

## Shorts



### Census Takers visiting nonresponding households in Colorado

COLORADO – Census takers in Colorado are working to follow up with households that have not yet responded to the 2020 Census.

The current self-response rate in Colorado is 66.6 percent. The national self-response rate is 63.3 percent. The census bureau will need to visit the remaining addresses to collect responses in person.

Households can still respond now by completing and mailing back the paper questionnaire they received. Those that respond now will not need to be visited to obtain their responses.

What Households Can Expect  
Census takers are hired from local communities. All census takers speak English, and many are bilingual. If a census taker does not speak the householder's language, the household may request a return visit from a census taker who does. Census takers will also have materials on hand to help identify the household's language.

If no one is home when the census taker visits, the census taker will leave a notice of their visit with information about how to respond online, by phone or by mail. Coloradans are encouraged to cooperate with census takers and ensure that everyone who was living in their household as of April 1, 2020, is counted.

How to Identify Census Takers

Census takers can be easily identified by a valid government ID badge with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date on the badge. To confirm a census taker's identity, the public may contact the Denver/Dallas Regional Census Center at 972-510-1800 to speak with a census bureau representative.

## Prize winning cows!

BY REBECCA COPLEY

**MONTE VISTA** – The morning of Thursday, Aug. 6, the last show for this year's 4-H Fair was held. This year's Beef Market and Beef Showmanship show featured several competitions with Grand Champion and Reserve Champion being selected in each group. Among the day's winners was Ian Jackson and his Here I Am cow. Jackson was able to land Grand Champion for both the steer market show, and the Senior Showmanship. Jackson who also shows lambs was named Grand Champion for market and reserve showman on Tuesday during the lamb show.

Please see **COWS** on Page 8A



Ian Jackson won Grand Champion in the Steer Market show and the Senior Showmanship Thursday, Aug. 6, during the Fair Beef Market and Beef Showmanship show.



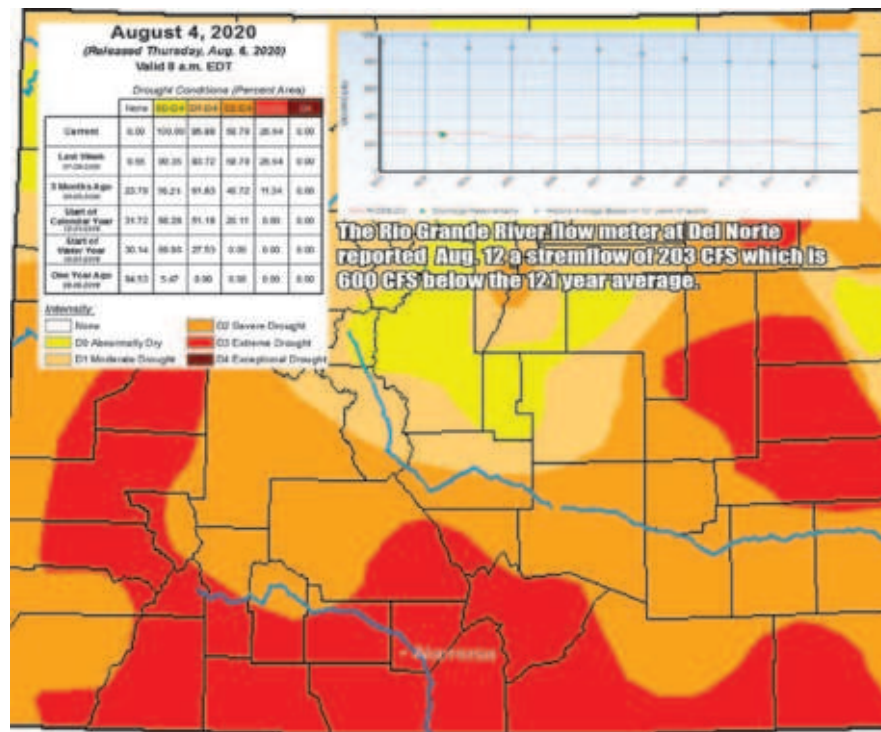
Photos by Rebecca Copley

Brevan Cary won Grand Champion Thursday for the Bred and Fed Division.

## 100 percent of Colorado in drought or abnormally dry

COLORADO – Aug. 5, U.S. Drought Monitor reported 100 percent of the state abnormally dry or in extreme drought conditions for the first time in eight years consistent with a broader transformation of the Southwest amid climate warming. A combination in Colorado of paltry spring snow, warmer temperatures that triggered earlier melting of winter mountain snowpack, feeble rain through summer, and parched soil from previous dry years led to this formal label.

It's the fourth time in two decades — following 2002, 2006 and 2012 — that all of Colorado was designated Please see **DROUGHT** on Page 6A



The U.S. Drought Monitor's map of Colorado, shows most of the San Luis Valley being under extreme drought conditions.

**COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AMBER ALERT**

CHILD'S NAME: JANE DOE      SUSPECT: JOHN DOE

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OR

THE DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT AT XXX-XXX-XXXX

**CHILD'S DESCRIPTION**

- FEMALE
- 12 YEARS OLD
- BLOND HAIR
- BLUE EYES
- 5'07" / 80 LBS
- LAST SEEN: [REDACTED]

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

- 2019 SUBARU FORESTER
- BLACK
- COLORADO LICENSE: XXXXXXX
- STICKER ON BACK REAR WINDOW

**SUSPECT'S DESCRIPTION**

- MALE
- 30 YEARS OLD
- BROWN HAIR
- BLUE EYES
- 5'07" / 150 LBS

ADDITIONAL DETAILS:

### CBI announces changes to Statewide Alert Program

COLORADO - The Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) plans to incorporate a new look to its statewide alert program beginning on August 10, 2020.

Alert notifications will no longer feature a report format and instead transition to a bulletin or poster-like display for these critical notifications sent across the state.

"This change is an important step in ensuring the public has access to information in an easily viewed format that can be readily shared," said CBI Director John Camper.

The new bulletins will be Please see **ALERT** on Page 5A

## 136-mile stretch of Arkansas river open for navigation

**GRANITE, Colorado** – With a few weeks left in the whitewater boating season in the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area (AHRA), river rangers, aquatic biologists and outfitters are praising a new \$9.1 million boat chute/fish ladder that opened on the Arkansas River this spring, allowing navigation from Leadville past Cañon City for the first time since 1964.

The Homestake Arkansas River Diversion, located near Granite, north of Buena Vista, was built by Colorado Springs Utilities and Aurora Water to replace an intake structure that feeds water into the nearby Otero Pump Station for transport to the Front Range communities' drinking water systems.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife, (CPW) and the Colorado Water Conservation Board contributed \$1.2 million to support the project and the Pueblo Water Board donated easements necessary to construct and maintain the diversion.

Please see **RIVER** on Page 7A



Photo courtesy of Colorado Parks and Wildlife / Bill Vogrin

With a few weeks left in the whitewater season in the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area (AHRA), CPW river rangers and aquatic biologists alike are praising a new \$9.1 million boat chute/fish ladder that opened on the Arkansas River, allowing navigation from Leadville past Cañon City for the first time since 1964.

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# CLIPS FROM THE CLERK

BY TRISH GILBERT, SAGUACHE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER

## Defending Digital Democracy Project (D3P)

SAGUACHE COUNTY - The Clerk and Recorder's team participated in the Defending Digital Democracy Project (D3P). They offered a three-day online course for clerks, elections staff, county communications staff, IT staff and others.

Great news - it is a significant course, so the Secretary of State's Election division has offered to give anyone that completes the course/test 2 credits for HAVA recertification for the next cycle.

D3P is a project of the Belfer Center at the Harvard Kennedy School on cybersecurity training and exercises.

The Defending Digital Democracy Project (D3P) is delivering a national training tour tailored for state and local election officials as we prepare for the 2020 General Election. D3P's

work is committed to supporting officials in protecting the elections process.

Key training topics:

- Operations Management and Incident Tracking
- Incident Response / Crisis Communications
- Information Operations (Identifying, responding and reporting disinformation and misinformation incidents)

- Special topics including COVID-19 and related cybersecurity and disinformation considerations

Each training included some form of:

- Prework: Short checklists, templates and self-assessment questionnaires

- Classroom training: Best practices, current trends that may impact our work

- A live simulation: A chance to validate our processes, and generate actionable information for post-training follow up

- Action plan and ongoing support: Develop list of actionable "next steps" to implement after training and contact the training team for any additional post-training support

• Handouts and deliverables: Received a customized plan, playbooks, handouts, checklists and other soft copy materials to disseminate among our team and reference throughout the year.

They were happy to support accreditation/certification requirements to help attendees receive credit for their time.

The current environment for elections is becoming complicated, with increased threats to a fair, transparent and secure process. We are faced with malicious cybersecurity actors, misinformation, constrained financial resources and a global pandemic.

Our team felt this training was beneficial. As we continue our work to serve you, we will be better able to connect people, information and processes within the operating environment so that we can perform effectively and efficiently when the stakes are high. After all, "people" make elections successful.



# OBITUARY

## "Dan" D. Rivera, 78

Del Norte resident Gaspar "Dan" D. Rivera, 78, died August 8, 2020 at his home in Del Norte surrounded by his family and under Hospice care.

Dan was born in Del Norte, Colorado on July 14, 1942, the son of Refugio and Antonia Maria Trujillo Rivera.

Dan served in the United States National Guard for six years. He worked for more than 25 years as a chemical operator for Roche Chemicals in Boulder, Colorado. Dan loved the outdoors and enjoyed the activities of hunting, fishing, camping and four-wheeling. He also loved country western music, movies and reading old western stories and books. Dan was an avid Denver Broncos fan.

He is survived by his wife Sandy Padia of Del Norte; his children Daniella Rivera of Northglenn, CO and Andrea Padia of Anaheim, CA; his brother and sisters Charlie (Elvira) Rivera of Del Norte, CO, Beatrice (Frank) Hudson of Del Norte, CO and Sandy (Anthony) Diaz of Monte Vista; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews and great-great



nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents Refugio and Antonia Maria.

Cremation was chosen and a Memorial Mass will be held 10 a.m. Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at the Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church in Del Norte. Interment will follow services in the Agua Ramon Cemetery with his parents.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of the arrangements. To leave online words of comfort, remarks and condolences for Dan's family, please visit [www.RogersFunerals.com](http://www.RogersFunerals.com)

## Public health officials moving to regional planning

BY LYNSIE FERRELL

RIO GRANDE COUNTY- According to local Public Health officials, the public health department is moving forward to the next phase of Colorado's response to COVID-19 plan "Protect Your Neighbor."

In the next phase of the state's plan, there are several guidelines that have to be met in order for the Valley to move into "Protect Your Neighbor" and the hope is to do it regionally. According to sources in the local Public Health department, the goal is to move into the next phase for the six counties in the San Luis Valley in order to decrease the chances of having to backtrack and close businesses down again and to strengthen the chances of remaining open.

Protect Your Neighbor is the third phase in Colorado's response to COVID-19 plan and is one that will allow communities to open with lesser restrictions while keeping with best practices suggested through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

According to the base description of the Protect Your Neighbor phase it states, "Protect Our Neighbors means that communities that meet certain criteria have less stringent restrictions than under Stay at Home and Safer at Home. Strong local public health and health care systems are the key to reopening the economy. Different communities will be at different phases, based on local conditions and capabilities. Local communities can also still apply for a variance from Safer at Home."

The criteria that the Valley Public Health will need to abide by consists

of strategic planning that will meet thresholds of low disease transmission levels, capacity for testing, case investigation, contact tracing and outbreak response as well as local hospitals ability to meet the needs of all patients and handle the surge in demand for intensive hospital care.

The Protect Your Neighbor phase guidelines also include, "Communities must have mitigation and containment plans approved by local elected leaders including county commissioners and mayors, the hospitals that serve the county, law enforcement, emergency management, the local public health directors and if applicable, tribal leaders."

At this time, it is the goal of public health departments to ensure the decrease of COVID-19 cases throughout the six county region to be able to move into the third phase without the threat of having to move backward to more stringent restrictions and to strengthen the foundation of success by waiting to move into the Protect Your Neighbor phase until such a time when all six counties can meet the guidelines together as a whole.

According to sources, the increase in mask use has directly affected the decrease in COVID-19 positive cases throughout the Valley and as long as communities continue to use best practices should be able to move into phase three in a timely manner, though a specific date cannot, at this time be determined.

More about the Protect Your Neighbor phase of the state's COVID-19 response plan can be found at <https://covid19.Colorado.gov/protect-our-neighbors>.

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# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## I like a good story, but....

There is nothing like a good story and the telling of such is as much a part of the success of that endeavor as is the storyline.

Before the invention of the radio and television, people used to do what was called "visiting." They would gather in the evenings or a Sunday afternoon and talk about the events of the day or week. And there was always some character present who had developed the talent of storytelling to a precise art.

They say Davy Crockett was just such a man and he could spin yarns about homey subjects bringing about raucous roars from the crowds around him and endearing him to everyone he met.

Now Ol' Dutch can tell a pretty good story himself and even Miss Trixie, the expert in everything, says I never let the truth get in the way of a good story. But it does have its limits and the internet is rife with countless feel good or feel sad stories these days.

The other day I read about a man who at age 17 had rescued an elephant in India. The elephant had a huge chunk of branch embedded in his foot and approached the man, raising his foot seemingly to ask him to remove it.

Taking huge risks to life and limb he carefully dug it out and the elephant trumpeted and raised his foot several times as if to say thank you. Fast forward 50 years and the same man is standing at a zoo in Chicago watching an elephant when suddenly the two locked eyes.

The great animal raised his foot and trumpeted. The man knew instantly this was the same elephant he had rescued those many decades before. Climbing over the fence he approached the mighty beast which grabbed the man up in his trunk and bashed him against the tree trunk until he was dead.

The moral of the story being, must not have been the same elephant.

That story is typical of what you can get online on any given day and they range from horrifying to cutesy but mainly are sad which I guess makes women cry which is what they seem to want.

I remember hearing that women do like a good cry once in a while and will seek out a sad movie or book to give them the impetus to bawl it out. Which is pretty sad in and of itself since all they really would have to do is hang around Ol' Dutch for a while and they would have plenty to cry about.

And that is one reason I do believe



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

Miss Trixie continues to hang around. Who says I am good for nothing? Well, a lot of people do and this just proves them wrong.

Of late we are fed a constant barrage of news about the rich and famous and their hardships like poor Kim and Kanye or Harry and Meghan. And today I read where Harry's royal sister-in-law, Kate Middleton, is under so much stress from being overworked.

I don't know about you all but it's pretty hard for me to feel sorry for the swells -- that's people who think they are swell -- when they have enough money to do anything they want and still complain.

Now, I do feel sympathy for poor Prince Harry who had to give up not only hunting but all his guns too after marrying the American tornado Meghan.

I can understand giving up a lot of things like drunk friends, late night carousing, a princely lifestyle, unlimited travel and entertainment and ritzy parties for a wife but when a man surrenders his weapons and ability to provide meat for the table, he might as well surrender his man card, too.

No wonder Harry is so sad. I could solve his dilemma in about five minutes with a hunting trip out here to elk hunt and would be more than happy to accompany him too.

Maybe Miss Trixie could even teach Miss Meghan a thing or two about cooking wild game.

And, then the royals would know what eating high on the hog really means.

*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*



## LETTERS National Popular Vote 101

The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (NPVIC) does not do away with the Electoral College. A constitutional amendment would be required to abolish the Electoral College. Several efforts to amend the Constitution have been hampered by the demanding process involved.

The NPVIC recognizes that the Electoral College is not the real problem with our current electoral system. Rather, the shortcomings of our system stem from the "winner-take-all" approach to allocating electoral votes practiced in 48 states and the District of Columbia. Maine and Nebraska award two of their electoral votes to the statewide winner but award the remainder of their electoral votes to the candidates receiving the most popular votes in each congressional district.

The shortcomings caused by the winner-take-all approach are numerous and include the following:

(1) A candidate can win the presidency without winning the popular vote, as happened in 1824, 1876, 1888, 2000 and 2016. (2) Candidates are encouraged to focus disproportionately on a limited set of swing states (and in the case of Maine and Nebraska, swing districts), and this focus also adversely affects governance by the winning candidate. (3) Voter turnout is decreased in states without close races.

The electoral system we have today was not designed, anticipated nor favored by the Founding Fathers. Instead, it is the result of decades of change driven primarily by the emergence of political parties and the desire of each state's ruling party not to give any of the state's electoral votes to the minority party. While certain founders conceived of the Electoral College as a deliberative body, from 1796 onward electors have instead acted as "rubber stamps" for their

parties' nominees.

States that join the NPVIC agree to award all their electoral votes to the candidate who receives the most popular votes nationwide. The NPVIC laws adopted by member states will go into effect when enough states have joined the compact such that their electoral votes constitute a majority vote in the Electoral College, currently 270. As of this writing, the member states have electoral votes totaling 196.

Please join me this November in voting YES on the National Popular Vote referendum here in Colorado. A YES vote supports Colorado's current position in the compact and the compact's goal of eliminating the shortcomings of the winner-take-all approach to electing our nation's president.

*Nancy Harcourt  
Del Norte, Colorado  
Volunteer, Yes on National Popular Vote*

## National Health Center Week is Aug. 9-15

Across the country, the exceptional work of Community Health Centers will be recognized, work sustained while fighting on the front lines of COVID-19 to keep our communities healthy and safe. This celebration will demonstrate that not only is it possible to move beyond the partisan divide over health care, but to support and agree on a program vital to our communities.

Community Health Centers provide preventive and primary care services to almost 30 million people and continue to do so while facing a global pandemic. We provide care to people who disproportionately suffer from chronic diseases and lack access to affordable, quality care. While our approach is community-based and local, collectively we are the backbone of the nation's primary care system. Community Health Centers lower health care costs by \$24 billion a year, reduce rates chronic diseases, and stimulate local economies.

At Valley-Wide Health Systems, we provide primary medical care, dental care, behavioral health and pharmacy services, along with case management and care coordination services to help patients navigate the health care system. In our mission, we

commit to providing high-quality, safe, effective and integrated health services in a respectful and inclusive manner for all with special consideration for underserved populations.

Community Health Centers look beyond medical charts to address the factors that may cause poor health, such as poverty, homelessness, substance use, mental illness, lack of nutrition and unemployment. We are a critical piece of the health care system and we collaborate with hospitals, local and state governments, social, health and business organizations to improve health outcomes. We have pivoted to serving our communities through telehealth and COVID-19 testing, while still helping to ensure our patients can access necessities like food and housing resources.

While COVID-19 continues to exacerbate social and medical inequities across the country, Community Health Centers have stretched themselves to reconfigure services for those in need. As unemployment rates rise and more people lose their employee-sponsored health insurance, Community Health Centers must remain open to provide care for all, regardless of insurance status.

The mission of Community Health Centers remains crucial today because access to basic care remains a challenge in many parts of the United States. Many people live in remote and underserved communities where there is a shortage of providers. In many cases, the nearest doctor or hospital can be as far as a 50-mile drive in another county.

Congress must act immediately for Community Health Centers to continue to serve as health care homes. Emergency and long-term, stable funding will ensure we can keep our doors open and close the growing access gap for medically vulnerable communities. Without the action of Congress, Community Health Center funding will expire Nov. 30, 2020. I am grateful that our Colorado state and national legislators have shown leadership in protecting Community Health Centers from losing a major part of our funding.

Show your advocacy during National Health Center Week by supporting the Valley-Wide Health Systems clinic in your community. We will be there when you need us.

*Jania Arnoldi  
Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc.*

# CENTER POST - DISPATCH

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# Rio Grande National Forest awarded Colorado the Beautiful grant

By LYNDIE FERRELL

**RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST**- The Upper Rio Grande Economic Development group met for their regular meeting on Aug. 11 to welcome Rio Grande National Forest Divide District Ranger Martha Williamson who gave a brief presentation on a Colorado the Beautiful grant that was awarded in June. The grant was awarded in the amount of \$68,900 and will be used to facilitate a strategic plan to increase recreational use of the Rio Grande Forest.

“The Divide Ranger District for the Rio Grande National Forest is just shy of 1 million acres and covers the portion of the Rio Grande defined by the boundaries of Carnero Creek going west over Mesa Mountain following the Continental Divide to Spring Creek Pass, around to Stoney Pass and down to the headwaters of the Rio Grande to Wolf Creek and to Elwood, down to the Valley floor just above Monte Vista,” explained Williamson.

Williamson began her presentation stating that Rio Grande Divide Ranger District is a unique location because of the diversity of terrain. “The combination of desert floor to 13,000-foot peaks with everything in between creates a pretty unique set of landscapes to manage and have access to.”

The Forest is also uniquely distanced from the recreational push that some of the other locations around the state see in National Forests in areas like the Front Range. “What has really struck me here, is that we have the golden opportunity to learn some lessons from what is happening in other National Forests where they are in a position of needing to be reactive to increases in recreational use.”

Williamson continued to point out that some of the more populated and popular locations in the Front Range deal with a variety of recreational usage increases with minimal management capabilities and that her district can now use their experiences as a platform to move forward with a plan to increase recreational use of the Divide Ranger District while remaining good stewards of the Forest.

“Again, we have the golden opportunity here to put ourselves on the path to being able to welcome additional recreational use in the Forest and also foster better relationships by different user groups by virtue of being able to see that we are going to need to accommodate more people here because it’s beautiful here, because there’s room and because the communities around the Forest need the influx of people to the communities.”

“This Colorado the Beautiful grant is the last of the funding cycle through Colorado Great Outdoors funding for this year and I applied for this grant to chart a course for welcoming this increase of recreational use of the Divide Ranger District specifically while navigating around foreseeable resource and social impacts.”

Williamson explained that by social impacts, the Forest will look at areas that can handle increased recreational use while continuing to protect areas that may not be able to handle the increase and plans will include improvements to infrastructure to facilitate the increase in use. “With a little bit of time and effort and foresight we can really lead being the Divide Range District that channels additional use, additional people coming to recreate and enjoy public lands toward the places that can handle it like developed recreation site like hardened campgrounds and picnic areas or trailheads or trails. We can create some really lovely places for people to go which attracts them away from the areas that can’t actually handle the increase in recreation.”

The plan will include strategies that create ready to deploy plans to



manage use that exceeds capacity in the Forest’s multiple use landscape. Williamson explained that she is

looking at a seven-point plan to bring people together to enjoy the diverse landscape offered by the Forest.

“Hearing the need and the desire for economic growth and economic development in the San Luis Valley...

we really need to work together to ensure that the Forest is ready to accommodate this usage.”



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# City says they will match funds to Vali3 Theater

By REBECCA COPLEY

**MONTE VISTA** - At their last Monte Vista City Council meeting the council all voted to donate a dollar-for-dollar match donation up to \$1,500 for the Vali3 Theater on their GoFundMe. City Clerk Unita Vance who is a part of the theater board shared with the council what has been happening with the theater these last few months.

The theater had to shut down in March due to COVID-19, and is still shutdown. "The day that we got news that we could reopen, we reopened with the intent to show a movie following the weekend on Monday. Put in the movie and discovered that our projector is down," said Vance.

Vance told them that they contacted the projector company and asked them to take a look at their projector. She told them it took a while before they could get someone to actually come look at their projector in person. "They did come down and looked at the projector and our projector is out. It's the light engine in the projector so when it shows up on the screen there's lines across the movie. To replace that projector it's going to cost the theater \$30,000," Vance told the council.

Although the theater building is owned by the City of Monte Vista the Vali-3 theater board is working on

achieving their own nonprofit status. They try to operate the theater in a way that keeps it affordable and fun for everyone in the San Luis Valley.

Currently the GoFundMe the theater has started has received about \$500 Vance shared. "We've asked for help with the project to be \$40,000. That would include replacing the projector and it would also include funding to allow us to fix up one of the other theaters. Last summer we received a donation from the Creede Repertory Theatre which was lighting for stage lighting. And they had proposed that if we fixed up one of the theaters that they would be willing to look at possibly coming down and doing some productions in our theater," said Vance.

To help with raising funds the theater board has been talking about hosting different events but with COVID-19 restrictions it's been difficult to plan anything. "We talked a little bit about having Native American dancers in there during the Native American Art Festival. We talked about having stand up comedians come in. We do have a lead on that right now. We're not just sitting back and not doing anything. The theater board is working very hard at trying to get other things going in the theater," said Vance. She also

shared how they have been selling popcorn and other concessions on Saturday nights. Recently their ice maker also stopped working and they have had to purchase ice to sell soda on Saturday nights.

Vance finished her report to the council saying, "We know it's tough times so we're not asking for a lot but we're hoping for a miracle."

If you would like to help save the Vali3 Theater you can donate at: [www.gofundme.com/f/reopen-the-vali-3](http://www.gofundme.com/f/reopen-the-vali-3)



**Rio Grande Social Services office closed Friday, Aug. 14**

**DELNORTE**-Due to unfortunate circumstances surrounding the death of a Rio Grande County Social Service employee, the Rio Grande County Social Service office in Del Norte will be closed Friday, Aug. 14. The office will reopen Monday, Aug. 17, with regular hours.

## Rio Grande County moves forward with staffing

By LYNSIE FERRELL

**RIO GRANDE COUNTY** - During a work session held Monday, Aug. 10, Rio Grande County Commissioners met with a potential part-time employee who would be sub-contracted to help with administrative duties while the county seeks a more permanent person to fill the position.

It has been over two weeks since Rio Grande County Administrator Trish Slater turned in her resignation and the county commissioners have been delegating tasks to office employees to ensure that everyday business continues regardless of being short staffed. It was also confirmed during the work session that the county is also seeking a Human Resource Director in addition to other pertinent positions throughout the county.

Commissioners met with the perspective person and discussed a plan of action on how to move forward. The potential interim candidate stated that she had experience working for Rio Grande County and she felt confident she would be able to get the county on track to where they need to be

and stated that she was pleasantly surprised on how smoothly the entire county was running while lacking key employees.

Commissioners asked that the individual return for the regular meeting on Wednesday, August 12, which will be held via Zoom for a final decision from the board. Commissioners stated that they were hopeful to have an agreement prepared for Wednesday's meeting in order to move forward as quickly as possible.

**ALERT**  
Continued from Page 1A ———  
forwarded to the media as part of the notification process and posted to the CBI's social media sites upon activation of an alert in the state.

The updated bulletins will be featured for AMBER, Missing Senior, Blue, Medina, Developmentally Disabled and Missing Endangered alerts when requested by local law enforcement in the state.

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**VIAERO WIRELESS**





## SLVBHG supports students mental health

**BY AZAREL MADRIGAL-CHASE**

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** – San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group (SLVBHG) was fortunate to have funding to support students and families with much needed school supplies and backpacks during this difficult time. SLVBHG staff are thankful to have an opportunity to provide assistance to many students and families. In the San Luis Valley we have two of the most impoverished counties in Colorado. Supporting families with school supplies ensures that we are not only supporting the needs of families, but giving each child supplies they need to be prepared to start the school year prepared. SLVBHG has packed 243 backpacks with supplies and clinicians are working with their clients to get them delivered. SLVBHG continues to look for opportunities to support students

and schools. School supplies can be a burden on families, on average most parents spend over a \$117 on back-to-school school supply necessities for each child. Many of the backpacks have already been delivered directly to the children and the excitement and smiles on their faces have been priceless. Parents who have picked up their child's backpack have been so appreciative.

Going back to school can be stressful in the best of times, but it can be even more stressful after COVID-19. We hope that having the needed school supplies is one less worry for families this school year. Making sure that kids feel at ease about returning to school by having open conversations about what is worrying them and helping them to know that their feelings are normal. Parents and teachers don't need to know the ins

and outs of hundreds of mental health disorders, knowing symptoms that kids may be experiencing that could be related to a mental health disorder is a good place to start and all that is needed to be able to seek help for the child. Encouraging your students to talk about mental health is the first step to helping them cope with strong emotions.

SLVBHG school based mental health specialists and intensive case managers will continue to work with schools to support students in a variety of ways. All children have access to behavioral health services and many programs that SLVBHG offers. Parents and school staff can reach out to SLVBHG to get connected to resources and services at 719-589-3671, [www.slvbhg.org](http://www.slvbhg.org), and Facebook and Instagram at @SLVBHG.

## DROUGHT

**Continued from Page 1A**

as abnormally dry or in a drought.

Hardest hit so far are farmers and ranchers in the Colorado River Basin and the Rio Grande River Basin as water flows, from tributary streams down to main streams diminish. August 12 the Rio Grande River was flowing at 203 CFS which is 600 CFS below the 121 year average.

"These drought conditions we've had to live with since 2002 in the Rio Grande Basin, more often than not, the years are average or below average. We have this unique underground aquifer that helps us bridge some of the gaps. But the gaps are so big, and we have stressed the aquifer probably beyond its capacity," said Rio Grande Water Conservation District Manager Cleave Simpson, an alfalfa grower in the San Luis Valley, where farmers have been trying to reduce groundwater pumping for eight years.

"We will lose ground this summer. We've got to figure out how to farm with less water, or farm less acres," Simpson said. "You hear about people selling cows. You just feel it. I mean, in Alamosa, 11 out of 13 days in a row were record highs for us — just bizarre. And in one day in June — in 12 hours — we set both a record low and a record high."

Colorado mountain snowpack, near normal April 1 and once a predictor of sufficient water through fall, may not be as reliable. Now in the West "things can change quickly," U.S. Department of Agriculture snow survey director Brian Domonkos said. "This week's U.S. Drought Monitor assessment designated all of Colorado, and much of the West,

in some stage of drought, which can trigger federal payments for agricultural producers. It shows most of southern Colorado in extreme drought, much of the rest of the state including the northeastern plains in severe drought, with moderate drought elsewhere and a few patches of western Colorado abnormally dry.

During those decades, people across the Southwest have endured hotter, drier conditions that scientists link to climate change caused by burning fossil fuels. Some scientists compare the shift to aridity to historic "mega-droughts" confirmed in tree-ring and other studies that show periodic shifts over the past 1,200 years to hot-and-dry conditions lasting 40 years or longer. It means shriveling crops and dying forests primed to burn, often uncontrollably due to past suppression of wildfires. It means shrinking water flows in streams and rivers. It means people in crowded cities competing for shady open space.

Gov. Jared Polis has activated Colorado's traditional "drought plan" to track impacts, save water, coordinate local responses and help hard-hit farmers.

"We take it seriously," said Conor Cahill, Polis's press secretary. "Our goal is to work with our federal partners to get assistance and resources to impacted communities."

But the increasingly hot and relatively rainless conditions over the past six weeks are bolstering an emerging consensus among climate scientists that, beyond a temporary drought with an end, Colorado and

much of the West are mired in a multi-decade shift.

"We know that temperatures in Colorado and the world will continue to increase so long as we emit vast quantities of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere every year," said Colorado State University water center senior scientist Brad Udall, who has researched a 13 percent depletion of Colorado River water and refers to "aridification" because "drought" implies an eventual return to normal.

"Temperatures, for hundreds of years, are not going to return to 20th century averages. We need to be thinking in terms of more frequent periods of very hot and dry — unlike anything we've experienced before," Udall said.

The hot and dry conditions have caused "reduced wheat yields this summer, reduced pasture forage and probably reduced corn yields as well," said Peter Goble, climate and drought specialist in the state's climatology office.

"The Eastern Plains of Colorado missed out on timely rains in May and June. It was a punch in the gut for farmers and ranchers at the worst time of the year. In recent weeks, this has spread to the Front Range urban corridor. We haven't had any good, statewide, drought-busting rains for a long time," Goble said. "Our temperatures are warming without an increase in precipitation to counteract that. Soil moisture available to crops, grasses, trees and other plants is dried up more quickly," he said. "Given the warming temperatures, we need to be prepared as a state."

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# YOUR NIGHT SKY

## Our Moon and Venus

BY DARLENE DANKO

The Perseid meteor shower peaked yesterday morning, but there's still time to view them. Since the new moon is on the 18<sup>th</sup>, the sky will be quite dark for the next week. So you'll have plenty of time to view them in the evening and early morning. There's always the possibility of clouds and rain which we so desperately need, but hopefully we'll have clear night skies.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> the thin moon and bright Venus will be close together in the early morning. They're actually bright enough that you should be able to see them even when the morning sky begins to get light. The moon will be 4 degrees north of Venus. Look for them in the east. Of course they

aren't close together in space, just in our current viewing.

Venus is currently at its greatest western elongation, which means that it's farthest from the Sun. This makes it at its brightest when it's this far from the Sun. So although its disc is only 25 percent illuminated, it's bright and wonderful to look at. I saw it this morning when I got up at 5:45. The sky was getting light, but Venus was amazingly bright like Jupiter has been. It's in the east almost halfway up. So when you get up in the early morning to look for the Perseids, look for Venus too.

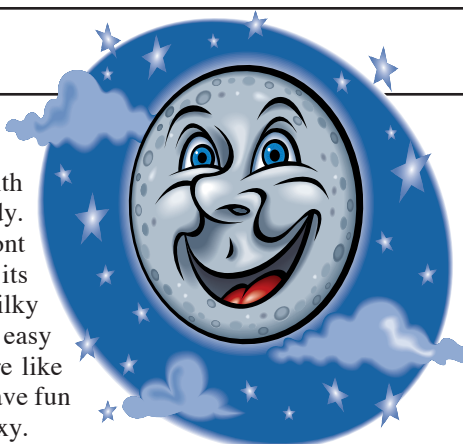
The Milky Way is now visible in the dark evening sky beginning in the south and ending in the NNE. The constellation Sagittarius sits in front of the Milky Way low in the south. I'm sure you've seen bright Jupiter and Saturn shining in the south. Below Jupiter you will find

the Sagittarius constellation since Jupiter currently sits at the side of the Milky Way. When you look for it in the South, the Milky Way will be just to the right of Jupiter.

The Cassiopeia constellation is on the NE side of the Milky Way and is a W lying on its side and pointing to our right. The Andromeda galaxy is currently in the NE to the right of the Milky Way, and Cassiopeia points to it. Andromeda is big enough that we can see it with unaided vision, but you might try to find it with binoculars first, and then look at it with your naked eyes.

On the other side of the Andromeda galaxy is the constellation the Great Square of Pegasus. It looks like a big square that sparkles over the east about 9 p.m. in August and September. So when you find this square, just look to its left. The Andromeda galaxy will be between it and Cassiopeia.

Pegasus is one of the largest constellations in our sky. It's the winged horse with the square marking its body. Then there's a head and front legs upside down, that are on its other side away from the Milky Way. Its large square body is easy to find, but it will look more like it's tipped over a little. So have fun finding the Andromeda galaxy.



## RIVER

Continued from Page 1A

The new structure created three channels in the river as part of the new intake for the Homestake Project trans-mountain raw water collection, storage and delivery system.

One channel is a 650-foot-long boat chute with six drop structures and pools designed to improve safety for whitewater kayakers and rafts. Another channel is a fish passage that allows fish, primarily rainbow and brown trout, to swim upstream and spawn in the fall. The middle lane of the structure is a spillway during high water flooding events, typically in the spring runoff.

Tom Waters, Operations Manager of the AHRA, praised the new diversion as a huge improvement over the old structure that required boaters from Leadville to leave the water and portage, or carry, their kayakers or rafts around it to avoid a dangerous dam.

And he noted experienced whitewater enthusiasts are glad the diversion didn't make the upper stretch of the Arkansas easier. Just more accessible and provided different options for recreating on this section of river.

"Prior to this, it was a mandatory portage under most circumstances," Waters said. "For the utility partners to put so much time, money and effort into this is huge. They are meeting their water needs, the needs for fish passage and providing for recreational needs. And they did it in an aesthetically pleasing way. It looks great."

Equally enthusiastic about the structure is Josh Nehring, CPW's senior aquatic biologist for the Southeast Region.

"It was a big project for the

partners to get it designed properly to accommodate both boat and fish passage," Nehring said. "We're pretty certain fish will be able to move through it. In fact, we're going to study it this fall when brown trout are moving up river to spawn."

CPW aquatic biologist Michael Atwood in Salida plans to survey the river above, through and below the structure using electroshock equipment. He'll catch brown trout, mark them and then survey after the spawn to see if they did, indeed, make it upstream.

"We'll try to verify if fish are, in fact, moving through it," Atwood said. "We'll see if we can tell if any of the tagged fish have migrated upstream through the structure."

Construction started in 2018 and it was a challenging two-year experience for the builders but worth it, said Senior Project Engineer for Colorado Springs Utilities Brian McCormick.

"This project both improved the operation and reliability of the river intake and reduced risk for river users," McCormick said. "And we wanted to add the boat chute to open this 136-mile stretch of river for navigation."

To enhance the whitewater experience and avoid dangerous hydraulics, the utilities employed computerized design technology and constructed a 1/12th scale model to study flows. Then they placed boulders in the chutes individually to assure water flows were safe for boaters and allowed optimum fish passage.

McCormick noted the AHRA didn't exist in 1964 when the intake and diversion were originally constructed

and river recreation was not a design priority as it was today. He, too, praised the partnership that allowed the project to happen.

"Today, there are multiple demands placed on our rivers including water supply and recreation," McCormick said. "We're proud to be part of such a unique partnership that is able to satisfy so many needs of our customers."

Praise also came from Bob Hamel, executive director of the Arkansas River Outfitters Association.

"The diversion works fine," Hamel said. "We're grateful they built the boat chute to accommodate our activity. The people who ran it appreciated not having to portage."

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.

The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing at the Saguache County Commissioners meeting Room located at 501 - 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Saguache, Colorado, on the following date:

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 at 3 PM**

to consider proposed changes to the Saguache County Land Development Code changes. To view the proposed changes BEGINNING MONDAY, JULY 27, 2020, you may contact the Saguache County Land Use Department - PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 or atorrez@saguachecounty-co.gov, or by calling 719-655-2321 or you may also view the changes on our website at www.saguachecounty.net.

Written comments will be accepted until Friday, AUGUST 28, 2020 at 3pm, and may be sent to Saguache County Land Use Department at PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 or email to atorrez@saguachecounty-co.gov.

By: Jason Anderson, Chairman  
Chairman, Saguache County Board of Commissioners

No. 1557 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, July 30 and August 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2020.

### Saguache County Board of Commissioners Seeks Saguache County Planning Commission Members

Saguache County Board of Commissioners are seeking a member and an alternate from:

Crestone/Baca area member and alternate

The representative must be a property owner or property manager and reside in the Crestone/Baca area. Regular member terms are for three years and the alternate terms are for a one-year term.

Saguache County Planning Commission meets on the last Thursday of each month in the Road and Bridge meeting room. The Planning Commission may also have work sessions through out each month to work on the Saguache County Master Plan and different items.

If you are interested please send a brief letter of interest stating qualifications and interest to: Saguache County Land Use, PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 prior to Friday, August 28, 2020 or open until filled. Should you have any questions please call Amber Wilson at 719-655-2321.

No. 1558 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, August 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2020.

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Deputies inspect an abandoned vehicle covered by logs, limbs, debris and dirt.

# Mineral County Sheriff seeks information about hidden vehicle

By LYNSIE FERRELL

**MINERAL COUNTY-** In midafternoon Saturday, August 8, Mineral County Sheriff's Department received a call about a hidden and abandoned vehicle near the West Fork Trail on Wolf Creek Pass. After responding to the call, deputies found a vehicle that had been covered by logs, limbs, debris and dirt.

Upon inspection of the vehicle a driver's license of the owner was found and law enforcement officials attempted to contact the owner at an address listed in New Mexico. Deputies were not able to make contact with the individual and are seeking public input for the case.

"We are hoping someone saw something. This had to

have taken some time to do and with the amount of traffic and recreation in the area, someone had to have seen something. We are seeking any information that would help us contact the owner of the vehicle," said Sheriff Fred Hosselkus.

Please report any information to the Mineral County Sheriff's Department at 719-658-2600.

# Creede opens new Level 3 automotive charging station

**CREEDE** - A ribbon cutting ceremony for Creede's new Level 3 automotive charging station is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 14 at 2 p.m. in the Creede/Mineral County Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center parking lot.

Electric Vehicle Drivers may now add Creede to their travel destinations. Earlier this year, the City of Creede received a grant from the Colorado Energy Office (CEO) which helped defray the cost of installing a Level 3 Charging Station for electric vehicles(EV). "CEO is proud of its partnership with the City of Creede through our Charge Ahead Colorado grant program," said Addison Philips, program manager at the Colorado Energy Office. "The City of Creede's new fast-charging station makes it convenient for EV drivers to visit the city knowing they can quickly and easily recharge their vehicle's battery and enjoy all that Mineral County has to offer and the Silver Thread Scenic Byway now has one of the most robust EV charging networks of any byway in Colorado."

Level 3 Charging Stations, commonly known as DC Fast-Charging Stations, convert alternating current power to direct current power. The converted power is delivered directly to the vehicle's battery, resulting in a faster charge. The ChargePoint EV Charging Station is located at the Creede/Mineral County Chamber



of Commerce & Visitors Center. EV Drivers will be able to learn about Creede and view the Town Model while they "fuel up."

Farther up the Silver Thread Scenic Byway, EV drivers will find a DC Fast-Charging Station located at the Ice Wall Park in Lake City. The CEO's Charge Ahead Colorado Grant also helped fund this station, along with a donation from the Gunnison County Electric Co-op.

"What a great opportunity for rural communities to connect and increase visitor-ship to our Silver Thread Scenic Byway," commented Mayor Pro Tem, Teresa Wall.



Photo by Rebecca Copley

Claire Reynolds won Reserve Champion in the Bred and Fed Division and Reserve Champion in Junior Showmanship with her cow "Hello." Photo By Rebecca Copley

## COWS

Continued from Page 1A

Jackson who started showing at the fair when he was eight years-old has participated every year for the last 10 years. This being his last year in 4-H which ended well for him as he took four belt buckles home from all his competitions at this year's fair.

Jackson who is from Alamosa and a part of the Purple Circle 4-H Club has been working with his prize winning cow since October. When asked how it felt to win today Jackson answered saying, "It feels great. I've been with him every day this summer since May and the hard work has definitely payed off."

Claire Reynolds from Sanford is in her first year of 4-H competitions and was another winner from the morning's event. Reynolds took home reserve champion overall in the Bred and Fed division and reserve champion in the Junior Showmanship.

When asked how long it took Reynolds to get her prize winning cow named "Hello," in such good

condition Reynolds answered saying, "He was actually pretty good when we started." Reynolds has been working with the Limousin cow since she got him November.

Brevan Cary from Sanford was another champion from the day. Cary won Grand Champion for the Bred and Fed division and has been a part of the S Mountain Crew 4-H Club for one year. Cary said it felt good to win Grand Champion and bring home his hard earned belt buckle and purple ribbon. Cary's cow that he showed was crossbred between the Lim-Flex and Man Among Boys breeds. "Been washing her, working with her hooves, petting her, feeding her. Just getting used to her," said Cary when asked how he had been preparing for Thursday's show.

Cary also participated in a virtual show this June from Boulder County called "JackPot." Cary won for his class showing the same cow in that show.

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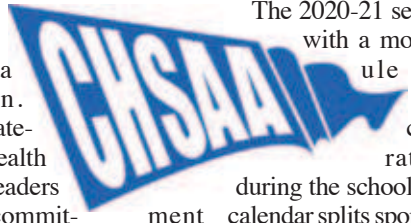
Supplement to The Monte Vista Journal, Center Post-Dispatch, The Conejos County Citizen, The Mineral County Miner, The South Fork Times, and The Del Norte Prospector.

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## CHSAA announces 2020-21 athletics/activities calendar

**COLORADO** - The Colorado High School Activities Association has announced its 2020-2021 interscholastic athletics and activities calendar. Following months of collaboration with Gov. Jared Polis, the CHSAA Resocialization Task Force, the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, the state's COVID-19 Response team, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and the CHSAA Board of Directors and administrative staff. "The health and safety of our student participants, coaches, officials

and essential personnel, including volunteers is a primary concern for the return of interscholastic athletics and activities," said CHSAA Commissioner Rhonda Blanford-Green. "We are very grateful for the state, health and educational leaders for their shared commitment of a return to these highly beneficial education programs when it is deemed safe for all school communities."



Note that the resumption of all

activities and athletics are subject to change based upon any changes to national, state or local guidelines.

The 2020-21 season will be played with a modified sport schedule due to the on-going global pandemic, creating four separate sports seasons during the school year. The modified calendar splits sports into four seasons, concluding in late June: A, B, C and D. Dates and plans for non-athletic activities continue to be formulated.

Due to the restrictive nature of the current state guidelines, and the ability to follow Colorado Department of Education requirements, all contact sports have been moved to a season which will commence later in the calendar and allow for playoffs and culminating events without creating new conflicts.

Each season is approximately seven weeks from start to finish. Sports will have their regular season competition limits reduced. The postseason for each sport will also be shortened, including the number of state qualifiers.

The following 2020 fall sports will begin as originally scheduled: boys golf began practice Aug. 3, softball and boys tennis is set to begin Aug. 10, and cross-country Aug. 12. According to the modified calendar, this is Season A.

The remaining traditional fall sports are unable to be played under current state health guidelines. These sports are field hockey, football, gymnastics, boys soccer, spirit, unified bowling and girls volleyball.

*Please see CHSAA on Page 2*

## Trinidad State plans face-to-face reopening Aug. 17

By GREG BOYCE

After months of planning, Trinidad State has announced a plan to reopen its Trinidad and Alamosa Campuses with face-to-face instruction for the fall semester.

"Face-to-face instruction provides the best learning opportunities for our students," said Trinidad State President Dr. Rhonda M. Epper. "We believe we can balance student and staff health needs with a great learning experience if we are diligent in our efforts. Our plan makes many changes to our normal operations, though if necessary, we will adjust as the health environment dictates."

Both the Trinidad and Valley campuses will be open for face-to-face instruction as scheduled on Aug. 17. In addition, we will continue to offer our students the opportunity to attend classes in hybrid and on-line formats for those who prefer those methods due to the current health climate.

Students, faculty and staff will be asked to self-monitor and report any COVID-19 symptoms. This will be facilitated through a symptom self-report entered via a web form. Athletes will be monitored daily by coaching and athletics staff.

Symptom checklists and instructions on the proper course of action when indicators are present will be available to students and employees. A training video will be posted.

Thermometers will be made available to members of our campus

community to test for the presence of fever and to monitor personal temperatures.

Student seating in classrooms will follow a plan that adheres to six-foot social distancing and seating limited to 50 percent of the room's occupancy limit.

Students will be required to wear face coverings when attending classes and in public spaces, and will be notified that failure to comply with social distancing and/or face covering requirements will result in a conduct violation.

Faculty will wear either a clear face shield or mask when teaching unless there is a distance of 25 feet or greater.

Sharing of equipment and other resources will be limited wherever possible.

Group gatherings outside of class, social or otherwise, will be restricted unless preapproved.

Heightened cleaning and disinfecting of our facilities will be implemented. (Seats, handrails, doors, doorknobs, and door handles in each room sanitized before and after each class. Restrooms will be cleaned and disinfected every two hours.)

Hand sanitizer will be placed at the entry of all buildings.

Sanitization supplies for cleaning will be available in classrooms for students and faculty to use as needed.

Student and staff interaction in **Please see TSJC on Page 9**



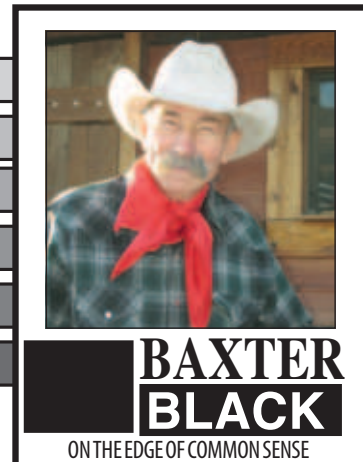
### CHSAA 2020-21 Sports/Activities Calendar

Season	Sport	Practice	First Competition	Championship (Tentative)	Max Contests
Season A	Cross Country	12-Aug	15-Aug	17-Oct	7
	Boys Golf	3-Aug	6-Aug	10/5 & 10/6	198 holes
	Softball	10-Aug	13-Aug	10-Oct	16
Season B	Basketball	4-Jan	7-Jan	6-Mar	16 (4A/5A), 13 (1A-3A)
	Competitive Spirit	4-Jan	7-Jan	TBD	N/A
	Sideline Spirit	4-Jan	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Girls Swimming	4-Jan	7-Jan	TBD	7 + league
	Wrestling	4-Jan	7-Jan	6-Mar	7 duals + 7 days
	Football	22-Feb	4-Mar	8-May	7
	Gymnastics	1-Mar	4-Mar	TBD	8
	Boys Soccer	1-Mar	4-Mar	TBD	10
	Girls Volleyball	1-Mar	4-Mar	1-May	16
Season D	Baseball	26-Apr	29-Apr	26-Jun	16 (2A-5A), 13 (1A)
	Girls Golf	26-Apr	29-Apr	TBD	198 holes
	Girls Soccer	26-Apr	29-Apr	TBD	10
	Boys Swimming	26-Apr	29-Apr	TBD	7 + league
	Track and Field	26-Apr	29-Apr	TBD	8
Activities	Student Leadership	Following a typical schedule			
	Music	Following a typical schedule			
	Speech - Festival		1-Oct	30-Jan	
	Speech - Tournament		1-Nov	20-Mar	

## Handicapped Golfer

I played in a celebrity golf tournament in Oklahoma City a while back. Now, I've been to a few celebrity team ropings, a couple celebrity stock dog trials, a million brandings and one celebrity rock pickin' - but this was my first celebrity golf tournament. Generous people paid a lot of money to play golf with well-known folks. The money was donated to help the blind.

I got in the golf cart with a feller named Phil. He asked me what my handicap was. I couldn't think of anything real bad except an addiction to Miracle Whip; however, I was told at one time that my nose would qualify me for handicapped parking. He asked me how well I played. I said not too well. I'm sure he thought I was bein' modest, because after the first hole he turned to me and said, "You really don't play golf too well, do ya?" You play eighteen holes to a game. I don't know why they invented that number. You would have thought they'd play ten or a dozen



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or an even twenty; but for some reason, they chose eighteen. Probably the first golfer just played 'til his arms were sore and decided that was enough. When you get down to the nitty-gritty, there are two weapons you use in the game;

the driver and the putter. First you line yourself up between two swimming-pool floats and "tee off." This is done with the driver, which is a fly rod with the handle sawed off. Only my gun-bearer and guide know which way to aim. He'd stand up beside me and point off to the horizon. Then tell me to hit the ball off in that general direction. It was always necessary to clear the spectators back 180 degrees from my line of fire. It was impossible to predict which direction my ball would go. By the third hole, we'd traded our golf cart in for an all-terrain vehicle and the rest of our foursome was driving an armored personnel carrier.

Once you make the green it is recommended that one use a putter. The only comparison I can make to putting is that it's like shooting the eight ball on a table the Navy has been landing planes on for three days! I think I could have dropped the ball from a hovering helicopter and had a better chance of hitting

the hole. Finally, they let me putt with a snow shovel. They said it improved my game.

A nice feller lent me his golf bag and a pocket full of balls. I lost six of them. I was ashamed to tell him. I'm sure he thinks I stole 'em. I lost so many balls that we eventually rented a backhoe for the sand traps and hired two scuba divers to join our caravan.

They haven't asked me back. But maybe I'll get invited to a celebrity bowling tournament; at least I won't lose as many balls.

*Baxter Black, former large animal veterinarian and irregular commentator on National Public Radio, is America's best-selling cowboy poet. He is a frequent performer at national stock shows and rodeos as well as in many smaller local events. He is author of several books, including Cactus Tracks, Croutons on a Cow Pie, Hey, Cowboy, Wanna Get Lucky? and Dunny and the Duck. Baxter Black can be contacted via e-mail at: vikki@baxterblack.com*

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# CHSAA Continued from Page 1

The sports played this fall will all be concluded by Oct. 17.

In anticipation of data from the state which shows a likely resurgence of COVID-19 cases in late fall, there will be a participation moratorium from Oct. 18, 2020, to Jan. 3, 2021.

Sports in Season B will begin Jan. 4 and conclude by March 6. These sports include: basketball, ice hockey, skiing, spirit, girls swimming and wrestling.

Season C, which begins March 1 and concludes with championships by May 1, includes the following sports: field hockey, football, gymnastics, boys soccer, unified bowling and girls volleyball.

The 2020-21 calendar will conclude with Season D. Sports include: baseball, girls golf, boys and girls lacrosse, girls soccer, girls tennis, boys swimming, track and field and boys volleyball. This season will begin with practice April 26, and it concludes with the final championship June 26.

Sport modifications for COVID-19 The following is a general overview of modifications which are being made to structure of a sport season in order to ensure the sports can comply with current national, state and local health guidelines.

Note that every sport has requirements to mitigate spread and transmission of COVID-19. These requirements can be found in specific sports bulletins, and <https://chsaanow.com/coronavirus/modifications/>

## Season A Cross Country

Reduce the maximum number of regular season meets from 11 to 7.

No alternate runners. 2A: run 6, score 4; 3A-5A run 7, score 5.

No JV or open races at varsity meets. Schools can host a JV meet or open race separate from varsity.

50 athletes per gender will be allowed at regular season meets. Must start in waves of no more than 25.

Postseason rosters: 2A run 5, score 4; 3A-5A run 6, score 5.

Regionals: 75 athletes per gender will be allowed.

State championship: 100 athletes per gender, per classification will be allowed.

**Boys Golf** - No changes to the structure of the season.

## Softball

16-game regular season

Rosters: 12 players per level

16 team brackets, league champions

automatically qualify, and remaining

qualifiers through CHSAA Seeding

Index (RPI, Coaches Poll, MaxPreps)

Seeded via the CHSAA Seeding

Index (RPI, Coaches Poll, MaxPreps).

## Season B

Basketball

1A, 2A, 3A: 13-game regular

season.

4A, 5A: 16-game season.

Postseason 1A-3A: 24-team brackets.

Postseason 4A, 5A: 32-team brackets.

State Tournament: No consolations

in 2021.

## Spirit

Teams can support their schools

without doing anything participatory

until the regular season begins on

Jan. 4.

Modifications to the seasons will be

announced as the competitive season

approaches.

**Girls Swimming** - Changes TBA.

## Wrestling

Regular season: Seven duals, and

seven days of tournaments.

Max of eight teams in attendance at

regular season tournaments.

Weight certification opens Nov. 1,

must be complete prior to competi-

tion.

Regionals: Two-day format, 16-

man bracket. The first seven weight

classes will compete on the first

day. The next seven weight classes will compete on the second day. Wrestlebacks will only happen from quarterfinals on.

The first and second placers will qualify for the state tournament.

State tournament: Eight-person bracket, full consolation. One-day format.

Team scores at both regionals and state will score placers 1-4.

## Season C

Football

Seven-game season for each classification.

Eight-team postseason all classifications.

CHSAA Seeding Index (MaxPreps, Coaches Poll, RPI, Packard Rankings) will determine all qualifiers in all classifications.

5A, 4A will play regularly scheduled week 4-10 games.

3A will play regularly scheduled week 5-11 games.

2A, 1A, and 8-man will play regularly scheduled week 4-10 games.

6-man will play regularly scheduled week 3-9 games.

## Boys Soccer

10 game maximum regular season (No game minimum)

Non-league games are highly discouraged especially outside of your geographic region; need written approval from CHSAA Assistant Commissioner overseeing Boys Soccer for non-league games

March 1 start of formal practice – March 4 start of competition (NO Scrimmages or Foundation Games)

April 17 end of regular season – May 1 State Final (TBD location and dates subject to change)

16 team playoff bracket 3A-5A / 8 team playoff bracket 2A

State playoff bracket will not be seeded, and matchups will be determined by the Assistant Commissioner overseeing Boys Soccer based on geographic location of leagues (1<sup>st</sup> Rd league matchups are a possibility)

Leagues will receive their already established Auto Qualifiers based on league size and will have sole responsibility for determining the Auto Qualifiers for their league

New Seeding Formula (MaxPreps, Coaches Poll, RPI) will determine the At-Large qualifiers for each classification (Bracket released Sunday, April 18)

Playoff Dates: Subject to change

1<sup>st</sup> Round (5A) – Tuesday, April 20

(higher seed hosts)

1<sup>st</sup> Round (3A/4A) – Wednesday,

April 21 (higher seed hosts)

Quarterfinals (5A) – Friday, April

23 (higher seed hosts)

Quarterfinals (2A/3A/4A) – Satur-

day, April 24 (higher seed hosts)

Semifinals (all classes) – Wednes-

day, April 28 (site TBA)

Finals (all classes) – Saturday, May

1 (site TBA)

2A at 10:00 am, 5A at 12:30 pm, 3A at 3:00 pm, 4A at 5:30 pm

## Girls Volleyball

16 game maximum regular season. Minimum number of matches for postseason is 12, unless a waiver for COVID-19 reasons is obtained from the CHSAA Volleyball Committee.

Modify the season length from 14 weeks (through state) to 10 weeks (through state).

Roster limit for regular season and postseason: 12 players per level

Regionals will be reduced to 24 teams. League champions will still be guaranteed entrance and the remaining teams will be taken from RPI.

Seeding will be done via the seeding method outlined in the committee report.

Only 8 teams to state. No wild card teams.

State will be a single elimination tournament played over two days.

## Season D

Baseball

CHSAA pitch count rules apply throughout season.

1A: 13-game regular season. Must play minimum of 9 games to qualify for districts, unless a waiver for COVID-19 reasons is obtained from the CHSAA office.

1A: 16 teams qualify for regional/state bracket.

2A, 3A, 4A, 5A: 16-game season. Must play 13 games to qualify for state bracket, unless a waiver for COVID-19 reasons is obtained from the CHSAA office.

2A: 16 teams qualify to regional/state bracket.

3A, 4A, 5A: 24 teams qualify to regionals. Higher seeded team hosts three-team regional. Higher seed receives bye.

3A, 4A, 5A: Eight-team, double-elimination state tournament/

State bracket seeding per Legislative Council Report.

## Girls Golf

No changes to the structure of the season.

**Track & Field** - Changes are to be determined as the season approaches.

## Girls soccer

Ten (10) game maximum regular season (No game minimum)

Non-league games are highly discouraged especially outside of your geographic region; need written approval from CHSAA Assistant Commissioner overseeing Girls Soccer for non-league games

April 26 start of formal practice – April 29 start of competition (NO Scrimmages or Foundation Games)

June 12 end of regular season – June

26 State Final (TBD location and date subject to change)

16 team playoff bracket 3A-5A / 8 team playoff bracket 2A

State playoff bracket will not be

seeded, and matchups will be determined by the Assistant Commissioner overseeing Girls Soccer based on geographic location of leagues (1<sup>st</sup> Rd league matchups are a possibility)

Leagues will receive their already established Auto Qualifiers based on league size and will have sole responsibility for determining the Auto Qualifiers for their league

New Seeding Formula (MaxPreps, Coaches Poll, RPI) will determine the At-Large qualifiers for each classification (Bracket released Sunday, June 13)

Playoff Dates: Subject to change

1<sup>st</sup> Round (5A) – Tuesday, June 15 (higher seed hosts)

1<sup>st</sup> Round (3A/4A) – Wednesday, June 16 (higher seed hosts)

Quarterfinals (5A) – Friday, June 18 (higher seed hosts)

Quarterfinals (2A/3A/4A) – Saturday, June 19 (higher seed hosts)

Semifinals (all classes) – Wednesday, June 23 (site TBA)

Finals (all classes) – Saturday, June 26 (site TBA)

2A at 10:00 am, 5A at 12:30 pm, 3A at 3:00 pm, 4A at 5:30 pm

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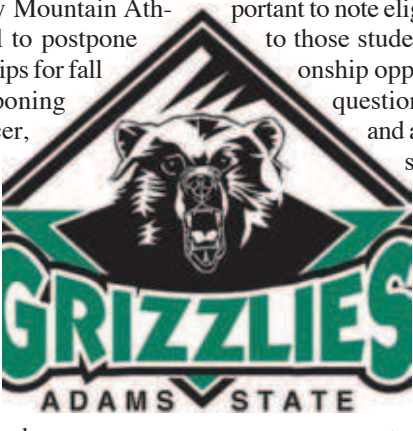


# Adams State Athletics supports decision by Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Presidents' Council

ALAMOSA – Adams State Athletics supports the difficult decision made by the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Presidents' Council to postpone conference schedules and championships for fall sports. This decision includes postponing Football, Volleyball, Women's Soccer, and Men's Soccer until the spring semester. Men's and Women's cross-country will be allowed to compete as originally scheduled.

The Adams State Athletic Staff has worked diligently to provide an environment focused on health and safety for our student-athletes, staff, the campus and surrounding community. As we move forward, continued focus will be placed on providing the best experience for our Grizzly student-athletes.

We also want to emphasize practice and continued workout opportunities will be available, as per NCAA



rules, for those sports affected by this decision. It is important to note eligibility-related flexibility will be given to those student-athletes affected to allow championship opportunities in the future. Students with questions regarding eligibility, scholarships, and academics should contact their specific sport coach.

"The decision was not easily made," said Adams State President Cheryl D. Lovell, who is a member of the RMAC Presidents' Council. "We all want the best for our student-athletes and encourage their academic and sport endeavors. Our institutional support to postpone the noted fall sports reflects our commitment to the health and safety of all students, staff and faculty at Adams State. We are a proud Grizzly Nation and we look forward to resuming fall sports competitions in the spring."

# How to manage low bandwidth during remote learning sessions

In the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak, many schools hastily transitioned from traditional in-person learning to remote learning. This transition posed new and unique challenges to educators as well as students and their parents.

One of the biggest challenges posed by remote learning was keeping students connected to their teachers and their classmates, not all of whom had readily available access to devices that could facilitate such connections. In recognition of that challenge, school systems worked to procure devices for students only to be confronted by another challenge: low bandwidth. According to Microsoft, bandwidth refers to the amount of data that can be transferred over an internet connection per second. Low bandwidth can compromise students' ability to stay connected to their virtual classrooms. In an effort to help students overcome that challenge, Microsoft offers the following tips on how educators, students and parents can manage low bandwidth during remote learning sessions.

- Reduce reliance on video during class sessions. Turning video cameras off during live class sessions can help to overcome the challenges posed by low bandwidth, as live video is a key contributor to excessive use of bandwidth. If video must be used, encourage students to turn off their cameras when they are not speaking.
- Use pre-recorded content. Pre-recording content enables students to stream video over the internet, saving those with low bandwidth the hassle of downloading large video files to their



computers. Microsoft recommends educators who pre-record content for their students to stream to instruct those students to use class time to complete assignments. Educators can make themselves available via chat to answer questions students may have about their assignments.

- Avoid video-based assignments. It can be difficult for students with low bandwidth to send very large files, such as videos. Educators can help students avoid that issue by not requiring them to submit videos as part of their assignments.
- Encourage students to sync files to their devices. Each device is different and each manufacturer has its own instructions on how to sync files to devices. But Microsoft notes that syncing files to a device allows students to read them offline, which is ideal for students with limited internet connectivity.

Low bandwidth poses a challenge for remote learners. Thankfully, there are

ways to overcome low bandwidth so students can keep learning. BS208049

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**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 montevisitaclass@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](mailto:MonteVistaClass@gmail.com)

## Easy Payment Options

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



### 05 Notices

**Saguache County Government is accepting bids to install an air conditioning at the Saguache County Courthouse and Administration Building.** Bids submitted must include proof of liability and workers compensation insurance coverage. For further information contact Santiago Garcia at 719-221-3172. Bids are due by 3:00 PM Thursday August 20, 2020. (8/19)

**Saguache County Sheriff's Department: Thanks for checking on LaRoy.** LaRoy, ya scared the snot outta me. You think going down that mountain side on a horse was wild? Hee hee, I took the brakes off your wheelchair. PR brand on the side of the trailer, a lady pumping gas in Del Norte. A horse named Pain? Hope ya'll had a good day! SLV Puppy Chow (9/2)

**WE BUY ANTLERS: 5 miles west of Del Norte on HWY 160.** 719-657-0942 (8/19)TFN

**Unit 76 Archery Deer Landowner Voucher.** Wil pay top dollar. 970-641-4934. (8/19)

**Monte Vista Head Start**-Due to COVID-19 we are also offering Remote Learning for those who are not able to participate in our in-person learning sessions. For More Information Call (719)852-3215 Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### 07 Help Wanted

**Calling all educators! We at Alpine Achievers Initiative, a non-profit organization that serves the youth of the SLV are looking for facilitators to run programs for our Valley to Valley Homeschool Program.** This could mean teaching in person or online foreign languages, gardening, project-based learning, STEM, outdoor educa-

tion, dance or more! The position length is 1-2 times a week for a 4-8 week series between September - May 2020 with a maximum of 10 hours per week. \$20/hour and up to \$100 material cost. This is a contracted position with no benefits. To apply, email Holly at coordinator@alpineachievers.org with your ideas. (8/26)

**Joyful Journey Hot Springs Spa is seeking to hire independent contractor massage therapists.** Colorado license and insurance required. Talented and caring. Evening, morning and weekend shifts. Email massage@jjhotsprings.com. (8/12)

**HELP WANTED BUILDING CUSTODIAN - Experienced individual needed for janitorial services with responsibility for cleaning various county buildings.** Full-time position with variable hours which include evening and/or early morning work times. Applications available at Saguache County Administration office. Call 719-655-2231 for more information. Applications close on Thursday August 20, 2020 at 4:00 PM Saguache County is an EEO employer. Drug testing and background check are required for final applicants. (8/19)

**Potato Harvest Help Needed to Sort San Luis Valley Research Center.** Center, CO Call Zach, Farm Manager (719) 225-9648. (8/26)

**HELP WANTED: Deputy Director - Department of Human Services Saguache County is seeking a Deputy Director of the Saguache County Department of Human Services.** Deputy Director will assist the Director in the daily operations of staff and programs of the Department of

**Human Services.** Knowledge of Social Services work a degree in related services or 3 years of experience in management of similar type work. Bookkeeping experience is a plus but not required. Applications available at www.saguachecounty.net or in the Saguache County Administration Office. Please call Wendi Maez at 719-655-2231 for more information. Applications close on Friday, August 21, 2020 at 3:00 P. M. Saguache County is an EEO employer. Drug testing and background check will be required for final applicants. (8/19)

**Reliable, dependable, and loving caregiver needed part time (Tuesday, Thursday) for disabled daughter in Antonito area.** Transfers and background check are required. Serious inquires only. Contact 719-588-9430 (8/26)

**HOUSEKEEPERS WANT-**

**ED! Apply in person at TWIN RIVERS CABINS AND RV PARK,** west of Antonito. 719-376-5710 (8/20)

**Optometric Assistant: The Optometric Assistant works closely with the doctor to assist in providing their highest level of vision care to the patients.** The Optometric Assistant will be responsible for taking patient histories, performing routine pre-testing, contact lens instruction, while offering friendly, courteous, and confidential assistance to all patients. **Job Qualifications:** Requirements include completion of high school, or its equivalent. Manual dexterity, a neat appearance and tactfulness in dealing with patients are necessary for success with employment. Attention to detail is necessary with proficiency in spelling and great skills in communication, multitasking

and 1-year clinical experience preferred. Bilingual speaker is a plus. Computer skills required. Full-Time position, Monday thru Friday. Approximately 37-40 hours \$12.00/Hour No insurance benefits. **Job Close Date:** July 31, 2020 Resume will need to accompany Application which may be obtained at: ggarcia@mveyecare.org ATTN:GINA GARCIA *No phone calls.* (8/19)

**Medical Office Receptionist: The medical office receptionist provides assistance to patients, doctors, office employees, and other individuals.** This employee helps the clinic run smoothly by scheduling appointments, greeting and checking in patients, answering phones, maintaining accounts and records, and other tasks as needed. From the moment the patient walks through our door or calls, they should feel like part of the fam-

## 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:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**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 303-571-5117.

**WANTED**

**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@cemresourcesinc.com

**COLORADO PRESS ASSOCIATION 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 Association Network 303-571-5117



# Valley Wide Classifieds

ily. Whether in person or over the phone, you are typically the first face or voice our patients will see or hear. Your role in this process cannot be overstated! **Job Qualifications:** Requirements include completion of high school, or its equivalent. A neat appearance and tactfulness in dealing with patients are necessary for success with employment. Attention to detail is necessary with proficiency in spelling and great skills in communication, multitasking and 1-year office experience preferred. Demonstrated ability to interact with healthcare professionals, patients, and insurance companies alike, excellent customer service skills. Pleasant phone demeanor; bilingual speaker preferred. Computer skills required. Full-Time position, Monday thru Friday. Approximately 37-40 hours \$12.00/Hour No insurance benefits **Job Close Date:** July 31, 2020 Resume will need to accompany Application which may be obtained at: ggarcia@mveycare.org ATTN: GINA GARCIA No phone calls. (8/19)

**The Del Norte Jr/Sr High School is accepting applications for a full-time Art Teacher.** The position would include junior high Art classes and high school Studio Art classes. To apply please visit dncsd.org to download the application and submit a completed application to Aaron Horrocks at ahorrocks@urtigers.co or call (719) 657 - 4040 ext 1001 for more information. (8/5)

**Del Norte Elementary School is seeking an energetic, caring candidate to serve as a PARA-EDUCATOR.** Applicants must have a high school diploma. Please submit your application to Amy Duda, DNES Principal at 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO 81132; aduda@urtigers.co; or call 719-657-4030. The position will be open until filled. Please pick up an application at the District Office or on-line at dncsd.org. (8/12)

**The Del Norte Jr/Sr High School is accepting applications for a full-time Physical Education Teacher.** The position would include Junior High PE classes and High School Strength and Conditioning class. To apply please visit dncsd.org to download the application and submit completed applications to Aaron Horrocks at ahorrocks@urtigers.co or call (719) 657 - 4040 ext 1001 for more information. (8/12)

**WANTED: Saguache County Landfill is Hiring for an additional Full Time Attendant. REQUIREMENTS:** Applicants must fill out and submit an application, must be an experienced front-end loader operator and possess a valid driver's license. Applicants should have a high school diploma

**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.

**or GED and six months or more of relevant experience.** Final candidates applying with Saguache County will be required to submit and pass a pre-employment drug screen and criminal background check. Pay D.O.E. Landfill Attendant is a full time 40 hour per week position – starting at 8:00 A.M. each day Tuesday through Saturday (subject to change). Those applying must be an experienced front-end loader operator, have the ability to do strenuous outdoor physical labor in extreme weather conditions and be able to lift and/or move 20 lbs. to 75 lbs. Applications are available at the Saguache County Road and Bridge/Landfill Office 305 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 – 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website – www.saguachecounty.net under the Landfill Department tab. Completed applications can be hand delivered or mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge/Landfill Office – at the address listed above, sent by email to mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov or faxed to: 719-655-2543. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (8/6)

**Community Outreach Organizer job opening in Antonito.** Please visit [https://antonitotogether.org/?page\\_id=344](https://antonitotogether.org/?page_id=344) for more information. Deadline extended. (8/19)

**10 Apartments for Rent**  
**Del Norte 3-bedroom, 1-bath country living Duplex. NO PETS. \$675.00 Per month, \$675.00 Deposit.** Call 719-580-5400 (8/12)

**Log Cabin in South Fork 2-Bedroom, Office, W/D Wood Stove and Garage. NO PETS. \$700.00 Per Month, \$700.00 Deposit.** Call 719-580-5400 (8/12)

**14 Business Properties For Rent**  
**PRIVATE OFFICE IN THE BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL BLDG. 803 FIRST MONTE VIS-**

TA. UTILITIES INCLUDED. (719) 588-0906 (09/09)

**17 Real Estate For Sale**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE - SALE OF LAND** The Town of South Fork is requesting sealed bids for the purchase of a parcel of land that was donated to the Town. Proceeds will be used for a public park project. The parcel is a residential lot located on the 13<sup>th</sup> fairway of the Rio Grande Club and Resort in South Fork, CO. The sale will be awarded to the highest bid over \$18,000. Bids will be opened at be at a public meeting on September 8, 2020 at 2:00 pm. Please go to the following website for pictures, details, and instructions: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/southforkcolorado/town-south-fork-land-sale> (9/9)

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

**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 1/2 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. (TFN)

**240 deeded acres in irrigated grass**

**west of Monte Vista with 6 shares Lariat ditch.** Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-873-1700. (TFN)

**5 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 4-car Garage on 5 Acres.** 2.5 miles west of Wal-Mart of Hwy 160. \$186,500. (720)217-7886 (09/02)

**19 Farm & Farmland**  
Fresh Tomatoes 1942 East County Road 11 South Monte Vista Co. While Supplies last 719-849-5252. (9/2)

**21 Mobile Homes**  
**Wanting to move/sell nice 3200 Sq. ft. Triple wide trailer, 4 bedrooms 3 bath for sale \$165,000 or best offer.** Will need to remove from property. Call Aaron at 719-850-3168.

**23 Lawn and Garden**  
**Sprinkler repair. Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings.** 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (07/30 TFN)

**24 Garage Sales**  
**JMOM Community Garden Garage Sale! 7:30am - 1:00pm, Aug 15&16 (Sat & Sun) Proceeds go to the**

**Non-Profit Garden!** 1703 Huxley Avenue at Stallo (08/12)

**26 Antiques**  
Arrow Head Collection included Paleo, Archaic and Historic Folsoms & Clovis. Call 719-628-2672. (8/12)

**36 Miscellaneous**  
**WANTED: SMALL RENTAL HOUSING LONG TERM. ALSO PART TIME JOB. COLLEGE EDUCATED SENIOR MALE.** 830-499-0101 (8-26)

**Items for SALE: Brand new propane smoker \$125.00. 125 Gallon Round Bottle of Propaner \$125.00. Used Cinder Blocks \$1.75 each.** Call 719- 850-2027. (8/26)

**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 (9/2)

**TRUCKLOAD SALE! 240-WATT Solar Panels. 25% OFF. NEW!** Bontrager's Variety Store, 9726 S. County Road 3E, Monte Vista. 719-852-0500.

**STEEL STORAGE CONTAIN-**

**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](http://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 tot he 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](http://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](http://slvbhg.org)

## Business Showcase

*Just arrived! Cardinal dishes, cookie jars, spoon rests, mugs, birds and trays. Shop early before they fly away!*

**Please wear a mask.**

**The Holy Moses** 658-2848  
**OPEN** 121 N. Main  
Daily 9:30 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 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Nick & Vicki Kulyk  
121 N. Main • 658-2848 • Creede



# Valley Wide Classifieds

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

**SOLAR PANELS! 240 WATT AND SMALLER.** We Stock Inverters, Charge Controllers and Batteries in Brand Names of Outback, Magnum, Rolls, More. We Also Carry Cable and PV Wire. Thank you for Buying at Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500. (TFN) (08/12)

**42 Feed & Seed**  
**Flaked Corn Now In Stock** Open House Sept 11-12 Vitalix Tubs, Mc-

ness Mineral Flaked Corn & Cattle Cake to be on Sale. Free Lunch From 11AM to 1PM. Refreshments all day, sponsored by Mcness & Vitalix. Store hours 8AM to 5PM. Come Join Us At High Valley Feed Mill 10475 US Hwy 285 Antonito, Co 81120 (570)395-0184 PHONE ORDERES ARE EXCEPTED.(9-9)

**44 Farm Services**  
**POTATO STORAGE rent or buy** 26,000 cwt capacity in Center. Good. \$49,900 or \$16,900 rent OBO. (719)588-2425 (10/21)

**50 Livestock**  
**HERITAGE BREED TURKEY POULTS** - Bourbon Reds from free range parents. \$20 for 1 - \$15 each

additional, 7 for \$100. Going fast. Ready to butcher at 28 weeks (toms average 30 lbs, hens 15 lbs.) Straight run only. 719-850-2832 (8/26)

**52 Camping Equipment**  
**For Sale: Cabellas 12x12 Tent, Wood stove, camp oven and cook stove** Del Norte Co 763-350-7202. (8/12)

**55 RVs & Campers**  
**1998 Ford V-10 Jamboree VT 31ft Slide Out. Everything Works Good Condition.** CLASS-C \$20,000 719-850-2291. (9-2)

**58 Motorcycles**  
**2003 HD Ultra Classic Electra Glide 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition**

35 KMI \$12,000 OBO 719-206-0292. (8/12)

**2005 HD Sportster 1200 Custom Bars, Led Signals Side Pipes, Bags, Custom Seat 10KMI Very Clean \$6,500 OBO.** 719-206-0292 (8/12)

**59 Vehicles Wanted**  
**CASH ON THE SPOT FOR JUNK CARS & TRUCKS:** We pickup, no title ok. 719-937-7935. (TFN5-20)

**65 Professional Services**  
**Tai Chi for Health Learn the Health** benefits from a Licensed Acupuncturist 360-821-9006. (9-2)  
**Roofs (Metal, EPDM, TPO),**

**Stucco, Flooring, Tile, Decks, New Construction & Remodels.** Free Estimates. Reliable Carpentry, 45 years of Experience 719-496-7630 Drug and Alcohol Free (7/30)

**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. (08/26)TFN)

**THE BLIND GUY** window coverings. Free measuring, free estimates. Professional installation. Guaranteed lowest prices. Call Tony, 970-903-1403. (08/01/2020 TFN)



The link between vision and learning is clear. Ensure vision problems do not impair your child's ability to learn by arranging a comprehensive, professional eye exam.

## August is Children's Vision and Learning Month.

Did you know that one in every four children struggles with reading and learning due to an undiagnosed vision problem? Early detection and treatment of vision problems is key to your child's success in the classroom, but many vision problems go undetected during routine school vision screenings. If your child exhibits any of these common signs of a vision problem, it's important to arrange a comprehensive eye exam with an optometrist.

- Fatigue or fidgeting in the classroom and while doing homework.
- Frustration with reading, writing and schoolwork.
- Squinting or frequent headaches.
- Itchy, watery or uncomfortable eyes.

- Trouble seeing the blackboard.
- Difficulty reading or writing in a straight line.
- Tilting head or closing one eye while reading.
- Sitting too close to the television.
- Holding books too close while reading.

# Choosing the appropriate eye doctor

Eye health should be a priority for people of all ages. However, it's easy to forget about eye health until something goes awry.

Many eye care professionals recommend comprehensive eye exams every one to two years, depending on age, risk factors and whether a person is currently wearing eyeglasses or contact lenses. If a person has been diagnosed with a particular eye condition, diabetes or is recovering from an eye surgery, a doctor may recommend more frequent exams.

Choosing an eye care professional to care for one's eyes means understanding the different types of vision experts available. Pre-

vent Blindness America, a leading eye health and wellness organization, offers the following information to help consumers distinguish between eye care professionals.

- **Ophthalmologist:** An ophthalmologist is a physician who is qualified by medical education, training and experience to diagnose, treat and manage all eye and visual symptom problems. An ophthalmologist is a doctor of osteopathic medicine (DO) who generally completes four years of college, four years of medical school, one year of internship, and a minimum of three years of hospital-based residency in ophthalmology. He or she can perform

routine vision services as well as manage medical conditions and perform surgery on the eyes. A pediatric ophthalmologist is a doctor who specializes in pediatric cases. Ophthalmologists may have certain specialties to treat particular conditions, such as diseases of the retina or glaucoma.

- **Optometrist:** An optometrist is a health care professional trained and licensed to provide primary eye care services, such as comprehensive eye examinations and eye health assessments. He or she may be able to perform certain surgical procedures and can guide patients through low vision rehabilitation, contact lenses, and other vision



therapies.

- **Optician:** Unlike optometrists and ophthalmologists, opticians are not eye doctors. Rather, opticians are technical practitioners who design, fit and dispense corrective lenses. Opticians use prescriptions from eye doctors to fit and sell eyeglasses and other eye-wear. Opticians are an important

part of an eye care team. In some areas, opticians must be licensed and complete an optional training program.

Individuals with eye problems should seek care from skilled and highly trained eye doctors, offers All About Vision. Some eye doctors collaborate as a team to treat patients.

## The effects of UV rays on the eyes

The sun can be both friend and foe. A warm, sunny day can improve mood and increase levels of vitamin D in the body. Exposure to sunlight during the day also can help regulate the body's natural sleep-wake cycle, known as the circadian rhythm. However, over-exposure to the sun can be dangerous as well.

Many people recognize that exposure to the sun can lead to sunburn and long-standing skin damage, but they may not realize that the eyes also are susceptible to damage caused by the sun.

Exposure to excessive amounts of UV radiation over a short period of time can cause photokeratitis, which is essentially a sunburn of the eye that can cause pain and redness. Prolonged

exposure to UV rays without adequate protection may cause lasting damage, says the American Optometric Association.

- **Macular degeneration:** UV rays may lead to macular degeneration, which is a leading cause of vision loss for older people. The macula is the center portion of the retina, essential for vision.
- **Pterygium:** This is a growth that begins on the white of the eye and may involve the cornea. The growth can eventually impede vision, says the organization Prevent Blindness America. Sunglasses and other protective lenses are essential to keeping the eyes healthy. AOA says that for sunglasses to be effective, they should:
  - block out 99 to 100 percent of both



UV-A and UV-B radiation;

- screen out 75 to 90 percent of visible light;
- have lenses that are perfectly matched in color and free of distortion and imperfection; and
- have lenses that are gray for proper color recognition.

In addition, people can wear wide-brimmed hats to protect their eyes from the sun and harmful UV rays.

Learn more about protecting the eyes at



**David N. Hinkley, O.D.**  
**SLV VISION CARE**  
**852-3442**  
 37 Washington St. • Monte Vista

**Complete Family Vision Care**

**It's eye time**  
 Accepting Most Insurance Plans





# Delivering a complete and accurate 2020 Census count

By U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

We are announcing updates to our plan that will include enumerator awards and the hiring of more employees to accelerate the completion of data collection and apportionment counts by our statutory deadline of December 31, 2020, as required by law and directed by the Secretary of Commerce. The Census Bureau's new plan reflects our continued commitment to conduct a complete count, provide accurate apportionment data, and protect the health and safety of the public and our workforce.

Complete Count: A robust field data collection operation will ensure we re-

ceive responses from households that have not yet self-responded to the 2020 Census.

- We will end field data collection by September 30, 2020. Self-response options will also close on that date to permit the commencement of data processing. Under this plan, the Census Bureau intends to meet a similar level of household responses as collected in prior censuses, including outreach to hard-to-count communities.

- We will improve the speed of our count without sacrificing completeness. As part of our revised plan, we will conduct additional training sessions and provide awards to enumerators in recognition of those who maximize hours worked. We

will also keep phone and tablet computer devices for enumeration in use for the maximum time possible.

We are committed to a complete and accurate 2020 Census. To date, 93 million households, nearly 63 percent of all households in the Nation, have responded to the 2020 Census. Building on our successful and innovative internet response option, the dedicated women and men of the Census Bureau, including our temporary workforce deploying in communities across the country in upcoming weeks, will work diligently to achieve an accurate count.

The 2020 Census belongs to us all. If you know someone who has not yet responded, please encourage them to do so today online at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov), over the phone, or by mail.



# SMILE,

It's Back-to-School Time!

## Make Sure They're All Smiles for the New School Year!

### Make the dentist a fun experience for kids

Visits to the dentist for periodic cleanings and checkups are an important component of oral hygiene. Dentists also may be the first people to identify potential issues that can affect health elsewhere in the body.

Many people are unaware that children should visit the dentist early in their lives. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends that a child should visit the dentist by age one or within six months of the eruption of his or her first tooth. However, many parents wait until much later — age two or three — to take kids to the dentist, offers Delta Dental Plans. Hesitance to visit the dentist may stem from personal fears or perceived reactions by children.

Primary teeth may eventually fall out, but they shouldn't be ignored. They save space for permanent teeth and serve other functions. Therefore, parents should begin to acclimate children to the dentist at a young age to make the experience fun and even enjoyable.

#### Lead by example

Children who witness their parents putting off going to the dentist or being apprehensive about visiting the dentist may develop their own fears. Always paint the dentist in a positive light and keep appointments.

#### Focus on the good aspects

Talk up all the benefits of go-



ing to the dentist, such as having a squeaky clean and fresh mouth. Many hygienists will hand out small toys after a successful visit, or at the least a great new toothbrush and other fun products to try.


#### Get a tour of the office

Ask the staff if your child can get a special tour of the office with explanations of all the tools and equipment. Understanding what to expect the next time around in a no-pressure situation can make the process much easier for everyone involved. The dentist may be able to also give a test ride on the exam chair, moving it up and down, as well as showing off the water fountain and oral irrigator.


#### Avoid giving false hope

Do not tell a child that "everything will be OK" at the dentist's office. If a child needs treatment that may be uncomfortable, he or she may not trust you the next time a dental visit is scheduled, according to Joel H. Berg, D.D.S., M.S., Director of the Department of Dentistry at Seattle Children's Hospital. Avoid words like "shots," "pain," "hurt," or even "cavities." Dentists, particularly pediatric dentists, may have their own vocabulary that can assuage fears and seem less alarming to kids.


Over time, dental visits can become an easy routine with children, setting them up for a lifetime of healthy mouths and teeth. TF202703



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# Pandemic Pet-Care precautions

Although only a small number of companion animals have tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, pet owners may experience anxiety about the best way to care for their pet amid a pandemic when stories about confirmed cases in pets begin appearing closer to home, such as those recently reported by the United States Department of Agriculture in Texas, California, South Carolina, and Georgia.

Dr. Deb Zoran, a professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, says that pet owners can maintain a high standard of care for their pets but should be sure to do so while following the appropriate Centers for Disease Control & Prevention guidelines.

Owners concerned about taking their canine companions on walks or to the dog park should not avoid these activities, provided pet parents practice proper social distancing and follow mask guidelines for themselves.

“To date, there is no evidence that dog-to-dog or dog-to-person transmission of the virus is a likely mechanism for SARS-CoV-2 spread, especially in the outdoor environment, where aerosolization of respiratory droplets (the primary means of coronavirus transmission) must occur repeatedly and in a place where the aerosol is not dispersed by moving air or by the dogs moving around,”

Zoran said.

Zoran says that the key is for humans to exercise the proper precautions during these activities, as the few pets that have been infected likely have been infected by their owners.

“Dogs playing together at a dog park are much more likely to share or get infected with more common canine respiratory infections, such as Bordetella or kennel cough and canine flu,” she said.

Also key is that if an individual within your household develops COVID-19, they should be separated from other humans as well as from pets to prevent infecting them. Pets in close contact with infected individuals have been known to test positive for SARS-CoV-2.

“To date, no specific signs of SARS-CoV-2 infection have been described in clinical studies of dogs or cats with COVID-19, since it is uncommon,” Zoran said. “But, if a pet living in a household with a COVID-positive person develops a fever, respiratory signs (sneezing, coughing, runny eyes, nasal discharge) or gastrointestinal upset (vomiting or diarrhea), then the pet should be considered to be possibly infected with the virus, too. In this case, the pet should be taken to their veterinarian, preferably by a well person or pet sitter living outside of the household.”

Owners also should prepare for the well-being of their dog in the event that they themselves are infected. Zoran recommends finding a trusted individual to care for your furry friend while you isolate to protect your pet from infection.

“If a person with COVID-19 requires hospital care and has a pet living with them, and there is no one else living in the house to take care of the pet, the pet will have to live in a temporary shelter or veterinary hospital and be quarantined for 14 days,” Zoran said. “Thus, it is highly advisable that you make plans ahead of time for care of your animals in the event that you or members of your family get sick.”

Although caution is paramount in such uncertain times, owners who remain informed and follow appropriate guidelines should feel confident in their ability to continue providing a healthy, full life for their dog.

“At this time, even with newer cases, the role of pets in the transmission of COVID-19 appears to be a very low likelihood,” Zoran said. “The key is to think about your pet’s care and do your best to avoid contact



with your pets if you become ill to reduce the likelihood that they will get infected.”

Pet owners wishing to stay informed on how to keep their ani-

mal and human family safe should consult reputable sources, such as the American Veterinary Medical Association’s COVID-19 resources or the CDC’s current guidelines.



## Salmonella outbreak in California red onions

**COLORADO** - The Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CD-PHE) are monitoring a report by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of an outbreak of *Salmonella* Newport in red onions that have been traced to a single provider in Bakersfield, California as the likely source. The outbreak has resulted in a number

of consumers falling ill nationwide, including in Colorado.

The source of the outbreak is limited to the facility in California and is not related to onions grown in Colorado. Consumers and retailers should feel safe selecting and eating onions grown in Colorado. Information regarding the *Salmonella* Newport outbreak and the recall, as well as instructions for consumers, can be found in this FDA Announcement and the CDC alert.

## Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



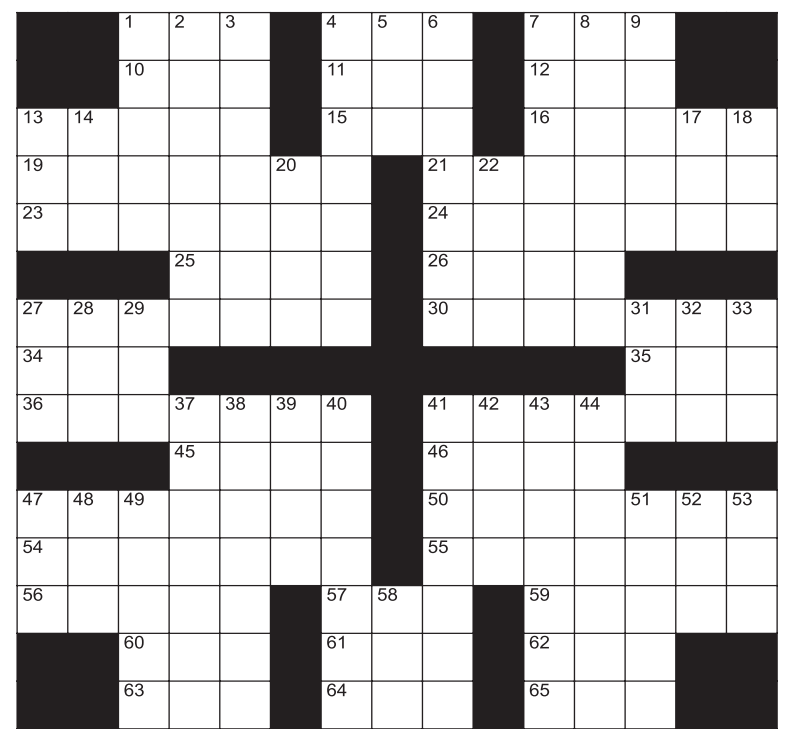
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### ACROSS

1. It’s now called Experian
4. You can draw it
7. Very fast aircraft
10. Go quickly
11. Fifth note of a major scale
12. Biochemical abbreviation
13. Make somebody laugh
15. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
16. City in NE Morocco
19. Colorless gas
21. NE football player
23. A snake is one
24. Small spot
25. Inform
26. Republic of Ireland
27. Large statues
30. Documents about an individual
34. Helps little firms
35. Namibia’s former name
36. Large insects
41. Thirsty
45. A well-defined track or path
46. One who utilizes
47. Plant-eating mammals
50. Not in tip-top shape
54. Alternate names
55. A part of a broadcast serial
56. City in central Italy
57. LOTR actor McKellen
59. Trees provide it

### Solution to last week’s puzzle

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



60. Men’s fashion accessory
61. Type of screen
62. Snakelike fish
63. Possesses
64. When you aim to get there
65. Tooth caregiver

27. Reciprocal of a sine
28. Skywalker mentor \_\_\_-Wan
29. Resinous secretion of insects
31. Similar
32. Female sheep
33. Cool!

### DOWN

1. Hit heavily
2. Italian rice dish
3. Some are cocktail
4. A citizen of Israel
5. Read-only memory
6. Passed by
7. Northern diving ducks
8. References
9. Iranian language
13. Swiss river
14. Woman (French)
17. Gov’t department (abbr.)
18. Consumed
20. Ailments
22. Balkan Jewish appetizer

37. Borders the Adriatic Sea
38. Flowers
39. It’s sometimes upped
40. Immobile
41. Female body parts
42. Common request
43. Made a second thrust
44. Fell into deep sleep
47. Subway resident
48. Brew
49. The event of being born
51. Aspirations
52. Doctor of Education
53. Punk musician \_\_\_ Dee Ramone
58. A subdivision of a play

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# International journalist warns about bizarre Crestone cult

## Possible Reisinger disappearance connection

**CRESTONE** — A prominent world journalist has written an article exposing a “bizarre” cult headquartered in Crestone’s Casita Park subdivision that some parents and family members believe has subjected their loved ones to mind control and physical harm.

It is believed that the cult may have some connection to the 2016 disappearance of Kristal Reisinger. According to the article’s author, Be Scofield, some cult members share the same meth and drug circles frequented by Reisinger.

A group of mothers has banded together in support of their children impacted by the group, known as Love Has Won. The article alleges cult leaders have conned members out of their trust funds, cars, disability and Social Security checks, and also large sums of money. Tommie Hilfiger’s ex-wife

Susie reportedly followed the group and almost gave them a blank check to support their mission.

The family of one member says he was brainwashed and left to die in the desert of Colorado. Ex-members say the leader, Amy Carlson, has sex with her followers, drinks heavily, uses drugs, only allows them to sleep three to four hours per night, verbally abuses members and rations their food.

A summary of the group’s activities prefacing the internet article explains that members believe the cult leaders are Mother God and Father God and have spent 19 billion years trying to save the planet. A final “ascension” is imminent.

Members are punished by being sent to live in “Desolation Row,” a barren spot in the woods where they are forced to fend for themselves.

The leader claims that Donald Trump is her father. Deceased actor Robin Williams is listed as a “team member.” They believe he is Archangel Zadkiel. Group members claim to be in regular contact with Williams’



ghost and believe he is supporting their mission.

Scofield’s exhaustive review of Love Has Won can be found at <https://gurumag.com/crestone-cult-love-has-won-leaves-man-to-die-in-desert/> (Be Scofield is one of the most prominent journalists in the world exposing cults and abusive gurus, according to her website. Her articles have over 1.5 million views in the last two years. Stories based on her work have appeared in The Guardian, The Daily Mail, VICE, Playboy, on CNN, CBC, New Zealand Herald, Die Zeit and more.)

## TSJC

Continued from Page 1

common spaces (e.g., hallways) will be limited as much as possible.

Ventilation of classroom and office spaces will follow OSHA guidance.

Signs will be placed at the entry point of all buildings to remind students and employees of the mask, self-symptom check and social distancing requirements, as well as a reminder not to enter the building if exhibiting any symptoms of illness.

All face-to-face and hybrid classes will move to online instruction following Thanksgiving Break. Students will attend classes following a regular schedule through Wednesday, Nov. 25 with the remainder of the semester being delivered virtually for most classes. Certain Career and Technical (hands-on) classes may require students to return to campus after the break, but every effort will be made to minimize this necessity.

Residence halls will be single occupant only this fall. All residence hall students will adhere to a pre-arrival quarantine and be tested for COVID-19 before check-in.

Trinidad State is following just-released guidelines from the National Junior College Athletic Association. The NJCAA has decided to postpone fall sports contests that put athletes in close proximity to one another. At Trinidad State these sports include soccer, volleyball and basketball. Cross Country will compete, though with various health protocols in place. The teams that cannot compete will spend the semester in practice and scrimmage sessions. Teams will be considered a “family unit” and will not have to wear face masks while near each other.

Trinidad State plans to isolate sick individuals from our general population and to direct them to appropriate medical personnel. Symptomatic students will be isolated and employees will be directed to remain at home until advised by a medical professional that it is safe to return to campus.

Trinidad State has published a quarantine/isolation plan should any students or employees test positive for COVID-19 during the course of the fall semester.

These policies may be adjusted as conditions change.

The college has outlined many other scenarios and these plans have been approved by the appropriate health officials in Trinidad and the San Luis Valley.

“We have tried to foresee issues students and staff may face and we’re confident we can adjust as the need arises,” said Epper.

The entire plan can be seen at [trinidadstate.edu/alert](http://trinidadstate.edu/alert).

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# BACK TO SCHOOL



## Tips for effective remote learning

An increased reliance on virtual home instruction has many students re-thinking their organizational strategies and daily school schedules. Learning at home is different from being in a traditional classroom environment, but with some effective strategies, students can persevere without missing a beat.

### Stick to a schedule

Many students are successful because they follow a schedule. The Center for Social and Emotional Foundations of Early Learning says that routines and schedules are important because they influence a child's emotional and cognitive development. Children feel secure with schedules, which may help them recognize what's expected of them.

When learning at home, students should strive to maintain as consistent a schedule as possible, including bedtimes, wake times, hours devoted to learning, and time to get outside or engage in downtime activities.

### Connect live if possible

There are many free tools and resources available that enable teachers to provide live video lessons or to record them so students can watch them later. Similarly, social networking apps and virtual meeting programs enable students to connect digitally. This can



be helpful for collaborative learning assignments or just to see a familiar face.

### Stick to tools that work

Once students find apps or systems that work, they should stick with them, offers Khan Academy, an educational tutoring resource. There are many factors outside of one's control during virtual instruction, but maintaining consistency with tools and schedules is one way to feel more confident and secure.

### Check student accounts frequently

Just like students, teachers may be learning as they go in regard to remote learning strategies. Students should be sure to check school email accounts

or other places where teachers post assignments a few times per day so that they stay on top of all assignments and are aware of due dates.

### Reach out to instructors

Allegheny College suggests students contact their teachers if they are unsure of how to participate in remote learning environments. Ask questions about assignments, get clarification on key topics and be sure to tune into any remote chats or virtual "office hours."

### Stay in touch with guidance, if needed

Remote learning is a new experience for many students, and there may be certain struggles or road blocks. It can be easy to grow frustrated with equipment failures or lack of in-person interaction. Schools employ qualified therapists and guidance counselors who are just a click, call or email away if issues need to be talked through. Students should utilize all resources made available to them.

Virtual home instruction can be made even easier with some extra assistance and guidance. BS208061

## Did you know?

Large buses are not equipped with seat belts, but that doesn't compromise their ability to transport students safely to and from school. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says that school buses are designed differently than passenger cars and light trucks. As a result of their unique design, as well as their size and weight, school buses distribute crash forces differently from other vehicles, utilizing a different kind of safety restraint system that is effective at keeping passengers safe. This system is known as "compartmentalization." The NHTSA says the interiors of large buses protect children without seat belts because of closely spaced seats that have energy-absorbing seat backs. This compartmentalization will

keep children from being forced out of their seats during an impact. However, in the United States, small school buses, or those with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, must be equipped with lap or lap/shoulder belts in all seating positions. BS208055

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# Colorado teens report an alarming increase in use of ultra-potent marijuana

**COLORADO** - Six years after adult-use marijuana commercialization began in Colorado, teens report an alarming increase in their use of ultra-potent pot products in the form of dabs and vapes, according to official state data released today (Aug. 3, 2020).

More than half of high school students who use marijuana reported that they dab marijuana to get high. Among students who reported using marijuana in the past 30 days, 52 percent said they dabbled it, up from 34.4 percent just two years ago — a 50 percent increase, according to the new bi-annual Healthy Kids Colorado Survey results, based on surveys of over 53,000 middle and high school students statewide last year.

“Dabbing” is a method of inhaling highly concentrated THC (commonly referred to as hash oil, wax or shatter) using a blow torch-heated delivery system commonly referred to as a dab rig. THC is the main high-inducing chemical in marijuana. (To download high-quality, free-to-publish photos of marijuana concentrates bought in Colorado, go to [THCphotos.org](http://THCphotos.org).)

The survey results also show a 69 percent increase in students vaping marijuana in two years. Among high school students who used marijuana in the past 30 days, 34.3 percent reported vaping it, up from 20.3 percent in 2017.

Denver, the epicenter of commercialization in the state, likewise experienced dramatic increases. High school dabbing increased over 80 percent in two years and vaping increased almost 50 percent.

Colorado has no limits on mari-

juana potency and has seen levels of THC steadily rise in commercial products. Some concentrates, which make up an increasingly large share of the market, can exceed 90 percent THC. Those potency increases have been documented in a state funded study.

At the request of the Colorado General Assembly, the Colorado department of public health and Environment just completed a comprehensive analysis of the health effects of marijuana potency that acknowledged that almost 93 percent of products sold in Colorado are greater than 15 percent THC.

In the early 1990s, the average THC content in confiscated marijuana samples was less than 4 percent. Marijuana potency has accelerated in the past decade as marijuana commercialization expanded.

Rachel O’Bryan, one of Smart Colorado’s co-founders and an expert in the field of marijuana commercialization and the impacts on kids, said, “It’s no surprise that kids are switching to easily concealed ultra-potent pot when they are bombarded with images and marketing for these high-THC products that have proliferated since legalization. This is not the much milder marijuana of their parents’ generation.”

Peer-reviewed scientific studies show that marijuana harms developing brains yet researchers haven’t been able to fully explore the effects of these new ultra-potent products. A recent study found a significant association between using marijuana concentrates and progressing to more frequent use among adolescents. The

study found that the rate of persistence of use and progression of use is greater with concentrated THC than with other marijuana products.

When nationwide high school use of e-cigarettes soared by 78 percent in a single year and 26 percent of Colorado students, twice the national average, reported current e-cigarette use, then-Gov. John Hickenlooper

and public health officials sounded the alarm, laws to ban flavored nicotine vaping liquid were passed and states, including Colorado, sued the e-cigarette manufacturer Juul for illegally marketing to children.

O’Bryan said she hopes these latest figures will finally shock the state into action.

“Commercialized marijuana in

Colorado, and the way our state has chosen to leave the industry largely unregulated, is setting our children up for future addiction,” she said. “I hope this news is a wake-up call to policymakers that a serious discussion and immediate action on rampant pot potency is needed. Our children have only one chance to grow up and we as a community are failing them.”



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# Preparing a store for shoppers concerned by COVID-19

Business owners cannot predict what the future holds, but many are hopeful that the 2020 holiday retail season will provide a much-needed boost to their bottom lines. The outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 in late 2019 and early 2020 led to plunging revenues for small businesses across the globe, forcing some to close their doors for good while others had to lay off or furlough staff to stay afloat.

The holiday season is a lucrative time for retailers, and while small business owners are hopeful consumers will return this December, they may need to go the extra mile to calm any safety concerns their customers may have. Officials with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have warned about the potential for a second wave of COVID-19 infections in late 2020, and that could compel holiday shoppers

to stay home and shop online rather than in person. While it's wise for small business owners to improve their e-commerce capabilities so shoppers find it easier to buy their products online, business owners also can follow these CDC-recommended procedures to prepare their stores for shoppers concerned by the COVID-19 virus.

## Cleaning

When cleaning a store, the CDC advises owners and their employees to wear disposable gloves. Surfaces should first be cleaned with soap and water, and then disinfectant should be applied. That's because soap and water and disinfectant perform different functions. Soap and water reduces the number of germs, dirt and impurities on surfaces, while disinfectant kills any remaining germs.

Stores with heavy foot traffic

should be cleaned frequently, but all stores require daily cleaning to keep customers safe. Store owners can devise their own cleaning schedules, but those whose stores are routinely welcoming customers throughout the day should plan to clean and disinfect their facilities several times per day. The CDC advises paying special attention to high touch surfaces such as doorknobs, handles, countertops, and tables.

## Disinfecting

The CDC recommends using household disinfectants registered by the Environmental Protection Agency, a list of which is available at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19>. When using disinfectants, business owners and their employees should wear skin protection and consider protective

eyewear to protect against potential splash hazards. Ensure adequate ventilation when using disinfectants, opening windows if need be. Follow manufacturer application recommendations, which should be listed on product labels. Avoid mixing chemicals, such as household bleach with ammonia or any other cleansers.

## Electronics

The CDC urges business owners to use wipeable covers on electronics to further reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. Such covers also can calm customers' nerves and reassure them that business owners are taking every safety measure possible to ensure their health.

## Efforts

Business owners should post their policies regarding cleaning and disinfecting in full view of customers.



Such postings may reduce anxieties about entering a store. In addition, business owners can inform customers they are willing to offer delivery or curbside pickup to anyone who's hesitant to enter stores this holiday season.

Opportunity awaits small business owners this holiday season. Taking every step to clean and disinfect their stores each day can reassure potential customers who may be hesitant to shop in person. GG209243

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