



Adams State indoor track heats up in Albuquerque .



The 37th Annual Monte Vista Crane Festival is once again expected to attract bird enthusiasts from across the country.



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Valley Courier

TUESDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

FEBRUARY 11, 2020

\$1

Imagine Your Ad Here!

SLV Today Steamroller Printmaking hits Creede

CREEDE — This is a brand-new event coming to Creede Sept. 19. The Creede Arts Council is searching for 10-12 artists, printmakers, woodworkers, to carve 3'x4' woodblocks and bring them to Creede to be printed by a Steamroller. Entry is now open, deadline to enter is May 15. Entry fee is \$25 (non-refundable) and includes woodblock and a print. Entries will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be made ahead of time via PayPal, cash or check. Participants will need to supply their own tools. There will be an education program in June in Creede. For more information contact creedearts@outlook.com.

Presidents Day pancake supper

CENTER — The Kiwanis Club of Center will be hosting its 64th annual Presidents Day Pancake Supper from 4:30-7 p.m. on Monday at the New Center School Cafeteria. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children, with those who are 6-under dining for free. Package sausage will be available for \$4 per pound.

Valentines Day dance

ANTONITO — Everyone is invited to the Antonito Seniors Valentines Dance will be from 1-4 p.m. on Friday. There will be a \$3 entrance fee and bring snack to share. Music by Bernal Maestas and Alex Lopez.

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a.m., Cloudy; p.m., Sun 37/10

Wed.: Partly Cloudy 36/5

Thur.: Partly Cloudy 36/7

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New DA hopes to increase pay for employees

BY TERESA L. BENNS Valley Publishing

ALAMOSA — Former Senior Deputy District Attorney Robert Willett sat down for an interview with the Center Post-Dispatch last week following his appointment by Gov. Jared Polis as the new 12th Judicial District Attorney.

Willett was one of three individuals considered for the position. Polis recently appointed former 12th Judicial District Attorney Crista Newmyer-Olsen as a judge for the 12th judicial district to replace retiring judge Pattie Swift prior to appointing Willett as the new DA.

Newmyer-Olsen will join fellow judges Martin Gonzales, Michael A. Gonzales and Amanda C. Hopkins on the District bench.

Willett grew up in Missouri and served as a police officer in metro Denver and Arvada for 20 years.



Robert Willett

At 48 he decided to go to law school and was hired by then District Attorney David Mahonee

as a deputy DA in 2013.

Willett said he believes he will bring "some consistency to the office" as DA and plans to run for election to the position on the Democrat ticket.

After serving with the Colorado Springs district attorney's office for two years, he returned to Alamosa as assistant district attorney in March of 2019.

Willett's biggest concern on becoming district attorney is the ongoing difficulty the district has in retaining deputy district attorneys.

Currently, there are three vacancies he needs to fill for Alamosa, Conejos and Costilla counties.

"Many offices across the state are having trouble finding people," he said. "Deputy DA's here make about \$54,000 a year and I want to meet with county commissioners to discuss that."

With the approval of the boards of county commissioners comprising each Colorado district, the district attorney in each judicial district currently sets the salaries of any assistant district attorney, chief deputy district attorney, and deputy district attorney in the district. It all depends on the financial support provided by the counties.

Willett says he knows attorneys who have lived in the Valley before and would consider coming back to work as deputy DA's, but unless there is a pay increase for deputies, "they couldn't even make their student loan payments on this salary."

CRIME STATISTICS, DIVERSION PROGRAM

Violent crime in the Valley is down at the moment, Willett commented, but cycles up and down

See STATS page 3

Free tax help wildly popular



Courtesy photos by Todd Cotton and Margaret Sanderson

Deedra Gray, Trinidad State accounting student, and Genia Rasmussen, Business/Accounting professor, proudly display a check representing last year's refunds the tax team secured for the San Luis Valley residents — a whopping \$895,425. They hope to top that this year.

Trinidad State's program serving Valley for a decade

By MARGARET SANDERSON Special to the Valley Courier ALAMOSA — For the 10th consecutive year, Trinidad State is offering tax preparation help to San Luis Valley residents with a 2019 household income of \$56,000 or less.

Clients return year after year. Except for the one year she lived in Taos, Brenda Hutchins has been using the service each year since tax help began. She said, "They are efficient, very thorough, organized, and very professional. This is great!"

Valley native, 19-year-old Deedra Gray will be volunteering for the first time. "Deedra is a natural accountant and she is actually tutoring for accounting, as well as other business courses," said Business/Accounting Professor, Genia Rasmussen, who is coordinating the event along with Lea Chavez, a former student volunteer, who teaches several classes at the college. Other employees assisting, include Julianna Chaparro, the logistics coordinator; Roberta Taylor-Hill and Jack Wiley. Christa Davis, business manager at the Veterans Center at Homelake, will be assisting the Trinidad State team for the second year. Others volunteering, include Gerry Baygents, Miguel Chaparro, Luis Garcia, Jaime Gomez, Justice Hernandez, Alicia Gonzales, James Keienburg,



The 2020 Trinidad State tax team pose for a photo. Front, from left to right, are Genia Rasmussen and Luis Garcia; second row are Lea Chavez, Erica Porrello and Deedra Gray; third are Christa Davis, Keely Williams and Alicia Gonzales; fourth are Gerry Baygents and Ray Mix; and fifth are Jamie Keienburg, Miguel Chaparro and Juliana Chaparro. Not pictured: Jo Anne Manzanares.

Jo Anne Manzanares, Ray Mix, Erica Porrello and Keely Williams. Several volunteers are bilingual. Gray, while deciding on an educational goal, took Accounting

121 last semester as an elective course to fill in some credits. She really liked it and now Rasmussen is her favorite instructor.

See TAXES page 3

"I am ready to listen to you and will do my best to represent my constituents."

—Vern Heersink



Vern Heersink

Heersink running to be Alamosa County Commissioner

ALAMOSA — Vern Heersink announced he is running for the office of Alamosa County Commissioner, District 3, as Republican.

He is a native of Alamosa and graduated from Alamosa High School, Adams State University (Associates of Science) and Colorado State University (Bachelor of Science).

His wife works for and graduated from Adams State University, and his children attend school in Alamosa. He also owns and operates a small tractor repair business in the Waverly area.

"I was encouraged to pursue this position by friends and family and after much consideration, decided to proceed," Heersink said. "I am ready to listen to you and will do my best to represent my constituents."

"Initially, I was intimidated by the prospect of running for this office. I realized, however, that honesty, hard work, common sense and a servant's heart are what is truly required. I can do that."

Announcement courtesy of Heersink

40,000 Unique Visitors Per Month
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Record

OBITUARIES

Curtis Michael Chavez, 28

BLANCA — Blanca resident Curtis Michael Chavez, 28, passed away on Feb. 9, 2020. He was born on April 15, 1991 in La Jara to Charles and Theresa (Maestas) Chavez.

Curtis honorably served his country in the United States Army and was active as a volunteer firefighter for the Costilla County Fire Protection District. He enjoyed fishing, playing video games, and above all, spending time with his son and his family.

Curtis is survived by his wife Freddie Jo Chavez, his son Mauricio Chavez, his unborn son Dominic Michael Chavez, his parents, Charles and Theresa Chavez, his sister Desiree (John) Naranjo, his brother Warren (Amy) Chavez, his God parents, Raphael and Phyllis Maestas, as well as numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents and his cousin Ryan Maestas.

Cremation was selected and a rosary service will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 14, 2020 at the



Sangre de Cristo Parish in San Luis. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 15, 2020 also at the church. Burial of ashes will follow services in the San Isidro Cemetery. A meal will follow at the Blanca Community Center.

To express condolences, please visit www.rogersfunerals.com.

Rogers Family Mortuary in Alamosa is in care of the arrangements.

PENDING OBITUARY

Dyami Maestas

SAN LUIS — San Luis resident Dyami Maestas, 35, passed away Feb. 8, 2020.

The arrangements are pending and will be announced through Romero Funeral Home of San Luis.

COURIER POLICY ON OBITUARIES

The Courier charges \$30 for each obituary per day. Pending arrangements or death notices are free. This charge affects funeral homes, family or other representatives that place obituaries. All paid obituaries are published on www.alamosanews.com, for no additional fee.

Please email obituaries if possible to news@alamosanews.com. If the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed.

ALAMOSA POLICE REPORT

Police hand out various citations

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa police report from Feb. 7-8 Feb. 7

Marcia Candy, 45, was cited with following too closely at 400 Main.

Benjamin Arvizio was cited with second-degree assault on an officer, resisting arrest, obstructing an officer, possession of a dangerous weapon, possession of a weapon by a previous offender and unlawful carrying of a concealed weapon at 102 Hwy. 160.

Rosa Trujillo was cited with second-degree assault, reckless endangerment, tampering with evidence, reckless driving, and failure to notify police of an accident at 312 11th St.

Feb. 8

Patricia Boling, 91, was cited with failure to yield at 3300 Clark St.

Joseph Kofman, 33, was cited with criminal mischief at 113 Ross Ave.

Yoali Aguilera, 18, was cited with driving without a valid license and a parking light violation at Pike Ave. and 1st St.

Julio Maldonado Rivas, 25, was cited with exhibiting speed at 6th St. and West Ave.

San Luis Valley Crimestoppers

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

Call San Luis Valley Crimestoppers at 589-4111.

Reserve a table now for ASU's Spring Career Fair

ALAMOSA — Get the best recruits for your business or school.

The Adams State University Office of Civic Engagement and Career Services is sponsoring its spring 2020 Career and Graduate School Fair for students, alumni and community. Organizations and graduate school recruiters can reserve a booth now.

The fair is scheduled from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., with a 9 a.m. set-up time, Tuesday, March 5, in the Adams State Student Union Building banquet rooms on the first floor.

The cost to registration is \$50. To register visit adams.edu/students/career-services/employer-resources/. Registration includes a 6-foot table, two chairs, lunch for two, WIFI, and free parking.

For more information, call 719-587-8105 or civicengagement@adams.edu.

ONGOING VALLEY MEETINGS

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

ALAMOSA — Sierra Blanca Chapter #43, Order of The Eastern Star, meets on the first and third Mondays, at 7:30 p.m. at the Alamosa Masonic Hall, 512 San Juan Ave. Call Sharon at 589-4320.

ALAMOSA — La Leche League of the San Luis Valley holds its monthly meetings on the fourth Saturday at 11 a.m. at Hospice del Valle, 524 Main St. in Alamosa. Pregnant and nursing women are welcome to attend with their children and babies. Please call 587-3657.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAY

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

12 p.m. Crestone Baptist Church, County Rd. T, Crestone

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

5:30 p.m. at 929 State Ave., Alamosa

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

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

For schedule changes,

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

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

ALAMOSA — Search and Rescue meetings are the fourth Tuesday at the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office, 1315 17th St., at 6 p.m. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer is welcome. Call Suzi at 719-588-9236.

ALAMOSA — The San Luis Valley Photography Club meets the first Wednesday at the Alamosa Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Contact Stephen Jensen at 379-0001 or slv-photostephen@gmail.com

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

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

ALAMOSA — American Legion Auxiliary Unit #113, Alamosa, holds its monthly meeting at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday at the American Legion

Building at 514 Fourth Street, Alamosa. Call Evelyn Espinola at 719-313-1466 or Alice Robinson at 589-0543.

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

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

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

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

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

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

call 589-2243.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AA MEETINGS

please contact your group service representative (GSR)

AL-ANON

THURSDAY

5:30 p.m. First Christian Church at 518 1st St., Alamosa

7 p.m. Crestone Town Hall, downtown Crestone (second and fourth Thursdays)

SUNDAY

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

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

MONDAY

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

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

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

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

TUESDAY

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

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

WEDNESDAY

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

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

6 p.m. Amistad of San Luis at 403 Main St., San Luis

7:15 p.m. RV Park in Blanca

7:30 p.m. Masonic Hall at 598 Spruce, Del Norte.

8 p.m. St. Thomas Episcopal Church at 607 4th St., Alamosa.

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

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

AL-ANON

TUESDAY

8 p.m. 15 Country Club Dr. Monte Vista

WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m. SLV Behavior

Health Group at 8745 CR 9S., Alamosa

THURSDAY

5:30 p.m. First Christian Church at 518 1st St., Alamosa

7 p.m. Crestone Town Hall, downtown Crestone (second and fourth Thursdays)

School Menu
-- Tuesday --
Feb. 11, 2020

BREAKFAST
Breakfast Burrito
Juice & Fruit

ELEMENTARY
Domino's Pizza
French Fries
Vegetable Bar

SECONDARY
Grilled Chicken Sandwich
Potato Salad
Vegetable Bar

An assortment of fresh fruit and canned fruits as well as fresh vegetables and canned vegetables will be offered weekly. Menu subject to change.
To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

Valley News

Happy 100th Birthday, Helen



Courtesy photo

Helen Robinson, also known as the "hot dog lady," turns 100 today, Tuesday, and her family is planning a small celebration at the San Luis Care Center. Working for H&R Supply for 20 years before retirement, she organized and served the free food for customers. Widowed in 1970, she is the mother of Barbara (Gary) Hinds, Gail Nance and Jerry (Alice) Robinson and has 15 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. She was born on Feb. 12, 1920 in South Dakota and later moved to the San Luis Valley. Cake will be served at 11:30 a.m. today and gifts aren't encouraged, as the presence of friends is her gift. Cards may be mailed to 948 Alamosa Ave. Alamosa 81101.

MCFA set to celebrate gala in style, great food

CREEDE — The Mineral County Fairgrounds Association will host the There is No Night in Creede Winter Gala on Friday.

The event will be held at the Creede Elk's Lodge and feature a prime rib dinner and dancing.

Music will be brought by Fred Hargrove, along with other local performers.

The cost is \$50 per person.

The price includes a drink ticket, salad, baked potato, veggies, dinner roll, and tea/coffee. There will also be door prizes, a dessert auction and silent and live auctions.

Tickets are limited in quantity and are available at the Blue Yak Salon 719-658-2500 or Rare Things Gallery or 719-658-2376.

Doors open at 6 p.m., dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and dancing starts at 8 p.m.

Voting instructions for presidential primary

STATE-WIDE — A reminder to all Colorado residents, the Presidential Primary is on March 3.

In order to vote by mail, one must be registered by Feb. 14.

One can register online at govotecolorado.com, or text "CO" to "2VOTE," or in person at your country clerk's office on election day.

If someone has moved since the last election, one will also need to update its address by Feb. 14 to receive a mail in ballot.

As long as someone has lived in Colorado for 22 days, one can register on the day of the election at the county clerk's office in one's district and vote on the same day, be sure to bring valid ID.

All forms of valid ID are listed and answers to other questions can be found on govotecolorado.com.

Woof Creek Sled Dog & Skijor Races rescheduled

SOUTHFORK—The 2nd Annual Woof Creek Sled Dog & Skijor Race has been rescheduled due to snow conditions.

The new event dates — snow permitting — are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 7-8.

This year's four-legged

athletic competition is ISDA sanctioned and will have 20 or more sled dog and skijor teams battling it out on a picturesque snow track at the Rio Grande Club & Resort in South Fork.

The competitions are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday

Taxes

■ Continued from Page 1

"She started accounting a little late and aced it. She knows how to teach and has a good rapport," said Rasmussen. Ultimately, Gray decided to assist with Tax Help Colorado and earn her accounting clerk certificate.

A Centauri High School graduate, Gray had taken concurrent classes beginning her junior year. Concurrent classes are taken while in high school and both high school and college credits are awarded for the same class.

Gray plans to finish her "gen eds" (general education requirements) at Trinidad State and earn her Associate of Arts degree. She then plans to transfer to Adams State where she will work toward a CPA (Certified Public Accountant) degree and, hopefully, move on to become a lawyer and eventually open her own business.

"I'm 19 and I've never done my own taxes before. I wanted to learn how," said Gray. "I thought it would be a cool learning experience and I could help the community and be a part of something that is lasting."

She continued, "I really like this school. It's a really tight-knit community. If there's any questions, you can ask and feel very supported. It's comforting and helpful here. I like Trinidad State mostly because of the people here."

This ambitious, young woman has packed 18 credit hours into this semester, works two part-time jobs — one as a pharmacy technician and the other assisting in her grandmother's gift shop. Somehow, she still manages to teach dance with her cousin Kaylee.

"She is an amazing student. She can write phenomenally well. She already has a very impressive business plan," said Rasmussen. "She's like a 30-year-old in a 19-year-old body."

Ray Mix came to Trinidad State to "start from the beginning," earn an associate's degree and transfer to ASU to pursue a bachelor's degree in social work and eventually further that with a master's. He is volunteering for tax help because he likes to help people. "My passion is to help find resources for those less fortunate that might not have capabilities or means to do on their own," Mix said.

"I'm trying to be an example for my children because I want them to go to college. That's my hope for them," said Alicia Gonzales, who will be the first in her family to graduate college. She attended Trinidad State in 2000 but left the Valley, then returned, married and had a family. With her 7-year-old in school full-time, she decided it was time to



Courtesy photos by Todd Cotton and Margaret Sanderson

Juliana Chaparro, logistics coordinator, stands far back on the right overseeing Tax Help Colorado while in the foreground, Lynn and Jessica Shawcroft complete the Do-It Yourself with Help option for figuring taxes. Jessica is holding their 8-month-old while their other two children watch dad.



People of all ages gather in the Learning Center at Trinidad State to get free assistance in figuring their 2019 taxes.

return to Trinidad State. She said, "I have always wanted to go to school. My kids are older now (16, 10 and 7) and I felt I wanted to finally achieve this goal of mine." Gonzales' mother taught her how to do her own taxes and she loves helping people. She felt Tax Help Colorado would be a great opportunity to learn more about tax laws and help the community at the same time. Her current educational goal is to get an Associate of Applied Science degree in Business Management. "If I stay on track, I will graduate in 2021 at the same time my 16-year-old daughter graduates from high school. Maybe we can have a party together," said Gonzales. With more business know-how under her belt, her dream is to establish her own house cleaning business.

Trinidad State Tax Help Colorado, in partnership with the Piton Foundation, is offered in the second floor of the Learning Center at 1011 Main Street in Alamosa every Thursday through March 19 from 4 to 8 p.m. After 5 p.m. all doors will be locked except the west middle glass doors. Enter there and follow the green signs.

Tax Help Colorado offers three options: 1) In-person assistance (screening, review of tax-related documents, preparation of state and federal returns,

and quality review), 2) Do-It-Yourself with Help, (with assistance from volunteers if needed, prepare your own returns using software designed for untrained taxpayers note: for the do-it-yourself option only, the earnings in 2019 can be up to \$66,000) and 3) Drop Off (preliminary screening to include scanning of necessary documents, leave and then return a week later, review and sign return for electronic submission.) For more information, go to trinidadstate.edu/tax where a list of required documents are posted. There, clients can either call to schedule an appointment or click the link and then choose which of the three options is preferred.

Also, a free call can be placed to 211, select English or Spanish, and then select 6 for tax information.

In 2018, the tax team secured an impressive \$895,425 in refunds for the San Luis Valley community and they anticipate 2019 tax refunds to exceed that.

NOTE: Security will be on campus throughout to ensure a smooth flow.

SKI-HI 6 SHOWTIMES
719-589-4471

Tues - Thurs: 5:30, 8:15	BIRDS OF PREY Wind over myhem - Nangol Robble R
Tues - Thurs: 5:25, 8:10	BAD BOYS FOR LIFE Will Smith, Martin Lawrence R
Tues - Thurs: 6:15, 8:10	1917 Time is the enemy R
Tues - Thurs: 5:30, 8:15	RHYTHM SECTION Bake Lively, Judd Law R
Tues - Thurs: 5:30, 8:10	DOLITTLE Robert Downey Jr., Antonio Banderas PG
Tues - Thurs: 5:20, 8:10	JULIENNE Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart PG-13

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Cottonwood Dental Center

Dr. Darrell Jackson

2405 Mullins Ave.

Stats

■ Continued from Page 1

over the years.

In 2016, there were 600 felonies and in 2019 only 400 and some.

Newmyer-Olsen left the office in a good position in that respect, he said. Willett would like to develop some programs to address violent crime, but "that will take several years" he commented.

Currently, the diversion program run by Megan Martinez has been very successful in taking the load off the DA's office by dealing with low-level offenders.

About 80% of all crimes, he said, fall into this category and can be successfully resolved without litigation.

"Most of these offenders are just people who made a mistake," he said. "They would love to break that cycle."

"Megan is doing an excellent job with that," Willett said, and this in turn helps prosecutors deal with major crimes.

Willett also would like to open a cold case unit and establish a major crimes squad for the Valley that can respond quickly to homicides and other violent crimes.

"CBI takes three to four hours to respond from Pueblo," and he agreed that too often the wait can result in crime scene

contamination.

But both projects depend on the funding he receives from the counties in the district and how many of the vacant positions he can fill.

"I am trying to be consistent and maintain a fair and just approach to criminal justice, but I'm hamstrung by a lack of resources," Willett concluded. He expressed hope that the counties he serves will help him achieve his goals.

Lifestyle



Howard Kenell at Farmers Union Dam, now called Rio Grande Reservoir, in a snowy winter in 1932. Note the skis by Mr. Kennell. This house and outbuildings are on the dam at Farmers Union Reservoir. John LaFont Collection, Creede Historical Society Archives, Catalogue #5159-JLF-55.



Buildings at the Sulfur Mine southwest of Creede during a very snowy winter around 1925. This photograph was made into a postcard. John LaFont Collection, Creede Historical Society Archives, Catalogue #5179-JLF-75.

Creede's Historical Society presents: from the photo files

By JAN JACOBS AND BOB SEAGO
CREEDE — The Creede Historical Society has thousands of photos in its photo files.

Unfortunately, most are not identified in any way. Often, we do not

know the people, the locations in the pictures, the photographer or the date that the photo was taken. We need your help. If someone can identify anything in this week's photo, please call or write:

Jan Jacobs, Creede Historical Society, P.O. Box 608, Creede, CO 81130, or telephone: 719-658-2394 or email: info@creedehistoricalsociety.com.

Copies of our photographs are available for a small fee.



Courtesy photo

Sanford School counselors Taila Guerrero (left) and Kristi Duran display their cakes, as the school showered them with their appreciation.

Sanford School counselors: helping students grow

SANFORD — Sanford Schools has amazing counselors.

Kristi Duran is the middle and high school counselor and Talia Guerrero is the elementary counselor.

This past week was National School Counselor Week and they were honored by a video showing how they impact the students and received a standing ovation.

Duran works a lot with students doing a lot of different jobs.

Not only does she help students with emotional or social concerns, she does the schedule for the students.

She also helps them with college applications, as well as scholarships. She helps students pro-

cess problems and makes plans or takes action to improve their life.

"One of my favorite quotes is 'the future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams' by Eleanor Roosevelt," Duran said. "I live by this quote in my role as a school counselor.

"Sometimes students struggle to dream or even believe in themselves.

"One of the best things about being a counselor is helping students believe in themselves and make their dreams become a reality.

"Building relationships is one of the most important aspects to me as a school counselor."

Guerrero works so well with the elementary stu-

dents and they love her.

She teaches students about friendship, self-management, and social skills. She gives them the skills to navigate the problems and issues that arise in their lives.

"My favorite part of being a school counselor is watching students develop belief in themselves and their abilities," Guerrero said. "Belief in one's self is one of the greatest steppingstones to success and I love that as a counselor. I am given the opportunity daily to help students know how amazing and incredible they are and can be."

Sanford School is very proud of their counselors and the work they do. Thank you Kristi Duran and Talia Guerrero.

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Valley Courier
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2863 Sherman Avenue

OPEN HOUSE

You are cordially invited to the Monte Vista Head Start Open House.

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February 14, 2020
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

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- 3 Local businesses sell a wide range of great products at affordable prices and cater to the needs and wants of the community.**
- 4 Shopping Local saves you money and time!** Travel expenses and personal time make the overall cost of items higher.
- 5 Shopping Local retains our community:** Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.
- 6 Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness:** Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community's needs.
- 7 Shopping Local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Alamosa's diversity, charm & appeal. Which in turn, attracts new community members.
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- 9 Local shops value you more:** Local businesses survive by their reputation & repeat business which means you get a higher standard of service.

Lifestyle

Sportsperson's Roundtable in Durango

DURANGO—If one is a hunter, angler, landowner or outfitter planning to attend a Sportspersons' Roundtable at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 20 at the La Plata County Fairgrounds in Durango, local Colorado Parks and Wildlife staff will talk about current wildlife management and take input from the public on wildlife issues.

The meeting will also provide attendees a chance to meet Cory Chick, CPW's new Southwest Region manager.

"We always look forward to hearing from the public about wildlife issues," Chick said. "Hunters, anglers and landowners can provide us with their unique on-the-ground perspective of what they're

seeing out in the field." Wildlife managers will talk about aquatic and terrestrial topics, statewide and regional issues and programs. Some topics to be discussed will include elk herd management, native fish work and habitat concerns.

At the meeting, CPW wildlife managers will also discuss the new proposed plan for mountain lion management in Southwest Colorado. Mountain lions in Colorado have historically been managed on smaller, localized scales — similar to the management of Colorado's deer and elk. Current research, however, shows that managing mountain lions on a landscape scale is more appropriate and effective.

A careful review by CPW biologists of research studies on mountain lions from Colorado, Wyoming and Montana has helped wildlife managers evaluate populations and harvest objectives that align with the best available science to better meet public desires.

CPW is an enterprise agency, relying primarily on license sales, state parks fees and registration fees to support its operations, including: 41 state parks and more than 350 wildlife areas covering approximately 900,000 acres, management of fishing and hunting, wildlife watching, camping, motorized and non-motorized trails, boating and outdoor education. CPW's

work contributes approximately \$6 billion in total economic impact annually

throughout Colorado.

For more information contact Joe Lewandowski

at joe.lewandowski@state.co.us, or at 970-375-6708.



37TH ANNUAL MONTE VISTA CRANE FESTIVAL COLORADO MARCH 6, 7 & 8

WHERE THE CRANES MEET THE MOUNTAINS

Monte Vista Crane Festival soon to come

MONTE VISTA — The 37th Annual Monte Vista Crane Festival is once again expected to attract bird enthusiasts from across the country this March. Below is the full schedule for the 2020 event.

Events are starting to sell out. Sorry, we don't do a waitlist. One is welcome to come and stand in the "Standby" line at Ski Hi where the buses load. If there are cancellations one might be loaded. The line is formed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Friday, March 6, 2020
7 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Morning Crane Tour Expert-led bus tour to Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge to learn all about Sandhill Cranes. Bring warm clothes and water. Restrooms are available at two stops.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$10 Ticket required

10 a.m. - noon

SOLD OUT - Home Lake Birding Tour A guided walking bird tour around Home Lake, led by local birding expert and author, John Rawinski. Bring, lunch, water, and dress for the weather. Be prepared to walk at a leisurely pace.

Meet at Monte Vista Middle School \$5 Ticket required

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

SOLD OUT - Blanca Wetlands Tour Expert-led bus 5-hour tour to playa lakes and wetlands. Bring lunch, water, warm clothing, and personal gear. Limited restrooms are available.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$20 Ticket required

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

RIGHT Conservation Tour Learn about the importance of Conservation Easements and the role private lands play in wildlife conservation. This tour is lead by the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust around one of their easements. No restrooms are available on tour.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$20 Ticket required

4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Evening Crane Tour Expert-led bus tour to Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge to learn all about Sandhill Cranes. Bring warm clothes and water. Restrooms are available at two stops.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$10 Ticket required

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

FREE Kid's Movie and Coloring Contest Awards

Rango (Rated PG, 1hr 51 min) A good old fashioned western, the film centers on Rango (voiced by Johnny Depp), a chameleon who accidentally ends up in the town of Dirt, a lawless outpost populated by the desert's most wily and whimsical creatures. Rango, the less-than-courageous lizard, suddenly finds he stands out and is the last hope the town has been waiting for. Sheriff Rango is forced to play his new role and save the town from a developer's water grab. Winners of the Kid's Crane Coloring Contest will precede the movie.

Vali 3 Theatre FREE Saturday, March 7, 2020

6 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Birder's Breakfast Enjoy breakfast cooked by our local Kiwanis Club. Pay Kiwanis at the event.

Ski Hi Complex Tickets available on-site

7 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Morning Crane Tour Expert-led bus tour to Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge to learn all about Sandhill Cranes. Bring warm clothes and water. Restrooms are available at two stops.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$10 Ticket required

10 a.m. - noon

SOLD OUT Hawks Aloft Raptor

Tour Experts from Hawks Aloft will lead a bus tour to view and learn about local raptors.

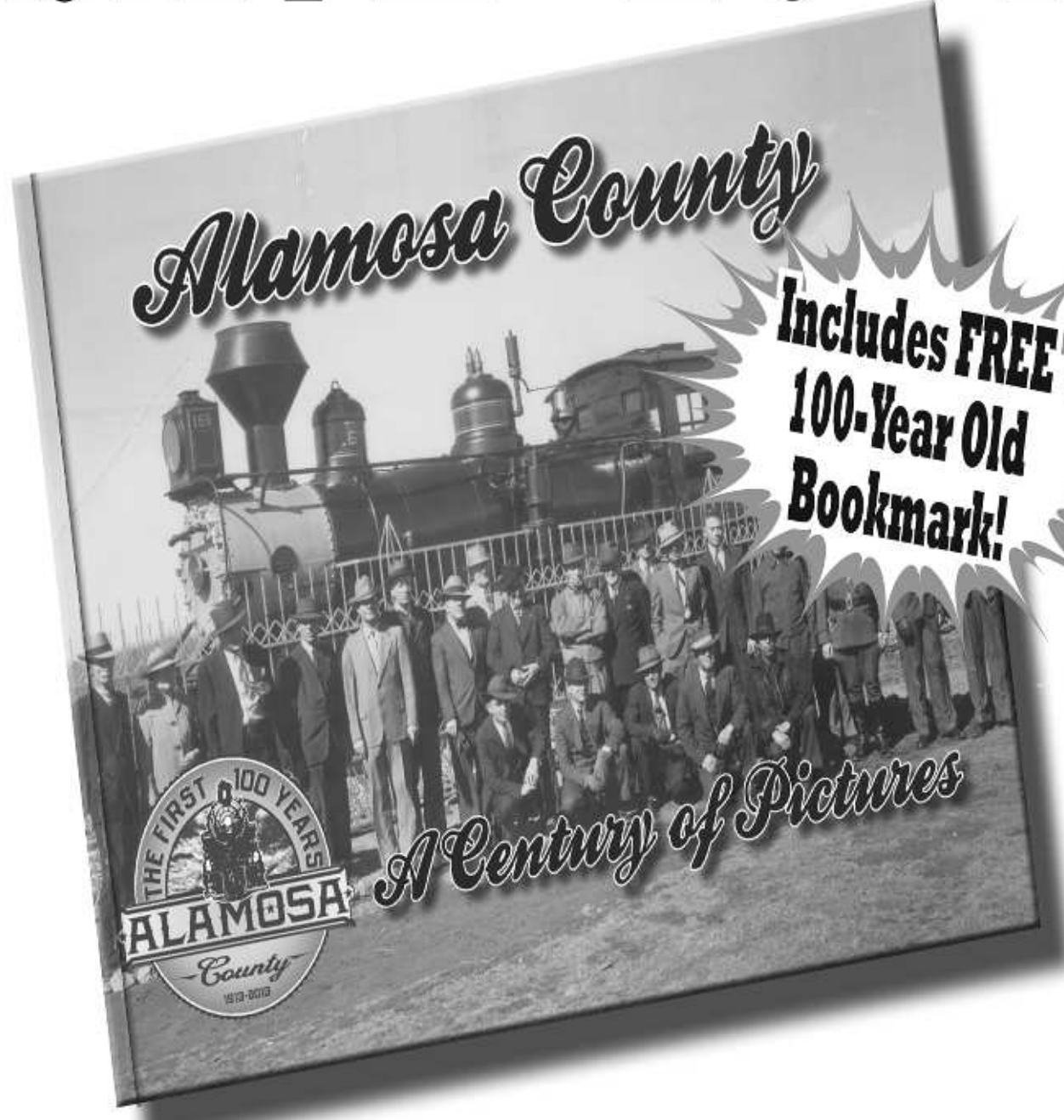
Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$20 Ticket required

10 a.m. - noon

SOLD OUT Home Lake Birding Tour A guided walking bird tour around Home Lake, led

■ See CRANE page 10

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Alamosa



Grizzlies complete impressive showing in N.M.

By AARON KINNISCHTZE
ASU Sports Information Director

ALBUQUERQUE – The Adams State Grizzlies Track & Field team traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico this weekend, for the New Mexico Collegiate Classic at the University of New Mexico, and were able to put together a nice showing, particularly from their distance and mid-distance squads. Both the women's and the men's teams had numerous fantastic individual showings, which has to give Coach Damon Martin confidence the rest of the way through the indoor track season.

For the Grizzlies' distance runners, perhaps the most impressive events for the men's and women's teams were the men's mile as well as the women's 3K. In the Men's mile, the Grizzlies features six runners in the top 20 of the final results, which included the winner of the event, Carson Bix. Bix ran an impressive 4:08.17 in a venue that is at altitude and looks to be among the Grizzlies' strongest runners in

2020. Two other Grizzlies finished in the top ten of the race, as David Cardenas finished fifth with a time of 4:14.90, and shortly following him was Paddy Robb in eighth with a time of 4:16.02. The women's 3K featured three Grizzlies in the top 15, and again, the winner of the event was wearing Adams State Green as Haleigh Hunter-Galvan dominated the field with a winning time of 9:50.72. Directly following her was Brianna Robles in second with a time of 9:57.79, and in 15th was Sorcha Maloney with a time of 10:42.11. In the men's 3K, Isaiah Rodarte finished with a top-five time in third place, running an impressive time of 8:24.82. The women's mile featured one Grizzly in the top 10, as Nicole Lawrence finished ninth with a time of 5:10.16. It was safe to say the Adams State distance athletes have not missed a beat following their tremendous cross country seasons.

Adams State middle distance newcomer Godfrey Chama put on a show in the men's 800, running a time of 1:54.06. Chama is



expected to be the Grizzlies' stud in this particular race, and his long-awaited debut was a huge success on Saturday. Freshman phenom Jonah Vigil lived up to his hype this weekend, stealing the show and running a fantastic time in both the prelims and finals of the men's 400. In the finals, Vigil ran a collegiate personal best of 47.78, which is the fastest an Adams State athlete, let

alone a freshman, has run in the event in years. On Friday in the unseeded section of the 200, Vigil ran a time of 21.43, which was the 13th-fastest time out of nearly 100 competitors in either portion of the race. Vigil has been perhaps the brightest spot for the Adams State sprinters in 2020 and appears to be the real deal.

The Grizzlies' field event athletes competed Friday and Saturday, as thrower John Hochanadel was undoubtedly the top performer, placing 10th in the weight throw Friday with a career personal best of 16.36 meters, and 13th in the shot put with a mark of 13.76. Oweneika Watson went up against elite competition in the long jump and ended up 15th with a mark of 5.65 meters.

The Grizzlies who are now coming into form nicely will prepare for meets next weekend at the University of New Mexico as well as at the University of Washington where multiple distance athletes will compete.

Panthers place at Girls State Wrestling

THORNTON — This weekend Sierra Grande-Centennial wrestling headed north to compete in the 2020 Colorado High School Girls Wrestling State Championship.

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

At 161 pounds Maes drew Savannah Howard of Mountain Vista in the first round. Howard would send Maes to the consolation bracket with a fall in the first period at 0:46. Maes didn't stop and would climb the consolation bracket with a fall and two major decisions on her way to the consolation semifinals and a rematch with Howard. The second meeting would go

down to the wire with Maes earning a takedown in the first and an escape in the second round to lead 3-0 going into the final period. In the third, Howard would get a reversal and turn it into a pin at 4:00. Howard went on to take third in the tournament while Maes would go to the fifth-place match with Navea Garcia. Garcia held a narrow 2-1 lead over Maes in the third period thanks to a reversal. Again, that reversal would lead to a fall giving Maes sixth place.

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



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

Courier photos by Stephen Jiron

Del Norte in Center for league play

Del Norte 65, Center 33 (G)
DN 24 15 17 9 - 65
CEN 5 9 13 6 - 33

Del Norte – K.Parra 9 8-9 25, G. Jones 5 1-1 12, Ka.Madrid 4 2-2 11, L.Valdez 3 1-1 7, Y. Rosales 2 2-4 6, A.Golding 1 0-0 2, Ke. Madrid 0 2-2 2. Totals 24 17-20 65. 3-point goals: Ka. Madrid, K. Parra. Fouls: 8. Fouled out: none. Technicals: none.

Center – N.Cendajas 4 0-0 12, B. Almeida 3 3-4 10, E.Trujillo 2 1-2 7, A. Varela 1 1-4 3, J.Aguilar 0 1-2 1, Totals 10 6-9 33. 3-point goals: N.Cendajas-4, E. Trujillo-2, B.Almeida. Fouls: 15. Fouled out: none. Technicals: none.

Center 53, Del Norte 50 (B)
CEN 13 13 13 14 - 53
DN 16 14 9 11 - 50

Center – D.Velez 4 6-8 14, D.Porres 4 1-2 11, H.DeLaCruz 3 2-2 10, V. Almeida 4 1-4 10, A.Salazar 2 0-0 4, A.Echauri 0 0-1 0. Totals 17 12-19 53. 3-point goals: H.DeLaCruz-2, V.Almeida, D.Porres. Fouls: 15. Fouled out: none. Technicals: none.

Del Norte – L.Cestone 10 3-7 27, M. Romero 2 2-2 6, B.Parra 2 1-2 6, K.Dahle 2 1-2 5, J.Jones 1 0-0 2, L.Trujillo 1 0-0 2, 2 2-4 6, B.Velasquez 1 0-1 2. Totals 19 7-14 50. 3-point goals: L.Cestone- 4, B. Parra. Fouls: 16. Fouled out: M.Romero. Technicals: none.



Del Norte's Kendra Parra (24) ducks underneath the Center defense during a road contest on Feb. 8.



Center's Devin Porres (21) attempts a long distance shot with Del Norte's Leroy Trujillo (12) applying pressure.

Courtesy photos by Vibrant Valley Photography

Results

- Adams State Baseball**
Feb. 7 Arizona Christian 12, ASU 1
Feb. 8 ASU 8, Midland 7 - 10 Inn.
- Adams State Basketball**
Feb. 7 Regis 72, ASU 46 (W)
Regis 99, ASU 75 (M)
Feb. 8 Colorado Christian 52, ASU 44 (W)
Colorado Christian 86, ASU 73 (M)
- Prep Basketball**
Feb. 7 Cotopaxi 65, Sierra Grande 41 (G)
Cotopaxi 51, Sierra Grande 50 (B)
Moffat-Mt.Valley 65, Manzanola 41 (G)
Manzanola 66, Moffat-Mt.Valley 40 (B)
La Veta 51, Creede 22 (G)
Antonito 52, Lake City 11 (G)
Del Norte 61, Gunnison 24 (G)
Gunnison 71, Del Norte 35 (B)
Pagosa Springs 57, Centauri 50 (G)
Centauri 53, Pagosa Springs 36 (B)
Alamosa 68, Monte Vista 18 (G)
Alamosa 60, Monte Vista 45 (B)
Sangre de Cristo 64, Centennial 31 (G)
Sangre de Cristo 79, Centennial 34 (B)
Feb. 8 Raton 57, Sangre de Cristo 46
Primero 64, Antonito 60 (B)
Centauri 61, Bayfield 35 (G)
Centauri 58, Bayfield 46 (B)
Crested Butte 47, Sanford 38 (B)
Sargent 58, Sierra Grande 25 (G)
Del Norte 65, Center 33 (G)
Center 53, Del Norte 50 (B)
Moffat-Mt.-Valley 65, Centennial 51 (G)
Centennial 44, Moffat-Mt.-Valley 35 (B)
Alamosa 59, Montezuma-Cortez 42 (B)
Pagosa Springs 69, Monte Vista 26 (G)
Pagosa Springs 53, Monte Vista 38 (B)
- Adams State Wrestling**
Feb. 7 Colorado School of Mines 23, 18

Sports Bulletin

- Prep Wrestling**
Feb. 7 Alamosa 76, Monte Vista 3
Feb. 8 Pagosa Springs 47, Centauri 26
- Charger Invite**
11. Sargent-19, 14. Center- 9,
16.Mountain Valley -6
- Upcoming Events**
- Adams State Baseball**
Feb. 14 12/ 3 p.m. Univ. of the Southwest at ASU (DH)
Feb. 15 12/ 3 p.m. Univ. of the Southwest at ASU (DH)
- Adams State Basketball**
Feb. 14 5:30/7:30 p.m. ASU at Dixie State (W/M)
Feb. 15 5:30/7:30 p.m. ASU at Westminster (W/M)
- Prep Basketball**
Feb. 10 4:30 p.m. Lake City at Sierra Grande (G)
Feb. 11 3 p.m. Del Norte at Ignacio (G/B)
5 p.m. Sangre de Cristo at Sanford (G/B)
Feb. 13 5 p.m. Lake City at Creede (G/B)
5 p.m. Sangre de Cristo at Sierra Grande (G/B)
Feb. 14 3 p.m. Center at Sanford (G/B)
3 p.m. Antonito at Cotopaxi (G/B)
4 p.m. Creede at Moffat-Mt.-Valley (G/B)
5 p.m. Del Norte at Sargent (G/B)
5 p.m. Sierra Grande at Centennial (G/B)
5:30/ 7 p.m. Monte Vista at Bayfield (G/B)
5:30/ 7 p.m. Centauri at Montezuma-Cortez (G/B)
4/ 7 p.m. Alamosa at Pagosa Springs (G/B)
6 p.m. Sangre de Cristo at Manzanola (G/B)
Feb. 15

- 1 p.m. Manzanola at Creede (G/B)
2 p.m. Moffat-Mt.-Valley at La Veta (G/B)
2 p.m. Sanford at South Park (G/B)
2 p.m. Crested Butte at Center (G/B)
3 p.m. Monte Vista at Montezuma-Cortez (B)
3 p.m. Centennial at Antonito (G)
5 p.m. Sargent at Swink (G/B)
5:30/ 7 p.m. Lake City at Sangre de Cristo (G/B)
5:30/ 7 p.m. Alamosa at Centauri (G/B)
- Adams State Lacrosse**
Feb. 21 6 p.m. ASU at Colorado Mesa (M)
Feb. 23 12 p.m. ASU at Westminster (M)
- Adams State Softball**
Feb. 15 12/ 2 p.m. ASU vs Okla. Panhandle State (DH)
Feb. 16 11 a.m./ 1 p.m. ASU vs Okla. Panhandle State (DH)
- Adams State Swimming**
Feb. 12 RMAC Championships
ASU at Mesa State (W/M)
- Prep Swimming (G)**
Feb. 14 State Championships
Sargent at Thornton
- Adams State Wrestling**
Feb. 13 6 p.m. Colorado Mesa at ASU
Feb. 16 Rocky Mountain Open
10 a.m. ASU at Colorado School of Mines
- Prep Wrestling**
Feb. 14 CHSAA 3A, Region 1
Alamosa at Montrose Event Center
CHSAA 2A, Region 2
Centauri, Center, Del Norte, Monte Vista, Sanford,
Sargent at Sierra Grande HS
- Schedules subject to change

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF CRESTONE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020 1:00P.M.
AT THE TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM,
11S. ALDER STREET, CRESTONE, CO
PURPOSE: Public comment on a Planned Unit Development proposal for Tract 3, which consists of 4.62 acres of E. Lime Ave. within the Town of Crestone and Zoned Rural Residential.
PRELIMINARY APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY: Crestone Peak Community Housing, a nonprofit organization, PO BOX 911, Crestone, CO 81131.
PUBLISHED AND POSTED: As per the Zoning Regulations of the Town of Crestone Section IX-10, Ordinance 2006-013, Crestone Board of Trustees: Mayor Kairina Danforth and Trustee Diane Bairstow, Terry Goergen, Adam Kinney, Kizzzen Laki, Sam Pace and Bob Prather.
COMMENTS MAY BE SENT IN ADVANCE OF THE HEARING TO: Crestone Clerk, PO BOX 64, Crestone, CO 81131 or crestoneclerk@fairpoint.net
 No. 1253
 Published in the Valley Courier on January 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, February 01, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, and 11, 2020.

District Court Alamosa County, Colorado
 Court Address: 8955 Independence Way, Alamosa CO 81101
 In the Matter of the Petition of:
 Parent/Petitioner: SHELLY JO RODMAN
 For Minor Child: RAYDEN MICHAEL PRICE
 For a Change of Name to: RAYDEN MICHAEL RODMAN
 Case Number: 19CV13
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
 Public Notice is given on January 31, 2020, that a Petition for a Change of Name of a Minor child has been filed with the District Court.
 The Petition requests that the name of RAYDEN MICHAEL PRICE be changed to RAYDEN MICHAEL RODMAN.
 JENNIFER PACHECO, CLERK OF COURTS
 Mary L. Parker
 Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk
 No. 1288
 Published in the Valley Courier on February 04, 11, and 18, 2020

112 - BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
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221 HELP WANTED
RN CASE MANAGER Hospice del Valle is a non-profit agency located in Alamosa and the only hospice that serves the San Luis Valley. We offer competitive Pay & Benefits, ongoing education, mentoring and support as well as a Holistic & team-centered approach to home-based care. RN Case Manager Responsibilities: Nursing care to diverse patients of all ages in conjunction with an Interdisciplinary Team. Compassionate end of life care to patients and families, promoting quality and comfort-focused care. Qualifications: RN with current Colorado License in good standing and a graduate from an accredited school of nursing. Current CPR certificate, or ability to obtain upon hire. One year of experience minimum, 2-5 years preferred. Valid Colorado driver's license and unlimited access to reliable transportation. Ability to make home visits, travel and drive in all areas of the San Luis Valley year-round. Excellent time management skills and ability to work independently as well as be part of a team. Ability to participate in the on-call, holiday, weekends and after-hours program. Comfortable with basic computer use such as word processing, emails and internet searches; can manage cell phone messages and texting. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a part of the Hospice del Valle team, stop in at 514 Main in Alamosa for an application and meet our executive director, Laura Lewis, or call 719-589-9019. We look forward to hearing from you! Hospice del Valle is an equal opportunity employer. We will not discriminate and will take affirmative action measures to ensure against discrimination in employment, recruitment, advertisements for employment, compensation, termination, upgrading, promotions, and other conditions of employment against any employee or job applicant on the bases of race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.(2/11)

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

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

221 HELP WANTED

THE SAN LUIS Valley Department of Human/Social Services is accepting proposals for an AND Navigator to serve the following counties: Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, and Rio Grande/Mineral. This individual should be SOAR certified or commit to becoming certified within a quick timeframe. This is a contracted position whose primary function will be to assist DSS/DHS applicants with the application/appeal of SSI benefits. Please submit letter of interest and proposed outreach strategy that would illustrate how services will be managed in each of these counties to Nicholas Barela, P.O. BOX 68, Conejos, CO 81129 or nicholas.barela@state.co.us. Please direct any questions to Nicholas Barela at (719) 376-5455. Closes 2/17/2020 (2/14)

221 HELP WANTED

THE CITY OF Alamosa is seeking a Full-time Maintenance Worker I for the Streets Department with a starting salary of \$14.42 - \$15.86 per hour DOQ. For more information and to apply visit www.cityofalamosa.org or City Hall at 300 Hunt Avenue. Protected by the EOE law. Closing date February 24, 2020 at 4:30 pm.(2/27)

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

221 HELP WANTED

EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS UNIT Case Manager needed for Rio Grande County Department of Social Services. Requires High School Diploma or GED, as well as one to three months related experience, including thorough knowledge of TANF rules and regulations and other assistance programs. Computer skills required may include word processing, spreadsheet applications, and various accounting programs. Application and job description available on line at www.riograndecounty.org or pick up and submit to Human Resources 925 6th Street, Room 200, Del Norte, CO 81132(2/13)

LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME employee to help farm. Welding experience and driving farm equipment call 719-850-2137. (3/10)

221 HELP WANTED

RIO GRANDE COUNTY is seeking a full-time jail cook. High school diploma or general education degree (GED). Must be 21 years of age, pass background investigation and drug test screening. \$13.95/ per hour, 40 hours a week, full County benefits. Pick up and submit applications to Human Resources, 925 6th St., Room 200, Del Norte, CO 81132. Applications and job description available on-line at www.riograndecounty.org. Deadline: Until filled. (2/12 #1)

MONTE VISTA AREA Ditch Companies seeking a ditch rider, experience preferred. Must have a valid CDL reliable transportation, Welding capabilities, able to run and maintain heavy equipment. Salary based on experienced. Send resume to 147 Washington St., Monte Vista Co 81144 (2/21)

221 HELP WANTED

FREE CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE COURSE: River Valley Inn Nursing Home in Del Norte Colorado is offering a free Certified Nurse Aide class. Starting March 4, 2020 class will be on Wed/Thurs Deadline for applicants is February 24th, 2020 Please come in for application, 1335 6th Street, Del Norte CO. 81132. (719)-657-1105 (RVI is an EOE)(2/19)

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL District is accepting applications for a High School Head Volleyball Coach (with possible teaching positions available). Applications may be submitted to the District Office, 345 E. Prospect Ave., Monte Vista, CO 81144, until the position is filled. Applications may be downloaded from the district website <http://ww2.monte.k12.co.us/employment-opportunities.html> or call 719-852-5996. (2/25)

221 HELP WANTED

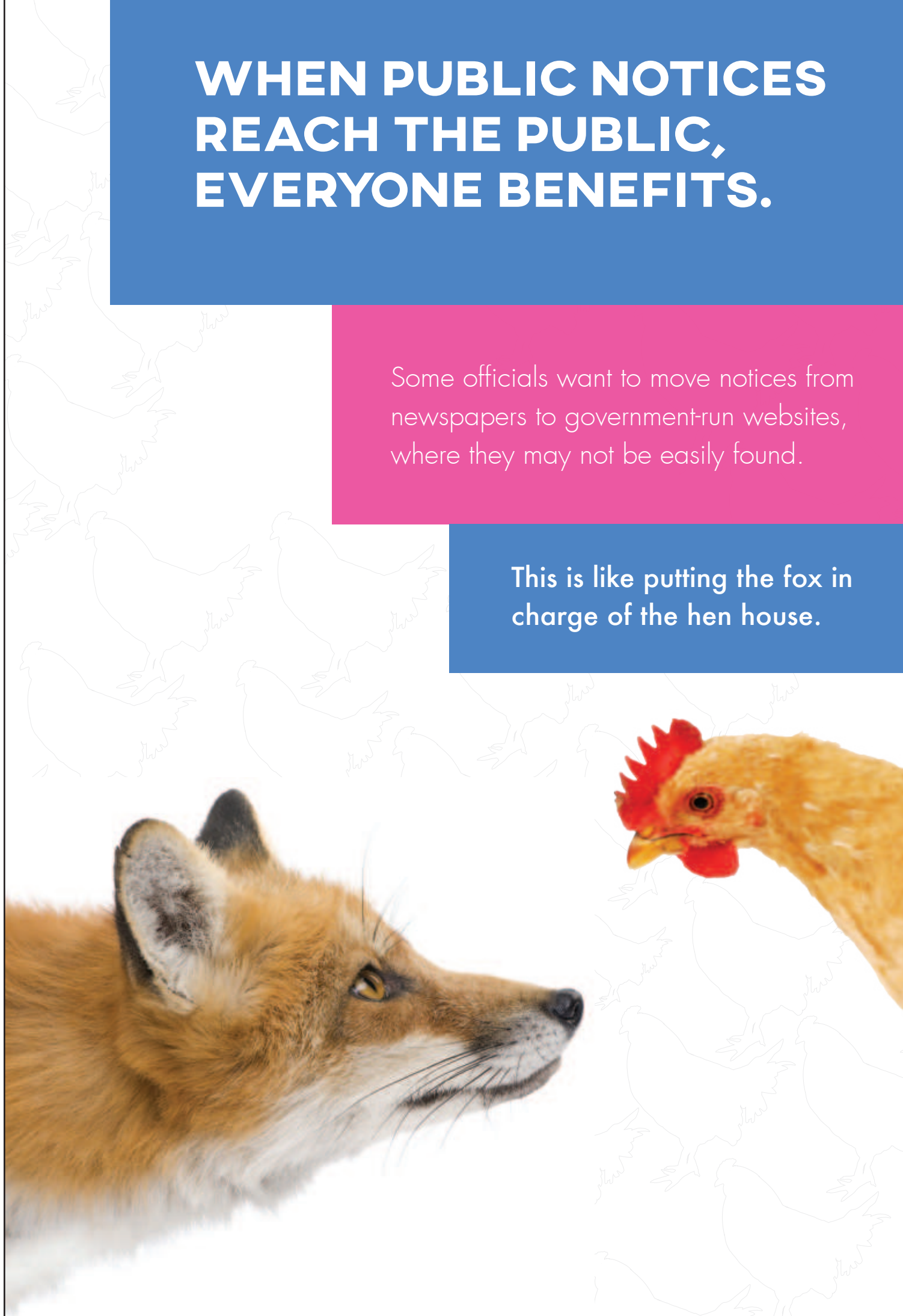
RIO GRANDE COUNTY is seeking a Dispatch/Detention Officer. High school diploma or general education degree (GED), or one to three months related experience and/or training, or equivalent combination of education and experience. Must be 21 years of age, pass background investigation and 5 panel drug test, including marijuana required. Inmate interaction required. \$15.43/ per hour. Pick up and submit applications to Human Resources 925 6th St. Room 200 Del Norte, CO. 81132. Applications also available on-line at www.riograndecounty.org. Deadline: Until Filled (2/12 #2)

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

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 Send resume to: KCerny@alamosanews.com

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NEWS MEDIA ALLIANCE
www.newsmediaalliance.org

Classifieds

221 HELP WANTED

CENTER FOR RESTORATIVE Programs seeks: LEAD / Wrap-around Case Managers who will be responsible for providing intensive case management/wrap-around services; working closely with community partners such as justice system partners, law enforcement, behavioral health, housing, human services, schools and workforce development. Ability to establish strong support and service plans for wrap-around and other services being provided. Successful candidates will have experience providing wrap-around services, intensive case management, working with individuals with behavioral health issues and working with community partners and families. Spanish speaking and wrap-around experience a plus. Applicants should have a 3 years relevant experience. Email resume and cover letter to carey@restorative-programs.org. Position open until filled. CRP is a EOE. (2/19)

221 HELP WANTED

HOST/HOUSTESS NEEDED APPLY in person, at 506 State Street. Rubi Slipper must be flexible. No Phone calls. (2/15)

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

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

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

221 HELP WANTED

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

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

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

221 HELP WANTED

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

324 - FEED & SEED

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

PREMIUM ALFALFA AND grass/alfalfa, small bales \$7.00 in hay shed (719) 580-2509. (03/18)

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

330 FREE

BARN CATS CALL 719-379-4179.(2/14)

351 LIVESTOCK

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

353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK SERVICES

POWDER RIVER CALF shoot. Call anytime 719-580-5745. (2/12)

360 - MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

MOBIL 10W 30 conventional motor oil, \$15.00 a case, have a bunch. 720-384-5600(2/13)

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

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

369 - PETS & SUPPLIES

FOR ADOPTION: 4 little black puppies, part boxer. Males and females. Call or come by Valley Humane League 589-3385 For adoption: Sunshine! an adorable little black chihuahua mix. She is a small lap dog and partially house trained. She gets along with other dogs and cats. Please call Valley Humane League for more information. At this time she is in foster care but we can bring her to meet you at the shelter. 589-3385 For adoption: Mia She is four months old and already very large. She is part pyrenees and part border collie. A wonderful dog! Valley Humane 589-3385(2/14)

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

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

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

369 - PETS & SUPPLIES

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

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

387 - WANTED TO BUY

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

409 FARM & RANCH LAND

FOR LEASE: 126 acres under pivot for hemp, near Moffat, CO. Please Call (719) 942-3286 or email kckennedy163@gmail.com(3/3)

415 - HOMES FOR SALE

1 BEDROOM GARAGE carport fenced front and back yard, and workshop. \$600/Mo. 719-850-6055. (2/25)

HOUSE IN ALAMOSA For Sale, 5 Bedrooms 2.5 Bathrooms call or text 719-496-6795 or 719-480-0960. (2/20)

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

DEL NORTE COLORADO, Owner Finance, 3 Bedroom 2 Bathroom \$1000/Mo. 719-253-2978.(2/15)

2 HOMES/ 5.25 Acres, Trees!, 3 wells!, Extra electric System, Trees!, Corrals. \$184,000.00 970-640-9562.(3/13)

420 - LOTS & ACREAGE

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

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601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

AFFORDABLE 1 BEDROOM apartment for rent in Alamosa and a studio apartment for rent in Monte Vista. Call (719)850-2069. (2/27)

Century Property Management & Sales, LLC

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PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICE

For all your rental needs please call 719-589-5744 or stop by 823 Main St. Alamosa, CO 81101

www.alamosarentals.com

611 - HOMES FOR RENT

3 BEDROOM 1 Bathroom propane and wood heat fenced yard room for livestock. 970-640-9562.(2/14)

BEAUTIFUL NEWLY RENOVATED home for rent, great views of Mt. Blanca and The Sand Dunes. Attached garage, \$1,150/Mo. 9 miles east of Alamosa, No smoking. 719-588-0300.(2/19)

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

630 - ROOMS FOR RENT

ROOM FOR RENT next to TSJC all utilities included 719-580-4689.(2/14)

634 - ROOMMATE WANTED

MATURE WOMEN LOOKING for a female roommate to share a 3 bedroom house. For information call 719-589-6921 or 719-588-0813.(2/19)

717 WATER SHARES

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

SLV IRRIGATION WELL Owners Inc. 6000 gallons at \$4.00 per gallon. Call 719-849-8197.(2/11)

TRUCK DRIVER WANTED part time Saturday and Monday's Retired preferred. Wolf Creek pass. Call 719-480-9937 (2/11)

ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for a General Labor I position in the Facilities Services Department. For application or more information, please see <https://www.adams.edu/hr/employment/> / Deadline is February 9, 2020. AA/EOE. (2/8)

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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 40 Ebb
 - 43 Monk's title
 - 44 Actress — Farrow
 - 47 Florid
 - 48 Vistas
 - 50 Notify
 - 52 Large receptacle
 - 53 Dove into second
 - 54 South Australia's capital
 - 59 Garr of "Tootsie"
 - 60 Not Dem. or Rep.
 - 61 Roulette color
 - 62 Bo Derek movie
 - 63 Refrain syllables
 - 64 Boundaries
- DOWN**
- 1 Used to be
 - 2 Lean-to
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 - 5 Mwys.
 - 6 Above, in verse
 - 7 Roused to action

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- 8 "Back in Black" group
- 9 Crowd in
- 10 Army officer
- 14 Gaunt
- 16 Actress — Freeman
- 20 Mo. multiples
- 21 Org. for Annika Sorenstam
- 22 Titled man
- 23 Father of Cain
- 24 Suspected
- 28 Phone message system
- 29 Cartoon shriek
- 31 Exclude
- 34 Nurse's helper
- 35 Sluggish
- 36 Many turkeys
- 41 Screw things up
- 42 Like Mr. Hyde
- 44 Light rain
- 45 Fjord
- 46 In flames
- 49 Shallow
- 51 Norse Zeus
- 52 Sleepers' spots
- 55 Double helix
- 56 Cl- or Ca++
- 57 Carried out
- 58 Um cousins

SUDOKU

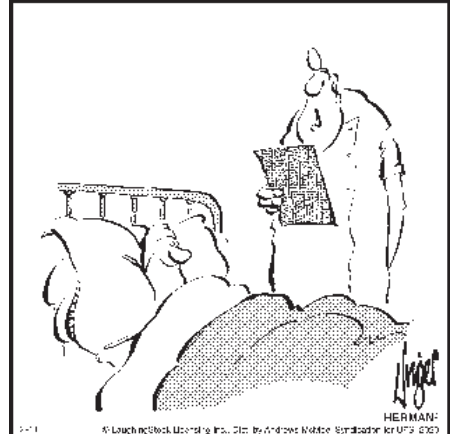
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HOW TO PLAY:
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

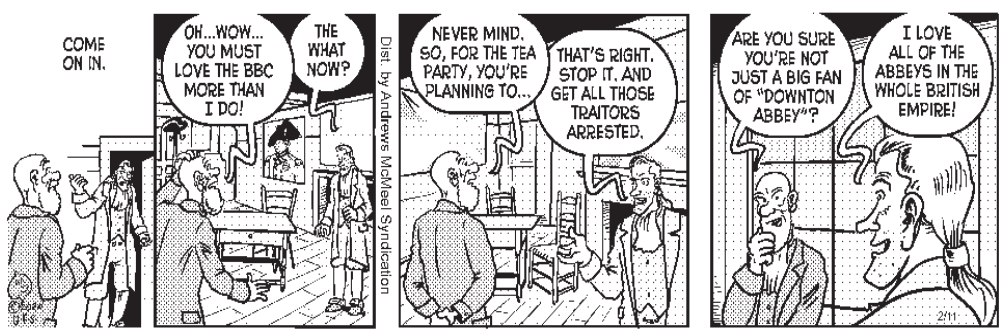
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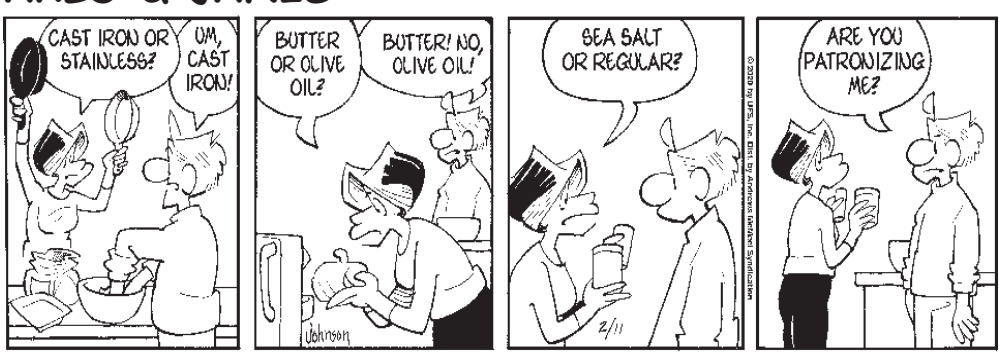


"We had to remove your brain for a couple of days, so just try to relax."

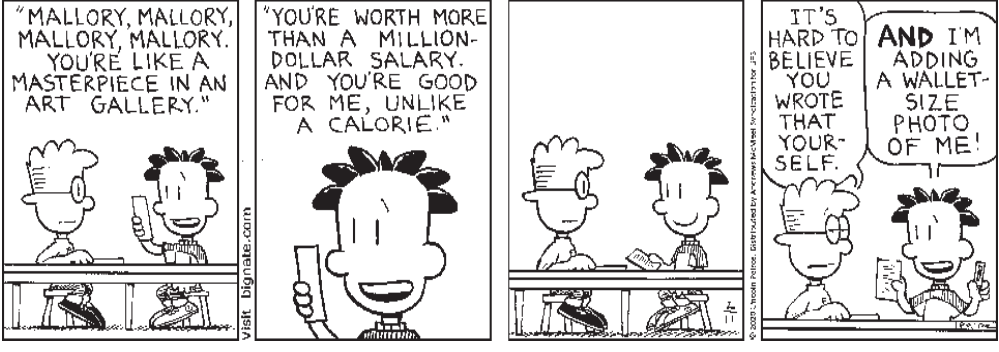
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ARLO & JANIS



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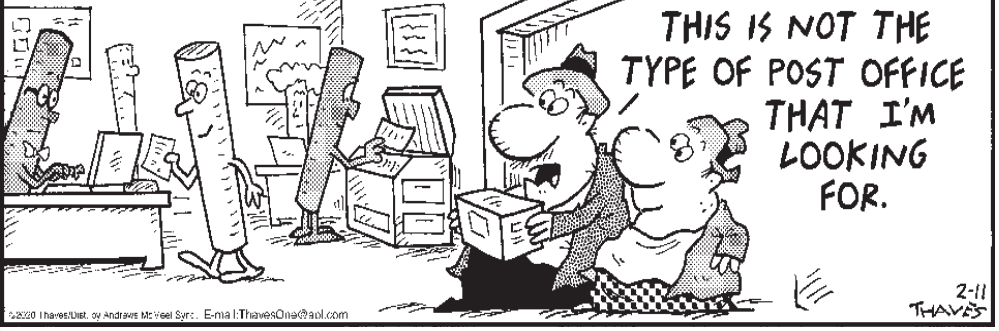
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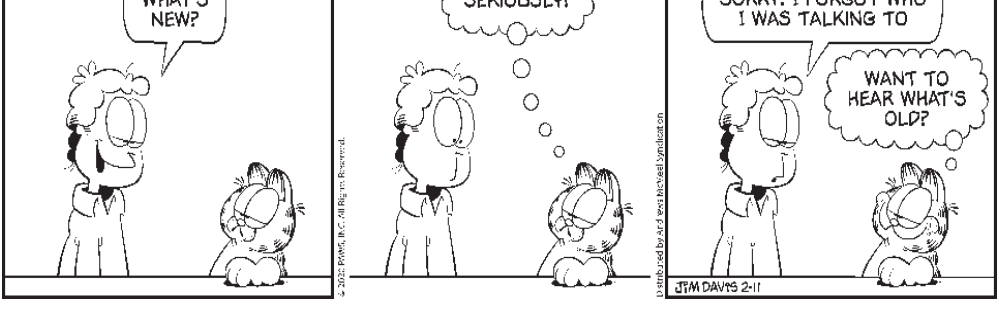
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



FRANK & ERNEST



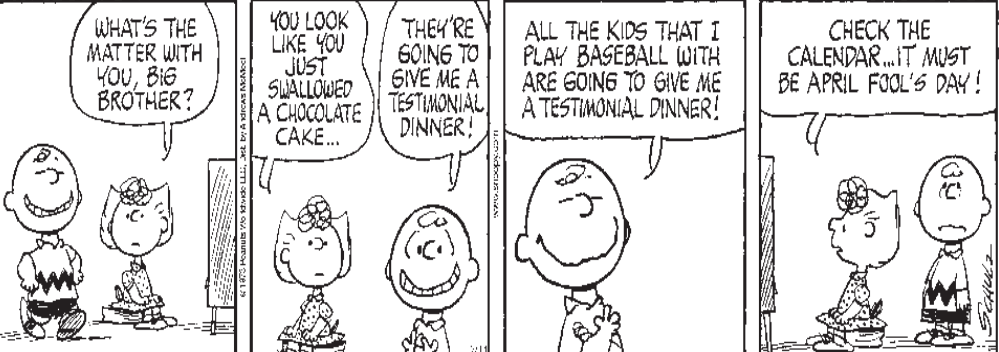
GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



Brother's hair-trigger temper makes get-togethers tense

DEAR ABBY: A year ago, my brother "Leon" had a nervous breakdown at work due to a co-worker constantly harassing him. He's currently under the care of a therapist through his workplace and has not worked for a year. Recently, at a family get-together, I asked him a question about his current situation. He became angry and very emotional. He accused me of "not listening" and went through the process of re-describing in detail how the co-worker harassed him. He then became confrontational, as if I were on trial. His adult daughter kept her head down, until she finally told her father that I only asked him the question because I loved him and was concerned for him. My niece and her sister both tried to de-escalate the situation, but were unsuccessful. After he was done with his tirade, he proceeded to harass and belittle ME! At that point, I got up and told my husband privately that I wanted to leave, which we did. This isn't the first time my brother has behaved this way at a family get-together. He acted out toward family members long before the incident at his workplace. I enjoy being with my family, but Leon has made

it unpleasant for me, and I don't like how I must walk on eggshells around him to prevent a confrontation. How do I handle this in the future and still have fun with my family? -- LINE OF FIRE IN OHIO

DEAR LINE OF FIRE: It appears your brother is not progressing well with his therapy, which is sad not only for him but also anyone who has to interact with him. Because you are no longer willing to tolerate his abuse, a logical answer would be to see your relatives in situations where he isn't included. Consider doing some entertaining on your own, because in that way, you can control the guest list.

DEAR ABBY: I was adopted at birth. About 30 years ago, I found my birth mother, but our relationship is intermittent and distant. She only recently gave me a name of my biological father. Through DNA testing I have discovered that the name she gave me was incorrect and who he actually was. The confirmation is rock solid with half-sisters and several first cousins located. My birth mother is 90 now. Should I tell her what I have found out or let it go? All of the direct



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

TELLER IN TEXAS

DEAR TRUTH-TELLER: How mentally "with it" is your 90-year-old mother? If she's in the early stages of dementia, what have you to gain by telling her? If she's sharp as a tack, one has to wonder why she would try to obscure your bio-father's identity. Was she attempting to protect herself, him or you? Or was she unsure of his identity because she had been raped or was seeing more than one man? These are questions I can't answer for you.

It shouldn't create a bombshell if you approach the subject by telling her you have uncovered some information about your biological relatives. If she is interested, tell her everything. If not, let it be.

have passed on. -- TRUTH-

Lifestyle

Crane

Continued from Page 5
by local birding expert and author, John Rawinski. Bring, lunch, water, and dress for the weather. Be prepared to walk at a leisurely pace.

SOLD OUT Home Lake Birding Tour A guided walking bird tour around Home Lake, led by local birding expert and author, John Rawinski. Bring, lunch, water, and dress for the weather. Be prepared to walk at a leisurely pace.

Meet at Monte Vista Middle School \$5 Ticket required
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. RIGHT Conservation Tour Learn about the importance of Conservation Easements and the role private lands play in wildlife conservation. This tour is led by the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust around one of their easements. No restrooms are available on tour.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$20 Ticket required

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. SOLD OUT Elephant Rocks Tour See and learn about sculpted massive boulders, unique geology and biology. BLM staff will give a talk about the area and then you are free to explore on your own or with staff. Porta Potti will be on site.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$20 Ticket required

11 a.m. – noon Talk: Grains for Cranes Max Cianglo -Colorado Land Trust - Come learn about the history of Sandhill Cranes and barley production in Colorado, and how our program is working to ensure that Cranes will always migrate through this mountain valley.

Vali 3 Theatre \$5 Ticket required

1 p.m. – 2:40 p.m. Movie: Bird of Prey Bird of Prey weaves stunning natural history footage of the critically endangered Great Philippine Eagle with the remarkable story of wildlife cinematographer Neil Rettig and a small group of conservationists from the Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF) who work tirelessly to save the bird from extinction. 1 hour and 34 minutes

Vali 3 Theatre \$5 Ticket required

3 p.m. – 4 p.m. Talk: Dealing with Water Scarcity Cleave Simpson—General Manager of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD), Alamosa, CO. Come learn about water in the Rio Grande Basin and the San Luis Valley, and the challenges surface water users and groundwater users face in an over appropriated system. The San Luis Valley basin is hydrologically complicated with a shallow “unconfined” aquifer and a deeper “confined” aquifer. Learn how we are actively working to address the decade’s old issue of groundwater/surface water interactions as well as creating and maintaining healthy aquifer systems.

Meet at Ski Hi Vali 3 Theatre \$5 Ticket required

4 p.m. – 6 p.m. Evening Crane Tour Expert-led bus tour to Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge to learn all about Sandhill Cranes. Bring warm clothes and water. Restrooms are available at two stops.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$10 Ticket Required

7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Keynote Speaker Teddy Roosevelt as portrayed by Kurt Skinner – “I So Declare It”: Theodore Roosevelt’s Conservation Crusade For

America. TR imprinted his love of the natural world onto America – as “wilderness warrior” President, he fought for our national treasures and left a legacy of federal resource conservation and wildlife protection.

Vali 3 Theatre \$10 Ticket required

Sunday, March 8, 2020 (Daylight Savings Starts)

8 a.m. – 10 a.m. Morning Crane Tour Expert-led bus tour to Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge to learn all about Sandhill Cranes. Bring warm clothes and water. Restrooms are available at two stops.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$10 Ticket required

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 a.m. Hawks Aloft Raptor Tour Experts from Hawks Aloft will lead a bus tour to view and learn about local raptors.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$20 Ticket required

10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. SOLD OUT Scott Miller Archeological Tour Bus tour to visit this rich archaeological site with a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service archaeologist. Be prepared for a moderate 1.5-mile walk over uneven ground. In case of bad weather or snow on the ground, a talk with artifacts to view will be at a refuge building. Bring water.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$20 Ticket required

10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. SOLD OUT Scott Miller Archeological Tour Bus tour to visit this rich archaeological site with a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service archaeologist. Be prepared for a moderate 1.5-mile walk over uneven ground. In case of bad weather or snow on the ground, a talk with artifacts to view will be at a refuge building. Bring water.

Meet at Ski Hi Complex \$20 Ticket required

Tickets will also be on sale at the talk and movie events. But don't take a chance, many tours will sell out, buy the tickets early.

Schedule courtesy of the website of the Monte Vista Crane Festival. To contact the organization by mail, PO Box 585 Monte Vista Colorado 81132, or by email at mycranefest@gmail.com, or by phone at 719-289-7522.

Protecting Colorado's Wilderness

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Monday evening's House Rules Committee by a vote of 9-4, approved U.S. Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO) legislation to permanently protect nearly 1.4 million acres of wilderness in three states: Colorado, California and Washington.

The bill now heads to the full House for a vote as early as Wednesday. If approved, it will be the largest wilderness-protection bill the House has approved in more than a decade.

Colorado is home to some of the most unique and treasured landscapes in the country, and for many residents, these outdoor spaces are what make life here so special.

A recent survey found that over 90% of western Coloradans regularly participated in some sort of outdoor recreation activity every year. That same survey found that 71% of western slope voters support keeping the state's current Wilderness Study Areas protected as they are, while 63% of those surveyed said they support designating even more areas across the state as wilderness.

A similar survey conducted by Colorado College found that most Coloradans (65%) want to see Congress focus on protecting Colorado's public lands for future generations to enjoy, while just 24% of those surveyed said they wanted to see them used for the production of oil and gas. “Colorado is known for its treasured landscapes and abundance of natural resources. Protecting our public lands is not only essential to our state's overall economy, it's essential to preserving our renowned way of life,” said U.S. Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO).

Colorado's public lands provide more than just a unique place to visit, they are a major economic driver for our state's economy.

According to the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, Colorado's outdoor recreation industry generates \$28 billion in consumer spending each year and supports 229,000 jobs throughout the state.

To ensure that Colorado's most treasured landscapes remain protected — and available for generations to

enjoy — DeGette introduced legislation known as the Colorado Wilderness Act of 2019.

If approved, the Colorado Wilderness Act of 2019 would permanently protect more than 600,000 acres of wilderness in 32 distinct areas across Colorado.

By designating these 32 areas as federally-protected wilderness, DeGette's legislation will give them the highest-level of permanent protection available.

While more than two-thirds of the areas to be protected under DeGette's bill are already being treated as wilderness, DeGette's legislation will officially designate them as such — ensuring they remain untouched for many years to come.

While Colorado already has more than 3,500,000 acres of land designated as wilderness, most of this land is at higher elevations and includes many of the alpine landscapes for which Colorado is so famous for.

Unlike the high-altitude landscapes that are already protected, the 32 areas that would be designated as wilderness under DeGette's bill are mostly mid-elevation ecosystems that provide valuable habitats to a variety of plants and wildlife.

What does “wilderness” mean?

The Wilderness Act of 1964 defines wilderness as “untrammeled by man” and “retaining its primeval character.”

“If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it,” said President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964.

Once an area is designated as wilderness it becomes federally-protected for people to use and enjoy in a manner that leaves them untouched for future generations to also enjoy.

Wilderness designations generally prohibit commercial activities, motorized access and other human infrastructure, with some exceptions.

Instead, these areas are preserved for adventurers, such as hikers, equestrians, rafters, kayakers, hunters, anglers, mountaineers and climbers to enjoy.

Which areas will be protected?

From the dramatic ridge-line vistas of Grand Hogback, to the sprawling plateaus at Little Book Cliffs, to the stunning red cliffs of the Dolores River Canyon and the winding riverways of the Browns Canyon, the 32 unique areas that would be permanently protected under DeGette's legislation are some of the most remarkable landscapes that Colorado has to offer.

In deciding which areas to protect, DeGette spent years working with residents and stakeholders from across the state — including ranchers, land owners, mountain bikers, rock climbers, off-highway vehicle groups, land management agencies, and local elected officials — to solicit their ideas and get their feedback.

DeGette made numerous trips to visit many of the areas now included in her bill to get a firsthand look at some of the magical places that would be protected.

She's held public meetings with communities across the state to discuss her proposal and get their feedback. She's met with those who would be directly impacted by the proposal to get their thoughts and address any concerns they may have.

The ideas, suggestions and feedback that DeGette has received over the years has been used to draft and redraft the legislation she introduced earlier this year.

As Colorado's population continues to grow, so too does the need to protect more of its public lands for future generations to enjoy.

From 2010 to 2018, Colorado's population increased by nearly 700,000 people and the state is now home to more than 5.7 million residents.

And, according to Colorado College's 2019 State of the Rockies survey, as many as 90% of Colorado's residents believe that protecting its outdoor recreation economy is important to the future of our state.

The Colorado Wilderness Act began as the Citizen's Wilderness Plan and was initially developed by a group of concerned citizens who inventoried lands across the state and identified several pristine environments that could meet the criteria for a wilderness designation, if Congress was willing to act.

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