

## Shorts

### MVS school supply returns begin May 18

**SAGUACHE** — Parents and families are asked to stop by Mountain Valley School to return their Chromebooks and school supplies and pick up any items from classrooms and lockers.

Come say goodbye to teachers for the summer!

Grades Pre-K through second grade can stop by Monday, May 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and grades three through five May 18 from 1-3 p.m. Grades six through eight can visit May 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and grades nine through eleven, May 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Have a great summer!

### Memorial Day at Homelake Veterans Cemetery canceled

**MONTE VISTA** - The Colorado Veterans Community Living Center at Homelake team regretfully announces they will not be holding the annual Memorial Day observance ceremony this year. To ensure the continued health and safety of our veterans, their loved ones and our staff, the annual ceremony will not be held.

Due to restrictions, the Homelake campus is closed to the public. We would be honored to place flowers in the cemetery on your behalf.

Our dedicated team will be available at the front entrance of the Homelake campus to accept memorial flowers and place them on your loved ones grave. Pictures can be taken and emailed or texted to you.

Thursday, May 21, and Friday, May 22, from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday, May 23, Sunday, May 24, and Monday, May 25, from 9 a.m. - noon.

Thank you for your on-going support of our veterans, loved ones and staff as we navigate through this time. We value your appreciation to protect all who live and work at Homelake.

For more information, please contact Pam Self at (719) 852-8216 or (719) 588-6398.



## Commissioners to petition for COVID-19 variance

**BY TERESA L. BENNS SAGUACHE** —

Following a work session/special meeting discussion Tuesday among Saguache County commissioners, the commission agreed that in order to assist businesses struggling



in the county, a variance will be needed from the governor to allow them to reopen.

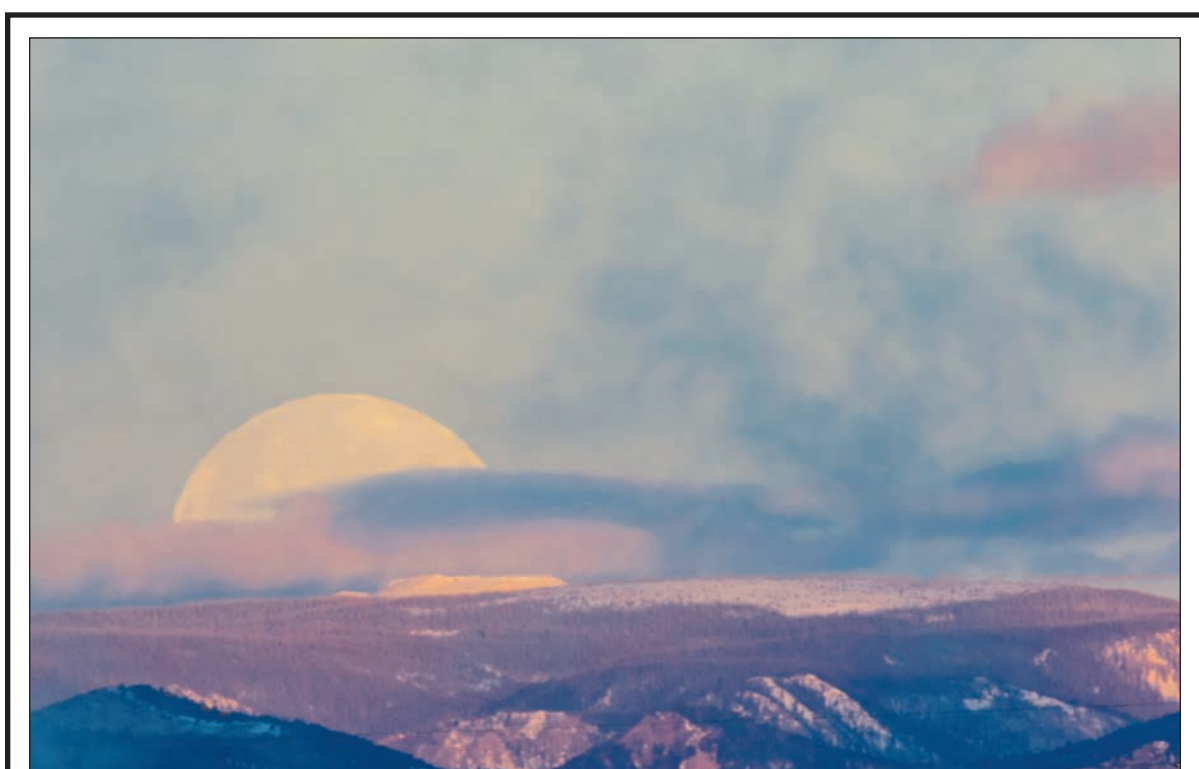
All the necessary precautions will be taken, Commissioner Jason Anderson said during a phone interview Tuesday, including

social distancing, wearing masks, disinfecting work and eating premises, and limiting customer numbers.

"We have to do this," Anderson said. "People are saying they will go out of business if we don't." The variance will need to be approved by the governor first and those wishing to reopen will then be required to apply to the county. The applications

with agreement to the necessary guidelines have not been written up yet, Anderson said, but will be available once the county receives the governor's approval.

The Saguache County public health director will also need to approve the plan. The county hopes to be releasing more information on the petition sometime next week, Anderson said.



Center Schools multi-media teacher and track coach Dennis Schoenfelder caught this shot of the moon rising over the Sangre de Cristos along the Three Mile.

## Mountain Valley seniors procession parade graduation Saturday

**SAGUACHE** — Mountain Valley High School seniors will receive their diplomas during a Procession Parade Saturday, May 16, beginning at 10 a.m. The school building will NOT be open.

The graduate vehicle parade line up starts at 9:30 a.m. in the MVS parking lot in alphabetical order. Once all vehicles are lined up, the sheriff's office and fire officials will escort graduate vehicles west on Pitkin and down 4th

street for the vehicle parade.

Start at the school, turn left onto Pitkin Avenue, right on to 4th street, left onto Denver, left onto 5th, left onto Pitkin lining up 15 feet from the stop sign.

The community must be aware to stay in their vehicles. Two (2) cars are allowed per graduate with only those in their own household (allows for both parents if they are no longer together and their family). Community members can be parked in their cars to honk and

send their best wishes. All community members must remain in their vehicles on the parade route.

An individualized short ceremony in the school parking lot will be held for each graduate. Everyone will need to remain in their vehicle except the students and their parents for photos.

After the ceremony, graduates and their families depart the school, exiting left on Pitkin and right on 4th street to exit town.

## Guidelines for veterans care during COVID crisis

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — The VA Eastern Colorado Healthcare System (ECHCS) is dedicated to providing veterans the best care possible throughout the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). ECHCS understands veterans may have concerns about when they will return to 'normal' operations and what that will look like moving forward for their health care needs.

Just like most health care systems across the nation, ECHCS has been working hard to prepare both veterans and its employees for the new reality with COVID-19. As communities begin to relax limitations that have helped slow the spread of the virus, VA ECHCS is making plans to expand services at its medical center and clinics.

ECHCS hopes to resume necessary face-to-face visits and some elective procedures in the near future. But in order to do this safely and to protect both veterans and staff, this transition needs to be a gradual and collaborative one between ECHCS staff and the veterans it serves.

*\*At this time, ECHCS asks that only veterans with urgent and emergent needs to visit its facilities.*

Please read below to learn more about what to expect on return to ECHCS facilities with the following safeguards to remain in place:

Required: All persons entering VA ECHCS sites of care are required to wear an ear loop procedure mask while on campus. Screeners can

provide a mask at facility entrances. Cloth masks are no longer permitted at this time. Health care providers will wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Entry Point Screenings: Plan to leave home earlier than usual to allow time for mandatory screening prior to entering VA ECHCS sites of care.

Visitor Policy: Please do not bring any visitors to appointments, unless they are required to assist with a veteran's medical care. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis for humanitarian reasons. Persons providing transportation, but who are

*Please see CARE on Page 3A*

**Colorado Missing Person Organization** **MISSING**

**Jesus R. Silva**  
Missing since October 6, 2019  
Monte Cristo, Colorado

Jesus R Silva is 39 years old.  
The last time anyone has had any contact was on October 6, 2019. He was so excited he was going to the San Luis Peak. This is the last anyone has heard from him. He took a bus to meet the Tour Guide in Monte Vista.

Please contact the number listed below if you know anything or seen him.

Age: 38  
Hair: Dk Brown  
Eyes: Brown  
Weight: 185 lbs.  
Height: 5'7"

**Tip Line**  
**(254) 717 - 8459**

**ALL LIVES MATTER**

## Mineral County Search and Rescue look for missing person

**BY LYNDSIE FERRELL**

**CREEDE**-Mineral County Search and Rescue will be on the lookout for a missing individual that was reported missing Monday, May 11. Though details about the incident are vague, Emergency Manager Terry Wetherill stated during the Mineral County Commissioner meeting Tuesday, May 12, that he would be heading out to look for Jesus Silva.

Wetherill and the Search and Rescue team spent May 12 looking for any sign of Silva in the Equity Mine area with no results. "I hiked from the Equity Mine to the start of the San Luis Peak trail covering both sides of the canyon but found no indications of human activity other than 1 other set

*Please see MISSING on Page 7A*



# OBITUARY

## Robert William "Bob" Myers, 93



**MONTE VISTA** — Life-long Valley resident, Robert William "Bob" Myers, died May 10, 2020. He was born in Monte Vista, Colorado June 24, 1926, to Willie Jennings Myers and Edith "Betty" Gibson Myers. He was raised on a farm in the Sargent area and graduated from Sargent High School in 1944. After high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served aboard the USS Fargo at the end of World War II. When his Naval service ended, he attended Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College, now Colorado State University, in Ft Collins. It was while attending college that he met Bernice Marlatt of Longmont on a blind date. That blind date led to a wedding May 23, 1948, and a marriage that lasted over 68 years. Bob and Bernice settled on a farm east of Center where they farmed for 54 years and raised their four children.

Bob was a knowledgeable and hard-working farmer. He loved the mountains surrounding the San Luis Valley. He was a hunter, fisherman and enjoyed "jeeping" with family and friends. He was an avid John Deere enthusiast, collecting and restoring many antique John Deere tractors. Other interests included history, geology, astronomy and reading. Bob and Bernice enjoyed traveling. They not only traveled in the United States, but were lucky enough to visit every continent on Earth. Among their most memorable trips were three cruises to Antarctica and touring with the Two-Cylinder Club in Europe and Australia. They enjoyed taking their 5<sup>th</sup> wheel trailer to Mexico in the winter months where they would camp near the beach with their wonderful friends.

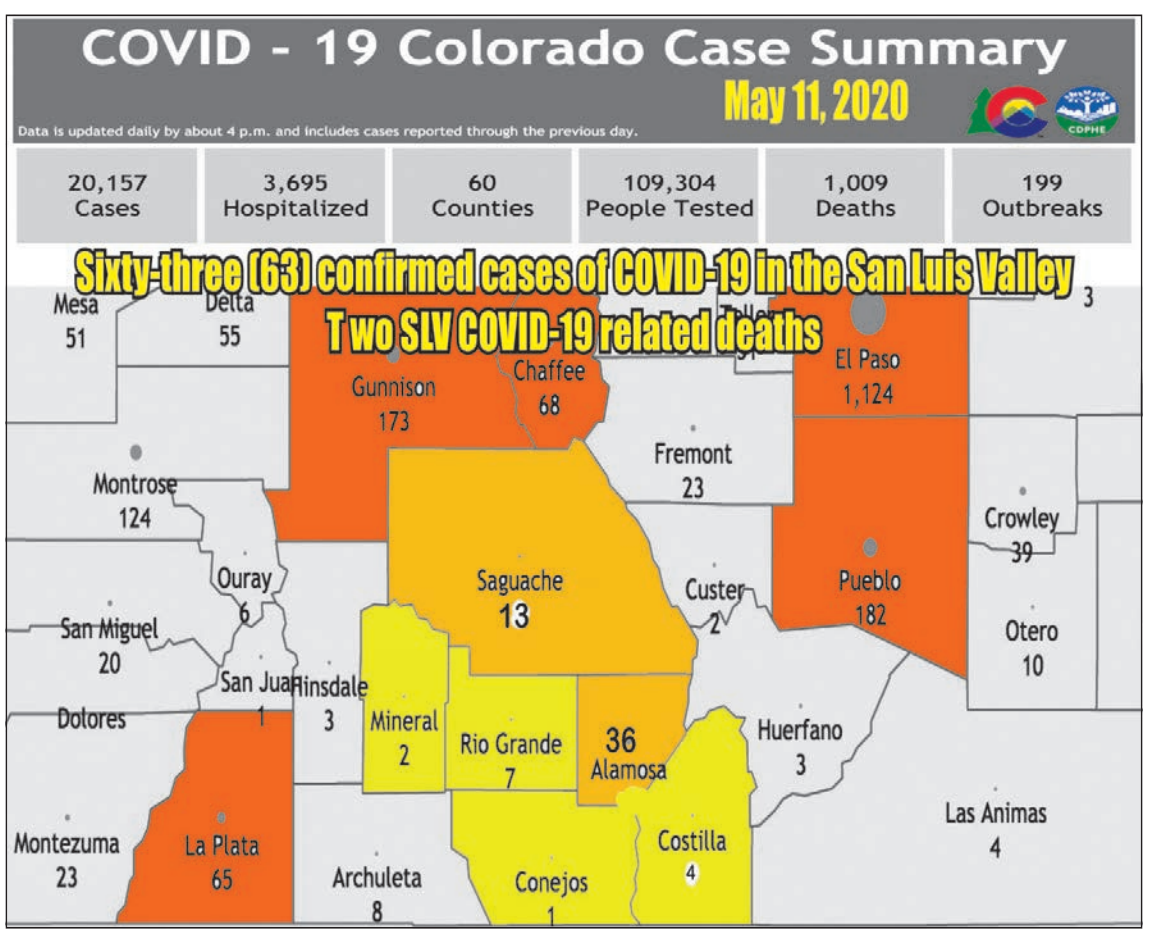
Bob served many years on the San Luis Valley Irrigation District board, the Colorado Groundwater Commission, the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District board and as a director of the Federal Land Bank Association. Bob twice received the Coors Grower of the Year Award and one year the Coors Environmental Conservation Award. He was a member of Center United Methodist Church where he served in many different roles.

He is survived by his daughters Linda Kay Myers Haverland of Littleton, CO and Janet Lee Myers of Center, his son John D Myers (Ginny Bond) of Hooper. He was a very special Grandpa to 11 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. Also surviving are numerous nieces and nephews and many friends.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Bernice, his brother James R Myers of Center, his son Steven William Myers of Alamosa and his son-in-law Jack Kuntz of Center.

Cremation was chosen. A Celebration of Life will be held as soon as family and friends can gather once again. Memorial contributions can be made to Center United Methodist Church or the charity of your choice.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of the arrangements. To leave online condolences, words of comfort and remarks for Bob's family, please visit [www.RogersFunerals.com](http://www.RogersFunerals.com)



May 11, 2020 - Four more positive cases were identified for the San Luis Valley through testing and contact investigation. Costilla and Saguache Counties each added one more to their count, and Alamosa identified two new cases for a total of 63 for our region. Of those positive San Luis Valley cases, 13 have been hospitalized and 21 have completed isolation.

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Loan Officer



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[slvfed.com](http://slvfed.com)

# Saguache Public Health issues COVID-19 report to BoCC

**SAGUACHE** — During the Saguache County Commissioners regular meeting May 5, Saguache Public Health Director Lynette Grant gave the following report on the status of the county's response to the COVID-19 virus crisis. The report is taken by draft meeting minutes recorded by Saguache County Clerk's office staffer Dominique White.

Grant stated they have received a letter from the Colorado Health Foundation stating they are giving the county \$37,500 to be used for COVID-19 Response. She noted there were no new cases in the county as of May 1, but Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) statistics show reported cases in the county have increased from three to five as of May 12.

Saguache County is following county orders and helping businesses with their soft reopening. Grant is working with Mountain Valley Schools for their graduation ceremony May 16. All other schools in the county are holding off for now.

Grant has concerns about the county's consideration of requesting a variance from Gov. Jared Polis on the Safer at Home guidelines. She can only handle possibly two positives

at one time; Grant doesn't want to commit to something she can't handle. Commissioner Tim Lovato stated he would like to see some kind of variance to get some of the businesses opened up.

Commissioner Jason Anderson stated he is concerned for the county's businesses. People are adapting and private businesses are finding ways to put in safeguards. That kind of adaption can be used to help us keep businesses afloat.

Sand Dunes Recreation owner Donnie Bautista stated that he can feel the pain in everyone's voice, it is a ridiculously trying time and it's hard to make decisions. "COVID is never going away, but there has to be an opportunity where we can operate safely," he said. "Look at the small businesses that are the heart of this valley, you have entrusted us to put our best foot forward to benefit our customers and staff.

"Give us a chance to show you we can operate safely," Bautista continued. "This business has been there for 25 years and I have about one month left and 60 employees that have been laid off, I'm getting scared as a business owner of losing everything I have."

Crestone Eagle reporter Sandia Belgrave stated the problem is people are still not wearing masks and that is going to spread the virus. Commissioner Jason Anderson commented that if the county were to seek some kind of variance, public health has to be on board

100 percent. Grant stated she will consider a variance; she would like to revisit it in two weeks. The board agreed to schedule a work session to talk about it.

Commissioner Jason Anderson reported that he attended a Zoom meeting (the weekly DOLA check-in

meeting with the state epidemiologist) who seems to feel the State must be very cautious about re-opening. The concern is that reported case numbers will bounce back up. During the meeting they also spoke about the chances of there being a spike in case numbers again in the fall.

## Recognizing the Northern Saguache County Ambulance District for National EMS Week:

*Some names were left out of the list in SLV Lifestyles.*

- David Hammel - EMT-Intermediate
- Julia Hammel - EMT-Intermediate
- Tricia Watson - EMT-Intermediate
- Ashliegh Taylor - EMT-Intermediate
- David Frees - EMT
- George Frees - EMT
- Trevor Ward - EMT
- Brandon Garcia - EMT

- Mackenzie Hammel - EMT
- Colten Murphy - EMT
- Clifton Simpson - EMT
- Lisa Hammel - EMT
- Rebecca Pacheco - EMT
- Kendal Adolph - EMR
- Alyssa Hammel - EMR

## SAGUACHE SHERIFF REPORT

*The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the week of May 4-11, 2020*

### Arrests

- Keli Wals, 29, Crestone, fugitive of justice
- Francisco Villa-Lopez, 40, Center, fugitive of justice
- Joshua Martinez, first-degree criminal trespass, second-degree

- assault, violation of bail bond conditions
- Citations**
- Sebastian Juarez, 21, Center, DUI per se, drove a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, displayed fictitious license plates, no valid driver's license

## CARE

**Continued from Page 1A** — not needed to assist with medical care, will be asked to remain outside of the medical center.

**Social Distancing:** Physical distancing measures are in place in common areas like waiting areas, the canteen and retail stores. All clinic staff, patients, and visitors will adhere to social distancing guidelines.

**Virtual Care:** VA continues to offer a variety of virtual care tools to support veterans when they need it. Visit [www.connectedcare.va.gov](http://www.connectedcare.va.gov) to learn about tools like My HealtheVet, VA Telehealth and VA Mobile.

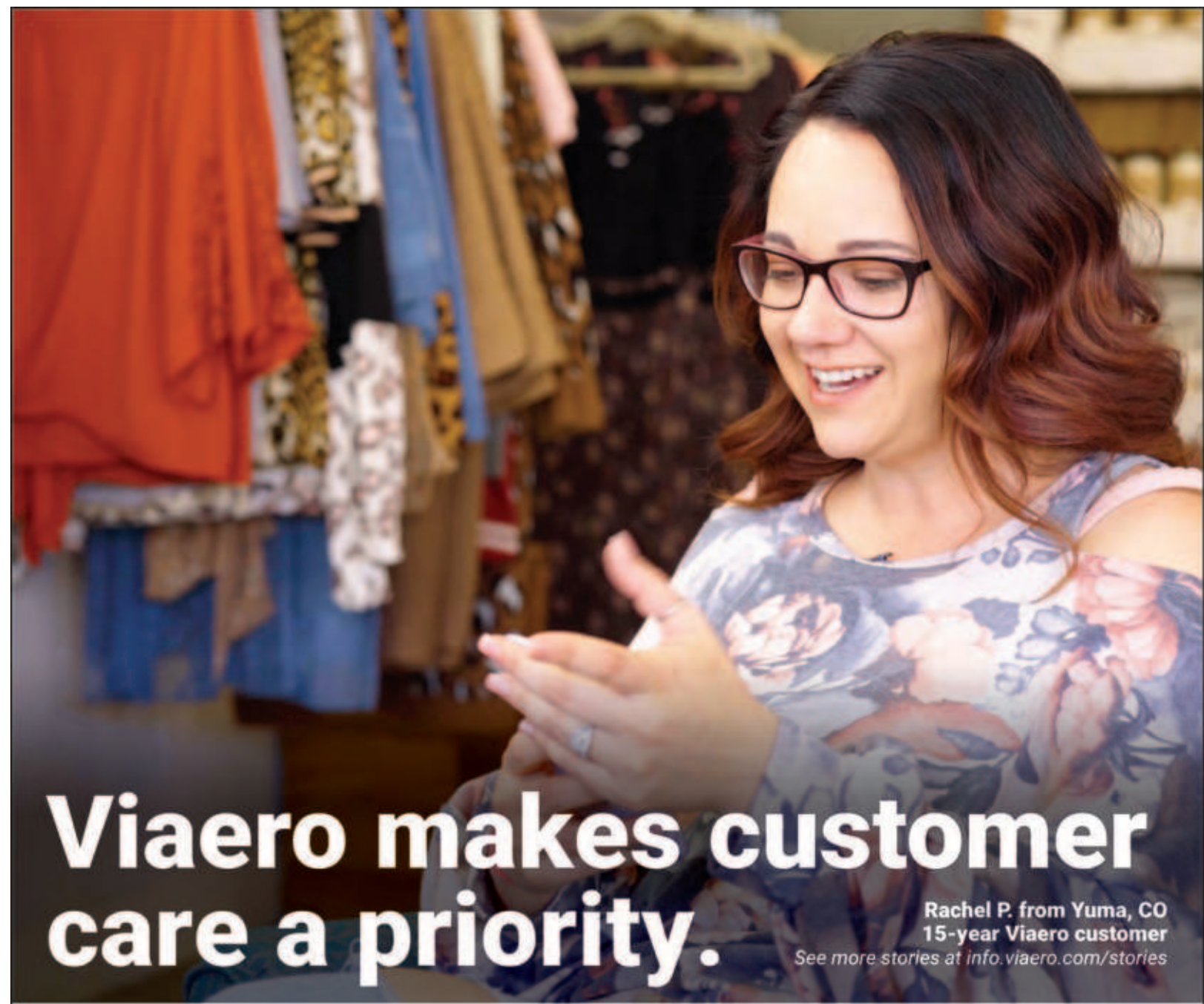
**Business Center:** The Business Center will continue face-to-face customer service only for new enrollments and new Veterans Health Identification Cards (VHIC) but will be closed for all other in-person customer services until further notice.

**Infection Prevention Precautions:** ECHCS thoroughly cleans and sanitizes all patient waiting rooms, exam rooms, and other care areas according to the CDC's recommendations. Remember the most important thing anyone can do to help prevent the spread of illness is frequent handwashing for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use at least 60 percent alcohol-based hand cleaners.

**Call Us:** Those who are sick or have symptoms of respiratory illness (fever, cough, shortness of breath) or have been exposed to someone with symptoms, please call the Nurse Health line: 303-399-8020 or 888-336-8262 (press 2 and select the option that best meets your needs) before visiting ECHCS sites of care. Staff are available 24/7 for nurse advice and triage, health chat and more. Additionally, if anyone is experiencing a mental health crisis, the Veterans Crisis line is available anytime at 1-800-273-8255 (option 1) or call 911.

**Current Operating Status:** As the coronavirus situation evolves rapidly, please check for the most current operating status of the nearest VA ECHCS site of care at <https://www.denver.va.gov/emergency/index.asp>

Please know all veterans' health and well-being are very important to ECHCS and the staff here is committed to serving all veterans. Thank you for your service to our nation and please stay safe. We look forward to seeing you soon!



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Rachel P. from Yuma, CO  
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# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## Let's Go

Ol' Dutch has been doing a lot of thinking lately given the copious amount of time on his hands due to social distancing. As most of you know -- and as pointed out quite often by Miss Trixie -- too much mental exercise on my part can bring about conspiracy theories, errors in judgment, whacko ideas, failed projects and just good, old-fashioned arguments.

Miss Trixie and I are about to celebrate eight glorious years of habitability and oh boy! has she been blessed from living around me. Why she rolls her eyes at me every time I come up with such wisdom I will never know perhaps she is having allergy issues like Cooper.

I don't know about you other couples out there but getting one's significant other into the car to go somewhere at our house is a real threat to Ol' Dutch's sanctity and mental health.

Our trip to anywhere starts with Ol' Dutch sitting in the car waiting on Miss Trixie to double-check the burners on the stove, hot water heater, air conditioner, clean the kitchen, play a song on the piano, mop and wax the kitchen floor, text 219 people on her phone, wrap presents for the grandkids, take a third shower and clean the cupboards.

Yesterday was no exception. It all started with Miss Trixie, ever her effervescent self, asking me early on my plans for the day as she knew I was going to visit the grands at one point.

This was at the god awful time of 9 a.m. and before coffee. I know, right? So I mumbled something about after lunch and she said that helped her know what to how to plan her day and her wardrobe.

Now here is where men and women part thinking. Evidently women think about what they are going to wear long before the actual event where they are expected to show up. Men are just not built like that.

We generally think about that sometime after getting out of the shower, admiring our manly physique in the hall mirror and farting the tune to Yankee Doodle.

Ol' Dutch will open a drawer and whatever socks and undergarments are on top are the chosen pair. Then and only then do I begin to look for some pants.

The pant selection is usually whatever is handy and semi clean at least and what fits my waist for the week. A shirt can be anything hanging or folded as long as it's not plaid with camo. I have at least learned that much from Miss



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

Trixie and try to humor her in that regard by not going out in public like that. The things we do for those we love?

But it came as no surprise to me that four hours after our conversation about going to my son Bubs' house, she was not ready to go.

So there we were, Cooper and I in the car, the air conditioner running and Cooper wondering where in the world Miss Trixie had gone.

Even made two return trips back inside to get my phone and iced tea and with as gentle of a voice that could be expected in that situation, tried to encourage movement from my sweetie.

Eight years of being late to everything has not been unbearable, I guess, and that and politics are the only things we argue about and neither long enough to matter. Mainly because fishing and hunting are more important things to think about and my mind slips off our argument like a three-legged dog on an icy lake. Nirvana.

So for those of you with similar anxieties at home, here are some tips to surviving said experience for the long haul.

Learn to use your phone to peruse the world while you wait, learn an entire foreign language some morning, carve the statue David in the back seat, raise a family, pass from youth into old age or take that long-needed nap.

That nap will result in instant action on your partner's part and they will show up sooner rather than later ruining a good dream like soap in your iced tea glass. And that's another story for another time.

*Kevin Kirkpatrick and his Yorkie, Cooper, fish, hunt, ATV or hike daily. His email is Kevin@TroutRepublic.com. Additional news can be found at www.troutrepublic.com or on Twitter at TroutRepublic.*



## YOUR NIGHT SKY

### Regulus, the Little King

BY DARLENE DANKO

The bright star Regulus is in the constellation Leo the Lion, and is actually the brightest star in that region of the sky. In early spring it's in the east, now it's becoming high overhead, and by the beginning of summer it will be in the west. It's actually along the ecliptic where the Sun, moon and planets travel along.

When you look at Leo the Lion you will see a backward question mark with Regulus at its bottom. This makes up the head and front quarters of Leo, and is called "The Sickle." What makes Regulus so prominent is the fact that it's actually 4 stars that circle around each other. Only the main one is visible with unaided vision, and the others require a strong telescope to observe them.

This bright star is very conspicuous in the evening sky shortly after sunset. The star we see is Regulus "A". It's about 75 LY away, and is a bright blue white star. Its surface temperature averages about 21,970 degrees, and is much hotter than our Sun which is 9,941 degrees. It's about four times larger than our Sun, so it's huge! Its rapid rotation makes its equatorial region bulge, so it looks like an egg.

Regulus "B" is a cool orange dwarf that's only 0.8 times the mass of our Sun. It's half as bright with a temperature of 8,333 degrees. Its companion Regulus "C" is 1/3 the mass of our Sun, and is a red dwarf. The 4<sup>th</sup> star is thought to be a closely orbiting white



dwarf. It hasn't really been explored. So when you look at the evening sky, check out Leo the Lion the King of Beasts to observe Regulus.

Also in the evening when you see the bright planet Venus, you should be able to observe Mercury below it. Venus has been starting to drop down, as Mercury has been rising. By the end of this month, Mercury will be 8 degrees high. Just look in the NW to see them. Hopefully the mountains won't be in your way.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> they will meet with Mercury only 1 degree below Venus. Then Venus will start to drop down and be out of the night sky by the end of this month. Mercury is on the far side of the Sun, and is moving in the opposite direction of Venus. On June 4 it will reach its greatest elongation from the Sun. That's when it will be at greatest viewing. Obviously Venus is brighter at 4.4 degrees as opposed to Mercury at 0.6 magnitudes. But it will be fun to observe them together.



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# CENTER POST-DISPATCH

THE CENTER POST-DISPATCH (USPS 775-900) Published weekly (every Thursday) by Valley Publishing. (719) 852-3531 at 835 First Ave., Monte Vista, Colorado 81144-1423. Official newspaper of the Town of Center, and a legal newspaper in Saguache County.

Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144

Main office, Want ads and Subscriptions: (719) 852-3531  
Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, Colo., 81144

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144

Subscriptions: \$39 one year in San Luis Valley; \$49 elsewhere. Out of Valley First Class Mailing \$115.00 one year. Seniors receive 10 percent discount on in county subscriptions only. (719) 852-3531

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# Highlights from May 5 Saguache BoCC meeting

## PC to meet, schools receive 100 percent of SRS

**SAGUACHE** — The following highlights were taken from draft meeting minutes recorded by Saguache County Clerk's office staffer Dominique White for the regular May 5 Saguache County Commissioners meeting broadcast via ZOOM.

### Public Comment

Sand Dunes Recreation owner Donnie Bautista was wondering if there has been any consideration with opening the Hot Springs in Saguache County. Bautista stated they have submitted a plan to their health officials and they liked the plan and are ready to fire on all cylinders. He believes he can keep his public safe while opening up the hot springs.

Commissioner Jason Anderson stated all the counties in the valley had a meeting and it looks like each county is on their own. One thing that is concerning us is that up to this point the Governor and Health want to see is that we have adequate hospitals and testing. Saguache County will not have adequate hospital or testing. The Board agreed to discuss it today and see where they get with it.

Bautista stated he would love for the board to discuss it. They have been open for 25 years and have kept the public safe and is just asking for the opportunity to prove that they can continue to operate in a safe manner.

Lisa Cyriacks stated she received a notice that there is a response from Moffat on the area 420 and was wondering if the board was going to discuss that today. Ben Gibbons stated it's a response and it is in the courts jurisdiction to decide what they are going to do. We have no further action to take at the moment.

### Letters received

Father Donald P. Marlin, Dean of the Alamosa Deanery and Pastor of San Juan Catholic Church Communities sent an email asking Saguache County to consider making specific plans for houses of worship to open within the Valley.

### Road and Bridge

Road and Bridge Supervisor Randal Arredondo presented the paving schedule for 2020 and the IGA from the Town of Center. Arredondo stated they will put down roughly \$1 million in paving this year.

### Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Dan Warwick stated that they are behind. There have been a lot of burglaries in the county

with ATV's being taken. Warwick spoke with the Chief Justice for the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, to explain the following: some of this is happening because law enforcement is catching people and running them through the system, but then the courts are kicking them right back out on personal recognizance bonds.

Warwick said he is now going to hold them in jail, so his numbers will be going up.

Commissioner Tim Lovato stated he received a call from an individual about a lot of drug activity and their concern is there is not much coming from the sheriff's office. Warwick stated that drugs are the hardest thing to work because they are in their own group when dealing. "We do know that drugs are coming in and going out but for us to get enough information to get a search warrant is like pulling teeth," he told commissioners.

### Land Use

Interim Land Use Administrator Amber Wilson reported that the Planning Commission wishes to lift the moratorium on meetings. They have a plan to have three members in person hear one applicant at a time and one person for public comment on any applications they may want to comment on.

The other three members would appear by Zoom and any member of

the public could also join the meeting by Zoom. Rebie Hazard, Jeff Shook and Nick Huffman volunteered to appear by Zoom but any other Planning Commission members could join by Zoom if they felt more comfortable appearing in that manner.

Once it becomes public comment on an application, we would allow any person from the public to comment in person, one at a time. Once they have spoken their comment, they would leave and we would allow the next person to come in and speak, and also allow anyone from the public appearing on Zoom to make their comment.

Everyone would follow all of the COVID-19 guidelines that include staying 6 feet apart, wearing a mask, etc. That includes anyone appearing to make a comment that may be waiting outside. If the moratorium gets lifted, the Land Use office would notify all applicants and adjoining property owners from all applications that got previous certified letters for the March, April and May meetings.

The letter will let them know the meeting will take place May 28 at 1 p.m. A planning commission member will have the agenda and guidelines of what will take place during the meeting and if anything changes, information will be updated on the county webpage. Commissioners voted unanimously

to lift the moratorium.

### County Attorney

County Attorney Ben Gibbons announced there has been an answer filed by the Town of Moffat regarding the county's complaint about the Area 420/Potch LLC annexation and a decision is now up to the judge.

In the matter of a Land Use violation and penalty, Gibbons says he has drafted out what the penalty would be and asked what procedures the board would prefer for enforcing the violation. The board agreed to look it over during a work session.

### County Administrator

Saguache County Administrator Wendi Maez discussed with commissioners a possible decision concerning Title I funding division. The county received \$1,246,180.68 in Title I funds. Regarding the first 50 percent of the funds, \$623,090.34, \$311,545.17, will be divided to Saguache County schools and Saguache County Road and Bridge.

The school amount is divided to the schools by the number of students in the school. The remaining \$623,090.34 amount is the amount needed for decision. Randy Arredondo presented a proposal to the board. Commissioners voted 2-0 to award 100 percent of the funds to county schools, with Commissioner Tim Lovato abstaining.

## CLIPS FROM THE CLERK

### New design for drivers' licenses and ID Cards

**BY SAGUACHE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER TRISH GILBERT**  
**COLORADO** - The Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will roll out a design update for the credentials it currently issues in early May. The design update reorganizes the information, which allows for more space and a slightly larger font. All of the information on current Colorado driver's licenses, ID cards

and instruction permits except "Hair Color," "Weight" and "Previous Type" are on the new cards' frontside.

Previous Type, which was moved to the backside, referred to the credential holder's previous license type such as Adult, Minor, Temporary, etc... "Hair Color" and "Weight" were removed because they can change drastically during renewal cycles, which range from 3 to 5 years.

The design refresh is part of the DMV's continued efforts to better serve all Coloradans, especially first responders and retailers. The DMV hosted a focus group of law enforcement professionals from throughout the state in mid-2018, and this update is based on their feedback.

"We wanted to help those, such as law enforcement officers, be able to

better read our credentials in less-than-ideal environments like during a nighttime traffic stop or a retailer, who's checking a customer's age to ensure they are indeed old enough to buy that Colorado Lottery ticket or watch that R rated movie," DMV Senior Director Mike Dixon said. "It's our hope that this change will make their jobs protecting Coloradans and safeguarding our youth a little easier." In early May, first responders and retailers will start to see these new credentials and should be aware that these credentials are not fake. The DMV encourages stakeholders to use their current precautions when inspecting a Colorado-issued credential.

In addition to being easier to read, the design update will make it

harder for fraudsters to create fake credentials by forcing them to adjust the processes they use to create fake IDs. The DMV takes safeguarding Coloradans' personal information seriously; and this proactive measure combined with first responders' and stakeholders' diligence will help keep fraudsters on their heels.

Other than adjusting the layout and font size to make state-issued credentials easier to read, the overall design will remain largely the same.

Current cards will remain valid through their expiration date and fees for DMV-issued credentials will not change as a result of this design update.

Credentials issued under the Colorado Road and Community Safety Act (CO-RCSA) will still

contain a black box that states: "Not Valid For Federal Identification, Voting or Public Benefit Purposes."

Please visit [Colorado.gov/DMV](http://Colorado.gov/DMV) for more information.

The Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles offers 35 online services at [mydmv.Colorado.gov](http://mydmv.Colorado.gov). Renew your driver's license, renew your motor vehicle registration, get a driving record and more!



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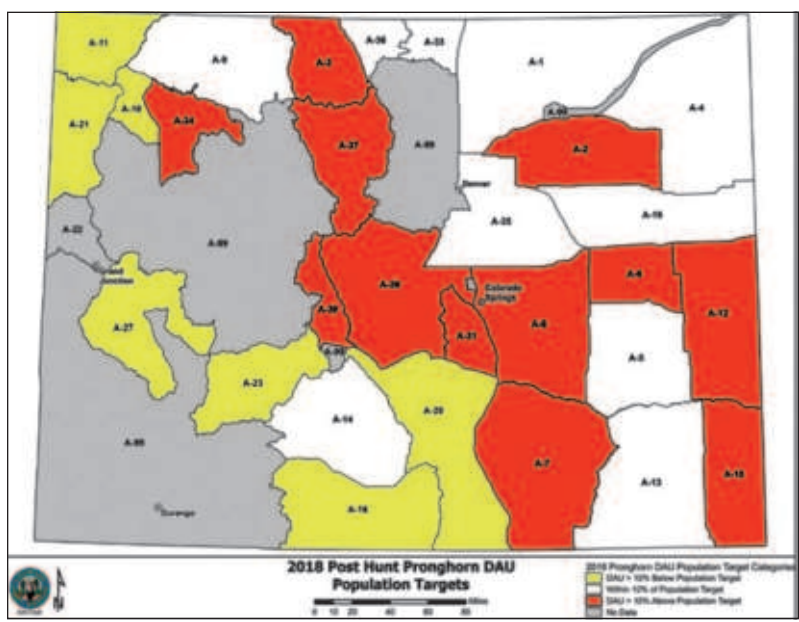
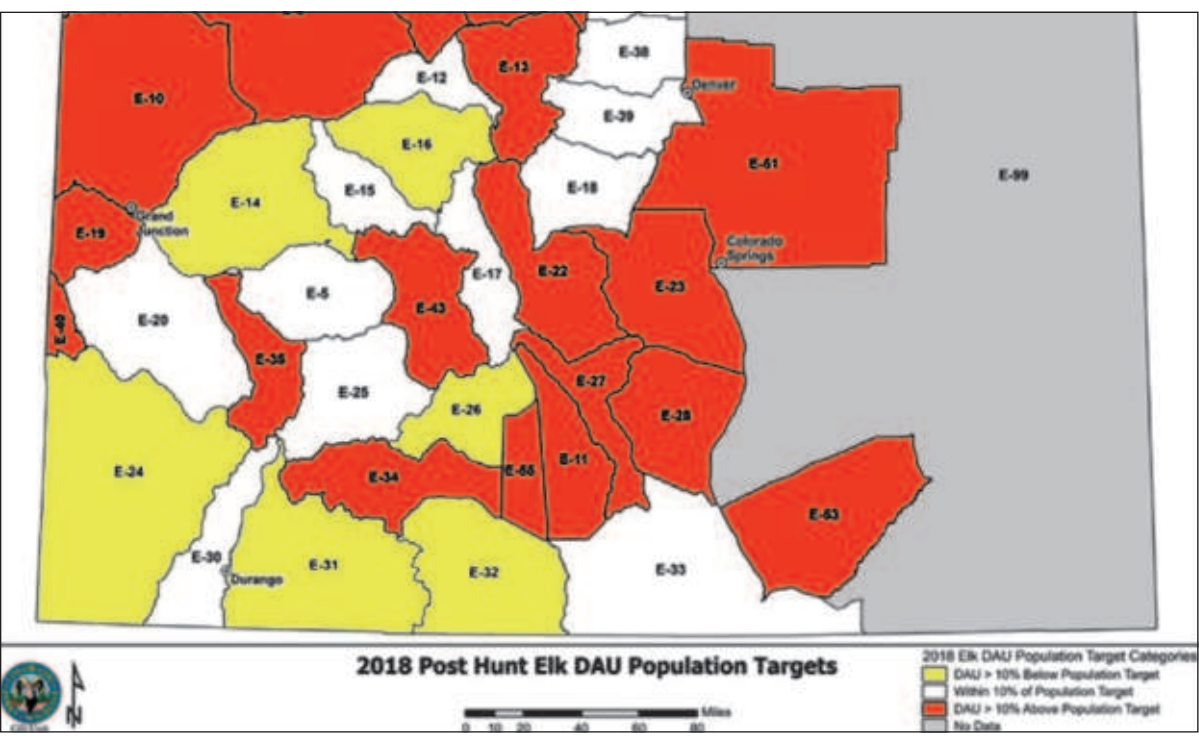
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In southern Colorado game management units (GMUs) 80, 81, 771, 78, 751, 77, and 75 have elk populations that are greater than 10 percent below population objectives.

# 2020 Big game population report

COMPILED BY TREY SPAULDING

In May, CPW released the 2020 Status Report: Big Game Winter Range Migration Corridors.

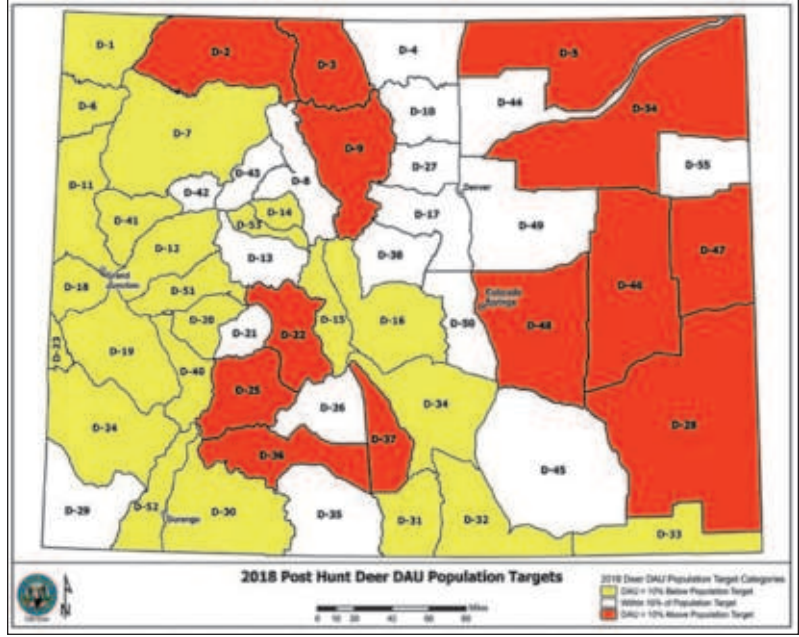
To manage big game populations, CPW uses a "management by objective" approach for each Data Analysis Unit (DAU). A DAU is the geographic area that represents the year-around range of a big game herd and delineates the seasonal ranges of a specific herd, while keeping interchange with adjacent herds to a minimum. A DAU includes the area where the majority of the animals in a herd complete their life cycle. Most DAUs are composed of multiple Game Management Units (GMUs), which are designed to distribute hunters within the DAU. In a few cases, only one GMU makes up a DAU.

population declined from roughly 600,000 deer to approximately 390,000 deer. Western Colorado has historically supported some of the largest mule deer herds in the state. The current statewide post-hunt deer population estimate is 433,000, which is well below the population objective range of 500,000-560,000 mule deer. In 2018, 23 of 54 (43%) deer herds are below their population objective ranges.

In the San Luis Valley GMUs 78, 80 81 and 83 are at objectives or greater than 10 percent below deer population objectives. While GMUs 76, 79, 791, 682 are greater than 10 percent above objectives.

### PRONGHORN

Colorado's statewide post-hunt pronghorn population objective range is 68,000 - 78,000, which is divided among 30 herds across the state. The 2018 statewide post-hunt pronghorn population estimate is 79,000, down from the record high of 86,000 in 2017. Thirteen of 29 (45%) pronghorn herds are above their population objective range. Approximately half of the state's pronghorn herds reside in the Southeast Region, where the greatest number of licenses are available. In the San Luis Valley pronghorn populations are greater than 10 percent below population objectives.



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### ELK

Colorado's statewide elk population, the largest in the United States, peaked in 2001 at 305,000 animals. The statewide 2018 post-hunt population objective range is 233,000-282,000. The 2018 post-hunt estimate was 287,000, up slightly from 282,000 in 2017. CPW utilizes season structure and hunter harvest, specifically antlerless harvest, to maintain or achieve population herd objectives. CPW has intentionally reduced elk populations to achieve population objectives. Reductions in antlerless licenses are anticipated as elk populations reach objectives or as population objectives increase.

Hunters and outfitters have increasingly expressed concerns that elk populations are becoming too low in some herds, despite the fact that 22 of 42 (52%) of the elk herds are above their current population objective ranges.

In Southern Colorado this is especially the case. CPW has gone to a limited draw only in 2020 for archery tags in Southwest Colorado and is also reducing the number of cow tags to archery hunters. In southern Colorado GMUs 80, 81, 771, 78, 751, 77, and 75 have elk populations that are greater than 10 percent below population objectives. In the San Luis Valley GMUs 76, 79, 791 which are draw only units, have elk populations that are greater than 10 percent above CPW population objectives. The Sangre de Cristo GMUs are at population objectives or greater than 10 percent above objectives.

### DEER

Between 2007 and 2013, Colorado's estimated statewide deer

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# BLM implements fire restrictions in five San Luis Valley counties

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** – Current and forecast weather, coupled with exceptionally dry conditions, have prompted the BLM’s San Luis Valley Field Office to implement fire restrictions on BLM-managed lands in five counties in southern Colorado. Stage 1 fire restrictions went into effect Tuesday, May 12, 2020, on all BLM lands in Alamosa, Rio Grande, Conejos, Costilla and Saguache counties.

“As fire danger continues to climb in the valley, these fire restrictions will reduce the chance of preventable fires on BLM-managed lands in these counties,” said San Luis Valley Field Office Manager Melissa Garcia.

Stage 1 Fire Restrictions prohibit the following acts:

Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire or campfire except within agency-provided fire grates at developed recreation sites. Devices using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel are permitted.

Smoking, except in an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least 3 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.

Operating a chain saw without a USDA or SAE approved spark arrester properly installed and working, a chemical fire extinguisher of not less than 8 ounces capacity by weight, and one round point shovel with an overall length of at least 36 inches.

Using a welder, either arc or gas, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame, except in cleared areas of at least 10 feet in diameter with a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher of not less than 8 ounces capacity.

Using exploding targets. These



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fire restrictions are in addition to the year-round wildfire prevention restrictions on BLM-administered public lands in Colorado. These prohibit:

Leaving a fire unattended or unextinguished.

Possession, discharge or use of any fireworks.

Discharge of a firearm using incendiary or tracer ammunition.

Burn, ignite or cause to burn any tire, wire, magnesium, or any other hazardous or explosive material.

Operate any off-road vehicle on public lands unless the vehicle is equipped with a properly installed

spark arrester pursuant to 43 CFR 8343.1(c).

For more information about fire restrictions in the San Luis Valley Field Office, please visit the Rocky Mountain District Fire Restrictions page or call the Field Office at

(719) 852-7074.

Fire restrictions will be in place until further notice. In addition to criminal penalties, those found responsible for starting wildfires may also face restitution costs of suppressing the fire.

## MISSING

Continued from Page 1A

of tracks which were less than a week old. The snow is too deep to drive up to the San Luis Peak trail head and probably will be for another couple of weeks depending on temperatures. Mineral County Search and Rescue will continue to search when there is less snow.”

Wetherill explained to commissioners that Silva had been seen in the area several times in the past year and that he had been in contact with Silva four or five times in 2019 when Silva was camping up East Willow in his vehicle with a female companion. Wetherill warned the two individuals that snow was beginning to get deep and that it was in their best interest to move. “They did move the vehicle after that contact was made, but later we saw footprints going up to the Equity and Allen’s Crossing, so that is where we will be looking.”

The poster states that Silva was headed to the Monte Vista area to meet a tour guide and was excited to go to San Luis Peak. At the time of the missing person’s poster, Silva was reported as a 38-year-old male with dark brown hair, brown eyes, weighed 185 lbs. and was five foot seven. Anyone with any information is encouraged to call the tip hotline at 254-717-8459.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**2020 Primary Election LAT**  
**(Logic & Accuracy Test)**  
**May 21, 2020**

Notice is hereby given that a public Logic and Accuracy Test of Saguache County’s voting equipment will take place on May 21, 2020, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Saguache County Courthouse Election Office, 501 4<sup>th</sup> St, Saguache. Information about the test may be obtained by calling County Clerk, Trish Gilbert, at (719) 655-2512.

No. 1560 published in the Center Post-Dispatch, Thursday, May 14, 2020.



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# CPW monitor mountain lion sightings in Del Norte

**DEL NORTE** – Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is actively monitoring recent mountain lion and bear activity within the town of Del Norte. There have been several mountain lion sightings near the river including an incident involving the attempted predation of a domestic cat. A bear has also shown up in town yesterday. The bear has been hitting trash dumpsters that were left outside unsecured.

These are not uncommon occurrences in western Colorado towns but are relatively new for the Del Norte community. CPW recommends keeping pets in at night. When letting them out, do not leave them unattended. We also recommend keeping trash dumpsters in a garage or shed and only roll them out on the morning of pickup. CPW has a wealth of information on our website for how to avoid conflicts with wildlife. For more information please visit [cpw.state.co.us](http://cpw.state.co.us). Let's all do our part to help keep our



wildlife wild and not habituate them to people! CPW has a range of options for how to deal with these situations ranging from providing advice to lethal removal. Individual efforts to curb

the habituation of these animals to the community will go a long way to prevent conflicts with these creatures while also keeping other bears and lions from coming to town.



## Rio Grande National Forest releases new Land Management Plan

**BY GREG GOODLAND, RGNEF MONTE VISTA** – The Rio Grande National Forest announced May 11 the release of its new Land Management Plan, which provides management guidance for the 1.8 million-acre national forest located in south central Colorado. The plan sets the framework for all management activities on the Forest for the next 10 to 15 years.

“The Land Management Plan empowers us to make land management decisions to improve forest conditions and provide clean air, water and forest products to the communities that rely on the Rio Grande National Forest,” said Forest Supervisor Dan Dallas. “I am pleased that years of dedicated collaboration on behalf of Forest staff, partners and interested parties have allowed us to reach this important milestone.”

In the first three years of implementation, the Land Management Plan will support nearly 1,600 jobs in the recreation, timber and grazing industries equaling \$50 million in labor income. The plan also promotes healthy watersheds that supply clean, abundant water to the San Luis Valley, which supports an agricultural industry worth more than \$500 million.

The plan prioritizes the use of active management to foster sustainable and productive use of the forest. Compared to the 1996 plan, this new plan is less prescriptive and emphasizes flexibility and commitments to working with the public. Management direction has been updated for all plant and wildlife species. The Land Management Plan also recommends 40,052 acres be added to the Sangre de Cristo Wilderness Area and three miles of river added to the eligible and suitable Wild, Scenic and Recreation river system.

The Rio Grande National Forest Land Management Plan, final record of decision, environmental impact statement and associated documents are available online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=46078>.



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## No evidence that sick pets can transmit coronavirus

As our knowledge of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and resulting Covid-19 disease evolves, the news and guidelines we must follow are changing as well. The dynamic nature of this situation may be difficult for some, who may find keeping up to date with current best practices and precautions to be a time-consuming endeavor.

Dr. Kate Creevy, an associate professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, says that while several news stories have recently detailed pet cats, dogs, and even zoo tigers testing positive for SARS-CoV-2, pet owners should be assured that these are rare and seem to be one-way occurrences.

"We have no evidence that sick pets can transmit coronavirus to otherwise healthy, uninfected owners," Creevy said.

Creevy said that most viruses prefer to infect one species above others; under our current understanding, SARS-CoV-2 prefers infecting humans and is less effective at infecting cats or dogs.

"The very most important way this virus spreads is from person to

person," she emphasizes.

Most dogs and cats that have tested positive for the virus in their bodies had known contact with infected humans. For some stray cats that have tested positive, it is not possible to determine what contact they may have had with infected people.

And although these animals tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, it is not clear whether the virus made them ill.

Given how common cat and dog ownership is and how uncommon detection of SARS-CoV-2 in these animals has been, Creevy says it is highly unlikely that dog or cat transmission of the virus will become a major factor in the pandemic.

Most importantly, Creevy said, "Researchers around the world are paying very close attention to whether or not pets can transmit the virus to humans, and have found no supporting evidence. This is an emerging virus, which means that we don't yet know everything about it. But we will continue to provide updates to the public any time our understanding changes."

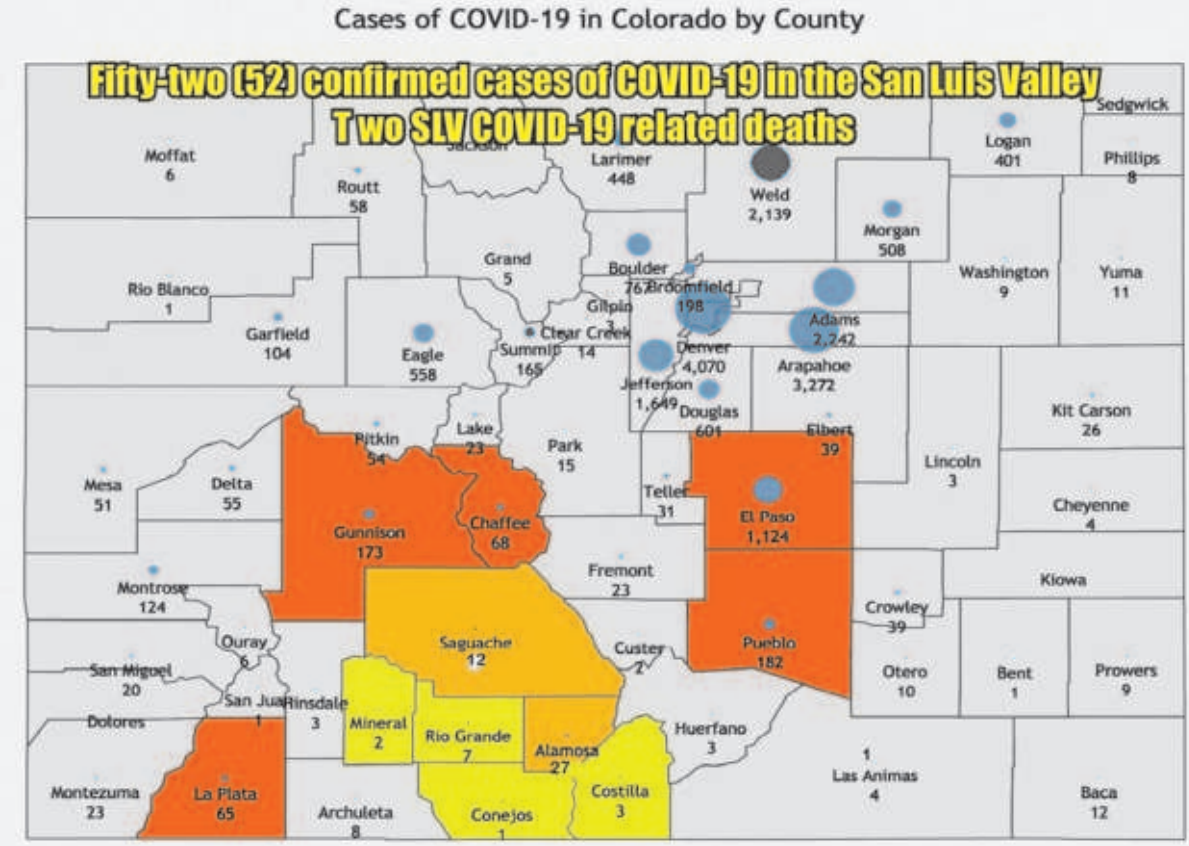
Pet owners should practice good

**Please see PETS on Page 10**

### COVID - 19 Colorado Case Summary

May 9, 2020

19,703 Cases	3,631 Hospitalized	60 Counties	104,077 People Tested	971 Deaths	190 Outbreaks
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## COVID-19 outbreak

By SLV PUBLIC HEALTH

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** - Alamosa County Public Health Department is investigating an outbreak of COVID-19 at the Colorado Mushroom Farm in Alamosa, CO. After receiving the results of testing conducted on May 3rd, the Public Health Department can confirm 11 additional positive cases. Case investigation is ongoing, and the affected individuals have been instructed to isolate at home. The Colorado Mushroom Farm continues to work with the Alamosa County Public Health Department to ensure the safety

of their employees and product. Due to the stringent cleaning methods observed at the facility, the Alamosa County Public Health Department has been advised that there is no danger in the product at this time.

The Alamosa County Public Health Department would like to remind the public that we are all susceptible to COVID-19, regardless of where we live and work. It is important that we continue to follow the guidelines of the Safer-At-Home order, to cover our nose and mouth with a fabric covering

when in public, to wash our hands frequently, and to practice effective social distancing by staying six feet away from other individuals when in the community.

For further information on COVID-19 see covid19.colorado.gov. For further information on the Safer-At-Home Order, see covid19.colorado.gov/safer-at-home.

**What is considered an outbreak?**

Colorado uses specific definitions and criteria when talking about outbreaks. **Please see OUTBREAK on Page 3**

## Behind those eyes

Behind those eyes there shines a light  
That's guided me from my first step  
Down life's highway through thick and thin  
So I could tell the wrong from right.

Behind those eyes there beats a heart  
That taught me love is what you feel  
And to be taken as it is  
And not something you take apart.

Behind those eyes there lives a soul

That speaks to me from deep within  
And warns me I must not despair  
Those things in life I can't control.

Behind those eyes there is a love  
That never lets me out of sight  
And stretches from my deepest flaw  
And reaches to the stars above.

Behind those eyes I see myself  
The hopes and dreams she had for me  
I see myself as I could be

Behind my mother's eyes.

*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*



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ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

# Mushroom farm confirms COVID-19 cases

Company moves quickly to address well-being of workers; follows food safety procedures

for Cleaning, Disinfection and Hygienic Protocols for the Food Industry.”

Farm management said the program was implemented March 17, immediately after it was approved by ACPHD and has been religiously following as prepared by the farm’s food safety team and approved by ACPHD.

Under the program, employees are required to wear appropriate face masks and gloves, and wash hands as often as practical. Lunch breaks are staggered to ensure employees meet a criteria of only 10 people in the cafeteria and maintaining a distance of 6 feet between one another. The employees have also been encouraged to take lunch breaks in their cars.

Other safety measures taken by the farm and workers include cleaning doorknobs, countertops and all surfaces that are routinely touched. Floors are washed and sanitized daily.

The company’s food safety team randomly checks employee temperatures and CPDHE guidance posters for Public Health Order 20-22 are posted across the facility to spread awareness of the do’s and don’ts to tackle COVID-19. “The food safety team has been making sure that the program is being enforced and guidelines for separation, assembly, cleaning surfaces and hand-washing are being followed,” according to the company’s statement.

COVID-19 is believed to be transmitted through person-to-person contact or by contact with surfaces contaminated with the virus. Wearing a face mask and practicing social distancing are considered best practices to prevent spread of the virus.

The management of Colorado Mushroom Farm assured there is no evidence of food or food packaging being associated with the transmission of COVID-19 and that all company employees are to be tested for the virus by the Alamosa County Public Health Department.

“The management is committed to take any action needed to ensure that the farm facility offers a hygienically safe environment to its employees,” according to the company’s statement.

**ALAMOSA** – The Colorado Mushroom Farm has confirmed that 11 of their employees tested positive for the COVID-19 virus.

In a statement, management at the mushroom farm said they learned of the positive test results May 6. “Colorado Mushroom Farm management was sad to find out that 11 of 100 farm employees were tested positive with corona virus. All of these employees belonged to a picking crew and worked together,” according to the statement. “We, at the mushroom farm feel the pain of these employees and their families. We pray for their speedy recovery.”

The company said it learned May 1 that the spouse of a picker, who worked at a different business, tested positive with COVID-19. The subject employee was instructed to go home and contact Alamosa County Public Health Department.

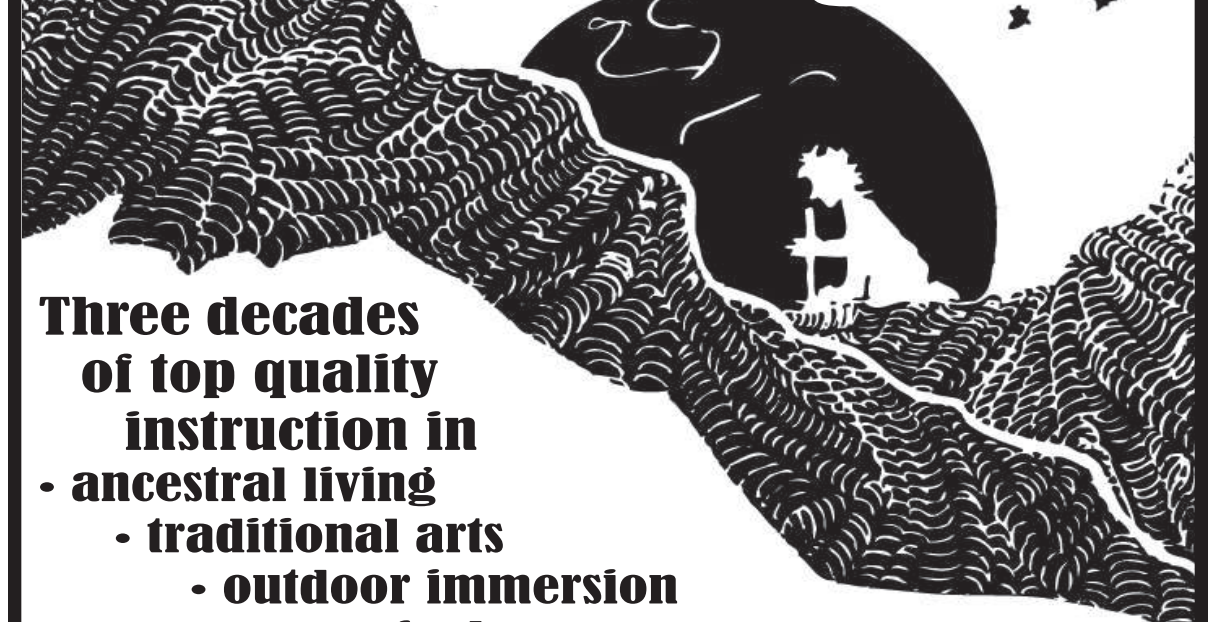
Management said it moved quickly, wasting time to work with the health department to schedule all of crew members for testing. Those crew members were advised to stay home until were tested.

“Safety and security of our employees is the top priority of the farm management. Since March 17, 2020, the farm has been proactive and taking preventive measures to keep COVID-19 out of the facility and providing a safe working environment for our employees,” the management of Colorado Mushrooms said.

According to the statement, the farm has followed a program developed in conjunction with Alamosa County Public Health Department (ACPHD) to keep the facility hygienically clean. The guidelines for the program came from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), the ACPHD and “COVID-19 Pandemic Procedures



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# YOUR NIGHT SKY

## Regulus, the Little King

BY DARLENE DANKO

The bright star Regulus is in the constellation Leo the Lion, and is actually the brightest star in that region of the sky. In early spring it's in the east, now it's becoming high overhead, and by the beginning of summer it will be in the west. It's actually along the ecliptic where the Sun, moon and planets travel along.

When you look at Leo the Lion you will see a backward question mark with Regulus at its bottom. This makes up the head and front quarters of Leo, and is called "The Sickle." What makes Regulus so prominent is the fact that it's actually 4 stars that circle around each other. Only the main one is visible

with unaided vision, and the others require a strong telescope to observe them.

This bright star is very conspicuous in the evening sky shortly after sunset. The star we see is Regulus "A". It's about 75 LY away, and is a bright blue white star. Its surface temperature averages about 21,970 degrees, and is much hotter than our Sun which is 9,941 degrees. It's about four times larger than our Sun, so it's huge! Its rapid rotation makes its equatorial region bulge, so it looks like an egg.

Regulus "B" is a cool orange dwarf that's only 0.8 times the mass of our Sun. It's half as bright with a temperature of 8,333 degrees. Its companion Regulus "C" is 1/3 the mass of our Sun, and is a red dwarf. The 4<sup>th</sup> star is thought to be a closely orbiting white dwarf. It hasn't really been explored. So when you look at the evening sky, check out Leo the Lion the King of

Beasts to observe Regulus.

Also in the evening when you see the bright planet Venus, you should be able to observe Mercury below it. Venus has been starting to drop down, as Mercury has been rising. By the end of this month, Mercury will be 8 degrees high. Just look in the NW to see them. Hopefully the mountains won't be in your way.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> they will meet with Mercury only 1 degree below Venus. Then Venus will start to drop down and be out of the night sky by the end of this month. Mercury is on the far side of the Sun, and is moving in the opposite direction of Venus. On June 4 it will reach its greatest elongation from the Sun. That's when it will be at greatest viewing. Obviously Venus is brighter at 4.4 degrees as opposed to Mercury at 0.6 magnitudes. But it will be fun to observe them together.



## OUTBREAK

Continued from Page 1

COVID-19 outbreaks. A confirmed outbreak is two or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in a facility or (non-household) group that began in a 14 day period. Most of Colorado's outbreaks in this pandemic are in health care facilities like nursing homes, which is why our local facilities are being so very cautious in order to protect their residents and employees. There are also outbreaks in jails, workplaces, and other settings.

represents a small portion of the reported cases across Colorado.

### Who can get COVID-19?

Because COVID-19 is a new virus, everyone, regardless of workplace, age, or other factors, is potentially vulnerable to infection. Anyone can get it, and anyone can spread it. Please continue to follow public health recommendations to prevent the spread of disease.

### Who is at highest risk for serious outcomes from COVID-19?

Individuals who are 65 years and older, those with chronic respiratory conditions, serious heart conditions, or diabetes, those who are immunocompromised, or who have been told by their doctors that they are at high risk are urged to stay in their residence at all times except as necessary to seek medical care. The Colorado COVID-19 Stay at Home web page has some specific guidance for employees who may fall into these categories, and for their employers.

### Why are restrictions being lifted while we continue to get

### new cases?

There is a lot of complicated decision making happening at all levels of government as officials balance the many needs in our communities. Our message continues to be this: Stay at home when you can, observe social distancing, wear a mask, wash your hands. Follow public health recommendations in order to keep yourself and others safe and healthy even as businesses transition into increasing operations. Be respectful and supportive of local businesses by following guidelines for safe interactions with employees and other customers.

### How are positive cases counted?

Cases are identified and counted in the San Luis Valley using the same definitions used across the state and the rest of the country. The number of cases includes people who have had a test that indicated they were positive for COVID-19. The number of cases also includes epidemiologically-linked cases -- or cases where public health epidemiologists have determined that infection is highly likely because a person showed symptoms and also had close contact with someone who tested positive. The number of epidemiologically-linked cases

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**Enjoy a quick and healthy lunch or dinner with our Chinese specialties**



**Vegetarian and Gluten Free Options Available**

**Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Closed Tuesdays**


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# What time is it?



- Is it time to be healthier, look better and feel more confident?
- Is it to time to change your life?
- If so, then it's time to see us, we can help!

**Don't let missing or failing teeth take away the quality of life you deserve.**



Do you want to improve your smile?  
Do you have a dental concern?

Our online consults haven't stopped! We are working hard to make sure your dental needs don't have to wait! Connect with us today and get all of your questions answered for free in three easy steps.

- Upload a smile photo or area of concern.
- We will create a personalized video with recommendations.
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Request a free personalized virtual consultation with Dr. Thornell in the privacy of your home to discuss your dental concerns and options today.

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Visit our website homepage at [PagosaDentalImplantCenter.com](http://PagosaDentalImplantCenter.com) to schedule your life changing consultation.

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**Rated 5 Stars**

*"This place is a great place to dine in South Fork! They have good food and great service! Thank you Mountain Pizza South Fork Team!" -Bethney C., Google*

**Thank You, South Fork!**  
**Offering curbside delivery for pick-up orders! We accept orders by phone and through our easy online ordering at [www.mountainpizzataproom.com](http://www.mountainpizzataproom.com)!**

*Law Enforcement, Firefighters, EMTs and our Veterans always receive 20% off!*

**30483 Highway 160, South Fork 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. DAILY**  
**EASY Online To-Go Orders: [MountainPizzaTapRoom.com](http://MountainPizzaTapRoom.com)**  
*Thank you for supporting our employees during this difficult time*

# Valley-Wide Classified **FREE!** MARKETPLACE

Sell your household items for FREE. Total value of items must be \$50 or less. See details below.



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## RATES

**15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications**  
**\$19.50 + 95¢ each additional word.**

**Garage Sale Ads: 15 Words or less for 1 week**  
**\$12 + 35¢ each additional word.**

**Free ads:** Lost & Found • Non Commercial items Sold for \$50 or less • Any Item or Animal being given away. (Limited to private party only, 2 ads per person, 4 weeks.)

### 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 [montevistaclass@gmail.com](mailto:montevistaclass@gmail.com)

### Check your ad the first day:

To ensure your ad is correct, check it the first day it appears in the paper. If there is an error in your ad, call us right away so we can correct it. If an error appears in your ad, Valley Publishing will credit you with one additional day of advertising.

**Our ad policy:** Valley Publishing accepts all classified advertising except that which it deems objectionable to its readers. Credit or replacement ads will not be given for early ad cancellation.

## DEADLINE

**Thursday 5:00 pm**

**Call 719-852-3531**  
**or email: [MonteVistaClass@gmail.com](mailto:MonteVistaClass@gmail.com)**

## Easy Payment Options

**We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover, Checks, Money Orders & Cash**



### 05 Notices

**WE BUY ANTLER: 5 miles west of Del Norte on HWY 160.** 719-657-0942 (6/3)TFN

### 07 Help Wanted

**Grande Meats seeks a FT/PT, Customer Service Associate Must have strong telephone skills, and knowledgeable in computers.** We use UPSWorldShip, QuickBooks and Microsoft programs. Bilingual is a plus. Will do invoicing, customer service, retail clerking, inventory control, and other duties. Must work weekends on rotating schedule 10-hour 4 day/week schedule. Salary commensurate with skills. Send detailed resume with compensation history to Personnel Dept, Box 10, Del Norte. CO 81132 (5/27)

**Rio Grande Savings & Loan is seeking a Mortgage and Consumer Loan Officer to join our team in the Monte Vista office.**

The Loan Officer is responsible for promotion of RGSLA products and services, including, but not limited to home purchase loans, home refinances, consumer loans, and home construction loans. Qualified candidates will have excellent written and verbal communication skills, superior customer service skills, and the ability to work independently, as well as cooperatively in a team environment. Prior lending experience or other applicable experience is preferred, but not required. Salary commensurate with experience. RGSLA also offers a rich benefit program including a 401k match and a family health insurance plan, along with a stable and enriching work environment. For additional information please contact Denise Heersink @ 719-

852-7048 or [deniseh@rgsla.com](mailto:deniseh@rgsla.com). Applications available at [www.rgsla.com/contact](http://www.rgsla.com/contact) and can be submitted to [kater@rgsla.com](mailto:kater@rgsla.com) - deadline is May 9, 2020 (5/7)

### Correspondence Education Program Academic Advisor

The Adams State Correspondence Education Program is seeking a full-time academic advisor/recruiter position. Primary responsibility to recruit and advise incarcerated students in two-year associate, four-year baccalaureate degree programs and the Correspondence MBA programs. This individual will work directly with incarcerated students for a significant portion of the job. Please send all application materials to [jbullington@adams.edu](mailto:jbullington@adams.edu) and for more information or to apply please visit our website at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1U8jLlcm1fBtd2dvvwFzG\\_IdI0jrCH\\_U/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1U8jLlcm1fBtd2dvvwFzG_IdI0jrCH_U/view) (5/6)

**Seeking transport and route drivers: Need CDL Class A or B with HAZMAT and Tanker endorsement.** Clean MVR, must be 21+, call (719)754-2221 for application (05/20)

**Full-time Registered Nurse (RN) – (36 hours guaranteed) Seeking motivated, energetic and customer service focused individual.** Apply at 310 County Road 14, Del Norte, CO 81132 or online at [www.riograndehospital.org](http://www.riograndehospital.org). (5/20)

**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](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co) or contact Amy at 719-657-4030.

Applications can be retrieved online at: [dncsd.org\(05/13\)](http://dncsd.org(05/13))

**Grande Meats seeks FT shipping clerk. Computer and telephone skills a plus, bilingual a plus.** Packing UPS boxes, customer service, retail clerking, inventory control, light ranch chores, etc. Must work a 10-hour 4 day/week flexible schedule. Wages commensurate with skills. Send detailed resume with wage history and skills to: Box 10, Del Norte. CO 81132c(6/3)

### 10 Apartments for Rent

**\$100 1<sup>st</sup> Month Discount! Cozy One Bedroom on Dennis Street Monte Vista \$550/Month \$550 Deposit.** 1-Bedroom Near Cole Park Alamosa, Partially Furnished \$575.00/Month \$575.00 Deposit. NO PETS 719-580-5400.(5/20)

**Del Norte furnished one bedroom/one bath.** Very nice, adults only, non-smokers, no pets. Utilities and dish included. \$650/month, \$650 deposit. (719)850-2738.(05/20)

### 17 Real Estate For Sale

**3 Bedroom 1 Bath, recent remodel,** 5 acres, Well, shed/garage/workshop. Motivated Seller \$117,500 (719)992-4025. (6/3)

**15,500 Square Ft 4-bedroom, 2-full-bath Large Deck with 8ft Walls. Twin Peaks Back Yard. Matching Barn 3-acres 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 (6/3)

# Advertising That Works Hard for You

If your business can benefit from targeted exposure to a local audience of professionals and entrepreneurs, call today, and see what makes us a great fit for your advertising needs!



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Colorado Statewide Classified Advertising Network

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

### COLORADO PRESS ASSOCIATION NETWORK

#### Cash for Mineral Rights

Free, no-risk, cash offer. Contact us with the details:

Call: 720-988-5617

Write: Minerals, PO BOX 3668, Littleton, CO 80161

Email: [opportunity@ccmresourcesinc.com](mailto:opportunity@ccmresourcesinc.com)

Buy a 25-word statewide classified line ad in newspapers across the state of Colorado for just \$300 per week. Ask about our frequency discounts!

Contact this newspaper or call Colorado Press Association Network

303-571-5117

# Valley Wide Classifieds

**Saguache County; Ranch; 88.25 acres in two parcels, fenced and cross fenced. 3 artesian adjudicated wells. 1,624 sq. ft. modular, hot tub room, 600 sq. ft. attached carport. New insulated shop with concrete floor. Heated hobby building and study building. New tractor shed. Two sets of corrals. \$595,000. (719)256-4789 evenings (05/20)**

**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. (05/20)**

**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 (05/06)**

**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 (05/06)**

**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. (05/06)**

**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. (05/20 TFN)**

**Saguache County; Ranch; 88.25 acres in two parcels, fenced and cross fenced. 3 artesian adjudicated wells. 1,624 sq. ft. modular, hot tub room, 600 sq. ft. attached carport. New insulated shop with concrete floor. Heated hobby building and study building. New tractor shed. Two sets of corrals. \$595,000. (719)256-4789 evenings (05/20)**

**19 Farm & Farmland**  
**Farm for lease 320 acres with pivots, 3500 GPM wells, 37.5 Shares of Rio Grande Canal and ready to plant for this season. Call Bruce at 719-580-0770. (5/20)**

**23 Lawn and Garden**  
**Sprinkler repair. Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (05/31 TFN)**

**24 Garage Sales**  
**Moving Sale May 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. 9-5 Fort Garland Trinchera Ranch 3616 Schieffelin Road. Power Tools,**

**DISCLAIMER**  
 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.

Cement Mixer, Scaffolds, Hand tools, house hold goods, deep fryer, Revere Pans. Juicer, dishes, antiques, collectibles, craft supplies, Rugs much more. (5-13)

**36 Miscellaneous**  
**Wanted: Metal Staircase 20ft or longer and Polycarbonate Greenhouse Panels Call 719-937-7935. (6-3)**

**Propane Refrigerators and Ranges Sold Here. Call For Options and Prices. We Also Stock Solar Powered Refrigerators and Freezers. Bontrager's Variety Store, 9726 S. County Road 3E, Monte Vista. (719)852-0500 (06/17)**

**Sub District #1 recharge credits for sale. Call 719-850-9269 (05/20)**

**Electronic Fence Battery Energizer, Polywire 250 Feet Poles, Voltage Tester, 12 Volt Marina Battery \$82.00 Call 849-1722. (05/13)**

**Spring Solar Sale! 240-Watt Panels Only \$210.00 Each. Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-2500 (06/17)**

**Prairie Dog Mitigation San Luis Valley, Western CO, Northern CO. Call for rates. 970-497-9919 (5/20)**

**For Sale: 2, 300 Gallon Fuel Tanks on Steel Stands, \$300.00 each. 719-274-5107. (5/13)**

**6,000 gallons of Middlemist water for sale. Dividend goes with the sale. 719-580-2915. (5/13)**

**Sun-Mar XLNE compost toilet, like new condition, \$1,200. Iron Master IM 400 self-spotting gym plus many attachments, \$1,200. (719)580-1123 (05/13)**

**STEEL STORAGE CONTAINERS - Sales, Rentals & Modifications! Containers are water & rodent proof. 8' wide, 8'-53' in length. Call for more information and pricing. Healdworks, Inc. - Your Total Storage Solution! 719-850-0346 (05/27 TFN)**

**SOLAR PANELS! 240 WATT AND SMALLER. We Stock Inverters, Charge Controllers and Batteries in Brand Names of Out-**

back, Magnum, Rolls, More. We Also Carry Cable and PV Wire. Thank you for Buying at Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500. (TFN) (05/20)

**FREE! Sectional couch and recliner. Great for college students or cabin. Must pick up in Monte Vista. 719-849-0483.**

**39 Sporting Goods**  
**Packing and Outfitting Guide business with 4 permits: Miners Creek in Creede, La Garita Mountains, Pinos Creek and San Francisco Creek in Rio Grande County with all inventory. Very Profitable business. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-873-1700 (5/13)**

**Cannondale Mountain Bike - Cannondale Rush 29 1 Mountain Bike. Like new. Black, ridden less than 50 miles. 23" large frame. \$1,125. 208-309-2122 (TFN)**

**42 Feed & Seed**  
**Monida Oats \$15 per hundred, cleaned, from certified seed. (719)580-2509 (05/27)**

**WANTED TO BUY hay or mixed hay, most any size bale. Call 719-**

539-4313 or 719-239-1391. Pinon Ranch. (05/06)

**Premium alfalfa and alfalfa/grass, small bales, in shed \$7 (719)580-2509. (05/27)**

**Meadow Hay Sprayed Small Bales in Hay Shades \$7.00 for 100 or less \$5.00 for 100 or More Phone 828-319-9632. (5/13)**

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

**47 Horses & Cattle**  
**WANTED: Feeder STEERS, approx. 700lbs. Must be: ANGUS/ANGUSX only, grass-fed, no implants, vaccinations ok. Will meet or beat market price. Will pickup and give good home. SLV 928-814-8241. (5/20)**

**53 Trailers**  
**PJ Trailer 6'x12' 7000# Axles 4'Sides Dump 719-580-2696. Good Condition. (6-3)**

**59 Vehicles Wanted**  
**CASH ON THE SPOT FOR JUNK CARS & TRUCKS: We pickup, no title ok. 719-937-7935. (TFN5-20)**

**64 Autos for Sale**  
**1999 Lincoln Town Car: Very Nice, 112,500 miles, Blue Book \$3,500, asking \$2,700. New tires, clean inside and outside. (303)902-9464 Text or Voicemail (06/03)**

**65 Professional Services**  
**Roofs (Metal, EPDM, TPO), Stucco, Flooring, Tile, Decks, New Construction & Remodels. Free Estimates. Reliable Carpentry, 45 years of Experience 719-496-7630 Drug and Alcohol Free (5/27)**

**Rocky Mtn High Enterprises In Creede, Over 35 Years of Painting Experience Interior and Exterior Satisfaction Guaranteed, References Available Call Herb At 719-588-1731. (5/20)**

**LICENSED PLUMBER** does all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodels at reasonable rate. Quick service. Call anytime, available weekends and evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (05/31 TFN)

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You'll find yourself with money in your pocket and room in your garage when you sell your stuff in the SLV Lifestyles Classifieds.

Advertise in our **SPECIAL GARAGE SALE SECTION** of SLV Lifestyles for **ONLY \$12** per week (15 words or less - 35¢ per word over 15)

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Great selection of garden spinners, stakes, ornamentals and signs!

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# San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

**Beautiful Home on 35 Acres SW of Monte Vista!**



4 bedroom • 3 bath • 2,492 sq. ft. • **\$385,000**  
 Recently-built spacious home ready for your family!  
 Enjoy 360 degree mountain views on an 1,800 sq. ft. deck  
 3-car garage and many more amenities!  
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**THE 40-ACRE NATIONAL HEMP EXCHANGE** property offers a turn-key, vertically integrated Hemp operation, strategically positioned in one of the premier hemp production zones of Colorado. The fully climmatized, automated, 17,000 sqft AgraTech greenhouse allows operators to take advantage of high desert valley sunlight (high UV exposure at 7,800 ft above sea level) year-round in a multitude of production capacities. Nation Hemp Exchange has found excellent market share in producing clonal hemp genetics (cuttings) for farmer and growers across the region, state, and nation. At half of the total capacity, the Deep Water Culture ponds hold 480,000 cuttings at one time allowing NHE to have completed orders ranging from one hundred to one-hundred-thousand units while allowing additional greenhouse space for mother plants and transplants. So much more to be said and seen with this great operation! Call today for more info or for a showing! \$4,995,000 Call Tracy Gosar, 850-1815 MLS #768374




**Legends Premier Properties**  
 Tracy Gosar Broker/Owner **810 First Ave. • Monte Vista**  
 719-850-1815 (cell) • 719-852-0450 [www.legendspremierproperties.com](http://www.legendspremierproperties.com)

**INCREDIBLE MOUNTAIN PROPERTY!** This one of a kind property is conveniently located about 10 min South of Del Norte. 10 acres of beautiful lush Colorado land, with a tranquil creek running through, making it your very own oasis. 3 different cabins on the property make it the perfect spot to entertain company. The main cabin is a 2147 sq ft with 2 bedrooms & 2 baths. The entire home was beautifully remodeled in 2016/2017 with a modern open floor plan. Grand cathedral ceiling, and a great stone fire place is the perfect accent to this inviting home. All new kitchen with dark cabinets, and complimentary colored light granite counter tops, and stainless steel appliances really make this kitchen lovely. Master suite with awesome master bath, big standing tile shower, and double vanity. Plenty of large windows bring in the wonderful views of outside. The other 2 additional cabins are very charming; one has full living quarters with kitchen and living room, the other is more bunkhouse style with 2 bedrooms & 1 - 3/4 bath. So much can be said of this incredible property, it really must be seen to be fully appreciated! \$649,900 Klay Gosar, 480-789-3159 MLS #766960



**Legends Premier Properties**  
 Klay Gosar, Broker **810 First Ave. • Monte Vista**  
 480-789-3159 (cell) • 719-852-0450 [www.legendspremierproperties.com](http://www.legendspremierproperties.com)

**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  
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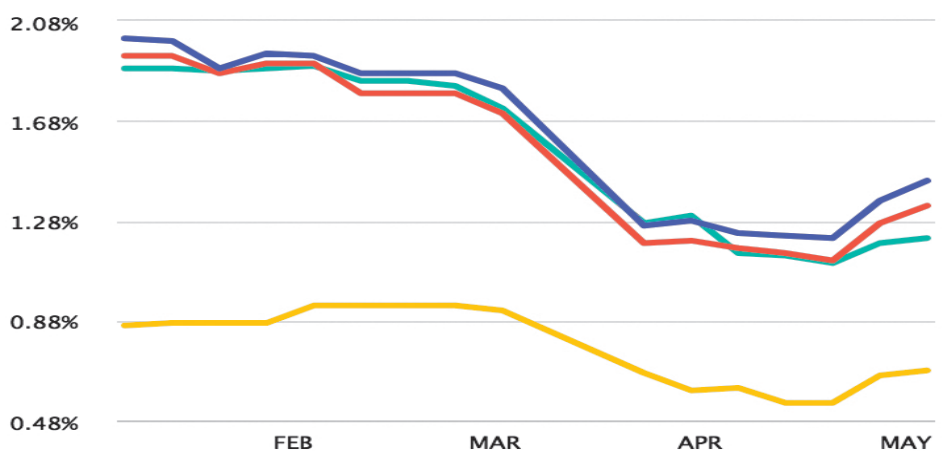
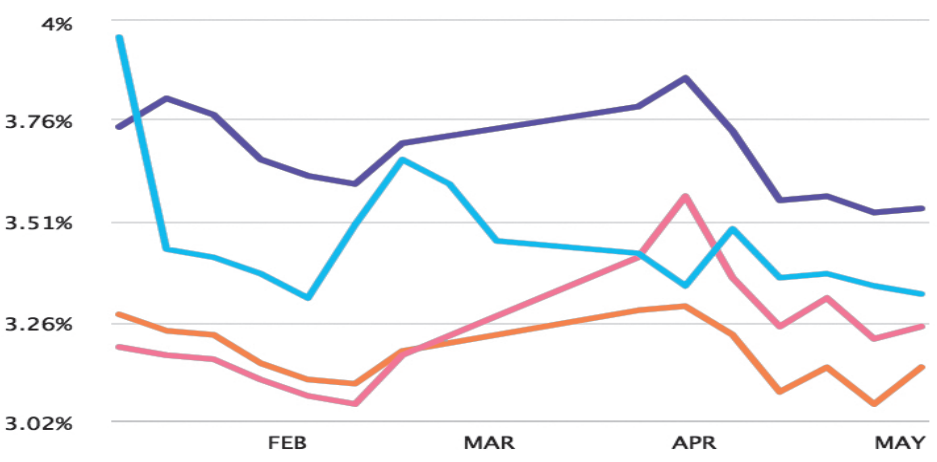


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# Honoring Our First Responders



**May 17 - 23  
2020**

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Mike Marical - Paramedic  
Kim Jordan - Paramedic  
Kyle Crawford - Paramedic  
Andrea Cherne - Paramedic  
Shannon Uran - Paramedic  
Latoya Ocana - Paramedic  
Mike Valdez - Paramedic  
Jocelyn Comstock - EMT-I  
Bob Cook - Paramedic  
Adam Daniels - Paramedic  
Nelson Vialpando - Paramedic  
Teyler Hurst - EMT-B  
Caitlyn Morgan - EMT-I  
Gary Stieduhar - EMT-I  
Reyna Martinez - EMT-IV  
Brent Place - CC Paramedic  
Darrick Garcia - Paramedic/RN

## Baca/Crestone

Jim Vanderpool - Fire Captain  
Harold Fowler - EMS Captain  
Francis Song - Paramedic  
Kevin Durate - Intermediate EMT  
Diante Method - EMT/  
Firefighter  
Regis Gilmartin - Firefighter/  
EMS Driver  
Christina Lakish - Firefighter/  
EMS Driver  
Mathew Crowley - Firefighter/  
EMS Driver  
TJ Davis - Firefighter/EMS  
Driver  
Ben Antoniewics-Firefighter/  
EMS Driver  
Corez Hinez - Firefighter/EMS  
Driver  
Travis Davis - Firefighter  
Cole Durban - Firefighter

## Center

Russell Brown - EMT/FF  
Tim Ruggles - EMT/FF  
John Anderson - FF  
Dale Barte - EMT/FF  
Ryan Koehn - EMT/FF  
Rylan Good - FF/ EMS student  
Aimee Blackmon - EMT/FF  
Chris Garcia - FF  
Ruben Rendon - FF  
Jason Ensz - FF  
Miguel Macias - FF  
Miguel Cendejas - EMS  
student  
Jeremiah Garcia - FF  
Delsa Chavez - FF  
Darwin Ensz - FF/ EMS student  
Tristan Hostetler - FF  
Ryan Holland - FF  
Trevor Paskett - FF  
Kenia Hostetler - EMT  
Vivian Schrock - EMS student  
Casey Boeckner - EMS student  
Tesa Maxwell - EMS student

Jaden Yost - EMS student  
Joe Villanueva - FF  
Sheila Paskett - EMT-I/FF  
Francis Song - Paramedic  
John Darlington - EMT-I

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Donna Nelson - Medical  
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Paramedic  
Sara Loggin - CC Paramedic  
Amanda Abeyta - Paramedic  
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Lauri Knowlton - EMT- Basic IV  
Victoria Sisneros - EMT-  
Intermediate  
Juan Palomarez - EMT- Basic  
IV  
Michael Abeyta - EMT- Basic IV  
Jackie Martinez - EMT-  
Intermediate  
Catherine Hall - EMT-Basic IV  
TJ Salazar - CFRN / EMT  
Steve Sorensen - EMT-Basic IV  
Stacey Kiesel - EMT-Basic IV  
Miranda Garel - EMT-Basic IV  
Wyanet Bresnitz - EMT-Basic  
IV  
Luke Jones - EMT-Basic IV  
Natalie Watters - EMT-Basic IV  
Vickie Darlington - CC  
Paramedic  
Debra King - Operations /  
Billing Office

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Stephanie Giebeig  
Natalie Gura  
Stacey Kiesel  
Jackie Martinez  
Sandi Martinez  
Beatrice Medina  
Dan Quintana  
Tommy Rodriguez  
Sherri Vigil

Tanya White  
Michael Abeyta  
Robert Clark  
Robert Espinoza  
Lee LeSueur  
Sara Loggin  
Maria Martinez-Lopez  
Reyna Martinez  
Maria Quezada  
Victoria Sisneros  
Francis Song  
Shannon Uran  
Nelson Vialpando  
Dr. Grant Hurley (Medical  
Director)

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(Director)  
Trish Archuleta EMT B IV (Asst.  
Director)  
Darren Black EMT B IV  
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Bobby Fresquez EMT B (Vice  
President)  
Becky Beecham EMT B IV  
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Lorrie Schofield EMT B IV  
Steven Sparks EMT B IV  
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Frank Archuleta EMR  
Aj Fresquez EMR  
Tammy Haynie EMT I  
Mathew Martinez EMR  
Patrick Martinez EMR  
Caitlyn Morgan EMT I  
Steve Eakin EMT  
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Carla Taylor  
Linda Owsley  
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Director)

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Jimmy Adelman, EMT-I  
Dana Brink, EMT-I  
Clarence Dube, EMT  
Mark Hebert, EMT-P

John Lawley, EMT  
Dwayne Lewis, EMT-I  
Daniel Madrid, EMT-I  
Andrew Marino, EMT  
Terry Morgan, EMT  
Betsey Strawn, EMT-P  
Elizabeth Steele, EMT  
J. Ely Walker, M.D.  
Amy Wetherill, EMT  
Terry Wetherill, EMT

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Gary Haverfield  
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Juan Palomarez  
Evan Lopez  
Merlinda Lopez  
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Steven Simpson  
Jon Montano  
Latoya O'cana  
Emily Esquibel  
Jim Lancaster  
Betsey Strawn  
Caitlyn Morgan  
Molly Hart  
Natalie Curtis  
Kendra Sears

## Northern Saguache County

David Hammel EMT-  
INTERMEDIATE  
Julia Hammel EMT-  
INTERMEDIATE  
Lisa Hammel EMT  
Trevor Ward EMT  
Brandon Garcia EMT  
Rebecca Pachco EMT  
Clifton Simpson EMT

## EMS Medical Directors

Dr. Grant Hurley  
Dr. Pat Thompson  
Dr. J Ely Walker  
Dr. Donna Nelson  
Dr. Jackie Gadbois

David Frees EMT  
George Frees EMT  
Trish Watson EMT-  
INTERMEDIATE  
Ashely Taylor EMT-  
INTERMEDIATE  
Kendal Adolf FIRST  
RESPONDER  
Alyssa Hammel FIRST  
RESPONDER  
Bill Johnson FIRST  
RESPONDER

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Tyler Off - Chief  
Tyler Schmidt - Captain  
Michael Filippi - Lieutenant  
Tyler Hathorn - Lieutenant  
Brittany Off  
Lucas Slade  
Tyrell Harris  
Steve Eakin  
Andy Dickey  
Shannon Goldsberry  
Nate Goldsberry  
Woody Wilson  
Melanie Dickey  
Jim Patterson  
Courtney Arthur  
Linette Schmidt  
Jed Pilant  
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# Mental health at all stages of life

BY RYAN LAVERDIERE AND AZAREL MADRIGAL-CHASE

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** - Each year millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental illness. May is Mental Health Awareness Month and every year the goal is to fight stigma, provide support, educate the public, and support people with mental illness and their families. The San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group (SLVBHG) has served the SLV for 50 years we are committed to providing access to quality behavioral health services that enrich lives and promote wellness. We are driven by a profound respect for human dignity and a desire to serve the underrepresented, the disenfranchised, and those who experience behavioral distress.

Mental Health Awareness Month was started in the United States in 1949 by the Mental Health America organization (then known as the National Association for Mental Health). Its purpose is to raise awareness and educate the public about mental illnesses, such as depression, schizophrenia, substance abuse disorder and bipolar disorder; the realities of living with these conditions; and strategies for attaining mental health and wellness. It also aims to draw attention to suicide, which can be precipitated by some mental illnesses. "Mental Health is important, we don't expect a tractor to run if the engine isn't being taken care of. A stress reaction is the mind and bodies reaction to unusual demands. Life's demands can create challenges for everyone at every stage of their life. We at SLVBHG care about the community. We recognize the Valley is resilient and in it tough times we are here for you." Fernando A. Martinez, CEO.

Caring for one's mental health and emotional well-being are often overlooked aspects of aging. Older adults may sometimes expect to deal with physical pain and loneliness as they age. However, just as pain is not

a normal part of getting old, neither is depression. According to the World Health Organization, 15 percent of adults aged 60 and over suffer from a mental disorder. Yet, older adults continue to make important contributions to society as family members, volunteers, and within the workforce.

People experience mental health problems due to a variety of reasons including daily stressors and changes that occur throughout life. As people age, they may continue to experience changes including loss of purpose due to retirement, reduced mobility, loss of friends and family, and ongoing physical health concerns. These stressors may increase loneliness, depression, anxiety, substance use and decrease independence.

There are several actions one can take to care for their mental well-being throughout life and into the future. It is important to prepare for change. This can include adjusting one's sense of purpose as situations change and remaining engaged in communities and families. Being a caretaker for others and keeping in touch with friends and family can help achieve this.

Balanced eating and drinking helps ensure that our bodies keep working properly and can also be a social experience to share with friends and family. Just as your body changes throughout life, your appetite also changes. Many find it difficult to continue cooking if they are alone in the house or face physical limitations. Reaching out to community resources can help with this or accepting invitations from friends and family to eat together can promote health.

Finding ways to remain physically and mentally active and sleeping well can help raise your self-esteem and self-worth while also boosting your mood. This includes going for a walk, light stretches, or playing with children. Engaging in enjoyable activities such as completing puzzles, reading, or even learning something



new can be helpful. It is valuable to find different activities, but it is also important to know when to relax and take a break and allow yourself to do so.

It is always important to talk to others if you are experiencing problems in your life-including

emotional stress and to ask for help when needed. This will help promote wellness at every stage of life.

SLVBHG will be sharing resources on social media and in local newspaper and radio throughout the month of May. Follow us on facebook.com/slvbhg and on Instagram @slvbhg.

If you are experiencing a crisis, please call 719-589.3671 or call the crisis hotline 1 (844) 493-TALK (8255). For after business hours assistance, please call 911 or the crisis hotline 1 (844) 493-TALK (8255) or text TALK to 38255 to receive mental health crisis support.

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### SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

#### Fun By The Numbers

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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

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



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# Runoff, snowpack, wildfire mitigation

By TREY SPAULDING

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** - Few realize that the spring snow runoff levels are actually influenced by precipitation received the previous fall. Even before the first snowflakes fall, the amount of moisture that accumulates in the soil early in winter, before the snowpack develops, will affect runoff the following spring. In the fall of 2019 the San Luis Valley received less than normal precipitation. The NRCS National Water and Climate Center predicted this spring that initial runoff would be lower as the parched land would absorb the initial runoff due to a lack of precipitation in the fall of 2019.

Initially this spring the snowpack level was 102 percent of normal. The San Luis Valley has been experiencing unseasonably warmer temperatures and a lack of any significant precipitation. As of Wednesday, May 6, the Upper Rio Grande Snowpack level is alarmingly at 35 percent of normal and the Rio Grande streamflow is 52 percent above normal. On Monday, May 4, the streamflow was 70 percent above normal with a 41 percent snowpack level. The affect that this will have on irrigation in the Valley in the upcoming months is obvious.

In May 2002 I was working as general manager of the Ballantine newspapers in Durango, Colorado. We were experiencing a similar climatic situation that is present today in the San Luis Valley. The first week of May 2002, I published the first Fire Mitigation special section by a newspaper organization. On June 2, 2002, the Missionary Ridge Fire ignited, and before it was over, nearly 40 homes were lost and over 71,172 acres were burned.

Governor Jared Polis signed a proclamation declaring May as Wildfire Awareness Month. On May 6, area BLM managed properties and the counties of Alamosa, Conejos and Saguache had some level of fire restrictions in place. During this time of "safer at home" it would be a good opportunity for you to prepare your property using wildfire mitigation.

Also, you may want to review your insurance coverage of your home and buildings. Many think that if they have home "fire" insurance that they are also covered if there is a wildfire but this is often not the case. You should contact your insurance agency and see if you need to take out additional coverage for a wildfire. Once a wildfire breaks out

in your area, insurance companies will not issue wildfire policies for your home.

To mitigate your home the Colorado State Forest Service recommends the following wildfire preparation activities:

- Defensible space is the area around a home or other structure that has been modified to reduce fire hazard. In this area, natural and man-made fuels are treated, cleared or reduced to slow the spread of wildfire. Creating defensible space also works in the reverse and reduces the chance of a structure fire spreading to neighboring homes or the surrounding forest. Defensible space gives your home a fighting chance against an approaching wildfire.

- Ladder fuels are defined as smaller trees and brush that provide vertical continuity, which allows a fire to burn from the ground level up into the branches and crowns of larger trees. Lower branches on large trees also can act as ladder fuels. These fuels are potentially very hazardous but are easy to mitigate. The hazards from ladder fuels near homes are especially important to address. Prune all tree branches from ground level up to a height

of 10 feet above ground or up to 1/3 the height of the tree, whichever is less. Do not prune further up because it could jeopardize the health of the tree. Shrubs should be pruned based on specifications recommended for the species. Dead branches should be removed whenever possible.

- Surface Fuels - Logs/Branches/Slash/Wood Chips Naturally occurring woody material on the ground and debris from cutting down trees (also known as slash) may increase the intensity of fires. Increased fire intensity makes a fire harder to control and increases the likelihood of surface fires transitioning to crown fires. Dispose of any heavy accumulation of logs, branches and slash by chipping, hauling to a disposal site or piling for burning later. Always contact your county sheriff's office or local fire department first for information about burning slash piles. Another alternative is to lop and scatter slash by cutting it into very small pieces and distributing it widely over the ground. If chipping logs and/or slash, it's essential to avoid creating continuous areas of wood chips on the ground. Break up the layer of wood chips by adding nonflammable material or allow for wide gaps (at least 3 feet) between chip accumulations. Also, avoid heavy accumulation of slash by spreading it closer to the ground

to speed decomposition. If desired, two or three small, widely spaced brush piles may be left for wildlife habitat. Locate these well away from your home.

- Rake and remove pine needles and dry leaves 5 feet from the home, as well as under decks, porches, sheds and play structures.
- Remove leaves and needles from roofs and gutters.
- Sweep porches and decks clear of any burnable plant material.
- Move firewood piles at least 30 feet from the house, preferably uphill.
- Transfer items under decks or porches to a storage area.
- Cover any exposed eave or attic vents with 1/8-inch metal mesh screening.
- Ensure home address signs are clearly visible from the street.
- Contact your local Office of Emergency Management to register for emergency notifications and encourage your friends, family and neighbors to do the same.
- Confirm at least one alternate path out of your neighborhood other than the one most commonly used and be prepared for potential evacuation requiring the alternative route.

Not only will you be preparing yourself, your home and your family for a potential fire, you'll be giving a leg up to firefighters who may be called to protect your home.

## Parks and Wildlife Commission approves 16 recreational trail grants, three in Southern Colorado

**COLORADO** - The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission unanimously approved recommended trail-funding allocations for the 2020 Non-Motorized Trail grants at its April 30 meeting.

### Non-Motorized Trail Grants

There were a total of 16 Recreational Trail Grants funded this year totaling \$2,688,014.50. Statewide Trails Program Manager Fletcher Jacobs highlighted the Colorado Recreational Trails Committee's wildlife review process and the importance of "balancing wildlife and habitat needs with recreation needs in Colorado. These trail projects will connect Coloradans to the outdoors with new and improved trails and provide more places for everyone to get outside."

The Non-motorized Trail Grant Program is a multi-agency funding partnership that includes Great Outdoors Colorado, Colorado Lottery, Federal Recreational Trails Program funds and Federal Land and Water Conservation funds. This grant program provides funding for trail planning projects as well as small and large trail construction and maintenance projects.

### Southern Colorado awarded projects include:

Project Raghorn Trail Maintenance (Maintenance Grant)

The Pagosa Springs Ranger District was awarded a \$106,000 grant for the Raghorn Project in the Pagosa Springs area. Access to backcountry and wilderness areas used by recreationists and hunters in the San Juan National Forest has been jeopardized by the spruce beetle epidemic in Southern Colorado. This grant will allow the Forest Service to hire an eight-person Youth Corps crew to clear downed trees from the trails, re-establish trail tread, and repair drainage features.

Salida Ranger District Trail Maintenance (Maintenance Grant)

The Salida Ranger District will hire, coordinate and supervise a four-person non-motorized trail crew focused on the maintenance of the hike, bike and equestrian trail system within the district's four counties as well as on the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail and the Collegiate Peaks and Sangre de Cristo Wilderness Areas.

San Juan 14ers Trail Reconstruction (Maintenance Grant)

This \$250,000 grant award will allow Colorado Fourteeners Initiative to perform trail reroute/reconstruction/closure and delineation/heavy trail maintenance on four 14ers in the San Juan mountain range. Peaks

include Mt. Wilson, Handies, Redcloud and Sunshine. Work involves use of native materials (rocks and logs) to build soil retention/tread protection structures on natural surface trails at very high altitudes in fragile alpine ecosystems.

include Mt. Wilson, Handies, Redcloud and Sunshine. Work involves use of native materials (rocks and logs) to build soil retention/tread protection structures on natural surface trails at very high altitudes in fragile alpine ecosystems.

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 Open Tues.-Sat. • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Closed Sunday & Monday • 2825 Sherman Ave. • Monte Vista

*We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who have contributed to the success of the Upper Rio Grande Animal Society by contributions, donations, volunteering and general support at Conour Animal Shelter.*

Visit Our Facebook Page 

	This is Prince, he is a pit-bull mix around 2 years old. He is friendly with people and dogs, he loves attention from people.		This is Elvis, he is a male pitbull mix around 3 years old. He is hyper at times, but is very friendly with people and is friendly with some dogs.
	This is Babe, she is a 1 and a half year old pit-bull mix. She is very friendly with people and she gets along with other dogs as well.		This is Destiny, she is a female pitbull mix around 10 months. She is very friendly with people and she has quite a bit of energy.

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# Friendly dogs for all

By WAYNE SHELDRAKE

"They're friendly," the two dog owners hollered, after two of their three large, unleashed dogs charged my wife and I on a seemingly desolate hiking trail of the Rio Grande National Forest. As they barked, lunging aggressively, hackles up, we froze. They didn't seem very friendly.

Initial commands from the owners, now 30 yards away from the dogs, were ignored. Fortunately the dogs settled down. "Sorry," one of the owners said, and then reprimanded the dogs sweetly in a sort of Mr. Rogers let's not do that again tone.

Relieved, my wife and I laughed. Nervously. Another lucky encounter. We'd quit counting how many times in the past few years an owner unable to control a dog on a trail had instantly announced, "He's friendly." Sometimes as the dog charged away from them toward us.

In most of the episodes we've experienced, the dog owners themselves are startled and surprised by their pet's uncharacteristic behavior. They're confused and exasperated when the dog seems unresponsive to commands normally automatically obeyed.

Some dogs are just trying to be friendly. But most aren't. Either way, when suddenly confronted by them, off-leash in an environment they may not be used to, it's impossible to instantly tell.

What's happening here?

Because Colorado has so many locations where it's easy to get the impression that we are alone and feel free and off the radar and can let our guard down from the usual routines of our lives, the chance of problems seems unlikely. We think we're in the "wild." So, what's the harm? Let him run.

The harm is, most dogs, even the friendliest dogs, have moments when, by no fault of their own, aren't friendly. According to the ASPCA, for most dogs, even friendly dogs, "It's common for dogs to behave aggressively toward unfamiliar people. Some studies report that as many as 60 percent to 70 percent of all pet dogs bark threateningly at strangers and act unfriendly when around them."

A dog attending its owner on a quiet, infrequently traveled mountain trail is also protecting its owner. A new human is both a stranger and just another form of wildlife. A dog may act to protect an owner, unexpectedly displaying "aggressive behavior when they think that one of their family members or friends is in peril."

It's also often the case that when in a new, exciting, distracting potentially threatening environment like the wild (or a seemingly deserted vacation development), many owners are not able to control their dogs instinctive reactions by usual voice commands.

Added to these facts is, of course, the fact that some dogs are allowed or

trained to be unfriendly, for personal protection. Owners of these dogs may simply assume no one else will be coming down a remote trail.

One recommended solution to unpredictable outbreaks of "unfriendly" behavior is to treat trail adventures and hikes as training sessions and intensively and specifically training your dog to be just as responsive to voice commands off-leash on the trail (where it's legal) as elsewhere.

The other solution is a leash.

Aside from a possible bad outdoor episode with people, "Dogs chasing wildlife is nearly a constant problem in Colorado," reporter Sarah Waite writes. Area Manager for Colorado Parks and Wildlife in Monte Vista Rick Basagoitia, told her, "Many pet owners believe that their dogs would never chase wildlife. The fact is that most dogs, given the chance, follow their ancient predator instincts and will chase wildlife. Once a dog or group of dogs starts this behavior they rarely stop because they quickly learn to enjoy the chase," Basagoitia said.

Waite listened to Kirstin Copeland, Ridgway park manager add, "When we contact owners whose dogs have attacked wildlife or bitten someone, they always insist that their dog has never behaved like that, but we know that dogs act differently when they're taken out of their normal environment."

Fines can be high and penalties can



get extreme, "If a wildlife officer or other law enforcement officer sees dogs chasing deer or elk, Colorado law allows the dog to be shot," Waite reports. See Waite's complete article here.

Protecting wildlife is one of the reasons that, to the surprise of many visitors (and some residents!), almost everywhere in Colorado has a leash law or "under control" law: State Parks, National Forests, most counties, most all cities. (Bureau of Land Management lands are perhaps the most welcoming for off-leash activities

Those laws protect dogs as well, from other wildlife--lions, bobcats, foxes, skunks, badgers, snakes, etc. Likewise loose dogs can get involved with diseased animals or stumble upon poisoned or diseased carrion.

In the worst case scenario, Colorado has a complex Dog Bite Statute. Cur-

rently, if victims suffer any injuries that include a substantial risk of death, disfigurement or loss of the function of any part of the body, they do not have to show that the dog owner had any prior knowledge of the dog's tendency for violence in order to hold the dog owner responsible. There's potential liability for less serious injuries, too.

Leash law or not, if you aren't sure how your dog is going to react on a peaceful resort neighborhood street or a mountain trail or an unfenced yard, please leash it. For people's sake, for the wildlife's sake, for the dog's sake, and for your sake.

We met just such a dog owner on trail. He had three large, barking dogs, pulling at their leashes as we passed him resting on a rock. "Sorry," he said. "They aren't very friendly."

"No apology necessary," we said. "And, thank you!" That's friendly.

## PETS

Continued from Page 1

hygiene around their pets and other humans, maintain social distancing, and avoid exercising their animal in crowded areas or busy dog parks. Keep in mind that pets' fur, like any other surface, may carry the virus if touched by an infected individual.

Creevy recommends that pet owners follow the following precautions:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer after playing with or petting a dog or cat, especially after contact with pet saliva or feces.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter your body and can make you sick.
- Practice good respiratory hygiene, which means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately.
- Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, dry cough or difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call your provider in advance so they can be prepared for your arrival. Follow the directions of your physician or local health authority.
- If you are sick, avoid close contact with other members of your household, including your pets. Have another member of the household care for your animals. If you must look after your pet while you are sick, maintain good hygiene practices and cover your face if possible.

The current crisis is stressful for many, but pet owners can mitigate their worries by following the recommended guidelines and practices. As a community, we can beat Covid-19 by staying clean, staying home and staying well.

*Pet Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University.*

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Photo by John Rawinski

The Greater Roadrunner that has been seen darting around Monte Vista.

# Unusual bird makes the scene in Monte Vista and on Social Media

By JOHN RAWINSKI, LOCAL BIRD EXPERT AND AUTHOR

**MONTE VISTA** - A rare bird is being seen running across streets and parking lots in Monte Vista. A Greater Roadrunner has been seen since April 24, 2020, in the Monte Vista area running across roads, streets and even the Shell station parking lot.

The Greater Roadrunner is very rare in the San Luis valley. This occurrence is only the seventh time it

has been documented in the San Luis Valley since 1925. It is usually a bird of warmer deserts and is omnivorous, where they eat insects, small lizards and snakes. He went on to say that in his nearly 40 years of birding in the San Luis Valley, he has yet to see one. This is the same species of bird depicted in the famous cartoon character "Roadrunner" along with his antagonist friend "Coyote."

Because our colder climate and lack of lizards in the valley bottom,

the birds often prey upon other things like small birds, rodents and seeds in lieu of lizards. One bird, reported in December 2000 in Alamosa, would dart out from the brush and capture house sparrows.

The bird has been a hit on social media with a posting on Facebook that had 119 likes. We should enjoy this bird while it is visiting us. We may not see another for many years. And please give it a brake when it crosses the road.

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# ASU plans to resume face-to-face instruction in fall

**ALAMOSA**—As Adams State University brings to a close its 2020 spring semester, it is working to prepare the campus for the start of the 2020-21 academic year and the return of students to campus for the start of the fall semester.

“Adams State has every intention of resuming in-person classroom instruction in the fall,” said Adams State President Cheryl D. Lovell. “We greatly miss having students, faculty and staff on campus and are eager to return to our ‘normal’ mode of operations.

“Our top priority will always be to protect the health and safety of our campus community members, so we must be very diligent to make sure this decision is supported by local public health agencies and meets all necessary state public health guidance.”

The fall semester is scheduled to begin Aug. 24, 2020. It is a 17-week semester that ends Dec. 18, 2020. Registration for fall courses is available at [adams.edu](http://adams.edu), including courses and degree plans that are fully online.

Over the next several weeks Adams State will be working with community partners and its partners at the state level to make the best decisions for Adams State University and its student body. In June and throughout the summer, Adams State will continue to release additional information and details about the fall semester.

To prepare for the fall semester the University has created a Safe to Return Task Force. The task force will have two working committees: one focused on internal campus processes and the second focused on external community impact.

“We believe with both internal and external stakeholder engagements, we will have

a stronger support base and sustainability to allow for the safest and healthiest campus possible,” said President Lovell.

Adams State finished the spring semester with Blackboard-only online instruction following a state of emergency order and guidance issued to campuses of higher education by Gov. Jared Polis March 11, 2020. It has scheduled a June 6 spring virtual commencement for its spring graduates. The ceremony will be a livestream event accessible via [adams.edu/live](http://adams.edu/live).

Summer courses being offered in the month of May at Adams State will be through Blackboard online instruction. The initial six-week summer Maymester begins Monday, May 11, through June 21. The second six-week summer session is June 22 through July 31.

Adams State is also planning a three-week summer face-to-face class instruction from June 29 through July 17. Adams State will adjust that session if necessitate by COVID-19 concerns. Summer class registration is available at [adams.edu/summer](http://adams.edu/summer).

As it did in the spring semester,

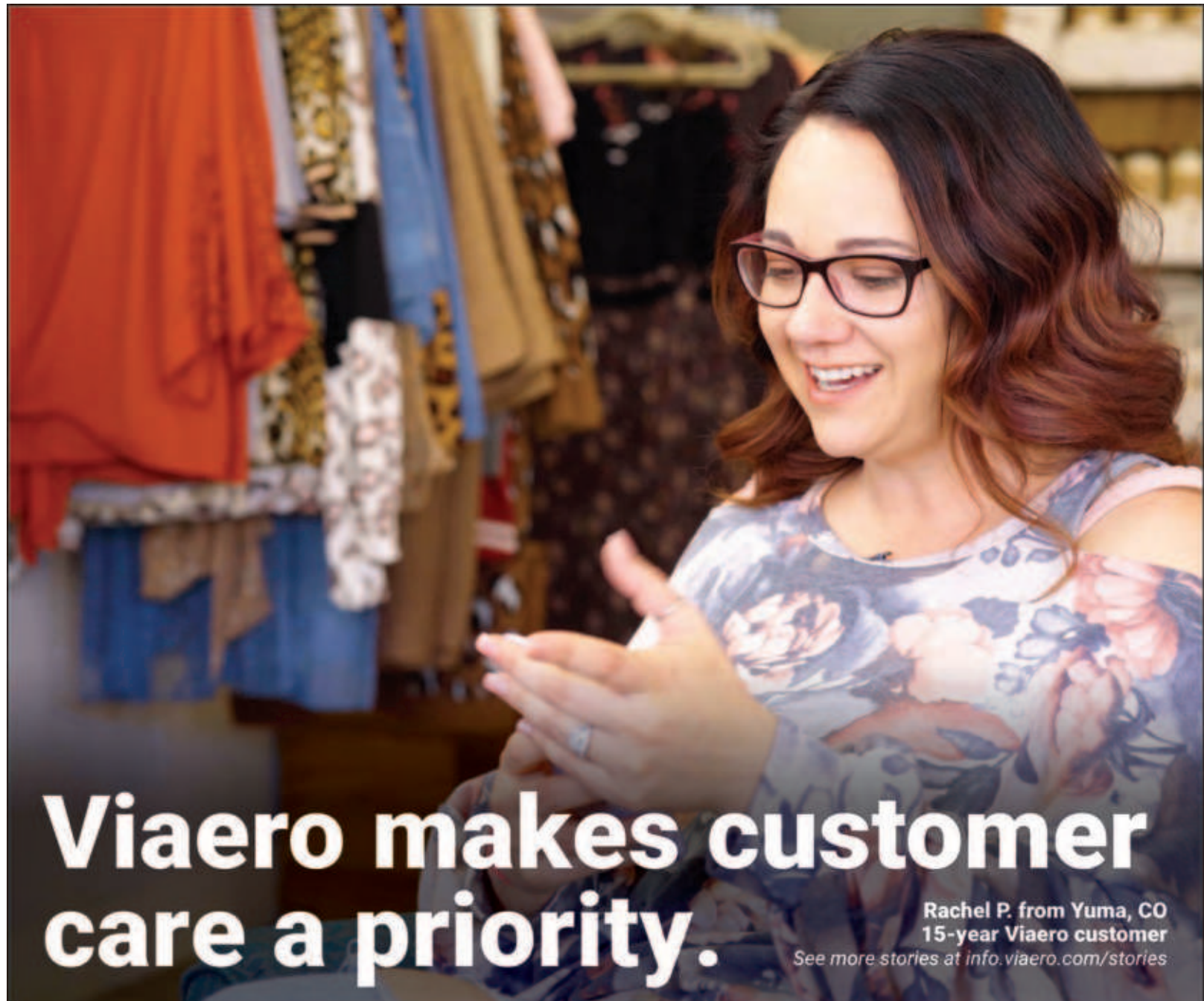
Adams State will be prepared to shift to Blackboard instruction if its plans to resume face-to-face classes in the fall are impacted by health and safety concerns related to COVID-19.

“Our preference is to resume in-classroom instruction when the fall semester begins in August,” said Presi-

dent Lovell. “We are excited about our future and remain committed to fostering student achievement, championing practices for lifelong learning and development, advocating for equity and inclusion, engaging in innovation and creativity, and exemplifying operational excellence.”

**Adams State University plans on face-to-face instruction in fall 2020.**

Photo by Mike Henderson



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