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Monte Vista Rotary celebrates century

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Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

JULY 22, 2020

\$1

Imagine Your Ad Here!

SLV Today Special BOE Meeting

ALAMOSA — Alamosa Board of Education will be holding a special meeting today at 6 p.m. regarding the reopening of schools in the fall

Zoom meeting information: https://zoom.us/j/5051891882

Alamosa Farmers Market

ALAMOSA—The Alamosa Farmers Market welcomes locals and visitors to downtown Alamosa, Saturdays at the corner of 6th and State. From 8 am to 8:30 am, all immune compromised members of the community are welcome.

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Facebook - Alamosa Valley Courier

SLV WEATHER



Afternoon showers 82/ 50

Thur: Mostly Cloudy 81/ 53

Fri: Scattered Showers 78/ 51

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Colorado curbs alcohol sale to 10 p.m.

DENVER—Governor Jared Polis was joined by Jill Hunsaker Ryan, Executive Director of the Department of Public Health and Environment, to provide an update on the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We know we can't behave the way we did last summer, or even the way we did in February. Though we have taken steps to open up more of our economy, we have to remain vigilant," said Governor Jared Polis.

usually when possible, we'll start to see less tests coming back positive for COVID-19 and begin to create more opportunities to get our economy back on track. The nature of the virus alone does a great job of setting us back. Do not give the virus the power to do what it does best: spread by engaging in risky, irresponsible, and thoughtless behavior."

In order to curb some of that social behavior, the Governor announced that, for the next 30 days, the State is suspending all alcohol sales after 10:00 p.m. each day. This will apply to all entities that are licensed to sell liquor.

sales to end consumers at 10:00 P.M. each day," the Executive Order reads. The Order takes effect at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 23, 2020. Read the full Executive Order.

Amidst rising cases, CDPHE has created a system to work with counties experiencing high transmission. Counties whose metrics put them in violation of their variance have two weeks to reverse their disease trend to keep their variance. If a county is unable to reverse the trend, the variance will be revoked and the county must follow the Safer at Home Executive Order.

CDPHE has requested



that such counties submit a mitigation plan with strategies such as social distancing orders, increased testing and contact tracing, enforcement of social distancing and mask wearing, and increased education. Counties also have the

option to revert to the Safer at Home Executive Order, which eight counties have decided to do in lieu of a mitigation plan. View the news conference on the Governor's Facebook page. View the Governor's presentation.

Guardrail installation on CO 15 near La Jara continues for an additional week



CONEJOS COUNTY — Guardrail installation on CO Highway 15 just north of La Jara, will continue through next week. The work involves the replacement of old guardrail in need of replacement on a bridge structure near the intersection of CO 15 and US Highway 285. Additional work time is required, with a new anticipated completion date of July 31.

TRAFFIC IMPACTS (new map image attached): Motorists are urged to continue driving with caution in the area. CO 15 (at MP 30) has a one-lane alternating traffic configuration in place, with lane shifts and brief stops controlled by a temporary traffic signal. Travelers should slow down and watch for workers and heavy equipment. Motorists are also advised that the

temporary light signal and traffic control devices will remain in place overnight and through the weekend during the two-week project. Please note the work is weather dependent.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Travelers are urged to "know before you go." Gather information about weather forecasts and anticipated travel impacts and current road conditions prior to hitting the road. CDOT resources include:

Road conditions and travel information: www.COtrip.org

Sign up for project or travel alerts: bit.ly/COalerts

See scheduled lane closures: codot.gov/travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html

Connect with us on social media: Twitter @coloradodot and Facebook facebook.com/coloradodot

Elks Lodge focuses on community



ALAMOSA — With the help from Elks National Foundation Grant Program (ENF) the Elks were able to receive two grants, the Freedom Grant of \$2,500, and the Spotlight Grant of \$2,000. On July 15th they provided the local Veterans Community Outreach Clinic (C.B.O.C.) with a donation of 100 / \$25 gift cards using the Freedom Grant. On July 20th they were also able to provide the local Food Pantry with \$2,000 worth of food to help support those in need, using the Spotlight Grant.

Valley keeps COVID numbers low

SAN LUIS VALLEY — Since Monday, Alamosa County reported 1 new COVID-19 case. There were 25 known active cases in the region as of Tuesday night. For more information about COVID-19 in Colorado, see the Colorado Covid-19 website at https://covid19.colorado.gov/.

For testing of symptomatic individuals only, call:
• Rio Grande Hospital 719-657-4990
• SLVHealth Respiratory Clinic 719-589-2511 ext. 9

For symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals who have had contact with a confirmed COVID-19 positive individual, call Valley-Wide Health Systems 719-589-3658 ext. 9 (M-F), 719-589-2562 (Sa/Su)

For general (non-medical) SLV COVID-19 related questions: slvepr@alamosacounty.org, 719-480-8719

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Record

OBITUARIES

Katherine "Kate" Electra Schofield

Katherine "Kate" Electra Schofield went home on June 22, 2020, with her family by her side. She was born October 12, 1927, in Texoma, Oklahoma to Van Arthur and Ollie Rebecca Mitchell Gibson.

When Kate was three years old the family settled on their homestead in Skarda, New Mexico. In the forties, they moved to Oregon where Kate and her sister Mary worked in Portland as welders.

After the war, the two came back to No Agua, New Mexico. She married Richard Schofield on January 26, 1950.

She spent her life farming and ranching and enjoyed canning, baking and the outdoors.

Kate is survived by her sons Robert of No Agua, New Mexico and Randy of Antonito, Colorado, her nieces Kathy Haston and Becky Mayo both of No Agua, New Mexico, Georgia Kuykendall and



Sue Rush both of Tres Piedras, New Mexico, Sue Cotter of Lubbock, Texas, Elayne Ramsey of Comanche, Texas, Pat Helmuth of Rising Star, Texas, Ethel Gates, Ardis Kennedy, Marjorie Sims all of Montrose, Colorado, Kristi Rice of Cerro, New Mexico, Nellie Mauch of Lamar, Colorado, Jackie Darbyshire of Dalhart, Texas, Bonny Lucas of Washington State, Jenny and Lorrie Gibson of

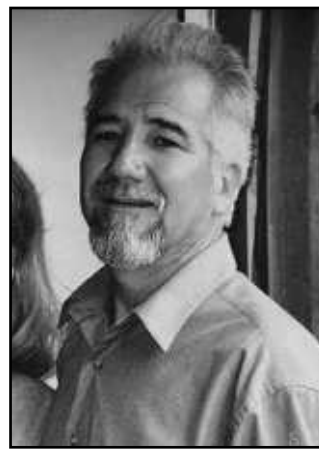
Livermore, California, her nephews Donovan Gibson of Jamestown, North Dakota, Jon Gibson of Rockport, Texas, Gary Rogers of Estoria, Oregon, Ken Rogers of Washington State, her sister-in-law Pat Gibson of Livermore, California.

Kate was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Richard, her son Ricky, her brothers Doc, John, Van and Jack and her sister Mary Mayo (Kate's rock).

Cremation was chosen and a graveside of ashes will be held on Saturday, July 25, 2020, at 11:00 A.M. at the Tres Piedras Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions are suggested to the St. Jude Cancer Research in care of the funeral home office.

Arrangements are in the care of Rogers Family Mortuary of Alamosa. To leave online condolences for the family please visit www.RogersFunerals.com

Steve Leroy Salazar



ALAMOSA — Steve Leroy Salazar, 69, of Trinidad, CO passed away peacefully on July 3, 2020, after succumbing to dementia-related complications. Steve had worked as a coal miner for many years at the Allen Coal Mine. Following the closure of the mine, Steve became a successful Bail Bondsman.

Steve will be remembered for his strong and honest work ethics, generosity, kindness and humor. Steve is survived by his wife, Patty, and their daughter's, Tracy

(John Jones) and Nautica Salazar; former spouse, Bernice (Vigil) Lucero,

and their children, Bruce, Julie and Maria; siblings James (Karen) Salazar, Shirley (Dennis) Garcia, Fred and Joshua Salazar; numerous grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Steve was preceded in death by his son Nate Salazar; parents Fred and Mary Salazar; sibling Steven Fred, Pete, Pricilla and Greg. Prior to Steve's journey to his eternal resting place, family members were blessed to have had the opportunity to spend quality time with our beloved Steve.

VALLEY COURIER POLICY ON OBITUARIES

The Valley Courier charges a flat fee of \$30 for each obituary published. Electronic copies are preferred. Pending arrangements or death notices are run at no charge.

This charge affects funeral homes, as well as family or other representatives, that directly place obituaries. All paid obituaries are published on our web site, www.alamosanews.com, for no additional fee.

In the event the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit will be rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed.

ONGOING VALLEY MEETINGS

ALAMOSA—The San Luis Valley Military Family Support Group meets the fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Alamosa. For more info call Vicki Jones at 852-3123.

ALAMOSA — Sierra Blanca Chapter #43, Order of The Eastern Star, meets on the first and third Mondays, at 7:30 p.m. at the Alamosa Masonic Hall, 512 San Juan Ave. Call Sharon at 589-4320.

ALAMOSA—La Leche League of the San Luis Valley holds its monthly meetings on the fourth Saturday at 11 a.m. at Hospice del Valle, 524 Main St. in Alamosa. Pregnant and nursing women are welcome to attend with their children and babies. Please call 587-3657.

ALAMOSA—The Alamosa Kiwanis Club meets on the second, third and fourth Thursdays at noon at IHOP. Contact: Amanda Wilkinson, 719-589-2564 or email amanda@alamosastatebank.com

ALAMOSA — The Optimist Club of Alamosa meets at Nino's Restaurant in Alamosa the first and third Tuesdays at noon. Contact the club at alamosaoptimistclub@gmail.com or President Dawn Melgares at 719-580-0178. Visitors and new members are welcome.

ALAMOSA—The Alamosa Rotary Club meets every Monday at noon at Juanitos in Alamosa. Contact Dean Swift, 589-3499 or dean@deanswiftseed.com

SOUTH FORK — Kiwanis meets every Thursday at 8 a.m. at the Feelin' Good Coffeehouse in South Fork. Contact: Karen Miller, 719-873-5466 or email mkmiller-mink@aol.com

ALAMOSA — The Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group meets on the second Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon. at the Alamosa Public Library, 300 Hunt Ave. Call the Southern Colorado office at 719-544-5720, ext. 304.

ALAMOSA — TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) CO 568, Alamosa, a non-profit weight loss organization, meets every Tuesday evening at the College Heights Baptist Church at 2035 Church Avenue in Alamosa. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. with an informative meeting at 6:15. Anyone interested in having weight loss support is welcome

to attend a free meeting or call Doris at 589-6396 for more information.

ALAMOSA — Search and Rescue meetings are the fourth Tuesday at the Alamosa County Sheriff Office, 1315 17th St., at 6 p.m. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer is welcome. Call Suzi at 719-588-9236.

ALAMOSA — The San Luis Valley Photography Club meets the first Wednesday at the Alamosa Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Contact Stephen Jensen at 379-0001 or slv-photostephen@gmail.com

ALAMOSA — Families Healing Families is a community-based organization that provides support and resources for families affected by the impact of substance abuse. They meet on the third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center at 92 Rio Grande Ave. (on the north end of Cole Park) in Alamosa.

ALAMOSA— Peace Meditation at the Campus Ministry Office, Adam State University, Alamosa, is held on Thursdays at 5:15 p.m. Everyone is invited. Contact Candace Knowlan 805-886-6959.

ALAMOSA — American Legion Auxiliary Unit #113, Alamosa, holds its monthly meeting at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday at the American Legion Building at 514 Fourth Street, Alamosa. Call Evelyn Espinola at 719-313-1466 or Alice Robinson at 589-0543.

ALAMOSA — Open drop-in meditation for health, stress management and spiritual growth, is held at 10:45 a.m. the second Sunday of the month at St. Thomas Episcopal Parish Hall, 607 Fourth St., Alamosa, with Mountain Institute, A Kriya, Meditation & Lamplighting School. Contact Martin at 575-758-5876 or talentolocal@live.com

ALAMOSA — Youngsters are invited to the Alamosa Public Library Story Room every Friday morning to sing, color, dance, read, enjoy adventures, share with friends and giggle. Babies and toddlers are welcome at 9:30 a.m. and preschoolers at 11 a.m.

Mondays of each month from 3-4 p.m.

MONTE VISTA — Valley Fiber Art Guild — VFA is a group for anyone interested in fiber arts: knitting, crocheting, weaving and spinning. We work on our individual projects, sometimes do projects together and learn from each other. We meet the fourth Saturday of every month from 1 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at 757 County Rd. 29, Monte Vista. Call or email Wanda Couzens-Smith for more information at (719) 852-5000 or wcouzenssmith@gmail.com

ALAMOSA— Alamosa Masonic Lodge meetings are every first and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. (except June, July and August) at the Alamosa Masonic Lodge, Main and San Juan.

ALAMOSA— Alamosa Toastmasters meets on Mondays at noon at The Bridge in Alamosa at 3407 Carroll Street. Participants will find a supportive learn-by-doing environment that allows them to achieve their goals at their own pace. Call (719) 588-5127.

ALAMOSA — The GFWC Woman's Citizenship Club of Alamosa meets on the second Friday at noon from September through May at First United Methodist Church, NW door, 2005 Mullins Ave. For more information, please email: womancitizenshipclub@gmail.com.

ALAMOSA — Made up of community members who write in many different genres, the Sophia Circle meets weekly to provide support for writers and their writing projects in the downstairs conference room at the Colorado Welcome Center at Alamosa, 6th and State on Sundays from 1-3 p.m.. Writers may drop in on any meeting. Bring copies of the work you want to share. Call Holly at 719-588-7066.

CENTER — The Center Kiwanis meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Kiwanis Hall in Center. Contact Dick Ramstetter at 719-580-3329.

ALAMOSA — Silver Linings, an open and free positivity group, meets Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. at Nestle Toll House Café in downtown Alamosa.

A legacy of heroism

ALAMOSA — Because of COVID-19 pandemic concerns, the Maestas Dinner and Fundraiser has been altered into an online event. The email invitations will start going out today

For security, the invitation link will work only during the event Saturday July 25th 2020

From 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

As this year's auction fundraiser is postponed until next year, please visit <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/alamosa-county-dcc> to donate.



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

VALLEY — The San Luis Valley offers many Alcoholics Anonymous groups.

A.A. members' primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Following are District 3 San Luis Valley AA 12-Step Meetings. The 6th Tradition states that we are not affiliated with any outside organizations, but in the spirit of cooperation, we list these meeting schedules for friends and family. For information, call 719-937-5083.

SUNDAY
5:30 p.m. Sacred Heart Parish Center at 3rd and Edison, Alamosa
7 p.m. Town Hall at 108 W Galena Ave., Crestone

MONDAY
12 p.m. St. Thomas Episcopal Hall at 607 4th St., Alamosa
5 p.m. Women's Meeting at Masonic Hall, 598 Spruce St., Del Norte
7 p.m. Community Church on Main St., Creede
7:30 p.m. Creative Resource Center at 304 Walnut St., La Jara.

TUESDAY
12 p.m. First Christian Church at 1st and State, Alamosa
8 p.m. Mountain View Presbyterian Church at 2nd and Broadway, Monte Vista

WEDNESDAY
12 p.m. First United Methodist Church at 2005 Mullens, Alamosa
6 p.m. Senior Citizen's Building at 710 Main St., Antonito

6 p.m. Amistad of San Luis at 403 Main St. San

Luis
7:15 p.m. RV Park in Blanca
7:30 p.m. Masonic Hall at 598 Spruce, Del Norte.
8 p.m. St. Thomas Episcopal Church at 607 4th St., Alamosa.

THURSDAY
12 p.m. First Christian Church at 1st and State, Alamosa
12 p.m. Crestone Baptist Church, County Rd. T, Crestone
7 p.m. Community Church on Main St., Creede
7:30 p.m. Creative Resource Center at 304 Walnut St., La Jara.
7:30 p.m. Ables/Disables, Baptist Church at 751 Lincoln St., Monte Vista

FRIDAY
7 p.m. Sacred Heart School at 3rd and Edison, Alamosa.

SATURDAY
5:30 pm. at 929 State Ave., Alamosa

6 p.m. Senior Citizen's Building at 710 Main St., Antonito.
8 p.m. Mountain View Presbyterian Church at 2nd and Broadway, Monte Vista

For schedule changes, please contact your group service representative (GSR)

AL-ANON

TUESDAY
8 p.m. 15 Country Club Dr. Monte Vista
WEDNESDAY
5:30 p.m. SLV Behavior Health Group at 8745 CR 9S., Alamosa

THURSDAY
5:30 p.m. First Chris-

tian Church at 518 1st St., Alamosa
7 p.m. Crestone Town Hall, downtown Crestone (second and fourth Thursdays)

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (NarcAnon)

TUESDAY
7 p.m. St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 607 4th St., Alamosa
7:30 p.m. Baca Grande Library at Road T, Crestone

THURSDAY
7 p.m. SDA Church at 313 Craft Drive, Alamosa

SATURDAY
9 a.m. Little Shepherd Episcopal Chapel at Alder St., Crestone
7 p.m. St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 607 4th St., Alamosa

School Menu
Wednesday
July 22, 2020



NO SCHOOL
SUMMER VACATION
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Valley News

'We're not going to be the mask police': Colorado counties have mixed responses to statewide mandate

By Derek Draplin
The Center Square
Colorado's statewide mask mandate is being met with mixed reactions from local governments and law enforcement across the state. Gov. Jared Polis signed an executive order last week requiring all individuals in the state 10 years or older to wear masks while in indoor public places. Those in violation "may be subject to civil or criminal penalties, including but not limited to prosecution for trespass," the executive order states. The order came after the governor had previously expressed doubts on the scope of such an order and the state's ability to enforce one. During a news conference announcing the order on Thursday, the governor was flanked by Denver

Mayor Michael B. Hancock and Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman, who both spoke in support of the measure. Denver County, along with Adams and Arapahoe counties, which include Aurora, had existing public health orders requiring masks, similar to Summit County, where the board of commissioners sent a letter to the governor Thursday in support of the statewide mandate to "protect residents and visitors in our county and ensure compliance across the state." Other counties that had existing mask mandates include Gunnison, Routt, Eagle and Pitkin. Some counties, along with sheriff departments, have said that while they will encourage mask wearing, they wouldn't enforce the mandate. Weld County Commis-

sioners said that reducing COVID-19 spread "comes down to personal responsibility, not government mandates," and that the county health department won't enforce the executive order. "In Weld County, we believe in the individual responsibility of citizens to determine how best to protect themselves, their family, their business and their consumers," Weld County Chair Mike Freeman said. "Where the governor wants to force everyone to wear a mask, we believe in our citizens' individual right to make that determination." Grand County Commissioners voted against a countywide mask requirement, Ski-Hi News reported, just days before the governor signed the executive order requiring masks statewide. A week before the state-

wide mandate, Douglas County Commissioners voted to opt out of the Tri-County Health Department's (TCHD) mask requirement and formally withdraw from the department. (Adams and Arapahoe counties are also members of TCHD). The El Paso County Sheriff's Office said that while it will encourage wearing masks, it won't "be expending the resources of the Sheriff's Office on issuing citations to individuals not wearing masks." "We're not going to be the mask police," El Paso County Sheriff Bill Elder said. "We're going to enforce other violations of Colorado Revised Statutes such as trespassing." Businesses can deny service to individuals not wearing masks, and if an individual refuses to leave, they would be tres-

passing, Elder explained. "We will enforce trespass laws," he said. KJCT reported that sheriff departments in Delta, Elbert, Teller, Washington and Weld counties also said they wouldn't be enforcing the state's order. Polis defended the order and explained his reversal on a mask mandate during a Sunday appearance on ABC News's "This Week." "You went from saying you didn't believe a mask mandate was enforceable to issuing a statewide mandate in the span of one week. Even as recently as this past Tuesday, you said you were conflicted on the mandate. What changed between then and Thursday, when you put out that executive order?" guest anchor Martha Raddatz asked Polis. Polis said the mask

mandate came as "an easy decision" that showed requirements do cause more people to wear masks. "There's no governor that ran for office or gets up every morning saying, I want people to wear masks," he said. "And that's why [Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson] had concerns about it. So did I. We don't want to tell people what to wear or what to do in their lives. This is a free country. That's what we treasure here." "What we found in our state is, we had about 60 percent of our state that had a municipal or county mask mandate," he added. "And we simply found that they work. Two things. The areas that had mask requirements in our state had 15 percent to 20 percent more mask usage and lower spread of the virus."

Landmark local businesses sponsor zero-interest loans for small farms

ALAMOSA — SOIL Sangre de Cristo welcomes AMICAS, Soulcraft Brewing, and First Southwest Community Fund as its inaugural business sponsors. SOIL Sangre de Cristo, a peer-to-peer lending program, hopes to make its first round of zero-interest loans this fall to small farmers based in the greater San Luis Valley. Business sponsorships begin at \$1,000 and sponsors are eligible to vote on loans made by SOIL Sangre de Cristo. Chair PJ Bergin says community business members will be crucial to achieving SOIL Sangre de Cristo's fundraising goals.

"Investing in the local economy keeps our money here where the returns build for future generations," Bergin said. "We hope news of these sponsorships will become a catalyst for others in the community to step up in support of local farmers, small ranchers and food processors in the South Central Colorado region." Kathie Youngmans of AMICAS Italian restaurant in downtown Salida said the employee-owned company was an early supporter of SOIL because they believe in the local food movement. "We want to do whatever we can to support it," Youngmans said. "We have been doing so for a long time and this was one more opportunity to become involved. We trust that SOIL can give some much needed support to local, innovative entrepreneurs in food production and manufacturing."

The mission of SOIL Sangre de Cristo is to unite the Valley's communities by improving food security through direct support for local farmers, ranchers and food producers. Since its launch this spring, SOIL Sangre de Cristo has raised \$33,000 through memberships and a 50-percent matching grant from the Mighty Arrow Foundation. The organization's goal is to raise \$50,000 by October. SOIL's business sponsors are joined by voting members who contribute \$250 or more annually. Farmers and food producers can join for as little as \$25 per year. "As a community-connected small business owner, I realize the essential nature of local farming and food," said Michael LaCroix, CEO of Soulcraft, the Salida-based brewery and tasting room. "I meet so many people that are putting their dreams and passion into action and know firsthand how difficult finding local financial resources can be. Diversity and intention make for a better and more dynamic community. We support SOIL with hopes that small, local farms will thrive and become an even greater resource for all of us."

SOIL is an acronym for Slow Opportunities for Investing Locally and is based on the principles articulated by activist and author Woody Tasch in *Inquiries into the Nature of Slow Money: Investing as if Food, Farms, and Fertility Mattered* and SOIL: Notes Towards the Theory and Practice of Nurture Capital. In Colorado, SOIL-affiliated groups are creating more resilient food systems in the communities around Boulder, Durango, and Carbondale, with more than \$700,000 in loans for crucial items such as tractors, worker housing, and irrigation. "The Slow Money model is creative and innovative and enables SOIL Sangre de Cristo to provide needed resources to our agricultural business owners," Cass Walker Harvey, executive director of the First Southwest Community Fund, said. The Alamosa-based fund supports economic opportunity in rural Colorado with non-traditional loans and gap financing. "As we've seen in the COVID-19 crisis, local food production is crucial to a healthy ecosystem and we look forward to seeing the impact SOIL has for the San Luis Valley." Membership and sponsorship information can be found at soilsangredecristo.org.

San Luis Valley health supports statewide mask mandate

ALAMOSA — "San Luis Valley Health supports Colorado's move to establish a statewide mask mandate," said Donna Wehe, Director of Communications. "We have learned many things about this virus over the last several months, and we know that it will take a combination of actions to protect ourselves and our community from this dangerous virus. Wearing a facial covering when in public — along with social

distancing, proper hand hygiene and staying home when you have symptoms — is necessary. "Our clinic and hospital employees are committed to caring for our COVID-19 patients while also maintaining a safe environment for our community to seek care. We are grateful to our community for abiding by this mask order, continuing to social distance and doing everything they can to slow the spread of this



Colorado Division of Housing public hearing

Press Release:
Northwest Real Estate Capital Corp. will submit an application to the Colorado Division of Housing (DOH). The purpose of this application is to request approximately \$1,025 to develop 40 units of affordable housing to be located at NWC of Maroon Drive and Carroll Street, Alamosa, Colorado. The request of funding from DOH

is to benefit persons with very low incomes by increasing the availability of affordable housing in Alamosa County. It is not the intent to cause displacement from any existing housing as this site is land; however, if persons are displaced from their existing residences reasonable housing alternatives shall be offered. All interested persons are encour-

aged to contact the applicant for further information. Written comments should be sent to John Vance at jvance@nwrecc.org and will be forwarded to DOH for consideration during the application process. A virtual public hearing will be held on July 22, at 6 p.m. You can access the link at: us02web.zoom.us/j/86047183354 or call (346) 248-7799.

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Opinion

God Bless America...

HOLLYWOOD— God Bless America, and how's everybody?

President Trump in a Fox News interview Sunday urged Americans to use our common sense to ward off Covid. Yesterday morning, I woke up feeling ill and I feared that I was catching the corona virus. So I hurried downtown and pushed over a couple of statues, and felt better immediately.



Argus Hamilton

Wall Street continued soaring Monday following news of promising Covid vaccine research in England. This could be it. The scientists believe they have discovered a protocol which allowed two hundred test patients to halt the further spread of the virus. They threw their TV sets out the window.

Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York explained in an interview Friday that people were justified in rioting and looting whenever they are hungry. It brings a tear to your eyes. Last night in her district a man was seen stealing a seventy-square-inch high-definition loaf of bread.

Portland was ransacked and burned by anarchists over the weekend along with riots in Seattle as well as in Chicago, where demonstrators attacked and injured police. No statue and no monument or religious icon is safe. Things have really gone mad when atheists are arguing that Jesus was black.

President Trump in a Fox News interview Sunday charged that the media was taking corona virus statistics and twisting them into a hyper-alarming narrative. Cable may be a little jacked up. CNN reports that two healthy young adults died of corona virus Saturday during a meth lab explosion.

Congress is working on a bill to extend Covid emergency benefits to people who lost work to the pandemic. No need is being overlooked. In response to calls for a law requiring Americans to wear a facial covering, Frito Lay just invented a face mask that doubles as a feed bag for Cheetos.

Trader Joe's jumped on the PC bandwagon Sunday and said they'll no longer use names like Trader Ming's to label its Asian food or Trader Jose to label Hispanic food. However its line of mayonnaise and white bread will remain Trader Brad's. The Crackers as always speak for themselves.

The Hollywood Reporter reported Mel Gibson's recent huge success as a director has allowed Warner Brothers to let him direct a re-make of The Wild Bunch. He's back on top. Hollywood decided to forgive Mel his racist language, obscenities and woman-bashing when he became a rapper.

Kanye West's presidential campaign got off to a rollicking start at a rally in North Charleston Sunday. He faces a current anti-celebrity bias. It's sad that Kanye West makes more sense than Joe Biden, has more cash than Donald Trump but won't win because his mother-in-law is Caitlyn Jenner.

Joe Biden moved into a double-digit lead in polls that were heavily sampled on the Democratic side of respondents. Joe could be the first man elected just by staying in his basement under the ground, leaving everybody alone and playing dead for the year. If he wins it'll be Weekend with Biden.

Prince Andrew's daughter Princess Beatrice was the bride at a Royal Wedding held at Windsor Chapel with the entire Royal Family in attendance for the nuptials. However,



HELMET - CHECK... VISOR - CHECK... SEALED COVERALLS - CHECK... GLOVES - CHECK... BOOTS - CHECK... OK - YOU'RE READY.

HAVE A GOOD FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL, DEAR.

To submit news, email: news@alamosanews.com
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Letters policy

Letters are welcome and encouraged. All letters submitted for publication in the Valley Courier must be typewritten, signed by the author, and must include a phone number and address where the author can be reached. Letters must not be libelous. The Courier will not run letters that are negative to specific businesses. The Courier's editorial board reserves the right to reject a letter for reasons it believes are appropriate. Letters may be subject to editing to fit available space, or exclusion from the Opinion Page. Please, no poetry. Please send signed letters to P.O. Box 1099, Alamosa, CO 81101 or email them to news@alamosanews.com. Letters to staff, not for publication, should be marked "personal."

Jerry Moe's Story: Part 2

By age 15, about 33 percent of teens have had at least one drink, according to 2015 statistics from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. By 18, about 60 percent of teens had taken a drink.

The Betty Ford Center is on the Eisenhower Medical Center campus in Rancho Mirage, not far from the Barbara Sinatra Children's Center, which provides counseling to children who are victims of abuse. The two centers routinely refer kids to each other's programs, Moe said.

The center also takes its program into some of the valley's elementary schools - a required provision of Betty Ford.

The Betty Ford Center has a bilingual staff with four full-time counselors and programs include the whole family.

Kids go through a four-day session that mixes group discussions, role-playing and other activities. They learn what addiction is and that it's not their fault if a family member has a problem, as well as how to cope and stay safe.

They also get playtime. "A lot of the kids don't know how to play," Moe said, because they have taken on the role of adult in their home - caring for their parents and siblings.

The last two days of the program, parents or guardians are also involved, Moe said.

Most important, Moe said, no one is turned away if they cannot pay.

"Mrs. Ford was clear about that," he said.

On average, the program sees about 1,500 boys and girls per year. Since its inception, 27,000 children and their families have been through the program, Moe said.

Judy and her three children are

among them.

Judy's two oldest children were 7 and 9 when the family went through the program about 15 years ago along with their father, an alcoholic.

"They came away from that program understanding their father was a good man but suffered from a disease," Judy said. "The program puts the focus on the disease and helps unite the family against addiction."

Beyond an initial four-day session, the family continued with an "after-care" program of weekly meetings at the Ford center - and still do, Judy said.

From a parent's perspective, Judy said she learned more about what the disease was doing to her children. When drinking, her husband was not physically abusive, but there was a lot of yelling and arguments in the home.

Anxiety and depression the kids felt started to dissipate, she said, and the program brought the family closer together as they learned to talk to each other.

Meeting children their age going through the same experience gave her kids hope and eliminated feelings of isolation.

"You learn what alcohol and drugs do to you and it sticks," Judy said. "We are indebted to the program for that, Jerry especially."

About a year after they went through the program, Judy's husband, who had been in recovery, relapsed and died in a drunken-driving crash.

Moe helped her talk to her children about their father's death, Judy said.

The teachings of the program have remained with the kids as they have grown.

Angela, 24, is the oldest of Judy's three kids and was about 9 when she went through the program. The word addiction was foreign to her then, but activities, books and other elements

Amarah's Corner



'Kids Like Me'

The sound of silence makes me sad

Time seems to pass more quickly as one grows older.

Memories gather into a pool of resuscitated reality. What happened, happened.

Then the mental images begin to change.

The boy one met when he was an adolescent grows up and achieves success.

Or not.

Reading the police scanner brings amazement. Some of the people listed have done some really bad stuff, but HIPAA protects them indirectly if domestic violence or sexual assault is involved.

Reading lists of high school grads, one sees grandchildren of one's own classmates earning their diplomas.

This year was a bad year for that, but photos in newspaper inserts bring

commentary. Watching graduations on TV are fun. My oldest son watched with us this year and expressed amazement at the generations who graduated.

I have been ordered not to comment that those could be his, had he chosen to marry.

It's not that he couldn't have, it's just that it doesn't fit his plans.

He watched his niece graduate. He's the old bachelor uncle who never forgets an occasion.

The younger uncle is also childless, by the choice of a higher power, who made it impossible.

We have watched time and tides change in Alamosa, our hometown.

I am grateful my middle son stayed here and had children.

There is no greater love than that one feels for a grandchild.

When my sons graduated high school and then college, I swore I would no longer be a direct supporter of the moose.

Bet me! I didn't spend any time as a non-supporter.

Especially a band booster.

As soon as they could, the grandchildren went out for the band and the girls each earned a letter.

My grandson will do the same if COVID doesn't kill public education. The girls are still in community band, with due credit going to their mother, who was in band all through her collegiate years. Their dad plans to get his clarinet redone and play along.

Their oldest uncle is a role model, still playing semi-professionally and coming home once in a while to share his abilities. He plays just about every instrument he's handed, but he's a sax man. My grandson is the same. Hand him an instrument. Give him time and he will play.

Their younger uncle has been playing in his hometown of Reno, Nevada, and returning to sound "Taps" when someone near and dear answers the call of the Supreme Commander.

He's been making "Oom-Pah" music with a group in Reno, using a nice Flugelhorn.

So people ask me what I play and I have to reply that I'm really good at playing the radio.

I'm also the most important element in each concert. I'm the one who pays admission and buys the CDs.

Without people like me, music wouldn't be worth the effort.

I have friends who go to events in bars, night clubs and parties and drop bills in the tip jar.

Looking back, the schools have always had a great band program, but the Corona Virus has brought fear. No one is playing.

I am a booster of education, the old face-to-face form in which there is a thoughtful discussion

In which people learn from each other.

This may not be, but I will forever support the sound of music. The sound of silence is too sorrowful.

Native Writes



Sylvia Lobato

Keith R Cerny
Publisher

Valley Courier

(ISSN 1047-1170)

Awarded Colorado Press 2017
First Place, Best Photo Essay
First Place, Best Photo Portfolio
Second Place, Best News Photo
Second Place, Best photo Essay
Second Place Serious Columns

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In Memory

Lloyd Luther Engen: All the Hero We Needed



Remembering Lloyd...

Twenty-five years of intense coverage of college and high school sports came to a tragic end on Sept. 5, 2009 when everyone's hero, Lloyd Luther Engen, was run over on the sidelines of a Sangre de Cristo home football game. He was there doing what he loved. . . covering the athletes he lived for.

Suffering from brittle bone disease and dozens of broken bones over his 79 years, Lloyd succumbed to COVID-19 complications on July 12, 2020. His 2009 career-ending injury included broken bones in his hip, pelvis and spine.

My wife Debbie and I were attending an Adams State football game that day and were notified that we needed to go to the emergency room. With a serious smile on his face, Lloyd said, "You know Keith, I can't be your sports editor any longer."

An era came to an end that day. Today we honor Lloyd Luther Engen with a number of personal accounts of his impact not on just collegiate and high school athletes, but families and the community in general. He was, "all the hero we needed."

K.C. at Bat



Keith R. Cerny



Remembering Lloyd...

By DAMON MARTIN

In the fall of 1985, having just arrived in Alamosa, we would quickly connect with Lloyd Engen. That connection would grow into a friendship that would become family over the next 35 years.

We were kindred spirits in our love of sports. All sports. Lloyd followed virtually every type of competitive sports, and was an expert statistician in so many different arenas. Want to talk pro baseball? How about some hockey? You name the sport and Lloyd had something valuable to share. Lloyd would know who was playing, how they were performing, and could recite the most minut detail of athletes contributions and their success.

Lloyd's love of sport would carry him to many places both near and far. During his tenure as a local sports writer, he would easily travel the entire San Luis Valley in a weekend. He could somehow get from a cross-country meet in Del Norte to a volleyball match at Centauri and then still make it back for an afternoon kickoff of an Adams State game. Lloyd would not only write the game coverage, he would be the event photographer, and then report all the stats one cared to view. He had an uncanny ability to be in more than one place at a time and keep everything straight.

This travel bug spread wider when Lloyd covered ASU sports, and running in particular. As the 1992 perfect score team at Slippery Rock made history, Lloyd was there to write the article and capture the incredible picture of the 5 ASU top finishers. He would also record the victory of the Women's team at the same meet, always finding a way for every winner to have a moment in the spotlight. Lloyd would drive thousands of miles, often taking along an athlete that needed to stay and take an exam. These travel companions would talk sport, invariably get lost, and still make it to the event with only minutes to spare.

On many occasions, Lloyd shared a room with me at a track meet. He was a loud snorer, but would say that if I fed him ice cream before bed, he wouldn't snore. After a sleepless night, thinking it was worth a try, I started the ice cream tradition and it



Lloyd Engen: Adams State's Eighth Man

By PAT MELGARES

Vigilante Nation skipped a heartbeat on July 12.

Lloyd Engen – the ever-present, jolly and loyal former sports information director at Adams State College through much of the 1980s and 1990s – died in Alamosa due to complications from COVID-19.

He was 79 years old.

"He was our Eighth Man," said Jerry Arguijo, a member of three national championship cross country teams at Adams State in the early to mid-1980s.

In cross country, seven runners make up a team. Arguijo's sentiment was shared by many in the program that Engen was a vital, added component.

Engen was the scribe who captured the rise to glory of Adams State College cross country in the 1980s, a stretch when the program won the NAIA national championship 10 of 11 years.

"Lloyd Engen was a familiar face on campus and in the athletic department at Adams State," said Andrew Medina, an NAIA cross country All American in 1989. "I think he knew my name before I knew his. He was the kind of man who when you met him once, he was a friend for life."

In the book of Adams State's legendary coach Joe I. Vigil – Chasing Excellence: The Remarkable Life and Inspiring Vigilosophy of Coach Joe I. Vigil -- Engen is a central character in many chapters outlining the most successful moments in the program's history.

He wrote about the historic tie between Adams State and Western State for the 1986 NAIA cross country championship – the first time ever that two teams had shared a national collegiate championship. It's only been done one other time since then.

The following year, he was back in Kenosha, Wisconsin as Adams State dismantled the field, winning the national title by 150 points. All seven runners on the team earned All American honors, the first time in program history.

Then, in 1992, he captured the most historic race in collegiate cross country history, when Adams State posted a perfect score of 15 to win the NCAA Division II cross country title – in the program's first year as an NCAA school. It's the only time ever that a college team has scored 15 at the national championships.

From 1984 through 1997, Engen covered nine men's and eight women's national championship seasons. Despite being 5-foot-5, he was an imposing figure in the program – respected for his quick wit, charm and loyalty to Adams State College. Engen was a comforting sight for Adams State's athletes, almost like everything was right in the world when they saw Lloyd at the national meet.

Engen, in his mid-40s and late 50s during



the time he was covering Adams State athletics, wasn't supposed to be living this life. When he was born in 1941, doctors diagnosed him with Osteogenesis Imperfecta, also called 'brittle bone disease.' They said he probably wouldn't live past age 50.

He not only beat the odds, he became a wise sage who told the story of the most successful collegiate cross country and track and field program in the world. In addition to the national championship teams he covered, he wrote about more than 300 All Americans and nearly 100 individual national champions.

Adams State athletes were called Vigilantes, a nod to their legendary coach Joe I. Vigil. Engen was widely accepted as one of the most honored and loved of the Vigilantes. He was voted into the Adams State University Athletics Hall of Fame in 2006.

Engen rarely traveled in school transportation to events, instead driving his own car hundreds of miles. In a popular story that has been told many times, he was driving to the NAIA track and field championships in Russellville, Arkansas from Alamosa in Spring 1987 when he saw junior sprinter Travis McKinley walking down First Street.

"Travis, what are you doing?" Engen asked as he pulled over.

"I missed the bus," said McKinley, who one year earlier was the NAIA national champion at 400 meters.

"Well, get on in!" Engen told him.

What a sight...the diminutive Engen and the muscled, 6-foot-4 McKinley in a compact car for 13 hours. Engen, who was blessed with the gift of gab, telling stories to the ultra-quiet McKinley down a long road from Alamosa, Colorado to Russellville.

As mentioned in Chasing Excellence, that was the trip in which the two had to go through Tulsa, Oklahoma, where they decided to stop and get something to eat. At a roadside restaurant, the owner told Engen he could come in, but that McKinley – an African American – was not welcome.

"I promptly told the restaurant owner he would not be getting any of our business."

And that was Lloyd Engen. More than his professional skill, he was popular because of his human nature. His smile. His compassion. His authenticity.

Literally hundreds of athletes – in more than a dozen sports – have their own Lloyd Engen story.

Mine goes back to Spring, 1986 at the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference track and field championships in Cedar City, Utah. A little more than a month earlier, I had severely sprained my ankle and was doubtful to run at the championships but healed enough to get a spot on the team.

I ran the steeplechase, the event where athletes jump four track barriers and one water barrier. My ankle had healed well enough to handle running on flat ground and over the track barriers, but the water pit was another story.

The impact of launching oneself over a water pit and onto a slanted surface is immense, and the ankle wasn't strong enough to handle it. Short story: I biffed it in the water jump every single time around the

track – seven times!

Lloyd, ever the sympathetic soul, asked me why I didn't quit, that it was obvious I was injured. I hardly even remember saying this, but he reported that I said: "I run for Adams State; I can't quit."

That's Lloyd Engen: Take something that was a bad memory and make it something that I could be proud of. I don't think he did things like that intentionally; it was just his nature to bring a measure of human decency to most situations.

One year, Engen played the part of a grumpy man in a community theatre production. Nobody knew Engen as a grumpy old man...really, nobody! So there was certainly shock value when Engen's character first entered the stage and was greeted by the lead character, a female, with a friendly, "Hello!" "Hello Yourself!" barked Engen.

The audience busted out in laughter at the uncharacteristic growl from Engen. And that was not supposed to be a humorous scene.

In Alamosa, Engen was known at various times to play other popular characters. He'd spend time reading to children in his Papa Smurf or Cookie Monster costume. He'd walk the community's Fourth of July parade route as Uncle Sam, taking pictures of the crowds and about anything that moved. And, of course, at Christmas time, he was the jolliest of Santa Clauses.

After leaving Adams State in 1997, Engen went to work for the hometown Valley Courier where he soon earned the love and respect of high school athletes and sports fans in 14 communities. He was known to work long hours, seven days a week, and made it a point to get to as many events in person as possible each week.

He wrote a weekly column, and – by my own unofficial count – set a world record for using the word "lutefisk" in print. (Lutefisk is dried whitefish, a common dish in Nordic countries, which is where his ancestry came from.)

He also wrote a regular column that he titled, All the Heroes I'll Ever Need, in which he would talk about simple people doing wonderful things for their communities, schools or others.

Lloyd's career as a sportswriter came to a tragic end in 2009 when he was run over while on the sidelines of a high school football game. Longtime friends Ron and Holly Dea took Lloyd in and cared for him for 10 years at their Fort Collins home. He had only recently returned to live in Alamosa and was in assisted living care.

His death won't diminish many folks' memories of the man. His smile and laugh – oh, that jovial laugh – is ingrained in the hearts of the many people he's touched. Like Joe I. Vigil, Engen's life was marked by a commitment to service, an undying dedication to show compassion and finding ways to bring more happiness to this world. A job well done, sir...a job well done.

You're all the hero that I...make that, all of us...will ever need.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column came from Pat Melgares' blog, Chasing Excellence blog -- melgares.wixsite.com/ChasingExcellence

Our Little Norwegian Man

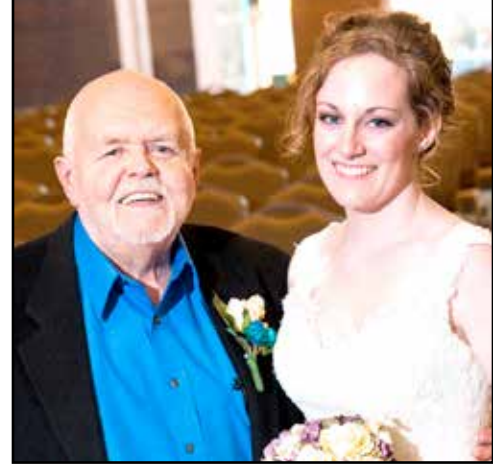
By NICOLE CONNER
CAVALETTO

I have known Lloyd for as long as I can remember. He was at sporting events, choir concerts, piano recitals, holiday dinners, and both my high school and college graduations. I cannot hear "O Holy Night" without hearing Lloyd's voice as he performed at Christmas Eve service. He is also the reason I never go out to dinner for my birthday. I was traumatized one too many times by Lloyd singing "Happy Birthday" at the top of his lungs in a very crowded restaurant. He took pictures everywhere he went, even if it was just a family dinner, which meant my family appeared in the newspaper like local celebrities followed by paparazzi. Lloyd was always around. But, whenever I try to describe my family's relationship to Lloyd, words never express it quite right.

"A friend of the family" does not accurately describe how much he means to us. Lloyd was seen with us so often that members of my family were frequently asked if Lloyd was related on my mom's side or my dad's. We are not related, but he is family. When I was younger, I thought of Lloyd almost like an uncle. It wasn't until my sister got married that he inherited a grandpa role. Our biological grandparents had been gone for some time, and Lloyd was asked to fill their role at the wedding festivities.

When I got married in 2015, I asked Lloyd to speak at the ceremony. This is how he introduced himself and his link to my family:

"For the course of some twenty-five years in Alamosa, and 6 years now in Fort Collins, I have been known as the sports guy, Cookie Monster, Papa Smurf, Uncle Sam, Santa Claus, but most importantly, I became the adopted grandpa for the Conner kids and the kids of Ron and Holly Dea. I have watched those kids grow and excel throughout their



lives. You can't imagine what those kids did for me, and Nicole was the Tweety Bird of my life ever since she was knee-high."

I don't know if that really helps explain our connection, but Lloyd certainly knew how to make a person feel special.

One Christmas, after spending the day as Santa around town, Lloyd came to my family's house. He arrived still dressed in his Santa suit and delivered presents to my brother and sister but did not appear to have anything left for me. I thought he had forgotten me, but I should have known better. Lloyd went back to his car and returned to the house with the biggest, stuffed gorilla I have ever seen. It was practically life-sized and larger than I was at the time. I now realize that gorilla was the perfect representation of Lloyd's love: enormous and a little hard to explain.

I am going to stop trying to explain it and end the same way Lloyd concluded his wedding speech. "How does one say 'I love you' in Norwegian? It goes 'Jeg elsker deg.' We can all say that today."

Lifestyle

Rotary marks century with donation

MONTE VISTA— The Monte Vista Rotary celebrated its 100th year by donating a \$10,000 check to the Ski Hi Event and Conference Center.



Courtesy Photo
Back row: Dianne Paulson, Vernon Keith, Gene Farris, Brian Haddican, Larry Foster. **Front row:** Maria Aguilar, Karla Shriver, and David Hinkley.

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New members appointed to the Colorado Sportsman's Roundtable

Nine new appointments announced

DENVER— Colorado Parks and Wildlife welcomes nine new members to the Colorado Sportsman's Roundtable, a group of both elected and appointed representatives that serve as liaisons between sportsmen and the agency. Each member is expected to serve two-year terms.

"The Roundtable offers CPW an opportunity to hear from engaged sportsmen and women directly on the most pressing issues related to wildlife management in Colorado," said CPW Director Dan Prenzl. "We greatly appreciate the service these volunteers provide to the State."

New statewide appointed members join the Roundtable from communities across the state including Snyder, Haswell, Antonito and Delta. They bring to the table a broad range of interests and experience including outfitting, big game hunting, private and public lands access, hunter education and recruitment, fishing and farming. They are:

- * Aaron Jones
- * Adam Oberheuer
- * Chloe Lomprey
- * Erik Myhre
- * Kim Kokesh
- * Ryan Britten
- * Sharon Dillon
- * Trent Peterson
- * Willie Kalaskie, a past Regional Caucus Delegate

For information about the Sportsman's Roundtable and opportunities to get involved, visit <http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/Roundtable.aspx>.



Courtesy Photo
 The Colorado Sportsman's Roundtable gathers at least twice each year with CPW officials to provide feedback about a broad range of interests related to hunting, fishing and trapping in Colorado. These interests include, but are not limited to recruitment of new sportsmen, hunting and fishing regulations, habitat conservation, and increasing opportunities to hunt and fish across the state.

No Escape Wrestling Clinic

ALAMOSA — On August 15 and 16 No Escape Wrestling Club will be holding a camp from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a one hour lunch break.

Ages 10 and up are invited (4 years experience preferred)

Prices are:
 \$125 if paid by 8/1
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For questions contact Ernesto Lopez at 719-588-2179 or email ernestolopez@adams.edu

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Lifestyle

Conour Animal Shelter

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

Animal Shelter. **To adopt or reclaim any of these pets**, contact Conour Animal Shelter at 852-3366 or 2825 Sherman Ave., Monte Vista, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Also, see www.slv-animalshelter.com.



This is Destiny, she is a female pitbull mix around 1 year old. She is very friendly with people and she has quite a bit of energy.



This is Lady, she is a lab mix around 2 years old. She is pretty shy, but she is friendly once she gets to know you. She is a fence climber, so she would need a tall and well fenced in area.



These are Lexi (left) and Roger (right), both are boxer mixes around 5 months old. They are a little timid at first but are friendly with people.



This is Rosie, she is female Pitbull mix around 2 years old. She is friendly with people and some other dogs.

Courtesy photos



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Lifestyle

CDOT unveils human cheese grater reminder

DENVER – Today, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Colorado State Patrol (CSP) unveiled a new eye-catching tactic to remind motorcyclists to wear helmets and other protective gear. The “Human Cheese Grater” is located at Performance Cycle, as well as several other locations throughout the state, and aims to remind motorcyclists that falling on asphalt at any speed can result in serious bodily injury or death.

“CDOT continues to find unique and engaging ways to urge motorcyclists to always wear helmets and other gear when riding,” said CDOT Highway Safety Manager Glenn Davis. “Protective gear is imperative to protecting the rider from injury, preventing fatalities and getting everyone home safely.”

The “Human Cheese Grater” will serve as a safety reminder to hundreds of customers at motorcycle dealers across the state, including:

- Apex Sports, 327 S Weber St, Colorado Springs, CO 80903
- Fay Myers Motorcycle World, 9700 E Arapahoe Rd, Greenwood Village CO, 80112
- Motorcycle Depot, 600 Telluride St Suite E, Aurora, CO 80011
- Performance Cycle, 7375 S Fulton St, Centennial, CO 80112
- Rocky Mountain Harley-Davidson, 2885 W. County Line Road, Littleton, CO 80129
- Tri City Cycle and Full Throttle Motorcycle Training, 3675 Clydesdale Pkwy, Loveland, CO 80538

approximately 75 percent of fatal motorcycle crashes are caused by the motorcycle rider,” said Major Tim Keeton of the Colorado State Patrol. “This tells me if I make personal decisions to get the proper training, wear the proper protective gear, and most importantly make responsible decisions, I can do a lot to keep myself safe on a motorcycle!”

Proper gear includes boots that cover the ankles, riding pants and jacket, gloves, eye protection and a helmet. In addition to wearing proper gear, CDOT urges motorcyclists to:

- Receive professional training.
- All motorcyclists should receive professional training. Longtime riders should go to training classes for a refresher every few years.
- Follow all traffic laws.
- All motorcyclists are re-

quired to follow the rules of the road. In Colorado, lane splitting is illegal.

Ride sober. Even one drink can decrease reaction times, coordination, vision, judgement and concentration, all of which are crucial when operating a motorcycle.

“If I didn’t have my helmet on I wouldn’t be here today,” said Michael Fales of Aurora, who crashed his bike on Memorial Day in 2017. “The side of the helmet was severely scraped, my motorcycle jacket was torn up, and my boots were chewed up. The bike flipped over and landed on my leg and broke it.”

In 2019 there were 103 motorcyclists killed on Colorado roads, accounting for 17% of all roadway deaths. Motorcycles comprise only 3% of vehicles on the road. So far this year, 63 motor-



cyclists have been killed in traffic crashes, up 13% from this time last year. From 2011 to 2019, motorcyclist fatalities have increased more than 32%. In addition to the “Human Cheese Grater,” CDOT launched a social media

campaign encouraging riders to wear proper gear. CDOT motorcycle safety efforts are part of CDOT’s Whole System – Whole Safety campaign which aims to reduce fatalities and injuries and “Bring everyone home safely.”

Colorado families with school-aged students to begin receiving Pandemic-EBT food benefits

DENVER — The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), in collaboration with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), is pleased to announce that Coloradans with school-enrolled children will begin to receive food benefits through the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program starting Wednesday, July 22. This effort will help support Colorado’s families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

More than 360,000 Colorado children are eligible for P-EBT benefits, which will reimburse families for the free and reduced-price meals that students missed while schools were closed in March, April and May because of COVID-19.

Families who participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (also known as SNAP, or food stamps), and whose children attend a school that participates in the National School Lunch Program, can expect to have benefits automatically loaded onto their EBT cards between July 22 and July 31. Eligible families who don’t receive an automatic payment will need to apply for P-EBT funds.

“We know many Colorado families are struggling to pay bills and feed their children, and this is one way we can help provide access to nutritious food and meet the needs of Coloradans during this difficult time,” said CDHS Food and Energy Assistance Director Karla Maraccini. “When used in conjunction with grab-and-go meals, these P-EBT benefits will be a great tool in ensuring Colorado’s children receive healthy meals.”

The P-EBT program is designed to reimburse households for meals missed during school closures for those who are enrolled in or eligible for the Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program (FRLP). Benefits are calculated in the amount of \$5.70 per student per day of school closure. Households with students who are already enrolled in FRLP will receive a lump sum of \$279 per eligible child (49 days of closure at \$5.70 a day). A child newly eligible but not previously enrolled will receive the appropriate amount for the days they are determined eligible for P-EBT.

Eligible families include those with children in pre-school, Early Childhood Education (ECE) and pre-K through grade 12 who are enrolled in a school that participates in the NSLP. This includes public, private and charter schools. Students who attend some online schools are also eligible, as are special needs students aged 18 to 22.

Some families may need to apply for P-EBT benefits, and the application will be made available in the last week of July on the CDHS website. Those instances can include:

If families do not automatically receive P-EBT funds on their current EBT card or if they did not get SNAP for all three months

(March, April and May), they may qualify for more P-EBT benefits and should apply.

Eligible students who were not receiving food assistance in March, April and May will need to apply for the P-EBT benefit.

If families can’t find or don’t have their EBT card,

they will need to submit an application and then request a new card at PEBT2020@state.co.us. In this email, they will need to include the applicant’s name, date of birth, mailing address, phone number, State Issued ID Number, and P-EBT application reference number.

All applicants will need their student’s State Issued ID number (also referred to as a SASID), which should have been provided to them by their school or school district (school contact information can be found here).

In addition to supporting healthy and wholesome

meals for Colorado’s eligible school-age children, P-EBT is expected to bring more than \$110 million of federal money into the state’s economy through food retailers.

P-EBT was created under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (H.R. 6201) as an important opportunity

to provide nutritional resources to families who are losing or lost access to free or reduced-priced school meals as schools across Colorado closed in response to COVID-19.

More information can be found at www.colorado.gov/cdhs/p-ebt.

kids' corner

ANIMAL FACT:

THIS SEA CREATURE IS A LARGE MOLLUSK THAT RESIDES INSIDE A CONICAL SHELL.

ANSWER: CONCH

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Coast
SPANISH: Costa
ITALIAN: Costa
FRENCH: Côte
GERMAN: Küste

What’s the Difference?
 There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

Answers: 1. Rope on swing missing 2. Boat missing 3. Extra rock in water 4. Distant island bigger

Did you know?

FLIP-FLOPS ARE WORN ALL SUMMER LONG, ESPECIALLY WHEN WALKING ALONG THE COASTLINE. SIMILAR FOOTWEAR WAS ONCE WORN BY ANCIENT EGYPTIANS.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: LIGHTHOUSE

THIS DAY IN...

HISTORY

- 1810: CITIZENS OF BOGOTÁ DECLARE THEIR INDEPENDENCE FROM SPAIN.
- 1969: ASTRONAUT NEIL ARMSTRONG BECOMES THE FIRST MAN TO WALK ON THE MOON.
- 2015: THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA RESUME FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AFTER FIVE DECADES.

New word

TIDE

alternate rising and falling of the sea



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Public Notices

CONEJOS COUNTY SEMI ANNUAL REPORT 01/01/20 Through 06/30/20

Page: 1

Table with columns: FUND, BEGINNING BALANCE, REVENUES TAXES AND INTEREST, INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS, SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP, MISCELLANEOUS, DISBURSEMENTS TRANSFERS (OUT), TREASURER'S FEES, WARRANTS, ACH & CHECKS PAID, ENDING BALANCE. Includes various fund categories like CASH ON HAND, COUNTY GENERAL, ROAD & BRIDGE, etc.

Cash on hand 400.00 State of Colorado)
Community Banks of Colorado 1,145,342.34)ss
Investments 7,930,808.14 County of Conejos)
Balance as of June 30, 2020 \$9,076,550.48
I, Mack M. Crowther, Conejos County Treasurer, do hereby certify that the following Fund Balances & Investment Balances to the best of my knowledge and ability are true and correct as they appear from the records in my office June 30, 2020.
In witness, I hereby place my hand & official seal this 16th day of July 2020.
Matthew Jowers
Chairperson
Conejos County Clerk & Recorder
Mack M. Crowther
Conejos County Treasurer
Published in the Valley Courier July 22, 2020 No. 1543 Published in the Valley Courier on July 22, 2020.

CONCERNING THE ABANDONMENT LIST OF WATER RIGHTS IN ALAMOSA COUNTY

The Division Engineer, in accordance with §37-92-401, Colorado Revised Statutes (2019), has compiled the list of absolute water rights that he or she "has determined to have been abandoned in whole or in part and which previously have not been adjudged to have been abandoned."

A complete list of water rights that have been abandoned, in the opinion of the Division Engineer, may be found on the Division of Water Resources (DWR) website https://www.colorado.gov/water.
If you wish to object to the inclusion of any water right on the Division Engineer's abandonment list, you must file a written statement of objection with the Division Engineer by July 1, 2021. We request that objections be submitted using DWR's Abandonment Objection Form, which can be obtained on the DWR website (search keyword "Abandonment 2020") or from any The Abandonment List, with any revisions made as a result of written statements of objection, will be filed with the Water Court by December 31, 2021. Once the list is adjudged by the entry of a decree by the Water Court, such decree will be conclusive as to the abandonment of the water right.

In the following table, U indicates units of either C=cts or A=acre-ft. The uses being abandoned are either 'All Uses' indicating all decreed uses of the water right, or the individual uses listed, such as Irr=Irrigation. If any aspect of the decreed place of use is being abandoned, that is indicated by 'Yes' in the Place column.

WATER DIVISION 3 ABANDONMENT LIST

Table with columns: Structure Name, Water Source, Decried Uses, Aband, Remain, U, Abandoned, Place. Lists various wells and their associated water rights and abandonment status.

Table with columns: Well ID, Status, Date, etc. Lists wells like W1805 WELL NO 03, W1864 WELL NO 07, etc., and their abandonment details.

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the herein-after Described Land, Lot or Premises and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having an Interest or Title of Record in or to the said Premises and to Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:
1) Edgar D Twibell, whose last known address was 9 Rancho de Leonardo, Santa Fe, NM 87506-1147.
THE WEST HALF OF THE WEST HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 34 NORTH, RANGE 10 EAST OF THE SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, SUBJECT TO EXISTING RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND EASEMENTS, IF ANY, AND RESERVING HEREBY A NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR ROAD PURPOSES ALONG THE NORTH 30 FEET OF SAID PROPERTY LOCATED IN CONEJOS COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO.
You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 19th day of November A.D. 2014, the then County Treasurer of the County of Conejos, in the State of Colorado, offered for sale at a public tax lien sale the above described real estate situated in the County of Conejos, State of Colorado, to satisfy the delinquent taxes assessed against said real estate for the year 2013.
That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of Edgar W. Twibell, for the said year 2013.
That at said sale, said real estate was struck off to Conejos County; whose address is P.O. Box 97, Conejos, CO 81129 and the Treasurer's Certificate of Purchase was issued therefore to Conejos County. And whereas, the said Conejos County whose address is PO Box 97, town of Conejos, County of Conejos and State of Colorado, did on the 27th day of May A.D. 2020 assign the certificate of sale of the tax lien on said property aforesaid and all his rights, title and interest in said property to Elgment, LLC, whose address is 5880 Highway 6, Suite 214, Town of Missouri City, County of Fort Bend, State of Texas; and as present holder of the certificate he has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for deeds to said real estate.
That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said real estate to the said Elgment, LLC at 3:00 P.M. on the 11th day of November A.D. 2020 unless the same has been redeemed.
Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.
Witness my hand and seal this 22nd day of July A.D. 2020.
Mack M. Crowther
Conejos County Treasurer
No. 1548
Published in the Valley Courier on July 22, 29, and August 5, 2020.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Sealed bids in an envelope marked:
Town of Romeo Water System Improvements
The Town of Romeo (hereinafter called the "Owner") will receive sealed bids for the Water System Improvements (the "Project") at the Town of Romeo Town Hall 149 2nd Avenue, Romeo, CO 81148 until 9:00 AM, August 21st. At such time, Bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud.
Plans, specifications, and bid forms will be distributed electronically. Plans can be downloaded at www.elementengineering.net under "Project Bidding" and will be available on July 23rd, 2020 at 4:00 P.M. The charge for plans is \$40.00. A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at the Project Site on August 6th at 9:00 AM.
Bids shall be made on the forms furnished by the Owner and shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope and endorsed with the name of the Bidder. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in an amount of at least 5% of the Bid, in the form of a bid bond. A QuestCDN username and login will be required to download documents. The QuestCDN Project Number for this project is 7218527. The bond will be retained by the Owner if the successful bidder refuses or fails to enter into a contract with the Owner. Bids shall be valid for ninety (90) consecutive calendar days from the bid date.
The Project consists of replacing an existing booster pump station and vertical turbine pump with a new booster pump station and vertical turbine pump, new sodium hypochlorite feed system, new backup generator, and installing new water meters at all domestic water services. Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis.
Bidders are hereby advised that the Owner reserves the right to not award a Contract until ninety (90) days from the date of the opening of Bids, and Bidders expressly agree to keep their Bids open for the ninety (90) day time period. Owner reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, to waive any informality, technicality or irregularity in any Bid, to disregard all non-conforming, non-responsive, conditional or alternate Bids, to negotiate contract terms with the Successful Bidder, to require statements or evidence of Bidders' qualifications, including financial statements, and to accept the proposal that is in the opinion of the Owner in its best interest. Owner reserves the right to accept any combination of Bids which in Owner's sole, and absolute judgment will, under all circumstances, best serve the Owner's interests. Owner also reserves the right to extend the Bidding period by Addendum if it appears in its interest to do so.
Please note that the project is funded in part by the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service and is subject to all program requirements.
No. 1553
Published in the Valley Courier on July 22, and 29, 2020.

Classifieds

369 - PETS & SUPPLIES

WOOPS! GOT PUPPIES who need a home? San Luis Valley Animal Welfare Society is a nonprofit animal rescue dedicated to stopping the euthanasia of healthy adoptable pets. Having pets altered is the number one way to stop pet overpopulation. If your pet has had puppies contact us. We will take the puppies into our rescue and spay the mama dog for free after the puppies are weaned. If needed we will also provide dog food & gas money to get the dogs to us to help in this situation. Spay/neuter is one of the greatest gifts you can provide your pet, your family and your community. We have found good responsible homes for over 8,000 animals. Contact 719-587-9663 (WOOF); email: woof@slvaws.org. (TFN)

415 - HOMES FOR SALE

FOR SALE BY Owner! 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom. 98 El Rio. Call 719-589-6921.(8/19)

415 - HOMES FOR SALE

2-HOMES, 5.2 ACRES, 3 wells, RV spot with all hookups, chicken house, corrals. \$175,000. Call 970-640-9562.(7/25)

601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting Applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family living at an affordable price. **Immediate Availability**

Casa de Cortez
751 Mussman Lane Center, CO
754-3261
Rental assistance available to qualified households.

TTY
1-800-659-2656
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

RENT 1 BEDROOM Apt Alamosa some utilities included 800-641-3750 / 719-480-3932. (8/19)

601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting Applications for 2 Bedroom Apartments. **Newly remodeled Units Immediate Availability**

Valle Vista Apartments
58 E. Central Ave. Center, CO
754-2608
Rental assistance available to qualified households.

TTY
1-800-659-2656
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601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting Applications for 2 & 3 bedroom family units. Family living at an affordable price. **Immediate Availability**

Valley Grande Apartments
2256 East Drive Monte Vista, CO
852-4302
Rental assistance available to qualified households.

TTY
1-800-659-2656
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

611 - HOMES FOR RENT

AVAILABLE MID-AUGUST: ONE-ROOM cabin, just west of Wal-Mart. New paint, flooring. Has wood stove. \$350 per month plus propane heat. \$350 deposit. 719-298-7319. (7/31)

702 - AUTOS FOR SALE

1996 OLDSMOBILE 4 door Sedan. Fully Loaded. Good on gas. Call 719-580-5745.(7/28)

713 - PICK-UP TRUCKS

F350 1 TON dually with 12ft bed. 61,000 miles. \$5800 / OBO. Call 720-201-3855 (7/22)

736 - ATVS & MOTORCYCLES

2003 HD ULTRA Classic Electra Glide 100th Anniversary Edition. 35k miles \$12,000 OBO. 719-206-0292.(9/11)

206 BONNEY FOR RENT. \$1,000 per month, \$1,000 deposit. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Available August 1st, 1yr lease. Call 719-480-3777.(8/11)

LOOKING FOR AN APARTMENT OR HOME FOR RENT? We have the best ones! Call Eclipse Property Management at 719-581-RENT or visit our website at RentEclipse.com.(TFN-6/27)

1 BEDROOM WITH washer/dryer. Across from ASU. Call 719-251-3597.(7/31)

TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT for rent \$800 includes utilities. Call Glenna 719-580-3720.(7/22)

Accepting Applications for waiting list for 2 & 3 bedroom family units. Handicap accessible units available. **Immediate Availability**

West View Villas
510 Dunham Monte Vista, CO
852-3949

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620 STORAGE UNITS

POTATO STORAGE RENT or buy 26,000 cwt capacity in Center. Good. \$49,900 / OBO buy or \$16,900 rent 588-2425.(8/29)

2005 HD SPORTSTER 1200. Custom bars, LED Signals, side pipes, bags, seat. 10k.miles. Very clean. \$6,500 OBO 719-206-0292.(9/11)

NEED CATS FOR MOUSERS? Want to adopt kittens? Help trap/neuter/release efforts? Donate food/litter/supplies? Low cost spay/neuter clinic for cats. http://www.catsaliveslv.com 719-298-7028. (TFN)

FREE TO GOOD HOME. Adults and kittens. NO MOUSERS OR BARN CATS. Spay/neuter clinics coming to Alamosa in near future. Call Donna K 719-589-5952 or 719-580-9078. (TFN)

387 - WANTED TO BUY

LOOKING FOR A 2 or 3 bedroom Mobile Home 1981 or higher for \$15,000 or under. Call or text 719-580-9525(TFN-E)

409 FARM & RANCH LAND

PASTURE FOR RENT. 46 acres. Stock well. 4 miles east of Alamosa. Call 913-626-8573.(8/5)

507 - BOATS & MARINE EQUIP.

18FT MISTY HARPER Platoon boat. Mercury classic 50 outboard with trailer and extras. \$4000. Call 719-671-0923.(7/31)

525 GUNS

ZACH'S EUROPEAN MOUNTS. Professional work, low prices. 719-580-0398. (TFN)

601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting Applications for 2 Bedroom Apartments - Handicap Units Available. Rent based on income for qualified households.

Gateway Villa Apartments
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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Beach location
 - 6 Flour infester
 - 12 Remove cargo
 - 14 Start burning
 - 15 Posh
 - 16 Humble
 - 17 Pen point
 - 18 Tire pressure meas.
 - 19 Stick-in-the- —
 - 21 Dale's favorite cowboy
 - 23 Doze
 - 26 Check for accuracy
 - 27 Pinch
 - 28 Heron
 - 30 Hgt.
 - 31 Buckeyes' sch.
 - 32 Comment to the audience
 - 33 Intersects
 - 35 Used a pew
 - 37 — Bernardino
- DOWN**
- 1 Re-chewed chow
 - 2 Dollar bill
 - 3 Sum total
 - 4 Noise
 - 5 Ride-seeker's shout
 - 6 Weak and ineffectual
 - 7 Psyche components
 - 8 Conclusions
 - 9 Strive to win
 - 10 — up to you
 - 11 Be a landlord
 - 13 Wreckage
 - 19 Brawls
 - 20 Puts into words
 - 22 Musical works
 - 24 Up and about
 - 25 Petty scholar
 - 26 Boot upper
 - 27 Curious
 - 28 Hits the buffet
 - 29 Sawbucks
 - 34 Shiver
 - 36 It turns litmus blue
 - 42 Realtor
 - 43 Entertain
 - 45 NFL players
 - 47 Coal measures
 - 48 Producer — Roach
 - 49 Fish roe
 - 50 Gym cushion
 - 52 Unpaid, as a bill
 - 53 Blunder
 - 54 Musical notes



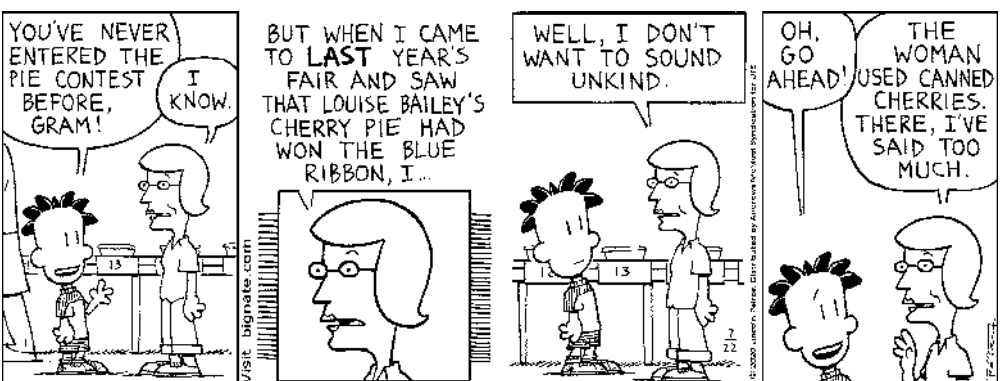
ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



BIG NATE



THE BORN LOSER



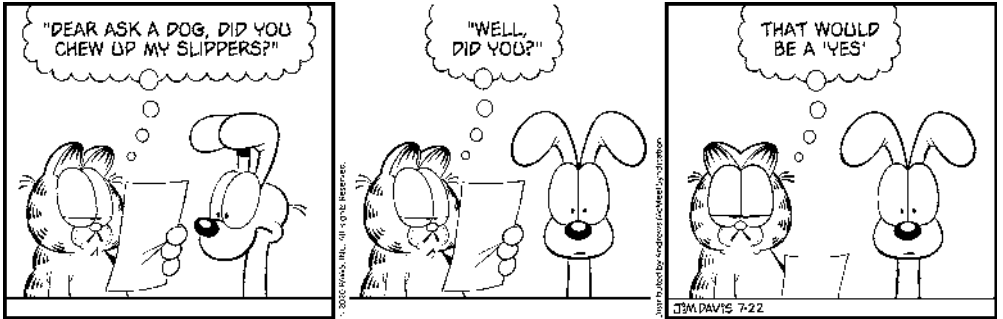
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



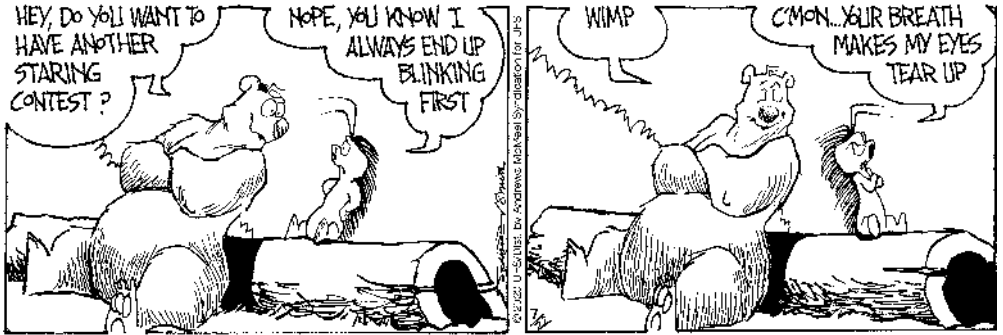
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



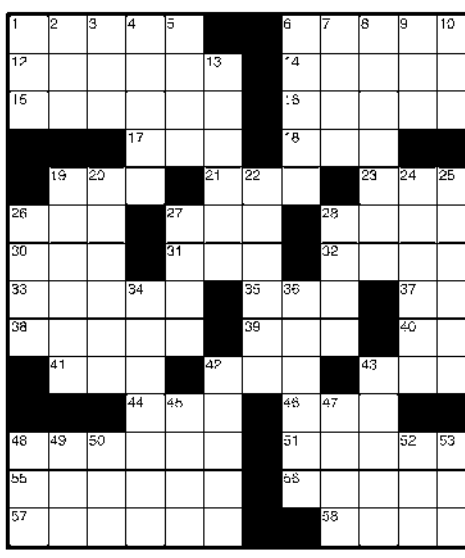
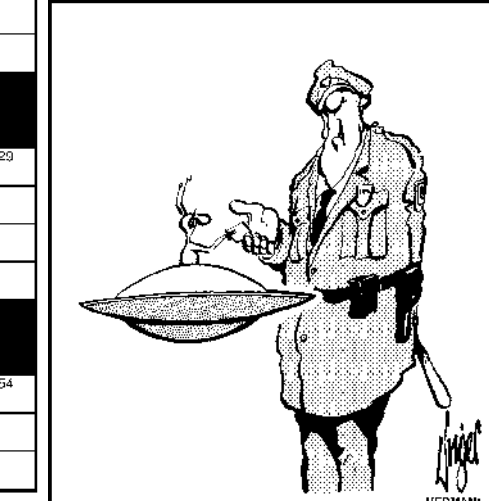
THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



HERMAN



CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

" P F W V A T A L R G V - B U G R N T V X R F K V ' O
 N F T V S R B J T V ' O Z R R M P F T B O W C B Z ,
 W V X W H W X B T Z T V X X W C C F L F V O ."
 — O G W A A S

TODAY'S CLUE: A stenbe H

Previous Solution: "I consider myself a method singer, not a method actor. I applied method acting to singing." — Tony Bennett

Terms of endearment have opposite effect on woman

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I are middle-aged. We have been together for 2 1/2 years. I love him, and I'm grateful for such a wonderful man at this point in my life. My problem is, he calls me "Sweet Baby" every single time he addresses me. ("Sweet Baby, what do you need help with?" "Sweet Baby, I am on my way." "What did you say, Sweet Baby?") Even when it comes to trying to be affectionate, he'll say, "You're my sweet baby, aren't you?" He asks this over and over and over, and then says, "You're my sweet baby."

relationship. I feel that by ignoring my request, he is being rude. Your advice? -- CRINGING IN THE SOUTH

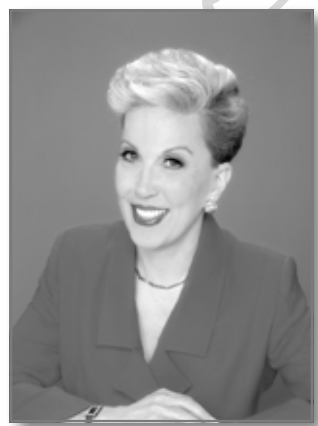
DEAR CRINGING: Your boyfriend may be following a script he has written in his head. Has it occurred to you that "Sweet Baby" may be what he has called ALL the women in his life -- which would make it less a term of endearment than rote recitation?

After two years of this, you should have made clear to him that "Sweet Baby" is not only not having the desired effect, but it's making you cringe. While you are at it, tell him plainly that you have an aversion to pet names like "Big Daddy" because one daddy was enough for you, and you neither want nor need another one.

If you can't communicate what you really feel, then indeed this romance isn't going to last, so you might as well speak up.

DEAR ABBY: My 14-year-old son and I recently went to visit family a few hours away. We stayed at my mother's home. My mother overheard him talking to his male friend about engaging in sexual activity with him. He thought everyone was asleep when she overheard the conversation.

I never suspected that my son might be gay or



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

bi. She told me in private the next day. Should I say something to him about what she heard? I don't want to embarrass him, and my mother doesn't want him knowing what she heard. Should I keep quiet? -- CAUGHT BY SURPRISE IN TEXAS

DEAR CAUGHT: Your mother may have misinterpreted what she heard. Your son is at an age when he is trying to figure out who he is. I don't think it would be constructive to talk to him about what she told you, so bide your time. Let him know you love him and are always available to listen and talk with him about anything that might concern him. But the topic of his sexual orientation should be raised by him, not you.