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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

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SLV Today

COVID Closures

MONTE VISTA — The Monte Vista Historical Society and the Transportation Museum will remain closed during 2020 due to COVID-19. We regret this, but the safety of our volunteers and others is our foremost concern.

Alamosa BOCC Regular Meeting

ALAMOSA — Wednesday morning the Alamosa Board of County Commissioners will be having their regular meeting. Listeners may join in Zoom Meeting ID #270-314-6874 or call in 253-215-8782 or 669-900-6833 and use Meeting ID# 270-314-6874. Accessibility may be limited due to network capacity. The meeting is June 24th at 8:30 a.m.



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SLV WEATHER



Afternoon showers
84 / 43
Wed: Sunny 85 / 45
Thur: Partly Cloudy 80 / 46

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Twenty new COVID-19 cases since Friday

Rio Grande County sees first fatal, SLV total now six

SAN LUIS VALLEY - Twenty new cases for the SLV have been reported since Friday, 6/19, sixteen from Alamosa County, 1 each from Conejos and Costilla, and 2 from Rio Grande County. The total number of cumulative cases is now 371.

Twenty-nine total people have been hospitalized, and 257 have completed isolation. Monday Rio Grande County confirmed their first fatality. There have been 6 fatalities of individuals with COVID-19. There are currently approximately 108 active cases in the Region. Numbers are updated weekdays at slvemergency.org/slv-covid-19/.

While numbers can be useful, sometimes they can be misinterpreted, especially if not all factors and variables are considered in applying calculations. Case rate is one example. In the San Luis Valley, our population numbers are too low to accurately calculate the case rate in comparison to other areas of the State. Without a robust

(large) base of numbers, it is difficult to make statistical determinations that can support certain conclusions, and the data can easily be skewed. It can feel frustrating to not have a clear way to compare our area with other areas of the State, but it is important to avoid making false assumptions. For those who examine the case data information the State puts out (at <https://covid19.colorado.gov/data/case-data>), Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) con-

firms that caution should be used when interpreting rates in counties with small populations. "In smaller populations with fewer cases, there is not enough information to make a valid comparison [to counties with larger populations]." From an Epidemiology standpoint, it is important to monitor locations of outbreaks, especially in places like Long Term Care Facilities, where our most vulnerable populations could be disproportionately affected. ■ See COVID page 3

Rominger Airport named 2020 Colorado Airport of the Year



Courtesy by Shahn Sederberg

Aerial image of the Astronaut Kent Rominger Airport following the new runway dedication on October 29, 2010.

DEL NORTE — The Astronaut Kent Rominger Airport (RCV) was distinguished as the "2020 Colorado Airport of the Year" by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Division of Aeronautics and the Colorado Aeronautical Board. The Colorado Airport of the Year Award is presented annually by the Colorado Division of Aeronautics to recognize Colorado public-use airports that exhibit outstanding contributions to the Colorado Air & Space System. Airports distinguished with this recognition demonstrate values that fall in line with the CDOT Division of Aeronautics' mission to advance a safe, efficient, and an effective statewide air and space system through collaboration, investment, and advocacy. In 2010, the Division of Aeronautics supported one of the largest state/

local-funded runway projects at Del Norte, which addressed the growing medical evacuation needs of Del Norte's new Rio Grande Hospital. The airport also recently completed the construction of a pilot shelter and camping facility, funded entirely by the airport and the Recreational Aviation Foundation. The volunteer leadership of the airport has helped make RCV one of the shining examples in Colorado of what a small rural general aviation airport can do to support its community and its residents and visitors. According to the 2020 Economic Impact Study of Colorado Airports, the Astronaut Kent Rominger Airport is responsible for supporting 31 jobs, producing over \$1.36 million in annual payroll, while generating \$5.38 million in overall business revenue.

Comfort Inn & Suites of Alamosa is a Major Sponsor of ALMA



Courtesy photo

Wayne Robelia, General Manager of Comfort Inn & Suites of Alamosa is pictured here, with an updated plaque of appreciation.

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Live Music Association is pleased to announce that Comfort Inn & Suites of Alamosa is a major supporter of our organization in 2020. Their generous sponsorship will assist ALMA in producing Sundays at Six, its free summer concert series, as well as other concerts throughout the year. The first summer concert this year will feature The Richmond Brothers on July 5 and will be livestreamed from ALMA's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/almalivemusic>. Benefits of sponsorship include recognition

Boston woman rescued on Ellingwood



By **KEITH R. CERNY**
Courier Publisher

ALAMOSA—A 23-year-old Boston, Mass. woman was rescued by search and rescue teams Sunday night on Ellingwood Point after she slipped on a snowfield and slid down over 100 feet, according to Shawn Woods, Alamosa County Undersheriff. During the slide, she felt her knees pop and had instant pain and could not walk. Woods said the entire party of four sustained some minor bumps and bruises during the incident which began on the South Zapata approach to Ellingwood. Most of the family was from Denver and were visiting a family cabin on the Los Pinos in Conejos Canyon, Woods said.

A call was made to Colorado Search and Rescue Association by Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) to request mutual aid from neighboring teams, Woods said, with both Custer County and Chaffee County South SAR responding. Reach Air Medical Services was called in to assist with a helicopter, airlifting six SAR team members one-by-one to a landing site about 1,000 feet above the injured woman while another nine team members were on their way on foot.

Once rescuers reached the injured woman, they began a low angle scree evacuation down approximately 1,000 feet. The patient was then carried to the helicopter to be medevacked to San Luis Valley Health hospital in Alamosa. Woods said all teams then began the descent down the South Zapata Trail and were back at incident command by 1 a.m. Monday. "A big thanks to Alamosa County Victims' Advocates for bringing much-needed food and water to our teams coming off the mountain," Woods said, "and also thanks to Dominos for donating over 20 pizzas."

at concerts, listing on posters, appreciation plaque with press release, and recognition on social media. If your company is interested in supporting quality live music in the San Luis Valley, please contact Nancy Harris at almaconcerts@gmail.com to find out more about becoming an ALMA corporate sponsor and how you, too, can be recognized. ALMA "Builds Community through Quality Live Music." For more information, like ALMA on Facebook or go www.almaonline.org.

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Record

OBITUARIES

Marilyn Wintz

MONTE VISTA — Marilyn Wintz was born in Aspen, Colorado on Valentine's Day in 1940. She passed away peacefully at home on June 3rd, 2020. She was known for sending letters with perfectly cut out pink hearts that would fall out of the envelope like confetti. She was the daughter of Fred and Mary Cook. Marilyn and her brothers Joe and Jim Cook lived in beautiful places like Minturn, Aspen and the Bighorn Mountains of Wyoming due to her father's job as a forest ranger where his office was the beautiful mountains. Her family moved to Monte Vista, Colorado where Marilyn graduated from high school and loved keeping up with her classmates who called her "Cookie."

La Garita Ranch, in Creede, Colorado, is where Marilyn spent her summers working between college semesters at Colorado State University and U.N.C.,



where she studied to become a teacher. A handsome young man home from the National Guard visiting his parents George and Dorothy Wintz captured her heart. Rod and Marilyn Wintz were married in Colorado Springs, Colorado and returned to Creede to manage the Wason Ranch for over thirty years, where they raised their family and met many lifelong friends.

In the summers Marilyn planted beautiful flower beds for each of the cabins at Wason as well as taking care of the office and ranch duties. In her early teaching years, she began a pre-school in the reception

room at Wason Ranch, where finger painting and learning letters were building blocks for kids who had big dreams. Marilyn taught first and second grade as well as music at Lamb Elementary School. Her passion was teaching kids to read and to be ready for a life of learning and success. One of her greatest joys was keeping up with all of her past students and she referred to them all as "her kids." She also spent time as the Elementary School Principal and after her retirement went on to earn a Ph.D. from the University of Denver.

Rod and Marilyn retired to "Rel Rio" along the Rio Grande River where they loved seeing and hearing the river daily. She treasured the view of the river and enjoyed having a cup of tea with friends in this beautiful and peaceful place.

Marilyn Wintz is survived by her daughters

Marilee Wintz and Shirrae Fazio, J.D. Fazio and her beloved grandsons, Jaxson and Ty Fazio. She was supportive and encouraged her family to be strong and happy in life. She is predeceased by her

husband of over 50 years, Rod Wintz, her older brother, Joe Cook, and her younger brother Jim Cook. Marilyn has chosen not to have a public service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name

to the Creede School District Endowment Foundation, P.O. Box 429, Creede, CO 81130. "When the student is ready the teacher appears. When the student is truly ready the teacher disappears." Lao Tzu

A.J. Hughey



MONTE VISTA — A.J. Hughey, 86 passed away peacefully June 18, 2020. He was born June 14, 1934, to Almus and Cuma (Johnson) Hughey and spent his early years in Missouri.

A.J. moved to the San Luis Valley in 1976 where eventually he would have a business installing and servicing garage doors, for many communities across the valley. He was grateful to have the opportunity to have his own business and provide a service to the San Luis Valley, a place he was always happy to call home. In later years he enjoyed traveling, especially to Arizona. He especially took great delight in all his grandchildren and great-

grandchildren.

A.J. is survived by his daughter Brenda (Jay) Adams, his grandchildren Seth (Ashli) Adams of Monte Vista, Colorado, Audra (Brandon) Varner of Frederick, Oklahoma and Dylan Adams of Jupiter, Florida, his great-grandchildren Todd Adams, Taylor Ad-

ams, Cade Varner, Brinley Varner, Kylie Varner and Kody Varner, his siblings Ollene Hunter and Johnnie Marler as well as numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

A.J. was preceded in death by his parents, his siblings Dennis Hughey, Dalton Hughey and Mary Francis (Hughey) Gardner.

Cremation was chosen and a family gathering to honor our dad, grandpa and great-grandpa will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are in the care of Rogers Family Mortuary of Alamosa. To express condolences for A.J.'s family please visit www.RogersFunerals.com.

Stephen Louis Carroll

ALAMOSA — Stephen Louis Carroll, 79, passed away on April 19, 2020. He was born on March 20, 1941, in Wichita, Kansas. Steve graduated from Omaha Central High School in 1959 and studied psychology at Emporia State University in Kansas. He enjoyed playing and following basketball & football and was also a practice safety for the Chicago Bears.

Stephen took a crash course in Vietnamese before landing in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) in 1964. He worked for an American construction consortium put together by the United States Navy (RMK-BRJ) before transitioning to work as a field operative for the CIA. He assisted efforts to relocate Vietnamese refugees; many to California. His work took him to Singapore and the United States where he eventually made California his home



for over twenty years; and where he raised his children as they attended secondary school. Steve started a number of small businesses in addition to a successful Audio/Visual equipment company in Solana Beach, California. An avid fly fisherman, Steve retired and moved to Alamosa, Colorado in 2016.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Marjorie H. Weaver and father Jerome W. Carroll. Stephen is survived by his sister



Cheri Carroll, first wife Luu Anne Carroll and their three children; son Stephen, and daughters Marina, and Christine, and his four grandchildren and one nephew. In coordination with his final wishes, the family has chosen Rogers Family Mortuary for cremation. In light of COVID, the family has decided to postpone memorial services and the spreading of his ashes to a more appropriate and practical date. A private arrangement of family and friends will convene in Colorado. To express condolences or contact the family, please visit <http://steve.chts.net>

Doris E. Swedhin Stahlecker

ALAMOSA — Doris E. Swedhin Stahlecker, age 90 of Gatesville, died Friday, June 19, 2020, at a Gatesville care center. Services will be held at a later date in Colorado.

Mrs. Stahlecker was born on November 12, 1929, in Buena Vista, Colorado to the late Walter Edward Swedhin and Florence A. Cooper Swedhin. Doris graduated from Rocky Ford High School in Rocky Ford, Colorado. She met Andy Stahlecker while both were working at Stauffer Grocery Store. They were married in Rocky Ford, Colorado on January 20, 1952.

She and Andy moved to Hooper, Colorado where they resided for the next 20 years on the Medano Ranch and raised six children there. They moved to Alamosa, Colorado in 1973 and remained there until Andy's death in 2003. Doris then moved to

Canyon, Texas, followed by a move to Smithville, Texas to live with her son, John. She then moved to Gatesville to live with her son, Earl until she became a resident of The Meadows in Gatesville in 2014. She enjoyed sewing, traveling, working puzzles and visiting with people about truths she learned from the Bible. She also grew a large garden and either froze or canned much of what she grew. Doris was a devout and dedicated Jehovah's Witness. She was preceded in death by her husband, Andrew J. Stahlecker; brothers, Vivian Swedhin, Glen Swedhin and Oliver Swedhin; sister, Lucille Blanchard; and by a grandson, Joshua Lee Hudson.

Survivors include her sons, John Stahlecker and wife Valerie of Smithville, Texas, Earl Stahlecker and wife Kathleen of Gatesville, Texas; her daughters, Crystal Hudson and husband Michael of Alamosa, Colorado, Virginia Johnston and husband David of Alamosa, Colorado, Viola Stahlecker of Valdez, Alaska and Dinah Medina and husband Sidney of Alamosa, Colorado; a sister, Yvonne Kunau of Rush, Colorado; four grandchildren, Angela Stahlecker Roberson of Cranfills Gap, Texas, Adriana Stahlecker Brown of Granbury, Texas, Aaron Stahlecker of Gatesville and John Medina of Alamosa, Colorado; seven great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be given in Mrs. Stahlecker's name to The Meadows, 110 Chicktown Rd., Gatesville, Texas 76528.

Scanio-Harper Funeral Home in Temple, Texas is in charge of arrangements.

Mya Marie Irvin



MONTE VISTA — Mya Marie Irvin, 22, passed away June 18, 2020.

Mya was born February 9, 1998, in Champaign, Illinois, to David Irvin and Jamie Morse.

Mya had a very free and loving spirit to all who met her. She enjoyed art, painting and drawing, but there was nothing she loved more than her daughter Arebela.

Mya is survived by her daughter Arebela Redmon; life partner Jordan McElory; parents David Irvin and Jeff and Jamie Morse; maternal grandparents, Patty Roy, Joe, and Julie Bertan; paternal grandparents, Gloria Irvin, Patti Irvin, Bill, and Cheryl Williams; siblings, Emily Simpson, Alex Irvin, Kaitlyn Morse, Nolan Morse, Oliver Morse, and Ryker Morse.

Mya was preceded in

death by her grandparents John Michael Irvin and Eddie Roy.

A celebration of life will be held on Tuesday, June 23, 2020, at 1:00 pm, at Strohmayr's Funeral Home.

A Go-Fund-Me for Mya and Bella has been set up at gofundme.com. It can be found by searching the title, "For Mya and Bella".

Arrangements in care

of Strohmayr's Funeral Home.

School Menu

Tuesday

June 23, 2020

NO SCHOOL

SCHOOL BUS

SUMMER VACATION

To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

PENDING OBITUARIES

William "Bill" Gallagher

ALAMOSA — William "Bill" Gallagher, 100, passed away Monday at the San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center in Alamosa. The family has chosen cremation and will announce services at a later date. Rogers Family Mortuary of Alamosa is in care of the arrangements.

Katherine Schofield

ALAMOSA — Katherine Schofield, 92, of Tres Piedras, NM passed away on Monday June 22, 2020 at the Rio Grande Inn. The family has chosen cremation and will publish a full obituary later. Rogers Family Mortuary of Alamosa is in care of the arrangements.



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Valley News

Adams State Visual Art program opened Andrews' mind to creative possibilities



ALAMOSA — Susan Lyn Andrews realized her dream of earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts this spring. She graduated Summa Cum Laude, with highest honors, at the Adams State University 2020 Spring Virtual Commencement on June 6.

Her artistic story began after raising a family and with support and understanding of her husband. "He believed in me and encouraged me at every stage of this journey."

Andrews packed up her art supplies and moved from Colorado Springs to attend Adams State for several reasons including the reputation of the Visual Art Program for high quality education

and hands-on experience in multiple disciplines including drawing, painting, metalwork, sculpture, ceramics, dark room experience, digital and graphic art, and printmaking. She also chose Adams for its size, which made the learning experience more intimate. In addition, Adams State was more affordable than CU Boulder or CSU Fort Collins.

Eugene Schilling, professor of art, was crucial to Andrews' success as a student and painter. He took time to get to know her as an artist and student. "He pushed me to step out of my comfort zone and challenged me to experiment with different techniques. I would

never have made it into grad school without his guidance."

Andrews will pursue a Master of Fine Arts at University of Alaska, Fairbanks. She hopes to return to the San Luis Valley and begin a career in art education and continue work as a wildlife activist, including research, writing, and producing work focused on the valley wildlife and communities.

To help offset the cost of her education, Andrews received several scholarships, worked as a resident assistant in Family Housing, and assisted in the Adams State art gallery and the artist in residency program. The opportunities working

with the gallery team and resident artists were rewarding. She learned about the art profession and made connections with artists and the community.

Although she was nervous about fitting in, Andrews soon discovered her place at Adams State through clubs and organizations. She served as co-president of the League of the Arts (LOTA) and as president of Art Hop.

The level of growth Andrews experienced at Adams State goes beyond the classroom. "Words cannot express what I have gained as an artist and person. I am grateful to all who embraced me and made me feel a part of a much bigger picture."

Coloradans encouraged to return ballots by drop box

Ballots returned by mail after June 22 may not arrive by June 30 election day deadline

DENVER — Beginning June 22, Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold encourages Coloradans to return their statewide primary ballot by drop box rather than through the mail. In Colorado, ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day to be counted. Ballots mailed after Monday may not arrive by the June 30 Election Day deadline. Voters are encouraged to drop their ballot off at the nearest 24-hour drop box to help ensure they are received in time to be counted.

Monday also marked the start of early, in-person voting at Voter Service and Polling Centers (VSPCs). Voters are encouraged to submit the ballot they received by drop box if possible to limit the spread of COVID-19.

However, in-person voting is still available for those who must register to vote or cast their vote in person. To make voting as safe as possible, the Colorado Secretary of State's office has funded and helped counties secure Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The Secretary of State's Office also worked with the Governor's office and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) in issuing emergency election rules and guidance for county elections officials for conducting elections during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We want to make sure Coloradans have the information they need to cast a ballot in our June 30 Statewide Primary and feel safe doing so," said Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold. "To avoid the possibility that a ballot is not received in time to be counted, I encourage all voters to drop their ballot off at a ballot drop box. In-person voting also begins Monday for those who need that option. We have worked to make voting in-person as safe as possible for both voters and election personnel."

To find the nearest 24-hour ballot drop box or the nearest VSPC, voters are encouraged to visit www.GoVoteColorado.gov.

Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles adjusts licensing fees for first time in years

LAKEWOOD — The Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will adjust its licensing fees by about 10% by July 1, 2020, in accordance with Colorado Revised Statute 42-2-114.5. The adjustment will apply to all driver licenses, instruction permits and identification cards, and their renewals.

The adjustment means a standard driver license will cost \$30.87, up from \$28 while an ID card will cost \$12.67, up from \$11.50. Most licenses only need to be renewed every five years. The adjustment will come in two phases with the first starting Tuesday, June 23, 2020 and adjusting the fee by 5%. The second phase will adjust the fee by 5% at the start of the State's new fiscal year on Wednesday July 1, 2020.

The fee increase is being made to ensure the cash fund that covers the majority of expenses related to providing licensing services for residents across the state remains solvent. One of the causes of reduced revenue is demographic shifts causing a decrease in the number of driver licenses issued. The situation has recently been compounded by the closures and loss of revenues due to COVID-19. Further depletion of the fund would create the need for drastic cuts to services provided to Colorado residents.

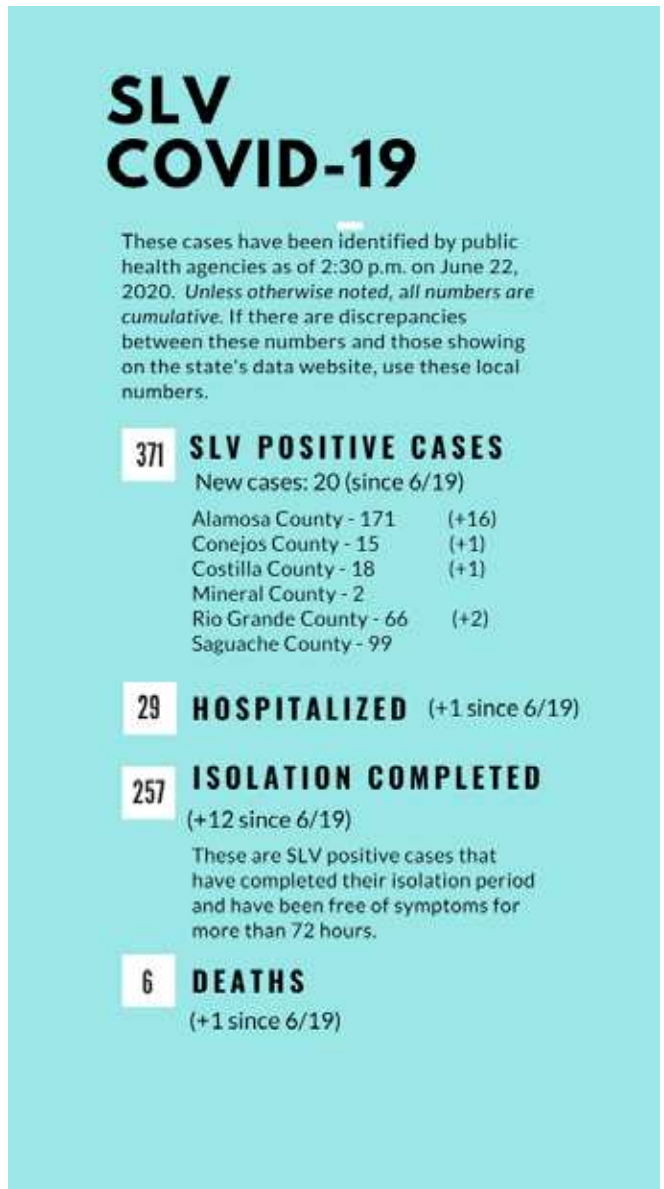
Despite the change, Colorado licensing fees will still be lower than most other states. Prior to this change, the DMV last adjusted its licensing fees by \$1 from \$27 to \$28 in 2018. For more fee information, please visit www.colorado.gov/dmv/dmv-fees.

Additionally, Coloradans seeking DMV services are strongly encouraged to #SkipTheTripCO and use any of the DMV's 35 online services at www.myDMV.Colorado.gov.

Coloradans who need in-office-only services should visit www.myDMV.Colorado.gov to schedule appointments. It's easy to set up your visit, just click "Driver/ID Services," then select "Schedule an appointment."

COVID

Continued from Page 1



However, for the general public, rather than targeting and staying away from a specific location or business, the best strategy to avoid infection is to assume the virus could be anywhere, anyone can have it, and even you yourself may be infectious and take precautions. The major cause of outbreaks is community spread, and many of the workplaces and facilities affected have employees moving back and forth between them as well as to other places in the community.

Wearing a mask, washing your hands frequently, and social distancing are the gold standards for avoiding infection. However, there are also other methods you can use to keep safe. One way is to patronize and support businesses that have implemented precautions to keep people safe, and avoid those that have not. Voting with your dollar is one of the best ways to incentivize policy and behavior change.

For questions about testing or for medical advice, please contact your primary care doctor or call one of the numbers below to start 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)

• This week's testing clinics:

- La Jara, Tuesday, 6/23. Please call for an appointment: 719-587-2901.
- Center, Wednesday, 6/24. Please call for an appointment: 719-587-2888.

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

This is a difficult time for many people. If you are experiencing a mental health crisis, please don't hesitate to ask for support:

- SLV Behavioral Health Group: 719-589-3671
- 24/7 Crisis Hotline: 1(844)493-TALK(8255), or text TALK to 38255
- Online: www.colorado.gov/ruralmentalhealth, www.slvbh.org

Distribution of Commodities

MONTE VISTA — The Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) program will be distributing commodities in Rio Grande County on June 24, 2020 at the Ski-Hi Park starting at approximately 10 a.m. until the food is gone. Eligible TEFAP recipients are able to receive each month in Monte Vista as long as they are Rio Grande County residents. Boxes will be delivered to the vehicles for social distancing purposes.

Participation in the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program is available to all eligible persons regardless of age, race, sex, handicap or origin.

Berhens hearing continued

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — Apryl Behrens' preliminary hearing was continued until August 3 at 8:30 a.m. Behrens and Robert T. (Tre) Howell II are being charged with the death of son Crashtyn separately. Judge Daniel Walzl is presiding over both cases.

Coronavirus has complicated things in the court system as every case has been virtual.

Howell, II's preliminary hearing was set for June 3rd but has since been continued further along. Howell isn't due for another court date until July 20th, his preliminary hearing is set 8:30 a.m.

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@alonzopayneCO is a criminal justice reformer, advocating for measures to reduce incarceration and stop the criminalization of poverty in Southern Colorado. He has advocated for economic justice measures, including raising the minimum wage and Medicare for All.

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Lifestyle

Tree watering necessary during drought conditions

SOUTHWEST COLO. – June 22, 2020 – Despite occasional showers in certain areas of southern Colorado, persistent drought conditions have parched the soil over much of the southern part of the state, stressing even irrigated lawns and larger landscape trees. During these periods of drought, homeowners should consider supplemental watering to keep their trees healthy.

“Adequately watering your trees is the best way to ensure optimum growth and vigor during the summer months,” said Donna Davis, urban and community forestry specialist for the Colorado State Forest Service.

“Drought-stressed trees become susceptible to root and branch die-back and subsequent insect and disease problems.”

All of southern Colorado is currently experiencing some form of drought, in many places “severe” and “extreme,” according to the latest data from the National Drought Mitigation Center.

The CSFS offers the following tips to keep trees healthy during summer drought:

- **Mulch.** Mulch is an inexpensive solution to retain soil moisture and save water. Apply 4 inches of organic mulch onto bare soil within 2 to 3 feet from the base of the trunk (removing any grass

first, if necessary). Do not allow the mulch to directly contact the trunk.

- **Water a wide area.** Tree root systems may spread much wider than the height of the tree, with most absorbing roots in the top foot of soil. Apply water to soak the entire area underneath the full span of a tree’s branches.

- **Water slowly.** To ensure soil penetration, use a deep root fork (inserted 8 inches or less), soaker hose on low setting or soft spray wand to apply water gradually to the full area.

- **Keep the yard green.** Trees located in irrigated lawns generally do not require additional water, as long as the area surrounding the tree receives

adequate moisture. Conversely, a dry, yellowish yard means the roots of any trees present are also dry.

- **Provide enough water.** For trees 1-3 inches in diameter, apply 10 gallons of water for each inch of tree trunk diameter once a week. For medium-sized trees, those 4-9 inches in diameter, apply 10

gallons of water for each inch of trunk diameter three times a month. For larger trees over 10 inches in diameter, apply 15 gallons of water for each inch of trunk diameter twice a month.

- **Focus on new and non-irrigated trees.** Water newly planted trees and seedlings more frequently than once a week, fol-

lowing the rates listed above, as they have less-extensive root systems. To avoid stress during drought conditions, trees that do not receive water from sprinkler systems or irrigation can also benefit from additional water.

Visit csfs.colostate.edu for more tips on tree watering, planting and general care.



Rio Grande National Forest offers free personal-use firewood

MONTE VISTA – The Rio Grande National Forest is extending its availability of free personal-use firewood cutting to the general public through December 31, 2020. The free-use authorizations are for personal use only and exclude commercial purposes. Forest users are required to comply with all Forest regulations and normal permit requirements, even when collecting forest products under the free-use allowance. Actions that damage the resources are strictly prohibited.

These free-use authorizations are valid for cutting up to a maximum of 20 cords of personal-use firewood. A cord is the amount of tightly piled wood in a stack four feet

high by four feet wide by eight feet long. The authorization letters are limited to one per household and only individuals that are 18 years or older may participate in the free personal-use firewood program.

The Forest is providing free-use firewood authorization letters to the public in the following ways:

- * An individual can pick up an authorization letter at any one of the four National Forest offices near the front entrance.

- * An authorization letter can be printed from our Forest Products web page.

- * Woodcutters must carry the authorization letter with them while cutting. The authorizations do not need to be attached

to the load.

- * This program will end December 31, 2020, when normal firewood procedures will resume.

All offices on the Rio Grande National Forest are conducting business and providing visitor services virtually. For specific Forest information and wood cutting guidelines, please contact your local district office listed below:

- * Conejos Peak Ranger District (719) 480-9892

- * Divide Ranger District (719) 850-2374

- * Saguache Ranger District (719) 480-1402

For information on the Rio Grande National Forest, call (719) 480-3364, visit the forest website, or follow us on social media (Twitter and Facebook).

Conserving water during drought and dry periods

Weather can be unpredictable. Carefully developed plans for days spent in the great outdoors can be derailed by unexpected rainstorms, while sudden bursts of sunshine can turn overcast afternoons into chances to get outside and breathe some fresh air.

Lawn and garden enthusiasts know just how mercurial Mother Nature can be, especially during summer. The specter of drought looms every summer, but the National Weather Service’s Climate Prediction Center does not anticipate any broad-scale areas of drought developing in the Lower 48 states in 2020. While that’s good news for lawn and garden enthusiasts, it’s wise to remain prepared for drought.

In recognition of the difficulties drought can pose, the Environmental Protection Agency offers the following tips to homeowners to ensure that water is available to meet critical needs.

- **Learn local regulations.** During dry periods and droughts, local water utilities put restrictions in place. These restrictions are not meant to be nuisances, but designed to ensure water is available to fight fires and meet other critical needs. Adhering to these guidelines, no matter how difficult they can be, helps your community stay safe. Periodically visit local water utilities’ websites to learn if there are any restrictions in place.

- **Inspect fixtures for leaks.** Conservation is the goal of water restrictions. Leaky fixtures compromise conservation efforts, so inspect all interior and exterior faucets and pipes for leaks and fix them immediately.

- **Look into upgrades.** Upgrading outdated bathrooms and other water features can be a great way to conserve water without changing daily habits. For example, the EPA estimates that water-conserving toilets can reduce water consumption by as much as 60 percent each year. That saves consumers money while also helping them to conserve during droughts or periods of dryness.

- **Water wisely.** The EPA notes that experts estimate that as much as 50 percent of the water we use outdoors is lost to evaporation, wind or runoff due to overwatering. The EPA recommends watering primarily in the early morning and evening, after the sun goes down, so less water is lost to evaporation. If you have an irrigation system that uses a clock timer, consider replacing the timer with a WaterSense labeled irrigation controller, which acts like a thermostat for a sprinkler system, using local weather and landscape conditions to tell the sprinkler system when to turn itself on and off.

Drought and dry conditions in summer highlight the importance of conserving water. TF207104

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Public Notices

San Luis Valley Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) will be conducting a record and file update this summer. We will be destroying all special education records of students whose files have been closed since July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. This effects students from Alamosa, Centennial, Center Creede, Del Norte, Moffat, Monte Vista, Mountain Valley, North Conejos, Sanford, Sangre de Cristo, Sargent, Sierra Grande and South Conejos school districts. If any students or guardians want their complete file you can request it from the SLV BOCES office at 719 589-5851 on or before July 2nd, 2020.

Please include students Name, date of birth and your relationship to the student. Identification will be required.
No. 1469
Published in the Valley Courier on June 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, and July 1, 2020.

The San Luis Valley Community Action Agency has been awarded funding through the CARES ACT in response to the outbreak of COVID-19. The Funding is targeted for use in Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache Counties in the form of reimbursement for organizations who are serving individuals or families up to 200% of the poverty level. Proper backup-documentation will be required.
To apply go to our website: www.slvdr.org and return the application to, by email to: towlsley@slvdr.org or by mail to : San Luis Valley Development Resources Group
Attn: Tonya Owsley
PO Box 300
610 State Ave., Ste. 200
Alamosa, CO 81101
Application Deadline is July 15, 2020
No. 1494
Published in the Valley Courier on June 19, 20, and 23, 2020.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing before the Alamosa Board of County Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 8:30 AM, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, Colorado for the purpose of considering an application for a Minor Subdivision submitted by Jose De Jesus Juarez and Flor Mireya Juarez.
The applicant is proposing to subdivide to make 4 tracts.
The legal description of the property is:
Tract 2 as shown on the Marcelo Juarez Division of Land, the Plat of which was recorded October 7, 1993 under Reception No. 265626 in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Alamosa County, Colorado, in Alamosa County, Colorado.
Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, in person attendance will not be allowed in order to protect the public. In compliance with Colorado Open Meetings Law, you may participate by teleconference or Zoom. The teleconference number is 605-313-6288 and the access code 433756#. The Zoom Meeting ID is: 270-314-6874. Accessibility may be limited due to network capacity. Comments may also be submitted by email to landuse@alamosacounty.org before 4:30 PM on June 9, 2020.
Details regarding this application are available for public inspection in the Alamosa County Land Use Office at 8999 Independence Way Suite 100 during regular office hours.
BOARD OF ALAMOSA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MICHAEL YOHN, CHAIRMAN
ATTEST: MELANIE WOODWARD
CLERK OF THE BOARD
No. 1499
Published in the Valley Courier June 20, 2020

221 HELP WANTED

COSTILLA COUNTY IS seeking a full-time Options for Long Term Care case manager who will primarily work in Conejos County and some travel to Costilla County. Responsibilities include: Intake/screening/referral and assessment of client's needs, development of care plans, management of a caseload and interviewing clients including conducting home visits. Ability to meet deadlines in a fast-paced work environment a must. Bachelor's Degree in a human services field Sociology/ Psychology or Humanities preferred. Bi-lingual skills a plus. Experience as a case manager with the long term care client population may substitute for the required education on a year by year basis. Background check and pre-employment drug screening are required. Position is open until filled. Costilla County Public Health Agency is an equal opportunity employer. Costilla County Public Health Agency has the right to refuse any and all applications. Applications are available on the Costilla County website at <https://colorado.gov/pacific/costillacounty> under the Jobs tab or call 719-672-3332. (7/18)

221 HELP WANTED

LOOKING TO HIRE year round hire man for large potato and grain farm. Must have experience. Call 719-850-2137. (7/22)

SALES POSITION AVAILABLE. Must have own transportation. Call Ztec Construction 719-992-1396.(7/3)

CLEANERS NEEDED! FULL and part time positions available. Must have own transportation and drug screening. Call between 8am-5pm 719-587-2222. (7/3)

221 HELP WANTED

CONSTRUCTION HELPERS NEEDED. Full / Part time. Must be reliable and dependable. Call Ztec Construction 719-992-13-96.(7/3)

MOFFATS SCHOOLS IS accepting applications for the following positions: Pre-K Director/Teacher, Kindergarten Teacher, Middle School Social Studies or Science Teacher, 7th-12th Grade Math Teacher. For a complete job description and application instructions please visit www.moffatschools.org. (7/3)

221 HELP WANTED

THE BRIDGE AT Alamosa has a personal care provider position and Server position available. We provide exceptional training. Please apply at WWW.centurypa.hcshiring.com.(7/3)

CDL DRIVERS AND Heavy Equipment Operators wanted. CDL Minimum 1 yr driving experience. Knowledge of Forestry Equipment helpful, must pass drug test. No Overnight driving. Send resume to: pagosaland@pagosa.net.(7/10)

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Valley Courier

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www.newsmediaalliance.org

163 LOST & FOUND

LOST A PAIR of men's black work boots on W. Hwy 160 on way to a fire call. 4/2 approx. 4:30pm west of Budweiser before Del Viento Road. If found please call 719-580-0398.(TFN)

221 HELP WANTED

SAN LUIS VALLEY Health is seeking qualified candidate to fill a Plant Engineer role. The Plant Engineer primarily maintains and operate Electrical and HVAC systems, but has a wide variety of duties relating to maintenance, repair and installation. Please visit www.sanluisvalleyhealth.org/careers/ for a full job summary.(7/3)

SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting application for a Junior High Football coach. Applications can be downloaded at www.sanfordschools.org. Sanford School is and EOE&E. (7/3)

CONEJOS COUNTY SHERIFF is seeking a Jail Administrator. Jail Administrator supervises staff and performs a variety of complex administrative functions related to jail operations, including: overseeing all jail operations; ensuring staff and inmate safety and security; developing the budget and monitoring overall expenditures; monitors schedules and coordinating inmate programs. Experience in Administrative operation of a Business desired. Law enforcement background not necessary. Pre-employment background check, and drug screen required upon offer of employment. County Application Required. Applications may be obtained at the County Human Resources Office 6683 County Rd. 13, Conejos CO. or via email upon request at cricc@co.conejos.co.us. Deadline is Wednesday, June 24, 2020. Inquiries call (719) 376-6799. EOE. (6/24)

ACCEPTING RESUMES FOR

Assistant Administrator position with Tri-County Senior Citizens and Housing. Must be proficient in Microsoft suite. (Word, Excel, Publisher) Prior experience in bookkeeping or accounting. Must be well organized, detail and deadline oriented. Will assist with day to day operation of Senior Center and Senior Apartments. Must relate well with people. Will plan activities, events and trips. Will prepare newsletter and reports for board review, will keep website current. Full time position 35-40 hours per week Monday-Friday. Mail resumes to 311 Washington Street, Monte Vista, CO 81144 or email to mary@tricityseniors.com.(6/26)

THE TOWN OF LaJara

is accepting applications for Police Officer. Must be currently Colorado POST certified; willing to submit to background and criminal history checks as well as a psychological test. Starting salary is \$36,000 with vision, dental, and medical insurance and paid holidays. Applications may be picked up at LaJara Town Hall, 221 Broadway or at Colorado Workforce Center in Alamosa.(7/3)

221 HELP WANTED

SEEKING STORE MANAGER - MUST have retail experience, extensive plant/gardening knowledge, MED Badge and be able to lift 60+ lbs. Email resume to: AlamosaGardenSupply@gmail.com. (6/30)

THE SAN LUIS Valley Board of Cooperative Educational Services has positions for full time behavior interventionists and/or counselors for the 2020-2021 school year. Interested applicants should hold a valid Colorado Special Service Provider License or Teacher License. Successful experience with working with students with behavioral needs preferred. Application is available at the BOCES office or on-line www.slvbores.org. Process requires application, letter of interest, and three current letters of reference. Send completed application process to Nita McAuliffe, Director of Exceptional Student Services, SLV BOCES, 2261 Enterprise Drive, Alamosa, CO 81101 or nmcauliffe@slvbores.org. Application deadline is July 6, 2020 or until positions are filled.(7/3)

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Classifieds

221 HELP WANTED
RIVER VALLEY INN Nursing home is looking for RN's for a Day shift Charge Nurse Position. We Would Love for you to Come join our team! Must have a current license and CPR Please stop in for an application at 1335 6th st in Del Norte Co or call 719-657-1105 Ask for Susan or Chelsey. (RVI is EOE).(7/1)

221 HELP WANTED
CONSTRUCTION HELPER NEEDED. Pay dependent on experience. Call 719-849-1796.(7/1)
ELEMENTARY TEACHER NEEDED at Del Norte Elementary School for the 2020/2021 school year. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Principal at aduda@urtigers.co or contact Amy at 719-657-4030. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at:dncsd.org. (6/30)

330 FREE
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369 - PETS & SUPPLIES
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267 WORK WANTED
AVAILABLE: EXPERIENCED PRIVATE personal care provider. Light housework, baths, toileting, dressing, meals, geriatric exercises. 719-587-9442. (7/1)

341 - GARAGE SALES
STORAGE SALE AT 3104 Adcock Circle #19. Friday 7am-11 and Saturday 7am-11.(6/20)

395 LIVESTOCK
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267 WORK WANTED
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351 LIVESTOCK
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606 - BUS. PROP. FOR RENT
OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT. Completely renovated. New electrical, plumbing, and thermal windows. Classic 1800sq. ft. style faced located on high visibility lot on Grande Ave., Del Norte. 719-657-0776 for appointment.(6/30)

713 - PICK-UP TRUCKS
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324 - FEED & SEED
GRASS HAY 2019. 500 small bales \$5.00 each. Call 719-588-2553.(7/1)

360 - MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE
SPANISH ROOF TILES. Ezload large lot. 720-201-3857.(7/13)

387 - WANTED TO BUY
LOOKING FOR USED but in good condition electric lift recliner chair. Call 719-580-6599.(6/27)

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Homelake.....	81135
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Jaroso.....	81138
La Garita.....	81132
La Jara.....	81140
La Sauses.....	81151
La Valley.....	81153
Manassa.....	81141
Moffat.....	81143
Mogote.....	81120
Monte Vista.....	81144
Mosca.....	81146
Romeo.....	81148
Saguache.....	81149
San Acacio.....	81151
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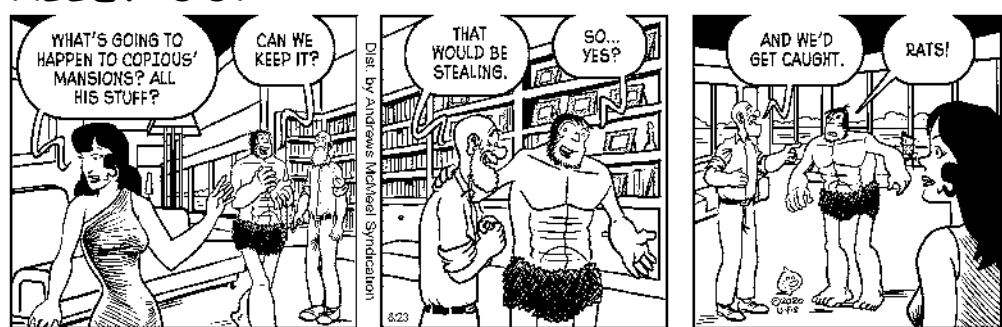
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

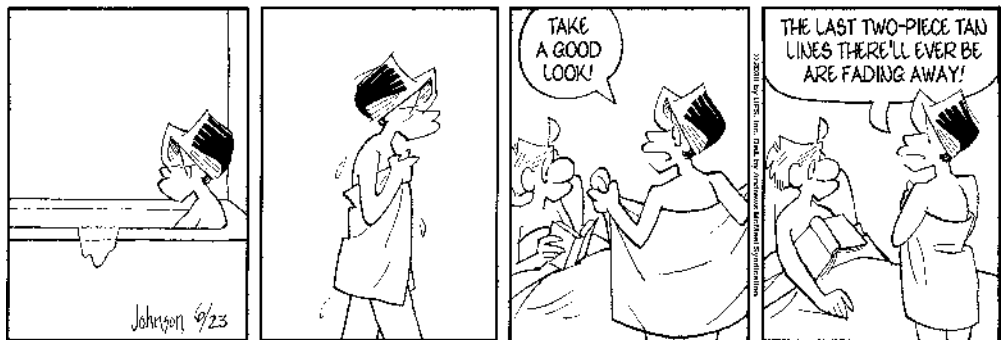
- ACROSS**
- 1 Charity
 - 5 Ewes' mates
 - 9 Store-bought hair
 - 12 Cheer on
 - 13 Dash
 - 14 Mouths
 - 15 Stravinsky or Sikorsky
 - 16 Vinegar go-with (2 wds.)
 - 18 Aims at the center (2 wds.)
 - 20 Untrue
 - 21 Coiled hairdo
 - 22 Of poor quality
 - 23 Expert
 - 26 Sensibly
 - 29 Ms. Thurman
 - 30 Latch onto
 - 32 Close tightly
 - 34 Football cheer
 - 36 Pliny's bear
 - 38 — roll (lucky)
 - 39 Close
- DOWN**
- 1 Southwest st.
 - 2 Balcony section
 - 3 Dock
 - 4 Disco flasher
 - 5 Pine product
 - 6 Shepard or Ladd
 - 7 "Bien" opposite
 - 8 Foul-ups
 - 9 Knitter's supply
 - 10 Eye part
 - 11 Squall
 - 17 Slangy ladies
 - 19 Vocalized
 - 22 Overall fronts
 - 23 Very, in Veracruz
 - 24 Hymn finale
 - 25 Goodbye, to Gaius
 - 26 Suspicious
 - 27 Mr. Trotsky
 - 28 Pull
 - 31 Burnishes
 - 33 — Vegas
 - 35 Rustic roads
 - 37 Melville captain
 - 40 List of names
 - 42 Surmises
 - 44 — up (got in shape)
 - 45 Wine and dine
 - 46 Peru's capital
 - 47 Burden
 - 48 Manner
 - 49 Singer — Horne
 - 50 Kuwaiti leader
 - 51 Carbonated water
 - 53 Smog-monitoring grp.



ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



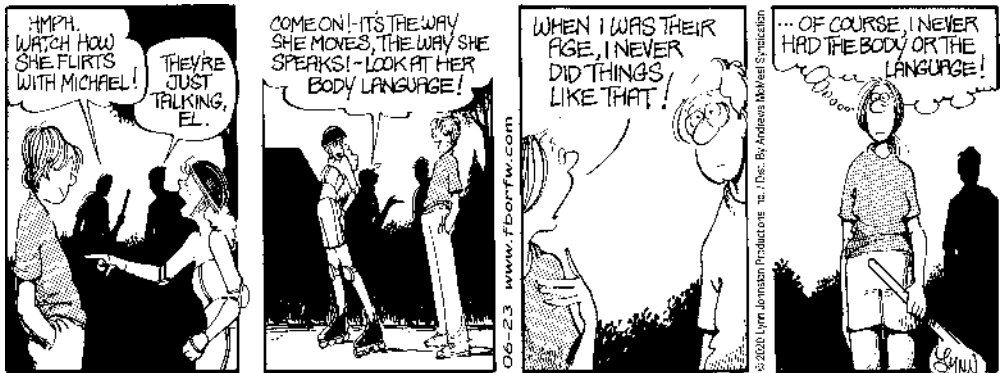
BIG NATE



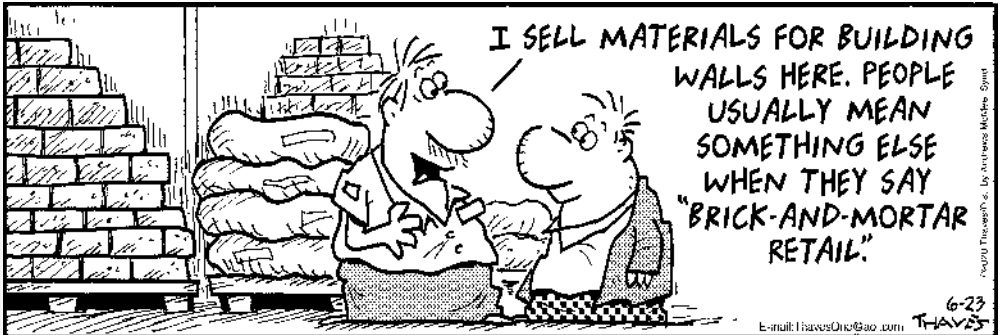
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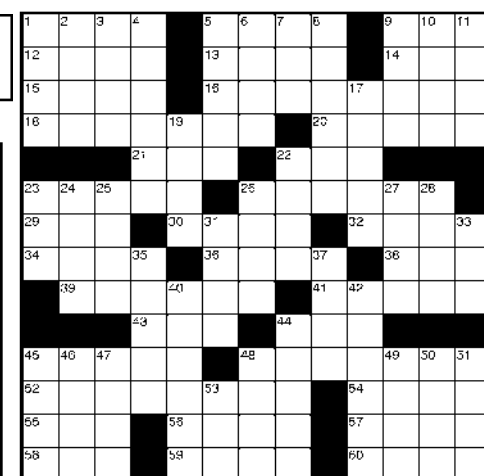
PEANUTS



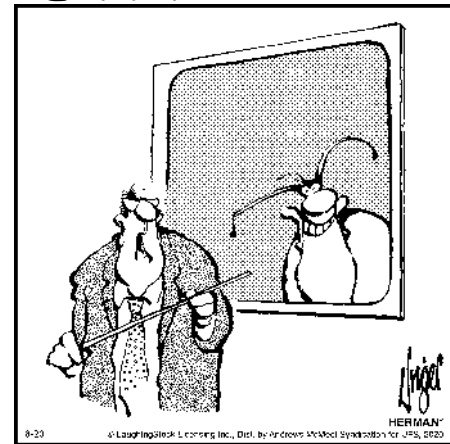
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			2	9				7
	9	5						6
				1		8	3	
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6	7					5		1
4	1		5	8				
	4	3		7				
	1					2	7	
2			4	8				



HERMAN



"And now for a look at the latest picture from our weather satellite."

Seeing son's killer go free opens old wounds for family

DEAR ABBY: My son was murdered four years ago by a supposed friend. Despite a 10-year sentence, the murderer was released from prison this month.

The perpetrator and my son had some mutual friends. When I go onto the convicted manslayer's Facebook page, he has many people congratulating and welcoming him home.

The murderer has not once apologized or shown remorse. He was on home incarceration for six months before he was sentenced for manslaughter, and during that time, he impregnated his girlfriend instead of thinking about the devastation he's caused my family. My son will NEVER have a family.

Instead of announcing to his Facebook friends and family that he's on his way home and that he is home, I feel he should keep his mouth shut and live a quiet life. I cannot believe that murderers and rapists receive respect and congratulations once they reenter society. Do people not recognize the devastation that has been caused to surviving family members of the victim? Or do they no longer care until something like this affects them and their families? -- HURT AGAIN IN KENTUCKY

DEAR HURT AGAIN: ATM guards seemed to Please accept my sym-

of your son. Nothing can take away the pain of losing a child, let alone at the hand of another person. The family and friends of the person who killed your son appear to have lost sight of the reason for his incarceration. But viewed from another perspective, they are happy to have their loved one back with them, which is why they are posting welcome messages.

A resource that might help you is the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children Inc. You can find it by going to pomc.com. I hope you will give it a try. My heart goes out to you.

DEAR ABBY: Sometimes the simplest situations make me wonder the most. Recently we needed to use the local ATM. When we drove by, we could see it was being filled by an armored truck. My husband said I should get in line. I looked around and saw other people waiting in their cars, so I thought I would do the same. My husband repeated that I should get out and get in line. Faced with the choice of standing in line or being nagged by my husband, I chose the former and was the first person to form a line.

After 20 minutes standing there and reading the news on my phone, the woman approached me and



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

said she had been waiting longer than me, albeit in her car, and I would have to go to the end of the line. I ignored her.

Soon, a guard motioned to me that the ATM was available. As I was making my withdrawal, I could hear the woman say to the others now lined up behind her that I had jumped the line and she called me an expletive, which two others in line repeated. Was I wrong to have stood my ground, or should I have moved to the back? -- WAITING IN TEXAS

DEAR WAITING: If you were the first person to stand at the ATM while others chose to wait in the comfort of their vehicles, you owed no one an apology. The person who was out of line (literally) was the woman who called you an expletive, and you were right to ignore her.

Lifestyle

Conour Animal Shelter



This is Phoenix, he is a mini mix around 2 years old. He is very sweet, well tempered, gets along with other dogs and is very friendly with people.



Left - Oscar, he is a chihuahua around 2 years old. He gets along with one dog at a time but gets easily over stimulated, he is partially potty trained.



Right - Karma, she is a pitbull mix around 2 years old. She is pretty friendly with people, but would probably need to be the only dog in the house.



This is Goody, he is a male pitbull/shepherd mix around 10 months. He is friendly with people and has a lot of energy.



This is Sam, he is a 7 year old chihuahua that's blind in one eye, he's very cuddly and gets along with other dogs.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who have contributed to the success of the Upper Rio Grande Animal Society by con-

tributions, 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.slvanimalshelter.com.

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