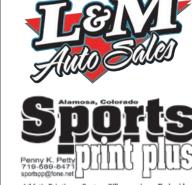
Fun Spring activites

— Page 5



Uninsured Coloradans offered coverage

— Page 10



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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

SATURDAY EDITION

March 21, 2020

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the public

ALAMOSA — Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Board of County Commissioners for Alamosa County will hold a regularly scheduled public meeting each weekday at 2:00 p.m. located at 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101. In person attendance will not be allowed in order to protect the public. A virtual conference room has been established for anyone who would like to listen in to comply with Colorado Open Meetings Law. You may call 605-313-6288 and use access code 433756#. Accessibility may be limited due to network capacity. Meetings may be cancelled when no business needs to be



conducted.

Facebook -**Alamosa Valley Courier**

V WEATHER



Evening Showers

51/23

Sun: Mostly Sunny 55/22

Mon: Cloudy/Windy

57/25

INSIDE

bituaries	Page 2
alley News	Pages 3
pinion	Pages 4
eligion	Page 5
ublic Notice	Page 6
lassified	Pages 7
omics	Page 8
ifoctulo	Dago 0 10



Skeffs present 'Friends of Ski Hi' check

Courtesy photo **During Crane Festival the** Saturday night presentation of Teddy Roosevelt, Ray and Colette Skeff presented Friends of Ski Hi Park with a \$10,000 check. "We are huge supporters of the valley community, and we feel this is an excellent project that will benefit everyone in the San Luis Valley," said Ray Skeff. Pictured include Karla Shriver with Friends of Ski Hi, Ray and Colette Skeff, and Jenny Nehring, Crane Festival Chairperson.



State health department sending testing resources throughout Colorado

Drive-through testing site will be open in Salida on Saturday

DENVER — The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is sending testing resources to specific communities that have not yet had testing that will yield

vital information about how the disease is spreading. CDPHE is also strongly advising the public: If you have symptoms (fever, cough, and shortness of breath),

don't wait for a test to self-isolate. The State is expanding testing

to include a temporary drivethrough site at the Chaffee County Fairgrounds at 10165 County Road 120, Salida, CO on Saturday, March 21. The Colorado National Guard and Chaffee County Public Health

are supporting these efforts. Chaffee County residents who are symptomatic and have a doctor's order can show up between noon and 4 p.m. for

the test. ■ See STATE page 3

Deacon petitions for nomination

DEL NORTE—Scott Deacon, running as a Republican for the Rio Grande County Commissioner, District 1 seat, has chosen to use the petition process to seek

his nomination. "I was notified by the Rio Grande County Clerk's office on Thursday that I am on the ballot," said Deacon. There are two processes to get a candidate's name on the ballot. One is the petition process where a candidate for a county commissioner's seat has to get a set required number of signatures in the District he or she would be representing. The other process Deacon could have explored to get his name on the ballot is the caucus process. This is where people go to the party caucus meetings and obtain votes from

precinct delegates. In Deacon's case, he was required to obtain 130 qualified Republican voter signatures on his petitions from the District 1 area of Rio Grande County. Scott

went this way because he wanted to visit with people and hear their concerns about the county, and what they wanted to see in a Rio Grande County Commissioner. Deacon wants to represent the people. Deacon turned in 166 signatures. "I know I could have gotten more signatures, but I wanted to meet the requirements to get on the ballot as soon as I could," he said. "I had until March 17 to turn in my petitions, but I wanted to get it done early so that I could then focus on visiting with people about their wants and concerns concerning the county. I

am hearing lots of things.' Deacon welcomes a conversation with anyone who would like to visit with him about their insights or concerns about the Rio Grande County government. You can call Scott Deacon at 719-850-1180 and he will be glad to visit with you on the phone or visit, over a cup of coffee, or over the hood of a vehicle. Scott is willing to come to you



Courtesy photo

Rio Grande County's Scott Deacon petitioned for the ballot in the upcoming election.

Jade Communications & Blanca Networks sign FCC's "Keep Americans Connected Pledge"

ALAMOSA — On Tuesday, March 17th, 2020, Jade Communications / Blanca Networks signed the Federal Communications Commission's "Keep Americans Connected Pledge." The companies are the first and only providers in the San Luis Valley to sign the Pledge. Along with the other 390 U.S.-based broadband companies and associations that have signed the pledge, the companies promise to work with customers negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

In addition to signing the "Keep Americans Connected" pledge, Jade Communications / Blanca Networks have also committed to offering free internet installs to new customers, provide complimentary speed tier upgrades to families/small businesses, and make available advanced Wi-Fi gear to handle the increased demand as a result of state-mandated online learning and working from home. Jade Communications / Blanca Networks, both locally owned companies, said their goal is to help the community by making the Internet more accessible during an unprecedented time of crisis.

For over 90 years, Jade Communications / Blanca Networks have been fiber optic and wireless broadband leaders in southern Colorado. To receive any of the



assistance benefits offered by the firms, please call Jade Communications/Blanca Networks

directly at 719-589-5140 or visit their websites at gojade.org and blancanetworks.com



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Improve your piece of the SLV for 2020! Apply for a Rio Grande home improvement loan.

Record

OBITUARIES

Gloria Mott Wuckert, 91

ALAMOSA — Gloria Mott Wuckert, age 91, passed away peacefully on March 15, 2020, in Sandy, Utah of natural causes incident to age. She was born on September 17, 1928, in Alamosa, Colorado to Jacob Lyman Mott and Elsie Sowards, one of 12 children.

Gloria married the love of her life, Donald James Wuckert, on June 25, 1950, in Alamosa.

After graduating from high school, Gloria went to cosmetology school in Denver and received her license to be a hairdresser/beautician. After marrying Don and settling in Alamosa, she became a housewife which she thoroughly loved as it reminded her of growing up on a farm in a large family in the Carmel district near Alamosa.

two children were born, Alan Kent and Pamela Jo. Throughout her life, Gloria gave unwavering support to Don in his many businesses. These included the Home Lumber Co., First National Bank in Alamosa (which later grew to include other branches in the San Luis Valley), Alamosa Plaza Apartments, Appletree Storage

From this marriage

(which they joking-ly called Easy Street), among other ventures. Gloria was an excel-

lent seamstress, knitter, and cook. She made many beautiful items for friends and family. Her cooking was



legendary and loved by all. Favorites that she made included chicken tamales, kraut bierok, wilted spinach salad, and rhubarb pie-just a small sampling of her cooking prowess. She loved candy and treats and always had a secret stash which she thought nobody knew about, but

Gloria was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and loved the Gospel dearly.

we all did.

Gloria is survived by her children, Alan (Janice) Wuckert, Murray, UT, and Pam (Chris) Morgan, Draper, UT, and 5 grandchildren, Heidi, Kristjan, Nick, Taylor, and Caitlin. Also surviving are 9 great-grandchildren, Maren, Porter, Ben, Indy, Heath, Cole, Olivia, Emma, and Amelia. She is also survived Joe, and Jeannie.

She was preceded in husband Don, and her rogersfunerals.com.

siblings Lyman, Maurice, Winfred, June, Marilyn, and Joyce.

The family would like to express their gratitude to the many people who have given great care and assistance to Gloria over the past many years. This includes her neighbors and friends in Alamosa, and her livein roommates Kandace, Casey, Lisyuri, and Ni-

Also, the staff at Cedarwood at Sandy, and Encompass Health and Hospice are due special recognition and our heartfelt gratitude for their kind and tender care.

Due to the Covid-19 epidemic, our family is concerned for the health and safety of all those family and friends who loved our mother. We have decided that it is best for us to not have a viewing and funeral for her at this time. A private graveside service and interment will take place at the Alamosa Cemetery under the direction of Rogers Family Mortuary. A family celebration of our mother's life will be held at a later date. We appreciate all of your love and support.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation in Gloria's honor to San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center in by her siblings, Donna Alamosa, or to a charity (Betty), Carol, Kathleen, of your choice. To leave online condolences or words of strength for the death by her parents, her family, please visit www.

Adrian D. Getz, 69

MONTE VISTA Longtime Alamosa resident Adrian D. Getz, 69, passed away surrounded by his family at the San Luis Valley Health Regional Medical Center in Alamosa on March 18, 2020.

Adrian was born in Odessa, Texas on November 25, 1950 to Paul W. and M. Latrelle (Snider) Getz.

He married his wife of 48 years, Rhoda Grazier in Monte Vista, Colorado on March 18, 1972.

Adrian worked for most of his life as a Mechanic and was very dedicated to his job. One of his favorite past-times was working on cars with his son Kenny. More than anything, Adrian loved spending time with his family and enjoyed the many barbecues, camping trips in the mountains and lake trips for water skiing.

He always found time to spend time with his family. Adrian also enjoyed woodworking and completed several different items for his family.

He was a member of the



B.P.O.E. 2456 in Monte Vista, Colorado and held many officer positions throughout the years.

In the most recent years, he traveled all about the western United States in his RV with his wife

Adrian is survived by his loving wife Rhoda Getz of Alamosa; his children Kristi (Charles) Agenbroad of Los Lunas, NM and Kenneth (Lindsay) Getz of Mosca, CO; his grandchildren: Coby and Cutter Robbins, Braxton and Mason Getz, and Jayden and Jacob

Agenbroad; his brother Russell Getz of Milwaukee, WI; his sister Paula (Jon) Crunk of Ruidoso, NM; two brothers-in-law, one sister-in-law and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents and one brother David Getz.

Cremation was chosen and a Celebration of Life Gathering will be held at a later date due to current restrictions on gatherings and interstate travel for family. In lieu of flowers, contributions are suggested to the San Luis Valley Cancer Relief Fund (SLVCRF), at P.O. Box 1297, Alamosa, Colorado 81101.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of the arrangements. In lieu of attendance at the celebration of life gathering, you are welcome to leave online remarks, words of comfort and condolences for Adrian's family by visiting www.RogersFunerals.com

Monte R. Fulton, 59

DEL NORTE — Longtime Del Norte resident Monte R. Fulton, 59, passed away on March 20, 2020. He was born on September 30, 1960 in Minatare, Nebraska to Robert and Ruth Fulton. He served his country in the United States Army. Monte was a Broncos fan, he enjoyed reloading, shooting his guns, being in the mountains, mechanic work and he loved his dogs.

He is survived by his wife Cherilyn Rue of Del Norte, his brother Hunter "Butch" Baskins of California and his sister Cindy Michaels of Colorado as well as many nieces and nephews and his special nephew Bailee Velasquez.

Monte was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Julie Baskins.

Cremation was selected and a private family service will be held at a later time. To express condolences to the family, please visit www.rogersfuner-

Rogers Family Mortuary in Monte Vista is in care of the arrangements.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

VALLEY — The San Luis Valley offers many Alcoholics Anonymous groups.

A.A. members' primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Following are District 3 San Luis Valley AA 12-Step Meetings. The 6th Tradition states that we are not affiliated with any outside organizations, but in the spirit of cooperation, we list these meeting schedules for friends and family. For information, call 719-937-5083.

SUNDAY

5:30 p.m. Sacred Heart Parish Center at 3rd and Edison, Alamosa

7 p.m. Town Hall at 108 W Galena Ave., Crestone

MONDAY

12 p.m. St. Thomas Episcopal Hall at 607 4th St., Alamosa

5 p.m. Women's Meeting at Masonic Hall, 598 Spruce St., Del Norte

ALAMOSA—The San

Luis Valley Military Fam-

ily Support Group meets

the fourth Tuesday at 7

p.m. in Alamosa. For more

info call Vicki Jones at

ALAMOSA — Sierra

Blanca Chapter #43,

Order of The Eastern

Star, meets on the first

and third Mondays, at

7:30 p.m. at the Alamosa

Masonic Hall, 512 San

Juan Ave. Call Sharon

ALAMOSA—La Leche

League of the San Luis

Valley holds its monthly

meetings on the fourth

Saturday at 11 a.m. at

Hospice del Valle, 524

Main St. in Alamosa.

Pregnant and nursing

women are welcome to

attend with their children

and babies. Please call

ALAMOSA — The Ala-

ALAMOSA — The

852-3123.

at 589-4320.

7 p.m. Community Church on Main St., Creede 7:30 p.m. Creative Re-

source Center at 304 Walnut St., La Jara

TUESDAY

12 p.m. First Christian Church at 1st and State, Alamosa 8 p.m. Mountain View

Presbyterian Church at 2nd and Broadway, Monte

WEDNESDAY

12 p.m. First United Methodist Church at 2005 Mullens, Alamosa

6 p.m. Senior Citizen's Building at 710 Main St., Antonito

6 p.m. Amistad of San Luis at 403 Main St., San Luis 7:15 p.m. RV Park in

Blanca

7:30 p.m. Masonic Hall at 598 Spruce, Del Norte. 8 p.m. St. Thomas Episcopal Church at 607 4th St., Alamosa.

THURSDAY

12 p.m. First Christian Church at 1st and State, Alamosa 12 p.m. Crestone Baptist

Church, County Rd. T,

Crestone 7 p.m. Community Church on Main St., Creede

7:30 p.m. Creative Resource Center at 304 Walnut St., La Jara.

7:30 p.m. Ables/Disables, Baptist Church at 751 Lincoln St., Monte Vista

FRIDAY

7 p.m. Sacred Heart School at 3rd and Edison, Alamosa.

SATURDAY 5:30 p.m. at 929 State

Ave., Alamosa 6 p.m. Senior Citizen's Building at 710 Main St.,

Antonito.

8 p.m. Mountain View Presbyterian Church at 2nd and Broadway, Monte

Norris Maestas, 89

ALAMOSA—Lifelong Alamosa resident Norris Maestas, 89, passed away peacefully March 16, 2020, at the San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center surrounded by his loving family.

Norris was welcomed into the world on December 22, 1930, in Monte Vista, Colorado, the son of Esperanza Maestas and was raised by his cousin Carmelita Valdez

after his mother's death. Norris met his wife Vita in grade school as childhood friends. They were united in marriage

Norris worked for the

for 70 years.

Colorado State Highway Department as a heavy equipment mechanic and retired in 1987. He was a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus. Norris was an exceptional and loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, great-great-grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin and friend who

friends. An irreplaceable part of our family is no longer with us, but we will all keep the memories he left with us close to our

enjoyed attending family

and community func-

tions, spending time

with his family and



hearts. He will be dearly missed. Survivors include his

children Kathryn (Leonard) Romero of Alamosa, CO; Grace (Toby) Jacquez of Arvada, CO; sons Michael (Dolly) Maestas of Alamosa, CO; Ken (Mary) Maestas of Centennial, CO; Tom (Donna) Maestas of Alamosa, CO; grandchildren DeeAnn (Louis) Gomez, Kristie (Robert) Bonino, Trishia Romero, Alisha(Anthony)Valdez, Jared (Krystle) Valdez, Justin (Gabriella) Valdez, Michael (Jennifer) Maestas, Brian Maestas, Heather (Travis) Young, Ashley Maestas, Jennifer McMichael(James),

my (Sheridan) Maestas, great-grandchildren Vanessa (Shawn) Archuleta, Brandon (Mi-

Nichole (Robbie) Hopper,

Brittany Maestas, Tom-

randa) Chavez, Michael (Adrienne) Gomez, Zachary Gomez, Christopher Lucero, Isaac Lucero, Taylor Maestas, Ethan Maestas, Landen Young, Skylar Young, Cameron Young, Peyton Young, Liam Young, Elena Jo Valdez, Kylee McMichael, Braiden Hopper, Tinlee Hopper, great-great-grandchildren Dominic Sanchez-Archuleta, DaMarcus Sanchez-Archuleta, Jae-Lynn Archuleta; sister Jenny Gorman. He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Norris was preceded in death by his parents, wife Vita Maestas, brother Manuel "Buddy'

Sanchez Jr., Due to the current closures of the catholic churches, A private family graveside service was held. A Memorial Mass will be held in the near future for all of Norris's friends and family. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Alamosa Food Bank or the Parkinson's Foundation. To leave online condolences please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. Arrangements were entrusted to Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

mosa Kiwanis Club meets on the second, third and fourth Thursdays at noon at IHOP. Contact: Amanda Wilkinson, 719-589-2564 or email amanda@alamosastate-

587-3657

Optimist Club of Alamosa meets at Nino's Restaurant in Alamosa the first and third Tuesdays at noon. Contact the club

bank.com

at alamosaoptimistclub@ gmail.com or President Dawn Melgares at 719-580-0178. Visitors and new members are welcome. ALAMOSA — The AlaContact Dean Swift, 589-3499 or dean@deanswiftseed.com ALAMOSA — Veter-

ans Therapeutic/Support Group meets every Monday from 5-6:30 p.m. at 315 State Ave. Ste 101, Alamosa. Call 588-8885 to register or email d.counselingservices@ hotmail.com

SOUTH FORK — Kiwanis meets every Thursday at 8 a.m. at the Feelin' Good Coffeehouse in South Fork. Contact: Karen Miller, 719-873-5466 or email mkmillermink@aol.com ALAMOSA — The

Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group meets on the second Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon. at the Alamosa Public Library, 300 Hunt Ave. Call the Southern Colorado office at 719-544-5720, ext. 304.

ALAMOSA — TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) CO 568, Alamosa, a non-profit weight loss organization, meets every Tuesday evening at the College Heights Baptist Church at 2035 Church Avenue in Alamosa. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. with an informative meeting at 6:15. Anyone interested in having weight loss support is welcome to attend a free meeting or call Doris at 589-6396 for more information.

ALAMOSA — Search and Rescue meetings are the fourth Tuesday at the Alamosa County Sheriff Office, 1315 17th St., at

ONGOING VALLEY MEETINGS 6 p.m. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer

is welcome. Call Suzi at

719-588-9236. ALAMOSA — The San Luis Valley Photography Club meets the first Wednesday at the Alamosa Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Contact Stephen Jensen at 379-0001 or slvphotostephen@

gmail.com ALAMOSA—Families Healing Families is a community-based organization that provides support and resources for families affected by the impact of substance abuse. They meet on the third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center at 92 Rio Grande Ave. (on the north end of Cole Park) in

School-Menu--Monday-Mar. 23, 2020

<u>Alamosa</u>

NO SCHOOL



COVID-19

To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

Longtime Monte Vista resident Richard C. Samora, 71, passed away on March 19, 2020. Arrangements are pending and will be announced through Rogers Family Mortuary in Monte Vista.

Olivia B. Garcia

PENDING OBITUARIES

Antonito resident Olivia B. Garcia, passed away on March 19, 2020. Arrangements

are pending and have been entrusted to Romero Valley Funeral Home of Antonito. Richard C. Samora, 71

mosa Rotary Club meets every Monday at noon at Juanitos in Alamosa.

Public Health update on COVID-19

SAN LUIS VALLEY — We strongly encourage everyone to continue to do their best to avoid physical contact with other people at this time. We believe the virus that causes COVID-19 is present here. Positive test results have been confirmed in the nearby counties of Hinsdale and Chaffee.

The COVID-19 pandemic has pushed us all in difficult ways. We are doing things differently.

Local waste-water treatment centers and plumbing professionals are requesting the public NOT flush wipes in the sewer system as they are beginning to clog infrastructure. If it's not toilet paper, do not flush it. Other paper products like paper towels, sanitizing wipes, baby wipes, "flushable wipes", feminine products were not designed to be flushed. Local waste-water treatment centers and plumbing professionals have found that these products are beginning to clog the



pipes. If you're using an alternative to toilet paper, toss it in a trash bag, seal it and dispose of it properly. Please help us all keep our sewer pipes flowing.

With the flood of information coming in through the news, we want to remind everyone to take care of themselves and manage what, for many people, is a very stressful situation. Remember that communities and governments are working hard to get through this together.

Every day we are seeing new state and federal actions aimed at trying to minimize financial hardships related to asking everyone to stay home. Remember to take some deep breaths. Eat well and get plenty of sleep. Limit your news and social media and focus on your family, read a good book, watch a comedy.

We have opened a new phone line at (719) 480-8719 for general COVID-19 related information for the San Luis Valley. It is staffed by volunteers who can help callers find accurate information. The line will be open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please be patient as we get this line off the ground and learn what information our callers are looking for. Callers will

not be able to get medical advice or referrals at this number.

As always, call 911 only if you are having a medical emergency. If you or someone in your household is having symptoms (cough, fever, shortness of breath), call your doctor. Or, you can call one of the nurse lines set up by SLV Health or Rio Grande Hospital. Those numbers are as follows;

SLV Health: 719-589-2511 ext 9, or Rio Grande Hospital 719-657-4990.

CO HELP line 1-877-462-2911 (English and Spanish) for Colorado general information.

Colorado updates and guidance: https://covid19.colorado.gov

CDC updates and guidance: https://

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus Small Business - www.choosecolorado.

Volunteer or Donate - www.helpcolo-

radonow.org

Valley-Wide Health Systems Covid-19 update to the community

ALAMOSA — Valley-Wide Health Systems (VWHS) is closely monitoring updates related to the COVID-19 virus coming from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the local county health departments in our regions.

Due to the high volume of needs during this outbreak, VWHS is focusing our efforts on essential or emergent medical and dental services only.

Beginning Friday, March 20, the following dental clinics will close until further notice: Center Dental Clinic, Ernesto Pacheco Dental Clinic, La Jara Dental Clinic, La Junta Dental Clinic, Las Animas Dental Clinic.

Alamosa Dental Clinic, Edward M. Kennedy Dental Clinic, Rocky Ford Dental Clinic and Valley-Wide Cañon City Dental will remain open, but only for emergency dental services. We are no longer scheduling any preventative dental services such as check-ups and cleanings.

Additionally, all VWHS medical clinics are suspending all non-essential medical appointments. This includes well-patient checkups for all adults and children older than age 2. We will still be providing services for patients with obstetrics needs, chronic illness and acute illness. Edward M. Kennedy Health Center in Monte Vista will now be closed on Saturdays due to low census. Vallev-Wide Pharmacy in Alamosa will remain open for regular business hours.

"If you are feeling ill, even if your symptoms are unrelated to CO-VID-19, we still want to provide for your healthcare needs, says President and CEO of Valley-Wide Health Systems, Jania Arnoldi. "Please do not forgo serious medical care for any reason."

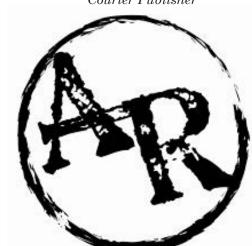
Furthermore, VWHS is taking precautions to keep potential COVID-19 patients separate from other patients, and our providers are taking extra care with infection control procedures and personal protective equipment. Patients who are visiting the clinic due to suspected COVID-19 infections are asked to please call the clinic ahead of time, and wait in the parking lot until a staff member can bring them in through a side or back entrance rather than the main entrance. This is in an effort to limit the spread of the virus to patients who may be visiting the clinic for other reasons.

Finally, due to the limited availability of testing kits, VWHS is currently unable to perform COVID-19 testing in the San Luis Valley. Extremely limited testing is available at our La Junta Clinic, and all patients who receive testing will need to pass a series of criteria determined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We are able to triage patients' symptoms, and can provide patients with information on proper self-isolation and quarantine procedures.



Alamosa Round-UP postponed

By KEITH R. CERNY Courier Publisher



ALAMOSA — In light of the Coronavirus pandemic, Honeycutt Rodeo announced Thursday that the 2020 Alamosa Round-UP has been postponed until

Aug. 27-30. It has been scheduled for June 25-28. In an email to Round-UP sponsors and others, Dawn Honeycutt wrote "now is a time to focus on our friends, our family and our community." She went on to say that this year's event is shaping up to be an "awesome one," and reminded sponsors that their help will again be needed.

"I had considered just cancelling for this year, but I think that would be a mistake," Honeycutt's email stated. "In tough times like this, we need each other and we need to stick together as a community.

"The Round-UP is an important part of that stability and people look forward to the time with each other and family every year. So, the Round-UP will go on, just a little later than we had planned."

Effective March 23, 2020 and until further notice, CIA-Leavitt Insurance Agency, Inc. will be closing our doors to public access at both locations in Alamosa & Colorado Springs.

As the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation continues to rapidly evolve, CIA-Leavitt Insurance has been proactively taking steps to protect and support our workforce, customers and community where we live and work. As a precautionary measure, part or all of our staff may begin working from home. We are working to have our employees set up with access to work remotely and will have phones forwarded to their location. There should be no change in our capabilities or response time, so rest assured that we will remain at a high level of functioning and can continue to take care of all your needs. Please communicate with your agent and account manager in the same method you normally do, and we will continue providing the same level of customer service you are accustomed to receiving. If you have a meeting planned with your agent or account manager and need to change that to a virtual meeting, please reach out to advise us at your earliest convenience.

CIA-Leavitt Insurance A Leavitt Group Agency

Toll Free Phone #: 1-800-242-0129 Alamosa Office: 719-589-3611 Colorado Springs Office: 719-528-1884 E-mail Address: Info-cia@leavitt.com

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State

■ Continued from Page 1

People who come to be tested should know and do the following: Testing is free. Proof of insurance is not required.

Bring a written or electronic copy of the doctor's order. Individuals should not go to their doctor's office but should call to get an emailed or faxed copy of the order. Bring a form of photo ID (driver's license, school ID, work badge, etc.) that matches the name on the doctor's order.

If there are multiple people in one vehicle, each person to be tested must have their own doctor's order.

The first 100 people in the queue will have access to the drive-up testing; all other vehicles that arrive after that will be encouraged to seek testing from a private provider. Always call ahead and speak with the health care facility in advance before going there for testing or treatment.

Individuals will drive through a secured area and will remain in their vehicles throughout the entire

testing process. Be prepared for long wait times. No restrooms will be available. Bring water and other items to be comfortable while waiting.

Telephonic interpretation will be available for speakers of other CDPHE also plans to send test-

ing resources to other locations next week. CDPHE is prioritizing testing in areas that have not been highly tested to better understand where the disease is occurring and respond. These sites will serve high-risk patients who have been pre-selected by area health care providers. They will not accept walk-up or drive-up

The state health department is also strongly advising that if you have mild symptoms, stay home and avoid contact with others. Call your health care provider only if your illness becomes more severe, especially if you are experiencing

shortness of breath. If you have a

medical emergency, call 911 and

People who are not at high risk of severe illness may not need to be evaluated in person or tested for COVID-19. Not everyone with symptoms will be tested right away. If you have mild symptoms, suspect you were exposed, and are

either unable to get tested or waiting on test results: Please stay home and isolate

yourself until: You have had no fever for at least 72 hours (without the use of medi-

cine) AND Other symptoms (cough, shortness of breath) have improved AND At least 7 days have passed since

Anyone in your household you have had close contact with (within six feet for approximately 10 minutes) should self-quarantine for 14 days, even if you haven't been tested for COVID-19.

your symptoms first appeared.

Continue to stay up to date by visiting covid19.colorado.gov.

Tips for getting Alamosa gardens ready in early March - Part 2

Last time I discussed tidying up the yard while the ground was still largely frozen. Two weeks later and I've had a couple of early bulbs bloom, grass and ground covers are greening up, and the soil has thawed to the depth of one foot. I'm encouraged by the appearance of small purple iris

Alamosa

Landscapes

(Iris reticulate) and purple crocus (Crocus) blooms in my warmest garden bed!

Now is a great time to pull any unwanted grass in the yard. It's relatively easy to pick out as it greens up earlier than almost any other plant. Make sure to get all of the roots that you can.

It's warm enough Marilyn Loser now that I'm removingover-winter mulch

from my warmest beds. I've waited until now as I always hope to retain as much moisture as possible. Once I remove mulch I have to be careful to keep the beds moist. It may be a bit early to start up our outdoor watering systems – I'd hate for a late freeze to break some pipes – so I'll use a watering can or hook up a hose to an indoor faucet. Be careful what time of day you water, especially if we have a cold spell.

Allow time for the soil and plants to absorb the water. If a plant just received a big dose of water and its cells are full a sudden freeze can cause the water to freeze in the cells and burst, harming, and perhaps killing, the plant.

But since some wildflower seeds and plants do much better if they receive direct sunshine, it's time to remove covering mulch and any leaves or stems left from last season.

Quite a few tulip (Tulipa), daffodil (Narcissus), and grape hyacinth (Muscari) leaves have popped up a few inches. Ground covers such as creeping phlox (Phlox stolonifera), veronica (Veronica), and ornamental thyme (Thymus serpyllium) are greening nicely. There are even a few columbine leaves poking up. Hardy perennials such as native artemisias (Artemisia) have new blue-green growth.

I try to keep garden soil in good shape. Sometimes I mix in some new soil I purchase locally, but if the soil seems loose I will just top dress with a soil conditioner such as Happy Frog.

I still have some pruning to do. It's not too late for shrubs or trees in our yard as they still appear dormant. It's easier on the plants to trim now and it's easier for the gardener as you can see the plant structure since leaves aren't in the way. For shrubs I try to make sure branches aren't too tightly packed. It's important to allow air to move freely through to help reduce pests that thrive when air flow is restricted.

Are you going to plant a garden this year in the San Luis Valley? If so, and you aren't sure what or when to plant, I encourage you to download the excellent 'San Luis Valley Planting Calendar". It indicates dates for starting plants indoors, planting outdoors, and harvesting.

It's presented in a colorful and easy to understand format and is part of the Valley Educational Gardens Initiative (VEGI) that "connects communities and partners across the San Luis Valley with garden-based education opportunities and resources."

To obtain a copy, go to the Adams State University seedtoseed homepage (http://libguides.adams.edu/seedtoseed), then select the Flyers and Handouts tab on the left side, and finally click on the SLV Planting Guide.

"Tickle the earth with a hoe, it will laugh a harvest." Anonymous

Love in the time of Coronavirus

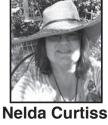
This week reminds me of Gabriel Garcia Marquez's book titled: Love in the Time of Cholera. It seems like we are facing Love in the time of Coronavirus or COVID-19.

On Facebook, I've learned that people are coming together to hear donated performances by John Legend and others. They are

loving their audiences by singing virtually for them. No more performances in live venues at the 'Rocks' or the Brew Pub. Instead we are reaching out over Instagram, Facebook, Face-Time and over the cell phone networks. In It-

aly, people sang





together from their windows. All of us are gathering around our living rooms with our loved ones—some are playing Scrabble and Monopoly with our bright and feisty 8-year olds and 15 somethings. Some like me welcome their furry families in from the cold for a sweet moment. Tigger climbs into my lap after Schroeder and then

there's a rumble of two or three tabbies As I write, tonight is especially about love since it is with love that I say gentle goodbyes to my 16-year-old canine companion, Lena. She is a brown velvety princess just recently groomed

ov Esther Sowards in Manassa before the outbreak and loved by her brother

Schroeder, and those who passed

ahead of her (Aloha, Nikki, Pumpkin, Sweetie.) When I heaved in sorrow for Aloha's passing years ago, Lena was there, settling in my lap on the couch. She was there when Pumpkin passed

while on a walkabout, and again when Sweetie's heart gave out. She was there beside Niki as she did her wonderingwhere-she-was walks from the living room to back yard and home again. She was happy to be rescued when she pushed through the open back gates and a Monte Vista Police Officer got her to the Conour Animal Shelter where I finally found her.

Lena was there when I brought Schroeder home and she taught him how to follow the rules, to eat and share, to howl like Chewbacca, to bark at every passerby. Lena is here during the time of Covid19 and as her heart fails her, she watches over our family—humans, cats, and dogs—then dozes for hours.

Love in the time of COVID-19 means we may relish our memories. Lena greeted everyone who came to the door and her coat was always soft, shiny and silky like a new baby rabbit's. Edna would shower her with ear rubs and head pats and almost always say, "She is a beautiful cocker spaniel, isn't she?

Now as COVID-19 chases humans world-wide. Lena is eveing that rainbow bridge as she plods along the floor, stopping for arthritic aches and her aging heart. There was a time when she darted after moths on the back porch. When I didn't see her come in, I could check the back porch and catch her to the light.

She greeted neighbors and visitors I written hope if you need/want one. And

with a woof, a Chewbacca howl, and little tail waggle. Yes, this coronavirus is changing our lives. Loving our families and animals in our care brings us closer together even if we are six feet or across the world from each other.

God bless all during the course of

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

A little crazy right?!

Valley Gardening

What an incredible life we are living through right now! We will get through it if we are kind, and patient and courteous to our friends and neighbors. I have always been a strong proponent of common sense. I wish we taught common sense in schools. Common sense will get Many, many of you have helped me

get Leo and Maria to a **Ruthie Brown**

safe living environment. I know I have said thank you, and Leo has written many thank yous-everything was falling into place. At this time their lives have been

totally disrupted. They were going to Amistad, an adult day care facility in San Luis and that was wonderful. It has been closed. Their next refuge was the library, and it has been closed. Daily they stopped at one of our restaurants to eat, and they have all been closed. You will see them walking every day. Walking helps to calm Leo down, and Maria likes to go as much as he does-even when it is freezing out. Believe me, he is not being mean to his mom. I, also, worried

Leo wrote the following, in his concern or the folks of Alamosa (and beyond). Please come by for a small poster of his

People of Alamosa, CO please just before you go to sleep, pray to your lord and it doesn't matter if he is Christian, Catholic, Jewish, Hindu, Muslim or any other religion for the end of this disease known as the coronavirus and if you must pray to him in you native language

feel free to do so. And remember you are strong, tough, independent, individuals who will fight this through the end and you are not mouses waiting to be devoured by the snake.

Be kind, be patient, be safe". Eleodoro Ornelas

That's how he thinks. He thinks if we light bonfires all over Alamosa, and even barbeque grills that the combined heat will help to kill the virus—he has heard on the news that heat kills the virus. And he wants 5 crop dusters to fly over Alamosa, spreading antibiotics. I guess what I am trying to say is that he is thinking of others. He is not hoarding toilet paper!!

Leo is giving a speech to Mayor Ty Coleman this afternoon (Friday). He wants to make a positive impact on Alamosa before they move to Texas. Thank you. Ty, for taking the time to listen to this young man. Thank you for taking seri-

LETTERS

Renewable water response

Letter to the Editor;

We, the undersigned, all received the Renewable Water Resources (RWR) telephone survey call and felt compelled to respond, especially after seeing the RWR editorial in the Valley Courier, (3/3/20). We believe the "survey" primarily consisted of statements obviously intended to sway people's opinions in favor of the project, and included some dubious "facts" and statements that are patently false.

Those that live here know that the Rio Grande Basin is already highly overappropriated. Exporting water from the Valley would have a detrimental effect on agriculture, wildlife, and human life into the future as the groundwater continues to decline, especially with the ever-present and increasing threat of severe drought.

In response to the RWR editorial, we are "for something." Quality of life, clean air, water, strong community ties, food production that feeds millions of people, that the Front Range is already benefitting from. Water with added value. Given our current global pandemic and concerns over food security, we are especially grateful for the farmers and ranchers who go out every day to grow and harvest our food. There is no quarantine for them.

Shasta Quintana

Second Place Serious Columns

We also want to protect the largest concentration of wetlands in Colorado. The SLV nurtures this kind of dignity and pride, rootedness. The RWR proposal is counter to these values.

The RGWCD Board of Directors, as with many who voluntarily serve on Boards here, do so out of a sense of duty to their constituency and commitment to a value system that elevates individual know how with a generous spirit that integrates critical problem solving skills. The entire SLV runs on this civilized approach to manage resources well and build entrepreneurial capacity. It's efficient, economical, transparent and mutually beneficial to community residents.

It is not the SLV's responsibility to supply water-needy citizens in another basin. We already have compact delivery responsibilities to New Mexico. Water needy citizens have an obligation to conserve, manage and develop place based awareness regarding their limited water resources, where they live. The RWR project is applying punitive measures to an area of Colorado that has worked diligently to maintain water and natural resource balance. The \$120 million carrot being proposed by RWR once is a drop in the bucket compared to the over \$500 million revenue being generated annually by the SLV agricultural and public lands recreation and wildlife community. It's also a drop in the bucket compared to the millions of dollars these water speculators will make on being

the "middle man" for this water scheme. RWR is practicing smoke and mirror marketing, a shell game based on magic thinking. The only part "renewable" about their project is they show up every twenty years with a different face disguising the same scheme. Our water users are way better off, on every level, managing their land and water together.

Sincerely, Chuck Tidd Moffat CO 81143

Paul C. Kloppenburg Crestone, CO 81131

Sharon Corcoran Crestone, CO 81131

Don Thompson Alamosa, CO 81101-3108

Gussie Fauntleroy Crestone, CO 81131

Letters policy

Letters are welcome and encouraged. All letters submitted for publication in the Valley Courier must be typewritten, signed by the author, and must include a phone number and address where the author can be reached. Letters must not be libelous. The Courier will not run letters that are negative to specific businesses. The Courier's editorial board reserves the right to reject a letter for reasons it believes are appropriate. Letters may be subject to editing to fit available space, or exclusion from the Opinion Page. Please, no poetry. Please send signed letters to P.O. Box 1099, Alamosa, CO 81101 or email them to

news@alamosanews.com. Letters to staff, not

for publication, should be marked "personal."

Correction

Letter to the Editor, 'Awash in Water Worries' by Suzanne Gosar

Del Norte, Co 81132

Write them

■ GOVERNOR

Governor Jared Polis (D), State Capitol Building Room 136, 200 East Colfax, Denver CO 80203; (303) 866-2471; Fax (303) 866-2003.

■ STATE HOUSE

Donald Valdez (D), Colorado State Representative, District 62, 200 E Colfax, Room 307, Denver, CO 80203; phone: 303-866-2916; email:Donald.valdez. house@state.co.us

■ STATE SENATE

Larry Crowder (R), Colorado State Senator, District 35, 200 E Colfax, Denver, CO 80203; phone: 303-866-4875 capitol, 719-850-2459 cell; email: larry.crowder.

senate@state.co.us ■ U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-

TIVES Scott Tipton (R) Regional Office — 719-587-5105; 719-587-5137 (fax); Washington, DC — 326 Cannon HOB, Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4761; 202-226-9669 (fax);

http://tipton.house.gov **■** U.S. SENATE

Michael Bennet (D) SLV Regional Office, 609 Main Street, Suite 110, Alamosa 81101; Phone: 587-0096; Fax: 587-0098; Washington office — 458 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; DC Phone: 202-224-5852; bennet.senate.gov

Cory Gardner (R), Regional Office, 503 N Main Street, Ste, 426, Pueblo, 719-543-1324, fax: 202-228-7174; Washington office: 354 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; 202-224-5941

Daniel McKillop Keith R Cerny **Managing Editor** Publisher Awarded Colorado The Valley Courier and Conejos County Courier are published daily, Tuesday through Saturday by Alamosa Newspape Inc. 2205 State Ave., Alamosa, Colo. 81101. Periodicals Postage: is paid at Alamosa, Colo., Monte Vista, Colo., La Ja Colo., and Fort Garland, Colo. Phone (719) 589-2535. FAX (719) 589-6573. News Media Corp. Web Site: http://wwnewscorporation.com. Postmaster send change of address to P.O. Box 1099. Press 2017 First Place, Best Phot First Place, Best Photo Essay First Place, Best Photo Portfolio Second Place, Best News Photo Second Place, Best photo Essay Second Place Sports Editor/Asst. Editor Stephen Jiron Lany Sveum Production Manager Helen Smith Staff Writer Vernon Truiillo Production/Press Foreman Ryker Alonzo Richard R. Quintana Debbie Sowards Morgan Neely Advertising Manager Sales Associate

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Lifestyle

The outlook for nurses is very strong



Many people consider the right job one that provides both a sense of fulfillment and the opportunity to achieve financial security and stability as one's career advances. Given that criteria, the field of nursing should make for an attractive career path.

The outlook for registered nurses, often re-ferred to as "RNs," is very strong. In its recent "Occupational Outlook Handbook," the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a division of the U.S. Department of Labor, issued a highly favorable employment outlook for registered nurses. Estimating the projected percent change in employment between 2018 and 2028, the BLS estimated that employment of registered nurses is expected to grow 12 percent during that 10-year period. That's more than double the aver-

age growth estimate for all occupations. The outlook is equally strong in Canada. According to the Canadian Occupation Projections System, which is provided by Employment and Social Development Canada, new $job\, openings\, for\, registered$ nurses and registered psychiatric nurses are expected to total 157,100 between 2017 and 2026. The ESDC anticipates a nursing shortage during that same period, estimating that only 143,900 new job seekers will be available to fill those positions. But that gap between job openings and qualified candidates means that nurses should not experience much difficulty in

While the outlook in terms of availability of work is strong for current nurses and those who aspire to one day follow this career path, that outlook should not alone compel people to pursue a career in nursing. Few fields can be as demanding as nursing, which means not everyone is

regard to finding work.

necessarily cut out to be a nurse. The demands are perhaps best exemplified by examining the hours registered nurses may expect to work, especially at the beginning of their careers when they have no seniority. The BLS notes that hospitals and nursing care facilities require round-the-clock employees every day of the year. That means nurses can expect to work long hours on nights, weekends and holidays. That requires considerable sacrifice on the part of nurses, and those aspiring to enter this line of work should consider if they're willing to make those sacrifices before enrolling in a nursing program.

Estimates suggest the employment outlook for qualified nurses will be very strong over the next several years, which should compel more and more talented people to pursue this fulfilling career path. TF204813

Great activities to embrace this spring This is just the start of the

Spring arrives in the Northern Hemisphere on March 19, bringing with it visions of more hours of sunshine, warmer temperatures and ample opportunities to embrace the great outdoors.

Come mid-March, people who live in climates marked by cold winters have no doubt been anticipating spring fun in the sun for some time. Once spring arrives, the following make for some

great activities.

Come spring, various sports fill up afternoon and weekend schedules. Whether these are professional sports or youth sports leagues, the games can be a great way to spend time outdoors in the fresh, suddenly warmer air.

Visit an orchard

Spring is a season when many berries, such as strawberries, blackberries, and blueberries, begin to ripen. Find your local pick-your-own establishment to spend a day having fun (and getting a little messy) grabbing sweet berries for salads, jams and pies.

Hit the links

It's time to dust off the clubs and play the greens at any of the thousands of golf courses in North America. The National Golf Federation says the United States is home to around 15,000 courses. The warmer temperatures are ideal for practicing your short game on the putting green or for play-

ing all 18 holes. Get the patio ready for

 $Clean\, off\, \bar{patio}\, furniture$

entertaining

or start shopping for new items if you didn't partake in end-of-season sales.

outdoor entertaining season, and it pays to refresh the deck or patio and invest in some quality furniture to keep guests comfortable.

Plan a vacation

Many schools go on a hiatus for a week or two during the spring, prompting otherwise busy families to get away for some R&R. Book early to score the best deals on hotel rooms and flights.

Prepare gardening

equipment

Before long, the grass will need mowing and the shrubbery will have to be pruned. Ensure that lawn and garden tools and equipment are in top form before they are called into action. Stock up on fuel for gas mowers and sharpen those pruning shears.

Visit a local garden

Enjoy the sights at a garden when the first spring blooms start to peek out of the soil. Spring is known for tulips, daffodils,

crocuses, and snowdrops. Give your bike a tune-up Take your bike out of

storage and give it a onceover. Now is the time to put air in the tires, grease the chain and make sure that the brakes and other equipment are working properly. Most bike helmet manufacturers recommend replacing helmets every three years, even if you haven't been in a crash. That's because the polystyrene foam can degrade over time from environmental exposure.

Visit a farm Many farm animals give birth in the spring. Children may be excited to see piglets, foals, kids, and all the other adorable young animals draw their first breaths.

Spring's arrival presents the perfect opportunity to reacquaint oneself with the great outdoors. TF203767

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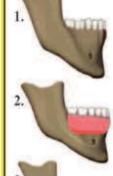
slvfed.com

What Are the Limitations in Your Life?

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

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

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



with presence of natural teeth

1. Jawbone

2. Bone loss beginning without the presence of natural teeth

bone loss the denture "floats"

3. With advanced

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

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Dr. Todd Rogers will be in Alamosa April 9 & 10 and May 14 & 15, 2020

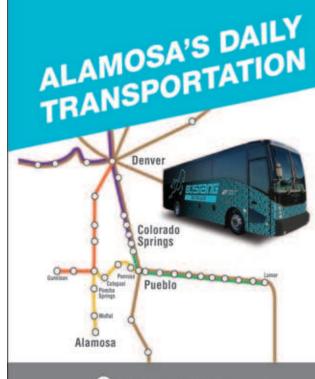
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Honoring education By SYLVIA LOBATO chitect began.

BLANCA/FORT GAR-LAND — Memorialized in bronze by a sculptor more than 50 years ago, Sierra Grande School between Blanca and Fort Garland welcomed at least three generations of graduates to see what was in store.

Superintendent Darren Edgar mentioned this and said a recent plumbing burst emphasized the need for a new school, since repairs were expensive.

Financed by the Colorado Department of Education's Building excellent Schools Today (BEST) with a match coming from a property tax increase, the school is ready for innovation and innovation and that meant a new building. The big concern was higher property taxes.

A mil levy squeaked through election and the process of choosing an ar-

Staff from the Denverbased Cunningham Group visited the older school last Wednesday to see and feel what the school would look like when finished.

The school district has placed photos of graduates from both Blanca High School and Fort Garland High in frames along a hallway with photos of every graduate from that day to the present. Blanca and Fort Garland's schools were consolidated to become Sierra Grande, boasting championships in both the academic and athletic arenas

Some persons attended the current school when it was dedicated, many were more recent grads and the class of 2020 was headed out into the world. Students who will graduate in the future did what they were expected to do and talked about what could happen.

Support our local restaurants and businesses

By TREY **SPAULDING** COLORADO - The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment issued a public health order to close bars, restaurants, gyms, theaters, and casinos to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, effective 8 a.m. March 17 for the duration of 30 days. Establishments may continue to offer food and beverage using delivery service, window service, walk-up service, drive-thru service or drive-up service, and must use precautions in

doing so to mitigate the

potential transmission of COVID-19, including

social distancing. What are things that you can do to help local business and restaurant owners and their employees? Local restaurants are still able to offer "to-go" orders for their food. So please place to go orders with them and tip the person that brings your order. If you do not want to leave your home to pick up your orders, patrons can purchase gift certificates that can be used at a later time but provide the businesses with income. Many local businesses have websites where you can place orders or purchase gift certificates without

leaving your home.

For employees and employers, the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) announced March 16 that assistance for workers and employers during temporary closures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The guidance includes information for employees filing for unemployment insurance claims, as well as information on programs available for employers.

Workers who have a reduction in hours/wages may file an unemployment claim at coloradoui.gov. A list of resources and FAQs on how to file is available on CDLE's website at colorado.gov/cdle and clicking on "Coronavirus Information and Resources."

The Department is also taking steps to reduce the impact of these claims on employers who have had to temporarily lay off staff due to closures or slowdowns. CDLE encourages all employers to utilize paid leave and telework options for employees before utilizing temporary layoffs. Employers can also consider alternatives to laying off staff through CDLE's Work Share Pro $gram.\,More\,information\,at$ https://www.colorado.gov/ pacific/cdle/node/23616 or by email at cdle_employer_services@state.co.us.

Public Notice effective March 23, 2020 until further notice

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Board of County Commissioners for Alamosa County will hold a regularly scheduled public meeting each weekday at 2:00 p.m. located at 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101. In person attendance will not be allowed in order to protect the public. A

virtual conference room has been established for anyone who would like to listen in to comply with Colorado Open Meetings Law. You may call 605-313-6288 and use access ${\rm code}\,433756\#.\,{\rm Accessibil-}$ ity may be limited due to network capacity. Meetings may be cancelled when no business needs to be conducted.

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Lifestyle

SLV Tourism Conference focuses on sustainability

By CHELSEA MC-NERNEY-MARTINEZ

ALAMOSA- The San Luis Valley Tourism Association's annual conference was held at the Elks' Lodge in Alamosa Wednesday, March 4. The event covered local upcoming events and changes on the horizon and speakers attended who offered advice on how to keep tourism sustainable for ecologically-minded visitors but also sustainable for the preservation of natural resources and destination locations.

Sustainable Presentations

Steve Coffin of Steve Coffin Strategies LLC presented on his work on tourism destinations on the Front Range and the methods he used, as a partner with other organizations, to keep certain destinations open when overcrowding began to threaten their physical integrity. Coffin explained how a three-part strategy can be implemented with local stakeholders to ensure the San Luis Valley's natural destinations are not damaged through

Coffin showed lines of cars to the parking areas for Colorado 14'ers, including to Mount Bierstadt, where there is not only an influx of vehicle traffic but also a 30 minute wait to sign the scroll at the top of the mountain. Coffin also discussed the struggles at Hanging Lake, near Glenwood Springs, where he said physical altercations were breaking out over parking spaces and the amount of litter and other waste were harming the physical integrity of the area and the safety for visitors. He reviewed the causes of these issues, including population growth in the Front Range area, "From 2010 to 2015, the sevencounty metro area added an average of 55,500 new residents each year with another 507,000 people expected to move here by 2025. By 2050, we are projected to grow to more than 4.5 million. The entire Front Range, from Fort Collins to Pueblo, is expected to total more

than 7.1 million people

in 2050.' Coffin explained the organization, NoCo Places 2050, was formed as a collaborative group including Northern Colorado stakeholder public land organizations, such as the U.S. Forest Service, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, multiple local counties and the National Park Service, among others, to create a plan that kept these areas open and functional for all Coloradoans and visitors. The organization utilized a three-part method, Develop a Set of Principles and Guidelines, Convene Civic and Community Leaders and Engage the Support of Elected Officials, to create methods to incorporate collaborative ways to monitor and address changes to these areas and prioritize how to make them sustainable. Coffin stated the same methods would not work for every area, but utilizing the core tenants for actions including collaboration, being proactive and deliberate, holistic, adaptable and financially sustainable to focus on education and instilling a greater ethic sense of stewardship would ensure that their organization

Some locations may need caps on daily visitors, for example, Coffin stated, and although there may be some opposition to this at first, Coloradoans value their natural resources and the natural beauty of the state and they found through their educational

and other organizations

which use the same pro-

cess would be successful.

efforts many of those opposed could understand and respect the overall purpose behind the actions taken. Coffin stated different management strategies would have to be used for different locations, but recruiting the help of dedicated volunteers was essential to the success of a sustainable project.

Coffin stated the lessons learned through the NoCo Places 2050 projects, applicable to any organizations in a similar situation, were the processes take time and the processes must be inclusive, adaptable and data driven. Coffin also cautioned the tourism conference attendees to monitor demographic trends and what those trends mean for public spaces and tourism attractions, pointing out currently Colorado is getting older, and Baby Boomers prefer to travel and explore in solitude whereas millennials, which account for 28 percent of the state's population, prefer group activities. Overall the state is also becoming more ethnically diverse as well, Coffin pointed out. He also added technological changes can happen quickly and can have both negative and positive effects on public spaces. He used Instagram as a largely positive recent trend because it draws people to spaces they see pictures of and encourages them to recreate outdoors. Drones he cited as something that has had mixed results and will continue to influence tourism in the

The National Environmental Policy Act, passed by President Nixon in 1971, does create a process by which public lands can be closed or limited, Coffin stated, adding it is a very public process that is based on the understanding that action is needed or an area would be lost. Coffin stated this can be

used as a last resort.

"What does success look like?" Coffin asked the attendees. He explained a successful process will be a bottom-up process with the necessary infrastructure to manage public lands in a way that

preserves them. Addison Phillips with the Colorado Energy Office along with Jay Young of Colorado Gators presented on Charge Ahead Colorado and the efforts to get more electric vehicle charging stations throughout the state and region. Phillips explained the difference between a Level Two Charger, like the one he was charging his vehicle on at First Southwest Bank, charges for roughly 100 miles of driving in 20 minutes. Level Three Chargers, or Fast Chargers, operate much faster but require a greater power infrastructure to be installed and

are more expensive. Phillips explained the REV West plan, signed by governors from Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming is focusing on getting Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers installed through major tourism and travel corridors, like I-25. Phillips explained they are also looking at installing EV chargers along scenic byways, including current plans to install them along the Silver Thread Scenic Byway in Creede and in Gunnison County in the near future. There are also plans to potentially put a fast charger in Alamosa and the Colorado Energy Office is looking at a way to get EV chargers on the Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic Byway if they can get confirmed locations and investment in Antonito, Fort Garland and

San Luis.

■ See **TOURSIM** page 9

Level two chargers are currently found at Colorado Gators, the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative office, Colorado Gators, First Southwest Bank and Joyful Journey Hot Springs. There is a push to get level two chargers in many hotels throughout the state as well, Phillips explained.

The Charge Ahead Colorado grant program provides 80 percent or a maximum of \$9,000 for a level two charger to a site host, like Colorado Gators. Young estimated the 20 percent he was responsible for was roughly \$2,500. Charge Ahead Colorado provides \$30,000

for a level three charger, which are typically between \$60,000-\$70,000, according to Phillips. More information about the grant can be found at https://cleanairfleets.org/programs/charge-ahead-colorado.

Attendees asked what the out- of-pocket expenses were for those charging EVs were, with Young stating they allow visitors to Colorado Gators to charge for free and Phillips stating the charger at First Southwest Bank costs \$28 per kw/hour, which was how many EV charger providers charged, by their kw/hr cost. Phillips pointed out level three chargers on the

corridor project are often a combination fee of 25 cents per minute and 20 cents a kw/hr. Young pointed out for the hosts the cost can sometimes be more than \$11,000 total but it varies as many contractors will want to do every phase of the project (concrete, electrical etc.) but a host who monitors costs and shops around closely can keep those costs down.

Through 2020, Colorado has a state tax incentive of \$4,000 for EVs and there is still currently federal tax incentive as well, which according to efile.com, ranges from \$2,500 to \$7,500 for a new EV purchased from

Jan. 1, 2019 through the year. Phillips pointed out there are new regulations requiring automakers to make a certain percentage of their new vehicles electric, so EV chargers are something sustainable tourism markets have to prepare for.

Last to present to the tourism conference was Dr. Nick Parker of Nick Parker Consulting, LLC, based out of Lubbock, Texas. Parker presented on the known rapid changes we can expect from climate change and encouraged attendees to focus on Hydrogen Fuel Cells as a sustainable option.

■ See TOURISM page 8



SALES & SERVICE

Employees at Town & Country are following the CDC rules during this time of uncertainty. We are taking all precaution to stay safe for our employees and customers.

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*Eligible Models include 19MY Ram LD DS/DT, 20MY Ram LD DT, 19MY/20MY Jeep Renegade, 20MY Jeep Compass, 19MY/20MY Dodge Journey, 19MY/20MY Dodge Grand Caravan Financing and deferred monthly payments for well-qualified retail buyers when financed through Chrysler Capital. Not all buyers will qualify. Interest, if any accrues from date of purchase. See dealer for details. Take retail delivery by 3/31/2020. 0% APR financing for 84 months equals \$11.90 per month per \$1,000 financed for well-qualified buyers through Chrysler Capital regardless of down payment. Not all buyers will qualify. Not compatible with any other incentive programs or offers.

Valley News

Uninsured Coloradans Can Enroll during a Special Enrollment Period in Response to COVID-19 Outbreak

DENVER — To help as many people as possible protect their health and safety during the COVID-19 outbreak, Connect for Health Colorado® announces a new Special Enrollment period that starts Friday, March 20, 2020 and ends Friday, April 3, 2020. Coloradans who are uninsured qualify to enroll in a health insurance plan for coverage that starts April 1, 2020.

To sign up for coverage through the Marketplacethe only place where residents can qualify for financial help to lower costs- Coloradans can complete an application and select a health insurance plan:

Online at ConnectforHealthCO.com.

Over the phone at 855-752-6749, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. We're also extending Customer Service Center hours this weekend and next, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday Working with

a certified enrollment expert. Many local experts continue to provide virtual and/or phone appointments.

Applicants should select the enrollment reason as, "Will lose or lost health insurance and/or have no other health coverage during the COVID-19 outbreak" and input the application date as the qualifying life change event date. Residents who take these steps will not be asked by health insurance companies to provide documentation to verify their eligibility for the Special Enrollment

As always, Coloradans can sign up for a plan if they experience other qualifying life change events, including loss of job-based and Health First Colorado (Medicaid) coverage. Coloradans may be eligible to enroll in a new plan if they experience changes or losses in income, which should be reported to Connect for Health Colorado. Residents who qualify for Health First Colorado (Medicaid) or the Child Health Plan Plus program can enroll online through the PEAK application any time during the year.

Contact: Monica Caballeros

Email: mcaballeros@ c4hco.com

Phone: 720-496-2574 About Connect for Health Colorado

Connect for Health Colorado is a public, non-profit entity established by the Colorado General Assembly in 2011 to create a health insurance Marketplace. Since 2013, we've been helping individuals, families and small employers compare plans, apply for financial help and buy health insurance. As Colorado's official health insurance marketplace, we are the only place to apply for financial help to lower the monthly cost of premiums. Customers can shop online; get help by phone or online chat from Customer Service Center representatives; and access expert, inperson help from a statewide network of certified Brokers and communitybased Assisters. For more information: Connect-

Personal property declaration filing reminder



Alamosa County Assessor reminds all persons owning, possessing, or controlling taxable personal property (furnishings, equipment and other movable personal property) that the deadline for filing a Personal Property Declaration Schedule is April 15. All persons who own, possess, or control taxable personal property with a total actual value greater than \$7,700 per owner, per county, are required to report the

with a total actual value greater than \$7,700 per owner, per county, are required to report the personal property to the county assessor. Failure to declare your personal property each year by the deadline will result in the assessor valuing your property using the "best information available" and attaching a penalty to your tax bill. If you did not receive a declaration schedule, please contact the county assessor at (719) 589-6365.

All personal property with a total actual value in excess of \$7,700 (per owner, per county) is taxable unless specifically exempt by law.

Taxable personal property includes:

All residential household furnishings used to produce income

E q u i p m e n t, furniture, and machinery used by commercial, industrial, and natural

resource operations
Property used in an agribusiness that does not qualify as agricultural pursuant to §39-1-1-2(1.6)
(a), C.R.S.

Expensed assets with a life greater than once year

Fully depreciated assets still in use

Personal property in storage that is subject to IRS depreciation

Leasehold improvements

Equipment that is licensed as a motor vehicle (SMM plate or Z-Tab) is not reported on the Personal Property Declaration Schedule.

If you have questions about the Personal Property Declaration Schedule, please contact the assessor's office at (719) 589-6365.

Tourism

At the end of his presentation, Parker announced Cetna Energy was in the San Luis Valley to look at building a plant in the area that will take the Beetle-kill trees and turn them into woodchips for hydrogen power. Cetna's Biomass gasification plan, Parker stated, will also replant trees as they use them and will have no smokestack and very little waste.

Parker presented different models for the potential for warming temperatures as a result of climate change, pointing out "nobody knows which model is exactly right, but we know it won't be constant." Parker also stated between 20 and 50 percent of the species on the planet are projected to be extinct by 2100 because the ecological

weight of people on Earth exceeds that of all other animals. Parker also pointed out our population growth over the next 40 years could equal what used to be 4,000 years worth of construction, including between 2014 -2054 the need to build 96 times as many homes per year. In 2015, Parker pointed out 93 billion tons of resources were extracted from the Earth but only 9.3 billion tons were recycled, making humans global use of minerals, ores, fossil fuels and bio mass unsustainable.

Parker stated he believes we need to shift to the third Industrial Revolution, the age of Hydrogen (the first being the age of steam and the second the age of oil), the most common element in the universe, and focus on locally-produced renewable energy fed into a smart grid.

Parker pointed out the successes shifting to hydrogen

fuel cells has had for corporations, including the shift to hydrogen powered forklifts at the Walmart Distribution Center in Plainview, Texas, which has made their processes faster and more efficient. A forklift now lasts 24 hours on a single hydrogen power cell, whereas previous models had to change/recharge batteries three to four $times\,per\,day.\,Nikola\,Motors$ has also presold 8,000 semi trucks that run on hydrogen, with a range of 500-750 miles and recharges take only 15 minutes, making them very comparable to diesel powered trucks but without greenhouse gas emissions. This is also more efficient than the Tesla electric semi, which has a 500 mile range.

Parker compared the increased value to a gallon of water hydrogen adds and also pointed out the amount of water required for hydrogen fuel. "Hydrogen uses

2.3 gallons of water per kg, gasoline requires 3-6 gallons of water in the refinery per gallon of gas, ethanol from corn requires 2,400 gallons of water per gallon and thermoelectric power requires 10 percent of freshwater used nationwide" with wind and solar power not requiring any water. Parker also pointed out the efficiency of hydrogen energy, "Hydrogen creates 120 megajoules per kg, gasoline creates 44 megajoules per kg, natural gas at 3,000 psi creates 55 megajoules per kg and a Tesla battery produces approximately three megajoules per kg.'

megajoules per kg."
With companies in China striving to have no combustion engine vehicles produced by 2030 and 700 hydrogen stations going up around the U.S. between 2022-2028, Parker encouraged attendees to look at the importance of investing in hydrogen now for a more sustainable future.

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

April 22, 2020 at 8:30 AM, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, Colorado for the purpose of considering an application for a Minor Subdivision submitted by Matthew Yoder and Chester Yoder for Rocky Mountain Home Builders, LLC

The applicant is proposing to divide parcel into two tracts. The home will be sold separate from the remaining vacant land. The legal description of the property is:

The E1/2SE1/4 of Section 13, Township 37 North, Range 9 East, N.M.P.M., in Alamosa County, Colorado. Details regarding this application are available for public inspection in

fice hours.

ROARD OF ALAMOSA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MICHAEL YOHN, CHAIRMAN ATTEST: MELANIE WOODWARD

CLERK OF THE BOARD No. 1365

Published in the Valley Courier March 21, 2020

Pursuant to ARTICLE EIGHT of the Alamosa County Land Use Development Code; NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: that a Public Hearing before the Board of Alamosa County Commissioners is scheduled April 22, 2020 at 8:30 A.M. in the Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101, for the purpose of considering text amendments to the Land Use and Development Code for Alamosa County.

The full details of this application are available for public inspection in the County Land Use office during regular office hours.

Any interested person(s) may appear and be heard at the public hear-

Land Use Administrator

Published in the Valley Courier March 21, 2020

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING On Ordinance No. 6-2020

NOTICE IS GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 6-2020, an ordinance adding a new Article IV to Chapter 13 (Municipal Court) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Alamosa concerning entry of orders for restitution upon conviction of an ordinance

18, 2020, and a Public Hearing thereon set for Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. This hearing will be held in Alamosa Council Chambers, 300 Hunt Avenue, Alamosa, Colorado.

Further notice is given that any and all persons of interest may appeal at said hearing and be heard in this matter, and that the full text o the ordinance is available for public inspection and acquisition on the

Holly C. Martinez, City Clerk

Published in the Valley Courier on March 21, 2020

Ordinance No. 7-2020

Notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at a regular meeting of the Alamosa City Council duly called, Council finally passed and adopted Ordinance No. 7-2020, an ordinance amending the established pay plan for City officers and employees in accor-dance with Article III, Section 11 of the Charter and as referred to in Section 15-2 of the Code of Ordinances, concerning personnel rules and regulations and pay plan for City Officers and employees. Further notice is hereby given that the full text thereof is available

for public inspection and acquisition on the City's website and in the

Holly C. Martinez

Published in the Valley Courier on March 21, 2020

Ordinance No. 8-2020

Notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at a regular meeting of the Alamosa City Council duly called, Council finally passed and adopted Ordinance No. 8-2020, an ordinance amending Section 10-221(f)(4) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Alamo iminate the requirement that mobile food vehicles be located on hard surface paving

Further notice is hereby given that the full text thereof is available for public inspection and acquisition on the City's website and in the Office of the City Clerk.

Office of the Critical Clerk.
Alamosa City Council
Holly C. Martinez
City Clerk
No.1372
Published in the Valley Courier on March 21, 2020.

District CourtConejos County, Colorado

Court Address: 6683 County Road 13, PO Box 128, Conejos, CO 81129

Telephone: 719-376-5465 In the Matter of Estate of: Antonio Angelo Velasquez,

Attorney: William F. Dunn, Reg. No. 1036

585 Columbia Avenue, Del Norte, CO 81132 Phone Number: 719-657-3323; Email: Bill@Dunn-Law.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO 15-12-801, C.R.S. NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Antonio Angelo Velasquez, Deceased Case Number: 2020PR30004

All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or the Clerk of the District Court of Conejos County, Colorado on or before August 1, 2020, or the claims may be forever barred.

585 Columbia Avenue, Del Norte, CO 81132 Published in the Valley Courier on March 21, 28, and April 4, 2020.

099 ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIDS BEING SOUGHT for garage door installation at the Bus Garage of the Upper Rio Grande School

District. For more information, please contact the Administrative Offices at 719-657-4040. Bids due by April 1.(4/1)

185 - SERVICES & REPAIRS

FLU PREVEN-TION CLINIC Every Thursday in March. Be proactive and strengthen your immune system at the Acu Center Community Clinic located in Del Norte, 990 6th st. Call for appointment 360-

LICENSED PLUMBER DOES all types of plumbing repairs and plumb-ing remodel done at reasonable rate. Call 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593.(4/2)

821-9006.(4/3)

221 **HELP WANTED**

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL District is ac-

cepting applications for a Health Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. The person in this position will teach health in grades 6th through 12th. A complete list of desired qualifications and experience is posted on the district website http://ww2.monte.k12. co.us/employment-opportunities.html. Monte Vista School District offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, and life coverage. Applications may be submitted to the District Office, 345 E. Prospect Ave., Monte Vista, CO 81144, by April 1, 2020,

PART-TIME RECEP-TIONIST NEEDED immediately. Need to be dependable. Bring resume to Valley Courier, Attention Keith.(TFN)

or until the position is

filled. Applications may

be downloaded from the district website or call 719-852-5996.(3/28)

221 **HELP WANTED**

CROSSROADS' TURNING POINTS.

Inc is currently hiring for the following position: CIC Caseworker / Full Time / \$12.75 to \$13.75 per hr Available to work different shifts, as needed. Please see job description and apply online at: www.crossroadstp.org.(3/28) THE SAN LUIS Valley

Board of Cooperative Educational Services has a position for a full time Early Childhood Special Education Teacher for the 2020-2021 School Year. Interested applicants should hold a valid Colorado Teacher License with a license for Early Childhood Special Education or be eligible for a Temporary Educator Eligibility (TEE). Application is available at the BOCES office or on-line www.slvboces. org. Process requires application, letter of interest, and three current letters of reference. Send completed application process to LJ Garcia, Assistant Director of Exceptional Student Services, SLV BOCES, 2261 Enterprise Drive, Alamosa, CO 81101. Application deadline is

April 3, 2020.(4/3)

THE SAN LUIS Valley Board of Cooperative Educational Services has a position for a full time Early Childhood Special Education Teacher for the 2020-2021 School Year. Interested applicants should hold a valid Colorado Teacher License with a license for Early Childhood Special Education or be eligible for a Temporary Educator Eligibility (TEE). Application is available at the BOCES office or on-line www.slvboces. org. Process requires application, letter of interest, and three current letters of reference. Send completed application process to LJ Garcia, Assistant Director of Exceptional Student 2261 Enterprise Drive, Alamosa, CO 81101. Application deadline is

April 3, 2020.(4/3) THE ALAMOSA **SCHOOL** District is accepting applications for the following position: Building Night Janitor AHS) Applications are available online at https://dist. alamosa.k12.co.us For more information, contact Mindi Van Ry at 719-587-1600. Application deadline March 27, 2020. EOE(3/27)

THE COSTILLA **COUNTY** Conservancy District is now hiring for an Administrative Assistant position. Job requirements: High School Diploma, Microsoft Office experience, and Email and computer skills. Preferred qualifications: Accounting/ bookkeeping (Quickbooks) skills and Good communications/writing skills. Position is for 30 hours per week, Monday - Friday. Please email resume along with letters of recommendation and references to info@ costillaccd.orgby April 2, 2020.(4/4)

PART-TIME RECEP-TIONIST NEEDED immediately. Need to be dependable. Bring resume to Valley Courier, Attention Keith.(TFN)

HELP WANTED

RIVER VALLEY INN Nursing home is now hiring LPN's and RN's. Come join our team! Must have a current li-cense and CPR. Days and Night shift With night shift differential. Please stop in for an application at 1335 6th st in Del Norte Co or call 719-657-1105 Ask for Susan or Chelcy. (RVI is EOE.)(4/3)

RIVER VALLEY INN Nursing home in Del Norte Co is seeking a Director of Nursing must have a current Colorado license and in good standing. We offer insurance and competitive wages if interested please stop in @ 1335 6th st to apply or if you have any questions please feel free to contact us @ 719-657-1105 ask for Susan. (RVI is EOE.)(4/3)

WE ARE LOOKING

for a candidate who possesses strong general bookkeeping knowledge and good time management skills. Positive attitude, dependability and willingness to work with others is a must! Experience using Quickbooks and/or Epicor is extremely helpful. The role for this position is assisted by the use of an outside professional accounting service. This is a full time position. Beginning pay is negotiable depending on experience. Please send resume to katie@ slvproperties.com or drop off in person at 157

Craft Drive. (3/24)+ WANTED FULL-TIME position on organic sheep and hay farm in La Jara, CO. Must have good people skills, be honest and dependable. Experience with animals, farm work a plus. Must have phone and transportation. Our mission is to be leaders in sustainable agriculture and sustainable living. Living quarters on farm an option. Call Colin 719-588-1035. (3/24)

A&L COORS HIR-**ING** for a full-time driver/delivery person. Position is physically demanding. Applicant requirements: self-motivated, good communication skills, dependability, attention to detail, clean driving record, must pass a drug test and work well with others. Positive working environment with an opportunity to acquire a CDL license. Pick up application at 1905 State Street, Alamosa, CO. After 4:00 PM. No

phone calls please.(3/24) SAN LUIS VALLEY Health is seeking qualified candidates to fill positions as a Maintenance Mechanic, Maintenance Worker, and Housekeeper. please visit https://www.san-

luisvalleyhealth.org/careers/ for a full job summary for these positions, as well as our other job opportunities. (3/27) MONTE VISTA ES-

TATES Nursing Home is Seeking a full time day shift CAN seeking a full time evening shift (2-10) shift CAN If you love working with the elderly and enjoy making a difference in the lives of our residents, please contact us. We look forward to having you join our team. (3/28)

Immediate opening in multi-media sales. Experience appreciated.

KCerny@alamosanews.com Valley Courier

Send resume to:

HELP WANTED

NIGHT STAFF NEED-**ED** at La Puente Home. Need Mature, dynamic, compassionate person, able to deal with all types of people. Must be able to work weekend and graveyard shifts. (21+). Bilingual preferred. Looking for the unique applicant who will be a part of an awesome team of individuals helping others. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and

satisfaction of helping

others. Send resume to:

hr@lapuente.net. (3/31)

APARTMENT MAN-AGER. OVER the Rainbow Apartments, down-town Alamosa seeks a live-in skilled property manager. Responsibilities include lease management, facility upkeep, handling tenant needs and issues. Qualifications: mature, good communication and computer skills, good references. Knowledge of human services helpful. Compensation includes salary, apartment, paid utilities and benefits. Serious applicants, please submit resume to hr@

lapuente.net.(3/28) SANGRE DE CRISTO School District is looking for highly motivated Middle School Science Teacher that has a desire to teach and the ability to pass their passion of learning onto students. For more information please contact Mr. Stagner at 719-378-2310 or bstagner@sangreschools. org. Teaching applications may be downloaded from sdc.schooldesk. net or picked up at school office. Positions open until filled. (3/27)

221 **HELP WANTED**

mosa is hiring a part-time Library Assistant. (Hiring range \$12.00 to \$12.60/hour DOQ). 20-25 hours per week. Hours will include evenings and weekends. Computer and customer service skills are a must. Duties include, but not limited to, shelving, collection maintenance, and customer service. Full job description, announcement, and application can be found on our website at cityofalamosa.org. Dead-line: 03/26/2020 at 4:30 p.m.(3/27)

FARMING TECH-NOLOGY CORP is Seeking Tractor Operator Help. May Apply In Person At 8629 Rd 105 North Mosca, Co 81146. Phone 719-754-0559. (4/15)

ADAMS STATE UNI-VERSITY'S Department of Teacher Education is seeking applications for a Part-Time Program Assistant. Please submit letter of application addressing qualifications, curriculum vita with unofficial transcripts: Names and contact information for 3 references: Mr. Curtis Garcia, Search Committee Chair, 208 Edgemont Blvd, suite 3050, Department of Teacher Education, McD 246, Alamosa, CO 81101. curtislgarcia@adams. edu https://www.adams. edu/hr/ administrativepositions/. Review of completed applications will begin immediately. Priority considerations will be given to applications received on or before March 15, 2020.

Quick ŽΙΡ CODE

Reference Adams State College......81102 Antonito......81120 Blanca.....81123 Bountiful......81140 Capulin......81124 Center......81125 Chama......81126 Conejos......81129 Creede......81130 Crestone.....81131 Del Norte.....81132 Ft. Garland......81133

Garcia.....81134 Homelake......81135 Hooper......81136 Jaroso......81138 La Garita......81132 La Jara.....81140 La Sauses......81151 La Valley......81153 Manassa.....81141 Moffat.....81143 Mogote.....81120 Monte Vista......81144 Mosca.....81146 Romeo.....81148

Saguache......81149

San Acacio......81151

Sanford......81151

San Luis......81152

San Pablo......81153

South Fork......81154

Spar City......81130

Villa Grove......81155

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Classifieds

221 **HELP WANTED**

FARMING TECH-NOLOGY CORP is seeking Irrigation Technician Qualification, With Sprinkler and Well Maintenance. Apply In Person At 8629 Rd 105 North Mosca, Co 81146 Phone 719-754-0559. (4/15)

MONTE VISTA ES-TATES Nursing Home is seeking a full-time day shift RN to add to our amazing team! Shift is 6am-6:30 PM-Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (one week) Thursday, Friday Saturday (second week) rotating schedule. The open positions are essential roles in the overall care offered to our residents. (3/28)

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL District is seeking dynamic, people oriented candidates for the position of Monte Vista Middle School Principal. Start date will be August 1, 2020, with a competitive salary based on experience, plus an attractive benefit package. Interested individuals should submit application materials electronically in pdf format to mary@monte. k12.co.us by March 26, 2020. A full description of desired qualifications and experience may be viewed on the district website https://ww2. monte.k12.co.us/employment-opportunities. html. Applications are

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

available to download

on the district web site

or call (719)852-5996.

(3/24)

304 LAWN & GARDEN

SPRINKLER REPAIR REASONABLE rate and quick service. Also available on the weekends Call 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593.(4/2)

324 - FEED **& SEED**

PREMIUM ALFAL-**FA AND** grass/alfalfa, small bales \$7.00 in hay shed (719) 580-2509.

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

330 **FREE**

FREE DRESSER **GOOD** condition 719-937-2254 Need gone ASAP. (3/25)

> 341 - GARAGE **SALES**

USED FURNITURE/ ESTATE SALE. Dinning room set, Livingroom set, and Bedroom set. Everything must go. Call for Appointment 719-588-3508.(3/24)

351 LIVESTOCK

FOR SALE 2 and 3 year old Limousin bred Bulls. Red and Black, Fertility and trick tested. Call Ed Orth (719)852-3069 (3/24)

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

353 - FARM & **LIVESTOCK SERVICES**

ATTENTION FARM-**ERS & Ranchers. Show** special seal leaking stock tanks, ponds or reservoirs with Bentonite 719-580-6652.(3/27)

360 - MISCELLANEOUS **FOR SALE**

RAMSEY 12 VOLT Pro 8000R Series #817508 wench 93 ft. 5/16 cable. Remote switch, roller fairlead. 719-852-2285 (10/22-TFN)

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

369 - PETS & **SUPPLIES**

REGISTERED MINI AUSSIE puppies for sale. Will be 8 weeks old ready on 3/23/20. 3 Blue Merles and 3 Black Tri. Blue Merles \$500 a piece Black Tri \$350 a piece. Current on all shots. 719-849-1877.(3/27)

ALL DOGS AD-**OPTED** FROM THE VALLEY HUMANE LEAGUE HAVE TO BE SPAYED OR NEUTERED BE-FORE GOING TO THEIR NEW HOME. (TFN)

OOPS! GOT PUP-

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

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

org. (TFN)

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

387 - WANTED TO BUY

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

409 FARM & **RANCH LAND**

WANTED TO LEASE or lease-to-own pasture or hay grounds. Call 719-850-1680.(4/25)

525 **GUNS**

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

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Rental assistance available to qualified households.

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929 Spruce St. Del Norte, CO 657-3654

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601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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West View Villas 510 Dunham Monte Vista, CO 852-3949

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611 - HOMES FOR RENT

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4 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 2 car garage, Fenced backyard, No pets 1 year lease Location: Alamosa \$1,200 + utilities 719-849-1979

614 - MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

FOR RENT: 3 Bedroom; 2 Bath M.H. new carpet, new paint \$1000.00 deposit \$850.00 month. Call 580.9536(3/31)

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Gomez Manor 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts. 2 & 3 bedroom Apts. 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts. 804 State Street Antonito, Colorado 719-376-2388

273 Wills Center, Colorado 719-754-2649

Sangre de Cristo

Valle Vista 58 E. Central Avenue Center, Colorado 719-754-2608

Senior and Disabled Living

(62 years of age or older, disabled regardless of age) Mt. Blanca View

Cielo Vista 1 Bedroom Apts. 166 S. Wills Center, Colorado 719-754-3664

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

42 A great

many

43 Cheer up

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49 Business

– — step

ACROSS 1 Gentle 5 "The Real World" channel 8 Winner's medal 12 Unwrap

deg. 50 Fall mo. 53 Pine for 13 Gleeful 56 Fastener shout 58 Dog in 14 Brain wave "Beetle 15 Water the Bailey" house-59 Want-ad plants

letters 16 Sikhism or 60-off Taoism (reserve) 18 Twosomes 61 Hey, you! 20 Daystar 62 W-2 info 21 That, to 63 - Major Juanita

22 Most **DOWN** cautious 25 Like 7 1 Booster and 11 seat user 28 Memorable 2 Imitated first 3 PC list 29 Europe-4 Grant Asia range money for 33 Curbed 5 Taint

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STE P PRES UTA CUBA EAST ORCA T O N ME M MUNDANE GEESE ALSVET ALSA HOSTAS I R E I DOL ANNE I V E RUED OUR ZINGERERUNGS VOW NUNI BRAYS VIBRANT SPIN EGOS TAT | S|L|E SHIP |E|L|I PIES TARS

10 Durocher 38 Barely and manages **Tolstoy** 40 Kits and 11 Carvey of cubs "Wayne's 41 Deletes World" a file and outs 44 Nonflying 19 Quaff with bird 45 First P.M. sushi 23 Disposed of India 46 Mashed of 24 Pulls potato serving

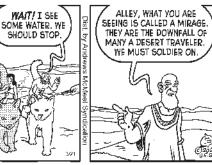
25 Ricelike 47 Cereal pasta 26 Heart-felt 27 Force 48 Diligent 30 Stir up 31 Part of A.D. 51 Third-rate 32 Perchance 52 Pinnacles 34 Grab a 54 Figured out snack 55 Sweetie-pie

37 Informer

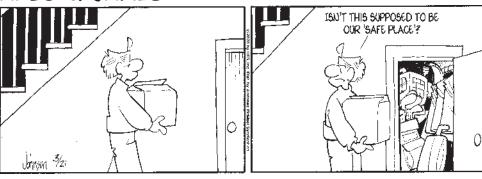
ARLO & JANIS

ALLEY OOP

THERE!







BIG NATE



PINNACLE INTERESTING NAME. SPORTSWEAR!

HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 poxes must con-tain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

6

	6	8	3	9	1	7	5	2	4
	5	4	9	6	3	2	1	8	7
n 3	1	2	7	4	5	8	6	9	3
-	7	6	1	3	4	9	8	5	2
1 it	2	3	8	7	6	5	9	4	1
	4	9	5	2	8	1	7	3	6
	3	7	2	5	9	6	4	1	8
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	8	5	4	1	7	3	2	6	9

1

3



grains

insects

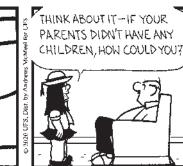
57 Mauna -



i know it's probably uncomfortable. but we need them as evidence."

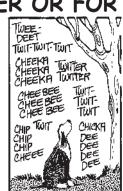
THE BORN LOSER





FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE









Joy over finding love can't diminish pain of twin's loss

a serious boyfriend for six months. He's wonderful, a dream come true. But I find myself more depressed and suicidal than ever. Mom tells me I don't have any reason to be depressed since I have a boyfriend. It's like she thinks I have no right to still be despondent over my twin's death because I now have a significant other.

My eating disorder and worse, too. I feel like I'm holding in so much sadness I'm not allowed to show that I'm turning it all inward in self-destructive ways. Although I love my boyfriend, I almost feel like breaking up just so everyone won't expect me to be Pollyanna anymore. The third anniversary of my twin's suicide is coming, which is making everything more unbearable. I just don't know what to do. I just want to disappear. -- THINGS AREN'T

DEAR THINGS: If your mother truly believes a death in the family (particularly a twin!) is something that can be "fixed" by having a boyfriend, she is deluding herself. You need professional help and right away. There are support groups for survivors of a family member's suicide, and you are three years overdue for finding one. I urge you to contact the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Someone there can at her sister's wedding and

DEAR ABBY: I have had loved one's suicide. To find them, go online to afsp.org.

If you are feeling suicidal, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and tell a counselor about what's going on. If you do, you can be directed to a licensed therapist in your community who can help. The toll-free number to call is 800-273-8255. PLEASE do not put it off.

DEAR ABBY: My daughself-harm have gotten ter and I have been estranged on and off for many years, most recently for the last 22 months. At that time, she angrily took her 8-yearold daughter and left our home, where she had been living since another eviction. She said she was going to tell everyone I kicked her out. Then she blocked me on Facebook, removed my access to my granddaughter's classroom progress reports and my name from the school emergency card. I had no idea where they went. My poor granddaughter was in tears. She had been upset moving back in with us again, and told me

she wished her mom would get a job so they could stay in one place for real. After no contact, I have been told my daughter is being married. "Save the date" cards have gone out. I have no desire or intention of going to a wedding of someone who has spent half her life being cruel to me, lying, ignoring me, being jealous

help you to locate a support so on, with never an apology group for the survivors of a for her horrible behavior.



ABIGAIL Van Buren

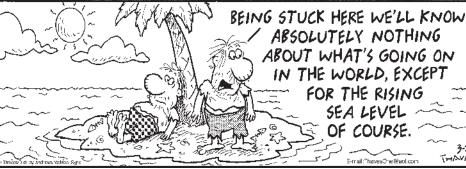
She's a Jekyll and Hyde.

We live in the same community, and I do all I can to avoid seeing her. I'm happy for her and delighted my granddaughter will finally have a bedroom of her own, but I have no intention of playing happy family to someone who regularly sharpens knives in my back. How do I answer any inquiries that may come up about the wedding? --CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE

DEAR CAN'T: Do not engage in a litany of complaints and accusations. You can get the message across to anyone who asks about the wedding by saying that you are not involved in the planning of the wedding and questions should be directed to your daughter. You do not have to discuss it further. It's short and sweet and gets the message

across.

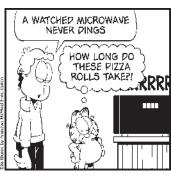
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD







THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



Calendar

Due to the Coronavirus meetings and events are subject to change and cancellation. Be sure to contact each intended event before attendance.

ALAMOSA — The SLV STEAM Shop makerspace is open to the public most Wednesdays from 5-8 p.m. south of Richardson Hall and west of the theater building on the Adams State University campus in Alamosa. The SLV STEAM Shop provides access to 3D printers, machine knitting, small-scale casting, electronics fabrication, a laser cutter and much more.

VALLEY — Energy assistance is provided through La Puente's Outreach homeless prevention program. To qualify you must be directly responsible for an energy bill, your bill must be past due, and you must meet income qualifications. Call (719) 587-3781.

MONTE VISTA — Valley Fiber Art Guild (VFA) is a group for anyone interested in fiber arts: knitting, crocheting, weaving and spinning. We work on our individual projects, sometimes do projects together and learn from each other. We meet the fourth Saturday of every month, from 1-4:30 p.m. at 757 County Rd. 29, Monte Vista. Call or email Wanda Couzens-Smith for more information at (719) 719-852-5000 or wcouzenssmith@ gmail.com

CAPULIN — Free tutoring is available in the Capulin Library from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Friday for students first grade through twelfth grades in all subjects.

ALAMOSA — Cats Alive is in need of dry cat food to help volunteers feed cats throughout the San Luis Valley. Also goat milk is appreciated for the kittens. To donate cat food call Marge at (719) 298-7028 (willing to pick up donated food) or send monetary donations to help with the cat food to Cats Alive, P.O. Box 84 Alamosa, CO 81101 or online at catsaliveslv.com.

CONEJOS COUNTY
— Conejos Library District is in need of volunteers in Antonito, La Jara and Capulin. The library is a great place to volunteer. Please contact Maria DeHerrera at (719) 274-5858.

MONTE VISTA—The Monte Vista Assembly of God Church, God's Closet, located at 881 N. Hwy 285, across from Mountain King is in need of clothing donations. Bring them to the white shed.

VALLEY—Cat food is needed to distribute to all the volunteers that are feeding the cats. Cat food donations may be left with Abie Roybal, 225 10th St., Alamosa,

and monetary donations may be made to Donna K. Ditmore, manager for cat welfare for Alpha Humane, a nonprofit tax-exempt organization, and sent to 3095 County Road 108 South, Alamosa, CO 81101.

ALAMOSA — Habitat for Humanity is accepting applications for homeownership in Alamosa. Applicants contribute 500 hours of "sweat equity," time and labor. Construction is done with the help of hundreds of volunteers. When a house is completed, applicant families purchase the homes from Habitat for Humanity with a nonprofit mortgage. Call Habitat at (719) 589-8678 or go to www.slvhabitat.org

ALAMOSA — Grief support group meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Alamosa 1st United Methodist Church from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Call Liz Hood at (719) 580-3697.

ALAMOSA — VFW in Alamosa hosts BINGO every welcome.

MONTE VISTA — Alzheimer's support group meets the second Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon at the Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce & Information Center, 947 First Ave. Call the helpline at 1-800-272-3900 or (719) 372-5985.

ALAMOSA — American Legion Auxiliary Unit #113, Alamosa, holds its monthly meeting at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday at the American Legion Building at 514 Fourth Street, Alamosa. Call Evelyn Espinola at 719-313-1466 or Alice Robinson at 589-0543.

ALAMOSA — Sit for 30 minutes every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 607 Fourth St., Alamosa, for a slightly guided meditation promoting inner peace and awareness. Contact 719-486-6326.

ALAMOSA — Alamosa Public Library is carrying the online language-learning software by Mango Languages free of charge to patrons. Call Alamosa Public Library, 589-6592.

VALLEY — The Saguache County Veteran Service Office is pleased to announce that homeless veterans and other veterans in financial need can receive help thanks to a five-county grant administered by the Chaffee County Veteran Service Office. Contact Jim Sheeran at (719) 655-2680. Office hours are Wednesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MONTE VISTA – The San Luis Valley 4-H Robotics is looking for used laptop donations to help with expansion of their youth robotics program. Donated laptops should run Microsoft Windows XP or later or Mac OS 10.6 or later and have 1 GB of ram and at least a 1 GHz processor. Those interested in donating to support this program can call (719) 852-7381 or drop laptops off at the SLV Area Extension office at 1899 E. Hwy 160 in Monte Vista.

ALAMOSA—Alamosa Elks Lodge 1297 hosts BINGO at 7 p.m. Thursdays in the lodge room. Food is available.

MONTE VISTA—Tri County Seniors, 311 Washington St. in Monte Vista, are hosting line dance classes every Tuesday evening from 7-8:30 p.m. for only \$1 per class. New students are welcome. These are for all ages.

ALAMOSA — La Puente Home is requesting hygiene kits to assist the less fortunate of the San Luis Valley. Often, guests arrive at the homeless shelter without even the most basic of necessities. For this reason, La Puente provides kits full of hygiene products such as soap, shampoo, razors, shaving cream, toothbrush and paste, deodorant and a washcloth. At this time, La Puente is running very low on all hygiene supplies. Call (719) 589-5909 or stop by La Puente Home at 913 State Ave., Alamosa.

CENTER — Veterans are welcome to learn about the range of benefits they have earned at the Center Public Health building on the third Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or call (719) 655-2680

ANTONITO — The Antonito Senior Center is hosting Free Nutrition Classes as long as there is an interest. They are held Tuesday evenings from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Antonito Senior Center, 701 Main St., Antonito. Call Alicia Wagar at (719) 852-7382 or (719) 376-

2294.

ALAMOSA — Want to learn how to reduce stress, manage chronic pain, manage chronic illness and improve quality of life? Join "Let Go Of The Stress" every Tuesday from 5:15-5:45 p.m. in the Grizzly Education Center Board Room at 1919 Main St. in Alamosa. There is no cost. Call (719) 589-8008.

VALLEY — The horses on Wild Horse Mesa are in need of hay. Spirit of the Wild Horse Foundation feeds as many horses as possible to keep them on top of the mesa, off the highway and away from the ranches. Call Spirit of the Wild Horse (719) 206-2749, message number (575) 586-0784, email at spirit.of.the. wild.horse@gmail.com or address mail to P.O. Box 100, Costilla, NM,

87524.



