



Valley Courier

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JULY 11, 2020

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SLV Today
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.

From 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM for all other patrons.

We will be enforcing social distancing so please wear and mask, limit the number of members of your household coming to the market, and be prepared to be efficient with your time at the market.

SDC BOE Meeting

MOSCA—The Sangre de Cristo School Board of Education regular monthly meeting will be on Tuesday July 14th, 2020 in the school library at 8751 Lane 7 North, Mosca CO with an Executive Session from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. and an Open Session starting at 6:30 p.m.

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SLV WEATHER

Sunny 93/ 50

Sat: Scattered Showers 89 / 51

Sun: Mostly Sunny 89 / 52

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Toastmasters use technology to connect

By **DAWN KREBS**
Special of the Valley Courier

ALAMOSA — This year so far has been far from the usual for everyone, including non-profit groups here in Alamosa and the San Luis Valley.

An example of one is Toastmasters International, a club with a chapter based in Alamosa for those who want to practice public speaking and leadership skills. According to Alamosa Toastmasters Club President Tyler Keck, the group has been around for many years in various forms. The international organization's headquarters is based here in Colorado, but has more than 358,000 members in more than 143 countries.

"We officially became a chartered club with Toastmasters International in December of 2019," he said. "This was very exciting, especially for those that have been involved for many years."

As of that date, the club has 21 members located throughout the San Luis Valley, including Alamosa, Monte Vista, La Jara and San Luis. Based in Alamosa, the club would normally be meeting once a week in the conference center at the Bridge in Alamosa. Because of COVID, the group switched to an online form of meetings.

"COVID created a number of changes in the club, starting with us being conscious of the health and safety of the individuals at the Bridge," Keck explained. Since March, the club has continued its meetings using Zoom, and in this

digital age, has given all of our members a chance to become better at running, facilitating and mastering online meetings."

The new online format, however, is not the same as meeting in person.

"We have had a couple of members that have decided to wait until we can resume in-person meetings," he said. "But our core group has adapted well and continues to meet each week. Meeting online has allowed us to continue to share vital information and enhance our communication. Our club has found the ability to see someone's face - albeit not in person - is still far better than just hearing a voice on a phone conversation."

■ See **TOAST** page 3



Courtesy photos
Top, The Alamosa Toastmasters Club celebrates receiving its official charter in December 2019. Right, Tyler Keck, club president of Alamosa Toastmasters, uses the online platform Zoom to hold weekly meetings of the Alamosa Toastmasters Club.



Changes to Daily updates

COVID appears to stay on recent trend of decline in Valley

SAN LUIS VALLEY — One new case for the SLV was reported since Thursday: 1 from Conejos County. The total number of cumulative cases as of Friday was 451. There were 35 known active cases in our region as of Friday night.

SLV Emergency will be making some changes to the daily update format. The updates will be shorter than they have been in the past. There will continue

to be daily information about new cases, with a bit more in-depth look at statistics and trends once a week, and possibly a weekly FAQ if needed. Other daily numbers you have become accustomed to seeing at the beginning of the daily updates will continue to be available and updated weekdays at slvemergency.org/slv-covid-19/. Everyone who would like to keep up with the latest guidance and status updates for the State of Colorado is encouraged to check back regularly on the Colorado COVID page at <https://covid19.colorado.gov/>.

If you wish to pursue testing,

there are several testing clinics scheduled for July around the Valley. You must call the day before to schedule an appointment:

Tuesday, July 14 from 9-11 at Guadalupe Health Center in Antonito. Call 719-587-2874 on Monday, July 13th starting at 8am to schedule an appointment.

Tuesday, July 21 from 8-11 at Mountain Valley School parking lot in Saguache, need to call 719-587-2901 on July 20th starting at 8 am

You may also contact your primary care provider or one of the numbers listed below to

begin the screening process: For symptomatic individuals only, call:

Rio Grande Hospital 719-657-4990

SLV Health 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

Public Health Advisory for COVID-19

Issued for Alamosa County, Colorado

Issued at 2:00 PM MDT, Friday, July 10, 2020

Affected Area: Alamosa County.

Advisory in Effect: 2:00 PM MDT Friday, July 10, 2020 until further notice.

On March 18, 2020 the Board of County Commissioners of Alamosa County, Colorado declared a Local Disaster Emergency due to COVID-19. COVID-19 is a highly contagious virus that has spread worldwide and is causing serious

illness or even death in certain cases. A key transmission route for COVID-19 is by droplet spread when speaking, coughing, sneezing, or sneezing; research shows that covering your mouth and nose when around others, reduces the rate of infection of the virus.

Due to the ongoing presence of COVID-19 in Alamosa County and the San Luis Valley, all persons are strongly advised to wear a face covering while in all locations open to the public within Alamosa County, or when waiting in line to enter. Face coverings can be: bandanas, medical masks, cloth masks, buffs and gaiters.

There are some situations

where wearing a mask may not be possible: persons in restaurants or other food establishments when they are eating or drinking; persons 3 years of age or younger; persons for whom a face covering would cause impairment due to an existing health condition; or persons who, because of a disability, are unable to wear a face covering.

For the latest COVID-19 information, visit: <https://covid19.colorado.gov/>

For the latest information on local or regional conditions and advisories in the San Luis Valley, visit: <http://www.slvemergency.org/>



slv-covid-19/SocialMedia: Find us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/alamosa-publichealth> or on Twitter at [@alamosacountyph](https://twitter.com/alamosacountyph)

Tickets on sale for Round-UP

ALAMOSA - The 2020 Alamosa Round-UP is "Taking the Leap!" The Round-UP will go on, August 27-30, 2020 as scheduled.

The coronavirus has stolen a lot from the community this year already, the Alamosa Round-UP is committed to not being one of those stolen things.

"This community and the people that live here mean a lot to us, this is home and this event is important," said Dawn Honeycutt. "Our Western Heritage is important, and having a fun, family friendly, community event is important."

The crowd size and

ticket sales will be very limited, so that the Governor's guidelines can be adhered to. (less than 15% of normal capacity) The Round-UP is working with the Health Dept. to ensure the safety of all involved. Social distancing and the wearing of masks are recommended.

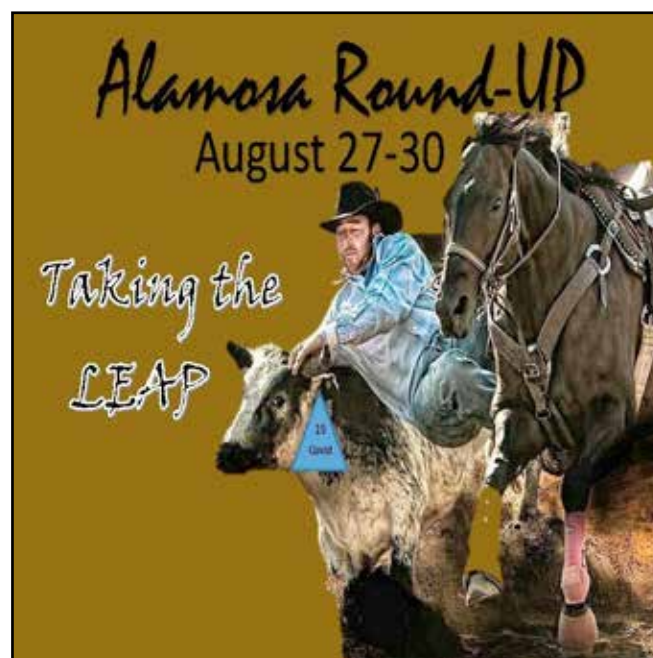
Tickets are on sale now, online only. Visit the Alamosa Round-UP website (www.alamosaroundup.com) for tickets to the PRCA Rodeos, the Chancey Williams and the Younger Brothers Band Concert, the demolition derbies and to sign up for the mutton busting. No tickets will be sold at the events, and the

tickets are expected to go fast and sell out.

All mutton busting entries will be online only. The cost is \$25 and will include the family's entry into the event Thursday August 27, 2020 at 6:30pm. No other tickets will be sold for this event. The mutton busting is open to kids 4-7 years old. Helmets and vest will be provided.

Also new this year there will be two demolition derby performances to allow more people to enjoy the metal crashing action. Both demolition derbies will be held Sunday, August 30 at 11 a.m. and 4 pm.

■ See **TIX** page 3



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Record

OBITUARIES

Maurice Weir Smith

SANFORD — Maurice Weir Smith, 94 of Glendale, passed away peacefully, Saturday, July 4, 2020, at home with his family by his side. He was born in Sanford CO on Oct. 24, 1925.

His early years were spent on The V Heart Ranch near Sanford. He talked of those years and putting up hay with teams of horses and the Mormon hay derricks that use to be a common sight around the southern part of the Valley. In 1939 his father bought the McKelvey Farm west of La Jara on the Capulin highway. He was very fond of those years, a much more mechanized period he and his siblings welcomed. He loved the farm and the life that it offered into his teen years. He also developed a passion for airplanes. His brother Thales talked about the many airplane models hanging from the ceiling in the bedroom they shared. Thales joked about how many times he got tangled up in "Those d—n Airplanes".

When he started driving and saved enough money he took flight instruction at Bergman Field in Alamosa and received his private pilot license in his late teens. After the war broke out and he graduated from high school in La Jara he enlisted in The Army Air Corps with dreams "like so many young men of the time" of becoming a fighter pilot. He spoke of the challenge of how many friends in the program got "washed out" and the constant threat of being next. Any minor slip up and you were gone!

He graduated from Advanced Fighter School and received his Wings Sept. 8, 1945. He had orders to a P51 Squadron in his hands, went on leave for a week after graduation and when he got back from leave all orders were cancelled. The war ended and they didn't need fighter pilots any longer. He never



got to fly a P51.

While on military active duty for two more years he continued to ferry military planes across the United States. He enrolled at Northern Arizona College into a Military Program to continue his education. While he was stationed at Williams Air Field in Mesa, AZ he met his future wife Sylvia Jean Hancock of Mesa AZ. He was discharged and they were married on June 5, 1947. After being discharged from active duty he continued to serve in the Air Force Reserve for 27 years when he retired as a Lt. Colonel.

Maurice and Sylvia made their home on the family farm partnering with his father. Four children were born to this union. After 14 years on the family farm, needing more production for their survival, Maurice bought a farm in the Carmel District where they farmed until the children finished school. They sold the Carmel farm in 1975 and moved to Alamosa. He began selling and appraising real estate until 1994 at which point he and Sylvia retired and moved to Glendale AZ. While in the valley he flew charter flights for the Alamosa airport. He had a commercial license with an instrument rating and flew for Coors for the weather modification program. During this time some farmers in the area gave him a lot of grief about how he was changing the

weather. He retained his pilot's license and passed flight physicals into his early 70's.

Preceding him in death wife Sylvia, his father Weir, mother Annie, brother Thales, brother Kelly, sister JoAnne and son Michael. He is survived by his children, Vianne (Richard) Coleman of Council Bluffs IA, Michelle Smith of Glendale AZ, and Mark (Markie) Smith of Alamosa CO. His Grandchildren Cari (Jordan) Harger of Overland Park KS, Andrew (Dana) Coleman of Papillon NE, Zachary (Aimee) Smith of Lakewood CO, Cheyenne (Tim) Whipple of Phoenix AZ. There are nine great-grandchildren. The family requests no flowers or donations, please. For those who would like to share a memory of offer condolences to the Smith Family, you can go to <https://www.meldrummortuary.com/obituaries/maurice-smith-16/>. A celebration of life in Alamosa will be held at a later date. To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Maurice Weir Smith please visit our Sympathy Store.

Hoping there are airplanes in Heaven

Jack Gilbert Carmichael 86

MOSCA — Jack Carmichael was born July 17, 1933, in Indianapolis, Indiana to Gilbert William Carmichael and Mildred Imo Sett. Jack was an Army Veteran. Married his wife Mary Lou Carmichael 11 years ago. Survived by his wife Mary Lou Carmichael, Son Jack (Misty) Carmichael, Sister Janice (Bruce) Roberts and Brother Dick Carmichael. Grandkids are Karley, Paton, Cindy and Kristy Carmichael.



Jack is preceded in death by mother and father, sister Mildred Carmichael, brother Bob

Carmichael, daughters Jacklyn Carmichael and Misty Dawn Carmichael. Cremation was chosen. Service will be held on July 13, 2020, at 1 pm at the Hooper Baptist Church.

Ronald Jay Nielson

SANFORD — Ronald Jay Nielson, known to friends and family as "Soupy," passed away on January 20, 2020, at the age of 64. Soupy graduated from Sanford High School and later trained in diesel mechanic and tractor service technician operating his own service truck. He later spent many years as an over the road truck driver. A native of Sanford, Colorado, he was known for his whole-hog barbeque and custom-made knife business. Soupy was



always willing to help a friend or spend time visiting and telling stories. Those who knew him will miss his annual fruit run bringing back the best apples, peaches, pears,

and tomatoes to those in the southern San Luis Valley.

Per Soupy's request, there were no funeral or services held. There will be a barbeque on July 18, 2020, at Betty and Jesse Rogers' shop in Sanford, Colorado, so friends and family can gather, eat, and share memories and stories as Soupy did. To express condolences to the family, please visit www.RogersFunerals.com

Rogers Family Mortuary in Alamosa is in care of the arrangements.

Adolph Arellano

ALAMOSA — Adolph Arellano, Passed away on June 30, 2020. Born February 24, 1960, to Jose and Mary Arellano in Los Angeles, California. The family moved to Capulin, Colorado and settled there where he enjoyed spending most of his time on the ranch doing carpentry and helping his parents. He loved having barbeques, drinking coldies with friends, and going fishing. Unfortunately, he lost both of his parents, his favorite place to be their family ranch and lived the remainder of his life on the outs. Adolph made lots of friends because he was so friendly and kind to everyone he met. He always found a reason to smile, and his laugh was contagious. Adolph will always be known for being courteous to others and finding the good side to everything.



Adolph will live on through his daughter Stella Arellano, siblings

Lawrence (Loretta) Arellano of Alamosa, CO; Daniel (Frances) Arellano of Alamosa, CO; sister Lorraine Arellano, niece

Lisa, Nephew Jason, great niece and nephew Angel and Andres, special cousin Leona Avila. He is also survived by numerous other aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Adolph was preceded in death by his parents Jose and Mary Arellano as well as several aunts and uncles.

Cremation was chosen and a Memorial Service will be held at a later date. To leave online condolences please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. The arrangements have been placed in the care of Romero Funeral Homes of Alamosa.

Mary E. Vigil

Mary E. Vigil died on July 8, 2020 at home in Cheyenne, WY, she was 91.

Mary was born on October 28, 1928 in Questa NM to Jose and Adelina Martinez. For additional information please go to wrcfuneral.com.



VALLEY COURIER POLICY ON OBITUARIES

The Valley Courier charges a flat fee of \$30 for each obituary published. 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.

ALAMOSA POLICE REPORT

- Louie Espinoza 29 Alamosa Failed To Obey/Disregarded A Traffic Control Device
- Michael Steffen 52 Alamosa Unlawful Dumping Of Trash
- Jonathan Richardson 25 Alamosa Careless Driving
- Daniel Miller 19 Monte Vista Speeding
- Cristina Rodriguez 74 Fort Garland Careless Driving
- Luis Carlos Garcia Chavez 25 Alamosa Fail To Yield Right Of Way On Left Turn
- Francisco Corral Majalca 61 Center Speeding
- Angelica Duran 23 Alamosa Criminal Mischief
- Shania Charez 21 Alamosa Criminal Mischief
- Miranda Salazar 42 Alamosa Shoplifting
- Adam Aguilar 40 Alamosa Disorderly Conduct/Disturbing The Peace
- Caelan Phipps-Mills 30 Alamosa 4th Degree Arson Of A Residence
- Benjamin Crowley 40 Pueblo Displayed Expired Number Plates, Driving While Under Restraint/Suspended/Revoked As A Habitual, Failed To Present Evidence Of Insurance Upon Request
- Anthony Young 51 Alamosa Criminal Mischief, Resisting Or Obstructing An Officer, Obstructing A Peace Officer Firefighter Emergency Medical Services Provider Rescue Specialist Or Volunteer
- Michael Pacheco 33 Alamosa DUI, Drank From/Possessed An Open Alcoholic Beverage Container In A Motor Vehicle, Failed To Present Evidence Of Insurance Upon Request, Driving Under Restraint/Revoked
- Jaime Molinar 27 Alamosa Domestic Violence, Harassment
- Vincent Compos 42 Alamosa Violation Of Restraining Order
- Jonathon Espinoza 35 Alamosa 3rd Degree Assault, Domestic Violence, Harassment
- Justin Martinez 35 Cortez, CO Violation Of Restraining Order, Violation Of Restraining Order
- Brian Rodriguez 30 Manassa Unlawful Possession Of A Controlled Substance
- James Matthews 20 Alamosa Drove Vehicle Without Valid Drivers License, Number Plates To Be Attached, Failed To Present Evidence Of Insurance Upon Request
- Elias Heredia 45 Alamosa 2nd Degree Tampering
- Ernest Beverly 57 Alamosa Violation Of Restraining Order
- Weylen Vigil 25 Alamosa Unlawful Possession Of A Controlled Substance
- Ryan Burchett 30 Alamosa Domestic Violence, 2nd Degree Assault, Menacing, False Imprisonment, Harassment, Child Abuse.

ALAMOSA SHERIFF'S REPORT

6-21-2020
Aaron McKenzie, 38, of Alamosa was cited for having a dog at large at 205 Bonney Dr.

6-29-2020
Gabriel Alexander, 61, of Canon City was cited with speeding on Hwy 17.
Aaron Myers, 44, of Blanca was cited for driving with suspended license and expired registration at 300 Blk Broadway.
Jose Gonzales, 32, of Alamosa was cited with speeding at 7k Blk. county road 106.

6-30-2020
Allan Lopez, 23, of La Jara was cited for operating a vehicle without insurance at 17th St. and Edison St.
George Freeland, 82, of Fort Myers was cited for failure to use a turn signal at 1200 Blk Main. St.
Modesto Vasquez, 57, of Phoenix was cited for failure to stop at a stop sign at Hwy 17 and Hwy 160.

7-1-2020
Amber Randolph, 28, of Farmington was cited with speeding on Hwy 160.
Elizabeth Andersen, 35, of Salida was cited with speeding on Hwy 17.
Justin Dubos, 28, of Alamosa was cited with speeding at 3k Blk. county road 8.

7-5-2020

Anna Miller, 53, of Fort Garland was cited for failing to use a turn signal at Main and State Ave.

Jeremiah Dilley, 37, of Del Norte was cited with 2nd degree trespassing on county road 106.

7-7-2020
Sadeq Samer Sadeq, 38, of Imperial BCH, was cited with speeding on Hwy 17.
Yunior Jimenez Maquera, 30, of Miami Lakes was cited with speeding on Hwy 17.
Russ Espinoza, 53 of Antonito was cited for failure to stop at a stop sign, at West and 11th St.

School Menu
Monday
July 13, 2020

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Valley News

Centauri School plans

LA JARA—The North Conejos School District is examining possibilities for a safe return to school this fall. As such Superintendent Curt Wilson penned a letter to parents and students about the direction for the school this coming season.

Changing directives and recommendations from national and state health agencies surrounding the specifics of returning to school this fall certainly heightens anxiety and increases the demand for definitive answers. This letter is to address, to the best of our ability, to convey the details of our return to school plan based upon current status, are subject to change

based on directives from authorities, but are conveyed in the attempt to assist parents and students with the answers we can provide as of this date. A directive from our governor or health officials may cause slight or substantial changes, as school begins for students on August 19, and information changes daily. We want to allow time for your decisions to be made given the options below, and on July 20, 2020, we will send a parent survey to elicit parent choices so we can plan for the coming school year.

The NCSDD looks forward with anticipation and joy to announce its decision to return to 100% Monday through Thursday in-person instruction

for the 2020-21 school year. As of this date, we have the support of the Conejos County public health team and physician approval for the safety protocols outlined in the NCSDD Re-Opening plan, a general scope of which is listed below. As of today, the following has been approved as best practices:

- Recognize the health, safety and welfare of students and staff as a top priority.
- Acquisition and utilization of industrial air diffusers with products to combat/destroy virus and bacteria to be employed in each school
- Cleaning routines employed reflecting best practices directed and encouraged by CDC,

CDPHE and local health officials.

- Encouraging routines that teach interval hand washing and/or use of readily available hand sanitizers during the school day

- Practicing social distancing in all phases of the school day to the extent possible given building limitations.

Examples include, but not limited to staggered lunch times, use of grab and go lunches with outside eating when

weather permits, recess in cohort groups, classroom transitions staggered, classroom seating that maximizes space

available, cohorts staying together when all possible, all to the extent

possible, and other practices as feasible.

- Temperature checks, non-invasive manner: first, at home by parents; second, by bus drivers; and checks upon entrance for all students/staff and visitors
- Asking parents to keep kids home who are ill or demonstrate symptoms
- School staff and students encouraged to wear masks
- Following CDC guidelines when/if an outbreak occurs in conjunction with local health official's recommendations
- Providing students the option of enrolling in the NCSDD online program Oddyseware versus in person instruction, and utilization of Google Classrooms for on-site students affected by COVID

or other serious health issues.

*Based on current information and guidelines. Procedures and protocols updated contingent upon updated information, and any confirmed cases warranting other procedures.

Please monitor the district website, Facebook page, and messages via School Messenger for forthcoming information.

(transportation, fall scheduling, other protocols)

NCSDD is excited for a return to school, and with eagerness welcomes all students back for in-person instruction, and the privilege, the honor it is to work with our students!

Superintendent Curt Wilson

Xcel Energy celebrates National Lineworker Appreciation Day

DENVER—Xcel Energy joins the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) today in recognizing its more than 1,000 full-time line workers in the eight states the company serves as part of National Lineworker Appreciation Day.

The nation's nearly 75,000 electrical lineworkers are on the frontlines of the power industry, working long hours in often dangerous conditions and extreme weather to keep the electricity flowing to homes and businesses. These

men and women also perform critical work to maintain and enhance the power grid.

"As the first responders in our industry, our lineworkers make a meaningful difference in every community we serve, maintaining critical energy service for customers. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it's become even clearer how vital these employees are, and I'm grateful for their dedication as we power through this challenging time together," said Ben Fowke, chairman and CEO of Xcel Energy.

"Our highly skilled

lineworkers regularly face challenging work conditions in order to serve our customers and communities," said IBEW Local 111 business manager Richard Meisinger. "We can't thank them enough for their hard work and commit-



ment to the job today and every day." Xcel Energy lineworkers are following enhanced safety protocols during the pandemic to help protect customers, communities and themselves from the spread of the virus. The company reminds the public to please observe social distancing when they see lineworkers in the field and allow them to focus on doing their jobs safely.

National Lineworker Appreciation Day is celebrated every year on July 10 in honor of the life and work of Henry Miller, the first president of IBEW.

Shooting victim in emergency room

SAN LUIS—A shooting in San Luis sent one victim to the E.R.

Police were dispatched to a shooting at 707 Salazar Street in San Luis on Friday evening. Officials believed the perpetrator(s) to be driving a '90s model Red Dodge Dakota. One victim was admitted to the Emergency Room in Alamosa on Friday night. Costilla County Sheriff's Department was not immediately available for comment.

CSFP to hand out food boxes

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) works to improve the health of low income persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods. Individuals must be at or below 130% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.

Food packages include a variety of foods, such as nonfat dry milk, UHT 1% low fat milk, juice, farina, oats, ready-to-eat cereal, rice, pasta, peanut butter, dry beans, canned meat, poultry, or fish, and canned fruits and vegetables.

This food box is free to those who meet the income guidelines.

Costilla County Commodity Program will be in Del Norte on Wednesday, July 15th, at the Annex Building next to the Courthouse 6th Street, Del Norte from 9am to 10:30am.

CDOT to install new guardrail on CO 15 near La Jara

CONEJOS COUNTY—The Colorado Department of Transportation will install new guardrail on CO highway 15 just north of La Jara, beginning next week. The work will involve the replacement of old guardrail in need of replacement on a bridge structure near the intersection of CO 15 and US Highway 285. The work is scheduled to take place over two weeks, with an anticipated completion date of July 24.

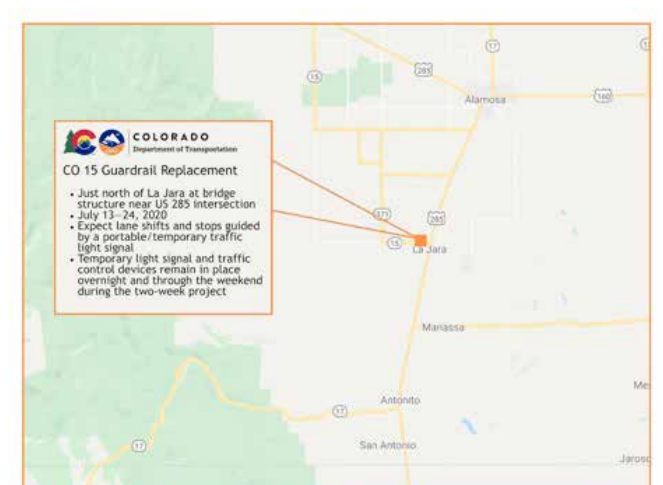
TRAFFIC IMPACTS: Beginning Monday, July 13 through Friday, July 24, motorists on CO 15 (at MP 30) will encounter one-lane alternating traffic with lane shifts and brief stops controlled by a temporary traffic sig-

nal. Travelers are urged to 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/CO-alerts

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

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

Toast

Continued from Page 1

For now, the club has not determined when in-person meetings will resume.

"Overall, our members understand that we are living in a strange time and we have to adapt through the use of online meetings," Keck said. "Alamosa Toastmasters Club

is open to all, and we have everyone from students to retirees. Communication is something we use every day, and our club mission is to provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members can achieve greater self-confidence and personal growth."

The Alamosa Toastmasters group can be found on Facebook, and for more information can be reached by emailing AlamosaTM@gmail.com, or call Keck directly at 719-852-4761. For more information about Toastmasters, go to www.toastmasters.org.

Tix

Continued from Page 1

This year's demolition derby will include mini cars, pickups, large cars and an outlaw class. The classes will be split up into the two performances.

Tickets are sold separately for each performance. If restrictions open up before August 30, this may change.

The Alamosa Round-Up would like to thank all of their sponsors who are stepping up to help make this event possible. With the support of the Alamosa County Local Marketing District, the City of Alamosa and over 85 local sponsors, this truly is Alamosa's Round-Up. Be

sure to follow the Alamosa Round-Up on Facebook for details and changes- this is a crazy year, but the Alamosa Round-Up is "Taking the Leap!"

Schedule of Events:

Thursday August 27- Mutton Bustin and Local Barrel Race 6:30pm

Friday August 28- PRCA Rodeo 6:30pm

Saturday August 29- PRCA Rodeo 6:30pm
Chancey Williams Concert 9:00pm

Sunday August 30- Demolition Derby 11:00am

Demolition Derby 4:00pm

SINCE 2020

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Opinion

God Bless America...

BEVERLY HILLS — God Bless America, and how's everybody?

The U.S. Supreme Court handed down a landmark decision on Thursday ruling that Eastern Oklahoma by signed treaty is still Indian Territory. This is news I have been waiting for all my life. The highest court in the land just confirmed that I was born in the Confederacy, surprising no one.

Illinois House Speaker Steven Madigan wants to replace a statue of Stephen Douglas in their capitol with a statue of Barack Obama. Recently Obama helped Biden raise millions of dollars in a Zoom party gathering. At the end of Obama's fundraising pitch, Joe Biden smiled and said thanks, O.J.



Argus Hamilton

Mayor Bill DeBlasio and protesters painted a huge Black Lives Matter mural on 5th Avenue in front of Trump Tower. These protests risk inciting a voter backlash like they did for Nixon. This year, I learned that those who do not learn from history are not that good at any other subject, either.

N.Y. Police Commissioner Dermot Shea faced down a New York attorney general inquiry into NYPD violent behavior during last month's riots. The chief detailed the historic bravery of New York's police officers, adding that he will never forget 9-11. I should hope not, that's his telephone number.

Killer is a new book on Michael Jackson which details his overnight death on Valium, Atavan, Demerol and Propofol. In his journal he said he's determined to be immortalized. He might have achieved immortality, but the My Pillow Guy came up with a safer way to enjoy the best possible sleep.

Donald Trump Jr.'s girlfriend, former Fox News star Kimberly Guilfoyle, tested positive for Covid on Wednesday. The casualties are mounting around the president. On Thursday, one White House reporter tested positive for coronavirus, all the rest tested positive for Trump Derangement Syndrome.

President Trump said Tuesday that several rioters have been arrested for trying to pull down the statue of Andrew Jackson across from the White House. They tied the rope tightly around the statue of Jackson's neck and tried to pull him down. The protesters say it's not a noose if it's payback.

President Trump was hit by a rebuttal from teachers' unions to his insistence that America's schools re-open this fall. There are safety concerns either way. Democrats can't decide if kids are in more danger in school risking Covid, or at home watching Fox News with Mommy and Daddy.

Joe Biden appeared on a video-conference screen for a speech Wednesday to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union that was meeting in Pennsylvania. He was able to hold service for 30 minutes. Joe had them cheering with his first three words, Welcome to Wal-Mart!

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti warned Thursday the spike in Covid cases in L.A. could result in another city business shutdown. Don't you hate it when acquaintances or relatives drop by your house and they stay long past their welcome? Covid has become the Virus Who Came to Dinner.

The FBI transferred Jeffrey Epstein's pimp Ghislaine Maxwell to a federal holding jail call in Brooklyn last week where she's under heavy guard. She has tons of dirt on powerful people. Due to the visitation restrictions at the jail, Hillary had to call the Suicide Hotline and place a takeout order.

CBS News showed video of a former Marine and football wide receiver Philip Banks catching a three-year-old baby thrown to him from a burning balcony in Phoenix. What a catch. It was all good until muscle memory kicked in and Philip celebrated by spiking the baby and going into a dance.

The Los Angeles Teachers Union said today's kids have all the laptops and online connections they need in order to safely go to school from home. Kids today don't realize how easy they've got it. When I was a boy we had to walk through ten feet of shag carpeting to change the TV channel.



To submit news, email: news@alamosanews.com
To submit sports, email: sjiron@alamosanews.com

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."

Words matter, mandates matter

"Sticks and stones may hurt me, but words never will." This retort may have been originally used in the 1800s to put off a bully or two; but today we know better. Words do matter. Words can heal and shatter; words can build bridges and tear them down; words can conquer ignorance around pandemics and deliver sound medical advice.

Chris Farley, Saturday Night Live comedian, once said, as reported at brainyquote.com, "I remember one time when all the nuns in my Catholic grade school got around in a semicircle, me and Mom in the middle, and they said, 'Mrs. Farley, the children at school are laughing at Christopher, not with him.' I thought, 'Who cares? As long as they're laughing.'"

We all know that comedians often draw upon their darker experiences, and Chris was showing his hurt here. We all put up "feathers" to deflect hurtful, uneducated and piercing drags from others, friends and foes.

Mr. Art Linkletter muses that "Kids say the darndest things." In the '50s and '60s, his consequent television show brought regular evening smiles and laughter to households throughout the country. Laughter was based on words children used to explain circumstances—lopsided responses like an Octopus with eight "testicles" instead of "tentacles." Scientifically, the child meant tentacles. At some point in the child's life, he learned the difference is profound between "testicles" and "tentacles" and probably never made that error in words again.

Can it get any hotter? I remember back 'in the olden' days I used to bet with Mickey Widhalm how hot it would get for the summer. Labor Day was the end of our betting timeframe—you know...dog days of August. Our risky bets, back then, were 82 and 83...and now it is getting into the 90's! I hate it! By next Tuesday it is going down to 86 and then up and then down to 85—a cooling trend, right?

With this heat...I want to tell you how I plant. I water for a couple of days in a row (before I plant), to get the ground really moist/damp. I try and plant in the evenings and then water again. And then I water for the next few days, every day. My goal is to get it to every day and a half, and then every 2 days. It's never which day should I water...for me, it is looking at the plant and knowing whether or not they need water NOW, or whether they can wait til the next day. Sometimes I'll get my watering done at night so that I don't have to water the next day. Hopefully, I don't get arrested for watering on the wrong days!

If your lawn is turning yellow and you are thinking it needs more water, it probably doesn't! It more than likely needs iron. The iron in Colorado soils is not in a state that plant roots can absorb it so you need to fertilize with added iron!! Mow HIGH, fertilize, water DEEP! Next week I'm going to tell you about a lawn that is obviously done wrong, but first I need to take pictures—watch out!

My friends Leo and Maria moved to Elgin Texas this past weekend. I have to be honest and say that it is quite a relief not to have to worry about them anymore. That being said, I will certainly miss them. I will miss Leo's profound take on the world. He really is quite amazing. With Maria, I wish I knew Spanish, so that we could have had more conversations. The hugs and hand-holding she gave me said enough—especially after Jill Wasinger did her nails real pretty!

My last conversation with Leo, on Friday, July 3rd, went like this. Roofie, Miss Brown...I need to confess something. Me...in my mom voice...Leo, what did you do? Leo...I made a lady cry. Me...in a louder, more concerned mom voice...Leo, what happened? Leo...we were eating at a restaurant downtown (his family) and I wrapped \$60.00 in a napkin for a tip and the lady cried. My heart melted! I told him he was a good

Romance novelist, Debbie Macomber confesses, "I'm dyslexic, although they didn't have a word for it when I was in grades school. The teachers said I had 'word blindness.'" Yet dyslexia is a scientific, medical and educational term proven to inhibit learning if not addressed early on. Dyslexia is explained on WebMD: "Kids with dyslexia have trouble matching letters with the sounds they make, and matching words with their meanings. They need extra help learning to read and write." Clearly, Macomber overcame "word blindness."

"A broken bone can heal, but the wound a word opens can fester forever," writes Jessamyn West, a relative of Richard Nixon, and Quaker writer Robin Williams' character John Keating in Dead Poets

Society (1989) emphasizes: "No matter what anybody tells you, words and ideas can change the world." The lesson throughout the film are about words counting on personal levels, as in children and parent exchanges with Neil, or in romance, or in expanding perceptions as students stand and jump off desks to see the world anew.

Susan Smalley, Ph.D., Professor Emerita, Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences at UCLA, founder Mindful Awareness Research Center at UCLA reminisces: "Sticks and stones can break my bones, but words will never hurt me." I remember saying those words when young to try and convince myself of its truth in the face of painful words thrown my way. Unfortunately, it is far from true. Verbal insults, verbal abuse, and the power of

words to affect your emotions and actions are well demonstrated in science. For example, scientists have found that just hearing sentences about elderly people led research subjects to walk more slowly. In other research, individuals read words of 'loving kindness' showed increases in self-compassion, improved mood, and reduced anxiety."

In Stephen Jiron's article (July 10, 2020), we learn that Darius Allen and county commissioners did not heed Dr. Kris Steinberg and Dr. Lauren Sonderegger of Valley-Wide Health System's scientific, medical and professional words to mandate masks in public.

I can't help but imagine Albert Einstein saying to Mr. Allen after seeing the scientific basis for doctors' call to action, "Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school." Or Oscar Wilde might remind these commissioners, "You can never be overdressed or overeducated."

The human-computer, Shakuntala Devi once said, "Education is not just about going to school and getting a degree. It's about widening your knowledge and absorbing the truth about life."

Let's see if in the near future the Alamosa County Commissioners can broaden their words and absorb the truth about the Coronavirus and prevent any more death by becoming part of the solution like they eventually did when Alamosa lead Colorado and passed the ordinance of no tobacco in public spaces. Let's save lives, commissioners.

Nelda Curtiss is a former substance-prevention media specialist, journalist, and retired college professor who enjoys writing and fine arts. Contact her at columsbyneldie@gmail.com

Movin' On with Nellie



Nelda Curtiss

Valley Stuff

man, and I would miss him! He said... let's not tell my sister.

My sincerest thanks to all of you folks who helped get Leo and Maria moved to a low-income apartment in January. It's nice knowing that the last 6 months they lived in our town, they were in a safe place. Special thanks to Roger E. because the money he donated helped Leo to understand the difference in walking shoes—thanks to Kristi Mountain Sports. Leo went and purchased another pair of shoes at KMS, in case they didn't have any good stores in Texas.

What do you think I could do with \$50,000.00 to really beautify Alamosa? Could I get the gardens back to where they were 30 years ago? I think so...and then some.

The City of Alamosa has recently allocated over \$50,000.00 to the new homeless camp, that I named Babbling Brook Camp (or something like that). A water line was run for \$500.00. Fencing, labor and materials cost \$25,375.00. Electricity was only \$5000.00. And Security Enhancements were \$24,000.00 (including

for the rec center and hockey rink). Of course, there will also be free wifi!! And I hear fire pits—didn't help with the fire a week or so ago, did they?

Are you as amazed as I am? Part of the reasoning is that...if 'we' make it nice enough at the camp, the folks won't loiter elsewhere—like Cole Park/Library/City Hall and elsewhere. I'm thinking we might as well get free passes to Splashland and the Sand Dunes Pool and also a shuttle bus to take folks out there and back. I know that we can attribute

\$50,000.00 PLUS to grants or programs...but what else could that money have been used for? Maybe we can post a picture on the City website and say "we have the nicest homeless camp around". Grants are not free!

The really sad part is the 'word I hear on the street' is that many homeless will not go out to this wonderful camp because that is where they get beaten up and robbed. Time will tell.

In the meantime, we will continue to work in Mom's Garden, to make a difference in our town.

LETTERS

Dear Editor:

Recently you had an opinion article from Gigi Dennis and Lewis Entz suggesting that voters should be opposed to the National Popular Vote. The change would work around the current electoral college process where you vote for an elector rather than actually vote for a presidential candidate. The electoral college was instituted back when all voters had to be white males who owned property. Opponents of the National Popular Vote would probably happily return to those days. They seem to be afraid of voting where all votes are equal. Wanting to retain unequal voting smacks of white privilege to me.

Currently, Wyoming with just over 1/2 a million population has three electoral college votes while Colorado with over 5.7 million people gets only 9. If our votes were weighted as those of Wyoming we would have 30 electoral college votes rather than only 9. While I have nothing

against the people of Wyoming, I don't see any reason to give them a heavier weight in the presidential election. Voting is the basis for our democracy, and making all votes count, and all count equally will help strengthen that democracy. That is the reason that organizations such as the League of Women Voters and Common Cause have supported the National Popular Vote. Currently, only 11 states are contested states, and being contested, they have a notably higher voter turnout. In 2016 some 2/3s of the presidential campaigns were in just six states. With polls that have been taken show that public support for the National Popular Vote is about 70% we can hope for a nationwide contested election in 2024 resulting in even greater public participation in Colorado.

Don Thompson
Alamosa, CO 81101-3108

Lifestyle

RA Retirees add nearly \$6.6 billion in economic output to Colorado

SLV retirees receive \$49 million annually

DENVER—A newly released report prepared by Pacey Economics, Inc., demonstrates the widespread economic stability that Colorado PERA retirees provide to their communities. In 2019, PERA distributed \$4.11 billion to retirees in Colorado. Retirees living in the San Luis Valley received \$49 million. These retirees helped support more than 32,000 jobs across the state, including nearly 300

in the San Luis Valley. The reliable income retirees receive has a stabilizing effect on local economies. Even during economic downturns, retiree income remains steady. This effect is often greatest in Colorado's rural counties, where retiree income makes up a greater share of area payroll. In 26 Colorado counties, these distributions represent at least 10 percent of the county's total payroll.

The report states that the downstream economic effects of PERA retirees results in a total economic output of \$6.66 billion—\$60 million in the San Luis Valley. Since 2009, this statewide num-

ber is up 88%. "PERA members make valuable contributions to their communities while working, and they continue to have a positive impact in retirement," said Ron Baker, PERA's Executive Director.

Colorado PERA provides retirement and other benefits to more than 620,000 current and former teachers, State Troopers, corrections officers, snow plow drivers, and other public employees who provide valuable service to all of Colorado. PERA is a vital and stable contributor to Colorado's economy, distributing more than \$4 billion in 2019 to more than 105,000 retirees who live in Colorado.

SAN LUIS VALLEY REGION

POSITIVELY IMPACTING COLORADO'S ECONOMY

Every year, Colorado PERA retirement benefit payments are a critical source of reliable, predictable income and provide stability to state, regional, and local economies.

In the San Luis Valley region

PERA provides **\$48.7 million** in retirement distributions to **1,543** regional residents who help support their local economies

The economic impact to state/local governments amounts to **\$3.1 million** in tax revenue, which supports schools, roads, and other important services

PERA retirement distributions result in **\$60 million** in total economic output and help sustain **294 jobs**

Creates **\$10 million** in labor income

Adds **\$20 million** to the total value of goods and services in the region



Amounts and data shown above are as of June 2020. Prepared by Pacey Economics, Inc.

CCCF's presents Pivot 2020: virtual conference and learning for local nonprofits

CHAFFEE COUNTY, Colo.—2020 is proving to be a pivotal year. The global pandemic and accompanying economic downturn are forcing us all to reconsider what 'normal' should look like. With more than 20 million US workers out of a job, and expected waves of the coronavirus causing disruptions through at least the end of the year, COVID-19 is more than a tragedy. It is an opportunity to shed the old paradigm and work together to build a new one.

The Chaffee County Community Foundation (CCCF) is announcing PIVOT2020, a virtual conference for local nonprofits. The twelve-hour conference will be held in four sessions spread over four weeks. Thursday mornings, July 30-August 20. The goal of the conference is to inspire and educate participants through general sessions of local thought leaders on building resilience through change management, communication, and collaboration.

where each organization will get to share their voice in strengths, opportunities and challenges due to COVID-19. In these sessions, participants will get to work directly with other organizations and share ideas on pivoting, hear directly from local business owners on how they've had to pivot during COVID including discussions the future of local business fundraising in the community. Participants will walk away with inspiration, ideas, applicable tools, and strategies to support building resiliency as an organization.

PIVOT2020 is focused on Chaffee County's 150+ nonprofit organizations, and is designed to challenge the status quo, cast a bold new vision, and invest technical assistance into participating organizations to ensure they have the tools they need to collaborate and thrive far into the future.

Participating Organizations will:

- Understand how to use collaboration to build a resiliency mindset
- Form new concrete relationships with other

organizations

- Gain the ability to think critically about an organization's impact and how best to meet needs within the community
- Understand the impact of COVID-19 and what changes to make as a result

We invite all nonprofits to join the conference. While PIVOT2020 is targeted at Chaffee County nonprofits, organizations outside the county are welcome.

For full details, visit <https://www.chaffee-community.org/events-workshops-1/pivot2020-a-chaffee-nonprofit-conference>.

Registration is \$20 per participant or \$40 for up to 3 participants from one nonprofit. With any questions, please contact Emily Marquis, CCCF Project Manager at emily@chaffeecommunity.org or 720-862-4756.

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Lifestyle

Signs your gutters are in need of repair

Fall is a great time to tackle projects around the house. The weather each fall allows homeowners to make improvements to their homes' exteriors without worrying about extreme heat or cold, while interior projects like painting are made easier because homeowners can open the windows to allow for proper ventilation.

Fall also marks a great time to prepare for upcoming projects that can make winter work that much easier. For example, fall is a great time to take stock of your gutters so you can address any issues before leaves begin to fall or the first snowstorm touches down. Compromised gutters can contribute to water issues in basements and adversely affect a home's foundation if not addressed immediately, so it behooves homeowners to learn the signs that gutters are in need of repair or replacement.

Gutters hanging off the home: Gutters were once installed predominantly with spikes. However, many industry professionals now install gutters with hanger brackets. Why the change? Spikes loosen over time, leading to the gutters hanging off the home. That can contribute to serious issues if left untreated. Gutters hanging off the home need not necessarily be replaced, but rather secured to the home, ideally with hanger brackets instead of spikes. Brackets

hook into the front of the gutter and are then screwed into the fascia of a home. A professional who specializes in gutter repair can perform this task relatively quickly, and it's an inexpensive yet highly effective solution.

Gutter separation: Gutters that are no longer fastened together can leak and contribute to issues that affect the home's foundation, siding and appearance. Clogs and the accumulation of debris can cause gutters to separate because they are not designed to hold too much weight. Replacement of separated gutters may or may not be necessary depending on how big the problem is and the condition of the existing gutters. If replacement is not necessary, separated gutters may be remedied by securing the joints, another relatively simple and inexpensive fix.

Peeling exterior paint: Paint that appears to be peeling off of your home may indicate that water is seeping over the edge of the gutter closest to your home. When that happens, water is coming down the side of the house, causing the paint to peel. In such instances, replacing the gutters is often necessary.

Basement flooding: Not all signs of deteriorating gutters are outside a home. Many a homeowner has been flummoxed by flooding in their basements, and such flooding can be

caused by aging, ineffective gutters. That's because deteriorating gutters sometimes allow water to leak near the foundation of a home, contributing to basement flooding.

Fall is an ideal time to inspect gutters and have any issues fixed before leaves begin to fall or harsh winter weather arrives. FH208139

It behooves homeowners to learn the signs that gutters are in need of repair or replacement.



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Two contagions

By **STEPHEN PYNE**
The smokes, so prominent from my window a few weeks ago, are gone. The 193,000-acre Bush fire marauding over the Mazatzal Mountains and the 25,000-acre Sawtooth fire in the Superstition Mountains are over. The state's fires have moved elsewhere, along with the air tankers flying out of Mesa Gateway. Arizona's crisis is its rise to world stature as a COVID-19 hot spot.

Both wildfire and coronavirus are contagions. Both derive their power from their capacity to propagate. Both seem to have mutated from routine seasonal varieties into something meaner, the product of people changing how they live on the land. What had been taken as a historic norm increasingly looks like a historical anomaly.

Most of the West is built to burn. But for a few decades after the Second World War, the climate was mild, landscapes were still recovering from the havoc of axe, pick, and plow during settlement, fire agencies aggressively suppressed any starts, and an industrial economy stripped away open fire from homes and cities. Fire had become increasingly missing from agriculture, and astonishingly, even from wildlands.

Fifty years after the Big Blowup of 1910 burned 3 million acres to announce an American way of fire, the United States, led by the Forest Service, had effectively contained landscape fire. The largest category of wildfire (Class G) applied to fires that exceeded 5,000 acres. Fire control accounted for 13% of the Forest Service's budget. The militarization of suppression through war-surplus equipment managed to sustain a cold war on fire.

But by then the folly of this strategy, both economic and ecological, was becoming more apparent. Between 1968 and 1978 new policies were promulgated to continue the fight against bad fires but equally to restore good fires that helped buffer against them. Results have been mixed.

While Florida prescribes burns 2.5 million acres a year, the entire western United States burns only about 3 million. In the West, it has proved a lot easier to take fire out than to put

it back. Still, most of the wildland fire community appreciated that we were facing a fire crisis and that, when the weather veered into less benevolent forms, big fires would return.

By the time the fires of Yellowstone (1988) and Oakland (1991) burned, the contours of the new old normal were apparent. A long drought foreshadowed outright climate change. Fuels stockpiled. Landscapes degraded. Exurbs recolonized formerly rural lands with urbanites. Blowups became mega-fires.

Fifty years after the federal agencies thought fire a menace of the past, like polio or smallpox, monsters romped over the mountains like a returned plague. A few killed crews. Some burned into and through towns. Fire suppression consumed over 50% of the Forest Service's budget.

A fire crisis was evolving into a fire epoch as the sum of humanity's combustion practices, including fossil fuels, we're creating the fire equivalent of an ice age.

What we can say about fire in the West has been said, over and again, notching every contributing cause, every rerun of tragedy, until it seems a white-noise hum like cicadas in the summer.

But COVID-19, now complicating the maturing fire season, suggests an analogy. We protect communities by hardening against embers -- wearing masks to protect against aerial droplets -- and by social distancing -- aka defensible space. We rely on herd immunity -- the good fires help check the spread of bad ones. We flatten the curve. We prepare to live with coronavirus until a vaccine can be created.

Here, the analogy cracks. There is no vaccine for fire. It's not only omnipresent; it's necessary. We have some say over what kinds of fire happen and what damages they might inflict. But we will have to live with fire and air filled with its smoke. Forever.

Stephen Pyne is a contributor to Writers on the Range (writersontherange.org), a nonprofit dedicated to the lively discussion about the West. His most recent book on fire include Between Two Fires: A Fire History of Contemporary America, and To the Last Smoke, a series of nine regional fire surveys. He lives in Queen Creek

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Sports

Twitter Q&A: Rhonda Blanford-Green responds to questions about returning to play



CHSAA understands the desire for more info as our office continues to plan for the safe return of athletics and activities in the 2020-21 school year. So CHSAA commissioner, Rhonda Blanford-Green, took to Twitter on Tuesday to answer questions on that topic. Follow Rhonda on Twitter @rhondachsaa Below are some of her answers to questions below.

On fall sports timeline:
@SampsonErik
When will you know about the Fall?

@RhondaCHSAA
Once our plans receive approval by state and health officials, we will communicate next steps. We are extremely optimistic about the collaborative direction of discussions. I reiterate the word "patience", we have some challenges but we are moving

More about the timeline for announcing plans:
@DarinLenz
I think I read it earlier, but can't find it, when are you hoping to hear back from the state on your submitted plans? I thought I read mid to late July.

@RhondaCHSAA
That is the estimated timeline but we aren't the only organization on the state, health, education official's agenda. Resuming Education is the priority and we will support and compliment the direction of our member schools when they have definitives.

On switching seasons:
@kevinobrienofco
Hearing other states have already announced that they swapped the football season and baseball season from the fall to the spring. Is that an option for Colorado or has that not been brought up?

@RhondaCHSAA
I have not seen a state association definitively announce swapping seasons. They, like us are exploring all ideas. The idea was just voted down by two Associations. Our goal is to protect traditional seasons, three-sport athletes and our member rural/small school opportunities.

On quarantining:
@kmb100
After they start officially, what will protocol be if a kid tests positive? 14-day quarantine? What if they had been at a practice?

@RhondaCHSAA
State and local health guidelines for reporting, contact tracing and quarantine will be strictly adhered to once we resume. No different than the current protocol during summer-local control coach/athlete/team contact. <https://t.co/1gvOsVb2Oy>

On venues:
@BenParris04
Commissioner Blanford-Green, I was at the Coliseum recently (for a story coming out soon) and if @medical_relief keeps it as a living center till late fall, what's the plan for volleyball state championships as well as other venues (mile high, etc.) that cannot be used?

@RhondaCHSAA
We currently have some challenges with previous site availability and capacity limitations but it is July! We don't have contracts finalized because dates are fluid but if given the chance, our staff will find the venues.

On collaboration with other states:
@Sportsland
I've got one! -- how much can she/CHSAA rely on what other states are doing to reopen their programs/activities?

@RhondaCHSAA
Since March, 51 Execs and Commissioners have continuously shared our thoughts, plans and frustrations. The pandemic has brought us closer together by the common goal-safely resuming HS programs. Awareness of 51 national plans allows us to construct models specific to CO!

On a potential resurgence:
@hpisani91
What is your confidence level that there will be fall sports this year?

@RhondaCHSAA
A COVID-19 resurgence and a stall with state reopening phases could disrupt our planned start dates for fall but we are moving towards resuming all sports and activities with potential contingencies for 2020-21!

"ISN'T IT TIME WE MET?!"

What Are the Limitations in Your Life?

- Do you cover your mouth when you laugh, cough or sneeze, fearing your dentures will slip and fall out?
- Do you avoid going out for dinner with friends and family because all you can eat is soft, mushy foods?
- Do you dream of one day eating the foods you used to eat, like a big juicy steak or delicious green salad?
- Do you have that 'sunken denture' look, with lines and wrinkles around your nose and mouth?

Hi! I'm Dr. Todd Rogers, born and raised in Colorado. Almost weekly I meet individuals who say, "I just don't go out in public anymore because I am too embarrassed. Can you give me my life back?"



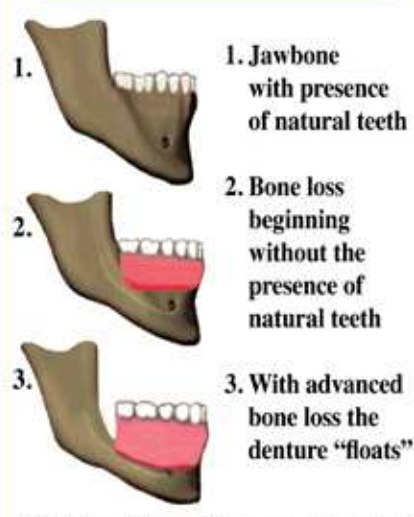
Over the years, as I've placed Dental Implants, I've realized that there are many wonderful people with limitations emotionally, mentally and physically. They are desperately searching for a way to improve the quality of their life. Loose, ill-fitting dentures or teeth that cannot be restored feels like a condition that is disabling and almost impossible for those around you to understand.

I Can Change Your Life!

- Think of the 'end' in mind....a denture that will look good, feel good, and last a long time.
- Start to finish, all dental treatment is done in just one location, with one dentist. And, Yes! You will leave with teeth that day.
- During your personal consultation, you and Dr. Rogers will discuss exactly what you would like to have done, the cost, and the time necessary to achieve the expected results.
- A painless, comfortable procedure is of utmost importance to us. To help you relax, oral medications as well as IV sedation are available.
- Dr. Rogers has many years of specialized training and experience in the surgical placement and restorative placement of Dental Implants.

"Why Don't Your Dentures Fit, No Matter How Many Relines You've Had?"

The Problem: My Dentures Don't Fit = Bone Loss!



With time, there will be more bone loss and the need for more denture adhesive and more relines at the dental office. It is a continual cycle.

The Solution: An Implant-Supported Denture

Dental Implants are the closest thing to natural teeth. A Dental Implant is a man-made replacement for the root of a tooth. A small titanium screw is implanted in the jawbone, and functions much like the root of your natural tooth.



Many who wear dentures know that keeping them in place is often difficult, especially those with lower dentures. We understand the personal pain and humiliation you feel because of ill-fitting dentures. Dental Implants will preserve your jawbone and stabilize your denture. You will feel and act more like your 'natural self' again, laughing and speaking with confidence. With a smile that is long-lasting, often for a lifetime.

CALL US TODAY... YOU WILL BE GLAD WE MET!

My staff and I encourage you to call my office and schedule a consultation, including a complete oral examination and x-rays, to determine if you are a candidate for dental implants. **ALL AT NO CHARGE!!!** Together, we will discuss exactly what YOU would like to have done, the cost, and the time necessary to achieve the expected results. You will find that the procedure is **AFFORDABLE, IMMEDIATE** and has **GUARANTEED** results!

Dr. Todd Rogers will be in Alamosa Aug. 6 & 7 and Sept. 17 & 18, 2020

Invest in Yourself, Call Today!! (719) 528-6450
The Villa Mall, Suite A Alamosa, CO 81101
Please call promptly so that we may schedule your appointment on a date & time that works best for you.
www.toddrogersdental.com

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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Lean-to
4 Be sorry for
8 "Early Start" ailer
11 Not written
13 Ramble
14 Fragrant necklace
15 Sand mandala builder
16 Depose
17 Heating fuel
18 Votes in
20 Laid off
21 Equal score
22 Score holder
24 Eyewash acid
27 Slept over
30 Larger-than-life
31 Earthen pot
32 Library abbr.
34 Space
35 Roman historian
36 Throw a party for
37 Map feature

39 — down (quieter)
40 Long-horned ox
41 Skillet
42 Fish bait
45 Out of sight
49 Rage
50 Goofball (hyph.)
53 Relaxation
54 Bird beak
55 Persia, today
56 Hayworth or Rudner
57 RV haven
58 Iditarod terminus
59 Maple syrup base

DOWN

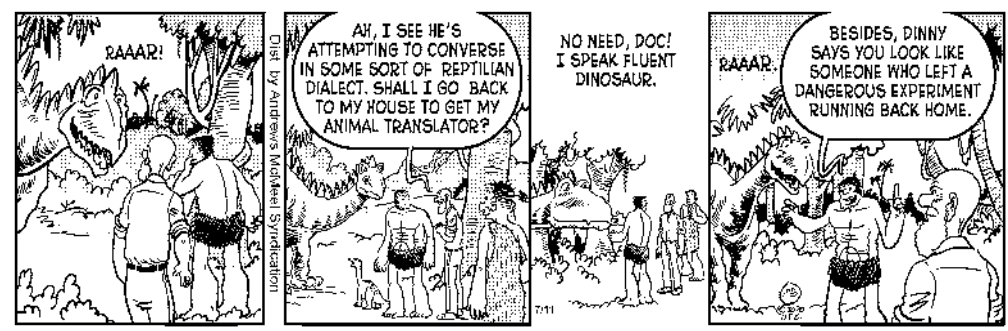
1 Golfer's target
2 Eurasian range
3 Tractable
4 Ordinary language
5 Debtor's note
6 Some Sony products
7 Thus far
8 Lummock
9 Mr. Diamond



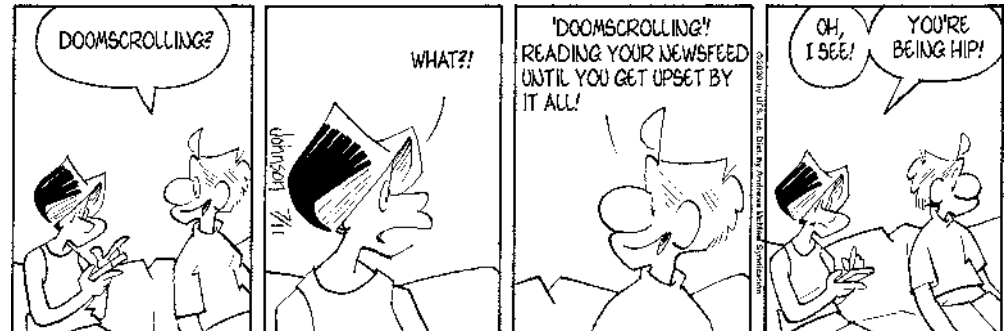
10 Cleopatra's river
12 Acid in milk
19 Involuntary movement
20 Harass
22 Midsummer
23 Compilation
24 Plead
25 Outback mineral
26 Ready to pick
27 Wide st.
28 Not bumpy
29 Lavish attention
31 Sty noise
33 Guided
35 Grazing area

36 More loving
38 Workout venue
39 Mai — cocktail
41 Ring
42 Twinkle
43 Chocolate cookie
44 Singer — McEntire
46 Lecturer's spot
47 Como — uted?
48 Third-quarter tide
50 Yang complement
51 Galleon cargo
52 Fall veggie

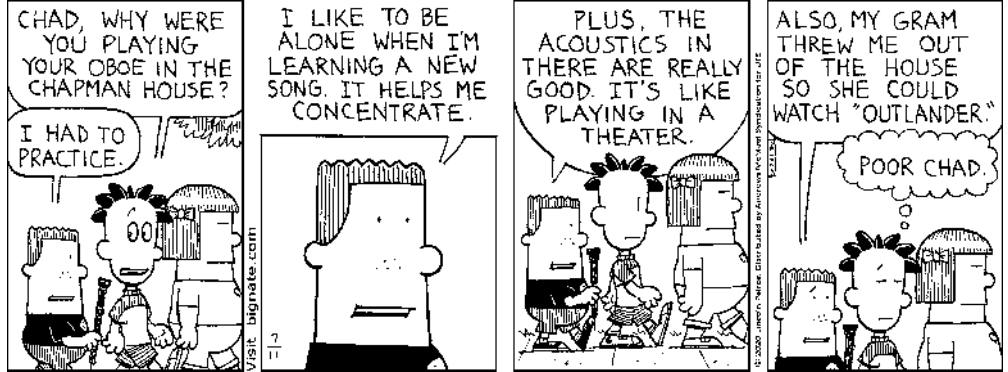
ALLEY OOP



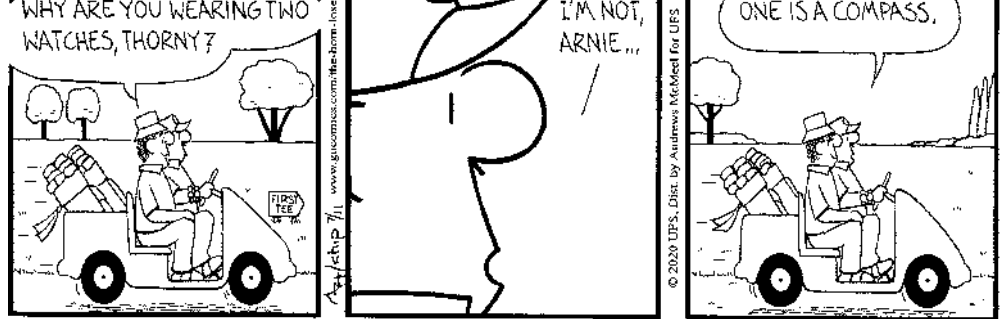
ARLO & JANIS



BIG NATE



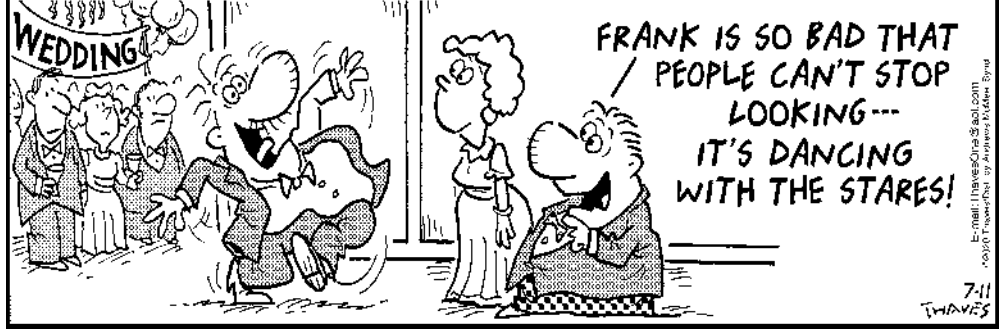
THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



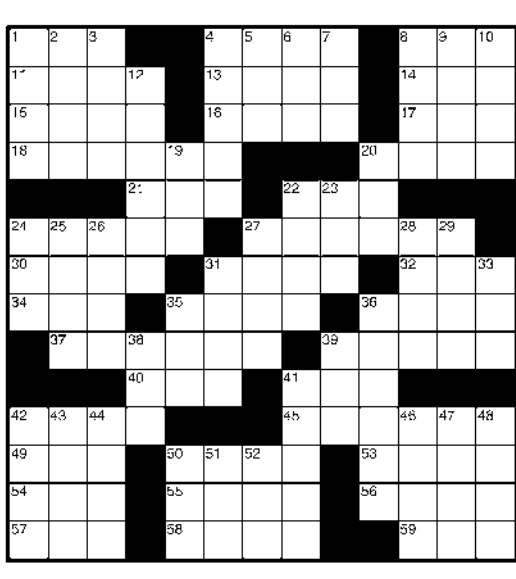
THE GRIZZWELLS



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.

" E L X E C F N C S N W L K B W N C
I B K D N D A S E Y P C L E M S R E L X D P E C U N
I B K M P H H E K C N A A E N B . . . E F C K R N
A K L K M Y N S H E Y K . " — V K X C W T H N W F

TODAY'S CLUE: 1 equals 7

Previous Solution: "To me, the art of movies is to take a two-dimensional image and give the illusion of depth." — William Friedkin

Beachgoer ponders display of his naked angel tattoo

DEAR ABBY: I'm in my early 30s. I live and work in a beach town and visit the ocean often on my time off. I have a large tattoo on my side, and while it's tasteful and well done, it depicts nudity (an angel). It's always covered by a shirt and never exposed at work.

While I know we're living in a progressive era of expression, including body art, I wonder if it's appropriate to go shirtless and display edgier graphic images like mine. Or could it be considered offensive to some folks who are not as open-minded?

I see plenty of other people display all kinds of ink at the beach, even with kids around. I have only had positive feedback about mine. The beachgoers I've met seem to be open-minded. To cover up or let it show -- what are your thoughts? -- TATTED IN FLORIDA

DEAR TATTED: If you want to get a tan, then go for it, but use sunscreen. However, not all beachgoers will be thrilled seeing a large naked angel getting roasted on the sand, so if you receive stares or critical comments, you may be more comfortable covering up.

DEAR ABBY: I am married to the kindest and most wonderful man in the world. We are happy and

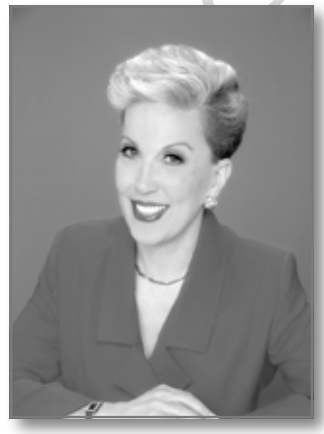
enjoy each other's company. He is impotent and was taking medication to correct it while we were dating and at the beginning of our marriage. The medication gave him terrible headaches, so we agreed to just let the sexual aspect of our marriage go by the wayside. That was 10 years ago. I was OK with it until I started dreaming about having sex with random men. Yikes!

I love my husband and would never cheat on him. I'm at a loss. Please help. -- JUST A DREAM

DEAR JUSTADREAM: Being able to talk about these dreams may help them be less troubling and probably less frequent. If discussing them with your husband might upset or threaten him -- you know him better than I do -- then talk with a trusted friend or relative or a licensed mental health professional so you can vent. Of one thing I am sure: The harder one tries to suppress dreams, the more often they occur.

DEAR ABBY: I have very loud joints. When I stretch out my neck, back, fingers, etc., my joints pop, click, crack, whatever you call it. They've always done this, and it isn't painful. The noise just happens when I stretch my body.

Some of my family and friends tell me they find it gross and don't want to



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

hear it. I want to be considerate, but sometimes I pop my joints automatically without thinking or because I really need to stretch. Is making this sound rude? I don't try to make a lot of noise, but I can't help it. -- NOISY LADY IN MICHIGAN

DEAR NOISY LADY: According to the Cleveland Clinic, the older a person gets, the more noise one's joints can make. This is normal. However, if there is pain along with it, it may be time to consult a doctor.

Because the noise is disconcerting to those around you, try to be mindful and refrain from doing it in their presence, or GENTLY stretch the muscles around those joints, which may eliminate your need to "pop off" entirely.