

Shorts

Treasurer's Office closing

SAGUACHE — The Saguache Treasurer's Office will be closed from June 22-25 for software conversion installation and training. The office will reopen Friday, June 26.

No credit card transactions will be received at the courthouse between June 29 and July 13 owing to the conversion. Payments can be made at the ballot drop-off box in the south parking lot behind the courthouse.

Statewide Primary ballots mailed this week

COLORADO - This week, county clerks across Colorado are mailing ballot packets for the June 30 Statewide Primary. Clerks have until Friday, June 12, to mail ballots to registered voters eligible to participate in this year's statewide primary. To limit the spread of COVID-19, Secretary of State Griswold is encouraging Coloradans to return their voted Statewide Primary ballot by mail or drop-box.

"Our statewide primary will largely determine the ballot for the November general election. I encourage Coloradans to vote their mail ballots to help stop the spread of COVID-19, while also having their voices heard in this historic election," said Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold.

Registered Republican, Democratic and Libertarian voters will receive the ballot of their party. Unaffiliated voters who did not indicate a party preference before the June 1 deadline will receive both a Democratic and Republican Party ballot and should only return one voted ballot. Voters who do not receive a ballot by June 17 should contact their county clerk and recorder.

Voted ballots must be received by county election officials by 7 p.m. June 30. After June 22, voters are encouraged to return their ballot by drop-box rather than by mail to ensure their ballot is received before the June 30 deadline.

This is also the first year that 17 year-olds are able to participate in Colorado's two primaries, provided they turn 18 years of age by the General Election Nov. 3. Colorado is one of just 17 states that allow this added level of accessibility.

Coloradans can update and verify voter registration, register to vote online, or find a Voting Services Polling Center at www.GoVoteColorado.gov.

Moffat mayor refuses to resign

Ecklund tenders resignation

By TERESA L. BENNS

MOFFAT — During a meeting held the evening of Tuesday, June 9, the town of Moffat trustees discussed the resignation of acting town clerk Kristen Ecklund and Mayor Patricia Reigel, in the wake of allegations that Reigel assisted in inappropriately seizing items from a local cannabis grow.

While Ecklund has apparently resigned, an attendee at the meeting reports Reigel has no intention of resigning. She handed a letter to Ecklund and town trustee Kenneth Skoglund, also reportedly asked to resign, but did not appear to share its contents with trustees. Trustee Brian Morgan was adamant that Reigel remain in the mayor's position.

Reigel's resignation will be

discussed further during an executive session scheduled for the town's July meeting, the attendee said.

Complaint field with Sheriff's Office

Zengxi Gao purchased his marijuana operation from Whitney Justice's Potch LLC group in 2019. On June 4, Gao, owner of Hong Xing Land Holdings, made a voluntary statement to the Saguache County Sheriff's Office as follows:

"On May 20, between 11 a.m and 3 p.m., both Garegin Pogosyan and Ernest Gonzalez along with the Mayor

Please see **MAYOR** on Page 8A

Moffat Mayor Patricia Reigel transports marijuana growing equipment to a truck bed after allegedly assisting a former employee in collecting his belongings from the grow.



Courtesy photo

Center Board approves drug dog

By TERESA L. BENNS

CENTER — In a unanimous vote, the Center Town Board approved a resolution to fund a drug dog for the town, something all members agreed is greatly needed and is desired by most Center residents.

The dog will be handled by Sgt. Aaron Fresquez, who has advocated for the K-9 since 2014.

Sgt. Fresquez will be responsible for the dog as long as he is with the town. The dog will only be used in suspected drug cases, not other police operations.

The approval will be supplemented by reports regarding the handling of seizures during a drug raid and liability issues with the town's insurance provider, CIRSA. A lively discussion regarding the seizures and who would benefit from them was held by the board

Please see **DOG** on Page 8A

Officer Aaron Fresquez will be policing Center streets soon with his drug dog Maverick.

Courtesy photo



Principal implements COVID-19 outreach plan

By TERESA L. BENNS

CENTER — Center School's Skoglund Middle School Principal Luis Murillo presented a PowerPoint demonstration to the Center town board Tuesday on the effort his group has made to educate Spanish-speaking community members on the dangers of COVID-19.

Working with Center School parents and teachers, Murillo crafted a plan to reach non-English speaking members of the community and Guatemalans living in Center. His campaign

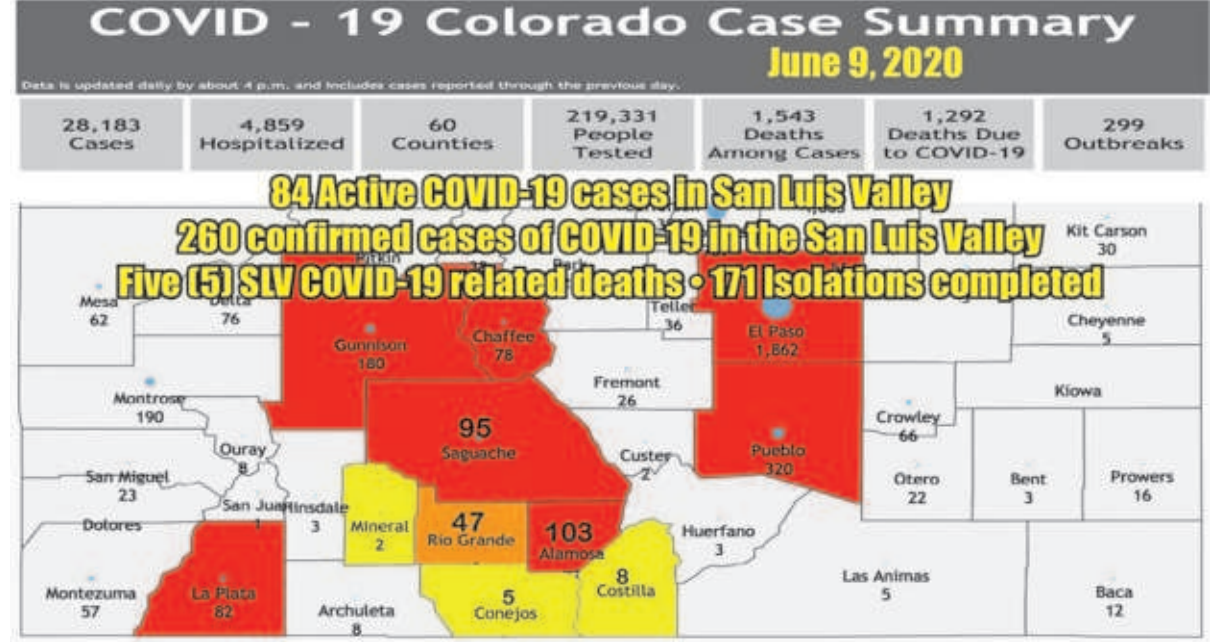
Please see **OUTREACH** on Page 2A

Fifth death reported, SLV has one of highest COVID-19 growth rates in the state

COMPILED BY TREY SPAULDING

SAN LUIS VALLEY - The San Luis Valley (SLV) has one of the highest COVID-19 growth rates in the State. However, the past week the number of positive cases decreased some from the previous week and the number of active cases in the Valley dropped considerably from 123 to 84. Of the 1,504 tests conducted so far in the SLV, 17 percent, or 260 of those tests came back positive for COVID-19. During the past seven days the number of positive COVID-19 cases in the SLV increased from 226 to 260. In Rio Grande county positive cases grew from 38 to 47, Saguache County grew from 90 to 95 and Alamosa county is now reporting

Please see **COVID-19** on Page 7A



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OUTREACH

Continued from Page 1A

consisted of three phases: a social media campaign to get facts out to the community about the virus, personal contact by phone or email, and getting out in the community to distribute needed safety and medical supplies.

The media campaign, which resulted in several videos posted to the internet, generated 2,800 views for one video and many shares. Over 242 personal contacts were made and Murillo's team kept track of what people needed and how they were doing. The team made trips out into the community, suited up in face shields and gloves to distribute face masks, hand sanitizer and other supplies.

More supplies are needed he said and he intends to update his face mask education. While out in the community, Murillo said he noticed several who were not wearing face masks over their noses and some who answered the door without wearing face masks.

Murillo told the board he believes residents are more afraid of losing their jobs because of COVID than they are of COVID itself and cautioned that some residents may opt not to be tested even if ill in order to keep their jobs.

Murillo said he and other volunteers will continue to follow up on contacts made with the program and keep the public posted on COVID developments.



Courtesy photos

Above: A Center resident receives medical supplies from a Murillo team member to help protect against the COVID-19 virus.



Left: Center Middle School Principal Luis Murrillo is all suited up and ready to deliver medical supplies to Center residents.

OBITUARY

Nathan Andrew Dick, 46

DEL NORTE - Nathan Andrew Dick died May 26, 2020, in Del Norte, Colorado. Nathan was born Nov. 7, 1973, in Garden City, Kansas.

Nathan is survived by his mother, Beth Krug and stepfather, Wilmer Krug of Russell, Kansas, his brother, Michael Dick of South Fork, Colorado, and his three beautiful children, Marli, Creedence and Elijah Dick of Alamosa, Colorado. He was preceded in death by his father, Phillip R. Dick.

He was raised in Garden City, Kansas before moving away to college. In 2002, Nathan moved to South Fork, Colorado. He finished his schooling at Adams State College, where he earned two master's degrees in pottery and education. He soon began his teaching career in Tohatchi, NM, and later returned to Alamosa where he continued to teach. Nate enjoyed art, pottery, rock hounding, fishing, golf and dogs, but nothing compared to the love he had for his three children.

A family service will be held June 10, 2020, 11 a.m. at Strohmayer's Funeral Home, followed by a graveside visitation. The family will accept visitors from 2:00-4 p.m., at the South Fork Cemetery.

Arrangements in care of Strohmayer's Funeral Home.



SAGUACHE SHERIFF REPORT

The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the weeks of May 25-June 8, 2020

Arrests

- Ryan Venti, 39, Crestone, harassment
- Leopold Gallegos, 43, Saguache, aggravated motor vehicle theft
- John Troth, 46, Crestone, two counts of second-degree burglary, theft \$20,000 or more, theft
- Nathaniel Abbott, 44, Salida, two counts of fugitive of justice
- Raymundo Martinez, 38, Center, failure to appear
- Gary Sisneros, 39, Center, contempt of court
- Michael Shutz, 48, Villa Grove, criminal mischief, two counts of harassment, child abuse
- Kaitlyn Baer, 30, Crestone, second-degree assault, harassment
- Garrett Hilts, 39, Hudson, Wyoming, menacing, child abuse, reckless endangerment, prohibited use of a weapon, domestic violence

Citations

- Winthrop Lockwood, 35, Keystone, speeding 44 in a 35 MPH zone
- Janet Hruby, 52, Bend, Oregon, speeding 39 in a 35 MPH zone
- Donovan Perkins, 27, Thornton, speeding 44 in a 35 MPH zone
- Nicholas Wheeler, 24, Durango, speeding 44 in a 35 MPH zone
- Daniel Clark, 28, Denver, speeding 44 in a 35 MPH zone
- Bethany Salcido, 34, Buidoso, New Mexico, speeding 44 in a 35 MPH zone
- Mackenzie Murphy, 32, Saguache, speeding 40 in a 35 MPH zone
- Daniel Regan, 56, Shakopee, Minnesota, speeding 59 in a 50 MPH zone
- Samuel Leervig, 19, Minnetonka, Minnesota, speeding 44 in a 35 MPH zone
- Randy Keiser, 30, Denver, speeding 39 in a 35 MPH zone
- Mason Martinez, 23, Madison, Wisconsin, speeding 39 in a 35 MPH zone
- Sarah Hammond, 36, Denver, speeding 44 in a 35 MPH zone

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

Real heroes forgotten amid protests

By TERESA L. BENNS

The nation is in a tailspin following the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis and charged emotions often devoid of any perceptible reasoning seem to have taken center stage. If this debacle is not seen clearly for what it really is, a process already in motion will deprive citizens of their rights to equal protection under the law.

No one must ever characterize what happened to Floyd as anything but reprehensible and worthy of criminal prosecution. No American citizen should ever have to fear death at the hands of police for any crime, and yet many do. Those who voice this fear are predominantly people of color, yet they are not the only ones who have suffered injury or death at the hands of rogue police or other criminal actors. ALL Americans should enjoy the right to life.

The Hennepin County, Minnesota medical examiner's autopsy report shows Floyd tested positive for fentanyl, known to suppress heart function and the respiratory system. In addition, the medical examiner found signs of recent methamphetamine use and the presence of THC (psychoactive element of cannabis), also morphine, in his system. Health findings listed in the report included but were not limited to "arteriosclerotic and hypertensive heart disease."

The medical examiner report states Floyd experienced a cardiopulmonary arrest while being restrained by law enforcement, "...complicating law enforcement subdual, restraint and neck compression." An independent autopsy by the family said Floyd died as a direct result of "mechanical asphyxiation" due to the chokehold. More than likely, experts will need to battle these conflicting findings out in court. But the autopsy report showed no traces of petechiae, (pinpoint-size red spots in the eyes, a classic sign of asphyxiation), or any other indicators commonly linked to the determination that asphyxiation occurred.

Floyd also tested positive for COVID-19 in early April, but the autopsy did not cite that as a factor in his death because one can test positive for the virus and remain asymptomatic.

Floyd was arrested for attempting to pass what is believed to have been a counterfeit \$20 bill, a non-violent offense, one many insist did not warrant an arrest by police. Not widely reported is the fact that from 2009-2014, Floyd served a five-year prison sentence in Texas for an assault

and armed robbery which occurred in 2007. Previously he had served 10 months in a Harris County, Texas jail for theft with a firearm and also had been arrested for drug offenses.

Accordingly, police may have taken a more aggressive stance with Floyd owing to his previous criminal history, although that in no way justified their actions. So in light of all this, let's attempt to present a more objective evaluation of this tragic death.

Recognizing the real heroes

George Floyd was no hero; he was the victim of a senseless and criminal event, but he was not a martyr. He was a man down on his luck who was reportedly trying to turn his life around, an effort severely hampered by his dependence on illegal drugs. To tout him as a hero and a martyr is to mock the many people of color who have avoided prison, drug addiction, and other evils and defied the odds to build their careers, contribute to the community and raise respectable, successful children.

Many of the values-driven minorities mentioned above owned businesses in the areas where rioting and looting took place following Floyd's death, becoming victims of the very things they worked all their lives to escape. The drug plague has swept ruthlessly across this nation for decades, most recently characterized by the staggering increase in fentanyl and opioid abuse and subsequent deaths. But after Floyd's drug-connected death, all cops, not drugs, are the problem.

Sadly, the black community as a united whole does not rise in outrage to denounce those among their own members who contribute to rising poverty and welfare dependence with a soaring out-of-wedlock birth rate. Nor do they vow to wage war on the lack of resources for the fatherless children who suffer higher risks of drug abuse and run-ins with the law as a result of this family breakdown. These are the REAL issues, and no one is shouting them out at protests or demanding they be addressed.

Instead of recognizing those who have sacrificed so much to lead decent lives and promoting them as models for future generations, these rabble-rousers and clueless (not peaceful) protestors memorialize the life of a man who might never have died if he had not become involved in drugs and landed on the wrong side of the law. It is tunnel vision at best and terrorism

at worst. And in the end, it will only to aim for the lowest possible ideals in your mistakes and resort to mayhem teach our children and grandchildren life: seek victimhood, blame others for when you don't get your way.

NOTICE OF ELECTION RIO GRANDE COUNTY

TUESDAY, June 30, 2020

TO THE ELECTORS OF RIO GRANDE COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Primary Election will be held by Mail Ballot on Tuesday, the 30TH of June, 2020 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. If you are a registered voter, you will receive a ballot at your mailing address beginning June 8th. Mail Ballots may be dropped off at the Rio Grande County Clerk's Office, 965 Sixth Street, Del Norte, Colorado, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ballots may also be dropped off on Saturday June 27th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, June 30th. A 24-Hour Drop Box is available on the west side of the building at 965 Sixth Street, Del Norte. Ballots can also be mailed using the envelope enclosed with the ballot. Ballots must be received at the County Clerk's Office by 7:00 P.M. on June 30th. The Postmark does not count as being received.

Your ballot will contain only the Races or Issues on which you are eligible to vote.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the office of the County Clerk and Recorder this 27th day of May 2020.



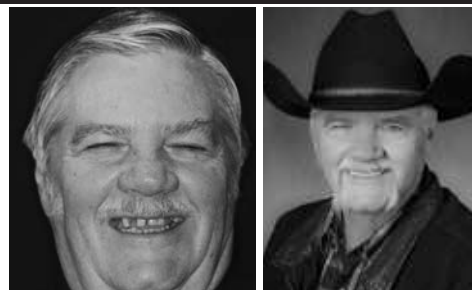
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Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorder

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

LETTERS

Regenerative Agriculture Save our Farms / Save the World

To the editor,
Improving our soils could be the key to restoring the aquifer, keeping our farms profitable, and reducing carbon in the atmosphere. Cropping practices that improve soil health have been shown to increase water infiltration and storage capacity, reduce irrigation frequency, reduce input costs, decrease pest problems, protect water quality, and increase soil organic matter.

Recent studies indicate that 2 to 3 tons of carbon could be sequestered in the soil per acre, per year. That practice can translate into Carbon Credits that can be sold on the open market. We farm well over one

million acres in the San Luis Valley. Imagine the impact we could have on climate change by sequestering 3,000,000 tons of carbon per year. One ton of carbon credit is now worth about \$15.00. That implies a potential \$45 million dollars could be added to the SLV economy, per year while improving soil health at the same time.

Water conservation "Sub-Districts" are now taxing themselves for water usage and using some of those funds to pay farmers to fallow their fields. Participation in this program has not been adequate. I think that by making some changes to this program and by adding the potential of marketing

Carbon Credits, many more farmers could be persuaded to participate in this program.

Reducing water usage will help restore the aquifer. Improving soil health will benefit farms in the future while solving Climate Change now. Both will make agriculture viable for the next generation.

It is not often you have a win-win solution so readily at hand. We need to take full advantage of this opportunity immediately. If elected Commissioner I will make this a top priority.

*Thomas D McCracken
Candidate for Saguache County
Commissioner Dist. 1*



We must keep the Electoral College system

We are visiting Colorado this summer and picked up a copy of the "Mineral County Miner" dated June 4. I was somewhat amazed at the letter to the editor which stated that Colorado should vote to have the "national popular vote winner" be elected President, instead of the current Electoral College system. Our founders were very wise and realized that states with large populations would rule the White House if the nation used the popular vote system. A few large population states, NY, FL, TX, CA would control.

Instead they created the system we have that for over 200 years that really works best. It is not perfect but Minorities still have some say in this

country as do small States.

I don't know how old the writer is but in my youth history was taught in schools.

Go back and look at who would have won the White House over the history of our country if the total popular vote would have controlled. It would have changed history. People in States like ND, SD, WY, NM and many more would have little to say about who ran the White House and country.

We are also lucky that they established the Senate where every State has two Senators.

It is the best system in history so let's not make drastic changes in it.

*Bob Wall
San Antonio, Texas*

Vote for anyone other than Bill McClure

To the editor,
A vote for Bill McClure for Saguache County Commissioner is a vote for a felon. In 2006, Mr. McClure was sentenced to serve five months in federal prison, followed by five months of home detention.

The defendant was also ordered to then serve one year of supervised release and ordered to pay restitution to the IRS of \$1,996 for preparing

false tax returns.

Mr. McClure is running for Saguache County Commissioner. Even though he is a felon, the only political positions he cannot run for in Saguache County are Sheriff and Coroner.

Make your vote count! Vote for anyone other than Bill McClure.

*Constance Rapalski
Saguache County*

Vote for Bill McClure County Commissioner

To the editor,
A vote for Bill McClure for Saguache County Commissioner is a vote for a FELON. In 2006, Mr. McClure was sentenced to serve five months in federal prison, followed by five months of home detention.

The defendant was also ordered to then serve one year of supervised release, and ordered to pay restitution to the IRS of \$1,996 for preparing

false tax returns.

Mr. McClure is running for Saguache County Commissioner. Even though he is a felon, the only political positions he cannot run for in Saguache County are Sheriff and Coroner.

Make your vote count! Vote for anyone other than Bill McClure, the felon.

*Constance Rapalski
Saguache County*

Vote for Robert Willett District Attorney of the 12th Judicial District

To the editor,
Citizens of Saguache County, the Democratic primary is June 30, 2020. There is a contested race for District Attorney of the 12th Judicial District which covers the San Luis Valley. I know both candidates. Robert Willett cut his teeth in the Saguache County Court, where I was presiding. He brought a lifetime of experience, calmness, fairness, and thoughtfulness to this new chapter in his life. Robert learned how take a case to trial, to evaluate evidence and to manage a heavy docket and vast distances between courts. More important, he listens to the victims of the crimes he prosecutes, and he operates with honor and ethics. I know his opponent, Alonzo Payne, as

a good man, but I can't speak to Mr. Payne's experience in trial, in prosecution or case management, because he has little experience in the courtroom, and no experience as in representing We, the people, in very difficult, sometimes horrifying criminal cases. This is a critical difference, because the district attorney in our rural communities does not get to sit in Alamosa and be a manager, although that is a part of the role. Right now, there are murder cases being pursued across the SLV, and the District Attorney must be ready to step in and try or support his deputies in these most serious of crimes. The young attorneys who often get their start in the DA's office (like I got my start), need

someone with experience to give them perspective and guidance. Bob Willett is that man. One of District Attorney Willett's passions is the juvenile and adult diversion programs. These program support equitable handling of cases, giving people a chance to show their community that they have learned from their mistakes, without the burden of a criminal record. These programs have such a high priority that Bob has found a way to keep them going despite reduction in State funding. Let's continue with a leader who understands the position, will listen to us, and will be there for us. Vote for Robert Willett, District Attorney June 30, 2020.

*Amanda Pearson,
Retired Saguache County Judge*

Lisa Cyriacks is best qualified to lead Saguache County

To the editor,
This is a challenging time and the challenges before us will take strong and knowledgeable leadership. While we often focus on national politics, on a day-to-day level, it is our local county commissioners who control much of our destiny.

I have given much thought to our upcoming election. Justin and Tom are fine gentlemen and are well-intentioned. However, at this critical time, I believe that Lisa Cyriacks is best qualified to lead Saguache County.

Lisa has a strong financial background and has attended Saguache County Commissioner meetings for years. She

is intimately aware of how our County works and what needs to be done. On Day One, she will be ready to act.

There are serious problems in Saguache County. Prior administrators have stressed the need for financial accountability, employees are unhappy, and needs are not being met throughout the county. The pandemic is going to dramatically impact the financial stability of the County. Lisa Cyriacks is the one with the experience, knowledge and strength to resolve long-standing problems and lead us through the upcoming challenges.

*Elaine Johnson
Crestone*



CENTER POST - DISPATCH

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Father's Day Special June 10- June 30

Item Number	Product Name	SALE PRICE
TFB88PUB	Traeger Pellet Grill	\$899 ⁹⁹
6534127	Pit Boss Pellet Grill 82	\$589 ⁹⁹
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2710036	Oxford Relaxer Chair	\$48 ⁹⁹
8614080	Diamond Pro 89 Dog Food	\$39 ⁹⁹
3662152	Oklahoma Joe Smoke	\$289 ⁹⁹
7184989	String Lights 30ft	\$33 ⁹⁹
0561746	Shop Towel 6pk	\$12 ⁹⁹
7203253	Makita Power Head Kit 17in	\$429 ⁹⁹
3831708	Crescent Long Nose Plier	\$18 ⁹⁹
7210776	Contractor Tool Bag	\$19 ⁹⁹
082458	Tool Works Big Mouth tool bag	\$28 ⁹⁹
CTK121	Crescent Mechanics Tool Set	\$79 ⁹⁹
L1125	Crescent 25ft Measuring Tap	\$21 ⁹⁹
8956625	4.5gal portable air elec compressor	\$299 ⁹⁹
7227853	Battery charger 120v	\$259 ⁹⁹
5739974	DeWalttable saw stand	\$79 ⁹⁹
0681767	DeWalt Miter Saw	\$229 ⁹⁹
3047768	Troy Bilt leaf blower	\$159 ⁹⁹

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5103809	Generator 6500W	\$829 ⁹⁹	8915498	Plasma Cutter	\$749 ⁹⁹
0853556	Generator GP3600	\$489 ⁹⁹	0877886	Table Saw	\$199 ⁹⁹
528575	Generator 7500W	\$999 ⁹⁹	4709168	Arch Center Ramp	\$199 ⁹⁹
0853507	Generator GP6500	\$799 ⁹⁹	6719132	Black&Decker Work Bench	\$69 ⁹⁹

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Center Middle School Honor Roll

Garcia, Arazeliz, eighth grade, 4.00 GPA
 Nunez-Fierro, Devannie, seventh grade, 4.00 GPA
 Palma-Duran Nicholas, seventh grade, 4.00 GPA
 Swanson, Elijah, sixth grade, 4.00 GPA
 Thompson, Shayla, eighth grade, 4.00 GPA
 Valadez-Gonzalez, Jose, seventh grade, 4.00 GPA
 DuranJordan, eighth grade, 3.88 GPA
 Larimore, Hayle, eighth grade, 3.88 GPA
 Maldonado, Yulisa, eighth grade, 3.88 GPA
 Martinez, Liannette, eighth grade, 3.88 GPA
 Seesz-Sanchez Willa, eighth grade, 3.88 GPA
 Swanson, Noah, seventh grade, 3.88 GPA
 Perez, Daniel, sixth grade, 3.78 GPA
 Villasenor, Carmen, sixth grade, 3.78 GPA
 Gonzales-Rodriguez, Dulce, seventh grade, 3.75 GPA
 Maldonado, Julian, seventh grade, 3.75 GPA
 Martinez, Charlene, seventh grade, 3.75 GPA
 Martinez, Cheyenne, eighth grade, 3.75 GPA
 Valadez-Felix, Jesus, eighth grade, 3.75 GPA
 Valadez-Felix, Luis, seventh grade, 3.75 GPA
 Miranda, Ximena, seventh grade, 3.63 GPA
 Ruiz, Juliana, eighth grade, 3.63 GPA
 Palma, Dulce, sixth grade, 3.56 GPA
 Perez, April, sixth grade, 3.56 GPA
 Perez, David, sixth grade, 3.56 GPA
 Rendon, Ruben Jr., sixth grade, 3.56 GPA
 Maez, Sonya, seventh grade, 3.50 GPA
 Paiz, Ciara, eighth grade, 3.50 GPA
 Palma, Martin, seventh grade, 3.50 GPA
 Rosales, Lluvia, eighth grade, 3.50 GPA
 Roblero-Santiz, Josue, sixth grade, 3.44 GPA
 Bustamante, Alexa, eighth grade, 3.38 GPA
 Casados, Promise, seventh grade, 3.38 GPA
 Muro-Ornelas, Kimberly, eighth grade, 3.38 GPA
 Felix Macias, Azul, sixth grade, 3.33 GPA
 Lujan, Alyciana, sixth grade, 3.33 GPA
 Garcia, Alanna, eighth grade, 3.25 GPA
 Lopez, Giayaneli, eighth grade, 3.25 GPA
 Merritt-Armenta, Mason, eighth grade, 3.25 GPA
 Bencomo, Feliz, sixth grade, 3.22 GPA
 Fernandez-Duran, A'zzikio, sixth grade, 3.22 GPA
 Hernandez, Damian, sixth grade, 3.22 GPA
 Molina-Campos, Sheyla, sixth grade, 3.22 GPA
 Harrington, Selah, eighth grade, 3.13 GPA
 Roblero-Santiz, Cristian, eighth grade, 3.13 GPA

Trejo-Chaparro, Juan, eighth grade, 3.13 GPA
 Guaderrama, Ivan, sixth grade, 3.11 GPA

Lopez, Vanessa, sixth grade, 3.11 GPA
 Aguilar, Omar, seventh grade, 3.00 GPA

Carrasco, Camila, sixth grade, 3.00 GPA
 Martinez, Shaneijah, seventh grade, 3.00 GPA

Martinez-Montoya, Billy, eighth grade, 3.00 GPA
 Sierra, Samuel, sixth grade, 3.00 GPA

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CLIPS FROM THE CLERK

BY SAGUACHE COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER TRISH GILBERT
Automatic Voter Registration (AVR)

Q. What is Automatic Voter Registration?

A. When an individual interacts with CDOR (Colorado Department of Revenue), they usually will provide information such as name, address, date of birth, and provide documents that indicate their citizenship status. If the person is a citizen and is otherwise eligible and not already registered to vote, the person will be automatically registered to vote in Colorado. They will not be asked if they want to register to vote, it will happen automatically.

The elector's county clerk will verify if they have a complete record to register the individual to vote. If the elector's record is complete, the county clerk will send a notice to the elector that they are registered to vote. The elector can return the notice to either decline to be registered or to affiliate with a party. If the elector does not decline to be registered within 20 days after the notice is mailed and the form is not returned as undeliverable, the elector is then registered to vote.

Q. Is there a new form that has to be mailed?

A. Yes. "Automatic Voter Registration Confirmation Letter." The letter is two pages (each page front and back). One in English and one in Spanish. We are required to include both letters.

The new automatic voter registration is triggered when a person, who is not already registered to vote, renews or updates their driver's license with CDOR, but does not fill anything out, including party affiliation and does not intentionally register. This voter

is sent an AVR opt-out letter which allows them to either opt-out of being registered or select a party affiliation and remain registered.

Q. Will persons who have a canceled voter record be automatically re-registered if they renew or update their driver's license at or through CDOR?

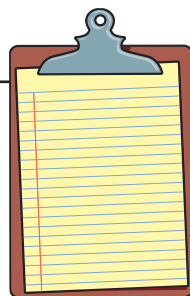
A. Yes. Re-registering is a new registration because a canceled registration means the person is not registered. They will be put through the automatic registration process with the ability to opt-out using the letter.

Q. Will persons who are canceled for any reason be automatically re-registered if they renew or update their driver's license at or through CDOR even if the canceled reason is, they previously opted-out/declined?

A. Yes. The bill did not create an exception for anyone who may have declined registration previously. If a voter is eligible to register and isn't yet registered, they will be put through the automatic registration process with the ability to opt-out using the letter.

Automatic Voter Registration and the requirements are covered, specifically, in Title 1, C.R.S. 1-2-213.3. Transfer of new voter registration records from department of revenue.

This is a good time to go online at www.govotecolorado.gov and update your voter registration information.



Monte Vista office of Colorado Parks & Wildlife now open

MONTE VISTA – The Monte Vista CPW offices are now open again to the public with some restrictions. The offices are open Monday – Friday, from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. with the office being closed for lunch from noon – 1 p.m. Only one person is allowed in the lobby area at the same time. There is a sign on the door which says open or closed. If the sign says closed during office hours, this means that someone is in the lobby and you cannot enter. Facemasks are required, as well as, all other social distancing protocols. For more information call (719) 587-6900.



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(en español 844-468-2020)

Mail – If you do not respond online or by phone, you may receive a paper questionnaire. Households that receive mail at a PO Box will not receive a questionnaire by mail, but may have one delivered to their home by a census worker after June 13, 2020.



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United States Census 2020

COVID-19

Continued from Page 1A

103 cases. Mineral county positive cases has remained at two (2) for several weeks.

Tuesday, June 11, The Alamosa County Public Health Department announced the third COVID-19 related fatality within Alamosa County. The individual was a resident of a local long-term care facility and passed away while in the hospital.

Given that COVID-19 is currently on the rise in the San Luis Valley, everyone needs to continue the good habits developed over the past two months: wash your hands frequently, keep physical distance from others and wear a cloth face covering to avoid spreading the virus, and stay home as much as you can, especially if you are over 65 or have underlying health conditions.

Although it may be tempting to conclude that the increase in positive case numbers Valley-wide is due to increased testing, the concurrent rise in healthcare provider offices and the increase in call-line queries with COVID symptoms reported by healthcare providers strongly suggests that we are seeing an increase in community spread. There is a real possibility that employees who have tested positive

for COVID were exposed while not on duty, even in workplaces where there are multiple cases discovered.

To prevent getting sick, please remember to stay close to home as much as possible, as community transmission is occurring in communities across the San Luis Valley. Don't go out unless it's necessary, and if you do go out, wear a mask and wash your hands thoroughly upon return. Take advantage of no-contact services provided by restaurants and businesses. If you do get sick, stay home for at least 10 days after symptoms start and 72 hours after your fever has broken. Call one of the hospital call-lines below to get tested and inform people you've been around that you are sick.

It is important if you are ill or have been in contact with an ill person, to seek testing for COVID-19. It is possible to be re-infected. Please contact your primary care doctor or call one of the numbers below to start the screening process:

Rio Grande Hospital 719-657-4990

SLVHealth Respiratory Clinic 719-589-2511 ext. 9

Valley Wide Health Systems 719-589-3658 ext. 9

DOG

Continued from Page 1A

before the dog's approval. Town attorney Michael Trujillo said he would look into the issues and advise the town.

Sgt. Fresquez said in an email following the meeting that his dog Maverick is a three-year-old Belgian Malinois imported from Germany. "He was originally owned by an Aurora police officer who used him for personal protection so is already trained; it's just a matter of making sure he still knows it, and we can and go from there.

"We just have to get him certified by the state and federal guidelines and he is active," Sgt. Fresquez explained. "I work with him right now even before the approval. He still has an amazing drive and will be a great addition to the team. This program will be very beneficial to the town of Center."

COVID-19 update

Center Town Administrator Brian Lujan gave an update on the COVID-19 situation in the town reporting that as of Tuesday there are 104 positive cases in Center and Rio Grande County. "I don't know if any of these have cleared

quarantine," he noted. Police Chief Gene Meek is the Incident Commander to contact during the outbreak, he told the board.

The board discussed the difficulty in getting accurate numbers for the testing and hospitalizations, but they are doing better with updating and double counts. Trustee Bill McClure said he has heard there were 17 people in the hospital. Lujan told him four people were hospitalized at Rio Grande Hospital as of Monday.

Lujan said the numbers can be doubly counted if some test positive for COVID then go back. Trustee Peggy Martinez said that those wishing to be retested for the virus cannot be retested without a doctor's order. Janet Beiriger is working on a map to help track Center cases, Lujan added.

Other business

• Police Chief Gene Meek told the board there was one burglary last month and several citations for people driving without their licenses. Otherwise things have been quiet, he said, mainly because of the stay-at-home order for COVID. Center police cadets will

graduate June 19, he reported, and will start working for the town shortly thereafter.

• Utility director David MeHaffie reported that water meter installation is going slowly and "they are doing the hard ones now." Lujan and MeHaffie discussed the need to meet the Dept. of Local Affairs deadline for use of grant funds. Lujan noted the deadline could be extended but said he hopes this will not be necessary.

• County Attorney Michael Trujillo discussed a lawsuit against the town for an injury which occurred to a resident during water meter installation. Other defendants will probably be joining the suit, he informed the board. The town's insurance carrier CIRSA has assigned an attorney to the case.

• The board approved resolutions to replant trees in Casa Blanca Park that died over the winter and hire someone to tend to flower beds at the park.

• Lujan said Community Park is being sprayed for weed control after some citizens complained about the park's appearance.

MAYOR

Continued from Page 1A

of Moffat and two MED agents, Dan and Gean (Jen?), without my permission, went to my farm located at 714 Mayor Patricia Reigel Blvd. in Moffat and took away some valuable equipment from my farm. Such acts were caught on the surveillance camera installed at the farm as the evidence.

"List of equipment taken:

- One of two heavy duty exhaust fans, \$600
- One used cooler, \$100
- 12 beds of bamboo, \$1,200
- Small gas tank and one big gas tank, \$1,300
- New growing bags, \$2,200
- Full set light dep system (new), \$28,000
- Gavita LED light 10-set, 350, \$3,500
- Four bags of soil, two-yard bags, \$1,200
- Some hand tools, \$5,000
- 10 set T5 grow light, 10, \$50-500
- Total is \$43,400"

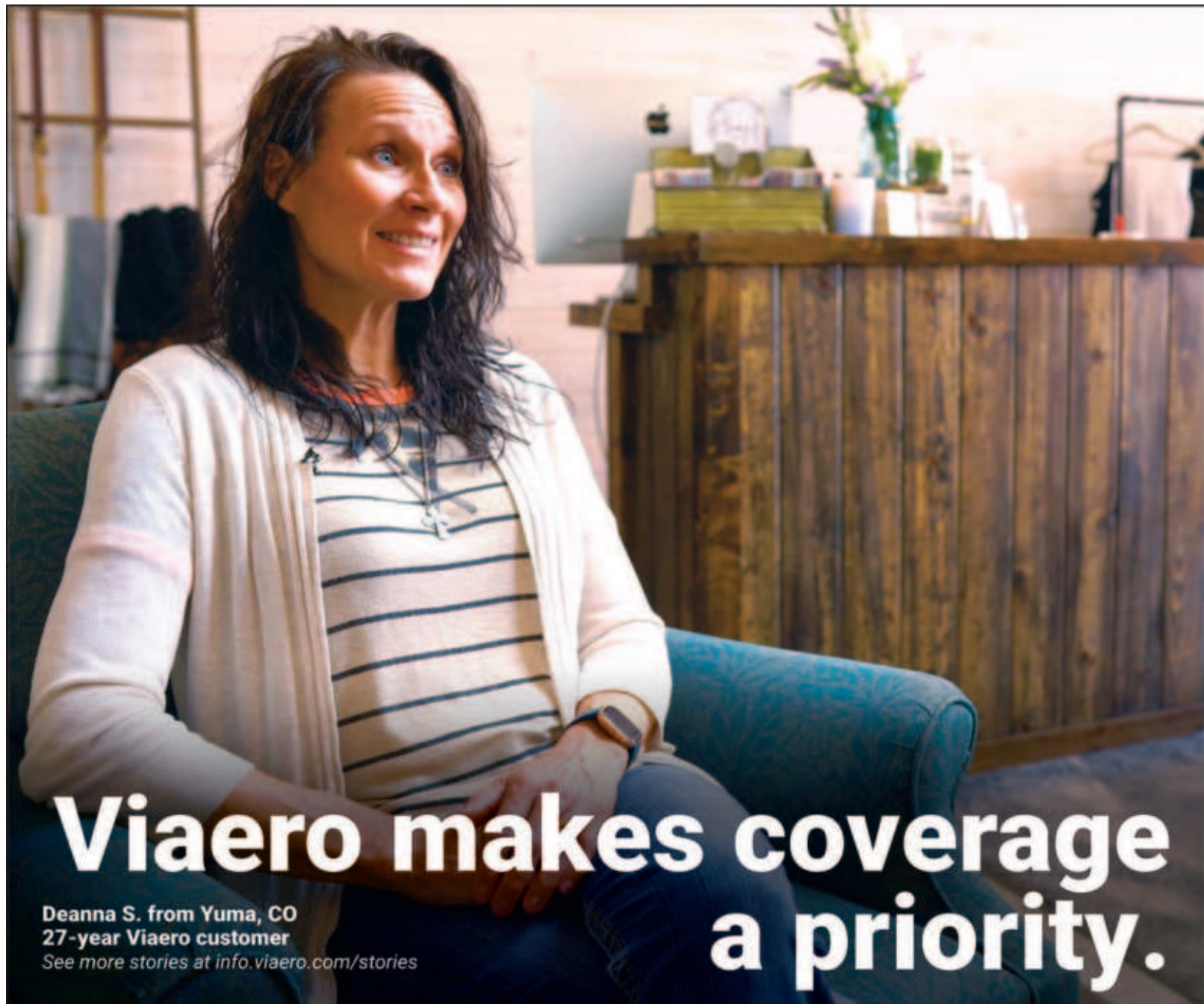
Gao signed the statement, indicating he wishes to press charges. A representative for Gao's farm reported that he has begged Reigel to return the items taken but so far, she has refused to do so.

Sheriff Dan Warwick reported Monday that the status of the case has not changed, indicating he is still waiting for the District Attorney to make a decision in the matter.

A tipster has provided surveillance video photos of those involved in the seizure of property from the marijuana farm, located in the Potch LLC acreage. People pictured on the video surveillance, according to identification by the source, were:

- Mayor Patricia Reigel
- Former town clerk Sarah Van Horn
- Town of Moffat Compliance officer Jennifer Thomas
- Town of Moffat Compliance officer Dan Zech
- Disgruntled employee, owner of 714 MPRB, Garegin Pogosyan
- Alleged black-market marijuana Lazy KV Estates grower Ernest Gonzalez

Reigel can clearly be identified in the photos. A town official confirmed last week that Sarah Van Horn has resigned her position with the town. Saguache County Land Use stated Tuesday the County has no jurisdiction over the grow since it is located within the town of Moffat.



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San Luis Valley has one of highest COVID-19 growth rates in Colorado

BY SAN LUIS VALLEY PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

SAN LUIS VALLEY - The San Luis Valley (SLV) has one of the highest growth rates in the State for COVID-19. Center, Colorado, is hardest hit right now, with over 80 cases reported for the Town alone within the last two weeks. The Town of Center has mobilized to spread the word to residents and migrant workers currently living there to stay home as much as possible. Valley Wide has conducted three separate testing clinics over the past several weeks to attempt to capture the extent of the outbreak. Twelve new COVID-19 cases were reported Friday, June 5, for the SLV. Alamosa: 6, Rio Grande: 2, and Saguache: 4, bringing the total number of cases for the SLV to 243. Eighteen total people have been hospitalized, 112 have completed isolation, and there have been four deaths.

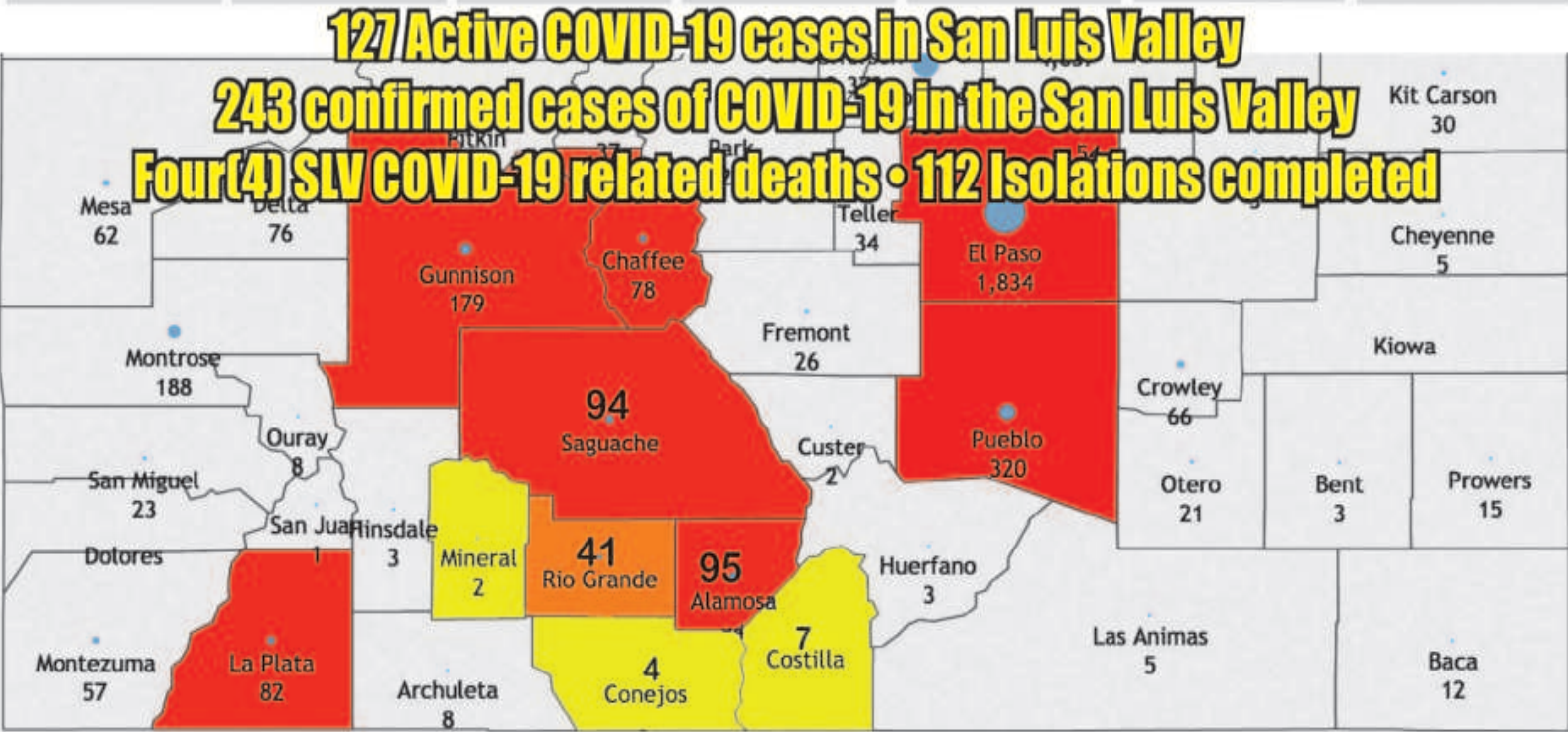
Given that COVID-19 is currently on the rise in the San Luis Valley, everyone needs to continue the good habits developed over the past two months: wash your hands frequently, keep physical distance from others and wear a cloth face covering to avoid spreading the virus, and stay home as much as you can, especially if you are over 65 or have underlying health conditions.

Asymptomatic individuals who have had recent contact with a confirmed COVID-19 positive

COVID - 19 Colorado Case Summary June 5, 2020

Data is updated daily by about 4 p.m. and includes cases reported through the previous day.

28,001 Cases	4,485 Hospitalized	60 Counties	214,940 People Tested	1,527 Deaths Among Cases	1,274 Deaths Due to COVID-19	299 Outbreaks
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case can now pursue testing. Getting tested is important for several reasons. For the individual, having a diagnosis means that if your symptoms get worse and you need to seek medical care. It is important to keep in mind that since it

can take up to two weeks to develop illness after being exposed to COVID-19, a person still needs to complete their 14 day quarantine period even if they test negative during that time.

Although it may be tempting

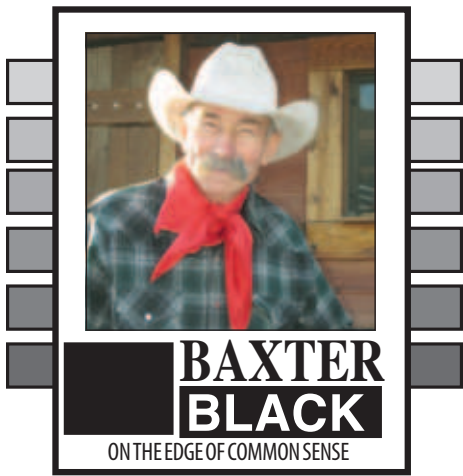
to conclude that the increase in positive case numbers Valley-wide is due to increased testing, the concurrent rise in activity in healthcare provider offices and the increase in call-line queries with COVID symptoms reported

by healthcare providers strongly suggests that we are seeing an increase in community spread. There is a real possibility that employees who have tested positive for COVID were exposed while **Please see COVID-19 on Page 3**

Babe

Years ago the movie "BABE" was nominated for several Academy Awards including Best Picture. It stars a pig named Babe. A gilt to be more specific... a feeder pig maybe weighin' 80 - 100 lbs. But it was a cute pig. It talked, of course, was kind and brave. And to top it off it did heroic deeds and yet maintained a sensitivity that would make the Pope blush.

All this anthropomorphism, giving a pig human qualities, is necessary if movie makers expect an audience to relate to the hero. It made me wonder if the movie, BABE had a deleterious effect on the price of pork. I made a couple calls but the Pork Producers were non-committal. They had an up market this spring. But I would not have been surprised if it had. The sheep and veal people have known for years that it is hard to convince the public to eat something cute.



Rabbit raisers are careful to avoid any advertising including the words BunnyBurger or BBQ'd Bunny Ribs or Bunny on a Grill. Even in the frozen north they've never developed

a market for the Baby Seal Club Sandwich. Australians have never had trouble eating lamb, mostly because they're so numerous over there they are thought of more often as ants or road kill. Yet in my three trips 'Down Under' I saw no Koala Kabobs. Too cute.

The Chinese seem to eat anything under the sun from thousand year-old eggs to objects that crawl on the sea floor but I've never heard of a Panda Patty.

The reverse is also true... that it is easier to eat something less cuddly. That may be part of the success of the chicken business. In books, movies and stories, chickens are seldom portrayed in flattering roles. They're usually stupid or pompous, i.e. Foghorn Leghorn, Chicken Little, Huey, Dewey and Louie. Even the Little Red Hen turns out to be a Republican.

The eel is another good example. The oys-

ter, the goat, fish in general, most reptiles and the Spotted Owl in certain parts of the country.

But I do suspect the Pork Producers were worried about their business while BABE was showing in thousands of theaters to hundreds of thousands of young impressionable kids. Had to be. I know French restaurateurs worried when the BLACK STALLION was showing.

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

How to find the elusive morel mushrooms

By TREY SPAULDING

SANLUIS VALLEY – Each year I enjoy scouring forest floors and riparian areas for the elusive morel mushroom. Every year when I find pounds of fresh morels and post my finds to Facebook I get the response from friends asking where did you find them.

So far this year, I have not been able to find any morels in the San Luis Valley. My reasoning is that it has been too dry for them to “pop”. With the recent rains and warm temperatures morels should be “popping” this week. But taking off and just walking through the woods looking for morels is likely not to reap much bounty. There is actually a little science to the morel foraging process that I will share with you to make your morel hunting more successful.

First, you need to know that morels have a mycorrhizal, or symbiotic relationship with trees that can last for years before they “pop” to the surface. The morel fungus receives carbohydrates such as glucose and starches that the tree produces. In turn, the relationship allows the tree to be able to absorb much more water and nutrients from the soil due to the additional surface area of the mycelium. These Mycorrhizal fungi attach themselves to the tree roots and act as extensions of the tree’s root system stretching it out to absorb more nutrients.

There is a series of events that need to occur before morels “pop up” to the surface. First the tree has to experience trauma, stress or death. The most common event is a forest fire where trees are killed or severely damaged. But other forms of trauma can be beavers gnawing or cutting down a tree in riparian areas. I have found over 100 morels around the base of a large cottonwood that beavers cut down the previous year. Another example, is a microburst breaking the top or limbs off of a tree. Timber harvest areas of live trees is another example. These events have to occur

prior to winter for the morels to pop up in late spring the following year. When the trauma occurs to a tree it disrupts the symbiotic relationship and causes morels to “pop” and spread their spores to the wind.

During the spring other conditions have to come together at the same time for the morel fruit to appear. First, surface ground temperatures have to be consistently 53 degrees Fahrenheit. But this is not enough to make them “pop.” There also needs to be adequate ground moisture. Most important, the tree must have had a symbiotic relationship with morel fungus.

Fresh morels sell for \$30 to \$40 per pound and they are well worth the price. Once you taste them you will know why they demand such a high price. They are a delicacy that you will crave each spring.

Morels are not to be eaten raw as they contain a mildly toxic substance that is destroyed when they are cooked. Morels do not need much, if any, seasoning. Slicing them and cooking them in a skillet with butter or olive oil and a pinch of salt is all that is needed. They will greatly enhance any steak,

hamburger, pizza or a green salad with robust flavor.

Morel hunting is a great family outing. Kids love morel foraging and with their keen eyesight and lower proximity to the ground they are fantastic at finding the mushrooms. Once you find one morel you should scour the area as there will be more. Great places to look are in tree root holes and beneath suspended logs.

Morels come in different color variations but their taste is the same. You will most likely find black or silver morels in burn areas and blonde versions in riparian areas.

There is a “false morel” that you need to be aware of but it is easily distinguished from true morels. Known as verpas, or “false morel”, they have a cap very similar in characteristics to the crown of true morels. But there is one distinct difference. Verpas have a cap that is not attached to the stem of the mushroom. The cap of a verpa is like a closed umbrella where the top is not attached to the handle of the umbrella.

Happy hunting. I hope to see the bounty from your hunts posted on Facebook in the upcoming weeks.



To harvest a morel, pinch the stem off just above the ground to avoid getting dirt in your mushroom basket. Place the mushrooms in a colander and wash them in cool water before cooking.

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COVID-19

Continued from Page 1

not on duty, even in workplaces where there are multiple cases discovered.

To prevent getting sick, please remember to stay close to home as much as possible, as community transmission is occurring in communities across the San Luis Valley. Don't go out unless it's necessary, and if you do go out, wear a mask and wash your hands thoroughly upon return. Take advantage of no-contact services provided by restaurants and businesses. If you do get sick, stay home for at least 10 days after symptoms start and 72 hours after your fever has broken. Call one of the hospital call-lines below to get tested and inform people you've been around that you are sick.

One tool Public Health uses during an outbreak is the follow-up after a positive test result comes

in. In an outbreak, following up with an individual who has tested positive is a way for Public Health to make sure no one else is exposed, or if, they were, to give recommendations to those people in order to prevent further illness and death. This is called "contact tracing and investigation." It normally requires a phone call to the affected individuals by Public Health staff. Public Health keeps personal information confidential in accordance with HIPAA laws and out of respect for privacy.

Many people are curious about the possibility of antibody testing at our healthcare facilities. While healthcare providers report they will eventually obtain these tests, they would like to make clear that the presence of antibodies of COVID-19 does not mean that a person is immune to catching

the virus again. SLV Regional Epidemiologist, Lilian Coll states, "Currently, antibody tests are primarily for research purposes. CDPHE does not recommend the use of antibody tests for diagnostic purposes because the results can be misleading. Ideally, antibody tests

are given along with a PCR test for diagnosis."

It is important if you are ill or have been in contact with an ill person, to seek testing for COVID-19. It is possible to be re-infected. Please contact your primary care doctor or call one

of the numbers below to start the screening process:

Rio Grande Hospital 719-657-4990

SLVHealth Respiratory Clinic 719-589-2511 ext. 9

Valley Wide Health Systems 719-589-3658 ext. 9

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Phone - call 844-330-2020

(en español 844-468-2020)

Mail - If you do not respond online or by phone, you may receive a paper questionnaire. Households that receive mail at a PO Box will not receive a questionnaire by mail, but may have one delivered to their home by a census worker after June 13, 2020.



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- 01 TICKETS
- 02 CARD OF THANKS
- 03 MEMORIALS
- 04 LOST & FOUND
- 05 NOTICES/BAZAARS
- 06 PERSONALS
- EMPLOYMENT**
- 07 HELP WANTED
- 08 WORK WANTED
- 09 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

FOR RENT

- 10 APARTMENTS
- 11 ROOMS
- 12 HOUSES
- 13 MOBILE HOMES
- 14 BUSINESS PROPERTY
- 15 WANTED TO RENT
- 16 VACATION

REAL ESTATE

- 17 REAL ESTATE
- 18 LOTS & ACREAGE
- 19 FARM & FARMLAND
- 20 BUSINESS PROPERTY
- 21 MOBILE HOMES
- 22 PROPERTY WANTED

MERCHANDISE

- 23 LAWN & GARDEN
- 24 GARAGE SALES
- 25 AUCTIONS
- 26 ANTIQUES
- 27 APPLIANCES
- 28 HOUSEHOLD GOODS
- 29 MUSICAL ITEMS
- 30 ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS
- 31 HEALTH
- 32 FUEL & HEATING
- 33 BUILDING MATERIALS
- 34 OFFICE EQUIPMENT
- 35 HEAVY EQUIPMENT
- 36 MISCELLANEOUS
- 37 WANTED
- 38 MACHINERY, TOOLS & EQUIPMENT
- 39 SPORTING GOODS
- 40 AUTO PARTS
- FARMER MARKET**
- 41 FARM EQUIPMENT
- 42 FEED & SEED
- 43 FARM PRODUCTS
- 44 FARM SERVICES

ANIMALS

- 45 ANIMAL BREEDING
- 46 PASTURE FOR RENT
- 47 HORSES & CATTLE
- 48 PETS & SUPPLIES
- 49 ANIMAL CARE
- 50 LIVESTOCK
- RECREATIONAL**
- 51 BOATS & EQUIPMENT
- 52 CAMPING EQUIPMENT
- 53 TRAILERS
- 54 SNOWMOBILES/ATV'S
- 55 R.V.'S/CAMPERS
- FINANCIAL**
- 56 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
- 57 INVESTMENTS
- TRANSPORTATION**
- 58 MOTORCYCLES
- 59 VEHICLES WANTED
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- 61 4X4'S
- 62 VANS
- 63 TRUCKS
- 64 AUTOS FOR SALE
- SERVICES**
- 65 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- 66 CHILD CARE

RATES

15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications
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Convenient ad placement:

To place your ad in person come to the office at 835 First Ave. in Monte Vista, or call (719) 852-3531. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also fax your classified to (719) 852-3387 or email at montevisitaclass@gmail.com

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05 Notices

WE BUY ANTLER: 5 miles west of Del Norte on HWY 160. 719-657-0942

07 Help Wanted

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@tricotyseniors.com. (6/17)

Del Norte Bank is seeking to fill a full-time position for Teller in the Creede Branch. Duties will be to accept deposits, loan payments and process withdrawals while maintaining a balanced cash drawer. Must be personable and pleasant answering the phone and greeting customers. Many other duties will be assigned as needed. The position is permanent, full-time, M - F, 8am - 5pm with a robust benefits package. Application available at TrueLocalBank.com/careers or inquire at 117 N. Main,

Creede or call 719-658-0126 and ask for Cassidy. EOE. (6/17)

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.co or contact Aaron at (719) 657 - 4030 ext 1001. Applications can be accessed online at <https://www.dncsd.org/business/employment-opportunities>. (6/17)

The Saguache County Land Use Office is accepting applications for a full time Saguache County Code Enforcement Officer. Applicants must have a valid Colorado Divers License, must pass a criminal background check as well as a pre-employment drug test. Applications will be accepted through June 5, 2020 or until filled. Applications and job descriptions may be found on www.saguachecounty.net or may be emailed to you, please contact April Quintana at 719-655-2231 Saguache County is an equal opportunity employer.

Saguache County Land Use is seeking a part time Land Use Clerk. Duties include general office duties must pass a criminal background check as well as a pre-employment drug test. Application and job description are available on line at www.saguachecounty.net. Appli-

cations will be accepted through June 5, 2020 or until filled. Applications may be found on www.saguachecounty.net or may be emailed to you, please contact April Quintana at 719-655-2231 for further information. Saguache County is an equal opportunity employer.(6/17)

Elementary Teacher needed at Del Norte Elementary School for the 2020/2021 school year. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Principal at aduda@urtigers.co or contact Amy at 719-657-4030. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: dncsd.org.

Del Norte High School is seeking a qualified Boys' Basketball Head Coach for next season. If interested, please email Richie Madrid, Del

Norte High School Athletic Director at rmadrid@urtigers.co or call him at 719-850-3623.(6-10)

10 Apartments for Rent



To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado newspapers for only \$300, contact your local newspaper or call Colorado Press Association Network at 303-571-5117.

WANTED

The Southwest Colorado Healthcare Coalition (SWCHCC) is seeking an independent contractor to facilitate the planning, training, exercising, operational readiness, financial sustainability, evaluation, and ongoing development of the SWCHCC, as well as to lead, participate in, or support the response activities of the coalition according to SWCHCC plans. For the complete Request for Proposal, please visit <https://sjbpublichealth.org/> All proposals must be submitted to lzazzaro@sjbpublichealth.org by close of business June 14, 2020



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South Fork, Colorado

Kids' Fishing Clinic 2020

Saturday June 20th, 8:00am

Location: Tucker Ponds, Rio Grande National Forest

Celebrate Father's Day Weekend in the South Fork sun. Grab your poles and rods and go fishing at Tucker Ponds. Vacationers or locals alike are welcome to enjoy the day with us. Lunch provided afterwards in the great outdoors.

- For children 15 and under
- Hours of Event: 8:00 am -8:30 Registration, 8:30 to 11:30 Clinic and fish. 11:30 to 12:30 hot dogs and Frito chili pie
- Admission: Free, open to the public. Donations welcome.
- There will be a drawing for fishing poles and equipment
- Please bring your own fishing equipment
- There will be NO free rods and reels this year, but still plenty of fish, fun and food.

To reach Tucker Ponds from Pagosa Springs take US-160 East for 28 miles, then turn Right onto Forest Service Rd. 390 (Pass Creek Rd) and proceed 2.5 miles to the campground.

South Fork Visitor Center
(719) 873-5512 :: www.southfork.org
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-Suzy W., Google

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Valley Wide Classifieds

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17 Real Estate For Sale

Home for sale overlooking Navajo Lake! 3 bedroom, 2 bath, electric radiant heat, air conditioning, stucco exterior, metal roof, large trex deck with expansive views of the lake. Also has a 30'x40' insulated and heated boat storage. Selling fully furnished, just bring your swimsuits! 719-850-2775 (6/24)

SAN LUIS HOUSE FOR SALE 3 Bedroom 1 Bath, recent remodel, 5 acres, Well, shed/garage/workshop. Motivated Seller \$117,500 719 992-4025. (06/17)

1,810 Square Ft 4-bedroom, 2-full-bath Large Deck with 8ft Walls. Twin Peaks Back Yard. Matching Barn 3-acreas NW of Del Norte 13 Miles off of County Road 15 Will Sell Turnkey 8,400 elevation 360 Degree Mtn Views. 719-298-0779. Call No Later than 4:00PM. \$150K

PERFECT SMALL FARM: 59 acres with center pivot, new 60x120 steel shop, 2 1/2 shares of Rio Grande Canal, 2000 GPM well, 2 miles from Center. Priced to Sell, Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-580-0770. (06/9)

11 circles in Center area with excellent potato ground, excellent wells and water rights, high production, sandy soil, 2 homes, shop, potato storage, first time ever on market and sold as full unit. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, LLC 719-580-0770. Serious inquires only

125-150 cow/calf ranch 1154 acres with top water rights, production, 1.2 miles of Rio Grande River and 1/2 mile of Conejos River. \$1,750,000. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-580-0770

Pasture Land, 397 acres in north of Monte Vista Airport on County Line Road with good grass and location. Also contains a huge amount of gravel on the property \$525,000.00 call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-580-0770.

240 deeded acres in irrigated grass west of Monte Vista with 6 shares Lariat ditch. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-873-1700.

23 Lawn and Garden

Sprinkler repair. Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593.

24 Garage Sales

16th Annual Yard Sale Dewalt and Milwaukee power Tools, misc tools, hunting, fishing, camping, luggage, adult and kids clothes, toys, books, DVD's, house hold and xmas items! Well worth the drive, more items than we can sell in 3 days! Don't miss!! We are Following CDC Guidelines! 6/11 7am - 7pm, 6/12 & 6/13 7am -3pm. 0230 CR 10 S Alamosa.

Unit sale at Twin Pines Storage Hwy 149 And Elm St. South Fork kitchen items, china, antiques, stroller, coffee makers, several

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Please read your ad on the first day of publication. If there are mistakes notify us **IMMEDIATELY**. We will make changes for errors and adjust your credit **but only if we receive notice on the first day the ad is published.** We limit our liability to you in this way and we do not accept liability for any other damages which may result from an error or omission in an ad. All ad copy must be approved by the newspaper which reserves the right to request changes, reject or properly classify an ad. The advertiser and not the newspaper is responsible for the truthful content of the ad. All classified advertising must be pre-paid.

sand paintings, plus many miscellaneous items. Also C-12 unit sale, Nicki Philbern whose address is 3221 Baltimore Ave. Pueblo, CO 81008. June 20th, 8:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

36 Miscellaneous

Covid or Clarity Handbook Uncover Secrets for Really Simple Immunity \$12 719-937-9378 (6/24)

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42 Feed & Seed

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ALFALFA-GRASS HORSE HAY: Green 3x3x8 bales, ~800#, \$190/ton or \$85 per bale OBO, outside stacks, 719-657-0942 (6/3)TFN

50 Livestock

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 (6/17)

59 Vehicles Wanted

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63 Trucks

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101 lbs & up	Animals over 50 lbs are ineligible for Group fee	\$200.00	Extra Large Vessel needed

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SLV unemployment faring better than nation and Colorado

By TREY SPAULDING
SAN LUIS VALLEY – Recently released Colorado unemployment figures from the Colorado Department of Labor and Unemployment (CDLU) for April 2020 indicate that the San Luis Valley is more resilient than most of the state. Rural Colorado counties are faring better than more urban and resort counties. The average unemployment rate for Colorado was 12.0 percent in April 2020 and nationwide the figure was 14.7 percent.

The SLV county with the lowest unemployment rate in April 2020 was Saguache with 7.0 percent unemployment. This number, however, will most likely increase due to the COVID-19 outbreak in the county in May. Saguache county is followed by Costilla county with 8.0 percent unemployment, Conejos county at 8.3 percent, Alamosa 9.4 percent and Rio Grande with 10.7 percent unemployment.

Not seasonally adjusted employment numbers from the CDLU show that the total employed workforce for the San Luis Valley in April 2020 was 19,137, with 1,899 unemployed, equaling 9.9 percent of the SLV work-

force being unemployed in April. According to the CDLU, on May 31, 2020, there were 226 job openings advertised online in Alamosa county, 64 job openings in Rio Grande county, 19 job openings in Conejos county, 14 job openings in Costilla county and 25 openings in Saguache county. If all of these jobs were filled our unemployment percentage would drop 1 percent. In Colorado, Cheyenne county has the lowest unemployment rate with 2.4 percent unemployment. Cheyenne county is followed in increasing order by Kiowa county with 2.6 percent unemployment, Baca 2.7 percent, Yuma 3.3 per-

cent, Washington 3.7 percent and Phillips with 3.8 percent unemployment. The highest rates of unemployment are found in the counties with affluent resort communities. Nationwide other affluent resort communities like Sun Valley, Idaho have the highest unemployment rates in the state. Pitkin county, where Aspen is situated, has the highest unemployment rate in the state with 23.1 percent. Pitkin is followed in decreasing order by Gilpin with 23.0 percent unemployment, San Miguel 22.3 percent, Summit 21.1 percent, and Eagle county with 20.5 percent unemployment.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program distribution set in Rio Grande County

RIO GRANDE COUNTY-The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) works to improve the health of low income persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods. Individuals must be at or below 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines. Food packages include a variety of foods, such as nonfat dry milk, UHT 1 percent low-fat milk, juice, farina, oats, ready-to-eat cereal, rice, pasta, peanut butter, dry beans, canned meat, poultry or fish, and canned fruits and vegetables. This food box is free to those who meet the income guidelines. Costilla County Commodity Program will be in Del Norte Wednesday, June 17, at the Annex Building next to the Courthouse 6th Street, Del Norte from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Monte Vista at the Calvary Baptist Church 2160 Sherman Avenue Wednesday, June 17, 2020 from 12:30- 3:30 p.m. Please bring a picture ID. Remain in your vehicles. The food package will be delivered to your vehicle.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program distribution for Costilla in Alamosa

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

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

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

Costilla County Commodity Program will be in Alamosa Tuesday, June 23rd from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1112 8th Street, Alamosa.

Please bring a picture ID. Remain in your vehicles. The food package will be delivered to your vehicle.

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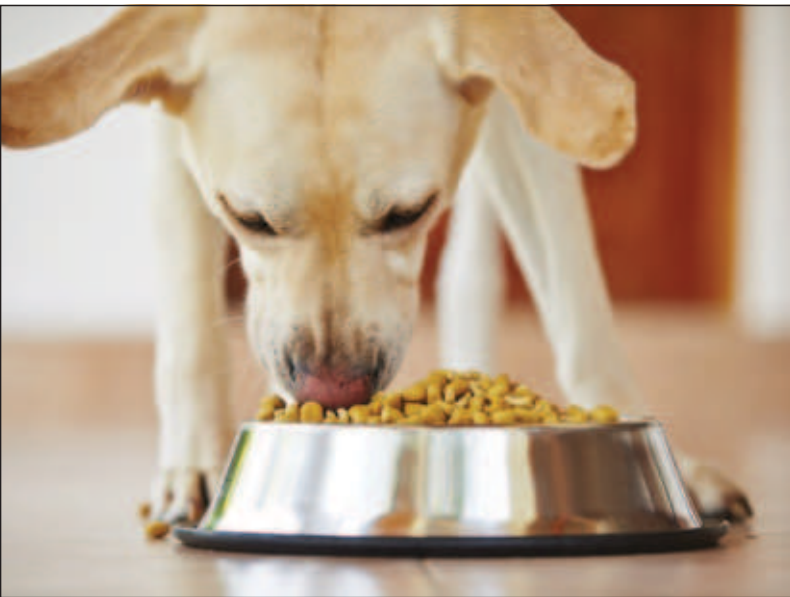
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Grains or no Grains: *Addressing pet owner concerns*

Pet parents want to feed their dogs the best diet possible to keep their furry friends happy and healthy, but there are so many options on the market: prepackaged or home-cooked, wet food or dry, and grain-free or no grain.

Recently, interest has arisen surrounding grain-free diets and their impact on canine health.

When searching for the right food for their dogs, pet owners often focus on corn and wheat.; however, many other grains are used in pet foods that have great nutritional value, including rice, barley, oats and millet.

“Much of the initial push for ‘grain-free’ diets for dogs came from folks who were drawn into the marketing strategy that dogs are carnivores and grains were unnatural,” said Dr. Deb Zoran, a professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences (CVM).

“Dogs are, in fact, omnivores; they are actually programmed metabolically and nutritionally to use the building blocks from both plants (grains) and animals to meet their requirements for essential nutrients and energy,” she said. “This is illustrated by wild dogs and wolves eating the ingesta—contents of the digestive tract that are largely plant material or grain—of large animal species they kill.”

Pet owners choose what diet to feed their dog based on word-of-mouth, online, marketing of pet stores, or veterinary recommendations, but according to Zoran, many owners tend to choose their pet’s diet based on pet food company marketing.

“The pet food industry is a very competitive place and many of the smaller companies and boutique foods do a fantastic job of marketing their products,” Zoran said. “Unfortunately, those same companies do not all have the same resources for research and development and quality assurance testing.

“A recipe for good food is one thing, but if you don’t test the product once it is made, processed and packaged, you can’t be sure the food still contains what you intended, and that is where potential problems start,” Zoran said.

It is important for dogs to have a balanced diet in order to thrive, and Zoran said dog owners should know that “there are nutrients present in grains that are essential for a complete and balanced diet.”

“If grains are removed from a diet, they must be replaced by another food source that has those nutrients in sufficient quantities to balance the diet,” she said.

Some dog owners have switched their pets to a grain-free diet because

of concern about possible wheat gluten allergies or intolerance, but, according to Zoran, these conditions are relatively uncommon in dogs compared to other types of food-related conditions.

“Many people have been convinced that their dogs have a ‘grain allergy,’ much like celiac disease or gluten disease in humans,” Zoran said. “However, true dietary allergies in dogs are caused by the protein, or meat, sources in a diet. It doesn’t mean that your dog can’t have an intolerance to wheat gluten or another food ingredient, but it is not the same as an allergy.

“The bottom line is, your dog’s skin, hair coat or gastrointestinal (GI) function may sometimes improve on a grain-free diet, but it may simply have been the diet change itself and not the lack of grains, per se,” she said.

Zoran recommends that pet owners choose diets that have rigorous standards for research and quality testing; a well-developed reputation for providing complete and balanced foods; and back up their label claims with nutritional quality control testing. Additionally, owners should always seek advice from their veterinarian before changing their dog’s diet.

“If your dog seems to do better with diets without wheat or corn, consult a veterinarian or veterinary nutritionist for information about the safest diet options available on the market,” Zoran said. “They can provide commercial and homemade options that can meet your dog’s specific nutritional needs.”



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Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Solution to last week’s puzzle

R	O	E		N	A	M	A	S		B	O	T	H	A	
E	S	C		E	R	A	S	E		O	R	I	O	N	
C	I	O		C	A	R	L	E		D	W	A	R	D	S
T	E	N	S	E	S			P	I	E	T	A			
I	R	O	N	S		A	S	S		U	R	E	D	L	Y
		M	A	S		S	C			D	E	A	L		
S	A	I	G	A		S	A	L	A	M			M	E	
T	L	C		R	O	U	L	A	D	E		M	A	M	
O	B			Y	P	R	E	S		T	E	A	R	S	
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S	E	P	A	R	A	T	E	S		T	E	A	S	E	
		I	E	E	L	S				W	A	R	R	E	D
B	I	L	L	Y	P	A	C	K	E	R			O	N	E
P	R	O	L	E		N	O	O	K	S		N	O	M	
D	E	G	A	S		A	S	S	A	I		I	R	A	



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San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

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4 bedroom • 3 bath • 2,492 sq. ft. • **\$385,000**
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UNDER CONTRACT



New Listing! Golf Course Living at its finest!
 3 bedroom • 2.5 bath • 2,0978 sq. ft. • **\$379,000**
 Stunning views in all directions with huge windows, luxurious master suite, rock propane fireplace, high-end Jenn Air appliances, custom cabinetry, large stone patio for entertaining, 2-car garage and so much more! Rio Grande Club Membership and Home Furnishings negotiable. MLS #767109
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Fantastic Home on 40 Acres with Water!



5 bedroom • 2.5 bath • 3,216 sq. ft. • **\$630,000**
 Remodeled in 2016, the home has large, double-pane windows to enjoy the views, quartz counter tops, new stainless steel appliances, a private master suite with amazing features and so many more unique details. Heated 3-car attached garage plus addtl. detached garage/tack room. Established hay-meadow with surface water rights and 1.5 shares of Rio Grande Piedra ditch.
 MLS# 769101
Porter Realty, 503 Main St. Alamosa
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Immaculate home with 3 bedrooms & 2 bathrooms. This quaint home has lots of opportunity to be updated to a persons own creativeness. There is a heated 3 car attached garage with insulated garage doors. Established yard with sprinklers system. Large over-sized concrete driveway. Newer metal roof. Close to parks, schools, and golf course. Call today to see this great home!
\$164,000 Call Tracy Gosar, 850-1815 MLS #76829



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Secluded Cabin Getaway!



2 bedroom • 1 bath • 720 sq. ft. • **\$179,000**
 This cabin has new a new roof, new plumbing, electrical and more, plus a full acre of property for privacy, only yards away from world class fly-fishing on the Conejos River. Two enclosed porches for relaxing with your family and taking in the sunshine!
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This lovely home has 3 bedrooms & 1 bathroom. Bathroom has newer laminate flooring, and standing shower. Kitchen has gas over/range, refrigerator, dish washer, newer laminate flooring & tile back splash and counter tops. Living room has carpet, and wood walls give it a cozy feel. Laminate flooring makes a good transition to a dining area. Attached is a great 2 car garage with cement floors, and even more addition storage with a shop area as well. Fenced in back yard, and open front yard. Call today to see this great home!
\$124,500 Call Tracy Gosar, 850-1815 MLS #764469



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SUPER MULTI LEVEL HOME with lots of custom touches and stunning views. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (with sauna) an office, separate dining room, living room and great room. Kitchen boasts custom cabinets made by local artist/owner. Beautifully maintained lawns and gardens adorn separate outdoor living spaces. 3 car oversized attached garage holds everything - but there is a shed as well! Placed up on the hill, there is a feeling of being out of town but all town amenities are easily accessible. This is a must see!
\$359,000 MLS #765156



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Great Commercial Opportunity! This property is a great and unique opportunity to own commercial property. The first building is a 1746 sq ft shop could be used as a store front. As well as a cute 2 bedroom house to the back that is a rental. You could rent out both, or use both for personal use. Great location in the heart of Monte Vista, within walking distance from other shops in the area. Call today to take a look at this unique property. **\$149,000** Call Tracy Gosar, 850-1815 MLS #767484



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Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad to open modified season on June 13

CHAMA, NM and ANTONITO, COLO.

The Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad (C&TSRR) will launch its 2020 season on Saturday, June 13, with its first train of the season departing from Chama, NM. Originally, the C&TSRR's opening date was scheduled for Memorial Day weekend but the railroad delayed the opening and modified its schedule to align with restrictions surrounding COVID-19.

The historic steam railroad, twice voted North America's most scenic train by the readers of USA Today, will follow a modified schedule:

From June 13 – Sept. 11, one train a day will leave from either Antonito, CO or Chama, NM and stop at historic Osier, CO for a delicious lunch, included in the ticket price before returning to the station the train originated from.

Trains will leave from Chama to Osier then return to Chama on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Trains will leave from Antonito to Osier then return to Antonito on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. There will be no train on Monday and no half-day rides.

From Sept. 12 – Oct. 18, two trains will depart daily and run between Antonito and Chama with a lunch stop at Osier Station, following the traditional C&TSRR schedule.

If you need to cancel your reservation this season, you will get a full refund if you cancel at least 48 hours prior to your trip.

The 2020 schedule is subject to change and passengers will be required to follow all current federal and state safety precautions. Passengers are encouraged to check the website for the most up-to-date information.

"People were riding this railroad before the Statue of Liberty was built or the first National Park was opened," noted John Bush, president/CEO of the C&TSRR. "This railroad has steamed through

our country's great history in

both challenging

and prosperous times.

We are grateful

to continue our

tradition of

showcasing the

untamed beauty

of the Rocky

Mountain West

as it has been for

centuries. These

modifications

were made to

safeguard our pass

safety and the

the railroad du

unprecedented tim



number of special departures

in 2020. Reservations

are strongly

encouraged,

and departures

are subject to

change. Special

departures

include:

4th of July

Dinner Train,

leaves Chama at

5 p.m., dinner on

Cumbres Pass,

and a fireworks show,

before returning to Chama at 10

p.m. There will be entertainment

and a Fourth of July costume

contest.

Wildflower/Botany Train,

Aug. 2, 2020. This once-a-year special

ride features acclaimed botanists who will discuss the native wildflowers and plants along the route.

Dark Sky Dinner Train with Flamenco Guitar, Aug. 15, 2020. Leaves Chama at 5 p.m., dinner on Cumbres Pass, with Flamenco guitar and festive attire encouraged. The train returns to Chama under a sky full of stars and a Dark Sky.

Sunset Dinner Train & Speakeasy, Sept. 19, 2020. Leaves Chama at 5 p.m., dinner on Cumbres Pass with Speakeasy musicians and Roaring 20s attire encouraged. The train returns to Chama by 9 p.m.

Note that the sold-out Fireman & Engineering Schools will operate as originally scheduled. Please check the website for up to the minute changes.

Historic relaunch of the #168 Postponed

The first official appearance of historic

engine No. 168 has been postponed. The #168, one of only two locomotives of its class left in the world, has been completely restored to its original 1883 brilliance and was slated to return on Opening Day in 2020. Plans for the historic reintroduction of the storied #168 have been placed on hold. The Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad will announce a new launch date as soon as possible.

Advance Reservations Recommended

With the abbreviated schedule, many rides on the C&TSRR, especially September fall color departures, will sell out well in advance. With historic equipment, it is not always possible to add additional cars to meet demand. To ensure that there are seats on the dates you want to ride, the railroad advises to please make reservations in advance at www.cumbrestoltec.com

Museums of the southern San Luis Valley

Antonito

Conejos County Museum

Located at the intersection of Highways 285 and 17, it features memorabilia from the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad, Silo Park, the 1913 Warshauer Mansion and the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad.

Hours: Tues. & Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Admission: Free

Info: 719-580-4070

Fort Garland

Fort Garland Museum

Historic Fort Garland is a proud historic landmark in the town that bears its name. Fort Garland was once commanded by the legendary Christopher "Kit" Carson and was home to the 9th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers.

Hours: Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (summer season)

Admission: Adults \$5, Children (ages 6-16) \$3.50, Seniors \$4.50, Children (under age six) free. Active military and their families, as well as SLV residents (with proof of residency) have free admission.

Info: 719-379-3512

Manassa

Jack Dempsey Museum

The Jack Dempsey Museum is at 412 Main St., the birthplace of the legendary "Manassa Mauler," the world's greatest heavyweight boxer of the 20th century. View a wealth of photos and memorabilia of Dempsey's legendary career.

Hours: Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (summer season)

Admission: Free

Info: 719-843-5207

Sanford

Sanford Museum

Located at 778 Main St. in Sanford, it was established to preserve and display the heritage of Sanford, Las Sauces and surrounding areas. The collection includes photographs, books and artifacts relating to early Mormon and Hispanic settlement, as well as contemporary materials. Military uniforms and information about veterans are important features of the Museum, as well as Church history, agriculture, school and sports, music, and even a doll collection.

Hours: By appointment only

Info: 719-274-4382, 719-580-4114

San Luis

Sangre de Cristo Heritage Center

Housed at 401 Church Pl., the museum

features murals and works of art from its own collection and on loan from various artists and collectors, many of whom are local residents. Because much of the original decor has been maintained throughout the building, the original vigas (roof supports) and fi replace still grace the theatre inside.

Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Admission: By donation

Info: 719-672-0999

Call ahead for local COVID-19 restrictions.

For more information on all local museums, visit MuseumTrail.org, sponsored by the San Luis Valley Museum Association, "Your pathway to the history of the San Luis Valley." Info: 719-580-4346, Facebook: [museumtrail](https://www.facebook.com/museumtrail). org, museumtrail@yahoo.com

Four historic sites on the National Register of Historic Places

SAN LUIS VALLEY— The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area and History Colorado, through an Underrepresented Communities Grant from the Historic Preservation Fund of the National Park Service, Department of Interior, have successfully submitted four properties in the San Luis Valley to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Keeper of the National Register in Washington D.C. approved the submissions and officially listed the properties after returning to work from the government shutdown. The four properties include: The García Ranch Headquarters in Antonito; Saint Joseph’s Church and Cemetery in Capulin; the S.P.M.D.T.U. Lodge Hall in Chama and Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Conejos.

A bid for the research and preparation of National Register nominations for the four sites was awarded to Denver-based Front Range Research Associates, Inc. The team, consisting of researchers and an



S.P.M.D.T.U. Lodge Hall in Chama

archaeologist, worked on site documentation, research and writing the nominations for over a year. Each nomination is available upon request.

The García Ranch Headquarters includes the adobe house, garage, privy, granaries, adobe potato cellar, a grain bin, sheep sheds, approximately 51.1 acres of outlying hayfields and archaeological resources throughout the site. The ranch is considered significant for its ethnic/Hispano heritage, agriculture, architecture and development from 1885 to 1968. Owner Reyes Garcia is a descendant of the original owner, José Victor Garcia.

Saint Joseph’s Church is associated with the Hispano families who emigrated from northern New Mexico to the San Luis Valley beginning in the 1840s and ‘50s. Built in 1912-13, St. Joseph’s also features distinctive architectural characteristics for its Gothic Revival stone construction and original stained glass



Courtesy photos

Garcia Ranch Headquarters in Antonito

archaeologist, worked on site documentation, research and writing the nominations for over a year. Each nomination is available upon request.

The Sociedad Protección Mutua de Trabajadores Unidos (S.P.M.D.T.U.) Lodge Hall in Chama was built around 1920. The small adobe building was used as a lodge hall for the Hispano labor union from the time it was built until recently. The S.P.M.D.T.U. is still an active organization in Colorado and northern New Mexico. The organization was founded to provide mutual aid to its members by pooling their resources to assist one another in times of need.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in the small community of Conejos, though considered Colorado’s oldest Catholic parish, had not officially been listed in the National Register of Historic Places until now. The present building dates to 1927/1948. After an

1863 adobe church in this location partially burned, the rear portion of the building was constructed and attached to twin adobe towers in 1926. Later in 1948 the façade and towers were redone in concrete brick. The stained glass windows were mostly likely crafted by Frank Watkins of the Watkins firm in Denver.

On May 4, these four properties were presented with bronze plaques to commemorate their National Register listings by History Colorado at the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area’s annual Cinco de Mayo outside celebration.

Please follow local COVID-19 restrictions.

This material is based upon work assisted by a grant from the Historic Preservation Fund, National Park Service, Department of the Interior. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of the Interior.



Saint Joseph’s Church and Cemetery in Capulin

Dempsey Museum offers a look into the life of a champion

MANASSA— Jack Dempsey, aka William Harrison Dempsey, also called the Manassa Mauler, was born June 24, 1895, in Manassa, and died at age 87 May 31, 1983 in New York City,

An American world heavy weight boxing champion, Dempsey was regarded by many as the apotheosis, the elevation of someone to divine status as a professional fighter. Dempsey fought 84 bouts, winning 62, 51 of which were by knockout.

He held the title from July 4, 1919, when he knocked out Jess Willard in three rounds in Toledo, Ohio, until Sept. 23, 1926, when he lost a 10-round decision to Gene Tunney in Philadelphia.

Dempsey grew up in a poor family, the son of Mary Celia (Smoot) and Hiram Dempsey, his family’s lineage consisted of Irish and Cherokee ancestry. Following his parents’ conversion to Mormonism, Dempsey was baptized into the LDS Church in 1903 following his eighth birthday, the “age of accountability” according to Mormon doctrine. Because his father had difficulty finding work, the family traveled often and Dempsey dropped out of elementary school to work and left home at the age of 16. Due to his lack of money, he frequently traveled underneath trains, slept in hobo camps and fought for bets in barroom brawls.

Please follow local COVID-19 restrictions.



Jack Dempsey

Courtesy photo



Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Conejos

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Photo by John McEvoy

The Stations of the Cross bronze sculptures were created by renowned artist Huberto Maestas.

Enjoy a religious journey at the Stations of the Cross Shrine

SAN LUIS— Strikingly life-like bronze sculptures take visitors along a re-creation of the path trod by Christ during the last journey of His life, the Stations of the Cross near San Luis. Created by renowned artist Huberto Maestas, the site is an especially popular tourist attraction just before Easter.

The shrine was constructed in 1986 and dedicated in 1990. The sculptures were created as an act of love and devotion by the faithful of Sangre de Cristo Catholic Parish at San Luis, reflecting their spiritual traditions.

The shrine embodies the vital role of religion in southern communities. Locals come to the shrine throughout the year for prayer, reflection and celebration.

Visitors can find the stations along a one-mile walking trail that begins just off Highway 159, 19 miles south of Fort Garland and just west of San Luis. The stations are situated on a bluff above San Luis.

Fifteen art pieces can be found along the trail depicting the 12 stations of His journey, Calvary and Crucifixion.

At the top is the shrine known as La Mesa de la Piedad y de la Misericordio (The Mesa of Piety and Mercy); the grotto features pink sandstone statues of the Virgin Mary and Saint Juan Diego.

The mesa top pathway is also lined with many statues of the saints.

As visitors walk up the trail, they are afforded spectacular views of several of Colorado's mountain peaks that tower over 14,000 feet above sea level, while San Luis and the San Luis Valley are spread at their feet.

Complete the journey with a visit to the Memorial de los Martires Mexicanos, at the top of journey.

The shrine draws an average of 40,000 visitors annually.

Access to the shrine can be found at the northern portion of San Luis. There is no charge to visit the shrine.

Please follow local COVID-19 restrictions. Info: 719-672-3685, www.sdparish.org

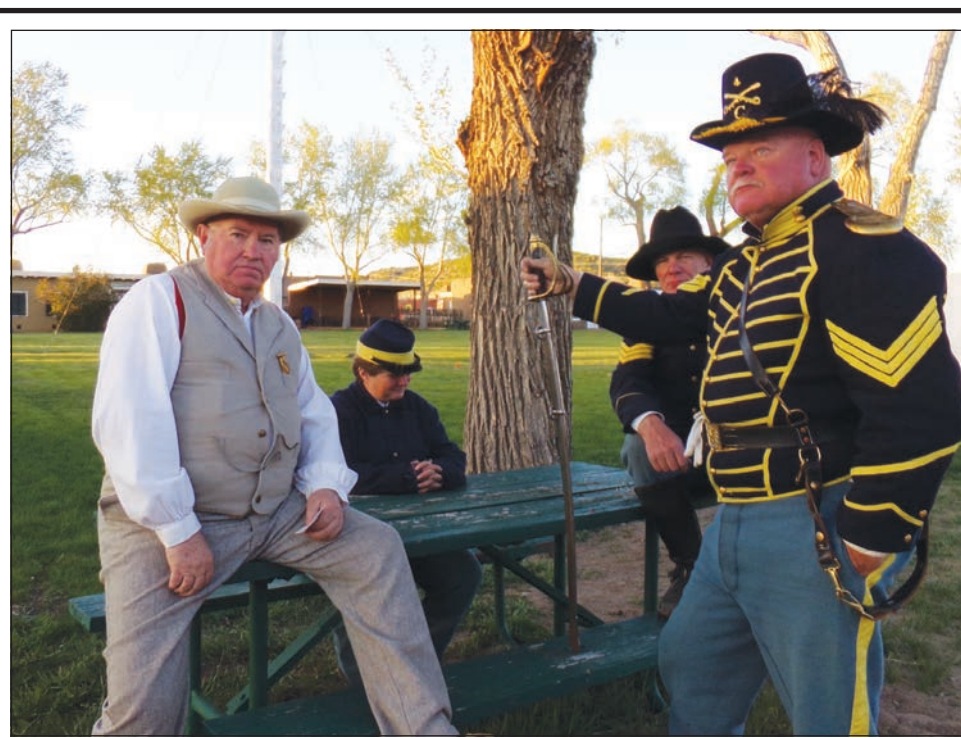


Photo by Sylvia Lobato

The annual Memorial Day Encampment at Fort Garland relives the past as troops and command staff, from left: Jack "Roo" Rudder, Maureen "Mighty Mo" Lambert, Allan "Haggis" McFadden and Keith "Hoss" Lambert, don period clothing and reenact life at the fort.

Fort Garland: Protecting the Valley

FORT GARLAND— Fort Garland was established in 1858 to protect San Luis Valley settlers from Indian raids. At that time Colorado was still part of New Mexico Territory.

Fort Garland was built to replace Fort Massachusetts, just six miles to the north, because the other fort was vulnerable to attack and the land around it was too swamp-like. Fort Garland was named in honor of Brevet Brigadier General John Garland, who then was the commander for the Dept. of New Mexico.

The fort's 20 adobe buildings could accommodate two companies of 100 men and officers. Various companies of infantrymen, mounted riflemen and volunteers would eventually call the fort home. The fort even sported its own laundry and laundresses.

Only two forts existed in Colorado when the Civil War broke out in 1861, because at that time the Indians were behaving peaceably. Once the war broke out, the 200 men stationed at Fort Garland were put on alert and eventually were called into service in 1862 to assist Texas Confederates in fighting the battle at Glorieta Pass.

The pass is located at the southern tip of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains southeast of Santa Fe. This battle proved to be the turning point of the Civil War, fought in New

Mexico Territory.

Following the war, Kit Carson took command of the post as a Brigadier General, in recognition of his valor at the Battle of Valverde, also in New Mexico Territory, Carson was well known for his successful work with the Indians and while at Fort Garland was asked to negotiate with the Ute Indians. For a time, Carson's efforts were successful and the Indians lived in peace with Colorado settlers. He retired for health reasons in 1867.

The Ninth Cavalry was brought to the fort during the gold and silver rush days because the Indians were rebelling against the arrival of so many prospectors searching for their fortunes in the state. In 1876 the fort became home to the Buffalo Soldiers.

The Indian threat was curtailed in 1880, when the Utes were forced by the Army to retire to reservations created for them in southwestern Colorado. Troops at the fort were then reassigned, and by 1883 the fort was abandoned. It was purchased in 1930 by the Colorado Historical Society and since that time it has operated as a military museum.

Please follow local COVID-19 restrictions. For more information, call 719-379-3512 or go online to www.museumtrail.org/fort-garland-museum.

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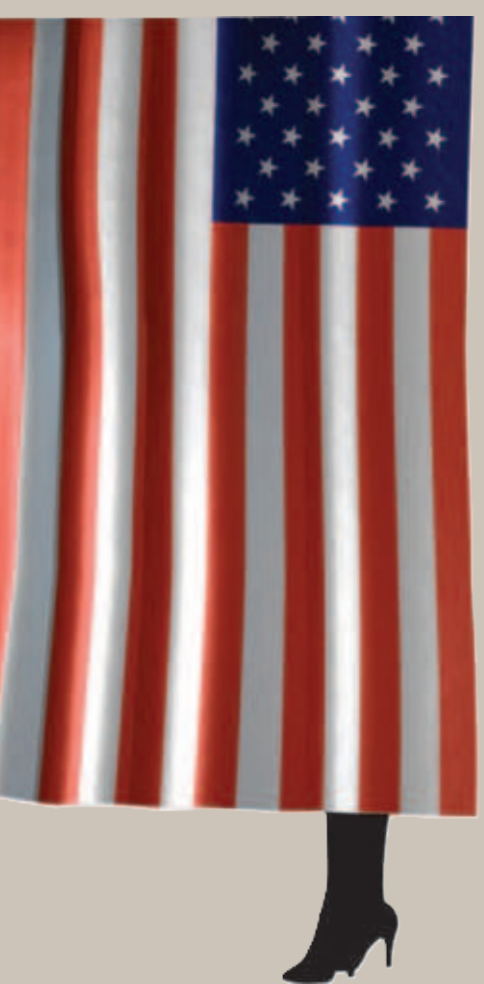
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In the

June 30th Primary Election

For as long as I can remember I have wanted to serve my fellow Americans. Although an injury excluded me from military service, I have always wanted to defend my country. Through some deep and meaningful conversations with my son as he was preparing to be commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy, I had a revelation that I can be a defender of our country through public service.

As I have enjoyed settling into and working in Rio Grande County, it has come to my attention that there is work to be done to better manage county revenues and save taxpayer money . As a person with years of experience in managing large budgets, bid solicitation, and cross-department coordination, I believe Rio Grande County can be run more efficiently. If elected county commissioner, I will dedicate my efforts to get back to open and honest financial management that aligns with state statutes. It is critical to have leaders of utmost integrity and the ability to work together to serve the best interests of the entire county .

Goals

- It's important to me to eliminate all wasteful spending of county revenues. I believe that with a fresh perspective on the budget and heightened oversight we will find ourselves with resources to benefit all citizens in the county.
- Tourism and economic development are major issues for the county. I am exploring various ideas to support local businesses in a global economy and to foster new business here in the county.
- I firmly believe that youth development programs are necessary to raise up future generations of educated and law-abiding citizens who will contribute to the community. I would like to support 4-H and other programs dedicated to this goal.

More

- I am a man of my word and I will not make promises I can't keep to win your vote.
- I appreciate the work of others and give credit as due.
- I believe it is critical to adhere to state statutes in making budgetary decisions. Elected officials must execute their duties with integrity.
- I am honored to be a candidate for county commissioner and will conduct my campaign with dignity.



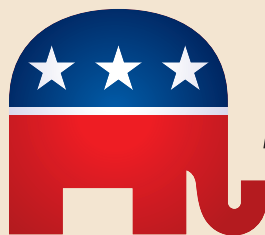
Heather Sanchez

"I like Phil's fresh outlook on the tough issues facing our communities. He has the ability to see problems from different angles and devise multiple approach solutions. I value this in my elected officials!"

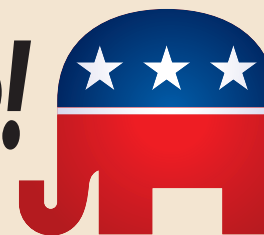


Luann DiTommaso

"You saved my father in an airport after a chance meeting on a flight. That is the type of character you have, you meet someone by chance and save his life a few hours later. The people of Rio Grande County would be very blessed and extremely lucky to have a man of your caliber representing them."



Meet the candidate!



Stars and Strikes Bowling Alley (outdoors) from 5-7 p.m. every Thursday in June

I look forward to meeting more voters and hearing your concerns and ideas to improve Rio Grande County!

For more information about me:

Website: Fedele4U.org

Email: Fedele4U@gmail.com

Facebook: Fedele Paccione Jr for Rio Grande County Commissioner

I hope to see you at Stars and Strikes!

Current state and local COVID-19 regulations will be followed

Honesty - Integrity - Service



Robert S. Willett for District Attorney

As your District Attorney, I humbly ask for your vote in the upcoming primary. I also want to say a few words about our present national circumstances and how this relates to the criminal justice system, both here and nationally.

It is safe to say we are in a state of national crisis. It is important that we all understand that people are under stress and uncertainty. Treating all people with fairness, respect, and empathy is more important than ever. Changes are coming in the criminal justice system. My office recognizes this as all the more reason to carry on with the innovations and alternatives to traditional methods of criminal justice we have brought about.

We have already implemented innovative and important changes to criminal justice in our Valley, including a functioning and effective juvenile diversion program for young people caught up in the criminal justice system to make amends for wrongful acts while at the same time giving them an opportunity to not have a criminal record follow them through life. We also have an adult diversion program which uses the same incentive for adults accused of

criminal acts to resolve their cases outside of the criminal justice system while still holding them accountable to victims and the community. We have partnered with the Center for Restorative Programs and Tu Casa to obtain grant funding and initiate programs to help in resolving criminal cases in the San Luis Valley without having to send people to the Front Range for these services. And although the state has cut our funding for adult diversion as a result of the pandemic, I am working with Representatives Buentello and our own Donald Valdez to restore at least some partial funding. That is how important this program is. I have also been recently selected by the statewide District Attorneys' Council to present training to our area law enforcement officers on domestic violence and sexual assault investigation. We are also undergoing an evaluation of our office by an outside national organization to see how we stack up against other prosecutor's offices nationwide and to make recommendations how to serve you better.

These are just a few of the things we have done during my term in office. I believe we are at a watershed moment and we need to take the long view in dealing with these issues at this critical time in our history.

These are not normal times. Even before the present pandemic and national turmoil the federal government has neglected its core responsibilities. It now falls to local and state leadership, with a reduction in funding, to handle many more roles and provide essential services in a just and equitable manner. Maturity, integrity, competence, and experience in public service and public safety matters at a time like this. Your decision matters like never before.

I ask that you support me with your vote in the upcoming primary in my run to continue as your District Attorney. Thank you.
Robert S. Willett, District Attorney

Paid for by the candidate

**Bernie
endorses
Alonzo
Payne**

FOR COLORADO JD 12 DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Bernie



ALONZO PAYNE

FOR

COLORADO JD12

“CHANGE THE NARRATIVE”

COLORADO STATE PRIMARY JUNE 30TH

[@alonzopayneCO](https://www.facebook.com/alonzopayneCO)

<https://AlonzoForColorado.com>



San Luis Valley Democrats,

My name is Alonzo Payne and I commit to fight for all the people of the San Luis Valley as your next District Attorney. Now more than ever we need to insure we make a real change to the criminal justice reform. It is repulsive that the incarceration rate in the San Luis Valley is the highest in Colorado, and amongst the highest in the nation. Our jails are overcrowded due in large part to the criminalization of poverty and attempts to substitute incarceration for mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Overzealous and unwarranted prosecutions have put such a strain on our criminal justice system that it is at a breaking point.

The County jails are overcrowded and don't have the resources to act as social worker, counselor, and psychiatrist. If we don't help our Counties with the strain on jail services and overpopulation; many of them will be ripe for violations of civil rights.

Prosecutors are the most powerful single actors in the criminal justice system and, now more than ever, they must listen to the needs of the communities that they serve or be replaced by someone who will.

As your next Elected District Attorney, I commit to:

- Stop putting children in adult jails and prisons
- Stop unwarranted prosecution of low level offenses
- End the racially biased practice of money bail, which punishes people for being poor

- Prosecute police officers who break the law
- Practice transparency in the DA's office and all law enforcement
- Stop targeting immigrants for unnecessary and unjust deportations

Vote for Alonzo Payne, as your next District Attorney in the 12th Judicial District

Sincerely, Alonzo C Payne



Vote for DONALD VALDEZ

"My vision for Colorado is to enhance our rural lifestyle by capitalizing on the talents of the people who live here."

for Colorado HD 62

Valdez's, dedication to the people, land, water & way of life in Colorado is driving his campaign to represent you!

- ✓ **Protect Our Water, Our Land & Way of Life**
- ✓ **Quality Education**
- ✓ **Support for Veterans: Recognition, Quality Of Care, Health & Wellness**
- ✓ **Economic Development with Industry & Small Business Growth**
- ✓ **Affordable Healthcare**



DONALD VALDEZ is the RIGHT CHOICE for CO • YOUR VOICE

- **United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)**
- **Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS)**
- **Deputy Public Trustee: Conejos County Treasurer**
- **Assessor, Land Use and County Clerk Officer**
- **Rancher & Farmer**

Vote Values, Vision • ValdezforCO.com

www.ValdezforCO.com

Paid for by Family, Friends & Neighbors to Elect Donald Valdez for Colorado.
P.O. Box 110 La Jara, CO, 81140



MARTINEZ

A VOICE FOR
SOUTHERN COLORADO
HD-62

7th Generation Colorado Native, United States Marine Corps/Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran, ASU Alumni, former Council Member with the City of Monte Vista



Issues

- **Block the RWR project**
- **Pass a Rural Colorado Economic Incentive Package**
- **Advocate for access to healthcare and support community health centers and rural hospitals**
- **Fight for Colorado Veterans to improve mental health services and combat the 22 Veterans that die because of suicide daily**

Endorsements

- **Colorado AFL-CIO**
- **Working Families Party**
- **Cobalt**
- **Arnold & Marguerite Salazar**
- **LeRoy Salazar**





★ VOTE FOR ★
**LYNNE
 THOMPSON**
 COUNTY COMMISSIONER
 DISTRICT 2 on June 30, 2020

★ ★ ★
District2Thompson.com

★ ★ ★
You vote for me and I'll fight for YOU! ★ ★

- Addressing these areas will be a win for all of us & help our great community reach its full potential:
- ★ Fighting any efforts to export our precious water
 - ★ Optimizing the current budget
 - ★ Helping provide services needed based on 2020 Census results

Paid for by the candidate



— ELECT —
**Justin
 vanWart**

COUNTY COMMISSIONER
 — DISTRICT #1 —

www.JustinVanWart.com

Election Race: Saguache County Commissioner District 1.

These are turbulent and uncertain times. We have a sudden record surge of 42 million unemployed in the country, nearing 110,000 Covid-19 deaths, and the news headlines showing turmoil, social injustice, and political divide across the nation. Saguache county has been mostly insulated from the problems in the rest of the country, but that's changing. At the end of the day, we get to decide what becomes of our county and if we let fear and anger enter into our public discourse. It's in our hands. We have to set the right tone. In

these challenging times, we need to be the better side of ourselves. And a well-orchestrated county government is most certainly part of the solution.

I'm Justin van Wart and I'm asking to be your next Saguache County Commissioner. With over 25 years of experience in business leadership in global technology, I've been well trained to work across teams, identify and harness the right people skilled in their disciplines, and foster mutual respect and collaboration to deliver outcomes that matter. That's what we need – outcomes. We need results, and we need to be proud of how we achieved them when we look in the mirror and when we look our colleagues in the eye. My professional background working in complex systems has been dedicated to exactly that.

In my campaigning these past months I've exchanged many dialogues with concerned folks. Saguache County's issues include: Precious water resources to protect, Public Health Policy, Affordable Housing, Drug Addiction, Crime, job-creation, a new Jail, Septic Code enforcement, Water systems failing, concerns of corruption, and long-range planning of what we want our County to look like in 20 years. On top of this, the county's finances will be under strain as Colorado's oil tax revenues have plummeted. We need highly skilled leaders that can adapt in challenging times, and can empower our county's employees with upgraded tools.

I ask you to vote for Justin van Wart as Saguache County Commissioner.

I'm humbled by the trust voters put in their public officials.

Paid for by the candidate



“The most important role of a teacher is to prepare students to become successful readers. It’s all about the students.”

“My work here is not done.”
— Joyce Rankin

It’s about the kids!

I have a vision where I recognise the passion of both the students and teachers to help them focus on their goal!

I have the experience and will keep the best interests of the students of Congressional District 3 in mind!

www.votejoycerankin.com



Paid for by Joyce Rankin for State Board of Education, Marge Klein, Registered Agent

Today in Colorado,



HER ZIP CODE

DECIDES HER FUTURE.

We’re going to change that.

For over 30 years, Mayling Simpson has worked around the world to help people have a fighting chance for better education, health, opportunity, and justice.

From schools in East Africa to rural Colorado, Mayling has brought communities together to fight for the health and education of every child.



Dr. Mayling Simpson

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION | MaylingForSchools.com

Paid for by Friends of Mayling



CARLOS LÓPEZ FOR SENATE
 PRESERVING OUR WAY OF LIFE WHILE PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE
 ——— DISTRICT #35 ———
Carloslopezforcolorado.com

Carlos Lopez

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carloslopezforcolorado.com

-  **Lopez4Colorado**
-  **Lopez4Colorado**
-  **Lopez4Colorado**

- 1) Better funding for public education
- 2) Better funding for rural health care facilities
- 3) More resources for rural community colleges building innovative trade programs