

Shorts



ALMA and Viaero Wireless present Rio Trio on April 18

ALAMOSA — Rio Trio and special musical guests are next up in the virtual Spring 2021 Sundays at Six concert series at 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 18, to be livestreamed from ALMA's Facebook page — www.facebook.com/almalivemusic — website — www.almaonline.org/ — and YouTube channel — www.youtube.com/user/almacconcerts. This event is free and open to the public.

Rio Trio has been playing together in the SLV for six years and includes Charley Johnson on bass, Robear Bosdorf on slide, lead, and steel, and Rhonda Schoenecker on rhythm guitar and vocals. They perform a mix of jazz, blues, and other favorites. For this special performance, Rio Trio has invited cello player, Mark Dudrow, and Matt Wellman, who will be adding some spicy sax.

ALMA "Builds Community through Quality Live Music." For more information, like ALMA on Facebook or go to www.almaonline.org.

Mass COVID-19 vaccination clinic on April 16 in Del Norte

DEL NORTE — A mass COVID-19 vaccination clinic is scheduled for April 16 by the Rio Grande Hospital in Del Norte.

Call 719-657-2418, to schedule an appointment or for more information.

Del Norte Food Bank distribution on April 17

DEL NORTE — The Del Norte Food Bank will hold its April distribution from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, April 17. The Del Norte food bank serves the Del Norte and South Fork area. Anyone in need of food assistance is welcome. For more information, call 657-2872 and leave a message.



Friends of Ski Hi receive \$100,000 from county

BY LYNDISIE FERRELL
RIOGRANDE COUNTY — Rio Grande County Commissioners met for a special meeting on Wednesday, April 7 to present \$100,000 from the county's conservation trust fund to the Friends of Ski Hi to help with costs associated with the new recreation facility and event center being built in Monte Vista.

Commissioners met with the friends of Ski Hi during their regular meeting the previous week and listened to a presentation by Friends of Ski Hi member Karla Shriver and Kathy Woods. Several organizations that host events at the site were in attendance to show support for the project.

During the presentation, Shriver pointed out some of the funding that *Please see SKI HI on Page 6A*



Courtesy photo

Ski Hi Recreation and Event Center construction is underway in Monte Vista. The Friends of Ski Hi are hoping to have it finished in time for the annual Ski Hi Stampede this summer.



Courtesy photo

'I got my shot. I'm Latino, and I'm fine.' Facebook campaign after team members were vaccinated. Luis Murillo, Pantaleon Villagomez and Maria Villagomez of Los Promotores de la Valle de San Luis

The vaccine and reaching out to Latino communities

'Hey, I got my shot. I'm Latino. And I'm fine.'

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER
SAN LUIS VALLEY — When it comes to

COVID-19 and dealing with the pandemic, Luis Murillo, principal of Skoglund Middle School in Center, is a well-known face in the Valley. As part of his role with Los Promotores de la Valle de San Luis, Murillo has been on the front lines from day one, helping

Please see VACCINE on Page 7A

State pauses use of Johnson and Johnson vaccine

COVID-19 cases continue to rise in San Luis Valley

STAFF REPORT

SAN LUIS VALLEY — Because vaccine safety is a top priority in our region and in Colorado, local providers are following instructions from CDPHE and CDC to temporarily pause use of Johnson and Johnson (Janssen) vaccine. More than 6.8 million doses of the Janssen vaccine have been administered in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and the Federal Drug Administration announced that there have been 6 instances of an uncommon type of blood clot in people who received the Janssen vaccine. This type of blood clot requires a specific kind of treatment, and part of the reason for pausing the use of this vaccine is to make sure that healthcare providers understand how to recognize and treat these potential but *Please see COVID on Page 6A*

Part two of the LeRoy Brothers in San Luis Valley

BY LYNDISIE FERRELL
SANLUISVALLEY — Now, Billy LeRoy was not your typical looking criminal. The young highwayman was known for dressing on the up-scale side and one of his most infamous traits that kept lawmen guessing who he was, was his size four shoe.

At many of the locations where LeRoy held up a train or stagecoach, lawmen would find footprints of his size four shoe and were often, convinced that these criminal acts of theft were done by a woman. This fact and many others kept local lawmen confused and wondering who might be responsible for the countless robberies that were taking place.

After his night of drinking and losing horribly while gambling, Billy LeRoy decided to head out and get

some of his money back in the best, sure way he knew how, holding up a stagecoach. LeRoy used the last bit of his money to rent a horse and headed West along the Rio Grande River toward Del Norte. LeRoy found a place on the stagecoach route that was surrounded by sagebrush and having secured his location in the dead of night, placed cowboy hats on top of several bushes and placed wooden rifles below the hats. His stage was set.

Finally, after hours of waiting, the *Please see BROTHERS on Page 6A*

Billy LeRoy and his brother Sam Potter were buried in unmarked graves in the Del Norte Cemetery. Only one headstone remains today.

Courtesy photo



Refinance Your Home Loan Today!
2.716%
15 Year Fixed Annual Percentage Rate*

*APR as of 4/12/2021 and rates/terms subject to change without notice. APR assumes 30 Year Fixed Rate Loan \$245,000, no cash out, 80% LTV, excellent credit. DTI within policy, and no origination fee. Appraisal, Title, Credit and Other Fees may apply. Contact a lender to learn more, rate subject to credit approval. Rate and term listed is for well qualified borrowers and your rate/terms may be higher based on credit or collateral. NMLS: 446071



Call Julie or Scott at 657-4558 today



DEL NORTE BANK

719-657-3376 TRUE LOCAL BANK TrueLocalBank.com

OBITUARIES

Gerald Karl Haynie

Having lived a full and prosperous life, Gerald Karl Haynie departed this life on April 1, 2021, in Lehi, Utah. Jerry was born on June 15, 1929 in Manassa, Colo., to Harran Hall and Mary Manning Haynie. He was the third of seven children. He had a happy childhood and grew up with a large extended family unit. He remained close with his siblings throughout his life.

Jerry graduated from Alamosa High School and attended Adams State College where he met Oma Jean Oliver, the love of his life. They were married on Jan. 21, 1951, in Monte Vista, Colo. They were married for 67 years.

Jerry was drafted into the Army during the Korean War. He was stationed in Baltimore, MD, Santa Barbara, Calif., and then Ft. Douglas in Salt Lake City, Utah.

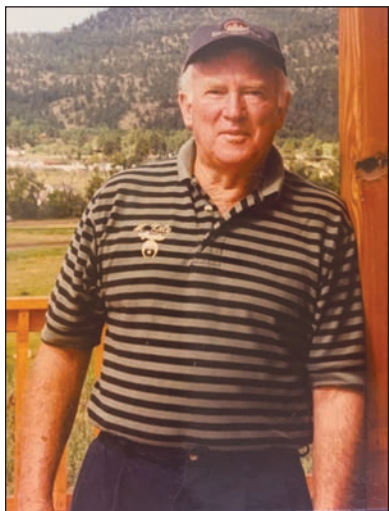
After his discharge, Jerry and Oma Jean made Bountiful, Utah, their home where they welcomed three children into their lives. Their family was always their priority where love, work, honesty and high expectations were emphasized.

Jerry was a hard worker and an excellent provider. In his youth, he worked for various family enterprises including picking peas, digging graves and in the grocery business. He always had a job doing something. In Utah, he sold tires and then he opened a shoe store.

In 1964, Jerry and Oma Jean returned to Alamosa to run Haynies Merchandise Mart which his father had started in 1946. Jerry and Oma Jean purchased the business several years later and changed the name to Haynies, Inc., Napa Auto Parts, and ran it very successfully until their retirement in 1996. Before their retirement they purchased a home "The Dome" in South Fork where they continued to make new friends. Jerry and Oma Jean loved to entertain guests and were active community members.

Jerry had numerous talents and interests. He loved to golf and held memberships at both Alamosa Golf Course and Rio Grande Club in South Fork where he was a charter member. He loved to play cards with all the groups he associated with and especially enjoyed meeting with his friends at the Alamosa Elks Club. Jerry had a talent for candy making and was a master of making caramels, peanut brittle, and toffee. He attained a pilot's license while in high school in Alamosa, but most of his travel was by automobile and he did love to drive.

He enjoyed vehicles very much, including the three wheelers that he rode as a Shriner in local parades. He enjoyed his association and the work he performed as a member of the Sand Dunes Shrine Club.



He was an active member and held various offices with the Shriners. He had great satisfaction in being the representative to the Shriners Hospital in Salt Lake City by referring children with disabilities to receive treatment at no cost to their families. In this calling, he was a hero to many children throughout the Valley as they received life-changing treatment to overcome their disabilities. Jerry was also a great help to the Shriners Club with their fundraisers, most noticeably, the Shrine Circus which comes every year to the Ski Hi Stampede grounds. Jerry was a longtime Adams State Booster Club supporter. Jerry and Oma Jean loved to travel with friends from their associations in NAPA and Shriners.

Jerry was preceded in death by his loving wife, Oma Jean, parents Harran and Mary, and siblings Carol Tate, Louis Haynie, Richard Haynie, Marie Haynie, and Jon Haynie

Jerry is survived by his children: Terry (Sharon) Haynie-Del Norte, Colo., Tammy (Gary) Cooper-Lehi, Utah, Sam (Blair) Haynie-Alamosa, Colo., six grandchildren, Ryan (Tammy) Haynie-Del Norte, Colo., Tiffany (Austin) Neilson-North Ogden, Utah, Devin (Angela) Haynie-Alamosa, Colo., Blake (Erin) Haynie-Syracuse, Ind., Ashley (Kevin) Sorensen-Spanish Fork, Utah, Tyler Haynie-Alamosa, Colo., 15 great-grandchildren, sister: Adele Gilchrist-Bothell, Wash., sisters-in-law: Martha Oliver, Alamosa, Colo., Gae Haynie and Rolaine Haynie-Salt Lake City, Utah.

The family would like to thank Bellaview Assisted Living Center in Lehi, Utah, for the loving care given to Jerry during the last few months of his life as well as Tom Faris, Lee Cerrone, and Teddy Garcia for always lending a helping hand to Jerry after Oma Jean passed away.

To respect Jerry's wishes no services will be held. A celebration in his honor will be held this summer with details forthcoming.

Lifetime Center resident Billy "Balls" J. Marques, 64, died April 4, 2021 at the River Valley Inn nursing home in Del Norte.

Billy was born in Center, Colo., on March 13, 1957, the loving son to Juan Marques and Stella Garcia Marques.

He worked for many years in and around the Center area as a Skilled Laborer and worked in various jobs such as sheep shearing, potato and lettuce farming. He was very self-sufficient and lived his life in his own way and on his own terms. He was known to be very gutsy and didn't shy away from a challenge.

Billy is survived by his partner

Billy J. Marques

and companion Loretta Herrera of Center; his siblings Dorothy Archuleta of Colorado Springs, Barbara Marques of Center, Rick Marques of Pagosa Springs, and Tammy (Gino) Zamora of Center; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Juan Marques and Duane Marques; and his sisters Stella Marques and Peggy Rubalcava.

Cremation was chosen and due to Covid, services will be held at a later date. To leave online condolences, words of strength and remembrances for Billy's family,



please visit www.RogersFunerals.com.

Billie Jean Gaultney Walker

Billie Walker, 96, passed away peacefully on April 8, 2021, at Montage Creek Senior Living in Montrose, Colo.

Billie was born May 28, 1924, to James and Pansy (Shane) Gaultney in Buffalo, Okla. After her parents divorced her mother married Elzie G. Walker, an uncle of her husband, Raymond G. Walker. After graduation from high school in Pueblo, Colo., Billie worked at the East Army Air Base during World War II.

Billie and Ray Walker were married on June 8, 1945, and made their home in Monte Vista, Colo. They later owned and operated a cattle ranch southeast of Monte Vista from 1958-1979. In 1979 they sold their ranch and moved to Montrose, Colo., where they made new friends and loved the wonderful weather.

Billie discovered her talent as an artist in oils and then in watercolors after moving to Montrose. She received many awards for her paintings. Billie also received a Civil Air Patrol medal in 2015 for her work during the war.

Billie was preceded in death by her husband, Ray, in 1995 after 50 years of marriage. Ray passed away peacefully at the Rifle Veterans Center in Rifle, Colo. His ashes were scattered at the head of the Rio Grande River.

Billie is survived by her three children: Ray (Katie) of Loudon, Tenn., Roy (Alice) of Layton, Utah, and Patricia (John) Fitch of Gilbert, Ariz., as well as seven grandchildren: Lori (Ryan) Mentink of Rifle, Colo., Lyle Walker, Shane (Jill) Walker of South Ogden, Utah, Carmen Walker of Ogden, Utah, Justin Walker of Tampa, Fla., Michael (Michelle) Fitch of San Francisco, Calif., and Matthew (Jenise) Fitch of Mesa, Ariz., and five great-grandchildren.



A celebration of life will be held at the Montrose Methodist Church in Montrose at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Crippin Funeral Home and Crematory, 802 E. Main, Montrose, CO 81401, 970-249-2121.

BLM planning spring prescribed burn near Squaw Creek in Saguache County

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — The Bureau of Land Management-Rocky Mountain District Fire and the Rio Grande National Forest are preparing to conduct a prescribed burn in the Squaw Creek area, approximately 17 miles west of Saguache.

Implementation of the prescribed fire project could take place between mid-April and mid-May 2021, depending on favorable weather and fuel moisture conditions. Once started, the burn is expected to take several days to complete. Firefighters will be on scene for the duration of the burn.

"We will not initiate the prescribed burn until the conditions are right to achieve the objectives of the project," said John Markalunas, Rocky Mountain District Assistant Fire Management Officer. "Reducing hazardous fuels and achieving resource benefits in

the project area are priorities for the operation."

The burn will treat approximately 297 acres of BLM land and 252 acres of US Forest Service land to reduce accumulated fuels and improve resiliency of the timber stand. Targeted fuels include diseased or infected Douglas fir, decadent grasses, and other ground fuels that have accumulated since previous treatments.

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. Fire managers have developed a detailed prescribed fire plan and have obtained smoke permits from the State of Colorado for the planned burn.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information,

visit the Colorado Air Pollution Control Division's website www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health.

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



Kids (6-16) \$4 • Adults \$6 • Seniors (65+) \$5
120 Person Maximum, please maintain social distancing



San Luis Valley Federal Bank

Cash in on rewards using your debit card.

Learn more about debit card rewards
visit www.slvfb.com/rewards or call 589-6653

OPINION & EDITORIAL

God versus Satan

Last week I saw someone posting online saying they had a lot of problems with "Satin" bothering them. And, I must say I was intrigued how that material could really be an issue. I mean if a person was highly allergic to that soft as a baby's butt silk replacement, I can see the problem but, generally, that material is pretty much inert in the giving you hives department.

Then it dawned on Ol' Dutch that what they meant was that old nemesis, the Devil, himself, who was giving them fits. He has a tendency to do that every so often as most of you know and this has gone on ever since he got kicked out of Heaven by God Almighty. I mean he was not just sent to sit in the hall or to some quiet time but got the big boot into the Earth landing flat on our heads, thank you very much.

And ever since then, mankind has been plagued with him monkeying around in our affairs. You would think he could find entertainment other than that, as we are just not that entertaining. I mean honestly.

But like an ex-spouse who finds pleasure in tormenting you even though they wanted the divorce, he seems to find some sort of sick joy in twisting people's tails into a knot so to speak.

Now Ol' Dutch has long been a student of old Lucifer's tricks and tirades having been raised in a church going family but of late I got to wondering just how we attach everything bad to him and everything good to God.

I mean just let something go awry in our lives and we will jump right on "the Devil made me do it" bandwagon or at the least he "caused it" when in fact maybe God kept you from going a certain direction to save you from some ill result?

Miss Trixie is fast to assign "The Divine" — whomever that is — to anything that does not work out which is part and particle of her positive spin on everything. I mean just let a trip not work out or someone not get a job, and she is fast to say, "The Divine always conspires for our good."

But Ol' Dutch has to admit that many times in life I have been delayed on a trip by a minute or two only to find a big wreck down the road where I would have been. And I do know that old, red-horned demon would not delay me to save me so maybe she is onto something. And the Bible does say God takes what was meant for our evil and turns it



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

out for our good so who knows?

I can also attest that as much as I didn't want to split the sheets with the ex, it did work out for my good in the long run and that old Garth Brooks' song, "Thank God For Unanswered Prayers," does come to mind about that whole adventure. "There but for the Grace of God go I" has never been truer.

The last 30 years or so has seen a rise in people believing that God pretty much delivers only good things to us much like the beloved Easter Bunny if we only say the right words enough times or give enough money or believe a certain way.

Failure to get said new car, homes, airplanes, land, fame and fortune according to those good things preachers can now be blamed on — yes, you guessed it — us. For somehow, we didn't do enough to warrant God letting us withdraw said item from some heavenly bank account and so we must try harder, buy more books, tapes, CDs and, of course, give more money.

Ol' Dutch has long been a proponent of depending a lot on the Grace of God as I probably have needed it as much as any of you out there and it's a welcome relief from a lot of that going to Hell talk that sometimes dominates some religious circles.

So, I guess we just have to paddle along life's way best we can and depend on an all-knowing God for the rest. And even though we did get kind of a raw deal when the horned one was drop kicked over the Pearly Gates, we did end up with deviled eggs and so it wasn't all bad.

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.troutpublic.com.



YOUR NIGHT SKY

Bootes the Bear Driver

By DARLENE DANKO

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

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

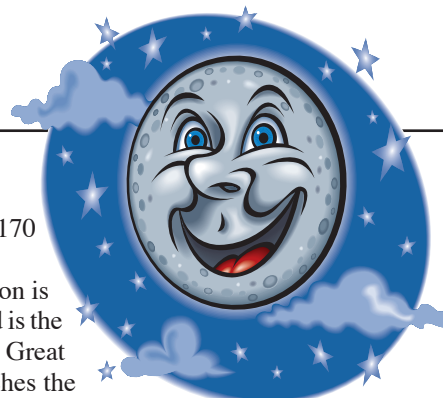
It shines with an orange glow and is currently the fourth-brightest star in our sky. It's also one of the closest stars at 36.7 light years from us. Arcturus is an orange giant with a diameter 25

times our Sun, and it shines 170 times brighter.

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

The Lyrid Meteor Shower is coming up. It runs from April 14 to April 30, and peaks on the night of the 21st and the morning of 22nd. This is an early morning event and occurs in the sky above Jupiter and Saturn. Unfortunately, the full moon is on the 27th.

It's one of our oldest meteor showers. Meteors come from comet dust trails. They provide fireballs which are shooting stars that flash brightly and streak across the sky.



Meteor showers are always named from the constellation they appear to originate from, even though they really don't. That's just the area where we see them.

This meteor shower starts in the late evening and rises about 20 degrees high at midnight. So, if you're a late-night person, you could watch them then. Since the moon sets around 4 a.m., that gives an hour to look for them. So just look in the east-southeast above the planets. You may see 15-25 per hour. So, have fun and enjoy the beautiful Lyrid's!

LETTERS POLICY

Letters are welcome and encouraged. They should be fewer than 300 words, unless arranged beforehand with the editor, and they are subject to editing for length and clarity.

All letters must be signed by the author and include a phone number and address where the author can be reached (these are not for publication). Letters forwarded from other organizations or sent to staff and not for print must be designated as such. Letters over 300 words and without contact information will

be returned to the sender or discarded.

We will accept one letter per person, per subject, per four issues. We reserve the right to reject letters for reasons we believe are appropriate. Please send letters to Letter to the Editor c/o Valley Publishing, PO Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144 or e-mail to bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com (Attention: Letter to the Editor). Deadline for letters is 5 p.m. Friday.

Political letters may be limited due to space constraints.

Subscribe Online!
CENTER POST-DISPATCH.com

CENTER POST-DISPATCH

THE CENTER POST-DISPATCH (USPS 775-900) Published weekly (every Thursday) by Valley Publishing. (719) 852-3531 at 835 First Ave., Monte Vista, Colorado 81144-1423. Official newspaper of the Town of Center, and a legal newspaper in Saguache County.
Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144
Main office, Want ads and Subscriptions: (719) 852-3531
Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, Colo., 81144
POSTMASTER: Send change of address to P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144
Subscriptions: \$39 one year in San Luis Valley; \$49 elsewhere. Out of Valley First Class Mailing \$115.00 one year.
Seniors receive 10 percent discount on in county subscriptions only. (719) 852-3531
News Media Corporation website: <http://www.newsmediacorporation.com>

- Brian Williams..... GM/Editor
- Rebecca CopleyMonteVista Reporter
- Lyndsie Ferrell South Fork/Creede Reporter
- Sylvia Lobato Conejos County Reporter
- Sandra Marquez.....Advertising Sales Associate
- Shasta Quintana Circulation
- Ellie BoneComposition
- April Welch Classified
- Vernon Trujillo Production Foreman

www.centerpostdispatch.com

St. Peter's Lutheran School hopes to reopen

By REBECCA COPLEY

MONTE VISTA — St. Peter's Lutheran School is hoping it can reopen after closing in May 2020.

Last May, the school closed due to uncertainties and the financial impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The school enrolls K-8 students, and uses a comprehensive curriculum including language arts, reading, math, science, social studies, music, art, religion, and

P.E. Students also participate in a history fair and a science fair.

The school's hours are 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. At this point, the school is anticipating having one full-time teacher and two part-time educators. The school says this may change depending on the number of students that are interested.

The school also accepts students from outside of Monte Vista and in

the past had students from Center, Del Norte, and Alamosa areas.

Students also do not have to be Lutheran to attend the school. St. Peter's Lutheran School would like parents know they offer Christian values, small class sizes, multiage classrooms, and affordable tuition.

The school's mission statement is, "To reach out with the Gospel to children and families in the church and the community to develop every aspect of the child, with Jesus Christ at the center of all activities."

The school is located at 330 Faraday St. in Monte Vista. At this point, it

is not fully open. They are currently taking letters of interest from parents to see if they can reopen.

If you are a parent or guardian interested in more information, call or text 719-852-5449, or email cjmbaird@gmail.com or markdwanahaugen@gmail.com.



Photo courtesy of St. Peter's Lutheran School

St. Peter's Lutheran School has been closed since May of 2020 due to uncertainty brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.



Creede Repertory Theatre plans three plays for 56th season

Summer Day Camps, The KID Show and more are on tap

STAFF REPORT

CREEDE — The Creede Repertory Theatre announced its 56th season will be outdoors and consist of three plays.

"The past year at the Creede Repertory Theatre has been about reframing the limitations of a pandemic into opportunities for innovation and renewal," stated John DiAntonio, CRT Producing Artistic Director. "CRT's 56th season will be a new and exciting experience for staff, artists, students, and patrons. We are heading outside! Piloted beautifully by 2020's innovative outdoor KID Show, CRT is taking our whole season to the great outdoors for the very first time."

This year, CRT will set three plays against the beautiful scenery of Creede with an open-air stage and seating area in Seime Park above town, across from the Sunnyside Chapel. CRT in the Park will offer six performances a week, Wednesday through Sunday, from June 25 through Sept. 4. On May 1, show titles will be announced and tickets will become available.

The beautifully renovated outdoor seating space at the Creede Hotel and Restaurant will host "Boomtown" every Friday night and an original CRT Cabaret on Thursday, Friday,

and Saturday evenings from July 1 through Sept. 4. "Boomtown" tickets will go on sale through CRT starting May 1. Tickets for the Cabaret can be reserved through the Creede Hotel and Restaurant at 719-658-2608.

Education at CRT is ready for another summer of Day Camps, The KID Show, and the Young Audience Outreach Tour. Camps and KID Show registration is open now. Visit CRT's Education webpage to learn about specific offerings and reserve a spot.

CRT is committed to continuing health and safety protocols in all spaces, crafted in partnership with Silver Thread Public Health with adherence to state mandates and Actors' union requirements.

Attendance will be limited for all performances, patrons will be socially distanced, and masks will be required. Many factors went into crafting these plans, aimed to protect the health of our staff, artists, students, and patrons and keep our theatre open for Summer 2021, DiAntonio noted.

"We can't wait to see you live and in-person this summer. Thank you for all your support and understanding as we navigate these uncharted territories," DiAntonio stated. "As always, I would love to answer any of your questions — please don't hesitate to reach out or stop me at the K-Belle. I hope you and your family are staying healthy and well."

For more information, visit online <https://creederep.org>.

SLV REC maintenance project to begin in Valley

STAFF REPORT

SAN LUIS VALLEY — SLV Rural Electric Cooperative will be conducting a maintenance project in the southern part of the San Luis Valley beginning in mid to late-April.

National Powerline, a contractor from Arizona, will be changing out all transmission insulators from Waverly Substation to Stockade Substation, then from Stockade to San Acacio Substation. They will need access along all transmission lines in the area. Residents in this area are asked

to contact SLV REC if they have a locked gate or anything impeding access for the crews. Call or email Chief Operations Officer Shawn McKibbon to discuss at 719-852-3538 or smckibbon@slvrec.com.

Updating the infrastructure will continue for approximately three months. JKL Associates, Inc. will also be doing some work, adding fiber on the same lines for the next six-eight weeks.

Reach out to SLV REC with any concerns.

MvC
Monte Vista Coop Equipment

719-852-5565

MACDON ROTARY CUTTER

R113PT 13" Pull Type- 60 demo acres

Spring Special Price

\$29,495

List Price: \$45,000

www.mvcoop.com

Our Lenders Make a Difference!

Home Loans

- Purchase • Refinance • Construction • Home Improvement

Call Denise or Joel today for help with your home loan!



Denise Heersink
CLO – Mortgage Lending
719.852.5933
NMLS # 451448



Joel Polkowske
Branch Manager and Loan Officer
719.589.2536
NMLS # 1079848



RG BANK

www.RGBank.bank

901 First Avenue
Monte Vista
719-852-5933

Equal Housing Lender

3416 Mariposa Street
Alamosa
719-589-2536

Member FDIC

Cranes bring tourism dollars to San Luis Valley

BY REBECCA COPLEY
MONTE VISTA — Each year, sandhill cranes fly to Monte Vista and bring millions of dollars in tourism. At the Monte Vista City Council meeting, Jenny Nehring and Deb Callahan presented information that showed the economic impact of the 2020 Monte Vista Crane Festival from their visitor survey was \$3.4 million. From their survey, they broke down the average spending per day for each type of visitor from locals to those doing day trips, and those who were staying at hotels for the festival.

“The resulting numbers are roughly \$3.4 million that comes into our Valley, to our community just from people visiting in the Spring to see cranes,” said Nehring, adding, “Keep in mind though these cranes they come through twice a year. They come through in March in the Spring that’s when we’re used to our cranes and our festival, but they also come through in the Fall. So, this is quite literally money that falls from the sky two times a year.”

Nehring told the council they held the last regular crane festival in 2020 just before the world changed due to COVID-19.

“The data I’m presenting is the economic impact of crane fest during a normal time period when visitors can freely come, travel, and stay,” said Nehring during the City Council meeting on April 1.

During their presentation, Nehring gave some background about the cranes and why they come through the San Luis Valley. The Rocky Mountain population of the Greater Sandhill Crane comes through Monte Vista and the San Luis Valley during

their migration. Nehring said there are approximately 25,000 birds in this population.

A slide Nehring showed, tracked the routes that these birds take with all of them bottlenecking through the San Luis Valley, on their migration twice a year to breeding and wintering grounds.

As part of the survey, Nehring said they set up pneumatic vehicle counters.

“We had those set up in locations around the refuge. The pneumatic vehicle counters were set up for 60 days so you could catch the number of cars in the area with cranes and without cranes. And the survey time period was approximately 30 days. It was cut short just a bit because of COVID,” explained Nehring, later sharing that the car count data over the 30-day period was an estimated 20,000 crane viewers. They also noticed an 89% decrease in car count when the cranes were not present.

Nehring also said the cranes aren’t just in Monte Vista during the Crane Festival weekend in March.

“The reality is that the cranes are here for about 6 weeks. And they’re here in peak numbers for about 3 weeks. So, anyone who enjoys coming to the Valley to see cranes knows that you can come the weekend before or after Crane Festival and have as good or sometimes even better viewing. If you’re not a fan of large crowds then you can skip Crane Festival and still come down and have spectacular viewing opportunities,” said Nehring.

They had 261 survey responses for their page with 95.6% of people asked to do the survey filling it out.



Photo by Brian Williams

Of those surveyed, 12% responding to the survey were San Luis Valley residents, and the other 88% percent were from outside of the Valley.

The survey also showed they had visitors from 15 different states. Ninety percent of the visitors were from Colorado. Most visitors came from counties on the front range like Denver, Colorado Springs area and Boulder.

Nehring said Crane Fest-goers were also asked if they would take advantage of other spending opportunities if they were offered.

“It was a resounding yes. And from that information, they extrapolated that an additional \$316,000 could be made from visitors attending Crane Festival. And so, some examples of additional events are happy hour, live music, and other public land tours. This does not need to be

additional activities that the Crane Fest committee plans for Crane Festival. This is just additional opportunities that our town could provide to these visitors when they’re here. The Crane Fest committee is happy to publicize all the unique opportunities our community would like to put together,” said Nehring later adding, “There’s more money to made — \$3.4 million is a really big number and there’s more money to be made.”

The Monte Vista Crane Festival started in 1983 and has never skipped a year.

“Our Crane Fest is the oldest birding festival in the State of Colorado. And it’s one of the oldest in the whole nation of a birding festival. We did an online festival this year, so we are proud to say that we’ve never skipped a year on Crane Fest since

1983,” said Nehring.

Nehring and Callahan shared with the council that they do not have to advertise the well-established festival and that many visitors hear about the event by word of mouth.

Later in their presentation, they discussed some ideas on how to make the festival even better.

“There’s charm to our festival because of our charming little town, and we don’t want to lose that. So, growing it bigger is not the ask here, it’s making it better. And giving more things for people to do, the visitors we already have,” said Nehring.

Callahan said that an example of this was the success “the Swoop of the Cranes” art installation has brought to the festival. The entire presentation can be viewed at www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ewCGqL5Ebu&t=3604s.

QUALITY SERVICE
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING
 Since 1998
 LEAF GUARD
 16 YEARS BACKED BY THE SEAL

ENGLERT LeafGuard
 Get it. And forget it.

Clog Free Guaranteed!
 Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free.



- Seamless, one-piece system, keeps out leaves, debris & more.
- Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters.
- Durable, all-weather tested system.

BONUS OFFER

Receive a \$25 Lowe's gift card
 with FREE in-home estimate

All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both collaborating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-market within 21 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Lowe's and is subject to change without notice prior to installation. Expires 6/30/21.

85% Off Labor

Does not include cost of material. Expires 6/30/21.

Call Today for a FREE In-Home Estimate

(844) 216-0635

Summer on the Rio Grande 2021

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

2020 Summer on the Rio Grande Southern Colorado

FREE San Luis Valley Official Visitors Guide

Adventure
History
Nature
Events

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

©2020 Valley Publishing, Inc.

Why advertise in the Summer on the Rio Grande publication?

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

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

SKI HI Continued from Page 1A

was originally supposed to help with costs did not come through due to the COVID-19 pandemic and that the project was short which led to the request for additional conservation trust fund monies.

To date, Rio Grande County has approved \$250,000 for the project which is expected to be finished in time for the annual Ski Hi Stampede. Commissioners voiced concern that other entities had not been asked to dedicate funding to the project and requested that the Friends of Ski HI continue its efforts to seek funding from other organizations and city or county boards before agreeing to the additional \$100,000 from the conservation trust fund.

During the meeting on March

BROTHERS

Continued from Page 1A

Barlow Sanderson Stage made its way up the road just before dawn and found a large wooden fence post laying in their path. The stage stopped and LeRoy stepped out from this hiding place and ordered the stage handler to toss him the mail bag as well as the leather envelope that contained a decent amount of money declaring that they were surrounded and should just follow directions. The stage handler complied while LeRoy demanded that the passengers also throw down their money and jewelry. LeRoy, being satisfied with his haul, let the stage continue. No one was hurt during the raid.

The following day, LeRoy left the San Luis Valley again and headed to Pueblo where he was recognized by a postal inspector and thrown in jail. US Commissioner Andrew Brazee charged LeRoy with two counts of stagecoach robbery and set his bail at \$7,000. LeRoy, eager to take responsibility for his crimes, gave a full confession of his adventures and criminal activity in Colorado. LeRoy attempted to escape with two other prisoners who were shot during the escape and was put back in jail to await charges for a third robbery in the San Luis Valley.

LeRoy was placed on a train after being sentenced to 10 years in the House of Corrections located in Detroit, Mich. As the train neared its destination, LeRoy stole a piece of wire and used it to escape from the train when his captor went to the restroom and made his way to Hays City, Kan. Where he hid under the porch of an abandoned house for three days. According to reports, he survived off a single ear of corn during that time.

After LeRoy felt it safe to move again,

31, the board also discussed the possibility that additional funding may be available through the COVID Relief Fund that will be coming in from the state since the recreational event center was hindered because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Though commissioners were unsure if this project would fall under the guidelines set by the state for the use of COVID Relief Funding, they plan to research the possibility and will approve additional funding if it is approved by the state.

The Ski Hi Complex is a large facility geared toward hosting events that occur in Monte Vista throughout the year, including the Ski Hi Stampede, Crane Festival, Agricultural Conference and many more. The facility will have

he headed back home to Indianapolis where he met up with his brother Silas. Billy told his brother about his crimes and hauls in the San Luis Valley and the two decided it was worth it to go back and see how much they could get. It was at this time that Silas adopted the alias Sam Potter and between him and Billy they gathered a band of men that consisted of Tom O'Phallin, Jim Wilson, and Dave Rudenbaugh. Billy was the leader of the band.

Their first attempt to rob a stagecoach after returning to the San Luis Valley went horribly wrong. When the band of men stepped out to stop a western-bound coach led by Jack Wells, they startled the horses and seeing a chance to get away, the driver grabbed the reins, turned the stagecoach into the bushes and escaped under a hail of bullets. Luckily, no one was hurt during the incident.

Their next attempt went just as wrong as the first but this time, when they opened fire on the stagecoach driven by Joe McCormick, the passenger, an engineer for the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad grabbed his shotgun and caught one of the other passengers in the leg. LeRoy boarded the stagecoach and made away with five bags of mail and \$118. He also took the shotgun from the engineer.

By this time, lawmen throughout the area were hot on their tail and the band of thieves and local vigilantes began to gain interest. Money was pooled together from citizens of the San Luis Valley to help fund the effort to put these men in jail. The band of thieves hunkered down in a location near North Clear Creek by Creede and it was there that a group of citizens took all five men into custody.

All of the men were taken without incident except LeRoy. Seeing that the

volleyball and basketball courts and meeting space for conferences. The need for the building was debated over the course of two years before the project got off the ground last June.

The Friends of Ski HI have provided several different types of statistics and economic studies to lay those concerns to rest and that show the large amount of economic growth that occurs when an event is held in the area. The organization is hopeful that the completion of the project will bring future growth to the Valley and offer a much-needed venue for large conferences as well as offer a recreational center for the public. The building has also been built to serve as an emergency shelter should the need arise.

gig was up, LeRoy pulled his pistol to make his stand when he decided it would be better for him to run. After taking flight, one of the lawmen fired and shot LeRoy in the leg and took him into custody. The band of thieves were transported to Del Norte to await trial and it was there that citizens took matters into their own hands.

Once the prisoners were secured in the jail, over 100 masked men raided the jailhouse and took LeRoy and his brother Sam Potter to a nearby tree where they were hung for their crimes. Billy LeRoy's last words before the noose was hung about his neck rang out in the night while his brother sobbed beside him, "I have waltzed through the region a long time without paying the fiddler, so now gentleman I am ready to meet the cashier. Go on with your cart." The posse of vigilantes did just that and whipped the horses in front of the cart that held LeRoy and his brother ending the Colorado Highwaymen's lives once and for all.

For more information or to find stories such as this visit the Rio Grande County Museum in Del Norte.

COVID Continued from Page 1A

rare occurrences.

Anyone who received the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine within the last three weeks and who develops severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain, or shortness of breath should contact their health care provider. Individuals who received the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine more than a month ago are at very low risk of serious side effects.

As of Monday, April 12, there were 74 active COVID-19 cases in the San Luis Valley, a drastic increase from the 19 cases reported one week ago.

Although Dial levels have not officially changed away from Green for the region (due in part to the speed of the case increase), the current numbers now place the overall risk at the equivalent of Level Blue, verging on Level Yellow.

Individuals, families, and businesses are strongly encouraged to take preventative measures such as mask wearing and social distancing and getting vaccinated. Local data is updated regularly at www.slvphp.com. All adults are now eligible to receive the vaccine.

Teens ages 16-17 are eligible to be vaccinated for COVID-19. The only vaccine approved so far for this age group is Pfizer. The Pfizer vaccine has complex storage and transport requirements that have posed a challenge for many rural areas. The region expects to receive some Pfizer vaccine on April 20 that will need to be used within 7 days. To sign up for one of these doses, call your local public agency to schedule an appointment. Online signup links for these providers can be found at www.slvphp.com.

Public health agencies in Archuleta, Chaffee, Gunnison, and Huerfano counties may be able to provide vaccines to Valley 16-17 year olds whose parents are willing to travel and would like to have their teens vaccinated sooner.

Rising COVID-19 cases in the San Luis Valley mirror the state of Colorado as a whole. Data shows that vaccines are doing well at protecting our most vulnerable community members. Earlier in the pandemic, most hospitalizations were in older people. Now the majority of new hospitalizations in Colorado are people under the age of 50.

A recent survey in Colorado found that many people who took a "wait and see" attitude about COVID-19 vaccines have now decided they want to receive it. This is great news because higher vaccination rates will reduce risk in our community. Factors that contribute to vaccination rates include residents' level of desire to receive the vaccine and easy access to vaccine providers. Demographics also play a role. For example, a county with a high percentage of residents over the age of 65 is likely to have a higher percentage of its population vaccinated at this point than a county with a younger population.

"Vaccines remain our best tool to end the pandemic, even as new variants increase in Colorado," officials stated. "We have not yet identified any variant cases in the San Luis Valley based on a sampling of positive tests that are checked for variant strains of the virus. It is likely though that variant strains will be identified in our region soon based on the trends we are seeing across the state."

- Last Friday, CDPHE added some new data, including the "up-to-date vaccination rate," which shows the percentage of residents in each county who are fully vaccinated, meaning that they have had two doses of Pfizer or Moderna, or one dose of Janssen.

- "Doses administered" shows the number of vaccine doses that have been administered to residents of that county, regardless of where they received the vaccine.

- "Doses distributed" shows the number of vaccine doses that have been distributed by CDPHE to vaccine providers located in that county; this includes public health agencies, hospitals, clinics, and some pharmacies.

- It is an easy mistake to assume that "doses administered" divided by "doses distributed" would give a number that shows the efficiency with which a public health agency is administering vaccines. This would only be true if public health were the only provider, and if residents could only receive vaccines in their county of residence. Neither of these conditions are true. Other factors are also at play, as noted above.

The Problem with Feelings

I've learned from experience that feelings are fickle. One day they can be up, one day they can be down, and other days they are just all over the place!

God gave us feelings, and they are not wrong in and of themselves—they are an important part of enjoying life. We don't need to deny that we have them, but we do need to prevent them from controlling us.

In 1 Corinthians 3:3 (AMPC), the apostle Paul is talking to new Christians, and he says, "For you are still [unspiritual, having the nature] of the flesh [under the control of ordinary impulses]."

The flesh is our desires—what we want, think and feel. And Romans 8:8 says that "those who are living the life of the flesh [catering to the appetites and impulses of their carnal nature] cannot please or satisfy God, or be acceptable to Him."

The Bible is saying that always doing what we feel like doing will hinder us from doing what God wants us to do. We need to get to the place in life where we are not controlled by our emotions so we won't miss out on His good plan for our lives.

I realize that some people are more emotional than others. However, with God's help, we can get to the point where we obey God and do what His Word says to do—regardless of our feelings.

Let me give you an example. I was sexually abused by my father for years. My mother eventually found out but never confronted him because she was afraid of him. Needless to say, the abuse and pain I endured as a child deeply affected me, and it took years for me to experience the emotional healing I desperately needed so I could truly forgive my parents.

When they reached a point where they needed someone to help take care of them, the Lord spoke to my heart that He wanted us to bring my parents to St. Louis, buy them a house,

and take care of them until they died. I shared it with Dave, secretly hoping he would resist the idea. But he said, "If you think this is what God is leading you to do, then we better obey Him."

We didn't have a lot of money in the bank, and it was going to take most of it to do what God was asking. But the more I prayed, the more the Lord made it clear that He wanted us to take good care of them and treat them as if they had been the best parents in the world.

So we moved my parents to a house just eight minutes away from us, bought them a car and furniture, and met their every need. My father showed some appreciation, but he still remained the same mean and cranky man he had always been.

But one morning, three years after we had moved them to St. Louis, my mother called to say my father had been crying all week and asked if we could come over. Dave and I went, and that day my father asked me to forgive him for what he had done to me as a child. He also asked Dave to forgive him.

We assured him that we had forgiven him and asked if he wanted to ask God to forgive him and begin a relationship with Jesus Christ. He said yes, and we all prayed right there on the spot. Ten days later, I had the great honor of baptizing my father at church!

I can truly say that for the next four years, prior to his death at age 86, I saw a true change in my father. I know without a doubt that he's in Heaven. My mother had asked my forgiveness years before this, and I had the joy of knowing her last years were peaceful.

Now, when the Lord asked me to help my parents, I certainly didn't feel like doing it. I had a choice to obey Him and do what I knew was right or follow my feelings and miss out on what He wanted to do in their lives and mine in the process.

I want you to take a moment and



think about this: Are your feelings preventing you from doing something God has asked you to do? In the moment, it may seem that getting "your way" is more important or that you'll be giving up too much if you go along with God's plan.

But the truth is while you can't always control how you feel, with God's help, you can control what you do. And when you obey God, He always rewards you beyond anything you can imagine.

I encourage you to pray and ask the Lord for strength in this area. Ask for His help to choose His will over what you want, think or feel in the moment. Because you'll never regret making good decisions, doing things God's way!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-teaching CD series *The Beauty of Spiritual Maturity*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored 120 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.

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

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Your ad could be here for only \$12/week!

Call 852-3531

OptiMystics plan Cinco De Mayo celebration

By REBECCA COPLEY

MONTE VISTA — After the success of their St. Patrick's Day Parade in March, the OptiMystics are putting together a Cinco De Mayo celebration.

Organizers are hoping to have something for everyone to enjoy and promise fun for the entire family. The celebration will be an all-day event on Wednesday, May 5, starting at 11 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m. They plan to have a car show, kids games, historic presentations, food, a parade, local vendors, and more.

The vendors, kids activities, food, and more will be located on the 100 block of Adams Street. The car show will be on the 200 block of Adams Street. Along with the local restaurants on Adams Street, there will also be food trucks parked for the event.

If you are interested in participating in the parade you must be registered by April 28. Forms to register can be found on the OptiMystics website.

On the website people will also find forms to register a vendor booth or food booth, and to enter a vehicle in the car show. These forms must also be turned in by April 28. The OptiMystics are asking for a \$15 donation for vendors including food vendors, and a \$10 donation to participate in the car show. For parade participants, a \$10 donation is appreciated. All donations will be used for beautification and revitalization projects in town.

The OptiMystics are also in need of volunteers to help with the event. Anyone who is interested in helping with the celebration is asked to contact the OptiMystics by calling 719-239-1811 or emailing optimysticscag@gmail.com.

More information, registration forms, and updates as the plans finalize can be found at the OptiMystic's website <https://optimystics.org/cinco-de-mayo/>. The event plans to follow all current COVID-19 health guidelines at the time of the celebration.

VACCINE Continued from Page 1A

communities navigate the crisis. It's that role with Promotores — working with his team, speaking with different people about the virus and going door to door to distribute information about precautions — that also put him at the front of another line, those "essential" individuals who were vaccinated right after health care providers.

Murillo describes it as an honor that Promotores was in the first wave to be vaccinated. But it also raised a few questions.

"I did not know many who were vaccinated," he said. "You hear it and you read about it and, by then, doctors and nurses, of course, had been vaccinated. But in my circle of friends, other educators and even those in Promotores, I was one of the first who got it. And, yes, I'll say it was a little bit scary because, back then, we were still learning about it and about the effects."

That nervousness Murillo speaks of has caused some people to wait to be vaccinated, some of whom are still waiting. Yet, when asked why he went ahead and got the vaccine, he does not hesitate in his answer.

"I got the vaccine to protect my family. I got the vaccine to protect myself," Murillo said. "And I got it to protect my community. Those were the main factors. And it was also the nature of my job, being a middle school principal and an educator and the work I do for Promotores."

Murillo was given the Moderna vaccine.

"With that first shot I felt a little fatigued. My arm was a little sore — and I say this because I could — I rested for about 6 hours on Saturday," he said.

When asked how he felt 28 days

later when he got his second shot, Murillo laughed.

"I got that shot on a Tuesday," Murillo said. "That day, I had a board meeting. And then Wednesday, I had a packed agenda. I say I didn't give myself permission to feel bad but, honestly, I felt pretty good. My soreness was minimum. I did feel feverish, but I never actually registered a fever, and I was able to continue with my work life, as normal."

But just as important as how Murillo felt physically was how he felt emotionally after he had gotten his second shot.

"I felt great because I felt less anxiety. Working at Center School, we've been hybrid for most of the time, so I felt less anxious, more focused on my work. Even though I continued with all the precautions, I was less distracted by social distancing, by making sure my mask was on right, by 'am I wearing an N-95 when I need to, all those things,'" he said, adding, "I felt human again."

As part of his work with Promotores, Murillo has been especially aware of how the Latino communities have been responding to the vaccine. National figures suggest there is a disparity between Latinos getting the vaccine compared to other demographics, and, although Murillo cannot say with certainty the gap is as large in the San Luis Valley as it is other places, he has noticed some of a difference.

Although he is reluctant to generalize, he believes that part of that difference can be attributed to the nature of work many Latinos do in the valley.

"When I go into a [clinic or a hospital], I don't see too many Latino doctors or nurses, and I think that

has caused some of the disparities," he said.

In other words, people might be more willing to get a vaccine if it was administered by someone who looked more like they do, a concern that Promotores has helped to both address and resolve when they have hosted vaccine events, two of which, alone, brought in more than 600 people, many of whom were Latino.

Other reasons for hesitation Murillo has heard were related to vaccines causing infertility, causing harm to a unborn baby if a woman is pregnant or how the vaccine will play out with other health concerns besides diabetes and heart disease.

After bringing in doctors to answer people's questions and address those concerns, Murillo said people were no longer hesitant. Once their questions were answered, people were ready to "get the shot."

"The Valley has done an excellent job of letting people know that the vaccines are free and employers have been very good about letting people get off work to go get a vaccine," he said. "But sometimes just seeing a familiar face can make all the difference."

For that reason, shortly after Murillo and other team members with Promotores got their vaccine, they launched a small campaign on Facebook with photos of themselves.

"It was our way of saying, 'Hey, I got my shot. I'm Latino, and I'm fine,'" he said.

With that in mind, Los Promotores de la Valle de San Luis continues to work with the coalition of health care agencies and organizations to reach out to all residents, and they plan to keep on doing so for as long as it takes to get shots in the arms of all.

FEMA provides an additional \$108M to Colorado for COVID-19 response

STAFF REPORT

DENVER — The Federal Emergency Management Agency has provided more than \$108 million in additional Public Assistance funding for the COVID-19 response in Colorado. The assistance was made available under a major disaster declaration issued March 28, 2020. FEMA has provided a total of \$514 million for the Colorado COVID-19 response to date.

President Joe Biden approved a cost share increase from 75% to 100% for projects related to the pandemic response that include work completed between Jan. 20, 2020 and Sept. 30, 2021. This approval allowed FEMA to reimburse states, cities and other partners for 100% of eligible costs. This funding announcement represents the remaining 25% cost share for 9 projects that were previously funded by FEMA.

The \$108 million was approved for COVID-19 associated costs, contracts, and facilities:

- Colorado DHS and Emergency Management: \$19.4 million
- The City and County of Denver: \$9.7 million
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment: \$79.4 million

This funding is authorized under the Jan. 21 Presidential Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security and Section 403 of the Robert T. Stafford Act.

For the COVID-19 response, FEMA has simplified the Public Assistance application and funding process to address this event and to allow local officials to receive eligible funding more quickly. These reimbursements can play a critical role as state, local and tribal officials work to assist their communities during this response.

Additional information about FEMA's Public Assistance program can be found at www.fema.gov/assistance/public.

SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

SAGUACHE COUNTY — The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the period between April 5 and 11, 2021.

The Sheriff's Department's activity on the road included one abandoned vehicle, one traffic complaint, nine traffic stops and one motorist assist.

In addition to responding to one civil dispute, staff recorded one intoxicated person, two cases of fraud, one assault, three cases of trespassing, one case of protection order violation, two cases of theft, one case of animal cruelty, one structure fire, two vin inspections and six cases of suspicious activity. They also monitored seven controlled burns. Property found in Moffat.

Arrests

• Nicolas Andrew Hammel, 28, Saguache, contempt of court (failure



to comply).

- Clinton Daniel Copeland, 29, Farmington, NM, fugitive of justice.
- Rene Becerra Ibarra, 43, Denver, fugitive of justice Cheyenne County.
- Juan David Aguilar-Rea, 18, Leadville, warrant.
- Joseph Anthony Salaz, 61, Saguache, second-degree criminal trespass and theft.

DON'T JUST KINDA TV. DIRECTV.

CHOICE™ Package

\$69.99 per month

for 12 mos. plus taxes and fees. 100% new equiv. Acquire & install fees \$119.99. Price higher in 2nd year. Regional Sports Fee up to \$8.99/mo. is extra. © 2021.

LIVE Watch your favorite live sports, news and entertainment anywhere

DIRECTV offers more top premium channels than DISH

*SEE US ACTIVATION. EARLY TERMINATION FEE OF \$200.00 FOR EACH MONTH REMAINING ON AGMT. EQUIPMENT NON-RETURN & ADD'L FEES APPLY. Price incl. CHOICE™ Pkg., monthly service and equip. fees for 1 HD DVR \$10 after 12 mos. setup & install fees \$10 and 1 HD box. Handle account for up to 12 mos. work. Pay \$74.99/mo. + tax until discount starts on 3/6/21. New approved residential customers only (equipment lease req'd). Credit card req'd (except MA & RI). Best's offer.

Get DIRECTV and get a year of HBO Max included. When HBO meets so much more.

J.D. POWER RANKED AT&T/DIRECTV #1 IN THE NATION IN CUSTOMER SATISFACTION FOR TV SERVICE

J.D. Power also ranked us highest in these impressive categories:

- #1 in Programming
- #1 in Communications and Promotions
- #1 in Features and Functionality

See a J.D. Power study for more information on our performance with AT&T and DIRECTV for 12 mos. ©2021 J.D. Power and Associates, Inc. All rights reserved.

Don't settle for cable. Call now!

1-855-560-0319

NOW OPEN



Your Local Businesses!

From hot new shops to great restaurant specials, entertainment, services and more, our Local Businesses have you covered, don't miss out on a thing!

EST. 2018

THE FINERY
boutique

Men's & Women's Clothing Jewelry, Shoes, Accessories and much more! Gifts of all sizes for all occasions!

(719) 852-8849 • 839 First Ave. • Monte Vista
Winter Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Shop Online! www.thefineryboutique.com
Follow us on social media @bebeautifulmontevista

Shades, Quilts, & Etc.

Spring Sale!
15% Off
Everything in the Store!

Quilting • Window Treatments
Yarn • DMC Embroidery

129 Adams St. • Monte Vista
852-2179
New Hours: Thurs. & Friday 9-5, Sat. 9-3

Monte Vista Cooperative
(719) 852-5181 • www.mvcoop.com
1901 E Hwy 160 • Monte Vista

Clothing
Tires • Fuels
Seed • Fertilizer
Farm Supplies

Feed • Grain
Equipment
Convenience Stores

Community Committed... Agriculturally Driven

Dr. Lucero, D.D.S., Prosthodontist

Family Dentistry
852-2552
10 Rupert St. • Monte Vista

San Luis Valley Auto Repair LLC

Complete Automotive Service

Matt Ratzlaff (719) 852-2536
150 N. Broadway Monte Vista

San Luis Valley Federal Bank

3415 Mariposa • Alamosa
401 Edison Ave. • Alamosa
330 Solar • Monte Vista

www.slvfed.com

FDIC

Is this your dream home?

Maybe... maybe not. But, whatever your dream home looks like, **RG Bank** can help that dream become a reality with affordable financing at terms to fit your needs. **Call us today!**

Purchase • Construction • Refinance

SLV Garden Center, LLC

The Sawyer Brothers
719-852 GROW (4769) • 1669 N Hwy 285 • Monte Vista (north of Dos Rio Restaurant)

Five Years Strong and Still Going!
The Valley's Premier, Full-Spectrum CBD Store!
Tinctures, Creams, Salves, Capsules, Pet Products and much more! Best selection in the SLV!

Specializing in customer service
HOURS — Monday-Friday 9:30-4:30

Member FDIC **RG BANK** EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

901 First Ave., Monte Vista 852-5933
www.RGBank.bank NMLS #421822

Accounting Office of
Walter S. Fullwood, CPA, PC

296 Tyndal Street, Monte Vista, CO 81144
(719) 852-2177, FAX (719) 852-5756
Serving Farms, Small Business and Investors

Free Estimates
All Insurance Claims Accepted
Glasurit Waterborne Paint...
Environmentally Friendly!

852-5700 • 859 Acequia Dr. • Monte Vista

Talk About **LOCAL!** THE *Monte Vista* **JOURNAL**

In Print & Online
www.montevistajournal.com

Valley Publishing 719-852-3531

Find us on facebook

P.O. Box 875
1525 E. Hwy. 160 Monte Vista (719) 852-0353
www.wentanip.com

Wenta Nip & Sanitizing, LLC Don Wenta, Owner

All lines of CIPC, DMN, EC, Biox and Sanitizers

A local family-owned business specializing in potato sprout control and crop storage management solutions.
"Sprouts Wenta-Away"

Lifestyles

Serving the entire San Luis Valley

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

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

The Dumb Friends League San Luis Valley Animal Center officially open

By **STEPHEN JIRON**

ALAMOSA — Just nine months after breaking ground, the Dumb Friends League (DFL) San Luis Valley Animal Center officially opened its doors in March.

At a grand opening ceremony, the Animal Center welcomed guests from the public showing many on walking tours on every step of the process from the loading bay to the adoption kennels with knowledgeable associates answering questions all along the way. “Our choice to name the space an animal center and not a shelter was a mindful one,” said DFL President and CEO Apryl Steele during the grand opening.

“We envision so much more than just sheltering happening here. Pets are family members to many of us and by acknowledging that we’re serving family members we’re also acknowledging that we’re serving families. It is our hope that this center will become a valued part of this community.”

The few in attendance, in accordance with health guidelines, also got an up-close and personal look at the first furry residents of the center that will be ready for adoption.

From the moment the idea was conceived the center has been pulled along by every individual involved in the project from former Alamosa County Commissioner Darius Allen and former DFL Vice President Duane Adams giving the project legs, to City Manager Heather Brooks and Mayor Ty Coleman getting the city involved, generous support from



Photo courtesy of the Dumb Friends League

From left Alamosa Mayor Ty Coleman, Dumb Friends League CEO Apryl Steele and former Alamosa County Commissioner Darius Allen perform the ceremonial ribbon cutting at the San Luis Valley Animal Center.

Dumb Friends League as well as the community at large. Alamosa County ran a challenge that brought in \$1,510 garnering donors such as Alamosa State Bank, Adams State University, SLV Health as well as a number of Alamosa County Employees. There were numerous fundraisers including locals the Sanchez family. Eldest son Peyon, 14, suffers from Neurofibromatosis. Peyton and Mother Sheila, Father Charlie and Brother Landon were on hand selling lemonade on Thursday, the proceeds of which went to the Animal Center. Not to be forgotten is the generous contribution from Henry Roath who funded most of the construction on the center by giving \$1.7 million dollars.

Also speaking at the grand opening was Mayor Ty Coleman,

“The building of this regional ani-

mal center has already had a positive economic impact in our community. Thanks to all the local contractors, suppliers, and workers who put in the hard work like Commissioner (Darius) Allen, all the community people who came together to work as a team. It helps stimulate our local economy when we all bring facilities like this into our community.”

The center will be prepared to handle around 2,500 and approximately 800 cats.

Lost, stray, neglected, and abused cats and dogs will be cared for at the animal center. Spay or neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccines, and a microchip ID are all provided with any adoption. And the animals that aren’t adopted locally will be transferred to areas with more adop-

Please see DUMB on Page 8



Courtesy photo

Engine 168 poised to ride the rails again

ANTONITO—When Engine 168 chugs away from the station here in late June with about 60 passengers ensconced in four refurbished 19th century train cars, it will be the culmination of years of dreams, historic preservation work and an investment of nearly \$4 million.

Backed by donations from history and railroad buffs, preservation grants and the work of the nonprofit Friends of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, this crew is doing exactly what was envisioned when the narrow-gauge tracks and stations were rescued in 1970 by Colorado and New Mexico in a unique partnership.

The 64 miles of tracks preserved between Antonito and Chama, New Mexico, were once part of the narrow-gauge Denver and Rio Grande Railroad built in the 1880s by Gen. William Palmer and his business partner, Dr. William Bell. The San Juan Extension ran from Alamosa to Durango, serving mining towns with both passenger and freight service. It included the tracks preserved by the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.

The Rio Grande began converting its tracks to standard gauge in 1890 so its cars were interchangeable with

Please see ENGINE on Page 2

Here, by the owl

A while back I was asked who has had the greatest influence on my life. I hadn’t ever given it much thought, like most folks, I guess. After considerin’ for a while I came up with six people that I could say actually affected the direction of my thinkin’. My dad, Doc Brimhall, John Basabe, Red Steagall, Patrick Gottsch and Rupert Mansell.

Mr. Mansell was my vo ag teacher in Las Cruces, New Mexico from 1961-1962. “Here by the owl. The owl is the symbol of wisdom...” It’s hard for a 16-year-old kid to evaluate wisdom. I remember Rupert, as we referred to him behind his back, tryin’ to teach that rag tag bunch of boys anything (it was all boys back then). Lots of us really didn’t have much in the way of money. Our projects included 4 or 5 scraggly sheep, or a couple of steers, some pecan trees, rabbits or whatever. Sure, there were a few boys whose folks were good farmers and had impressive projects but most of us didn’t. Rupert treated



us all the same.

What we all had was a love of agriculture and the optimism of youth. That was what Rupert had to work with. He taught us that dirt was under your fingernails and soil was what you tilled. He tried, often in vain, to

teach us how to weld and work on machinery. How to block sheep, fit a steer, castrate a hog, and how to tell a rib steak from a chuck. It was not until much later that I came to realize how much a vo ag teacher has to know.

I said Rupert treated everybody the same. That’s not quite true since he made me feel like I was special. But, if the truth were known he probably made each one of us feel that way.

He wasn’t impressed by politics so when we decided to invite the governor to be the speaker at our local FFA banquet he said to go ahead but don’t advertise it in case the “guy” didn’t show. We sent out invitations to all the school board, principal and other dignitaries. Most declined; they had other things to do. The day before the banquet the governor confirmed. It came out in the paper. Suddenly the local dignitaries were calling trying to get tickets. Overnight they had developed a sincere interest in

the Future Farmers. It was one of Rupert’s finest hours.

For all you dedicated vo ag teachers, I salute you, but I remind you that you are in the position to shape young people’s lives. It is no small responsibility. And to Mr. Mansell, who has since passed, from all of us ex-reporters, vice-presidents, greenhands, secretaries, state farmers, soil judges, blacks, browns and whites; if we ever amount to anything, you had a hand in it. Yep, you. There by the owl.

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



A Salute TO OUR HOMETOWN GRADUATES

Coming April 28, 2021

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

ENGINE

Continued from Page 1

other rail lines but decided against converting the San Juan Extension because of the decline in silver mining.

The tracks were seldom used during the 20th century, and the last upgrades to facilities were in the 1920s. There was a brief period of use during the natural gas boom after World War II, but by the 1960s the track was rarely used and in 1969 the railroad's request to abandon the line was granted. Miles of track were torn out.

Railroad preservationists and civic organizations, though, quickly came to the rescue with efforts to save the most scenic portion of the track, from Antonito to Chama.

The states of Colorado and New Mexico in 1970 jointly purchased the track and structures along the line for \$547,120 and created a nonprofit commission with representatives from both states to operate the heritage railroad.

The price included nine locomotives, more than 130 freight and work cars and the maintenance facility in Chama.

It began hauling tourists the following year and today averages about 43,000 passengers each June-through-October season; it pumps about \$20 million into the local economies. Those figures are pre-pandemic; the train ran in 2020 but at limited capacity.

Engine 168 ran along the San Juan Extension and other Rio Grande narrow gauge lines from 1883 to 1938, when it was retired and moved into Antlers Park, near the railroad tracks in downtown Colorado Springs.

It seemed fitting that an engine from Gen. Palmer's railroad would find a resting spot in a city he founded in 1871. The park was a favorite stop for families because kids could climb on the old locomotive and learn a little local history.

The city's relationship with the Cumbres and Toltec was reignited when it hired the railroad experts in the 1980s to restore the engine, work that put Rio Grande Engine No. 168 on the National Register of Historic Places.

The scenic railroad was placed on the National Register in 1973 and became a National Historic Landmark in 2012.

It was about that time that the idea of a historic consist, or grouping of rail cars, pulled by a restored Engine 168 began to gather steam, Pappas said. In 2015, the locomotive was trucked to Antonito and restoration work on it and two coach cars began the next year.

The city of Colorado Springs leased the engine at no cost to the railroad for 45 years, and city residents get a discount on train rides.

The engine and coach cars will be joined by an 1887 tourist sleeper car and an austere head-end car that in its day was a post office and baggage car. It has been refurbished to include a service-snack counter, but showcases the high, secure windows that were a hallmark of the postal cars.

Interestingly, the polished red oak of the seats in the tourist sleeper might today be thought of as more attractive than the smaller red velvet covered seats in the coach cars. But the tourist sleepers were actually called "immigrant cars" and were made of the cheapest materials of the time.

"We hope offering more ways to experience the thrill and history of riding the Cumbres & Toltec will translate to more riders," the railroad's interim CEO Eric Mason said. "If you're pressed for time, on a road trip, or have children, the shorter trips are a perfect way to enjoy the railroad without making a full day of it."

Train preservation work has been ongoing and includes using various car bottoms and bodies to build replicas of late-19th and early-20th century cars as well as converting one coal-burning engine to oil to ensure the train can run during times when fire danger is high.

"It took four years to restore her," said Engineer Max Casias, gazing at 168, the hulking black coal-fired steam locomotive that spent 75 years on display in Antlers Park in Colorado Springs and now rests silently in the railway workshop. "We refer to her as a princess. "We found dates from 1938 stamped on the boiler. We figure that's the last time she had any inspection. Now she's waiting for the next call of duty."

An Antonito native, Casias and his brother are the fourth generation in his family to work for the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad.

And then there's Chief Mechanical Officer Stathi Pappas, an archaeologist turned train preservationist who left his job as curator of collections at the Northwest Railway Museum in Snoqualmie, Washington, and moved to Antonito to oversee the project.

As he walks through a tented workshop constructed in 2015 for the project, he talks about the history of trains and routes and cars with the rapid-fire precision of an audio encyclopedia.

"We document everything we find," he said, including dates of parts, changes made to cars over time and the history of where they ran and how they were used. "This is actually sort of an archaeological endeavor."

Llamas stood inside the hollow interior of one such car where work is underway.

"It's an old boxcar that became a flatcar that was ready for scrap," he said. It has modern-day braking systems and a reinforced body to ensure safety and will become a coach.

And while the seats folded down for nighttime travel, they came with no cushions, so unless travelers brought their own padded bedrolls there wasn't much comfort to be found.

Pappas explained that cars were routinely altered for different uses, so during refurbishment they don't always go back to the original use, but rather to a specific time period.

And things such as the pot-bellied stoves that would have heated the passenger cars will not be functional. And the \$10,000 "gas" chandeliers are lit by LEDs.

Tourists riding the five departures on the historic consist — called the San

Juan and New Mexico Express on the schedule for this summer and fall — also will have to rely on docents to learn about some of the train secrets uncovered by those working on the project.

How to ride: The Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad is offering new excursions for the 2021 season, including full-day and half-day rides as well as the new historic train rides. They depart from Antonito in the San Luis Valley of Colorado or from Chama in New Mexico. For schedules, fares and information about the region, visit cumbrestoltec.com.

Safe, Secure, Affordable Senior Citizen Housing

1 Bedroom Fully Contained Apartments
Utilities Included • Close to Downtown
Independent Living • Income-Based Rent

Mountain View Manor

311 Washington, Monte Vista
719-852-5778

11th Annual SAN LUIS VALLEY SEED EXCHANGE

LOCAL MARKET • TRADE • LEARN • SOAK & STAY

Saturday & Sunday April 17th & 18th

Joyful Journey Hot Springs Spa, Moffat, CO

Speaker Series: Food Sovereignty, Security & Storage

Annual Seed Swap • \$2 Off Soaking at Joyful Journey
Local Vendors • Food Vendors • Door Prizes

SOAK & STAY

In addition to consistently hot, mineral-rich water to soak in, there are camp sites, yurts and hotel rooms available.



All donations and proceeds of this event will be donated to the Student Greenhouse Project at the PK-12 Moffat Consolidated School in Moffat, CO.

WWW.SLVSEDEXCHANGE.COM

Business Showcase

Just arrived a new selection of Nibble Dribble Aprons. Great for Seniors or commuters. Has plastic coating and pockets.



The Holy Moses Please wear a mask.
NEW HOURS 658-2848
Mon.-Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 121 N. Main Creede

This Week's Feature



THE HOLY MOSES

An enchanting Collection of Cabin Decor, Colorado Pottery, Quilts, Linens & Specialty Foods!

It's Worth The Drive

Mon.-Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Nick & Vicki Kulyk
121 N. Main • 658-2848 • Creede

Parks and Wildlife Commission approves new pass for state wildlife areas

DENVER — At its virtual meeting last week, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission voted unanimously to approve a new Colorado State Wildlife Area Pass as an option to access state wildlife areas. The new pass will go on sale May 1, 2021.

“This is an important step in ensuring everyone who visits our state wildlife areas is contributing to their management and maintenance,” said CPW Director Dan Prenzlou.

The annual Colorado SWA Pass will be available on May 1, 2021 by visiting any CPW office or online at cpwshop.com. The pass will be priced similarly to a resident annual fishing license and revenue from the new SWA pass will be used to manage and maintain SWAs.

Colorado State Wildlife Area Pass annual: \$36.08*

1 day: \$9
Youth (ages 16-17) annual: \$10.07
Senior (ages 65 and older) annual: \$10.07

Low-income annual: \$10.07
(Fees include a \$1.50 Wildlife Education Fund surcharge)

*Plus a fee of \$10.40 for a Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp

The annual pass is valid from March 1 – March 31 of the following year, also aligning with the 13-month season for fishing licenses in Colorado.

History and funding of state wildlife areas in Colorado

CPW now manages more than 350 SWAs, all set aside to conserve



wildlife habitat with dollars from hunting and angling licenses. Those funds are also matched with federal income from the excise taxes collected on the sale of hunting and fishing equipment.

While these properties have been identified as critical wildlife habitat, over the years they have also gained significant value for outdoor recreationists.

Because these properties have always been open to the public, not just to the hunters and anglers that purchased them and pay for their maintenance, many people now visit these properties and use them as they would any other public land.

As Colorado’s population - and desire for outdoor recreation - has continued to grow, a significant increase in traffic to these SWAs has disrupted wildlife, the habitat the areas were acquired to protect, and the hunters and anglers whose contributions were critical to acquiring these properties.

That’s why in July of 2020, new regulations went into effect requiring all visitors 18 or older to possess a valid hunting or fishing license to access any SWA leased by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

CPW had historically been bound by stringent guidance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on how income earned from these properties could be accounted for, making the creation of another kind of pass to access these areas financially unfeasible. But in late 2020, CPW

received approval from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for a new accounting approach that made adding a pass as an option for access to these properties feasible.

In November 2020, an SWA Working Group was created with CPW staff and stakeholders from around the state to determine what a new pass might look like.

Recommendations:

The group recommended pricing the annual pass at a similar level to the annual fishing license, offering discounted passes to youth and seniors priced comparably to youth and senior fishing licenses, offering a 1-day pass option priced comparably to the 1-day parks pass, requiring a Habitat Stamp and a surcharge for the Wildlife Management Public Education Fund in addition to the pass, and offering a discounted low-income annual pass option. The age at which a hunting license, fishing license or SWA pass is required to access SWAs was reduced to all persons 16 years and older to better correspond to the youth pass and license options.

More information and SWA FAQ about CPW’s state wildlife areas is available on CPW’s website.



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



The gf pizza was awesome! And, omg, the Border town Chipotle Pepper Sauce! I'm stocking up.
~ Jennifer H. Google Reviews

Fresh Ingredients, BIG ON TASTE!

\$7 Combo Deal: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Everyday!

Buffet is Back! Sundays only from 11 a.m.-8 p.m. \$15 (includes all you can eat, drink, salad and dessert)

We are now hiring for all positions, please come in and see Angela!

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

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

EASY Online To-Go Orders:
MountainPizzaTapRoom.com

Thank you for supporting our employees during this difficult time

Monte Vista Home, Garden, and Outdoor Living Expo set for April 30-May 1

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — The Monte Vista Home, Garden, and Outdoor Living Expo is back this year after being cancelled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic guidelines. This year the event will be socially distanced and held April 30 and May 1 at the McMullen building.

Event planners are hoping to have as many as 50 vendors at the show encompassing everything the Valley has to offer for home, garden, and outdoor living needs. They also hope to have

some food trucks at the event. The expo will be happening April 30 and May 1 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on both days.

If you are interested in being a vendor at this year’s expo you are asked to contact the Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce by email at chamber@montevistachamber.org. There is \$50 booth fee. The deadline to register a booth is April 16.

The McMullen building is next to the construction for the new Ski-Hi event center complex, 2389-2499 Sherman Ave., Monte Vista.

Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



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

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Advanced

Here’s How It Works:

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

Solution to last week’s puzzle

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

GENERAC

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
844-482-0444

FREE
7-Year Extended Warranty*
A \$695 Value!

Offer valid February 15 - June 6, 2021

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

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

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



CLASSIFIED INDEX

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| ANNOUNCEMENTS
01 TICKETS
02 CARD OF THANKS
03 MEMORIALS
04 LOST & FOUND
05 NOTICES/BAZAARS
06 PERSONALS
EMPLOYMENT
07 HELP WANTED
08 WORK WANTED
09 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
FOR RENT
10 APARTMENTS
11 ROOMS
12 HOUSES
13 MOBILE HOMES
14 BUSINESS PROPERTY
15 WANTED TO RENT
16 VACATION
REAL ESTATE
17 REAL ESTATE
18 LOTS & ACREAGE
19 FARM & FARMLAND
20 BUSINESS PROPERTY
21 MOBILE HOMES
22 PROPERTY WANTED | MERCHANDISE
23 LAWN & GARDEN
24 GARAGE SALES
25 AUCTIONS
26 ANTIQUES
27 APPLIANCES
28 HOUSEHOLD GOODS
29 MUSICAL ITEMS
30 ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS
31 HEALTH
32 FUEL & HEATING
33 BUILDING MATERIALS
34 OFFICE EQUIPMENT
35 HEAVY EQUIPMENT
36 MISCELLANEOUS
37 WANTED
38 MACHINERY, TOOLS & EQUIPMENT
39 SPORTING GOODS
40 AUTO PARTS
FARMER MARKET
41 FARM EQUIPMENT
42 FEED & SEED
43 FARM PRODUCTS
44 FARM SERVICES | ANIMALS
45 ANIMAL BREEDING
46 PASTURE FOR RENT
47 HORSES & CATTLE
48 PETS & SUPPLIES
49 ANIMAL CARE
50 LIVESTOCK
RECREATIONAL
51 BOATS & EQUIPMENT
52 CAMPING EQUIPMENT
53 TRAILERS
54 SNOWMOBILES/ATV'S
55 R.V.'S/CAMPERS
FINANCIAL
56 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
57 INVESTMENTS
TRANSPORTATION
58 MOTORCYCLES
59 VEHICLES WANTED
60 CLASSIC CARS
61 4X4'S
62 VANS
63 TRUCKS
64 AUTOS FOR SALE
SERVICES
65 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
66 CHILD CARE |
|---|---|--|

RATES

15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications
\$19.50 + 95¢ each additional word.
Garage Sale Ads: 15 Words or less for 1 week
\$12 + 35¢ each additional word.
Free ads: Lost & Found • Non Commercial items Sold for \$50 or less • Any Item or Animal being given away. (Limited to private party only, 2 ads per person, 4 weeks.)
Convenient ad placement: To place your ad in person come to the office at 835 First Ave. in Monte Vista, or call (719) 852-3531. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also fax your classified to (719) 852-3387 or email at montevistaclass@gmail.com
Check your ad the first day: To ensure your ad is correct, check it the first day it appears in the paper. If there is an error in your ad, call us right away so we can correct it. If an error appears in your ad, Valley Publishing will credit you with one additional day of advertising.
Our ad policy: Valley Publishing accepts all classified advertising except that which it deems objectionable to its readers. Credit or replacement ads will not be given for early ad cancellation.

DEADLINE

Thursday 5:00 pm
Call 719-852-3531
or email: MonteVistaClass@gmail.com

Easy Payment Options

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



05 Notices

WE BUY ANTLER: New Spring
Prices: Elk Grade A \$14/lb. Deer Grade A \$11/lb. 5 miles west of Del Norte on Hwy 160. 719-657-0942. (TFN)

Do you have vintage clothing? I will buy your vintage clothing from the 1920s-1970s. If you have any vintage dresses please contact Molly McAlpine at 719-588-7063. (4/28)

GUN/KNIFE SHOW PAGOSA SPRINGS: Tables \$60, Food Trucks \$80. Archuleta Fairgrounds. June 18-20. Mike (970)946-2841 (05/05)

07 Help Wanted

Sargent School District is accepting applications for the High School Science Teacher position. Initial salary \$30,500 (BA, Step 1), new teachers may be granted up to 10 years for appropriate experience (Step 10, BA \$36,500) educational steps also may apply. Must possess or be eligible for Colorado teaching license with secondary science endorsement and CTE authorization in Health Science. Benefits include: Health insurance, dental insurance, vision insurance, life insurance, PERA retirement, paid time off, as well as other optional benefit elections. Please visit the website for application information www.sargent.k12.co.us or call 719-852-4023. EOE (04/21)

FT SHIPPING CLERK Packing UPS boxes, customer service, retail clerking, inventory control, some light & interesting ranch chores. Must work a 10-hour 4 day/week flexible schedule, sometimes including weekends. Computer and/or telephone skills a plus. Wages commensurate. Send detailed resume with wage history to: GrandeMeats@gmail.com or P.O. Box 10, Del Norte. CO 81132 (05/05)

tory to: GrandeMeats@gmail.com or P.O. Box 10, Del Norte. CO 81132 (05/05)

The Monte Vista Coop Equipment Division is currently hiring for the position of Shop Mechanic. Job Duties include inspect, maintain, repairs, assembles and overhauls farm machinery, equipment and vehicles such as tractors, harvesters, pumps, tilling equipment, trucks and other mechanized equipment. Wages between \$12.32 and \$15.00 per hour depending on experience. To apply you may apply online via Indeed, Facebook, in person or send resume to sdavid@mvcoop.com. For further information please call Stan at 719-852-5565. (05/5)

A Research Associate I position is available with the Potato Breeding and Selection Program at Colorado State University's San Luis Valley Research Center near Center, Colorado. Minimum requirements include a BS/BA degree. Read full job announcement/apply online by 04/15/2021 for full consideration at: <https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/84654> CSU is an EO/EA/AA employer and conducts background checks on all final candidates. (04/17)

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 (04/16)

WANTED: Saguache County Landfill is Hiring for an additional Full Time Attendant. REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must fill out and submit an application, must be an experienced

front end loader operator and possess a valid driver's license. Applicants should have a high school diploma or GED and six months or more of relevant experience. Final candidates applying with Saguache County will be required to submit and pass a pre-employment drug screen and criminal background check. Pay D.O.E. Landfill Attendant is a full time 40 hour per week position – starting at 8:00 A.M. each day Tuesday through Saturday (subject to change). Those applying must be an experienced front end loader operator, have the ability to do strenuous outdoor physical labor in extreme weather conditions and be able to lift and/or move 20 lbs. to 75 lbs. Applications are available at the

Seasonal Openings

The Rio Grande Club and Resort is also looking for outstanding individuals for seasonal opportunities. If you would like to be part of our exciting growth please consider the following positions:

Servers/Bartenders and Beverage Cart Drivers, Golf Shop and Outside Services, Line Cook, Prep Cook, Warewasher and Golf Course Maintenance.

Seasonal Team Members enjoy complimentary golf, access to Gold Medal fishing, discounted meals, and fun team bonding activities!

If these positions sound like a fit for you, then request an application at info@rgcresort.com or apply in person Tuesday – Friday between 10 am and 3 pm. 0285 Rio Grande Club Trail, South Fork, CO
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE Good luck! Rio Grande Club & Resort



Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society

www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org

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

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

Visit Our Facebook Page

The Rio Grande Club and Resort is seeking an Executive Chef to join our team!

You will thrive in a semi-private club and resort environment and dedicate time to expanding the frequency of our members and guests. Your contributions will be an intricate part of establishing the club and resort's brand and reputation. You will oversee day-to-day culinary operations and work with management to create a memorable experience. A two-year Culinary Degree from a reputable program is preferred plus previous experience at a high-end dining venue or private club. Your passion for food and strong leadership qualities will enable you to take the Club's culinary program to the next level.

If these positions sound like a fit for you, then request an application at info@rgcresort.com or apply in person Tuesday – Friday between 10 am and 3 pm. 0285 Rio Grande Club Trail, South Fork, CO
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE Good luck! Rio Grande Club & Resort



<p>Diamond is a 3 year old American Staffordshire Terrier mix. She is loving and is very playful. She loves people and absolutely loves to go for walks. She is curious and wants to check out every smell she can. She is not always a fan of other dogs so please bring any other dogs to do a meet with her at the shelter.</p>	<p>Stubbs is a very active English Bulldog Mix. He has not been socialized with very many people or animals but is very friendly. He has is still learning not to use his mouth for his exploration and is looking for a home that will be patient and is experienced with working on the socialization that he needs. He is lovable and strong and has an amazing "bulldog smile".</p>
<p>Guapo is a sweet, loving and independent dog. He loves to please and is great with people, and its no wonder his name means handsome. He sits and gives you his full attention and loves to go on walks. Guapo is not a fan of other dogs and is looking for a home where he can be the only dog.</p>	<p>Beau is a sweet Border Collie mix who is not quite a year old. He is playful, energetic and submissive. He is smart and very treat motivated and thus will be very easy to train. He has not been socialized much, but in his time at the shelter he has been introduced to multiple other dogs and is learning how to be a good canine citizen. He loves to get attention and be taken for walks.</p>
<p>Much like the character who shares her name, Ms. Piggy is quite the diva. She loves to be the center of attention. She is energetic, friendly and affectionate with people. She doesn't do well with other dogs though so is looking for an only dog home. She has ongoing medical needs so please call the shelter for details.</p>	

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

All breeds & ages of animals are a "best guess" and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping. This ad space donated by Valley Publishing Inc.

Valley Wide Classifieds

Saguache County Road and Bridge/Landfill Office 305 3rd Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 – 719-655-2554 or on the NEW Saguache County website <https://saguachecounty.colorado.gov> under the Landfill Department tab. Completed applications can be hand delivered or mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge/Landfill Office – at the address listed above, faxed to: 719-655-2543 or sent by email to mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (05/05)

10 Apartments for Rent
2-Bedroom, 1 Bath, Partially furnished \$750.00 Per/Month. Propane separate. Electricity included. Call 719-849-8640 (05/05)

Newly remodeled, 2-bedroom apartment in Monte Vista. \$700/month, \$700 deposit. No pets. 719-852-2096 (05/5)

Del Norte: Furnished 1 Bedroom/1 Bath, Very Nice! Single Adult, Non-Smoker, No Pets, All Utilities Paid, Inc. Dish TV. \$625 Mo/\$625 Deposit. 719-850-2738. (04/14)

2bd/1bth downstairs apartment 4 rent in Del Norte. 1145 French St. Washer/dryer on premise. NO pets, or tobacco/pot smoking. \$475/month includes utilities except electricity. Credit check required. 719-849-1942(04/21)

17 Real Estate For Sale
Farm quarter Located in Center area with center pivot, 2200 gpm wells, 10 shares of Rio Grande Canal, 10 shares of Santa Maria, 1750 sq. ft. steel shop, 1672 sq. ft. home, barn, corrals and located on Hwy 285. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-580-0770.(TFN)

Alamosa five acres, vacant land, Highway 160 105 Rd. Perfect for home site. All fenced in. \$25,000 OBO. Two miles from Walmart. 720-217-7886. (04/07)

Colorado, San Luis Valley farm, 933 acres with 5 center pivots in alfalfa and small grain, excellent well water 6,380 gpm and 37.5 shares Rio Grande Canal ditch water, 2 metal buildings with top productions. Borders BLM & San Juan Mt. Range \$2,000,000. . Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-580-0770 (TFN)

Farm for lease: 315 acres under center pivot, 5700 gpm wells, 37.5 shares of Rio Grande Canal, 617 acres of pasture land, and two steel storage sheds. Located on Hwy 285 in Saguache County. Call Bruce Steffens at 719-580-0770 for information. (TFN)

PERFECT SMALL FARM: 59 acres with center pivot, new 60X120 steel shop, 2 1/2 shares of Rio Grande Canal, 2000 GPM well, 2 miles from Center. Priced to Sell, Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-580-0770. (TFN)

Pastureland, 397 acres in north of Monte Vista Airport on County Line

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

Road with good grass and location. Also contains a huge amount of gravel on the property \$525,000.00 call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-580-0770. (TFN)

23 Lawn and Garden
Sprinkler repair. Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (04/17)

32 Fuel & Heating
Firewood for Sale: \$165 per cord Delivery Available Call Atlee Jay Hochstetler 719-850-4012. (04/28)

36 Miscellaneous
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 (05/12)

Wanted: Beef Tallow and Pork Lard 849-5252.(04/21)

Wanted: Dead Standing Aspen Poles. Please call Edwin Hochstetler 719-588-5780. (04/21)

Propane Refrigerators Sold Here. Call For Options and Prices. We Also Stock Solar Powered Refrigerators and Freezers. Bontrager's Variety Store, 9726 S. County Road 3E, Monte Vista. (719)852-0500 (4/21)

STEEL STORAGE CONTAINERS – Sales, Rentals & Modifications! Containers are water & rodent proof. 8' wide, 8' -53' in length. Call for more information and pricing. **Healdworks, 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. (TFN) (04/22)

38 Machinery, Tools, and Equipment
For Sale: 10" Rockwell Table Saw Heavy Duty \$250.00. Please Call 719-850-2027 for pricing. (04/14)

For Sale: 4910 Hesston baler 4x4x8 great condition and a 550 Ford Backhoe Call 719 580 1852. (04/28)

43 Farm Products
2-Butcher Ready Steers Forage fed with Grain Mix Added for 30 plus days \$1200 each 1 fat burger cow

\$900. 970-376-6047. Please Leave Message. (4/21)

48 Pets & Supplies
Free to a Good Home: Medium Husky Mix 5 Years old, Good with the elderly. Call 719-588-0573

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 (04/28)

For Sale: Beagle Cross Puppies very cute. Call 849-8252. (04/21)

50 Livestock
High Altitude Angus/Limousine yearling bulls. \$1500 or \$2000 if testing required. Call Steven 719-

588-3027 (04/21)

Small Feeder Pigs Just Weaned Ready April 1st. Call 719-849-5252. (4/21)

59 Vehicles Wanted
CASH ON THE SPOT FOR JUNK CARS & TRUCKS: We pickup, no title ok. 719-937-7935. (TFN6-21)

65 Professional Services
We Landscape and Deliver Gravel. We fill in mud holes, mend fences, we do cement work, we do retaining walls, we repair sidewalks and we do Cleanouts. Call 719-850-2027 (4/28)

Clean Home, Fair Price for the San Luis Valley. House Cleaner ready to clean out your house not your wallet.

Call 719-850-2027 for more Information. (04/28)

RELIABLE CARPENTRY - 46 years-experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-496-7630.(04/28)

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. (08/01/2020)



719-852-5565

Monte Vista Coop Equipment

MACDON ROTARY CUTTER

R113PT 13" Pull Type- 60 demo acres




Spring Special Price


\$29,495

List Price: \$45,000

www.mvcoop.com

2021 EARTH KNACK Experiences

for the 21st Century



Independent Living Skills....
More Important Now Than Ever
Hands-On, In-Person Instruction...
More Important Now Than Ever
Lighthearted Positive Teachings...
More Important Now Than Ever
Top Quality Instruction....
Our Specialty Since 1990!

www.earthknack.com for full class descriptions, dates and pricing

CLASSES & PROGRAMS

Earth Centered Living June 4-6

Into the Heart of the Buffalo June 7-11

Natural Fibers Fantastic June 13-17

Paleo Bread, Wild Plants & Solstice Wild Feast June 18-20

Archery Camp for Families June 21-25

Teen Survival & Primitive Skills Adventure Camp June 24-30

Horse & Buggy Hitching July 2

Ancestral Fire Making techniques July 3

Stone Tools Flint Knapping 101 July 5

Throwing Tomahawk & Knife Making July 9-11

Pioneer Style & Natural Process Soap Making July 16-18

Buckskin & Fur Sewing & Design July 24-25

Green River Canoe August 1-7

Headwaters Alliance's Runoff Runoff is a go for June

BY LYNSIE FERRELL

CREEDE — After a year off due to the pandemic, the Headwaters Alliance in Creede announced that its annual Runoff Runoff Marathon will take place at the beginning of June.

During a meeting held by the City of Creede on April 6, Headwaters Alliance Executive Director Heather Greenwolf submitted a modified plan for the event in order to adhere to state and local COVID-19 guidelines.

The event is an area favorite. Past participants are pleased to have the event back and ready to hit the road running. There will be some changes this year due to COVID, but the heart of the event will remain the same as will the marathon itself.

The event began as a way to educate the public on the importance of preserving the nation's headwater rivers like the Rio Grande. In the early days, when Forrest Getz and Heather Dutton began the event, it was known to locals as the High Country Hustle and was the only fundraising event for the Willow Creek Reclamation Company (WCRC) for the year. The funds went directly to WCRC projects for the coming year, and the race usually took place in April.

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

According to Greenwolf, 45 people have already signed up for the event and even more are expected to participate this year.

The event will change to include safety precautions for state and local COVID guidelines and though previous events have included a gathering afterward, this year's event will have live entertainment to welcome runners back from each of the three marathons but will not include food or beverages.

Greenwolf stated in a letter to the board that Headwaters Alliance

plans to allow participants to picnic with food and beverages at the Ed Hargraves Park located south of Creede and will be encouraging participants to venture into town for other food options.

The route has also changed this year to limit the amount of time runners spend on Highway 149.

"Thanks to insightful feedback from previous years, we have

decided to create a course that considerably limits running on Highway 149 and instead follows well-maintained dirt roads on Deep Creek Road and Middle Creek Road. The course is much safer and even more beautiful," Greenwolf stated.

Masks will be required at all times unless participants are actively running in the race and the organization will be providing masks for those that need one. The mask requirement includes family, friends and

volunteers attending the event.

Hand washing stations will be placed strategically throughout the park and along the course for anyone wanting to sanitize during the event. The event will also include online registration to minimize group gatherings.

Runoff Runoff will take place June 5 and will include a marathon, half-marathon and 6K for participants of all ages and abilities. To register for the event, visit www.runoffrunoff.com.



Courtesy photo

The annual Runoff Runoff Marathon event is taking place on June 5. Headwaters Alliance had its route and permits approved by the City of Creede and already has 45 participants signed up.

New Teeth in Just One Day No More Dentures!

No Cost Consultation: Know what's possible for You! Includes preliminary evaluation and CBCT image. \$500 value. Expires: 4/30/2021.



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

Medicare will help pay: Save Thousands!

Medicare
Certified Provider

Convenient payment plans and financing options available.

Credit Cards Accepted

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

Medicare
Certified Provider

paagosadentalimplantcenter.com

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

BRING EVERYTHING YOU LOVE TOGETHER!

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

2-YEAR TV PRICE GUARANTEE

America's Top 120 Package
\$64.99 MO. for 12 Mos. **190 CHANNELS** Including Local Channels!

FREE VOICE REMOTE

Hey Google

FREE SMART HD DVR INCLUDED

FREE STREAMING ON ALL YOUR DEVICES

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

1-866-397-0345

Offer ends 7/14/21.

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

ENGLERT LeafGuard
Get it. And forget it.

Clog Free Guaranteed!
Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free.

- **Seamless, one-piece system, keeps out leaves, debris & more.**
- **Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters.**
- **Durable, all-weather tested system.**

BONUS OFFER

Receive a \$25 Lowe's gift card
with **FREE in-home estimate**

All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company reserves, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both collaborating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies, or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it shows it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 21 days of receipt of the presentation form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or presented by Lowe's and is subject to change without notice prior to reservations. Expires 6/30/21.

85% Off Labor
Does not include cost of material. Expires 6/30/21.

Call Today for a FREE In-Home Estimate

(844) 216-0635

Prescribed fires planned on Rio Grande National Forest

STAFF REPORT
MONTE VISTA — The San Luis Valley Interagency Fire Management Unit plans to conduct several prescribed fires this Spring on the Rio Grande National Forest. Ignitions will take place only if conditions are favorable and will meet burn plan parameters. These burns include:

- English Valley: This 1200-acre prescribed fire will take place on the Divide Ranger District approximately five miles north of Del Norte. The purpose of this burn is to rejuvenate grass and shrub cover to improve pronghorn habitat.
- Conejos Canyon Unit 1: This 200-acre fire area is located on the Conejos Peak Ranger District one mile north of the Fox Creek subdivi-

sion. The prescribed burn is designed to reduce fuels buildup adjacent to the subdivision.

- Bighorn/Stateline Units 5 and 6: These two units, totaling 1,225 acres, are located on the Conejos Peak Ranger District four miles southwest of Mogote and will take several days to complete. The purpose of the burn is to improve elk and deer winter range and reduce woody debris left from forest thinning projects.
- Squaw Creek: Located approximately 17 miles west of

Saguache, this 550-acre burn is on Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands. The purpose of the burn is to reduce fuel loading and improve timber stand health by reducing spruce budworm and mistletoe infected trees.

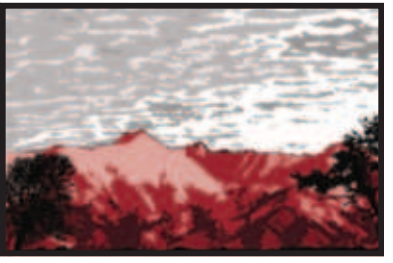
Residents and visitors will likely see smoke coming from these areas for several hours each day during burn operations. Burn area maps will be posted on the roads leading into the project areas. Residents will be contacted prior to initiation of the

prescribed burns.

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

For more information on the prescribed fires, contact Kent Smith at 719-850-1064.

For information on the Rio Grande National Forest, call 719-852-5941, visit the forest website.



The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area 2022 Grant Cycle Now Open

STAFF REPORT
ALAMOSA — The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area (SdCNHA) recently announced the opening of its 2022 grant application cycle.

Grants awarded from SdCNHA are intended to encourage local cultural and historic heritage preservation activities, educational programs and support Heritage Tourism within the heritage area. Past grantees have used funds to restore historic buildings; provide historical and cultural interpretation; restore or promote scenic, artistic and recreational resources; and to document culturally significant components of the way of life in the heritage area.

Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area is administered by a non-profit board of volunteers who represent Alamosa, Conejos and Costilla counties.

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

The selection process is competitive, and applicants are encouraged to develop proposals carefully utilizing SdCNHA's Management Plan Goals and Objectives. Resources are available on management plan page at www.sangreheritage.org/management-plan/.

Funding is available up to \$25,000. Applications and Guidelines can be found at www.sangreheritage.org/collaborate/

For more information on the efforts and mission of the SdCNHA, or to see more completed projects in its 10-year report, visit sangreheritage.org.

If you have an idea for a grant or have any questions about the grant process, email SdCNHA at info@sdcnha.org, call 719-580-7366 or visit their office located at 623 4th St. in Alamosa.

Applicants will be notified of status in September of 2021 and funding will be available in 2022.

Application submission deadline is June 1 by 5 p.m. or postmarked: SdCNHA, P.O. Box 844, Alamosa, CO 81101, or delivered by hand – 623 4th St., Alamosa.

SAN LUIS VALLEY SERVICE DIRECTORY

Turner's Building
 Remodel • Repair • Roofing
 New Construction
Serving the entire San Luis Valley
719-274-0226

A&M
 WINDOWS &
 DOORS L.L.C.

~VINYL WINDOWS~
 NEW CONSTRUCTION OR REPLACEMENT
 CUSTOM MADE TO YOUR SIZE.
 MANUFACTURED RIGHT HERE IN THE VALLEY
 ALL TYPES OF DOORS & DOOR HARDWARE
 AVAILABLE
(719) 589-9952

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

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

Your Great Outdoors Specializing in Vinyl Fencing
Wood, Barbed Wire and All Types of Residential & Commercial Fencing
Serving the SLV-Free Estimates
Good Fences Make Good Neighbors!*
(719) 849-1568
 *We make no guarantees of your neighbor quality, just high quality fences.

TENT RENTALS
 Call for prices and sizes for your special event!
Eddy Miller (719)849-8063

Kim's Kreation Room
 Handcrafting organic skin care since 2011

Organic hemp-infused balms with 0% THC

No green smell like oil-based products

Always get the mg you pay for and more!

KimsKreationRoom.org

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

Cleaning positions available throughout the SLV. Bonuses based on performance.
Call (719) 587-2222

Mountain View Crafts & Solar
(330)317-0896
 Custom
 C&C Routing • Laser Engraving
 Complete Solar Systems
 Rhino Voltz Lithium Batteries
 Inverters, Charge Controllers, Wire
 6689 County Road DD.5 • La Jara

Your ad could be here for only \$22!/week!
 Call 852-3531

7664 APPAREL
 1252 N Farm Rd. • Monte Vista
(719) 849-9516 • 7664apparelco.com



Photo courtesy of the Dumb Friends League

DUMB

Continued from Page 1

tion opportunities.

"We want to share with the community the joy that pets bring to our lives. And we need your help to do that, we need the community's help to do that," said DFL Vice President of Operations Katie Parker. She continued on to say,

"We'll start by sharing volunteer opportunities for people from the community to come and learn about the work our team's doing and help them do that work. Soon we'll be

looking for foster homes to help us provide an alternative for animals that won't thrive in the shelter setting.

Our commitment to creating strong connections here has inspired us to create a new position and we're hiring a local community liaison who's going to be specific to the San Luis Valley

This is our first shelter outside the Metro-Denver area and we're really excited to be part of the special fabric of the San Luis Valley."

Summer on the Rio Grande 2021

Valley Publishing Inc.

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

2020 Summer on the Rio Grande Southern Colorado

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

©2020 Valley Publishing, Inc.

FREE San Luis Valley Official Visitors Guide



Adventure



History



Nature



Events

Why advertise in the Summer on the Rio Grande publication?

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

Give us a call to see how Valley Publishing's

Summer on the Rio Grande can work for you!

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

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

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

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

We work hard for you!

Call Bernadette today!

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

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

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 ET'S 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 Gingras Steffens & CO. Realty
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

SOLD

Majestic Mountain Home in Beaver Mountain Estates!
• 5 bedrooms 5 bathrooms • 2,912 sq. ft. • 3-car heated garage • \$745,900
A beautiful home with charm and elegance in Beaver Mountain Estates!
This Home borders the national forest with beautiful mountain views from the wrap around front deck and outdoor propane fireplace with additional large rear covered porch. Large living room with Lennox propane fireplace and ET' electrical heating that can heat the home and dining area with custom light fixture with dining seating 10 for all your entertaining. Custom Kitchen with two sinks and two dishwashers for quick clean up after entertaining with beautiful Knotty Alder wood cabinets and new refrigerator and microwave. This home is beautifully hand troweled on ceilings/walls with tall ceilings and tall solid wood interior doors and Pella double-hung windows for easy cleaning. This home comes mostly furnished with additional tools and the following equipment in the garage including snow blower, air compressor, battery chargers all this and more with beautiful mountain views with Rocky Mountain Elk and other wildlife right out your back door.
Bernadette Gingras • Steffens & CO. Realty
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

SOLD

You won't believe your eyes! Stunning Views, Lots of Wildlife!
3 bedroom • 2.5 bath • 2,900 sq. ft. \$549,000
Check out some of the best, 360 degree, hilltop views in South Fork from your deck! Open kitchen, dining and living area, vaulted ceilings, Jacuzzi tub, finished basement with a rec room! MLS #767631
852 Soaring Eagle Lane • South Fork
Bernadette Gingras • Steffens & CO. Realty
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

Everything you could want from mountain living!
4 bedrooms • 4.5 baths • 4,504 sq. ft.
• 6 acres • \$888,000
Custom-built home in River Island Ranch with a built in theater, 5 car heated garage and 2 car separate garage, screened-in porch, safe room, wet bar and much more! The yard has a sprinkler system and a fire pit, perfect for entertaining! POA includes access to fishing on the Rio Grande, road maintenance and snow removal. MLS #765728
104 Explorer Way • South Fork
Bernadette Gingras Steffens & CO. Realty
(719)850-1993
bernadette@steffenscorealty.com

SOLD

Beautiful Home on the Range!
3 bedroom • 3 bathroom • 1,808 sq. ft. • \$449,000
This meticulous, comfortable, well-maintained ranch style log home is located on 6 + acres with reach out and touch mountain views and moments from the Rio Grande National Forest. Open Great Room, Living, Dining, and Kitchen with wood floors and a beautiful stone fireplace. Wonderful split floor plan with a Master Bedroom on one side of the home and guest rooms on the other. Attached cement floor two car garage large enough for storage of four-wheelers, fishing gear, tools, and more. Large deck out back and fireplace ring sitting area, large covered front porch.
1104 Expedition drive • South Fork
Bernadette Gingras • Steffens & CO. Realty
(719)850-1993 • bernadette@steffenscorealty.com