

Shorts

Valentine's Day Dinner

MONTE VISTA - Monte Vista United Methodist Church Community Valentine's Day Dinner, Saturday, Feb. 8, 2020 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. upstairs in the Assembly Room. Menu will be Lasagna, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert and some special Sparkling Drinks (Coffee and Tea) Come and enjoy a night out with your spouse or friends and a homemade dinner and Special Entertainment with an evening under the magical twinkling candle lights. The cost of the dinner will be \$10.00/per person. For tickets contact: Vicki Bever - 852-5008 or Colette Skeff - 852-3435.

Woof Creek Sled Dog & Skijor Races

SOUTH FORK - Beginning the weekend of Feb. 14, South Fork will welcome the Rocky Mountain Sled Dog Club with over 15 sled dog teams to the Rio Grande Club for a two-day event. Beginning Saturday, Feb. 15, attendees can come watch these furry athletes compete for the top spot on a six-mile course around the Rio Grande Club and up into the Alder Creek area. There will be a "Musher's Madness" dinner and dance party at the Rio Grande Club Saturday night, Feb. 15. The dance is \$20 per person and is open to anyone who wishes to attend. There will also be live entertainment from a band out of Saguache called the Roadrunners.

Cabin Fever Daze

CREEDE - Cabin Fever Daze will kick off the weekend of Feb. 14 with a Valentines and fundraiser dance hosted by the Mineral County Fairgrounds Association at the Elks Lodge in town.

Tickets for the dance are \$50 per person and all funds raised during the event will go toward the Fairground Association. Tickets also include a prime rib dinner and a chance to win an OHV Razor. Other activities will include Ice Curling at the Silver Ice Park Saturday and Sunday. The C. Waters Gallery will have live artists demonstrations with the theme, "Cabins" and the Quiller Gallery will be open throughout the weekend. Weather permitting there will also be a Nordic ski tour and ice carving competitions.

Those interesting in signing up for a curling team can get more information through the chamber by visiting www.creede.com or by calling 719-685-2374.

Bloomtown at Creede Repertory Theatre

CREEDE - The Creede Repertory Theatre will have two showings of their infamous play Bloomtown at 5 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15. For more information or to book reservations, please visit www.creederep.org

Attorney letter to Saguache BoCC supports county's position

By TERESA L. BENNS

SAGUACHE COUNTY — Prior to the Jan. 21 Saguache County Commissioners meeting where commissioners once again refused to vacate County Road 59 to facilitate the town of Moffat's annexation of land owned by Potch LLC/Area 420, commissioners received a letter from the attorney representing Moffat residents opposed to the annexations.

Although Annexation 3 was approved by Moffat following its Jan. 21 public hearing, Annexation 2 was listed on the agenda to be discussed at the Feb. 4 meeting Tuesday, indicating the town has no intention of desisting from its annexation course.

According to a letter sent to commissioners by Salida Attorney Benjamin Kahn, "The Town Potch

Annexation No. 3 Re-Opened Hearing Notice provides that the Town 'intends to reopen the Eligibility Hearing Jan. 21, 2020, for the sole purpose of allowing the County to provide input on the Potch Annexation No. 3.'

"The Town, however, did not properly continue the eligibility hearing pursuant to C.R.S. §31-12-108(3). Further, the Town has

no legal right pursuant to C.R.S. §31-12-109(1) to "reopen" a public annexation eligibility hearing for an exclusive subject matter or for the sole purpose of receiving input from one designated interested party.

"Further, the Town cannot proceed unilaterally with Annexation No. 3 irrespective of what the County does or does not do at the "Re-
Please see LETTER on Page 2A

Great things happening at schools

By CENTER SCHOOLS' SUPERINTENDENT CARRIE ZIMMERMAN

CENTER — Center Schools' English Language team has been working hard conducting ACCESS testing on all of Center English Language students in grades K-12 since the beginning of the new year.

The ACCESS test is designed to assess comprehension and communication in English for EL learners. It tests the progress of students' language development who have a home language other than English.

The team coordinated a schedule that honored instructional time and kept disruptions to a minimum. This is a long month of testing and their efforts are appreciated. There were many positive comments from colleagues and administration about how successful testing was this year. This is not an easy task, and it took a lot of planning and hard work to make it go as smoothly as it did.

Please see SCHOOLS on Page 8A



Courtesy photos

Former standout student athlete Travis Phillips, shown here with wrestling coach Brian Ullery, was inducted into the Viking Athletic Association Hall of Fame during the Valley Classic Wrestling Tournament over the weekend.



Parents attended back-to-school night at Center Schools recently.

Center discusses goals, releases candidate names

By TERESA L. BENNS

CENTER — Last week before their regular meeting, the Center town board discussed the goals they have set for 2020 and town administrator Brian Lujan later released the names of candidates who will be running for trustee positions and the mayoral office this year.

Petitions to run for the offices were returned by Jan. 27 per state law. Candidates running for mayor include James L. Sanchez, Pedro (Tino) Segura, Anthony Tony Garcia, Jaime Hurtado and Delsa G. Chavez.

Sanchez and Hurtado currently

serve as Center town trustees. Segura is a former trustee.

The following residents are running for trustee positions: Archie Gallegos, Nivek T. Beiriger, Annette Martinez, David Ramon, Nick Shaffer, Peggy Martinez, Herman Dicky Sisneros, Leslie Duran Shelley.

Gallegos is running for a second term as trustee, Sisneros is currently mayor of Center and Martinez is a former trustee. The Center election is set for April 12.

New Center meeting dates

Center also announced a meeting schedule change. Meetings now

will be held only once a month on the third or fourth Tuesday unless a special meeting is called. The board will meet in 2020 on the following dates: Feb. 18, March 24, April 21, May 19, June 23, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 22, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 18. Meetings usually begin at 6:30 p.m.

Goals for this year

- Continue the annexation of the Consaul property
- Development of the Consaul property is something the town has been considering for several years. Trustee Bill McClure told town administrator Brian Lujan at the

Jan. 14 Center board meeting that the annexation has been postponed long enough and should be put on the fast track, with a completion date set for March 31.

Lujan told McClure that the annexation is a lengthier process than it appears, and Town Attorney Mike Trujillo agreed. Trujillo said he would handle the annexation and aim for a completion in 90 days but commented it could take longer.

- Continue and complete water meters this spring/summer

At Center's Nov. 19 meeting, Center Utility Director David Mahaffie told the board that 300

Please see GOALS on Page 2A



Photo by Teresa L. Benns

Fabian Ramirez visited with Center kids in their classrooms last week to address the realities of bullying in school and offer them strategies to cope with bullies.

Speaker tells parents how to bully-proof kids

By TERESA L. BENNS

CENTER — While speaker Fabian Ramirez visited with Center kids in their classrooms last week to address the realities of bullying in school and offer them strategies to cope with bullies, when he addressed parents last Wednesday his approach took a different turn.

Ramirez focused on teaching parents how to create a family setting that builds confidence in children and pulls the family unit closer. It is a strategy that, he demonstrated in his speech,

Please see BULLY on Page 5A

DEL NORTE BANK *We Offer* Health Savings Accounts Learn more about tax saving opportunities with our HSAs! Call 719-657-3376 Member FDIC

OBITUARY

Jessica Hope Vigil, 36

Jessica Hope Vigil, 36, of Monte Vista/Moffat, Colorado, passed away Dec. 28, 2019, under hospice care in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Jessica was born in Alamosa, Colorado June 6, 1983, to Tommy Vigil and Kelly Jones.

Jessica was a free spirit and loved doing things in her own unique way. She loved being outdoors enjoying the sunshine and looking at the clouds. Jessica spent her time between Colorado and New Mexico. Her most favorite thing was spending time with family, which she treasured very much.

Jessica is survived by her father Tommy Vigil of Saguache, mother Kelly Cougar of Moffat, daughter Hennassy of Salida, sister Destiny (Jon) Jones of Aztec NM, brothers Keith Vigil, of Monte Vista, Dennis (Tasha) Vigil of Pagosa Springs, James (Amie) Vigil of Hudson, CO, Charlie Vigil of Saguache, CO, maternal grandfather Bert (Sherry) of Alamosa, CO and her aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

Jessica is preceded in death by her son Silas Thomas Vigil, maternal grandmother Ruth Jones, paternal grandparents Joe and Estella Vigil, A Celebration of Life



Service will be held on April 11, 2020, at the Saguache Community Building beginning at 10 a.m. Following the service, a dinner will follow.

Funeral arrangements were handled by Return to Nature Funeral Home of Colorado Springs. The family of Jessica Vigil wishes to thank the staff of Penrose-St. Francis hospital, the Chaffee County Ambulance Service, Heart of the Rockies Hospital, the John Zay house, Pikes Peak Hospice, and the staff of Return to Nature Funeral home, for the excellent care that you showed Jessica and our family. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be sent to: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/funeral-expenses-for-jessica-vigil>

Harm Reduction Program approved by Rio Grande Board of Health

By LYNDSIE FERRELL

DEL NORTE- During the Rio Grande Board of Health meeting held in December 2019, Rio Grande Public Health Director Emily Brown asked the board to approve moving forward with a Harm Reduction Program for the county. The board approved the program and plans to implement it are well underway.

The program will include several organizations throughout the Valley to aid in getting the program off the ground. According to statements made by Rio Grande Public Health, they hope to have the program active by early spring in either Del Norte or the Monte Vista area in the near future.

The program will offer free needle exchange to addicts suffering from opioid and other drug related issues as well as services and counseling options for those who wish to recover from addiction. In several meetings held over the course of the past year, officials have highlighted the need for such a program in the region and hope to continue helping those in need.

Data have been collected through local and state organizations that have implemented the program including the SHARRP program in Alamosa. "People who participate in the Harm Reduction Program will have access to mental health services and addiction therapy, as well as, having access to a clean needle exchange program," said Public Health Official Toni Steward.



Courtesy photo

According to Steward, the program allows people to bring in used and unsafe needles to a location that has yet to be determined where they can exchange them for new needles and a safe container to keep them in. "It has been proven through the program that needle waste is significantly decreased. One of the major issues is having needles disposed of in public areas such as parks, parking lots and trails throughout the Valley. We will be focusing on building relationships to help get people to stop using when they are ready to do so."

With the help of SLV Behavioral Health Group, state and local Public Health Offices and the Area Health Education Center (AHEC)

in Alamosa and other agencies the program has been a huge success. All entities involved recognize the need for a harm reduction program in the Rio Grande County area and are working to bring the program closer to those who need it.

According to definitions provided through Public Health, "Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing negative consequences with drug use. Harm reduction is also a movement for social justice built on a belief in and respect for, the rights of the people who use drugs."

For more information please contact the Rio Grande Public Health office at 719-657-3352.

LETTER

Continued from Page 1A

Opened Hearing." As noted in proposed Ordinance No. 2020-01, no annexation – whether approved, championed or dressed up in a bow by the Town or Potch – is effective pursuant to C.R.S. §31-12-113 until certain conditions are met.

"And no annexation is valid unless the Saguache County Clerk and Recorder files the annexation for certification with the State. The Town has not met the statutory conditions necessary for annexation certification here, however, as noted in the Moffat Group's annexation objections.

"Even if the annexation Ordinance becomes effective, C.R.S. §§31-12-104(2) and 31-12-116 specifically allow 'the board of county commissioners of any county governing the area proposed to be annexed' to challenge the annexation through an expedited certiorari process. In the opinion of the Moffat Group, the Town's flawed annexation process and cozy relationship with Potch will be more than sufficient to support a successful challenge by the County with respect to proposed Annexation No. 3.

"Shoestring annexations like the proposed Potch Annexation No. 3 are problematic enough without all the water resource, public health and safety, and regulatory challenges that exist in this instance. The Moffat Group therefore urges the County

Commissioners to reiterate at the Saguache County Meeting and the Re-Opened Moffat Town Public Eligibility Hearing that the County will not vacate County Road 59 or certify Annexation No. 3 to the State until the Town meets all of its statutory obligations.

"In addition, the Moffat Group urges the County Commissioners to challenge Annexation No. 3 if it becomes effective. After all, the citizens of Saguache County elected you folks as County Commissioners to protect their interests and traditional way of life.

"The Moffat Group understands the Potch game, i.e., buy parched land on the cheap and then inflate the value for subdivision and sale purposes based on pro forma promises of unbridled growth. Sound familiar? It is a package that dirt hucksters and shysters have sold for hundreds of years in the American West to doe-eyed dreamers, ambitious youngsters and those just looking for a fresh start. But however clichéd, there is not enough water and infrastructure to support the rampant expansion envisioned by Potch and the Town.

"The Moffat Group is ready to stand shoulder to shoulder with the County to keep Potch from blazing a new path."

Commissioners have not yet announced whether they intend to challenge the annexation.

GOALS

Continued from Page 1A

water meters have been installed in the town so far and keys for the manhole covers have now been delivered. Installation will resume in the spring, he said.

At the Jan. 14 meeting, Mahaffie reported that the town's annual water use was down by 33,000,000 gallons in 2019.

• Planning for the Consaul property and Downtown revitalization

Planning for the Consaul property has been discussed for some time now and mention has been made of a possible hemp operation or a housing development for the town. Several ideas remain on the table and the final determinations will need to be submitted to a planning commission, once the town

establishes one.

Downtown revitalization continues with the town welcoming a new business owner soon and prospects looking good for new businesses to develop along Worth Street. The town continues to work with Center schools and other business owner hopefuls to promote economic development in the town.

Form a Planning Commission

A planning commission will help the town conduct studies related to its goals for town growth, make recommendations regarding plans for accomplishing that growth, advise the town about zoning, conditional use permits, special permits and subdivision plans and

regulations and generally carry out any other planning-related tasks requested by the town.

• Create a reserve and capital improvement policies

This will help the town better cope with its utility finances and disbursements and plan for future projects.



Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyPublishing>

VALI3Theater
719-628-2015
139 Adams • Monte Vista
www.vali3theater.org



Feb. 7-9

Fri. & Sat. 7 p.m.

Sunday 5 p.m.

PG

Kids (6-16) \$4 • Adults \$6 • Seniors (65+) \$5



San Luis Valley Federal Bank

Cash in on rewards using your debit card.

Learn more about debit card rewards visit www.slvfb.com/rewards or call 589-6653

Find us on Facebook



FDIC

slvfed.com

RGCC hear update on Summitville Superfund land

BY LYNSIE FERRELL

DEL NORTE- During the Rio Grande County Commissioner meeting Jan. 29, the board heard a brief update on a current land exchange that was proposed several months ago with the Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) for land in and around Summitville. Commissioners are in the final stages of the land exchange and are awaiting a final agreement from the EPA and Forest Service.

According to a statement from County Attorney Ryan Dunn he explained that plans to have the land swap finalized are still in the works and the board will hopefully have a document to review very soon. "I just recently emailed everyone to make sure there was not anything that we needed to do to finalize anything because it was supposed to be done by the end of the year and we have not heard any more about it. I was originally under the impression that we needed to adopt a resolution approving the Alpine Archeology study that was done, but what was done during a previous meeting was sufficient for their purposes."

Dunn continued to explain that CDPHE needed to complete a letter and for the board to adopt a resolution approving the Summitville land exchange. "Where I ran into a little bit of a roadblock was that I believe that I have a decent legal description for one of the parcels that we would be conveying to the United States of America, but I don't have a great legal

description for two other parcels."

County Administrator Trish Slater stated that she would be able to pull all legal descriptions for Dunn and commissioners. The purpose for the land exchange originated when Summitville was designated a Superfund site by the EPA and CDPHE. During the years since this classification the land went into receivership and eventually fell back into the ownership of the county.

When a land survey was done five years ago, it was determined that the RGNF had several small pieces of property contained in the original Summitville site and through the combined efforts of the county and RGNF it was decided to consolidate the land into one large piece in exchange for other county property that bordered RGNF land further east.

The 1,400-acre mining site is about 18 miles southwest of Del Norte in Rio Grande County. It is located in the San Juan Mountains at an elevation of 11,500 feet, surrounded by the Rio Grande National Forest. The Alamosa River and its tributaries flow from the site through forest and agricultural land in Rio Grande and Conejos counties and past the San Luis Valley towns of Capulin and La Jara.

Gold and silver mining began at Summitville around 1870. The latest mining operator, Summitville Consolidated Mining Corporation Inc. (SCMCI), mined the site from July 1986 through October 1991 and abandoned the site in December 1992. The company opened a pit heap leach

gold mining operation, using cyanide to extract the gold.

The EPA Emergency Response Branch assumed responsibility of the site Dec. 16, 1992. The site was placed on the National Priorities List of Superfund sites on May 31,

1994. This is a National Priorities List (NPL), or Superfund, hazardous waste site. CDPHE is the lead agency for remediation of the site, the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund program provides technical support and input

on all remediation-related activities to ensure the objectives of the Superfund program are met.

Toxic material continues to flow from the mining site, and will continue to do so, regardless of what the county does with the rest of the land.

CLIPS FROM THE CLERK

BY SAGUACHE COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER TRISH GILBERT

Determining Residence

Residence is a place in which a person's habitation is fixed and to which that person, whenever absent, has the present intention of returning after a departure or absence, regardless of the duration of the absence.

Residence is a permanent building or part of a building and may include a house, condominium, apartment, room in a house, or mobile home. (A vacant lot or a business address is not a residence.)

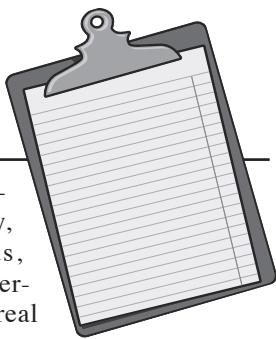
Residence given for motor vehicle purposes and state income tax purposes shall be the same for voter registration.

Residence takes into account business pursuits, employment, income sources, residence for income or other tax purposes, age, marital status, residence of parents, spouse

and children, if any, leaseholds, situs of personal and real property, existence of any other residences and the amount of time spent at each residence, and motor vehicle registration.

No person gains residence or loses residence because of civil or military service of the state or of the United States; while a student at any institution of higher education; or while confined in a correctional facility, jail or state institution.

Correction to the Clerk Clips article on Election Judges: The law now states that an election judge must be a 'registered elector' in the State of Colorado. In other words, a registered elector may be an election judge in any county in the State without regard to the elector's voting address. 1-6-101(2)(a), CRS.



SAGUACHE SHERIFF REPORT

The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the weeks of Jan. 27-Feb. 4, 2020

Arrests

Ramon Archuleta, 56, Saguache, two counts fugitive of justice, possession of a controlled substance

Charles Martinez, 43, Center, theft, second-degree burglary

Amber Felton, 20, Moffat, failure to appear

Frank Vargas, 47, Monte Vista, unlawful conduct on public property

Shon Scanlon, 45, Moffat, possession of a controlled substance

Isaiah Garcia, 20, Moffat, second-degree assault, fugitive of justice

Citations

Alanna Platte, 30, Hooper, expired temporary permit, DUR

Nathaniel Merkley, 28, Saguache, failed to drive in designated lane, refused to present proof of insurance on request, displayed fictitious license plates, DUR

Prashant Sharan, 30, Golden, speeding 78 in a 65 MPH zone

Val Skalski, 72, Bayfield, speeding 86 in a 65 MPH zone

John Debruyne, 80, Denver, speeding 89 in a 65 MPH zone

Hope Abbott, 43, Salida, speeding 91 in a 65 MPH zone

Zachary Aikey, 30, White Rock, New Mexico, speeding 74 in a 65 MPH zone



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

If your household income was less than \$56,000 in 2019, you are eligible for FREE, trustworthy tax help from an IRS-certified preparer.

Estimate your refund and find free tax help by visiting GetMyRefundColorado.org or calling 2-1-1

Trinidad State Junior College - Alamosa Campus

1011 Main St, Learning Center, Alamosa, CO 81101

January 30 - March 19

Thursdays, 4 - 8 pm

Call 719-589-7135 or visit trinidadstatealamosataxhelp.setmore.com

to make an appointment.

Drop Off Tax Site and DIY Site



"The best part of my job is helping community members make home ownership a reality."

Joel Polkowske
Loan Officer

Call Joel Polkowske today at 719-852-7049 for help with your home purchase or refinance.



RIO GRANDE
Savings & Loan Association
901 1st Avenue • Monte Vista 719-852-5933
www.rgsla.com



OPINION & EDITORIAL

Offenses will come

I guess the best way to start this off is by first apologizing. Not for anything in particular I have done or some faux pas I may have committed. No, this is a blanket apology.

For you see in today's world it seems like no matter what you do, you end up offending someone. And unlike days past when a small boo-boo was forgiven, today there is no end to the misery someone with hurt feelings will give you back.

And so knowing that Ol' Dutch sometimes has a fall from grace and opens his big mouth, please forgive me for past lip movements and future ones, too.

The big guy Himself, Jesus Christ, said exactly the same thing to the disciples about offenses presenting themselves to a person. I can recall my mom, Dodge City Lou and my father, Fast Freddy quoting that verse many a time when I would come home with a chip on my shoulder from something someone said.

They let me know right quick that there was no sympathy in that household for such things and a pity party would only be attended by me and me alone.

I guess what they were really trying to tell me was that there would be lots of opportunities to be offended and what I did with that offense is what would make the difference between grumping around or just moving on. I prefer grumping around as Miss Trixie can attest but I am getting better about it with each passing decade -- I mean, day.

Ol' Dutch can tell you many a story about well-meaning people who came along to deflate my balloon but honestly, it really doesn't seem to matter much anymore.

Some of that I think is the emotional move that I made when the ex-wife and I split the sheets and I began to take on the "I don't care anymore" attitude. It was that caring that got me in deep doo-doo with her in the first place and moving into a brain-dead mode seemed best for self-preservation.

Miss Trixie always looks over my shoulder when I am writing this drivel and that last sentence about Ol' Dutch being brain-dead had her nodding her head in agreement.

Nothing like a help mate helping? Sunday was a day full of tractor repairs as I got a new clutch put in and in doing so missed out on watching the Super Bowl on the



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

big screen. I had hired some guys to do it and felt obligated to stick around and handle some of the tools and other things.

I have to admit that their showing up on this particular Sunday really had me a bit peeved. And a great opportunity to be offended too since the Chiefs were playing and they are from my home state Kansas? Aren't they? Maybe not. It is all a bit confusing.

And really Ol' Dutch has to say that maybe Jesus had a one up on the whole idea as sure enough, Kansas City offense did show up and finally won the game thereby proving my point once again. I didn't even know they had football back in Galilea. Offenses came - finally.

One thing that Ol' Dutch is sure of is that since the Chiefs won there will be a lot of butt hurts about their mascot thereby proving my point again. Offenses will come.

But back to the tractor, I bellied up to the bar and bit my upper lip, took one for the team, doubled down, manned up, put my big girl panties on -- well now, maybe not that -- but you get the point. Ol' Dutch needed that tractor and so I had to just forego the game and get 'er done.

Miss Trixie, the internet manipulator extraordinaire, did set up my phone to watch the game while we tracted ourselves and I even got to watch the halftime show. There were so many boobs on there I first thought it was a session of Congress but I have to digress. At least these boobs made sense.

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.

An air medical program membership is not right for you

COLORADO - Membership programs for emergency medical air transportation are appearing across Colorado, and they're being sold in our communities based on fear and marketed with incorrect information. A membership program is simply not the answer when planning ahead for an emergency that may require critical care air transportation.

You may have recently seen large for-profit air medical transportation companies in public areas attempting to sell membership programs for air medical transportation in the event of an emergency.

Misinformation distributed by these nationwide companies is causing widespread fear among consumers. This is an aggressive revenue-growing strategy, creating the perception that purchasing a costly membership for air medical transport is the only safe and cost-effective option when faced with an emergency requiring an emergency air ambulance flight.

Aside from being costly, there is major distortion in the information being presented. Membership programs are designed to steer patients toward specific programs, even though those programs may be based in communities

far away and may not be the best program to respond due to limited services offered, distance from the patient and from the most appropriate hospital for care.

These for-profit organizations are aiming to sell as many memberships as possible, often to people who will never need them. As a result, community members will end up spending dollars on a program that they will never use.

Memberships are being sold through targeting a person's fear, to individuals who may not have all the information they need to make a good decision for their individual situation. These aggressive and misleading marketing tactics by for-profit air medical transportation companies are a disservice to the people of Colorado.

Rooted in a deep tradition of caring for all individuals regardless of their ability to pay, Flight For Life Colorado, a 47-year-old non-profit, will not bill any patient for anything other than what is legally required. We remain committed to ensuring costs are as low as possible.

Most patients pay nothing for their air medical transport. Of the small amount that do pay something, the average patient bill is only what is legally

required. This small payment amount is substantially lower than the ongoing cost to maintain a membership with a flight company who may or may not be available at the time of need. We are also actively working to continue to lower this amount where legally possible.

We know that community members are facing more pressure than ever to protect themselves proactively in the event of an emergency. Please know that Flight For Life Colorado remains rooted in its promise to care for our communities.

We ask you to pause and consider all the options when approached to purchase a membership for emergency air transport. We are committed to ensuring the lowest possible costs and that each patient receives the highest quality of care without being financially burdened simply for taking an emergency air medical flight in their time of need. We're committed to the people of Colorado and beyond and will never compromise our reputation to compete with other for-profit organizations whose main goal is to make large financial gains.

*Kathleen Mayer, MS, RN
Program Director
Flight for Life Colorado*

Precinct Caucuses - Important Dates

To be eligible to participate in Precinct Caucuses Friday, Feb. 14, is the last day to affiliate with either major Party in order to vote in the March 7 Party Precinct Caucuses (22 days before the precinct caucuses) AND the last day to update your voter registration address to participate in the March 7 Party precinct caucuses. You must be a resident of the precinct for 22 days and registered to vote no later than 22 days before the precinct caucus to participate. (source: Colorado Sec. of State Election Calendar). To register to vote or update your registration, go to: govotecolorado.com.

Democratic Party Precinct Caucuses will be held on Saturday, March 7, at 2 p.m. Save the date! Come early to register. Location and other details to follow.

While Colorado will have its first Presidential Primary in 20 years March 3, it is important to participate in the Precinct Caucus because it is there that delegates to our County Assembly/Convention will be elected as well as Precinct Committee People. At County Assembly, delegates to our State Assembly/Convention will be elected. The number of Presidential delegates from each precinct elected to go to the County Convention will be based on the Presidential Primary results.

At Saguache County Precinct Caucuses, voters will decide how many and which voters in their precinct will be delegates to the County Assembly on behalf of candidates for US Senate, Congressional District 3, statehouse District 62, and County Commissioner

Districts 1 and 2; and, if there is more than one candidate for State Senate District 35 and Judicial District 12. Precinct Caucuses and County Assembly have a direct affect on which candidates will be on the Primary ballot for non-Presidential offices. This is why Precinct Caucuses are so important. Democratic Party candidates must meet a certain threshold of votes at caucus, then a certain threshold of delegate votes at County Assembly, and then a certain threshold of delegate votes at the State Assembly or he must petition to get on the Colorado Primary ballot. Other rules apply that may prevent a Democratic Party candidate from petitioning onto the ballot.

*Barbara Tidd, Secretary
Saguache County Democratic
Party Central Committee*

Colorado prepares for Super Tuesday

Thanks to Initiative 107 passed in 2016, Colorado will hold its first presidential primary election in 20 years March 3, 2020 -- Super Tuesday.

Key dates:
• Feb. 10: First day primary ballots can be mailed to voters.
• Feb. 24-March 3: Voter services and polling centers must be open for primary election.
• March 3: SUPER TUESDAY -- Colorado's first Presidential Primary since 2000.

Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold has announced that the following candidates will appear on the presidential primary ballot:

- Robert Andini - Republican
- Michael Bennet - Democratic
- Joseph R. Biden - Democratic
- Michael R. Bloomberg - Democratic

- Cory Booker - Democratic
- Pete Buttigieg - Democratic
- Julián Castro - Democratic
- Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente - Republican

- John K. Delaney - Democratic
- Tulsi Gabbard - Democratic
- Zoltan G. Istvan - Republican
- Amy Klobuchar - Democratic
- Rita Krichevsky - Democratic
- Matthew John Matern - Republican
- Deval Patrick - Democratic
- Bernie Sanders - Democratic
- Tom Steyer - Democratic
- Donald J. Trump - Republican
- Joe Walsh - Republican
- Elizabeth Warren - Democratic
- Bill Weld - Republican
- Robby Wells - Democratic
- Marianne Williamson - Democratic
- Andrew Yang - Democratic

Voters affiliated with a major party may only cast ballots for the party with which they are affiliated, while unaffiliated voters may cast a ballot for either party but must choose one. If an unaffiliated voter marks both the Democratic and Republican ballots, neither will count. Find Colorado Presidential Primary FAQs here: <https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/FAQs/primaryElectionsFAQ.html>

Did you know that if you'll turn 18 before Nov. 3, 2020, you can vote in Colorado's Presidential Primary election March 3, 2020 and in Colorado's June 30, 2020, election?

*Barbara Tidd, Secretary
Saguache County Democratic
Party Central Committee*

Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyPublishing>

CENTER POST - DISPATCH

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

Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144
Main office, Want ads and Subscriptions: (719) 852-3531
Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, Colo., 81144

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144
Subscriptions: \$39 one year in San Luis Valley; \$49 elsewhere. Out of Valley First Class Mailing \$115.00 one year. Seniors receive 10 percent discount on in county subscriptions only. (719) 852-3531
News Media Corporation website: <http://www.newsmediacorporation.com>

- Trey Spaulding GM/Editor
- Rebecca Copley Monte Vista Reporter
- Teresa Benns Center Reporter
- Lyndsie Ferrell South Fork/Creede Reporter
- Sylvia Lobato Conejos County Reporter
- Chelsea Mc Nerney-Martinez Advertising Sales Associate

- Shasta Quintana Circulation
- Ellie Bone Composition
- April Welch Classified
- Vernon Trujillo Production Foreman



www.centerpostdispatch.com

BULLY

Continued from Page 1A

essentially will “bully-proof” kids, immunizing them against bullying tactics and failure in school and in life.

He entitled his conference “Confidence starts at home.” Ramirez explained that bullying is basically a transfer of hurt, commenting, “Hurt people hurt people.” He encouraged parents to immediately document any and all episodes of bullying at school and when it becomes a pattern, address it with school officials.

The red flag that a child is being bullied, he said, is when he doesn’t want to come to school, especially when nothing else is going on to explain this reaction. Ramirez described how his own father coped when he realized his son (Fabian) was being bullied, making special meals for him when he had a bad day and making sure his son knew he was there for him.

“Make deposits in your children’s lives,” he urged parents. “At least once a week let them know you will take the time to show up for them.” This is one way of building a child’s confidence in their parent. Another way is to sit down and create a family mission statement, which might consist of the following:

- We work out problems at the table.
- Problems make us stronger.
- We don’t lie even if truth hurts.
- It is not a threat when we (parents) argue constructively to work out problems, and you are not in danger.

“Every child should know his role in the family,” he pointed out. “Parents make a mistake when they try to do everything for a child just because it is easier.” Some families need a new normal and can make small changes over time that will eventually amount to big changes down the road.

Parents must set goals for their children such as chores that need to be done, when projects should be finished and how homework should be done ahead of time. “Set them up for positive experiences, practice things with them,” he told his audience. “Positive experiences create more positive experiences. Also, hook them up with safe adults who share the same values.”

Another way of building confidence with other adults is to help children practice conversation starters that help them feel at ease with others.

When kids are having a bad day, “Sympathize with them, tell them you are sorry if you have done something to upset them and console them physically.” When kids act out, he told parents not to be afraid to tell them so, saying, “When you do this, I feel like this.” Parents also have to encourage children to vent he said, to help them “navigate their feelings.”

Ramirez encouraged parents to be strict with their children, commenting that his mother “kept me out of a lot of mess” by closely monitoring the friends he hung out with, where they were going and what they were doing. “Strict equals love,” he told parents.

It is especially important to have a vision for each child in the family and to help them realize that vision, Ramirez emphasized. “Help them prepare for their careers, the things they want to do,” he said. “Be active in their plans for the future and help them with financial support. Let your kids know that things are manageable.”

“Shoot for the top,” he continued. “If you aim at nothing you will hit it every time.” Ramirez concluded his talk by reminding parents that “Healing engenders healing,” and encouraged them to activate the tools he provided during his presentation.

LIMITED-TIME OFFER

iPhone 11 On Us.

Switch and get up to 4 new iPhone 11s on us. With qualifying trade-in, promotional discounts; taxes & fees additional.

Switch To The Better Unlimited!

QUESTIONS? VISIT WWW.VIAERO.COM OR STOP BY YOUR LOCAL VIAERO STORE!

This promotion requires a new line of service for each iPhone 11 on us, customer trade-in, and the Assurance Service Program feature for \$11/month per phone. The new promotion-eligible phone must be purchased on the Viaero NOW! installment plan and activated on a new Viaero postpaid rate plan. The full qualifying trade-in value of the customer's phone is used to pay down the initial purchase price of the new phone and the promotional discount (up to \$500) will then be applied to the remaining balance of the new phone over 30 months. The full remaining balance of the original purchase price of the phone, minus trade in value, will be due if the line is terminated, together with any other applicable termination fees. The activation fee and taxes based on the full price of the phone are due at purchase. Customers porting in a new line of service will receive an account credit for the activation fee.

Del Norte 'United'

Support Local

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

Your ad could be here... Call Valley Publishing at 852-3531 to find out how.

The Del Norte Prospector

call **852-3531** to get The Del Norte Prospector delivered each week!

Support Del Norte!

Directory

Farmers Market
Del Norte Artisan & Farmers Market
Beginning June 2019
Wednesdays Noon- 4 p.m.
in front of Boogies
Vendors Wanted!
(719)873-5466
mkmillermink@aol.com

Financial Advisor
Rob McConnell
Financial Advisor
665 Grand Ave
Del Norte, CO 81132
719-657-0404

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

We're the Little Bank with A LOT OF MUSCLE!

Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

Del Norte 719-657-3376
Creede 719-658-0126
TrueLocalBank.com

THREE NEW DURABLE TIRES TO FIND ADVENTURE BEYOND THE PAVEMENT.

From the trusted name in truck tires, come three new all-terrain, all-season tires, that give you the freedom and durability to take on the road. And what lies beyond.

Ken's Service Center
719.657.2880 • 810 Grand Ave. • Del Norte

SPORTS

Vikings host annual Valley Classic

By **STEPHEN JIRON**

CENTER — It's that time of the year again. The majority of valley wrestlers flocked up north for the Valley Classic in Center. Centauri finished in second place as a team with a combined score of 199. First place went to Piedra Vista who took it with 221 points.

The Falcons had a great weekend with plenty of wrestlers earning podiums. Eyan Chavez and Remi Lucero both earned first-place finishes for the red and black. Chavez beat out Dylan Zimmerman of Hayden with an 8-3 Decision to top the podium at 132 pounds. Lucero earned another Centauri first place finish with a Fall over Chance Weining in the 285-pound weight class.

Behind them fellow Falcons Mario Vigil and Jownes Archuleta also advanced to championship matches. Vigil and Archuleta would settle for second-place finishes. Also placing for the Falcons were Zach Buhr and Byron Shawcroft with third-place finishes as well as Joseph Moreno with a fourth, Jordan Martin taking fifth and Adam Chacon earning a sixth-place finish.

As a team, Monte Vista would take 15th place with 54 team points. Monte Vista had some good competition with three wrestlers making the podium. Damian Lopez finished in fourth place in the 113-pound class. Lopez would fall out of the semifinals with loss by fall but earned his way into the third-place match with a 7-6 decision over Crowley County's Dillon Buford. Also placing for Monte Vista were Ethan Hotz and Jason Duran. Both Hotz and Duran would finish with fifth-place finishes in their respective weight classes.

Sierra Grande-Centennial also got a podium and would take 17th place with 32 team points. Richard Atencio was the lone Panther wrestler to place and would settle for fourth place after relenting a Tech Fall to Drew Johnson of Salida. SG-Centennial were without two of their wrestlers at the Valley Classic. Isabella Durgan and Bobbie Maes took part in girls wrestling regionals in Castle Rock. Both girls would advance to the state finals slated for Feb. 9th, Durgan with a second place and Maes with a 5th place finish.

Also placing one wrestler was Sargent. The Farmers finished in 19th place with 23 team points. For Sargent, it was Parker Ford picking up a fifth-place finish by way of Forfeit.

For Mountain Valley Wyatt Gardner placed sixth earning all 15 of his team's 15 points placing Mountain Valley 22nd. Also in attendance were Del Norte and Center who posted 20.5 and 2 points respectively as teams.

Most squads will clean up with some late season duals and tournaments as they prepare for regionals. According to Track Wrestling, Sierra Grande will host their Regional 2A tournament this year with valley teams Centauri, Center, Del Norte, Monte Vista and Sargent in attendance along with others. In 3A Alamosa will head north to Montrose where they'll compete in regional tournament play at the Montrose Event Center. Both tournaments will take place on Feb. 15th.



Eleazar Aguilar



Fabian Chavez



Courtesy photos

Viking wrestlers Eleazar Aguilar, Fabian Chavez, and Pablo Valencia participated in the Valley Classic Wrestling Tournament in Center this past weekend.



Photo by Stephen Jiron

Center's Eleazar Aguilar takes Sierra Grande-Centennial's CJ Nix's legs out from underneath him

San Luis Valley Scoreboard Basketball 2019-2020

Girls

Florence 43.....	Monte Vista 27
Cotopaxi 44	Moffat 26
Sierra Grande 59	Center 40
Sangre de Cristo 72	La Veta 20
Sargent 47	South Park 12
Centennial won by forfeit over Aguilar	
Sanford 55	Custer County 8
Centauri 44	Alamosa 40
Del Norte 48.....	Sanford 45
Sangre de Cristo 39	Swink 32
Centennial 72.....	Creede 36
Sierra Grande 46.....	Antonito 41
Center 41.....	South Park 20
Alamosa 57	Bayfield 48

COLLEGE

Westminster College 63.....	Adams State 47
Dixie State 65	Adams State 39

Boys

Crested Butte 48.....	Center 43
Cotopaxi 52	Moffat 31
Primero 72.....	Creede 37
Center 54	Sierra Grande 41
Sangre de Cristo 69	La Veta 33
Sargent 63.....	South Park 29
Sanford 67	Custer County 18
Alamosa 59	Centauri 43
Monte Vista 80	Montezuma-Cortez 67
Alamosa 61.....	Bayfield 49
Sangre de Cristo 56	Swink 30
Sanford 61.....	Del Norte 29
Sierra Grande 58	Antonito 20
Center 56	South Park 51
Crested Butte 35.....	Sargent 34

COLLEGE

Westminster College 71.....	Adams State 67
Adams State 82.....	Dixie State 75

Thanks to these businesses for supporting SLV sports!

Find us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/ValleyPublishing>

Stone's Farm Supply, Inc.
 719-754-3453
 On the corner of 3rd & Torres • Center

Absolute Skins
 Auto Body & Paint
 852-5700
 859 Acequia Monte Vista

Talk About **LOCAL!**
CENTER POST-DISPATCH
In Print & Online
www.centerpostdispatch.com
 Valley Publishing **719-852-3531** Find us on **facebook**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

communities that care

Prevention Science + Digital Tools + Support = Successful Kids

Get Involved in the Future of Your Community

FOR QUESTIONS OR TO GET INVOLVED CALL 719-655-2533

Woman saved in Del Norte blaze

By DANIEL MCKILLOP
DEL NORTE — Emergency service personnel responded to a fire Wednesday, Jan. 29 and saved a woman's life during a blaze that was brought under control within 30 minutes in Del Norte.

Del Norte Police Department Sgt. Frank Archuleta, who is the interim police chief, rescued a woman who was being engulfed by fire at 455 Adler Street shortly before noon.

Christina Gallegos suffered burns, which required medical attention, Archuleta said. "Del Norte Ambulance picked her up and she was flown to Denver for treatment."

Del Norte Fire Department Chief Gilbert Trujillo said his unit arrived at 11:43 a.m. and he could see the flames when the police officer pulled her from the house.

"When I pulled up to the scene, I saw that the house was smoking pretty badly and engulfed in

flames," said Archuleta, who was the first emergency-service person to arrive at the scene. "I pulled up in front of the house and I could see the flames through the glass window — the flames were hitting the windows."

Archuleta said the rescued woman was sitting up and he could see the flames hitting her.

"I could feel the heat approaching her," he added. "So, I stepped between her and the flames."

Archuleta added that he suffered minor burns to his face and was told by firefighters that it was going to feel like a "bad sunburn."

"When I got behind her, her back was so hot and burnt that she had burn marks through her shirt," he said. "I pushed her forward as it burned my hand."

Archuleta said there was an explosion, which burst through two of the front windows, as he carried her out of the doorway onto

the porch.

"The southeast windows exploded and glass was flying at us," he added. "I tried to shield her the best I could."

Archuleta said he later ended up "pulling glass out of his vest."

"The best thing was I was able to get her out of there before she was totally engulfed in flames."

Archuleta added: "The fire department did a great job." Trujillo said it took about a half-hour to get the fire under control. "We were on the scene for about an hour," Trujillo said.

He said that it took about another half-hour to "mop up" after controlling the blaze.

Twenty-five percent of the home was severely damaged, but recoverable, Trujillo said. The bedrooms were untouched.

"She had a solid oak door that led to the three bedrooms," he added, which helped stop the fire from

spreading into those rooms.

"The kitchen took most of the damage and part of the living room was damaged by the fire," Trujillo said. "The occupant was in there and there was a fire on the stove."

Archuleta and Trujillo said a passer-by helped get Gallegos out of the house and to the patrol car.

Trujillo said the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention responded and helped put out the fire.

NOTICE OF 2020 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Per Colorado Revised Statute 1-5-205, Saguache County Clerk & Recorder, Trish Gilbert, announces that the 2020 Presidential Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, MARCH 3, 2020. Ballots will be mailed to all active, registered voters beginning on February 10, 2020. The ballot packet will include: 1 Ballot, 1 Secrecy Sleeve/Instructions, and 1 Return Envelope. Voters will mark their ballot, insert it into the Secrecy Sleeve/Instructions, insert this into the Return Envelope, SIGN the envelope where indicated and mail or return the voted ballot to the Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC) at the Clerk's office in the Saguache County Courthouse, 501 4th St., Saguache. The VSPC will be open from Monday, FEBRUARY 18th through Tuesday, MARCH 3rd, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.; on Saturday, FEBRUARY 29th, from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.; and on Election Day MARCH 3rd, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Voted ballots may also be deposited into the Ballot Drop Boxes at the following locations: the south parking lot of the Courthouse, 501 4th St., Saguache; Sheriff's Satellite Office located at 182 E Galena Ave., Crestone; Center Town Hall, 294 Worth St., Center. Beginning FEBRUARY 10th, the drop boxes will be available 24 hours each day until 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots must be received by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots received after 7:00 p.m. on Election Day will not be counted. Postmarks do not count. Trish Gilbert, Clerk & Recorder

AVISO DE ELECCIONES PRESIDENCIALES DE 2020

De conformidad con el estatuto modificado de Colorado 1-5-205, la Secretaria y Oficial de Registro del Condado de Saguache, Trish Gilbert, anuncia que las elecciones presidenciales de 2020 se llevarán a cabo el martes 3 de MARZO de 2020. Las boletas electorales se enviarán por correo a todos los votantes registrados activos a partir del 10 de febrero de 2020. El paquete de votación incluirá: 1 boleta electoral, 1 manga de votación secreta con instrucciones y 1 sobre de respuesta. Los votantes marcarán su boleta, la insertarán en la manga de votación secreta, la cual a su vez insertarán en el sobre de respuesta, FIRMARÁN el sobre en el espacio indicado y enviarán por correo o devolverán la boleta marcada al centro de votación y servicios al votante (VSPC, por sus siglas en inglés) en la oficina de la Secretaria en el Tribunal del Condado de Saguache, 501 4th St., Saguache. El VSPC estará abierto desde el lunes 18 de FEBRERO hasta el martes 3 de MARZO, de lunes a viernes, de 8:00 a. m. a 5:00 p. m.; el sábado 29 de FEBRERO, de 7:00 a 11:00 a. m.; y el día de las elecciones, el 3 de MARZO, de 7:00 a. m. a 7:00 p. m. Las boletas electorales también se pueden depositar en las urnas ubicadas en el estacionamiento sur del Tribunal (501 4th St., Saguache), la oficina subsidiaria del Sheriff (182 E Galena Ave., Crestone) y la municipalidad de Center (294 Worth St., Center). A partir del 10 de FEBRERO, las urnas estarán disponibles las 24 horas del día hasta las 7:00 p. m. del día de las elecciones. Las boletas deben recibirse antes de las 7:00 p. m. del día de las elecciones. Las boletas recibidas después de las 7:00 p. m. del día de las elecciones no se incluirán en el conteo. Los matasellos no cuentan. Trish Gilbert, Secretaria y Oficial de Registro

No. 1554 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, Jan. 6, 2020



Courtesy photo

Firefighters arrive at 455 Adler Street in Del Norte to put out a fire Wednesday afternoon.



The Colorado LEAP program is a federally funded state-supervised, county-administered system and is designed to *assist* with your winter heating costs. The LEAP Program eligibility period runs from **November 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020**

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
1	\$2,371
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

ENGLERT LeafGuard is the permanent, clog-free gutter solution!*

*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

- One-piece, seamless gutter system
- Protective Overhang/Trim
- ScratchGuard® Paint Finish
- Clog-Free Design

75% OFF LABOR[†]

Receive a **FREE \$100 Restaurant.com Gift Card** with **FREE in-home estimate!****

ENGLERT LeafGuard
(719) 493-9169

Call Today for Your FREE Estimate!

†Does not include cost of material. Expires 2/29/20. **All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$100 gift certificate. Visit <https://www.restaurant.com/about/terms> for complete terms and conditions and <https://www.restaurant.com> for participating restaurants. Retail value is \$100. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 2/29/20.

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 1A

Throughout the year, EL teams work hard to help all students excel in school, without a language barrier getting in the way. Assessing students helps teachers to get a better understanding of where they need support and what specific skills need more development. The Access test provides helpful information that will help teachers plan appropriate instruction based on students' needs.

The instructional approach used is the co-teaching model as it supports EL students in language development and content knowledge comprehension. This instructional process allows the EL team to collaborate with core teachers in lesson planning and designing instruction that is tailored to both the linguistic and academic need of the students.

Fabulous field trip

This past week, six Center students attended the 2020 National Mentoring Summit in Washington, DC. The summit is a national convening of youth mentoring professionals, researchers, mentor affiliates, philanthropic investors, and government and civic leaders aimed at collectively strengthening and expanding quality mentoring relationships for young people across the country.

Students attended a variety of workshops related to this year's theme, "Building Relationships, Advancing the Movement." This was an amazing opportunity for Center kids. The students had the chance to take in the sites in DC, visit the Holocaust Museum on the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, and spend some time on Capitol Hill meeting with U.S. Senator Cory Gardner and Representative Scott Tipton.

Rewind — Focus on Family-School Partnership

Wednesday evening, Center families had the chance to listen to guest speaker, Fabian Ramirez, who is recognized as the top bullying speaker in the nation. His message focused on working together as a school community with families and staff, being aware of what is going on in children's lives and understanding that bullying is a transfer of hurts.

Center School District works hard to establish an inclusive learning environment that is supportive of all students. CCSD is also actively involved in establishing and maintaining strong family, community partnerships. This parent night was one example of those efforts.

Wednesday, Jan. 29, was the monthly ICAP day for students. This time is focused on providing learning opportunities for students to ensure that they are prepared for post-secondary options, whether it be college, the workplace or the military. Mrs. Bishop's Advisory class won the competition and Mason Armenta-Merritt won the 2020 Skoglund Middle School Spelling Bee.

The students celebrated the big win with a pizza party! The top nine finalists for the spelling bee included Teresita Chavez, Matthew Johns, Jasmine Larimore, Julian Maldonado, Devannie Nunez, Nick Palma, Alejandro Puentes and Elijah Swanson. These students will be competing next week at the SLV Spelling Bee. Way to go Vikings!

Focus on athletics

It was a busy weekend for Center Vikings. The wrestling team hosted two tournaments over the weekend, the Courtney Lake Dual Friday, and the Valley Classic all day Saturday. There were three Viking wrestlers competing — Pablo Valencia, Eleazar Aguilar and Fabian Chavez. Over 28 teams competed overall. Thanks to everyone who pitched in to make the tournaments successful.

Hosting these tournaments is quite a production and takes a lot of hard work. Thanks to Mark Meyer, Joe Garcia, John Noriega, Brian Ullery, Rodney Mondragon, Tito Chavez, Sarah White, Kevin Jones, Rachael Barraza, Dennis Schoenfelder, Cindy Rigsbee, Susan Banning, Kindra Rounds, Julio Paez, Teddy Garcia, Ascencion Najera, Panta Villagomez, Ramos Segura, Walter Martinez, Chris Segura, Randy Martinez, Rich Brandt, Leroy Torrez, and everybody else that worked tirelessly throughout the weekend to pull it all off. We had a

number of compliments from community members and visiting teams.

The Kiwanis held their annual Pancake Breakfast Saturday morning to kick off the festivities. Center basketball teams also competed in Sierra Grande Friday night and in South Park Saturday. The boys came up with a strong win Friday against the Panthers. Both the boys' and girls' teams celebrated wins in South Park Saturday!

Fast forward

Center Vikings will be celebrating WinterFest the week of Feb. 4-8. Tuesday was Hawaiian Day and Center basketball teams had a home game against Hoehne. Parent Teacher conferences for secondary students took place Wednesday, Feb. 5, and Home Visits will be Thursday, Feb. 6.

The Winter Sports Pep Assembly was held Thursday afternoon, to prepare Center basketball teams for their big games in Sargent that evening. Center's wrestling team will be heading to Crowley County to compete Saturday.



Courtesy photos

Above: Center School's English Language team -- Ashley Lane, JoAnn Lopez, Anna Bishop and Garret Myer -- have been busy administering ACCESS testing to their students.



Right: Center Schools Sunshine Committee continues to spread sunshine throughout the district. Last week, they provided fun treats for the staff on their sunshine cart!

GATEWAY MOTORS

Come see Nathan Montoya or Kenneth Martz for **ALL** your vehicle needs



Kenneth Martz

2016 Chevy Sonic

Low Miles



SK#: TT0131B **\$10,995**

2015 Toyota Corolla



SK#: TT2704C **\$6,995**

2012 Toyota Rav 4



SK#: G66641 **\$14,995**

2014 Jeep Cherokee



SK#: G10537 **\$21,995**

2013 Chevy Tahoe LTZ



SK#: G84936 **\$18,995**

2012 Nissan Titan



SK#: G20440 **\$19,995**

GATEWAY MOTORS 719-852-0203
1603 East US HWY 160 Monte Vista, CO 81144
www.GatewayMotorsCO.com

ALL PRICES PLUS TAX, TAG AND TITLE. ARTWORK FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS.

Lifestyles

Serving the entire San Luis Valley

Supplement to The Monte Vista Journal, Center Post-Dispatch, The Conejos County Citizen, The Mineral County Miner, The South Fork Times, and The Del Norte Prospector.

BOXHOLDER LOCAL-RURAL CAR-RT SORT STANDARD MAIL RATE U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 70 Alamosa, CO 81101

Hard to Hear: The Facts of Canine Ear Infections

While ear infections are pesky conditions that affect many species, dogs are especially at risk because of the shape of their ear canals.

Dr. Lori Teller, a clinical associate professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, says that diagnosis and treatment should always be handled by a veterinarian, but dog owners should still be informed on the nature of this condition to keep their furry friend in tip-top shape.

“There are multiple causes of ear infections (otitis externa), including allergies (most common), ear mites, a foreign body (this can include polyps or neoplasia), excess hair in the ear canal, anatomic changes in the ear canal, excess moisture in the ear canal, injury, immune-mediated diseases, endocrine disease and excessive cleaning,” Teller said. “Any of these causes allow for bacteria and/or yeast to overgrow in the ear, leading to the infection.”

Symptoms of canine ear infections include head shaking, scratching at or rubbing the affected ear, discharge, bad odor, redness inside the ear, swelling of the ear canal, pain, itchiness, and crusts or scabs inside the ear or along the ear margin. Owners who suspect that their



Courtesy photo

dog may be suffering from an ear infection should seek veterinary help immediately, as these infections can become more severe if left untreated.

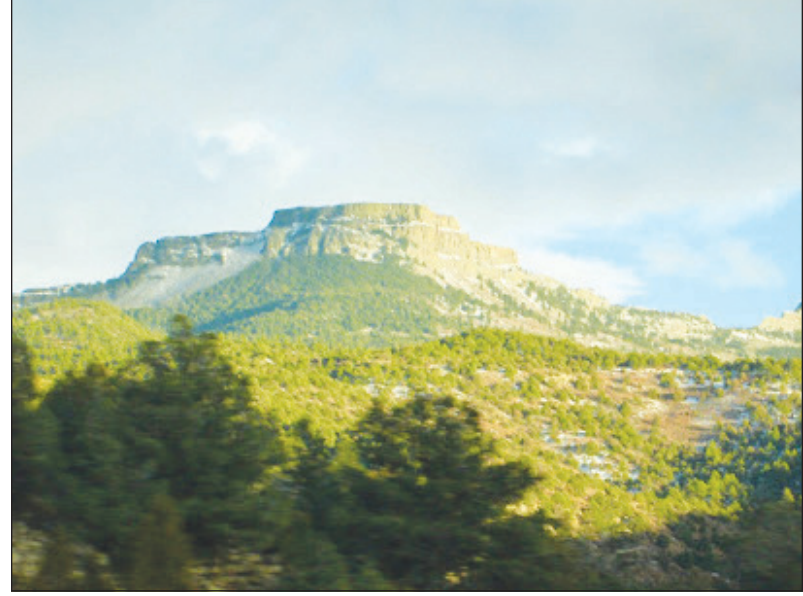
Once diagnosed, your dog’s treatment plan will depend on what caused the ear infection in the first place.

Teller said that topical ointments may be used to treat bacteria and

yeast present in the canal. Severe infections or those involving the middle or inner ear canal may be treated with oral antibiotics and anti-inflammatory drugs. Medicated ear cleansers to clear away discharge and debris from the infected canal may also be prescribed.

“Dogs that develop ear infections frequently will need to have

Please see EARS on Page 11



Courtesy photo

Fisher’s Peak and the land surrounding it could become Colorado’s newest state park. Fisher’s Peak is located near Trinidad, Colorado. The creation of Fishers Peak Park (official name TBD) would be the first state park to be created since 2013 and would be the second-largest in Colorado—extending over 55 square miles.

Garcia's State Parks Improvement Bill advances

COLORADO – The Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee voted 4-1 to advance SB20-003 sponsored by Colorado Senate President Leroy Garcia. SB-003 would allow the state to grant a one-time infusion from the General Fund to make important capacity improvements across the state parks system, including contributing to maintenance, operational costs, upgraded trails, bathrooms, parking and visitor facilities. It would also officially

establish Fishers Peak and the land surrounding it, as Colorado’s newest state park. Fisher’s Peak is located near Trinidad, Colorado.

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

Please see PARKS on Page 11

Carol’s story

Carol’s story is just another glamorous tale of a city girl who married a romantic Nebraska Sandhills rancher years ago and became a ‘vocational COW assistant’ for life.

“So what exactly do you want me to do?” she asked.

“Take the pickup (she didn’t learn to drive till she was twenty-nine) then go out there to the Big Pasture (the dreaded Big Pasture where one grass covered hill looks like the next one to her). Start way back there at the gate in the Middle Pasture where we have the heifers now and honk. They’ll come follow you and we’ll just run ‘em up through the Big Pasture and put ‘em where they used to be. (she lost him right after ‘you take the pickup’).

“Don’t get too close to that gate if it’s surrounded by water because even in 4-wheel drive you could bury this thing up to the hubcaps (she made a mental note to check behind the seat for a life jacket).

“On second thought, go through the Middle Pasture past the old school-house to the windmill with the green gate panels. Then bring the heifers out that gate with the staple



in it into the Big Pasture (Oh, no. The Staple Gate! Wonder Woman herself couldn’t open that gate with her Golden lasso and a come-a-long). Then you’ll have a straight shot to the last gate where Gene bucked off the roan colt (in 2012) which leads to where the heifers used to be.

“I’m gonna take the four-wheeler and go through the other gate where the heifers were

‘cause it’s closer to the mineral feeder and I can check that windmill while I’m there and fill the feeder. See ya in a bit.”

A bit passes.

“Where were you?” he asked, “I moved the heifers by myself and fixed another windmill. When you didn’t show up I started lookin’. What are you doin’ back here anyway? You could have come out the other gate. You were closer to it, ya know.”

She took a deep breath and replied bravely, “I got the heifers through the Staple Gate but it took so long to close it I turned the wrong way. I followed the road to the windmill we’d checked and realized I’d gone too far (not to mention the heifers disappeared). So I remembered what you’d told me, “If you ever get lost in the Big Pasture get up high, then you can see fence. Go to the fence and follow it to a gate.” (Which is as useless a piece of information to someone like her as finding your way home by looking for moss growing on the north side of trees when you’re lost in the woods).

“So I climbed this hill and dropped into a

bull hole (buffalo waller for you okies). The truck made ‘that noise’ and stopped (‘that noise’ that causes anyone who doesn’t like hiking to break out in a cold sweat). I managed to back the truck out and come back the way I came till I found the Staple Gate where I’ve been waiting for you to find me.”

“Hmm,” he says and loads the four wheeler in the pickup and they start back to the house. He drives. As they bounce along the sandy track he puts his hand on her knee and she rests her hand on his shoulder. The truck is still making ‘that noise’ but it doesn’t bother them. They’re pardners. Together they can handle anything.

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



Grow, Grow, Grow Your Profits With the Right Advertising

Valley Publishing
835 FIRST AVE. • MONTE VISTA, COLO.
719.852.3531

Snowshoeing in the Rio Grande National Forest

SAN LUIS VALLEY - Winter still has a hold on the San Luis Valley, but that's all right by me. I've got plenty of adventures ahead that require snow and the outdoors. One of my favorite winter activities for the past few decades has been snowshoeing. Since my family arrived here in late November, we've had some great adventures out snowshoeing, many of them right here on the Rio Grande National Forest.

I remember when I first took up the "new" sport of snowshoeing. Thinking that some folks were pretty brilliant to invent a new form of snow travel, I just had to try it. I rented a pair of those funky looking tennis rackets, strapped them to my hiking boots and proceeded to take a walk in some pretty deep snow near my home in Dillon, CO. I did make the mistake of not having gaiters so the tops of my boots immediately filled with snow. As I pushed on, I felt my ankles getting wet because the melting snow had nowhere else to go but to soak into my socks. I should have turned back to correct my mistake but I was already hooked after the

first quarter mile and wasn't about to let wet feet slow me down. When I finally returned home, my feet were frozen, my leg muscles ached and I couldn't stop the warm glow of the great outdoors within me. I was destined to be a snowshoer (I'm not sure whether or not this is a real word, but I am one), so I looked into the sport a little deeper. Boy was I wrong about it being a new sport!

While archeologists have been unable to pinpoint exactly when the first skis or snowshoes were used, it has been suggested that the first type of equipment resembling either was used in Central Asia. Italian scientists discovered an example of a snowshoe in the Dolomite Mountains, dating between 3800 and 3700 B.C. It is thought that early Asians may have used snowshoes to reach North America by crossing the Bering Strait when it is believed that current-day Asia and North America were joined.

While it appears that skis were more popularly used in Europe and Asia, the early native North Americans took more of a liking to snowshoes as their favored form of snow

Land, Water and People

BY GREGG GOODLAND

travel. As they tended to migrate into forested zones, snowshoes were developed out of the need to travel and hunt for food in the winter when the ground was covered in snow. The first snowshoe designs were modeled after the tracks of animals that could easily maneuver in the snow, such as the snowshoe hare.

Out of necessity, snowshoes were further developed by these hearty and innovative peoples who adapted their equipment according to their needs which, obviously, varied by region.

Snowshoes were not only used for personal travel. They played key roles in military conflicts as well. During the French and Indian war, in the battle between the French and English for North America, the French used tactics they had learned from the natives, including using snowshoes, to assist in their raids. An interesting read on this is found by searching "Battle on Snowshoes."

Here in the SLV, we can assume

that early nomadic hunters and traders used our portion of the 2,700 mile long Old Spanish Trail for both summer and winter travel, during which snowshoes would be necessary.

As with much forest recreation, recreational snowshoeing was born in the early 1900s as people began exploring the wilderness for leisure and exercise. The earliest recreational snowshoes resembled a tennis racket. The older styles of wooden and rawhide are mostly appreciated today as objects of craftsmanship and art. You know, the ones you see on the walls.

Today, recreational and sport snowshoeing have drastically increased in popularity. It is believed that snowshoe participation tripled in the 1990s. I encourage those that can to give it a try. There are so many locations where you can easily leave the roadside or trailhead and be in your own winter wonderland in a matter of minutes. Our website has some suggestions for places to go: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/riogrande/recreation/wintersports> or contact one of our most excellent visitor information specialists.

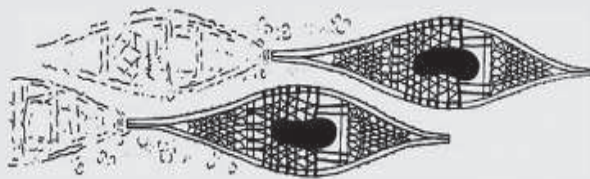
Gregg Goodland is the Public Affairs Officer for the Rio Grande National Forest.

The History of Snow Shoes

The "shoeski" was invented in 4000 BC in Central Asia. It was a solid piece of wood with a crude binding. The first people that migrated over the Bering Land Bridge into North America used these.

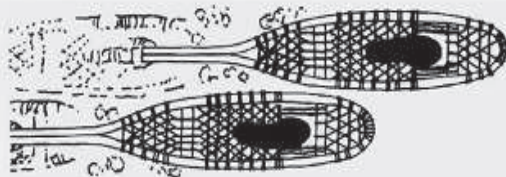


Athaspaskan Indians of the northwest coast and the Algonquin Indians of the Great Lakes area perfected the laced-frame snowshoe which later developed into various styles below. Materials were made from wood and animal hide or sinew.

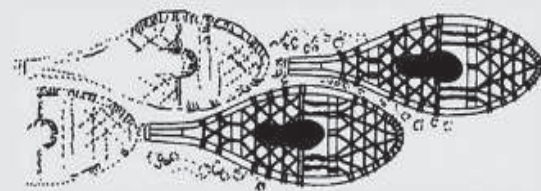


Ojibwa (Cree)- pointed, upturned toes with tail. Great for breaking through crusty snow.

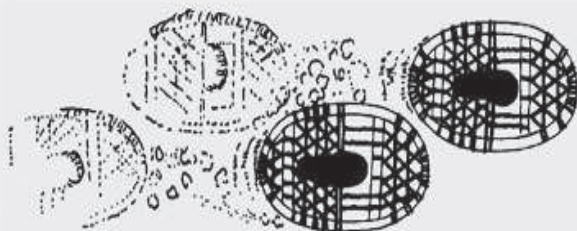
Alaskan (Yukon)- Long, narrower shoes with rounded, upturned toes. Best for open country in deep snow.



Canadian snowshoe club 1800's



Michigan (Beavertail)-medium surface area with rounded toe and pointed tails. Combination of the above two styles.



Bear Paw - oval in shape, lacking tail-for use in thick woods and hilly areas; slow but maneuverable.

LOVE
is in the air!



St. Valentine

was a Catholic priest who performed marriages for young lovers in secret while Rome was under the rule of Emperor Claudius II, who banned all marriages and engagements believing that Roman men were unwilling to join the army due to their attachment to wives and families. There are two more patrons named St. Valentine who were martyred in ancient Rome.

Rumor has it...

Some tales suggest that the type of bird a girl watches on Valentine's Day predicts her future husband. A goldfinch indicates a millionaire, while a dove indicates a mate for life. If you see a squirrel on Valentine's Day, you may marry a cheapskate who will hoard your money.

• Floral Bouquets

• Gifts Boxes for Him & Her

• Chocolates, Cookies, Balloons, Plush Animals and Many More Gift Options!

39 Washington Street • Monte Vista • (719)588-8587
torresfloraldesigns@gmail.com • www.torresfloraldesign.com

The Finery is Online! Visit our website and click "shop now" for our great merchandise from the convenience of home!
www.thefineryboutique.com/

EST. 2018

THE FINERY
boutique

Lots of gifts for your valentine, including jewelry, hats, mugs, perfume, pj's, slippers, bath bombs and so much more! Plus our always great selection of designer clothing for men and women, styles for every shape and size!

839 First Ave. • Monte Vista • (719) 852-8849
Hours: Mon.-Sat 10 a.m.-6 p.m. • Sun. 12:30-4 p.m.
Like us on Facebook @bebeautifulmontevista

The Columbine

Pre-Order Valentine
Flowers now 657-9024

Pickup or delivery available

Fresh Flower Bouquets
Plants, Balloons and Chocolates
Many More Gifts

Our Beautiful Arrangements and
Roses are Just the Thing to Make
Someone Smile!

540 Grande Ave.
Del Norte

REAL ESTATE

Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

*****SOLD***** Mountain Bliss! Beautiful 1,652 sq. ft. home has open kitchen, dining room, living room area w/bedroom and full bathroom and separate laundry room. Kitchen cabinets are custom built with solid oak; nice size side and back porch looking straight up the mountain! The upstairs has a large loft area bedroom w/ second full bath and loft area. Speakers throughout the home and wiring for sound. Downstairs walkout basement garage with cement floor has an additional 280 sq. ft. of space, can be used as a workshop or additional sleeping area. Basement total sq. ft. 2,744 including the garage. Home has many custom feature: Thermo-pane windows, Arcadia doors; heating is central propane system and wood burning stove, 40 gallon water heater, security lighting, motion lighting, in beautiful Ponderosa Estates with no HOA. Moments away from the river public access, Wolf Creek, Rio Grande Golf Club. \$269,000 Firm **Call Bernadette Gingrass 719-850-1993** schedule your private showing today! MLS # 748838 *****SOLD*****

*****SOLD***** - Beautiful Home on The Range! Pion Hill Estates where the Mule Deer and the Rocky Mountain Elk play! This 2,457 sq. ft. meticulous, comfortable well-maintained log home is located on 40 acres with reach out and touch mountain views and moments from the Rio Grande National Forest. Wild Life is abundant; Elk, Mule Deer, Turkey, Fox, Bald Eagles and more. Located in beautiful quiet Pinon Hills Estates tucked away from traffic and people and still easy driving to South Fork or Del Norte. Open great room living room, kitchen and dining room with accent logs and floor to ceiling windows and wood burning stove. Custom built log staircase. The upstairs is a Master Suite with two large walk-in closets, master bath with Jacuzzi tub looking out at the mountains views with floor to ceiling windows. a separate tiled shower and double sinks. Upstairs also has a sitting room/office area. Main floor has a bedroom, full bath and laundry room with Alder cabinets and large pantry with sliding shelves. Beautiful newly built sun room on south side of the home is spacious and bright. Ground level floor has a bedroom with ¼ bath. Adjoining room is a great relaxing den or game room providing space for reading, games, watching television or crafts. Attached cement floor two car garage large enough for storage, 4 wheelers, fishing gear, tools and more. Beautiful home with landscaping and two huge decks two levels-one open wood deck and one covered stained concrete. All the space you need for friends and family

Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

and outdoor entertaining. All the stairways to the home and outdoor entertainment areas have wide steps, rock walls and lighting. This home has floor to ceiling window and wonderful views in every direction all electric home has three heat sources, baseboard board heat, 3 Energy Thermal Systems and wood burning stove. Two fifty gallon-water heaters so you will never run out of hot water. Domestic well, cistern and septic system. This home has a large metal barn with dirt and concrete floor with feed and tack room and plenty of space for your horses. Access year round to hiking and riding trails. Enjoy the great outdoors with fishing, golfing, hiking, four wheeling, skiing, hunting and so much more. \$470,000 **Call Bernadette** and schedule your personal showing today!*****SOLD*****

***** SOLD***** 35 Deeded Acres! This property is located 12 miles east of South Fork on County Road #15, which offers year-round access. Del Norte is 11 miles away and offers a full service hospital and medical care facility. Wolf Creek Ski Area is 30 minutes away, Creede is 30 minutes, Alamosa is 45 minutes and offers full service air flights twice a day. Durango is 2 hours, Pagosa is 1 hour. This property overlooks the San Juan Mountain Range with all it's splendor and panoramic views. 35 Deeded Acres m/l 1,116 sq. ft. building, which is 50 % living quarters and the other half is a horse barn and animal shelter. There is a small outside building with windows that can be utilized as an extra bedroom or converted into a tiny home. Plus a shop/hay shed/storage canvas covered frame structure goes with the property. The property is fenced and cross fenced. The hay storage area has a high wildlife fence. Equipment that stays with the property is as follows: International Tractor, Hay Rake, New Holland Bail Hauling Wagon, Old Swatter, English Harrow, and enclosed storage unit. Aluminum irrigation pipe. Approximately 24.67 acres are irrigated, and 10.33 acres are average meadow. Water Rights: Permit #231534 for 15 GPM. 8 Shares of the Meadow Glen Ditch Being 5 CFS in priority #1903-57C, 232, 348, and 1903-21. **Call Bernadette Gingrass 719-850-1993 ***SOLD*****

LOOK! Reduced Price \$295,500 Perfect Home or Vacation Rental Opportunity, 2,231 sq. ft. of endless possibilities. This beautiful home has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen with mud room, dining room and living room with propane heat and wood burning stove. Enjoy the large private fenced backyard with green house, patio area, gardens, wood storage carport and your very own workshop. This is a once in a lifetime

Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

opportunity to have your home and business all in one spectacular resort location. Walk out your front door to a wonderful 574 sq. ft. business on scenic byway, Hwy 149. Your dreams are coming true. Come live, work and play here in South Fork, CO. This won't last long. **Call Bernadette Gingrass 719-850-1993 and schedule your showing today! MLS # 755964**

UPDATE! Terms Available! Adorable park model located on two beautiful landscape lots number 38 and features lot 37 in River's Edge RV Resort. This home has a front entrance, side entrance and back entrance with deck. Beautifully landscaped with patio and two sheds with electric. This home has 1 bedroom and two bathrooms and comes complete with all the furniture, appliances and inside washer and dryer. The Colorado room with propane burning stove is finished allows lots of sunshine and adds to living area. River Edge RV Resort is beautifully located on the Rio Grande River allowing property owners private access to the river and plenty of outdoor activities and community events including outdoor activities as fishing events and 4 wheeling outings along with community potlucks. Moments from the Rio Grande River, Rio Grande Golf Club, 30 minutes from Wolf Creek Ski Area. Come live, fish, hike, golf, ski and play. This is your perfect weekend retreat, mountain get-a-way or second home. **Call Bernadette Gingrass 719-850-1993** and schedule your showing today! **\$159,900 MLS # 750041**

*****SOLD*** \$325,000** Enchanting Mountain Home! You can see the forest beyond the trees - It's right there in your own backyard. Beautiful 1,750 sq. ft. home back's up to the mountain side. 3 bedrooms two baths with Master bedroom upstairs and loft office area. Cathedral ceiling with open dining / living area with wood burning stove and rock hearth and propane furnace to keep you warm on cool winter evenings. Beautiful large windows to enjoy the mountain views and the mule deer and wild turkeys that visit daily. Kitchen includes all appliances and laundry area with washer and dryer. Wonderful front deck to enjoy your morning coffee on with additional covered side porch area and detached storage shed to store grills, garden tools and more. This enchanting home has a large 896 sq. ft. cement floor 3 car garage and plumbed for water with side storage area. Plenty of storage for 6 cords of firewood or more. Garage has wood burning stove and wonderful workbench and box trust with pull down currently leading to bright roomy artist studio! Home comes partially furnished. This is your dream place or perfect get-a-way in enchanting

Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

Ponderosa Valley Estates with no HOA complete with its own private well and town sewer system on paved roads. Moments from hiking, gold medal fishing, rafting, hunting and skiing. Bring your passion for Adventure and **Call Bernadette Gingrass 719-850-1993 and schedule your private showing today! MLS#756372 ***SOLD*****

New Listing - Affordable, charming one bedroom, one full bath park model with enclosed sun room for extra living space. Located in River's Edge Mountain View RV Resort. All furniture and furnishings included. Nice kitchen all kitchen appliances including conventional oven and microwave, dishes and pots and pans. Includes washer and dryer in large storage shed w freezer and workbench area. This home is your perfect weekend get-a-way or vacation home in this 55+ neighborhood. Planned activities such as fishing, hiking, 4 wheeling and fun community potlucks. Moments from the Rio Grande River, 20 minutes to Wolf Creek Ski Area. All you need is your tooth brush! Adventure is waiting for you right out your front door. Priced to sell \$89,000. Won't last! **Call Bernadette Gingrass 719-850-1993** and schedule your showing today! **MLS# 760432**

New Listing! Affordable Charming Log Home! Call and schedule your showing today! 4 bedroom 2 bath home located in South Fork Small Tracks. Priced to sell \$223,900 Call and schedule

Legends Premier Properties
719-852-0450

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 sunroom, 4 car garage and a fenced backyard. 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 backyard, and open

Legends Premier Properties 719-852-0450

front yard. Call today to see this great home! \$135,000 Call Tracy Gosar, 719-850-1815 for more details. **MLS#764469**

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 backyard, 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 upstairs. Home also has a partially finished basement with oversized 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**

Legends Premier Properties



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 Tracy Gosar, 850-1815 **MLS#765156**

Tracy Gosar, Broker/Owner
719-850-1815 (cell) • 719-852-0450
810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
www.legendspremierproperties.com



February Valentines Vest Drive
Vests for Veterans
Warm Hearts, Warm Homes!
Drop off a new or gently used women's or men's vest. Stay for a cup of coffee and sign up or call for a Free Home Market Evaluation with Bernadette Gingrass



Steffens & Company Realty, INC
Call 719-850-1993
Bernadette Gingrass, Broker Associate
30635 US Hwy 160 • South Fork
bernadette@steffenscorealty.com
www.steffenscorealty.com

Valley-Wide Classified **FREE!** MARKETPLACE

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



CLASSIFIED INDEX

ANNOUNCEMENTS
01 TICKETS
02 CARD OF THANKS
03 MEMORIALS
04 LOST & FOUND
05 NOTICES/BAZAARS
06 PERSONALS
EMPLOYMENT
07 HELP WANTED
08 WORK WANTED
09 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
FOR RENT
10 APARTMENTS
11 ROOMS
12 HOUSES
13 MOBILE HOMES
14 BUSINESS PROPERTY
15 WANTED TO RENT
16 VACATION
REAL ESTATE
17 REAL ESTATE
18 LOTS & ACREAGE
19 FARM & FARMLAND
20 BUSINESS PROPERTY
21 MOBILE HOMES
22 PROPERTY WANTED

MERCHANDISE
23 LAWN & GARDEN
24 GARAGE SALES
25 AUCTIONS
26 ANTIQUES
27 APPLIANCES
28 HOUSEHOLD GOODS
29 MUSICAL ITEMS
30 ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS
31 HEALTH
32 FUEL & HEATING
33 BUILDING MATERIALS
34 OFFICE EQUIPMENT
35 HEAVY EQUIPMENT
36 MISCELLANEOUS
37 WANTED
38 MACHINERY, TOOLS & EQUIPMENT
39 SPORTING GOODS
40 AUTO PARTS
FARMER MARKET
41 FARM EQUIPMENT
42 FEED & SEED
43 FARM PRODUCTS
44 FARM SERVICES

ANIMALS
45 ANIMAL BREEDING
46 PASTURE FOR RENT
47 HORSES & CATTLE
48 PETS & SUPPLIES
49 ANIMAL CARE
50 LIVESTOCK
RECREATIONAL
51 BOATS & EQUIPMENT
52 CAMPING EQUIPMENT
53 TRAILERS
54 SNOWMOBILES/ATV'S
55 R.V.'S/CAMPERS
FINANCIAL
56 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
57 INVESTMENTS
TRANSPORTATION
58 MOTORCYCLES
59 VEHICLES WANTED
60 CLASSIC CARS
61 4X4'S
62 VANS
63 TRUCKS
64 AUTOS FOR SALE
SERVICES
65 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
66 CHILD CARE

RATES

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

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

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

Convenient ad placement:

To place your ad in person come to the office at 835 First Ave. in Monte Vista, or call (719) 852-3531. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also fax your classified to (719) 852-3387 or email at montevisaclass@gmail.com

Check your ad the first day:

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

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

DEADLINE

Thursday 5:00 pm

Call 719-852-3531
or email: MonteVistaClass@gmail.com

Easy Payment Options

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



05 Notices

"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" (02/27F)

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

STILL MISSING



\$500 CASH

REWARD OFFERED

Tess is an Aussie that has striking light blue eyes and docked tail. A \$500 Cash Reward is being offered for her safe return. We have been looking since 12/27/2019. PLEASE KEEP BEING AWARE, While driving in town streets and country roads. SHE IS NOT HOME YET! PLEASE HELP US KEEP LOOKING! PLEASE CALL 719-588-5530.



New Inspirational Book Club:

Looking for 8-12 interested adults to start an 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 (02/05)

07 Help Wanted

The City of Monte Vista is currently accepting applications for an Equipment Operator I position. Applicants must have a valid Colorado Class B CDL License with air brakes. Requires HS diploma or GED equivalent and one-year prior experience as equipment operator Apply at www.cityofmontevista.colorado.gov or at City Hall. Deadline to apply is 11:30 a.m. on February 14, 2020. For more information, please call Human Resources at (719) 852-8284. (02/13)

HELP WANTED BUILDING CUSTODIAN -Experienced individual needed for janitorial services with responsibility for cleaning various county buildings. Full time position, 32 to 40 hours a week, with variable hours which include evening and/or early morning work times. Applications available at Saguache County Administration office or printable at www.saguache-county.net Call 719-655-2231 for more information. Applications close on Friday February 7, 2020 at 3:00 P.M. Saguache County is an EEO employer. Valid Driver's License, Drug testing, background check and pre-employment drug test will be required and a physical exam may be required for final applicants. (02/14)

Saguache County will be accepting applications for a County



Your Local NEWSPAPER

Subscribe Today!

Looking for something to do with the kids?

Want to find this week's best shopping deals? Curious about the latest local developments?

We have you covered with locally focused coverage of everything from jobs, politics and education to sports, shopping, dining, entertainment and more.



\$39 one-year, in Valley • \$49 one-year, out of Valley
Choose the News you want!

SIGN ME UP OR RENEW SUBSCRIPTION TODAY!

Monte Vista Journal Center Post-Dispatch
 Mineral County Miner South Fork Times
 Del Norte Prospector Conejos County Citizen

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

VISA MasterCard AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER NOVUS

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

check or money order enclosed

P.O. Box 607 • Monte Vista, CO • 81144
719-852-3531 • email: MonteVistaClass@gmail.com



To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado newspapers for only \$300, contact your local newspaper or call Colorado Press Association Network at 303-571-5117.

BUY OR TRADE

Colorado Statewide Classified Advertising Network

WANTED

Freon Wanted: We pay CASH for cylinders and cans.
R12 R500 R11 R113 R114.
Convenient. Certified Professionals.
Call 312-625-5322
or visit
RefrigerantFinders.com

Cash for Mineral Rights
Free, no-risk, cash offer. Contact us with the details:
Call: 720-988-5617
Write: Minerals, PO BOX 3668,
Littleton, CO 80161
Email: opportunity@ecmresourcesinc.com

Colorado Press Network

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, 303-571-5117

Valley Wide Classifieds

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. 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)

We are seeking a responsible, self motivated, "preferably" experienced Dental Assistant to join our team at Harding Dental Group where our patients experience the difference at the premiere dental practice in the San Luis Valley. Must be willing to travel to both office locations, South Fork and Alamosa. Please email resumes to june@hardingdentalgroup.com (02/05)

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 Drivers** – Part-time. Experienced driver looking to make extra money during Christmas, Presidents Day, MLK, Jr. and Spring Break holidays. A Commercial Drivers License is not required, however pay is commensurate with professional experience and licensing. **Professional Baker/Food & Beverage** - Line/grill cooks, bakers and baristas. **Ticket Office Cashier** – Part-Time - Must have prior experience in POS system. Friendly, hard working, flexible, organized with good communication skills. **Winter seasonal positions with competitive wages.** Applications can be downloaded from WolfCreekSki.com employment page. Send resumes and applications to wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com or P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. (2/28)

12 House for Rent
Beautiful 4 Bedroom Ranch House located Near Monte Vista, \$1000/ Month call 588-8506. (02/26)
For Rent Country living Northeast 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. (02/19)

17 Real Estate For Sale
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. (01/22 TFN)

36 Miscellaneous STEEL STORAGE CONTAINERS – Sales, Rentals & Modifications! Containers are water & rodent proof. 8' wide, 8'-53' in length. Call for more information and pricing. **Healdworks, Inc. – Your Total Storage Solution!** 719-850-0346 (02/27 TFN)

SOLAR PANELS! 240 WATT AND SMALLER. We Stock Inverters, Charge Controlllers, and Batteries In Brand Names of Outback, Magnum, Rolls, More. We Also Carry Cable and PV Wire. Thank you for Buying at Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500. (TFN) (2/13)

Free used Sofa Sectional with hide-a-bed excellent for College student call 719-849-0483. (1/29)

SPRING SPECIAL! 235-Watt Solar Panels. \$210.00 Each. Good Quality. Bontragers Variety Store. 719-852-0500.(02/13)

38 Machinery, Tools, and Equipment
Rockwell 10" table saw/w wheels blade in saw plus 10' and 12" blades 719-588-4995 Leave Message. (2/12)

Snow Blower Craftsman 32" drift breaker gas powered power propelled 719-588-4995 Leave Message. (2/12)

Ramsey 12 Volt Pro 8000R Series #817508 wench 95 FT 5/16 Cable, remote switch, roller fairlead. 852-2285.(TFN-E)

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.

41 Farm Equipment
One, 8' airmotor windmill with 30' tower and suction pipe. \$1,500 OBO. (719)221-0061 (02/05)

42 Feed & Seed
Premium Tarped & Shredded Grass hay 3x3 Bales 750lbs near Monte Vista, CO . Call 588-8506. Discounts for Larger Amounts.

Premium alfalfa and alfalfa/grass, small bales, in Hay shed \$7, outside \$6. (719)580-2509. (02/27)

ALFALFA-GRASS HORSE HAY: Green,+/-175 RFV, 3x3x8 bales, ~820#, \$205/ton or \$90 per bale, outside stacks, 719-657-0942

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
Border Collie, Blue Heeler Cross Puppies. Ready 2-5-2020. 719-852-0500 Good Potential! (2/13)

3 female, 1 male Shiba Inu. 3 brown, 1 black. Born 10/5/19. **2 white: 1 female, 1 male.** Born 10/13/19. (518) 651-1451 (02/05)

Lab Puppies Chocolate, Black, Yellow and Silver. Starting at \$300.00 Current Vaccinations, Vet Checked and out of Registered Stock Call 719-588-3687. (01/29)

56 Business Opportunity
Augmentation water For LEASE: TransMtn water, fully severed for Wildlife or AG use any-

where off the Rio Grande. \$100/acft, OBO 719-580-0661 (02/27)

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

65 Professional Services
LICENSED PLUMBER does all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodels at reasonable rate. Quick service. Call anytime, available weekends and evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (01/22 TFN)

THE BLIND GUY window coverings. Free measuring, free estimates. Professional installation. Guaranteed lowest prices. Call Tony, 970-903-1403. (07/01/2020 TFN)

Write your own Classified Ad

Regular Classified Ad Deadline-Thursday 5 p.m.
15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications
\$19⁵⁰ + 95¢ each additional word.
Garage Sale Ads: 15 words or less for 1 week
\$12 + 35¢ each additional word.
Free ads: Lost & Found • Non Commercial items Sold for \$50 or less • Any Item or Animal being given away. (Private party only) Call 719-852-3531 for details.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25

Words: _____ **Times:** _____ **Price:** _____

Class: _____ **Start Date:** _____

Check One



Card#: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Mail with check or money order to:
Valley Publishing Classifieds, P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144
Or drop by at 835 First Avenue

All Classified Advertising must be pre-paid

BLM Public scoping meetings scheduled for 18,000 permits leases on 155 million acres

WASHINGTON — The Bureau of Land Management has published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to consider proposed revisions to the agency's grazing regulations. The BLM currently manages livestock grazing on 155 million of the 245 million acres of public land and administers nearly 18,000 grazing permits and leases.

"Administration of sustainable livestock grazing on public lands is a key part of the Bureau of Land Management's multiple-use mission. We continue to seek ways to improve and streamline the grazing permit process to achieve greater efficiencies and service to permittees," said Acting Assistant Secretary of Land and Minerals Management Casey B. Hammond. "This rulemaking effort is designed to strengthen and improve its administration of grazing permits across the West, and we welcome public and stakeholder ideas and perspectives."

The proposed revisions will update, modernize and streamline the grazing regulations and provide greater flexibility for land and resource management. Through

this rulemaking, the BLM seeks to improve existing land-use planning and grazing permitting procedures, while simultaneously promoting public lands conservation. The BLM hopes to improve its stewardship of the nation's rangeland resources by strengthening controls to prevent unauthorized grazing, enhancing environmental protections across various non-grazing land-use programs, and improving public input opportunities.

The BLM is currently managing 11 demonstration projects in six states as part of its outcome-based grazing authorizations initiative. These demonstration projects provide BLM, working in partnership with ranchers and other partners, with opportunities to improve its guidance and best management practices to use when issuing grazing permits. Lessons learned from developing cooperative monitoring plans and land health evaluations under this initiative may also be incorporated into this regulatory process.

By publishing this Notice of Intent, the BLM is informing the public about the proposed revisions and how interested parties can comment. Public scoping



Courtesy photo

One Animal Unit Month (AUM) is the amount of forage needed by an "animal unit" (AU) grazing for one month. The quantity of forage needed is based on the cow's metabolic weight, and the animal unit is defined as one mature 1,000 pound cow and her suckling calf.

meetings will be held in February to further inform the public about this project. These meetings include:

Miles City, Montana: Feb. 6, at

the Sleep Inn and Suites, 1006 S. Haynes Ave., from 4:30-7:30 p.m.;

Las Cruces, New Mexico: Feb. 11 at the Las Palmas Grill, 201 East University Ave., from 4:30-7:30 p.m.;

Elko, Nevada: Feb. 18 at the Elko Convention Center, 700 Moren Way, from 4:30-7:30 p.m.;

Casper, Wyoming: Feb. 20, at the Casper Events Center, 1 Events Dr., from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Comments on the proposed regulation revisions may be submitted in writing until Feb. 28, 2020. Meeting information, announcements, instructions on how to provide comments, and pertinent documents can be found at the BLM website at <https://go.usa.gov/xyMqb>.

For more information, contact Seth Flanigan, BLM project manager, at 208-384-3450 or sflanigan@blm.gov.

Barn cats for the great outdoors

Whether your feline friend is curled up next to you on the couch or lives outdoors, cats have a way of making their way into our hearts one way or another.

When Dr. Elizabeth Jeter isn't lecturing in the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences' Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, she can be found bringing fourth-year veterinary students to care for the animals at the Aggjeland Humane Society, including those in the Barn Cat program.

While some cats do prefer living outside, "all cats are considered domestic," Jeter said, adding that there are some differences that set these felines apart from others.

One of those differences is that barn cats serve a specific purpose.

"Most people seek out barn cats for the main purpose of having a form of organic pest control," Jeter said. "They help control mice and rat populations, which is especially important in barns due to diseases that can be transmitted to livestock."

According to Jeter, outdoor cats can have a wide range of personalities—they can be very social and friendly, or they can be feral, meaning they do not associate with humans and may even avoid human contact altogether.

"Each cat is as unique as a person," Jeter said.

Because of this, the level of interaction between barn cats and humans will depend on the cat as well as the human.

"Some cats become a household icon, greeting everyone who comes to the barn, while others are rarely seen," Jeter said. "Both cats are still working cats—they just have different attitudes."

Barn cats have the same basic needs as other pets, but Jeter says



Courtesy photo

it's important for owners to acknowledge that caring for barn cats looks a little different.

"Special care needs to be taken with these cats, since they do not obey the same rules as friendly or indoor cats and are often treated more as wildlife," she said. "An example of this special care may be working with veterinarians who understand how to handle feral cats, since they cannot be caught and handled like friendly or indoor cats and may need to be trapped in humane live traps."

When owners bring a new barn cat home, they should be placed in a secure location, like a tack room or an indoor enclosure, where they cannot escape for the first three to four weeks.

"This allows them to acclimate to their new environment and familiarize themselves with where they will be fed," Jeter said.

As with any other pet, it is important to provide outdoor cats with protective medical care, including vaccinations and spaying/neutering. Jeter explained that long-term medical care is necessary, especially since barn cats are exposed to hazards such as wildlife more than your standard house pet.

"It is most ideal to spay or neuter barn cats so they are not reproducing or displaying nuisance behavior, such as fighting or yowling," Jeter said. "Spaying or neutering will also help them to do their job more effectively and make them more likely to stick around."

"Sometimes the barn cat life chooses you, and other times there may already be outdoor cats established in your area," Jeter said. "It's important for prospective owners to be willing and able to provide care for their outdoor companions to help them live their best lives."



Find us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/ValleyPublishing>

valentine's day dining guide

VALENTINE'S DINNER

AT THE RIO GRANDE CLUB IN SOUTH FORK

Friday
February 14
5 - 7 p.m.

Includes a fabulous five-course meal

~Music by the SLV Jazz Trio~

719-873-1995 for reservations

Domestic Hemp Production Program established

DENVER — Gov. Jared Polis and the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA), in partnership with Attorney General Phil Weiser, today submitted the State's official response to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) interim final rule related to the establishment of a Domestic Hemp Production Program.

The comments are reflective of the feedback received from numerous Statewide stakeholders, including farmers, state and local government agencies, law enforcement, and academic institutions. The feedback from the State points to significant concerns with the interim final rule, which include concerns about the negligence threshold for crops that go over the THC limit, overly restrictive disposal requirements, burdensome sampling protocol, and the unnecessary requirement of Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registered labs to test an agricultural crop.

"Colorado is the top state for hemp production, and we are proud of our work to increase good jobs and honored to help the Department of Agriculture figure out what we already know about hemp in Colorado," said Governor Jared Polis. "We want to unleash this industry to grow and innovate. The proposed interim final rule, as currently written, does not support best practices in hemp production at a critical time

in the development of this important industry. The recommended changes we've put forward will support the hemp industry while establishing appropriate guidelines."

"These regulations are not scalable or easily implemented in a state with a robust hemp industry as large as ours is in Colorado," said Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture Kate Greenberg. "Small farming operations will have the hardest time complying with these rules and we are working to help ensure all hemp producers in the state can be successful."

"The USDA's interim final rule for hemp production claims to respect

principles of federalism and to allow the 'laboratories of the states' to continue their efforts at innovation. The rule, however, unnecessarily upsets the delicate federal-state balance, trampling on states' ability to develop their hemp industries effectively. Colorado is a leader in hemp cultivation and we need to protect Colorado's regulatory system that enables our local industry to develop and protects consumers in a sound manner," said Attorney General Phil Weiser.

To highlight the economic potential for this new crop, copies of the State's comments were sent to USDA leadership on paper made from hemp

grown in Colorado. In addition, the Colorado State Legislature unanimously passed a resolution in support of the State's comments and a letter of support was sent to the USDA from the majority of Colorado's federal delegation.

As one of the first states in the nation to implement a hemp program, expanding to more than 87,000 registered acres and 2,600 registrations over the last five years, Colorado can provide leadership in the develop-

ment of the industry and crafting an effective regulatory environment that will allow the industry to flourish in Colorado and beyond.

The Colorado State Hemp Plan will soon follow the comments provided to the interim final rule and the USDA will have 60 days to approve Colorado's plan after it is submitted. The Colorado Department of Agriculture will continue to operate under the current state plan through the 2020 growing season.



Courtesy photo

Colorado County Clerks prepare for upcoming elections

BY LYNN BARTELS

Running two elections is always a challenge for Colorado's county clerks, but this year they'll be operating a third one, the presidential primary.



Trying to find enough people to work for the presidential primary in March, the primary in June and the general in November -- during a tight job market -- was one of the issues discussed at the Colorado County Clerks Association's three-day winter conference in Colorado Springs.

Clerks and their staffers turned out in record numbers for the conference, attending workshops related to the myriad duties they handle, including motor vehicle registration, document recording and elections.

Rio Grande County clerk Cindy Hill said she enjoys networking with other clerks and their staffs at the conferences.

"The ones who have been in the office for a while have a wealth of knowledge and experience to draw from; the newer ones have fresh ideas," she said. "It also makes me realize others are facing some of the same challenges that I face."

The conference ended Jan. 22 with a daylong election security exercise, Election Preparedness for Infrastructure and Cybersecurity or EPIC. It was hosted by Secretary of State Jena Griswold and intended to prepare county clerks and other election officials with various worst-case scenarios that could potentially impact the election process.

"The EPIC exercise was outstanding," Hill said. "The information was

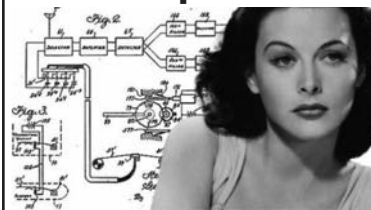
not all together new (former Secretary of State Wayne Williams launched the first exercise in 2018) but the approaches and the resolutions offered by the groups were very thought provoking."

Also at the conference, La Plata County clerk Tiffany Parker took over the CCCA presidency from Pitkin

See **ELECTION** on Page 11

Upcoming Events at
THE HISTORIC UTE THEATRE
in Saguache

SATURDAY, FEB. 16
2 pm



Stand Still and Look Stupid
- The Incredible Story of Hedy Lamarr
One-woman play performed
by Emily Ebertz

\$10 tickets at the door

**FOR MORE INFO, VISIT
HISTORICUTETHEATRE.COM
OR CALL (719) 427-1080**

ENGLERT LeafGuard is the permanent, clog-free gutter solution!*

*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

- One-piece, seamless gutter system
- Protective Overhang/Trim
- ScratchGuard® Paint Finish
- Clog-Free Design

30 **\$100** **75% OFF LABOR†**

Receive a **FREE \$100 Restaurant.com Gift Card** with **FREE in-home estimate!****

ENGLERT LeafGuard
(719) 493-9169

Call Today for Your FREE Estimate!

†Does not include cost of material. Expires 1/31/20. **All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$100 gift certificate. Visit <https://www.restaurant.com/about/terms> for complete terms and conditions and <https://www.restaurant.com> for participating restaurants. Retail value is \$100. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 1/31/20.

LIMITED-TIME OFFER

iPhone 11 On Us.

Switch and get up to 4 new iPhone 11s on us.
With qualifying trade-in, promotional discounts;
taxes & fees additional.

VIAERO WIRELESS

Switch To The Better Unlimited!

QUESTIONS? VISIT WWW.VIAERO.COM OR STOP BY YOUR LOCAL VIAERO STORE!

This promotion requires a new line of service for each iPhone 11 on us, customer trade-in, and the Assurance Service Program feature for \$11/month per phone. The new promotion-eligible phone must be purchased on the Viaero NOW! installment plan and activated on a new Viaero postpaid rate plan. The full qualifying trade-in value of the customer's phone is used to pay down the initial purchase price of the new phone and the promotional discount (up to \$500) will then be applied to the remaining balance of the new phone over 30 months. The full remaining balance of the original purchase price of the phone, minus trade in value, will be due if the line is terminated, together with any other applicable termination fees. The activation fee and taxes based on the full price of the phone are due at purchase. Customers porting in a new line of service will receive an account credit for the activation fee.

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. 8

MONTE VISTA - Monte Vista United Methodist Church Community Valentine's Day Dinner, Saturday, Feb. 8, 2020 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. upstairs in the Assembly Room. Menu will be Lasagna, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert and some special Sparkling Drinks (Coffee and Tea). Come and enjoy a night out with your spouse or friends and a homemade dinner and Special Entertainment with an evening under the magical twinkling candle lights. The cost of the dinner will be \$10.00/per person. For tickets contact: Vicki Bever - 852-5008 or Colette Skeff - 852-3435.

Feb. 14 - 15

SOUTH FORK - Beginning the weekend of Feb. 14, South Fork will welcome the Rocky Mountain Sled Dog Club with over 15 sled dog teams to the Rio Grande Club for a two-day event. Beginning Saturday, Feb. 15, attendees can come watch these furry athletes compete for the top spot on a six-mile course around the Rio Grande Club and up into the Alder Creek area. There will be a "Musher's Madness" dinner and dance party at the Rio Grande Club Saturday night, Feb. 15. The dance is \$20 per person and is open to anyone who wishes to attend. There will also be live entertainment from a band out of Saguache called the Roadrunners.

Feb. 14-15

CREEDE - Cabin Fever Daze will kick off the weekend of Feb. 14 with a Valentines and fundraiser dance hosted by the Mineral County Fairgrounds Association at the Elks Lodge in town.

Tickets for the dance are \$50 per person and all funds raised during the event will go toward the Fairground Association. Tickets also include a prime rib dinner and a chance to win an OHV Razor. Other activities will include Ice Curling at the Silver Ice Park Saturday and Sunday. The C. Waters Gallery will have live artists demonstrations with the theme, "Cabins" and the Quiller Gallery will be open throughout the weekend. Weather permitting there will also be a Nordic ski tour and ice carving competitions.

Those interesting in signing up for a curling team can get more information through the chamber by visiting www.creede.com or by calling 719-685-2374.

Feb. 15

CREEDE - The Creede Repertory Theatre will have two showings of their infamous play *Boomtown* at 5 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15. For more information or to book reservations, please visit www.creederep.org.

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.

ONGOING

• **ALAMOSA** — Pregnant? Need Help? Call the San Luis Valley Life Center at 589-6698 for free and confidential pregnancy testing; earn while you learn parenting program; post abortive support STI testing and more. Office open Monday-Thursday 2-5:30 p.m., 3211 Main Street, Alamosa

• **ALAMOSA** — Circle of Parents in Recovery provides a safe, supporting, confidential, non-judgmental environment where parents can openly discuss the successes and challenges of parenting in recovery. Circle of Parents in Recovery values reciprocity and the development of leadership among participants. The group will meet every first and third Tuesday from 4-5:30 p.m. at Living Water Bible Fellowship 2019 Clark Street Alamosa. Contact Mary Lambert for more information (719)587-

6965 or mlambert@slvbhg.org

• **CONEJOS** — Bingo, 7 p.m. every Monday and Thursday, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Hall

• **DEL NORTE** - The Peace Education Program, PEP, will be presented at Wildwood Sounds, 850 Grande Ave. in Del Norte, on Thursdays beginning Nov. 7 through Jan. 23 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Wildwood Sounds in Del Norte. This free media based program presents a unique perspective on life. It is nonreligious and nonsectarian presenting 10 themed sessions. The themes are peace, appreciation, inner strength, self-awareness, clarity, understanding, hope and contentment.

• **DEL NORTE** — Tuesdays and Saturdays at the Ruth Marie, or by appointment: Piano and music lessons with professional pianist, Allan Stuart (719-754-2576; greenshadowmusic@gmail.com) Call for

more info.

Wednesdays at the Ruth Marie: Yoga with Leigh Anne Lobato from 5 to 6:15 p.m. donation fee of \$5-\$6 to The Ruth Marie. Phone 850-0750, lobato@myamigo.net

Thursdays at the Ruth Marie: Kundalini Yoga with Milcah (849-1954, milcahawk@gmail.com) from 5:30-6:45 p.m., \$8-\$10 donation to the Ruth Marie

• **HOMELAKE** — The Homelake Veterans Museum is open Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-noon and 1 to 3 p.m. until the end of October. Info. 580-0023

• **MONTE VISTA** — Exercise class every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10:00a.m. at the Tri-County Senior Center, 311 Washington.

• **MONTE VISTA** — Pool Playing for men and women every day at the Tri-County Senior Center,

Continued on Page 9

SAN LUIS VALLEY SERVICE DIRECTORY

Turner's Building
Remodel • Repair • Roofing
New Construction
Serving the entire San Luis Valley
719-274-0226

ZTEC Construction
5" - 6" SEAMLESS RAIN GUTTERS
New Construction • New Homes • Roofing
Garages • Pole Sheds
Log Cabins
FREE ESTIMATES
719-843-0205
Leave message if no answer

ALAMOSA GARDEN SUPPLY
Your local source for year-round growing supplies
Full-Range Residential & Commercial Growing Consultation
• Hydroponics • Soil Components
• Climate Control • Growing Essentials
• Lighting Systems • Pest Disease Control
• Nutrients • Growing Media
Specialists in Standard & Custom Greenhouse Construction Featuring Solerx Greenhouses and Greenhouse Covering
0711 W. Highway 160 Alamosa, CO 81101 719-206-3336

A&M WINDOWS & DOORS L.L.C.
~VINYL WINDOWS~
NEW CONSTRUCTION OR REPLACEMENT
CUSTOM MADE TO YOUR SIZE.
MANUFACTURED RIGHT HERE IN THE VALLEY
ALL TYPES OF DOORS & DOOR HARDWARE AVAILABLE
(719) 589-9952

SLV Garden Center, LLC
The Sawyer Brothers
719-852 GROW (4769) • 1669 N Hwy 285 • Monte Vista (north of Dos Rio Restaurant)
Four Years Strong and Still Going!
The Valley's Premier, Full-Spectrum CBD Store!
Tinctures, Creams, Salves, Capsules, Pet Products and much more! Best selection in the SLV!
Specializing in customer service
WINTER HOURS — Monday-Friday 9:30-4:30

Mystik LUBRICANTS
PREMIUM OILS & GREASES
DIAMOND OIL CO. LLC
Agricultural • Industrial • Oilfield
Commercial • Automotive • Irrigation
Peter Koehn (719) 250-5143 Myron Koehn (970) 209-1142
DIVERSE INVENTORY!

ROOFING BUILDINGS
Metal Roofing Panels & Trims • Garages, Horse Barns, Hay Sheds
Complete Building packages • 26/29 Gauge, 20 Colors, Numerous Profiles
Let us find your contractor! • Free Estimates/Quick Turnaround
Your Local Metal Roofing Manufacturer!
SKYLINE METAL
(719)852-0113 M-F 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

FALL IS HERE, WINTER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!
Don't get stuck while looking for firewood, service your chainsaws now!
Parts, Chains, Sprockets and more!
Services for all brands & models!
Sales, Service and Repairs on many major brands!
719-589-6466 • 4521 E. County Rd. 12 S. • La Jara

BunkHouse Trusses
25 Years in Business
Mark Wildman 719-207-0012 Miles Anderson 719-310-0200
Floor Trusses • Pre-made Wall Panels • Roof Trusses
mwildman2019@gmail.com
Office: 719-655-0207 Serving Lake, Park & Chaffee Counties

Your Great Outdoors Specializing in Vinyl Fencing
Wood, Barbed Wire and All Types of Residential & Commercial Fencing
Serving the SLV-Free Estimates
Good Fences Make Good Neighbors!*(719) 849-1568
* We make no guarantees of your neighbor quality, just high quality fences.

Valley Calendar

Continued from Page 8

311 Washington. Tournaments held periodically with other San Luis Valley Senior Centers

• **MONTE VISTA** - The San Luis Valley Nutrition program for the elderly serves nutritional meals at the Tri-County Senior Center, 311 Washington Monday through Friday of each week at noon. Meals are open to seniors age 60 and over. Membership or building residency is not necessary for participation in activities or meals at the Tri-County Senior Center. The Nutrition program is administered by South Central Colorado Seniors. For additional information please call 852-2687

• **SAN LUIS VALLEY**—The famous Fred Hargrove is performing at Dos Rios every Thursday evening and now at Cottonwood Cove in Creede for steak night every Saturday evening from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Come by and hear favorite hits and Fred's country, western and folk music originals.

• **SOUTH FORK** — The Silverthread Outdoor Recreation Club holds hikes on the following days: easy, Mondays and Thursdays, difficult on Wednesdays. ATV rides Tuesdays. Fridays are trail cleanup days. Info, Elizabeth Baugh at 873-5286

• **SOUTH FORK**— Tai Chi for Health classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. at the South Fork Library. Classes are free, and walk-ins are welcome. •Improve Balance •Slow Aging •Learn about health benefits. With questions, call Jim Fox, 360-821-9006.

WEEKLY EVENTS

• **ALAMOSA** — Community Garden Nights continue every Tuesday through September between 5-7 p.m. Community members are invited to join in and help plant, weed, water and harvest Boyd Garden every Tuesday and are welcome to take home fresh produce at harvest time. Any additional produce will be donated to the Alamosa Food Bank. Boyd Community Garden is located between 11th and 12th streets on State Avenue in Alamosa and is open to the public. "Share the Work, Share the Harvest." Contact 719-589-4567 or email director. vegi@lapuente.net

• **ALAMOSA**— Women of Worth (WOW), a Single Moms Ministry at Living Water Bible Fellowship will meet every Monday from 5:30-7 p.m. at Living Water Bible Fellowship Church, 2910 Clark St. in Alamosa. If you are divorced, widowed, or separated we invite you to come and fellowship, eat, and find hope and value. Contact Bonny at 719-589-6351 for more information

• **ALAMOSA**— A free coffee break for all veterans is held every Thursday morning from 8:30-11 a.m. at the SLV Museum in Alamosa. This is a project of the Veterans Coalition of the SLV and it is hosted by the Women Veterans of the SLV and the SLV Museum, 401 Hunt Ave.

• **ALAMOSA**— Families with babies and children through age five are invited to "Storytime Fridays" at the Alamosa Public Library. There are two sessions every Friday. Parents and caregivers with babies through age three come at 9:30 a.m.; all others come at 11 a.m. Anyone with children of both ages, pick a session and check it

out – or come for both. Call Ms. Becky at 589-6592 ext. 2550 for more information.

• **ALAMOSA**— The Alamosa Elks Lodge 1297 hosts Bingo at 7 p.m. Thursday in the lodge room. Food is available.

• **ALAMOSA** — Tu Casa is now hosting groups for survivors of sexual assault, date rape, marital rape, and sexual abuse as a child. These groups are open to the community and are held at the Tu Casa office from noon to 1 p.m. every Thursday. Info, 589-2465

• **ALAMOSA**— VFW Post 899, Bingo every Tuesday, 519 Main Street

• **ALAMOSA** — B.P.O.E. ELKS 1297, Bingo, 7 p.m. every Thursday

• **ALAMOSA** — Toastmasters meets, noon-1 p.m. Mondays at The Bridge, 3407 Carroll Street. Info, Kristina, 588-5127.

• **ALAMOSA** — Optimist Club of Alamosa, noon, first, second and third Tuesday of each month, Inn of the Rio Grande. Board meetings on the fourth Tuesday. Info, Allyn Lewis at 589-4733

• **ALAMOSA** — TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly), 6-7:30 p.m. every Tuesday, College Heights Baptist Church, across from OMS, in Alamosa. Info, 589-1060

• **ANTONITO**— Come celebrate, garden and eat with us at the Antonito School & Community Garden! Because of the start of school, we will now be meeting Sundays at 5 p.m. Visit us on the web for more information: www.valleybound.org

• **CRESTONE**—Every Tuesday Yoga for Everybody will be offered at 9 a.m. in Crestone. RSVP to attend the small classes at no charge. Contact John at 256-5315.

• **CRESTONE**—Dharma Ocean will offer a weekly meditation group every Monday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Crestone Charter School. This is a drop-in group and there is no cost.

• **DEL NORTE**—Yoga at the Ruth Marie Center, 575 Columbia Ave., with Milcah Hawk will be held every Thursday 5:30 to 7 p.m. Come stretch, breathe and relax for just a donation. Bring a mat or use ours. Visit www.theruthmarie.com or contact theruthmarie@gmail.com, 719-850-1672.

• **DEL NORTE** — Bingo every Sunday at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 595 Pine Street. Doors open at noon and play starts at 1 p.m. Concessions are also available.

• **DEL NORTE** — Del Norte Rotary Club, 7 a.m. every Wednesday at Boogie's Restaurant. Guests are welcome. Info, 657-2967.

• **DEL NORTE** — Del Norte Public Library preschool reading group, 1 p.m. each Tuesday

• **DEL NORTE** — TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) chapter meetings, 6 to 7 p.m. Thursdays Gateway Church, 975 Grande Ave. The first meeting always free. bring a friend. Info, Julie, 719-206-2741

• **LA JARA** — Preschool reading program at Conejos County Library 10 a.m.-1 p.m. every Friday

• **LA JARA**—Saturdays at noon, all are invited to come pray the traditional Holy Rosary at 403 Poplar St. In La Jara.

• **MONTE VISTA**— Bible Study at the Monte Vista United Methodist Church starts Tuesdays at 10 a.m. A verse by verse approach to 1 Corinthians. A study of God's love. 215 Washington Ave., Monte Vista, Pastor Steve Dunkel, 852-2853

• **MONTE VISTA**—The Monte Vista Assembly of God Church, God's Closet, will be open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon They will provide clothing and misc. items to those in need. Located in the small shed behind the church, which is located at 881 N. Hwy. 285. They will also take donations of clothing and misc. items, no furniture or mattresses. Contact Margarite Atencio at 580-9783 with questions.

• **MONTE VISTA - BINGO** - The Monte Vista Elks Lodge #2456 at 121 Washington St. hosts Progressive BINGO every Wednesday at 7 p.m. Refreshments and snacks are available for purchase. Doors open at 6 p.m. Call 852-2456 for info.

• **MONTE VISTA** — Penny Bingo every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at the Tri-County Senior Center, 311 Washington St.

• **MONTE VISTA** — Learn about the Bible, starting with "baby steps," 9:45 a.m. Sundays, Monte Vista United Methodist Church. Info, 852-2790.

• **MONTE VISTA** — Anyone and everyone is welcome to gather from 2-4 p.m. Fridays at Wildethyme Art, 1631 Grande Avenue, for knitting, crocheting, spinning or any portable handwork

• **SOUTH FORK**—Bingo sponsored by the South Fork Chamber of Commerce will be held every Thursday throughout the summer at the South Fork Community Center. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and bingo starts at 7 p.m. Concession stand and free raffle. All ages are welcome.

• **SOUTH FORK** — The Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time. They meet at 8 a.m. every Thursday at the Carnegie Library in South Fork. Info, Karen

Miller, 873-5466 or mkmiller-mink@aol.com.

MONTHLY/bimonthly EVENTS
• **ALAMOSA** — The local Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group meets on the second Thursday of each month from 11 a.m. to noon at the Alamosa Public Library. Info: Southern Colorado office, 719-544-5720, ext. 304

• **ALAMOSA**—MOPS, a gathering place for moms with young children (birth through kindergarten) that offers connections, community, resources and support, will meet every first and third Wednesday of the month from 9-11 a.m. at Living Water Bible Fellowship Church, 2910 Clark St. in Alamosa.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) exists to meet the needs of every mom—urban, suburban and rural moms, stay-at-home and working moms, teen, single and married moms—moms with different lifestyles who all share a similar desire to be the very best moms they can be! For more information: facebook.com/mopsalamosa or mopsalamosa.com.

• **ALAMOSA**— "Changing from the Inside Out," facilitated by Luis Murrillo, will take place the first and third Monday of the month in room one of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Parish Center at 6 p.m. For more information contact Lisa at

Continued on Page 10

A & M Construction

Work Shops • Garages
Pole Barns • Roofing • Decks

New Construction or Renovations
Call today for a FREE estimate!

Serving the San Luis Valley



719-580-9090

FAX: 719-852-7323



Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society

www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org

If you are interested in adopting, call 852-3366

Open Tues.-Sat. • 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. • Closed Sunday & Monday • 2825 Sherman Ave. • Monte Vista

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

Visit Our Facebook Page



Fall in Love with a Shelter Pet



♥ Spay/Neuter

♥ Vaccinations, De-Worming

♥ Micro-Chipping

and much more

All breeds & ages of animals are a "best guess" and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping. This ad space donated by Valley Publishing Inc.

Valley Calendar

Continued from Page 9

- 588-5363.
- ALAMOSA — Sangre Sunrise Toastmasters second & fourth Tuesday of each month, 7-7:50 a.m. at Airport Cafe, east entrance in SLV Mental Health Admin. Bldg., Airport Road Newcomers welcome. Info, 274-0132.
- ALAMOSA — Cancer group support for cancer victims, families and caretakers, San Luis Valley Health Physician Services, 4-5 p.m. first and third Monday of each month in the first-floor conference room, 2115 Stuart Ave. Info and sign-up, Roberta Tesar, 589-8008.
- ALAMOSA — American Red Cross, SLV Chapter CPR/First Aid classes, 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month. Registration and a fee are required. Class details and information on other safety training classes, as well as volunteer opportunities, 587-3314.
- ALAMOSA — POW-MIA Committee of the San Luis Valley, 4:30 p.m. every second Saturday at VFW Post 899, 519 Main Street. All interested persons welcome.
- ALAMOSA — American Legion Post membership and Auxiliary Unit 113, 6:30 p.m. every first Wednesday at the post home, 514 4th Street.
- ALAMOSA — B.P.O.E. ELKS 1297, 6:30 p.m. every first and third Tuesday at the Elks Home, 406 Hunt Ave. 589-2362. Bingo, 7 p.m. every Thursday
- ALAMOSA — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 899, 6 p.m. first Tuesday of every month at the post home, 519 Main Street. Auxiliary, 5:30 p.m. first Thursday of every month
- ALAMOSA — La Leche League of San Luis Valley, 11 a.m. 4th Saturday of every month at Hospice del Valle, 514 Main Street, Alamosa. Info, Renee, 587-3657
- ALAMOSA — Trout Unlimited, 7 p.m. last Tuesday of each month, Inn of the Rio Grande. Meetings are free and open to the public
- ALAMOSA — Day-by-Day Cancer Support Group, second Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church. Info, Mary, 657-0619 or Helen Lester, 589-6425.
- ALAMOSA — Sierra Blanca


- Chapter No. 43 OES, first and third Mondays at 7:30 p.m., Masonic Hall, 512 San Juan, Alamosa
- ALAMOSA — Alamosa Lodge No. 44 AF and AM, 7 p.m. first and third Thursdays, Masonic Hall, 512 San Juan.
- ALAMOSA — The Alamosa City Council meets the first and third Wednesday of the Month at 7 p.m. in City Hall, 425 4th St. Alamosa. The meetings are open to the public.
- ALAMOSA — Milagros Coffeehouse has Open Mic Night the first Saturday each month at 6 p.m.
- CENTER - Center Post 131 American Legion Auxiliary, 2 p.m., first Wednesday of the month. Please call 754-9158 for location
- CENTER - Diabetes Support Group, 5 p.m. first Thursday of the Month, Saguache County Public Health Building, 220 Worth St. Center. Info., Violet, 850-2906
- CENTER — Veterans learn about the benefits you earned at the Public Health Building on the third Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or call 719-655-2680
- CREEDE — Amethyst Lodge No. 94 AF and AM, 7 p.m. first Thursdays, Masonic Hall, Main Street south of the courthouse
- DEL NORTE — Rio Grande Search and Rescue, 6:30 p.m. every third Thursday at the Courthouse Annex
- DEL NORTE — Del Norte Lodge No. 105 AF and AM, 7 p.m. first and third Mondays, Masonic Hall, 598 Spruce, Del Norte
- LA JARA — MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers), will be meeting the second and fourth Friday of each month from 10-11:30 a.m. at the La Jara United Church, Main and Fifth, with refreshments, baby-sitting and timely topics just for moms. Call Debbie Vance at 719-580-6721.
- MONTE VISTA — The Monte Vista Cemetery Association board of directors meets the first Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at 121 Adams St.
- MONTE VISTA — Valley Fiber Art Guild (VFA), anyone interested in spinning, crocheting, knitting, weaving or other portable fiber activities is welcome to come to VFA gatherings. The group meets the fourth Saturday of every month starting at 1 p.m. at 757 Coun-

- ty Road 29, Monte Vista. Email wcouzenssmith@gmail or call 852-5000 for more information.
- MONTE VISTA — Join the ceramics class every fourth Friday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at Tri County Senior Citizens Center, 311 Washington St. Cost depends on the project. Call 852-5778 for more information.
- MONTE VISTA — Monte Vista City Council meetings, 5:30 p.m. every first and third Thursday of the month. Work sessions, 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday at city hall, 4 Chico Camino, Monte Vista. Open to the public.
- MONTE VISTA — School board 7:30 p.m., second Thursday of every month. Info, 852-5996.
- MONTE VISTA — Day-By-Day Cancer Support Group meetings, 6 p.m. second Tuesday of every month, administration building at Homelake. Info, Helen Lester, 852-4423
- MONTE VISTA — Magnolia Society, a lady's civic club, 7 p.m. every third Monday of the month at the Monte Vista Co-op meeting room. Info, Christy, 852-5731 or 852-3228

- MONTE VISTA — SLV Quilt Guild, 9:30 a.m. the third Saturday of every month at the United Methodist Church. Guests welcome. Info, 852-7913
- MONTE VISTA — Monte Vista Lodge No. 73 AF&AM, 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of every month, 40 Batterson St.
- MONTE VISTA — American Legion Post 51, 3:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month in the Old Dining Room at Homelake.
- MONTE VISTA — Bethlehem Chapter No. 56 OES, 7:30 p.m. first and third Tuesdays, 40 Batterson.
- MONTE VISTA — Monte Vista Assembly No. 23 Order of Rainbow for Girls, 7 p.m. first and third Mondays, 40 Batterson, Monte Vista.
- MONTE VISTA - Free Service - Public Health Nurses and a Social Services Representative are at the Tri-County Senior Center, 311 Washington on the first Wednesday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon. Nurses check blood pressure and pulse oxygen. Social Services will assist with paperwork and answer Medicaid questions
- SAGUACHE — Minnehaha

- Chapter No. 48 OES, 7:30 p.m. second Monday, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Hall, 323 Main
- SAGUACHE — Olive Branch No. 32 AF&AM, 8 p.m. Third Saturday, Masonic Hall, 323 Main
- SOUTH FORK — The Silver-thread Outdoor Recreation Club meets the third Tuesday of every month at the Community Building with a potluck supper at 6:30 p.m. and business meeting following. Info. Elizabeth Baugh at 873-5286
- SOUTH FORK — The Red Hat Mamas of South Fork meet once a month on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. for lunch. Call or email for location as it changes every month, 719-873-5466 mkmillermink@aol.com.
- SOUTH FORK — The SLV Renegades Black Powder Club meets once a month on the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. for meeting and dinner. Call or email for location as it changes, 719-873-5466 mkmillermink@aol.com A black powder shoot is held the following Sunday at 10 a.m., weather permitting.

Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL • TRASH REMOVAL
RECYCLING • DUMPSTERS • ROLL-OFFS**

CREEDE • SOUTH FORK • DEL NORTE • MONTE VISTA
(719)658-3060 • www.MDSWASTEANDRECYCLE.COM

SUDOKU

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

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!

Level: Intermediate

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

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



Rated 5 Stars

"Even though they were extremely busy at the time I stopped in, the front staff Tonya was very polite. The Pizza was FANTASTIC!! As hard as I tried, I could not reach the limit of drinks, so next time we are in town we will have to try again...with our designated driver of course. Just before we left, I was excited to see the Chef from Cottonwood Cove, Ella. She now works here and if the food is not up to her standards, it will not leave the kitchen."
- Julie T., Google

February 14, Valentines Day Special 5 to 8 pm
Buffet only in restaurant \$15 per person
- children 6 and under free

**Appetizers, Pizza, Wings, Fettuccine,
Soft drinks, Tea, Desert all included**
Beer and wine not included

Tap into Winter with Happy Hour
MON-FRI • 2-5 p.m. • 25% OFF BEER AND WINE
16 self-pour Craft Beer Taps
and 4 self-pour Wine Taps-pay by the ounce!

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

30483 Highway 160, South Fork
11 a.m. to 8 p.m. DAILY

EASY Online To-Go Orders:
MountainPizzaTapRoom.com

ELECTION

Continued from Page 7

County clerk Janice Vos Caudill. Each clerk's conference has a theme and this time it was "Back to the Future." During the banquet, when clerks and their staffs finally have a chance to let loose, a number dressed in '80s garb. Scrunchies held up their hair. They donned leg warmers.

The 80s was a different time. Colorado's population at the start of the decade was 2.9 million. Eligible voters participated on Election Day at polling places.

Colorado now has 5.7 million people. Neighborhood polling places are gone, replaced by a mail-ballot system and vote centers. Voters can

start voting 22 days before an election, and they can also register to vote on Election Day.

One thing hasn't changed. The path to democracy still leads right to your county clerk's door.

Lynn Bartels was a reporter for 35 years, including for The Denver Post and the Rocky Mountain News, before serving as the spokeswoman for Secretary of State Wayne Williams. She now does communications consulting; one of her clients is the Colorado County Clerks Association. She also writes a weekly column for Colorado Politics, and some of the material in this story also appeared in her column.

PARKS

Continued from Page 1

in the region."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

New Year- New Smile! Beautiful Permanent Teeth: No More Dentures!

Teeth In A Day

- Get back your confidence
- Be more social
- Enjoy food again
- No more tooth problems
- Be more active and healthier
- Love life again

Medicare

Certified Provider

Medicare Will Pay
up to \$10,000 towards your treatment**

**Standard Medicare restriction may apply. Medicare covers oral surgery medical necessity only. Medicare deductible rules apply.

Credit Cards Accepted



A Courtesy for You at No Charge ...

Courtesy Consultation (regularly \$172)

Courtesy CT Scan (Regularly \$300 both arches)

FREE REPORT
New Teeth in One Day™ All-on-4 Implants
Offer Expires February 29, 2020



BEFORE



AFTER

"Over the years I have needed to have a lot of dental work to fix my teeth but nothing ever corrected my problems or seemed to last. I kept losing teeth to the point where I had to pick a single tooth to chew with until it gave out. Now I can eat things I haven't in many years and no more tooth loss worries. All of you guys made this a great experience start to finish. Thank you, Dr. Thornell!"

~Bernie B.

Call to schedule today **970-444-1298**

William F. Thornell
DDS, MAGD, DICOI



Medicare
Certified Provider



pagosadentalimplantcenter.com

189 Talisman Dr., Suite E • Located above Higher Grounds Coffee • 970-444-1298

EARS

Continued from Page 1

the underlying cause addressed," Teller said. "Some may require therapies to control allergies. If a food allergy is a cause of the problem, then switching to a hypoallergenic or limited-ingredient diet may prevent future problems. It is very important to work with your veterinarian before switching your dog's diet."

Dogs that swim frequently are also more prone to ear infections, and special care should be taken by owners to appropriately clean and dry their pet's ears after being in the water. Cotton swabs should never be used in the inner canal of a dog's ear. Teller also advised that dog owners should not allow other dogs to lick their pet's ears.

To diagnose your pet, a veterinarian might sample ear discharge or look through the ear canal to observe the state of the eardrum. Your dog may need to be sedated for this procedure, depending on the situation.

Although the prospect of a canine ear infection may be daunting, timely veterinary intervention can prevent permanent damage from occurring. Proper care will have your pooch back to their super-hearing self in no time!

Business Showcase

Roses are red, violets are blue, we have Valentines gifts waiting for you.

The Holy Moses 658-2848
121 N. Main Creede
Mon.-Sat. 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

This Week's Feature



THE HOLY MOSES

An enchanting Collection of Cabin Decor, Colorado Pottery, Quilts, Linens & Specialty Foods!

It's Worth The Drive

Mon. - Sat. 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nick & Vicki Kulyk
121 N. Main • 658-2848 • Creede

Talk About **LOCAL!**

CENTER POST-DISPATCH
www.centerpostdispatch.com

THE CONEJOS COUNTY CITIZEN

www.conejoscountycitizen.com

The Del Norte **Prospector**
www.delnorteprospector.com

The Mineral County Miner

www.mineralcountyminer.com

Monte Vista JOURNAL
www.montevistajournal.com

THE SOUTH FORK TINES

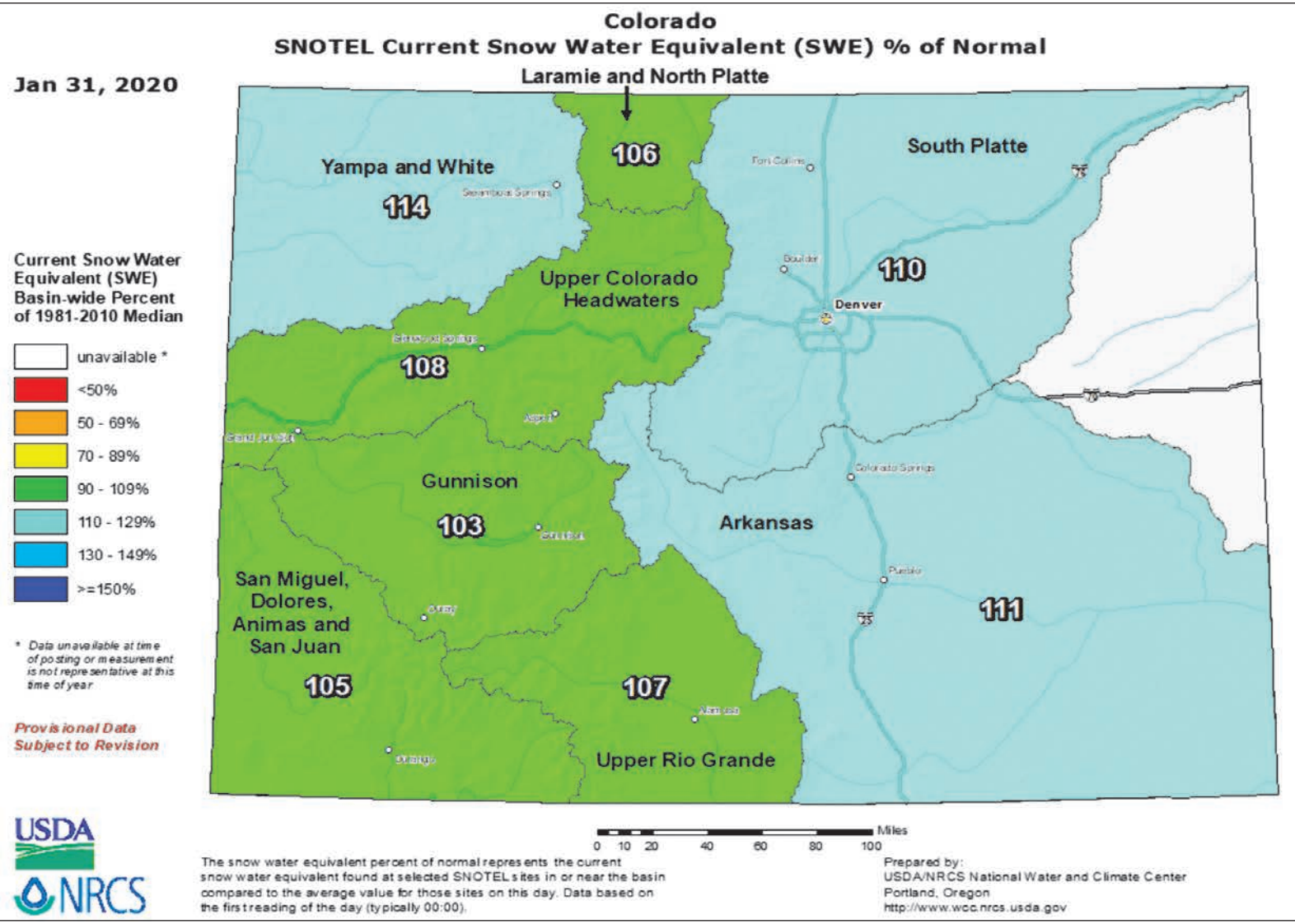
www.southforktines.com

Valley Publishing **719-852-3531**



Snowpack above normal for January

Snowpack levels for the Upper Rio Grande basin were 7 percent above normal for Jan. 31, 2020. The long-term winter 2020 forecasts for the San Luis Valley watershed are for normal precipitation with below normal temperatures.



Sweet Heart Sale!

Jan. 27 ~ Feb. 15, 2020

Clothing

All men's & women's Carhartt, Roper & Cinch clothing

30% OFF

Carhartt Hard at work since 1889

ROPER APPAREL & EQUIPMENT

CINCH JEANS & SHIRTS

Boots

All men's & women's Tin Haul boots

30% OFF

TIN HAUL

All hats, jewelry, purses, accessories

25% OFF

All other men's & women's clothing

25% OFF

(excludes 13mwz)

All other men's & women's boots

25% OFF

Appliances "Couples"

Selected Maytag & Whirlpool washer/dryer set... buy as a "couple"

\$629⁹⁹ each

Whirlpool CORPORATION

MAYTAG

Selected Maytag, Amana & Whirlpool appliances on SALE!

Selected styles all brands up to

50% OFF

Love Your Animal

Pro 89 Dog food **\$39⁹⁹**

Diamond High Energy dog food **\$32⁹⁹**

Selected animal supply products **50% OFF** regular price!

Keep Me Warm

Baldy Mountain wood pellets

\$4⁹⁹ per bag

Delivery services available!

Community Committed Agriculturally Driven

MVC

MV Coop Farm Store

852-5181 • 1901 East Hwy 160 • Monte Vista

No Rain Checks. In stock items only!