

Valley Courier

WEDNESDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

APRIL 1, 2020

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SLV Today
City Council to meet by video

ALAMOSA – Alamosa City Council will hold its regular meeting tonight (April 1) by zoom video webinar beginning at 7 p.m. A couple of ordinances related to municipal court and other legal matters will be heard as well as a COVID-19 update and discussion.

Thursday edition to cease temporarily

ALAMOSA — In light of continuing lost advertising revenue due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Valley Courier will temporarily cease publication of its Thursday edition effective this week, April 2. Courier Publisher Keith R. Cerny said to watch Wednesday's Courier for a more complete explanation. Regular news updates will continue seven days a week at www.alamosanews.com and on Alamosa Valley Courier's Facebook page.

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SLV WEATHER



Cloudy 64/3

Thurs: Sunny/Windy 63/27

Thurs: Sunny 58/29

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Nationally known rodeo contractor passes

Honeycutt family bids farewell to patriarch Roy

ALAMOSA – Long-time, award-winning stock contractor Roy Honeycutt, 82, died at his home on March 25 with his children at his side.

Roy and his late wife Virginia were presented the Donita Barnes Contract Personnel Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019 for their lifetime commitment to the rodeo industry. Virginia, the longtime matriarch of the Honeycutt rodeo family died Dec. 1, 2018, at the age of 76.

Roy and Virginia started the Honeycutt Rodeo Company in 1976 in Ala-

mosa, Colo. They traveled across the country and the world producing rodeos – every performance held on a Sunday included cowboy church. Their son, Jerry, has owned Honeycutt Rodeo Company since 2012.

“I don’t know what to say,” said Roy, when notified he was receiving the award last year. “This is emotional. It is great to receive this honor. I’m very excited. This is a big deal.”

The Donita Barnes Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Roy at the PRCA Awards Banquet at the South Point Hotel & Casino on Dec. 4.

“In the rodeo business tradition means a lot,” Jerry Honeycutt said. ■ See **RODEO** page 3



Honeycutt Family
PRCA DONITA BARNES CONTRACT PERSONNEL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Andersen © 19

COVID-19: SLV cases hit 15 plus

SAN LUIS VALLEY – Reports and web postings from SLV Emergency indicates that there are 15 confirmed cases in the San Luis Valley by late Tuesday.

New cases include three in Alamosa County and one more each in Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande and the first in Saguache. The totals to date are: Alamosa 4, Rio Grande 5, Costilla 3, Mineral 2 and Saguache 1. No confirmed cases have been reported in Conejos County.

Tuesday night’s post from SLV Emergency said: As the COVID-19 pandemic situation continues to evolve, so do the tools we use to track the illness in our community. We are now posting positive cases by county on a daily basis at www.slvemergency.org/slv-covid-19. As of 5:00 p.m. today, the to-

tal number of confirmed cases is 15. These include cases that have been confirmed by lab testing as well as cases where public health has identified a person with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 who has also had close contact with a lab-confirmed case. We know there is community spread because we have identified transmission of the virus between individuals in the Valley unrelated to travel outside the Valley.

With community-level transmission of COVID-19 now confirmed in the San Luis Valley, it is important to our regional emergency planning and response to also track the spread of illness beyond just the lab-confirmed cases and their close contacts. ■ See **COVID** page 3

Responsible Activity



Courier photos by Keith R. Cerny
LEFT, Seven-year-old Trey “Bear” was taking advantage of the skate park half-pipe in Alamosa’s Cole Park on Tuesday. “I’ll be 8 in May,” he said. RIGHT, While many stay sheltered at home, others take time to get a little fresh air and enjoy the outdoors. Adams State student Daniel Torres of El Paso, Tex. had a little help from his Husky “Azul” as he skateboarded down 20th Street in South Alamosa on Tuesday afternoon. Torres is an exercise science major at ASU and a former Grizzly soccer player.

CDOT requests comments on SLV transportation plans

By KEITH R. CERNY
Courier Publisher
VALLEY– Comments are due Thursday, April 2 on the draft of the San Luis Valley Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan.

The plans represent a culmination of work done locally over the past year in identifying the region’s transportation vision, goals, needs and priorities.

With recent review meetings having been cancelled

due to the Coronavirus, the draft of the plans are available online at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1km3T5Cr58Ey-la401wKmLOORBN7uChx?usp=sharing>. Comments can be shared with CDOT’s Carrie Tremblatt at carrie.tremblatt@state.co.us.

In a March memo, Tremblatt said the RTP is a 16-page magazine-style report that is intended to be reader-friendly to enable any TPR resident or agency member to read the

document and understand the regional transportation conditions, needs, and priorities. The plan documents the planning process gone through over the past year and complies with Federal and State requirements.

The Transit Plan was developed in close coordination with the RTP, and the two plans are companion documents. The plan documents public and stakeholder input specific to transit needs, input from the transit

providers in the region, and findings from the Survey of Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities. The Transit Plan is a requirement of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and all projects must be identified in the plan to be eligible for FTA Section 5310 funding.

CDOT requests input on if both plans reflect the transit needs of the SLV and if there are proposed projects missing in the plans.

Colorado Secretary of State’s Office to implement remote notarization

After working closely with the Governor’s office, stakeholders, and the legal community, the Colorado Secretary of State’s Office will implement a remote notarization process. Remote notarization will assist Coloradans and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We are committed to maintaining important services for Coloradans during this national health crisis,” said Secretary of State Jena

Griswold. “Remote notarization will enable Coloradans and businesses continued access to notary services while observing the social distancing guidelines that keep us all safe.”

Governor Polis issued an Executive Order today, which states in part: “Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of

the Colorado Constitution and the relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701 et seq. (Act), I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order ordering the temporary suspension of the personal appearance requirement before notarial officers to perform notarizations due to the presence of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Colorado.”

Secretary Griswold will issue emergency rules on Monday, setting forth the procedures and requirements for remote notarization in Colorado during this state of emergency. These rules will address implementation of the remote notarization process while including protections against identity theft and fraud.

For more information, please visit www.sos.state.co.us.

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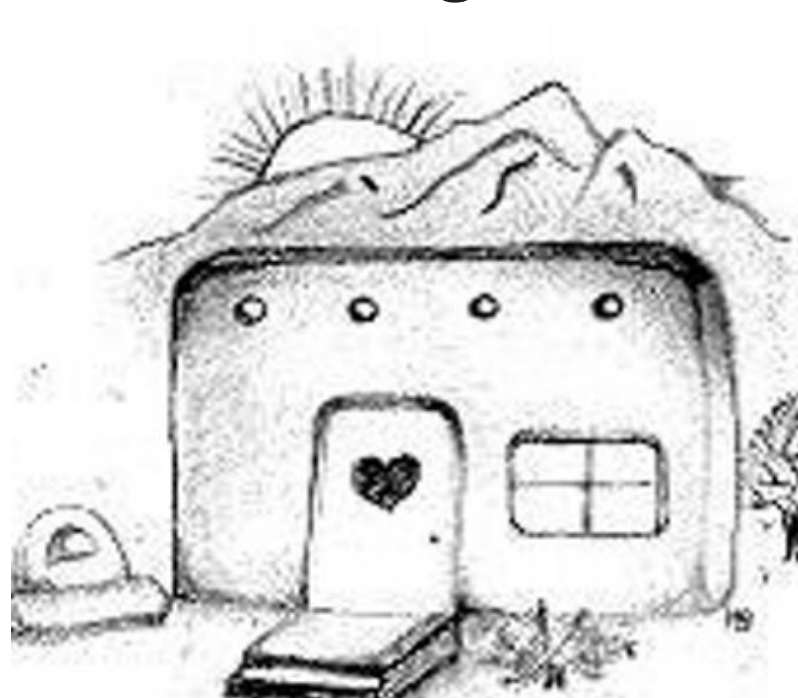
Valley News

Providing children a voice

By **SUMMER KING**
AmeriCorps Volunteer

ALAMOSA — April is a very strong month of the year, bringing awareness to hard subjects that don't often get talked about. In addition to Sexual Assault Awareness Month, April is also Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month.

A blue ribbon is used to represent and bring awareness to the topic. Why a blue ribbon? In 1989, a grandmother tied a blue ribbon to the antenna of her van to take a stand against child abuse. She saw her grandchildren being abused and constantly tried to help them. She lost her grandson, Michael Wayne "Bubba" Dickenson, to child abuse. Her daughter's boyfriend murdered 3-year-old Bubba, and his body was found, bruised and beaten, in a weighted toolbox at the bot-



tom of a canal.

His grandmother chose a blue ribbon because she was thinking about the bruises

she had seen on her grandchildren.

In 1982, Congress recognized the first Child Abuse

and Prevention week. Not long after, April was designated as the first Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention month. The Children's Advocacy Center of the San Luis Valley (SLV CAC) has been a part of Tu Casa, Inc. since 2013.

"I remember [before] interviewing kids, and sometimes I interviewed them at school, or sometimes I had to interview them in their bedroom while their parents were in the living room," said Theresa Ortega, co-interim Executive Director of Tu Casa, Inc. "Sometimes I had to interview them at the police department."

The SLV CAC is dedicated to allowing children the safe environment to share their story with trusted adults. They don't want children to have to repeat their story more than one time. Their mission is to ensure that the

children they serve are not further victimized by the intervention systems designed to protect them.

"I like the idea that children aren't having to talk to a case worker while the officer is sitting in the corner, pretending he's not there," Ortega said. "I like the idea of a family being able to go into a space where it felt safe and not like they might get their kids taken away."

The SLV CAC was talked about for 20 years before Tu Casa made it a reality. They took it under their umbrella and found the funding to support it. The SLV CAC offers forensic interviews and SANE exams to children, 0-17 years old, who have been victims of sexual assault or severe abuse/neglect.

"Just because they're our smallest members doesn't mean they're not important," said Ortega.

COVID

Continued from Page 1

To that end, we encourage residents who have experienced symptoms to complete our anonymous online SLV Symptom Tracker at slvemergency.org/slv-covid-19. The information collected through this form helps local public health response teams understand and track the spread of COVID-19 in the San Luis Valley. This survey does not take the place of consulting with your primary care provider or a nurse line. If you are experiencing symptoms that require medical care, please call your healthcare provider or a nurse call line at: San Luis Valley Health 719-589-2511 ext 9, Rio Grande Hospital 719-657-4990 or Valley Wide Health Systems 719-589-3658 ext 9. If you are having difficulty breathing or another medical emergency, dial 911.

During this time it is as important as ever to follow the direction of your primary care provider and this includes taking medication as prescribed. We have heard from some in the community that they are not taking medication as prescribed in an attempt to "save it" should the pharmacy close. The pharmacies will remain open, not impacting your ability to refill your medication. You can also utilize a mail service to refill medications to reduce the need to go out and these services can be set up so medications are delivered on a regular basis according to your prescription. It is important that you continue to take your medications as prescribed by your healthcare provider.

We would like to thank everyone who has partici-

pated so far in our SLV Symptom Tracker survey. So far the data shows that in the San Luis Valley, around 80% of those with symptoms have mild, not severe, symptoms. That is consistent with what other parts of the country are seeing. People who are not at high risk of severe illness may not need to be evaluated in person or tested for COVID-19. Whether symptoms are mild or severe, do not wait for a test to self-isolate. The severity of your symptoms has nothing to do with your ability to transmit the virus to others. If you have symptoms, self-isolate, or in other words, stay at home and avoid contact with others until:

You have had no fever for at least 72 hours (without the use of medicine) AND

Other symptoms (cough,

shortness of breath) have improved AND

At least 7 days have passed since your symptoms first appeared.

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

Call your healthcare provider or a local nurse line if your illness becomes more severe, especially if you are experiencing shortness of breath. You can use telehealth or a nurse line to get medical guidance; find out more and access a list of telehealth and nurse line resources here: <https://covid19.colorado.gov/telehealth-and-nurselines>

If you have a medical emergency, call 911. If

you have severe respiratory symptoms, especially shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, tell the 911 dispatcher about your symptoms. Do not wait for a COVID-19 test to self-isolate or call 911.

SLV COVID general questions 9am-3pm: 719-480-8719 for English, or 719-315-5019 for Spanish. You may also email your questions to slvepr@alamosacounty.org.

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.com

Volunteer or Donate - www.helpcoloradonow.org

Espinoza, Garcia - notice

In Tuesday's edition an announcement article combined both Rick Espinoza and Carlos Garcia's announcements of their candidacy for Conejos County Commissioner, District 1. It was not intended to be a summation of all the candidates in the race but rather an announcement for both candidates.

COVID-19 Closures & Updates

ALAMOSA—Treasure Alley has temporarily closed in an effort to keep our employees safe and to do everything we can to help protect our community. Our gift store will reopen just as soon as we safely are able to do so. Please all of our friends and customers stay safe and we will anxiously wait to reopen and until then gift certificates are a great way to still support the store! Please reach out to us via email at treasurealley95@gmail.com or by calling Treasure Alley at 719-587-0878 and the calls will be forwarded. Lara, Becky and Carol

3 ways to respond to the Census

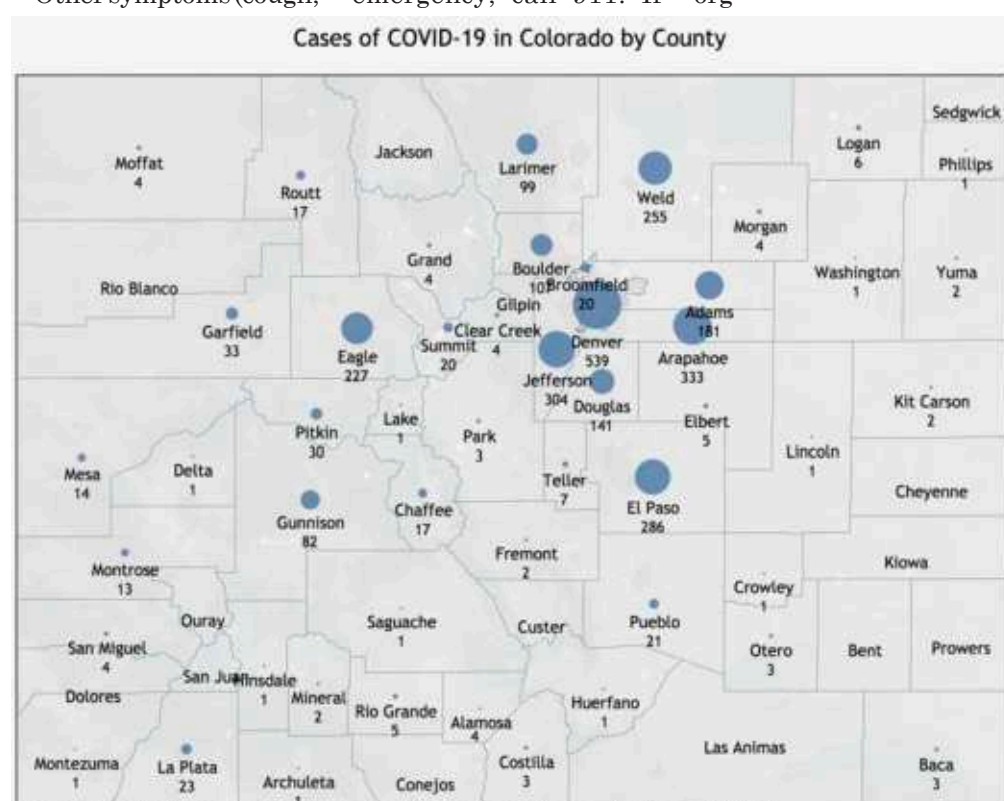
Online - my2020census.gov

If you received an invitation with an ID number, great, use it. If you don't have an ID number, that's fine. Just follow the instructions to enter your address.

Phone - call **844-330-2020**
(en español 844-468-2020)

Mail - If you do not respond online or by phone, you may receive a paper questionnaire. Paper questionnaires will be mailed in early April.

...all without having to meet a census taker



* People who tested positive for COVID-19 in Colorado while visiting are included in the county where they were identified.
** Location of symbols do not represent actual case locations.
*** Some cases may still be under investigation and county not assigned yet.

Rodeo

Continued from Page 1

"We as a younger generation got to step in and realize the fruits of guys like my dad, Walt Alsbaugh, Harry Vold, Cotton Rosser and Mike Cervi and Neal Gay and guys I've missed who came before us and deserve a lot of credit.

"My dad started from nothing and he established a lot of stuff and he did it on his own and I'm proud of him for that fact. I'm also proud of him raising a great family in the midst of all of it."

Jerry, his younger brother Scott and younger sister, Janet all worked in the rodeo business with their dad.

In 1886, Honeycutt's great-grandparents homesteaded to Alamosa from New York. Virginia was the daughter of Walt and Alice Alsbaugh. Walt Alsbaugh was a legendary PRCA stock contractor who was inducted into the

Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame in 1990. Virginia's brother, Art Alsbaugh, and his wife, Linda, were the recipients of the 2012 Donita Barnes Lifetime Achievement Award.

"I was involved with my father-in-law, and I appreciated that so much," Roy said.

Jerry said Roy's start in rodeo came from Walt Alsbaugh.

"He had a truck and trailer, but he didn't own any bulls or horses, didn't own one saddle, not one flank, nothing," Jerry said. "He got along with people and he leased everything from my grandpa (Walt Alsbaugh)."

"At that time, my grandpa was running 700 to 800 head of horses and 200 head of bulls. My dad would pay my grandpa a lease and then my dad would go put on his own rodeos."



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Opinion

God Bless America ...

HOLLYWOOD -- Major League Baseball postponed the season scheduled to start this week due to Corona Virus that crossed the ocean to the U.S. from China this year.

Incidentally, the sport is not played with any skill in China. One reason why the Chinese are no good at playing baseball is because they eat the bat.

The CDC repeated its prediction Monday that the virus can be minimized by good hygiene and common-sense measures.

What's being learned during this pandemic will alter my own profession forever. One hundred years from now, comedians will refer to this time as The Death of the Spit Take.

The Nixon Library opened a display of dirty tricks that presidential campaigns pulled on each other in the '60s. It's gotten crazy.

Dirty tricks have escalated from pregnant women holding up signs saying Nixon's the One to the CDC getting a call saying impeachment isn't working, release the virus.

The White House expressed hope Monday that home isolation would help hold down the virus mortality rate.

This past Sunday, seven hundred fifty people died in California, and only two of the deaths were from the virus. The rest of the Californians died from watching Donald Trump go up in the polls.

President Trump said Monday he's trying to set an optimistic example during the crisis. This period of forced isolation is an opportunity.

I believe that half of Americans are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks, while the other half will come out with a drinking problem.

The New York Times led a cascade of media pundits Monday asserting that the Corona Virus casualties would be much lower if Joe Biden were the president.

You know what, they just might be right. The virus, like Biden, would enter the room, forget why it came into the room and then leave.

The New York City Police Department reported a huge drop in the number of homicides and robberies as a result of the strict home quarantine.

Everyone forced to be home has to discourage burglary as well. The country's number-one crime used to be home break-ins, now it's home escapes.

President Trump on Monday trotted out many of our nation's leading manufacturers who are volunteering to make ventilators and surgical masks, including the popular My Pillow cable TV advertiser Mike Lindell. You know what I haven't seen on cable lately? Cheap life insurance policies.

President Trump went on Twitter Monday to say he loves the Queen and the Royal Family, yet he said Prince Harry and Meghan must pay for their own protection now that they've moved to Los Angeles.

It is a moot point anyway. Since Harry's castration, he doesn't need to use protection.

President Trump addressed reporters in the Rose Garden Monday and emphasized the need to make sure the government helps the airline industry recover.

It shows great sportsmanship by Trump to want to save the airlines. After all, if air travel shut down, CNN would lose all their viewers.

President Trump went to Virginia to see off a Navy hospital ship heading for virus-plagued New York. No one quite knows what to do.

I agree with the controversial proposal that New York must be quarantined but only long enough for Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania to evacuate.

Oregon's legislature just approved an emergency measure permitting cannabis stores to offer curbside service.

You pull up to the curb on the street, roll down your car window, receive your weed from the salesperson then you pay him with cash through the window. It's just like the old days.

Facebook Timeline informed me Monday that one year ago, Millennials were posting videos of themselves licking ice cream out of the carton at grocery stores then putting the ice cream back up on the shelves. Now, look what's happened as a result. This is why we can't have nice things.

Argus Hamilton is the host comedian at The Comedy Store in Hollywood and entertains groups and organizations around the country. E-mail him at Argus@ArgusHamilton.com.

Editor's Note: The views expressed in individual columns on this page do not necessarily reflect the opinion



Argus Hamilton

Flower and people names

Have you ever wondered about the relationship between flower and people's names?

Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) and sweet William (*Dianthus barbatus*) can trace their names to an English poem, "Sweet William's Farewell to Black-eyed Susan" by John Gay written in the early 1700s.

Black-eyed Susan is native to North America and it seems that British colonists gave the name to the yellow flower with the dark center when they arrived in the New World. Turns out the two flowers bloom at the same time and some like to think this expresses the lovers' eternal love for each other.

Susan -- also called "gloriosa daisies" -- bloom along many Colorado roadways in the summer. They are a biennial but are often grown as an annual. I have several patches that come back every summer.

Sweet Williams do well in the San Luis Valley, but mine tend to die out after several years and I replace them with new plants from the nursery. You can view images of these plants and most of those listed below at AlamosaFlowers.net.

Most of us have known someone named Lily or Rose. But did you know "Rhoda" is of Greek origin and means rose? Or that "Rosalind" is of Spanish origin and means pretty rose?

It is believed that the poet Edmund Spenser coined the name

Alamosa Landscapes



Marilyn Loser



Photo courtesy of Marilyn Loser.
Sweet William and Black-eyed Susan.

which was further popularized by Shakespeare's character in: "As You Like It."

Rosalind was a popular girl name in the 1940's, due to the popularity of the movie star Rosalind Russell. As far as growing roses in Alamosa, I do best with the wilder varieties like the yellow Harrison or the pink woodsia.

I've never met a woman named Petunia, but remember the cartoon character from Loony Tunes who was the girlfriend of Porky Pig. I always have a couple of hanging baskets of these annuals around the yard in summer.

Veronica (Veronica) or speedwell is one of my favorite flower types. The genus name refers to Saint Veronica, an Italian saint. Some believe the name is derived from the Latin word "vera," which means true, and "icon," meaning image.

I have several types growing in the garden and they reliably return each year. One creeping variety (thymoides) should begin blooming soon. Taller types such as pink Spicata Fox and white Icicle bloom in the summer.

Then there's the lovely ground

cover creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*) or moneywort with bright yellow summer blooms. One source suggests the plant was first grown as an herbal remedy in the early 17th century and was called "creeping chenny," but as words evolved over time the plant became known as "creeping Jenny."

Queen Ann's Lace (*Daucus carota*) -- aka, "wild carrot" -- is a white flowering plant native to Europe and southwest Asia, and naturalized to North America. I can't remember seeing any in the mountains around the Valley, but frequently encountered it along streams in the mountains outside of Colorado Springs when I lived there many years ago.

It has small, open-work white heads that surround a tiny red flower. Legend says the flower represents a blood droplet when Queen Anne (Queen of England, Scotland and Ireland from 1702 -- 1707) pricked herself with a needle when she was making lace.

"Marguerite" is of French origin meaning pearl or daisy. The only one I grow is silver leaf Marguerite (*Anthemis bierberseiana*). It does very well in the rock garden with little care. Most of the season it is a low silver mat. In June it develops lovely yellow daisy-like flowers. Marguerite was in the top 100 girl names from 1890-1921.

"Erica" is a Scandinavian name. In Latin, it means heather. It is a genus with over 800 different plants in the family Ericaceae. While I know some Ericas, I don't know of any of the plants growing around the Valley. Let me know if you know of any!

"You can bury a lot of troubles digging in the dirt." Unknown

Tu Casa, a beacon of hope for survivors

It is hard to think that there was ever a time in our history that adults and children weren't advocated for. Domestic violence was common and sexual assault wasn't talked about.

Women have been fighting for their lives and rights for over a century. Marital rape wasn't a crime before the 1970s, and -- before 1993 -- it wasn't officially against the law in all 50 states.

This is a very recent history for us. It isn't old news. In 2001, April was designated as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the United States.

With the rise of the #MeToo movement, more and more women are finding their voices and stepping forward to fight against sexual assault.

"Sexual assault just totally thrives in silence, in fear, in shame, in all of those things," said Jennifer Hanna, Victim Advocate and Hotline Coordinator, at Tu Casa.

"The more we have people out there saying: 'We know this happened, it's not okay,' the more that gives someone the ability to recognize what they're going

through or what they've been through."

"It gives them the voice to say: 'It wasn't okay and I can talk about it.' It's so empowering."

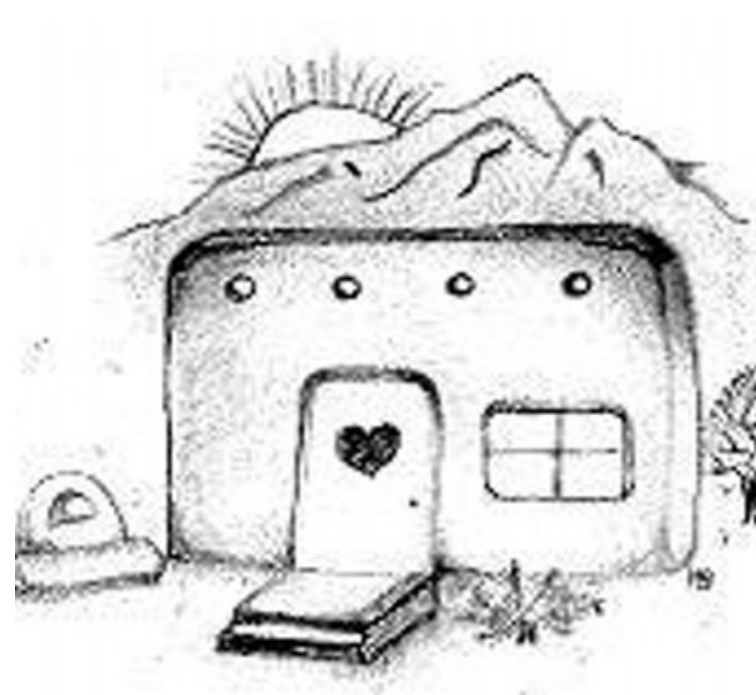
Tu Casa has been advocating for survivors since 1979. On June 10, 1980, they officially opened their doors as a recognized nonprofit. Their mission is to empower children and adults to live healthy, violence-free lives.

Tu Casa offers free services to survivors to be able to find better lives for themselves. They don't want there to be barriers of poverty, geographic isolation, language and culture issues and limited transportation.

Oftentimes, survivors don't know what their options are because of these things. Tu Casa has a 24-hour hotline that can be called anytime at (719) 589-2465.

"If people would shift away from thinking anything about the victim and just think about what that person [the perpetrator] did, that's where we need to change our mindset," said Hanna.

"A lot of times victims of



domestic violence — which can include sexual abuse a lot, too — try to change their behaviors to not be in these situations with perpetrators.

"It doesn't work, because that's not what the issue is. The issue is the perpetrator. The people out there who think it is okay to sexually assault other people."

Last fall, Tu Casa came close to having to shut their

doors because of the loss of funding and staff. Their current five staff members worked four-day weeks and took a pay cut to be able to keep all of them on.

With a lot of help and funding from the community, they rallied together and fought hard to be able to continue to provide services to the San Luis Valley. They were able to move back into working full-time mid-December 2019.

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 REPRESENTATIVES

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

Lifestyle

Adams State summer registration begins

ALAMOSA – Summer registration for undergraduate courses at Adams State University will open on Monday, April 13, 2020. Registration has begun for graduate students seeking a master's degree or Ph.D. Summer session dates are:

- 1st 6-week Adams State Online session from May 11 until June 21
- 2nd 6-week Adams State Online session from June 22 until July 31
- 12-week Adams State Online session from May 11 until July 31
- 8-week Adams State Online session from May 25 until July 17
- 3-week On-campus session from June 29 until July 17
- On-campus 1 credit workshops throughout July

Adams State is working hard to ensure students have the ability to continue their education and maintain access to courses throughout the summer 2020 term. The COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated some changes to the summer schedule. All on-campus classes originally scheduled for May and June sessions have been switched to online classes. Adams State is planning a 3-week summer on-campus session from June

29 to July 17 should the COVID-19 public health concerns subside.

Financial aid is available for undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in a degree program. In order to be considered for financial aid, students must be enrolled at least half-time in any combination of Summer Sessions (6 credit hours for undergraduate students and 3 credit hours for graduate students). Graduated high school seniors can be eligible for summer financial aid. Out-of-state students pay in-state tuition for summer courses. To apply for financial aid or for more information, please visit adams.edu/financial-aid/summer.

Online classes will be charged Adams State Online tuition and fee rates. Classes in the July session, if held, will be charged on-campus tuition and fees.

Summer registration for undergraduate students will open on Monday, April 13, 2020. Students are encouraged to connect with their advisor prior to that, to discuss options. Please check the class schedule for current options, noting that some adjustments are still underway. Advisors will have up-to-date information for their academic department.



Census Day is April 1

Households encourage to respond to the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail

ALAMOSA – Observed nationwide, April 1 is Census Day, the day set aside by the federal government to count all persons living in the United States of America - every man, woman, and child, regardless of age, race, or nationality.

By this date, every home in the San Luis Valley, and across the country, should have received an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. People can respond to the census in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. When they respond, they will tell the Census Bureau where they live as of April 1, 2020.

Anyone may respond, whether or not they received an invitation, by going online to www.my2020census.gov. Or, they may respond by telephone by calling 844-330-2020 (en Espanol 844-468-2020). Eventually, any household that does not respond to the census will receive a paper form at their home by mail or delivered by a census worker.

The census is conducted every ten years by the federal government and is required by the U.S. Constitution. It is used to determine the number of seats in the House of Representatives, how federal and state legislative districts are redrawn, and how over \$880 billion in federal funding is allocated

across the 50 states.

There are only ten questions on the 2020 Census and all information is confidential. The Census Bureau is bound by law to keep all information confidential. It cannot be released to any other government agency, even law enforcement agencies. Violating the law is punishable to by prison time and/or a fine of up to \$250,000.

The 2020 Census does not ask whether anyone in a household is a U.S. citizen. The 2020 Census counts everyone living in the country, including non-citizen.

Due to concerns about spreading coronavirus, the U.S. Census Bureau has suspended all field operations until April 15. In late May, census takers will begin visiting households that have not yet responded to the 2020 Census to help complete the count.

In a statement released earlier, the Census Bureau said, "The public is strongly encouraged to respond to the 2020 Census online using a desktop computer, laptop, smartphone, or tablet, and can also respond by phone or mail. Everyone should respond to the 2020 Census as soon as they receive their invitation — and when they're finished, they can make sure their friends, families and social networks know about the importance of responding."



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Lifestyle

Colorado officials respond to federal rule weakening fuel efficiency standards



DENVER— Officials with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Colorado Department of Transportation, and Colorado Energy Office criticized a new rule from the federal Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Transportation that weakens existing vehicle mileage and emissions standards and reverses progress in Colorado and other states in expanding access to lower emission, fuel-efficient vehicles.

The previous standards required automakers to improve average fuel efficiency by five percent per year between model years 2021-2026. The EPA had estimated that the fuel efficiency standards would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by billions of tons between 2009 and 2025.

The Safer Affordable Vehicle Rule released today would require only a 1.5 percent annual increase in fuel efficiency standards, a figure that is lower than the average actual increases in efficiency achieved per year since the Bush Administration.

The State of Colorado has already taken significant steps on its own to address harmful air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, including those from automobiles. In 2019, state regulators approved a Zero

Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) rule, following a successful negotiation with auto manufacturers, that will provide consumers with more environmentally friendly vehicle options while slashing greenhouse gas emissions by more than three million tons between model years 2023-2030.

“Fighting climate change and improving air quality will ultimately require a concerted national and international effort,” said John Putnam, director of environmental programs at the Department of Public Health and Environment. “So we wish the federal government had done better than a rule that rolls back important environmental progress. In Colorado, we have committed to doing the big things — reducing greenhouse gas emissions, addressing emissions from cars and trucks, providing Coloradans with clean air and improving the quality of life for everyone in our state. We’re proud to lead on these important issues, and we hope the federal government eventually decides to rejoin us.”

“It is bitterly ironic that, in the midst of a pandemic that is compromising respiratory health across the globe, this administration is choosing to focus its energies on rolling back air pollution regulations and trying to curtail states’

rights to protect the air we all breathe. It’s time for some perspective here: let’s put this needlessly partisan fight behind us and work together — federal and state governments, automakers and autoworkers, and the advocates for public health and the environment — and find a way to get auto manufacturers and the auto supply chain through the tumultuous economic time that we are in and on a long term pathway toward zero-emissions transportation as the economy rebounds,” said Will Toor, executive director, Colorado Energy Office.

“We remain as adamant as ever that a collaborative approach -- with government partners, auto manufacturers, and auto dealers -- is the best way to ensure that consumers across Colorado have a range of clean vehicle choices to suit their mobility needs,” said Shoshana Lew, executive director, Colorado Department of Transportation. “Our work in Colorado last year to complete the first ZEV rulemaking in the country that followed a successful negotiation with auto manufacturers could be a model for how we can turn the page in the national debate towards a more collaborative approach that’s good for the environment, consumers, and our economy.”



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Trinchera Blanca Ranch and Blanca Forestry Products applaud The Valley Courier for being a steadfast and reliable source of information during this challenging time.

We also send our deepest gratitude to our healthcare workers, first responders and all those on the frontlines fighting the pandemic.

Lifestyle

Agriculture remains critical in Colorado



COLORADO — On March 19, Homeland Security announced that agriculture is among 16 industries the department deems a critical infrastructure industry that should continue operations.

While this may not come as a surprise to the thousands of calving cows, many of whom have weathered blizzard conditions, it provides some guidance.

The roles recognized by the department as critical include those raising animals for food, animal production operations, slaughter and packing plants and associated government and regulatory workforce, veterinary health, farm truck delivery and transportation and those involved in field crops, as well as many others in supporting industries.

The Livestock Marketing Association (LMA) said it is actively working with federal, state and local officials to ensure the continuity of business while taking into consideration the public health consequences of the COVID-19 virus situation.

A press release from this group said markets are essential for producers along with maintaining the infrastructure and food supply for consumers. In order to mitigate disease spread, the LMA suggests utilizing social media and websites to communicate changes to producers. In the case of needing to reduce crowd size, it is suggested that consigners drop off livestock and not remain on the premises for the sale.

Also suggested is that auctions sellers offer flexibility to consigners needing to pick up checks by offering to bring checks to their vehicles.

Some markets are encouraging buyers to sign up for online bidding accounts prior to sales and have moved to online sales. Many production sales already offer online bidding and will continue to do so.

The Colorado Cattlemen's Association (CCA) has asked Governor Jared Polis to allow markets and bull sales to continue despite limits on gatherings

In a letter to the governor, the CCA said the sale of livestock is a crucial element of the food supply system and at least 14 markets in Colorado sell as frequently as weekly.

In addition, bull sale season is in full swing in the state, constituting for many an annual paycheck. Interruption of these sales would have lasting impacts throughout the food chain and are time-sensitive.

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Conejos News

Antonito Town Hall closed



ANTONITO — Due to Coronavirus and potential community spread of COVID-19, the Antonito Town Hall is closed until at least April 6. Essential staff will be working, but face-to-face contact with the public may be limited.

Here, Antonito's CWP assures that the water treatment continues to provide pristine drinking water for its residents)

Certified Water Professionals are crossing the State of Colorado during the Coronavirus Pandemic. Safe drinking water is essential during this Pandemic and all other times.

The clerk's office will be staffed from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. A drop box is available for payments.

The town clerk can be reached by calling (719) 376-2355 or email at townofantonito@hotmail.com.

Antonito water, solid waste, and street departments can be reached by calling (719) 298-6114 or sending a text message to rossi.duran@gmail.com.

Antonito Police Department can be contacted at a non-emergency number, (719) 376-5421, non-emergency dispatch (719) 589-5807 or emergency at 911.

Courtesy photo

Antonito's CWP assures that the water treatment continues to provide pristine drinking water for its residents. Certified Water Professionals across the State of Colorado during the Coronavirus Pandemic. As we all know safe drinking water is essential during this Pandemic and all other times. Stay well CWP's as your service is valuable.

6-Day Forecast

Wednesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 66. Breezy, with a south southwest wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 32. Breezy, with a south southwest wind 15 to 20 mph decreasing to 10 to 15 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 61. Breezy, with a west southwest wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to 20 to 25 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 28. Breezy, with a south wind 15 to 25 mph decreasing to 5 to 15 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 56. Breezy, with a southwest wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 29. South southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 62. Breezy, with a south southwest wind 10 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 29. South southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 63. Breezy, with a south southwest wind 10 to 20 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 29. South southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 64. South southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.



Courtesy photo

Supplies are here

SAN LUIS — Supplies were distributed Monday from the Strategic National Stockpile to San Luis Valley hospitals and first responders. The Strategic National Stockpile is a national supply of

medical supplies for use in a public health emergency. This is the second shipment of masks, gowns, and other personal protective equipment that has been received for the San Luis Valley. "The supplies we

have received through the stockpile are not enough to meet our local demand, but every little bit helps," said Jon Montano, Coordinator of SLV Regional Emergency Medical and Trauma Advisory Council.

Clerk and Recorder's office closed

ANTONITO — Due to the COVID-19 Virus and restrictions implemented by the Conejos County BOCC the Clerk and Recorder's Office will be closed to the public effective March 20, 2020, until further notice. The office will be working, however, while it is closed. Payments and renewals can be arranged by phone or can be dropped off in the will be working the office while we are closed, we can take payments for renewals by phone, or dropped off in the Election Drop Box in front of the Courthouse. If you have any questions please call (719) 376-5422

Altered hours

ANTONITO — Antonito Fuels will be supplying fuel from 7 a.m. to 7 pm, seven days a week. This will be pay-at-the-pump only for the time being. This is the best they can do for the time being in hopes this helps our community and commuters.

Garbage notice

ANTONITO — As everyone is aware of the Coronavirus and how easily it spreads, effective immediately, the town is asking everyone to have all garbage placed inside the poly cart in tied in garbage bags. Town employees will not be picking up loose trash. If you have an extra pickup the town will schedule an additional pickup. Town Administrator Rossi D. Duran says this is respect for the safety of town employees and their families. If anyone has questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Duran at ((719)298-6114

VFW Easter

ANTONITO — Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander Jimmy Duran has announced VFW Post 4849, American Legion and Auxiliary of Antonito have canceled the annual Easter egg hunt. "It is one of the hardest decisions we've had to make," he said, but it is his duty and responsibility to look after the children, community and post members.

Welcome Center

SAN LUIS — The town of San Luis Welcome Center and Town Hall are closed to the public until further notice. Persons who have business with the town may call (719)20 672-3321 or email townclerk@townofsanluisco.org.



HISTORIANS THINK THAT APRIL FOOL'S DAY MAY HAVE ORIGINATED IN THIS EUROPEAN COUNTRY.

ANSWER: FRANCE

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Laugh
SPANISH: Reír
ITALIAN: Ridere
FRENCH: Rire
GERMAN: Lachen

Joke Word Find

Find the hidden words in the puzzle.

APRIL	FAMILY	GIGGLE	PRANK
FAMILY	FOOL	GOTCHA	SILLY
FOOL	FRIEND	JOKE	SMILE
FRIEND		LAUGH	

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

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

PRLIA OLF SO YDA

Answer: April Fool's Day

THIS DAY IN...

APR 3 HISTORY

- 1860: THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL RUN OF THE PONY EXPRESS BEGINS IN MISSOURI.
- 1948: PRESIDENT TRUMAN SIGNS THE MARSHALL PLAN, WHICH WOULD HELP WAR-TORN EUROPE RECOVER.
- 1974: A SUPER TORNADO OUTBREAK STRIKES 13 U.S. STATES.

New word

FOOL

to trick or deceive

Did you know?

APRIL FOOL'S DAY HAS BEEN CELEBRATED FOR CENTURIES WITH PRANKS AND HOAXES.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SMILE



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Lifestyle

Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area 2021 grant cycle open

ALAMOSA — Grants awarded from Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area (SdCNHA) are intended to encourage local cultural and historic heritage preservation activities, educational programs, and support Heritage Tourism within the heritage area. Our past grantees have used grant funds to restore historic buildings; provide historical and cultural interpretation; restore or promote scenic, artistic and recreational resources; and to document culturally significant components of the way of life in the heritage area. Heritage area grants are available to local schools, municipalities, and non-profits annually. Survey & Planning Activities Related to Conservation Efforts Projects involve identification, recording, evaluation, designation, and planning for the protection of significant historic buildings, structures, sites, and districts. This is not for the acquisition of property. Section 106 compliance/consultation of the National Historic Preservation Act may be required for this project type and should be considered for your planning efforts. Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area can help with the completion of a Section 106 application. The following three projects received grants from the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area.



Courtesy photo

property is prime soil and the remaining third is rich riparian habitat, home to the Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout.

Rio Grande and Conejos Rivers Stream Management Plan- The Rio Grande and Conejos Rivers support the ecological and human communities of the San Luis Valley. Through the high mountain desert, these rivers provide water for agriculture, towns, recreation, and wildlife, making life in the SLV possible. While the SLV is home to diverse wetlands, wildlife habitat, recreation opportunities, and cultural experiences, the rivers of the Basin face many environmental and water supply challenges. In order to protect and restore the natural and cultural resources of the SLV, the current condition of these critical rivers and streams were first documented. The SMP process resulted in characterization of the physical condition of the Rio Grande and Conejos Rivers and the development of goals and methods to address environmental, recreational, and community needs facing each stream and watershed.

For more information on the efforts and mission of the SdCNHA, or to see more completed projects in our 10 Year Report, visit our website, sangreheritage.org. We invite and encourage you to apply for our 2021 grant cycle! Special consideration will be given to grant applications with focus on outdoor recreation, land stewardship, and business development. Please contact us, if you have an idea for a grant or have any questions about the grant process at email us at info@sdenha.org, call us at (719) 580-7366 or visit our office located at 623 4th Street in Alamosa.

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APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE: June 1st, 2020 by 5:00 p.m.

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Classifieds

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324 - FEED & SEED

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351 LIVESTOCK

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\$385,000 - Enjoy the breathtaking views as you drive 15 minutes to your new home at the end of a dirt road in Rimrock Ranch just SW of Monte Vista, CO. This custom 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 3 car garage home is set on 35 acres at the base of the San Juan Mountains. Enjoy 360 degree mountain views from your 1300+ square foot deck and marvel in the piece and quiet this property can offer. 515 Mountain View, Monte Vista MLS # 766729

\$225,000 - Highly efficient, brand new stick built home with 3 bedrooms & 2 baths. Open floor plan, grey stained kitchen cabinets, stainless steel appliances, granite on all counter tops, high quality wood laminate flooring, tile in bathrooms and stylish barn doors. Large master bedroom with big walk-in closet, 3/4 bath & separate water closet. Metal siding, rock exterior highlights, architectural shingles, high R-Value insulation in walls and attic, augmented well with outside watering, 2 car attached garage, back patio. Call today for more details. 5303 Road 9 S, Alamosa MLS # 767755

\$112,000 - Four bedroom, one bath home with good rental history. Conveniently located, within walking distance of downtown. Would make an excellent rental or starter home. 1006 State Ave, Alamosa MLS # 764509

\$99,000 - Cash buyer needed for this three-bedroom, 2 bathroom home with attached garage. Priced to sell! This is a manufactured home with a stick-built addition. Could use a little TLC to finish a project or two, but does sit on 40 acres with a domestic well and has new cabinets. Take advantage of this buying opportunity. 3345 Friese Lane, Alamosa MLS#765144

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Gateway Villa Apartments 929 Spruce St. Del Norte, CO 657-3654 TTY 1-800-659-2656 This institution is an equal opportunity provider

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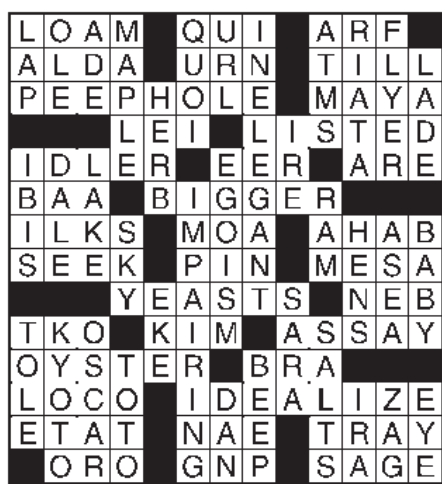
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

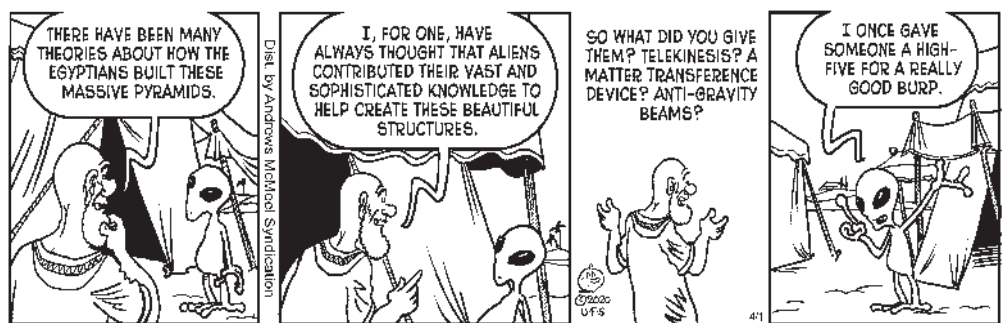
- 1 Impose taxes
- 5 Game of strategy
- 10 Mummy locale
- 12 Hot dog
- 13 Hun leader
- 14 Steers clear of
- 15 Harlow or Stapleton
- 16 Traipse
- 18 Cookbook amt.
- 19 Scorch
- 21 Tiny part
- 25 Stetson wearers
- 29 Undersized
- 30 Expand
- 32 Many sculptures
- 34 Some eclipses
- 35 Bloodhounds' clues
- 37 Steal the scene
- 38 Tough work schedule
- 40 Fleece-giver
- 43 Onassis nickname

DOWN

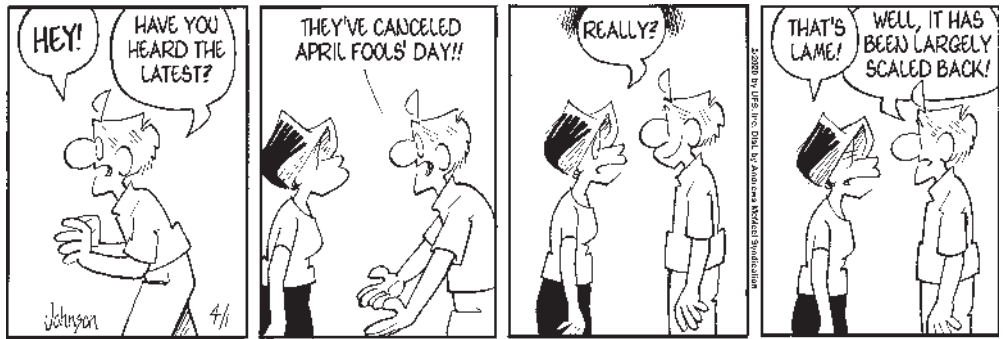
- 1 Pear-shaped instrument
- 2 Are, in Taxco
- 3 Ore deposit
- 4 "The King and I" name
- 5 Not mil.
- 6 Radiator output
- 7 Finishes up
- 8 Filter in
- 9 Almost-grads
- 10 Mil. rank
- 11 Pageant figures
- 12 Jammed
- 17 Industrious insect
- 19 Casual goodbye (2 wds.)
- 20 Banished
- 21 St. Louis time
- 22 Gridder — Alonzo Stagg
- 23 Cleopatra's wooer
- 24 Failing that
- 26 Pickling ingredient
- 27 Billionth, in combos
- 28 PDQ
- 31 Before, in verse
- 33 String of pearls
- 36 Isaac Newton's title
- 39 Shade of green
- 40 Volcano in Sicily
- 41 Soaks
- 42 Arden and Curie
- 44 Does some tape editing
- 45 Uttered
- 46 Dried-up
- 47 Moose kin
- 48 Drink a little
- 49 Pilot's dir.
- 51 French friend



ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



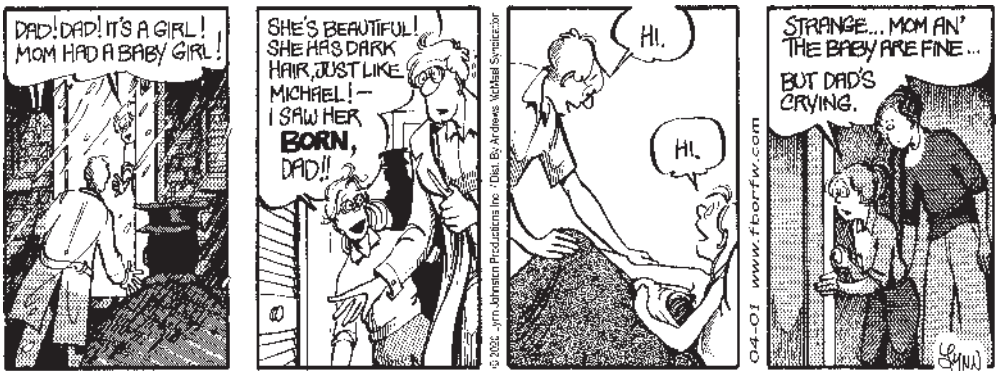
BIG NATE



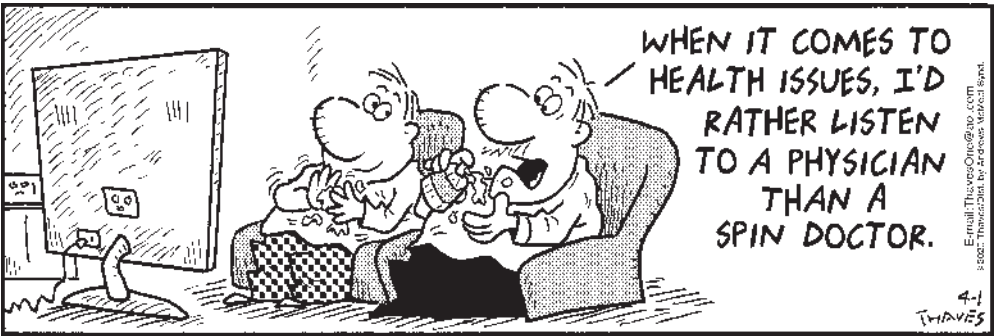
THE BORN LOSER



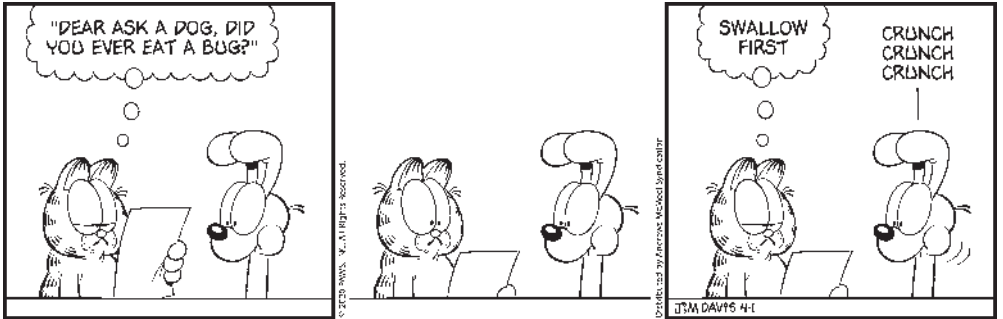
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



FRANK & ERNEST



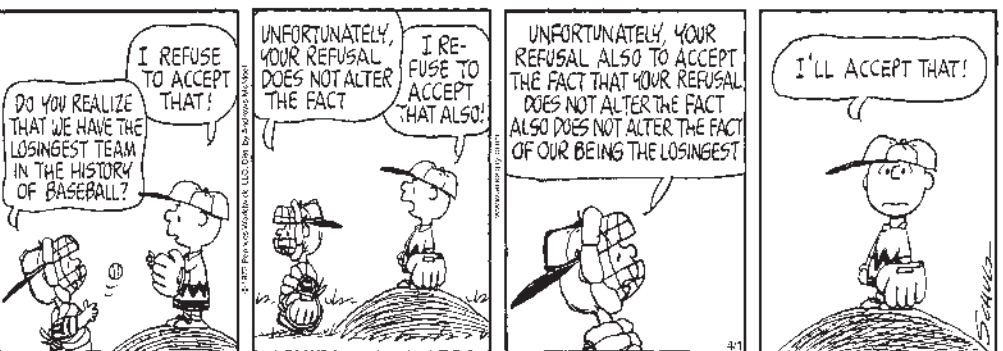
GARFIELD



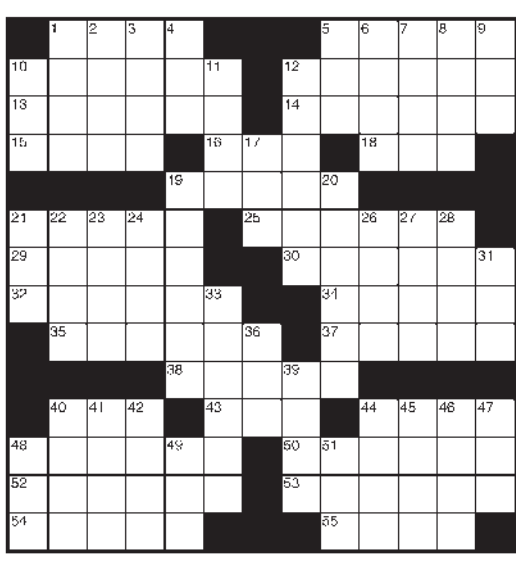
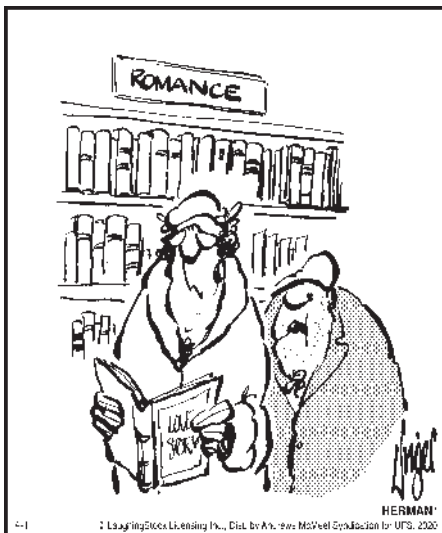
THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



HERMAN



CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ ZOVZ KDRWSLC... 103 PXLVC DI
MBOC XLVMB. MBLM' C WDM L IOTX
VOIW MD OM! WXLM BLIWOW FOMB
PDR, ALI.” — KLIP KXNOMD

TODAY'S CLUE: *Wikipedia*

Previous Solution: "There's nothing wrong with being a good girl — it's actually very attractive and sexy." — Faith Hill

Long-absent dad chooses friend over his own family

DEAR ABBY: My father has been mostly absent from my life. We reconnected when I was an adult. I have always had feelings of abandonment, and because of this, I have constantly tried to build a relationship with him and allow him to have one with his grandchildren.

move beyond this, and that is what I recommend you do.

Believe me, you have my sympathy. But you can't change your father or Danielle. You can, however, change the way you react to them, and a therapist will help you do that more quickly than you can do it on your own.

Dad met my friend of 10 years, "Danielle," two months ago when I threw him a birthday party. Since then, he and Danielle have begun a relationship on the sly. The problem is, Danielle tells Dad things I confided to her over the years, and he is coming back to me with whatever she has told him.

DEAR READERS: On April 1, I like to share a few of the more offbeat letters I receive. Here are three:

DEAR ABBY: For more than 50 years, my wife has had a close relationship with a stuffed panda bear she received when she was 8 years old. His name is Daffy, and he sits by our fireplace and pretty much rules the house. She makes him "talk" and takes him places.

When I make a mistake, like not hanging up my jacket, I say that Daffy told me not to do it. She gets mad, and I get a lecture from Daffy about how he isn't to blame and he never makes a mistake. I am joking when I blame Daffy, but my wife and Daffy don't find it funny. Am I wrong to make a joke, or should I not blame Daffy? (Daffy told me to write this letter.) -- PANDA-MONIUM OUT WEST

DEAR PANDA-MONIUM: It appears there are not one, but three "daffys" in your household. If you can't "bear" what's going on, stop joking.

P.S. You must think I'm daffy to believe this letter is legit.

DEAR ABBY: How do you address a letter to three doctors who are in a domestic partnership? Two are married to each



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

other and have the same last name. I addressed it as, "Drs. Jane and John Doe and Joe Brown," but I wanted to be sure for future correspondence. -- THREE'S COMPANY IN ATLANTA

DEAR T.C.: Surrounded by so many doctors, you must be receiving excellent health care! The correspondence should be addressed to "Drs. Jane and John Doe and Joe Brown, M.D." Joe earned his degree and deserves that title -- even if he is coming in third.

DEAR ABBY: When I put my hand on my wife's knee at the dinner table last night, she blurted out the name of another man. What do you make of this? -- CURIOS IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CURIOS: Unless the name she blurted was Alfredo and you were eating pasta, I suspect you may have a problem.

HAPPY APRIL FOOLS' DAY. EVERYONE!

Coronavirus Stimulus Guide

How the \$2 trillion CARES Act will assist local residents, businesses



The CARES Act

- \$250 billion to make unemployment insurance available to more categories of workers and to extend the duration of benefits to 39 weeks from the 26 weeks typical in most states. It would also provide an extra \$600 a week for four months.
- \$301 billion in direct payments to households.
- \$349 billion in loans to small businesses, with the amount spent on payroll, rent or utilities converting into grants that don't have to be repaid.
- \$500 billion for loans, loan guarantees or other aid to businesses, states and municipalities—including the possibility that the government will take direct equity stakes in distressed companies. Of the total, \$29 billion is set aside for cargo and passenger airlines, and \$17 billion is for businesses deemed critical to national security, such as Boeing. The remaining \$454 billion would go to backstop losses in lending facilities established or expanded by the Federal Reserve.
- \$32 billion in grants to cover wages at passenger air carriers, cargo air carriers and contractors.
- \$150 billion in direct aid to states, distributed according to population size. A municipality could apply to receive aid directly, reducing the amount available to the rest of the state.
- \$221 billion in a variety of tax benefits for businesses, including allowing businesses to defer payroll taxes, which finance Medicare and Social Security, for the rest of the year. It would also temporarily allow businesses to claim deductions using today's losses against past profits to claim quick refunds for cash infusions.
- \$340 billion in supplemental spending, which includes \$117 billion for hospitals and veterans' care. It also includes \$25 billion mostly for public transit to make up for revenue lost because of dwindling ridership.

Households and Workers

Individual checks

The CARES Act provides for direct payments of \$1,200 to adults and \$500 per child to American households, structured as tax refunds to allow the Internal Revenue Service to distribute the funds quickly.

There is no provision for future direct payments in the event the economic disruption lasts into the later spring. The direct grants are phased out for upper income brackets, starting with \$75,000 of

individual income.

The grants aren't available at all, for example, for individuals without children making more than \$99,000 and married couples without children making more than \$198,000.

Unemployed workers

The CARES Act would extend the duration of jobless benefits to 39 weeks from 26 available in most states, and includes a \$600-a-week increase for the first four months, with the bonus payment avail-

able through July 31.

These benefits would be extended to contract workers, freelancers and other nontraditional workers, who lack benefits in some states. The aim is to replace lost wages as completely as possible.

Freelancers

The CARES Act expands some benefits and grants to independent contractors, such as Uber drivers and freelance film editors, that normally go only to employees or small businesses. For example, it extends unemployment benefits to self-employed

workers, including independent contractors, freelancers and other non-traditional workers who are unemployed, partially unemployed or unable to work because of COVID-19.

It includes a \$600-a-week increase on top of current levels of unemployment benefits for four months. Independent contractors also can apply for the \$10 billion set aside for emergency EIDL—economic injury disaster loan—funds, which are normally available only to a narrower category of small businesses.

Personal Financing and Taxes

Bankruptcy

According to the CARES Act, the law ensures that people who file for bankruptcy don't have to use stimulus checks to repay past debt, and it extends the time that bankrupt people have to repay a portion of their debt as a condition to getting a fresh start. The current repayment time limit is five years; the bill extends the repayment time frame to seven years.

bearance of up to 360 days to borrowers who say they have been harmed by the coronavirus outbreak. Servicers are prohibited from initiating foreclosure and processing foreclosure-related evictions for 60 days beginning March 18. Owners of multifamily properties can request a forbearance of up to 90 days, during which tenants cannot be evicted for nonpayment of rent or other fees.

Retirement

According to the CARES Act, the law temporarily loosens the rules on hardship distributions from retirement accounts, giving people affected by the crisis access to up to \$100,000 of their retirement savings without a 10 percent penalty. The law doubles the amount 401(k) participants can take in loans from an account for the next six months to the lower of \$100,000 or 100 percent of the account balance. (IRAs don't permit loans.)

For retirees, the law suspends for 2020 the mandatory distributions the government requires most



to take from tax-deferred 401(k)s and individual retirement accounts starting at either age 70½ or age 72.

Student loans

Per the CARES Act, the law would allow most Americans with federal student loans to suspend their monthly payments through Sept. 30, 2020, without any interest accruing. It would also enable employers to make tax-exempt contribu-

tions toward their workers' student-loan payments.

Taxes

Under the CARES Act, people who don't itemize their deductions would be able to claim up to \$300 for charitable contributions. Businesses get the ability to apply losses from 2018, 2019 or 2020 to past years' profits and claim refunds. Restaurants and retailers would benefit from the

fixing of a mistake in the 2017 tax law that curbed their depreciation deductions on renovations.

Employers would be able to defer paying their share of 2020 payroll taxes. They could then make half of those payments in 2021 and the other half in 2022. In addition, the bill creates a new tax credit for retaining employees that's aimed at companies that are too large to benefit from the

small-business assistance elsewhere in the bill.

Those employers would be able to get a tax credit equal to 50 percent of payroll. That is limited to \$10,000 per employee per quarter, and for employers with more than 100 employees, it is available only to those companies and nonprofits that had their businesses limited or closed by government actions.

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Businesses and Industries

Airlines

Under the CARES Act, for passenger airlines, the bill includes \$25 billion in direct funding for worker salaries and benefits, as well as up to \$25 billion in loans and loan guarantees. The bill hews to what airlines had been asking for. Carriers had lobbied aggressively for direct grants rather than just loans, warning that without an immediate infusion of cash, they would have to make sharp job cuts.

The bill also includes \$3 billion in assistance to keep paying contract workers that provide airline catering, baggage loading, ticketing and check-in, and other services at airports. Cargo airlines will be eligible to receive \$4 billion in loans and guarantees, and \$4 billion in payroll assistance.

In exchange for the payroll grants, carriers must agree not to furlough, lay off or cut pay for employees until Sept. 30. Assistance also hinges on companies agreeing not to buy back shares or pay dividends, and to limits on executive compensation.

The package also allows the Transportation Department to direct airlines to maintain specific flights based on their schedules on March 1, before carriers had instituted the deepest cuts to their flying. This would include services to rural communities and to support delivery of health-care-related cargo.

Banks

The CARES Act delays implementation of a new accounting rule that would have required banks to sock away reserves for any estimated loan losses all at once, instead of spreading them out over the life of the loan. The Act gives the office of the comptroller of the currency the authority to allow banks to make loans that would typically trip up size restrictions. Smaller community banks with less than \$10 billion in assets get more lending flexibility through a higher maximum leverage ratio and more wiggle room if they exceed it. Banks will also get more leeway on how they account for troubled consumer loans,



allowing them to work with struggling borrowers who have fallen behind on their payments.

Energy

The CARES Act contains no major provisions to specifically aid the U.S. energy industry. Beleaguered U.S. oil producers had sought a range of remedies, including preferential tax treatment, direct subsidies and a \$3 billion purchase of oil by the federal government for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The renewable energy industry had sought extensions to tax provisions that would have helped wind-and-solar developers secure valuable tax credits even if there were construction delays.

Farmers

The CARES Act directs more than \$48 billion to agriculture and nutrition programs, helping cushion the blow for producers reeling from the latest in a string of hits to the U.S. farm economy, as prices sank for corn, soybeans, wheat and cattle. The law designates \$14 billion to replenish the Commodity Credit Corp., a Depression-era program designed to stabilize farm

incomes, and \$9.5 billion to support producers of specialty crops, livestock and dairy, as well as those who supply farmers markets, restaurants and schools.

Health industry

The CARES Act adds \$27 billion to an emergency fund that could give a boost to dozens of projects by pharmaceutical companies and academic groups developing drugs and vaccines against coronavirus. The emergency fund received a smaller amount of funding under a coronavirus response act signed earlier in March. There is no COVID-19 vaccine, but dozens are in development. The package allows the government to take steps to ensure that products developed with the emergency funding will be "affordable in the commercial market," but that these steps shouldn't delay development of the products.

The bill also includes provisions to increase reporting of potential shortages from drug manufacturers and companies that make active pharmaceutical ingredients, which are the building

blocks of prescription drugs. Many of these raw materials are produced overseas and drawn more attention during the virus outbreak. Companies that make respirators and other medical devices would be required to report to the federal government potential supply chain interruptions.

Hotels

The hotel industry last week asked the White House for a \$150 billion financial-aid package, targeted specifically for hospitality companies. What it got instead from the CARES Act is a patchwork of loans, grants and tax help, much of it through the \$350 billion in loans and grants for small businesses. The majority of U.S. hoteliers qualify as businesses with fewer than 500 employees, making less than \$35 million in annual revenue.

The lodging industry even scored a victory in getting language in the Senate bill that defined each individual hotel as its own business. Hotel owners with several properties had been concerned that they would not qualify as a small business because taken together, all their properties would have

pushed them over the current Small Business Administration's definition.

The federal boost in unemployment insurance will help the many hotel employees who have been furloughed across the U.S. Larger hotel companies can apply for loans through the Treasury Department's economic stabilization fund. But few in the lodging industry expect travel to bounce back by late spring, or even soon after.

Postal Service

Under the CARES Act, the financially strained U.S. Postal Service is getting a \$10 billion Treasury loan to help the mail carrier during the pandemic. That should be welcome news for Amazon.com Inc., United Parcel Service Inc. and, to a lesser extent, FedEx Corp., which rely on postal workers for last-mile delivery in certain places.

The Postal Service is only allowed by law to raise its net debt by \$3 billion a year, so the bill loosens that restriction. But it does come with some strings attached. Mainly, the Postal Service can only use the financing for operating expenses and not to pay down outstanding debt. The bill also requires

the Postal Service to prioritize medical shipments and allows temporary delivery points to protect workers and recipients of mail.

Private equity

According to the CARES Act, private-equity firms will likely find it a challenge to get access to stimulus funds. Based on available details of the stimulus package, private-equity-owned businesses wouldn't be explicitly barred from receiving assistance. But government lending requirements could prevent them from unlocking the aid, say lawyers, lobbyists and regulatory experts.

Railroads

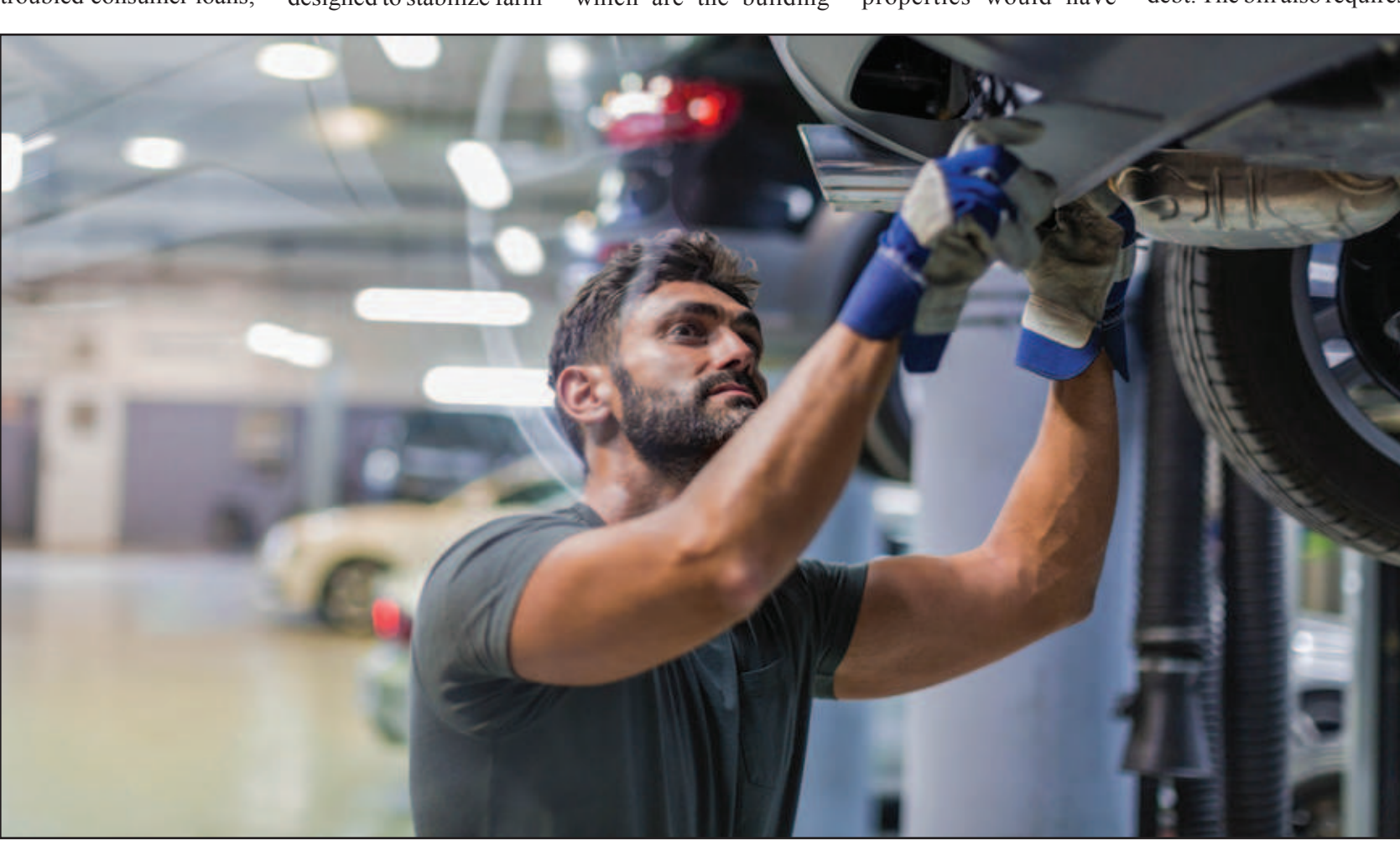
Per the CARES Act, national passenger railroad Amtrak secured about \$1 billion to cover revenue losses related to the coronavirus. The railroad industry won enhanced unemployment benefits that account for its workers not being covered under traditional state-run unemployment programs. Railroad workers instead receive unemployment benefits under a program administered by the Railroad Retirement Board.

The bill removes a seven-day waiting period to collect unemployment and provides \$50 million to cover the benefits tied to that waiver. It also provides \$425 million to double biweekly unemployment payments to \$1,200 through July.

Small

businesses

The CARES Act would allow businesses and nonprofits with up to 500 workers in a single location to apply through qualifying banks for loans backed by the Small Business Administration. The loans would convert into grants that don't have to be repaid for amounts spent on items such as payroll, rent or utilities, with the grants reduced when workers are laid off. The loans would be capped at \$10 million and cover wages up to \$100,000 a year.



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