



Centauri drops first of season to Alamosa.

— Page 6



Agriculture Conference will begin early next week.

— Pages 9-12

San Luis Valley  
Colorado Genuine  
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VOLUME 94, NO. 23

# Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS FEBRUARY 1, 2020 \$1

Imagine Your Ad Here!

SLV Today

Elks kick in for animals

**ALAMOSA** — Alamosa Elks Lodge 1297 is hosting a shelter drive for Connor SLV Animal Shelter. The drive will be going on from Feb. 1-14. Items needed are dog food dry and canned, clean blankets, sweaters, coats all sizes, toys, food dishes, insulated dog houses, leashes, collars and harnesses all sizes. Participating drop-off locations are Alamosa & Monte Vista Big R, Tractor Supply, Safeway, Walgreens and Alamosa Elks Lodge.

Super Bowl, BINGO

**ALAMOSA** — The Alamosa Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Sunday \$5 Bingo will run from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, \$1,199, progressive must go, \$1,600 guaranteed payout.

VFW BINGO

**ALAMOSA** — VFW Bingo begins at 6 p.m. on Saturday, today, doors open at 4 p.m.

ASB meets Monday

**ALAMOSA** — The Alamosa School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday.

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SLV WEATHER



Partly cloudy 41/4

Sun.: Partly cloudy 45/18

Mon.: Show showers 45/10

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## Concussion protocol concerns parent

### Medina calls out URGSD for ignoring issue

By LYNDIE FERRELL  
Valley Publishing  
**DEL NORTE** — Over the past several months the Upper Rio Grande School District has been under fire from parents for concussion protocols and other concerns.

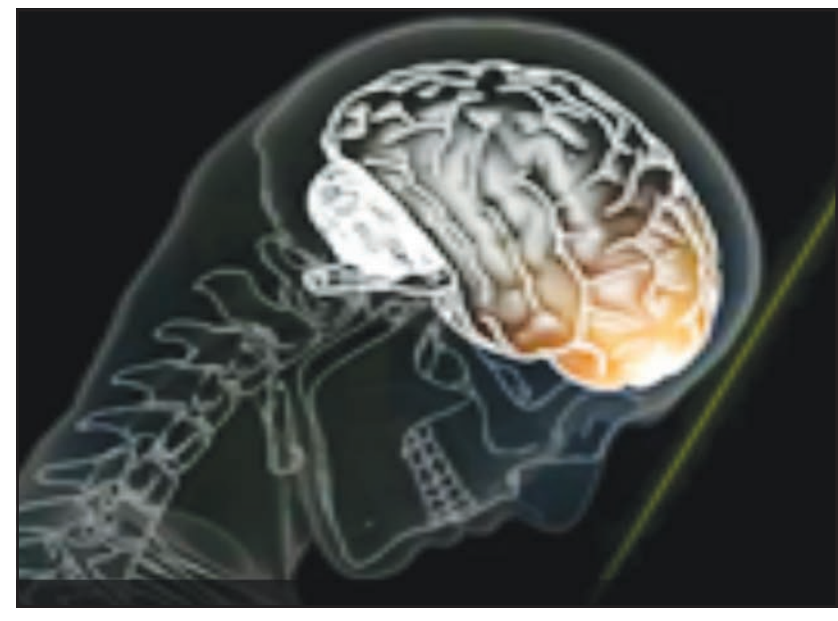
During the Board of Education meeting held Jan. 23, those in attendance voiced their trepidation and trust issues to the board.

In a statement released to the Del Norte Prospector, one mother accused the school of not

following, or having, a concussion protocol in place in reference to an incident that involved her 14-year old son.

During the public comment period, Camille Medina spoke to the board stating, "I know that everyone here can relate. Either you have had children, grandchildren or you have known young children in this district. I have reached out several times to each of you, including Mr. Burr in regard to this issue. There is no action to move forward from the school. Anytime I reach out to the school, I am met with hostility. I was told that what I am saying about the school was slanderous. I will not stop talking about my son or what is happening, and I

■ See HOSTILE page 3



Courtesy photo

## Ross earns recognition



Nancy Starling Ross was recognized Monday with her 7-plus pin for contributing \$1,000 annual to the Paul Harris Fellowship of Rotary International. Presenting the pin was Alamosa Rotary Club President Chris Quintana.

Courtesy photo by Dawn Krebs

## CDOT kicks off DUI enforcement

### Super Bowl celebrants beware

**STATEWIDE** — While the 49ers and Chiefs compete for the Super Bowl, the Colorado Department of Transportation, Colorado State Patrol and statewide law enforcement agencies will find victory in keeping all motorists safe from impaired drivers this Super Bowl weekend.

On Friday, CDOT, CSP and participating agencies kicked off The Heat Is On Super Bowl Weekend DUI enforcement. Ninety-one law enforcement agencies are participating in the campaign, which ends Feb. 3.

The Super Bowl Weekend enforcement period is the second of 16 The Heat Is On enforcement periods in Colorado this year. Officers arrested 315 impaired drivers during the same enforcement last year.

In addition to planning a sober ride, mobile breathalyzers can help people make better decisions when it comes to drinking and driving. To purchase or learn more about personal breathalyzers, visit [codot.bactrack.com](http://codot.bactrack.com).

Consequences for a DUI can include up to one year in jail, license suspension and more than \$13,500 after considering fines, legal fees and increased insurance costs.

"In Colorado, getting pulled over with a BAC (blood-alcohol content) of 0.05 will result in a DWAI (Driving While Ability Impaired), and at a BAC of 0.08, one will be charged with a DUI," said Col. Matthew Packard, chief of CSP. "The bottom line is that if you've had a drink, don't drive. No level of impairment is acceptable. We want to deter drivers from getting behind the wheel impaired, which in turn saves lives on Colorado roads."

CDOT and 96 law enforcement agencies across the state recently completed the 10-day Winter Blitz DUI enforcement period, arresting 522 impaired drivers. The 522 arrests were a decrease from the 612 arrests during the same enforcement last year. The Colorado Springs Police Department (58 arrests), Denver Police Department (57 arrests), and Larimer County Sheriff's Office (31 arrests) recorded the most arrests. CSP made 69 arrests. A complete list of arrests can be found at [codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety-reporting-portal](http://codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety-reporting-portal).

CDOT's The Heat Is On DUI-prevention campaign supports CDOT's Whole System — Whole Safety initiative to reduce traffic injuries and deaths.

If you are joining the festivities this weekend, remember these tips to keep yourself and loved ones safe:

- PLAN TO DRINK?**
- Plan a sober ride home before heading out to watch the big game. Consider getting a sober ride to your destination so you won't be tempted to later drive impaired. Options available include taxis, Uber, Lyft and public transit.
  - If you have a designated driver, ensure they are truly sober, not simply more sober than you are. Buzzed driving is still drunk driving.
  - If you're ever unsure if you are safe to drive, always err on the side of caution and find a sober ride home.
- HOSTING A PARTY?**
- Encourage your guests to designate a sober driver or plan for a safe ride home.
  - Create an Uber or Lyft group ride code for your party and share with your guests.
  - Provide plenty of food and non-alcoholic drinks to keep everyone fed and hydrated throughout the game.
  - Don't forget that, as a host, if you serve a guest alcohol and he or she gets in a crash, you could be held liable.
  - Offer guests a night on your couch if a sober ride home is unavailable.
- ARE YOU THE DESIGNATED DRIVER?**
- If you're driving, do not drink. Your responsible choice can save lives.
  - Offer rides to those who may not have planned a sober ride.
- See DUI page 3

## Gardner pushes for Veterans' Improved Access and Care Act

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — This week the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs passed S. 450, the Veterans Improved Access and Care Act, which was introduced by Senators Cory Gardner (R-CO) and Gary Peters (D-MI).

Gardner and Peters' legislation will hold the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) accountable to a higher standard for hiring process timelines when filling staffing shortages at the VA medical facilities.

This legislation is part of Gardner's VA Readiness Initiative, which he announced to ensure the federal government is always ready to assist veterans and prepared to fulfill the promises our country has made to them. Senators Gardner and Peters introduced the Veterans Improved Access and Care Act following an explosive Inspector General report Gardner demanded that revealed secret wait lists at a number of Colorado VA facilities, leading to unacceptable delays in care for veterans. A critical piece of improved access to care is addressing medical provider staffing shortages.

"In order to reduce wait times and provide timely care to our veterans, we must address the root of the problem at many VA facilities in Colorado and across the country: staffing shortages," said Senator Gardner. "When it comes to the VA hiring medical professionals we cannot let government bureaucracy and red tape stand in the way. My bipartisan legislation will take meaningful action to hold the VA to a higher standard for its hiring process and make sure facilities are hiring the medical professionals needed to serve our veterans."

"It's critical that the VA medical facilities our veterans rely on are fully staffed by qualified doctors, nurses and health care professionals," said Senator Peters, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and a former Lt. Commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve. "I am pleased that this bipartisan bill to help address the staffing shortage and streamline the VA hiring process has advanced to the full Senate. I'm hopeful the Senate will pass this important legislation soon, so

■ See CARE page 3

FDIC

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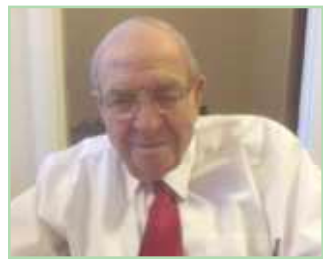
NMLS# 421822

# Record

## OBITUARIES

### Ralph Leslie Hawkins, 95

**SANFORD** — Ralph Leslie Hawkins, age 95, passed away peacefully, surrounded by loved ones, on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020 in St. George, Utah.



He was born Sept. 22, 1924 in Espinoza, the sixth of eight children to Aaron Sanford Hawkins Jr. and Ella Maude Culler.

Ralph was a loving husband to Ell Margaret Jensen. Together, they had eight children, six boys and two girls. Ralph attended school in Romeo. As a young boy, he learned the value of hard work and the joy of being part of a loving family. He would herd sheep and cattle on the foothills west of Romeo. He worked hard in the fields, working the land and harvesting crops with several teams of horses.

In 1947, Ralph enrolled at Brigham Young University. He worked hard and enjoyed his studies. He was a true-blue Cougar and would sing the fight song to get his children out of bed.

In 1949, he left to serve a full-time Mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He served for three years and learned to love missionary work and the Spanish language.

On Oct. 1, 1952, he married Ell Margaret Jensen in the Mesa Arizona Temple for time and all eternity. Together, they made their home in Sanford.

Ralph was a farmer, rancher, and worked many years as an engineer for the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad.

Together, Ralph and Ell Margaret served as full-time missionaries, for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in the Argentina, Bahia Blanca Mission. They made many friends as they served and loved the people.

Ralph was a faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He served as a faithful home teacher, always going the extra mile, looking after and taking care of the needs of his assigned families.

He served as a Seventy for many years, teaching the gospel and inviting all to come unto Christ. He spent many hours, night and day, working in the name extraction program, finding names for Temple work. Ralph served in the Denver, Albuquerque and New Mexico temples. The last two years of his life, he enjoyed living near the St. George, Utah, temple.

He loved singing in the church choir. He also served faithfully as a gospel doctrine teacher, scout master, high priest group leader and taught early morning seminary. He loved each of these responsibilities and magnified each calling.

Ralph was elected to

serve on the Sanford School Board from July of 1969 to May of 1991 — 22 years of selfless service.

During his service he spent many years as the president of the school board. He served on the United Transportation Union state board for nearly 30 years. He was elected secretary and later chairman of the Colorado Legislative Board.

Family was so important to Ralph. He always made time for family — family outings and family reunions. Ralph loved farming and ranching. He enjoyed watching the crops grow and working with livestock. He took every opportunity, while working with his family, to teach good work ethic and gospel principles. He taught these great lessons by example. Perhaps his greatest service was to his wife, as he lovingly cared for her through her health trials.

He is survived by seven of his children, Corinne (Art) Pitcher, Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada, Glenda (Lynn) Kortz Browns Valley Calif., Ronald, (Marianne) Hawkins, Genola, Utah, Grant (Susan) Hawkins, Tooele, Utah, James (Cindy) Hawkins, Orem Utah, Leslie (Janene) Hawkins, Sanford, and Stan (Jill) Hawkins, St. George Utah; 31 grandchildren and 41 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ell Margaret Jensen; five brothers and two sisters, Albert Ray, Wallace Harold, Arthur Sanford, Myrtle Marie, Jesse Nathaniel, Ernest Wayne, Erma Alice; one son: Vernon Jensen Hawkins; and one grandson: Benjamin James Pitcher.

Funeral services will be held Monday, February 3rd at 11:00 am in the Sanford 1st Ward Chapel, 755 Main Street, Sanford Colorado. A viewing will be held on Sunday Evening February 2nd at 6:00 – 8:00 pm and Monday 9:00 – 10:30 am at the Sanford 1st Ward Chapel, 755 Main Street, Sanford Colorado. Interment will be in the Sanford City Cemetery.

We express sincere appreciation to The Retreat at SunRiver, Applegate HomeCare & Hospice, and Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah for their kind and compassionate care.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the general missionary fund of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

**ALAMOSA**—The San Luis Valley Military Family Support Group meets the fourth Tuesday at from 5-6:30 p.m. in Alamosa. For more info call Vicki Jones at 852-3123.

**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 at 589-4320.

**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 587-3657.

**ALAMOSA** —The Alamosa Kiwanis Club meets on the second, third and fourth Thursdays at noon at IHOP. Contact: Amanda Wilkinson, 719-589-2564 or email amanda@alamosastatebank.com

**ALAMOSA** — The Optimist Club of Alamosa meets at Nino's Restaurant in Alamosa the first and third Tuesdays at noon. Contact the club at alamosaoptimistclub@gmail.com or President Dawn Melgares at 719-580-0178. Visitors and new members are welcome.

**ALAMOSA** —The Alamosa Rotary Club meets every Monday at noon at Juanitos in Alamosa. Contact Dean Swift, 589-3499 or dean@deanswiftseed.com

**ALAMOSA** — Veterans 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

**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

#### San Luis Valley Crimestoppers

If you have information about an unreported or unsolved crime in the San Luis Valley, Crimestoppers pays for information that leads to the arrest of criminal offenders. Citizens may report crimes anonymously and remain eligible for rewards.

Call San Luis Valley Crimestoppers at 589-4111.

## ONGOING VALLEY MEETINGS

**MONTE VISTA**—The Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group meets on the second Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon at the Chamber of Commerce, 947 1st Avenue, Monte Vista. Call the Southern Colorado office at 719-372-5985.

**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 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 slv-photostephen@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 Alamosa.

**ALAMOSA**— Peace Meditation at the Campus Ministry Office, Adam State University, Alamosa, is held on Thursdays at 5:15 p.m. Everyone is invited. Contact Candace Knowlan 805-886-6959.

**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** — Open drop-in meditation for health, stress management and spiritual growth, is held at 10:45 a.m. the second Sunday of the month at St. Thomas Episcopal Parish Hall, 607 Fourth St., Alamosa, with Mountain Institute, A Kriya, Meditation & Lamp-lighting School. Contact Martin at 575-758-5876 or talentolocal@live.com

**ALAMOSA** — Youngsters are invited to the Alamosa Public Library Story Room every Friday morning to sing, color, dance, read, enjoy adventures, share with friends and toddlers are welcome at 9:30 a.m. and preschoolers at 11 a.m.

**ALAMOSA** — Free breast feeding classes are offered in Alamosa at the San Luis Valley Health Education and Conference Center on the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 3-4 p.m.

**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 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at 757 County Rd. 29, Monte Vista. Call or email Wanda Couzens-Smith for more information at (719) 852-5000 or wcouzenssmith@gmail.com

**ALAMOSA**— Alamosa Masonic Lodge meetings are every first and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. (except June, July and August) at the Alamosa Masonic Lodge, Main and San Juan.

**ALAMOSA** — A Caregivers Support Group meets at First United Methodist Church, 2005 Mullins, Alamosa, on the first Monday of every month. For more information, call 589-2243.

**ALAMOSA** — Alamosa Toastmasters meets on Mondays at noon at The Bridge in Alamosa at 3407 Carroll Street. Participants will find a supportive learn-by-doing environment that allows them to achieve their goals at their own pace. Call (719) 588-5127.

**ALAMOSA**—The GFWC Woman's Citizenship Club of Alamosa meets on the second Friday at noon from September through May at First United Methodist Church, NW door, 2005 Mullins Ave. For more information, please email: womancitizenshipclub@gmail.com.

**ALAMOSA** — Made up of community members who write in many different genres, the Sophia Circle meets weekly to provide support for writers and their writing projects in the downstairs conference room at the Colorado Welcome Center at Alamosa, 6th and State on Sundays from 1-3 p.m.. Writers may drop in on any meeting. Bring copies of the work you want to share. Call Holly at 719-588-7066.

**CENTER** — The Center Kiwanis meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Kiwanis Hall in Center. Contact Dick Ramstetter at 719-580-3329.

**ALAMOSA** — Silver Linings, an open and free positivity group, meets Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. at Nestle Toll House Café in downtown Alamosa.

**ALAMOSA** — Groups are held for women who have experienced domestic violence every second Tuesday from 5-6 p.m. at the Grizzly Training Center, Alamosa. There will be refreshments and childcare provided. Contact Jennifer McCoy-Hanna at Tu Casa, Inc. 719-589-2465.

**ALAMOSA** — Grief support group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 300 Hunt at the Alamosa Public Library from 5:30-6:30 p.m. For more information, call Liz Hood, 580-3697.

For schedule changes, please contact your group service representative (GSR)

## AA MEETINGS

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  
7 p.m. Community Church on Main St., Creede  
7:30 p.m. Creative Resource Center at 304 Walnut St., La Jara

### TUESDAY

12 p.m. First Christian

### 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 Vista

<b>AL-ANON</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b> 8 p.m. 15 Country Club Dr. Monte Vista
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 5:30 p.m. SLV Behavior Health Group at 8745 CR 9S., Alamosa
<b>THURSDAY</b> 5:30 p.m. First Christian Church at 518 1st St., Alamosa 7 p.m. Crestone Town Hall, downtown Crestone (second and fourth Thursdays)

**School Menu**  
--- Monday ---  
**Feb. 3, 2020**

**BREAKFAST**  
Cereal  
Juice & Fruit

**ELEMENTARY**  
No School

**SECONDARY**  
Pizza Burger on a Roll  
French Fries  
Vegetable Bar

An assortment of fresh fruit and canned fruit as well as fresh vegetables and canned vegetables will be offered weekly. Menu subject to change.

**To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553**

## ALAMOSA POLICE REPORT

# APD cites not so excellent drivers

The Alamosa police report from Jan. 27-29 is:

### Jan. 27

David Meek, 54, was cited with displaying expired plates, driving without a valid license and operating an uninsured vehicle at First Street and Craft Drive.

### Jan. 28

Bralyn Dodge, 28, was cited with careless driving, failure to present insurance and DUI at 1300 Seventh Street.

John Adams, 40, was cited with exceeding safe speed for conditions

### Jan. 29

Nancy Sandoval, 73, was cited with failure to stop at a stop sign at San Juan Ave. and 10th Street.

Rosenaldo Lovato, 66, was cited with careless driving at 700 10 Street. Brenda Sanchez was cited with criminal impersonation at 1203 Main.

Wyman Gibson, 53, was cited with harassment at 913 State Ave.

### Jan. 30

Pedro Patricio Esteban, 23, was cited with careless driving at 1400 Tremont Street.

Hunter Peterson, 19, was cited with trespassing at 1203 Main.

Desiree Felix, 21, was cited with theft at 3333 Clark Street.

Jolene Ruybal, 32, was cited with displaying fictitious plates at 1200 Main.

Laurie Soto was cited with unlawful possession of a controlled substance and theft at 1301 Main.

### Jan. 30

Robert Montoya, 39, was cited with theft at 3333 Clark St.

Barbara Davis was cited with theft at 3333 Clark Street.

# Valley News

## DUI

Continued from Page 1  
ride home.

Buckle up and require all your passengers to do the same when it's time to head home.

### ABOUT THE HEAT IS ON

The CDOT Highway Safety Office provides funding to Colorado law enforcement for impaired driving enforcement, education and awareness campaigns. The Heat Is On campaign runs throughout the year, with 16 specific high-visibility impaired driving enforcement periods centered on national holidays and large public events. Enforcement periods can include sobriety checkpoints, saturation patrols and additional law enforcement on duty dedicated to impaired driving enforcement. Find more details about the campaign, including impaired driving enforcement plans, arrest totals and safety tips at [HeatIsOnColorado.com](http://HeatIsOnColorado.com).

### WHOLE SYSTEM. WHOLE SAFETY

In early 2019, CDOT announced its Whole System — Whole Safety initiative to heighten safety awareness. This initiative takes a systematic, statewide approach to safety, combining the benefits of CDOT's programs that address driving behaviors, our built environment and the organization's operations. The goal is to improve the safety of Colorado's transportation network by reducing the rate and severity of crashes and improving the safety of all transportation modes. The program has one simple mission—to get everyone home safely.

### ABOUT CDOT

CDOT has approximately 3,000 employees located at its Denver headquarters and in regional offices throughout Colorado, and manages more than 23,000 lane miles of highway and 3,429 bridges. CDOT also manages grant partnerships with a range of other agencies, including metropolitan planning organizations, local governments and airports. It also administers Bustang, the state-owned and operated interregional express service.

## Care

Continued from Page 1

we can help ensure veterans in Michigan and across the nation can access the timely, quality medical care that they have earned.

VA data from 2018 showed that roughly 17 percent of medical appointments scheduled through the VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System (ECHCS) had a wait time of over 30 days. Those numbers are worse than a 2017 Denver Post report on ECHCS wait times, which found the average wait time to see a primary physician at a VA facility nationwide

was under 5 days, but the Eastern Colorado Health Care System (ECHCS) had an average wait time of 11 days, and roughly 14 percent of all appointments at the ECHCS had longer than a 30-day wait.

Many VA hospitals continue to experience long wait times and staffing shortages as a result of a lengthy hiring process, and a primary driver of the protracted hiring process is the onboarding process for licensed medical providers. According to a McKinsey and Company Assessment from September 2015, the VA hiring timeline spans 4-8 months while a typical private sector organization hires staff between 0.5 and 2

months. Furthermore, "candidates for many roles are often unwilling to wait roughly six months to be onboarded, especially when positions with other hospitals are readily available."

Gardner and Peters' legislation aims to address this problem by holding every VA medical facility to a higher standard of 45 days to onboard licensed medical professionals, as well as an improved timeline for the overall staffing process. This aligns with the VA's guidance on hiring goals and timelines. To achieve this purpose, it requires annual reporting from the VA Secretary to Congress on whether the VA is meeting the metrics.

## BIRTHS

### Owen James Ruybal

ALAMOSA — Owen James Ruybal was born on Jan. 15, 2020 at San Luis Valley Health to Tony and Kate Ruybal of Alamosa.

Ruybal weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 21 inches. Owen is welcomed home by sister Olivia.

Maternal grandparents are Ginny Bond and John Myers and J.B. and Mary Sue Bennken. Paternal grandparents are Fred and Anita Ruybal.

## Women's Veterans Forum set for Feb. 26

ALAMOSA — The third VCSSLV Women Veterans Forum (WVF) will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 26.

The VCSSLV hopes this date will be marked on one's calendar and plan to attend.

Any men receiving this email are asked to forward it to a woman veteran or woman provider in your organization.

The team organizing the event has attempted to create a "safe space" for anyone to discuss women's issues, needs and opportunities.

The Veterans Coalition Board of Directors would like to thank everyone for participating in the first two forums and hopes all will find the third forum equally worthwhile.

Valley CVSOs are especially asked to help pass the word to women veterans. Health Care Providers and any male,

veteran or not, that encounters this eMail is asked to also pass the word to women veterans.

For more information, please contact, 719-992-4108.

If there is anything the Board of Directors can do to help, please let them know.

## Hostile

Continued from Page 1

don't think that I should be asked to stop."

Medina explained during a previous interview that her son was continuing to suffer from long-term effects of a concussion that reportedly occurred during football practice with the Upper Rio Grande School District in October.

According to her statements that have been made public, Medina states verbatim, "My son was injured during football practice at Del Norte High School. With mixed emotions, I feel that the level of notifications to the school staff and the safety and concussion protocols that should be in place were not followed.

"I feel that the school has not followed the regulations regarding my son, his concussion management, and allowing him to have correct management and support as he returns to school."

In a packet provided by Medina, which was handed to the board during the meeting, Medina writes, "This is our fourth son to play high school football in our community and we are well aware of the school's concussion protocol."

Further on in the packet Medina continued, "There is no concussion protocol in the athletic handbook that we parents can be assured is being followed to protect our athletes."

Medina further states that she followed the school's protocol and had her son seen by the district's athletic physician through Rio Grande Hospital, who advised her of the next steps to take to ensure her son's safety. It is at this point that Medina requested to have a 504 Accom-

"We have no interest in seeing a student fail. We did take steps to protect his academic standing and offered to help get him caught up on classes.

—Russell Randolph

Del Norte High School principal, coach about the efforts he and the school took to ensure Medina's well-being

modation plan put in place for her son. Her son continues to struggle with the effects of the concussion to this day. "My son has been tested by CHSAA and is now at a fifth-grade level due to injuries."

According to school officials, Medina's son was also tested to see if he qualified for the plan days after the request was made. The testing for a 504 plan is completed by a committee of trained professionals and it was determined that the student did not qualify for the disability plan. "The 504 Plan is a plan developed to ensure that a child, who has a disability identified under law and is attending an elementary or secondary educational institution, receives accommodations that will ensure their academic success and access to the learning environment."

After the meeting took place, school officials met with the Del Norte Prospector and answered some of the lingering questions that the issue created.

The school officially stated that they do have a concussion protocol in place and that once aware of the situation, took immediate action to help in any way they could. "We were first notified Nov. 7, 2019, of the incident. Our primary motive is to protect students and ensure their safety. Every athlete takes an impact test and

a physical is required before they are allowed to participate in any sport. This includes a mental evaluation. All of our coaches, staff and volunteers have to be CHSAA certified. We also have something other schools do not, called a Bumps and Bruises Clinic that is held every Monday morning at the school where any student or parent with concerns for their child can see our athletic trainer from Rio Grande Hospital free of charge. Once a student has been diagnosed, we follow the recommendations from the doctor and notify staff immediately," stated Superintendent Chris Burr. "The quote for the paper is this; the coaches did not see anything. They did not see anything."

Principal and coach Russell Randolph spoke briefly about the incident stating, "We have no interest in seeing a student fail. We did take steps to protect his academic standing and offered to help get him caught up on classes."

Concerns from parents remain as Medina continues to reach out for help from outside state officials with the Colorado Board of Education and Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

The Center for Disease Control states, "Most kids and teens will only need help through informal, academic adjustments as they recover from a concussion. However

for kids and teens with ongoing symptoms, a variety of formal support services may be available to help them during their recovery. These support services may vary widely among states and school districts. The type of support will differ based on the needs of each student. Some of these support services may include: Response to Intervention Protocol (RTI), 504 Plan, Individualized Education Plan (IEP)."

According to the Mayo Clinic, "A concussion is a traumatic brain injury that affects your brain function. Effects are usually temporary but can include headaches and problems with concentration, memory, balance and coordination. Concussions are usually caused by a blow to the head. Violently shaking the head and upper body also can cause concussions. Some concussions cause you to lose consciousness, but most do not. It's possible to have a concussion and not realize it. Concussions are particularly common in contact sports, such as football. Most people usually recover fully after a concussion.

The signs and symptoms of a concussion can be subtle and may not show up immediately. Symptoms can last for days, weeks or even longer. Common symptoms after a concussive traumatic brain injury are headache, loss of memory (amnesia) and

confusion. The amnesia usually involves forgetting the event that caused the concussion. Signs and symptoms of a concussion may include: Headache or a feeling of pressure in the head, temporary loss of consciousness, confusion or feeling as if in a fog, amnesia surrounding the traumatic event, dizziness or "seeing stars," ringing in the ears, nausea, vomiting, slurred speech, delayed response to questions, appearing dazed and fatigued.

Someone who suffered from a concussion may have some symptoms of concussions immediately. Others may be delayed for hours or days after injury, such as: Concentration and memory complaints, irritability and other personality changes, sensitivity to light and noise, sleep disturbances, psychological adjustment problems and depression, and disorders of taste and smell."

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## ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY COLORADO CALENDAR OF EVENTS February

SUNDAY • 2	MONDAY • 3	TUESDAY • 4	WEDNESDAY • 5	THURSDAY • 6	FRIDAY • 7	SATURDAY • 8
<p><b>Super Bowl Party:</b> 4:30 p.m. The Loft, located in the Student Union Building</p>	<p><b>Peace Corp Volunteer Information Table:</b> 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Student Union Building <b>Peace Corp Agriculture Programs Session:</b> 5 p.m. Porter Hall 132</p>	<p><b>Peace Corp Application and Resume Workshop:</b> 5:30 p.m. Porter Hall 132</p>		<p><b>High Altitude Training Center (Bubble) Open to Public</b> 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. <b>Zacheis Planetarium:</b> Free Movies 7 p.m. <i>Dream to Fly</i> 7:45 p.m. <i>Tales of the Maya Skies</i></p>	<p><a href="http://www.adams.edu">www.adams.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Adventure Program:</b> North Clear Creek Ice Climbing 719-587-7813 <b>Zacheis Planetarium:</b> Free Movies 3 p.m. <i>Solar Superstorms</i> 3:45 p.m. <i>Dark</i></p>
<p>Through February 6 <b>Cloyde Snook Gallery:</b> <i>La Sierra</i> Shelby Head <b>Hatfield Gallery:</b> Artwork by Jane O'Hara Gallery Hours: 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday</p>						

# Opinion

## God bless America ...

**HOLLYWOOD** — Bernie Sanders soared in the polls Thursday, alarming centrist Democrats.

Yet the presidential election has nothing to do with the national mood right now. In an Iowa poll this week, death by the Corona Virus came in 10 points ahead of having to watch one more day of the impeachment trial.

President Trump's impeachment trial in the Senate proceeded to the next phase on Wednesday where the format was Question and Answers.

Then Thursday was the swimsuit and evening gown competition. It climaxed Friday, when Steve Harvey announced the wrong impeachment trial winner.



**Argus Hamilton**

The U.S. Senate sat as the jury again Wednesday in the impeachment trial of President Trump, brought by House Democrats.

The day began when the Senate Chaplain led the senators, case managers and defense lawyers in prayer. It gave Adam Schiff a chance to thank his Maker, Geppetto.

President Trump cheerfully called for witnesses in his Senate trial Friday. He wants Joe Biden and son Hunter to answer for Hunter's lucrative board job in Ukraine while Joe was VP. Joe Biden hasn't been called into the Senate to testify yet but out of habit, Donna Brazile gave him the questions.

Senate Democrats weighed calling witnesses against Trump on Wednesday against what Trump's witnesses might do to Biden's candidacy. It's a real soap opera. About all that's missing now is for Monica Lewinsky to give birth to Hunter Biden's lovechild, whom they choose to name Whistleblower.

Delorean Motors said Nov. 24 it may release the new Delorean DM C next year.

Company founder John Delorean was busted by the FBI trying to pull off a huge cocaine deal 36 years ago to raise cash he needed to produce this car. It's no wonder he was later named Dealer of the Year.

President Trump assembled the press corps in the White House Treaty Room Wednesday and signed a new U.S. trade deal with Mexico and Canada that replaces NAFTA.

His glory was short lived. A minute after the signing, CNN commentators accused Trump of colluding with the continent.

President Trump signaled to Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Wednesday that the U.S. is willing to sign a free trade deal with England post-Brexit, but Boris must get it through Parliament.

In a parliamentary system, the leader serves at the pleasure of the legislature. In our system, hookers do.

HUD Secretary Dr. Ben Carson called on Big Pharma to quickly produce a drug for Corona Virus before it hits the homeless.

The drug companies work in harmony with the medical profession. If it weren't for miracle drugs, people wouldn't be able to live long enough to pay their medical bills.

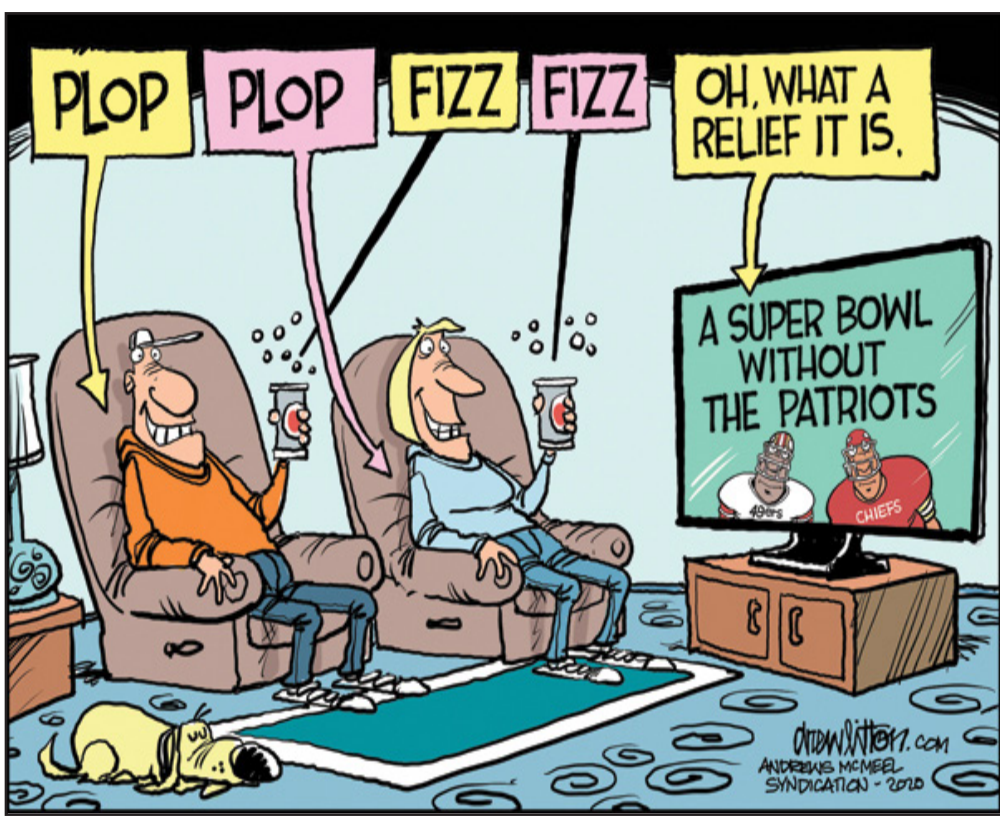
The Centers for Disease Control battled rumors Wednesday and assured the American people that only five victims of Corona Virus have been diagnosed in the U.S. One thing we know. Corona Beer has the worst luck for a product name since the diet-plan candy Ayds back in the early '80s.

Fox News reported that the Corona Virus is causing confusion around the world as millions of people actually thought the virus was being spread by drinking Corona Beer. Business has plummeted. To rescue the lagging sales, Corona was re-labeled Ebola Beer to give it a safer reputation.

Senate Democrats quoting Hamilton don't know he proposed in 1787 that if partisan factions recklessly deploy impeachment and destroy the Republic, the U.S. would revert to the Duke of York. That'd leave us today with Trump or Prince Andrew. Could Jeffrey Epstein cover his tracks or what?

The New York Post reports R. Kelly pleaded not guilty to bribing a DMV official to change his girlfriend's age from 15 to 18 on her license. He's not all bad. R. Kelly once gave a speech at a Chicago high school graduation and told kids to always aim high, and you'll never pee on your shoes.

*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.*



## An Al-Can trek, a few stops along the way

Long before the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens, my father was transferred from California to Alaska. In the baby blue Ford with a six-sleeper overhang camper, the five of us traveled through Sacramento, and Truckee in Northern California then camped under Mount Rainier in Oregon on a rainy July evening.

The raindrops plinked against the tin roof as I read War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy and cried because my friends Pat, Debbie, Sherry, Tom, Dave and Wade were left behind. But my family was headed to Anchorage and to my dad's new position at Elmendorf Air Force Base. I would make new friends there, and that thought moved me through my loss.

Driving through Dawson Creek, I saw the first rugged inhabitant of Canada dressed in wool, plaid shirts, jeans and tall boots. Dawson Creek boasts mile zero of the 1387-mile trek named the Alaskan-Canadian Highway, fondly called the ALCAN. All road signs pointed toward Fairbanks and Anchorage. Totem poles began to appear on the side of the graveled

highways, at entry points and by houses. The landscape was rugged in town and out like Creed is in Mineral County. Tall lumberjacks had thick beards like in the 1960s movie: North to Alaska. I cradled a candy wrapper in my personal diary to remember the stop.

Headed up the Al-Can, our family was snug in the camper; my sisters and I rode in the camper and Mom and Dad road in the cab. It seemed as if mountains rose out of the basin like genies out of lamps. Several times I gasped and clenched the edge of the top bunk, as the truck swayed and jerked. I was looking out over the hood at the gravel road as one wheel slipped over the edge and the three other wheels pulled the traveling Ford back onto track. Still the mountains towered like tiers of an Imax screen. I imagined a walk up the greened tundra and up through rocks to the top of the mountain.

Sometimes Dad parked for the night in a Forest Service campsite, others off the road, alone. So, sometimes we had electricity and sometimes we didn't. Mom would make us a quick sandwich or heat something warm over the camp stove. The campgrounds were usually friendly, and we made friends along the way. I would play my guitar and others would join around the picnic table. Our parents in lawn chairs with other parents drank

To submit news, email: news@alamosanews.com  
To submit sports, email: sjiron@alamosanews.com

### Letters policy

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

### Nelda Curtiss



*Movin' On With Nellie*

## Valley Gardening

BY RUTHIE BROWN

## And other good stuff SLV Health, wheelchair, squash

What a great week! On last Saturday, we fostered out the three puppies we had been raising since they were a week old.

Fabulous homes, fabulous owners who didn't hesitate to spay and neuter. Responsible folks. And then, Diana Hamilton with VHL, brought in three more puppies from the same litter(s) on Thursday and they have all been fostered. It is kind of weird, sleeping all night and not having whining puppies in our sun room. Thank you to all the folks at Valley Humane League.

On Thursday, I got to take my friends Leo and Maria to the SLV Health Regional Medical Center for an appointment. I had called the hospital a week earlier, asking if they had an old wheelchair in storage that they would be willing to part with. I was afraid that Maria's chair was about to collapse. It was a lucky day, because the employees have a fund that they all contribute to for these kind of projects, and before I knew it, a new chair had been ordered. Wow! The chair is taller, so Leo can stand up straight and Maria sits higher and has foot rests. Thank you employees of SLV Health, your gift is so appreciated.

As I get older, I am trying to do more

than one project at a time. Trying to get organized — sometimes it doesn't seem like I am getting very far, but ....this week was a turning point.

A lady (if you recognize yourself, please come in, so I can give you a hug) had come into the store months ago and had given me a couple of wigs because she knew we helped the SLV Cancer Relief Fund.

I looked at those wigs for months, always thinking I needed to do something with them. They were high quality and hadn't been worn. I decided to take them out to the Oncology Dept. at the hospital, not knowing if they could or would take them or not. At least, I wouldn't have to worry about doing something with them was my thinking. As I walked in the door, I saw a woman in a wheelchair who had lost her hair, I'm guessing from Chemo treatments.

I looked at her family and at her and asked if they would accept the gift of a wig. It was white, so that fit. They said that they had been looking for wigs online. Gift accepted and I left, feeling awesome. I'm not a church-going person, but I am pretty spiritual. Many, many times the stars align and things like this happen and I am so grateful. How could I ever guess that helping Maria would also allow me to help someone else. Remember, it had been months since these wigs had been given to me. I love when the stars align.

Meanwhile, spring is getting closer. I ordered 21 different types of squash this week, and a bajillion other seeds. Life is so much more than zucchini, way more. Some of these varieties take quite a bit longer to grow, but it's worth it. And no ... it is not time to start your seeds indoors. Squash, pumpkins and cucumbers do not like to be transplanted when they are too big. The seeds sprout fast, almost in a few days, so if you want plants to put out the end of May, get started the middle of May. Otherwise ... come in a get the basic squash plants from me during the end of May. Squash are very sensitive to frost, so be patient.

I had a customer donate a beautiful hand-made quilt this past week. She made it, but wanted to remain anonymous, even as I told her I was going to claim to be the

seamstress — right?

Actually she donated it for the SLV Cancer Relief Fund. I will be putting it on display and then at the next SLVCRF fund it will be put up for auction. Come on by and take a look at it.

I found out from Xcel workers and a city worker why our lamp posts in downtown Alamosa are marginally lit. The light bulbs are white and yellow and orange, and the rest are out. The posts are so old, that parts are no longer available, and Alamosa/SLV are last on the totem pole to get these needed parts. I wondered why the posts by my Flag Project hadn't been repaired — after calling Xcel in early November. We don't have to worry about this problem on the south side because we don't have the decorative posts. We don't have trash cans either. Oh, well.

*Brown's column appears in the Courier every Saturday.*

## 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

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# Lifestyle

## URG School District gives building sales update

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**  
*Valley Publishing*  
**DEL NORTE**— Now that students and staff are settling into the new school in the Upper Rio Grande School District, plans for the old school buildings are nearing completion. According to an update provided by the school's Superintendent Chris Burr, contracts for the old buildings are in place with one in final negotiations. "All of the old school buildings are under contract with their new owners except for the old high school building. Negotiations for a contract continue with the Rio Grande National Forest and we hope to have that in place soon," stated Burr. In a statement issued from High Valley Community Center Director Adrienne Atencio, "The organization does have a contract in place for the old middle school building, but they have not decided what they will do with it as of yet. We have many plans in the works but we are not sure what we will do with the building. One thing is for sure, and that is that High Valley will not be using the building and will remain in our current facility."

becoming independent adults. That can make the transition from middle school to high school more complicated than previous transitional periods young people experienced.

Several changes take place in high school that can impact students' anxiety levels.

► Students go from being the oldest in middle school to the youngest in high school.

► The student body population typically increases dramatically.

► Curriculum becomes more demanding than it was in middle school.

► School hours change, often requiring students to wake up earlier.

► A new school may mean students are funneling in from different feeder schools. Long-time friends may be separated depending on where they ultimately choose to go to high school.

A 2016 survey from the Pew Research Center found that 70% of teens said anxiety and depression are a "major problem" among their peers.

To help make high school a positive experience and less likely to induce anxiety, students and their parents can employ these tips.

► Establish a consistent routine. The education resource CollegeVine advises students to build good study habits, create a calm and organized homework environment and focus on studies while keeping distractions at bay.

► Encourage extracurricular activities. Activities outside of the classroom are a great way for students to make friends and involve themselves socially with their peers. Such extracurriculars can lead to strong friendships that flourish throughout high school and beyond.

► Buddy up. Just as they might have done upon entering kindergarten, students on the cusp of starting high school can find someone who will be attending the same school and go over schedules and potential meet-up times. They can make plans to sit together at lunch as they both get acclimated to their new environments.

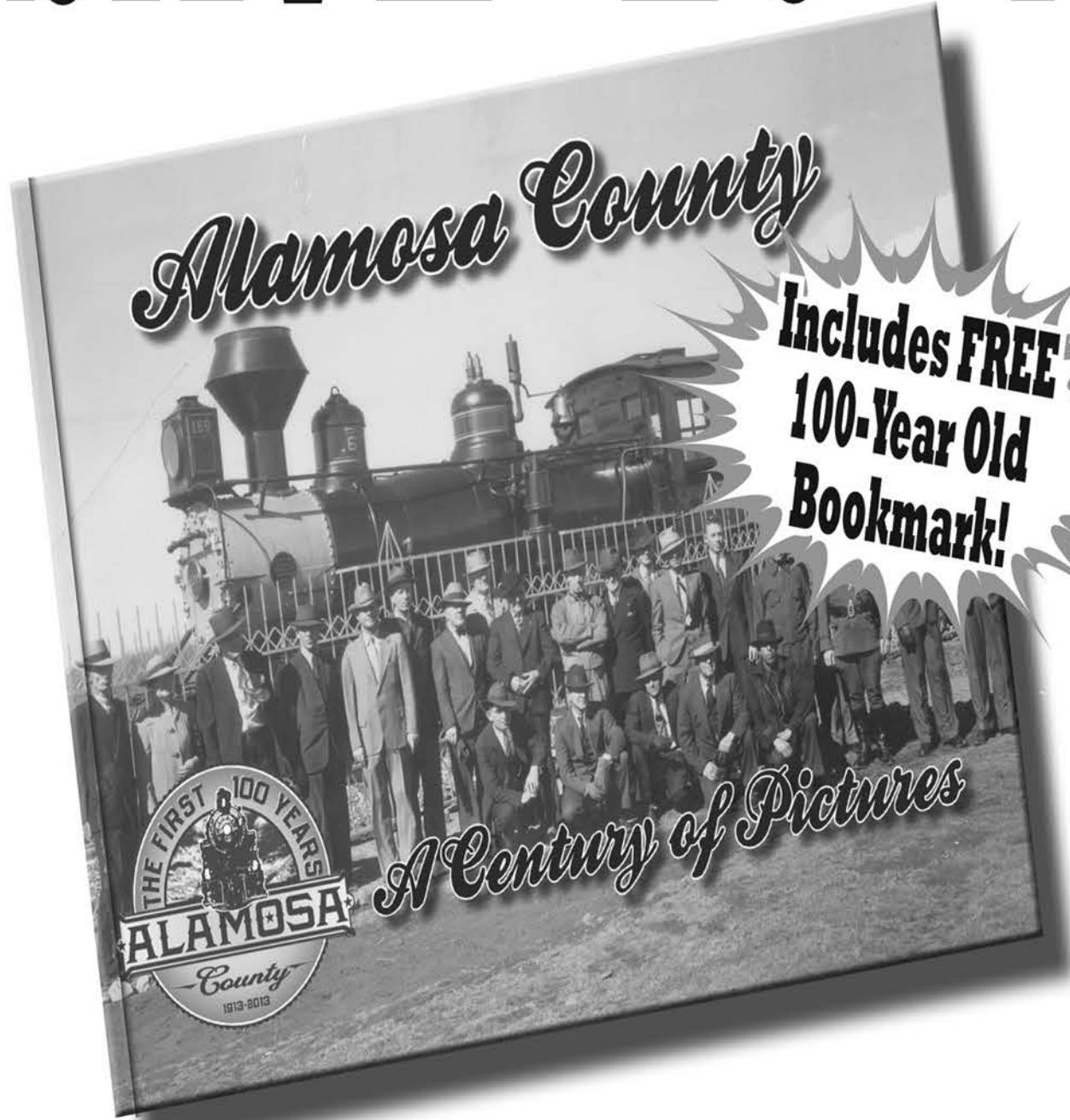
► Attend open houses. Families can tour the campus to get a feel for the layout of their children's school. Ask for a map of the school grounds so students can get an idea of where their schedules will require them to be throughout the course of the day.

The transition to high school is a significant one in the life of a teenager. Families can employ various strategies to make that transition go smoothly. BS197046



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# Sports

## Intermountain mingle meets expectations

### Centauri asserts themselves on the road

By **STEPHEN JIRON**  
*Courier Sports Editor*

**ALAMOSA** — Friday night was a meeting between the No. 3 Falcons and the No. 5 Mean Moose. The game was played close all night long with the Centauri girls eventually claiming a 44-40 win on the road.

Centauri (13-1, 4-1 IML) suffered their first loss of the season against Pagosa Springs earlier in the month. Since then they pieced together two straight wins in league contests entering Friday night's meeting. Alamosa (11-3, 3-2 IML) entered Friday on a down note after having met the defending Intermountain League (IML) champions, Pagosa Springs, the week before. But both teams shared 3-1 league records before their meeting on Friday.

Both teams got off to hot starts in the first quarter. Centauri senior Mia Garcia contributed 4 points to a 6-point run to put the visitors ahead 6-2 early. The Mean Moose didn't shy from the challenge and Terese Chavez led Alamosa with 6 points through the first to send the game into the second quarter all tied up, 15 each.

Both teams were shooting above 50 percent unofficially in the first quarter, that percentage fell for both squads to sub 40 percent effectively slowing the pace.

Alamosa's Devyn Mitchell and Lilly Lavier combined for the lone run of the quarter to send the Moose to the break leading 23-21. The slow pace continued into the second half with the two squads combining for 9 points from the field in the third quarter. Alamosa's lone field goal of the quarter went to Emily Lavier who sank a three-pointer. For the visitors

Centauri's Brenna McDaniel got things going with 5 points in the third to help put her team ahead entering the final quarter 30-28.

There Centauri's Courtney Hamilton came on.

The Centauri junior got fouled to start the fourth and completed the three-point play giving her Falcons a two-possession lead at 33-28. Following an Alamosa free throw, a 3-pointer from Centauri's MaKenna Bagwell drove home a coffin nail making it 36-29.

Down the stretch, a basket from Centauri's Mia Garcia added another coffin nail giving Centauri their largest lead of the game at 42-34. With their work cut out for them, Alamosa hit back. The Moose would take advantage of turnovers to get on a 6-point run but Centauri's Garcia applied the final nail by drawing a charge and hitting both of her free-throws sealing the game at 44-40 for Centauri.

Garcia led Centauri in scoring Friday with 15 points followed by Courtney Hamilton with 12. Lilly Lavier paced the Moose with 15 points, Terese Chavez was next for Alamosa with 10 points.

The win makes it three in a row for Centauri. The Falcons will head home where they will once again challenge Pagosa Springs (11-2, 5-0 IML). Alamosa will get some respite with meetings against Bayfield (4-8, 1-4 IML) Saturday and Monte Vista (2-10, 0-4) next Friday before having to go to Pagosa Springs to once again deal with the Pirates on Feb. 14. Alamosa and Centauri will close the season against one another in La Jara on Feb. 15th.

### Alamosa hands No. 6 Centauri their first loss of the season

By **STEPHEN JIRON**  
*Courier Sports Editor*

**ALAMOSA** — A highly anticipated meeting between Intermountain League (IML) rivals didn't disappoint. Alamosa boys basketball grounded the Falcons with a 59-43 win at home.

The Falcons (13-1, 4-1 IML) entered Friday's game ranked 6th in the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) Coaches Poll and boasted a perfect record after having run both their home tournament and the La Junta Holiday Shootout in December.

Alamosa (10-4, 5-0) recently found themselves on a hot streak since beginning their league schedule with four straight wins entering Friday's game.

When the action got underway, the two teams jostled a little for position. Alamosa would take the first meaningful lead of the game with Lincoln Tuoti-Mariner and Ian Jackson combining for a 4-point run to put the Moose ahead 11-7.

Centauri's Alec Holman got the final word of the quarter to cut the lead to 11-9. The Moose continued to push the pace in the second.

Centauri's Baron Holman single-handedly retook the lead for Centauri with five straight points to start the quarter. In response, Alamosa ripped off 11 unanswered points spearheaded by 7 from senior Ian Jackson to take a 22-14 lead. Jackson would finish the night with 15 points.

Centauri's Cody Bagwell helped get Centauri close before the end of the quarter with 4 points but Alamosa would lead at the half 25-20. Back from the break, Centauri was sure not to suffer any lulls that created the predicament they were in. Competitive play would result in seven straight points from the visitors tie the game at 30-30.

The two teams would go back and forth to Alamosa leading a 37-35 game entering the final quarter.

There, the Mean Moose would pull away again. Brenden Crowther book-ended a Jackson three-pointer for a 7-point run from the home team, Alamosa leading 44-35 early in the fourth.

The visiting Falcons would add 5 more to close the distance to 44-40 midway through the final chapter. Centauri's offense got plenty of shots off but Alamosa cleaned the boards well thanks to the athleticism of Tuoti-Mariner. The fact that Centauri shot an unofficial 28 percent from the field in the fourth quarter didn't help matters.

Alamosa would string together a late 10-point run with Isaiah Harrell and Donovan Ramirez each contributing 4 points. Intentional fouling didn't slow the Moose down as Alamosa would continue to pile on with free throws to the eventual 59-43 conclusion.

Alamosa's Brenden Crowther had a great night banking 23 points in the win and going 13 of 15 from the charity stripe. Centauri's Baron Holman led Centauri in scoring with two 3-pointers and totaling 13 points. The loss is the first of the year for Centauri who now relented first place in the IML to Alamosa. The Mean Moose's second big win against a ranked opponent will go a long way towards entering Alamosa into a top-ten conversation.

Alamosa will look to build on that momentum when Bayfield (1-12, 0-4 IML) visits on Saturday night. Centauri can move on quickly if they can complete the league sweep of Pagosa Springs (6-7, 1-3 IML) on Saturday. The Falcons took the first meeting with Pagosa 52-42. Alamosa and Centauri will meet once again on February 15th.



Courier photos by Stephen Jiron

Centauri's Mia Garcia (42) works her way around the defense of Alamosa's Terese Chavez (2) as Alamosa senior Taylor Motz (15) looks on.



Centauri's Owen Richardson (11) and Mason Claunch (12) defend Alamosa senior Brenden Crowther (11) during Friday's game in Alamosa.

## Softball swings into preseason

By **CORRI ZAIGER**

*ASU Sports Information Assistant*

**ALAMOSA** — Adams State Softball is set to swing back into action for the 2020 season. The Grizzlies are excited to hit the diamond and continue to build on last year's successes.

Dervin Taylor enters his 13th season as the head of Adams State Softball. Coach Taylor has guided the Grizzlies through historic years of play for the program, and multiple RMAC, National and ESPN All-American players throughout his time at Adams State. The Grizzlies finished their 2019 campaign 12-37 overall, and 12-25 in RMAC, finishing 9th among RMAC competitors.

The Grizzlies are excited to head into the new season with 15 re-



turning players and welcoming 11 newcomers. Big bats returning to the field are Tyler Hays, Brittany Phillips, Shelby Haskins, and Samantha McDonald. Bouncing back from an injury, Hays looks forward

to rejoining the Grizzlies back on the field with both her glove and bats. In the 2018 campaign, Hays led the Grizzlies with 16 home runs, 56 hits, 41 RBIs, with a .361 batting average. From the 2019 season, Phillips earned All-RMAC honorable mention as a two-way threat for the Grizzlies. She led the Grizzlies with 21 RBIs, 6 home runs, and a .354 batting average and was a stud in the circle. Haskins was also an influence for the Adams State offense with 24 RBIs, 5 home runs, and .305 average. McDonald was a big leader with her speed, completing 21 stolen bases and a .307 batting average.

Returning for the Grizzlies in the circle are Jade Garbiso, Taylor Sandoval and Phillips. Garbiso was the Grizzlies

ace, starting 22 of her 27 appearances with 54 strikeouts, 5 wins and a 7.41 ERA. Phillips also totaled 5 wins with her 16 starts and 28 appearances and 38 strikeouts.

Adams State will kick off the 2020 campaign against Western New Mexico University. The Grizzlies and Mustangs face battled it out in 39 games over the last 11 years, with Adams State taking 14 of 25 wins. The Grizzlies last saw the Mustangs in the preseason of 2018 where Adams State walked away with the 14-7 win.

The Grizzlies are set for their first doubleheader of the season, Saturday, Feb. 1 at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Silver City, New Mexico. Adams State will play their third game of the series Sunday, Feb. 2 at 12 p.m.

### Results

<b>Adams State Basketball</b> Jan. 31	Westminster 63, ASU 47 (W) Westminster 71, ASU 67 (M)
<b>Prep Basketball</b> Jan. 28	Crested Butte 48, Center 43 (B) Florence 43, Monte Vista 27 (G)
<b>Jan. 30</b>	Cotopaxi 44, Moffat-Mtn Valley 26 (G) Cotopaxi 52, Moffat-Mtn Valley 31 (B)
<b>Jan. 31</b>	Primero 72, Creede 37 (B) Center 54, Sierra Grande 41 (B) Sargent 47, South Park 12 (G) Sargent 63, South Park 29 (G) Sanford 55, Custer County 8 (G) Centennial FFW, Aguilar FFL (G) Sangre de Cristo 72, La Veta 20 (G) Sangre de Cristo 69, La Veta 33 (B) Monte Vista 80, Cortez 67 (B) Centauri 44, Alamosa 40 (G) Alamosa 59, Centauri 43 (B)
<b>Adams State Swimming</b> Jan. 25	Western Colorado 155, ASU 50 (W)

### Sports Bulletin

<b>Adams State Wrestling</b> Jan. 30	ASU 26, CSU-P 19
<b>Prep Wrestling</b> Jan. 30	Pagosa Springs 42, Alamosa 36 Bayfield 42, Monte Vista 29 Centauri 67, Montezuma-Cortez 11

### Upcoming Events

<b>Adams State Basketball</b> Feb. 1	5:30/7:30 p.m. Dixie State at ASU (W/M)
<b>Prep Basketball</b> Feb. 1	1:30/ 3 p.m. Bayfield at Alamosa (G/B) 2 p.m. Sangre de Cristo at Swink (G/B) 3 p.m. Center at South Park (G/B) 5:30 p.m. Del Norte at Sanford (G/B) 5/6 p.m. Antonito at Sierra Grande (G/B)

**Prep Swimming (G)**  
Feb. 1  
9 a.m. La Junta, Salida vs Sargent (at ASU)

**Prep Wrestling**  
Feb. 1  
**Dual State Tournament**  
Alamosa at Pueblo West  
**Valley Classic**  
9 a.m. Centauri, Del Norte, Monte Vista, Mountain Valley, Sargent, Sierra Grande-Centennial at Center

*Schedules subject to change*

### Adult Volleyball League

**ALAMOSA** — Alamosa Parks and Recreation Adult Volleyball registration is open.  
Team Registration: Jan 8 - Feb 5, 2020  
Team Fee: \$100 Player Fee: \$30/Division  
Player Registration: Opens Jan 8, 2020  
Season: mid - Feb to late - April (min. 10 season games + tourney)  
For more information, contact the AFRC - (719) 589-2105; Website: www.AlamosaRec.org

# Lifestyle



Courtesy photo

## Rocky Mountain Sled Dog Club announces Woof Creek activities

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

*Valley Publishing*

**SOUTH FORK** — The second annual Woof Creek Sled Dog Races are just around the corner for South Fork and the Rocky Mountain Sled Dog Club in partnership with the Friends of South Fork have released a schedule of activities for the family friendly event.

Beginning the weekend of Feb. 14, the town will welcome over 15 sled dog teams to the Rio Grande Club for a two-day event. Beginning Saturday, Feb. 15, attendees can come watch these furry athletes compete for the top spot on a 6-mile course around the Rio Grande Club and up into the Alder Creek area.

According to the event and Rio Grande Club marketing director, Ruthanne Johnson, there will be a “Musher’s Madness” dinner and dance party at the club Saturday night, Jan. 15. The dance is \$20 per person and is open to anyone who wishes to attend. There also will be live entertainment from a band out of Saguache called the Roadrunners.

The club provided some details about the band, “Based in Saguache County, the Roadrunners are Michael Brill, who plays guitar and sings vocals. Brill has been playing since the age of 14, backing up his father on guitar. He has been playing in bands since 1967, and taught guitar and other stringed instruments for 20 years in Dallas.

Ed Johnson also plays the guitar and sings vocals. Johnson started playing guitar at age 9 and played his first professional gig at 16. He played music in the Pikes Peak region most of his

life Johnson met and started playing with guys from the SLV, including Brill. They’ve partnered in various area bands since then. Johnson says his biggest passion is the Roadrunners and thanks his Rock ‘n’ Roll widow for supporting his playing music for 42 years.

John Schopp plays bass. Schopp, aka LJ, has toured the world performing for U.S. service members with the United Service organizations. More recently, he has established himself as a fixture in the Salida music scene, performing with local favorites, such as Chris Nasca.

Rick Gorentz, on keyboards and vocals, was born north of Chicago and raised in southeast Kansas. Gorentz built his first organ from a Heathkit kit at age 14. Playing for over 10 years in Kansas and Joplin, Mo., clubs, influenced by everything from the Allman Brothers to ZZ Top. Gorentz quit performing for almost 40 years before getting back onstage with the Roadrunners.

Doug Glenn is on drums. Glenn started playing drums in church at 8. He has since performed on stages throughout the U.S. and the Caribbean, including two tours with notable Bluesman Melvin Taylor. Most recently, he performed for four years with Colorado’s premier Pink Floyd tribute band, Colorado Floyd. Also interesting is that he personally handcrafted his drum set.

The event is expected to be a great time, so prepare for chilly weather and come out to enjoy a family friendly event in South Fork.

## Sen. Garcia’s state parks improvement bill advances

**COLORADO**—The Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee voted 4-1 to advance SB20-003 sponsored by Colorado Senate President Leroy Garcia.

SB-003 would allow the state to grant a one-time infusion from the general fund to make important capacity improvements across the state parks system, including contributing to maintenance, operational costs, upgraded trails, bathrooms, parking and visitor facilities.

It would also officially establish Fishers Peak and the land surrounding it, as Colorado’s newest state park. Fisher’s Peak is located near Trinidad, Colorado. “This is huge for southern Colorado,” said President Garcia. “We haven’t seen the same amount of tourism dollars that the rest of the state has, so this new state park in our own backyard will invigorate our economy and give us access to one of the most iconic natural wonders in the region.”

Every year more than 15 million people visit our public lands, bringing in just over a billion dollars to the state. This is incredibly valuable for our economy and our job market — with over 7,000 people employed by state parks. Yet alongside the inflow of dollars, tourism brings some difficult challenges, as well.

Upon passage, the bill heads to the Senate Finance Committee for review before heading to the senate floor.

“With added visitors and increasing climate challenges, our state parks have been taking a beating. And that problem has only ballooned by a decade-long cut in funding,” said President Garcia (D-Pueblo).

In the past, the legislature invested over \$5 million annually from the general fund in the state parks system, but that appropriation was zeroed out in 2012. Now, after years of restricted resources, state parks are in desperate need of some attention.

“Mountain trails are clogging up, backcountry roads are jammed with traffic, park staff are completely overwhelmed, and in the process, what we love most about our cherished open space, is at risk of being lost,” said Garcia.

The creation of Fishers Peak Park (official name TBD) would be the first state park to be created since 2013 and would exist as the second-largest park in Colorado — extending over 55 square miles.

“This is huge for southern Colorado,” said President Garcia. “We haven’t seen the same amount of tourism dollars that the rest of the state has, so this new state park in our own backyard will invigorate our economy and give us access to one of the most iconic natural wonders in the region.”

Upon passage, the bill heads to the Senate Finance Committee for review before heading to the Senate Floor.

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- Event must be open to the public
- Event must be a potential draw for tourism
- Event must be produced by a not-for-profit organization

Grant applications will be accepted until March 2. The application, including the full list of requirements and guidelines can be downloaded from: [alamosa.org/about-the-cvb-a-industry-partners](http://alamosa.org/about-the-cvb-a-industry-partners)

MORE INFO: 719-589-9386 [EVENTS@ALAMOSA.ORG](mailto:EVENTS@ALAMOSA.ORG)

# Lifestyle

## Fire managers plan to implement prescribed burns

TAOS, N.M. — Fire managers on the Carson National Forest, Questa Ranger District plan to implement prescribed fire in the form of pile burning as early as Feb. 10 and will continue as favorable weather conditions permit.

Approximately 161 acres are currently eligible for treatment within the Kiowa-San Cristobal Thinning area. As with all prescribed fires, implementation of each unit will occur only when weather, fuel moisture and smoke dispersal conditions remain favorable. Once ignitions start, it may take up to 10 days to complete the burn.

The following units are currently planned for treatment:

► **Joint Chiefs Thinning & Piling unit**, approximately 131 acres, south of San Cristobal and north of Forest Service Road 7, west of state Highway 522.

► **Joint Chiefs Thinning & Piling unit** approximately 20 acres. Located south of the community of San Cristobal and north and south of Forest Service

Road 7, west of state Highway 522.

► **Forest Service Thinning unit** consisting of approximately 10 acres. Located south of DH Lawrence Ranch, Kiowa Village north of Rio Hondo by Gallina Creek and west of Highway 522.

These units were thinned in 2018 and 2019 and subsequently used as fuelwood areas. Burning of the residual fuels will help create defensible space near the communities of San Cristobal, Lama, Arroyo Hondo, Gallina and Arroyo Seco in order to restore forest health and improve wildlife habitat.

Smoke from the Kiowa-San Cristobal pile burns will be visible in Taos, Questa, San Cristobal, Lama, Arroyo Hondo, Gallina, Arroyo Seco, Highway 522 and surrounding areas.

Prescribed burns are one of the most effective tools available to resource managers for restoring fire-adapted ecosystems. Prescribed fire mimics natural fires by reducing accumulations

of hazard fuels, recycling nutrients and increasing habitat diversity. Kiowa-San Cristobal pile burns are designed to help mitigate risk of high-severity wildfire, provide community protection and promote watershed and forest health. Prescribed fires are always managed with firefighter and public safety as the first priority.

Smoke-sensitive individuals and people

with respiratory or heart disease are encouraged to take precautionary measures. Information on air quality and protecting your health can be found online at the New Mexico Department of Health's website at <https://nmtracking.org/fire>.

For additional information about these prescribed burns, contact the Questa Ranger District at 575-586-0520.

## 2020 Summerfest on the Rio – Festival preparing already

ALAMOSA — Alamosa's iconic "Welcome to Summer in the San Luis Valley" has big plans for 2020.

This annual festival provides extensive arts and craft talents, musical entertainment for the entire family and a multitude of activities for the kids.

Situated along the winding Rio Grande in the beautiful and spacious Cole Park, the festival is known for its music, family fun and culinary delights.

In order to offer the community the best quality entertainment, this year, the festival will run Friday and Saturday only (no Sunday) on June 5 and 6. The fun begins Friday at 2 p.m.

The food and beer garden gear up for Summerfest's signature concerts in the park on Friday from 3-4 p.m. 5-6 p.m. and 7-9:30 p.m.

With the venue closing at 10 p.m. Saturday, the park starts buzzing at 8 a.m. with the annual benefit Poker Run benefiting the Homelake Veteran's Center.

Vendors are all set to go at 10 a.m. to show off their unique hand-made

wares.

Multiple musical genres will be represented on stage at the north end of the park and young and old can be seen moving and grooving.

On Saturday, the music starts at 11 a.m. and a final headlining act winds down by 9:30 p.m.

There is no admission to the public for this event!

Arts and crafts and food vendor applications are being accepted now. Reasonable sponsorship opportunities are available, as well.

Go to [www.summerfestontherio.com](http://www.summerfestontherio.com) for more information.

The event's organizers are also looking for community-minded people to volunteer for a couple of hours during the festival to help sell beverage tickets.

This small but valuable commitment helps keep the festival free to attendees by avoiding staffing costs.

Plus, giving back to community feels good, too.

One may even get a few drink tickets!

To sign-up or for more information, please contact [info@summerfestontherio.org](mailto:info@summerfestontherio.org).

## Most New Year's resolutions are abandoned by early Feb.

New Year's resolutions may not have much staying power, but the tradition of making them is an enduring one that dates back thousands of years.

According to History.com, ancient Babylonians are credited with being the first people to make New Year's resolutions.

During Akitu, a 12-day religious festival, the Babylonians would make promises to their gods, and these promises typically focused on being a better person in the coming year.

Celebrants of the festival, which was held when crops were planted, a time that marked the beginning of a new year to individuals in certain ancient societies, would promise the gods that they would repay their debts and return any items they had borrowed

in the previous year. While these promises might have been the forerunners to modern New Year's resolutions, there is one distinct difference that separates ancient Babylonians from people in modern times.

Babylonians believed keeping their word to the gods would curry favor for them in the coming year, while failure to keep their promises would do the opposite.

People who make resolutions today typically do so to better themselves and do not fear reprisal from their creator if they fail to live up to their pledges.

That's likely a good thing, as various reports suggest that as much as 80% of New Year's resolutions are abandoned by the second week of February. TF19C495

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# Ag Conference

## Agro Engineering completes workshop



Courier photo by Daniel McKillop

Agro Engineering President Bill Crowder steps away from the microphone to smile for the camera at his company's annual workshop Monday.

### Crowder conducts agriculture lecture to packed house

By DANIEL MCKILLOP  
*Courier Editor*

ALAMOSA — Agro Engineering hosted its annual workshop at the National Guard building in Alamosa on Monday.

"We had a great turnout and prices have been good for potatoes this year," said Bill Crowder, president of Agro Engineering. "Hemp was good and has dropped off. We're a bunch of engineers and agronomists, and our role is to help farmers with everything from planting, watering, fertilizing, pest management, harvesting and watching their stuff in

storage — and that sort of thing."

The eight-year president of Agro Engineering said his organization's office is on the Alamosa/Monte Vista line.

"I grew up in this area," Crowder said. "My family still farms in the Waverly area."

He said that his audience was comprised of people from the local area.

"They are pretty much our clients in one form or another," Crowder said.

Most of his audience produced potatoes, Crowder said. There are a lot of them who are potato-related, but they also produce ham and stuff like that.

Crowder said the workshop also covered sprinkler design, crop budgets and issues about harvesting alfalfa, hemp and potatoes — among other things.

"We're excited for the year and we see a lot of promise coming forward."

"It's a good snowpack, so far."

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# Ag Conference

## Tuesday, February 4

- 7-8 a.m. **Breakfast** — Sponsored by Monte Vista Cooperative
- 8:15 a.m. **What Weather to Prepare for in Colorado**, Dr. Russ Schumacher, State Climatologist, CSU
- 8:50 a.m. **Snotel and Lidar Sensing of Snowpack**, Blake Osborn, Regional Water Specialist, CSU
- 9:15 a.m. **Doppler Information and Update**, Ken Howard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Severe Storms Lab, Norman, OK
- 10 a.m. **BREAK** — Sponsored by Bayer Crop Science
- 10:15 a.m. **Water Roundtable Discussion** (With Cleave Simpson, Craig Cotten, Nathan Coombs, Pat McDermott, Russ Schumacher, Chris Ivers, Amber Pacheco, Marisa Fricke), Heather Dutton, Director, SLV Water Conservancy District
- 11:30 a.m. **Water Use in Alfalfa**, Dr. Joe Brummer, Associate Professor, Extension Forage Specialist, Soil and Crop Sciences, CSU
- Noon LUNCH** — Sponsored by Farm Credit
- 1:30 p.m. **Hemp Harvester/Equipment Demonstration** (McMullen Building), FormationAg, Monte Vista, CO
- 1:30 p.m. **Seed Certification: Your Best Option for the Management of Tuber Necrotic Viruses**, Dr. Stewart Gray, Virologist, USDA/APHIS, Cornell University
- 1:50 p.m. **PVY Grower Panel**, Dr. Andrew Houser, Manager, Colorado Potato Certification Service, CSU/SLVRC, Center, CO
- 3 p.m. **BREAK** — Sponsored by Certis
- 3:20 p.m. **Hybrid Potato Breeding**, Dr. Dave Douches, Potato Breeder, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- 3:50 p.m. **Update on Hybrid Potato Breeding at Colorado State University**, Dr. David Holm, Professor, Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, CSU/SLVRC, Center, CO
- 4:10 p.m. **Does PVY Have an Impact on Certified Seed and Potato Yield/Quality in the San Luis Valley?**, Dr. Andrew Houser, Manager, Colorado Potato Certification Service, CSU/SLVRC, Center, CO
- 4:30 p.m. **Soil Carbon Sponge**, Didi Pershouse, President, Soil Carbon Coalition Social in McMullen Building — Food Sponsored by San Luis Valley Federal Bank Refreshments Sponsored by A&L Coors

## Noon Lunch - Sponsored by: Frontier Bank

- 1:30 p.m. **Keynote Speaker: Global View from Home – Bring the Globalization of Agriculture Home for Your Operations Business Strategies**, Stephen Nicholson, Vice President, Rabo Research, Food and Agri Business, Grains and Oil Seeds, Rabo Agro Finance, Chesterfield, MO
  - 2:45 p.m. **Break** — Sponsored by Syngenta
  - 3 p.m. **Seed Cutter/Seed Diseases (McMullen Building)**, Dr. Chakradhar Mattupalli, Plant Pathologist, Research Professor/Extension Specialist, CSU/SLV Research Center, CO
  - 3 p.m. **Colorado Ag Commission Report**, Kate Greenberg, Commissioner, Colorado Ag Commission, Broomfield, CO
  - 3:30 p.m. **P, Ca, and Mg for Quality Potatoes**, Jimmy Ridgeway, Regional Sales Representative, Yara International, ID
  - 3:30 p.m. **Managing Calving Difficulties** (McMullen Building), Alpine Veterinary Hospital, Monte Vista, CO
  - 4 p.m. **The Economic Contribution of Irrigated Cropping to the San Luis Valley**, Dr. Rebecca L. Hill, Research Scientist, Community and Resource Economics II, CSU
- Social in McMullen Building – Food Sponsored by Sunflower Bank Refreshments Sponsored by A&L Coors**

## Thursday, February 6, 2020

- 7-8 a.m. **Breakfast** — Sponsored by Rio Grande Seed & Grain
- 8 a.m. **Water Use in Hemp Production**, Brian Mitchell, CSU Graduate Student
- 8:35 a.m. **Challenges with Hemp Production, Grower Panel: Monte Robertson, (SLV Hemp);**

■ See HEFNER page 11

## Wednesday, February 5, 2020

- 7-8 a.m. **Breakfast** — Sponsored by San Luis Valley Rural Electric
- 8:15 a.m. **Potassium Nitrate: A Soluble Source of Potassium Fertilizer that Improves Production of Premium Size Tubers**, Dr. Samuel Essah, Associate Professor, Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Extension Specialist and Physiologist; CSU/SLVRC, Center, CO
- 8:40 a.m. **Baleage Demonstration**, Stinger Inc., (McMullen Building)
- 8:40 a.m. **White Mold Management in Potatoes – a Midwestern Perspective**, Dr. Jamie Wilbur, Assistant Professor, Department of Soil and Microbial Sciences, MSU, Lansing, MI
- 9:15 a.m. **Production Management Review of the San Luis Valley**, Dr. John Jemison, Extension, University of Maine, Orono, ME
- 9:50 a.m. **National Potato Council**, Kam Quarles, CEO, Washington, D.C.
- 10:20 a.m. **BREAK** — Sponsored by FMC Corporation of North America
- 10:40 a.m. **Nutrition for Developing Heifers and Steers** (McMullen Building), Clay Burson, Beef Technical Sales Specialist, Purina Nutritionist, Sponsored by Monte Vista Cooperative
- 10:40 a.m. **State of Higher Education in Agriculture**, Dr. James Pritchett, Interim Director College of Agriculture Science, Director of Ag Experiment Station, CSU
- 11:05 a.m. **Producing Trititicale in the San Luis Valley**, Eric Wilkey, President, Arizona Grain Inc., Casa Grande, AZ
- 11:30 a.m. **Pre and Post Natal Nutrition of Cattle**, Eric McPhail, Director, Gunnison County Ext. CSU

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# Ag Conference

## Hefner

Continued from Page 10

Corbett Hefner, (FormationAg); Shanay Wright, (FormationAg); Andrew Brown, (Powder Hemp, Alamosa); Brian Mitchell, (CSU Graduate Student)

- 9:40 a.m. **BREAK**
- 10 a.m. **San Luis Valley Composting Experiment**, Patrick O'Neill, Owner, Soil Health Services, Alamosa, CO
- 10:15 a.m. **Bubbler Irrigation Techniques**, Wade Henderson, Engineer, Davis Engineering, Alamosa, CO
- 10:40 a.m. **Ergot in Barley**, Stephen Wyka, CSU Grad Student
- 11 a.m. **Potatoes USA**, John Lundeen and Ben Harris, Research Director and Research Associate Manager
- 11:30 a.m. **Farm Service Agency: Available Programs for SLV Ag Producers**, Brandon Terrazas, Executive Officer, USDA, UNM, Albuquerque, NM
- Noon Lunch — Sponsored by First Southwest Bank
- 1 p.m. **Commercial and Private Pesticide Applicator Seven Core Credits for Pesticide Application**, Don Henderson, Owner/Operator, DP Ag Services, Monte Vista, CO

Safe Travel Home!

## DEMONSTRATIONS & Programs

(In the McMullen Building)

### Tuesday:

- 1:30 p.m. **Hemp Harvester/Equipment Demonstration**, by FormationAg
- All day **Powder River Livestock Handling System**, Sponsored by Monte Vista Cooperative

### Wednesday:

- 8:40 a.m. **Baleage Demonstration**, by Stinger Inc.
- 10:40 a.m. **Nutrition for Developing Heifers and Steers**, Clay Burson, Beef Technical Sales Specialist, Purina Nutritionist, Sponsored by Monte Vista Cooperative
- 3 p.m. **Seed Cutter/Seed Disease**, by Chakradhar Mattupalli, Plant Pathologist, Research Professor/Extension Specialist, CSU/SLV Research Center, CO
- 3:30 p.m. **Managing Calving Difficulties**, Alpine Veterinary Hospital, Monte Vista, CO

## Ag industry thriving

The agricultural industry provides a variety of opportunities to professionals interested in this often misunderstood field.

According to the employment resource AGCareers.com, more than 250 career profiles are available to people interested in a career in agriculture. And while jobs in agriculture may not be as prevalent as they were a few centuries ago, when 72% of the workforce was employed in farm occupations in the United States, agriculture remains a booming industry that greatly affects the nation's economy. Today, one in 12 American jobs is depends on agriculture, according to the career resource Payscale.


A career in agriculture presents many exciting opportunities in a number of different applications. It's a vast industry that utilizes professionals with an array of skillsets. TF193781

More

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## United States-Mexico-Canada agreement Senate approved

**COLORADO** — On Jan. 16, the United States Senate passed the United States-Mexico-Canada agreement by an 89-10 vote. The following statement is attributed to Don Shawcroft, President of the Colorado Farm Bureau:

"The long-awaited ratification of the United States-Mexico-Canada agreement will provide necessary stability and vital opportunity for the agriculture industry to thrive by increasing U.S. exports by \$2 billion. Colorado itself exports over \$1.4 billion and \$2.8 billion worth of goods to Canada and Mexico, respectively, which is why it is so incredibly important to have this agreement finalized. For over a year, farmers and ranchers from across the country have written letters, made phone



calls and reached out to their elected officials urging them to make USMCA official.

While the process has taken longer than we hoped, we are thankful for today's news and

are excited to strengthen our relationships with our neighbors to the north and south."



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# Ag Conference

## Hemp Regulatory and Production Symposium

**COLORADO** — The Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) will present a public Hemp Regulatory and Production Symposium at the Department's Broomfield, Colorado campus and via live webinar on Feb. 19 from 8 a.m.-4:15 p.m. To provide increased service and in response to stakeholder interest, the symposium will expand on CDA's annual Hemp Program Year in Review meeting to also include education, fostering consumer and farmer protection, and pre-empting noncompliance issues.

Attendees will learn how to alleviate risk and non-compliance issues related to the cultivation of industrial hemp while improving their economic success.

Experts from CDA and Colorado State University will speak on topics including the Colorado State Hemp Plan and USDA Interim Final Rule, seed and plant quality, THC testing, pest management and more.

View the full symposium agenda here. The onsite event is limited to 100 participants and early online registration is encouraged.

Register here to attend in person or participate via webinar.

The webinar will also be recorded and posted on CDA's Industrial Hemp Program webpage following the event. For more information, please contact Mindy Archuleta at 303-869-9084.



Courtesy photo

### Saturated market leaves little room for growth in hemp

BY LYNDISIE FERRELL  
VALLEY PUBLISHING

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — "There is one thing that I always try to stress to my clients. Know your farmer. It is so easy nowadays to be sold fake products. Especially now that the hemp industry has been saturated with fake CBD," said owner of Green Acres Hemp Farm Jim Strang. "What we really need now is some regulations or licensing requirement to cut out the fake product."

Strang has been growing hemp for CBD extraction for over 10 years and his plans to continue have not altered much since the plant became federally legal in early 2019. "We really anticipated a drop in sales once the laws passed to make hemp federally legal to grow but, in all honesty, our online sales increased because people were no longer afraid to have it shipped to them. Most of the growers here in the Valley underestimated the market

and grew too many plants. Now, they don't know what to do with their surplus product. You have to know these things before jumping in."

Strang and his wife Lisa grew about an acre and a half of hemp in the 2019 season and had just enough to make the products they sold all year. The business focuses on the medical benefits that have been proven time and time again through the testimonies of hundreds of clients. "Everybody and their brother jumped in to start growing hemp, but the problem is they know nothing about how to do it correctly and it's the people who buy the fake products that will suffer for it. I cannot stress it enough to know your farmer. Know where and how your products are made and make sure the company or business doing it has their hemp tested."

Strang stated that new laws are coming into effect later this year requiring hemp growers to allow labs to come to their

fields and have their plants tested. "I am really glad about the changes that are coming because as I have said before it will help weed out the harmful, fake plants and stop it from getting on the market."

"People are getting burnt out because they are using the wrong stuff and if anything will hurt our business, it will be that."

On the other side of the Valley in Del Norte, SLV Hemp is also starting the year off with some struggles due to the over saturated market. According to owner Monte Robertson, SLV Hemp will be starting from scratch this season and will aim its focus toward growing hemp for edibles and animal medicinal products. "It is where our heart lies. There is two parts to the hemp plant that are used for two purposes. The green leafy part is used to extract the CBDs and the seed can be used

for grain or edible products. We plan to really push our animal product line and grow for grain," explained Robertson.

Though they are off to a rough start, Robertson, who is one of the founding growers of hemp in the San Luis Valley, does not plan to let the over-saturated market deter him from doing what he loves. "We got into this business to help people and animals and that is what we are going to do."



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**10:00 o'clock a.m.**  
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## Public Notices

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF CRESTONE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020 1:00P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM, 115. ALDER STREET, CRESTONE, CO

**PURPOSE:** Public comment on a Planned Unit Development proposal for Tract 3, which consists of 4.62 acres of E. Lime Ave. within the Town of Crestone and Zoned Rural Residential.  
**PRELIMINARY APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY:** Crestone Peak Community Housing, a nonprofit organization, PO BOX 911, Crestone, CO 81131.  
**PUBLISHED AND POSTED:** As per the Zoning Regulations of the Town of Crestone Section IX-10, Ordinance 2006-013, Crestone Board of Trustees: Mayor Kairina Danforth and Trustee Diane Bairstow, Terry Goergen, Adam Kinney, Kizzen Laki, Sam Pace and Bob Prather.  
**COMMENTS MAY BE SENT IN ADVANCE OF THE HEARING TO:** Crestone Clerk, PO BOX 64, Crestone, CO 81131 or crestoneclerk@fairpoint.net  
No. 1253  
Published in the Valley Courier on January 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, February 01, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, and 11, 2020.

### District Court Rio Grande County, Colorado Court Address: 925 Sixth Street, Del Norte, Colorado 81132 Telephone: (719) 657-3394 In the Matter of the Estate of BILLY BONIFACIO MONTANO, a/k/a BILL B. MONTANO, Deceased COURT USE ONLY Attorney for Applicant: William F. Dunn, Reg. No. 1036 Address: 585 Columbia Avenue, Del Norte, CO 81132 Telephone: (719) 657-3323; Fax: (719) 657-3320 E-mail: bill@dunn-law.com Case Number: 2019PR30019 Division: Courtroom

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION**  
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the Personal Representative or to the Clerk of the Rio Grande County District Court on or before  
May 18, 2020 or the claims may be forever barred.  
Date: January 16, 2020  
By: William F. Dunn  
William F. Dunn, Attorney for Personal Representative  
585 Columbia Avenue, Del Norte, Colorado 81132  
No. 1255  
Published in the Valley Courier on January 18, 25, and February 01, 2020

### DISTRICT COURT, COSTILLA COUNTY, COLORADO Court Address: 304 Main Street P.O. Box 301 San Luis, CO 81152 Phone Number: (719) 672-3681 In the Matter of the Estate of: RICHARD E. PARK, Deceased. COURT USE ONLY Attorneys for Maureen E. Park, Petitioner CHAYET & DANZO, LLC Marco D. Chayet, #29815 Tamara E. Trujillo, #41193 Jenny M. Vulltaggio, #48966 650 S. Cherry St., Ste. 710, Denver, CO 80246 Phone Number: (303) 355-8500 Fax Number: (303) 355-8501 E-mail: Marco@ColoradoElderLaw.com Tamara@ColoradoElderLaw.com Vulltaggio@ColoradoElderLaw.com Case Number: 2020PR030002 Division: Courtroom

**NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION**  
INTERESTED PERSONS AND OWNERS BY DESCENT OR SUCCESSION  
PURSUANT TO § 15-12-1303, C.R.S.  
To all interested persons and owners by descent or succession: Estate of Virginia E. Park, c/o Maureen Park, Personal Representative  
A Petition has been filed alleging that the above Decedent died leaving the following property: 50% interest in vacant land, LOTS 8, 9, 13 AND 14 IN BLOCK 11 FILING 5 IN SAN LUIS NORTH ESTATES, IN COSTILLA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO.  
The hearing on the petition will be held at the following time and location or at a later date to which the hearing may be continued:  
Date: March 9, 2020 Time: 8:00 a.m.  
Courtroom or Division: Probate Address: 304 Main Street, San Luis, CO 81152  
This is a non-appearance hearing; attendance is not required or expected.  
Note:  
\* You must answer the petition on or before the hearing date and time specified above.  
\* Within the time required for answering the petition, all objections to the petition must be in writing, filed with the court and served on the petitioner and any required filing fee must be paid.  
\* The hearing shall be limited to the petition, the objections timely filed and the parties answering the petition in a timely manner. If the petition is not answered and no objections are filed, the court may enter a decree without a hearing  
No. 1256  
Published in the Valley Courier on January 18, 25, and February 2/1, 2020

### A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS (NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF) §1-13.5-501, 1-13.5-1102(3), 32-1-905(2), C.R.S.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and, particularly, to the electors Of the Mosca Hooper Conservation District Of Alamosa County(ies), Colorado.  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election will be held on the 5th day Of May, 2020, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. At that time three supervisors will be elected to serve 3-year terms. Eligible electors  
Of the Mosca Hooper Conservation District interested in serving on the board of supervisors may obtain a Self-Nomination and Acceptance form from the District Designated Election Official (DEO):  
Robin Cope  
101 S. Craft Drive  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
719-582-9353  
moscahoopcg@gmail.com  
The Office of the DEO is open on the following days: M-F 8:30-4:30 PM- NRCS Lobby  
The deadline to submit a Self-Nomination and Acceptance via email or drop off at 101 S. Craft Drive, Alamosa, is close of business on February 28, 2020 (not less than 67 days before the election).  
Affidavit of Intent To Be A Write-In-Candidate forms must be submitted to the office of the designated election official by the close of business on Monday, March 2, 2020 (the. sixty-fourth day before the election).  
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, an application for an absentee ballot shall be filed with the designated election official no later than the close of business on Tuesday preceding the election, May 5, 2020.  
Robin Cope  
Designated Election Official Signature  
No. 1265  
Published in the Valley Courier on February 01, 2020

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Conejos County Weed Control District has filed a pre-application with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, for financial assistance to acquire and/or develop an All-Terrain Vehicle for noxious weed mapping and spraying purposes.  
The area to be surveyed by the proposed project is: the unincorporated land within the county of Conejos and specifically land within the Weed District boundaries.  
A meeting regarding the proposed project will be held on 20 February 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the following location: the board room at the Conejos County Arena Complex at 17705 US Hwy 285, La Jara, Colorado.  
The public is invited to attend this meeting and to provide comments on the proposed project.  
30 January  
Name of Applicant  
Date  
President  
Title  
No. 1285  
Published in the Valley Courier on February 01, 2020

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing before the Conejos County Planning Commission will be on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 7:00 PM and a hearing before the Conejos Board of County Commissioners will be on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 10:30 AM for the purpose of considering an application for a Special Use Permit to expand their mining permit from a 110 permit to a 112 permit. The application was submitted by Robins Construction, L.L.C. The property is legally described as 40 acres located in the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 15, Township 33 North, Range 8 East, NMPM Conejos County Colorado. Physical address 9501 County Rd H, Antonito. County Parcel #598515400048.  
Details regarding this application are available for public inspection in the Conejos County Land Use Office at the Conejos County Court-house during regular office hours. Any interested person may appear to be heard at the public meeting.  
Linda DeHerrera, Conejos County Land Use Administrator  
NO. 1286  
Published in the Valley Courier on February 01 and 18, 2020

### NOTICE BY PUBLICATION A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and, particularly, to the electors of Northwest Conejos Fire Protection District of Conejos County, State of Colorado

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election will be held on the 5th day of May, 2020, between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM. At that time, 4 directors will be elected to serve 3-year terms. Eligible elector of the Northwest Conejos Fire Protection District interested in serving on the board of directors may obtain a Self-Nomination and Acceptance form from the District Designated election official (DEO).  
2 Directors for La Jara area to serve 3-year terms  
2 Directors for Carmel area to serve 3-year term  
Henry Schimpf, (Designated Election Official)  
710 Broadway, La Jara, CO (DEO address)  
719-274-4140 (DEO Telephone) or 719-588-2135  
The office of the DEO is open on the following days: Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.  
If the DEO determines that a Self-Nomination and Acceptance form is not sufficient, the eligible elector who submitted the form may amend the form once, at any time, prior to 3:00 PM on Friday, February 28, 2020. The deadline to submit a Self-Nomination and Acceptance is close of business on Friday, February 28, 2020 (not less than 67 days before the election). Earlier submission is encouraged as the deadline will not permit curing an insufficient form. Affidavit of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate forms must be submitted to the office of the designated election official by the close of business on Monday, March 2, 2020 (the sixty fourth day before the election)  
Notice IS FURTHER GIVEN, application for a mail-in ballot shall be filed with the designated election official no later than the close of business on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, except that, if the applicant wishes to receive the mail-in ballot by mail, the application shall be filed no later than close of business on Tuesday, April 28, 2020.  
Northwest Conejos Fire Protection District Name  
Henry Schimpf Designated Election Official Signature  
Published in the Valley Courier on February  
No. 1287  
Published in the Valley Courier on February 01, 2020

### 173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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### ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for a General Labor I position in the Facilities Services Department.

For application or more information, please see https://www.adams.edu/hr/employment/ Deadline is February 9, 2020. AA/EOE. (2/8)

### 221 HELP WANTED

**THE CITY OF Alamosa** is seeking a Full Time Maintenance Worker I with a hiring salary of \$14.42 – \$15.86 per hour (DOQ), to provide routine maintenance tasks in and around the City Facilities. Applications can be found online at www.cityofalamosa.org under Employment or at the HR Department, 300 Hunt Avenue, Alamosa, Colorado. Closing date is February 13, 2020 at 4:30 pm. (2/15 #2)

### 221 HELP WANTED

**SEEKING A PART-TIME Family Advocate,** with potential for full-time at a later date. The Family Advocate is responsible for the engagement, intake, assessment, internal triage, and case management for families seeking service at Adelante Family Resource Center. The Family Advocate works with families to create positive and long-term growth aimed to improve safety, stability, and self-efficacy by providing trauma-informed, strengths-based, solution focused, and culturally responsive services. Duties include assisting with client goal setting. Service/referral/resource navigation in the community, regular in-person visits at Adelante, in family homes and in the community. Additional responsibilities include collaboration with local community partners and other program staff, data tracking, reporting and adherence to program grant requirements. Bachelor's degree preferred with two years of experience working in the human serve field with direct client contact. Bi-lingual a plus. Please send cover letter and resume to: HR, PO BOX 1235, Alamosa, CO 81101 or email to hr@lapuente.net (2/18)

### ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for a General Labor I position in the Facilities Services Department.

For application or more information, please see https://www.adams.edu/hr/employment/ Deadline is February 9, 2020. AA/EOE. (2/8)

### 221 HELP WANTED

**THE ALAMOSA POLICE Department** is seeking a FT Police Officer, \$19.86 per hour to join the Alamosa Police Department. Some duties include, protecting the lives, health, welfare, and property of individuals within the city limits by enforcing municipal, state, and federal statutes, ordinances, and laws. For a full job description and to apply please visit the cityofalamosa.org. Open until filled. (3/3 #1)

### ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for a Police Officer I position in the ASU Police Department.

For application or more information, please see https://www.adams.edu/hr/employment/ Deadline is February 13, 2020. AA/EOE. (2/6)

### RIO GRANDE COUNTY Department of Social Services is seeking applicants for a Legal Technician.

Background check and pre-employment drug screening required. \$15.36/hr. DOE, full County benefits. Schedule 37.50 hours /week. Job description and application are available on-line at www.riograndecounty.org or pick up and submit to Human Resources: 925 6th St., Rm. 200: Del Norte, CO 81132.(2/6)

### TEMPORARY EXPERIENCED HEAD Cook-Monte Vista - (2+ yrs exp; references);

Responsible for food preparation per to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans; must be familiar w/Colorado Retail Food Establishments Rules and Regs and certification Food Safety and Handling; supervisory skills, cooks in large quantities; 5:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. M-F; For more information call 719-589-4511. Applications and full job description available at South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc., 1116 3rd St. Alamosa CO or call 719-589-4511 for more information. (2/8)

### 221 HELP WANTED

**CDL TRUCK DRIVER** needed in hay hauling operation, Class A CLD in good standing, Drug testing required. Competitive payHome on most evenings and on weekends Please call 719-588-4481 for more information(2-16)

### THE NORTH CONEJOS School District is accepting applications for a head Centauri Middle School Wrestling coach.

Applications are available at the Administration office, 17890 US Hwy 285 La Jara, CO 81140 or can be downloaded at www.northconejos.com. Application deadline is until position is filled. Submit application to Mr. Curt Wilson, Superintendent. EOE (2/5)

### ROTECH HEALTHCAREIS currently taking applications for a part-time PPS-RT (Respiratory Clinician Pay Per Service).

Applicant can consist of RN, CRT or RRT. If interested in the position apply at https://careers-rotech.icims.com/ (2/5)

### PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST NEEDED immediately.

Need to be dependable. Bring resume to Valley Courier, Attention Keith.(TFN)

### SIERRA GRANDE SCHOOL District is currently accepting applications for a High School Spanish Teacher/ELL Director.

Applicants must have a current state certification/license or in the process of receiving a certification/license and enrolled in an educational program for completion or endorsement. Application forms are available at the district office located at 17523 E. Hwy 160 Blanca, CO 81123 or on the District's website at www.sierragrandeschool.net Applications may be submitted to Mr. Brandon Mizokami at bmizokami@sierragrandeschool.net For more information please contact Mrs. DeAnn Arellano at 719-379-3257.(2/22)

### 221 HELP WANTED

**THE CITY OF Alamosa** is seeking a Full-Time Maintenance Worker II in the Streets Department to perform semi-skilled and skilled work in the construction, modification, maintenance and repair of streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, storm drains, graffiti removal, and traffic signs; and performs related work as assigned. The candidate must possess a High School Diploma or equivalent, a valid Colorado Class B Commercial Driver License with an acceptable driving record, and the ability to frequently lift and carry equipment weighing over 50 lbs. Starting salary is \$15.25 - \$16.78 per hour (DOQ), including a comprehensive health benefits package, CO PERA retirement, and vacation. Applications can be found online at www.cityofalamosa.org under Employment or at the Human Resources Department, 300 Hunt Avenue, Alamosa, Colorado. Closing date is February 10, 2020 at 4:30 pm.(2/12)

### 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)

### 221 HELP WANTED

**MONTE VISTA AREA Ditch Companies** seeking a ditch rider, experience preferred. Must have a valid CDL reliable transportation, Welding capabilities, able to run and maintain heavy equipment. Salary based on experience. Send resume to 147 Washington St., Monte Vista Co 81144 (2/8)

### SOUTH CONEJOS SCHOOL District is currently accepting applications for the 2019-2020 School Year for the following positions:

High School Track Coach, Middle School Wrestling Coach, and Middle School Baseball Coach. Applications are available online at www.southconejos.com. Applications can be forwarded to josh@southconejos.com. If you have questions/concerns you may contact the district office at 719.376.7001. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. South Conejos is an equal opportunity employer. (2/8)

### EXPERIENCED DENTAL HYGIENIST wanted.

Established practice in Alamosa, full time or part time. Must have active license. Send resume to PO Box 1841 Alamosa, CO 81101.(1/15-TFN)

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**Hurry, the deadline is noon.**

# Classifieds

### 221 HELP WANTED

**ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY:** Counseling, Career and Accessibility Services Adams State University seeks applicants for Counseling Services Coordinator of Accessibility services. AAEOE. For more information visit: [https://www.adams.edu/hr/administrative-positions/\(2/19\)](https://www.adams.edu/hr/administrative-positions/(2/19))

**WE ARE SEEKING** a responsible, self-motivated, "preferably" experienced Dental Assistant to join our team at Harding Dental Group where our patients experience the difference at the premiere dental practice in the San Luis Valley. Must be willing to travel to both office locations, South Fork and Alamosa. Please email resumes to [june@harding-dentalgroup.com](mailto:june@harding-dentalgroup.com) (2/7)

**MONTE VISTA SCHOOL** District is accepting applications for a Middle School Math Teacher for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. A complete list of desired qualifications and experience may be viewed on the district website. 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, until the position is filled. Applications may be downloaded from the district website <http://ww2.monte.k12.co.us/employment-opportunities.html> or call 719-852-5996.(2/7)

**CALDON TRUCKING** IS looking for a CDL driver. Please call 719-274-4464.(1/22-TFN)

**COMMUNITY BANKS OF Colorado** is seeking a candidate to fill a Universal Banker position in our La Jara Banking Center. If you have client service, sales and cash handling experience, we'd like to speak with you. For position details and to apply, please visit [www.nbhb.com](http://www.nbhb.com). NBH Bank is an equal opportunity employer.(2/7)

### 221 HELP WANTED

**THE TOWN OF ANTONITO** is accepting applications for full/part time police officers. Must be 21 years of age, have a valid driver's license, and must be Colorado POST certified. Part time officers must have a minimum of one-year experience. Starting salary is \$35,360 per year for full time officers and \$17 per hour for part time officers. Applications may be picked up at the Antonito Town Hall located at 515 River St. and will be accepted until position(s) are filled. (2/5)

**CHIEF OF POLICE-TOWN OF Del Norte**-Full-time, FLSA Exempt. Working Chief Position, plans, organizes, and directs the activities of the Police Department in law enforcement and crime prevention. The position is expected to carry out the duties of the department in a manner that inspires trust and confidence among our citizens and staff. Any combination of training and experience that provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities is qualifying; typical education, but is not limited to BS/BA in Business Administration, Public Administration, or Criminal Justice. Experience would include 5 years of responsible command/management experience in law enforcement agency. Salary \$55K-\$60K annually. Must possess a POST certificate. Must possess valid Colorado driver's license. Must sign waiver for Town of Del Norte to obtain ALL information from previous employers. Must past background, drug and psychological tests. Applications and job description are available from Del Norte Town Hall 140 Spruce Street, Del Norte, Co or website: [delnortecolorado.com](http://delnortecolorado.com). Please send application attention to Del Norte Town Administrator, 140 Spruce Street, P.O. Box 249, Del Norte, Colorado 81132 Deadline for applications Jan. 31, 2020.EOE.(2/5)

### 221 HELP WANTED

**MONTE VISTA SCHOOL** District is accepting applications for a full-time School Nurse. A complete list of duties and desired qualifications may be viewed on the district website [ww2.monte.k12.co.us/employment-opportunities.html](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 January 30, 2020, or until the position is filled. Applications may be downloaded from the district website or call 719-852-5996.(2/1)

**WANTED - RANCH/FARM** Hand for cow/calf and hay operation. Need experience with calving, fencing, irrigating, loaders, hay equipment operating and maintenance, light mechanic work and welding. Steady, long term position for honest, reliable, motivated individual. Housing and utilities included with wages based on experience and responsibilities. Please respond with resume, references and salary expectation to [fuchsranchinc@gmail.com](mailto:fuchsranchinc@gmail.com).(2/5)

### 324 - FEED & SEED

**PREMIUM TARPED AND** shedded grass hay 3x3 Bales 750 lbs. near Monte, CO. 719-588-8506. Discounts for larger amounts.(2/25)

**PREMIUM ALFALFA AND** grass/alfalfa, small bales \$8.00 in shed, \$7.00 outside (719) 580-2509. (02/19)

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

### 351 LIVESTOCK

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

### 360 - MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**SMALL ANTIQUE TABLE** with chairs. New 11 tables and 52 chairs. 719-589-0464/719-580-9648. (2/5)

**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

**VALLEYDOG TRAINING,** Alamosa. Obedience agility classes \$50, 6 weeks 719-379-4157 for information. (2/18)

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

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

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

### 369 - PETS & SUPPLIES

**FREE TO GOOD** home. Adults and kittens. NO MOUSERS OR BARN CATS. Spay/neuter clinics coming to Alamosa in near future. Call Donna K 719-589-9592 or 719-580-9078. (TFN)

### 387 - WANTED TO BUY

**WANTED TO BUY** Cow hay and Wheat straw call 719-850-1680. (2/7)

### 409 FARM & RANCH LAND

**COW PASTURE FOR** rent. South of Manassa Call 719-580-5745 anytime. (2/5)

**HAY GROUND WANTED** for share crop or cash lease. Over 20 years experience 719-850-1626. (2/5)

### 415 - HOMES FOR SALE

**IN ALAMOSA, 206** and 212 Bonney Dr. 3 Bedrooms, 1 bathroom. \$140,000/ each OBO call 719-480-3777. (2/18)

**DEL NORTE COLORADO,** Rent To Own, 3 Bedroom 2 Bathroom \$750/Mo. 719-253-2978. (2/6)

**FOR SALE IN Alamosa.** Nice log home, 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms. Totally remodeled 719-589-0464/719-580-9648. (2/5)

**2 HOMES/ 5.25 Acres,** Trees!, 3 wells!, Extra electric System, Trees!, Corrals. \$184,000.00 970-640-9562.(2/15)

### 420 - LOTS & ACREAGE

**25 ACRES AT** Sangre de Cristo Ranches, with Elec. 200' water well , Sangre de Cristo creek runs through it. 80 acres 2 1/2 miles west of San Acacio call Al Lopez 719-588-2930 / 719-843-0930.(2/25)

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**\$249,000 - Beautiful 3** bedroom, 2 bath home sitting across from Carroll Park. This home features an open floor plan with an updated kitchen, bathroom, flooring, windows, gas fireplace, paint, trim and Garage door. Two living spaces, hot water baseboard heat, 2 car attached garage with painted floor and more. Call today for more information. 717 Weber Drive, Alamosa. MLS # 765166

**\$215,000 - Brand new** stick built 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Features include an open floor plan, nice master suite with 3/4 bath and walk-in closet, custom Amish cabinets, stainless steel kitchen appliances, well-insulated, augmented well with outside watering, vertical steel siding, 2 car attached garage and more. Call today for more details. 5790 County Road 9 S, Alamosa. MLS # 765125

**\$199,500 - You won't find** another like this on the market! Larger home just a block from Adams State University and walking distance to downtown. Located in the heart of Alamosa, CO this 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home has plenty of storage space. Located on a corner lot with mature trees. It also has a 1 car attached garage and a fenced-in side yard. 1011 Second Street, Alamosa. MLS # 765145

**\$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

### 500 REUNIONS

**BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN RANCH** WEDDING/REUNION SITE. Lodge w/kitchen, dining, sleeping; 9 guest cabins. 719-580-2486.(2/13)

### 525 GUNS

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

### 601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

**Century Property Management & Sales, LLC**  
Alamosa • 589-5744

**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICE**  
For all your rental needs please call 719-589-5744 or stop by 823 Main St. Alamosa, CO 81101  
[www.alamosarentals.com](http://www.alamosarentals.com)

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

Accepting Applications for 2 Bedroom Apartments - Handicap Units Available. Rent based on income for qualified households.  
**Gateway Villa Apartments**  
929 Spruce St. Del Norte, CO  
**657-3654**  
TTY 1-800-659-2656  
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Accepting Applications for 2 & 3 bedroom family units. Family living at an affordable price. Immediate Availability  
**Valley Grande Apartments**  
2256 East Drive Monte Vista, CO  
**852-4302**  
Rental assistance available to qualified households.  
TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

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

### 601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting Applications for waiting list for 2 & 3 bedroom family units. Handicap accessible units available. Immediate Availability

**West View Villas**  
510 Dunham Monte Vista, CO  
**852-3949**  
TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

**1 BEDROOM \$350/MO.** \$350 deposit no pets call 719-589-3774. (2/8)

### 611 - HOMES FOR RENT

**BEAUTIFUL 4 BEDROOM** Ranch house located near Monte Vista \$1000/mo. call 719-588-8506. (2/13)

**BEAUTIFUL 3 BEDROOM,** 2 Bathroom Country Home with fireplace will be available February 1, 2020. 1st, Last, Security and Utility Deposit. 1 year Lease, references. Monthly Rent is \$800 plus utilities. Contact Cheryl 719-480-0502. Leave a message. (2/5)

**2 BEDROOM 1 Bath.** efficiency kitchen, upstairs, garage. \$850/Mo. plus utilities. Del Norte. Call 719-539-7879 Avail. February 01, (2/01)

### 717 WATER SHARES

**AUGMENTATION WATER SHARE** of Middlemist water for sale 719-588-3224. (2/28)

**SLV IRRIGATION WELL** Owners Inc. 6000 gallons at \$5.00 per gallon. Call 719-849-8197. (2/4)

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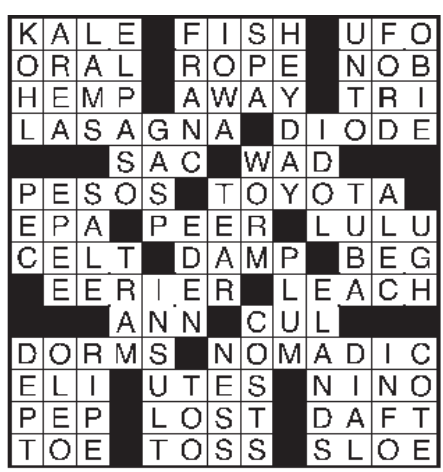
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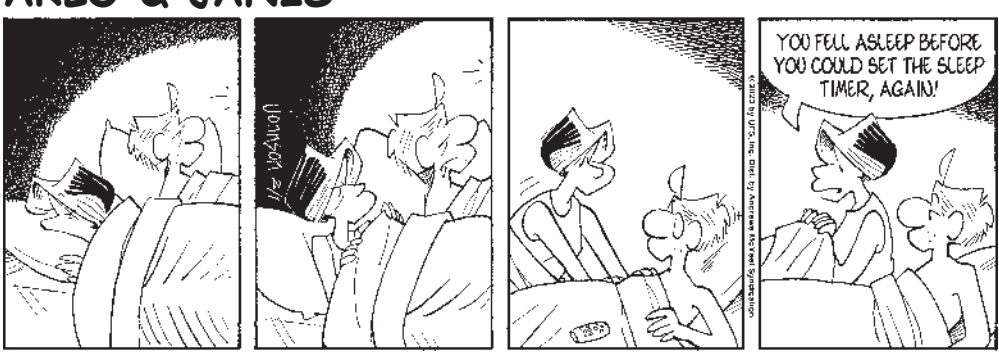
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## ALLEY OOP



## ARLO & JANIS



## BIG NATE



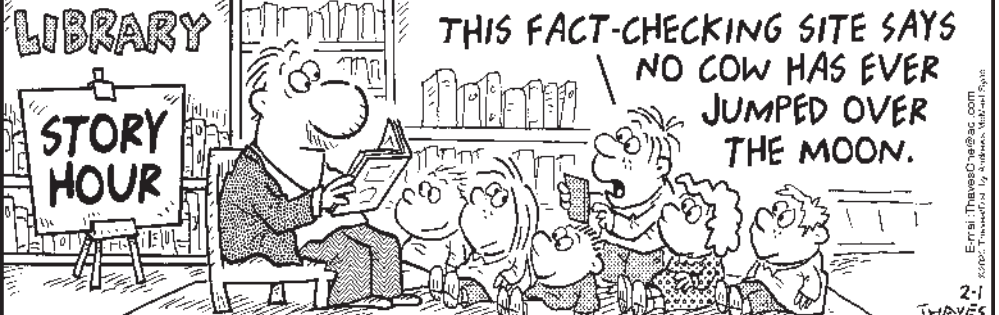
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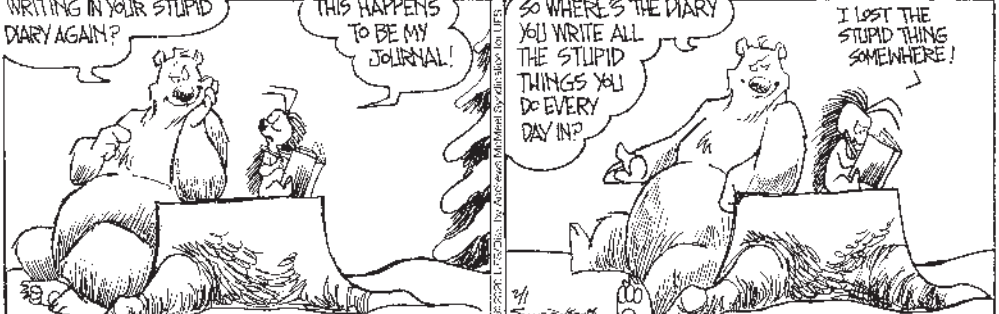
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## GARFIELD



## THE GRIZZWELLS

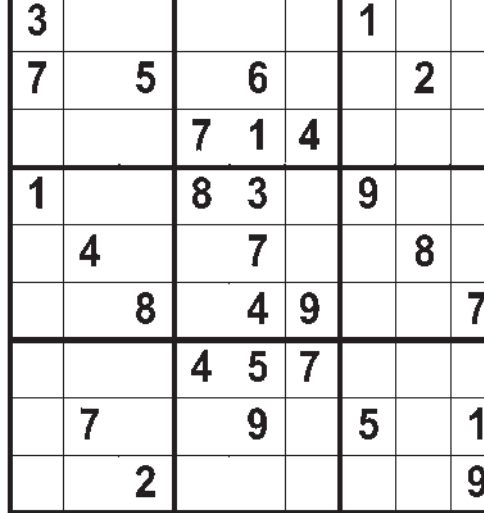


## PEANUTS

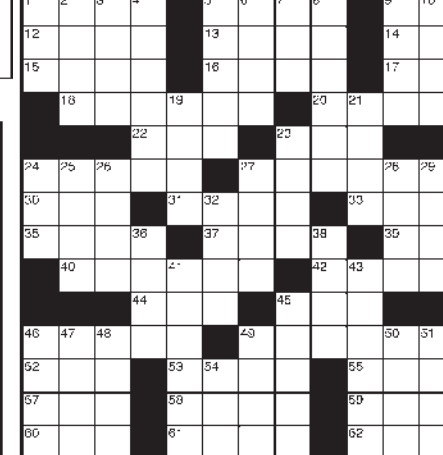


## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



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



## HERMAN



"Your honor, my client thinks ten years is a little harsh and requests permission to approach the bench."

## Siblings come home to visit, but not with family members

DEAR ABBY: I have a problem I haven't seen in your column before. My husband comes from a large family with siblings spread far and wide. We live in the home state and are happy to accommodate his brothers and sisters (families, dogs) when they come home to visit and ask to stay with us.

While it's never said openly, it quickly becomes clear that the purpose of their visit is to do activities with people other than my husband and me. In the past, we cleared our calendars and expected to entertain and feed these visitors. It becomes awkward when they unexpectedly leave for events with other people -- once a Christmas Eve dinner! Advice? --

DEAR AWKWARD: Do not be confrontational, but when plans are being made for the next visit, you and your husband should ask his relatives which days or evenings you should expect to entertain them. That way you won't have needlessly cleared your calendar only to be left standing at the curb.

DEAR ABBY: My fiancée, "Mia," lost her dad two years ago, and her mother recently announced to the family that she is seeing someone. She has been staying over at

his house, and she is planning to sell her home and move in with him. Mia is very upset about it.

Her mom is now in the process of getting rid of her father's belongings. She feels like her mom is erasing her father from their lives. How long should her mother have waited? Is Mia being selfish? Shouldn't she be happy for her mother? --

GOING FORWARD IN THE EAST  
DEAR GOING: I hesitate to call your fiancée selfish as much as self-centered. Her mother has waited a respectable amount of time. She isn't erasing her late husband from her life or her children's as much as going on with hers, which is healthy.

I wish you had mentioned how long she has been seeing the man she's planning on moving in with, because it might be pertinent. For her own protection, she should discuss her plans with her lawyer to ensure that she -- and her assets -- are safeguarded before she sells her house.

DEAR ABBY: A good friend of mine is giving a baby shower next month for her grandson and granddaughter-in-law. She wants to invite many of her longtime friends to the shower, but most of them have little or no his-



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

tory or relationship with her grandson or his wife, and neither one really wants them to be invited. The grandmother, however, thinks it would be rude not to. Your thoughts? --

INVITED IN THE WEST  
DEAR INVITED: Someone should remind your good friend that the celebration is not for her, and that showers aren't supposed to be hosted by close relatives but by friends of the honoree. Not only would your friend's contemporaries not be offended if they are not invited, they would probably feel relieved. People of Great-Grandma-To-Be's generation have been through so many showers they aren't likely to have hurt feelings if the younger generation takes over, unless they're very close to the honoree.

# Calendar

ALAMOSA — Plans continue for the 2020 Rio Frio Ice Fest as the deadline for sponsors draws near.

“Beach Party — in the coldest place in the nation” is the theme of this year’s event set for Jan. 24-26. For sponsor details, go to [www.riofrioice.com](http://www.riofrioice.com).

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.

MONTEVISTA — 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 drop 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 [wcouzens-smith@gmail.com](mailto:wcouzens-smith@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](http://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](http://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 Tuesday at 7 p.m., with doors opening at 4:30 p.m. Packs are \$5.

ALAMOSA — Groups are held for women who have experienced domestic violence every second Tuesday from 5-6 p.m. at the Grizzly Training Center, Alamosa. There will be refreshments

and childcare provided. Contact Jennifer McCoy-Hanna at Tu Casa, Inc. at (719)-589-2465.

VALLEY — Keep drivers safe in your community. Become an AARP Driver Safety Volunteer Instructor today. Do you have a passion for helping others and want to make your community safer? AARP needs dedicated volunteers as instructors to grow this leading educational program. Sign up today at [www.aarp.org/driversafetyvolunteer](http://www.aarp.org/driversafetyvolunteer)

VALLEY — La Puente is in need of volunteers split wood to bring relief to local families. Volunteers with chainsaw skills are most needed, but anyone is invited. To volunteer, call Shanae at (719) 587-3499 or email [volunteers@lapuente.net](mailto:volunteers@lapuente.net)

ALAMOSA — Circle of Parents in Recovery provides a safe, supporting, confidential, nonjudgmental environment where parents can openly discuss the successes and challenges of parenting in recovery. The group meets every first and third Tuesday from 4-5:30 p.m. at Living Water Bible Fellowship 2019 Clark St., Alamosa. Contact Mary Lambert at (719) 587-6965 or [mlambert@slvbhg.org](mailto:mlambert@slvbhg.org)

ALAMOSA — Made up of community members who write in many different genres, the Sophia Circle meets weekly to provide support for writers and their writing projects in the downstairs conference room at the Colorado Welcome Center at Alamosa, Sixth and State, on Sundays from 1-3 p.m. Writers may drop in on any meeting. Bring copies of the work you want to share. Call Holly at (719) 588-7066.

ALAMOSA — “Planting Seeds for Kindergarten” is the Alamosa Public Library program that encourages all families and caregivers to read 1,000 books with their young children before they enter kindergarten. Participants will be rewarded for every 100 books they read. Register at the Alamosa Public Library today, 300 Hunt Ave., Alamosa.

CONEJOS COUNTY — The Conejos County Library is looking for volunteers to read aloud to young children. Volunteers can join in visiting homes around Conejos County and talking to parents and caregivers about the value of instilling a love for reading. Please contact Margie Wagoner at the Conejos County Library at (719) 274-5858.

ALAMOSA — Alamosa Toastmasters meets on Mondays at noon at The Bridge in Alamosa at 3407 Carroll St. Participants will find a supportive learn-by-doing environment that allows them to achieve their goals at their own pace. Call (719) 588-5127.

ALAMOSA — Can’t make it to Storytime at the Alamosa Public Library? That’s OK, check out the Storytime to Go Kits designed to bring Storytime into your home! Come into the Alamosa Public Library today, 300 Hunt Ave., Alamosa.

ALAMOSA — MOPS, (Mothers of Preschoolers), a gathering place for moms with young children (birth through kindergarten) that offers connections, community, resources and support to meet the needs of every mom meets every first and third Wednesday at Living Water Bible Fellowship Church, 2910 Clark St., Alamosa, from 9-11 a.m. See [facebook.com/mopsalamosa](http://facebook.com/mopsalamosa) or [mopsalamosa@mopsalamosa.com](mailto:mopsalamosa@mopsalamosa.com)

LA JARA — MOPS-La Jara provides a reenergized program Thursday, with new crafts, discussions, snacks and learning at the United Church of La Jara, a safe place for the older kids to play and learn with a great staff to lead all activities. The great times begin at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays. Call Debbie at (719) 580-6721.

VALLEY — Rio Grande County Tourism Board is looking for high quality photographs that photogra-

phers would be willing to let the tourism board use for advertising purposes. Contact Ruth Carapella at [ruth@pencraftco.com](mailto:ruth@pencraftco.com) or [president@riograndetourism.com](mailto:president@riograndetourism.com)

CONEJOS COUNTY — The Conejos Library District has applied for and received a grant from the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation titled Growing Readers Together. The purpose of the grant is to provide early literacy reading materials, reading related toys, and educational activities for home day care providers. The library will be able to provide kits in the form of books, educational toys, music and activities to anyone doing home day care in Conejos County. Those who are interested in participating in this program please contact the library at (719) 274-5858.

ALAMOSA — The Valley-Wide Pharmacy is now a registered drop-off location for the Colorado Household Medication Take-Back Program. There is now a drop-off receptacle located at the pharmacy for the collection of household medications, including both prescription and over-the-counter medications. Drop off any unwanted household medications for free at the Valley-Wide Pharmacy. The Valley-Wide Pharmacy is inside the Alamosa Family Medical Center clinic at 1710 First St. Alamosa.

VALLEY — La Puente Outreach is currently accepting medical applications. Those who are in need of help paying for prescription glasses, hearing aids, medical equipment or dental procedures, please come to 929 State Ave., Alamosa or call (719) 587-3781.

VALLEY — The San Luis Valley Naloxone Education Empowerment Distribution (SLV N.E.E.D.) project came to an end. Free Narcan Nasal kits are still available at any of the local participating pharmacies while supplies last. Those pharmacies are: La Jara Health Mart Pharmacy, Alamosa Pharmacy, Valley Wide Health Systems Pharmacy (for Valley Wide Health Systems patients only), Jacks Market Pharmacy in Monte Vista and Rio Grande Pharmacy in Del Norte. Residents may need a prescription to pick up a kit.

DEL NORTE — The Rio Grande County Museum Board is looking for pictures of the construction of the “new” courthouse. The second courthouse was built in the late 1930’s as a WPA project. Individuals can either donate the photos to the museum or a board member will make copies of them and return them. Contact Louise at the museum at (719) 657-2847.

ALAMOSA — Youngsters are invited to the Alamosa Public Library Story Room every Friday morning to sing, color, dance, read, enjoy adventures, share with friends and giggle. Babies and toddlers are welcome at 9:30 a.m. and preschoolers at 11 a.m.

MONTEVISTA — Valley Fiber Art Guild welcomes anyone interested in spinning, crocheting, knitting, weaving or other portable fiber activities to come to VFA gatherings. The group meets the fourth Saturday of every month starting at 1 p.m. at 757 County Rd. 29, Monte Vista. Email [wcouzenssmith@gmail.com](mailto:wcouzenssmith@gmail.com) or call (719) 852-5000.

VALLEY — Those concerned about their children’s development are welcome to contact the free service SLV BOCES Child Find at (719) 589-5851. Child Find’s job is to locate, identify and screen/evaluate children for whom there is a suspicion of a delay in speech, language, motor, social, self-help or cognitive skills. If a significant delay is identified, families are connected with appropriate free services to address delays.

## 9 Reasons to Shop Local

**1 Shopping Local Creates Jobs:** The jobs created allow spending in the local economy and helps create more jobs.

**2 Local independent businesses invest more in our community:** They support local charities, schools and community events which financially impacts our community.

**3 Local businesses sell a wide range of great products at affordable prices and cater to the needs and wants of the community.**

**4 Shopping Local saves you money and time!** Travel expenses and personal time make the overall cost of items higher.

**5 Shopping Local retains our community:** Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.

**6 Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness:** Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community’s needs.

**7 Shopping Local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Alamosa’s diversity, charm & appeal. Which in turn, attracts new community members.

**8 Shopping Local invests in community services and city economy.** Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Alamosa.

**9 Local shops value you more:** Local businesses survive by their reputation & repeat business which means you get a higher standard of service.

## Bar Code?



An approach to advertising...

If each line in the barcode represents a radio station, that’s how many stations you’d have to buy to equal the reach of your local newspaper. How often & for how long do you listen to ONE radio station?

You GOTTA BE IN THE PAPER

Valley Courier

719-589-2553

[www.alamosanews.com](http://www.alamosanews.com)

email: [ads@alamosanews.com](mailto:ads@alamosanews.com)