

## Shorts

### VFA Meeting Saturdays Feb. 22, 29

**MONTE VISTA** — VFA will meet this Saturday, Feb. 22, and Saturday, Feb. 29, at 1 p.m. Come when you can and stay as long as you want. Bring a project, ideas, questions and a friend or two. Plan on enjoying yourself. For directions, call Wanda at 719-852-5000 (home) or text her at 719-580-4976 (cell). Looking forward to seeing everyone.

### Saguache County caucus training

**SAGUACHE** - The Saguache County Democratic Party Central Committee will hold caucus training Monday, Feb. 24 at 6 p.m. followed by a Central Committee Meeting at 7 p.m. at the Saguache Road & Bridge Meeting Room, 305 - 3rd Street. If you plan to go to your precinct caucus Saturday, March 7, at 2 p.m., come to the training to get a sneak peek at what will happen, how it works, and what will be voted on. For questions or to get more involved with the Party, please contact Party Chair Randy Arredondo [randyharredondo@gmail.com](mailto:randyharredondo@gmail.com). This training and meeting are open to the public. All are welcome! Meeting agenda items include approving Jan. 10, 2020, meeting minutes, approving the March 29, 2020, County Assembly/Convention agenda and rules, appointment of Assembly/Convention parliamentarian, and other business that may come before the meeting. To register to vote or to update your voter registration go to: [govotecolorado.com](http://govotecolorado.com). Let's make history in 2020 with the highest voter turnout ever!

### Alamosa community blood drive

**ALAMOSA** - Alamosa Community Blood Drive, Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2020, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 927 Weber Drive in Alamosa, 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call for an appointment 800-365-0006, or visit [www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org). Sponsored by the Alamosa Rotary Club.

### ASU hosting WINGS Spring Symposium

**ALAMOSA** - The Adams State University Counselor Education Department is hosting the third annual Spring Symposium, "Working on Interventions to Navigate Generational Stress (WINGS)," Friday, Feb. 21, in Richardson Hall Auditorium.

## Residents demand officials address nails in road

By TERESA L. BENNS

**SAGUACHE** — La Garita residents came before Saguache County Commissioners Tuesday to complain about a problem with County Road 41G they say has existed for months, but really has been ongoing on some level since troubles with their neighbors began two years ago.

Kim Specht and Todd Rohr were involved in a shooting incident in 2018 with a near neighbor. The neighbor received a suspended

sentence in the shooting, which Rohr says has permanently rendered one of his arms useless. Since then, they say, there have been a series of incidents occur that have caused them much distress and even made it impossible to get to their medical appointments.

Neighbors up the road from Specht and Rohr report the same problems. The culprit at the present time is roofing nails, scattered in their driveway and up and down County Road 41G "for months now," Specht told commissioners. [Road and

Bridge Director] Randy Arredondo walked the road and confirmed that someone had laid down a 5 gallons load of roofing nails.

She then reported she and Rohr are still having problems with the same neighbors shooting toward their home and it interferes with their respite and rehabilitation work with veterans. It also interferes with delivery people and service providers traveling to the area, she said.

Specht and Rohr maintain that they have repeatedly called the Saguache

Sheriff's Office and cannot get anyone to investigate the shooting problems or the nails in the road. She accused them of being rude and disinterested and refusing to provide them with reports on the incidents. Calls to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the FBI also have been fruitless, she added.

"If this happens to anyone else in this room, you are on your own; good luck," Specht warned.

According to Specht, Sheriff Dan

*Please see NAILS on Page 8A*



Photo by Teresa L. Benns

**A fire over the weekend totally destroyed the residence of Nicholas Ramirez, Sr. at 521 E. 3rd Street in Center. The fire was the result of arson by the homeowners son.**

## Police chief says weekend blaze in Center was arson

By TERESA L. BENNS

**CENTER** — A fire over the weekend totally destroyed the

residence of Nicholas Ramirez, Sr. at 521 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Center and

before it was contained by the Center and Monte Vista Volunteer Fire

*Please see FIRE on Page 8A*

## The state of water flow in the San Luis Valley

By TERESA BENNS

Pat McDermott, a longtime staff engineer with the Division of Water Resources, opened the Roundtable Discussion on water at the Agricultural Conference in Monte Vista with a comparison of two contrasting water years — 2018 and 2019.

He informed his audience that 2018 was "the fourth worst year for water flow in the Rio Grande since the late 1800s. In June 2018, [water flow] was at 15 percent of normal — it was a terrible year." By way of contrast, 2019 was "the biggest year since 1999," and the 16<sup>th</sup> best year according to the records, he commented Tuesday. Runoff was "especially outstanding" on the Conejos River.

In early to mid-summer of 2019, water delivery peaked at 8,000 cfs on the Rio Grande producing an annual volume of 929,000 acre-feet, that is 142 percent of the long-term average." The high runoff lasted until July, when

*Please see WATER on Page 5A*



# CLIPS FROM THE CLERK

BY SAGUACHE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER

TRISH GILBERT  
**Precinct caucuses and Colorado's precinct caucus process**

Precinct caucuses are meetings of registered electors within a precinct who are members of a particular major political party.

The purpose of precinct caucuses is to elect precinct committee persons and delegates to county assemblies.

Caucuses are held in locations across Colorado and are open to the public. Political parties are in charge of the precinct caucuses. They are in charge of: Locations, Publicity, Staffing, Materials and Processes.

### Role of the County Clerk's office in precinct caucuses

Providing a list of voters registered with that party (no later than 21 days before the precinct caucus.) Answering questions from voters and directing them to call their party, if necessary.

Since caucuses will be held on the weekend, March 7, 2020, the Clerk's Office will make staff available during that time to take phone calls both from the political party and voters who need assistance during the caucuses.

Caucuses are the functions of political parties. County clerks, staff and the Secretary of State's Office do not run caucuses in their official capacity.

### Where are caucuses held?

Political parties are responsible for the caucus locations. The parties also determine the time of the caucuses.

Precinct caucuses may be held in a public place or a private home that is open to the public during the caucus that is in or near the precinct.

The location must be physically accessible to persons with disabilities and comply with the rules of the county central committee.

Signs must be posted designating precinct caucus locations no later than 12 days before the caucus. The signs must state: "Precinct caucus place for precinct no. \_\_\_\_\_."

### When are party caucuses held?

In a Presidential Election year, the party caucuses are held the Saturday after the Presidential Primary Election. In 2020, this date is March 7, 2020. In a non-presidential election year, precinct caucuses are held on the first Tuesday in March.

### Who can vote in a precinct caucus?

To be eligible to vote in a political party's precinct caucus, a voter must be:

- A resident of the precinct for at least 22 days;
- Registered to vote no later than 22 days before the caucus; and
- Affiliated with the party holding the caucus for at least 22 days before the caucus.

Although Unaffiliated voters may vote in primary elections, they cannot participate in party precinct caucuses.

### What happens at a precinct caucus?

Caucus attendees elect officers who will be responsible for organizing political activities within the precinct. Caucus attendees also elect delegates and alternates to represent the precinct at the political party's county or district convention.

Many people don't realize that the party caucus is the first step in nominating candidates for the ballot.

### Candidate nominating process

Voters affiliated with a political party gather at a caucus. The candidates or representatives of the candidates encourage voters in each precinct to run as a delegate for them.

Voters at the caucuses elect delegates to the county or state convention. Voters want to know who the delegates are going to vote for at the conventions. The delegates are elected and their names are forwarded to the political parties.

### What happens at county/district assemblies?

The County Assembly is convened to designate county candidates for the Primary Election and to select delegates to the congressional district assemblies and the State Assembly.

The District Assembly is then convened to designate district level delegates to the National Convention. The delegates also nominate candidates for Congress, the Colorado General Assembly, the State Board of Education, the Board of Regents and District Attorneys.

The purpose of the State Assembly is to nominate candidates for statewide offices to the Primary Election ballot. During the assembly, delegates will also be elected to the National Convention.



# OBITUARY

## Harold William "Bill" Plane, 91,

MONTE VISTA — Harold William "Bill" Plane, 91, passed away at his home in Monte Vista, Colorado Saturday, Feb. 8, 2020.

Bill was born on March 2, 1928 to Fred and Augusta (Stoeber) Plane.

Bill met the love of his life Bertha (Beiriger) in 1946. After serving in the United States Army, Bill returned to marry his love on Oct. 30, 1952. Together they shared 64 wonderful years and danced countless miles together, earning the name "the dancing Planes." Anyone who knew them knew how much they loved one another and to dance, especially to their song "Silver Wings," and sharing the love of dancing with their seven children.

Bill enjoyed many hobbies including woodworking, gardening, fishing, farming and raising livestock.

Along with his hobbies, he also held many occupations throughout his life, butcher, farmer, construction, and warehouse foreman to name a few. In his later years, Bill thoroughly enjoyed his daily walks into town, meeting, stopping to visit, and waving to those he saw along the way. Of all his interests, Bill's greatest were his love for God, devotion to his wife, his children and his grandchildren.

Bill was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He will be dearly miss by his 7 children; Darrel (Sue) Plane, Becky

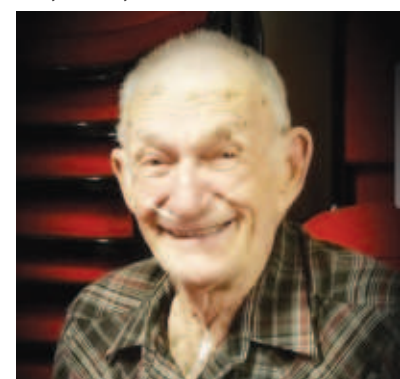
(Jim) Gerlock, Sandy (Lee) Jackson, Randy (Debbie) Plane, Herman (Nancy) Plane, Dixie Diltz, Darla (Lance) Andersen; 16 grandchildren; 41 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great-grandchild, sisters Thelma Allen and Marjorie Plane; a brother Don Plane; and numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents Fred and Augusta (Stoeber) Plane; his wife Bertha (Beiriger) Plane; a brother Jack Plane; son-in-law Ed Diltz, grandchildren Melinda Wiger, Shane Wiger, and Joshua Rilling; and great-grandchildren Bohan Plane and Nicholas Garcia.

Viewing will be held from 1-4:30 p.m. Feb. 18, 2020, at Rogers Family Mortuary in Monte Vista. A Recitation of the Rosary will follow at 6 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Monte Vista with a Funeral Mass to be held Feb. 19, 2020, at 10 a.m. also at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Monte Vista. Followed by graveside with military honors at the Monte Vista Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Rio Grande Hospital or St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Rogers Family Mortuary in Monte Vista is in care of the arrangements. To leave online condolences or words of strength for the family, please visit [www.rogersfunerals.com](http://www.rogersfunerals.com).



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# Doppler radar installed for San Luis Valley

By TERESA L. BENNS

**MONTE VISTA** — During the Roundtable session at the Agricultural Conference in Monte Vista earlier this month, speakers discussed the many benefits of a new Doppler radar system installed at the Alamosa airport in September 2019.

Alamosa County Administrator Gigi Dennis explained at the radar grand opening ceremony that the airport was found to be the central point of the Rio Grande Basin and would serve as an ideal location. Heather Dutton with the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, Nathan Coombs of CWCD, and Cleave Simpson of RGWCD helped acquire property and build the permanent system.

A seven-county group worked with the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the Colorado Department of Transportation to purchase and install permanent Doppler radar at the airport. In 2018, Doppler systems were installed at Bristol Head and Lobo Overlook on Bristol Pass, near the West Fork Complex Fire burn scar. This will help predict future flash floods in the region.

According to the Rio Grande Watershed site at <https://www.rweact.org/publications>, previously the San

Luis Valley was in a radar desert. The San Juan and Sangre de Cristo mountain ranges blocked coverage from nearby radar stations in Grand Junction and Pueblo and prevented NOAA and the National Weather Service from monitoring weather events in the San Luis Valley.

This data gap hampered efforts in forecasting water supply, hydrologic modeling, as well as public safety and emergency management in the San Luis Valley. Administration of the rivers for water rights and accurately meeting the Rio Grande Compact obligation had become very difficult as existing water supply forecast data then available showed discrepancies in comparison to actual event flows.

The new radar system provides blanket coverage for the area in the Valley now not visible on radar, the Rio Grande watershed site shows. The radar also assists local public safety administrations in identifying threats to public safety, including fire and flood events.

Permanent radar installation in the Valley now allows the coupling of local hydrologic modeling data with national modeling systems and local SNOTEL sites, and this will help to better determine water rights administration and interstate river compact obligations.

Partners in the project included: Rio

Grande Water Conservation District, Conejos Water Conservancy District, San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, San Luis Valley Irrigation District, Rio Grande Watershed Emergency Action Coordination Team, Colorado Water Conservation

Board, EWR Radar, Division of Water Resources, Alamosa County, Conejos Water Users Association and Rio Grande Water Users Association. Total cost of the project was \$1.3 million, but costs were defrayed by \$300,000 from Capitol Development

Committee as well as support from the Colorado Department of Transportation. Now that the radar is up and running, data collection is underway, and a website will be developed where the data can be accessed.



Courtesy photo

The exterior of the new doppler radar dome is pieced together May 2019. The doppler radar at the Alamosa airport was completed September 2019.

## Counselors recognized for efforts



Courtesy photo

Center Schools counselors Elissa Harrington, Ashlee Welsh, Adele Alfson and Katrina Ruggles were recognized this month during National School Counseling Week for the the amazing work they do with Center students.



Valley-Wide Welcomes

**Kalee Chavez-Miller,  
FNP-BC**

to our

**Sierra Blanca Medical Center**  
106 Blanca Avenue #300, Alamosa

Kalee was born in the San Luis Valley and began practicing here in 2016. She has previous experience as a Registered Nurse and Nutrition Educator. Her special interests include preventive care, women's health and mental health. In her free time Kalee enjoys exploring the outdoors with her family, appreciating the vast experiences each season has to offer.

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# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## LETTERS

### 'We the People'

To the editor:  
 Congress should have term limits, but they will not make it happen, so "We the People" must do it. Voting machines must be safe. With the technology we have that should be priority, and easy to do. It is starting to look like our well-paid people in D.C. have lost their way. "We the People" have let this happen. So let's get off the couch and fix the system. The folks in D.C. say bribery is a crime, but a lot of them do it. I wonder if they know that "Quid Pro Quo" is the same thing. It seems like political folks are not held to the same standard as "We the People." I pray that all of us are paying attention.

Peter Marshall said, "Lord where we are wrong, make us willing to change, and when we are right, make us easy to live with." "We the People" went to war with government in 1773 because it wanted to rule. They had single shot guns and so did "We the People." You all know how that went. Our government has guns with 30 round magazines, but they want "We the People" to have single shot guns. "We the People" are in charge. Really? If the government takes our guns, they should get rid of theirs also, but then Mexico would take over the USA. I don't know if "We the People" would like that. I guess "We the People" must keep our

guns. I would like my government to explain to "We the People" what the word; "infringed" means. It seems many folks don't know or don't care, and many of those folks that misinterpret it are in our government. Abraham Lincoln once said, "You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong." You cannot help the wage earners by pulling down the wage payer. You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich, you cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should for themselves.

Virgil L. Varner  
 USN Retired  
 Monte Vista



## I've got a secret

Before we get to the "meat" of this week's column I have to at least touch on Valentine's Day and how Ol' Dutch out did himself once again for Miss Trixie. You see most men take their beloved out for a steak dinner and Miss Trixie loves a good rare steak like no one else.

On Friday, Valentine's Day, a friend's nice angus cow broke a hip and what's a guy to do but help butcher it up? Instead of having one steak dinner in celebration of love, Miss Trixie spent the weekend with me, her true love, elbow deep in cow guts. Now that's some kind of cupid play there. And what sane woman wouldn't rather have six months of rib eye steaks instead of a box of chocolates anyway?

The cow wasn't the only sad news of the week. While walking along Venice Boulevard out in Los Angeles, 91 years old Orson Bean was fatally hit by a car. If you can't really place him trust me, you saw him somewhere on television in his decades long career.

I think I recall him most as a panelist on the show "I've Got a Secret." This show had a long run and brought people onto the stage so the panelists could ask a few questions before guessing the famous story.

If you've never seen that old show, you still have a chance as it's out in syndication and still on the TV. I watched an old episode last month with a nonagenarian contestant who was the last surviving person who had been at Ford's Theatre the night President Lincoln was shot.

Of course this show was WAY before Miss Trixie's time and of course she is always kind enough to always point out the large span between our ages.

So I got to thinking -- a thing Miss Trixie calls dangerous at best -- about all the things that seem to be a secret.

One place that seems to be kept on keeping secrets is the post office. About every other day I get a notice from them that there is some piece of mail there for me but somehow "this one" can't be scanned for a photo like all the rest. For you see, it's my mail but it's a secret.

Gone are the days when I would just open my mail as it came but now, they bait me with the knowing something is coming just to be cruel.

Other things are secret of course



Trout Republic  
 by Kevin Kirkpatrick

like the true story about UFO's, who shot JFK, Area 51, who built the Great Pyramid, where did the Anasazi go and last -- but certainly not least -- the secret recipe for Kentucky Fried Chicken.

But I do believe that one of the most frustrating secrets out there runs in the televangelist circles and concerns the end of the World. Now Ol' Dutch is pretty sure that the Big Guy Himself said that no one knows that time but the money changers seem to milk a pretty good living off promising to reveal that in some future show. Ol' Dutch is still waiting and withholding payment until I actually get a time and date at the least.

Another secret seems to be the price of items offered for sale. A new car is probably the hardest item to get a final price on unless you sign some pre-offer paperwork and offer your first born child for human sacrifice. For you see the price is a secret.

Don't get me wrong, Ol' Dutch has been known to keep a few secrets of his own like fishing hotspots, hunting hidey holes and sales on Gulf Shrimp. But of course, those kinds of things are supposed to be kept a secret.

And for a fact, no panel of Hollywood famous would ever get the location of an elk wallow from a decent nimrod, especially not from this one.

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

## Thank you Representative Valdez

To the editor:  
 I am writing this letter to thank Representative Donald Valdez. In this time of hyperpolitical divisions amongst parties, it is refreshing to have a State Representative that will listen to his constituents and vote in a nonpartisan manner when it is the right thing to do. Representative Valdez has been a major supporter and defender of our elderly and disabled communities. He has stood for them and protected them when legislation has come up that would have hurt their benefits and their choices.

There is two key issues currently going through legislation in Denver:

1. Maintaining the current Medicaid funding for those who are living in long-term care to provide for the needs of these elderly and disabled community members
2. Listing long-term care facilities as residential properties as they have always been listed versus the state starting to charge long-term care facilities for those who come in as short term rehabilitation for 30 days or less a tax equivalent to lodgers tax as if we are a motel.

Thank you, Representative Valdez, for doing the right thing and standing up for our elderly and disabled

community members who need the services we provide. No one grows old and wants to live in a long-term care facility; however there are circumstances beyond the control of many where we are the only place for them to call home. We will continue to work hard for our community to provide the best care possible and appreciate you working hard on our behalf.


Joyce Humiston  
 Rio Grande Inn-La Jara,  
 Colorado  
 River Valley Inn-Del Norte,  
 Colorado

**NOTICE OF ELECTION  
 RIO GRANDE COUNTY  
 TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020  
 TO THE ELECTORS OF RIO GRANDE COUNTY**

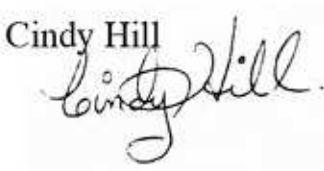
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Presidential Primary Election will be held by Mail Ballot on Tuesday, the 3rd of March, 2020 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. If you are a registered voter, you will receive a ballot at your mailing address beginning February 10th. Mail Ballots may be dropped off at the Rio Grande County Clerk's Office, 965 Sixth Street, Del Norte, Colorado, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ballots may also be dropped off on Saturday February 29th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, March 3rd. A 24-Hour Drop Box is available on the west side of the building at 965 Sixth Street, Del Norte. Ballots can also be mailed using the envelope enclosed with the ballot. Ballots must be received at the County Clerk's Office by 7:00 P.M. on March 3rd. The Postmark does not count as being received.

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

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the office of the County Clerk and Recorder this 6th day of February 2020.



Cindy Hill



Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorder

# CENTER POST-DISPATCH

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# Bring on the syrup



Courtesy photo

**Kiwanis members cooked up a pancake storm at Center Schools during their 64th annual pancake supper Monday.**

## WATER

Continued from Page 1A

water flow stood at 241 percent. But the following months were dry, because the Valley did not receive its usual monsoons.

August 2019 water flow was at 163 percent, September was 76 percent, and it stood at only 60 percent of normal in October. "We had senior rights called out in September and October last year that had never been called out like that," McDermott commented this past Tuesday, meaning their water use was cut back due to the low available flow.

The dry months caused problems in meeting water delivery to New Mexico and Texas in fulfillment of the Rio Grande Water Compact. The Division of Water Resources had projected an additional 60,000 acre-feet of index for the Rio Grande during the 2019 calendar year. Lack of rainfall within the basin caused the estimated index to plummet and the curtailment had to be reduced during the latter portion of the irrigation season. A total of 561,000 acre-feet was delivered to the downstream states (New Mexico and Texas).

At the conference, McDermott estimated that the Rio Grande side of the compact will have a credit of 900 acre-feet. While moisture was at a low in November, it has "recovered nicely," he said, and Tuesday moisture levels stood at 108 percent of normal, with the southern Sangre de Cristo Range "in good shape." The forecast predicts a dry spring for the southwest, but nowhere near 2002 levels, he concluded.

### Craig Cotten

Division Engineer Craig Cotten spoke next, announcing that Judge Michael Gonzales is the new water judge for the Valley. Gonzales is the one who will enforce the upcoming Rules and Regulations for nonexempt well use in the San Luis Valley. These groundwater rules were approved in 2019 for all nonexempt wells in Division 3 except for those wells around San Luis. These wells must remedy injurious depletions to ditch water rights.

Groundwater rules will see a two-year, phase-in period and subdistricts must be in compliance by March 2021. Augmentation plans must be finalized by March 15, 2021, or must go to a substitute water supply plan.

### Cleave Simpson

Rio Grande Water Conservation District Director Cleave Simpson said his district has an "exceptional staff" helping to manage the subdistricts. The district also works on other things pertaining to the State Legislature. The Rio Grande Natural Area and other entities also are managed by the District.

Simpson introduced his subdistrict managers, Marisa Fricke (Subdistrict 1), Amber Pacheco (Subdistricts 2, 3 and 6), and Chris Ivers (Subdistricts 4 and 5) who reported on the progress of each subdistrict.

### Heather Dutton

Dutton, manager for the SLV Water Conservation District, said augmentation projects have been in place in five counties since the 1980s. She said the District has the majority of the Pine River - Weminuche Transmountain Ditch and owns several other water rights. Augmentation is available for domestic, commercial, industrial and municipal wells.

It is also available for agricultural purposes, "but gets quite expensive," she said. Dutton provided a table for potato growers to help them estimate the cost of augmentation for their storage and humidification operations.

### RWR water transport

State climatologist Russell Schumacher tackled the Renewable Water Resources plan to transport water from the Valley. "This basin's demand exceeds supply and has for the last two decades," he said. "We won't be sending water out of this basin. It won't be easy, but we will figure it out."

He noted that the Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD) said "not no, but hell no" to the water transport plan.

For those considering the option of selling water to RWR, Schumacher extended the offer to come talk to RGWCD for options before signing any deal. "This is a trans-basin diversion," he told the audience. "The San Luis Valley has no legal obligation to retire stream flow or unconfined aquifer wells," something the RWR site wrongly states.



## File your taxes for free and claim cash-back tax credits

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# Deputies disciplined over Crestone rental complaint

By **TERESA L. BENNS**  
**CRESTONE** — Katrie Christopher thought she was performing a community service in December 2019 when she rented her home to two Saguache County deputies who were stationed in Crestone at the new substation, a service many Crestone residents had requested for years.  
 “This would be a win for not only myself, but for the officers, and the

community as well,” Christopher wrote in her report. “Response time to Crestone would be cut drastically. It seemed beneficial to all.”  
 Christopher was in Florida for medical treatments and felt safe with the arrangement, believing the deputies could keep an eye on her home while she was gone. She only requested a nominal rent, asking them to feed her animals and perform some simple household duties.

She also set out some household rules. When she met with Sheriff Dan Warwick and Officer Dominick Vasquez about renting her home, she said Vasquez seemed “very agreeable” to the rules. Vasquez was to be responsible for Officer Nate Randall, the second officer sharing the home. Christopher charged each officer \$100 a month for rent which was to be placed in a can on the kitchen counter.

**Troubling reports**  
 After the officers moved in and Christopher left for Florida, she began receiving reports from a friend who came in once a week to clean that the house was filthy and foul smelling and she had to spend longer than usual cleaning it up. Christopher contacted the officers to speak to them about it but she said in her complaint that they “downplayed”

everything.  
 To compensate her friend for the extra time spent cleaning, Christopher told her to take money from the rent can on the counter, but the can had disappeared. Based on the amount in the can when she left, Christopher estimated that the officers paid a total of \$40 in rent while they stayed in her home.  
 Christopher’s friend also told her  
*Please see DEPUTIES on Page 8A*

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# CENTER OF FOCUS

**BY CENTER SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT CARRIE ZIMMERMAN**  
*Focus on our Fabulous Staff*

School counselors are recognized in the month of February during National School Counseling Week. This is a time that we can acknowledge the amazing work our four counselors, Elissa Harrington, Ashlee Welsh, Adele Alfson and Katrina Ruggles, do for our district. They each bring valuable expertise to their positions and provide our students and staff with opportunities and resources that might otherwise not be available. The week was used to highlight the work of counselors and to help focus public attention on the unique contributions that counselors bring to the public-school system.

Adele Alfson is our guidance counselor at the secondary level. She helps students develop their academic programs for high school and prepares them for post-secondary options. She helps coordinate and run the PSAT and SAT testing for the district. Adele also brings her exceptional culinary skills to the district and teaches a culinary arts class to our high school students. Every year she prepares the meal for all of our sponsors and vendors who participate in our high school parent/teacher conferences.

Elissa Harrington does a fantastic job with our elementary students. She provides individual and small group counseling support for our students and staff. She teaches a daily social/emotional class to all of our elementary students, focusing on life skills and making healthy decisions. Elissa has had to deal with some challenging situations at the elementary and she has been willing to go the extra mile by doing home visits and providing additional supports for our students and families.

Katrina Ruggles wears many hats in the district. She supports our post-secondary and workforce readiness programming. Our students are provided with a multitude of opportunities thanks to these efforts. In her role as grant coordinator, Katrina has been successful in obtaining a number of grants for the district. This additional funding enables us to provide additional resources and supports for our students and staff.

Katrina has been recognized on multiple occasions at both the state and national level as an outstanding counselor.

Ashlee Welsh is a huge support for our students and helps with all of the secondary endeavors. Ashlee does a fantastic job connecting with our kids. She is able to relate with our students and therefore, they feel comfortable talking with her. She is a safe support for our students and has played a vital role for our district in that capacity. She coordinates all of the ICAP activities and always makes the days meaningful. Kids have the chance to listen to guest speakers, play fun games related to curriculum, and further develop their academic and SEL skills.

We are very lucky to have the amazing team of counselors that we have at Center.

Along with our fabulous counseling staff, we are taking this week to recognize and celebrate all of our district staff. We are looking forward to a fun week of staff appreciation, Mardi Gras style.

Parent teacher conferences for the middle/high were held Wednesday, Feb. 12, and home visits took place Thursday,

Feb. 13. We had a great turnout for Parent Teacher conferences. Parents had the chance to visit with teachers and consult with a wide range of outside organizations and support services that were available during the evening.

**Fast Forward**

Wednesday, Feb. 19, will be an ICAP early release day for students. Staff will enjoy staff appreciation day and then we will cheer our basketball team onto victory for our "WHITE OUT" night.

Congratulations to Eleazar Aguilar and Pablo Valencia on making it to the state wrestling competition.

Have a great week Vikings!

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc. would like to inform the public that inactive patients' medical records will be destroyed on February 24, 2020. A patient is considered inactive if he/she has not had a visit or contact in the last 10 years. If a patient was younger than 18 at the last visit or contact the patient will be considered inactive 10 years after their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. If a patient wishes to obtain their records he/she may call Valley-Wide Health Systems at 719-587-1165.

No. 1555 published in the Center Post-Dispatch, Thursday, Feb. 13 and 20, 2020.

**A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS  
CENTER SANITATION DISTRICT**

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**, and, particularly, to the electors of the Center Sanitation District of Saguache and Rio Grande Counties, Colorado.

**NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN** that an election will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020, between the hours of 7:00a.m., and 7:00p.m. At that time, two (2) directors will be elected to serve 2-year terms. Eligible electors of the Center Sanitation District interested in serving on the board of directors may obtain a Self-Nomination and Acceptance form from the District Designated Election Official (DEO);

Janet J Beiriger  
Center Public Library  
500 South Broadway  
Center, CO 81125  
719-850-8922

The Center Public Library is open on the following days: Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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 p.m. 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 submittal 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**, an application for a mail-in ballot shall be filed with the designated election official no later than the close of business on **Friday, May 2, 2020**, except that, if the applicant wishes to receive the mail-in ballot by mail, the application shall be filed no later than the close of business on **Tuesday, April 29, 2020**.

CENTER SANITATION DISTRICT

Janet J Beiriger

No. 1556 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, Feb. 20, 2020.

**A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

§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 Center Conservation District of Saguache and Rio Grande County 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, 3 directors will be elected to serve 3-year terms. Eligible electors of the Center Conservation District interested in serving on the board of directors may obtain a Self-Nomination and Acceptance form from the District Designated Election Official (DEO):

Nikita Christensen (Designated Election Official)  
0048 County Road 10 N. (DOE Address)  
Center, Colorado 81125 (DOE Address)  
719-754-3400 (DOE Telephone)

The Office of the DEO is open on the following days: Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The deadline to submit a Self-Nomination and Acceptance 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, **April 28, 2020**.

Designated Election Official Signature 

No. 1557 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, Feb. 20, 2020.

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### Girls

Centaury 60.....	Montezuma-Cortez 40
Alamosa 33.....	Pagosa Springs 29
Bayfield 53.....	Monte Vista 18
Sanford 49.....	Center 20
Del Norte 55.....	Sargent 19
Ignacio 61.....	Del Norte 56
Sanford 40.....	Sangre de Cristo 24
Cotopaxi 38.....	Antonito 31
Moffat 41.....	Creede 31
Centennial 52.....	Sierra Grande 47
Sangre de Cristo 59.....	Manzanola 33
Creede 43.....	Lake City 15
Sangre de Cristo 67.....	Sierra Grande 32
Manzanola 38.....	Creede 29
Moffat 39.....	La Veta 23
Centennial 43.....	Antonito 42
SB (Co-Op) 43.....	Del Norte 37
Sangre de Cristo 59.....	Lake City 5
Swink 34.....	Sargent 17
Centaury 51.....	Alamosa 44

**COLLEGE**

Dirie State 59.....	Adams State 53
Westminster (Utah) 65.....	Adams State 44

### Boys

Centaury 71.....	Montezuma-Cortez 65	20T
Alamosa 57.....	Pagosa Springs 49	
Monte Vista 53.....	Bayfield 37	
Sanford 56.....	Center 40	
Sargent 59.....	Del Norte 54	
Ignacio 90.....	Del Norte 57	
Creede 36.....	Moffat 29	
Sangre de Cristo 67.....	Manzanola 58	
Cotopaxi 48.....	Antonito 35	
Sangre de Cristo 67.....	Sierra Grande 48	
Alamosa 56.....	Centaury 50	
Montezuma-Cortez 66.....	Monte Vista 51	
Sargent 48.....	Swink 42	
Crested Butte 51.....	Center 49	
Manzanola 55.....	Creede 35	
La Veta 61.....	Moffat 49	
Antonito 61.....	Centennial 44	
Sangre de Cristo 68.....	Salida 63	

**COLLEGE**

Dirie State 102.....	Adams State 81
Westminster (Utah) 90.....	Adams State 62

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**Eligibility Requirements, you may be eligible for LEAP assistance if:**

1. You are a U.S. Citizen and a resident of Colorado
2. You pay heating fuel costs directly to an energy provider or pay the cost of heating your dwelling with your rent, or in addition to rent in a non-subsidized dwelling
3. Your **gross** monthly household income is within the guidelines set annually (see below). "Household" means the people who reside with you within your dwelling at which you reside and apply for assistance and for whom you, as applicant, are financially responsible for. The maximum **gross** monthly income is based on 60% of the State Median Income level as listed in the table below.

Household Size	Monthly Gross Income 60% of State Median Income Level
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2	\$3,101
3	\$3,831
4	\$4,561
5	\$5,290
6	\$6,021
7	\$6,157
8	\$6,294
Each additional person	\$137

LEAP is designed to help eligible households with winter home heating costs.

LEAP is not intended to pay the entire cost of home heating.

For questions, inquiries, broken heater/furnace issues, contact **HEAT HELP.**

**1-866-432-8435**

# FIRE

Continued from Page 1A

Departments. The fire was reported at 10:42 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, and firefighters arrived on scene shortly after the call went out, Center Police Chief Gene Meek reported. Firefighters “did an extremely good job” of containing the blaze to the home and protecting structures close to the blaze, Meek said. Firetrucks left the scene three to four hours after the blaze began, he estimated.

According to Chief Meek, it was later determined the fire was the result of arson and an arrest was made in the case sometime after midnight Saturday, Feb. 15. Information led Center Police to a nearby residence where they arrested Nicholas Ramirez Jr., the homeowner’s son.

Ramirez was arrested in December for parole violation, second-degree criminal trespass and resisting arrest. He was charged with first degree-arson when arrested Saturday. Meek said Ramirez Jr. confessed to the crime, telling police he set several blankets on fire and placed them throughout the home.

Meek said the younger Ramirez’s narcotics problem contributed to his arrests. It is not known if Ramirez Sr. carried insurance on the home.

# NAILS

Continued from Page 1A

Warwick told her he had turned all the reports she and Rohr turned in over to CBI, but Specht said when she called CBI, one agent told her they had nothing on the case. She also complained that none of the incidents reported were forwarded to the District Attorney by the Sheriff’s Office for potential charges.

Specht said she is considering recalling the Sheriff, and Commission Chair Jason Anderson told her that he is an elected official, so she has the right to recall him.

“The Sheriff answers to voters in Colorado,” Anderson said. He did advise Specht that in Saguache County “there is some extremely rural property and people take care of their own problems,” noting it sounded more to him like “clashes with the neighbors – you can’t control your feuds.”

Anderson suggested that Road and Bridge address the roads, rake and fill 41G, and “let’s see what happens.”

Sheriff comments Sheriff Dan Warwick spoke for over an hour to Specht and Rohr in his office following the meeting. While he said he doesn’t feel anything was resolved. He did address points brought up against him in the meeting.

He said he showed Rohr and Specht a stack of reports that had been sent to CBI and gave them the name of the agent working the case. He also said he has sent “probably a dozen” reports by Specht and Rohr to the district attorney’s office but has no control over whether or not the district attorney feels there is enough evidence to file a case in court.

“I’ve talked to the district attorney, CBI and the FBI and they said I am doing everything I should,” Warwick commented. “They can try to recall me, and I’m OK with that.” He said he has refused to go out and investigate some of the incidents reported because “They call about the same things over and over again,” things he cannot use to make any kind of case.

Warwick says he has agreed to go to the couple’s home and spend a day reviewing video footage they have captured regarding the nails in the road and shooting incidents. He also says that during one investigation of the nails in the road, he recovered a piece of evidence he forwarded to the CBI and feels it may help identify who is dumping the nails.

“I will try to work this out somehow,” he concluded.

# DEPUTIES

Continued from Page 6A

Vasquez had moved his partner from Brazil into the home without her knowledge or permission. Christopher said she and Vasquez then argued through texts about this since it was not part of the rental agreement.

When the officers missed an appointment to install a new cookstove, part of the rental agreement, Christopher contacted Randall who threatened to disconnect the stove. Randall’s behavior regarding the stove installation distressed Christopher and she told him he and Vasquez had 30 days to vacate her home.

On Jan. 2, Christopher came back to Crestone to check on her home. In her report, she describes what she found.

The first thing she saw was the broken windshield of her Dodge truck, something that was not the case when she left. The truck bed also was filled with mud, she said. She later found

the truck was running poorly and that 1,700 additional miles had been logged on to the odometer in her absence. Officers denied they were responsible for the broken windshield or the truck’s condition.

When she entered her home, “The rancid kaleidoscope of smells was so thick it took my breath away. Walking into the kitchen was disgusting. Every counter was covered in filth. Every cabinet and drawer was/is still nasty. Food on the ceiling. Blood on the floor. The refrigerator was a disgusting mess. The smell was terrible, and ...raw chicken juices [were] puddled and stuck on the glass [refrigerator] shelves. The kitchen sink had dried food caked on it.”

She also found her bedroom in disarray, when she had told the men not to sleep there. Christopher alleges that cannabis and alcohol products were missing from her home, also her

daughter’s PS4 device and headphones, which were later located and returned by Deputy Wayne Clark.

Christopher says she is compiling a complete list of the missing items and damages to her property. According to Christopher’s report, Vasquez also has filed a report with the sheriff’s office.

### Warwick responds

One of the employees in question no longer works for the county, Warwick announced, and disciplinary actions that cannot be described are being taken with the other deputy.

“The deputies did admit using her truck,” Sheriff Dan Warwick said. “I am not saying what she is saying is false and I am not saying it is all correct. It has been taken to the District Attorney and actions are being taken to correct any wrongdoing.” Warwick says he couldn’t say much more because there

are internal matters he cannot discuss.

Warwick said any disciplinary actions “won’t make her (Christopher) whole again,” adding that he has “talked to her and apologized.” He said that overall it is a landlord/tenant dispute involving moral and civil violations. If criminal violations are discovered to exist, then these also will be addressed, Warwick said.

The incident is unfortunate, Warwick observed, because it will hamper the Sheriff’s Office from housing any future deputies in Crestone. “Deputies will now be responsible for their own housing,” he said. “I will not ask the county to pay for it anymore.”

The deputies had only been with the Sheriff’s Office for a few months and Warwick indicated he had no way of knowing whether or not there were any problems beforehand within such a short time span.

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# Lifestyles

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## Whirling disease resistant rainbow trout now a reality in Colorado

Whirling Disease first impacted Colorado's rainbow trout in the mid-1990s and eliminated many wild populations of this popular sport fish. The aquatic tragedy sparked a decadeslong effort by Colorado Parks and Wildlife research scientists to find a remedy and re-establish populations.

Since 2003, the researchers have been crossing a strain of rainbow trout resistant to the disease with other strains of rainbows in the hope of developing a trout that would fend off whirling disease. Now, after more than 20 years of study, frustration, experimentation and dogged persistence by CPW's aquatic researchers, the tide has turned in the fight against the dreaded disease. Whirling-disease resistant rainbows are now thriving in the wild and the agency is collecting their spawn, enabling hatcheries to propagate millions of fish that will be distributed to rivers and streams throughout the state.

"Thanks to advance genetic testing, we know these fish are maintaining their resistance to whirling disease," said George Schisler, CPW's aquatic research chief. "Now they are surviving, reproducing and contributing to future generations of Gunnison River rainbows."

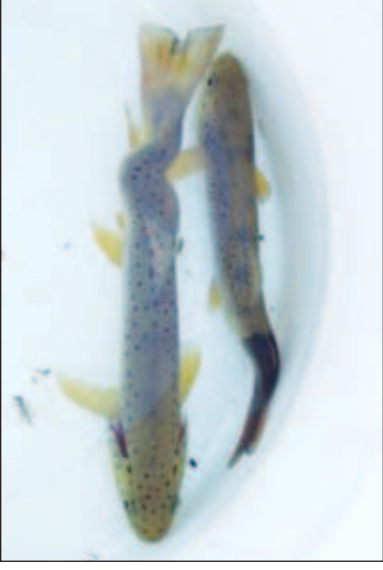
Myxobolus cerebralis, a metazoan parasite, can cause a serious affliction in some species of trout and salmon known as whirling disease.

The water-borne parasite may not directly kill trout, but severely infected young trout often develop debilitating deformities of the skull and spinal column or display the erratic tail-chasing behavior from which the disease gets its name. Eventually, heavily infected young fish may die.

The parasitic disease probably originated in Europe, where native brown trout have developed a natural resistance to the parasite. However, these fish can still carry and transmit the spore. Rainbow trout are most susceptible to infection and have experienced population level effects due to exposure to the parasite. In addition, all of Colorado's native cutthroat trout subspecies are susceptible to infection, as are brook trout.

The whirling disease parasite has a two-host life cycle that involves trout and an alternate host, a common bottom-dwelling tubifex worm.

When an infected trout dies, large numbers of hard spores are released. These hard spores are hardy, resist freezing and drought, and can remain viable for months. After release from the host fish, the tubifex worm can ingest the spores. When released from the worm, these water-borne spores, known as triactinomyxons, can infect susceptible fish by attaching to their



Courtesy photo

**These brown trout show the characteristic black tail and skeletal deformities indicative of whirling disease.**

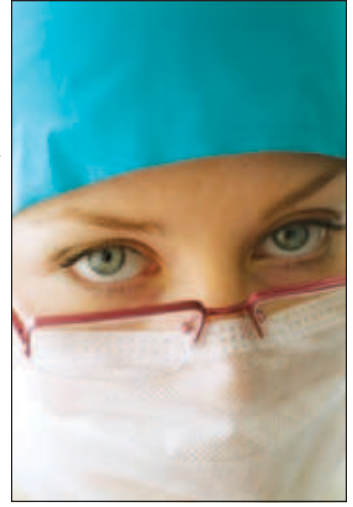
bodies. The hard spores are then formed in the cartilage of the infected fish, completing the life cycle.

Most salmonid species native to North America have little or no natural resistance, having only recently been exposed to the parasite. Young fish are at greatest risk because the parasite attacks their soft cartilage, causing nerve damage, skeletal deformities and, in some cases, death.

**Please see TROUT on Page 3**

## Novel Coronavirus or Pandemic Flu Outbreak – the SLV is Prepared

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** - If you have been following the news, you know that an outbreak of novel coronavirus has been circulating in China and is being monitored by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as cases emerge in the United States due to international travel. According to the Colorado department of public health & Environment (CDPHE), the risk to the general public of contracting the 2019 novel coronavirus is low, but with all the media hype, you might be wondering what would happen if such a case reached the San Luis Valley.



through respiratory droplets produced by an infected person coughing or sneezing. Coronaviruses can become serious and involve hospitalization, but most individuals recover on their own. In order to contract the 2019 novel coronavirus, you need to have been at a high risk of exposure.

That means either you have traveled to mainland China within the last two weeks or you have been in close contact with someone who was confirmed to have had the virus.

What happens if a person presents with symptoms at a health care provider or clinic? According to Lilian Coll,

First, it is important to know the facts. There are many types of coronavirus. In fact, the virus often labeled "the common cold" is a coronavirus. It is a type of respiratory virus that causes fever, cough, and shortness of breath, and can be spread

SLV Regional Epidemiologist, the provider would conduct a travel assessment. If the person has confirmed risk factors, the next step for the provider would be to contact Coll, who would then co-

**Please see VIRUS on Page 2**

## Shoein' Pigeye

Just count me out," said Wilford as he lay there in the dirt, A shoein' rasp behind his ear, a hoof print on his shirt. "I'll handle this," said Freddie, "You jus' git outta the way. This sorry bag of buzzard bait has met his match today."

The horse weren't much to look at, just the kind a trader'd buy But you knew that he'd be trouble when you looked him in the eye. It was small and mean and glittered, as deep as Jacob's well, Like lookin' down the smoke stack of the furnace room in Hell.

Freddie grabbed a set of nippers and bent to grab a hoof. When he woke up... his shoein' chaps were danglin' from the roof. His shirt tail hung in tatters and his watch had come unwound. The nipper's orbit finally peaked. They clattered to the ground. "Go get a twitch," said Freddie, "I'm about



to clean his clock." He tied a rope around his neck and fished it past the hock Then pulled back on the sideline to instill a little fear When Pigeye bit a good-sized chunk from Wilford's offside ear. Wilford tangled in the sideline and tried to navigate While draggin' 'round the horse corral like alligator bait.

Freddie tried to stop this trollin' with a loop around the head, And it mighta worked if Freddie'd only roped the horse instead.

But, of course, he caught pore Wilford, who left a funny track... ..Sorta like an oil slick, when Freddie jerked the slack. By now the boys were testy and tired of this travail They figgered they'd be done by noon but they'd not drove a nail.

"Go git the boss's Humvee! We'll winch him to a post." They got the cayuse necked up tight, and set to work... almost 'Cause the halter broke and Pigeye walked the length of Freddie's back. They rolled beneath the axle like two lovers in the sack.

Freddie heard the sound of gunfire like a thousand amplifiers, "I've got the sucker pinned down, Fred, I shot out all the tires!" It was dark when Wilford stood up and laid

his hammer down A gross of crooked horseshoe nails lay scattered all around.

The place looked like a cross between the tomb of Gen'ral Grant And a Puppy Chow explosion at the Alpo Dog Food plant! Wilford couldn't move his elbow but he grinned and proudly said, "Ol pard, we done a good day's work," to what was left of Fred.

Freddie crawled out from the wreckage and staggered to one knee, "What say, we wait till mornin' to put on the other three...?"

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

# Colorado lakes, reservoirs remain free of invasive mussels

**COLORADO** - More boats requiring decontamination because of infestations of destructive mussels entered Colorado last year than in 2018, but the statewide inspection program coordinated by Colorado Parks and Wildlife again succeeded in keeping invasive mussels out of the state's lakes and reservoirs.

While Colorado remains mussel free, CPW officials are concerned that the number of boats entering Colorado that need decontamination continues to increase. CPW will not let down its guard to keep invasive aquatic species out of the state. "The Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Aquatic Nuisance Species Program continues to meet the challenge of protecting the state's water resources and infrastructure from the establishment of Aquatic Nuisance Species," said Elizabeth Brown, the agency's invasive species program manager. "Colorado remains free of adult zebra and quagga mussel reproducing populations, while some nearby western states without mandatory inspection programs continue to detect infestations. Colorado has prevented the introduction of this invasive species due to the diligent efforts of watercraft inspection and decontamination, early detection monitoring, education and enforcement efforts."

Other western states that have mussel infestations include: Arizona, Utah, Kansas, South Dakota, North

Dakota, Oklahoma, Texas and California. Where there are infestations, mussels can clog up pipes and important infrastructure, cover docks, shorelines, rocks, any hard surface and can ruin powerboat engines.

Throughout the state last year, 481,543 boat inspections were conducted, 7,000 more than in 2018. A total of 22,947 boats, 281 with attached mussels, were decontaminated, compared with 19,111 in 2018. Unfortunately, the number of intercepted boats fully infested with mussels increased by 40 percent, from 51 in 2018 to 86 in 2019. In 2017, only 16 mussel-infested boats were intercepted.

Brown said she's very concerned about the substantial increase in infested boats entering the state. "This growth trend is directly related to the growing threat invasive mussels pose to Colorado's water infrastructure, natural resources and outdoor recreation. Along with work by our partners, CPW's Invasive Species Program is critical to maintaining opportunities for recreation, preserving natural heritage and protecting water supply and delivery infrastructure for municipal, industrial and agricultural use," Brown said.

A fully formed adult zebra or quagga mussel has never been detected in Colorado waters. However, the larval stage of the mussels, known as veligers, were detected as recently as 2017 in Green Mountain Reservoir in Summit County and the

reservoir is still considered suspect for quagga mussels. For detection, biologists perform three types of sampling to target the three life stages of mussels. CPW confirms all visual detections with DNA analysis to confirm the genus and species of the mussel. If no additional detections are verified in 2020, Green Mountain Reservoir will be delisted.

In 2019, crews sampled 179 standing, and four flowing waters statewide for veligers. In addition to the sampling efforts performed by CPW, the National Park Service contributed 38 plankton samples. There were no detections of zebra or quagga mussels in Colorado.

CPW works in partnership with dozens of other agencies, counties and municipalities throughout the state. Help from the partners is critical in maintaining a mussel-free Colorado, Brown said. In 2019, CPW authorized 72 locations to perform watercraft inspections and decontaminations.

For more information about CPW's ANS prevention program, see: <https://cpw.state.co.us/things-todo/Pages/BoatInspection.aspx>.



## Public is invited to Rotary program in Alamosa on March 2

**ALAMOSA** — The Alamosa Rotary Club is pleased to announce that Jim Clare, Manager of the San Luis Valley Regional Landfill, will speak on Monday March 2, 2020 at noon at Juanito's Restaurant, 1019 6th Street.

Jim started working for the SLVR-SWA July of 2012. He retired from the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative with 37 years of service.

His background included many areas of service along with purchasing agent, regulatory compliance officer, substation tech, operations manager and consumer relations manager. Jim believes the SLVRSWA is an important industry for the valley region and wants to make the operation an improved and continued success. He believes the future for solid waste will have many new changes from

recycling to energy use.

To find out more about Rotary International visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org). For more information about the Alamosa Rotary Club visit our Facebook page or contact club president Chris Quintana at [chris.quintana@slvfed.com](mailto:chris.quintana@slvfed.com). The club meets Mondays at noon at Juanito's in Alamosa and everyone is welcome to attend.

## VIRUS

Continued from Page 1

coordinate with CDPHE to submit lab samples to the CDC. Meanwhile, the person would be under observation and cautioned to stay home and away from other people. Alternately, Public Health can also conduct a travel assessment if CDC notifies Coll of someone returning from China that resides in the Valley.

It may be comforting to know the San Luis Valley has resources to deal with a potential outbreak, whether it be coronavirus or the pandemic flu. Both the Regional Epidemiologist, and the medical provider in our scenario above are active participants in the SLV health care Coalition (SLVHCC). This group's purpose is to coordinate emergency preparedness, response, and recovery activities related to health and medical disaster operations in the SLV region.

"SLVHCC partners such as Public Health, hospitals, EMS, and county emergency managers come together quarterly to network, train, coordinate planning, and exercise in order to be ready to respond to disasters in a coordinated fashion as a community health care system," says Emily Brown, SLVHCC Co-chair.

In the case of a local outbreak, the SLVHCC would respond by sharing information among partners, tracking cases, sharing staff and supplies, implementing any actions recommended by the health and medical lead, and supporting the regional emergency response by helping staff the Regional Emergency Operations Center, if activated.

Later this month, the SLVHCC partners will have a chance to practice activating this process in an exercise scenario in which a new flu virus reaches the Valley.

"It's exactly how we would respond in the case of a coronavirus outbreak," says Coll.

What can you do to protect your-

self from respiratory illnesses?

"Cover your cough with your arm, wash your hands, and avoid contact with sick people," says Coll, "these actions go a long way toward preventing transmission of contagious illnesses."

If an individual does not have a high risk of exposure, it is very unlikely they have the 2019 novel coronavirus, but if they are ill and concerned, they should contact a health care provider or their local public health agency to conduct a risk assessment.

"People are at a much greater risk of getting the seasonal flu than the 2019 novel coronavirus," says Coll, "It's not too late to get the flu vaccine." For more information on the 2019 novel coronavirus, go to the State public health webpage: [Colorado.gov/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus](http://Colorado.gov/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus), or the CDC webpage: [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](http://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov).

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51 - 75lbs	\$125.00	\$180.00	Medium - Large Vessel needed
76 - 100lbs	\$193.00	\$175.00	Large Vessel needed
101lbs & up	Animals over 50lbs are ineligible for Group fee	\$200.00	Extra Large Vessel needed

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*This ad space donated by Valley Publishing Inc.*

# TROUT

Continued from Page 1

Once a fish reaches three to 4 inches in length, cartilage forms into bone and the fish is much less susceptible to effects from whirling disease. However, they remain carriers of the parasite

This long success story started on an August day in 1994 when former CPW researcher Barry Nehring, while walking the riverbank in the Gunnison Gorge, noticed small fish swimming helplessly in circles. He knew immediately that the fish were infected with a microscopic spore that damages the cartilage of young fish and prevents them from swimming and developing normally. Whirling disease had arrived in the wild.

The disease was accidentally introduced to Colorado in the late 1980s when infected fish were imported to state and private hatcheries. After those fish were stocked in 40 locations, the spore spread and within a decade infected many rivers throughout state. The disease kills young fish, so eventually natural reproduction by wild rainbows ended across much of Colorado.

In search of a remedy, CPW scientists and biologists from wildlife agencies throughout the West started researching the disease in the late 1990s. At a national conference in Denver in 2002, a researcher from Europe who studied whirling disease gave a presentation about a strain of disease-resistant rainbow trout he'd found at a hatchery in Germany. Schisler, working with the University of California-Davis, imported eggs and then tested the hatched fingerlings, known as Hofers — named after the German hatchery. He found they were 100 times more resistant to the disease than the various CPW rainbow strains.

He also learned that because these fish had been raised in a hatchery for decades, they showed no inkling of the flight response needed to elude predators in the wild. So researchers started crossing them with wild strains, such as the Harrison Lake and Colorado River rainbow to produce fish that exhibit wild behavior and maintain resistance to whirling disease. Those fish were stocked in rivers around the state and some natural reproduction started.

Biologists working in the East Portal Section of the Gunnison River gorge began documenting

wild reproduction of rainbow trout in that location in the mid-2000s. These fish demonstrated strong resistance to whirling disease, but also had instincts to survive in the wild. Through advanced genetic analysis, Schisler and his research partner, Eric Fetherman, determined that a DNA marker unique to the stocked Hofer-crosses appeared to have been incorporated into this population, resulting in observed resistance to the disease.

The researchers and agency aquatic biologists determined that developing a brood stock using the Gunnison River trout would be the best way to repopulate Colorado's rivers with wild rainbows. Since 2014, more than 500,000 eggs have been collected from these fish to stock into whirling disease positive rivers and to create hatchery brood stocks.

The trout now has its own moniker: The Gunnison River Rainbow.

CPW's Glenwood Springs hatchery is propagating both the pure Gunnison River Rainbows and crosses of those fish and other strains of whirling disease-resistant rainbows. This summer more than 1.3 million of fingerling disease-resistant rainbows will be stocked in rivers and streams throughout the state.

The ultimate goal of the stocking effort is to restore natural reproduction in the wild, eliminating the need to stock rainbows in the future.

However, re-establishing the rainbows continues to be a long-term project. After rainbows vanished, brown trout took over Colorado's big rivers. They prey on the small rainbows that are stocked or hatch and compete for food and habitat with adult rainbows. Biologists say it will take many years for rainbows to become firmly established.

Research scientists don't declare victory easily, but Fetherman noted that the research project in the East Portal is officially closed. Populations across the state will continue to be monitored because the tiny worms that produce the spores causing whirling disease will likely always exist in Colorado's rivers.

"I feel like we've done some good work and these fish are ready to be stocked statewide," Fetherman said.

For more information on CPW's aquatic programs, go to: <https://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/Fishing.aspx>

# REAL ESTATE

**Legends Premier Properties**  
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Darling home in Center. Spacious and comfortable, with 5 bedrooms and 2 baths, with tiled shower surround. Living room has a pellet wood stove perfect for the winter. There is also a separate laundry room. Cherry cabinets in kitchen with granite counter tops, and hard wood floor in dining area. As well as having features like a sun room, 4 car garage, and a fenced back yard. Call today to see this great home! \$155,000 Call Tracy Gosar, 719-850-1815 for more details. MLS#761697

This lovely home has 3 bedrooms & 1 bathroom. Bathroom has newer laminate flooring, and standing shower. Kitchen has gas over/range, refrigerator, dish washer, newer laminate flooring & tile back splash and counter tops. Living room has carpet, and wood walls give it a cozy feel. Laminate flooring makes a good transition to a dining area. Attached is a great 2 car garage with cement floors, and even more addition storage with a shop area as well. Fenced in back yard, and open front yard. Call today to see this great home! \$135,000 Call Tracy Gosar,

719-850-1815 for more details. MLS#764469

Great Value for this spacious home! 2304 square feet of living space. With 5 bedroom and 2 bathrooms. Nice living area, dining, kitchen and 3 bedrooms are up stairs. Home also has a partially finished basement with over sized laundry area, 2 bedrooms, and a family room. Also a 2 car attached garage! Plenty of storage! Large established yard with big trees and partially fenced! Come see the possibility this great home has! \$133,500 Call Tracy Gosar, 719-850-1815 for more details. MLS#763687

This lovely home has 3 bedrooms & 1 bathroom. Bathroom has newer laminate flooring, and standing shower. Kitchen has gas over/range, refrigerator, dish washer, newer laminate flooring & tile back splash and counter tops. Living room has carpet, and wood walls give it a cozy feel. Laminate flooring makes a good transition to a dining area. Attached is a great 2 car garage with cement floors, and even more addition storage with a shop area as well. Fenced in back yard, and open front yard. Call today to see this great home! \$135,000 Call Tracy Gosar, 719-850-1815 for more details. MLS#764469

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**SUPER MULTI LEVEL HOME** with lots of custom touches and stunning views. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (with sauna) an office, separate dining room, living room and great room. Kitchen boasts custom cabinets made by local artist/owner. Beautifully maintained lawns and gardens adorn separate outdoor living spaces. 3 car oversized attached garage holds everything, but there is a shed as well! Placed up on the hill, there is a feeling of "out of town" but all town amenities are easily accessible. This is a must see! \$379,000 Call Kazie Hayes. MLS #765156

**Kazie Hayes**, Associate Broker  
719-850-2827  
22 Jackson St. • South Fork  
[www.legendspremierproperties.com](http://www.legendspremierproperties.com)

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**IMMACULATE BRICK HOME THAT IS TRULY SPECIAL!** This 3497 sq ft home has: 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, a living room, formal dining area, and large family room that features a cozy fire place, as well as a great kitchen (remodeled in 2017). Plenty of space and storage in this home, there is also a laundry room, an office and another room above the attached garage. Mature established yard that is fenced and has a sprinkler system, as well as sheds for storage and a large detached garage/shop in the back. Don't wait. Call Today to see this truly special home! \$339,000 Tracy Gosar, 719-850-1815 for more details. MLS#766342

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

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### 05 Notices

**Grand Opening Thursday, February 27. The AcuCenter a community Acupuncture clinic in Del Norte will be open every Thursday from 3-6 pm.** Experience the health benefits of affordable Acupuncture from our team at Vista Acupuncture. Located at 990 6<sup>th</sup> street on Penasco street. Schedule an appointment NOW! Call 360-821-9006. (03/11)

“Even though the snow is falling, we are looking forward to this summer! **CCSP (Christian Community Service Projects) is now accepting applications for home repair.** If you or someone you know is needing an extra hand around the house with painting, yard work, or small construction jobs, please give Suzanne a call at (719) 589-2330 or e-mail at [ccsp@gojade.org](mailto:ccsp@gojade.org)”

**WE BUY ANTLERS:** 5 miles west of Del Norte on US 160 at Elk Ranch. 719-657-0942. (02/26 TFN)

**New Inspirational Book Club:** Looking for 8-12 interested adults to start a book club. Organizational meeting in February with paramaters of Tuesday or Thursday evening meetings of approximately 1.5 hours. For more information please call Steve at (719)849-0310 (02/12)

### 07 Help Wanted

**Alamosa County Treasurer and Public Trustee, job opening for Accounting Technician.** Please visit [alamosacounty.org](http://alamosacounty.org) for job application and details. 37.5 hours per week (full time with benefits) \$14-\$14.50 per hour. Must have experience with Treasurer's Deeds, releases, foreclosures and banking and cash management. Deadline to apply is 2/21/2020.

## DISCLAIMER

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

**Del Norte Elementary School is seeking an energetic, caring candidate to serve as a PARA-EDUCATOR.** Applicants must have a high school diploma. Please submit your application to Amy Duda, DNES Principal at 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO 81132; [aduda@urtigers.co](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co); or call 719-657-4030. The position will be opened until filled. Please pick up an application at the District Office or on-line at [dnscd.org](http://dnscd.org).

**Saguache County will be accepting applications for a County Land Use Administrator until Friday, February 28, 2020.** This position manages, coordinates, and supervises all aspects of the Land Use Department in relations to zoning and subdivision regulations and other land uses within the County to ensure the prompt and efficient operation of the office. All aspects of the position are completed with the approval of

and in conjunction with the Board of County Commissioners. This position is appointed and supervised by the three-member Board of County Commissioners. Salary range is set at \$50,000 and up depending on experience, with benefits. A copy of the job description and qualifications may be obtained from Human Resource Personnel Director, April Quintana or may be obtained from Administration office or [www.saguachecounty.net](http://www.saguachecounty.net). Mrs. Quintana can be reached at 719-655-2231. Administration office located at Saguache County Courthouse, 505, 3rd Street, Saguache Colorado. Saguache County is an equal opportunity employer and applicants will require the passing of a pre-employment drug test and back ground check. (02/28)

**Wolf Creek Ski Area** is seeking full and part time positions in the following positions: **Snow Reporter** – Must have interactive web experience, strong organizational and

communication skills. Hours 6am to 3pm. willing to work weekends. **Ski School Instructor** – Duties include teaching guests in a group setting, customer service and other duties assigned by supervisor. **Shuttle Bus**

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<p><b>BUY OR TRADE</b></p> <p>Freon Wanted: We pay CASH for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-625-5322 or visit <a href="http://RefrigerantFinders.com">RefrigerantFinders.com</a></p>	<p><b>WANTED</b></p> <p>Cash for Mineral Rights Free, no-risk, cash offer. Contact us with the details: Call: 720-988-5617 Write: Minerals, PO BOX 3668, Littleton, CO 80161 Email: <a href="mailto:opportunity@ecmresourcesinc.com">opportunity@ecmresourcesinc.com</a></p>
<p><b>CONCRETE SERVICES</b></p> <p>Concrete Services Foundations - Concrete Site Work Flatwork - Stamped Concrete - Concrete Demo - Excavation Call or Text Ken 970-768-3005</p>	<p><b>Colorado Press Network</b></p> <p>Buy a 25-word statewide classified line ad in newspapers across the state of Colorado for just \$300 per week. Ask about our frequency discounts! Contact this newspaper or call Colorado Press Network, 720-274-7174</p>

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**10 Apartments for Rent**  
**Del Norte: 2 bedroom/1bath upstairs apartment.** \$475/\$475 deposit. Utilities included. NO pets/smokers. Laundry onsite. 1145 French St. (719)849-1942. Credit Report required. (03/04)

**2 Bedroom, 1 bath apartment in the Alpine Village near South Fork, CO.** Power bill included, propane separate. \$650.00 per month+deposit 719 849-8640 no pets. (3/11)

**12 House for Rent**  
**Beautiful 4 Bedroom Ranch House located near Monte Vista,** \$1000/ Month call 588-8506. (02/26)

**For Rent Country living North-east Del Norte 4-bedroom 2 bath (No Pets)** inquire at 719-657-2201. (02/19)

**14 Business Properties For Rent**  
**Beauty Salon for rent Monte's Corner 1st and Adams 4 stations \$550.00 Per month.** Call 719-992-4705.

**17 Real Estate For Sale**  
**MOTIVATED SELLER, PRICE REDUCED!!! Nice 2549 sq. ft., 3 bed 2 bath Log Home on 10 Acres!** Call Yvonne at Steffens Co Realty Inc. 719-580-1901 (3/4)

**80.26-acre Hunters Paradise, 4 bed, 4 bath log home with furnished guest house, backed by National Forest!** Call Yvonne at Steffens & Co Realty Inc. 719-580-1901(3/4)

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**11 circles in Center area with excellent potato ground, excellent wells and water rights, high production, sandy soil, 2 homes, shop, potato storage, first time ever on market and sold as full unite.** Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, LLC 719-580-0770. Serious inquires only (02/13)

**125-150 cow/calf ranch 1154 acres with top water rights, production, 1.2 miles of Rio Grande River and 1/2 mile of Conejos River.** \$1,750,000. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-580-0770 (02/13)

**Pasture Land, 397 acres in north of Monte Vista Airport on County**

**Line Road with good grass and location.** Also contains a huge amount of gravel on the property \$525,000.00 call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-580-0770. (02/13)

**240 deeded acres in irrigated grass west of Monte Vista with 6 shares Lariat ditch.** Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-873-1700. (02/19 TFN)

**36 Miscellaneous**  
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**Ramsey 12 Volt Pro 800R Series #817508 wench 95 FT 5/16 Cable,** remote switch, roller fairlead. 852-2285.(TFN-E)

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

**42 Feed & Seed**  
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**43 Farm Products**  
**For Sale: 499.27 Subdistrict #1 2020 Pumping Credits, \$115.00 Per Credit** Call 719-849-8565.(02/26)

**48 Pets & Supplies**  
**Yorki Puppies male registerd have had shots and been wormed 719-256-4391.(2/27)**

**59 Vehicles Wanted**  
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**65 Professional Services**  
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### SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

### Here's How It Works:

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

### Solution to last week's puzzle

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

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# Valley Calendar

To have an event listed in the SLV Lifestyles calendar, write to Valley Calendar, P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144, email MonteVistaNews@gmail.com or fax us at 852-3387. We do not accept items for the calendar over the phone; however, to make a change to a listing, please call 852-3531. Deadline for listings and changes is 5 p.m. Wednesday. Submissions should be made in a .doc or .rtf format. Items will be published as space allows.

## Feb. 19

**MONTE VISTA/DEL NORTE** - The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) works to improve the health of low income persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods. Individuals must be at or below 130% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines. Food packages include a variety of foods, such as nonfat dry milk, UHT 1% low fat milk, juice, farina, oats, ready-to-eat cereal, rice, pasta, peanut butter, dry beans, canned meat, poultry, or fish, and canned fruits and vegetables. This food box is free to those who meet the income guidelines. Costilla County Commodity Program will be in Del Norte on Wednesday, February 19, at the Annex Building next to the Courthouse 6th Street, Del Norte from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Monte Vista at the Calvary Baptist Church 2160 Sherman Avenue Feb. 19, 2020 from 12:30- 3:30 p.m. Please bring a picture ID.

## Feb. 21

**ALAMOSA** - The ASU Counselor Education Department is hosting the third annual Spring Symposium, "Working on Interventions to Navigate Generational Stress (WINGS)," Friday, Feb. 21, in Richardson Hall Auditorium.

## Feb. 24

**SAGUACHE** - The Saguache County Democratic Party Central Committee will hold caucus training Monday, Feb. 24, at 6 p.m. at the Saguache Road & Bridge Meeting Room, 305 - 3 rd St. If you plan to go to your precinct caucus Saturday, March 7, at 2 p.m., come to the training to get a sneak peek at what will happen, how it works, and what will be voted on. For questions or to get more involved with the Party, please contact Party Chair Randy Arredondo randyharredondo@gmail.com. This training is open to the public.

## Feb. 25

**ALAMOSA** - Alamosa Community Blood Drive, Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2020, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 927 Weber Drive in Alamosa, 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call for an appointment 800-365-0006, or visit www.vitalant.org. Sponsored by the Alamosa Rotary Club.

## Feb. 27

**CREEDE** - Headwaters Alliance invites interested community members to join us for a public meeting with the Colorado Water Quality Division and Nelson Tunnel Superfund Site Project Management Team for a meeting Feb. 27 from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. at the Rio Grande Silver Administrative Building (625 USFS RD 504.1A, aka the Bulldog Mine). After brief updates by HWA, EPA and CDPHE regarding work related to the Nelson Tunnel Superfund Site, the CWQD will present on how water quality standards for surface water and groundwater are adopted in Colorado. CWQD will address how water quality standards and water use classifications are set forth, how these standards are used for assessing the quality of Colorado waters and for es-

establishing regulatory requirements for activities that may impact water quality.

## March 1

**CREEDE** - Creede Arts Council will be hosting its annual Art from The Heart Collectors Exhibit Sunday, March 1, at the Blue Moose Café in Creede from 3-5 p.m. Come tell the story of art you have collected and hear how art has touched the lives of others in our community. Past exhibits have featured folk art, paintings, prints, sculptures, weavings, etc. There will be complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cash Bar. Voluntary donations will be accepted to help cover expenses. Please let us know if you plan to share your collection so we may accommodate any special exhibition requirements you may have. Contact the CAC office at creedearts@outlook.com or leave a message at 719-658-0312. You do not need to share to attend! You may come and enjoy listening to others share their collection.

## March 2

**ALAMOSA** - The Alamosa Rotary Club is pleased to announce that Jim Clare, Manager of the San Luis Valley Regional Landfill, will speak Monday, March 2, 2020, at noon at Juanito's Restaurant, 1019 6th Street.

## March 5

**DEL NORTE** - The Del Norte High School Knowledge Bowl Varsity Team earned its way to the knowledge bowl state competition in Fort Collins. This state competition is March 16 and 17. In order to help offset the cost of the competition, they are holding a community knowledge bowl meet in which anyone can put together a four-man team to compete against the state qualifying team. The cost of entry is \$40. The community event is March 5 at 5 p.m. at Del Norte High School 950 French Street. Contact Chelsea Dilley-Lindsay to reserve your spot at clindsay@urtigers.co

## March 6-8

**MONTE VISTA** - Every March, bird lovers flock to Colorado's picturesque San Luis Valley from all over the state and beyond to witness the arrival of some 25,000 Sandhill Cranes. The Monte Vista Crane Festival, slated for March 6 - 8, celebrates the crane's annual stopover in the Valley. "Their remarkable journey begins in southern New Mexico's Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge and ends in the crane's nesting grounds around the Yampa Valley, Greater Yellowstone area and even further north for some of the longer-traveled birds," said crane festival committee president Jenny Nehring. Now in its 37th season, the crane festival is one of the oldest birding festivals in the country and the oldest in Colorado. Though the festival began in celebration of a small Whooping Crane population grown from science aimed at boosting the faltering species, the event now pays full tribute to Sandhill Cranes.

## March 28

**CREEDE** - The 29th annual Creede Variety Show will be Saturday, March 28, at the Ruth Humphreys Brown Theatre on Creede's Main Street. Last year's show was a sellout! A wide selection of amazing local talent was on display and enjoyed by all. The 2020 show promises to be an equally entertaining evening! Auditions will be Monday, March 23, and Tuesday, March 24. Contact creedearts@outlook.com or call 719-658-0312 to set up an audition time. The audition venue is the Creede Community Church. Every age group and any talent are welcome to audition. Pieces must be performance ready and appropriate for people of all ages. Tickets will be available at the door, \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Cash and checks accepted; we are unable to process credit cards.

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- ✓ The True Meaning of The Separation of Church and State
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You must be registered to vote by June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020, to vote in the June 30<sup>th</sup> Colorado Primary Election.  
 You must be registered to vote by Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020, to vote in the November 3<sup>rd</sup> General Election.

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# Monte Vista Crane Festival, March 6 - 8

**MONTE VISTA** – Every March, bird lovers flock to Colorado’s picturesque San Luis Valley from all over the state and beyond to witness the arrival of some 25,000 Sandhill Cranes.

The Monte Vista Crane Festival, slated for March 6 - 8, celebrates the crane’s annual stopover in the Valley. “Their remarkable journey begins in southern New Mexico’s Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge and ends in the crane’s nesting grounds around the Yampa Valley, Greater Yellowstone area and even further north for some of the longer-traveled birds,” said crane festival committee president Jenny Nehring.

Now in its 37th season, the crane festival is one of the oldest birding festivals in the country and the oldest in Colorado. Though the festival began in celebration of a small Whooping Crane population grown from science aimed at boosting the faltering species, the event now pays full tribute to Sandhill Cranes.

The San Luis Valley’s wide-open alpine desert, flanked by the rugged Sangre de Cristo and San Juan mountains, offers breathtaking vistas. The standalone beauty is heightened by the arrival of the cranes, drawing wildlife lovers and photographers to the Valley every year to bear witness. Other wildlife sightings include owls, eagles, elk, mule deer, pronghorn, coyote and a variety of other birds and raptors.

The elegant cranes gather by the thousands in the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge, which manages its habitat to attract the birds and other wildlife. Refuge staff plant barley in the surrounding fields and mowed them down just before festival. Cranes gather in the newly mowed areas to feed on the fallen grain and small animals attracted to the food. At night, the wetlands provide roosting sites that help protect cranes from predators, said refuge manager Suzanne Beauchaine.

Festivalgoers and folks visiting throughout most of March can expect to see hundreds if not thousands of cranes in one field alone.

The cranes spread their expansive wings, dancing and hopping in a beautiful courtship display. During crane fest, there’s an almost reverent quiet among the hundreds of visitors lined up with cameras and binoculars along the split rail fence separating the refuge from viewing stations. The profound silence allows people to hear the rolling trill of the cranes and sound of rushing wings when the birds suddenly take off in masse.

The festival includes expert-led crane- and hawk-viewing tours, adventures to unique natural areas in the San Luis Valley, wildlife presentations, nature movies and a kid’s coloring contest. There’s also a craft and nature fair with an array of nature-oriented goodies such as birdhouses, jewelry, wood carvings, quilts, photography and paintings.

Other local activities include a visit to Great Sand Dunes National Park, downhill skiing at Wolf Creek Ski Area, beer tasting at one of several local breweries, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, hiking and hot springs.

Folks interested in seeing Sandhill Cranes during the bird’s annual San Luis valley stopover should make plans as soon as possible. Festival tours, speakers and local accommodations typically sell out fast. For schedule and ticket information, visit [www.mvcranefest.org](http://www.mvcranefest.org).



Photo by Cary Aloia



## How to encourage kids to take care of their teeth

Parents of young children know that getting kids to brush their teeth can sometimes feel like pulling teeth. Kids have a long history of disliking dental care, which can frustrate parents who know the importance and long-lasting benefits of proper dental hygiene.

While many youngsters may never excitedly run to the bathroom to brush their teeth, parents can try various approaches to get kids to embrace proper dental care.

- Start early. Parents should not hesitate to begin cleaning kids’ teeth once the first tooth appears. The earlier dental care is part of a child’s routine, the more likely he or she is to accept it as part of everyday life. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends using a soft-bristled brush with a small head. Ideally, use a toothbrush designed for infants, brushing teeth once per day at bedtime. The AAPD advises taking kids to visit a pediatric dentist when the first tooth appears, or no later than the child’s first birthday.
- Make it a group effort. Young children love to imitate

their parents’ actions and behaviors, and moms and dads can use that adoration to their advantage when trying to get kids to brush their teeth. Brush teeth together as a family, making it seem like an enjoyable twice-daily activity. Get down on kids’ level and show them how to brush. If kids are resistant, engage them in conversation while brushing so they don’t even realize they’re cleaning away.

- Involve kids in choosing their dental care products. While parents should be mindful of the type of toothbrush their children use, always sticking with products recommended by their child’s pediatric dentist, let youngsters choose their toothbrush and toothpaste. Kids might prefer a particular flavor of toothpaste, and a colorful toothbrush with a favorite film or television character might make kids more enthusiastic and less fussy about brushing.
- Compliment kids after positive dental appointments. When pediatric dentist appointments go well, compliment children and express your pride in them for taking dental hygiene as seriously as they do. TF172806



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# PROGRESS

# Education

February 19, 2020



# The sky's the limit for Sargent high school

BY REBECCA COPLEY

**SARGENT** - The Sargent Farmers school is very excited to be adding a new aviation program in the Fall of 2020. Last year the school board was approached with the idea by Jay Sarason who manages the Del Norte airport and has a passion for aviation. The program's curriculum would be provided by the Aircraft Owners Pilots Association. Sarason shared that Sargent would be the first rural school in the State of Colorado to offer such a program. It would be a four-year curriculum with the freshmen year covering general aviation, and sophomore and junior year being a ground school training. The first three years would not include any flying, "At the end of a student's junior year they should be able to take and pass the FAA's written exam for a private pilot license," explained Sarason, "The senior curriculum is still being developed but it sounds like it's going to be a kind of advanced independent study."

Sarason shared how he would like to get the senior's some hours of flying toward their pilot's certificate. "I would like to have student's who do well in the class get a sponsorship from somebody that would pay the basic costs for a student to gain some flying hours. We probably in all reality wouldn't have the time to get them enough hours to pass but I'd like to get them enough hours that they may either solo or get a feel for flying and decide if this is something they really want to pursue. By their senior year in high school there's a lot of scholarships out there from airlines, private companies, and organizations like Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA)," commented Sarason. Sarason also shared that a student may be able to even achieve their pilot's license through the program by the time they graduate high school if they are able to cover the costs of their flying hours. "A student could earn their license if they went through the whole program and they were either sponsored by somebody or they had the money to be able to pay for flying lessons. They could have a private license by the end of their senior year. It's doable," said Sarason.

The curriculum is also useful even if a student has no plans of becoming a pilot Sarason shared, "If you studied something specific you really just learn about that craft. If you study aviation you get a broad spectrum approach to so many facets of life such as weather, physics, human behavior, decision making, mechanical skills, aeronautic engineering, information on airplanes, laws, rules and regulations of air space," Sarason also added, "Even if a student doesn't want to be a pilot it's a really



Courtesy photos

well-rounded curriculum."

When asked what made Sarason want to offer this program at Sargent, Sarason shared that it was a combination of his passion for aviation, the great job market and a need he saw in the airline industry. "When I started flying, I just wanted to selfishly fly around, but I realized the real joy in flying was putting someone in the airplane with me and sharing that. Kids that want to fly typically go to one of the universities that have a flying program and it's very expensive. I thought, why we don't give them an opportunity to jump-start this so that they can go in with the knowledge in their head and some flying skills. If they want to continue then it's less expensive for them to go ahead and get their certificates and ratings."

Sarason who plans to teach the program for a couple of the initial years of the class and says he would love to see the program expand. There has also been a great response and interest shown by the local aviation community in the San Luis Valley. Many local pilots have offered to come help and give presentations at the class.

Sargent is excited to be able to offer this program to their students to help prepare them for a field with many job opportunities. More information about the program's curriculum can be found online at: <https://youcanfly.aopa.org/high-school/high-school-curriculum>



## Colorado Health Foundation partner to "Make it Happen" with \$4.9M grant for rural student health and resiliency

BY JORDAN KELLERMAN AND ELAINE BELANSKY

**COLORADO** - The Center for Rural School Health & Education (CRSHE) at the University of Denver (DU) has a vision for happy, healthy children and families living in vibrant rural communities. The Colorado Health Foundation has stepped in to "Make it Happen" with a \$4.9 million grant awarded to CRSHE to increase healthy eating and physical activity among high poverty, rural students and school staff. CRSHE, already a known partner in rural Colorado, will build on existing partnerships with 27 rural school districts to support them in implementing community-driven comprehensive health and wellness plans. CRSHE's involvement in this process is key; it helps rural districts identify and successfully implement culturally relevant evidence-based practices. The Make it Happen grant period kicked off in October with expected completion in Oct. 2021.

"I'm excited for our rural school district partners. They've worked hard to develop thoughtful health and wellness plans and now have both financial resources and CRSHE sup-

port to put those plans in place," said CRSHE Executive Director, Elaine Belansky, Ph.D..

"I'm thankful to the Colorado Health Foundation for recognizing that youth mental health is a top priority in rural Colorado school districts," continued Belansky. "Allotting funds to address that need allows all of us to keep the momentum going."

As a leader in Colorado's Creede School District, Grants Manager and Health and Wellness Coordinator Lauren Sheldrake is looking at ways Make it Happen and the Resiliency Project can impact her constituents.

"In the past year, we have seen a significant increase in the mental health needs of our students and staff," Sheldrake said. "The grant and these partnerships can open a door to addressing Colorado's mental health crisis, creating the vibrant communities CRSHE envisions."

According to Belansky, one of the top concerns of rural districts is mental health. With that in mind, CRSHE is also launching The Resiliency Project, specifically designed to complement Make it Happen by promoting youth mental health and resiliency. This effort

is also generously funded by the Colorado Health Foundation and makes it possible for CRSHE to continue providing hands-on support in rural Colorado through in person meetings with rural educators to discuss mental health promotion strategies and a regional convening to share the latest best practices

and school success stories. CRSHE will capitalize on Denver University's state-of-the-art ECHO-DU technology, a virtual professional learning tool, in order to provide rural educators information about the latest best practices on topics such as social-emotional learning, suicide prevention and bullying prevention.

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# The New Home of the Tigers!

By TREY SPAULDING

**DEL NORTE** - If you were blindfolded before entering the new Upper Rio Grande School District C-7 buildings, and then unblindfolded once inside, you would swear that you had just walked into a 4-star hotel or an upscale health club. Visitors are immediately greeted with a common area setting with a gas fireplace and comfortable couches and chairs.

Students and faculty will not need to take vitamin D supplements as the interior is brilliant from natural lighting that radiates through enormous picturesque windows that offer wonderful views of the surrounding landscape. Common areas offer comfortable spaces for students to interact face-to-face instead of through stoic digital communication. Throughout the building there are dozens of cozy study nooks that provide students with places to study together or privately in a quiet environment.

The school has state of the art technology with "smart" big screen TVs throughout digitally broadcasting school information and news from Tiger Tracks. There are many other progressive educational amenities too, such as, a STEM educational space.

The athletic programs also received top notch facilities. The new gymnasium can be partitioned into three courts for separate practices. There is a new weightlifting room with the latest and best lifting machines and weights. The new wrestling room is on par with a college facility. Above the basketball courts is an elevated



Courtesy photo

**Groundbreaking for the new \$45 million education facility took place May 31, 2018. In January 2020 students moved into their new school although there is still some cosmetic work taking place in February.**

walking/running track. Outside there is a new track and field area which surrounds the new football field and bleachers.

Gone are the days of schools being constructed of concrete cinder blocks with little lighting and hard linoleum floors. Classrooms no longer are lit by fluorescent lighting with students sitting in hard and uncomfortable desks.

The new Upper Rio Grande schools are so warm and welcoming that students will not want to leave its premises.

There were over 130 contractors, subcontractors, engineers, architects, electricians, carpenters, etc. who partook in this monumental task that sets a precedent for schools to come in the Valley. The communities that these schools serve should be very proud of their new educational facilities.



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*We are honored to have been able to represent the Del Norte and South Fork communities during the design and construction of the Upper Rio Grande K-12 School. The time spent working with all of the staff, students, and community has been an unforgettable experience.*



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Courtesy photos

# Sanford School strives to be a leader

By AMY LARSON

**SANFORD** - Sanford School has existed for at least 124 years. Since the beginning, the school has strived to be a leader in all areas of education and character building. Cultivating a child to be well rounded far exceeds the benefits of simply educating a student.

At Sanford Schools the staff, teachers, and students believe all opportunities for student learning exist within an environment of respect, honesty, and integrity. Students have the right to be challenged to achieve their full academic potential.

Sanford offers excellence in education starting in the Pre-School program and continues consistently until they leave the school after completing their senior year of high school.

The school currently, outside of classroom

hours, has over nine different clubs and activities available in many different areas of interests. The school holds regional, state, and national awards from many of those clubs and activities.

There are over 10 different sports available to Sanford Students. From basketball to dance, football to baseball, our players strive to perform their best and the coaches push them to be better than they thought they could be both on and off the field. We currently hold the title for most consecutive wins for 2A boys basketball. Our athletes often win regional and state championships.

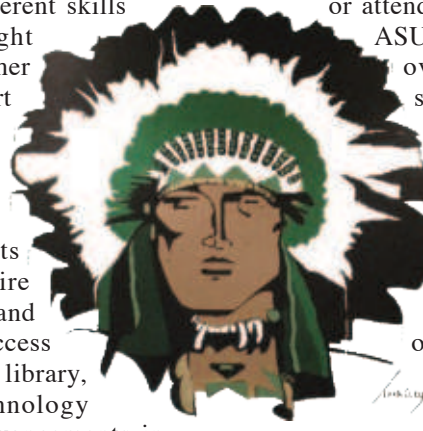
The school provides leadership opportunities from Student Council in the middle and high school to the Leadership in Me for the elementary students. They are given the reigns to plan, organize and run different activities that the whole school participates in.

Genius hour is available every week in elementary school. This is the opportunity for students to explore different skills and activities that might not be experienced in other classes. From yoga to art to technology.

We are responsible for building and maintaining a high impact school that ensures all students will successfully acquire the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for success in the 21st century. The library, media classroom, technology lab, have the latest advancements in technology available to our area and we have one-on-one technology iPad/laptop throughout the whole school. Many

Seniors and Juniors are taking college courses either via satellite at Sanford school or attending classes at Trinidad or ASU. Students last year earned over \$450,000 in scholarships and every student was accepted to at least one college or university.

Teachers and staff know students personally and are invested in each student's success. They collaborate with each other in order to ensure a child's best opportunity for advancement in life. The community's commitment to education is obvious by their willingness to sacrifice in establishing and maintaining a school within the town of Sanford.



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# Mountain Valley School offers natural light, beauty

By SUPERINTENDENT TRAVIS GAROUTTE

**SAGUACHE** — It is hard to believe that the new school at Mountain Valley has been up and running for over four months now, and what a great four months it has been!

The new school is filled with natural light and the surrounding beauty of Saguache. Additionally, fresh air is constantly circulated throughout the building. These simple changes make a huge difference in the school and working environment for both students and staff. In the mornings, students are excited to come to school as they are greeted and welcomed by the staff.

It is great to see the students arriving at school with smiles on their faces as they enter their state-of-the-art learning facility. Every morning, the commons area is buzzing with excitement for the new day, and it is priceless to see everyone building positive relationships in such a welcoming and nurturing environment. I am proud of our students. I am proud of our staff, and I am proud of our new school.

Construction, abatement, and demolition are ongoing as we prepare for our new track and field that will be completed in late spring or early summer. The new transportation and maintenance building is complete and tucked away in the southwest corner of school property, safely creating a separation between school vehicles and students.

The old middle school has been dismantled and repurposed, leaving amazing views of Mt. Blanca for our neighbors to the west. Asbestos abatement in the old high school and elementary has been ongoing since mid-October, with an expected completion date of Feb. 6, 2020.

Once abatement is complete, the old school will be demolished to make way for the new six-lane double-bend cinder track, which will surround a field that will be used for PE, football, pee-wee sports, and other school/community activities. Twenty fitness stations will be located around the track, as well as an intergenerational playground, inviting students, staff, and our community to stay active and healthy.

Without a doubt, the opportunity provided by the Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST)



Courtesy photos

**The handsome exterior of Mountain Valley School's new building, made possible by a best grant.**

Grant is changing lives in Saguache and our greater community. I would like to give a big thank you to the Colorado Department of Education's Capital Construction Board as well as our community.

None of this would have been possible without the support of our local citizens. I am honored to be part of a community that values education and prioritizes our future, our students and leaders of tomorrow.

*(Editors note: The groundbreaking ceremony for Mountain Valley School was held May 23, 2018, and construction began in early June 2018. The new school opened for business right on schedule in September 2019. Garoutte was instrumental in securing the BEST grant that made the school a reality, and community members played an active role in providing feedback for the school's construction and functionality.)*



**One of many breathtaking views from the second floor at Mountain Valley School.**




**A sunlit hallway that features old photos of students and teachers from Mountain Valley School's past.**



**This beautiful mural graces the cafeteria area at Mountain Valley School.**

**It's never too early to save for college.**



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Students are using a 3D graphics program to show city officials what the PARKLET would look like if constructed.

## Creede Technical Education Program continues to produce results

By LYNSIE FERRELL

**CREEDE-** For three years, the Creede School District has been offering a Career Technical Education Program (CTEP) to their students and the curriculum is a huge hit at the school. The program was first introduced in 2017 and since its inception, students, teachers and staff have enjoyed every minute of it.

The program began through combined efforts of the school and teacher Jason Whitehorn. The program now consists of engineering and mechatronics, architecture, graphic design, industrial design, digital media/video, automotive, welding and construction tech. Most of these classes offer college credits to students who participate in the program.

According to Whitehorn, some of the projects that students are currently working on include:

- An architectural student is working with the city of Creede for a design proposal for a PARKLET design. Students are using a 3D graphics program to show city officials what the PARKLET would look like if constructed. A parklet is a sidewalk extension that provides more space and amenities for people using the street. Usually parklets are installed on parking lanes and use several parking spaces. Parklets typically extend out from the sidewalk at the level of the sidewalk to the width of the adjacent parking space.

- Engineering Students are designing and manufacturing new playground equipment for

kindergarten class based off STEM and ergonomic designs. STEM is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — science, technology, engineering and mathematics — in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Parts for the design will be cut out using a Plasma CNC machine.

- Industrial Design students are designing a mountain bike ski for snow.

- Digital Media students are producing multimedia packages for local businesses for social media ads.

- Graphic Design students are working with the Days of 92 committee to design an Info Sign and banners for 4th of July.

- The CTEP program also recently started a culinary arts program as well. Students focus on knife skills, preparing food, food safety and meal planning. After taking the class, students can get a certificate to take to employers. Local and school Chef Malcolm Snead is the instructor for this course and has worked in 5-star restaurants.

All classes use a problem-solving process that encompasses the use of computer programs, machinery and material processing. Some of the equipment used with these classes include a Plasma computer numerical control (CNC) Laser, large format printer, 3D stereolithography, direct to Garment Printer, auto lift and more which help teach essential skills to students that may wish to continue into a career based their class experiences.

## Bill to strengthen Colorado's Opportunity Scholarship Initiative passes Senate

**COLORADO** – On Feb. 13, 2020, the Senate passed SB20-006, Senator Zenzinger's bill to strengthen the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI) program. The bill would broaden COSI's assistance approach to a more holistic and inclusive model— tying scholarships to the rising costs of attendance rather than to tuition alone. It also improves student success and support services and allows more institutions to receive funding. The vote was approved by the Senate unanimously and now moves on to the House for consideration.

"Going to college is becoming more of a workforce necessity, yet higher education costs are growing exponentially—making it less and less accessible," said Senator Zenzinger (D-Arvada). "Our college students need scholarships and wrap-around support programs like the ones offered in COSI so that they have opportunities to pursue their goals without being saddled with a lifetime of debt."

A 2013 Georgetown study predicted that by 2020, Colorado's economy will require the second-most educated workforce in the nation, with 74 percent of jobs needing some kind of postsecondary degree. But right now, only about half of Colorado adults have a degree or certificate.

What SB-006 does:

- Changes "tuition assistance" to "financial assistance" tied to cost of attendance

Changing this definition allows funds to be utilized for wraparound services and would provide clarification around eligible expenses for financial aid administrators.

- Removes funding cap requirement to improve student success and support services

Removing the cap will allow for the expansion of wraparound support programming, which directly impacts COSI recipients by increasing student retention and degree completion.

- Allows more government agencies such as colleges, universities, and school districts to receive funding directly, in addition to community organizations and related foundations

"As a result of the proposed changes, COSI will be administered more efficiently to allow the program to align with research and national best practices and aid the Department in reaching 66 percent educational attainment by 2025. I'm proud to see how far COSI has come since our early days working on the program, and can't wait to achieve even more success," said Sen. Zenzinger.

The Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative is Colorado's premier scholarship program— serving over 75,000 students in 61 counties across the state since 2014. Program participants also graduate at a 15 percent higher rate than their peers and are largely composed of students of color.



## Monte Vista students participate in project

**MONTE VISTA** - The Monte Vista School District is participating in the "Swoop of Cranes" a community art and city beautification project. Administration is sponsoring a crane for each school in the district. The long-term plan is to buy back the cranes and

have them permanently set up at each campus. The high school is painting two cranes. One painted by Art I students and the second by Art II and an Advanced student. One of the cranes will be set up at the administration building.

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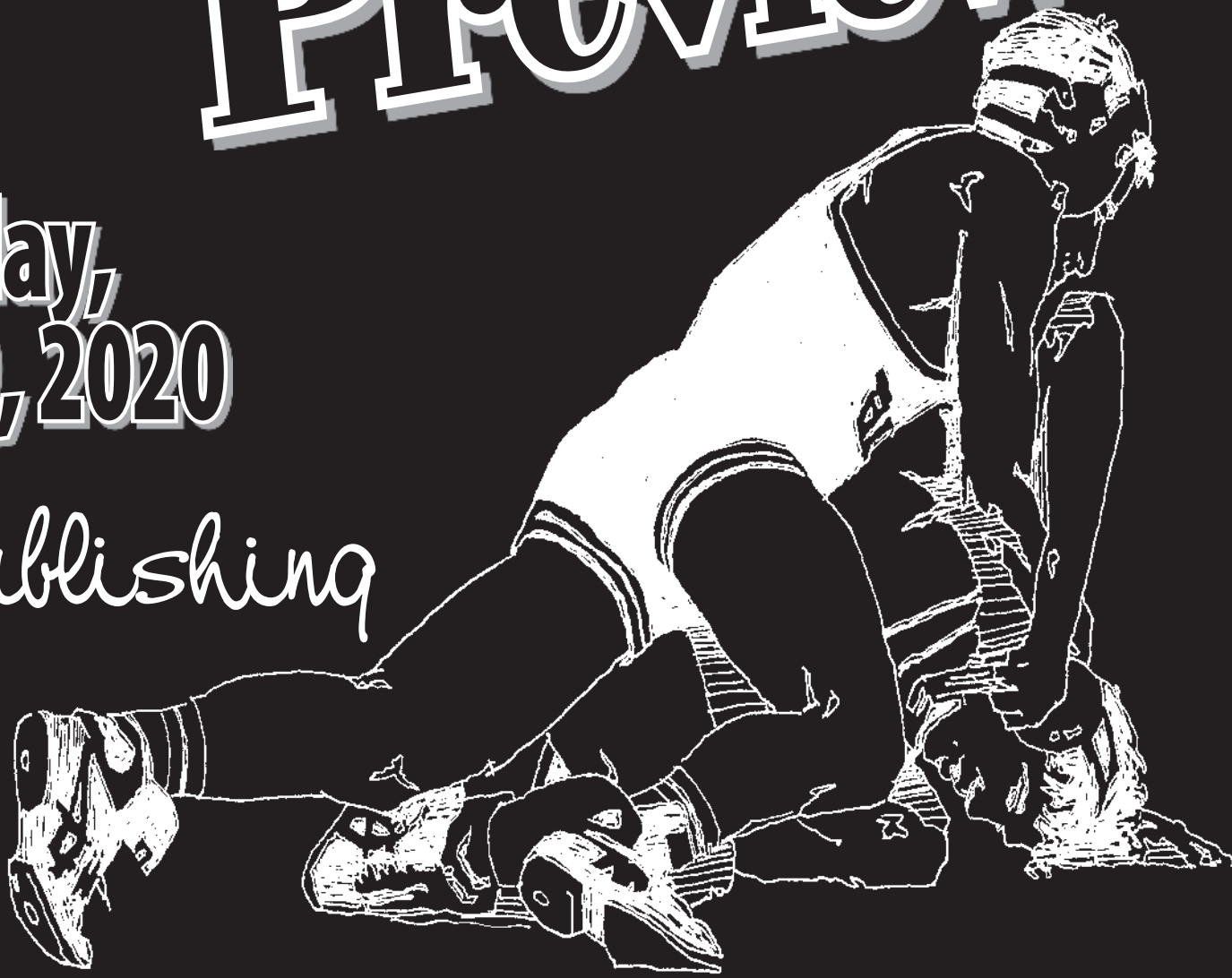


# 2020 Wrestling Preview

Wednesday,  
February 19, 2020

Valley Publishing

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## Panthers place at Girls State Wrestling

**THORNTON** — Sierra Grande-Centennial had two girls qualify for the state tournament at regional competition a week prior, Isabella Durgan and Bobbi Maes. Maes would wrestle at 161 pounds while Durgan qualified at 185. Both girls would podium at their respective weights Maes finishing sixth while Durgan placed second.

At 161 pounds Maes drew Savannah Howard of Mountain Vista in the first round. Howard would send Maes to the consolation bracket with a fall in the first period at 0:46. Maes didn't stop and would climb the consolation bracket with a fall and two major decisions on her way to the consolation semifinals and a rematch with Howard. The second meeting would go down to the wire with Maes earning a takedown in the first and an escape in the second round to lead 3-0 going into the final period. In the third, Howard would get a reversal and turn it into a pin at 4:00. Howard went on to take third in the tournament while Maes would go to the fifth-place match with Navea Garcia. Garcia held a narrow 2-1 lead over Maes in the third period thanks to a



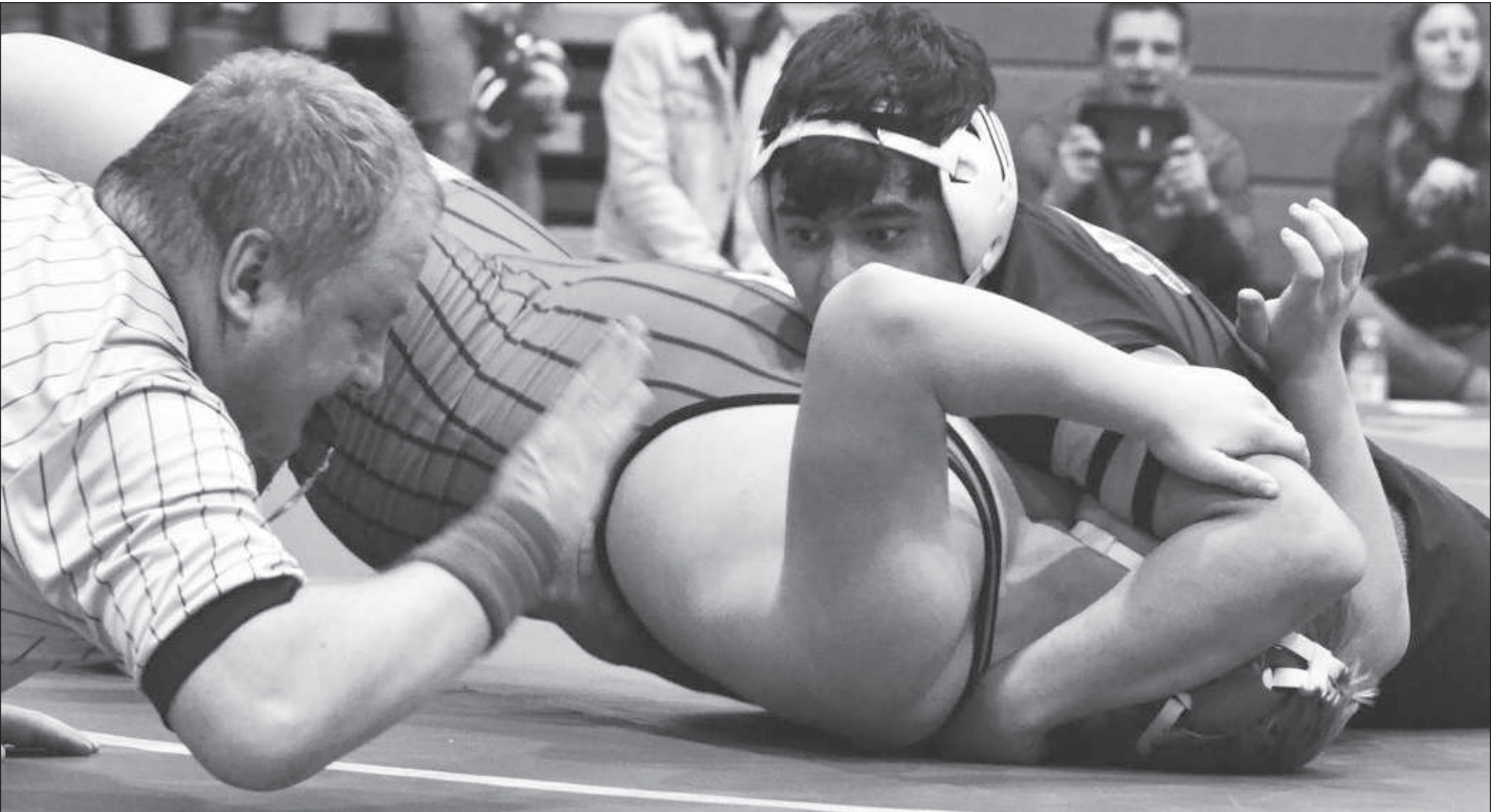
**LEFT** Sierra Grande-Centennial's Bobbie Maes wrestles against Del Norte's Anthony Balderas at a January Triangular in Del Norte. **RIGHT** Isabella Durgan of Sierra Grande-Centennial holds on to Preston Terrell of Del Norte during a triangular on Jan. 23.

Photos by Stephen Jiron

reversal. Again, that reversal would lead to a fall giving Maes sixth place.

Wrestling at 185 pounds, Durgan took on Mia Dischner of Yuma to start her day. Starting with Dischner, Durgan would crank out three straight falls on her way to the championship match. In the first-place contest, Durgan met Sarah Sams of Douglas County. Sams built a large 5-0 lead in the first period and added to it with a takedown in the third to take a 7-0 decision to place Durgan second overall.






Del Norte's Malachi Gallegos listens to referee Chris Carney's congratulations after Gallegos pinned 4A Durango's Hunter Wills in only 27 seconds to secure first place at 106 pounds during the 2019 Dove Creek 'Dawg Fight' Dec. 14, 2019. Gallergos will face Elais Garcia of HIGH in the first round of the State Wrestling Championship in Denver.

# State wrestling first round match-ups

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- Class 3A State, First Round:**
- 106: Caleb Rigsby LAMA, 22-7, Jr. versus Kyler Liddell ALAM, 37-11, Fr.
  - 113: Davion Chavez ALAM, 44-4, Jr. versus Zach Courtright CLAC, 27-15, Soph.
  - 120: Noah Linares MULL, 24-7, Soph. versus Brandon Reveles ALAM, 31-10, Jr.
  - 126: Trevor Maestas ALAM, 23-10, Soph. versus Dalton Williams BERT, 23-11, Sr.
  - 132: Drew Johnson SALI, 29-9, Fr. versus Colton Liddell ALAM, 36-7, Sr.
  - 170: Hunter Smith ALAM, 41-6, Sr. versus Blake Coombs ST, 15-7, Jr.
  - 182: Zeke Rangel ALAM, 26-20, Sr. versus Dakota Powell EATO, 32-10, Sr.
  - 195: Austin Trujillo ALAM, 45-8, Sr. versus Zayne Stam WECE, 35-12, Soph.
  - 220: Jimmy Hustoles JAIR, 40-3, Jr. versus Logan Garcia ALAM, 13-8, Soph.

- Class 2A State, First Round:**
- 106: Mario Vigil CENT, 25-11, Soph. versus Jack Bornhoft SEFL, 25-12, Fr.
  - 106: Malachi Gallegos DENO, 37-7, Soph. versus Elais Garcia HIGH, 18-17, Jr.
  - 106: Dominic Lopez MOVI, 27-12, Jr. versus Brady Collins WRAY, 47-1, Fr.
  - 120: DeAngelo Archuleta MOVI, 27-15, Fr. versus Robert Cochran HOTC, 36-13, Jr.
  - 132: Jesus Hernandez BURL, 28-10, Sr. versus Eyan Chavez CENT, 39-3, Soph.
  - 138: Ivan Lopez CENT, 16-26, Fr. versus Clint Brown PEYT, 35-1, Jr.
  - 145: Jordan Martin CENT, 26-15, Jr. versus Michael Gutierrez BURL, 31-13, Jr.
  - 152: Erik Mestas CENT, 27-18, Fr. versus Colton Murray PEYT, 40-11, Sr.
  - 160: Bradyn Tacha LIMO, 19-8, Sr. versus Zach Buhr CENT, 31-14, Soph.
  - 160: Emmanuel Huerta WRAY, 40-5, Sr. versus Pablo Valencia CTER, 8-15, Sr.
  - 170: Jackson Firebaugh PEYT, 30-16, Sr. versus Byron Shawcroft CENT, 34-14, Soph.
  - 170: Adam Schulz CRCO, 38-0, Jr. versus Anthony Balderas DENO, 23-17, Sr.
  - 182: Hunter Planansky HAYD, 40-6, Sr. versus Elezar Aguilar CTER, 14-13, Sr.
  - 182: Justin Mattison HOTC, 25-13, Soph. versus Adam Chacon CENT, 22-8, Sr.
  - 195: Brooks Jones COLI, 13-19, Fr. versus Jownes Archuleta CENT, 19-18, Soph.
  - 195: Jaden Harris CRCO, 26-3, Sr. versus Preston Terrell DENO, 18-11, Sr.
  - 220: Ethan Hotz MOVI, 28-9, Jr. versus Wyatt Vermeer BYER, 11-24, Sr.
  - 220: Joseph Moreno CENT, 22-20, Jr. versus Jose Molina WRAY, 39-8, Jr.
  - 285: Chance Wiening TRIN, 15-3, Sr. versus Jason Duran MOVI, 5-6, Sr.
  - 285: Chase Stolzenberger COLI, 27-15, Soph. versus Remi Lucero CENT, 35-5, Sr.

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Del Norte's Anthony Balderas, right, receives a blood-timeout medical attention during his bout versus 3A Bayfield's Kobe Prior at the 2019 Dove Creek 'Dawg Fight.' Balderas will face off with undefeated Adam Schilz of CRCO in the first round of the State Wrestling Championship in Denver.

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# State Wrestling Tournament

Schedule at the Pepsi Center in Denver.

**Thursday, Feb. 20 - 2A/3A**

Weigh-in: 11:30 a.m.

Preliminaries: 2-4:45 p.m. (10 mats)

**Thursday, Feb. 20 - 4A/5A**

Weigh-in: 12:30 p.m.

Preliminaries: 6-8:45 p.m. (10 mats)

**Friday, Feb. 21 - 2A/3A**

Weigh-in: 7 a.m.

Championship quarterfinals: 9-11:45 a.m. (10 mats)

First round consolation: Immediately following previous round

**Friday, Feb. 21 - 4A/5A**

Weigh-in: 8 a.m.

Championship quarterfinals: 12:45-3:30 p.m. (10 mats)

First round consolation: Immediately following previous round

**Friday, Feb. 21 - 2A/3A**

Second round consolation: 5-6:15 p.m. (10 mats)

**Friday, Feb. 21 - All classes**

Semifinals: 6:45 p.m. (8 mats)

**Friday, Feb. 21 - 4A/5A**

Second round consolation: 7:15 p.m. (1 mat each class). (As mats become available, expand to 10 mats)

Saturday, Feb. 22

**All Classes**

Weigh-in: 8 a.m.

Third round consolation: 10 a.m. (10 mats)

Semifinal consolation: Immediately following (as mats become available)

Fifth place: Immediately following (as mats become available)

Third place: Immediately following (as mats become available)

Doors open: 5:30 p.m.

Parade of Champions: 6:30 p.m. (4 mats)

## Good Luck Monte Vista Wrestlers!

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