission was appointed by then-U.S. Secretary of the Interior Salazar.

Over the course of six years, the Commission developed the 2016 RGNA Management Plan with recommendations for the private lands within the designated areas, in collaboration with the Bureau of Land Management, which manages a large portion of the land on the west side of the Rio Grande. A restoration assessment of the entire RGNA was also performed by the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project during that time and provided guidance for the ecological and functional needs of the entire reach.

In 2018, the Salazar Rio Grande Del Norte Center at Adams State University provided the capacity to revisit that plan and is facilitating a Steering Committee of all the various agencies, organizations, counties and partners to work toward implementing the recommendations of the plan and pursue future opportunities.

The installation of the new interpretive signs being celebrated is an outgrowth of that effort. Many complementary efforts are underway for conservation, ecological restoration, additional education and interpretive efforts, recreational planning, that are in various stages of development, planning, fundraising and implementation.

Former Secretary Salazar started the event by introducing many of the key players that helped make the natural area possible.

“This is a very beautiful and wonderful area. Many of us have worked at it for a very long time,” Salazar said. “The Salazar Rio Grande Del Norte Center which my family, Cleave Simpson and Adams State University have been involved with to spearhead the collaboration among the agencies and most importantly the people on both sides of the river to make this happen.”

Salazar introduced Colorado Gov. Polis who spoke of the importance of celebrating Public Lands Day in the San Luis Valley.

“I cannot think of a better place to be on Public Lands Day than the San Luis



Courtesy photos

**Keynote speakers on Saturday during Public Lands Day included Former Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, Senator John Hickenlooper, Governor Jared Polis, Conejos County Commissioner Mitchel Jarvies, Costilla County Commissioner Steven Romero, Adams State University President Cheryl Lovell, State Senator Cleave Simpson, State Representative Donald Valdez and many more.**



Valley,” Polis said. “This is the beating heart of Colorado; this is the soul of Colorado. We celebrate our state and federal lands today through Colorado Parks and Wildlife and our partners federally including the Bureau of Lands Management, the Forest Service and major landowners in our state. It is really at the center of how we build a public lands strategy that meets all of our goals, that meet the needs of farmers and our agricultural, that meets the conservation goals and our recreation goals and economic development. Public Lands are part of our identity and are also the key economic driver.”

Through the remaining speeches one main point stood out above all others, it took the work and dedication of several different entities throughout the entire state to make the Rio Grande Natural Area a reality.

Several speakers pointed out that people from all walks of life and political

beliefs worked together to achieve this common goal. Speakers included Sen. John Hickenlooper, Conejos County Commissioner Mitchel Jarvies, Costilla County Commissioner Steven Romero, Adams State University President Cheryl Lovell, State Sen. Cleave Simpson, and State Rep. Donald Valdez.

After the small ribbon cutting of the new interpretive signs, those in attendance enjoyed food and beverages and live entertainment for the rest of the afternoon.

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# Monte Vista Coop and Land O'Lakes Foundation matching funds to community programs

## STAFF REPORT

**MONTE VISTA** — The Land O'Lakes foundation is committed to rural communities, like the San Luis Valley where cooperative members, employees, and facilities are located by donating resources that develop and strengthen organizations that dedicated to hunger relief, education, and community.

Land O'Lakes Foundation matches dollar for dollar donations of member cooperatives, like the Monte Vista Coop, who donated to the Monte Vista Fire Protection District, the Monte Vista Emergency Food Bank, and Center Fire Protection District.

The Monte Vista Coop takes pride in supporting local community programs and would like to thank them for a job well done.



Pictured from left are Jennifer Becker, Monte Vista Emergency Food Bank Director, Denise Temple, Monte Vista Coop Administrative Assistant.

Courtesy photos



Courtesy photo

## Del Norte Jr/Senior High School Theatre producing 'Newsies'

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Pictured from left are Monte Vista Coop President-CEO Eric Hinton, Russell Brown, Fire Chief for the Center Fire Protection District.



Pictured from left are Monte Vista Coop President-CEO Eric Hinton, Pat Sullivan, Fire Chief for the Monte Vista Fire Protection District.

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Courtesy of RGNF

The photo shows some of the damage on the Rock Creek Road between Rock Creek and Comstock campgrounds.

# Temporary road closures on RGNF's Divide Ranger District

## STAFF REPORT

**DEL NORTE** — The Rio Grande National Forest's Divide Ranger District announced Wednesday, May 19, that two roads will remain temporarily closed due to damage from wet spring conditions. Road crews will begin repairing these roads within the next several weeks.

- The two roads affected are:
- Rock Creek Road No. 28 south of Monte Vista in Rio Grande County
- Pass Creek Road No. 390 west of South Fork in Mineral County

As a result of these road closures,

the Tucker Ponds, Rock Creek and Comstock campgrounds will remain closed until the road repairs are complete.

For current road conditions, see the Divide Ranger District Road Conditions page or contact the Divide Ranger District at 719-657-3321.

For the status of Rio Grande National Forest campgrounds, visit the Recreation page.

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

# COVID

Continued from Page 1A

against COVID-19 in this part of Colorado. Vaccines are being provided by hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, and public health agencies. See [www.slvphp.com](http://www.slvphp.com), for contact information and other details. The San Luis Valley region has a high COVID-19 case incidence rate and positivity rate in comparison to the rest of Colorado.

"Our hospitalizations remain high both locally and at hospitals that most frequently receive our sickest patients when they need to transfer to a higher level of care," SLV public health officials stated.

There are currently 219 known active cases of COVID-19 in the San Luis Valley. Active case counts and other data are being updated weekdays at <https://www.slvphp.com/slv-regional-covid-dial>.

- Alamosa County — 114
- Conejos County — 59
- Costilla County — 18
- Mineral County — 2
- Rio Grande County — 15
- Saguache County — 11

Recent case investigations and contact tracing have been time-consuming for public health agencies, who are finding that, there are a large number of close contacts with each new confirmed case. Those who are not yet vaccinated may consider limiting the size of gatherings that they participate in, in order to protect themselves and others. The case investigation and contact tracing process are an important tool to help limit the spread of this disease.

Because COVID-19 is currently widespread in the region, and a large portion of the population has yet to be vaccinated, local public health authorities continue to encourage the widespread use of masks and other precautions, to stop the spread of COVID-19.

The mask-wearing requirement for Colorado was amended in Executive Order D 2021 103 on May 14. The order requires people in Colorado who are 11 years and older to wear a mask over their noses and mouths in the following settings:

- Preschool through grade 12 schools

(including extracurricular activities) and childcare centers and services; however, fully vaccinated individuals, including vaccinated children ages 16-18, in a classroom, cohort, or other group of children may remove masks where the teacher(s), caregiver(s), or other staff whose primary responsibility is education or childcare have provided proof of fully completed vaccination to their employer.

- Unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated staff at Colorado Division of Motor Vehicle offices.
- Unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated residents, staff, and visitors to congregate care facilities, including nursing facilities, assisted living residences, intermediate care facilities, and group homes, except in situations where removal is authorized by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
- Unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated residents, staff, and visitors to prisons.
- Unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated residents, staff, and visitors to jails.
- Unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated personnel in emergency medical and other health care settings (including hospitals, ambulance service centers, urgent care centers, non-ambulatory surgical structures, clinics, doctors' offices, and non-urgent care medical structures).

Fully vaccinated people can go without masks in public indoor spaces unless the setting requires otherwise.

People who do not have to wear a mask, even if unvaccinated, include:

- People who are 10 years old and younger.
- People who cannot medically tolerate a face covering.
- Children younger than 2 years old should NOT wear masks.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19, call to be screened for testing.

- Rio Grande Hospital, 719-657-4990
- SLV Health Respiratory Clinic, 719-589-3000 ext. 9
- Valley-Wide Health Systems, 719-589-3658 ext. 4

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# How Faith in God Can Impact Your Life

Life in Christ is absolutely amazing when you learn to live by faith. And Romans 1:17 says that those who are believers in Him "shall live by faith" (NKJV). It's the key to experiencing the abundant life Jesus died to give us, a life we can enjoy, "and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows]" (John 10:10 AMP).

The question is, how do we live by faith? What does it look like, practically speaking, to release, or use, our faith in our everyday lives?

**Faith That Brings the Dead to Life**  
In John chapter 11, we read about the time when Jesus raised His friend Lazarus from the dead. Lazarus and his sisters, Martha and Mary, were good friends to Jesus, and He'd had been to their home multiple times.

But when Lazarus was sick and his sisters sent word to Him saying "he whom You love is sick" (John 11:3 NKJV), Jesus didn't come right away to heal Him. His immediate response was, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it" (v. 4).

Jesus wanted them to trust Him and believe that no matter how bad the situation was, He could still do something to make it right. But that's not the reaction He received.

When Mary, Lazarus' sister, came out to meet Him, she said, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died" (John 11:32 NKJV). The Bible says that Jesus was "deeply moved within [to the point of anger]" when He approached Lazarus' tomb (John 11:38 AMP). He was visibly disturbed.

Think for a moment how Jesus must have felt. He knows what has happened and has come to fix the problem, but no one really understands what He's capable of doing. He's surrounded by unbelief. And in the midst of the confusion, Jesus says to the people,

"Take away the stone" (v. 39).  
It's interesting that Jesus was getting ready to raise a man from the dead but He told *them* to roll away the stone. He wanted to see their faith in Him through their obedience.

**Faith That Speaks Louder Than Words**  
Romans 12:3 says God "has dealt to each one a measure of faith" (NKJV). So you have faith...but are you using it? It's so important for us to use our faith because that's how we grow stronger in our relationship with God and trust Him more in every situation in our lives.

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV) says, "Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." God rewards our faith when He sees it in action.

Using your faith simply means that you do what you can do—what God shows you to do—and you trust Him to do what you cannot do. For example, if you're praying for your spouse to become a believer in Christ, then don't go to lunch with your friends and complain about how he or she will never change.

When you release your faith, you take some kind of action that shows you believe God will do what He says He will do. You line up your attitudes and actions with God's promises for you, according to His Word, and hold on to those truths when life gets tough. That's what Jesus was asking the people to do when He told them to roll away the stone from Lazarus' grave.

**It's Not Too Hard**  
So many times when God asks us to do something for Him, we look at the situation and say, "There's no way I can ever do that. It's just too hard!"  
Maybe you need to forgive people who have hurt you. Maybe you're asking God for a new house and He's



telling you to clean up the one you've got. Maybe you're facing a mountain of debt, yet you're still using credit cards everywhere you go.

When challenges are greater than our ability to resolve them on our own, we often say things like, "I can't do it, God. It's just too hard." But that's a lie the devil wants you to believe.

The truth is, God is never going to ask you to do something without giving you the ability to do it. Whatever the direction is, He'll give you the strength, understanding, support, resources—anything you need—to do your part when you simply step out in obedience to follow His lead.

In these times, remember Philippians 4:13, which says, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." In other words, you can do whatever you need to do in life through Christ. You can roll away the stone that stands between you and your miracle!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-teaching CD series *Unleashing the Power of Faith*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored 130 books, including *BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND* and her newest devotional *QUIET TIMES WITH GOD (FaithWords)*. She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

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File photo

## Manassa Pioneer Days set for July 15-17

**STAFF REPORT**  
**MANASSA** — After a break for the Pandemic, planning for the Manassa Pioneer Days is underway.

Pioneer Days 2021 will be Thursday, July 15 (kickoff dinner), Friday, July 16 and Saturday, July 17.

There will be a community meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, May 17 at the Opera House to discuss the changes this year with the parade and float building. People and organizations interested in building a float are urged to attend.

They will also talk about organizational changes happening over the next few years and the need for more volunteers in the community as well as family members coming back “home” to help.

All members of the community interested in keeping the Pioneer Days celebration going strong are encouraged to attend.

Special note for float builders — Lots of cardboard is available right now left over from prom that’s ready to be handed out.

## Public Health Employee Day



Courtesy photo

Considering the incredible work Public Health Employees did during the COVID-19 pandemic and in honor of National Nurse’s Day, which occurs in May every year, the Alamosa County Board of Commissioners proclaimed May 6 as Public Health Employee Day. Alamosa County Public Health employees from left to right: Jennifer Hunt, Emily Brown, Anne-Marie DeHerrera, Wendi Harrison, Lillian Coll, Beverly Strnad, Linda Smith, Kerrie Harris, Kay Crowder, Lisa DuPont, Stephanie Duncan, and Deanna Matias. Not pictured: Carol Keith, Gary Bruder, Tammy Garcia, Sherri Sage, Lena Martinez, Tiffani Sanchez, Diedre Todd, Sarah Duncan-Pearson, Carol Colvin, Carla Quintana-Dupont, Eduardo Gonzales, Gloria Valdez, Lucinda Chavira, and Leticia Rodriguez.

## Noxious weeds cause damage to our local resources

This Week’s Most Wanted: CANADA THISTLE

The health and productivity of our natural plant communities are being threatened by the introduction of numerous invasive noxious weeds.

These plants displace native vegetation and important wildlife forage, disrupt native hydrology, alter soil chemistry, and disturb the overall ecological balance of native habitats. They are also an agricultural pest,

crowding out desirable crops and requiring immense investments in time, money, and materials to control. Roadsides, ranchland, open space, housing developments, industrial sites, private property, and Municipal,

County, State, and Federal lands are all affected.

Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) is a non-native, deep-rooted perennial that spreads by seeds and aggressive creeping, horizontal roots called

rhizomes. Canada thistle can grow 2 to 4 feet in height. The leaves are oblong, spiny, bright green, and slightly hairy on the undersurface. Unlike other noxious biennial thistles which

**Please see WEEDS on Page 3**

## Carniphobia

“Doctor, I’m here because I’m a . . . I’m a . . .”

“Relax. Many people have psychological conflicts. Lay back on the couch and tell me about it”

“Okay. It’s just that I don’t know if it’s normal or something I should worry about. I’m a . . . vegan.”

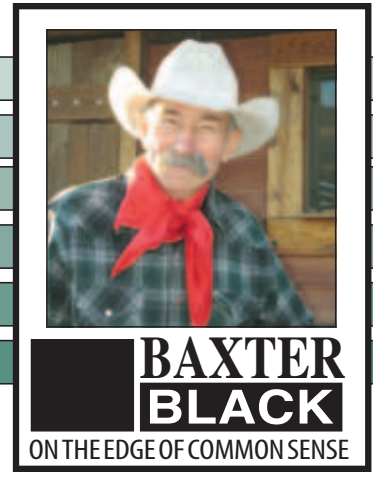
“I see. It’s not an uncommon condition among the upwardly mobile. Something like three percent are afflicted at one time or another. The scientific name is Dysfunctional Alimentary Obsessive Behavior, or in layman’s terms, Carniphobia.

“When did you first notice you were eating less meat?”

“In college, I think. Most of the girls in the sorority house were concerned about their weight. And no wonder! What with the long hours, bad romances and poor eating habits. Red meat was designated the cause so we ate lots of chicken salad and chips and pasta.”

“Are you still conscious of your weight?”

“Oh, yes. I’m always counting calories.



**BAXTER BLACK**  
ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

I keep three sizes of clothes in my closet.”

“What sort of Carniphobic would you consider yourself?”

“A recovering one. I still dream about spareribs and hot dogs, tri tips and shredded beef tacos. Meat must be addictive. I sit there at the table in a fancy restaurant. My friends are eating fried chicken wings or pork fried rice or shrimp cocktail . . . I’m nibbling

on crunchy broccoli and taking little bites of fruit compote.”

“Does it make you feel good?”

“Well, I admit that I feel a certain smugness.”

“Why?”

“Because, I’m suffering! And they’re having the time of their life!”

“Like a martyr, maybe. What’s on your mind watching them eat?”

“Mostly that I can’t wait to get home and dig into the box of candy by my bed.”

“Do you feel better knowing no animals were killed for your meal?”

“Some, I guess. But that’s not something I lose sleep over. It all comes from the grocery store.”

“Did you have some childhood trauma that may have influenced you.”

“Not really. I ran over a cat once.”

“Cats eat meat.”

“Cows don’t.”

“Do you feel a special relationship with cows. As a fellow Carniphobic, I mean?”

“No. I don’t think about cows much.”

“So, you don’t eat meat, even though you apparently like it because of your concern about your weight. Is that a fair conclusion?”

“I guess so. And the self-esteem I gain from the sacrifice.”

“Time’s about up. But my prognosis would be that your Carniphobia could be fairly easily cured if you wished. However moderation should be practiced in all eating habits. Any more questions?”

“Yes. Is tofu really good for you?”

“I would say it ranks with pickled pigs feet.”

*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*

# Forest roads opening or not?

By the time you read this article, the annual spring road closures on the Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) will have expired. However, that doesn't mean all the gates just magically open. Far from it. In an article earlier this spring, I explained why the gates are closed. I also mentioned that, for those reasons, the gates may not open right on May 15.

A quick recap will remind us that the short-term closures of soft roadbeds allow forest roads to endure the spring thaw without tires creating ruts that will collect or channel water. That water can potentially reach streams and negatively affect water quality or create mud bogs that are difficult or impossible to repair.

Some roads are closed because they pass through areas where elk and deer rear their young in the early spring when fewer areas are available due to persistent snow cover. A lack of vehicular traffic provides a reprieve for the animals who may just now be getting sufficient forage in their diets.

I want to point out that the RGNF does not close the roads to prohibit deer and elk shed antler hunting. Colorado Parks & Wildlife manages the shed hunting activity and the only connection is that our road closures just happen to occur at the same time.

So, what does it take for a road to be opened? As spring progresses, Rio Grande NF employees begin visiting areas to conduct early season projects and will assess road conditions in those areas. Sometimes, we take specific trips just to determine whether a road is sufficiently dry enough to open. On other occasions, we may attempt to determine if wildlife have moved out of an area. Either way, if we determine that the road surface of the entire length of the road can handle motorized traffic, the gate will be opened. It is important to understand the "entire length" concept. I've included a photo taken by one of our Divide Ranger District employees just last week. At the base of the Beaver Creek road, it was dry and dusty. Yet this image will show that the road is impassable not very far up. Once a gate is opened, it doesn't mean the road is snow free and bone dry. So, if you encounter a snowdrift that you think you might get stuck in, trust your instincts! You are probably right. Don't try to drive around the snow drift. Much of the extreme

## Land, Water and People

BY GREGG GOODLAND



Courtesy photo

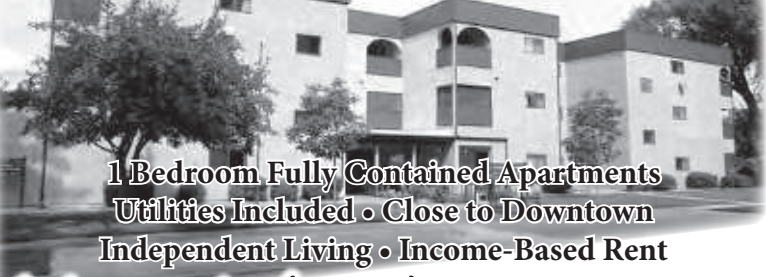
resource damage the land suffers is a result of this carelessness. Simply accept that fact that you aren't going any farther on that road that day. In many cases, you may take huge efforts to make it through just to be held back at the next deep snow patch, right around the corner.

An option is to start your on-foot adventure right there. Several years ago, I was enjoying the San Isabel National Forest in this same scenario. I parked the truck and walked 200 yards to the creek and "discovered" a 40-foot waterfall pounding the rocks below with the relentless energy of the entire winter's snowfall. I can't wait to find similar gems right here on the Rio Grande. I know they are out there.

Revisiting the issue of when a road is opened, I also need to mention those few roads that are likely to have the gates closed well beyond

the planned May 15 date. These are, typically, the roads that reach the highest elevations of the forest. Such places include Lobo overlook, Please see LAND on Page 3

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# 5 gardening hacks to help your plants bloom

By **REBECCA COPLEY**

As the weather warms many are itching to start their gardens. Whether you have a green thumb, or you're a beginner here are 5 hacks to help your garden thrive in 2021:

- Sponges are not just great for getting your dishes cleaned they can also help keep your plants hydrated. Save your old dish sponges and cut them up then place at the bottom of your pot. The sponges will retain moisture and make a necessary air space. The sponge will act as a water reserve and help keep the soil moist longer.

- Oranges and grapefruits rinds are the perfect size for starting new seeds. Cut your fruit in half and scoop out the inside leaving behind the rind. Then make a hole in the bottom for drainage and add some damp seed-starting mix and your seeds. Start them inside and then when it is time to move them outside plant the whole thing rind and all. It should be noted that the citrus peels will make the soil more acidic so only do this with your acid-loving plants such as peppers and radishes.

- Do you have little critters helping

themselves to your flowers? Sticking a few plastic forks (teeth up) around your plants can help deter rabbits or mice from having a snack in your flowerbed.

- Epsom salts can make a nice relaxing bath, but they can also be used to help your plants grow. Epsom salt contains magnesium which helps seed germination chlorophyll production

and the absorption of necessary nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen. For most plants, a ratio of two teaspoons to one gallon of water per month works well. You can dilute the Epsom salt with the water and apply as a spray. Misting the plant will help it grow.

- Save your cardboard toilet paper tubes and use them for seed starters! Cut the tubes into 2-inch lengths and

put them into a waterproof tray. Fill them with potting soil and plant your seeds. Start them inside and when it is time to move them outdoors plant them right in the ground in their cardboard tubes. The cardboard tube will decompose. Make sure that you keep the tube below the soil surface, so it won't take moisture away from the roots.



## LAND

Continued from Page 2

Elwood Pass, Trujillo Meadows and sometimes Stunner Pass, Poage Lake and Bristol Head are all subject to later melt-off dates. Some of you may recall two years ago when we didn't get Elwood Pass road open until mid-June. Now THAT was a big snow spring. And yes, many of us were not happy about the prolonged winter. On those late-to-access springs, I just accept the notion that good ole Mother Nature needed to keep that area asleep for bit longer that year. I don't know why. And I'm certainly not going to try to figure it out. What is the old saying? "It is what it is."

As the spring gives way to summer, please be respectful of the roads that remain closed as well as the areas of the open roads that you just should not be on. It will help my RGNF colleagues and I provide the

best possible experience for generations to come.

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

## WEEDS

Continued from Page 1

have a solitary flower at the end of each stem.

Canada thistle flowers occur in small clusters of 1 to 5 flowers. They are about 1 cm in diameter, tubular shaped, and vary from white to purple in color. Canada Thistle can be controlled thru mowing every 10 to 21 days and applying herbicides. Do not pull or till this can create new plants. Herbicides used for control are Glyphosate, Milestone, and 2,4-D. Always read, understand, and follow the label directions For more information on the City's Noxious Weed Management Plan or to report noxious weeds visit the cityofalamosa.org and click on the Parks & Rec Department.

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~ B.Gullette

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## CLASSIFIED INDEX

- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 01 TICKETS
- 02 CARD OF THANKS
- 03 MEMORIALS
- 04 LOST & FOUND
- 05 NOTICES/BAZAARS
- 06 PERSONALS
- EMPLOYMENT**
- 07 HELP WANTED
- 08 WORK WANTED
- 09 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- FOR RENT**
- 10 APARTMENTS
- 11 ROOMS
- 12 HOUSES
- 13 MOBILE HOMES
- 14 BUSINESS PROPERTY
- 15 WANTED TO RENT
- 16 VACATION
- REAL ESTATE**
- 17 REAL ESTATE
- 18 LOTS & ACREAGE
- 19 FARM & FARMLAND
- 20 BUSINESS PROPERTY
- 21 MOBILE HOMES
- 22 PROPERTY WANTED
- MERCHANDISE**
- 23 LAWN & GARDEN
- 24 GARAGE SALES
- 25 AUCTIONS
- 26 ANTIQUES
- 27 APPLIANCES
- 28 HOUSEHOLD GOODS
- 29 MUSICAL ITEMS
- 30 ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS
- 31 HEALTH
- 32 FUEL & HEATING
- 33 BUILDING MATERIALS
- 34 OFFICE EQUIPMENT
- 35 HEAVY EQUIPMENT
- 36 MISCELLANEOUS
- 37 WANTED
- 38 MACHINERY, TOOLS & EQUIPMENT
- 39 SPORTING GOODS
- 40 AUTO PARTS
- FARMER MARKET**
- 41 FARM EQUIPMENT
- 42 FEED & SEED
- 43 FARM PRODUCTS
- 44 FARM SERVICES

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

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### 05 Notices

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### 07 Help Wanted

**Del Norte Bank is seeking a Branch Manager for the Creede Branch.** Primary duties will include business generation for both deposits and loans, manage local staff and facility. A successful candidate should have some experience in teller and/or loan operations and be a self-starter and eager team member with excellent problem-solving skills. This is a management level position with a salary commensurate with experience and a robust benefit package. Application is available at TrueLocalBank.com or call Mike or Traci at 719-657-3376. Qualified candidates please send your application or resume to postmaster@truelocalbank.com by May 20, 2021. EOE. (05/27)

**Monte Vista Cooperative is now hiring. Several positions available both CDL and Non-CDL.** For more information stop by the main office or fill out an application online at www.mvcoop.com 6/2)

**Saguache County Road and Bridge**

**is hiring for a Full Time Utility Person.** REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must be 18 years of age and have a valid driver's license. Prospective employees applying with Saguache County will be required to submit and pass a pre-employment drug screening and criminal background check. Utility Person position – applicants will be performing a wide variety of manual and limited semi-skilled tasks such as building and grounds construction, maintenance and repair work. Works as a flagman on maintenance projects and performs other work as assigned. Must have knowledge of common hand and power tools, shovels, wrenches and radios. Must be able to lift 25 to 50 pounds. Will be required to work in various climate conditions and be able to stand for long periods of time. Work is subject to supervision and inspection by the shop foreman. **Applications are available at the Saguache County Road and Bridge Office 305 3rd Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 – 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website – saguachecounty.colorado.gov** under the Road and Bridge Department tab Completed applications can be hand delivered or mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge – at the address listed above, sent by email to mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov or faxed to: 719-655-2543.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Open until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.(6/2)

**Saguache County Road and Bridge is hiring for Two (2) Temporary Summer positions. REQUIREMENTS:** Applicants must be 18 years of age and have a valid driver's license. Prospective employees applying with Saguache County will be required to submit and pass a pre-employment drug screening and criminal background check.

Temporary Summer positions – applicants must have working knowledge of common hand and power tools, shovels, wrenches and radios. Must be able to lift 25 to 45 pounds. Will be required to work in various climate conditions and be able to stand for long periods of time. Flagging certification a plus. Work Hours will be Monday – Thursday 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM. Rate of pay: \$12.50.

Applications are available at the **Saguache County Road and Bridge Office 305 3rd Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 – 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website – saguachecounty.**

**colorado.gov** under the Road and Bridge Department tab Completed applications can be hand delivered or mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge – at the address listed above, sent by email to mhashbarger@

## The Rio Grande Club and Resort is looking for outstanding individuals for seasonal opportunities

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### PUBLIC AUCTION

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 Saturday 10:00 am

Location: 270 Tyndal St., Monte Vista, CO. (across the street from Loves)

**Auctioneer's Note:** This is an offering of household items that are in excellent to good condition. If you are a collector or just appreciate the quality of antique furniture you will find several treasures at this auction.

Furniture	Small Home Goods	Appliances
Cherry Head Board (King) Cherry 3 Drawer Dresser w/ Mirror Pecan 6 Drawer Chest Pecan 6 Drawer Dresser w/ Mirror Bed Rails Antique Oak Head & Foot Board w/ metal Rails King Tempur pedic foam mattress pad (Like New) Rustic Pine End Table Rustic Pine Enclosed DVD/Book Case Solid Oak Mission Style Coffee Table 2- End Tables & Sofa Table Over-Stuffed Chair 1- Elec. Oil Leather Recliner 1-Couch 1-Lowcost 2- Book Shelves End Tables w/ Marble top Corner TV Stand Rustic Pine Table w/ 4 chairs 4' Red Glass Table w/ 4 chairs 4' Red Wood Table w/ 4 chairs 60" Oval Cherry Dining Table w/ 6 Chairs w/ Protector pads Stacked Iron & Glass shelves Oak Booster Seat Small Barrel Chair & Footstool Small Recliner Chair Kids Table & Chairs Round Card Table	3 Tier Cake Stand Glass Pic. Keeper Santa Fe Style Chip & Dip Bowl Basket Set The Cup & Plates Candy & Nut Bowls (Crystal) Silver Serving Pieces Assorted Crystal Serving Small Kitchen Appliances Toaster Oven 12 Place White Johnson Bro. China 12 Place Noritake Ivory Wood Kitchen Utility Cart w/ Stainless Steel Top Pictures Misc. Home Decor Brass Candle Sticks (Multiple) Lamps Lamp Shades Reading Lamp Assorted Decorative Pillows Quits, Bed Skirt, Sheets King bedding and pillows	Refrigerator White Mini Refrigerator Free-standing Stove Counter-top Dishwasher Small Fridge Dryer Microwave Infrared Portable Space Heater 2 Window Air Purifiers WIRCARE EP9-800 Whole-House Pedestal-Style Evap. Humidifier
	<b>Miscellaneous Items</b> Berma singer sewing machine Cosmology Travel Warmer Innova Inversion Table (Like New) Exercise Bike Kimble Piano w/bench 4 Drawer File Cabinet Stereo & Speakers 2 - Wedding Dresses (1990) Wedding Decorations: lights, silver vase w/ crystal stem, silver nut & candy tray	<b>Outdoor &amp; Shop</b> Elec. Hamilit string trimmer 4- Ford 18" & Lug rims w/ wood tires 3 used tires 285/75R16 18" Base Cabinet w/ top 18" Door & Frame - Colonial Style Metal strips for 50's Chevy pick up Tool box (fits behind wheel well) Back Pack Strainer Misc. tools Misc. sockets & wrenches 100% Propane bottle Charcoal Smoker DeWalt Scroll Saw Craftsman Mitre Saw Delta Table Saw Elec. Power Washer Pneumatic Finish Nailer Saw, Air Compressor

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# Valley Wide Classifieds

## SAN LUIS VALLEY SERVICE DIRECTORY

saguachecounty-co.gov or faxed to: 719-655-2543. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN (full-time)** 40 hours per week. Rio Grande Hospital is looking for 2 full-time positions. Full benefits offered. Must maintain the hospital & clinic in a clean, sanitary, orderly, and attractive condition to provide a suitable environment for patient care and staff work areas. This includes cleaning of patient rooms, offices, nurse's stations, bathrooms, buffing and waxing, and striping floors and any other areas of the Hospital. For more information, please call Roger at 719-657-4146 or complete an application online at riograndehospital.org. (6/2)

**The Center for Rural School Health & Education (CRSHE)** is hiring a **Community Coordinator for the Developing Resiliency and Equitable Approaches to Mental health (DREAM) Project.** The DREAM project is funded by the Colorado Health Foundation and aims to improve the mental health of educators, students, and families in the San Luis Valley and Southeastern Colorado. This is a 1.5-year position with the potential to extend employment, depending on funding. Responsibilities include: assisting with development of project materials, collecting and processing community feedback, supporting meetings and events, connecting with community members and organizations, and managing various project logistics. Successful candidate will have excellent communication skills; the ability to present to diverse audiences, and a strong commitment to equity. Bilingual Spanish-English preferred. This is a full-time work-from-home position based in the San Luis Valley that requires local travel and occasional travel to Denver (approximately 3 times per year). Salary range for this position is \$45,000-\$50,000 depending on experience. To see the full job description or submit an application, go to: <https://jobs.du.edu/cw/en-us/job/493746/dream-community-coordinator-center-for-rural-school-health-education>. Contact Benjamin Ingman for more information: [Benjamin.ingman@du.edu](mailto:Benjamin.ingman@du.edu). Position is open until filled.

**The Vali 3 Theater is seeking part-time summer help. Must be reliable and able to work weekend evenings max. 15 hours a week. \$12.50/hour.** Bring a resume in person, 139 Adams Street Monte Vista, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. (6/2)

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

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# Valley Wide Classifieds

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**The San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair (SLV-RSF), a long-time 501-(c)3 tax exempt organization, is searching for a Science Fair Director.** The duties include, but are not limited to, fund raising, coordinating with science teachers in the 14 SLV school districts, including home and private schools, and State and International Fairs. The Director is responsible for scheduling, organizing, and operating the SLV-RSF. The Director reports to the SLV-RSF Board of Directors at monthly meetings. For full consideration please apply by May 22, 2021. Applications will be accepted until a suitable candidate is identified. Detailed information regarding the position and application materials is available from Dr. David Holm, SLV-RSF Board President at David.Holm@colostate.edu or 719-480-2511.

**The Upper Rio Grande School District is seeking applications for a Jr/Sr High School Principal.** Applicants must hold a current Colorado Principal license and previous experience as a Principal or Asst. Principal is preferred. Applications may be obtained online at www.urtigers.co. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Aaron Horrocks, Superintendent, ahorrocks@urtigers.co, or call at 719-657-4040.

**SLV Regional Solid Waste Authority Landfill Manager Position opening. Call Cheri 719-852-3810**

or cmalouff@slvlanfill.com for more information. (6/2)

**We are seeking a responsible, self motivated, "preferably" experienced Dental Assistant** to join our team at **Harding Dental Group** where our patients experience the difference at the premiere dental practice in the San Luis Valley. Must be willing to travel to both office locations, South Fork and Alamosa. Please email resumes to june@hardingdentalgroup.com (5-19)

**Painting and staining workers needed.** Experience preferred. Contact Ron, 719-849-1796 (5/26)

**Del Norte Bank is seeking to fill a full-time position for a Teller in the Del Norte Branch.** Duties will be to accept deposits, loan payments and process withdrawals while maintaining a balanced cash drawer. Must be personable and pleasant answering the phone and greeting customers. Many other duties will be assigned as needed. The position is permanent, full-time, M - F, hours vary from 7:15am - 6:15pm with a 1-hour lunch and a robust benefits package. Application available at TrueLocalBank.com/careers or inquire at 705 Grand Ave, Del Norte or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Mike, Stacy or Dawn. EOE. (5/19)

**Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorder is seeking a full time Clerk.** Requirements include: High School diploma or GED, reasonable computer knowledge and associated skills, and three to six months related experience and/or training preferred. Pre-employment drug screening,

including testing for marijuana, will be required. Applications and additional information available online at www.riograndecounty.org or pick up and application and submit to: Human Resources, 925 6th Street, Room 200, Del Norte, CO 81132. (5-19)

**Early Childhood Teacher needed for the 2021/2022 school year.** Must meet the requirements of the Dept. of Human Services Office of Early Childhood. Please send resumes and transcripts to P.O. Box 787, Alamosa, CO 81101

**Early Childhood Teacher needed for the 2021/2022 school year.** Must meet the requirements of the Dept. of Human Services Office of Early Childhood. Please send resumes and transcripts to P.O. Box 787, Alamosa, CO 81101

**Tri-County Senior Citizens has an immediate opening for experienced permanent full time Maintenance/Custodial/Grounds worker.** Qualified applicant must have general knowledge of electrical, carpentry plumbing painting. Will be responsible for making vacant apartments ready for re-renting, and general maintenance/custodial care of building and grounds Will do snow removal

in winter, mowing lawn and other yard work in summer. Clean driver's license a must. Application may be picked up at 311 Washington Street, Monte Vista Co. No phone calls.

**Valley Publishing seeks a temporary, part-time reporter for the Center Post-Dispatch.** Writing and photography experience necessary. Send resume and sample writings to Valley Publishing Inc., P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144 or email to [bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com](mailto:bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com)

**Ministry Assistant, Calvary Baptist Church. 9-12 Monday & Thursday.** Computer and web literate. Submit Resume to PO Box 247 Monte Vista Co 81144. (6/2)

**Hiring Line Cook** Come join the wonderful crew at Boogie's Restaurant. We are hiring 2 full time Cook position and on Part time fryer cook. Apply in person. Start immediately. Good pay and payed weekly. Tips daily from Togo. So many perks to list. Can't wait to meet you.

**17 Real Estate For Sale**  
**1 acre of land FOR SALE 57 Buck St in South Fork(62,000)!!! Home of some of ColoRAdo's BEST**

fishing, hunting, camping, skiing, hiking and 4wheeling. Invest in this land the opportunities are endless. TONS of SKIERS in the winter and TOURISTS in the summer. Great location for a future AirBNB!! This beautiful 1 acre of land will NEVER lose it value. Call 720-767-4368 [d.banderas@kw.com](mailto:d.banderas@kw.com) (5/26)

**23 Lawn and Garden Craftsman Riding Mower 12.5 HP 34cc 28 inch Cut.** Has rear Bag Attachments been stored 719-937-2341.

**Sprinkler repair.** Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (06/23)

**24 Garage Sales**  
**MOVING SALE Everything must go! Kitchen ware, clothing, art, knick nacks, some furniture, etc.,** Fri. - Sat - Sun 10 to 5 at white house with green trim by UFO Watchtower Hwy 17. May 22-23. 805-886-6959.

**36 Miscellaneous**  
**Free Pallets! Pick Up Here. BONTRAGER'S VARIETY STORE** 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500 (5/19)



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In Print & Online

# Valley Wide Classifieds

**Two Wood Burning Cookstoves. One has a Hot Water Reservoir.** Heat the Cabin/House while you cook! **Bontragers Variety Store** 9726 S. County Road 3E, Monte Vista. 719-852-0500. (5/19)

**For Sale: 1,000-gal water tank, 8'x 8' x 8' Storage Building, Stacked washer/dryer 2-Dryers, Large wood fireplace, 49 CC Scooter, ATV Trailer with/Toolbox, 80" TV, Large kitchen table Like new with 2 Big Inserts, 2 Capt. Chairs and 6 Reg. Chairs.** Call 719-588-0573 (05/19)

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

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

**SOLAR PANELS! 240 WATT AND SMALLER.** We Stock Inverters, Charge Controllers and Batteries in Brand Names of Outback, Magnum, Rolls, More. We Also Carry Cable and PV Wire. Thank you for Buying Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500.

**41 Farm Equipment**  
**For Sale: 6555 Hesston Swather, Diesel, Field Ready-\$4,500.** Call 719-580-1392 (05/19)

**48 Pets & Supplies**  
**Free to a Good Home: Medium Husky Mix 5 Years old, Good with**

the elderly. Call 719-588-0573 (5/19)  
**Adorable Pit Bull Puppies Half Red Nose Half American pitbull.** They come with first set of shots. Will be available June 1, 2021. Call me to put a deposit today. I do charge a rehoming fee. 719-849-1494

**50 Livestock**  
**Pullets for sale 5 different breeds. They have been outside for 1 month.** 719 588 0365. (6/2)

**58 Motorcycles**  
**2003 HD Ultra Classic Electra Glide 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition Full Dresser/Tour Pack 35KMI \$10,000 OBO.** 719-206-0292 (6/2)  
**2005 HD Sportster 1200 Custom Bars, LED Signals, Side Pipes, Bags, Seat 10KMI Very Clean \$6,000 OBO** 719-206-0292 (6/2)

**59 Vehicles Wanted**  
**CASH ON THE SPOT FOR JUNK AND UNWANTED VEHICLES**

We pickup, no title ok. 719-937-7935. 719-849-8491(TFN11-21)

**60 Classic Cars**  
**1985 Chevy El Camino Foose Custom Body -Interior- Engine 350 CJD Automatic Beautiful Car \$14,000 OBO.** (5/26)

**65 Professional Services**  
**RELIABLE CARPENTRY** - 46 years-experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates

719-496-7630.(05/26)  
**LICENSED PLUMBER** does all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodels at reasonable rates. Quick service. Call anytime, available weekends and evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593.

**THE BLIND GUY** window coverings. Free measuring, free estimates. Professional installation. Guaranteed lowest prices. Call Tony, 970-903-1403. (08/01/2021 TFN)

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## San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

FOR SALE

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 3313 CO RD 15 Road, South Fork

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



FOR SALE

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

107 Marmot Lane • South Fork  
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FOR SALE

Look, Back On Market, Improved Price!

Mountain Retreat - Your perfect get a way in the mountains. This beautiful 3 bedroom 2 bath 2,204 SQ FT home on 2 acres with attached 952 SQ Ft. Garage and 740 SQ Ft. Workshop is tucked in the mountain and borders the National Forest. Two guest bedrooms on the main floor with nice size laundry room and large master bedroom and bath with balcony upstairs to relax with your hot cup of coffee and watch the morning sunrise. Three heat sources wood burning fireplace, radiate floor heat and electric baseboard. Furnished with all kitchen appliances, washer and dryer and most furniture. Complete with water and sewer system on paved roads. Call and schedule your showing today! Price \$649,900 MLS#778857 • 220 N Skyline Drive

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FOR SALE

Look New Price - THIS HOME YOU HAVE TO SEE TO BELIEVE!

• 3 bedroom • 2 bathroom • \$698,000

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

181 Doe Circle • South Fork  
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FOR SALE

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

0 Escondida Drive • South Fork  
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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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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! MLS #766836

431 and 443 Deer Run • South Fork  
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty  
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com



SOLD

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 and Fireplace. Complete with water and sewer system on paved roads. MLS#777866

171 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork  
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty  
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com






SOLD

Beautiful Unique Custom Built Home in Ponderosa Country Estates

This 4 bedroom 4 bath 2,800 SQ FT home with large 4 car heated attached garage and an additional 2 car heated detached garage, workshop and studio apartment is located in this wonderful neighborhood with no HOA. This is your home-a-way from home, vacation rental or permanent home. Complete with well and sewer system on paved roads. \$375,900 MLS #778054

2 Ponderosa Country Estates • South Fork  
Bernadette Gingrass • Steffens & CO. Realty  
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

# Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area working to preserve historic potato cellars

## STAFF REPORT

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — If there is any doubt that potatoes have sustained the area for centuries, a drive around the rural roads offers an answer.

Scattered across the San Luis Valley are potato cellars that were built in the late 1800s and early 1900s. They were designed to keep the interiors cool in the summer and warm in the winter, with humidity conducive to storing potatoes in a region that has long been known for growing them. About 90 percent of Colorado's current potato production comes from the San Luis Valley.

There may be as many as 100 of them, and many were still in use midway through the last century. They can be found in Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Rio Grande and Saguache counties.

"They're just beautiful structures," said Rio de La Vista, a historical and specialist with the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area. "The construction had two layers of adobe wall with an air space in between, which allowed them to serve as potato cellars because they needed to modulate the temperature inside and the moisture levels. The modern ones, a lot of them are big steel buildings with electrically monitored fans and moisture sensors to maintain the conditions for potato storage. They didn't have all that technology when these barns were built, but they grew a lot of potatoes, so they figured out how to make that work with the construction of these adobe buildings."

Visitors can get more information by contacting the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area at [info@sdcnha.org](mailto:info@sdcnha.org) or by calling 719-580-4070.



Courtesy photo

As planting time begins, interest heightens in how potatoes have been planted, harvested and stored over more than a century. The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area is working on getting the San Luis Valley's potato cellars off the Endangered Structures List.

## Porter named new Rocky Mountain Commercial Brokers President

Porter Realty, Inc Broker/Owner, Preston Porter is the new President of the Rocky Mountain Commercial Brokers (RMCB). Rocky Mountain Commercial Brokers is a group of independent professionals who specialize in the sale and lease of office, retail, healthcare, industrial, investment properties, land and ranches in the Rocky Mountain region.

Preston has been part of RMCB since 2011. With 21 years of real estate experience, Preston's focus is on listing and selling residential and commercial properties in Alamosa and farm/ranch real estate throughout the five counties of the San Luis Valley.

As owner and broker at Porter Realty, Preston Porter oversees residential and commercial real estate broker services, tenant representation, commercial real estate investments and real estate consulting services. RMCB's commercial real estate broker members have met high standards and recogni-



tion in their field and have years of experience with all aspects of commercial real estate.

Using advanced analytical capabilities, networking and property portfolios, our full-service partner brokerage firms work cohesively as a group in sharing the latest commercial real estate information and technology. Rocky Mountain Commercial Brokers' mission is to have our exclusive member commercial brokers assist in helping you find the right commercial space to lease, purchase commercial properties that meet your investment needs, or to help you sell commercial real estate you own at the best price and terms. They meet on a quarterly basis all around the state and discuss the market and happenings all around Colorado. <https://rocky-mountaincommercialbrokers.com/>

## Congregate meal sites open throughout the Valley

### STAFF REPORT

South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc., the local Area Agency on Aging serving older adults 60 and over, recently announced dine-in congregate meals are available at meal sites around the San Luis Valley.

For people not feeling comfortable with dine-in, they continue to prepare grab-and-go meals for pickup at these meal sites. Reservations are required for both dine-ins as well as grab-and-go meals.

All meals are provided by South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc. For reservations or more information regarding all services provided, questions or concerns, call 719-589-4511 or visit at 1116 3rd St., Alamosa. Reservations can also be made at meal sites.

### Meal Sites

- Alamosa — 12-12:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, 92 Colorado Ave. (Alamosa Senior Center)
- Antonito — 12-12:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, 701 Main St. (Antonito Senior Center)
- Del Norte — 12-12:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, 630 Spruce (Pioneer

United Church)

- La Jara — 12-12:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, 413 Main St. (Northerners Senior Center)

- Monte Vista — 12-12:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, 311 Washington St., (Tri-County Senior C

- San Luis — 12-12:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, 1101 Salazar, (Costilla County Senior Center)

- Center — 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Monday-Friday, 138 S Worth (Center Housing Authority)

- Saguache — 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Monday-Friday, 605 Christy, (DSS Building)

- Blanca/Fort Garland — 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Friday only, Fort Garland Community Center

Suggested voluntary donation of \$3 per meal is appreciated. Donations can be made at meal sites or mailed to South-Central Colorado Seniors, Area Agency on Aging, P.O. Box 639, Alamosa, CO 81101. Donations continue to help sustain this service.

For people in need of homebound meals, call 719-589-4511 for assistance.

## Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



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### CLUES ACROSS

- Skateboarders love them
- Popular sports podcast (abbr.)
- Former Ohio State great Michael
- Not dirty
- Earth goddess (Greek myth.)
- A Spanish river
- Pig meat (French)
- Famed astronomer
- Floating ice
- Broadcast
- Aquatic mammals
- Some are bath
- Hip hop trio
- NY Giants' #56
- Small European viper
- Neither
- Multiple Tony-winner Rivera
- Loud noise
- Second year high schooler
- "\_\_ in comparison"
- Golf score
- Raise
- Pastas
- Easily manageable
- Fathered
- Pouch
- Institute legal proceedings against
- News organization
- Unruly group of people
- Fasten or secure
- Sheets of glass
- Doubled
- Foolish person
- Rooney and Kate are two
- Small, rich sponge cake
- Advice or counsel

### Solution to last week's puzzle

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13					14				15			
16				17					18			
19				20				21				
			22				23			24		
25	26	27		28			29			30		
31			32		33		34				35	
36				37		38			39		40	
	41				42			43		44		
			45				46		47		48	
49	50		51			52			53			
54		55			56					57	58	59
60					61				62			
63					64			65				
66					67			68				

- Large wading bird
- Famed British physicist
- Narrow ridges (Swedish)
- Field force unit
- Lying face downward

### CLUES DOWN

- Proof of purchase (abbr.)
- Soap ingredient
- Blackbird
- Single steps
- Tin
- Books have lots of them
- Made of fermented honey and water
- You can get it in a bed
- Room for communal meals
- Early Syrian kingdom
- Provokes dry amusement
- Use with "thou"
- Mollusk
- Grain storage units
- Not a car, not a truck
- Ooze
- N. Vietnamese ethnic group

- Tennis pros group
- Something that's not what it's purported to be
- E. Indian trees
- Beloved December holiday
- Regions
- Metric unit of length
- Peter's last name
- Beige
- 18-year period in astronomy
- Where golfers begin
- Basketball stat (abbr.)
- Frocks
- Soda comes in it
- On approval
- Trims by cutting
- Small finch
- Language Bura-\_\_
- Nothing
- Imbecile (British)
- Tropical Asian plant
- Abba \_\_, Israeli politician
- Small freshwater fish
- Indicates position
- Data processing



# Honoring Our First Responders

## National EMS Week May 16 - 22, 2021



**Thank you to these individuals for their hard work & dedication!**

### South Fork Fire and Rescue

Tyler Off Chief  
Tyler Schmidt Captain  
Michael Filippi 1st Lieutenant  
Tyler Hathorn 2nd Lieutenant  
Brittany Off  
Lucas Slade  
Tyrell Harris  
Steve Eakin  
Andy Dickey  
Shannon Goldsberry  
Nate Goldsberry  
Woody Wilson  
Melanie Dickey  
Linette Schmidt  
Jed Pilant  
Mark Wole  
Ben Webster  
Stephen Brooks  
Stafford Wilson  
Aimee Blackmon  
Josh Brophy  
JC Hart  
Brantlee Webster  
Marco Lopez  
Scott Hobbs  
Noah Peerman  
Amanda Hobbs  
Bill Eastman  
Brittany Hathorn

### Costilla County Ambulance District

Co-Directors  
Sherri Vigil EMT-I  
Dan Quintana EMT- I  
Kathy Christensen EMT-I  
Medical Director  
Dr. Grant Hurley  
Crew Members  
Tommy Rodriguez EMT-B  
Jackie Martinez EMT-I  
Sandi Martinez EMT-B  
Tanya White EMT-B  
Beatrice Medina EMT-B  
Stephanie Giebeig EMT-B  
Dylan White EMT-B  
Victoria Sisneros EMT-I  
Shannon Uran EMT-P  
Reyna Martinez EMT-B  
Arlene Miller EMT-B  
Natalie Gura EMT-P

Juan Dorado EMT-B  
Sara Loggin EMT-P  
Michael Abeyta EMT-B  
Stacey Kiesel EMT-B  
Maria Quezada EMT-B  
Robert Clark EMT-B

### Northern Saguache County

David Hammel EMT-INTERMEDIATE  
Julia Hammel EMT-INTERMEDIATE  
Lisa Hammel EMT  
Trevor Ward EMT  
Brandon Garcia EMT  
Rebecca Pachco EMT  
Clifton Simpson EMT  
David Frees EMT  
George Frees EMT  
Trish Watson EMT-INTERMEDIATE  
Ashely Taylor EMT-INTERMEDIATE  
Kendal Adolf FIRST RESPONDER  
Alyssa Hammel

### Monte Vista Community Ambulance

Andrue Valdez EMT-P  
Gary Haverfield EMT- B IV  
Deb Haverfield EMT-P  
Valarie Maestas EMT-I  
Juan Palomarez EMT-B IV  
Evan Lopez EMT-B IV  
Kenia Hostetler EMT-B IV  
Carlos Lopez EMT-B IV  
Arlyn Oakes EMT- I  
Andrea Cherne EMT-P  
Rafelita Atencio EMT-B IV  
Ellie Lancaster EMT-P  
Rick Robirds EMT-B IV  
Steven Sparks EMT-I  
Jon Montano EMT-I  
Latoya O'cana EMT-P  
Emily Esquibel EMT-I  
Jim Lancaster EMT-P  
Betsey Strawn EMT-P  
Molly Hart EMT-B IV  
Natalie Curtis EMT-B IV  
Kendra Sears EMT-B IV

MVCA Board Members  
Eric Kimberling

Carolyn David  
Judy Kuske  
Sandie Varner  
Curtis Crawford, DVM

Medical Director  
Dr. Grant Hurley

### Del Norte EMS

Carla Fresquez EMT B IV (Director)  
Jacob Renner EMT B IV  
Lorrie Schofield EMT B IV  
Trish Archuleta NREMT IV (Asst. Director)  
Bobby Fresquez EMT  
Darren Black EMT B IV  
Frank Archuleta EMR  
Adrianna (Aj) Fresquez EMR  
Becky Beecham EMT B IV  
Kelli Overall EMR  
Tammy Haynie EMT I  
Steve Eakin NREMT  
Caitlyn Morgan EMT I  
Michael Pino EMR  
Pat Martinez EMR  
Joel Rosales EMR

Board Members  
Laurence Gonzales  
Linda Owsley  
Carla Taylor  
Robin Medina  
Paul Renner  
Eva Timberlake

Patrick Thompson Medical Director

### Alamosa

Darrick Garcia Paramedic/RN  
Jason McGinnis Paramedic  
Mike Marical Paramedic  
Kim Jordan Paramedic  
Kyle Crawford Paramedic  
Shannon Uran Paramedic  
Latoya Ocana Paramedic  
Mike Valdez Paramedic  
Jocelyn Comstock EMT-I  
Adam Daniels Paramedic  
Nelson Vialpando Paramedic  
Teyler Hurst Paramedic  
Ashleigh Taylor EMT-I  
Caitlyn Morgan EMT-I  
Gary Stieduhar EMT-I  
Reyna Martinez EMT-IV

Bob Cook Paramedic/CC  
Craig Worth EMT-IV

### Center Fire

#### Protection District

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Asst. Chief Tim Ruggles EMT  
Asst. Chief John Anderson  
Captain Dale Bartee EMT-IV  
Lt. Ryan Koehn EMT-IV  
Lt. Ryan Good EMT  
Lt. Jason Ensz  
Med. Advisor Dr. Pat Thompson  
Vivian Schrock EMT-IV  
Rebecca Deacon  
Kenla Hostetler EMT-IV  
Ruben Rendon  
DeAnna Bartee  
Casey Boeckner EMT  
Tesa Maxwell  
Jaden Yost  
Miguel Macias  
Ryan Holland  
Miguel Cendejas EMT  
Junior Gardea  
Jeremiah Garcia  
Joe Villanueva  
Delsa Chavez  
Darwin Ensz EMT  
Tristan Hostetler  
Sheila Paskett AEM-IV  
Francis Song Paramedic  
Gabriela Bucio

### Baca Grande Fire EMS

Jim Vanderpool Fire Capt./Acting Chief  
Harold Fowler EMS Capt./Acting Admin.  
DiAnte Method EMT-IV/Firefighter  
Shana Silver Paramedic  
Denise Johnson Paramedic  
Steven Johnson Firefighter/Driver  
Kevin Matz Firefighter/Driver  
Tad Filter Firefighter/Driver  
Rachelle Wilson Firefighter/Driver  
Armando Mendez Sanchez Firefighter/Driver  
Kevin McConnaughay Firefighter/Driver  
Ben Antoniewicz Firefighter/Driver

Taleb Nelson Firefighter/Driver  
Corez Hines Firefighter/Driver  
Brent Vandever Firefighter/Driver

Christina Lakish EMT-IV/  
Firefighter

Vivian Schrock EMT-IV  
Alec Gifford Probationary FF  
Steve Hirsch Probationary FF

### Conejos County

Donna Nelson Med. Director  
Ernest Abeyta Director/CCP  
Brandon Sowards EMT-I  
Sara Loggin CCP  
Amanda Abeyta Paramedic  
Lauri Knowlton EMT B IV  
Ashliegh Taylor EMT-I  
Juan Palomarez EMT B IV  
Natalie Watters EMT B IV  
Michael Abeyta EMT B IV  
Jackie Martinez EMT-I  
Jace Anderson EMT B IV  
Courtney Christensen EMT B IV  
Kory Russel Paramedic  
Victoria Sisneros – EMT-I  
TJ Salazar – CFRN/EMT B IV  
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Debra King – Operations/Billing Office

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Don Dustin EMT-I Director  
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Dana Brink EMT-I  
Clarence Dube EMT  
Mark Hebert EMT-P  
John Lawley EMT  
Dwayne Lewis EMT-I  
Daniel Madrid EMT-I  
Andrew Marino EMT  
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# Keep tires road-worthy for safer driving

Making driving more safe can come down to ensuring that the vehicle is in good working order — starting from the ground up.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration warns that an average of 200 people die each year in tire-related crashes. In 2016, 733 people across the United States lost their lives in accidents in which tire malfunction was a contributing factor. Roughly 70 percent of single vehicle accidents are tire-related. Taking tire maintenance seriously can greatly reduce the chances of blowouts, accidents and fatalities.

## Maintain the right pressure

Caring for tires not only improves safety, but also it extends the life of the tires, saving drivers money as a result. Michelin Tires says that simply checking the tires' inflation

pressure can make a significant difference in how long tires last. For example, a tire that is consistently 20 percent under-inflated may see its life expectancy reduced by 20 percent.

Tires that are not properly inflated also can have a high rolling resistance. In such instance, the engine must expend more effort to move the vehicle — thus eating up fuel.

Pressure should be checked at ambient temperature before driving, states AAA. The recommended inflation pressure can be found in the drivers manual or on the tire.

## Check tire tread

Tires rely on good tread depth to maintain traction and shed water during wet conditions. AAA recommends checking tread with a visual inspection and with the "quarter test." Insert a quarter into a tread groove with the top of Washington's

head facing down. If the top of his head is not visible, the tires have at least 4/32" of tread and are acceptable for continued use. If the top of Washington's head shows, tires need to be replaced.

## Learn about tire aging

Check the owner's manual for specific recommendations concerning replacing the spare tire for the vehicle. Some manufacturers state after six years, while others say 10 years is the maximum service life for tires. While most tire centers will use newly manufactured tires when replacing tires, you can double check the age of any tire by looking at the sidewall for the tire identification number (TIN), offers NHTSA. The last four digits are the week and year of manufacture.

## Keep up on maintenance



Courtesy photo

Wheel alignment, tire rotation and tire balancing are all key to minimizing wear and extending the life and safety of tires. Each vehicle has specific recommendations, and

drivers should consult their manuals to find those specifics.

Tire function is an important part of maintaining vehicle safety and performance.

## Why is tire rotation so important?

Vehicle owners need to keep maintenance on the mind to ensure their cars and trucks are operating at peak capacity. Various components should be checked and serviced at key intervals. Oil changes and fluid top-offs are part of routine maintenance, but it can be easy to forget about other important parts of the vehicle, including tires.

Rotating tires is vital to their upkeep. Bridgestone Tires advises that tire rotation involves routinely repositioning a vehicle's tires in specific patterns from front to back and side to side. According to Big O Tires, the front tires tend to wear on the outside edges because the tire leans over when a driver turns a corner. The rear tires just follow the front ones, so they usually wear more evenly. By leaving tires in place, the outside edges on the front tires will wear down much faster than the rest and those tires will need to be replaced sooner. Rotation may be required by tire warranties. Rotation also keeps the tires working properly.

Experts generally advise tire rotation every 6,000 to 8,000 miles, even if they do not show any signs of wear. It is challenging to determine if weather treads are uneven or how much wear has been sustained just by looking at them. Rotating tires can prolong the life of tires and decrease how frequently they need to be replaced.

Rotating tires keeps the tread depth uniform and helps maintain traction and consistent handling across all four tires. Bridgestone says the tire rotation pattern that is best for a particular vehicle depends on the type of tire being used. Patterns are recommended by the standardizing body of the tire industry, called The Tire and Rim Association, Inc. Individuals can consult with professional mechanics about the proper way to rotate tires. Many tire manufacturers or automotive stores that have sold customers tires also will do tire rotations — some free of charge.



Courtesy photo

In addition to proper traction, minimizing uneven tire treads causes the vehicle to be more balanced, advises Wrench, a mobile auto repair and maintenance company. This enables the driver to have more control even when roads are slippery. Many auto service centers will then align and balance tires after they have been

rotated. At this time the mechanic will likely check brakes as well, since it is easy to see and reach them when the tires are off.

Tire rotation is an important component of vehicle maintenance. Check with a qualified automotive professional to see if it's time to have your vehicle's tires rotated.

## The importance of routine vehicle maintenance

Owning a car is a big responsibility. Drivers who plan to keep their vehicles for the long haul must emphasize maintenance if they want to keep adding miles to their odometers. In fact, the automotive information site CarAdvice says that routine maintenance may be the most important thing drivers can do for their vehicles.

A vehicle needs consistent care if it is to run efficiently. Maintenance also reduces the risk of roadside breakdowns and costly repairs. Here's a look at some of the benefits of staying on top of maintenance.

- Saves money: Even though maintenance costs money, sticking to a consistent maintenance schedule can save big bucks in the long run. For example, the cost of rotating and aligning tires is considerably less than repairing a car after a major blowout and paying for a tow and tire replacement.

- Improves performance and efficiency: Routine maintenance includes oil changes, filter changes

and fluid top-offs. Such tasks keep engines running smoothly. Ignoring this routine maintenance can put engines in jeopardy of breaking down and adversely affect vehicle performance, diminishing fuel economy and leading to a sluggish ride.

- Identifies safety issues: Routine inspections and work performed by reputable service stations help drivers stay abreast of recalls or issues that can affect the safety of the vehicle.

- Maintains a maintenance record: When the time comes to sell the vehicle, having a log of routine maintenance indicates to potential buyers that the vehicle was well cared for.

- Keeps compliance: Vehicles covered under manufacturer's warranties typically need to be maintained in adherence to factory-recommended maintenance schedules. This ensures that the vehicle is in compliance and will be covered in the event of a warranty claim.

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# May busy month for High Valley Community Center

**SUBMITTED ARTICLE**

May is a busy month at High Valley Community Center as we prepare to finish the semester and look to our summer programming.

Do not forget to register your kids ages 5 to 12 for t-ball and baseball. Our practices will begin the week of May 17 and games will be from June until early July. Go to [www.thehvcc.org/sports](http://www.thehvcc.org/sports) to register. Any youth are entering seventh grade or above are welcome to join our junior intern program. To apply go to [www.thehvcc.org/summer](http://www.thehvcc.org/summer).

We are happy to announce that our summer program will be from June 1 to July 29. We will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. If your kids would like to join us, please make sure that they are registered before attending. We welcome kiddos from the age of 5, who are entering kindergarten in August. For any questions, you are welcome to stop by or call the front desk at 719-657-2172.

The 2021 soccer season is officially over. We had such a great time! Thank you to all the parents and

kiddos for your positive attitudes and participation.

Last week the theme at HVCC was, "Going Places." Two activities that stood out were the stomp rockets during which kids stomped on empty plastic bottles to propel the rockets and balloon-powered cars. We would like to acknowledge Victor for his positive attitude during activities and willingness to help staff clean up. Thank you, Victor! Keep up the good work.

The College and Career Exploration Series is in its final week. Carla will be taking the group to the South Fork area to observe a construction site and visit the Rio Grande Club. Last week, representatives from Rio Grande Hospital, county government, the National Guard, the Forest Service, BLM, and the Del Norte Fire Department generously participated in a mini job fair at HVCC. The older kiddos enjoyed the presentations and learned a lot. Thank you very much to

all those that participated in our job fair! We are very grateful.

In closing, we want to remind everyone that next week is our last week of programming for the 2020-2021 school year and we would like to invite family, friends, and fellow community members to attend our HVCC Circus on May 13. Enjoy dinner and look at booths from 5 to 6 p.m. and end the night watching our kiddos' circus performance at 6 p.m. We look forward to having you there!



Courtesy of HVCC

Students with High Valley Community Center spent the week participating in lots of fun activities such as 'stomp rockets,' finishing up soccer lessons and getting ready for summer. HVCC is currently accepting students for the coming summer season so please go register today.

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# Taste of Creede sets the table for 2021

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

**CREEDE** — Like many festivals and events in Creede in 2020, the Taste of Creede was canceled out of an abundance of caution but now that vaccines have hit the scene and Mineral County has maintained its required COVID-19 metrics, the festival will be taking place at the end of May.

This long-time area favorite began when local artist Steven Quiller decided that what Creede needed was an event that highlighted local artists and delicious food. Thirty-three years later this festival continues to be a great way to set the table for summer. The festival may look slightly different than in previous years but according to sources, it is sure to be a great time for the entire family.

The event will start on Saturday, May 29 with live music provided by *Rally Round* and *Caldera*, children's activities, craft vendors and some food tastings throughout the day.

The Silver Chef Competition is also scheduled to take place and is one of the main reasons guests come to Creede. Local chefs gather on Main Street to show off their culinary skills and vie for the top spot in the competition. Each chef is given specific ingredients and asked to create delectable dishes for the judges. Food and ingredients are generously donated by Shamrock Foods and the Monte Vista Coop.

Guests can wander up and down Main Street to enjoy watching artists creating works of art in several mediums throughout the day while visiting local shops and restaurants. The annual Artist Quickdraw will also be taking place on Sunday, May 30.



This year's featured artist is David Montgomery.

According to his bio, "David Montgomery was born into the Great West unlike many who discover it in their travels. He spent his formative years growing up beneath the looming presence of Pike's Peak and the Front Range of Colorado. Hunting and fishing forays into the wilds with his family spawned his love of the outdoors and nature. He continues to hunt to this day- now with easel and paint brush. The West has changed dramatically in his lifetime and Montgomery strives to commemorate the amazing vistas that are still with us- and strives through conservation activism to

preserve those special places that are most worthy of protection.

"David Montgomery has been creating art since he was a small child and has continued with this passion throughout his life. After enjoying art in public schools, he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting from Colorado State University. He has been living and painting in the San Luis Valley of Southern Colorado for over fifty years. His artwork is shaped by the monumental vistas and pristine environs of this rural area at the headwaters of the Rio Grande.

"Montgomery shares his love of these western spaces with his plein air pieces as well as larger studio landscapes



Photos by Lyndisie Ferrell

**The 33rd annual Taste of Creede will be taking place at the end of May. The event includes the Silver Chef Competition, live artist presentations and demonstrations, children's activities and more.**

that fill walls. He has taken art trips to Europe and the sub-tropics, widening his imagery while pushing his artistic envelope. Montgomery also pursues studies in human figure rendition.

"One of Montgomery's favorite adventures was an invitation to the Forbes Magazine Corporation estate in Balleroy, Normandy. During his week of painting there he was able to enjoy many day excursions into the Norman countryside with many

other invited artists. Most notable was being able to paint in Claude Monet's estate at Giverny, taking in his world-renowned grounds and his epic lily pond. In addition to painting, Montgomery also offers his services as a show juror and painting instructor."

The weekend will end Monday with the annual Elks Lodge Memorial Day Service in Basham Park. For more information and a schedule of events, visit [www.creede.com](http://www.creede.com).



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