



Blitstein prepares for future

— Page 5



Archuleta promoted to Del Norte Police Chief

— Page 8



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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

JUNE 20, 2020

\$1

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SLV Today

In-depth look at victim, shooter coming soon

ALAMOSA—For an in-depth look at what put victim Danny Pruitt and shooter James Marshall at the scene of June 4th protest-related shooting, watch upcoming editions.

Blood Drive

Two blood drives have taken place thus far in the San Luis Valley, with social distancing guidelines in effect.

The final blood drive of three

Alamosa Community Blood Drive: June 23, from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the LDS Church, located at 927 Weber Drive in Alamosa.

To make an appointment online or for more information on blood donor eligibility, frequently asked questions about blood donations during this pandemic, and the most up-to-date donor information, please go to Vitalant's website at www.vitalant.org.



Facebook - Alamosa Valley Courier SLV WEATHER



Sunny/ Cloudy 84 / 42

Sun: Partly Cloudy 85 / 44

Mon: Mostly Sunny 85 / 44

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Ceremonial groundbreaking for San Luis Valley Animal Center

By STEPHEN JIRON
Courier Interim Editor

ALAMOSA — A smoky haze and strong winds weren't enough to keep people away from Friday's groundbreaking for the San Luis Valley Animal Center on Airport road. The SLV Animal Care Center is a massive collaboration with efforts from within the community and outside garnering support from donors like the Dumb Friends League (DFL) American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), Alamosa County and the City of Alamosa.

The new shelter was spurred along by Commissioner Darius Allen. After hearing the troubles of at the Valley Humane League, Allen fully involved himself. The Commissioner reached out to Dumb Friends League Vice President Duane Adams, traveled to the home office, and pitched a unique opportunity to bring the DFL to the San Luis Valley and rural Colorado.

From there the City of Alamosa also got involved with a meeting including City Manager Heather Brooks along with City Councilors Charlie Griego and Michael Carson. "That very fortunate conversation has led us to today where we are celebrating the groundbreaking for a new regional animal center that will bring a level of support for animal needs that we would not have dreamed possible," said Alamosa Mayor Ty Coleman.

Allen was sure to recognize others who helped add steam to the movement including — Diana Hamilton, The Rubi Slipper, Dells Insurance and his fellow commissioners Michael Yohn and Helen Sigmond.



Dumb Friends League CEO Apryl Steele speaks to those in attendance at Friday's groundbreaking.



From left, Dumb Friends League CEO Apryl Steele, Alamosa County Commissioner Darius Allen and Alamosa Mayor break ground for new San Luis Valley Animal Center.

Dumb Friends League President and CEO Dr. Apryl Steele was on hand for the groundbreaking "From the Board of Directors and all of the team of the Dumb Friends League, we want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts." Steele shared the same sentiment as Allen. "This is really a pilot, this is a pilot to show how this can be done in rural Colorado and rural communities throughout the entire country."

County Administrator Gigi Dennis closed remarks at the ceremony "We are just so delighted to have the team down with us and all of our community for support". With that Dennis presented a check for \$525 from the Alamosa County employees.

The expectation for completion of the new shelter is slated for February 2021.

Law Enforcement Integrity and Accountability Act, signed into law



Courtesy photo

Governor Jared Polis signs the Law Enforcement Integrity and Accountability Act into law.

DENVER—On Friday, June 19, Governor Jared Polis signed SB20-217, the Law Enforcement Integrity and Accountability Act, into law. This bill, sponsored by Representative Leslie Herod, Representative Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez, Senate President Leroy Garcia, and Senator Rhonda Fields, increases transparency and accountability within Colorado Law Enforcement.

"It is a historic day. Today we took a monumental step in ensuring integrity and accountability are embedded within Colorado Law Enforcement.

"This will not bring back Elijah McClain or De'Von Bailey, but their deaths will not be in vain. We are one of the first states in the nation

to pass a police reform package of this magnitude. It could not have happened without consistent demand from protesters and the community, or the tireless work of the families directly impacted by police brutality.

"I'd like to thank my co-sponsors, Rep. Gonzales-Gutierrez, Senate President Leroy Garcia, and Senator Fields. I'd also like to thank the bipartisan support of the General Assembly, and Governor Polis for responding to the call for justice.

"Dr. King spoke of the urgency of now. We can no longer wait to take action on the egregious injustices that exist in our society today. Change is coming," said Rep Herod.

Antonito mural thanks volunteers



Courier photo by Keith R. Cerny

By KEITH R. CERNY
Courier Publisher

ANTONITO – Somewhat inspired by murals being painted on the exterior of a local cannabis shop, the South Conejos Fire Protection District board decided they should add a mural to the north wall of the "old firehouse" downtown.

Antonito Fire Chief Paul Duran said the decision was made to add a mural, in an already mural-ridden town, to thank volunteer firefighters. And the AFD's own 1937 Ford pumper is featured on the large painted image.

The fire district contracted with "Murals Now" from Denver to paint the giant mural that is easily seen from southbound drivers on U.S. Highway 285.

Murals Now partners Diego Florez and Zehb said they donated a portion of their time due to the nature of gratitude being shown to volunteer firefighters. The pair does most of their painting solely with spray paint, and the ladder they used came off the '37 Ford.

Zehb said he expected the mural to be done late Friday after starting Tuesday.

"We donated a lot of our time

as gratitude to the firefighters," Florez said. "They are out there putting their lives on the line."

He added that murals are their "life mission and we're always looking for more projects." They can be reached at muralsnow@gmail.com.

Chief Duran said the '37 Ford, VIN number 001, would still be in use if not for a broken valve. The truck's pump was updated years ago and at one point had its engine rebuilt, "but it still got the original tires," he said.

The AFD's main fire station is near the highway junction just south of town, but the downtown location stores the '37 and some other equipment. The rest of the building is rented out to other businesses.

A mural thanking volunteer firefighters is now clearly visible on the exterior wall of the "old firehouse" in downtown Antonito, thanks to the South Conejos Fire Protection District. Armed with cans of spray paint, Murals Now artists Diego Florez (right) and Zehb and shown with their chihuahua mascot on Thursday and planned to complete the mural by late Friday.



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Record

OBITUARIES

Marilyn Wintz



MONTEVISTA—Marilyn Wintz was born in Aspen, Colorado on Valentine's Day in 1940. She passed away peacefully at home on June 13rd, 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 preschool 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 trea-

sured 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-BR) 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>

Cora Chacon



ANTONITO — Our dear mother, grandmother, and friend Cora A. Chacon 92 passed away on June 16, 2020, in Denver, Colorado. Cora was born on September 1, 1927, in La Isla, Colorado to William and Marina Alire, the first of five children. Cora married Ramon Chacon on August 12, 1946, in Antonito, Colorado and together they had five children. Cora and Ramon had a very successful business and were active in the community and local politics. For several years, Cora would travel almost every weekend with her husband and The Chacon Band. Cora was a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, The Christin Mothers, and The Fatima League. She also was very involved with the Antonito Senior citizens as a Board mem-

ber; the Women's American Legion Auxiliary and she loved singing in the church choir.

Cora is survived by her daughter Anna Rae (Chuck) Garrett, daughter Linda Mortensen, son Ray (Natalie) Chacon, daughter Carrie Chacon, daughter Raissa (John) Austin; 18 grandchildren, 42 Great Grand-

children and 11 Great Great Grandchildren. Cora loved all her children and grandchildren so very much and she will be deeply missed by all of us. She was preceded in death by husband Ramon, her parents, two sisters, two brothers, her son-in-law Lynn Mortensen and three grandchildren Dawn, Lance, and Lacy.

A funeral mass will be held on July 11th at 1 o'clock at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Conejos, Colorado and a recitation of the rosary on Friday, July 10th at 7 o'clock. In lieu of flowers, a donation to Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish would be very much appreciated. To leave online condolences please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. The care of arrangements has been entrusted to Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

Marilyn Perry



MONTEVISTA—Marilyn Perry, passed away in Longmont, Colorado on Monday, the 15th of June, 2020 after a lengthy battle with the repercussions of brain surgery.

Marilyn was born on the 1st of May, 1947, in Melbourne, Derbyshire, England. Marilyn was the only child of Winifred (Winnie) and Herbert Edwin Harris. As a young woman, Marilyn worked as an artisan painter of fine bone china at Royal Crown Derby in Derbyshire. While still living in England, Marilyn married Clifford Heath. Marilyn and Clifford lost an infant son Ian, but later welcomed their daughter Wendy in 1973. For a time, Marilyn worked in vegetable production as well as working on the farm. In 1988, Marilyn married Roger Perry, and they welcomed their daughter Laura.

In 1993, Marilyn, Roger, Wendy and Laura emigrated to the United

States to a farm near Princeton, Missouri. Then in 1997, Marilyn, Roger, Wendy and Laura moved to the San Luis Valley to the Parma Ranch in Monte Vista, Colorado. Marilyn's love was her sheep and her dogs. She had a commercial flock of sheep, raised and trained Border Collies to work with the sheep as well as Great Pyrenees to guard the sheep. Marilyn loved country life. She was an avid reader with a very sharp mind. Marilyn loved music and loved to sing show tunes, always humming happily is how

she'll be remembered.

Marilyn is preceded in death by her mother Winifred Taylor (Harris); father Herbert Harris; and infant son Ian Heath. She is survived by her husband Roger Perry; daughter Wendy Heath; daughter Laura Perry; step-children Frances Berry, Andrew Perry, Stuart Perry, Robert Perry and Richard Perry; and grandchildren Isabel Perry, Charlie Sheldon and Ellie Perry.

A funeral service will be held, Thursday, June 25, 2020, at 11:00 am, at Roger's Family Mortuary 404 Morris St. Monte Vista, CO 81144. Graveside service to follow the funeral at the Monte Vista Cemetery.

Funeral services are entrusted to Ahlberg Funeral Chapel in Longmont, Colorado and Roger's Family Mortuary in Monte Vista, Colorado.

Please visit www.ahlbergfuneralchapel.com to share condolences with the family.

Mabel R Rudd



DEL NORTE — Mabel R Rudd, 95 of Del Norte passed away June 18, 2020.

Mabel was born on January 5, 1925, in Canon City, Colorado.

She married the love of her life Orville L. Rudd January 12, 1942.

Mabel enjoyed her family, especially at special occasions.

She loved going fishing in the "old jeep" with Orville.

She was a seamstress; she enjoyed doing oil paintings, and one of her most favorite things was going to The Country Family Inn in Del Norte for biscuits and gravy.

Mabel is survived by her daughter Linda (Donnie) Helmick, Leadville, her daughter Ann Bennett, Del Norte, granddaughter Shellie Marti-

nez, Del Norte, grandson Donin Helmick (Francine DeHerrera), Highlands Ranch, Granddaughter Adlin (Scott) Blamey, Corpus Christi, TX, great-grandkids, Joshua Sandoval, Joseph Sandoval, Jessica Barbosa, Tyler, Caitlin, and Ashley

Helmick, Madyson Jessy, and Hailey Blamey. Great-great grandkids, Ryann and Diesel Barbosa, Aidyn Sandoval, Corbin Sandoval, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Mabel was preceded in death by her beloved husband Orville Rudd, her parents, her brother and sisters, her granddaughter Lissa McGregor, and her son-in-law LeRoy Bennett.

A special thanks to all the staff at River Valley Inn for the special care they gave our loved one.

Graveside services will be at 3:30 pm Saturday, June 20, 2020, at the Del Norte Cemetery.

Arrangements in care of Strohmayer's Funeral Home.

ALAMOSA SHERIFF'S REPORT

6/5 Kimberly Harmer, 50 – Speeding
6/8 Rafael Raya, 27 – Failure to stop at stop sign
6/9 Joshua Sumrall, 37 – Expired Registration, Operating a vehicle without insurance
6/9 Matthew Martinez, 28 – Possession of an illegal weapon
6/14 Johnathan Lopez, 20 – Failure to drive in designated lane
6/15 Michael Beachy, 57 – Failure to stop at stop sign
6/15 Trinity Lucero, 19 - Speeding
6/16 Floyd Halliburton, 42 - Criminal mischief/ Injury to property, Assault in the third degree
6/16 Jasmine Gaither, 33 – Speeding
6/17 Jose Manriquez-Enriquez, 40 – Speeding
6/17 Michael Taylor, 47 – Speeding

ALAMOSA POLICE REPORT

Santos Villanueva 20 Center Speeding
Arthur Lummus 65 Antonito Speeding
William Henninger 79 Del Norte Careless Driving
Julio Maldonado Rivas 26 Center Vicious Animal, Dog Running At Large
Theodore Cunningham 35 Alamosa Disorderly Conduct/Disturbing The Peace
Dianna Harris 49 Mosca Open Container
Katrina Sanchez 31 Sanford Shoplifting
Gerald Martinez 33 San Cristobal, NM Shoplifting
Cobie Black 20 Del Norte Exhibition Of Speed
Dale Vargo 37 Alamosa 3rd Degree Assault
Vickie Vargo 47 Alamosa 3rd Degree Assault
Anthony Garcia 26 Alamosa Operated Unregistered Vehicle, Drove Vehicle Without Valid Drivers License, Failed To Present Evidence Of Insurance Upon Request, Displayed Expired Number Plates
CJ Dominguez 26 Capulin Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia, Unlawful Possession Of A Controlled Substance
Richard White 36 Paulden, AZ Failed To Present Evidence Of Insurance Upon Request, Displayed Fictitious Plate
Henry Corral 40 Denver Violation Of Restraining Order
Joseph Estrada 22 La Jara Driving Under Resraint/Revoked
Eric Sisneros 40 Alamosa Disorderly Conduct/Disturbing The Peace, Harassment, Obstructing A Peace Officer Firefighter Emergency Medical Services Provider Rescue Specialist Or Volunteer
Nikkie Kline 28 Alamosa Driving Under Suspension
Laura Hostetter 45 Alamosa Speeding
Bradon Sanchez 33 Monte Vista Following Too Closely
Victor Solis 25 Alamosa Aggravated Motor Vehicle Theft, Domestic Violence, Obstruction Of Telephone Device

BIRTHS

Israel Garcia-Lopez

CENTER — Israel Garcia-Lopez was born June 18, 2020, at the San Luis Valley Health Center of Alamosa to Jocette Garcia and Rito Garcia-Lopez of Center. Israel weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and measured 20 inches long. Israel's siblings are Anna and David Garcia. Maternal grandparent is Maxine of Center. Great Grandparent is Grandma Rosie.

Xeyana Lumari Vazquez

SAN ACACIO — Xeyana Lumari Vazquez was born June 5, 2020, at the San Luis Valley Health Center of Alamosa to Marissa and Luis Vazquez of San Acacio. Xeyana weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces and measured 18 inches long. Xeyana's siblings are Nevaehen, Anaius and Eliana. Maternal grandparents are Ricky Quintana and Evelyn Trujillo of San Luis. Paternal grandparents are Esteban and Maria Elena Vazquez.

School Menu
Monday
June 22, 2020

NO SCHOOL



SUMMER VACATION

To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

Valley News

Alamosa passes first readings of new ordinances

STAFF REPORT
ALAMOSA—Wednesday's City Council meeting saw two first readings of prospective ordinances being passed – an inter-governmental agreement (IGA) between Alamosa and Hooper for the distribution of CARES funds as well as an amendment to the removal of snow.

At the onset of COVID's intrusion on many people's day-to-day lives, the federal government set to work and drafted the CARES Act that allocated funds individuals, states and communities.

The state decided to pass down some funds to communities smaller than 500,000 for COVID related expenses only. The Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) was used as a medium for distribution on said funds making IGAs among various counties necessary. Council officials met with County Administrator Gigi Dennis and Finance Director Ronnie Wisdom to discuss expenses were and what would be appropriate split for the \$1,392,582. The decision was a 60/40 split, Alamosa County including Hooper receiving 60 percent and the City of Alamosa getting 40 percent totaling \$562,403. That relief fund is weighed against an anticipated expense of \$250,000 for the City, hopefully carrying the city to December as the funds need to be spent by December 30th.

The motion to pass the ordinance passed unanimously on the first reading. The Council will be railing against the deadline as the second reading for Ordinance 15-2020 is scheduled for July 1st and

the deadline to apply for funds is July 7th.

Within the valley, cold coalesces making the first snowfall of the season a sticky one. That means in the winter months a white coating is not an altogether unfamiliar sight whether there has been a recent flurry or not. That made it necessary for clear rules regarding the dumping and clearing of snow from private property. The ordinance simply requires that the clearing of snow must be on one's own property as opposed to their neighbor's property or the street which could potentially create safety issues after the roads have been plowed. Alamosa Public Works Director Harry Reynolds provided an incentive for landowners to plow in rather than out during his presentation, "It's always a good idea to encourage the snow removal from the private property on to (the landowner's) lawns and garden areas, or even just the landscaping where it can soak and melt into the ground."

The ordinance exempts

properties within the Central Business District zone and properties between Third and Fourth Street. Development in these areas offers no alternative but the street. The ordinance passed Wednesday night 6-1, the lone dissenting vote from Councilor Charlie Griego whose concern was the opposite "A lot of people will clean their sidewalk and then here comes the city to clean the roads and dump all that snow right back on top of them." The second reading for Ordinance 14-2020 is slated for July 1st.

http://www.colorado.gov/airquality/colorado_summary.aspx
 Social Media:
 http://www.facebook.com/cdphe.apcd
 http://twitter.com/cdpheapcd

http://www.colorado.gov/airquality/colorado_summary.aspx
 Social Media:
 http://www.facebook.com/cdphe.apcd
 http://twitter.com/cdpheapcd

Air Quality Health Advisory for Wildfire Smoke

Affected Area: portions of the San Luis Valley, including Mineral, Rio Grande, Saguache, Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla Counties. Locations include, but are not limited to, South Fork, Creede, Del Norte, Saguache, Alamosa, La Jara and San Luis.

doors. This is especially true for those with heart disease, respiratory illnesses, the very young, and the elderly. Consider limiting outdoor activity when moderate to heavy smoke is present. Consider relocating temporarily if smoke is present indoors and is making you ill. If visibility is less than 5 miles in smoke in your neighborhood, smoke has reached levels that are unhealthy.

Montezuma County, and the Six Shooter wildfire in La Plata County was observed across large sections of southwestern Colorado on Tuesday. Dry conditions and gusty winds are expected again today. Several large wildfires in Arizona are producing enormous amounts of smoke that is being transported into Colorado and contributing to the smoke from Colorado fires. Depending upon winds, smoky conditions may continue through the weekend. Unusually sensitive people

should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion.

For the latest Smoke Outlook, visit:
 http://www.colorado.gov/airquality/addendum.aspx#smoke
 For more information about smoke and your health, visit:
 http://www.colorado.gov/airquality/wildfire.aspx

For the latest Colorado statewide air quality conditions, forecasts, and advisories, visit:

Advisory in Effect:
 Friday, June 19, 2020

Public Health Recommendations: If smoke is thick or becomes thick in your neighborhood you may want to remain in-

Colorado Department of Higher Education speaks on DACA

The Following is The Colorado Department of Higher Education and Colleges and Universities statement on the recent Supreme Court decision on DACA:

is our triumph, whether ensuring robust graduates, injecting new perspectives and diversity into our campuses and communities, or expanding our nation's tax base—our institutions stand behind DACA students and Dreamers.

and inclusive. To our DACA students: - We stand shoulder to shoulder with you; we will rethink and reimagine what pathways to opportunity will look like. You are not alone. -We are committed to advocating for state and federal policies to provide permanent legislative solutions that honor the work and sacrifice of you and your families. - We recognize the fear,

pain, and anger this decision brings. We are ready to support you on our campuses by making resources available to address mental health and well-being and create spaces where you can process and heal. We are pleased, for the sake of justice and equity, the Supreme Court recognizes the valuable contribution DACA recipients make to higher education in Colorado and the nation.

A year ago, all of us came together with colleges and universities from across the nation to join an amicus brief in support of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) in the case before the Supreme Court. On Sept. 5, 2017, the federal executive administration rescinded DACA, an initiative that provides work permits and protection from deportation for more than 700,000 undocumented students, often known as "Dreamers."

Our students contribute much more to our communities than can be measured. Our DACA students have taught us what it means to dedicate oneself to your dreams and your community with determination and resolve. They remind us every single day what it means to continue to believe in the promise of the American dream and why we must do everything we can to defend it.

- Sincerely,
 Tim Alvarez, President, Otero Junior College
 Lance Bolton, President, Pikes Peak Community College
 Leah L. Bornstein, President, Aims Community College
 Janine Davidson, President, Metropolitan State University of Denver
 Philip P. DiStefano, Chancellor, University of Colorado Boulder
 Stephanie Donner, Executive Director, Emily Griffith Technical College
 Andy Dorsey, President, Front Range Community College
 Diana Doyle, President, Arapahoe Community College
 Donald Elliman, Jr., Chancellor, University of Colorado Anschutz
 Rhonda Epper, President, Trinidad State Junior College
 Patty Erjavec, President, Pueblo Community College
 Andy Feinstein, President, University of Northern Colorado
 Father John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J., President, Regis University
 Tim Foster, President, Colorado Mesa University
 Tony Frank, Chancellor, Colorado State University System
 Curt Freed, President, Morgan Community College
 Everette Freeman, President, Community College of Denver
 Joe Garcia, Chancellor, Colorado Community College System
 Ron Granger, President, Colorado Northwestern Community College
 Jeremy Haefner, Chancellor, University of Denver
 Michele Haney, President, Red Rocks Community College
 Carrie Besnette Hauser, President & CEO, Colorado Mountain College
 Dorothy Horrell, Chancellor, University of Colorado Denver
 Paul Johnson, President, Colorado School of Mines
 Mark R. Kennedy, President, University of Colorado System
 Jay Lee, President, Northeastern Junior College
 Charles G. Lief, President, Naropa University
 Cheryl D. Lovell, President, Adams State University
 Linda Lujan, President, Lamar Community College
 Joyce McConnell, President, Colorado State University Fort Collins
 Tim Mottet, President, Colorado State University Pueblo
 Betsy Oudenhoven, President, Community College of Aurora
 Angie Paccione, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Higher Education
 Venkat Reddy, Chancellor, University of Colorado Colorado Springs
 Greg Salsbury, President, Western Colorado University
 Tom Stritikus, President, Fort Lewis College
 Jill Tiefenthaler, President, Colorado College
 Colleen Walker, Chief Executive Officer, Auraria Higher Education Center
 Richard Wiscott, President, Johnson & Wales University

Like many in the immigrant community, the presidents of Colorado's public and private colleges and universities welcome the ruling from the Supreme Court. We offer our unwavering support for our DACA and immigrant students and families. These students bring a tremendous amount of diversity to campuses across the nation, especially here in Colorado. Our nation and institutions have invested in the success of these students and the continued existence of DACA is essential to ensure the career and life success of these immigrant youth. The triumph of DACA students

we will do everything we can to defend their rightful place in this country. We believe it is vital during such tumultuous times that we look to rebuild and reimagine an America that is more just

Youth Fishing Clinic Saturday in South Fork

By LYNDSIE FERRELL
SOUTH FORK — The annual South Fork Kids' Fishing Clinic will be Saturday, June 20, starting at 8 a.m. at Tucker Ponds. The event is for children 15 and under and no free rods/reels will be provided this year, so please bring your own. Come to fish until 11:30, then Frito pie and hot dogs will be served. Admission is free and open to the public but donations are welcome. There will be a drawing for fishing poles and equipment.

In addition to casting and rod basics, the children will be learning about rules and regulations from CPW officers. Volunteer officers sit down with each group and talk to them



about the rules for fishing. Officers explain that each child can keep up to four fish to take home on any given day, but that they could catch and release the fish as much as they wanted.

For more information contact the South Fork Visitors Center at (719)873-5512

Saguache County fire spreads to haystack

SAGUACHE COUNTY — A residence fire that began at the junction of county roads X and Y between noon and 1 p.m. in northern Saguache County Friday quickly spread to a haystack near the home and will be under fire watch Friday night, Captain Ken Wilson at the Saguache County Jail reported late Friday afternoon. Firefighters from neighboring counties were called in to battle the blaze.

"The smoke hasn't even cleared yet," Wilson commented. He said the haystack will burn all night.

Wilson related that a clergy member visiting the jail spotted the fire when coming from the parking lot with Bibles for prison-



ers and reported it to jail personnel. After that calls began coming in about the fire. The fire was put out in the residence but no damage estimates are currently available, he added.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

ALONZO PAYNE
 FOR
COLORADO JD12
 "CHANGE THE NARRATIVE"
 COLORADO STATE PRIMARY JUNE 30TH
 I commit to fight for all the people of the SLV as your next District Attorney

MAKE A REAL CHANGE TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

- LOWER UNNECESSARY INCARCERATION RATES •
- PREVENT JAILS FROM OVERCROWDING •
- PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR MENTAL HEALTH •
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Alonzo Payne for Colorado @alonzopayneCO
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Opinion

Artists of the San Luis Valley

This week's feature, Coni Grant, brought to the table a perspective so passionate and sound; it soothed something in me I didn't even know was upset. Grant has reminded me of the continuous commitment one must make to creating.

Too often, art is considered a 'talent game'; one is either has 'it' or not. And, if one does have it, it is all too easy to get stuck at some point. I am convinced the two inform one another. You only feel stuck because you've bought into this idea that art is talent and not hard work. Grant is an insightful jack-of-all-trades and I'm pleased to present her work and thoughts.

Grant reveals: "I have been an artist my whole life, and an art professional (selling art) almost as long. Some kids in school are good at sports or science - I did 'artsy' stuff. On holidays, I painted classroom windows and when the hallways needed special decorations - I was called out of class. I learned early that it was a good gig.

"Before starting a family, my husband and I traveled a lot and lived in different parts of the country. When our children came along we moved to Newfoundland, Canada where we thought we wanted to live forever.

Instead, we came to the San Luis Valley and we have never regretted that decision."

Grant had quite the career before even arriving in the Valley. "I went to design school in California where I earned a BFA in Graphic Design and went on to study Conceptual Design at San Francisco State.

I spent 20 years in advertising and graphic design, primarily in San Francisco."

Eventually, Grant moved away from this and began honing in on her painting and teaching skills. "I have always painted but it was not my artistic focus until after my kids were born. About that time I began to enter galleries and competitions in California. I was also given an opportunity to teach Adult Painting in my community and along the way I earned a California teaching credential for Adults.

Readers can trust Grant's students have just as much invested in her as she does in them. Just think back to Callie Adam's feature. Adams is a student of Grant and really credits Grant's class with reinvigorating her own love for painting.

"In 2006 I earned an M. A. in Painting from Adams State University and it was during that time that I developed the style and technique that would come to characterize my work. I opened the PleinView Studio in



Alamosa in January 2007."

At this time, Grant was painting competitively and traveling in Colorado, Arizona, Wyoming, New Mexico and California. "I miss the ocean and love to paint it - but the Colorado landscape has exerted the most influence over my imagination.

"I never get tired of our mountain views, our deep aspen forests, and I am endlessly fascinated by stands of cottonwoods that are so distinctive in the Valley."

Grant says she had enjoyed a measure of success and the challenge the competitions brought. But here she began to feel stuck. "I needed something else - a change of scenery, a change of medium or a new direction. That is artist-speak for: 'I think I am really bored here.'"

Grant reflected on this time: "Some artists will do their work happily forever, evolving and getting better- that's a good thing, but I came to a crossroads and wanted a whole new direction.

"Easier said than done. Galleries hate it, collectors hate it, sometimes you hate yourself for not sticking to what you "are good at."

But Grant didn't succumb to self-pity or grudgingly accept that she needed to stick to what she knew. Instead, in 2015, she began studying with a Nova Scotian painter; traveling to Canada for several weeks out of the year.

Grant was: "Building new skills, new techniques, finding a new vocabulary to express myself in paint. It felt a little like going backward to build skills practically from the ground up. No one wants to relearn something that they think they are already good at.

Meg Colwell



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."



"But turning at the crossroads was a good thing for me and has energized me in countless ways. We all want our work to see "success", but the attainment or lack of it, can be distracting and doing new things, going new directions is at the very heart of artistic expression."

Grant closed with a few nuggets of wisdom: "I have never taken much stock in the idea of great 'talent' and in my experience of teaching, I found that it made little difference at the end of the day. People that are good at something work hard - and practice.

"These are difficult times -- trouble on top of catastrophe, but I truly believe that artists see and embrace the times. Artists can use their creative voice to address it. This is not new news -- artists have been speaking into culture through most of history. Hard things

do not kill creativity but force it to bloom, sometimes in hidden places.

"We don't complain that things have changed but figure how to make the pain meaningful - to give expression to what we see around us. It is not wrong to want to get back to "normal" - but it is times like this that fuel the painters, sculptors, poets, writers - creative people and artists of all types. This is how Art changes the world."

To view more of Grant's work, visit www. ConiGrant.com. You can also follow her on Instagram: @conigrant. "I work out of the PleinView Studio at 6800 Hwy 17 in Alamosa and am there almost every day after 12 p.m.

"My work will be featured at ASU, in the Clyde Snooke Gallery during the month of September. The show is called 'Big Marks and Small Marks, - A year of painting.'

Fibromyalgia is a pain

What an understatement! Fibromyalgia (FM) is a pain, and then some.

Support groups on Facebook are testimony to the many experiences that individuals endure—each post is an enlightenment about the ache being the same throughout the FM community and being as individualized as DNA.

The syndrome is not one-size-fits-all because some in early-onset can endure the tender points right on through 5k runs, vacuuming, relocating and divorce proceedings. Others develop musculoskeletal pains as a result of long plied physical or emotional trauma—including workplace bullying. Yet, the syndrome

is more than that; FM may appear alongside irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), insomnia, sleep apnea, moodiness, forms of arthritis, fatigue, depression, restless legs, neuropathy, diabetes, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), according to some sources.

Taking a shower when you have fibromyalgia is a major deployment, one might say. Even water crashing onto the skin can be so painful for the patient like millions of needle pricks simultaneously bombarding skin, that the daily shower is too much. Compounding that pain would be undressing and redressing afterwards. Hair follicles and scalp can also

scream at the sufferer.

The adage "Just do it" has a lonesome meaning to the FM sufferer. Sure, as one support group post stated, wanting to do the work and then only being able to look at what needs to be done because of debilitating discomfort is a downer. One physical therapist asked the question, "What is pain for?" The answer: it's to get you to back away. The limit has been breached. Back off from it and do so, now!

In the 1970s, doctors often said, "It's all in your head." As a society, we might have bought that explanation, but thankfully now, doctors, nurses, therapists can attest that Fibro is a real thing. It used to be an arduous journey to find the documentation of what is wrong. For backaches that feel like your back is breaking, scans or magnetic resonance imaging might be ordered.

The Mayo Clinic explains that the diagnosis is not done with a specific test. "Instead, fibromyalgia appears to be linked to changes in how the brain and spinal cord process pain signals." Previously, general practitioners (GP) weren't sure how much pressure to apply when

testing for tender points. The site explains, "These newer diagnostic criteria include widespread pain lasting at least three months: the

presence of other symptoms such as fatigue, waking up tired and trouble thinking; and no other underlying condition that might be causing the symptoms."

"Some medicines help," the support group members report. Some sufferers use turmeric with some pepper to activate analgesic qualities—not yet verified in medical studies. Some use opioid derivatives, others use Ibuprofen or Tylenol. Physical therapy might be an option to get more movement into the daily routine and re-educate the brain to recognize correct pain signals.

For some with Fibro, the most meaningful part of the day is when they unload the dishwasher and make a phone call, a way of turning the focus onto someone else and crafting a blessing for someone else despite the raging pain.

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

Movin' On with Nellie



Nelda Curtiss

LETTERS

An open letter to the Friends and the Fans of the San Luis Valley Early Iron Club

After much discussion and contemplation, the members of the San Luis Valley Early Iron Club have decided to postpone this year's 40th Annual event to 2021 in light of the unpredictability of Covid restrictions placed on Communities and event organizers.

We have struggled with this decision. We are known throughout the automotive circles as the Community that provides a welcoming, enjoyable and professional event. It is because of our sponsors, volunteers, SLV business', local governments, rodders and the people of the San Luis Valley that we have the reputation of always providing a quality event. We enjoy it when our attendees ask "how do you get the entire San Luis Valley community to support you?"

In order to continue to provide a quality event, we are moving our 40th Annual Event to Labor Day weekend 2021 We are asking you to join us in making our 40th Annual the best that it can be. We

plan to see you then and there. Our best to you and your families,

The San Luis Valley Early Iron Club

- Joelle Boos
- Eric & Jean Christensen
- Helen Craig
- Gabe & Lucille Duran
- Anna Gallardo
- Kris & Jill Gosar
- Susanne Gosar
- Robert & Andy Jackson
- Craig Janda
- Ryan Martin
- Kenny & Kim Rodman
- Karen Rodriguez & Edward Haley
- Toni Rodriguez
- Myrna Swift
- Mark Valdez
- Mondello & Glenna Walstrom
- Michael & Roni Wisdom
- Kyle & Michelle Woodward
- Melanie Woodward

Valley Stuff

Wow...here we are...into summer! Some days I feel like it should be the middle of May and sometimes it feels like the middle of July! It's really surreal this year. It's been so hot and this wind has been brutal. It can just go away far, far away. The really bad thing about the wind is that firefighters all over the state, including guys from Alamosa, are having to beat back the flames in this wind.

My son-in-law, Adam Burns, is one of those guys fighting these fires. If you are a praying kind of person, please pray for rain and for the winds to die down.

My granddaughter, Peyton Harmon, and I attended the groundbreaking for the new SLV Animal Center (I think that's the official name). If you drive south to the airport and turn right you will see the construction area.

This shelter could not be built without the support/ownership of the Dumb Friends League out of Denver. I don't know how we, the animal lovers of the SLV, can ever thank you enough.

A number of speeches were made, a number of thank you's were given but I would like to add one more special person and that is Peyton Sanchez. For his young age, he has given much to the VHL over the years, including his last purchase of a standup bathing unit (I helped a little). I also want to thank my Peyton for helping with many, many puppies over the past 5 years. It's not many four-year-olds who know how to wipe a puppy's bottom to make them 'do their business' when they have no mama to clean them up. Seems like I wrote about 'doing their business' last week, only different. I say this as someone who right now is fostering three adorable 4-week old puppies—bring your kids down to the store if you are looking to adopt a forever pet.

And, if you want to make a donation to this project, you can certainly bring it by the Green Spot and I will get it to them.

Henry finished weeding Mom's Garden this week—I am so excited to start planting the lily bulbs and roots that have come in.

And yes, the drip irrigation will get done this weekend because...I need to get every-

thing really moist before I spray the Weed Impede. In the new areas, I don't want any perennials or annuals going to seed yet, as I want to eliminate annual weeds—especially those damn elm seedlings! Please go by and take a look at this garden and tell me it doesn't welcome folks into town, more than rock, in my humble opinion.

If there are some perennials that you have not been able to find this year, please come by and check out my list. I have re-connected with a nursery that I did business with way before we purchased the Green Spot and they have a huge availability list. I will be making a trip next Sunday, coming back Monday to pick up plants I am wanting for Mom's Garden and my home garden. I will also be picking up some shrubs and trees so let me know.

My friend, Danielle, has been helping me in the Flag Project area with cutting back the Russian Sage and digging up the dreaded Bouncing Betty, a noxious weed that was planted before my time. The Sage will be transplanted into Mom's Garden so that we can get ready to install 6 more flag poles. We will be planting red white and blue flowers in the first circle, if you see someone messing with the flowers, please call the police at 589-5807.

Thanks! As we get into the end of the primary season, I have to reflect on one of the last elections. It kind of amazes me that when folks run for office, they are at meetings, and at debates, and serving pancakes at the 4th of July breakfast, in the parades—walking or riding in cars, kind of a hugging babies picture opportunity. But...when they lose, they disappear off the face of the map, almost like they moved out of town, right? Actually, even when they win, are you ever contacted again?

Are you ever asked for your opinion? I mean in a real sit down, over a cup of coffee (or a beer) kind of situation. Does your opinion really matter? Or is it just because I'm me and I keep asking questions? I just want some answers, don't you?

Ruthie Brown

Valley Stuff

Lifestyle

Adams State provides Blitstein with factions for future profession



Photo courtesy of Rebecca Blitstein

Rebecca Blitstein looks forward to combing her passion for outdoor activities and her mathematical skill on the eastern seaboard.

ALAMOSA — Right after graduating from Buena Vista High School, Rebecca Blitstein sought new adventures and attended an out-of-state university. After two years, she missed the Colorado sunshine and rafting, climbing, and hiking the Rocky Mountains. She decided to wing it, submitted an application, and transferred to Adams State University for her junior and senior years.

On Saturday, June 6, Blitstein earned her Bachelor of Science in mathematics with a computer science emphasis during the Adams State University 2020 Spring Virtual Commencement Ceremony.

As a student, Blitstein multiplied her involvement by dividing her time between classes, homework, and work-study with the Adams State Adventure Program and

as a math tutor. "I feel that I was able to develop more professionally in both realms." She also volunteered with Alamosa Search and Rescue.

From transferring schools, to changing majors, to plenty of personal struggles along the way, college was no doubt tough. These challenges provided avenues of growth, both academically and personally. Blitstein is excited for what lies ahead and is grateful for the opportunity to attend college. She is ready to leave but will miss the comfort and joy of being a student.

Finishing her last two years at Adams State, Blitstein graduated in four years with no student loan debt. Her next step will be to move to the east coast, with her dog, to pursue a career in data science and eventually earn a Ph.D. in mathematics.

Monte Vista's Citizen Academy has first meeting

By REBECCA COPLEY

MONTE VISTA - The City of Monte Vista's Citizen Academy had its first official meeting Thursday, June 11. The Academy was put together as an introduction for the One Cent Oversight Committee so that they can learn more about the departments and how the city of Monte Vista operates. "This is the first year that we have the one-cent sales (tax) oversight committee which goes along with the sales tax that was passed by the November 2019 vote. When we came up with this idea we wanted to do something that would kind of give you guys an inside look at how the city runs," said City Finance Director Jennifer Signs.

Signs went on to explain the goals behind the citizen academy which has three parts: knowledge, involvement and public relations. "The other part of this is you guys are the citizens, you're the ones that are out there amongst everybody else working. You hear the ideas, and so when we're spread like we're spread in the City, we don't always get to take that time to be out there and visit with everybody like we want. So you're kind of a liaison for us as well to be the voice of everybody within the city of Monte Vista. The second part is the involvement that kind of goes along with knowledge. We want to increase the citizen's involvement, we want to be transparent, we want to hear what everybody wants," Signs said, sharing that when they were trying to get the sales tax passed they had a motto of "Your city, your voice, your ideas." They hope it will help with the third part, public relations, by improving the lines of communication and relationship between citizens and their local government.

The funds created by the one-cent sales tax are to be used to help fund three specific departments: Ski-Hi, public works and the

police department. Forty percent of the revenue created by the tax increase will go to maintaining the Ski-Hi facilities. Thirty-five percent of the tax dollars will go to the public works department so that they can pave some of the city's unpaved streets, increase their ability to pour more sidewalks and improve the cities drainage system. Twenty-five percent of the sales tax revenue will go to helping the police department. With the funds, they hope they will be able to hire one more full-time officer, upgrade equipment, and replace vehicles. The One-Cent Oversight Committee is made up of citizen volunteers who were selected to ensure transparency, and community involvement in how these funds are used.

At this first meeting of the Academy, City Clerk Unita Vance was able to share with them about what she does and information about her department. The Citizen's Academy will run over the course of 6 nights with lots of presentations, tours, and more so that they can learn about each department within the city. On the last night of the academy, those who participated will be awarded with a certificate. With this being their first Citizen's Academy meeting they are hopeful that others in the community will be interested in joining them in the future. If the interest is great enough, they hope they can hold the Academy 2 or 3 times a year and open it to other citizens in the community, not just the Oversight Committee. The future Academies will consist of 10-15 people and interested participants would need to send an application or statement of interest to join. If you are interested in joining the Academy you are asked to contact Jennifer Signs by phone: (719) 852-8285 or by email at: jsigns@ci.monte-vista.co.us

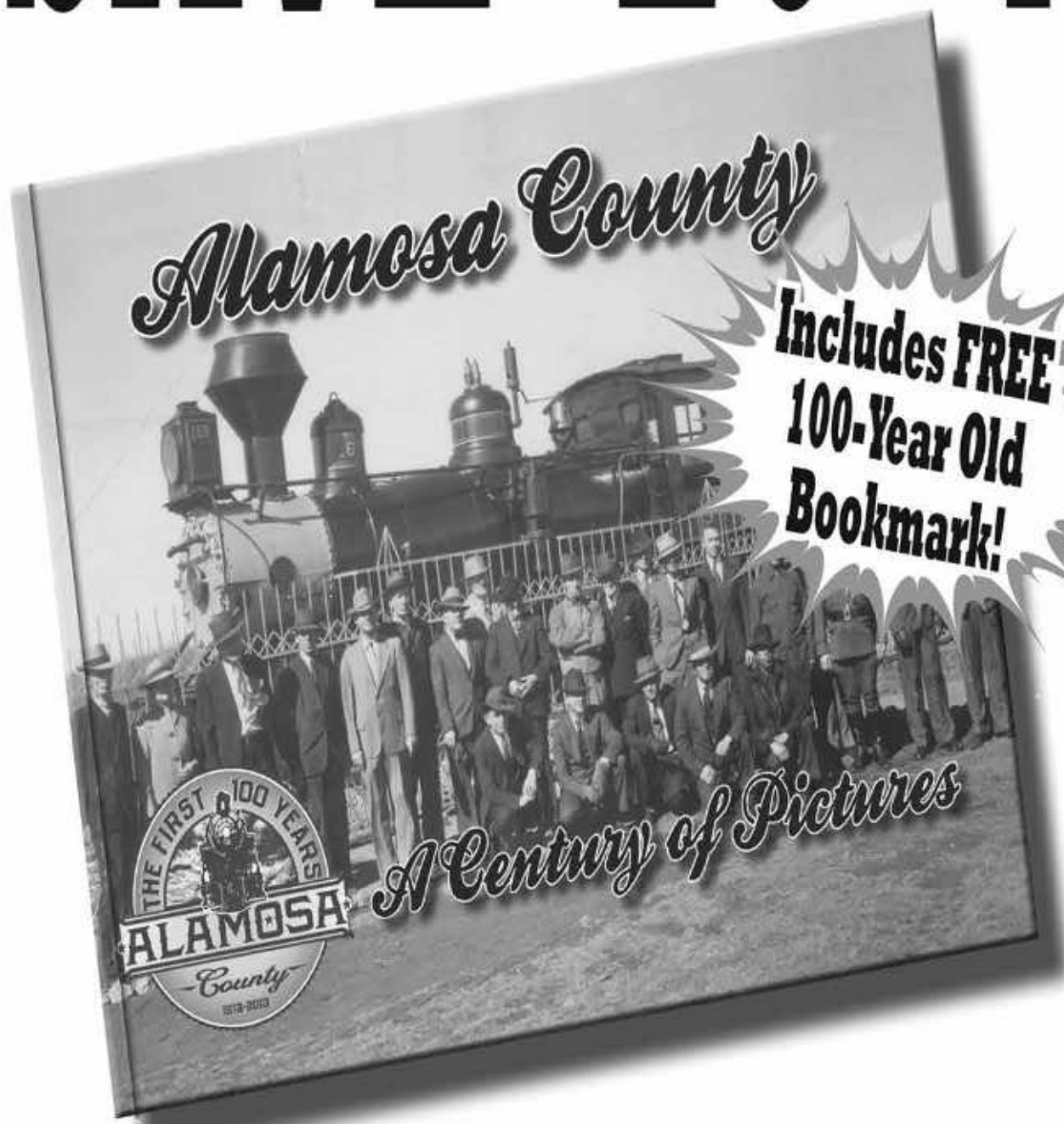


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Lifestyle

Water enthusiasts should always wear personal flotation devices (PFD)

CPW urges all boaters and stand-up paddle boarders to wear PFDs when on the water.

DENVER — Now that summer is officially here, Coloradans head to the state's rivers, lakes and reservoirs to participate in a variety of water sports activities. Colorado Parks and Wildlife remind outdoor recreationists to be safe on the water and wear a life vest, also known as a personal flotation device (PFD).

Water sports are a great way to have fun in the sun, whether you go powerboating, paddleboarding, sailboating, windsurfing, kayaking, tubing or canoeing. In order to keep water-based activities carefree and risks at a minimum, it's important to keep basic safety practices in mind.

The spring run-off has filled reservoirs and water is still very cold. If you fall into water that's barely 50 degrees, hypothermia can set in quickly and be life-threatening. People recreating on Colorado's natural waters are urged to wear a PFD no matter if they are on a river, lake, pond or reservoir.

"You should always wear a life vest, paddle with a buddy, know your limitations and scout rapids prior to floating them," said Grant Brown, boating safety program manager with Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Water drownings are not uncommon in Colorado, and park rangers and search and rescue teams have already responded to multiple drownings this season. The impact of cold water can be dangerous when people are unexpectedly thrown overboard and required to swim when in distress. Paddle craft, such as kayaks and paddleboards, are especially vulnerable when the wind picks up, which it does most every afternoon in Colorado.

CPW urges all boaters, no matter what type of craft they are using, to wear PFDs when on the water. Regulations require that the number of PFDs on a boat match the number of people on board. Children 12 years old and younger must always wear a PFD when on the water. The rules apply to all types of boats and stand-up paddleboards.

Outdoor recreationists interested in participating in water sports can rent or loan equipment and PFD are various state parks. CPW offers a park finder tool to search Colorado state parks that offer water activities and rental services. Dogs are encouraged to wear PFD as well in case a boat unexpectedly capsizes.

Off the water, CPW reminds all recreationists that they are required to

follow the rules of Governor Jared Polis's "safer-at-home" order while recreating. Follow safety protocol at boating inspections and when getting into the water. Maintain a distance of six feet from other people, and wear a mask around other people if water entry locations appear crowded.

For more information on boating regulations and safety information, visit <https://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/BoatingSafety.aspx>.



Town of Del Norte signs MOU with county over land

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

DEL NORTE — Over the last year, the county has been in negotiations with both the Town of Del Norte and the Upper Rio Grande School District about a piece of land that is located just south of the school. The land is referred to as the Del Norte Community Athletic Fields Linear Walking Trail and was attached to a GOCO grant several years ago. The county was the fiscal agent for the grant but had no interest in maintaining the land per the grant agreement and was approached by the school who wanted to take the grant over but keep the county on as a fiscal sponsor.

The county declined the request and thought it best that the town become the fiscal sponsor for the grant because the school had recently been annexed into the town for utility purposes. In November of last year, commissioners passed a resolution that intended to relinquish all rights and obligations under the grant agreement and transfer everything to the town.

In a meeting held by the town in December, the Town board of trustees passed a similar resolution to accept all rights and obligations though the two entities never signed what is referred to in the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) as an assignment and assumption agreement which is a document required by GOCO for a transfer of rights and obligations to be complete.

The efforts of both the town and the county fell to the wayside, the school made no attempt to further their interest in the land according to commissioners and everything was on hold in the midst

of the pandemic and other pressing issues. Then, in the spring of this year, Rio Grande County Commissioners were approached by board members from the D Mountain Parks and Recreation District, Patti Kelly and Jessica Lovelace.

The district was highly interested in the land and shared its history with commissioners stating that they used to be part of the High Valley Community Center but after several changes were made into their own entity that receives Conservation Trust Fund money. The district has been working recently on a project to bring a recreation center to the area and were in need of a piece of land.

According to both Kelly and Lovelace, the district has sufficient funding to maintain the walking trail and can meet all requirements set forth by the GOCO grant. It was at this point that the district requested the commissioners and the town consider deeding the land to the D Mountain Parks and Recreation District and allow them to move forward with plans on expanding recreational opportunities in the area.

In the MOU passed by both the county and the town, it states, "Rio Grande County is in receipt of a letter from GOCO confirming that GOCO is agreeable to amending the grant agreement in order to allow for transfer of ownership and maintenance of the Del Norte Community Athletic Linear Walking Trail project to D Mountain Parks and Recreation District."

The MOU was signed by both parties Wednesday, June 10. Further details about the future of this project will be reported as they become available.

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Lifestyle

Moffat citizens defend Gonzalez against false claim



Courtesy photo

The street named after Mayor Patricia Riegel in Moffat runs through the Potch LLC/Area 420 development adjacent to the town.

By **TERESA L. BENNS**

MOFFAT — The Moffat saga continues, with new developments painting a different picture of what Zengxi Gao and his friends have reported to the Sheriff's Office as theft from his marijuana grow located on Mayor Riegel Boulevard in the town. Sheriff Dan Warwick says he now has received statements from several of the individuals involved in the incident and it is looking more and more like a civil dispute. The paperwork will be submitted to District Attorney Robert Willett soon for a determination, he confirmed.

A group of Moffat citizens (who wish to remain anonymous to avoid any recriminations) are protesting the false characterization of Ernest Gonzalez, by Gao's spokesperson, as an illegal marijuana grower. Gonzalez was one of several who accompanied Garegin Pogosyan, the man who went to Gao's to collect his belongings on May 18.

Gonzalez was recently licensed by the Marijuana Enforcement Division to grow retail marijuana in the Town of Moffat outside of Area 420, and as his friends point out, this would not be the case if he was growing illegally or had any history of illegal growing with law enforcement. Group members insist with Warwick that the incident which took place at Gao's establishment was a civil matter — a collection of belongings by a former employee, (Pogosyan), with assistance from town officials.

Because Gao's property is on Potch land at present, and the town and Potch seem to be at odds, the group behind Gonzalez is questioning the source of the information and report made by Gao. This after months of apparent cooperation between Potch officials and the town to achieve the annexation, now challenged by two attorneys and the county.

They believe Gao's spokesperson may be associated with the

Potch, LLC group, and the accusation made against Gonzalez could stem from a comment made by Gonzalez about Potch, LLC during a town meeting earlier this year regarding real estate sales.

Some have objected that although lots are selling in Potch LLC/420, those selling the lots do not have the necessary real estate licenses. This was confirmed by the Center Post-Dispatch last year with the Department of Regulatory Affairs (DORA). The website for Area 420 does not seem to have any licenses listed.

While town officials are not talking, some town residents report that all is not well in Potch, LLC paradise. There have been water disputes between the town and Potch/Area 420, and one source says several citizens witnessed an incident where harsh words went down between Mayor Riegel and Potch LLC developer Whitney Justice over the water issue. Another resident has forbidden Potch/Area 420 to transport water across his property.

There are conflicting stories, but the general consensus from the citizens recounting the initial incident runs as follows. Gao's operation was shut down by the Town of Moffat and is not operational per the State since December, allegedly after some marijuana could not be accounted for at the facility. Pogosyan was an employee of Gao's at the time, and after the shutdown, could not collect his belongings.

Warwick commented that according to statements he received, it appears that Pogosyan had some financial stake in the equipment removed from Gao's facility. Group members said it was the current leaseholder for Gao's property, Matt Litrenta, who finally let Pogosyan, Gonzalez and the town officials in to collect his property, so there was no "break-in" as some reported.

Nor was Canna Valley Consulting (CVC), associated with the town, there to conduct an audit rather than

assist in collecting Pogosyan's property since the facility had already closed. "All they took were the things that belonged to him [Pogosyan]," one group member noted. The mayor and town officials did not take anything other than the property that belonged to Pogosyan, s/he added.

But the Moffat group observing from the sidelines believes that when all is said and done, those now seeing the potential problems with Potch LLC/Area 420 and the disputed annexation will be the losers. "They were taken for a ride by these people," one group member said. "We all were, including the town."

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DEBBIE: djsowardscerny.61@gmail.com
MORGAN: mneely@alamosanews.com

Lifestyle

Frank Archuleta promoted to Del Norte Police Chief

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

DEL NORTE — The Del Norte Town board of trustees convened for the first time since March for their regular monthly meeting on the evening of June 10. Town Manager Bernadette Martinez with the help of town staff set up tables and chairs to host the meeting outside in the park. The evening was a night to remember if only for the fact that people were obviously happy to be getting back to some form of normalcy in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

After approving the consent agenda, the board moved into the vote to promote Archuleta to police chief after months of

Center school board meeting June 30

CENTER — The Center Consolidated School District Board of Education will be rescheduling the regularly scheduled June BOE meeting to June 30 at 6 p.m. This will be a Special BOE meeting as it will include approval of the original budget for Fiscal Year 2021.

This meeting will use teleconferencing or video conferencing, but Superintendent Carrie Zimmerman will be present for the meeting at her office.

Board President G. Lyn Bogle and board members Misty Palacios, Kimberlee Duran, Enrique Aguilar and Lloyd Garcia will participate by teleconference or videoconference.

To participate in the meeting, visit <https://www.center.k12.co.us>, rescheduled board meeting.

waiting for applicants to apply. "Frank is the best choice for the position and we just needed to be able to hold a public meeting in order to promote him," said Martinez.

Archuleta has served with the Del Norte Police Department going on 20 years and is eager to continue to serve the community he has grown to love. "I had no intention of coming here. I was happy in Center but after getting an offer from one of the previous police chiefs, I took the job as an officer and have made this community my home."

Archuleta had a teary catch in his voice as he accepted the badge for police chief while his family, friends and brothers in blue watched as his wife pinned it to his uniform. "I know we are in some difficult times right now and that there is no trust for

law enforcement and my brothers in blue are facing some difficult times, but it is my promise to you that I will protect this community to the best of my ability and I will do it with integrity and honesty."

The board opened the meeting with reports from the Public Works Department and the Del Norte Police Department. Public Works Director Kevin Larimore gave a brief report stating that the water sanitation project that the town has been working on for well over a year is nearing completion and that construction crews are working on the final stages. "Everything is going well, and they are putting the final touches on the project."

Police Chief Frank Archuleta gave his report stating that the department has been keeping busy and that they were

in the process of seeking additional officers and an ordinance officer to help the town enforce ordinances. "This position would address nuisances, illegal camping, cluttered yards, illegal dumping and other enforcements. It is part-time but we have a few interviews scheduled for next week," said Archuleta.

Archuleta also stated the bear and mountain lion that had been seen in town had both been euthanized. "The bear was deemed a nuisance and was actually one that came down from Creede. The CPW opted for public safety, to put the animal down. It was the same with the mountain lion that has been sighted in the area. We spent weeks tracking the animal with CPW and were finally able to find it and resolve the problem."



Courtesy photo
Frank Archuleta police chief badge is pinned to his uniform by his wife.



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Public Notices

LA JARA TOWN OF 2020 Drinking Water Quality Report Covering Data For Calendar Year 2019

Public Water System ID: CO0111600

Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.

We are pleased to present to you this year's water quality report. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Please contact DENNIS KOENIG at 719-274-0553 with any questions or for public participation opportunities that may affect water quality.

General Information

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems (especially for pregnant women and young children). It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. Additional information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment may have provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit wqcd.compliance.com/ccr. The report is located under "Guidance: Source Water Assessment Reports". Search the table using 111600, LA JARA TOWN OF, or by contacting DENNIS KOENIG at 719-274-0553. The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that *could* occur. It *does not* mean that the contamination *has or will* occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area are listed on the next page.

Please contact us to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about the Drinking Water Quality Report, to learn more about our system, or to attend scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

Our Water Sources

Sources (Water Type - Source Type)	Potential Source(s) of Contamination
WELL NO 1 NORTH PUMPHOUSE (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 2 SOUTH PUMPHOUSE EMERGENCY (Groundwater-Well)	Aboveground, Underground and Leaking Storage Tank Sites, Existing/Abandoned Mine Sites, Other Facilities, Commercial/Industrial/Transportation, High Intensity Residential, Low Intensity Residential, Urban Recreational Grasses, Row Crops, Pasture / Hay, Deciduous Forest, Evergreen Forest, Septic Systems, Road Miles

Terms and Abbreviations

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Health-Based** – A violation of either a MCL or TT.
- Non-Health-Based** – A violation that is not a MCL or TT.
- Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – The level of a drinking water disinfectant, below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- Violation (No Abbreviation)** – Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** – Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- Variance and Exemptions (V/E)** – Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** – Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon-222, and uranium.
- Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.
- Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** – Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- Average (x-bar)** – Typical value.
- Range (R)** – Lowest value to the highest value.
- Sample Size (n)** – Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).
- Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)** – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- Not Applicable (N/A)** – Does not apply or not available.
- Level 1 Assessment** – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- Level 2 Assessment** – A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Detected Contaminants

LA JARA TOWN OF routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2019 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.

Note: Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

Disinfectants Sampled in the Distribution System						
TT Requirement: At least 95% of samples per period (month or quarter) must be at least 0.2 ppm OR If sample size is less than 40 no more than 1 sample is below 0.2 ppm						
Typical Sources: Water additive used to control microbes						
Disinfectant Name	Time Period	Results	Number of Samples Below Level	Sample Size	TT Violation	MRDL
Chlorine	December, 2019	Lowest period percentage of samples meeting TT requirement: 100%	0	1	No	4.0 ppm

Lead and Copper Sampled in the Distribution System								
Contaminant Name	Time Period	90 th Percentile	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	90 th Percentile AL	Sample Sites Above AL	90 th Percentile AL Exceedance	Typical Sources
Copper	09/27/2019 to 09/27/2019	0.05	10	ppm	1.3	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Antimony	2017	1	1 to 1	1	ppb	6	6	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
									retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic	2017	3	3 to 3	1	ppb	10	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	2017	0.1	0.1 to 0.1	1	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2017	0.38	0.38 to 0.38	1	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	2019	0.54	0.54 to 0.54	1	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Secondary Contaminants**						
**Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin, or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.						
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	Secondary Standard
Sodium	2017	9.22	9.22 to 9.22	1	ppm	N/A

Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions

Health-Based Violations					
Maximum contaminant level (MCL) violations: Test results for this contaminant show that the level was too high for the time period shown. Please read the information shown below about potential health effects for vulnerable populations. This is likely the same violation that we told you about in a past notice. We are evaluating, or we already completed an evaluation, to find the best way to reduce or remove the contaminant. If the solution will take an extended period of time, we will keep you updated with quarterly notices.					
Treatment technique (TT) violations: We failed to complete an action that could affect water quality. Please read the information shown below about potential health effects for vulnerable populations. This is likely the same violation that we told you about in a past notice. We were required to meet a minimum operation/treatment standard, we were required to make upgrades to our system, or we were required to evaluate our system for potential sanitary defects, and we failed to do so in the time period shown below. If the solution will take an extended period of time, we will keep you updated with quarterly notices.					

Name	Description	Time Period	Health Effects	Compliance Value	TT Level or MCL
CROSS CONNECTION RULE	FAILURE TO MEET CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND/OR BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS - M614	10/05/2018 - 09/30/2019	We have an inadequate backflow prevention and cross-connection control program. Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to inadvertent contamination of the drinking water. This is due to one or more of the following: We have permitted an uncontrolled cross connection, AND/OR we have installed or permitted an uncontrolled cross connection, AND/OR we failed to comply with the requirements for surveying our system for cross connections, AND/OR we failed to complete the testing requirements for backflow prevention devices or methods, AND/OR we failed to notify the State Health Dept of a backflow contamination event.	N/A	N/A
CROSS CONNECTION RULE	FAILURE TO MEET CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND/OR BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS - M612	10/05/2018 - 09/30/2019	We have an inadequate backflow prevention and cross-connection control program. Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to inadvertent	N/A	N/A

Health-Based Violations					
Maximum contaminant level (MCL) violations: Test results for this contaminant show that the level was too high for the time period shown. Please read the information shown below about potential health effects for vulnerable populations. This is likely the same violation that we told you about in a past notice. We are evaluating, or we already completed an evaluation, to find the best way to reduce or remove the contaminant. If the solution will take an extended period of time, we will keep you updated with quarterly notices.					
Treatment technique (TT) violations: We failed to complete an action that could affect water quality. Please read the information shown below about potential health effects for vulnerable populations. This is likely the same violation that we told you about in a past notice. We were required to meet a minimum operation/treatment standard, we were required to make upgrades to our system, or we were required to evaluate our system for potential sanitary defects, and we failed to do so in the time period shown below. If the solution will take an extended period of time, we will keep you updated with quarterly notices.					

Name	Description	Time Period	Health Effects	Compliance Value	TT Level or MCL
			contamination of the drinking water. This is due to one or more of the following: We have permitted an uncontrolled cross connection, AND/OR we have installed or permitted an uncontrolled cross connection, AND/OR we failed to comply with the requirements for surveying our system for cross connections, AND/OR we failed to complete the testing requirements for backflow prevention devices or methods, AND/OR we failed to notify the State Health Dept of a backflow contamination event.		

Additional Violation Information					
Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.					
Describe the steps taken to resolve the violation(s), and the anticipated resolution date :Heather Drissele from CDPHE helped us resolve violations M610,M612,M613,M614 on September 30, 2019.					

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Classifieds

Non-Health-Based Violations

These violations do not usually mean that there was a problem with the water quality. If there had been, we would have notified you immediately. We missed collecting a sample (water quality is unknown), we reported the sample result after the due date, or we did not complete a report/notice by the required date.

Name	Description	Time Period
PUBLIC NOTICE	FAILURE TO NOTIFY THE PUBLIC/CONSUMERS	05/05/2019 - 06/27/2019
PUBLIC NOTICE	FAILURE TO NOTIFY THE PUBLIC/CONSUMERS	02/05/2019 - 06/27/2019
LEAD & COPPER RULE	FAILURE TO MONITOR AND/OR REPORT	07/01/2019 - 11/14/2019
CROSS CONNECTION RULE	FAILURE TO MEET CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND/OR BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS - M613	10/05/2018 - 09/30/2019
CROSS CONNECTION RULE	FAILURE TO MEET CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND/OR BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS - M610	10/05/2018 - 09/30/2019

Additional Violation Information

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Describe the steps taken to resolve the violation(s), and the anticipated resolution date. Public Notice was submitted late also my Lead and Copper sampling site list was submitted late. All Back flow and Cross Connection violations were resolved on September 30, 2019. ALL Violations were resolved with CDPHE.

Backflow and Cross-Connection

We have an inadequate backflow prevention and cross-connection control program. Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to inadvertent contamination of the drinking water.

We either have installed or permitted an uncontrolled cross-connection or we experienced a backflow contamination event.

No. 1495
Published in the Valley Courier on June 20, 2020.

District Court

Saguache County
Court Address: P.O. Box 197, Saguache, CO 81149
(719)655-2522
In re the Parental Responsibilities concerning:
L.W., DOB 2/6/2013
Petitioner: SHANNAN WOLFE
V.
Respondent: DALE UNDERWAGER
Case Number: 2020DR7
Division 1
Hearing Room 1
NOTICE TO RESPONDENT
County, District Court Case No. 2020DR7
DALE UNDERWAGER, YOU ARE NOTIFIED, pursuant to C.R.S. 14-10-107 (4) and 14-10-123, that an action has been filed to Allocate Parental Responsibilities regarding your child, L.W., with SHANNAN WOLFE. You are further notified that a copy of the PETITION and SUMMONS may be obtained from the clerk of court during regular business hours and that a default judgment may be entered against you if you fail to appear or file a response within 35 days after the date of publication.
Date April 24, 2020
BRANDIE TAYLOR
Clerk of Court
BY: Mary L Parker
DR Specialist
No. 1459
Published in the Valley Courier on May 30, June 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2020.

"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 affects students from Alamosa, Centennial, Center Creede, Del Norte, Mofat, 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: towlesley@slvdr.org or by mail to :
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.

Northwest Real Estate Capital Corp. will submit an application to the Colorado Division of Housing (DOH). The purpose of this application is to request approximately \$1,025,000 to develop 40 units of affordable housing to be located at NWC of Maroon Drive and Carroll Street, Alamosa, Colorado. The request of funding from DOH is to benefit persons with very low incomes by increasing the availability of affordable housing in Alamosa County. It is not the intent to cause displacement from any existing housing as this site is land; however, if persons are displaced from their existing residences reasonable housing alternatives shall be offered.
All interested persons are encouraged to contact the applicant for further information. Written comments should be sent to John Vance at jvance@nwrecc.org and will be forwarded to DOH for consideration during the application process.
Members of the public may request a public meeting and should arrange a request with the Applicant.
No. 1496
Published in the Valley Courier on June 20, 2020.

221 HELP WANTED

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 cricci@co.conejos.co.us. Deadline is Wednesday, June 24, 2020. Inquiries call (719) 376-6799. EOE. (6/24)

221 HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF La Jara 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 La Jara Town Hall, 221 Broadway or at Colorado Workforce Center in Alamosa.(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)

DEL NORTE BANK is seeking to fill a full time position for a Loan Processing Manager. Primary duties will be to supervise boarding secondary market and portfolio loans and conduct general loan servicing. Two years of experience in loan processing preferred. This position offers a competitive wage and a full benefit package. Submit application by June 25, 2020 to postmaster@truelocalbank.com, which is available at TrueLocalBank.com/careers. Call 719-657-3376 and ask for Traci. EOE.(6/23)

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

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

099 ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHIMSPIRE
Foster Parents Needed. WhimSpire Child Placement Agency licenses foster and adoptive homes across the state of Colorado. WhimSpire provides excellent training and support and competitive reimbursement. Please contact Lynnette McKinney at (970) 769-6249 for more information.

221 HELP WANTED

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)

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

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)

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.sanluisvalley-health.org/careers/ for a full job summary.(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)

MOFFAT 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)

\$30,000+
Immediate opening in multi-media sales. Experience appreciated.
Send resume to:
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• Stream Bank Restoration
• Irrigation Welding & Fabrication
• Tractor Moving

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ALPINE ELECTRIC & SOLAR INC.
82 CONEJOS ALAMOSA
719-589-9144

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0711 W. Highway 160, Suite C, Alamosa, CO 81101 719-206-3336
Monday - Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Get ready for spring gardening now! Fall is the best time to amend your soil after you've put the garden to bed. We carry a wide variety of soil, trace minerals, soil conditioners, mycorrhizae mixes, bio-char and so much more.
HAPPY FROG SOIL SPECIAL! 2 FOR \$36 - TAX
25% OFF FISH SH*T SOIL PROBIOTICS * 25% OFF ALL DOWN TO EARTH PRODUCTS
We will meet or beat any local competitor's price!

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Classifieds

221 HELP WANTED

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

THE ALAMOSA SCHOOL District is accepting applications for the following Coaching position at Alamosa High School: Head Boys Baseball Coach. Applications are available online at <https://alamosa.k12.co.us>. For more information, contact Mindi Van Ry at 719-587-1600. Application deadline is until filled. EOE.(6/23)

THE NORTH CONEJOS School District is accepting applications for (1) Centauri High School assistant volleyball coach, (1) CHS assistant baseball coach, (1) CHS assistant track coach. Applications are available at North Conejos School District, 17890 US Hwy 285, La Jara, CO or can be downloaded at www.northconejos.com. Submit application to Mr. Curt Wilson, Superintendent. Application deadline is until position is filled. EOE.(6/23)

THE NORTH CONEJOS School District is accepting applications for (1) Centauri High School Head Boys Basketball Coach and (1) CHS Head Cross Country Coach. Application can be downloaded at www.northconejos.com or may be picked up at the administration office, 17890 US Hwy 285, La Jara, CO 81140, 719-274-5174. Submit application to Mr. Curt Wilson, Superintendent. Application deadline is until filled. EOE.(6/23)

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)

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)

CONSTRUCTION HELPER NEEDED. Pay dependent on experience. Call 719-849-1796.(7/1)

SANFORD SCHOOL IS accepting applications for a highly motivated high school business teacher to work with our talented students who are our future. Applicants must hold a Colorado Teacher's License and be willing to become vocational certified. Don't miss this opportunity to join our team and become a part of a great educational culture. Applications can be downloaded from our website, www.sanfordschools.org. Position is opened until filled. Sanford School is an EOE & E.(7/14)

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 Chelcy. (RVI is EOE).(7/1)

RIVER VALLEY INN Nursing home in Del Norte Co is seeking a Director of Nursing must have a current Colorado license and in good standing. We offer insurance and competitive wages if interested please stop in @ 1335 6th st to apply or if you have any questions please feel free to contact us @ 719-657-1105 ask for Susan.(RVI is EOE).(7/1)

THE DEL NORTE Jr/Sr High School is seeking a qualified Secondary Social Studies teacher for the 2020/2021 school year. If you are interested please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Aaron Horrocks at ahorrocks@urtigers.com or contact Aaron at 719-657-4030 ext 1001. Applications can be accessed online at <https://www.dncsd.org/business/employment-opportunities>.(6/23)

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.(6/26)

1ST SOUTHWEST BANK is experiencing significant growth and is looking for a Specialized Lender with SBA experience and a Specialized Loan Assistant/Processor, offering a strong benefit package & career growth opportunities. EOE. Go to <https://www.fswb.bank/who-we-are/careers/> for more details & to apply.(6/26)

ALAMOSA COUNTY EMPLOYMENT Opportunities, Job Descriptions, and Applications are available on the County's website www.alamosacounty.org.(7/10)

MEL'S CUSTOM MEAT Processing looking for reliable and dependable person. No experience needed. Apply in person after 5:30pm. 602 2nd Ave, Romeo.(7/8)

THE GREAT SAND Dunes Oasis is now hiring summer seasonal positions for cashiers, dishwashers, cooks, store clerks, and cleaners. To schedule an interview please call (719)378-2222.(6/26)

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.com or contact Amy at 719-657-4030. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at dncsd.org. (6/30)

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@triconseniors.com. (6/26)

NEED A SECOND INCOME? child support? Car Repairs? Taxes Due? Earn up to \$800/month delivering the Valley Courier. Contact Keith at 589-2553. (2/26-TFN)

267 WORK WANTED

AVAILABLE: EXPERIENCED PRIVATE personal care provider. Light housework, baths, toileting, dressing, meals, geriatric exercises. 719-587-9442. (7/1)

324 - FEED & SEED

NATIVE GRASS HAY for sale. Small bales, horse hay quality. Come cow hay. Certified USDA. Call Ed 719-852-3069.(7/14)

PREMIUM ALFALFA AND grass/alfalfa, small bales \$7.00 in hay shed (719) 580-2509. (6/20)

HORSE AND COW hay: grass, grass/alfalfa, alfalfa. 3x3 and 4x4 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917 (7-13-TFN)

330 FREE

FREE TIRES. YOU haul off. Approx. 80. Call 970-901-6628. (6/27)

341 - GARAGE SALES

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

HUGE GARAGE SALE! Tractor repair, manuals, books, material, couch, fish tank, 2qt. jars, patio set, much more. June 18, 19, 20, corner of 370 and 5 E. Watch for signs(6/20)

351 LIVESTOCK

SALE REGISTERED BLACK Angus Bulls and semen sales Brink Livestock Services admin@brinklivestock.net www.brinklivestock.net 88-641-3750 / 719-480-3932.(7/15)

HERITAGE BREED TURKEY POULTS - Bourbon Reds from free range parents. \$20 each or \$35 for 2. Limited number available. Ready to butcher at 28 weeks (toms average 30 lbs, hens 15 lbs.) Straight run only. 719-850-2832.(TFN-E)

PIGS FOR SALE \$1.00 lb. live weight. 570-395-0184 (TFN)

360 - MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

SPANISH ROOF TILES. Eload large lot. 720-201-3857.(7/13)

NEW / STILL in Box Swimming pool for Sale. 15ft diameter. Paid \$700 will take \$500. Call 719-480-9893.(6/30)

FOR SALE ELECTRIC Hospital Bed \$600. Call 719-480-4848.(6/27)

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

369 - PETS & SUPPLIES

ALL DOGS ADOPTED FROM THE VALLEY HUMANE LEAGUE HAVE TO BE SPAYED OR NEUTERED BEFORE GOING TO THEIR NEW HOME. (TFN)

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

369 - PETS & SUPPLIES

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

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

387 - WANTED TO BUY

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

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

415 - HOMES FOR SALE

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REDUCED
\$377,500 - Enjoy the breathtaking views as you drive 15 minutes to your new home at the end of a dirt road in Rimrock Ranch just SW of Monte Vista, CO. This custom 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 3 car garage home is set on 35 acres at the base of the San Juan Mountains. Enjoy 360 degree mountain views from your 1300+ square foot deck and marvel in the piece and quiet this property can offer. 515 Mountain View, Monte Vista MLS # 766729

NEW
\$199,500 - Nice 4 Bedroom home on a tree corner lot that is priced to sell. Bi Level floor plan features 2 living areas, nice kitchen with newer counters open to upstairs living or use for dining, both bathrooms have been updated, wood flooring upstairs, metal roof, vinyl windows, wood deck off kitchen, 2 car attached garage and more. Call today for more details. 190 Curtis Lane, Alamosa MLS # 770587

REDUCED
\$168,500 - Well Maintained home close to Adams State, downtown and shopping. Fresh paint, newer flooring, updated stainless steel kitchen appliances, vinyl windows, remodeled full bath, formal dining with hard wood floors, large bedrooms, 1 car attached garage, updated furnace and hot water heater. Nice outdoor spaces that include the covered front porch, back yard with grass, patio and dog run. Call today for more details. 304 Alamosa Ave, Alamosa MLS # 768579

REDUCED
\$109,500 - Nice stick-built home that would be great for a personal residence or investment property. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, oak cabinets, all appliances including washer/dryer will stay, Forced air heat, large backyard, carport with storage closet and more. Call today for more details. 805 Tenth Street, Alamosa MLS # 767940

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

601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT
3 BEDROOM 2 bath rent in La Jara. Not pets. Washer / Dryer hookups. Call 719-274-5981.(6/26)

RENT 1 BEDROOM Apt Alamosa some utilities included 800-641-3750 / 719-480-3932. (7/15)

ONE BEDROOM APT. 208 Ross, Alamosa, no pets, garage, \$625 plus electric, \$650 deposit. 719-580-1266.(6/23)

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PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICE
For all your rental needs please call 719-589-5744 or stop by 823 Main St. Alamosa, CO 81101
www.alamosarentals.com

713 - PICK-UP TRUCKS
F350 1 TON dually with 12ft bed. 61,000 miles. \$5800 / OBO. Call 720-201-3857. (7/22)

737 RVS
1987 NOMAD TRAVEL trailer. 25th fifth wheel. 1-owner original. \$5,000 obo. Call 719-580-2290.(6/26)

601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting Applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family living at an affordable price. **Immediate Availability**
Casa de Cortez
751 Mussman Lane
Center, CO
754-3261
Rental assistance available to qualified households.
TTY
1-800-659-2656
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Accepting Applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family living at an affordable price.
Casita del Sol
1405 W. 11th Street
Alamosa, CO
589-8663
Rental assistance available to qualified households.
TTY
1-800-659-2656
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Accepting Applications for 2 Bedroom Apartments - Handicap Units Available. Rent based on income for qualified households.
Gateway Villa Apartments
929 Spruce St.
Del Norte, CO
657-3654
TTY
1-800-659-2656
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Newly Remodeled Apartments AVAILABLE NOW
Rent starts at \$680 a month.
Vouchers accepted

Mt. Blanca View Apts.
201 Market Street
Alamosa, CO
589-2850
Qualified Applicants (62 years of age or older, disabled regardless of age)
On-site Laundry
Community Room for Activities
Handicapped Accessible
This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

Accepting Applications for 2 Bedroom Apartments. Newly remodeled Units **Immediate Availability**
Valle Vista Apartments
58 E. Central Ave.
Center, CO
754-2608
Rental assistance available to qualified households.
TTY
1-800-659-2656
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Accepting Applications for 2 & 3 bedroom family units. Family living at an affordable price. **Immediate Availability**
Valley Grande Apartments
2256 East Drive
Monte Vista, CO
852-4302
Rental assistance available to qualified households.
TTY
1-800-659-2656
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Accepting Applications for waiting list for 2, 3 bedroom family units. Handicap accessible units available. **Immediate Availability**
West View Villas
510 Dunham
Monte Vista, CO
852-3949
TTY
1-800-659-2656
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

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)

737 RVS
1987 NOMAD TRAVEL trailer. 25th fifth wheel. 1-owner original. \$5,000 obo. Call 719-580-2290.(6/26)

NEED CASH?

Sell any item for \$100 or less and your ad is FREE!

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Quick ZIP CODE Reference

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Adams State College 81102	Ft. Garland 81133	Monte Vista 81144
Antonito 81120	Garcia 81134	Mosca 81146
Blanca 81123	Homelake 81135	Romeo 81148
Bountiful 81140	Hooper 81136	Saguache 81149
Capulin 81124	Jaroso 81138	San Acacio 81151
Center 81125	La Garita 81132	Sanford 81151
Chama 81126	La Jara 81140	San Luis 81152
Conejos 81129	La Sauses 81151	San Pablo 81153
Creede 81130	La Valley 81153	South Fork 81154
Crestone 81131	Manassa 81141	Spar City 81130
	Moffat 81143	Villa Grove 81155

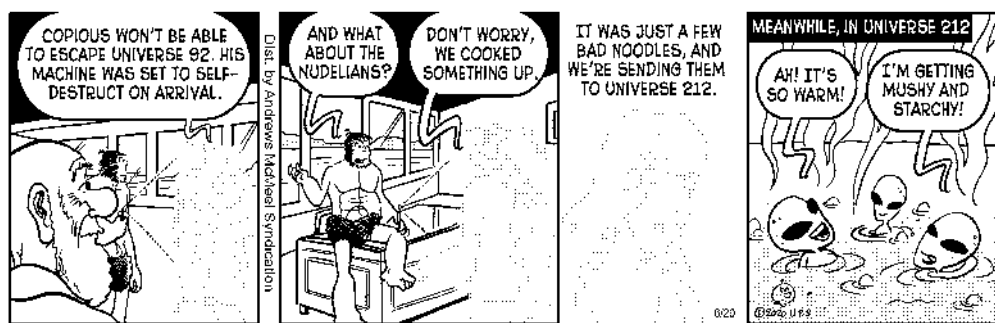
Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

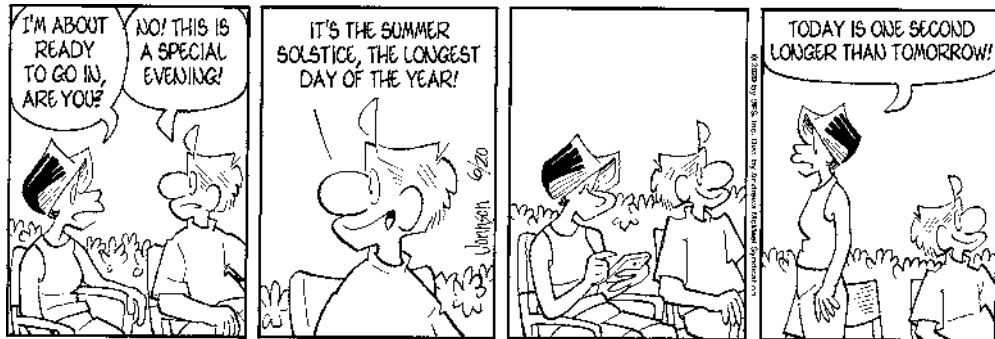
- ACROSS**
- 1 Film processing site
 - 4 Beg
 - 7 Thigh muscle, in the gym
 - 11 Cato's hello
 - 12 Young lady of Sp.
 - 13 Bear constellation
 - 14 Centurion's 14
 - 15 Layer of paint
 - 16 Black as night
 - 17 "Blowin' in the Wind" singer
 - 19 She preceded Mamie
 - 20 Orbit path
 - 21 — up (abate)
 - 22 Delta preceder
 - 25 — out (renege)
 - 28 New Haven student
 - 29 Red meat
 - 31 Package
 - 33 Ginnie or Fannie
- DOWN**
- 1 Careless
 - 2 Rah-rah
 - 3 Flock
 - 4 Wild horse
 - 5 Ms. Hagen
 - 6 Picture border
 - 7 Calms
 - 8 Vases with feet
 - 9 Questions
 - 10 "That'll Be the —"
 - 12 Pharaoh's amulet
 - 18 Go on the —
 - 19 Ms. Arthur
 - 21 Took off
 - 22 Valuable mineral
 - 23 Range in Asia
 - 24 Bearing
 - 25 Dandelion, to many
 - 26 Online auction site
 - 27 Wall Street stats
 - 30 Like the "Iliad"
 - 32 Sweater sizes
 - 35 Unrefined
 - 38 Apparitions
 - 39 Ply the oars
 - 41 Scare word
 - 43 Wilde or de la Renta
 - 44 Zorro wear
 - 45 Ad spiel
 - 47 Evidence
 - 48 Didn't spoil
 - 49 Mav's foe
 - 50 Curly's friend
 - 51 Luau music
 - 53 Excellent



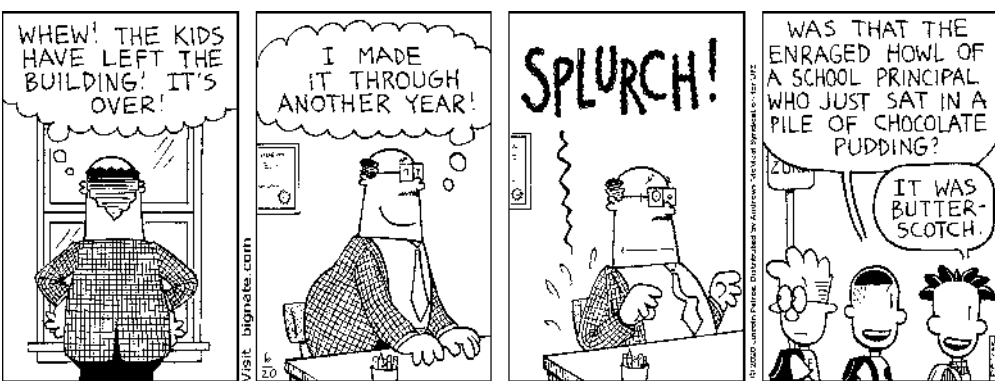
ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



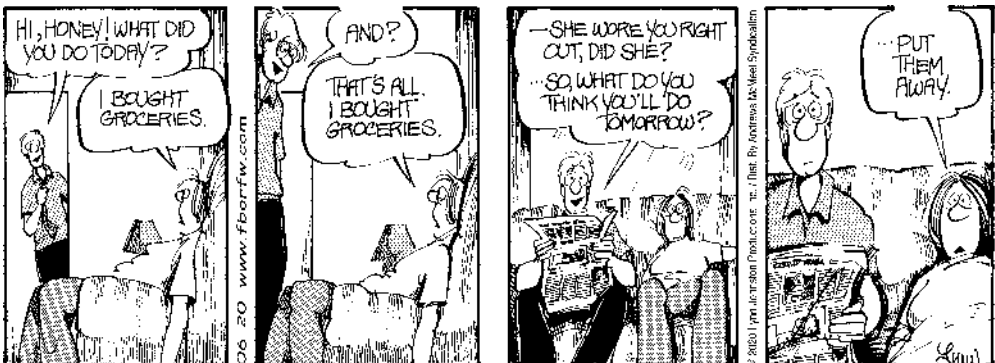
BIG NATE



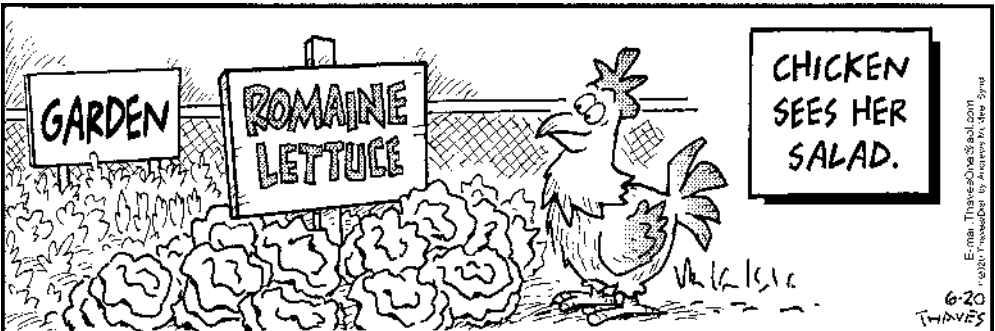
THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



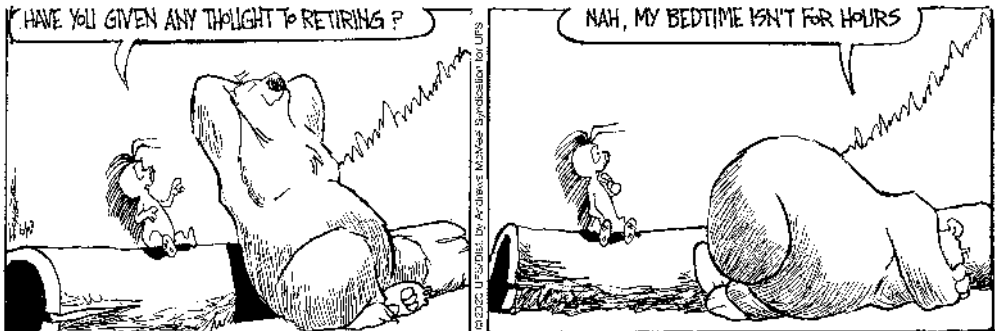
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS

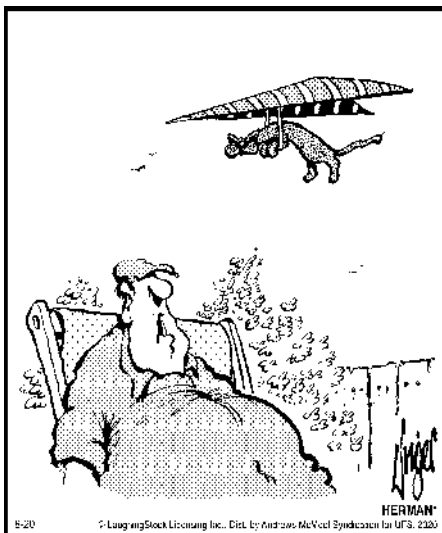


PEANUTS



- 6 Picture border
- 7 Calms
- 8 Vases with feet
- 9 Questions
- 10 "That'll Be the —"
- 12 Pharaoh's amulet
- 18 Go on the —
- 19 Ms. Arthur
- 21 Took off
- 22 Valuable mineral
- 23 Range in Asia
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- 30 Like the "Iliad"
- 32 Sweater sizes
- 35 Unrefined
- 38 Apparitions
- 39 Ply the oars
- 41 Scare word
- 43 Wilde or de la Renta
- 44 Zorro wear
- 45 Ad spiel
- 47 Evidence
- 48 Didn't spoil
- 49 Mav's foe
- 50 Curly's friend
- 51 Luau music
- 53 Excellent

HERMAN



"Did you tell the cat he could have my striped shirt?"

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.

"KN OHBXDZFA XEZ KF H 'LEAVO'W
 CFWZ OHO' KBX. WE LFRYEL WDF'W
 WHASHWZJS." — CEC EOFYRJAR

TODAY'S CLUE: M equals K

Previous Solution: "You can start changing our world for the better daily, no matter how small the action." — Nelson Mandela

Husband unsure how to reveal sexual orientation to spouse

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been married for a year. Recently, I have been questioning my sexuality and have realized that I am gay. I have been trying to think of different ways of telling her, but I don't want to hurt her. Please help. -- COMING OUT IN OHIO

DEAR COMING OUT: You are right: You must tell your wife, and the sooner, the better. She may -- or may not -- be shocked and possibly angry. During the talk, make clear that this has nothing to do with her, her attractiveness or femininity. Afterward, suggest she contact the Straight Spouse Network for support if she feels the need. It's an organization founded many years ago by Amity Pierce Buxton, Ph.D., to support heterosexual spouses of LGBTQ mates. Your wife can find it online at straightspouse.org, and I highly recommend it.

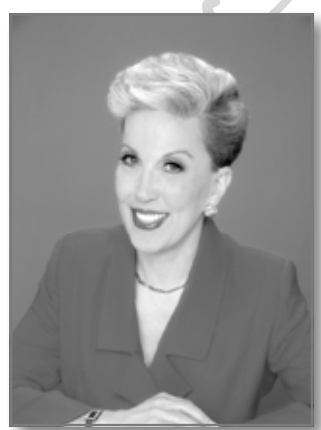
DEAR ABBY: My son has been married three times. After each divorce, he has expected me to distance myself from the ex's children. I have been Grandma to them, and this is driving us apart. My son says it's them or him! I'm heartbroken and want to maintain a relationship with both. Help! -- FOREVER GRANDMA

DEAR GRANDMA: That your son would deny his stepchildren contact with a loving grandmother because he's angry with their mother is terrible. You may wish to maintain a relationship with them, but because of your son's current mindset, it may not be possible.

Since you asked me to weigh in, my advice is to stop sitting on the fence. Maintain a relationship with them regardless of their "step" status. They need you. They need the validation that they are loved, which you can provide. As to your inflexible son, I can see why he has such terrible luck with women. It appears he still has a lot of growing up to do.

DEAR ABBY: I am an introvert, which may be hard to believe since I am the sixth child in a family of 10. I enjoy talking with my siblings. My problem is how to handle people who call and think I should be happy to chat about nothing of interest to me. During the pandemic this has become a major problem. -- NOT INTERESTED IN VIRGINIA

DEAR NOT INTERESTED: Your problem isn't unique. During this period of social isolation, social contact can be crucial in



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combatting depression. I'm hearing from people who say, "Every day is exactly the same as the last one. I have nothing to say to my spouse, my children, my friends, etc. I'm bored stiff, and I have become a boring person."

It is important that you allot some time to those who are reaching out, but it doesn't mean you must be a prisoner to long conversations. Tell the caller you're glad they are adjusting and maintaining their sanity. If you see something noteworthy on television, in your online research or a book you are reading, share it. But no law says you must remain on these phone calls for long periods or participate in them every day. Consider rationing them instead.