

Shorts



Missing Person

MONTE VISTA – The Monte Vista Police Department is asking for assistance in locating Ms. Korina Arroyo-Marquez. She was reported missing on Aug. 28, 2020. She was last seen in the Monte Vista area on Aug. 25 and may be in the Alamosa area.

Ms. Arroyo is a 30 year-old, Hispanic female, approximately 5'8" tall, 160 lbs., with brown hair and eyes. She is known as Korina Arroyo, Karina Marquez, or Korina Arroyo-Marquez.

If you know of Ms. Arroyo's whereabouts, please contact local law enforcement at 719-852-5111.

San Luis Valley unemployment rate decreases .4 percent
Saguache County stays same at 7.5 percent

By TREY SPAULDING

SAN LUIS VALLEY – In August 2020, unemployment rates for the San Luis Valley (SLV), Colorado and the nation continued to decline.

Recently released Colorado unemployment figures from the Colorado Department of Labor and Unemployment (CDLU) for August 2020 indicate that the unemployment rate in the San Luis Valley (SLV) continues to decline and to fare better than the statewide and national unemployment rates.

The average unemployment rate for Colorado dropped from 7.4 percent in July to 6.6 percent in August. Nationwide the unemployment rate dropped from 10.2 percent in July to 8.4 percent in August. In the San Luis Valley among the 21,657 labor force there were 20,305 employed and 1,352 unemployed or a 6.2 percent unemployment rate. In July 2020 the SLV unemployment rate was 6.6 percent.

The SLV county with the lowest unemployment rate in August 2020 was Mineral County with 3.9 percent unemployment. Conejos County unemployment dropped from 6.1 percent in

Please see **RATE** on Page 7A

Safe Routes to School project on-track

By PATRICK SHEA

CENTER – Crossing Colorado Highway 112 on foot can be a challenge for students in Center, but the young Vikings will have a safer route to school in the upcoming months. The first phase of construction begins in October, ultimately connecting a new sidewalk and bridge.

According to Center Consolidated Schools Superintendent Carrie Zimmerman, the project has been in development for years. District staff members crafted the Safe Routes

to School plan and guided it to fruition. Center town officials and commissioners from Rio Grande and Saguache counties combined efforts to leverage local and federal funding.

To start, crews will connect a sidewalk from the east part of the property to the highway south of campus. Bridge construction over the ditch will require more time to complete. For crossing Highway 112, a crosswalk with embedded flashers in the asphalt will highlight the intersection. In the end, students

Please see **SAFE** on Page 7A



Center school students will have an easier path to campus soon, thanks to construction starting in October with Safe Routes to School funding.

Art, money dominate Center Town Board meeting



The Center Town Board met on-site and online to discuss finances and art on Sept. 22

By PATRICK SHEA

CENTER – The Center Town Board discussed finances and an international art opportunity during their meeting on Sept. 22. Separated by glass partitions, Mayor Anthony

Garcia and the trustees wore masks, and other attendees participated in person or via Zoom online.

The meeting kicked off with the board's approval of disbursements and a discussion about buying a former

employee's four-wheeler for snow removal. At the close of the meeting, Garcia returned to money matters and dove deeper into details.

The town had 40 outstanding
Please see **BOARD** on Page 7A



Like crews across the San Luis Valley, Saguache workers continue to clear fallen branches from the heavy snowstorm last week.

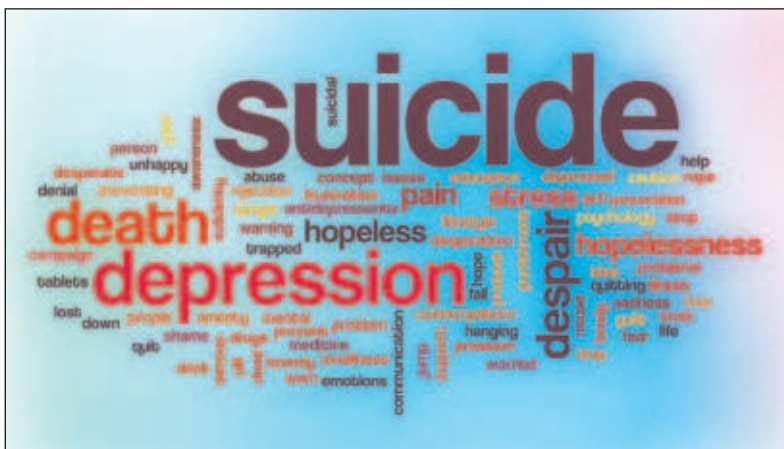
Saguache Town Board tackles unexpected expenses

By PATRICK SHEA

SAGUACHE – As crews in Saguache continue to manage fallen tree limbs from the early-season snowstorm, trustees juggled other projects and funding ideas during the Saguache Town Board meeting on Sept. 21. In addition to trustee and staff reports, the meeting uncovered two unforeseen expenses. As unexpected as the heavy snow, the Community Building renovation project and a

Please see **SAGUACHE** on Page 6A

Sept. 2020 proclaimed national suicide prevention and recovery month



By REBECCA COPLEY

MONTE VISTA - At the last Monte Vista City Council meeting the following proclamation was read from Valley Wide Health Systems: "Whereas, Sept. 2020 is Suicide Prevention and Recovery Month, when millions of people around the world join their voices to share a message of hope and healing; and whereas, these observances are united in raising awareness that prevention is possible; treatment is effective; and people do recover; and whereas in these challenging times messages

of hope and healing are more needed than ever, and whereas residents should be able to access high quality prevention, support, rehabilitation, and treatment services that lead to recovery and a healthy lifestyle; and whereas resiliency begins early in life within families, day cares and schools, and can be strengthened and reinforced throughout the life span; and whereas recovery and wellness encompass the whole individual, including mind, body, spirit and community; and whereas, the benefits

Please see **SUICIDE** on Page 6A



OBITUARIES

Harold Lester Benson, 91

Harold Lester Benson, a longtime resident of Del Norte passed away Sept. 20, 2020, in Louisville, Colorado from pneumonia. He was 91 years old.

Harold was born to Blanche Lenore Hilton and Harry Lester Benson Jan. 15, 1929, in Del Norte, Colorado. He was the third generation of Bensons, following his father Harry and grandfather George who lived, worked the farm, and raised their children north of Del Norte. He worked hard as a boy and a young man helping on the 350-acre farm (Sunnyslope Farms) growing potatoes, garden peas, field peas, barley, oats and alfalfa. He and his father also raised cattle, hogs and sheep. Harold had two siblings -- a brother, Robert and a sister, Viola, who both died as young children. He attended Del Norte High School, was a member of FFA, and played on the football team. He was also on the Student Council.

When Harold graduated from Del Norte High School in 1946, he was only 17. He was fearless in nature and wanted to see the world. He took off on a Greyhound bus and explored California for a year and a half, rented a room, and worked at a variety of jobs to pay for his room and board. Afterward, he spent some time attending CSU in Fort Collins before joining the Navy during the Korean War. He was stationed in Corpus Christi, where he met Carolyn Halstead while she was singing in the choir at church. He was then sent off to be stationed in Japan and was on the USS Electron. Six months before his four-year term was up, the armistice was signed, and he was released. He had enjoyed flying and sailing the Pacific and was proud to have served his country.

Upon his release he and Carolyn married July 10, 1954, in Corpus Christi. Their plans to live in Corpus Christi were changed abruptly when Harold's dad became sick and passed away two months later, leaving Harold the responsibility of moving back to Del Norte with his new bride to help his mother and work the large farm.

Harold and Carolyn were happy together and raised four children in Del Norte. They also had a sheep farm for many years, and he was well-known around the San Luis Valley. In 1970, he went back to college at Adams State where he completed his bachelor's degree in teaching. He taught science, math and woodshop at Saguache High School for 20 years. He retired from teaching in 1992, but still continued to enjoy working the farm and tending sheep with his son, Scott. Harold and Carolyn enjoyed the outdoors and loved taking their kids picnicking and camping. He enjoyed time spent outdoors fishing with his daughter, Lisa. On summer nights as they grew older, Harold and Carolyn could often be seen on their lawn chairs in front of their country home under a shared blanket, watching the stars and reminiscing of their lives together. They enjoyed many weekend getaway trips together and would frequently drive to northern Colorado to see Lisa and Chuck, Jon and Cyndi, and their six grandchildren.

Harold was an exceptional son, husband, father and grandfather. He loved it when his grandsons and Jon would come to Del Norte to antelope hunt. He was also close to his daughter-in-law, Cyndi. Harold was proud of his grandchildren and each one of their professional and personal accomplishments. Three of



them received degrees in 2020.

Harold wanted to be involved in family gatherings and was always ready to appreciate a good meal and express gratitude for his care. He also can be commended for taking wonderful care of his mother, showing her love and attention until 2010 when she died at 105 years old. He adored his two great-granddaughters, Emma and Tessa Benson. Losing his wife, Carolyn in 2014 was extremely hard for him. He was also preceded in death by his daughter, Cynthia in 1992 and his son, Scott in 2017. He experienced much loss in his life.

Harold and Carolyn attended the Pioneer United church in Del Norte, where he did many hours of wonderful service through the years for the church and for the community. When he prayed, we all knew he had a strong belief and faith in God and looked forward to eternal life.

He is survived by his son Jon Benson (Cyndi) of Boulder, Colorado, his daughter Lisa Fowler (Chuck) of Fort Collins, and six grandchildren: Tyler, Andrew, Heather and David Benson, Aaron and Megan Fowler, two granddaughters-in-law Leslie West and Michelle Benson, and two great-granddaughters Emma and Tessa Benson. Also surviving is his brother-in-law Clifford (Susie) Halstead of Clifton, Texas.

A graveside service will be held at the Del Norte, Colorado cemetery Saturday, Oct. 3, 2020, at 2 p.m. Friends are invited to join in our social distancing service and are asked to please wear masks.

Arrangements will be by Howe Mortuary of Lafayette, Colorado and final interment will be by Roberts Family Mortuary of Alamosa, Colorado.

Our family wishes to express our gratitude to all the kindnesses that have been shown to the Harold Lester Benson family through the years.

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

Sept. 25-27
Fri. & Sat. 7 p.m.
Sunday 5 p.m.

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

Jose Benjamin (Benjie) Silva, 67

Jose Benjamin (Benjie) Silva passed away Sept. 18, 2020, in Del Norte. He was born Aug. 19, 1953, in Del Norte, Colorado to Manuel and Virginia Silva and was a graduate of Del Norte High School.

Benjie was a dedicated worker for the Del Norte Coop for many years and helped run the family trash business after the death of his father, alongside Dennis Whiteside, Paul Eldredge & Alfonso Silva. Benjie loved being in the outdoors, fishing, going for long walks through town visiting and waiving at friends along the way. He was an avid football fan who was loyal to his beloved Denver Broncos. He loved the old days of cheering on the Del Norte Tigers at the old football field and had his place imprinted on the visitor's side, clear up in the corner supporting the Del Norte Basketball team.

Benjie by far was one of the gentlest souls you could ever meet. Although a night out with him could result in a hangover the next morning the party will never be the same without him. He had a way to light up a room with his laugh and the way he talked and joked. He ended every sentence with eh...uh.

His greatest enjoyment in life was the time he spent with his loving family. The

love he had for his mother and his sister Josephine was like nothing else in the world! The lasting impact when he lost his mother was something we all could see that he carried with him to his grave. The reunion would have been quite the sight to see. We know he is forever at peace for the bond between a mother and son is forever. Benjie had a special place in his heart for his sister Josephine who was his protector beyond measures. She carried him under her wing the entire time he was on this earth. She fulfilled the message her mother left, to take good care of Benjie until he joined her. The bond they shared was unimaginable.

Benjie was preceded in death by his loving parents Manuel & Virginia Silva, brothers Alfonso and Charles Silva and his Uncle Eugene (Candyman) Silva. He is survived by his brother Johnny Silva of Monte Vista, Colorado; sisters, Irene Guierrez of Monte Vista, Colorado; Isabel Finley; Terry Luna of Pueblo, Colorado and Josephine (Dennis) Whiteside of Del Norte, Colorado; along with numerous nieces and nephews who loved him dearly and will never forget him.

A Vigil Service with Recitation of the Rosary will be held Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020, at 6 p.m. at Strohmayer's Funeral



home, 205 S Broadway, Monte Vista CO 81144.

Memorial service will be Friday, Sept. 25, 2020 at 10 a.m., also at Strohmayer's Funeral Home. Burial to follow at a later date. The family invites you to join them in a dinner following the service at the Lariat Community Baptist Church, 431 Lincoln Ave., Monte Vista CO 81144.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions both services will be open to family first allowing up to 125 people. Masks will be required.

In honor of the love Benjie had for the Denver Broncos please wear Bronco attire both days. Services are in care of Strohmayer's Funeral Home.

Announcing...

Joel Polkowske New Alamosa Branch Manager



Joel Polkowske

The San Luis Valley native has been with RGSL since 2013.

Joel is available to assist you with your home and consumer loans.

Give Joel a call today!



www.rgsla.com



NMSL # 421822

3416 Mariposa St. • Alamosa • 719-589-2536



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



slvfed.com

OPINION & EDITORIAL

Medicare freebies

This past week has found Ol' Dutch and Miss Trixie hip deep in archery elk season. Middle of the night alarms so I can trudge up and down these mountains in time for a sunrise shot, has put a serious strain on the old body.

I am not huge old, yet. Just old enough and out of shape enough to feel the miles and lack of sleep. Last year I had dropped a lot of baggage -- physical not marital -- and did much better. But darned brownies and milk added some of that back on. Probably my thyroid right? Or, maybe my big mouth.

There is one good thing about getting older and that is finally the day comes when a person can get Medicare medical insurance. And if you couple that with a good supplemental policy you really pay very little out of pocket.

Ol' Dutch worked for a major corporation for 32 years and because of that connection I qualified for their supplemental policy. And it's been very good so far. Of course, threats about Medicare going broke pop up every few years, but that is usually when the politicians want to raise taxes for pork barrel projects and so they scare us into approving the increases.

Just this last year Ol' Dutch got a letter from the gods in charge of Medicare explaining all the tests I now qualify for free. Now, I do not begrudge a single person health and happiness, but some of the Medicare authorized tests make me pause.

Sure, a great majority of us need preventive tests for cardiovascular disease, lung cancer, prostate cancer plus all the tests you can have for colorectal health. Those are all great.

But some of the other tests make me realize that there are people over 65 having a lot more fun than I am. I mean, I expect to see teenagers getting tested for sexually transmitted infection screening and counseling for things like Chlamydia, Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Hepatitis B.

By the time a person gets to 65, they really should know how to prevent that. At least pregnancy



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

is not something on the list, as nature has taken care of that for us old people.

And as I scanned that lengthy list of all the free tests, I began to see why Medicare is in dire straits. Regardless of the lack of symptoms it appears that I can just about spend all winter just going in for tests.

The extensive tests covered are obviously the result of lobbyists, labs, doctors and hospitals creating a "make work" project.

This is much like the shovel ready projects that the feds often create with our money and in fact, this Medicare testing plan is so deep in doo you need a shovel to handle it.

But that won't stop Ol' Dutch from getting his due. Miss Trixie's Momma was fond of saying, "if they are going to do it for one person, they should do it for all people, including me."

And, that's the reason this winter you can find Ol' Dutch having a great time of it flirting with all those pretty nurses and receptionist and reading about poor Harry and Meghan in People magazine in the waiting room. If there's a free test, sign me up.

Kevin Kirkpatrick and his Yorkie, Cooper, fish, hunt, ATV or hike daily. His email is Kevin@TroutRepublic.com. Additional news can be found at www.troutrepublic.com or on Twitter at TroutRepublic



LETTER

Prop. 113 makes Colorado relevant again

After thrice going for the Democrat presidential nominee the Centennial State is totally irrelevant in this year's presidential election.

As a result, conservatives find themselves wandering the political wilderness.

The only way for Colorado to become politically relevant again is a 'yes' vote on Proposition 113, aka the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

Despite the lies and distortions by naysayers, the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact does not abolish the Electoral College. It is not what Fauxcahontas, Crazy Bernie and A.O.C. push.

This constitutionally conservative and constitutionally consistent reform merely replaces Colorado's state-based, winner-take-all method of awarding its electoral votes — a method James Madison, who wrote the U.S. Constitution, opposed — by ensuring the presidential candidate who gets the most votes wins. Don't take my word for it. Newt Gingrich has endorsed the compact. Even President Donald J. Trump says he supports a popular vote.

While it doesn't impact 2020 it would in future elections require the presidential candidates of both par-

ties to campaign and invest in each and every state, including Colorado, because winning would become a numbers game.

In a presidential election under a popular vote the votes of every voter in every state would be equal. No longer would we elect a president of the battleground states. Rather, we would elect a president of the United States.

Proposition 113 creates an incentive for Republicans to turnout each and every conservative in the High Country, Eastern Plains and Western Slope. Similarly, conservatives in Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Montana, the Dakotas, Kansas and Oklahoma would have a reason to vote. Right now, all of these voters and interests are ignored.

That is why opposition is so puzzling. Conservatives should be focused on re-electing U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner, not spending time and money opposing a ballot question that, if passed, would revitalize the conservative movement in Colorado. Don't take my word for it. Just listen to conservatives in other 'blue' states.

In Oregon, Democratic since 1988, Republicans have been decimated in the state Legislature, losing 33 percent of their seats in the lower chamber

since 2006. Portland is an example of what happens when one party runs everything. Yet, Oregon joined the compact on a bipartisan basis.

The same is true in New York, which joined the compact with the support of state legislators from the Conservative and Republican parties. They recognized the political right would benefit if the New Yorkers had a reason to show up and support conservative candidates.

Then there is the fact that Arizona, Georgia and Texas are either toss-up 'purple' or are trending that way by 2024. Under the present method, the math is increasingly stacked against Republicans because Democrats start with 242 of the 270 electoral votes needed to win.

This explains why Trump has said he supports a popular vote. Trump knows it's easier for him — and other Republicans — to win if the vast swath of 'red' America had a reason to vote.

Conservatives need to stop and think. A 'yes' vote on Proposition 113 makes Colorado relevant again.

Dennis Lennox is campaign manager of Conservatives for Yes on National Popular Vote. https://www.conservativesforyesonnation.alpopularvote.com/

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 montevistanews@gmail.com (Attention: Letter to the Editor). Deadline for letters is 5 p.m. Friday.

Political letters may be limited due to space constraints.

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>

Trey Spaulding GM/Editor
Rebecca Copley
.....Monte Vista Reporter
Teresa Benns Center Reporter
Lyndsie Ferrell
.....South Fork/Creede Reporter
Sylvia Lobato
.....Conejos County Reporter
Chelsea McNerney-Martinez
.....Advertising Sales Associate

Shasta Quintana Circulation
Ellie Bone Composition
April Welch Classified
Vernon Trujillo Production Foreman



www.centerpostdispatch.com

CENTER OF FOCUS

Focus on the Fabulous - Our very own, Luis Murillo, was featured at the national level in GlobalMinded during their coverage of Rural Resilience. GlobalMinded is an organization focused on closing the equity gap by creating a capable, diverse talent pipeline. Luis was recognized as one of the nation's leading rural experts and innovators, thanks, in part, to his hard work and commitment to the Center community. Luis' belief that it is necessary to "do with your community instead of doing for your community," enables him to help in making decisions that give a personal perspective and ensure that all individuals are being considered in the planning process. We are fortunate to have Luis as part of our team here in Center and appreciate the insight and leadership he provides.

Great Things Going On - Once again, we've had a busy couple of weeks. Our District Accountability Committee met for the first time this year on Tuesday, Sept. 8. The state accountability system has been paused for the 2020-2021 school year in response to the Covid-19 situation. This means that our district will not receive Performance Ratings from the state but will continue to operate under the previous ratings. As a district, we are Accredited with an Improvement Plan. Our District Accountability Committee will meet monthly, the second Tuesday of every month, at 4:45 p.m. in the library. The DAC is responsible for making recommendations to the BOE related to budget priorities and improvement efforts, to building principals on assessment measures and evaluations, and to work cooperatively to determine specific areas that made need to be addressed. Community members and parent representatives are always welcome to participate.

District Improvement Efforts - Our District Leadership Team met on Sept. 10 to review our District Action Plan and to begin making plans for this school year. Our five improvement strategies for the year are: #1- Curriculum and Instruction, #2- Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness, #3- MTSS, #4- Recruitment and Retention, and #5- Team Commitment. These improvement strategies frame the work of the district and come directly

from our Unified Improvement Plan. This year, each improvement strategy will have an identified team working toward accomplishing the goals outlined in the improvement strategy. The work of the DLT is then shared with Building Leadership Teams, so that building level efforts can be planned accordingly. Finally, PLC work is aligned to these efforts as data are reviewed and analyzed so that decision making is research based. DLT membership includes district and building administration and teacher representation.

Safe Routes to School - Kudos to our Safe Routes to School team for their persistence and follow through in getting things in place so that we can begin construction of the sidewalk and bridge across State Hwy. 112. These efforts are to ensure that our students can safely walk to and from school each day. This has been an ongoing conversation that has lasted a number of years and will finally be able to be started in the next few weeks. Brisa Macias, previously in charge of the committee, led the efforts and Marisol Baca, who recently took over as Brisa took on another role in the district, have helped to get things in place. Katrina Ruggles has worked tirelessly to get funding in place from various grants and local opportunities. A special thanks to Saguache County Commissioner, Ken Anderson, Saguache County Administrator, Wendi Maez and Rio Grande County Commissioner, Gene Glover, for their support of the project. Center town officials, Brian Lujan, Town Manager and Rose DeHerrera, Deputy Clerk also contributed to these efforts. We are grateful for the hard work of the



Luis Murillo, was featured at the national level in GlobalMinded during their coverage of Rural Resilience.

team and support of the community in helping us to get to this phase of the project.

Rewind - NWEA testing took place last week across the district. Students were assessed in reading and math for beginning of the year

baseline data. Testing went off successfully for our on-site students and arrangements are being made to get online students tested. Great work from our teachers, building principals, Stephanie Hensley, and all our support staff for making

this happen. We finished up our PERA audit on Thursday. Betty, Alondra and JJ worked throughout the week to provide the necessary information for the auditors to make sure our district was in compliance.

The Valley-Wide Ride
Friendly, Familiar & Free

We are Expanding to Monte Vista!
Beginning September 14th

We are expanding our **FREE** transportation services to the community of Monte Vista. Services are limited to community members who have "health and well-being" needs such as:

- Medical/Dental appointments
- Physical Therapy appointments
- Convenient Care/ Urgent Care/Hospital visits of non-emergent nature
- Behavioral Health appointments
- Pharmacy
- Social Services (Anything related to Department of Human Services)
- Employment Services/Workforce Centers
- Court House/Legal Services
- Grocery Stores
- Libraries
- Gyms
- Laundromats

To schedule a ride call:
1-833-350-1113 option 4
Monday-Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm

*Pick-ups and drop-offs must be within Monte Vista City limits.

Please visit vwhs.org/transportation for more info.

CLIPS FROM THE CLERK

BY TRISH GILBERT
Saguache County Clerk and Recorder

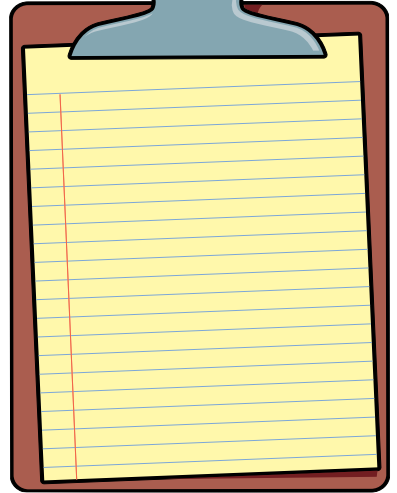
Ballot Drop Box Update

The first of our 3 ballot drop boxes was installed on Sept. 21, 2020, in the Town of Crestone. The second drop box has been delivered and will be installed in the Town of Center on Sept. 24. The third drop box is in the process of being shipped and will be installed as soon as possible in the Town of Sargents.

These drop boxes were acquired through the CARES ACT Grant. They will all be permanent, stationary boxes that will replace the previous portable drop boxes.

Starting Oct. 9 - 16, ballots will be mailed to all active registered voters. All drop boxes will be open 24/7 beginning Oct. 9 through Election Day at 7 p.m. No postage is required to use a ballot drop box. Times for picking up the ballots will be posted on each drop box.

Ballots will be picked up by a bipartisan team of election judges



every Friday beginning Oct. 16; Monday, Nov. 2; and twice on Election Day.

- Ballot Drop Box Locations:**
- Crestone
182 E Galena Ave. (Sheriff's Satellite Office)
 - Center
220 Worth St. (Haskin's Building)
 - Sargents
360 County Rd 31XX (County Shop Building)

FIND WHAT YOU LOVE WITH A VOICE COMMAND

Google Assistant

INTRODUCING AT&T tv

Get the first 3 months of HBO, CINEMAX, SHOWTIME, STARZ, EPIX included at no extra cost.

PACKAGES STARTING FROM **\$39.99** MO.

CALL your AT&T Dealer Today!
iv Support Holdings LLC
1-855-828-2729

AT&T Preferred Dealer

Rio Grande Public Health department audit in progress

By LYNSIE FERRELL
RIO GRANDE COUNTY- Over the past week, Rio Grande County has been working to evaluate the Public Health Department needs. Working closely with the current Public Health Department team, Rio Grande County Commissioners are beginning to gain a perspective of the needs of the department and its employees.

According to an updated report from Rio Grande County Attorney Ryan Dunn, during a meeting that was held Wednesday, Sept. 16, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment began their state audit Monday, Sept. 14. Dunn stated that the audit was a combined effort between himself and state auditors and he hoped that it would be completed before the end of the month.

Dunn stated that auditors were focusing on the department's grant division, grant reporting procedures, funding that was issued incorrectly and an overall look at the financial situation of the department. The Rio

Grande Commissioners decided to delegate specific board members to tasks to help with the audit as much as possible.

In addition to the state audit, commissioners are taking time to speak with employees, determine daily tasks by employee and is gaining a better understanding on how the department's grant management works, as well as, how to better use time management within the departments many areas of expertise.

"The Public Health team is working diligently to make sure the department is running as smooth as possible until a new director can be found. We have three very strong, highly qualified applicants that will be interviewed in upcoming days to fill the Public Health Director position. We have obligations to meet in the meantime and everyone is doing their part," said Commissioner Chairman John Noffsfer.

In the process of auditing the department, commissioners were able to recover 1,500 masks that had



been stored in a storage trailer. "We have access to these masks now and are going to be distributing them to law enforcement and other agencies who are short of PPE equipment," stated Noffsfer.

The department is getting ready to gear up for the upcoming flu season in the midst of dealing with the COVID-19 situation and have announced that flu shot locations will be set up throughout the Valley by October.

The county reported another week of zero cases of COVID-19 and continues to monitor daily updates from local medical professionals. "The most important thing we want to share with the community is that we are moving forward and fixing things as we go."

Saguache-Upper Rio Grande RAC extends project proposal submission timeline

MONTE VISTA –The Saguache-Upper Rio Grande Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) is accepting project proposals for work that enhances forest ecosystems or restores and improves land health and water quality. The deadline for submitting project proposals has been extended to Nov. 16, 2020. Potential project areas include the Rio Grande, San Juan, San Isabel, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests and other nearby lands in Conejos, Hinsdale, Rio Grande or Saguache counties. This extension is a result of a scheduled RAC meeting that occurred on Sept. 15, 2020, during which members were unable to review and recommend the earlier submitted projects due to procedural requirements. "This provides the opportunity for additional projects to be submitted," said Martha Williamson, the designated federal official for the RAC. "We look forward to seeing additional projects that will benefit the participating counties." The RAC works closely with U.S. Forest Service to recommend projects that will benefit forest health, fish, wildlife, soils, watersheds and other resources. Projects must be developed in coordination with a Forest Service district ranger and county

representative. Proposed projects must benefit the resources on the National Forests and comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. Projects can be completed by Forest Service personnel, through partnership agreements or by open bid contracting with individuals and corporations. Federal procurement and contracting regulations apply. Funds are available through Title II of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. The purposes of the Act include making investments and creating employment opportunities through special projects that improve the maintenance of existing infrastructure, implement stewardship objectives, or restore and improve public land health and water quality project proposal forms and instructions are available at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/riogrande/home>. Under "Quick Links," on the right-hand side, navigate to "Saguache-Upper Rio Grande RAC." The deadline to submit projects is Nov. 16, 2020. The RAC will review projects for possible funding at their next meeting, which is expected to be in late November or early December. The meeting will be conducted completely in an online format with details to be provided on the forest's dedicated RAC webpage listed above.

The public is welcome to attend RAC meetings. For more information contact: Gregg Goodland, RAC Coordinator, at 719-588-7045 or Martha Williamson, RAC Designated Federal Official, at 719-850-2356

ENGLERT LeafGuard
 is the permanent, clog-free gutter solution!
 *Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

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

719-493-9644

Call Today for Your FREE Estimate!

\$99 INSTALLATION*
\$99 PER MONTH **\$99 DOWN**
PLUS
RECEIVE A \$25 LOWE'S GIFT CARD
 WITH FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATE!

*Does not include cost of material. Expires 9/30/20. **To be eligible for this promotion, the participant's estimated job cost must be at least \$780. The advertised payment of \$99 a month is an estimate only, and assumes that third-party financing is available for new customers at an estimated 9.99% annual percentage rate for 120 months. Promotion available to qualified buyers on approved credit with 99¢ down payment. Not all buyers will qualify. Higher annual percentage rates apply for buyers with lower credit ratings. LeafGuard is neither a lender nor a broker. Financing is provided by third-party lenders affiliated with LeafGuard, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender, all of which are subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only. LeafGuard does not assist with, counsel or negotiate financing, other than providing customers an introduction to lenders interested in financing its customers. Expires 9/30/20. †All participants who attend an estimated 30-90 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 processes, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age, if rented 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 returned, 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 emailed 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 provided by Lowe's and is subject to change without notice prior to expiration. Expires 9/30/20.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

communities that care

Prevention Science + Digital Tools + Support = Successful Kids

Get Involved in the Future of Your Community

FOR QUESTIONS OR TO GET INVOLVED CALL 719-655-2533

American Standard

150 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

ENJOYING A NEW SHOWER IS EASIER THAN YOU THINK

NEW SHOWER DESIGN

SAVE \$1000.00 EXCLUSIONS APPLY

FREE IN-HOME DESIGN CONSULTATION-CALL TODAY

newshowerdeal.com/mvj | 844-922-3448

*Offer valid only while supplies last. Limit one per household. Must be first time purchase. Minimum spend amount applies. Financing subject to third party credit approval. Some financing options cannot be combined with other offers and may require minimum monthly payments. All offers subject to change prior to purchase. See AmericanStandardShowers.com for other restrictions and for licensing, warranty, and company information. CSLB 6982796; Suffolk NY: 55431H-NYCHIC 2022748-DCA. Safety Tubs Co. LLC does not sell in Nassau NY, Westchester NY, Putnam NY, Rockland NY.

YOUR NIGHT SKY

Formalhaut the Fish

By DARLENE DANKO

The first quarter moon will make the sky to be easy to observe the stars and planets. The full moon is Oct. 1. The moon will join up with Jupiter and be just below to the right. It joins up with Saturn and is just below it to the left. Both of those planets are still highly visible in the south just to the left of the Milky Way.

The bright star Formalhaut is now visible low in the southeast. It's bright enough to be visible with the moon close by. It's also called the Lonely One or the Solitary One, since that part of the sky doesn't have other bright stars. Early in the evening it sits very low in the sky, but then it reaches its

highest point by midnight.

Its constellation is a fish with it facing to the left, making Formalhaut its mouth since it sits on the left side of the Fish. Actually, the name Formalhaut means mouth of the fish. Since the other stars are very pale, you may not be able to see them without binoculars or a telescope. Our good thing is that since we live in the southern part of our state, we may be able to see it earlier in the evening and we may also be able to see the constellation.

Formalhaut is the eighteenth brightest star in our sky and is very bright white. It's also called the Autumn Star since that's when we can see it. The fish constellation is one of the 48 original constellations identified by Ptolemy. Sometimes the star actually twinkles blue, white or green.

It's also the first star found with a visible exoplanet. In September it's



opposite our Sun in the sky, so it shines in the sky all night. But it's always less than 1/3 of the way up in our sky. That's why we have to look so low for it.

It's classified as an A3V star which means that it's hotter and heavier than our Sun. If they were close together it would outshine our Sun almost 17 times. But since it's 25 LY away, we can't see that it's twice as large as our Sun. So, when you go out to look at the sky before you go to bed, look low in the SE and see if you can find this star. Or if you get up during the night, then look out in the SE to see if you can find it.

SAGUACHE

Continued from Page 1A

beautification grant proposal will require more money.

Town Administrator Iris Garcia received a bid for updating the Community Building with details for improving the entrance. The trustees agreed to cover the extra \$8,784 expense and asked Garcia for ideas to come up with the money.

"We have a slim budget," Garcia explained. "I'm not sure where I would find it." Garcia explained that a deferred paving project and unfilled part-time position might loosen funds. But she would need to investigate further to overcome the shortfall. Garcia also explained how the town will need to absorb administrative costs for the ScSeed Street Scaping grant proposal, and that too requires calculation before committing to the grant.

Trustees reviewed the report from Saguache County Sheriff Dan Warwick at the start of the meeting. The Sheriff's department performs law enforcement duties for the town of Saguache (as well as Crestone).

During the citizens' comment period, two residents raised questions about recent criminal activity in Saguache. Brian Chacon runs a security team and offered to discuss his services for the board's consideration

"at a future date." Although the comments did not lead to discussion, the trustees recognized Chacon's offer. Later in the meeting, Deputy Clerk Tina Sanchez mentioned finding drug paraphernalia in different parts of town.

Megan Gutwein and Steve Nguyen presented an augmentation agreement draft for managing Saguache town water credits. Gutwein said their usage analysis uncovered more credits from the Gotthelf Ditch into Saguache Creek. To meet replacement requirements for San Luis Creek and the Rio Grande, Gutwein said they estimate usage conservatively. They need to calculate credits and fees with actual numbers because it's better to receive credits than fall short with not enough water for replacement.

"We have plenty of water to trade," Nguyen noted, "It's a swapping of credits." Nguyen added that being a Subdistrict 5 member would be more complicated. He also said they would update the board with flow numbers, credits, and fees. To meet the sustainability requirement, "We're trying to put dollar amounts with acre-feet," Nguyen said.

Saguache Town Attorney Gene Farish conducted a public hearing to review the town's Municipal Traffic

Code. The board approved the code and will proceed with traffic-control measures (for example, stop signs).

Leigh Ann Buniger provided background for a memo submitted to the board regarding historic preservation. Buniger sought to survey residents about landmark designation for properties. Since Saguache is a Certified Local Government (CLT), the town can designate structures without going through the state organization. A previous project designated the 4th Street District, and this same process can be used for property owners.

Buniger noted that two public hearings are required before moving forward, but the goal is to seek interest first. Trustee Wyoma Hansen emphasized privacy issues. "We want to include everyone who might be affected," Hansen noted.

The board scheduled a special session for Monday, Sept. 28, to approve audit results before the submission deadline on Sept. 30. The board also agreed to discuss options to cover administrative costs for the ScSeed Street Scaping grant proposal. Although the board previously approved pursuit of the \$35,000 grant, they recently discovered that they need to bear the cost of administration.

SUICIDE

Continued from Page 1A

of preventing and overcoming mental health challenges, suicide attempts and loss, and substance use are significant and valuable to individuals, families and our community at large; and whereas it is essential that we educate residents about suicide, mental health and substance use problems and the ways they affect all people in community; and whereas we must encourage relatives, friends and co-workers, and providers to recognize the signs of a problem, and guide those in need to appropriate services and supports; and whereas suicide Prevention Week and Recovery Month inspire millions of Americans to raise awareness, build resiliency and find hope."

Suicide rates have been increasing over the last two decades. One recent article by Sandhya Raman stating that before the COVID-19 pandemic the nation's suicide rate had reached historic highs with rates at the highest levels since World War II. This year with the pandemic and other economical, and social anxieties many are concerned that suicide risks will increase even more. Especially for those suffering from mental illness who have been isolated due to the COVID-19 shutdowns. It's important to reach out to family and friends when you think of them, or if you're

concerned. A simple text or phone call could save a life. Make sure to be there for each other, you never know how much it can mean. Also, if you are someone who is feeling suicidal and are in need of help you can call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255. This service is 24/7, toll-free, and is available to anyone experiencing a suicidal crisis or emotional distress. The caller is routed to their nearest crisis center to receive immediate counseling and local mental health referrals.

The Mayo Clinic lists the following symptoms and warnings of suicide:

- Talking about suicide — for example, making statements such as "I'm going to kill myself," "I wish I were dead" or "I wish I hadn't been born"
- Getting the means to take your own life, such as buying a gun or stockpiling pills
- Withdrawing from social contact and wanting to be left alone
- Having mood swings, such as being emotionally high one day and deeply discouraged the next
- Being preoccupied with death, dying or violence
- Feeling trapped or hopeless about a situation
- Increasing use of alcohol or drugs

• Changing normal routine, including eating or sleeping patterns

• Doing risky or self-destructive things, such as using drugs or driving recklessly

• Giving away belongings or getting affairs in order when there's no other logical explanation for doing this

• Saying goodbye to people as if they won't be seen again

• Developing personality changes or being severely anxious or agitated, particularly when experiencing some of the warning signs listed above

Warning signs aren't always obvious, and they may vary from person to person. Some people make their intentions clear, while others keep suicidal thoughts and feelings secret.

• When to see a doctor? - If you're feeling suicidal, but you aren't immediately thinking of hurting yourself:

• Reach out to a close friend or loved one — even though it may be hard to talk about your feelings

• Contact a minister, spiritual leader or someone in your faith community

• Call a suicide hotline

• Make an appointment with your doctor, other health care provider or a mental health professional

Suicidal thinking doesn't get better on its own — so get help.

Kay's Bookkeeping Services

& The Monte Vista Cemetery Association Office have moved!

Come see us at our new address:
995 N. Hwy 285 • Monte Vista
(next to Valley Lumber)

Kay's: (719) 852-5638

Monte Vista Cemetery: (719) 852-5196 or
www.montevistacemeteryassociation.com



Local Septic Tank Manufacturer Large Inventory of Plumbing & Septic System Supplies

Hassle free installation instantly approved in Colorado
Watertight low profile anti float design
Concrete lasts for decades,
requires less maintenance

215 N. Washington St. • Monte Vista



National Precast Association Member

Let's Talk Trash

No contracts, no hidden fees

- Residential Service (96 gallon rolling containers)
- Commercial Containers (1YD-6YD Dumpsters)
- Roll-Off "Construction Site" Dumpsters (20YD-30YD)
- Curbside, single-stream recycling available

Services available for residents and commercial pick-up in
and around Creede, South Fork, Del Norte and Monte Vista

For a full list of recyclable items see www.mdswasteandrecycle.com/services/recycling-services/

Call (719) 658-3060
www.mdswasteandrecycle.com



Help is only a Phone Call Away

COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line
719.589.3671

If you are stressed, anxious, lonely, depressed, angry, or all of the above, you are not alone. We are in this together, and caring mental health professionals are available if you need to talk.

Virtual Therapy & Psychiatry
slvbhg.org/covid-19

Behavioral Health therapy and psychiatry have never been easier to start. ALL SLVBHG locations are open for business virtually, providing services to the convenience of your social distancing space by video consultations or over the phone. Call now to schedule an appointment: 719.589.3671

Mobile Health Unit
slvbhg.org/mobile

Visit our website for an updated schedule of where the mobile unit will be. The Mobile Health Unit specializes in Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) for substance use disorders.



Approved Medicaid Provider | 24 hour hotline: 719.589.3671 | slvbhg.org

BOARD Continued from Page 1A

checks in 2017 and 2018 (valued at approximately \$10,000). Deputy Clerk Rose DeHerrera devoted a couple of days to track the uncashed checks. Without a policy for writing off outstanding payments, Mayor Garcia requested guidance from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). The board discussed printing "void after six months" on checks, and not all disbursements follow the same channels. In some cases, the money goes to the Great Colorado Payback program, a state treasury system for lost or forgotten funds and property.

Mayor Garcia noted new accounting procedures to help with future audits. He also floated the idea of hiring a Certified Public Accountant to create a financial department. Trustees agreed, noting how Monte Vista hired a CPA and may have paid for the position already through tighter funds management. Municipal "fund accounting is a different animal," Garcia noted. Also, staff stability helps stabilize account balances over time.

Money matters aside, Steve Huey and Krystal Anton are new entrepreneurs in town who hope to bring an international art project to Center. Huey and Anton bought four buildings in the area for development. The Doug Aitken project is an extension of their philosophy.

"Doug Aitken is an interesting guy," Huey explained. "He calls his studio a 'nomadic studio.'" Huey described one of Aitken's projects funded by Levi's

RATE

Continued from Page 1A

July to an August percentage of 4.7 percent. Alamosa County dropped from 6.1 percent to an August number of 5.9 percent. Rio Grande County was unchanged from July to August with 6.8 percent unemployed. Saguache County was also unchanged from July with a 7.5 percent unemployment rate. Costilla County once again had the highest unemployment rate in the SLV with 7.9 percent unemployed which was also unchanged from July.

SAFE

Continued from Page 1A

will have a safer route to and from school next year.

In 2005, the first federal funding for Safe Routes to School sparked projects that are currently active across all 50 states. More than 14,000 schools have leveraged the program to improve safety for students while boosting infrastructure in communities. The Saguache Town Board, for example, is currently considering projects that merge Safe Routes to School funding with the ScSeed Street Scaping program. This approach beautifies the town while boosting safety for students.

In 2012, Congress merged multiple active transportation programs to create the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) for children walking or riding bikes to school. For old-timers who claim they struggled uphill on foot in the snow every day, "active transportation" is a chuckle-worthy "alternative." In 2015, TAP funding received five years of authorization (and may or may not be renewed this year). The sidewalk and bridge project in Center, however, is well underway with funding secured.

The route to school might be a walk through Center for some, but the current Open Enrollment period means more students can become Vikings from a distance. Until Oct. 9, students outside the Center Consolidated Schools district can enroll in the school. They can choose on-site or online options. Also, Zimmerman said current Center students can switch learning options during the Open Enrollment window. On-site students can change to online learning, and online learners can return to the building as well.

Strauss. A passenger train ride from New York to San Francisco (and 15 other cities) featured light shows and other art projects. Aitken's work appears in London, Switzerland, and several art galleries in the United States.

But the "Nomadic Mirror" project is different. For one, it will be positioned near town but in open space. Almost 40 feet long and 15 feet wide and tall, the stand-alone structure will attract one visitor at a time. Aitken calls the design a "mirage" because it reflects the surrounding environment. Once inside, the viewer will be immersed in a reflection of the landscape.

The project is also different because it will move through different locations in Colorado while visitors enjoy it and

gallery owners appraise it. Construction can begin this summer in Center, and Huey said he is currently getting cost estimates for the steel, design and fabricated panels. Because the exhibit is nomadic, everything needs to be disassembled for trucking elsewhere. The foundation is precast concrete, and the steel frame breaks down into smaller pieces for transport.

Huey said he sent pictures to Aitken in Venice, showing off a sunrise over the Sangre de Cristo mountains and sunset over the La Garitas.

"I have sold them on the idea of the San Luis Valley," Huey told the trustees. "We could find another site. But I'd like to steer the project this way to Center, if you're willing to go on the wild ride

with us."

The Center Town Board will conduct a special session on Sept. 28 to approve the audit report that Mayor Garcia

distributed to trustees for review. Also, on Sept. 30, board members will interview three municipal judge candidates. The next scheduled court date is Oct. 21.

Saguache County is currently accepting proposals for the Saguache County 2020 Fiscal Year audit. The ideal firm or individual will have extensive knowledge and experience related to conducting governmental audits in accordance with generally accepted accounting and auditing standards, and preparing financial statements that conform to all state, federal and industry guidelines.

All interested parties should submit a letter of interest and a proposal for services by November 6, 2020 at 3:00 PM to: Saguache County Administration office. For additional information contact Saguache County Administration at 719-655-2231 or wmaez@saguachecounty-co.gov.

No. 1556 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, July 9, 16, 23, 30, August 6, 13, 20, 26, September 3, 10, 17, 24, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, November 5 and 12, 2020.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District Court <input type="checkbox"/> Denver Probate Court Saguache County, Colorado Court Address: 501 4th St. Saguache, CO 81149		▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲
In the Matter of the Estate of Johnny Lee Werner; a/k/a Johnny L. Werner; a/k/a Johnny Werner; a/k/a John L. Werner; a/k/a John L. Werner; a/k/a John Werner Deceased		
Myka Marie Landry 133 County Road 17, Ste. E2E PO Box 2276 Elizabeth, Colorado 80107		Case Number: 2020 PR 030010 Division C Courtroom
Phone Number: 303-802-4672 Email: mykalandry@mykalandrylaw.com FAX Number: 303-848-2020 Atty. Reg. #: 20430 NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.		

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Johnny Lee Werner; a/k/a Johnny L. Werner; a/k/a Johnny Werner; a/k/a John Lee Werner; a/k/a John L. Werner; a/k/a John Werner, Deceased Case Number 2020 PR 030010

All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to

- District Court of Saguache, County, Colorado or
- Denver Probate Court of the City and County of Denver, Colorado

on or before February 12, 2021 (date)*, or the claims may be forever barred.

Myka Landry, Attorney for Personal Representative

Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice
 PO Box 2276
 Address
 Elizabeth, Colorado 80107
 City, State, Zip Code

No. 1571 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, September 10, 17 and 24, 2020.

Date of Notice: September 11, 2020

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN TARIFFS ON LESS THAN 30-DAYS' NOTICE

Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos Energy")
 1555 Blake Street
 Denver, Colorado 80202

You are hereby notified that Atmos Energy has filed with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado ("PUC"), in compliance with the Public Utilities Law, an application for permission to file certain changes in tariffs, affecting all residential, commercial, interruptible and other consumers in its Colorado divisions to become effective October 1, 2020, if the application is granted by the PUC.

The purpose for this filing is to change rates by revising the Company's existing gas cost adjustment tariff to reflect changes in the rates charged Atmos Energy by its suppliers for natural gas purchases. The present and proposed natural gas rates are as follows:

<u>Class of Service by Division</u>	<u>Present Rates</u> <u>Total Volumetric</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u> <u>Total Volumetric</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
North Colorado*			
Residential	\$0.61709	\$0.68630	11%
Small Commercial, Commercial	0.51275	0.58196	13%
Irrigation	0.49919	0.56840	14%
Transportation	0.12925	0.12903	0%

	<u>Average Monthly Bill</u> <u>Monthly Bill</u>	<u>Projected Average</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
North Colorado*			
Residential	\$ 50.16	\$ 54.45	9%
Small Commercial, Commercial	225.98	252.55	12%
Irrigation	232.69	258.71	11%

	<u>Prior Year's Peak</u> <u>Month Bill</u>	<u>Projected Peak</u> <u>Month Bill</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
North Colorado*			
Residential	\$ 93.97	\$ 103.18	10%
Small Commercial, Commercial	453.12	510.36	13%
Irrigation	478.79	538.93	13%

*Notification Published in our North Rate Area Newspaper

The proposed and present rates and tariffs are available for examination at the business office of Atmos Energy Corporation located at 1555 Blake Street, Suite 400, Denver, Colorado, or at the Public Utilities Commission at 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado, 80202.

Anyone who desires may either file written objection or seek to intervene as a party in this filing. If you only wish to object to the proposed action, you may file a written objection with the Commission. The filing of a written objection by itself will not allow you to participate as a party in any proceeding on the proposed action. If you wish to participate as a party in this matter, you must file written intervention documents under the Commission's rules.

Anyone who desires to file written objection or written intervention documents to the proposed action shall file them with the PUC, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado, 80202 at least one day before the proposed effective date.

Members of the public may attend any hearing and may make a statement under oath about the proposed change whether or not a written objection or request to intervene has been filed.

Atmos Energy Corporation has filed a separate gas purchase report in accordance with Rule 4607 of the Commission's Rules Regulating Gas Utilities and Pipeline Operators to begin the initial prudence review evaluation for the gas purchase year ended June 30, 2020.

Atmos Energy Corporation
 Colorado-Kansas Division
 By: Gary W. Gregory, President

Summer snowstorm devastating to migratory songbirds

BY JOHN RAWINSKI, AUTHOR AND FIELD ORNITHOLOGIST

San Luis Valley Birder's Network

SAN LUIS VALLEY - While the late summer snowstorm was a welcome event for our water supplies, it was also a devastating storm for migrating songbirds. The storm resulted in possibly thousands of bird deaths in the San Luis Valley alone. This comes at a time when songbirds are already facing serious declines globally - down 3 billion birds since 1970.

The timing of the storm was especially unfortunate for migrating songbirds. Migrating birds expend tremendous energy during migration and rely on the autumn abundance of seeds, flowers and insects to restore energy. However, the 14 plus inches of snow the Valley received effectively cut off the food supply for these birds and left them wet, weakened, hungry and cold. Many birds died in the process or were seen to be near death. They were easily approached in their diminished conditions.

Local bird craftsman Tarry Maxson, who carves beautiful wooden bird figures, found six dead birds around his house near Monte Vista. He said if he found that many around his house, he wondered how many died everywhere else.

During the storm, an email message went out to the San Luis Valley Birder's Network, a group of San Luis Valley bird enthusiasts, to help the birds in any way they could, and many responded. At the authors house, clearings were made and ground feeders like sparrows and towhees fed on millet seed.

Sage Thrashers, Hermit Thrushes and Robins feasted on mealworms that were provided for them. At least two hummingbirds survived by using the feeder, their only source of sustenance. Sadly, for some birds like swallows who eat small insects, nothing could be done. That fact was later confirmed by a survey done at Monte Vista High School. Science teacher Loree Harvey had her freshmen students do a mortality survey of birds around the Delta Center. They found 33 total birds and the majority were swallows. There were 24 juvenile Violet-green swallows, 5 adult Violet-green swallows, 1 MacGillivray's Warbler, 1 Wilson's Warbler, 1 Pine Siskin and 1 juvenile Barn Swallow. That count is conservative as the janitors are reported to have removed a few more.

Automobiles took a significant toll on the birds as well. Birds were killed along roadsides by vehicular traffic. When storms like this hit, birds are drawn to the only cleared soil where they might find seed and that is along the plowed roadways. Birds that normally spread out in forested or grassy cover, found themselves desperately confined and searching for seeds or insects along those



A Hermit Thrush feeds along a roadway



A weakened and hungry Wilson's Warbler searches for any food it might find.

Photos by John Rawinski

cleared roadways. Unfortunately, when a vehicle approaches, the birds flush and often become casualties. Over a 4 mile stretch along the "Gunbarrel," the author counted carcasses of 3 American Robins, 3 Vesper Sparrows, 3 Hermit Thrushes, 2 Green-tailed Towhees, 3 Mountain Bluebirds, 1 Western Bluebird, 2 Starlings and 1 Wilson's Warbler. If this is extrapolated to other county and state roads in our

Valley, the mortality would have amounted to thousands of birds from highways alone.

There has been a significant bird die-off in New Mexico recently that has scientists unsure as to its cause. This was being documented before the snowstorm. However, scientists are seeking to gather citizen input on the degree of mortality throughout Colorado, New Mexico and other places in

this region. If you observed bird mortality, please consider reporting it via the following website. If we all pitch in on this important citizen science effort, researchers will have a more comprehensive assessment of the widespread impact. You can contribute by visiting the website below.

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/southwest-avian-mortality-project>



The Saguache County Sheriff patrols the seventh largest county in Colorado.

SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

SAGUACHE COUNTY - (Sept. 21, 2020) In addition to multiple routine patrols, the Saguache County Sheriff's office responded to 34 calls from Sept. 16 to 21. Operating in the seventh largest county in Colorado, Sheriff Dan Warwick and his deputies cover 3,170 square miles. For Crestone, Saguache and smaller communities, Warwick's staff also fulfills police department duties.

Calls came from all corners of the county (Villa Grove to Crestone, Hooper, Center, Saguache and Sargent). Staff members initiated seven of the calls, and 911 accounted for eight others. A couple automated alarms alerted deputies as well. Agents helped stranded motorists, car crash victims and other agencies.

In addition to periodic welfare checks, the department also handled suspicious and criminal activity, animal cruelty, computer crime in Moffat, a missing person, suicidal situations and burglaries.

Del Norte 'United'

Support Local

Local shops value you more. Local businesses survive by their reputation & repeat business which means you get a higher standard of service.



Support Del Norte!

Directory

Financial Advisor



Rob McConnell
Financial Advisor
665 Grand Ave
Del Norte, CO 81132
719-657-0404

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

We're the Little Bank with A LOT OF MUSCLE!




Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

Del Norte **Creede**
719-657-3376 719-658-0126 TrueLocalBank.com

COOPERTIRES

THREE NEW DURABLE TIRES TO FIND ADVENTURE BEYOND THE PAVEMENT.




From the trusted name in truck tires, come three new all-terrain, all-season tires, that give you the freedom and durability to take on the road. And what lies beyond.

Ken's Service Center
719.657.2880 • 810 Grand Ave. • Del Norte

COOPERTIRES

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



ASU production Wonderland opens safely on Sept. 25

ALAMOSA – From the adventures of Alice to stories of the pandemic to a new adaption of “A Christmas Carol,” Adams State University Theatre is back creating theatre. While they will not have audiences in their building this fall semester, ASU Theatre students and faculty are still producing three new and original productions - each done in creative and innovative ways while meeting necessary COVID-19 safety protocols.

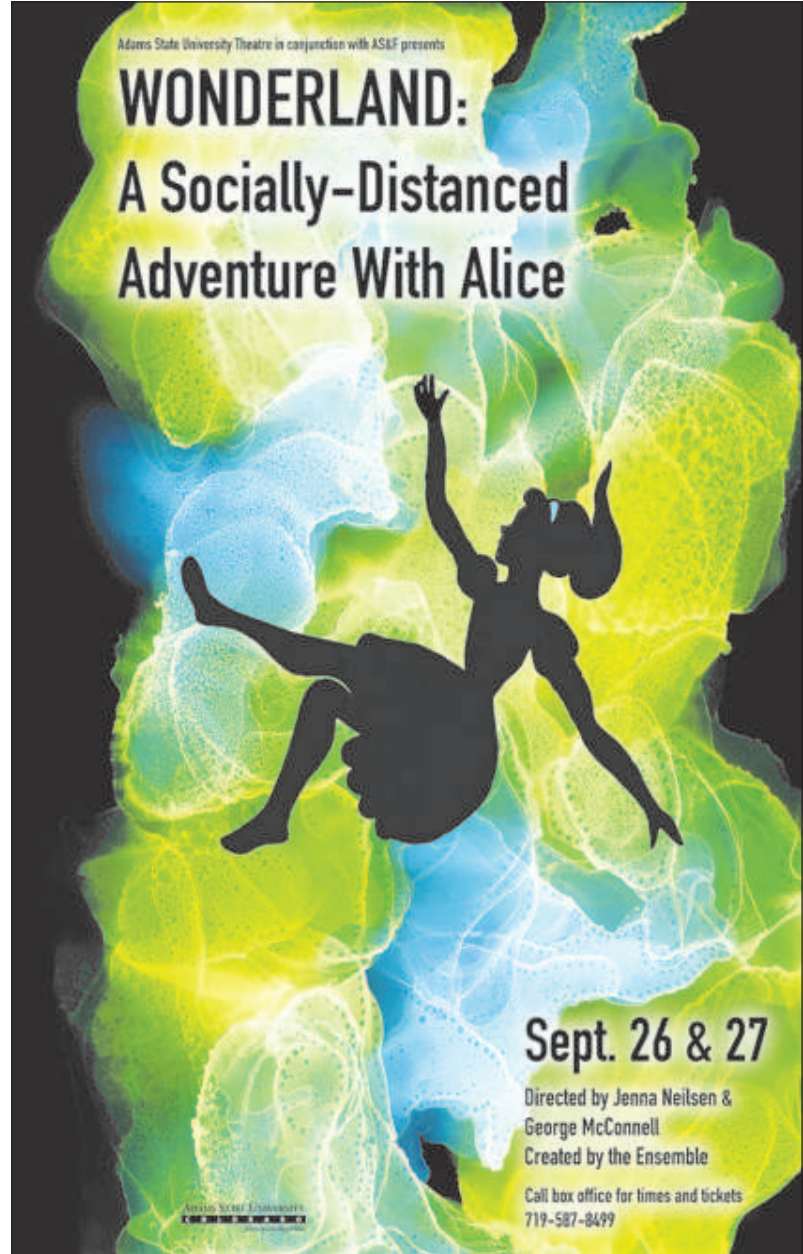
The Adams State Theatre program opens its 2020-2021 production season with the world premiere of “WONDERLAND: A Socially-Distanced Adventure with Alice.” This innovative show is an opportunity for audiences of all ages to experience live theatre again in a nontraditional way. Tickets are now on sale through the ASU Theatre Box Office.

Working with Jenna Neilsen, director of theatre and George McConnell, assistant professor of theatre, Adams State Theatre students have created an exciting new take on Lewis Carroll’s Alice in Wonderland. If you are familiar with the novel, you will get to see some of your favorite characters in brand-new interpretations. If you’re not familiar, then you’ll get to meet these characters, along with Alice, for the first time.

Accepting the challenges of creating and performing live theatre during the COVID-19 pandemic, Adams State Theatre is implementing all recommended safety

Please see CPW on Page 3

Please see ASU on Page 2



CPW cancels voluntary fishing closures for Southwest Colorado

SOUTHWEST COLORADO – Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) has lifted voluntary fishing closures on some southwest Colorado rivers that were implemented in mid-August. Waters in the streams have cooled down and anglers can fish again throughout the day.

“We want to thank those who honored the voluntary closures,” said John Alves, senior aquatic biologist for CPW’s Southwest Region. “We know it’s tough to curtail fishing activity, but we also know

that anglers know the importance of helping to sustain Colorado’s trout populations.”

CPW asked for the voluntary action because hot weather had caused the temperature of some streams to rise to 70 degrees or more. The problem with the warm water was compounded by low flows in rivers and streams, many less than 50 percent of normal. Those circumstances caused degradation in water quality which

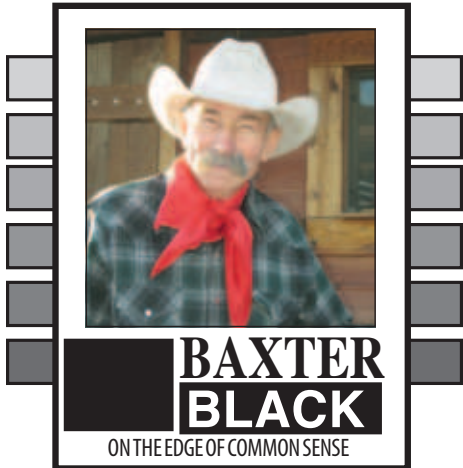
Please see CPW on Page 3

Carhart cowboy

Mr. Moses remarked the other day he’d received a catalog in the mail from a western clothing outfit. He wasn’t sure who the outfit catered to, but the name ‘Long Island’ seemed to stick in his mind.

The photo on the front had burned an image into his brain. A male model stood in cowboy posture, a Clint Eastwood steely-eyed glare glinting from beneath the brim of his Zorro hat.

It appeared that moths had eaten the collar off his shirt. He wore a duster that was sort of a cross between Jim Bridger’s old trapping coat and Santa Ana’s parade uniform. Mr. Moses guessed it weighed more than a wet hallway carpet. There was an odd collection of gold chains, buttons, military pins, silver boot toe tips, training spurs and epaulettes decorating his wardrobe. He looked like a Korean General just returned from a Rotarian’s convention.



Mr. Moses imagined himself dressed like the cowboy on the cover of the catalogue, jangling out to feed the cows and break ice. Him hangin’ his giant rowel and jingle bob on the twine as he kicked a bale off the back of

the flatbed. Being jerked flat into the muddy rut, cows tromping giant footprints on the tail of his coat, the dog running off with his pancake hat. Then rising, sodden and trudging off rattling and clanging like a Moroccan bride with a limp.

“Shoot,” he said, “I couldn’t even walk up to a horse dressed like that.”

Mr. Moses considers himself a Carhart cowboy. For those of you who live in the tropics, Carharts are warm, insulated canvas coveralls with more zippers than a Hell’s Angel’s loin cloth.

Carharts, ear flaps and Lacrosse five buckle overshoes. Real cowboy winter wear. Granted it limits mobility. You’d have to get undressed to mount yer horse. You can’t hear much other than the diesel, but a cowboy can get the job done. Could be the cowboy on the catalog cover measures his time in the winter by the bottles of brandy he goes through

lacing his evening café au lait, or possibly the edge of the sun rays on the floor of his glassed-in sun room. Certainly it would not be the amount of mud built up in the wheel wells of his Lexus.

Mr. Moses has his own way of judging the length of winter. He says he keeps track by watchin’ the pile of ice that accumulates next to the stock tank.

Spoken like a true Carhart cowboy.

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

Welcome home: Introducing A new baby to pets

Many expecting parents prepare for months in anticipation of a new baby. For pet parents, this preparation also often involves encouraging appropriate and positive behaviors in their animals during the time leading up to birth.

However, even with adequate preparations, there are still important precautions owners should consider after the arrival of their new addition to ensure the safety of both pets and child.

Dr. Lori Teller, an associate professor in the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, advises new parents to approach the introduction of pets and babies with caution, even if they trust their pet to be gentle.

“The most important thing to remember is that a baby and a pet should NEVER be left alone together, even if you think your pet would never hurt anybody,” she said. “This cannot be overstated.”

The initial introduction can be eased by acclimating pets to the baby’s odor before bringing the newborn home.

“When the baby is born, have someone bring home some of the clothing or blankets used by the baby while in the hospital for the pets to smell before the baby is discharged,” Teller said.

When the baby is brought home, Teller recommends that new parents bring backup to make sure both the baby and pet are consistently monitored.

“Where possible, someone else should hold the baby while the parents pay attention to the pets,” she said. “Encourage them to be calm while you greet them. Once everyone is calm, you can introduce your pets to the baby. If necessary, have your pets on a leash. One person can be seated while holding the baby and someone

else can control the pets.”

If you have multiple pets, Teller recommends introducing them to the baby one at a time.

After the initial introduction, pet owners still need to be vigilant in monitoring animal interactions with their child. Teller says owners should also actively work to maintain a positive pet-baby relationship.

“It’s important to find a way to pay attention to your pet while your baby is awake and active. You want your pet to know that the baby is a part of the family and everyone can enjoy time together,” she said. “You can toss a few treats or verbally praise your pet for good behavior around an active baby. Unwittingly, by only paying attention to your pet when your baby is sleeping, you are teaching your pet that the baby is a negative in the pet’s life.”

Pet owners should keep in mind that changes to their home environment can pose a danger to their animals.

Some baby supplies, such as pacifiers, baby bottle nipples and small toys, can all be swallowed by pets and may require surgery to remove. Many medications, such as diaper rash ointment, can be toxic to pets and should be kept in a secure location.

Teller also recommends that owners are careful to keep their pet away from dirty diapers.

“Pet supplies should also be kept away from a baby,” Teller said. “These include medications, such as heartworm and flea and tick preventives. Pet toys and chew bones are also not appropriate for a baby to put in his or her mouth. When bathing your pet with a medicated shampoo, make sure your pet is dry before interacting with the baby.”

Pets also may pose a hazard to a new

baby because, by nature, it is sometimes difficult to predict the behaviors of animals. Even if a pet owner fully trusts their furry friend to be gentle, the unfamiliar presence of a baby could put the pet on edge.

“An owner needs to be concerned if the pet growls, hisses, or otherwise tries to interact with the baby in a negative manner,” she said. “Any kind of negative interaction should be stopped immediately. If your pet is acting aggressively, it should be isolated and you need to speak with your veterinarian.”

Ensuring the safety of a new baby is the top priority of any new parent, and proper precautions can help build a safe and positive relationship between the new baby and existing pets.


“There is tremendous sweetness and

beauty in watching a child and a pet develop a mutually caring and loving relationship,” Teller said. “Make sure your pet is encouraged and rewarded for good behavior. As your baby grows, make sure they understand how to treat a pet kindly as well—no pulling on ears and tails or trying to take a pet’s food or toys. Reward your child’s good behavior as well.”

Pet Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University. Stories can be

viewed on the web at vetmed.tamu.edu/news/pet-talk. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to editor@cvm.tamu.edu.





WOLF CREEK

THE MOST SNOW IN COLORADO™

SEASON PASS OPTIONS - Due to COVID-19, sales will NOT be in-person at the ski area

Loyalty Renewal Pass - 10% off at time of purchase

Peak Advantage - No Blackout Dates

SuperSaver - 48 Blackout Dates

- Nov. 27-28; Dec. 5, 12-13, 18-31;
- Jan. 1-3, 9-10, 16-17, 23, 30-31;
- Feb. 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27; Mar. 7-18

Sat, Sept. 26
thru
Sun, Oct. 4, 2020

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Family Passes - All passes must be same type

- Families consist of father, mother, or partners in civil unions and their single, dependent children, 22 years old or younger, living together supported by the same income

ADULT PASSES		SENIOR PASSES		CHILD PASSES		TOT PASSES	
		Ages 65+		Ages 6 to 12		Ages 5 and younger	
	Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate		Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate		Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate		Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate
Peak Advantage	\$963/1,203	Peak Advantage	\$423/528	Peak Advantage	\$379/473	Peak Advantage	\$53/66
SuperSaver	723/903	SuperSaver	318/397	SuperSaver	285/356	SuperSaver	41/50

PEAK ADVANTAGE FAMILY PASSES

	Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate
1st in Family	\$963/1,203
2nd in Family	743/928
3rd in Family	423/528
4th in Family	347/433
5th in Family	347/433

SUPERSAVER FAMILY PASSES

	Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate
1st in Family	\$723/903
2nd in Family	558/697
3rd in Family	318/397
4th in Family	261/326
5th in Family	261/326

No in-person sales at ski area

Pre-Season Prices End October 4, 2020

Online and Phone Purchase Only

WolfCreekSki.com

970-264-5639

Returning Gray Wolf Members Renew Online
*New Members call 970-264-5639 to purchase

ASU Continued from Page 1

protocols for this event. Performed in six outdoor locations around the Theatre, Visual Art and Richardson Hall Buildings, audiences will experience the play in groups of eight and will be led from stage-to-stage by an actor playing Alice. The audience and the performers will be masked and adhering to all social distancing requirements.

“We hope we have made a fun, exciting and safe event for everyone to share,” says Neilsen, and McConnell adds, “We’ve tried to see the pandemic not as a roadblock to creativity, but as another collaborator in the process.”

The family-friendly show will be performed multiple times over the course of two days with audience members assigned specific times to

attend. Due to the socially-distanced approach the production is using, there are only 272 total tickets available. The total show experience from check in until the end should last just about an hour.

Public performances of “WONDERLAND” are Saturday, Sept. 26, and Sunday, Sept. 27, from noon until 5 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for general public, \$9 for seniors and students, and free to Associated Students and Faculty with current Adams State identification. Tickets are only available by calling the ASU Theatre Box Office. Audience members will receive an email that confirms their tickets as well as gives instructions about how the event will work. The Adams State Theatre Box Office number is 719-587-8499.

PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.
Reynolds Storage | Monte Vista | Colorado
 Across from Dos Rios on N. Hwy 285
Gene and Darlene Morgan and Cathy Getz will be offering the following items for sale:

SHOP TOOLS & ITEMS

These tools have been well taken care of and stored inside

- Dewalt 5" Heavy Duty Palm Sander
- Ryobi Battery Screwdriver
- Ryobi 18 V drill with charger
- Black and Decker Jig Saw and Blades
- Ryobi Skill Saw
- Power Drill
- Stanley Electric Staple Gun
- 6" Electric Digital Caliper
- 3/8" Air Ratchet
- 1/2" Air Impact
- Dewalt 18 Gauge finish nailer (air) with full box of nails
- Dewalt 18 Gauge finish nailer in case (air) with 5+ boxes of nails
- Craftsman 16 Gauge finish nailer in case (air)
- 1/4" Hydraulic Pop Rivet Pneumatic Riveting Gun
- Socket Sets- 3/8" and 1/2"
- 1/4" Socket Set with ratchets
- Drill Bit Set 1/4"-1/2"
- SK 3/8" Swivel Socket Set
- SK 3/8 Hex Bit Set
- 40 piece Metric Tap and Die Set
- 40 piece SAE Tap and Die Set
- 3/8" Socket Set with Ratchets-SAE and Metric
- Torque Wrenches (3)
- Open and Box End Wrenches
- T Handle Allen Wrench Set
- Pipe Wrenches
- Multi Meter
- Vacuum Fuel Pump Tester
- Wire Stripper
- Tool Box with Misc. Tools
- Black and Decker Workmate
- Battery Charger
- Small Vise

- Jack Stands
- Quick Grip Clamps
- Hand Saws and Hammers
- Digital Caliper
- 5" Bench Vise
- Miter Box
- Misc. bolts, nuts, screws, washers
- 12' Aluminum Extension Ladder
- 8' Fiberglass step ladder
- Cement Hand Tools
- Hydraulic Jack
- Small 3 drawer Metal Storage Bin
- Hydro Air Washer
- Electric Cords
- Propane Torch
- Plastic Shelving
- Portable Air Tank
- Shop Vac
- Butane Torch
- Jeep Engine Block Heater-New
- Floor Creeper

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- Table & Floor Lamps
- Box Fan
- Rainbow Vacuum
- Night Stand
- Queen Bed with Topper
- Lionel Train Set (in the box)
- Baskets & Christmas Items
- Down Comforter
- Roof Rake
- Hydraulic Jack
- Flower Pots
- Turntable/Cassette Stereo with speakers
- Hose Reel and Garden Hoses
- Step Stool
- Open Burn Pit Incinerator
- 5 Gal. plastic buckets
- Portable toilet
- Cobbler Stand with a few forms
- Electric Radiant Heater

MISC ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION

CAMPING ITEMS

- Coleman Lantern
- Crossman BB Gun
- Camp Stove
- Coolers
- Predator Call
- Small Live Animal Trap
- Plastic Patio Chairs
- Fishing Chair with Cooler
- Misc. Fishing Poles, Equipment & Life Jackets
- Sleeping Bag
- 5 gal propane bottles (2)
- Coleman Grill (like new)
- Snowmobile Suit
- Survival Kit Blankets
- ATV Muffler
- Old Motorcycle Helmet

Special Note:
Masks should be worn and please practice social distancing. Please adhere to state guidelines. If you are sick, please do not come to the sale.

Auctioneer: Darrel Plane
(719)849-3815

Terms: Cash or good check with proper ID
All items sold as is, where is. Auctioneer or owners are not responsible for accidents or theft. All announcements made sale day take precedence over printed material. All descriptions are believed to be accurate, but all conclusions will be determined by the buyer.

ESTATE SALE - LOG HOMES

PAY THE BALANCE OWED ONLY!!!

AMERICAN LOG HOMES IS ASSISTING JUST RELEASED OF ESTATE & ACCOUNT SETTLEMENT ON HOUSES.

4 Log Home kits selling for BALANCE OWED, FREE DELIVERY

1) Model # 101 Carolina	\$40,840...BALANCE OWED \$17,000
2) Model # 203 Georgia	\$49,500...BALANCE OWED \$19,950
3) Model # 305 Biloxi	\$36,825...BALANCE OWED \$14,500
4) Model # 403 Augusta	\$42,450...BALANCE OWED \$16,500

BEFORE CALLING: VIEW at www.loghomedream.com
Click on House Plans

NEW - HOMES HAVE NOT BEEN MANUFACTURED

- Make any plan design changes you desire!
- Comes with Complete Building Blueprints & Construction Manual
- Windows, Doors, and Roofing not included
- NO TIME LIMIT FOR DELIVERY!

BBB
A+ Rating

OFFER NOT AVAILABLE TO AMERICAN LOG HOME DEALERS

SERIOUS ONLY REPLY. Call (704) 602-3035 ask for Accounting Dept.

Colorado implements statewide ballot tracking

COLORADO - Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold today announced that for the first time, voters in all 64 counties will be able to track the status of their individual mail ballots for the 2020 General Election. Voters will be able to receive notifications by phone, email, or text about the status of their mail ballots, from the time their County Clerk and Recorder mails the outgoing ballot packet, to when their voted ballot is received and accepted for counting. "I'm happy to announce that for the first time, every Colorado voter will have access to ballot tracking, to be able to see when ballots are sent to when they are processed," said Secretary Griswold. "This new program is one of the many ways that Colorado continually innovates to ensure our elections are the best in the nation."

The Colorado Secretary of State's Office is offering the BallotTrax ballot tracking and messaging system to all counties. Twelve counties implemented this system in past elections, and voters in those counties will not notice any changes to the content, format or timing of the ballot status messages they receive. The City and County of Denver developed and will continue to operate a separate but similar system. The effect of the Secretary of State's initiative makes the BallotTrax system available to voters in the 51 counties that never before had access to ballot tracking.

Beginning today, voters in counties that are adding ballot tracking will receive a notification that they have been enrolled in the service if their registration record contains an email address. Those who don't



receive an auto-enrollment notification can sign up themselves at <https://colorado.ballottrax.net>. Voters can opt out of BallotTrax at any time. Voters in counties with preexisting ballot tracking capabilities, including Denver's BallotTrace, will not need to re-enroll and will be able to continue to have their ballots tracked without interruption.

"The ability for voters to get text, email, or phone messages with our

ballot tracking service has been in place since it was first introduced in 2015 and has only grown in popularity with each passing year," said Boulder County Clerk and Recorder Molly Fitzpatrick. "It provides a measure of reassurance to voters that their ballots have arrived back to our offices safely and securely and are now ready to be counted." For more information, please visit www.GoVoteColorado.gov.

Let's Talk Trash

No contracts, no hidden fees

- Residential Service (96 gallon rolling containers)
- Commercial Containers (1YD-6YD Dumpsters)
- Roll-Off "Construction Site" Dumpsters (20YD-30YD)
- Curbside, single-stream recycling available

Services available for residents and commercial pick-up in and around Creede, South Fork, Del Norte and Monte Vista

For a full list of recyclable items see www.mdsweandrecycle.com/services/recycling-services/



Call (719)658-3060
www.mdsweandrecycle.com



Southern Colorado Computer Services

157 Adams Street, Monte Vista, CO 81144
(719) 852-3512 / www.scesonline.com

Serving the San Luis Valley for over 30 Years
Dedicated to Customer Service

We stock New & Refurbished PC Computers, Peripherals, Supplies & Parts, Printer Ink & Toner and a Full-Line of Office Supplies. We also provide Copy, Fax & Scan Services.

PC Compatible Computer Sales & Service
Security & Virus Eradication & Protection
Network & System Consulting
Internet Consulting
A+ Certified - Network+ Certified
Certified Community Banking Security Professional

Store Hours: **Monday Friday: 11am to 6:30pm**
Saturday: 10:00am to Noon

CPW

Continued from Page 1

causes severe stress on trout.

River and stream flows in Colorado remain well below normal.

CPW asks that anglers carry a thermometer to measure the temperature of the water. If the temperature is 70 degrees or more it's time to stop fishing.

The rivers that were subject to the voluntary closures were:

Rio Grande from Rio Grande Reservoir downstream to the town of Del Norte.

South Fork of the Rio Grande from Big Meadows Reservoir downstream to the confluence with the Rio Grande below the town of South Fork.

Conejos River from Platoro

Reservoir downstream to Broyles Bridge.

San Juan River through Pagosa Springs from the intersection of U.S. Highway 160 and Colorado Highway 84 intersection downstream to the Apache Street Bridge.

Animas River through Durango from the 32nd Street bridge downstream to Rivera Crossing bridge near Home Depot.

Tomichi Creek in Gunnison from Colorado Highway 114 downstream to the confluence with the Gunnison River.

Lake Fork of the Gunnison River from the 5th Street bridge in Lake City downstream to Blue Mesa Reservoir.

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: 9/30/2020.



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

Medicare will help pay: Save Thousands!

Medicare
Certified Provider

Convenient payment plans and financing options available.

Credit Cards Accepted



Pagosa dental
implant Center

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

Medicare
Certified Provider



pagosadentalimplantcenter.com

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

MT. BLANCA FUDGE COMPANY

Fudge • Ice Cream • Munchies
Burgers • Hot Dogs • Italian Pasta Salad

\$10 Meal Combo

Choose a Burger, TWO Hot Dogs, OR 1/2 lb of Pasta Salad, PLUS Drink, Chips, AND Fudge!

BUY 3 GET 1

Any three \$5 items & get the fourth FREE!
(Includes Fudge, Ice Cream, Marshmallows, No-Bake Cookies, Burgers, Hot Dogs, and Pasta Salad!)

Monte Vista, CO

www.mtblancafudge.com

Valley-Wide Classified **FREE!** 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 monte vista class@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 ANTLERS: 5 miles west of Del Norte on HWY 160. 719-657-0942 (9/23)TFN

07 Help Wanted

Wolf Creek Ski Area is accepting applications for all departments: retail, ski school, lifts, ski patrol, base operations, ticket office, food and beverage, rental, vehicle maintenance and snow reporting. Please see details of job descriptions on Wolf Creek's employment page. Applications can be downloaded from WolfCreek-Ski.com employment page. Send resumes and applications to wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com or P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. All jobs are winter seasonal (November - April) with competitive wages. (10-29)

Rio Grande Club & Resort in South Fork is hiring full-time line/prep cook, competitive pay and golf benefits. Position may transition to part-time in the off season. Call 719-873-1995 to inquire or stop by to fill out an application at 285 Rio Grande Club Trail, South Fork. (9/23)

Del Norte Bank is seeking to fill a full-time position for Receptionist/Loan Assistant. Primary duties will be to welcome customers both on the phone and in the lobby as well as provide support to lenders. Successful candidate will have a bright personality, be a good problem solver and willing to learn. The position is permanent, full-time, M - F, 8am - 5pm with a robust benefits package. Application

available at TrueLocalBank.com/careers or inquire at 719-657-3376 and ask for Mike. EOE. (09/23)

“Are you retired and wanting to give back to the community or would like to break up your day and do something SPECTACULAR and rewarding?” Looking for a volunteer, approximately one (1) hour per day, Monday through Friday delivering meals in Monte Vista to older adults homebound in our community. We are looking for someone committed and wanting to share your time for those in need. Please contact South-Central Colorado Seniors your local Area Agency on Aging for more details. 719-589-4511.” (9/23)

Experienced Prep Cook-Monte Vista: PT - Currently 8:00 to 1:00; Mon-Fri; food prep for daily menus; works with Head Cook. Applications and job description can be picked up at 1116 3rd Street, Alamosa, CO (South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc., Area Agency on Aging) or call 719-589-4511 for more information. (9/23)

WANTED: Saguache County Road and Bridge is hiring for Operator I positions. REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must possess a current Class-A CDL license with heavy semi-truck endorsement and a current medical certificate. Applicants should have a high school diploma or GED and six months or more of relevant experience. Prospective employees applying with Saguache County will be required to submit and pass a pre-employment drug

Write your own Classified Ad

Regular Classified Ad Deadline-Thursday 5 p.m.

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. (Private party only) Call 719-852-3531 for details.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

Words: _____ Times: _____ Price: _____

Class: _____ Start Date: _____

Circle One



Card#: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Mail with check or money order to:
Valley Publishing Classifieds, P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144
Or drop by at 835 First Avenue

All Classified Advertising must be pre-paid



Colorado Statewide
Classified Advertising
Network

To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado newspapers for only \$300, contact your local newspaper or call Colorado Press Association Network at 720-274-7174.

AUCTIONS

WANTED

Auction - Buy Battlement Mesa, CO - 25+ Properties - Vacant Land - Commercial - Development - Hunting - Saturday, October 17 @ 11 A.M. Previews: October 7 & 10
BuyBattlementMesa.com 800-485-8214
United Strategic Client Services, LLC - United Country - Colorado Brokers - 2.5% Buyer's Broker Commission 8% BP. See website for terms

Cash for Mineral Rights
Free, no-risk, cash offer. Contact us with the details:
Call: 720-988-5617
Write: Minerals, PO BOX 3668, Littleton, CO 80161
Email: opportunity@ecmresourcesinc.com

Colorado Press Network

Buy a 25-word statewide classified line ad in newspapers across the state of Colorado for just \$300 per week. Ask about our frequency discounts!
Contact this newspaper or call Colorado Press Network, 720-274-7174

Valley Wide Classifieds

screening and criminal background check. Operator I is a full time position – applicants must be able to operate light and heavy equipment and perform manual labor in the maintenance, repair and minor construction of roads, streets, bridges, signs, markings and related facilities. Applicants must be physically capable of periods of sustained physical exertion and may be required to lift and move up to 75 lbs. to 150 lbs. Applications are available at the Saguache County Road and Bridge Office 305 3rd Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 – 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website – www.saguachecounty.net under the Road and Bridge Department tab. Please fill out and submit the Drivers-Application. A complete job description is also available at the Road and Bridge Office. Completed applications can be hand delivered or mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge – at the address listed above, sent by email to mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov or faxed to: 719-655-2543. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until qualified candidates are hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (10/01)

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

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.

until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (10/01)

10 Apartments for Rent
Two bedroom, fully furnished apartment in Monte Vista No Pets No Smoking only serious inquiries 719 588 2840 (9/30)

12 House for Rent
Country Living Del Norte or South Fork 3-bedroom 1 bath \$700 per Month \$700 Deposit. NO Pets 719-580-5400. (9-23)

Monte Vista cozy 1-bedroom on Dennis Street by schools \$550/Month, \$550/Deposit. NO Pets. 719-580-5400

13 Mobile Homes for Rent
2-bedroom 1 bath partially furnished 7 miles from Villa Grove \$800-1000 per month plus utilities 719-395-2800. 9/23

15 Wanted to Rent
Looking for Rental. Professional Nurse and Retired Veteran relocation with dogs. Call (505)583-2041) (10/14)

17 Real Estate For Sale
PERFECT SMALL FARM: 59 acres with center pivot, new 60X120 steel shop, 2 ½ 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)

11 circles in Center area with excellent potato ground, excellent wells and water rights, high production, sandy soil, 2 homes, shop, potato storage, first time ever on market and sold as full unit. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, LLC 719-580-0770. Serious inquires only (TFN)

125-150 cow/calf ranch 1154 acres with top water rights, production, 1.2 miles of Rio Grande River and ½ mile of Conejos River. \$1,750,000. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc

719-580-0770 (TFN)

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

Park model, South Fork: \$45,000, 1br 1ba, Colorado room, porch, shed, carport. Roger 505 554 0684 (10/14)

21 Mobile Homes
Double-Wide Mobile Home in Del Norte recently remodeled. Setup in park already \$54,000. Call 405-250-4508. (9/23)

23 Lawn and Garden
Sprinkler repair. Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (09/30 TFN)

26 Antiques
Large collection original Wallace Westward Ho china, patterns Rodeo and Boots/Saddle. Includes coordinating pieces by Iroquois and Inca Ware. Email valwhitcomb@yahoo.com for information. (9/30)

27 Appliances
Stacked and Regular Washers & Dryers \$100.00-\$800.00 Gas Range \$100.00. Truckbed Toolbox \$250.00, Scooter \$1,350.00 719-588-0573. (10-15)

33 Building Materials
Patio Doors, 6', 5' open on right side. Dual pane, white. Call (719)480-9822. (09/30)

36 Miscellaneous
Pair of Roller Skates Pristine Skecher's, 6.5 size sport 4 wheelers roller skates \$25.00, Beautiful pair/ Women's Red Cowboy Boots Size 8N. Spectacular sticking upper part \$25.00. 719-256-4058.

240 Watt Solar Panels Only \$59 Per Watt! Bontragers 9726 S. County Road 3 E Monte Vista Co 81144.

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

STEEL STORAGE CONTAINERS – Sales, Rentals & Modifications! Containers are water & rodent proof. 8' wide, 8'-53' in length. Call for more information and pricing. **Healdworks, Inc. – Your Total Storage Solution!** 719-850-0346 (10/01 TFN)

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) (10/29)

44 Farm Services
POTATO STORAGE rent or buy 26,000 cwt capacity in Center. Good. \$28,800.00 or \$16,900 rent OBO. (719)588-2425 (10/21)

46 Pasture for Rent
Winter Horse Pasture: 125 acres West of Del Norte, Supervised, lush, alfalfa-grass pasture, heated water, \$60/head per month, November thru April. 719-657-0942. (10/29)

48 Pets & Supplies
Pure Breed Male German Shepherd all shots and Microshipped puppies \$400 719-849-8078. (9/23)

Baby Pit Bulls Need Good Homes Please Call for price and more info 719-849-1494.(9/30)

BEAUTIFUL BABY CANARIES! 5 males and 3 females. One orange-brown male, and all the others are orange. They come with food and instructions. \$50-\$60. Some cages are available. Call Darlene 873-9847

50 Livestock
HERITAGE BREED TURKEY

Burbon Reds from free range parents. \$25 for 1 - \$20 each additional. 10+weeks - ready to butcher at 28 weeks (toms average 30 lbs, hens 15 lbs.) Straight run only. 719-850-2832 (9/30)

54 Snowmobiles/ATV's
Polaris Sportsman 500 ATV excellent shape, recently serviced 4,000 miles, Creede. 719-850-0863. \$2,500.00 FIRM (9/23)

55 RVs & Campers
2008 Cirrus ultra-light travel trailer, 24'. Outdoor Grill and Shower, slide out, new mattress, big bathroom, and oven. Had No Kids, Smokers or pets. \$7,750.00 Call 719-655-2289(10/08)

59 Vehicles Wanted
CASH ON THE SPOT FOR JUNK CARS & TRUCKS: We pickup, no title ok. 719-937-7935. (TFN2-21)

60 Classic Cars
1985 Chevy El Camino Foose Custom Body -Interior-Engine 350 CJD Automatic Beautiful Car \$12,500 OBO. 719-496-1065 (10/01)

1985 Chevy El Camino 350 Engine Automatic Very Clean New Paint, Custom under Hood \$9,500 OBO 719-496-1065. (10/01)

62 Vans
1994 Ford E150 Van Conversion. V8, runs good, fully carpeted, custom lighting, A/C. \$2800. 719-657-9282 (10/14)

65 Professional Services
LICENSED PLUMBER does all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodels at reasonable rates. Quick service. Call anytime, available weekends and evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (09/23)TFN)

THE BLIND GUY window coverings. Free measuring, free estimates. Professional installation. Guaranteed lowest prices. Call Tony, 970-903-1403.

Business Showcase

Shop now for the best selection of fall decor!
We have placemats, napkins, decorator towels and hot pad sets.

Please wear a mask.

The Holy Moses 658-2848
OPEN 121 N. Main
Daily 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 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

Daily 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Nick & Vicki Kulyk
121 N. Main • 658-2848 • Creede

Harvest 2020



Photos by Trey Spaulding



Agriculture Consulting Services
Certified Crop Advisor

Protect Your Potato Crop with

StorOx
Broad Spectrum Bactericide/Fungicide

DP Ag Services
719-852-0824 or 850-1679
Don & Pat Henderson

Wenta Nip & Sanitizing, LLC

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


1525 E. Hwy. 160 **852-0353**
Monte Vista
Don Wenta, Owner
Consultants and QS's (State Certified in Stored Commodities)

WATER...

It's the Life Blood of Our Valley

With our current decline in the water supply, it is everyone's responsibility to conserve & use it wisely!

Rio Grande Water Conservation District
589-6301
8805 Independence Way • Alamosa



Justin Pepper - President
(719) 850-0126 Cell

LENCO WEST, Inc.
121 N. Broadway
Monte Vista, CO 81144
(719) 852-0299

LENCO GRIMME SPUDNIK NEW HOUSE
Greentronics
Agparts
Black Ace
Broekema
Kryptane
Noffsinger
Lemken
Hydraulic Systems

*** Committed to Quality & Service**

Harvest 2020

The San Luis Valley appreciates farmworkers

The San Luis Valley Farmworker Coalition has been in existence since 1990, it is committed to the social, economic, health and educational betterment of seasonal and migrant farmworkers. The intent is to facilitate the accessibility and coordination of services to serve

seasonal and migrant farmworkers while they are in our communities. Collaboration among local agencies serves to bridge existing service gaps, stretch resources, avoid duplication of services and allow expeditious services delivery. As we navigate through these unprec-

edented times, our coalition rose to the occasion by developing stronger relationships with Ag employers, welcoming new partners to the table, sharing information among agencies and providing emergency financial assistance / PPE for farmworkers during this COVID 19

pandemic. Our organization is comprised of individuals who represent Colorado Workforce, Colorado Legal Services, OJC CDS Child Dev. Migrant and Seasonal Head Start, SLV Farmworker Housing, RMSER, SLVAHEC, MEP, SLV BOCES, Rio Grande Hospital, SLV Boys and Girls Club, La Puente, Center Schools and the Promotora Program.

Valley for 2020
There were 1,037 Farmworkers in the San Luis Valley from June 1 – Sept. 30.

Approximately \$650,000 in Colorado State taxes were paid & \$700,000 in Federal taxes.

\$2,890,000 – Seasonal farmworkers spend nearly 100 percent of wages in their local community
\$5,614,080 – migrant farmworkers spend approximately 80 percent of wages in the local community.

\$2,210,300 – H2A workers spend approximately 50 percent of their wages in the community.

Total spending power \$10,715,000 in the San Luis Valley.

In the San Luis Valley, our principal crops grown are potatoes, alfalfa, native hay, barley, wheat, and vegetables like lettuce, spinach and carrots. Our farmworker families come from Arizona, California, Texas, New Mexico and Mexico.

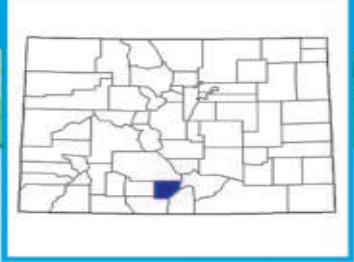
COVID-19 has reinforced how important our farms and especially our farmworkers are to food security. They are essential in producing food, raising crops and caring for animals. Farmworkers do life-sustaining work, putting their lives and health at risk by continuing to work in the fields during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The San Luis Valley Ag Coalition would like to take this opportunity to thank all our farmworkers and their families for their hard work and dedication. Without your sacrifice and hard work, our tables would be empty. We know it is a sacrifice leaving your homes to travel following the crops. In addition to putting food on our tables and on grocery shelves, we wanted to illustrate just how much of a financial impact our farmworkers have in the San Luis Valley.

Economic Impact in the San Luis

2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE County Profile

Alamosa County Colorado



Total and Per Farm Overview, 2017 and change since 2012

	2017	% change since 2012
Number of farms	280	-13
Land in farms (acres)	192,030	+5
Average size of farm (acres)	686	+21
Total (\$)		
Market value of products sold	89,334,000	-3
Government payments	836,000	+2
Farm-related income	3,483,000	-16
Total farm production expenses	72,426,000	-4
Net cash farm income	21,227,000	-5
Per farm average (\$)		
Market value of products sold	319,051	+11
Government payments (average per farm receiving)	13,067	+53
Farm-related income	25,993	-22
Total farm production expenses	258,666	+11
Net cash farm income	75,811	+9

1 Percent of state agriculture sales

Share of Sales by Type (%)

Crops	91
Livestock, poultry, and products	9

Land in Farms by Use (%) *

Cropland	42
Pastureland	51
Woodland	2
Other	5

Acres irrigated: 79,543
41% of land in farms

Land Use Practices (% of farms)

No till	6
Reduced till	13
Intensive till	18
Cover crop	14

Farms by Value of Sales

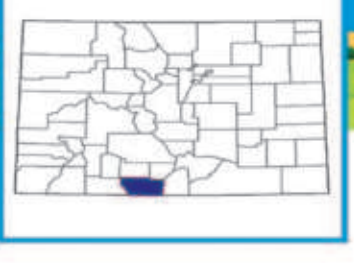
Number	Percent of Total *
Less than \$2,500	111 40
\$2,500 to \$4,999	12 4
\$5,000 to \$9,999	7 3
\$10,000 to \$24,999	23 8
\$25,000 to \$49,999	11 4
\$50,000 to \$99,999	33 12
\$100,000 or more	83 30

Farms by Size

Number	Percent of Total *
1 to 9 acres	14 5
10 to 49 acres	51 18
50 to 179 acres	76 27
180 to 499 acres	44 16
500 to 999 acres	37 13
1,000 + acres	58 21

2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE County Profile

Conejos County Colorado



Total and Per Farm Overview, 2017 and change since 2012

	2017	% change since 2012
Number of farms	524	-13
Land in farms (acres)	266,278	+3
Average size of farm (acres)	508	+19
Total (\$)		
Market value of products sold	53,941,000	+26
Government payments	718,000	-42
Farm-related income	5,388,000	+104
Total farm production expenses	42,616,000	+20
Net cash farm income	17,428,000	+58
Per farm average (\$)		
Market value of products sold	102,941	+46
Government payments (average per farm receiving)	7,553	+7
Farm-related income	27,630	+117
Total farm production expenses	81,333	+38
Net cash farm income	33,259	+83

1 Percent of state agriculture sales

Share of Sales by Type (%)

Crops	63
Livestock, poultry, and products	37

Land in Farms by Use (%) *

Cropland	49
Pastureland	41
Woodland	6
Other	3

Acres irrigated: 119,518
45% of land in farms

Land Use Practices (% of farms)

No till	9
Reduced till	7
Intensive till	13
Cover crop	6

Farms by Value of Sales

Number	Percent of Total *
Less than \$2,500	163 31
\$2,500 to \$4,999	47 9
\$5,000 to \$9,999	44 8
\$10,000 to \$24,999	38 7
\$25,000 to \$49,999	63 12
\$50,000 to \$99,999	41 8
\$100,000 or more	128 24

Farms by Size

Number	Percent of Total *
1 to 9 acres	44 8
10 to 49 acres	131 25
50 to 179 acres	131 25
180 to 499 acres	84 16
500 to 999 acres	59 11
1,000 + acres	75 14

Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold

Sales (\$1,000)	Rank in State *	Counties Producing Item	Rank in U.S. *	Counties Producing Item
Total	53,941	25	63	1,692 3,077

WILBUR-ELLIS
AGRIBUSINESS

Ask About How We Can Meet All of Your Fall Fertilizer and Application Needs!

852-3921
2701 E. Cty. Rd. 1 S.
Monte Vista

Buying Feed Barley, Wheat and Oats
Winter Triticale, Wheat & Rye Seed
Best Twine Prices in the Valley!

Eric Kimberling & Brett Hemmerling
2485 East Rd. 4 North • Monte Vista
719-852-4088

Rio Grande Seed & Grain

JV Smith COMPANIES

Skyview southern Colorado Cooling Co. FARMs SKYLINE POTATO COLORADO

719-754-2681 • 55 Torres St. • Center

PEPPER EQUIPMENT CORP.

Full Lines of Produce Packaging Equipment, Custom Equipment Sales, Installation, Service

We provide the highest quality equipment for the produce industry, giving our customers an excellent value in return for their investment.

719.852.4092 • pepperequipmentco.com
0931 N. Hwy 285 • Monte Vista

Trout stocked by airplane to Colorado's mountain lakes

COLORADO - Colorado Parks and Wildlife is stocking 330 alpine lakes in the northern half of the state with 380,000 trout dropped from the sky this year.

Forty of those lakes and 70,000 of the fish - 65,000 cutthroat trout and 5,000 golden trout - took off Wednesday from the Granby Airport and were air-dropped into the pristine high-elevation lakes in Boulder, Grand, Jackson and Larimer counties.

The trout were reared at the Mount Shavano Hatchery in Salida and driven up Wednesday to the Granby Airport starting at 4 a.m. by Fish Culturists Doug Sebring and Taylor Woolmington.

There they met CPW wildlife pilots Larry Gepfert and Denise Corcoran, who were ready to airlift the 1¼-inch trout in their Cessna 185 Aircraft to their new mountain-life home. It will take these fish a year-and-a-half or two years to grow to a catchable size of 10 inches.

"It's efficient," Sebring said as one of the many reasons the alpine lakes get stocked via airplane. "We can get a large quantity of fish into high mountain lakes that are basically only accessible by foot or horseback."

And the fish, well they just float on down once deployed from the airplane at about 100-150 feet above the lake.

"They are so small, and they don't have a lot of mass to them, so their acceleration rate is pretty low," Gepfert said. "Their heads are the heaviest parts, so they tend to go headfirst and drop straight into the water."



CPW operates 19 hatcheries that breed, hatch, rear and stock over 90 million fish per year. Many of the fish produced are to enhance angling opportunities, while others serve a critical role in native species recovery efforts.

"There is definitely a niche of anglers that seek out high alpine fishing every year," said Jeff Spohn, Senior Aquatic Biologist for the Northeast

region of CPW. "This is another opportunity that CPW provides to our angling community."

Next year, the aerial effort will be focused on the alpine lakes in the southern half of the state. The rotation

is part of CPW managing its natural resources for the future enjoyment of the public.



Photo provided by SLV Health

SLV Health and Eagle Air Med are forming a partnership to bring emergency air medical transport to the residents of the San Luis Valley.

When minutes matter

SAN LUIS VALLEY - In an area as large as the San Luis Valley, every second counts when getting patients, the lifesaving care they need. With that in mind, SLV Health announced that the health organization is partnering with Eagle Air Med to bring a new emergency air medical transport service to the San Luis Valley. This will enable medical care to get help where it's needed quickly. For example, arrival to an emergency in La Jara is now only approximately 7 minutes away, and to take someone to Denver will only take 90 minutes.

"We know that in some medical emergencies, time can be critical," said Konnie Martin, Chief Executive Officer of San Luis Valley Health. "By having a helicopter here, we can get patients to our facility quickly and when needed, get them to a higher level of care."

The helicopter base, operating out of SLV Regional Medical Center in Alamosa, will offer 24-hour a day, seven days a week services staffed by highly trained pilots, flight nurses and flight paramedics using an Airbus H-125 helicopter.

This helicopter is unique in that it is designed for high elevations, especially found here in the Valley, and even made a training run to the top of Mount Everest, setting a record. Because of

that capability, it will also be used to assist in local search and rescue operations, landing in areas of need that ambulances might not be able to get to.

"Our Alamosa fixed-wing team has built strong bonds in the local community and with our valued partners in care," said Vicky Spediacci, Air Chief Operating Officer for Global Medical Response, West Group. "We are thrilled to strengthen those connections and provide additional support to the region through the opening of this base."

The helicopter will be maintained by on-site aviation maintenance technicians and is configured with the latest avionics and safety features. The crew manning the helicopter will live and work out of the San Luis Valley, and partner with the ambulance crew to increase response time. In addition, the helicopter will work alongside the fixed-wing located at the airport, which can go greater distances while carrying more weight.

"We here at SLV Health work each day at being a trusted partner in health for the San Luis Valley," Martin said. "We are excited and honored to partner with Eagle Air Med in bringing a helicopter to our community." For more information about SLV Health, please go online to www.sanluisvalleyhealth.org.

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**

ACROSS

1. American composer
6. Very fast aircraft
9. Workplaces
13. A mount on a surface
14. Small freshwater fish
15. Double-reed instrument
16. Canadian flyers
17. Famed astronomer
18. Smooth, shiny fabric
19. Profited
21. Conspiracy
22. Infections
23. Chum
24. Secondary school (abbr.)
25. Resistance unit
28. Sound unit
29. Ancient city of Egypt
31. Crease
33. Polished
36. For goodness ___!
38. College basketball tournament

39. Scorches
41. Describe precisely
44. Thick piece of something
45. Frocks
46. Indicates near
48. Senior enlisted US Army member
49. A note added to a letter
51. A nose or snout
52. Clumsy
54. Satisfied to the fullest
56. Display of strong feeling
60. Popular awards show
61. Cuisine style
62. Expresses pleasure

Solution to last week's puzzle

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

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

63. Monetary unit of the Maldives
64. Utah city
65. Fight
66. Messenger ribonucleic acid
67. Body part
68. Suspiciously reluctant

DOWN

1. Fruit of the service tree
2. At some prior time
3. Mongolian city ___ Bator
4. Strongboxes
5. Russian river
6. Gurus
7. Horse mackerel
8. Pearl Jam's debut album
9. Confines
10. First month of Jewish ecclesiastical year
11. Famed Idaho politician
12. Prevents from seeing
14. Indicate time
17. Male parents
20. Tab on a key ring
21. The Great Dog constellation: ___ Major

23. Frying necessity
25. Former CIA
26. The leader
27. Produces
29. London soccer club
30. Closes
32. Region in the western Pacific Ocean
34. Not present
35. Small drink of whiskey
37. Begat
40. Helps little firms
42. Pointed end of a pen
43. Fencing swords
47. Inches per minute (abbr.)
49. Hymn
50. Philippine island
52. Flemish names of Ypres
53. A way to inform
55. Small lake
56. Linear unit
57. Central Japanese city
58. Partially burn
59. Sports award
61. Part of your foot
65. Atomic #21

SLV GOP food drives in September

SAN LUIS VALLEY - The San Luis Valley Republicans will be sponsoring a Food Drive in the

Valley to aid the Valley Food Bank for those who are in need. The SLV

Republicans include the Alamosa GOP, Rio Grande GOP, Saguache GOP and

the SLV Republican Women.

The Food Bank Network of the San Luis Valley is made up of 15 food pantries that strive to address the immediacy of hunger and access to food in our communities by providing nutritious emergency food to help ensure no one has to go hungry in the San Luis Valley. (Food Bank Network of the SLV website). The drive will begin Friday, Sept. 18, and conclude Sept. 30.

All non-perishables and staple food items should be delivered to the SLV Republican office at 817 Main Street in Alamosa. Office hours are Monday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday-Wednesday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Thursday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon. We are encouraging the community to assist in this worthy effort helping those of our community during difficult times. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated and gladly received. For further inquiries please call SLV Republicans at 719-480-2852.



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

Help is only a Phone Call Away

COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line
719.589.3671


If you are stressed, anxious, lonely, depressed, angry, or all of the above, you are not alone. We are in this together, and caring mental health professionals are available if you need to talk.

Virtual Therapy & Psychiatry
slvbhg.org/covid-19

Behavioral Health therapy and psychiatry have never been easier to start. ALL SLVBHG locations are open for business virtually, providing services to the convenience of your social distancing space by video consultations or over the phone. Call now to schedule an appointment: 719.589.3671

Mobile Health Unit
slvbhg.org/mobile

Visit our website for an updated schedule of where the mobile unit will be. The Mobile Health Unit specializes in Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) for substance use disorders.

 **SAN LUIS VALLEY Behavioral Health Group**
Dedicated to Hope, Healing and Recovery

Approved Medicaid Provider | 24 hour hotline: 719.589.3671 | slvbhg.org

SAN LUIS VALLEY SERVICE DIRECTORY

Turner's Building

Remodel • Repair • Roofing
New Construction

Serving the entire San Luis Valley

719-274-0226

ZTEC Construction

5" - 6" SEAMLESS RAIN GUTTERS

Pole Buildings • Garages **719-992-1396**

FREE ESTIMATES **Leave message if no answer**

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
WINTER HOURS — Monday-Friday 9:30-4:30

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.

IS YOUR EQUIPMENT READY FOR SUMMER?

Great Selection of Blades, Belts, Parts and more! Prices competitive with big box stores!

719-589-6466 • 4521 E. County Rd. 12 S. • La Jara

Kremer Builders

Kremer Contracting-Professional Home Builders and Construction Services

OFFERING FALL SPECIALS ON
Wildfire Mitigation
Foundations • Driveways • Fencing
Excavating and Retaining Walls

Contact James @ **303 946 7253**

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

GOT CLUTTER? CLEAN UP WITH THE CLASSIFIEDS.



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

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

Call Today!
719-852-3531

Most unemployed Coloradans to receive additional \$300 per week in Federal Assistance

COLORADO – June 18, 2020, the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment announced it has begun paying benefits under the Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) program, a federally-funded unemployment benefit providing Coloradans with an additional \$300/week for up to six weeks. President Trump announced the LWA program last month, authorizing FEMA to expend up to \$44 billion from its Disaster Relief Fund.

Colorado has been awarded \$553 million in LWA funds, covering the six-week period beginning July 26 and ending Sept. 5. Claimants will receive \$300 per week for each of the six weeks they are eligible, for a maximum total additional benefit of \$1,800.

Coloradans who received at least \$100/week in regular unemployment benefits or other federal benefits — including Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) — between July 26 and Sept. 5 are eligible for LWA. The Department

estimates approximately 300,000-350,000 Coloradans will be eligible (about 94 percent of claimants).

Regular UI claimants will need to complete a brief, one-time, federally-required certification confirming that their unemployment or partial unemployment is due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The certification process, which only takes a few minutes, is available now through the Virtual Assistant online at ColoradoUI.gov or by phone at 303-318-9000 or 1-800-388-5515. More than 58,000 regular UI claimants have already completed LWA certifications. PUA claimants have already completed such a certification and do not need to do so again.

Payment of the first three weeks of LWA benefits will begin on Sept. 18, with the first batch of payouts totaling \$23.7 million. Payments will continue to be made six days a week as more claimants complete the required certification. Payment of the final three weeks of LWA benefits will begin on Sept. 25.



Colorado was one of the first eight states to apply for the LWA program, and was previously among the first states to implement the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) programs after the CARES Act was signed in April. The LWA program succeeds the similar FPUC program, which previously supplemented unemployment benefit payments by \$600/week and expired in July. Colorado paid over \$2.4 billion in FPUC benefits to approximately 560,000 claimants between April and July.

Rated 5 Stars

MOUNTAIN PIZZA & TAPROOM

“Excellent pizza, pleasant atmosphere. Friendly service from everyone!”
-Donna S., Google

Fresh Ingredients, BIG on TASTE!

Come meet our New Manager, Angela Welcomes You!

Easy online ordering at www.mountainpizzataproom.com!

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

Conour *Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society*

www.slvanimalshelter.com

If you are interested in adopting, call 852-3366

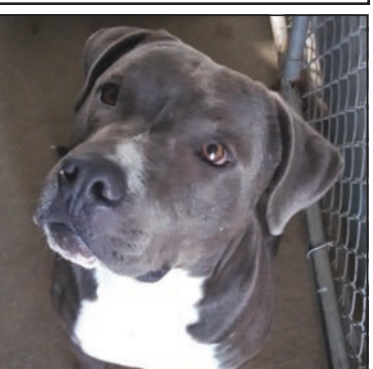
Open Tues.-Sat. • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Closed Sunday & Monday • 2825 Sherman Ave. • Monte Vista

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.



Dopey is a 2 yr old male, Retriever/Heeler mix. He has high energy and needs lots of exercise. He gets along with dogs, but can be a rough player. We are unaware of his behavior with cats. He's very loving and great with all people and kids.

Chris Redfield is a 1 yr old male, Lab/AmStaff mix. He has lots of energy, and needs lots of exercise. He gets along with some dogs, and we are unsure about cats. He loves all people and children. He is very vocal and loves to play with toys all day.



King is a 3yr old male, Akita purebred. He is highly active. He does try to escape a lot and he likes to dig. He is good with people, but not other animals. He would need to be the only animal in the home. He can be very vocal. We recommend that any potential adopter be experienced or educated in his breed.



Lady is a 3 year old female, Lab Retriever. She is highly active and needs lots of exercise. She is quite the escape artist so she requires special fencing. She is scared of new people but opens up after a few meetings. She does not do well with other animal especially small ones or female dogs. She can be very vocal.



Shadow is a 2 year old pit mix. Ms. Shadow has very special and specific requirements. If interested on more info for her please call us at 719-852-3366 or come by to see us. We are open Tuesday-Friday 11am-4pm, Saturday-Sunday 1:30pm-5pm. Monday's and non-business hours are by appointment only.



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.

Your News Source for a New School Year



At back-to-school time and all year, we report on what matters most to you and your family!

Education news, school sports, student recognition, shopping and special offers, family dining deals, kid-friendly events and activities, family entertainment, community announcements

and more...

SIGN ME UP OR RENEW SUBSCRIPTION TODAY!

Monte Vista Journal Center Post-Dispatch
 Mineral County Miner South Fork Times
 Del Norte Prospector Conejos County Citizen

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____

VISA MasterCard Discover NOVUS

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

check or money order enclosed

P.O. Box 607 • Monte Vista, CO • 81144
 719-852-3531 • email: MonteVistaClass@gmail.com

Available Online!

\$39 one-year, in Valley
\$49 one-year, out of Valley

Trinidad State awarded \$2.9 million grant for Hispanic and underserved students

TRINIDAD/ALAMOSA - The U.S. Department of Education has announced a grant of \$2,964,464 to support Hispanic and underserved stu-

dents at Trinidad State Junior College. The Title V Grant, also called the Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (DHSI) Program, will

be in effect for five years. Trinidad State has, for many years, been a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), meaning more than a quarter of Trinidad State students are Hispanic. Currently 42.7 percent of the students at Trinidad State claim Hispanic heritage. That number has hovered between 38 and 44 percent for more than a decade.

The money will be used to provide services and resources for Hispanic and low-income students at Trinidad State Campuses in Trinidad and Alamosa. The grant will also pay for professional development for students, faculty and staff, as well as technology upgrades and support.

“This grant could not have come at a more important time,” said Trinidad State President Dr. Rhonda M. Epper. “The COVID-19 pandemic has put pressure on all of our students, but especially on our highest risk populations – first-generation, low-income, and students of

color. We know that a college degree can change a student’s life trajectory, both for them and future generations

of their family. Our project will be focused on helping students get to the finish line successfully.”



2020 ARTBEAT
Downtown Artwalk

October 2nd
Join us virtually at 3pm on our Downtown Rawlins Facebook Page

October 3rd
View the art in-person in Downtown Rawlins, WY from 10am-4pm

For more information visit
downtownrawlins.org
or call 307-328-2099

Valley Lock and Security, Inc.
500 Main Street, Alamosa, CO 81101
(719) 589-5895

Shop Local!

Starter Package

Includes:

- 1 Keypad Panel (English)
- 3 Door/Window Contacts
- 1 Infrared Motion Detector
- 1 Key Ring Remote

Other options also available. *Alamosa rate only, please call for outside area details
Call for details.

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

PRICE REDUCED!

Beautiful Home on 35 Acres SW of Monte Vista!

4 bedroom • 3 bath • 2,492 sq. ft. • **\$377,500**
Recently-built spacious home ready for your family!
Enjoy 360 degree mountain views on an 1,800 sq. ft. deck
3-car garage and many more amenities!
515 Mountain View Blvd. • Monte Vista
MLS# 766729

Porter Realty, 503 Main St. Alamosa
(719)589-5897 • mp@porterrealty.com

SOLD

New Listing! Golf Course Living at its finest!

3 bedroom • 2.5 bath • 2,0978 sq. ft. • **\$379,000**
Stunning views in all directions with huge windows, luxurious master suite, rock propane fireplace, high-end Jenn Air appliances, custom cabinetry, large stone patio for entertaining, 2-car garage and so much more! Rio Grande Club Membership and Home Furnishings negotiable. MLS #767109
6827 Snead Ln • South Fork

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

Fantastic Home on 40 Acres with Water!

5 bedroom • 2.5 bath • 3,216 sq. ft. • **\$630,000**
Remodeled in 2016, the home has large, double-pane windows to enjoy the views, quartz counter tops, new stainless steel appliances, a private master suite with amazing features and so many more unique details. Heated 3-car attached garage plus addtl. detached garage/tack room. Established hay-meadow with surface water rights and 1.5 shares of Rio Grande Piedra ditch.
MLS# 769101

Porter Realty, 503 Main St. Alamosa
(719)589-5897 • mp@porterrealty.com

SOLD

Price Just Reduced!!

• 1 bedroom • 1bathroom • **\$74,900**
Adorable Park Model home in the River's Edge Mountain View RV Resort! Everything is included, all it needs is you! All furniture, appliances and pots and pans come with this cozy home that includes an enclosed sun room, storage shed and work bench! MLS#760432
57 Dennette Lane • South Fork

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

SOLD

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

SOLD

New Listing! Charming Family Home, Priced to Sell!

4 bedroom • 2 bath • 1,850 sq. ft. • **\$215,000**
Comfortable family home with large balcony to enjoy your mountain views! Nice kitchen, stone fireplace, wood-burning stove and beautiful bathrooms! MLS #758665
198 Elm Drive • South Fork

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

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

We work hard for you!

Call Bernadette today!

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

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

INCOME PRODUCING OFFICE BUILDING
1803 W. Hwy. 160, Monte Vista, CO 81144

- Fully occupied & leased by the Rio Grande National Forest Service
- 17,869 sq. ft.
- 80,000' of land w/ Hwy. 160 frontage
- 50+ dedicated parking spaces
- Building & property are well maintained

WWW.BID160.COM

SCHURSUCCESS GROUP
REAL ESTATE • AUCTION
FURNISHING • ASSET APPRAISAL

Richard D. Schur, CAI, BAA, CMEA, MPPA
Owner, Employing Broker, Master & Champion Auctioneer
Rich@SchurSuccessGroup.com
(719) 667-1000 or (719) 230-6230

Contact Chelsea or Trey for advertising information today!
719-852-3531 or MonteVistaAds@gmail.com

September 23, 2020

FREE
Take One

Hunting IN THE *San Luis Valley*

**Guide to
Hunting
Services
AND MORE**

*Valley
Publishing*

**(719) 852-3531
835 First Ave. • Monte Vista**

Hunting helps suppress chronic wasting disease in Colorado mule deer herds



A Colorado Parks and Wildlife study published in the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* indicates sufficient hunting pressure may be the key to controlling chronic wasting disease in mule deer. Nearly two decades of data showed adaptive hunting management strategies lead to lower CWD prevalence rates.

COLORADO—Applying sufficient hunting pressure may be the key to managing chronic wasting disease in mule deer, especially early in outbreaks when the disease is scarce. But reduced harvest prescriptions aimed at growing mature male deer will accelerate the growth of epidemics. These are the main findings reported by Colorado Parks and Wildlife scientists in a new peer-reviewed article published online in the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases*.

The new paper summarizes an analysis of data from Colorado mule deer across 12 hunting areas, gathered over nearly two decades (2000-2018). Areas with the largest declines in annual hunting license numbers (pressure) showed the largest increases in the percent of infected adult male deer killed by hunters (prevalence). Prevalence stayed comparatively flat in most areas where license numbers remained steady or increased. Further analysis showed that

increasing the number of licenses lowered the risk of hunters harvesting an infected deer 1-2 years later, and decreasing license numbers increased that risk.

“This is timely information for managers and policy-makers to have as CPW begins to ramp up our statewide efforts to manage CWD,” said Matt Eckert, CPW Terrestrial Programs Supervisor and study co-author. “Hunting is a tool we already use to manage our deer and elk herds statewide, and these results show that we can adapt the use of hunting for CWD suppression as well.”

The new study shows that CWD prevalence was cut in half in northern Larimer County through a sustained management effort that began back in 2000. “Our effort to curb CWD in the Poudre-Red Feather deer herd required some short-term sacrifices and was not universally

Please see CPW on Page 4

10x42, 15x50, 10.5x28, 3-9x40 What does it mean?



Photo by Trey Spaulding

BY TREY SPAULDING

If you search on one of the leading hunting retailer’s website, you will find binoculars ranging in price from \$39.99 to \$2,399. Is there really that much difference between the optics of these binoculars? The answer is definitely yes.

Years ago, I retired my grandfather’s Bushnell binoculars and purchased a pair of Steiner 10.5x28 “Wildlife Pro” binoculars that were waterproof, shockproof, fog proof, rubber coated and with multicoated glass optics. I spent around \$400 for the binoculars. They were lightweight and fit perfectly in my shirt pocket. I felt that I had made a great purchase and they were a big step up from what I had.

A few years later, I was hunting mule deer in Idaho. My hunting buddy and I were glassing distant slopes well over a mile away during the evening. Sitting side-by-side, he was spotting dozens of deer that I could not see. Even when he told me where to look, I could not spot them with my 10.5x28 Steiner binoculars. The

following morning the same thing happened. My companion spotted a wide 4x4 bedded beneath some bitterbrush around 600 yards away. He ended up taking the buck which made the Boone & Crockett books. I started to question how many hundreds of deer and elk I had been missing during the past seasons.

The following spring the two of us went out again but this time we were looking for elk and moose sheds on hillsides where the animals wintered. The snow had melted but the grass was just sprouting, and the hillsides were barren with the exception of sagebrush. Again, sitting side-by-side glassing 300-600 yards he spotted multiple sheds. I spotted only one.

I became very frustrated and could not understand why I could have binoculars that were more powerful than the ones that than my friend was using but I could not see half of what he was seeing.

The binoculars that my friend was using
Please see BINOCULARS on Page 4



Talk About **LOCAL!**

In Print & Online

THE SOUTH FORK TIMES
Gateway to the Silver Thread

The Del Norte Progress
"Gateway to the San Juan"

Monte Vista JOURNAL

Mineral County Miner
1892 - 2019
...there is no night in Creede.

CENTER POST-DISPATCH

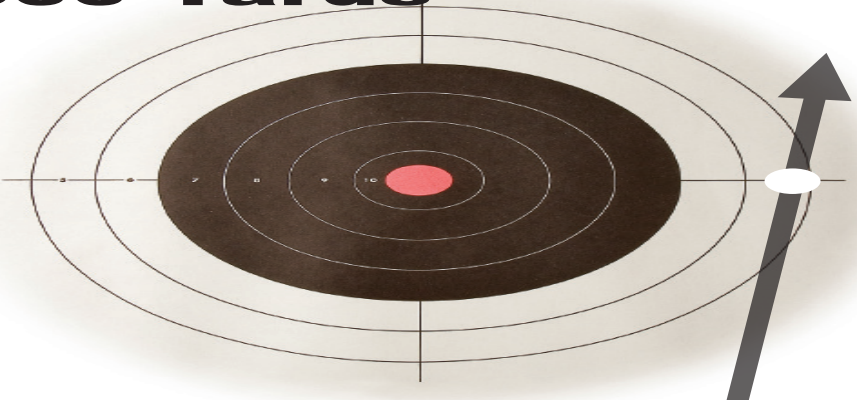
THE CONCORD COUNTY CITIZEN

Valley Publishing **719-852-3531**

Find us on **facebook**

The trigonometry of shooting

300 Yards



200 Yards



100 Yards



BY TREY SPAULDING

Too often I have helped a fellow hunter track down a wounded animal or had him/her say that they missed their shot. When asked if they had sighted in their gun properly, I often hear, "I hit a paper plate at 100 yards with three shots...so I was sighted in...the vital area of an elk is bigger than a paper plate." I also hear, "This ammunition is too expensive to shoot a box up at the range in order to get a centered three shot group."

As a teenager, I shot guns competitively and I won numerous state and some national titles. I came in third place at the nationals because I had one less "10X ring" than the guy who beat me.

Out west, many of the shots are out to 200-300 yards. The basics of trigonometry shows that if at 100 yards you are shooting 3 inches high and 3 inches to the right, then at 200 yards you are going to be 6 inches high and 6 inches to the right, and at 300 yards you will be 9 inches high and 9 inches to the right.

Take into consideration that when you were shooting at the range you were calm, took

your time and had a bench rest. Most likely when you are aiming at an animal your heart is racing, you are short of breath, you have an awkward and uneven rest, and you are shooting at an angle up or down a slope and not flat like at the shooting range. All of these factors will cause a hunter to have a margin of error even greater than what was at the shooting range.

Therefore, at the range you cannot be happy with just hitting an eight inch paper plate. You need to shoot your gun numerous times until you are comfortable with your gun and you are also shooting a dead center 3-5 shot group that you can cover with a half-dollar coin.

You spent too much time and money for your hunting trip not to take that extra time and expense to sight in your rifle correctly. You also need to practice shooting at 200 and 300 yards so you will know the shooting distance that you feel comfortable and invest in a rangefinder that compensates for the angle of the shot. The steeper the angle the lower you will need to aim uphill and downhill.

GOT ELK!

GRANDE NATURAL MEATS

www.ElkUSA.com

Hunters: We Ship your Processed Meat!

USDA inspected Buffalo, Elk, Deer, Goat, Rabbit, Beef.

NOW, we have Bear Meat, plus frozen Dog Foods & Antler Chews.

Jerky • Sausage • Burger • Steaks • Roasts

19612 W. US Hwy. 160
DEL NORTE, CO 81132
719-657-0942
1-888-788-7441

WE BUY ANTLERS
Come see the pile

Rainbow

Grocery & Sporting Goods
8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
719-873-5545

- Fishing/Hunting Licenses
- Sporting Goods
- Fly-Tying Supplies
- Ice
- Groceries, Produce Fresh Meats
- RV Supplies
- Auto Supplies
- Propane, Conoco Gas
- Money Orders

Blimpie **CONOCO** **True Value** **HUNT BROTHERS PIZZA**

Plus, Lodge & RV Park
30&50 Amp, Rec Center, Phones, Kitchenettes, Fireplace
(719) 873-5571

Rainbow Express
Open 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Coffee, Snacks, Beverages, Newspapers, Magazines and Books
(719) 873-5908

All 3 Locations At the "Y" of Hwy. 149 & 160 in South Fork
rainbowgroceriesandsportinggods.com

KRISTI MOUNTAIN SPORTS LLC

ALAMOSA • COLORADO

JETBOIL **GARMIN**

VASQUE **HUNTING GPS MAPS** **LEATHERMAN**

CRKT **USGS**

GERBER **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**

SCARPA **Obōz**

www.KristiMountainSports.com

TENTS
BACKPACKS
SLEEPING BAGS
GROUND PADS
FOOTWEAR
OUTERWEAR
SOCKS
WATER FILTERS
SUNGLASSES
KNIVES
COMPASSES
STOVES • FUEL
CLIMBING GEAR
BINOCULARS
GPS UNITS
GPS HUNT MAPS
USGS MAPS

3223 MAIN ST ALAMOSA, CO 81101 - (719) 589-9759



Photo courtesy of Joe Lewandowski, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Bull moose

Moose or elk? Be sure of your target

BY COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

Reintroduced to Colorado more than 30 years ago, moose are thriving in many parts of the state. Unfortunately, almost every year hunters inadvertently shoot moose. During the last few years, more than a dozen moose are killed every year by hunters who thought they were shooting elk.

Elk hunters need to be sure to know the difference between these two ungulates. If a hunter without the proper license shoots a moose, the fine can be more than \$1,000 and hunting privileges can be lost.

Moose are the largest members of the deer family and have adapted to a variety of habitats. They favor willows along streams and ponds. But be aware, some moose also inhabit lodgepole pine, oak brush, aspen, spruce, fir and even sagebrush--in other words, the same areas where elk live. Moose can be found in almost any high-country habitat area of Colorado.

There's no excuse for mistaking these animals. They are vastly different in size, color, antler shape and habits. A mature Shiras bull moose weighs 1,200 pounds--about twice as much as the average bull elk. Moose are dark brown and appear almost black. Elk are light brown--a bull elk can be almost golden--with a pale yellow rump.

A moose has a very large, long and bulbous

nose and a "bell" of fur under the throat. An elk's snout is much narrower and it has no "bell". A mature bull moose has broad, flat antlers, unlike the pointed antlers of an elk. But the antlers on some young bull moose have not flattened out yet, so hunters need to look over the entire animal before pulling the trigger.

Moose act very differently than elk when approached by humans. Typically, moose will not flee like elk at the sight of a hunter, which makes them easier to kill. So if it sees you and doesn't run, it's probably a moose.

Despite these readily apparent differences, every hunting season brings a number of illegal moose kills. Circumstances vary from mistaken identity by hunters to blatant poaching. The common denominator in most accidental kills is that the hunter is only using the rifle scope as an optical aid. Always carry binoculars or a spotting scope to help you properly identify the species you are hunting.

The first moose to reach Colorado -- 12 from Utah -- were transplanted by wildlife biologists in the North Park region near Walden in 1978. More animals were transplanted over the years and now the population statewide is estimated at about 3,200.

For more information about hunting in Colorado, see: cpw.state.co.us.

How to hunt mule deer

BY COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

Hunting mule deer in Colorado is always challenging. Hunters can improve their success by understanding the habits of these critters.

During the 2018 seasons, for all manners of take, 84,000 hunters harvested 38,000 mule deer for a 43 percent success rate. Colorado is home to about 433,000 deer.

In the mountains and foothills, mule deer don't spend much time in heavy timber. They are primarily browsers and prefer aspen and forest edges where there are plenty of low shrubs, small trees, oak brush and varied vegetation types.

Mule deer are most active at night and can often be found in meadow areas during low-light hours. During the day, they'll bed down in protective cover.

In warm weather, look for deer along ridgelines where wind is consistent and helps to keep them cool.

During the low-light hours of evening and morning, hunt in meadows at the edge of thick cover. If you see where they are feeding during times of low-light, it's likely they'll move into nearby timbered areas to rest for part of the day. Deer tend to move during the middle

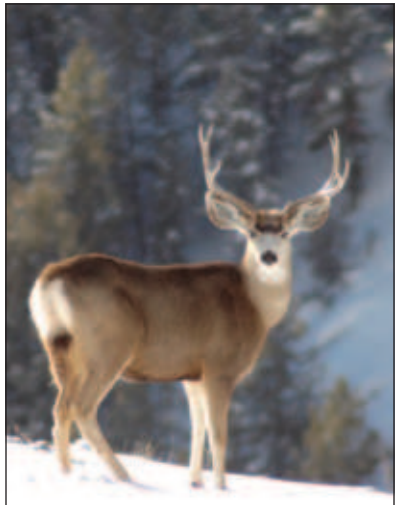


Photo courtesy of Joe Lewandowski, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

of the day toward the areas where they feed in the evening.

A slow stalk is recommended. Spend a lot of time scanning slowly with binoculars--a deer can appear at any time.

Pay attention to the wind direction. If the wind is blowing in the direction you are moving, a deer will likely pick up your scent. Deer avoid going to creeks in daylight so there is no advantage to hunting near moving water sources during the day.

One advantage mule deer give to hunters is their curiosity. When mule deer are spooked, they'll often run a short distance then turn to determine if they are being pursued. That may give you one good chance for a shot.

A small amount of snow will get deer moving quickly out of high-altitude areas. Usually by late October migrating herds will move to winter range areas, even if there is no snow.

Hunters should aim at the vital organ area which presents a small target--about the size of a dinner plate just behind the front quarter. Hunters, no matter how good they are at the range, should never try to make a head shot. Many animals are injured and die slowly because of attempted head shots.

For more information: cpw.state.co.us.

Nonresident big game hunters also receive a fishing license



Nonresident big game hunters also receive a fishing license with their big game tag.

The San Luis Valley offers a variety of fishing opportunities. If you are 16 or older you must have a Colorado fishing license. Children under 16 do not need a fishing license as long as they are fishing with an adult who has a valid license. Local fishing shops and hardware stores sell fishing licenses. Or you can purchase licenses online at <https://cpw.state.co.us/buyapply/Pages/Fishing.aspx>

When stream fishing make sure that you are not trespassing as in Colorado private landowners adjacent to rivers and streams own the riverbed. Colorado lakes and rivers offer a chance to catch cutthroat, brown, brook and rainbow trout. Some reservoirs are stocked with bass, yellow perch, pike and landlocked kokanee salmon -- if you're looking for great catches, the Valley has it all.

Fish close to a town or far away, by hiking to one of the remote backcountry lakes or streams.

Drift boat fish down the Gold Medal Rio Grande with artificial flies and lures only and you may be lucky enough to land a Rio Grande cutthroat trout -- it doesn't get any better. The Conejos River offers a lot of public access and is an excellent wild brown and rainbow trout fishery. It is an artificial flies and lures only stream. Fly fishing in area rivers gets better around July when the runoff has subsided.

The area is also dotted with 80 lakes and reservoirs, many of them remote; others easily accessible. Some 13 lakes and reservoirs are only 30 minutes from the town of South Fork. Among these are:

- Million Reservoir -- four acres of water, 8,700 feet elev., rainbow trout, great sightseeing;
- Big Meadows, -- 114 acres of water, 9,200 feet elev., rainbow, brook trout, kokanee salmon, German browns, great for children and seniors, handicap access;
- Beaver Creek Reservoir -- 114 acres of water, same 8,850 elev., Bait and artificial lures are allowed. There is a boat ramp but boats must abide by no wake laws and distance rules from those fishing from the bank. The reservoir offers the chance to catch a variety of trout and kokanee salmon.
- Shaw Lake -- 20 acres, 9,850 feet elev., great trolling for cutthroats and brookies, handicap access, boat ramp and restrooms;
- Alberta Park Reservoir -- Elevation 10,202, forest and meadows, large trout and brooks;
- Poage Lake is located at 11,000 feet elevation south of the town of South Fork. Artificial flies and lures can only be used and you can keep two fish per day under 12 inches.
- Hunters Lake -- 8 acres of water, 11,400 elev., fly-fishing good for rainbows, a half-hour hike from car;
- Tucker Ponds -- Four acres of water, 9,700 elev., rainbows, great for children and novices, camping, picnicking, restrooms, handicap access;
- Pass Creek Pond -- Good for bait and fly

fishing, rainbows, limited parking;

• Three high mountain lakes -- Archuleta, Crystal and Crater -- are all between 11,300 and 12,700 elevation. To access Archuleta and Crystal lakes requires a four-wheel drive vehicle or involve a difficult hike.

On the eastern side of the Valley, Sanchez Reservoir and San Luis lakes have previously experienced extremely low water levels, so it's best to check before making a trek there. (See complete list for all the above at www.southfork.org/fish). For other fishing destinations in the area, visit http://coloradofishing.net/wtf_sw.htm

VALLEY GUN SERVICE LLC

Authorized Weatherby Service Center

**BUY, SELL, TRADE
NEW & USED
COMPLETE
GUNSMITHING
SERVICES**

Hot Blue & Cerakote Finishing



**1419 E. Hwy. 160 • Monte Vista
(719) 852-2716**

DOC'S

Full line
Sporting
Goods Store

OUTDOOR
SPORTS

- Camping Gear • Guns & Ammo
- Hunting & Fishing Equipment
- Survival Supplies & Food

Fishing & Hunting Licenses

Hunting Maps, Guides & Information
Plus: T-shirts, Hoodies, Souvenirs and Fudge!

719-873-5151
31101 W. Hwy. 160 • South Fork
www.docsofcolorado.com

CWD

Continued from Page 1



popular when we started out," said Mark Leslie, CPW Northeast Regional Manager, "but that local community can be proud of the groundbreaking progress made in their area."

In Middle Park, several factors created the impetus for management changes. CWD was first detected there around the same time CPW Researchers discovered that bucks had CWD prevalence twice that of does. Additionally, the Middle Park deer herd's ratio of bucks per 100 does was above the Herd Management Plan objective. "The combination of these three things created a sense of urgency for us to increase licenses to get buck to doe ratios down to management objective," said Andy Holland, former Hot Sulphur Springs Area Wildlife Biologist, now CPW's statewide Big Game Coordinator and another study co-author.

Local managers began increasing the annual number of licenses for hunting bucks in Middle Park and subsequent managers have stayed the course. Data reported in the new study show how sustained hunting pressure flattened the epidemic curve in Middle Park over the last 15 years even as prevalence in the White River and Bear's Ears herds increased. "The recent surveys confirmed that our preventive efforts have paid off. Hopefully these findings will pave the way for using hunters to manage the prevalence of CWD in other Colorado herds," noted Holland.

About chronic wasting disease
Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease found in deer, elk and moose. Colorado Parks and Wildlife researchers and biologists have studied chronic wasting disease on numerous fronts - their work and expertise on this disease is recognized both nationally and internationally. Read CPW's Colorado Chronic Wasting Disease Response Plan to see how the agency is addressing the problem.

CWD is one area of increasing concern across Colorado. CPW has been actively pursuing management tactics for helping prevent further spread of CWD and managing it in herds that are already affected since the late 1990s. Controlling chronic wasting disease is critical for the long-term health of deer herds. For Coloradans, quality of life, outdoor heritage, and economic prosperity are dependent on the health and sustainability of these treasures. CPW staff have worked for well over a century to ensure the health and future of Colorado's state parks and wildlife for our citizens. Through cutting edge science and innovative conservation practices, we continue to push the boundaries of science to better understand how disease affects the wildlife of Colorado and what practices we can employ to address these challenges.

What is chronic wasting disease?

CWD is an always-fatal disease of deer, elk and moose.

CWD is not caused by a virus or bacteria, it cannot be treated or prevented through vaccination.

This makes it a real threat to the health and long-term sustainability of herds if not controlled through active management. How is CWD transmitted?

CWD spreads through direct or indirect contact between animals. The disease agents, prions (pree-ons) are present in saliva, feces and carcass parts of infected animals.

These prions also can stay in the soil for long periods of time which is why it is also very important to monitor and control herds that are infected in order to minimize long-term contamination of their ranges with CWD prions.

Where is This Disease Found?
Chronic wasting disease occurs in free-ranging and captive cervids (members of the "deer" family) in several parts of North America, including Colorado.

CWD has been detected in 33 of Colorado's 54 deer herds, 14 of 43 elk herds, and 2 of 9 moose herds. The percentage of sampled animals infected (or "prevalence") appears to be rising in many affected Colorado herds. Maps and tables on CPW's website page About CWD and Adaptive Management show current estimates of CWD distribution and prevalence in deer and elk statewide:

For a summary of chronic wasting disease prevalence estimates in Colorado, by data analysis unit (DAU), for adult elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer and moose, scroll down to click on the CWD prevalence estimate charts.

For relative rates of infection by game management unit in Colorado, see the elk and mule deer species maps.

Below is a summary of results from the agency's mandatory chronic wasting disease (CWD) testing in 2019:

16 deer herds were included in mandatory testing

Over 7,700 samples tested statewide for all cervid species

CWD prevalence now exceeds the 5% management threshold in 18 deer herds statewide.

Of the 18 herds where CWD prevalence in adult bucks exceeds 5%, 5 herds have prevalence between 5-10%, 7 herds have prevalence between 10-20%, and 6 herds have prevalence that exceeds 20%. When prevalence is 20%, it means 1 out of 5 adult males are infected.

Data collected from mandatory testing shows CWD prevalence is higher in male deer than female deer.

Prevalence may be slightly higher in mule deer than in white-tailed deer.

CWD is a slow-moving disease. Prevalence has gradually increased over time to high levels in some herds. CPW learned of higher prevalence levels once mandatory testing was completed.

For additional information on CWD management and other conservation efforts, visit Colorado Parks and Wildlife at cpw.state.co.us.

BINOCULARS

Continued from Page 1



were Swarovski 10x42s. The 10 means that they are 10 power and the 42 is the objective lens diameter. With the power staying the same, the wider the objective lens the greater the field-of-view (FOV) and the brighter the view. As a general rule you want your objective lens diameter to be 4-times or greater than the power of the binoculars. The eyepiece design also plays a role in the FOV and the size of the eyepiece of my Steiner binoculars was half of the Swarovski 10x42s. The FOV of the 10.5x28 Steiner at 1,000 yards was only 230 feet while the Swarovski 10x42s had a FOV of 336 feet.

The same ratio applies to scopes, but most scopes have variable power ranges, so it is not an exact science with scopes as it is with binoculars. However, with the lower power of your rifle scope the brightness and FOV will be greater than at the higher power range of

your scope.

Not everyone can afford Swarovski or similar quality optics. And the binoculars are not for everyone. You have to consider that a pair of 10x42 Swarovski's weighs nearly two pounds, requires a shoulder case and while glassing long distances you need a steady rest. My 10.5x28 Steiner binoculars only weigh 11 ounces and can easily be stored in a shirt pocket. For most hunters finding an affordable pair of binoculars that are waterproof, fog-proof, shockproof and have glass instead of plastic lenses will suit one's needs well. If you are someone who hunts several weeks each year and who also shed hunts in the spring, you may be able to justify the more expensive optics as you will see more game and a successful shed hunt could pay for your investment.

Venison Chili Recipe



The most important thing that you can do when you harvest a big game animal is to immediately get it cooled down as fast as possible.

Ingredients:

- 3 tablespoon butter
- 1 large chopped onion
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2.5 lbs. ground venison
- 2 cans of canned tomatoes
- 3 cans of canned kidney beans
- 3 cans of canned corn kernels
- 1 tablespoon Marjoram leaf
- 1 tablespoon Oregano leaf
- 1 tablespoon brown mustard
- 1 tablespoon Sage leaf
- 1 teaspoons salt
- 1 bay leaf
- 3 tablespoon molasses
- 3 tablespoon chili powder
- Add 5 cups of water

Melt butter; when heated, saute onion and garlic; add the ground venison.

Stir; saute meat until well done; Add and brown tomatoes, kidney beans, salt, bay leaf, sugar, chili powder and herbs.

Cover; simmer about 2 hours.

QUALITY WORK
AFFORDABLE
PRICES

CERNY'S
EUROPEAN MOUNTS

For more information,
call 719-580-0398 or
719-580-0325

Light Truck & Car Repair
New & Used Tires

Your Everyday
Automotive
Repair Needs

**Ken's
Service
Center**

719.657.2880
810 Grand Ave. • Del Norte

COOPERTIRES
Authorized Cooper Tire Dealer