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**League rivals Sargent-Del Norte mix it up on Friday night.**

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# Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS FEBRUARY 15, 2020 \$1

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**SLV Today**  
**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.

**NCSDBOD meets Tues.**

**CONEJOS**— A regular board meeting for the North Conejos School District Board of Education will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday at the District Administration Office in La Jara. Agendas are available at the District Administration Office, 17890 US Highway 285, La Jara, Colorado, or on our web site [www.northconejos.com](http://www.northconejos.com).

**Valentine's BINGO**

**ALAMOSA**— American Legion Valentine's Sweetheart Bingo \$1,199 must go. Doors open at 5 p.m. and Bingo begins at 7 p.m. on Friday. Everybody is welcome.

**VFW BINGO**

**ALAMOSA**— VFW Bingo will open its doors at 4 p.m. on Saturday, today, and \$1,199 must go when the game begins at 6 p.m.

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**SLV WEATHER**



Mostly Sunny 49/15

Sun.: Mostly Sunny 52/22  
 Mon.: Partly Cloudy 50/16

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## Alamosan arrested in Florida

### Reynolds, aka 'Maggie Rains,' charged in high-end prostitution ring

By KEITH R. CERNY  
*Courier Publisher*

**ALAMOSA** — A 45-year-old Alamosa woman and an Israeli man are facing federal charges for allegedly “running a sprawling, high-end prostitution ring” that operated in Manhattan, NY, according to reports from the New York Post this week.

Tracy Reynolds and her alleged partner Izhak Cohen of Israel, allegedly “laundered more than \$10 million through thousands of bank accounts and financial institutions in the US and overseas,” according to federal prosecutors, the Post reported Tuesday.

A news release on the website for the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York (SDNY) confirms Reynolds as being from Alamosa. That office also reports that Reynolds was possibly also known as “Sara.”



**A Facebook photo post of Maggie Rains.**

According to Facebook posts, a Tracy J. Reynolds of Alamosa may also perform music under

the name of Maggie Rains. The complaint against Reynolds and Cohen refers to an email account “purportedly associated with a wedding music business operated by Reynolds,” and was signed by “Tracy J. Reynolds.”

The Post went on to report, “Reynolds and Cohen allegedly set up their prostitution company, called “VIP Escorts,” in 2012 and arranged for prostitutes to meet clients in Manhattan and other areas across the country, prosecutors said in a statement.

“After the prostitutes charged the clients thousands of dollars for sex work, they deposited their profits into thousands of different bank accounts controlled by Reynolds, authorities said.

“More than \$10 million in total was passed through accounts owned by Reynolds in the prostitution operation, according to prosecutors.

“Reynolds then allegedly passed more than \$1 million to Cohen in Israel in small amounts to hide the transactions.”

Reynolds was reportedly arrested in Florida Tuesday morning at Tampa International Airport while boarding a flight to Mexico.

According to the complaint on the SDNY website, Reynolds and Cohen, 53, of Hadera, Israel, are each charged with one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison, and two counts of money laundering, each of which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

The SDNY news release states that, “the charge contained in the complaint is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.”

According to the SDNY news ■ See **ARREST** page 3

## ASU Gives Day will celebrate national champions



Photos by Jade Winton and Linda Relyea

Above, The Adams State Music of the Americas Project will perform during Adams State Gives Day on Monday in Richardson Hall Auditorium. Below, Adams State chemistry students will light up the stage during Adams State Gives Day on February 17 in Richardson Hall Auditorium.



An evening of local stars will grace the stage during the very first Adams State Gives Day from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 17, in Richardson Hall Auditorium. Stephanie Cotter won the NCAA Division-II 6K women's cross country title in 2019, leading the team to dominate and place first. Adams State Gives Day will recognize the entire men's and women's cross country teams and their coach Damon Martin. Alamosa artist Sarah Ramirez will create a painting on stage throughout the two hours. Beloved musician Don Richmond will perform a couple of songs during the fast-paced evening, which will include talented Adams State students from across the disciplines.

The live talent show and telethon will air coast-to-coast on the web at [adams.edu/live](http://adams.edu/live). Community members of Alamosa and the San Luis Valley are encouraged to support talented Adams State students from all disciplines by being a part of the live audience. There is no admission charge.

## Increase in flu cases — increase in caution

**ALAMOSA** — Because of the increase in flu cases here in the San Luis Valley, the local health provider San Luis Valley Health has initiated some guidelines to better serve its patients and their families.

This season SLV Health has diagnosed 241 positive cases of influenza at San Luis Valley Health facilities, in comparison to 107 for the same time frame last flu season.

Due to this substantial increase in flu activity, San Luis Valley Health is initiating temporary visitor restrictions at our facilities.

The following restrictions are in place:

- ▶ No children under the age of 12 should come to the hospital unless they are in need of medical care.
- ▶ All visitors should be healthy, so please refrain from visitation if experiencing symptoms of cold, flu or other illness.
- ▶ If coughing or sneezing frequently, masks are required to be worn and staff may request visitors to do so.
- ▶ Frequent hand washing is encouraged, and facilities for hand hygiene are located throughout the facilities.

“These restrictions are in place to help protect all visitors, patients, staff and the community we serve,” said Konnie Martin, CEO of San Luis Valley Health. “Cooperation with these guidelines and understanding of our efforts to promote health are greatly appreciated.”

*Dawn Krebs, Foundation Administrative Assistant, San Luis Valley Health, 106 Blanca Ave., Alamosa, CO 81101, Office: 719-587-6359, Dawn.Krebs@slvrhc.org.*

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# Record

## PENDING OBITUARY

### Julian Garcia, 60

**MONTE VISTA** — Arrangements are pending and have been entrusted to Romero Valley Funeral Home of Monte Vista.

#### 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](http://www.alamosanews.com), for no additional fee.

Please email obituaries if possible to [news@alamosanews.com](mailto: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.

## ASU, Valdez at the Capitol



Courtesy photo

**On Thursday Feb. 13, it was Adams State University day at the Capitol. Representative Donald Valdez was honored to have a tribute read on the house floor on behalf of Adams State University for its continued years of education for our community. With next year being 100 years that the institute has educated so many, ASU spoke to legislators and guests about the programs offered by ASU. President Dr. Cheryl D. Lovell and the ASU Board of Trustees were on the floor representing the university. I had the pleasure of meeting ASU students, staff, administration, Board of Trustees and President Dr Cheryl D. Lovell. I am proud to be an alumni of ASU and truly enjoyed meeting the young people carrying on the tradition of excellence.**

## 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](http://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](http://govotecolorado.com).

## SLV food bank serves needy

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

**To report crimes anonymously call San Luis Valley Crimestoppers at 589-4111.**

## ONGOING VALLEY MEETINGS

**ALAMOSA**—The San Luis Valley Military Family Support Group meets on the second Thursday at 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** — 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mkmillermink@aol.com)

**MONTE VISTA**—The

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

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

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

**ALAMOSA** — The San Luis Valley Photography Club meets the first Wednesday at the Alamosa Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Contact Stephen Jensen at 379-0001 or [slvphotostephen@gmail.com](mailto:slvphotostephen@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 Ev-

elyn 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## AA MEETINGS

**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.

### 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

**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: [womanscitizenshipclub@gmail.com](mailto:womanscitizenshipclub@gmail.com).

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

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

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

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

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

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

### 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 - Monday - Feb. 17, 2020**



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

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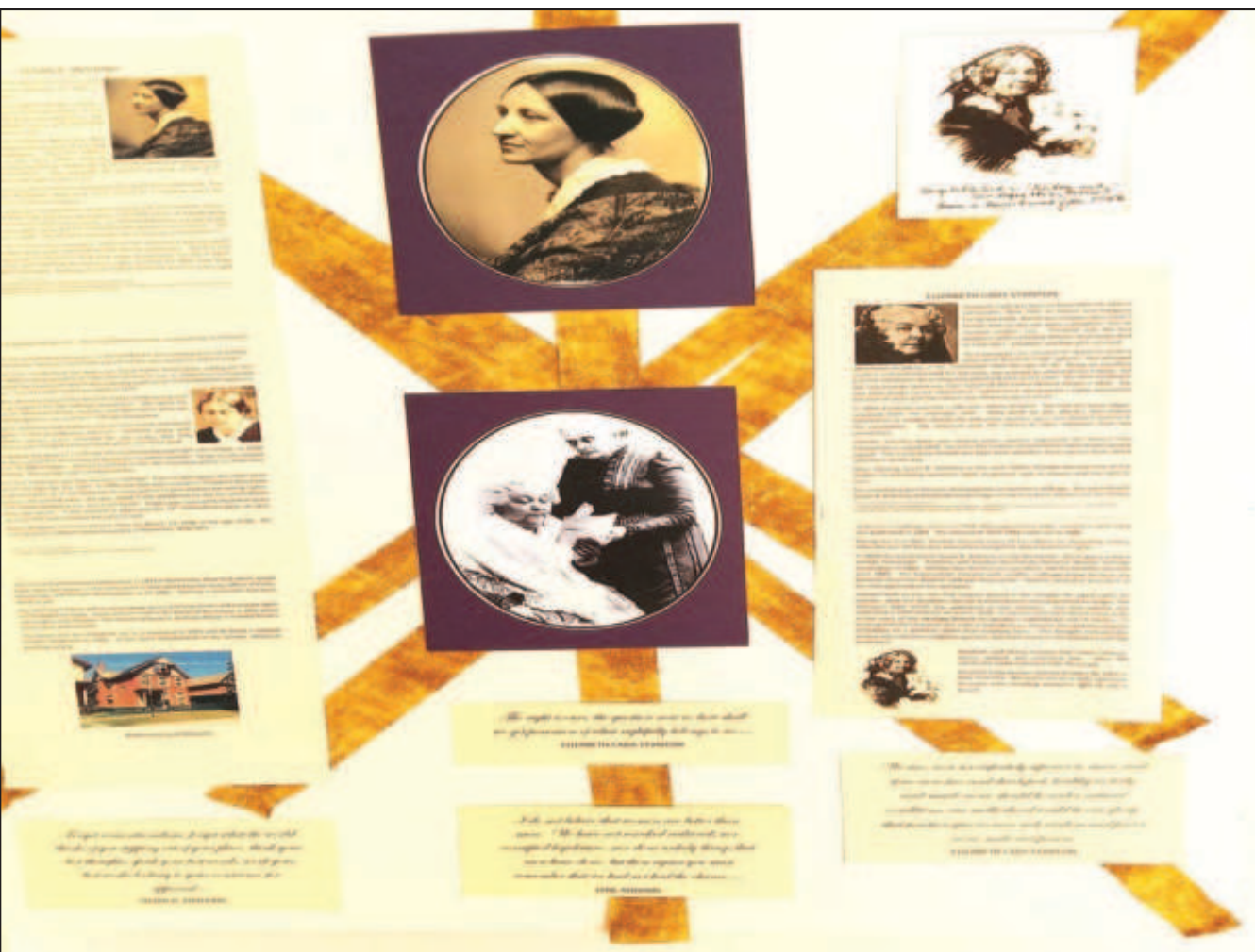
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# Valley News



Courtesy photos

## 19th Amendment's 100th anniversary

### Women finally get to vote

**DEL NORTE** — This year marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

This was ratified by 36 states with Tennessee being the 36th state to ratify it on Aug. 18, 1920. This was the end result of over a century and half of women and men working to achieve this goal.

Of course, as with any political movement there were two sides of the story. The anti-suffrage movement worked probably as hard to get their views heard.

This movement was also made up of women and men who felt that giving women the vote was not a good idea.

The Rio Grande County Museum has documented stories about the men and women who worked to gain the right to vote for women.

Panels have been designed to show the national suffrage leaders such as Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia and James Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Matilda Joselyn Gage, Lucy Stone and Sojourner Truth and more.

The Colorado story of suffrage has also been documented with many different parts to the story. The 1875-1876 Constitutional Convention did not give woman's suffrage, but left a means to gain the right to vote in the document, eventually led to the referendum that was approved by the voting electors on Nov. 7, 1893.

Colorado was the first state to give women the right to vote by using a general election for the referendum.

Wyoming Territory was the first in the nation to have voting rights. This was gained by the Territorial government passing the law to do so.

The museum will host a reception/open house for the exhibit on Feb. 29 starting at 10 a.m.

Light refreshments will be served.



It is a good time to see the museum, the changes and talk to the museum staff about the suffrage exhibit and the other happenings in the museum.

Check out the Rio Grande County Museum Facebook site for the video done by Patrick Shea about the exhibit.

For more information, please contact the Rio Grande County Museum at 719-657-2847, Rio Grande County Museum Facebook page or email [rgmuseum@riograndecounty.org](mailto:rgmuseum@riograndecounty.org).

Hours are Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., except on days of events.



## Arrest

Continued from Page 1

release, "Reynolds and Cohen required escorts to deposit the proceeds of their commercial sex acts into a large number of bank accounts that they controlled, many of them in the name of fake entities.

Reynolds and Cohen then laundered the money through thousands of domestic and international financial transactions.

"In total, over \$10 million passed through various personal and business accounts controlled by Reynolds during the course of this conspiracy, and over \$1 million was sent from Reynolds in the United States to Cohen in Israel in thousands of small transactions designed to conceal the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds."

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Sat & Sun. 1:30, 5:25, 8:15  
**FANTASY ISLAND**  
This Island Is A Scream PG-13

Sat & Sun. 1:30, 5:35, 8:05  
**SONIC THE HEDGEHOG**  
Gotta Go Fast! PG

Sat & Sun. 1:30, 5:40, 8:15  
**THE PHOTOGRAPH**  
Love story for the ages PG-13

Sat & Sun. 1:30, 5:30, 8:15  
**BIRDS OF PREY**  
Mind over mayhem - Margot Robbie R

Sat & Sun. 1:30, 5:15, 8:10  
**1917**  
Time is the enemy R

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**JUMANJI**  
Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart PG-13

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ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY COLORADO <i>Great Stories Begin Here</i>		CALENDAR OF EVENTS				February	
<b>SUNDAY • 16</b> Softball vs Oklahoma Panhandle State University 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Softball Field  <a href="http://www.adams.edu">www.adams.edu</a>	<b>MONDAY • 17</b> Adams State Gives Day Live Talent Show and Telethon 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Richardson Hall Auditorium or <a href="http://adams.edu/live">adams.edu/live</a>	<b>TUESDAY • 18</b> Board Game Night: 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. The Loft	<b>WEDNESDAY • 19</b>	<b>THURSDAY • 20</b> High Altitude Training Center (Bubble) Open to Public 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Zacheis Planetarium: Free Movies 7 p.m. <i>Mayan Archaeoastronomy: Observers of the Universe</i> 7:45 p.m. <i>From Earth to the Universe</i>	<b>FRIDAY • 21</b> Counselor Education WINGS Symposium: All Day Richardson Hall Auditorium 719-587-7626 W Basketball vs Western Colorado University 5:30 p.m. Plachy Hall M Basketball vs Western Colorado University 7:30 p.m. Plachy Hall	<b>SATURDAY • 22</b> Zacheis Planetarium: Free Movies 3 p.m. <i>Ice Worlds</i> 3:45 p.m. <i>Experience the Aurora</i> W Basketball vs Colorado Mesa University 5:30 p.m. Plachy Hall M Basketball vs Colorado Mesa University 7:30 p.m. Plachy Hall Overnight Indoor Soccer Tournament High Altitude Training Center (Bubble)	
<p>Through March 12</p> <p>Cloyde Snook Gallery: <i>RECONSTRUCTION</i> by Kenny Nguyen</p> <p>Hatfield Gallery: <i>ex-votos</i> by Kenny Schneider, art alumnus</p> <p>Gallery Hours: 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday</p>							

# Opinion

## Mom, we miss you

Mom was born to Elda and Fred in 1934 Mercedes while Bonnie and Clyde were pursued by Louisiana Law Men, and the dust bowl ravaged 300 million acres of Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and Texas. In Germany, Adolf Hitler declared himself "fuhrer."

Tuberculosis in rural, southern Texas killed her mother when Mom, a small blonde-headed, kitty-and-puppy rescuer, was almost 5 years old. A few years later, her sister Leona gave birth in a tuberculosis sanitarium to her daughter who was initially raised by her uncle and aunt. Mom was also

**Nelda Curtiss**



*Movin' On With Nellie*

quarantined in a sanitarium where she remembers pretending the rats or mice were her friends.

When the family was whole again, mom remembered riding the water route with her dad. He drove the canals to monitor the irrigation waters. As a teen, she enjoyed nights at the dance or a pause on the levee to turn up the radio, light up a Pall-Mall and drink some beer with Earl, Erline and Jimmy.

She would tell her three daughters how she would find a kitty on the way home from elementary school. It makes sense that when we were growing up with mom, our family always had a dog: mutts, Australian shepherd, shelties.

Mom worked at a bank in Mercedes after she and her husband divorced. At that time, my sister and I would always make believe in our playtimes. After Mom was home, my sister and I would get on all fours and bark: "Woof, woof, woof." Holding back loud laughs, she would pat us on our heads, saying, "Good puppy!" She was a listener and liked to play along with us.

As we grew and she remarried an Air Force Sergeant, we lived in Europe and other bases in the States.

Our littlest sister was born before we left Europe. Even as Mom guided me through my puberty years, she was opening baby food for this little one. One year the family went to Disneyland. Yes, and Mom made sure we met Minnie, Mickie and Goofy.

I remember when nightmares struck with dogs chasing us or spiders dangling in front of us, she would rub our stomachs and soothe us with comforting prayers and thoughts. Like, "It's only a dream. It's not real. Jesus is with you and no one is going to hurt you. Pray to him to keep the bad things out."

She created outfits for us, so we were twins on the way to school or at Sunday School. When we wanted to learn to sew or make an outfit for prom, she was on the floor showing us how to layout and pin patterns and how to make adjustments to seams.

Spaghetti, marinara sauce and meat balls was a recipe passed down from our step daddy. It was from the old country — Italy. When she made the sauce, the whole house felt like a backyard to a Dean Martin stage with "When the moon hits your eye like a big pizza pie, that's amore. ..." I would watch her knead the pound of hamburger, crush saltines and eggs into the mix, and roll out chunky meat balls that she browned in a skillet with extra virgin olive oil.

Later on, when my son was born, Mom and my little sister came to visit. Bouncing him on her knee, she smiled, and her eyes twinkled.

Mom would be 86 this week. We all miss her and hate that tobacco caused the cancer that stole her 10 years ago. We still talk to Mom though; and whisper prayers like she taught us long ago. "Now I lay me down to sleep. ..."

*—Nelda Curtiss is a former substance-prevention media specialist, journalist, and retired college professor who enjoys writing and fine arts. Contact her at columsbynellie@gmail.com.*

## Martin family grateful toward Alamosa Fire Department's effort

Letter to the Editor: On Jan. 30th at 2 a.m., we had a house fire. We would like to thank Fire Chief Dan Chapman and the Alamosa firefighters that responded.

They arrived in less than 20 minutes and had the fire under control soon after arrival.

They saved us from what could have been a complete disaster.

Thanks so much to all of those that keep us safe!

*Paul & Lesa Martin*



To submit news, email: [news@alamosanews.com](mailto:news@alamosanews.com)  
To submit sports, email: [sjiron@alamosanews.com](mailto:sjiron@alamosanews.com)

### Letters policy

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

## Can we survive the internet?

By GENE LYONS  
Column

If nothing else, the internet has exploded the myth of human rationality.

Remember when Al Gore was going around talking about the "information superhighway"? Twenty years down the road, it's more like the Freeway of Delusion.

British philosopher Bertrand Russell would not have been surprised. "Man is a rational animal — so at least we have been told," he said. "Throughout a long life I have looked diligently for evidence in favor of this statement. So far, I have not had the good fortune to come across it."

Russell was thinking of World War I. Evidence of mass irrationality abounds. Absurd falsehoods and crackpot conspiracy theories once touted by street-corner eccentrics carrying hand-lettered signs now circle the globe at the speed of light. As recently as a generation ago, intellectual gatekeepers like CBS anchorman Walter Cronkite and NBC's David Brinkley presided over the news divisions at their respective networks, and were widely believed to deliver accurate information.

"If I've lost Cronkite, I've lost Middle America," President Lyndon Johnson allegedly said after a critical on-air editorial in 1968 questioning American claims to be winning in Vietnam. Some have disputed the quote. But the story resonates because its essence was true. People believed Uncle Walter. Within two weeks of the broadcast, LBJ decided not to run for reelection.

Such an outcome would be unthinkable today. The most influential pundits during the 2016 presidential election spoke Russian. And most of what they peddled was sheer make-believe: poisonous fictions about Hillary Clinton's dismembering children while simultaneously being at death's door due to her failing health, etc.

No internet, no Russian trolls. Also, in all likelihood, no President Trump.

Mere journalism of the traditional kind hardly stands a chance. Indeed, if one had no other reason to subscribe to Facebook, it would be to track the remorseless march of folly across the political landscape. Just this morning, for example, I learned from one Facebook friend — a prominent local

citizen — that Sharia law is sweeping the nation. Christian children are being converted to Islam in public schools, while Americans everywhere are forbidden to criticize the ideology of Osama bin Laden.

It's a given that all Muslims are, by definition, terrorists.

So yes, the terrorists have won, thanks to the spineless traitors of the "Democrat Party."

Lots of "likes," and plenty of "shares." Yes, a person would have to be intellectually disabled to believe this kind of crude propaganda. But it's not really a matter of belief — or intellect. Fear of the "other" goes straight to the primitive core of the human brain, the "fight or flight" part. Arguing against it is like trying to talk a dog out of fearing thunderstorms. People are mainlining this drug all over the internet. It's a form of mass hysteria. By comparison, the staid Trumpists on Fox News resemble, yes, Walter Cronkite.

*Arkansas Times columnist Gene Lyons is a National Magazine Award winner and co-author of "The Hunting of the President" (St. Martin's Press, 2000). You can email Lyons at eugenelyons2@yahoo.com.*

## Valley Gardening

BY RUTHIE BROWN

### And other good stuff

# Snow, stores, baskets

What a great week, no matter if it snows or not, spring is coming!

I do get disappointed when a storm is predicted — like Tuesday night — and we get next to nothing. I mean ... it was an 80% and an 85% chance of snow, for hours ... and we wake up to a skiff, right?

When I moved here back in 1973, one of the things I missed most about Minnesota, was the storms. I missed the really big snow and ice storms and the thunder and lightning and the pouring rain. I still miss the storms, but not the cold they have back there. I call my family every time I hear about their cold fronts, because they are brutal. I rub it in that we are at 5 degrees, knowing that's it's so much nicer here in Alamosa. Yes ... it is a dry cold.

Colorado Sports is no longer. It has closed up. It's sad. I think of Bob and Rita Carlucci and Kerry Worley and Dave Reschke and Kent and Sandy Holtcamp and Mel Lockhart and Jackie Kennedy, and I wonder if Alamosa will ever be what it was — ever!

I don't believe it will. I don't believe we can reroute roads and decorate alleys and spend hundreds of thousands of dollars

(make that millions) and the stores will come back.

I have asked many, many people what they would put in, as a business, if they had the money to do so. From one of the guys doing the comprehensive plan, I was told he would put in a "boutique restaurant" — not sure exactly what that is. I really am curious — if you have an idea for a business that would work, please let me know. I am very sincere in my curiosity!

Meanwhile ... rumor has it that two new restaurants will be opening on the 600 block of Main St. in the future. All these restaurants may be great ... but the money gets spread thinner and thinner. It's not "new" money, and that is what we need ... in my humble opinion.

I am hoping that LODA will sooner or later get invited to be part of the team building going on in Alamosa. A number of Alamosa employees and others went to a seminar in Grand Junction — if I am remembering right — this past week. It was reported that the trip only cost the city \$600 because of the invitation/grant to participate. I'm thinking that all employees attended for free, no paycheck, because they believe in Alamosa so much. Do we ever know the true costs? I am hoping that if lower downtown Alamosa doesn't get invited to be on the team, that at least we get participation ribbons for staying in business on the southside.

Before we turn around, it will be spring. I have asked an old friend to come in and give a class on planting your own hanging baskets. Personally, I hate hanging baskets, because they are usually so root bound it is impossible to keep them going all summer.

Just because I hate taking care of hanging baskets, doesn't mean I don't want to learn the secrets to keeping them going. I even ordered 16-inch baskets to give the roots more room to grow, thinking that would help.

I can't tell you who the teacher is, until next week, but believe me when I tell you they know what they are doing. This person(s) may soon be moving to Oregon, so all is tentative, but I am hoping the class will be the beginning of April. Come in and give me your name, and number

**Keith R Cerny** Publisher  
**Daniel McKillop** Managing Editor

# Valley Courier

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- **STATE HOUSE**  
**Donald Valdez (D)**, Colorado State Representative, District 62, 200 E Colfax, Room 307, Denver, CO 80203; phone: 303-866-2916; email: [Donald.valdez.house@state.co.us](mailto:Donald.valdez.house@state.co.us)
- **STATE SENATE**  
**Larry Crowder (R)**, Colorado State Senator, District 35, 200 E Colfax, Denver, CO 80203; phone: 303-866-4875 capitol, 719-850-2459 cell; email: [larry.crowder.senate@state.co.us](mailto:larry.crowder.senate@state.co.us)
- **U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**Scott Tipton (R)** Regional Office — 719-587-5105; 719-587-5137 (fax); Washington, DC — 326 Cannon HOB, Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4761; 202-226-9669 (fax); <http://tipton.house.gov>
- **U.S. SENATE**  
**Michael Bennet (D)** SLV Regional Office, 609 Main Street, Suite 110, Alamosa 81101; Phone: 587-0096; Fax: 587-0098; Washington office — 458 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; DC Phone: 202-224-5852; [bennet.senate.gov](mailto:bennet.senate.gov)
- **Cory Gardner (R)**, Regional Office, 503 N Main Street, Ste, 426, Pueblo, 719-543-1324, fax: 202-228-7174; Washington office: 354 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; 202-224-5941

# Lifestyle

## New county land use fees in effect

By SYLVIA LOBATO  
CONEJOS — New land use fees went into effect Feb. 1 at the request of Linda DeHerrera, land use administrator.

DeHerrera pointed out that county land use fees were last amended March 13, 2009, and it was necessary to review and amend Conejos County fees to make them comparable to neighboring counties, since things have changed in 10 years.

As a result of her research, she asked the Conejos Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to amend the fees as advertised and presented as well as in news reports.

Notice was published in the County website and posted at the land use office.

The fee schedule was presented for the first hearing by county planners on Dec. 4, and the second hearing on Jan. 8. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the land use fee schedule as presented.

DeHerrera then sought BOCC review and approval, which took place in January.

Commissioner Carlos Garcia said he reviewed it as a previous member of the planning commission.

When this got started with early discussions, some of his fellow members of the planning commission didn't like it to begin with, but as they discussed it more and more, people started liking the idea. How fair was it to have the same fee if you have someone building a 6,000-square-foot versus a 2,000 square-foot home?

They talked about comparing Conejos with neighboring counties.

"As a county we have to look out for ourselves and the future," Garcia said. "This does increase revenues for the county and it does pay for some of our expenses."

Commissioner Steve McCarroll said the county has never been able to collect anything from an incorporated town, so "all we are doing is comparing rural to rural."

Chairman Mitch Jarvies opened up the public comment portion of the hearing to allow anyone to speak for or against and asked DeHerrera to present any comments she had received.

She said she received a phone call from Ricardo Espinoza, who said he couldn't attend, so she asked him if he

could put it in writing.

Espinoza said he was just going to give her the message and ask her to relay it.

He asked her to tell the planning commission and BOCC that they need to take into consideration that the municipalities don't pay permit fees.

According to Espinoza, about 30% of the population lives in rural unincorporated Conejos County.

He thought it was very unfair that only 30% of the population paid these fees and the rest didn't have to pay anything.

DeHerrera and staff members went through some census information and found that 57% of the population is in rural unincorporated Conejos County and 43% are in municipalities.

When she presented that information to the planning commission, they had lengthy discussions about it and one thing they found out was that when people in municipalities apply for a septic system, they pay a water tap fee and then pay a monthly fee forever to have those services.

They did a calculation based on their application fee and felt that wasn't a fair comparison.

The planning commission wanted her to relay to Espinoza that "we don't control municipalities. It would be nice if we could be the same across the board but we are not."

The other discussion was the size of lots and the taxes that are paid. A municipal lot pays more than a rural lot.

Linda said they didn't get any emails or written letters.

Jarvies asked the other board members if they had been contacted by anyone.

Garcia said he hadn't been contacted by anyone, but Jarvies said Dan Bond from Manassa had approached him about it. The more they talked, the more Jarvies defended what they are doing because if it's not controlled, then they have structures that don't fit and old mobile homes being dragged into the county.

He would be the neighbor that is trying to keep his yard real nice and have someone move in and nobody can control that. He wasn't upset but was questioning the reasoning, so Jarvies explained it to him.

McCarroll asked if they had checked if there were any building permits in the different municipalities.

DeHerrera said there are requirements for building

permits in the towns of La Jara and Antonito, but she did not get their fees; they don't have subdivision regulations, but Antonito does have a few more requirements if someone is going to split a lot.

McCarroll said he doesn't know the fees in La Jara, but there is a building fee and they take the taxes off on whatever they use for the material and then they have the use tax.

Chairman Jarvies opened it up to the public for comment, and Erwin Romero brought up the fact that he did get a phone call from neighbors.

They read the information in the Conejos County Citizen.

He never did see it, but they were really concerned about the price hike and it looks like they didn't want any change whatsoever, but we have to move on with everything else.

"Prices increase and we have to stay with that or else we will find ourselves in a poor situation." He shared this information so he thinks they were OK with that. He commended DeHerrera for "doing a really good job on all the research" and all the time she put into it.

Jarvies asked again if there was anyone for or against, for or against, for or against; there being none, he closed

the public comment portion of the hearing.

He said this is deliberation time, so he would ask for a motion for or against unless DeHerrera has something to add.

She asked if it could be effective Feb. 1 to allow her time to prepare a resolution and update the fees.

Garcia added that when they reviewed the fee schedule line for line, some go up by \$100, some by \$50 and one in particular by \$15, but there is one by \$300 and he thinks those numbers are very reasonable.

He would like the minutes

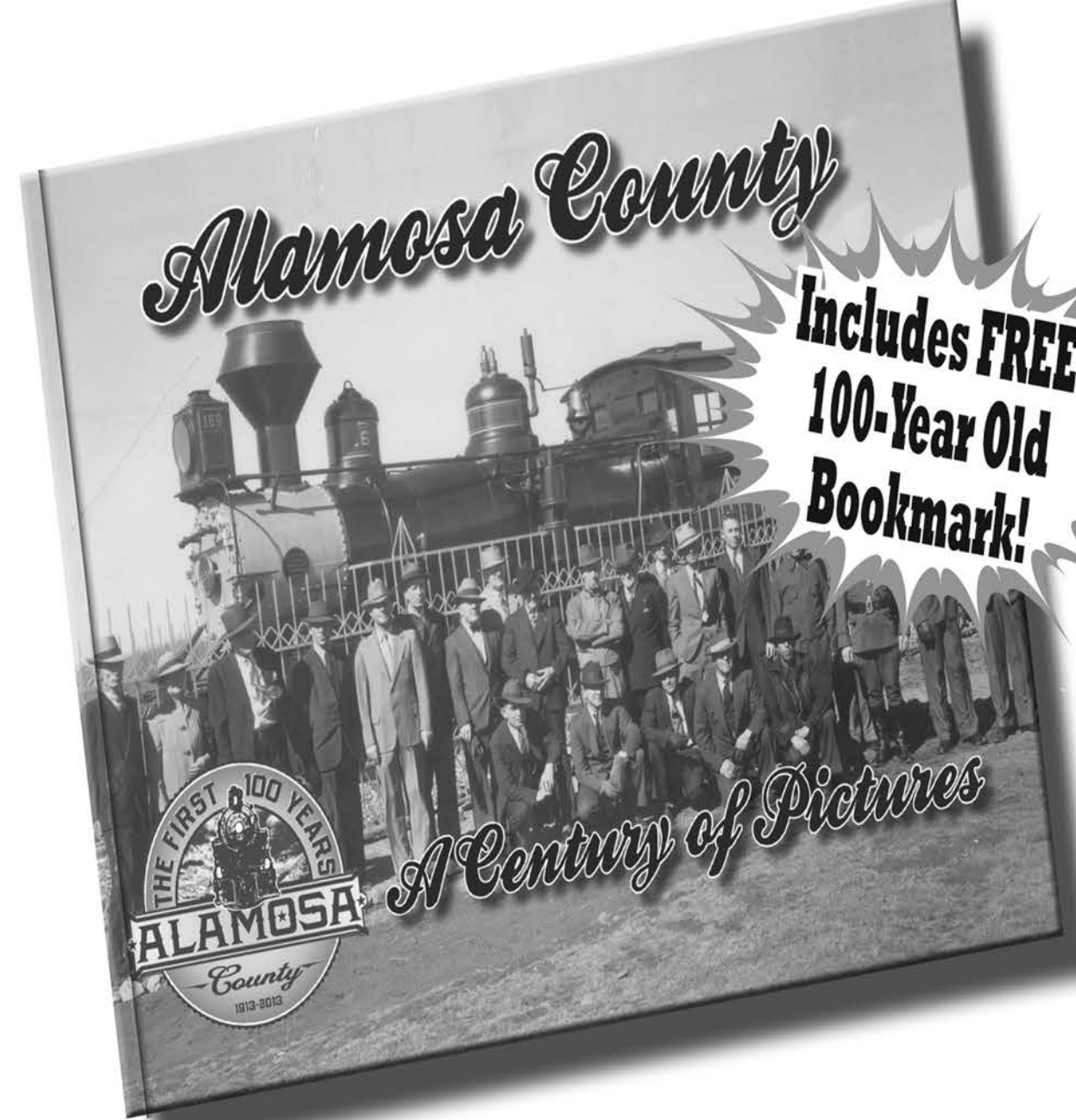
to reflect that the citizens of Conejos County's need to understand that some of these increases are based on the findings of DeHerrera and the Planning Commission and what neighboring counties are doing.

Those are rates that everybody else is charging.

Jarvies commented, "with that being said, I entertain a motion either way."

Voting to approve Resolution C-01-2020 — NEW LAND USE FEE SCHEDULE effective Feb. 01, 2020: Moved by McCarroll/Seconded by Comm. Garcia, all voted in favor.

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Alamosa

## Man pleads guilty to misdemeanor poaching

COLORADO SPRINGS — A Colorado Springs man has pleaded guilty to misdemeanor poaching charges in three counties after he was accused by Colorado Parks and Wildlife of illegally killing 12 deer, 2 turkeys and a bighorn sheep ram across the region.

Iniki Vike Kapu, 27, entered one plea on Monday, Dec. 16, 2019, in 4th Judicial District Court in Teller County.

On Monday, Feb. 3, Kapu appeared in the 11th Judicial District Court in Fremont County and pleaded guilty to illegal possession of a bighorn sheep. He also pleaded guilty to illegal possession of three or more big game animals.

His final sentencing was Tuesday, in Fremont County when, as part of the plea agreement combining the two cases, Kapu was fined \$4,600, sentenced to six months in jail and three years supervised probation. He received credit for the 111 days he spent in jail awaiting trial and immediately began serving the remainder of his sentence.

Kapu forfeited all the weapons he used in the poaching incidents. And he faces the possible loss of hunting privileges in Colorado when the case is reviewed by the CPW Commission.

CPW had accused Kapu of illegally killing big game animals in Teller, Fremont and Chaffee counties. The Chaffee County case, also in the 11th Judicial District, wrapped up May 22, 2019, when Kapu pleaded guilty to illegal possession of wildlife and was fined \$900.

Kapu's plea agreements cap an investigation by CPW officers started by a citizen tip about illegal killing of wildlife in October 2018 linked to a red truck found stuck and abandoned on a remote road in the Pike National Forest. It had a dead deer in the back and the meat was spoiled.

CPW officers Tim Kroening and Philip Gurule, plus a U.S. Forest Service officer, investigated and discovered a dead doe in the truck bed. It had not been properly processed after it was killed with a bow and arrow, causing its meat to spoil. They also discovered the license plates on the red truck were stolen and there was no carcass tag on the deer, which is required on a legally harvested animal.

The officers searched the red truck and found a Colorado fishing license inside belonging to Kapu, linking him to the truck. When they checked the CPW database, they learned Kapu did not have a valid hunting license, indicating the deer was poached.

# Sports

## Grizzlies ready for home opener



By CORRI ZAIGER

**ASU Sports Information Assistant**  
**ALAMOSA** — Adams State Softball is set for their home opener for the 2020 season. The Grizzlies will host Oklahoma Panhandle this weekend, Feb. 15 and 16.

**Opponent:** Oklahoma Panhandle State

**When:** Saturday, Feb. 15 (DH) 12 & 2 p.m.  
 Sunday, 16. 16 (DH) 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

**Where:** Alamosa, Colo. - ASU Softball Field

**Leading Off**

The Grizzlies are coming off their season opener in Silver City, New Mexico against Western New Mexico. The Grizzlies are looking to snap preseason jitters at home, from their trip to New Mexico. Adams State is looking forward to 24 games at home on the year, with 20 games on the road.

**Quick Hits**

Adams State started their season on the road, falling to Western New

Mexico in a three-game series. The Mustangs swept the Grizzlies, winning 4-8 and 7-10 in their day one doubleheader, and 4-12 on day two.

**Grizzlies on the Bats**

The Grizzlies have three players batting over .400 so far in the early season. Breck Smith has the top mark at .571, going 4-7 in her first three games with 2 RBIs and 3 doubles. Tyler Hays is second with a .556 average in her three starts. She is leading the Grizzlies with 2 home runs, 4 RBIs and 5 hits. Samantha McDonald is the third leading hitter, batting .400 and is 2-2 on stolen base attempts. Rounding out the top five hitters are Jasmine Parker, batting .375 and Sydney Muniz with 2 hits on three at-bats.

**Inside the Circle**

Kelty Key and Taylor Sandoval were the starting pitching unit for the Grizzlies in the first series of the season. Key is leading the way for the Grizzlies with a 7.88 ERA in her 8 innings pitched in two starts. She is also leading the Grizzlies with 5 strikeouts. Sandoval is second in innings pitched, with 7. She has one start with 2 strikeouts under her belt in her two appearances. Also appearing in the circle for Adams State have been Jade Garbiso and Kaitlyn Jackson, each in two games. Garbiso is third, with two innings pitched.

**Scouting the Aggies**

Oklahoma Panhandle State (3-7) is looking to end a seven-game losing streak from the SCS/NAIA Invitational. The Aggies won their first three games of the season against the University of the Southwest. Oklahoma Panhandle State has four

players batting over .300, as a unit the Aggies are batting .237. Camryn Pryor is leading the Aggies with a .421 average, with 8 hits and 3 RBIs. Brissa Rivera and Kayli Grove are tied for the second notch with .333 averages. Rivera is leading the Aggies with 3 doubles in her 10 starts of the season. Kinzie Jones is another leader for Oklahoma Panhandle with 6 RBIs and a .250 average. Sarah Conley is leading the Aggies

in the circle with a 4.80 ERA and 30 innings pitched in 5 starts. Kaylor Battiest leads Oklahoma Panhandle State with 27 strikeouts in 20.1 innings and the second-lowest ERA of 5.75.

**Up Next**  
 The Grizzlies will head back on the road next weekend for a four-game series against Regis University. The two-day doubleheader takes place Saturday, Feb. 22 and Sunday, Feb. 23 in Denver, Colo.

## Sargent swimming at State Finals

**THORNTON**—The 2020 State Swimming finals took place in the Veterans Memorial Aquatic Center in Thornton entering the weekend. The Sargent girls swim team did well to qualify swimmers in two relay events as well as two individual events at the state finals. The following is the final placings at state for Sargent's swimmers in the 3A class. For complete results be sure to visit CHSAANow.com

- Women 200 Yard Medley Relay**  
28. Sargent High School 2:07.96
- Women 100 Yard Freestyle**  
34. Sewell, Katherine Sargent 1:00.28
- Women 200 Yard Freestyle Relay**  
26. Sargent High School 1:52.66
- Women 100 Yard Breaststroke**  
43. Sewell, Katherine Sargent 1:19.75



Photo courtesy of Vibrant Valley  
 Part of Sargent's relay swim teams, Skye Albert swims the 50 meter Fly during Sargent's Triangular meet against Pagosa Springs and Pueblo West on Jan 29.

## Del Norte in Sargent for league games

**Del Norte 55, Sargent 19 (G)**  
 DN 19 10 14 12 - 55  
 SAR 2 5 4 8 - 19

**Del Norte** - K.Madrid (Jr) 5 3-4 14, K.Parra 6 0-0 14, Y. Rosales 2 4-4 8, G. Jones 3 0-0 6, L.Valdez 1 2-4 4, A.Rivera 1 0-0 3, A.Golding 1 1-2 3, H.Trujillo 1 1-2 3. Totals 20 11-16 55. 3-point goals: K.Parra 2, K. Madrid (Jr), A.Rivera, K. Parra. Fouls: 11. Fouled out: none. Technicals: none.

**Sargent** - L.Aguilar 2 3-4 7, J. Moreno 1 0-0 3, L.Hefner 1 0-0 2, A.Urbina 1 0-0 2, M.Tolliver 1 0-0 2, J.Johnson 1 0-1 2, M.Willis 0 2-2 2. Totals 7 3-5 19. 3-point goals: J.Moreno. Fouls: 11. Fouled out: none. Technicals: none

**Sargent 53, Del Norte 50 (B)**  
 SAR 7 19 13 20 - 59  
 DN 16 14 9 11 - 54

**Sargent** - K.Pepper 5 6-7 17, B.Behil 6 2-4 15, R.Lester 5 2-3 12, N.Garcia 1 4-6 6, C.Seger 1 2-4 4, L.Hoffstaetter 0 3-4 3, D.Kyffin 1 0-0 2, A.Garcia 0 0-2 0. Totals 19 19-30 59. 3-point goals: B.Behil, K.Pepper. Fouls: 21. Fouled out: N.Garcia, Riley Lester. Technicals: none

**Del Norte** - C.Jones 5 0-2 15, L.Cestone 3 4-4 13, B.Parra 4 2-3 10, M. Romero 3 2-4 9, L.Trujillo 1 0-0 3, C.Velasquez 2 0-0 2, B.Velasquez 1 0-4 2. Totals 19 8-17 54. 3-point goals: C.Jones 5, L.Cestone 3, L.Trujillo, M.Romero. Fouls: 24. Fouled out: none. Technicals: none.



Sargent defenders Jozlyn Moreno (22) and McKenzie Tolliver (15) converge on a Del Norte attempt during Friday's game



Sargent's Kage Pepper (30) attempts a lay-up with Del Norte freshmen Ben Parra (30) in tow.

### Results

- Adams State Baseball**  
 Feb. 14 ASU 7, Univ. of the Southwest 5  
 Univ. of the Southwest 14, ASU 3
- Adams State Basketball**  
 Feb. 14 Dixie State 59, ASU 53 (W)  
 Dixie State 102, ASU 81 (M)
- Prep Basketball**  
 Feb. 11 Sanford 40, Sangre de Cristo 24  
 Ignacio 61, Del Norte 56  
 Ignacio 61, Del Norte 56
- Feb. 13**  
 Sangre de Cristo 67, Sierra Grande 32 (G)  
 Sangre de Cristo 67, Sierra Grande 48 (G)
- Feb. 14**  
 Sanford 49, Center 20 (G)  
 Cotopaxi 38, Antonito 31 (G)  
 Cotopaxi 48, Antonito 35 (B)  
 Del Norte 55, Sargent 19 (G)  
 Sargent 53, Del Norte 50 (B)  
 Centennial 52, Sierra Grande 47 (G)  
 Centennial 67, Sierra Grande 48 (B)  
 Bayfield 53, Monte Vista 18 (G)  
 Bayfield 53, Monte Vista 37 (B)  
 Centauri 60, Montezuma-Cortez 40 (G)  
 Centauri 71, Montezuma-Cortez 65 (B) TOT  
 Alamosa 33, Pagosa Springs 29 (G)  
 Alamosa 57, Pagosa Springs 49 (B)
- Adams State Wrestling**  
 Feb. 13 Colorado Mesa 27, ASU 17
- Prep Wrestling**

### Sports Bulletin

- 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. 15 12/ 3 p.m. Univ. of the Southwest at ASU (DH)
- Adams State Basketball**  
 Feb. 15 5:30/7:30 p.m. ASU at Westminster (W/M)
- Prep Basketball**  
 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 Wrestling**  
 Feb. 16 **Rocky Mountain Open**  
 10 a.m. ASU at Colorado School of Mines
- Prep Wrestling**  
 Feb. 14-15 **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*

### SLV Special Olympics Showcase

**ALAMOSA** — Come show your support for the SLV Dust Devils by bringing your friends and teammates for an unforgettable and unique experience. There will be a silent auction, concessions, and a great game at Plachy Hall on Feb. 23rd at 2 p.m. Admission is free but donations are always appreciated. For more information or if you're interested in volunteering contact: pvjohnson@adams.edu

### AP&R Youth Soccer

**ALAMOSA** — The 2020 Alamosa Parks & Recreation coed youth spring soccer registration is now open. You may register your child online at www.AlamosaRec.org, or drop by the AFRC located at 2222 Old Sanford Rd. For more information, contact the AFRC at (719) 589-2105.

# Lifestyle

## CSP Youth Academy

Once again, it's time to look towards the youth of Colorado where we give them an experience of a lifetime.

The mission of a Colorado State Patrol Trooper is not just enforcing the laws on the state's highways and interstates. We are also very involved in educating the public in various areas.

One way we do this is working with Colorado's youth. Once a year for one week in July, the Colorado State Patrol allows teens who are at least 16 years old from across the state a chance to see how State Troopers are trained at our academy in Golden.

The goal of the CSP Youth Academy is to assist in the development of future leaders for Colorado through team exercises and individual achievement. It is a week-long adventure for the 45 teens that are accepted. Some of the academy requirements include that they must be a junior or senior in the fall of 2020, write an essay, have two letters of recommendation and complete an interview with troopers.

During the week of ac-

tivities, they are constantly supervised by State Troopers and mentored in various areas that will help them in life or whatever career they decide to follow. The youth stay at

### Trooper Tips



Gary Cutler

our academy, eat at our facilities and gain friendships with other youth from across the state.

While in the youth academy, teens will have an enjoyable, fun-filled week and get to experience a long list of activities. Some of the activities include defensive driving on our state patrol track, firearms safety, self-defense tactics, traffic

stops, building searches, team building and ethics in law enforcement, just to name a few. At the end of the week there is also a special field trip for the participants. Past years have been visits to the Bronco's football facilities, and Rockies games.

The Youth Academy is not just for teens interested in law enforcement. The week-long class will help them in their future endeavors. It will also be an experience they will remember the rest of their lives. If they want to continue with a career as a trooper, well, we won't complain. We have had several of our Youth Academy participants become State Troopers and we couldn't be prouder.

The academy is free of charge. It is paid for by private donors. For more information, contact Captain Lawrence Hilton at 303-273-1882, your local Colorado State Patrol Office or visit our website: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/csp/youth-academy>

This year's youth academy is July 19-25. Applications are due by March 22. As always, safe travels!

## True leaders drive sober: Friday Presidents Day DUI enforcement begins Super Bowl enforcement period nabs 225

**STATEWIDE** — As Coloradans gear up for a long weekend to celebrate Presidents Day, Colorado law enforcement will be on high alert for impaired drivers out on the roads.

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Colorado State Patrol (CSP) and other local participating law agencies will work overtime for the Presidents Day DUI enforcement, from Feb. 14-24.

Because the first day of the enforcement period coincides with Valentine's Day, CDOT is partnering with Lightshade dispensaries across metro Denver to give lucky couples cannabis-themed bouquets adorned with safety messages and artificial marijuana leaves.

Valentine cards with information about Colorado's impaired driving laws will be handed out to customers to share with their loved ones and friends.

CDOT hopes the effort will raise awareness about the dangers and consequences of impaired driving. [A media kit is available at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/4iwnstc71b9wtlj/AAA-MpwvfyC4KrfM2niR1PuPa?dl=0>]

The Presidents Day enforcement period is a new Heat Is On campaign. It is one of 16 planned for the year.

"CDOT wants Coloradans to enjoy Presidents Day, but do so safely. Whether traveling for a long holiday weekend or celebrating close to home, plan to have a sober driver if you will consume alcohol," said Shoshana Lew, executive director at CDOT. "Ride-hailing services, taxis or public transit are available statewide and are all safer, less expensive options for getting home compared to a DUI."

In addition to planning a sober ride, mobile breathalyzers can be used as a tool to help drinkers make better decisions and ensure their blood-alcohol content is zero before getting behind the wheel. To purchase a personal breathalyzer, visit [codot.bactrack.com](http://codot.bactrack.com).

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

"With more cars on the road during holiday weekends, the likelihood of impaired drivers increases," said Col. Matthew Packard, chief of CSP. "If you've consumed any amount of alcohol or marijuana, make sure you have a sober ride. We want everyone to reach their destinations and come back home safely this weekend."

CDOT and 93 law enforcement agencies across the state recently completed the four-day Super Bowl Weekend DUI enforcement period, arresting 225 impaired drivers.

The arrest total is an increase/decrease from the 315 arrests during the same enforcement last year. The Colorado Springs Police Department (35 arrests), Denver Police Department (25 arrests), and Lakewood Police Department (12 arrests) recorded the most arrests. CSP made 53 arrests. A complete list of arrests can be found at [codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety-reporting-portal](http://codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety-reporting-portal).

CDOT's The Heat Is On DUI-prevention campaign and Presidents Day and Super Bowl enforcement periods support CDOT's Whole System — Whole Safety initiative to reduce traffic injuries and deaths.

### ABOUT THE HEAT IS ON

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

### WHOLE SYSTEM, WHOLE SAFETY

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

### ABOUT CDOT

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

*Report courtesy of press release from Sam Cole, CDOT Communications Manager.*

## DUI costs vary in each state

The cost of a DUI conviction depends on where the offense took place and the circumstances surrounding it, but men and women arrested for DUI can expect to spend thousands of dollars in fees, penalties and associated costs related to their DUI convictions.

According to the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, first-time DUI offenders can expect to spend around \$8,900 for their transgression, and the organization acknowledges that estimate is conservative.

Fines and penalties, attorney's fees, court costs, insurance premium increases and restitution fund expenses are among

the many factors the ADP considered when determining their estimate. And those costs might just be the up-front costs.

The Alaska Division of Motor Vehicles estimates that the average cost of a DUI for first-time offenders in that state is closer to \$25,000. That estimate includes the cost of SR-22 insurance, which the Alaska DMV estimates at \$2,000 per year for five years. SR-22 insurance is a vehicle liability insurance document required by motor vehicle agencies in many states. The document is necessary for high-risk insurance policies, such as those whose policy holders have been convicted for DUI. TF198188

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# Lifestyle

## URGED hosts annual meeting to discuss future of organization

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**  
*Valley Publishing*

**DELNORTE**—The Upper Rio Grande Economic Development (URGED) organization met for their monthly meeting Jan. 11 to discuss the future of the organization and to consider some of the areas of interest the group would like to pursue in the coming year.

The organization recently sent out a survey to their investor members in an attempt to understand what direction the group should take in the coming year and what projects hold the most potential to ensure continued economic growth in the six-county region it represents in the San Luis Valley.

Keynote speaker and Rural Opportunity Representative from the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade group, Tom Monaco, opened the roundtable discussion by highlighting several areas of interest that included economic strengths, challenges and opportunities within the San Luis Valley and opened the floor for comments.

In the survey provided to investors, they highlighted several economic strengths within the Valley, including agricultural production, natural resources, attractions, recreation opportunities, as well as the low cost of living as being drivers for economic growth throughout the six-county region. These economic drivers could be used as a means to begin projects, provide education and training, as well as market the area through the efforts of URGED.

Some of the challenges of those who reside or wish to live in the Valley include the skilled laborer shortages and the need for housing and better public transportation.

During the discussion, it was highlighted that these challenges needed to be

addressed in order to stimulate growth.

Members pointed out that certain regulations that are needed for larger communities like those on the front range may not be needed or handled the same way in rural communities within the Valley. Local organizations, businesses and governments needed to take less stringent regulations into consideration when enforcing regulations.

Another challenge that continually presents itself in the Valley is the need for public transportation in relation to location isolation. Efforts to improve public transportation are underway and have improved significantly in recent years with the start of the bus line running from Del Norte to Salida, but the need for more transportation options is still a work in progress.

The other challenge discussed was the ongoing housing shortage issue. Rio Grande County Commissioner Suzanne Bothell spoke up stating that it would be beneficial for URGED to consider hosting educational seminars for the general public on abatement and asbestos removal in order to utilize some of the abandoned houses and buildings throughout the region rather than simply focusing on building new housing opportunities.

URGED Director Bonnie Asplin closed the meeting with a statement about how the strengths, challenges and opportunities highlighted in the survey complemented each other and that future work by the organization would focus on everything provided in the documentation.

Further discussions will take place to consider projects, educational meetings and training to continue efforts of the organization to help drive economic growth throughout the Valley in the coming year.



Courtesy photo

## Urban sprawl's side effects on environment

Urban sprawl is a complicated issue that has its proponents and its detractors. To many environmentalists, urban sprawl has the potential to be very problematic.

As more people try to find more breathing room and larger homes in areas beyond urban centers, housing developments continue to rise up from the ground, potentially impeding on land that was once home to natural habitats or farming communities. Migrations of people from densely populated towns and cities to lower-density residential developments requires these rural areas to change in order to be able to provide the resources necessary to accommodate an influx of new residents. These changes might be positive for people, but they can have potential drawbacks for animals, plants and the environment in general.

### INCREASED RELIANCE ON AUTOMOBILES

Suburbs and more rural areas often do not have the extensive public transportation systems commonly found in cities. Furthermore, stores and other businesses are spread out among the community, making it challenging to walk to these places. As a result residents of these areas must use their cars more often, which can contribute to air pollution from auto exhaust. In addition, as populations in developments grow, traffic soon follows. Smaller communities

often cannot handle the influx of cars on rural roadways. That can lead to further depletion of land to make way for larger roadways that can more capably accommodate all the extra traffic.

### DISAPPEARING FARMLAND AND NATURAL AREAS

Sprawl is claiming farmland at the rate of 1.2 million acres a year, says National Geographic. When habitats are removed, wildlife is displaced and it can cause quite a ripple. Humans often have more run-ins with wild animals as these animals seek out new homes and food sources. For example, in many areas urban sprawl and more roads being built through wildlife habitats have displaced deer from their natural habitats, leading to a rise in deer-vehicle collisions, according to the Insurance Information Institute. Around one million deer-vehicle collisions occur each year in the United States.

### ENVIRONMENTAL WASTE INCREASES

Where there are more people, there will be more garbage. That increases the chances of urban run-off, which is the run-off of chemicals, including heavy metals, motor oil, gasoline, and housing products, into water sources and natural landscapes.

Urban sprawl can have a positive impact, but it's important that the effects of such sprawl on the planet not be overlooked. TF172795



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## GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE FOR ALAMOSA EVENTS

Funding is available to organizations engaged in promoting travel to Alamosa through the production of events. Grants are competitive and must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the program:

- Event must take place in Alamosa County
- Event must be open to the public
- Event must be a potential draw for tourism
- Event must be produced by a not-for-profit organization

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



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

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- 5 Shopping Local retains our community:** Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.
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- 7 Shopping Local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Alamosa's diversity, charm & appeal. Which in turn, attracts new community members.
- 8 Shopping Local invests in community services and city economy.** Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Alamosa.
- 9 Local shops value you more:** Local businesses survive by their reputation & repeat business which means you get a higher standard of service.

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# Lifestyle

## How agencies in Colorado measure snow Snowpack this year average so far

By TERESA L. BENNS  
Valley Publishing  
MONTE VISTA — Research Associate Blake Osborn with the Colorado Water Center/CSU Extension Service explained the various methods used to measure snowfall in Colorado and how they function at the annual Agriculture Conference at Ski-Hi in Monte Vista on Feb. 4.

Osborn was introduced by Extension Agent and Director Marvin Reynolds. He began by noting that currently the state is doing experimental work in the Rio Grande Watershed and the San Juans. Snow comes through the Valley when the jet stream pulls moisture in from the Pacific Ocean,

bringing cool temperatures with slow release.

The mountains are just “a big water reservoir” he said. Federal agencies, including the National Aeronautics and Space Association (NASA), the National Conservation Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) measure snow primarily from December through the following March.

Snow is collected manually with SNOTEL (Snowpack Telemetry) and by remote sensing with other systems. A two-person team measures snow depth, density and weight in certain locations. “SNOTEL can go back decades in data records,” Osborn com-

mented.

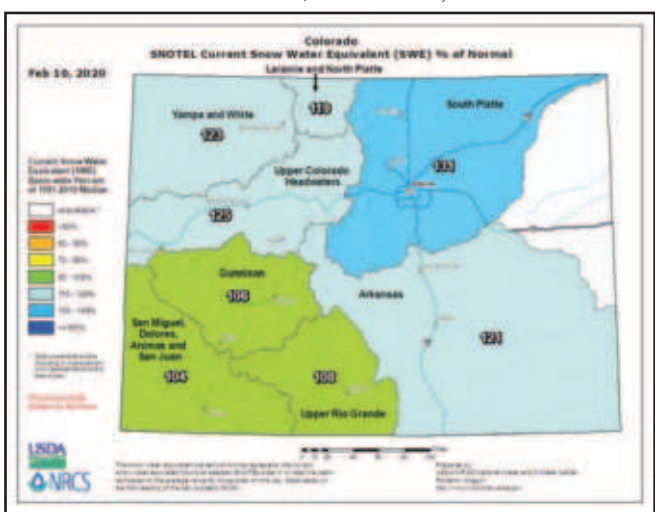
► SNOTEL is an automated snow measuring system in a permanent location, based on point sampling and interpolation. Osborn calls it “a very robust system.”

► LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) uses a high-resolution laser pulse that is extremely precise to measure snow. LIDAR provides greater spatial coverage but can be very expensive, Osborn said. Because of its high resolution it can measure down to centimeter scale. It is best used in April when snow is monitored in different stages.

► SNODAS (Snow Data

Assessment System) uses satellite imagery to measure snow and is computationally intensive. Using satellite, it can look at the entire watershed and download measurements to a computer. But it provides only a snapshot of snow conditions and only a few agencies use it, Osborn pointed out.

This time of year the snowpack is still developing, Osborn said. January estimates show the measurements at about average. Stream flows are running 90-110% of average according to early reports. From January through April it might be 1,000 CFS or lower.



## Colorado details vision to increase access to high-quality early childhood programs

DENVER — Today, the Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Early Childhood announced a report and a strategic plan centered on the vision that all children are ready for school when entering kindergarten.

These reports detail Colorado’s most pressing needs for children ages birth through 5, and a path forward to increase access to important programs and services for Colorado families of young children.

Colorado is home to approximately 399,800 children under 6, almost a fifth of whom (17.4%) are living in poverty, while 12.5% live in rural areas or rural centers, and 20.7% are living in households that speak a language other than English at home. The 2019 birth through 5 needs assessment, Colorado Shines Brighter: Opportunities for Colorado’s Early Childhood System, indicates many of these children and their families would benefit from more equitable access to high-quality early childhood programs.

This statewide needs assessment, the first since 2011, details the need for more affordable, equitable and accessible child care, particularly for families of infants and toddlers and children with special needs. Additionally, the report details 12 pressing needs to increase equitable access to, and the quality of, Colorado’s early childhood system such as:

► The need for early childhood mental health consultation;

► More resources to inform parents and caregivers about the programs and services available to support their young children; and

► The need to support the recruitment and retention of the state’s early childhood workforce.

In response to these

needs, the Office of Early Childhood, in partnership with the Early Childhood Leadership Commission, developed the Colorado Shines Brighter five-year strategic plan centered on the vision that all children are ready for school when entering kindergarten. Colorado recently received a \$33.5 million PDG B-5 renewal grant to support the implementation of many of the strategies within the plan in partnership with state and local organizations.

“The needs assessment provides a deeper look into the challenges faced by families of young children, child care providers, community leaders, and others invested in the state’s early childhood system,” said Mary Anne Snyder, director of the Office of Early Childhood. “We are proud of the efforts made to have these same stakeholders, including more than 5,000 families, at the table to help shape our vision and identify viable solutions to ensure all Colorado children enter kindergarten ready to learn.”

More than 6,000 Colorado parents, caregivers, early childhood professionals, program administrators and policy makers contributed to the 2019 Colorado Shines Brighter Needs Assessment and Statewide Birth through Five Strategic Plan, work done as part of the \$5.8 million federal Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) funding that Colorado received in 2018 to increase understanding of the state’s early childhood landscape and identify opportunities to improve access to high-quality early care and education programs.

For briefs of each report, visit [ColoradoOfficeOfEarlyChildhood.com](http://ColoradoOfficeOfEarlyChildhood.com).

# TOWN & COUNTRY AUTOMALL

PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE

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<p>NEW 2019 JEEP <b>CHEROKEE</b> TRAILHAWK 4X4</p> <p>STK# J2118 MSRP: \$37,580</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$30,995.99</b></p> <p>PER MONTH <b>\$426</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 JEEP <b>GRAND CHEROKEE</b> TRAILHAWK 4X4</p> <p>STK# J7502 MSRP: \$48,580</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$41,995.99</b></p> <p>PER MONTH <b>\$569</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 JEEP <b>WRANGLER</b> UNLIMITED RUBICON</p> <p>STK# J4914 MSRP: \$48,725</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$42,995.99</b></p> <p>PER MONTH <b>\$583</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 DODGE <b>GRAND CARAVAN</b> SE</p> <p>STK# DG9666 MSRP: \$29,930</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$24,995.99</b></p> <p>PER MONTH <b>\$339</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 DODGE <b>CHALLENGER</b> GT AWD</p> <p>STK# DG5433 MSRP: \$38,780</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$33,995.99</b></p> <p>PER MONTH <b>\$461</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 RAM <b>1500</b> REBEL CREW 4X4</p> <p>STK# DT3874 MSRP: \$55,820</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$47,995.99</b></p> <p>PER MONTH <b>\$649</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 RAM <b>2500</b> BIG HORN CREW 4X4</p> <p>STK# DT9646 MSRP: \$62,475</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$55,495.99</b></p> <p>PER MONTH <b>\$752</b></p>

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# Calendar

## San Luis Valley calendar of events

**ALAMOSA** — The SLV STEAM Shop makerspace is open to the public most Wednesdays from 5-8 p.m. south of Richardson Hall and west of the theater building on the Adams State University campus in Alamosa. The SLV STEAM Shop provides access to 3D printers, machine knitting, small-scale casting, electronics fabrication, a laser cutter and much more.

**VALLEY** — Energy assistance is provided through La Puente's Outreach homeless prevention program. To qualify you must be directly responsible for an energy bill, your bill must be past due, and you must meet income qualifications. Call (719) 587-3781.

**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 1-4:30 p.m. at 757 County Rd. 29, Monte Vista. Call or email Wanda Couzens-Smith for more information at (719) 719-852-5000 or wcouzenssmith@gmail.com

**CAPULIN** — Free tutoring is available in the Capulin Library from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Friday for students first grade through twelfth grades in all subjects.

**ALAMOSA** — Cats Alive is in need of dry cat food to help volunteers feed cats throughout the San Luis Valley. Also goat milk is appreciated for the kittens. To donate cat food call Marge at (719) 298-7028 (willing to pick up donated food) or send monetary donations to help with the cat food to Cats Alive, P.O. Box 84 Alamosa, CO 81101 or online at catsaliveslv.com.

**CONEJOS COUNTY** — Conejos Library District is in need of volunteers in Antonito, La Jara and Capulin. The library is a great place to volunteer. Please contact Maria DeHerrera at (719) 274-5858.

**MONTE VISTA** — The Monte Vista Assembly of God Church, God's Closet, located at 881 N. Hwy 285, across from Mountain King is in need of clothing donations. Bring them to the white shed.

**VALLEY** — Cat food is needed to distribute to all the volunteers that are feeding the cats. Cat food donations may be left with Abie Roybal, 225 10th St., Alamosa, and monetary donations may be made to Donna K. Ditmore, manager for cat welfare for Alpha Humane, a nonprofit tax-exempt organization, and sent to 3095 County Road 108 South, Alamosa, CO 81101.

**ALAMOSA** — Habitat for Humanity is accepting applications for homeownership in Alamosa. Applicants contribute 500 hours of "sweat equity," time and labor. Construction is done with the help of hundreds of volunteers. When a house is completed, applicant families purchase the homes from Habitat for Humanity with a nonprofit mortgage. Call Habitat at (719) 589-8678 or go to [www.slvhabitat.org](http://www.slvhabitat.org)

**ALAMOSA** — Grief support group meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Alamosa 1st United Methodist Church from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Call Liz Hood at (719) 580-3697.

**ALAMOSA** — VFW in Alamosa hosts BINGO every Tuesday at 7 p.m., with doors opening at 4:30 p.m. Packs are \$5.

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

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

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

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

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

**ALAMOSA** — "Planting Seeds for

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

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

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

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

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

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

**VALLEY** — Rio Grande County Tourism Board is looking for high quality photographs that photographers would be willing to let the tourism board use for advertising purposes. Contact Ruth Carapella at [ruth@pencraftco.com](mailto:ruth@pencraftco.com) or [president@riograndetourism.com](mailto:president@riograndetourism.com)

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

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

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

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

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

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

**MONTE VISTA** — Valley Fiber Art Guild welcomes anyone interested in spinning, crocheting, knitting, weaving or other portable fiber activities to come to VFA gatherings. The group meets the fourth Saturday of every month starting

■ See **EVENTS** page 14



719-587-1800 | 20 Craft Dr. Alamosa | TownAndCountryAlamosa.com

### VALUE VEHICLES

**2013 Ford Fiesta**



#P44288A **\$4,888**

**2001 Ford F-150**



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**2007 Ford F-150**



#1FT7789A **\$7,995**

**2011 Buick Enclave**



#FT3578A **\$8,995**

**2007 Chevy Suburban**



#GM1706B **\$9,995**

**2012 Ford F-150**



#DT9230C **\$15,888**

**2015 Dodge Ram EcoDiesel**



#FT6058A **\$16,995**

**2008 Ford F-350**



#GM0061B **\$18,995**

**2016 Jeep Grand Cherokee**



#P36041A **\$21,995**

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#1GM9760A **\$23,995**

**2014 Jeep Wrangler**



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■ See **UNIT** page 3

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# Classified Marketplace

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Sell your household items for FREE. Total value of item must be \$200 or less. FREE ads include 20 words or less and run 5 times.



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### 099 ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ANYONE KNOWING THE** woman who managed curves in Alamosa please contact me 719-580-2290. Wanting info about your previous business, equipment, etc. (2/20)

### 112-BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**LICENSED PLUMBER DOES** all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodel done at reasonable rate. Call 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593.(3/5)

### 221 HELP WANTED

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

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR-- HINSDALE** County is seeking to hire a County Administrator. This position directs the day-to-day operations of Hinsdale County in accordance with policies and other direction provided by the Hinsdale Board of County Commissioners. For full job description, please contact administrator@hinsdalecountycolorado.us or 970-944-2225 or check the County website at: https://www.colorado.gov/hinsdale-county. Applications are due March 6th at 5:00 p.m. MST.(2/22)

**JANITORIAL FULL AND Part-Time** positions available. Call anytime Clean as a Whistle 719-587-2222. (2/21)

**SANGRE DE CRISTO** School District is looking for highly motivated Middle School Science Teacher that has a desire to teach and the ability to pass their passion of learning onto students. For more information please contact Mr. Stagner at 719-378-2310 or bstagner@sangreschools.org. Teaching applications may be downloaded from sdc.schools.net or picked up at school office. Positions open until filled. (2/21)

**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)

### 221 HELP WANTED

**LOOKING FOR A** career opportunity and being a part of your local community? Ist Southwest Bank is growing and hiring a Loan Processor, offering a strong benefits package & career growth opportunities. EOE. Go to https://www.fswb.bank/who-we-are/careers/ for more details & to apply.(2/19)

**POTATO SEED CUTTERS** Needed! Work in Center starting next week. Please call 719-754-3854 or walk into Ponderosa's office east of Jones Oil.(2/19)

**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)

**SARGENT SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for a Current Secondary English Teacher position. Please visit our website for additional information and application: www.sargent.k12.co.us or call 719 852-4023. Applications accepted until position filled. EOE (2/27)

**CONAJOS COUNTY IS** seeking a Heavy Equipment Operator/Driver/Laborer. Applicant must be able to operate a loader, grader, belly dump, and drive a semi, must have a class A Commercial Drivers License, clean driving record and pass a pre-employment drug screen. \$16.25/HR County application form required. Applications available at County Human Resources/Administration Office 6683 County Rd. 13, Conejos CO. or via email upon request at cricci@co.conejos.co.us. Deadline is Thursday, February 20, 2020. Inquiries call (719) 376-6799.(2/20)

**DEL NORTE ELEMENTARY** School is seeking an energetic, caring candidate to serve as a PARA-EDUCATOR. Applicants must have a high school diploma. Please submit your application to Amy Duda, DNES Principal at 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO 81132; aduda@urtigers.co; or call 719-657-4030. The position will be opened until filled. Please pick up an application at the District Office or on-line at dnecd.org.(2/27)

**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

**SOUTH CONEJOS SCHOOL** District is currently seeking to hire a Health and Wellness Coordinator. This is a .5 position. This position will start immediately and will run through the duration of the grant 2022. Interested parties must have a minimum of an LPN license and must have experience working in public schools. The position calls for coordinating activities of service providers with other services in the school district, create systems and processes to track the schools' progress in attaining a culture of wellness. If interested, please apply to apply@southconejos.com. Applications will be accepted through, Tuesday, February 20, 2020. (2/20)

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR, FULL-TIME** The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust is hiring a full-time Office Administrator to work in our Del Norte office. Find the job announcement at http://www.riograndelandtrust.org/job-opportunities or email Joelle Marier at joelle@riograndelandtrust.org for more information. (2/27)

**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 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)

**CENTER FOR RESTORATIVE** Programs seeks: LEAD / Wraparound Case Managers who will be responsible for providing intensive case management/wraparound 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 wraparound and other services being provided. Successful candidates will have experience providing wraparound services, intensive case management, working with individuals with behavioral health issues and working with community partners and families. Spanish speaking and wraparound experience a plus. Applicants should have a 3 years relevant experience. Email resume and cover letter to carey@restorativeprograms.org. Position open until filled. CRP is a EOE. (2/19)

### 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)

**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)

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

### 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)

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

### 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)

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

**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.sierragrandschool.net Applications may be submitted to Mr. Brandon Mizokami at bmizokami@sierragrandschool.net For more information please contact Mrs. DeAnn Arellano at 719-379-3257. (2/22)

### 221 HELP WANTED

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

**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)

**MONTE VISTA AREA** Ditch Companies seeking a ditch rider, experience preferred. Must have a valid CDL reliable transportation, Welding capabilities, able to run and maintain heavy equipment. Salary based on experience. Send resume to 147 Washington St., Monte Vista Co 81144 (2/18)

### 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)

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Send resume to: [KCerny@alamosanews.com](mailto:KCerny@alamosanews.com)

# Classifieds

### 324 - FEED & SEED

**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)

### 345 WOOD

**WOOD FOR SALE!** \$145.00 a cord. Call 719-588-1183. (2/7 TFN)

### 351 LIVESTOCK

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

### 360 - MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**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: 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)

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

### 369 - PETS & SUPPLIES

**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:** 4 little black puppies, part boxer. Males and females. Call or come by Valley Humane League 589-3385 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)

**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

**FORLEASE: 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

**PORTER REALTY, INC.** Excellent Service, Expert Advice 719-589-5899 503 Main Street • Alamosa www.PorterRealty.com

**\$311,500 - Three bedroom,** four bathroom, plus office! Home on north side of Monte Vista, CO. Backyard adjoins golf course. Excellent layout with plenty of living spaces. Nice kitchen, huge master bedroom with walk-out 2nd story patio with views. Oversized two-car garage, mature landscaping, and so much more! You must see this home. 62 Pioneer Road, Monte Vista MLS # 766361

**\$279,900 - Well-kept** manufactured home on 35 acres with 1 share of Commonwealth irrigation water. This 5 bedroom home is in excellent condition and has 3 full bathrooms and over 2100 square feet of total living space. The detached shop on the property has all the room you need. Additional outbuildings with storage. Immaculate yard and more than enough irrigation water for the property. This is a rare opportunity to buy a home between Alamosa and Monte Vista at this price point. Call today for your showing! 5799 E County Road 2, Monte Vista MLS # 765673

**\$200,000 - Country** home north of Alamosa that sits on 5 acres. 5 bedroom, 1 3/4 baths, eat-in kitchen, living room with built-in shelves, some updating in kitchen and baths, new paint and carpeting, handicap accessible shower in downstairs bath, wood deck, stairways from 2nd story bedrooms for fire safety and water filter system. Located off a paved road and close to town. Call today for more details. 9205 Stanley Road, Alamosa MLS # 763069

**\$159,000 - Excellent** start home or investment property north of Main street in Alamosa, CO. This 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 1 car garage home, has updated floors, paint, boiler, and hot water heater. A must-see at this price point! 211 Alamosa Ave, Alamosa MLS # 766364

### 415 - HOMES FOR SALE

**1 BEDROOM GA-RAGE** 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 COLO-RADO,** Owner Finance, 3 Bedroom 2 Bathroom \$1000/Mo. 719-253-2978.(2/15)

### 420 - LOTS & ACREAGE

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

### 525 GUNS

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

### 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

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

### 601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting Applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family living at an affordable price. **Immediate Availability**

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### Gateway Villa Apartments

929 Spruce St. Del Norte, CO  
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### Valley Grande Apartments

2256 East Drive Monte Vista, CO  
**852-4302**  
Rental assistance available to qualified households.  
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### West View Villas

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

### 611 - HOMES FOR RENT

**3 BEDROOM 1** Bathroom propane and wood heat fenced yard room for livestock. 970-640-9562.(2/22)

**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. 719-588-0304. (2/19)

### 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)

### 702 - AUTOS FOR SALE

**1958 CHEVY 2** door Vin # 174047. Southside Salvage and Towing (2/21)

**FOR SALE TWO** Trucks 1995 and 1990 F150's 4X4 both run \$800.00 a truck please call 719-274-3188 or 719-849-8877(2/22)

### 717 WATER SHARES

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

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- Tractor Mowing
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- Demolition
- Snow Removal

### Electrical

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82 CONEJOS ALAMOSA  
**719-589-9144**

### Gardening

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# Comics

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**

45 Elves  
 47 "Married ... With Children" surname  
 51 Spectacular  
 52 Quartet minus one  
 55 Jackie's tycoon  
 56 Magritte or Russo  
 57 Auel heroine  
 58 Travel guide  
 59 Units of energy  
 60 Red vegetable  
 61 Woolly one

**DOWN**

1 Place of exile  
 2 Length measure  
 3 Party cheese  
 4 Spotted horse  
 5 Wyo. neighbor  
 6 Dems.' foes  
 7 Steel mill refuse

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

8 Less shiny  
 9 Chopin opus  
 10 In the altogether  
 11 Not now  
 19 Wild goat  
 21 John Glenn's state  
 23 Mound  
 25 — Tse-tung  
 26 Loan abbr.  
 27 Danson or Turner  
 29 Asian mountains  
 30 Prevent  
 33 Commuter vehicle  
 34 Coffee dispenser

35 Drain cleaner  
 37 Flag holder  
 38 Bill of fare  
 39 Fruit drinks  
 41 Killed musician  
 42 Firing  
 44 Depth charge target (hyph.)  
 45 Marquette's title  
 46 Iffy attempt  
 48 Apport  
 49 Dead heat  
 50 Omigosh!  
 53 Type of whiskey  
 54 Land in "la mer"

## ALLEY OOP

THE TEA SHOP OWNER SAYS THERE ARE A GROUP OF COLONISTS MEETING UP AT THE OTHER WHARF. DOWN THE STREET.

OOH, WHAT'S THAT YOU'VE GOT THERE?

IT'S PARSNIP ROOT BROTH. HE CAN'T AFFORD TEA BECAUSE OF THE HIGH TAXES. YOU WANT IT?

GLUG! GLUG! GLUG!

IT'S LIKE DRINKING A CORPSE. HOW DOES HE STAY IN BUSINESS?

## ARLO & JANIS

FINALLY! A NEW SEASON! ABOUT TIME!

THAT WAS GOOD! LET'S WATCH ANOTHER EPISODE!

OK!

WELL, THERE'S ONLY ONE MORE!

WHY NOT?

I WONDER WHEN THE NEXT SEASON WILL BE RELEASED?

## BIG NATE

HOW'D IT GO WITH MALLORY, ROMEO?

YEAH, WHAT HAPPENED?

I GAVE HER THE CARD I MADE, I READ HER MY POEM, I LAID ON THE CHARM AND ASKED HER TO BE MY VALENTINE.

AND SHE SAID "YOU'RE THE KID WHO'S ALWAYS MAKING ARMPIT FARTS DURING SOCIAL STUDIES!"

AND SHE DIDN'T SAY IT IN AN ADMIRING WAY?

NO, SHE DID NOT.

WHAT A WASTE OF A BAD POEM!

## THE BORN LOSER

BRUTUS, WAKE UP! THE CAT'S MAKING A RACKET OUTSIDE. WOULD YOU GO LET IT IN?

AW, GEE WHIZ. OH, ALL RIGHT.

WAIT A MINUTE... WE DON'T HAVE A CAT, GLADYS!

## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

THANKS FOR DRIVING ME HOME, DR. PATTERSON.

THAT'S OK, MARTHA.

MMMMMM SMACK!

I DON'T ALWAYS KISS MARTHA GOODBYE LIKE THAT...

...SOME THINGS YOU DO FOR EFFECT.

## FRANK & ERNEST

ACTUALLY, THE "YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU" RULE WASN'T IMPLEMENTED UNTIL SOMEBODY WANTED TO COME IN WITH BAGPIPES.

## GARFIELD

I FEAR NOTHING

EXCEPT FOR THE THINGS ON THIS LIST

I'M ALSO AFRAID OF THE LIST

I HOPE I'M ON IT

## THE GRIZZWELLS

WHEW! GUNTHER'S SURE IN A LOUSY MOOD

I KNOW, HE NEARLY CHEWED MY EAR OFF YESTERDAY

APPARENTLY, FLORA'S GOT HIM ON ANOTHER DIET

NOT GOOD... NOT GOOD AT ALL

## PEANUTS

WHO IN THE WORLD COULD BE CALLING AT THREE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING?

WHO? NO, THE DINNER WAS CANCELED... WELL, IT'S A LONG STORY...

YES, WE WERE WONDERING WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO YOU... I'M SORRY YOU GOT LOST... ALL RIGHT... MAYBE NEXT TIME...

GOOD NIGHT, MR. SHLABOTNIK

## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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

## HERMAN

"You wanna have good eyesight when you travel, don't you?"

# Separate sleeping quarters give loving couple peace

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been married for 45 years. When she moved out of our bedroom, I was shocked. I thought she didn't love me anymore. Then I realized that both our sleeping habits have changed over the years.

She snores, and I toss and turn. She needs the room dark, while I like a night light so I can see while I walk to the bathroom. I wasn't around when my parents got old, so I didn't realize our sleeping arrangement was going to change. We still love each other, but just sleep in different rooms. Is this normal? -- WONDERING IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR WONDERING: The reason for the change is what's important. In your case, it's not because of discord or lack of love. While I would have suggested your wife try various kinds of sleep masks to block out your night light, your new arrangement is not an indication that there is trouble in your relationship. Many couples do this. So stop worrying about whether this is normal and be glad you have a solution that works.

DEAR ABBY: My brother and sister-in-law own a golden retriever. "Cookie" is their baby. The problem is, I live in a place where I can't have pets, plus I don't have a car. I'm disabled, so it's harder for me to get around.

I would love for my brother and sister-in-law to visit me for a couple of days. We live 2 1/2 hours apart. Well, my brother won't come and stay with me at all. He does visit, but only for about an hour or so because they refuse to put Cookie in a kennel.

What should I say to him without causing him to get mad at me? I feel he's putting that dog first, before his own sister. I miss seeing him and his wife. -- DOGGONE IT IN MICHIGAN

DEAR DOGGONE IT: Your brother and sister-in-law's goldie is also a member of their family. Demanding they put Cookie in a kennel is tantamount to telling them they must put their child in foster care for the duration of their visit with you.

If your brother is willing to drive 2 1/2 hours (each way) to visit with you for a few hours, he IS showing his love for you. Can you suggest he arrange for a neighbor to look after Cookie for two days? If not, in the interest of family harmony, stop complaining.

DEAR ABBY: The last of our children has graduated and left the nest. My wife and I are now starting to go through years of boxes, mostly papers and photos. In the process, we have discovered several checks so it's written to us that we never cashed -- mostly for Girl



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

Scout cookies or other fund-raising items and birthday gifts for the kids.

The checks are mostly more than 15 years old, but they add up to around \$300. Would it be proper to ask the check writers to reissue their checks so long after they were written? We could use the money now. -- QUESTIONING IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR QUESTIONING: You should have been more careful with those monetary gifts. To ask that the checks be rewritten after 15 years would be an imposition and likely not well received. Furthermore, if they were intended for your children for birthdays, Christmas, graduations, etc., any replacement checks should be made out to them, not you.

# Calendar

## Events

Continued from Page 10

at 1 p.m. at 757 County Rd. 29, Monte Vista. Email [wcouzenssmith@gmail.com](mailto:wcouzenssmith@gmail.com) or call (719) 852-5000.

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

**ALAMOSA** — Free breastfeeding 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.

**ALAMOSA** — La Puente's Outreach Services now has energy assistance funding in place. The qualifying fuels are: natural gas, electricity, propane, oil, kerosene, firewood, solid fuel pellets and coal. Please contact (719) 587-3781 with any questions or stop by 929 State St. in Alamosa to complete an application. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Wednesday from 1-5 p.m.

**VALLEY** — La Puente's Outreach Services Program is looking to assist veterans in the San Luis Valley with services including rental assistance, medical and nonmedical gas vouchers, household provisions, interview or work clothing, tuition assistance and job training. Call (719) 587-3781, ext. 213 or email [director.outreach@lapuente.net](mailto:director.outreach@lapuente.net).

**VALLEY** — The Senior Community Service Employment Program is seeking low-income unemployed seniors 55 years and older to participate in its paid job training program throughout southwest Colorado. Call (970) 385-3995.

**VALLEY** — San Luis Valley Animal Welfare Society is seeking donations of used Little Tikes playground equipment for their seven doggie parks: pools, houses, slides and such. Please call Aileen at (719) 587-WOOF (9663) to donate or email at [woof@slvaws.org](mailto:woof@slvaws.org).

**VALLEY** — Valley children are often sent to the Front Range because there are not enough foster homes here in the San Luis Valley. Needs include foster homes, respite homes and support for foster homes. Call Mary Morin at (719) 580-6234 to hear more or (719) 589-2581 for an application packet.

**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 & Lamplighting School. Contact Martin at (575) 758-5876 or [talento-cal@live.com](mailto:talento-cal@live.com)

**ALAMOSA** — The Alamosa Police Department offers a bicycle registration program. Owners wishing to register their bicycles can bring them to the Alamosa Police Department at 425 Fourth St. during normal business hours between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. This service is free of charge to all residents of Alamosa, Alamosa County and students of Adams State University or Trinidad State Junior College. Contact (719) 589-2548.

**ALAMOSA** — The Veterans Affairs Office is looking for volunteer drivers to transport veterans for medical care in Pueblo, Colorado Springs and Denver. Call Frank Muniz at (719) 589-1109.

**ALAMOSA** — La Puente's homeless shelter serves three meals per day, 365 days a year, to guests and community members. That's more than 45,000 meals per year. La Puente needs cans of vegetables, fruit and tomato sauce as well as pasta, dairy products and pasta sauces. Blankets of all sizes are also welcome. Those who have anything to spare may please bring it to the shelter at 913 State Ave. in Alamosa (between Ninth and 10th streets). For more information or to find out other ways to help, please call (719) 589-5909 or come by the shelter any time.

**ALAMOSA** — Peace Meditation at the Campus Ministry Office, Adams State University, Alamosa, is held on Thursday evenings at 5:15 p.m. Everyone is invited. Contact Candace Knowlan (05) 886-6959.

**DEL NORTE** — Weekly yoga will be held at the Ruth Marie Center, 575 Columbia Ave. in Del Norte, with Milcah Hawk from 5:30-7 p.m. every Thursday. Come stretch, breathe and relax for just a donation. Bring your mat or use ours. Call (719) 850-1672.

**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.

**LA JARA** — The United Church is beginning MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers), which 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 streets, with refreshments, babysitting and timely topics just for moms. Call Debbie Vance at (19) 580-6721.

**ALAMOSA** — Adams State University offers the expertise of its faculty to assist communities and local governments in a number of realms, from agribusiness and government internships, to dropout prevention and strategic planning. The guide was produced in cooperation with the Colorado Municipal League. It is available online at [www.adams.edu/community/asuresource-guide.pdf](http://www.adams.edu/community/asuresource-guide.pdf).

**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.

**ANTONITO** — Free Zumba classes for all ages are held at Guadalupe Elementary in Antonito Monday through Thursday from 6:15-7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

**ALAMOSA** — The Alamosa Senior Citizens sell Safeway and City Market Gift cards and receive 5 percent of the sales to make a little money for the center. Stop at the center at 92 Colorado Ave. (north end of Cole Park, Alamosa) and purchase one. The cards are great for groceries, prescriptions or gas as well as gifts.

**DEL NORTE** — Want to help preserve the history of Rio Grande County? That opportunity is available through the Rio Grande County Museum and Cultural Center in Del Norte, which needs volunteers to help with greeting visitors, doing exhibits, inventory and computer work. Also, the Rio Grande County Museum, Inc. is looking for board members to help with fundraising, grant writing and other activities. Contact the museum at (719) 657-2847. The museum is located at 580 Oak St. in Del Norte.

**ALAMOSA** — The San Luis Valley Photography Club meets the first Wednesday of the month at the Alamosa Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Contact

Stephen Jensen at (719) 379-0001 or [slvphotosteph@gmail.com](mailto:slvphotosteph@gmail.com)

**ALAMOSA** — TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) CO 568, Alamosa, a nonprofit weight loss organization, meets every Tuesday evening at the College Heights Baptist Church at 2035 Church Ave. in Alamosa. Weighin 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 (719) 589-6396 for more information.

**ALAMOSA** — The Alamosa Police Department will now provide citizens with dog licenses on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9-10 a.m. The cost is \$2 for spayed and neutered dogs and \$10 for

unaltered. A current proof of rabies vaccination is required.

**LA JARA** — Toddler Time will be at The Conejos Library in La Jara on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. It is beneficial for parents to read to their children and this provides an excellent opportunity to get started. It is free.

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

**ALAMOSA** — The GFWC Woman's Citizenship Club of Alamosa meets on the second Friday at noon from September through May at First United Meth-

odist Church, NW door, 2005 Mullins Ave. For more information, please email [womanscitizenshipclub@gmail.com](mailto:womanscitizenshipclub@gmail.com).

**ALAMOSA** — A newly established confidential support group for people struggling with change will take place the first and third Monday of the month in Room 1 of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Parish Center at 6 p.m. Changing from the Inside Out, facilitated by Luis Murrillo, will provide topics that will lead to conversations about individual struggles with change. Contact Lisa at (719) 588-5363.

**VALLEY** — The Saguache County Veteran Service Office is pleased to announce that homeless veterans and other veterans in financial need

can receive help thanks to a five-county grant administered by the Chaffee County Veteran Service Office. Contact Jim Sheeran at (719) 655-2680. Office hours are Wednesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**MONTE VISTA** — The San Luis Valley 4-H Robotics is looking for used laptop donations to help with expansion of their youth robotics program. Donated laptops should run Microsoft Windows XP or later or Mac OS 10.6 or later and have 1 GB of ram and at least a 1 GHz processor. Those interested in donating to support this program can call (719) 852-7381 or drop laptops off at the SLV Area Extension office at 1899 E. Hwy 160 in Monte Vista.

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