

## Shorts

### California county declares cannabis state of emergency

**BY TERESA L. BENNS**  
**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — County commissioners have expressed concerns about the annexation of marijuana cultivation and retail sales sites in Moffat, possible water issues (including the lack of water available to fight the Moffat fire), also safety concerns along Highway 17, and their worries may be more than justified.

Counties in California, Oregon and Washington State, home to some of the most pristine rural property in the nation, are just now reaping the bitter harvest of marijuana legalization. Cities in these locations also are suffering major issues associated with drug use, mental illness and homelessness, accompanied by a rise in crime. Denver is currently fighting some of the same issues.

Last month County Supervisors in Siskiyou County California, a county located in the uppermost northern part of California, declared a state of emergency in the county owing to “unprecedented proliferation of illicit cannabis cultivation sites throughout the county.”

These sites exist on “both public and private lands, which, on private property number at least 1,500 to 2,000 overwhelming Siskiyou County Sheriff’s Office (SCSO) and partner agency resources. During 2019, SIMIT and NSMIT seizures of illegal marijuana plants and processed products totaled 61,599 plants, 17,763.5 pounds of processed product, and included the confiscation of 18 firearms, with total East Coast retail values ranging from \$369,594,000 to \$554,391,000 for the average three-pound yield per plant for marijuana.”

The emergency declaration also notes an uptick in violent crimes and illegal firearm possession. The declaration continues: “[The county] is already overwhelmed with methamphetamine, heroin, prescription drugs, cocaine and other illicit drugs, and a rising suicide and drug overdose rate, multiplying the impact the illicit cannabis drug trade exacts against our adults and children and the illegal customers in other states.”

“An estimated 3,000,000 gallons of water is being expended daily by illicit cannabis producers, depleting precious groundwater and surface water resources and these losses jeopardize the lawful agricultural, recreational, private and environmental use of water for thousands of residents. Cannabis

See **CANNABIS** on Page 8A

## New DA hopes to increase pay for employees

**BY TERESA L. BENNS**  
**ALAMOSA** — Former Senior Deputy District Attorney Robert Willett sat down for an interview with the *Center Post-Dispatch* last week following his appointment by Gov. Jared Polis as the new 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney.

Willett was one of three individuals considered for the position.

Polis recently appointed former 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney Crista Newmyer-Olsen as a judge for the 12<sup>th</sup> judicial district to replace retiring judge Pattie Swift prior to appointing Willett as the new DA. Newmyer-Olsen will join fellow judges Martin

Gonzales, Michael A. Gonzales and Amanda C. Hopkins on the District bench.

Willett grew up in Missouri and served as a police officer in metro Denver and Arvada for 20 years. At 48 he decided to go to law school and was hired by then District Attorney David Mahonee as a deputy DA in 2013. Willett says he believes he will bring “some consistency to the office” as DA and plans to run for election to the position on the Democrat ticket.

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

of 2019.

Willett’s biggest concern on becoming district attorney is the ongoing difficulty the district has in retaining deputy district attorneys. Currently there are three vacancies he needs to fill for Alamosa, Conejos and Costilla counties. “Many offices across the state are having trouble finding people,” he observed. “Deputy DA’s here make about \$54,000 a year and I want to meet with county commissioners to discuss that.”

With the approval of the boards of county commissioners comprising each Colorado district, the district

Please see **DA** on Page 5A



Robert Willett

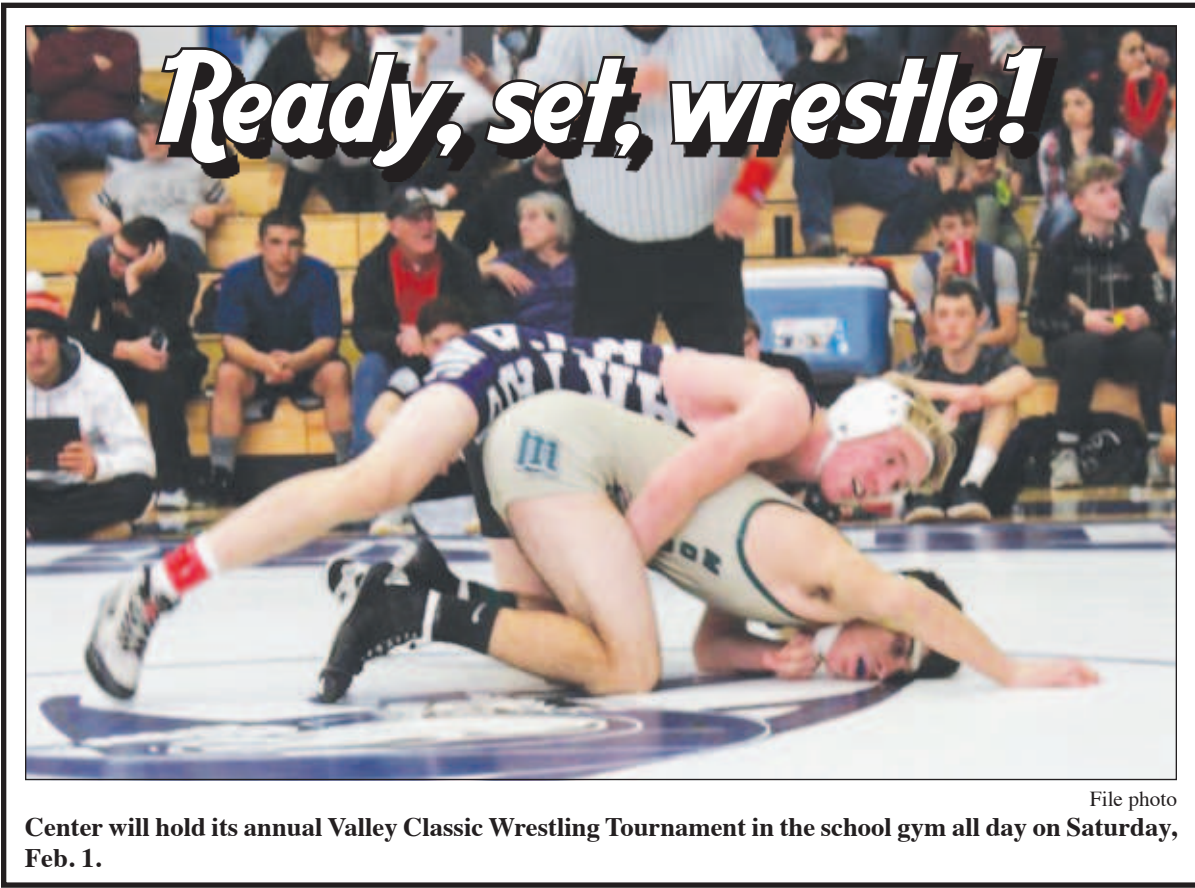
### Moffat passes Annexation 3 ordinance

*BoCC objections dismissed*

**BY TERESA L. BENNS**  
**MOFFAT** — Following what was presented on the agenda as a public hearing Tuesday, Jan. 21, the Moffat town board passed an ordinance approving the Potch LLC/Area 420 Annexation 3 despite the objections of Moffat property owners and Saguache County Commissioners.

During their Jan. 21 meeting, commissioners told Moffat Mayor Patricia Reigel they would not vacate County Road 59, an action needed by the town to meet the requirements of state statute for a fully legal annexation. Two attorneys have warned the town that the annexation as proposed is not in compliance with state law.

Please see **MOFFAT** on Page 6A



File photo

Center will hold its annual Valley Classic Wrestling Tournament in the school gym all day on Saturday, Feb. 1.

## Jan. 7 Saguache BoCC meeting highlights

**SAGUACHE** — The following are highlights for the Jan. 7 Saguache County Commissioner’s meeting taken from draft meeting minutes recorded by Saguache County Clerk’s office staffer Dominique White.

The Board heard reports from the following department heads:

#### Social Services Director Linda Warsh

Warsh presented the report the state sends for expenditures on behalf of the programs. Warsh stated there are a couple of interims and one new employee that will start in February.

Wendi Maez will be scheduling to meet with all DSS staff on Feb. 19.

#### County Administrator Wendi Maez

Maez reviewed the letter for signature regarding the CDOT reduction of speed in the Town of Moffat, Town of Sargents and Town of Saguache.

An update concerning the Saguache Clinic has been scheduled

for Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 9:30 a.m.

- The first BOCC/ Department Head/ Elected Official quarterly luncheon was scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 28, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Road and Bridge meeting room.

- Hinkle and Company were here the week of Jan. 6 to work on the 2019 audit. Maez said she has spoken with Chris Parker and he has confirmed the Saguache County 2019 audit will be completed for review by June 30. They will be here the first week in June to complete the audit with all departments.

- SLV Eastern Trails Coalition/ SLVGO are requesting a letter of support for a grant from Colorado Multi Moto funds for additional funding to help with the SRTS grant in the Crestone/ Baca area.

- Tristram Post with USFS has been informed of the change in Public Land discussion day and time with Commissioners.

- The employee policy is being worked on; the commissioners will have it Feb. 11 for the board to

review and forward to EO/DH for their review.

- Board policy changes also are being worked on.

- The camera in the commissioner’s room has been replaced and is in working order. The camera in the administration and land use office has been freezing, that is being worked on by WSB.

- The Clerk and Recorder’s Office has requested that security lighting be installed in the basement by the ADA doors.

- When the Commissioners have completed installation for the new desks, Maez would like to request the possibility of installing a new carpet and a few new electrical outlets in the room.

#### Road and Bridge Supervisor Randal Arredondo

Arredondo presented the yearly report for road updates. He received a letter from Nikita, Manager of San Luis Valley Conservation District, stating she had applied for and

received a grant for noxious weed control in the amount of \$10,626.

The school has asked to take debris to the landfill. The board was told the school was going to take debris to the Regional Landfill. The landfill isn’t equipped to take large projects, like the school proposes.

#### Sheriff Dan Warwick

Warwick is currently trying to get things caught up at years-end. It has eased up because of the cold but is still very busy. He is still working on the inventory. Commissioner Jason Anderson stated he has received really positive feedback on the two officers now in Crestone. Anderson also asked if he can put the desks together at the office in Crestone.

#### Interim Land Use Administrator Amber Wilson

Master Plan Surveys — The Planning Commissioner/Master Plan Survey is being compiled at Land Use. The Land Use office has been

Please see **BOCC** on Page 6A



**DEL NORTE BANK**  
www.truelocalbank.com

We Offer

# Health Savings Accounts



Learn more about tax saving opportunities with our HSAs!  
Call 719-657-3376

Member **FDIC**

# OBITUARIES

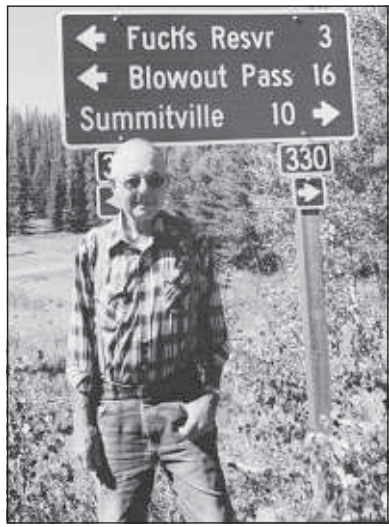
## Fred Fuchs, 81

**DEL NORTE** - The Angels in Heaven are Rejoicing; Another one of God's Children has Come Home. Fred Fuchs of Del Norte, Colorado, lovingly called Doozie by his wife, Charlotte of 59 years went home to Heaven on January 23, 2020, with his family all around him. He was born on March 21, 1938, to Hugh and Margaret Fuchs of Del Norte. He was the first of four sons; LeeRoy, Richard, and Mike. Childhood was spent on the family ranch west of Del Norte and with Grandpa at the "brick house."

Fred and Charlotte McMillan were united in marriage on November 6, 1960. They started out on a small ranch west of the home place then moved to their current home northwest of Center in J. Together they raised two children, Julie (Bill) Hume of Rangely, Colorado, and Stace (Loni) Fuchs of Del Norte. He was Grampa to Michael (Carrie) Sprunger, Nicole (Bryan) Howe, Bryce Fuchs, Brent Fuchs, Mary Fuchs, and Zach Fuchs. He was GG-Pa to Stella, Emerson and Barrett Howe and Step-Grampa to Denali, Cody, and Macayla Hicks.

Fred started raising sheep while still in high school and continued after returning home from his enlistment in the Marines. He was a dedicated farmer raising alfalfa, barley, and potatoes. Fred ran 2000 head of sheep that summered in the high country above Creede. This was an adventure that all participated in and looked forward to. Fred loved the mountains and caring for his sheep, and the family enjoyed many trips to the sheep camps. He was very compassionate and loved all the animals that he cared for. Fred won many awards through the National Wool Growers' Association, some of which he was awarded at the National Western Stock Show in Denver.

One of Fred's favorite things was spending time with his family. It didn't matter what the job was, the work was shared by all. He willingly taught by example, and a great deal



of wisdom was passed down through the years to not only his children but grandchildren as well. He was a kind and gentle man of few words, but when he did speak he was worth listening to. A couple of the lessons passed down were, "Just take one day at a time," and "Let's just see what happens."

Fred was a member of Gateway Church. He and Charlotte were involved in building the church at its current location where he was a Trustee and Head Usher. He enjoyed visiting with area farmers at the Gunbarrel Station where they would discuss the weather, crops, etc. and solved many a problem.

He is survived by his wife Charlotte, children Julie and Stace, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, three brothers, sister-in-law Jesse James, numerous nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents. Fred was so very loved and will be missed greatly by his family and friends.

Services will be held on February 1, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. at Gateway Church in Del Norte. Arrangements in care of Strohmayer's Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that any donations be made to Gateway Church in Del Norte in Fred's memory. Send to Strohmayer's Funeral Home at 205 Broadway, Monte Vista, CO 81144.

## Kathryn M. Fox, 90

**MONTE VISTA** - Kathryn Fox passed away Jan. 24, 2020, at the Colorado State Veterans Center at Homelake. She was born in Lincoln County, Kansas in the late '20s to Charles and Mattie Volok.

She moved to Denver in the '40s where she met her late husband, retired Senior Master Sergeant Perry Fox. She is survived by her sisters Ester and Sharon, her daughter Sheila (Bob) Davie, son Charles (Danny) Fox, grandchildren Brian, Stephanie, Gabriela, and many wonderful great-grandchildren.

She was a wife and homemaker

that traveled all over the world supporting her late husband Perry with his military career. Upon Perry's retirement, they settled back in Colorado. She was an avid Denver Bronco's fan and never missed a game. She was even honored by the team as a super fan.

A celebration of life will be held in the spring and announced at a later date. Cremation was chosen and Strohmayer's Funeral Home is making the arrangements.

The family wishes to thank the Colorado State Veterans center and fantastic staff for her amazing care.



## Melvin Eugene Goad, 61

**MONTE VISTA** - Melvin passed away Dec. 24 in Alamosa hospital. He was born June 28, 1958, in Monte Vista, Colorado Gifted with a green thumb, Melvin grew and maintained beautiful vegetable and flower gardens. He loved being outdoors, and fishing and gathering firewood were just some of his passions in life. Melvin also enjoyed every chance he got to visit with friends and family as well. Survived by his family: Mother, Ruth Goad, Brother, Marvin and Lorraine Goad and family, Alfonso and Erin

Goad and family, Joshua Goad, Elesha Goad, Aunt Sylvia Schmidt, Cousins; Allen Schmidt, Brian Schmidt, Laura and Billy Ainge and family, Preston Schmidt and family, and close friends: Brenda and Tito Solis and Chuck Haller. Melvin was preceded in death by his Father, Donald Goad, Aunt Karen (Kell) Reinhard, Cousin Kent Schmidt, Grandparents; Harold and Zella Goad and Ralph & Greta Kell, and Uncle Harold Schmidt. Cremation was selected and a private family service will be held at a later date.



## SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF REPORT

The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the weeks of Jan. 3-27, 2020.

### Arrests

- Alanna Plat, 30, Crestone, fugitive of justice, domestic violence, criminal mischief.
- Gerald Nusbaum, 20, Del Norte, two counts of failure to appear.
- Cesar Valadez, 28, Center, failure to appear.
- John Sladek, 67, Saguache, two counts fugitive of justice, second degree criminal trespass, DUR, unlawful possession of a controlled substance.
- Ross Montano, 32, Center, criminal mischief.

### Citations

- Jamison Jayson, Moffat, violation of county land use code to include: no approved sewage disposal system before occupation of camper, RV, etc.; RV or camper on premises longer than 60 days during construction process; failure to remove rubbish and junk from unincorporated area of Saguache County, failure to procure physical address/county road access permit.
- Matthew Cato, 38, Westminster, speeding 84 in a 65 MPH zone.
- Adam Haller, 24, Canada, obtained control of personal property belonging to the Elephant Cloud in Crestone with intent to deprive the owner permanently of its use and benefit.

## OBITUARY POLICY

Valley Publishing charges a flat fee of \$30 for each obituary published. Pending arrangements or death notices run for no charge.

This charge affects funeral homes, as well as family or other representatives, that directly place obituaries. All paid obituaries will continue to be published on our website(s) for no additional fee.

In the event the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit will be rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed. Obituaries can be emailed to: [montevistanews@gmail.com](mailto:montevistanews@gmail.com) or call 719-852-3531 for more information.

**BUILD BRIDGES NOT WALLS**

**Stand for Human Rights**

[www.oxfamamerica.org](http://www.oxfamamerica.org)

**OXFAM**

**VALI3Theater**  
719-628-2015  
139 Adams • Monte Vista  
[www.vali3theater.org](http://www.vali3theater.org)

**Jan. 31-Feb. 2**



**Fri. & Sat.**  
7 p.m.  
**Sunday**  
5 p.m.

PG-13

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

**San Luis Valley Federal Bank**

**Cash in on rewards using your debit card.**

Learn more about debit card rewards  
visit [www.slvfb.com/rewards](http://www.slvfb.com/rewards) or call 589-6653

# YOUR NIGHT SKY



## Orion's Dogs

BY DARLENE DANKO

Orion has 2 dogs, Canis Major and Canis Minor. After Orion was stung by Scorpius and died, he asked the gods if he could bring his favorite 2 hunting dogs with him into the sky to help him fend off the menacing Taurus the Bull. The gods agreed. Canis Major is to his lower left in the right side of the Milky Way, and Canis Minor is to the upper left of Canis Major on the left side of the Milky Way. It's also just above the constellation Monoceros that I wrote about last time.

Canis Major doesn't seem to be helping Orion much since he's busy chasing after a bunny rabbit. The constellation Lepus is just below Orion and just to the left of Eridanus the river. Lepus looks like a bunny wandering along the river looking for something to eat.

Canis Major has 8 stars and actually looks like a dog with the brightest star Sirius as his eye. The fainter star Mirzam to the right is his nose. Below Sirius are the dog's neck, body and 2 legs. The other stars Aludra and Adhara are his fainter back legs that are actually in the

constellation Puppis.

Sirius is also called "the dog star." It is the brightest star that we can see. It's bright because it's only 8.6 LY away, so it's the seventh closest star to us after the Sun. Ancient Egyptians worshipped it as the King of Suns. It's rising and setting told Egyptians when to plant, harvest and when the Nile was going to flood.

Of course Sirius is easy to find. It's that bright star in the SE with Orion's belt pointing down to it. It often twinkles red, white and blue when it's low in the sky. There are several star clusters and nebulae in Canis Major. The open star cluster NGC 2862 is easy to find with unaided vision. It's down in the lower part of the dog's body where the legs come out.

Canis Minor is the fainter little dog. We can only see 2 stars. Gomeisa the head is the top star, and Procyon the body is below it. Procyon is bright enough to be easily seen since it's the eighth brightest star in our sky. It's a sparkling white star, and its Greek name means Before the Dog since it rises before Sirius.

Procyon and Sirius are part of the 6 star Winter Circle. They also make the Winter Triangle with Betelgeuse in

Orion. Procyon is only 11.4 LY from us. Gomeisa is actually brighter than Procyon, but its dimness is due to the fact that it's 150 LY from us. There's actually a faint meteor shower from the Minor's head called the Canis Minorids. They occur in early December.

When the sky is clear and the moon isn't shining, the evening sky is amazing!

I can see so many stars and constellations. So go out and look around 9 p.m. to see all of the amazing stars. Remember that it will take your eyes several minutes to acclimate to dark skies. That's why I turn off the bright lights in the house by 8:30.

The planet Venus is still blazing in the SW as it climbs higher in the sky. Mercury reaches its greatest eastern elonga-

tion from the Sun Feb. 10.

A half-hour after sunset it'll be 10 degrees above the horizon to the lower right of Venus. Depending on your mountains, you may or may not be able to see it. Just so you know, the first quarter moon is Feb. 2 and the Full Moon is Feb. 9.

## CLIPS FROM THE CLERK

BY SAGUACHE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER TRISH GILBERT  
**Election judges**

Election judges are registered electors appointed by the county clerk to perform the election duties assigned by the clerk. Judges are appointed to serve two-year terms and ensure that elections are administered fairly according to federal and state law.

### To be an election judge, an individual must:

- Be a registered elector in the political subdivision (except for student election judges).
- Be physically and mentally able to perform the assigned tasks.
- Attend a training provided by the county clerk.
- Not have been convicted of fraud or other election offense.
- Not be a candidate or be related by blood, marriage, or civil union to the second degree to a candidate whose name appears on the ballot.

Election judges must have a background check and affirm to an oath. The county clerk may assign an election judge based upon appropriate skill level and interest.

There must be at least three judges at each VSPC (Voter Service and Polling Center), one of whom may be a student judge. As long as two judges of differing affiliations are present, voting may continue. If, however, there

are only two judges of the same affiliation or only one judge, voting may not proceed.

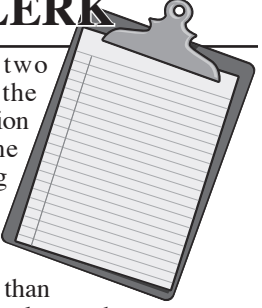
A county with fewer than 5,001 active electors by the 90th day before Election Day may use regular county staff that is sworn in as election judges to conduct signature verification. This is a practice we use in Saguache County.

### C.R.S. 1-6-115(1)

In all elections, including primary and general elections, each election judge serving in the precincts on Election Day shall receive not less than five dollars as compensation for services provided as judge at any election.

Our election judges get paid more than \$5, just not as much as they are worth. Saguache County is very fortunate to have such great, civic-minded citizens who will step-up and do an extraordinary job regardless of pay.

Election judges are the backbone of the voting process. They help to ensure transparency and elevate voter trust. Election judge compensation pales in comparison to their dedication to protect the integrity of elections.



**Extraordinary Property on 20 Acres!**

- 959 Yund Drive, Del Norte
- \$395,000
- 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 1,682 sq. ft main home
- Recently-renovated kitchen has concrete countertops, new lighting, appliances and handmade cabinetry
- Master Bedroom and bath have new windows, new shower, double sinks in new cabinetry and stylish faucets
- Great front porch for enjoying the mountain views, Aspens and Evergreens around the property
- 512 sq. ft. guest house with loft
- 1,968 sq. ft. barn or workshop and 324 sq. ft. garage
- Bennett Creek flows through this property, ready to be your dream home!



**United Country Real Estate**  
www.delnorte-co-realestate.com  
Karla Wiescamp

**WIESCAMP REALTY, LLC**  
657-2324  
630 Grand Ave. • Del Norte



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

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

Estimate your refund and find free tax help by visiting [GetMyRefundColorado.org](http://GetMyRefundColorado.org) or calling 2-1-1

**Trinidad State Junior College - Alamosa Campus**  
1011 Main St, Learning Center, Alamosa, CO 81101  
January 30 - March 19  
Thursdays, 4 - 8 pm  
Call 719-589-7135 or visit [trinidadstatealamosataxhelp.setmore.com](http://trinidadstatealamosataxhelp.setmore.com) to make an appointment.

Drop Off Tax Site and DIY Site






NMLS #421822

# RIO GRANDE

## Savings & Loan Association

[rgsla.com](http://rgsla.com)

**Loan Products**

Home & Commercial Mortgages  
Second Mortgages • Auto Loans  
Home Improvement Loans  
Raw Land

**Deposit Products**

Checking Accounts  
Savings Accounts  
Certificates of Deposit  
Commercial Checking Accounts

**Electronic Banking Services**

Online Banking • Mobile Deposit • Mobile Banking App  
Online Bill Pay • Mastercard Debit Card  
Person to Person Payments

**ALAMOSA**  
3416 Mariposa St.  
719-589-2536

**MONTE VISTA**  
901 1st Avenue  
719-852-5933

**Call or stop in today!**

# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## The sky is falling

It seems like every morning, there is another tragedy or disaster either occurring or on the horizon.

Ol' Dutch used to worry about such things and even though a good conspiracy theory still gets my blood moving, the end of the world looming does not catch my attention anymore.

Ever since time immemorial, man has looked for the end of the world to come which pretty much shows us that man has always been tired of the struggle of everyday life. And the Bible particularly sends pretty alarming news bites about such a time to come and a lot of people seem to be looking for that day.

That foretold event has always been a great way to raise funds for television preachers, freeze-dried food manufacturers and "prepper" suppliers not to mention Cold War bomb shelters.

If you are not aware of the impending doom and gloom then you join Miss Trixie in having a positive outlook on life. I am not sure how you managed

to steer clear of the roving snake oil salesmen, but hurrah for you.

Ol' Dutch, on the other hand, does like to follow along and see what the next foretold disaster is going to be. However, I am getting a tad jaded waiting for them to occur.

I mean who among us hasn't grown tired of waiting for California to slide off into the ocean? Depending on your point of view, they have been threatening or promising that for my entire 63 years. Yet there it remains -- full of fruits and nuts. And the produce ain't bad either.

Ol' Dutch does get a bit confused by the TV preachers who hawk all kinds of survival gear and food however as they are supposed to be trusting God in some manner or other. And they all promote maintaining an arsenal to protect the food you sock away like a chipmunk expecting winter. I am pretty sure that Jesus would not take up an AR-15 and shoot someone over some dried milk and hydrogen-preserved peaches.

I don't know what I would do if

faced with an angry mob wanting my food but I do remember when I was a little boy, my father fast Freddy bare-handed faced down a hungry bear in Yellowstone who was intent on grabbing our lunch. I learned then and there not to come between him and his vittles.

I think that sitting in a bunker eating while my neighbors are starving may be a fast ticket to the eternal fire anyway so I think I will pass. That fire is said to be hotter than some measly atom bomb so I would like to avoid that one if at all possible.

Having read about nuclear war, EMP bomb explosions, earthquakes that split the USA in half, biological pandemics, famines, nuclear winters and every manner of slow death you can imagine, Ol' Dutch is making his own preparations for just such a day.

While perusing the internet, Ol' Dutch found some cheap white and red paint and I plan to paint a huge bull's-eye on my camper roof.

That way if something happens Ol'

Dutch gets a nuke right on the old noggin and is the first to go, thereby saving all that pain and suffering. And it saves Miss Trixie from all that whining that I would do during those cold nuclear nights.

(Upon reading that paragraph, she had a rare religious moment and gave a hardy "Amen.")

Ol' Dutch came to terms with his own death many years ago and when I sit and look out at the stars at night I cannot help but think that the God who made all that can surely take care of the end as well and if he cannot, then he must not be much of a God after all.

Most of us don't even want to spend a night camping unless it's at the Holiday Inn let alone trying to survive the sky falling. Imagine laying around in some dark cellar with no showers, no toilets, no hot water, no vegetables or milk, no phones, no gas for your car surviving on freeze-dried cookies.

And that, my friends, is why I have decided to go out in the first wave. Because without milk what is the use



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

of having freeze-dried cookies?

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

# CENTER POST - DISPATCH

THE CENTER POST-DISPATCH (USPS 775-900) Published weekly (every Thursday) by Valley Publishing. (719) 852-3531 at 835 First Ave., Monte Vista, Colorado 81144-1423. Official newspaper of the Town of Center, and a legal newspaper in Saguache County.  
**Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144**  
**Main office, Want ads and Subscriptions: (719) 852-3531**  
**Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, Colo., 81144**  
**POSTMASTER: Send change of address to P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144**  
**Subscriptions: \$39 one year in San Luis Valley; \$49 elsewhere. Out of Valley First Class Mailing \$115.00 one year. Seniors receive 10 percent discount on in county subscriptions only. (719) 852-3531**  
 News Media Corporation website: <http://www.newsmediacorporation.com>

Trey Spaulding ..... GM/Editor	Shasta Quintana ..... Circulation
Rebecca Copley ..... Monte Vista Reporter	Ellie Bone ..... Composition
..... Teresa Benns ..... Center Reporter	April Welch ..... Classified
Lyndsie Ferrell ..... South Fork/Creede Reporter	Vernon Trujillo ..... Production Foreman
Sylvia Lobato ..... Conejos County Reporter	
Chelsea McNerney-Martinez ..... Advertising Sales Associate	



**coloradopress ASSOCIATION**  
2019 Member

**www.centerpostdispatch.com**

## Join Us for a Special Hearing Healthcare Event

### The world's FIRST hearing aid with Sensors & Artificial Intelligence

Our latest Livio® AI hearing aids are designed to:

- Superior sound quality and clarity to hear comfortably in any environment
- The ability to set body and brain health goals with the new Thrive™ Hearing app
- Streaming of phone calls, music and messages from your smartphone directly to your hearing aids
- Convenient adjustments to your hearing aids without an office visit
- Language translation via the easy-to-use Thrive™ app
- Thrive app tracks body activity like steps and overall movement

## Join us for our 3-Day event featuring a NATIONALLY KNOWN HEARING AID EXPERT

# February 5-7

Space is limited, so call early as appointments will go fast! **719-937-7634**



**SPECIAL GUEST!**  
Nationally Known Hearing Aid Expert, Kristen Schardein, will be available for our special event — **AT NO CHARGE!**



TAKE AN ADDITIONAL  
**\$500 OFF**  
MSRP on Livio® AI hearing aids  
Expires 2-8-2020



**Ears 2U Hearing Aid Services** 2101 Main St., Ste-C Alamosa, CO 81101  
**719-937-7634**  
[Coloradohearingaid.com](http://Coloradohearingaid.com)

**Don't miss your opportunity to improve your hearing TODAY!!!**

# Did you know

that your hearing health has a direct effect on your overall health and well-being?

### Tinnitus

Up to 90% of people with tinnitus have some level of noise-induced hearing loss.

### Osteoporosis

Osteoporosis can adversely affect the three tiny bones in the middle ear, which can lead to hearing loss.

### Hypertension

High blood pressure can be an accelerating factor of hearing loss in adults.

### Obesity

Higher body mass index (BMI) and larger waist circumference are associated with increased risk of hearing loss in women.

### Safety/Balance

People with mild hearing loss are 3x more likely to have a history of falling than people with normal hearing.

### Isolation

Untreated hearing loss can contribute to social isolation, anxiety, depression and cognitive decline.

### Cognitive Decline

Adults with hearing loss experience a 30-40% faster decline in cognitive abilities than their peers with normal hearing.  
\*75 years and older

### Depression

In a recent survey, adults\* with untreated hearing loss were more likely to report depression, anxiety and paranoia than peers who wore hearing aids.  
\*50 years and older

### Eye Health

Vision helps you identify where a sound is coming from.

### Heart Health

A healthy cardiovascular system has a positive effect on hearing.

### Smoking

Current smokers have a 70% higher risk of having hearing loss than nonsmokers.

### Diabetes

Hearing loss is twice as common in people with diabetes as their peers without.

### Ototoxicity

Ototoxicity is a common cause of hearing loss.



# Garcia's State Parks Improvement Bill advances

**COLORADO** – The Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee voted 4-1 to advance SB20-003 sponsored by Colorado Senate President Leroy Garcia. SB-003 would allow the state to grant a one-time infusion from the General Fund to make important capacity improvements across the state parks system, including contributing to maintenance, operational costs, upgraded trails, bathrooms, parking and visitor facilities. It would also officially establish Fishers Peak and the land surrounding it, as Colorado's newest state park. Fisher's Peak is located near Trinidad, Colorado.

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

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

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

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

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

"Mountain trails are clogging up,

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

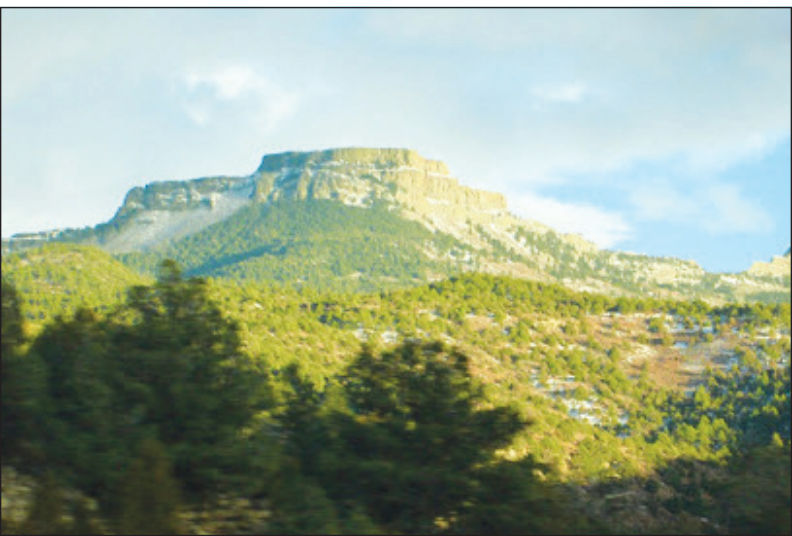
The creation of Fishers Peak Park (official name TBD) would be the

first state park to be created since 2013 and would exist as the second-largest in Colorado—extending over 55 square miles.

"This is huge for southern Colorado," said President Garcia. "We haven't seen the same amount of tourism dollars that the rest of the

state has, so this new state park in our own backyard will invigorate our economy and give us access to one of the most iconic natural wonders in the region."

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



Courtesy photo

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

## DA

Continued from Page 1A

attorney in each judicial district currently sets the salaries of any assistant district attorney, chief deputy district attorney, and deputy district attorney in the district. It all depends on the financial support provided by the counties.

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

Crime stats, diversion program  
Violent crime in the Valley is down at the moment, Willett commented, but cycles up and down over the years. In 2016 there were 600 felonies and in 2019 only 400 and some. Newmyer-Olsen left the office in a good position in that respect, he said. Willett would like to develop some programs to address violent crime but "that will take several years" he commented.

Currently, the diversion program run by Megan Martinez has been very successful in taking the load off the DA's office by dealing with low-level offenders. About 80 percent of all crimes, he said, fall into this category and can be successfully resolved without litigation. "Most of these offenders are just people who made a mistake," he explained. "They would love to break that cycle."

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

Willett would also like to open a cold case unit and establish a major crimes squad for the Valley that can respond quickly to homicides and other violent crimes. "CBI takes three to four hours to respond from

Pueblo," and he agreed that too often the wait can result in crime scene contamination.

But both projects depend on the funding he receives from the counties in the district and how many of the vacant positions he can fill. "I am trying to be consistent and maintain a fair and just approach to criminal justice, but I'm hamstrung by a lack of resources," Willett concluded. He expressed hope that the counties he serves will help him achieve his goals



Come in  
we're  
**LOCAL!**

Run all the errands on your list right here in town!

Why spend your hard-earned dollars here in the community?

- | Local merchants go the extra mile for customers.
- | More unique places to shop make a more vibrant place to live.
- | You'll save time and gas by staying in town.
- | Taxes paid by small businesses help support our community.
- | Supporting local businesses brings jobs to our area.
- | Getting to know local business owners helps strengthen our neighborhoods.

Financial Advisor



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

Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

SUPPORT  
SOUTH FORK

GRANDE NATURAL MEATS

www.ElkUSA.com

Buffalo, Elk, Deer, Goat,  
Boar & Rabbit  
USVA Meat Jerky & Sausage

5 MILES WEST OF DEL NORTE ON HWY. 160  
DAILY 8 AM - 6 PM    719-657-0942

360 Insurance Company

HOME • AUTO • LIFE

Contact me today for a complete insurance review.

852-8840

729 First Ave.  
Monte Vista,  
CO 81144

Shari Oliver, Agent



DOC'S OUTDOOR Sports

"Your Prescription For Outdoor Fun"

FULL LINE SPORTING GOODS STORE

Fishing • Camping  
Hunting • Guns & Ammo

Fishing & Hunting Licenses

EQUIPMENT RENTAL  
SKIS & SNOWBOARDS

T-Shirts • Hoodies  
Fudge • Souvenirs

719-873-5151  
31101 W. Hwy. 160  
South Fork  
www.docsoutdoor.com



That's Alissa's Dream Home, What's Yours?

At Del Norte Bank,  
Your Dream Home is Our Dream.



719.657.3376  
Del Norte

719.658.0126  
Creede

Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

www.truelocalbank.com  
NMLS 446071

LIMITED-TIME OFFER

iPhone 11  
On Us.

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



VIAERO WIRELESS

Switch To The Better Unlimited!

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

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

# Local parent voices concussion protocol concerns

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

**DELNORTE**-Over the past several months the Upper Rio Grande School District has been under fire from parents for concussion protocols and other concerns. During the Board of Education meeting held Thursday, Jan. 23, those in attendance voiced their trepidation and trust issues to the board. In a statement released to the Del Norte Prospector, one mother accused the school of not following, or having, a concussion protocol in place in reference to an incident that involved her 14-year old son.

During the public comment period, Camille Medina spoke to the board stating, "I know that everyone here can relate. Either you have had children, grandchildren or you have known

young children in this district. I have reached out several times to each of you, including Mr. Burr in regard to this issue. There is no action to move forward from the school. Anytime I reach out to the school, I am met with hostility. I was told that what I am saying about the school was slanderous. I will not stop talking about my son or what is happening, and I don't think that I should be asked to stop."

Medina explained during a previous interview that her son was continuing to suffer from long-term effects of a concussion that reportedly occurred during football practice with the Upper Rio Grande School District in October 2019. According to her statements that have been made public, Medina states verbatim, "My son was injured during

football practice at Del Norte High School. With mixed emotions, I feel that the level of notifications to the school staff and the safety and concussion protocols that should be in place were not followed. I feel that the school has not followed the regulations regarding my son, his concussion management, and allowing him to have correct management and support as he returns to school."

In a packet provided by Medina, which was handed to the board during the meeting, Medina writes, "This is our fourth son to play high school football in our community and we are well aware of the school's concussion protocol." Further on in the packet Medina continued, "There is no concussion protocol in the athletic handbook that

we parents can be assured is being followed to protect our athletes."

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

at this point that Medina requested to have a 504 Accommodation plan put in place for her son. Her son continues to struggle with the effects of the concussion to this day. "My son has been tested by CHSAA and is now at a fifth-grade level due to injuries."

See **CONCUSSION** on Page 8A

## MOFFAT

Continued from Page 1A

Reigel told commissioners the road vacation was necessary in order for the town to annex the 320-acre property, with sites for sale designated for marijuana retail sales and cultivation. According to unconfirmed reports, many of the sites already have been sold. Moffat attorneys maintain that the town can vacate County Road 59 without the approval or participation of the county.

Shawn Quick, who heads a group of property owners who are opposed to the annexation, told commissioners that even before the public hearing scheduled for that evening, Moffat officials had prepared the ordinance for approval by the board. She also alleged the town held an illegal executive session Monday, Jan. 20, evening before the passage of the ordinance.

Those attending the public hearing before the ordinance's approval reported that they were not allowed to express the full scope of their concerns and did not feel they were given a fair hearing by the board. One attendee left after being admonished by the board for his continued objections to the annexation.

Moffat's town board meetings are regularly attended by Potch LLC/Area 420 administration and employees. Townspeople attending the meetings have complained for the past two years that they are outnumbered at the meetings and not given a voice.

## BOCC

Continued from Page 1A

busy folding, taping, labeling and putting on postage for 3,896 surveys that the Planning Commission created. This will allow them to get updated information for the Saguache County Master Plan. The deadline for returning surveys to the Land Use office is Feb. 28. Wilson will create a spreadsheet to input the information for every question the surveys are returned.

Marijuana excise tax — Wilson presented a marijuana excise tax money breakdown showing who has paid and by month as well as all application fees for marijuana. Saguache County collected an estimated \$250,000 plus last year in excise tax. The county had budgeted for \$150,000 in tax monies. Wilson said there are currently 59 marijuana operations holding conditional use permits, with 17 in production.

Planning Commission Board Packets/ Agendas — The Land Use office has gotten packets out for the Saguache County Planning Commission for their meeting on Jan. 30, 2020. We have sent out agendas for the Crestone/ Baca Planning Commission Work Session for Jan. 27.

Applications — The Land Use office has received six consolidation requests and one Subdivision Exemption Request in the last week. Wilson sent their certified mailing

A representative for commissioners said last week that commissioners are entitled to file a challenge to the annexation, but no formal decision on whether the county will file or not has been made.

**Moffat traffic death**

The representative also objected to the town of Moffat's rejection of a letter at the Jan. 21 meeting. The letter, addressed to the Colorado Department of Transportation, was sent to the town by commissioners requesting the the speed limit on Highway 17 running past the town be reduced to 35 MPH. According to the representative, the letter was rejected by Moffat officials because it was not specifically addressed to the town.

On Nov. 25, a vehicle driven by Saguache County resident Barbara Vigil, 73, was struck by a motorist speeding down Highway 17. Vigil later died. The accident is currently under investigation by the Colorado Highway Patrol. State Patrol Trooper Kerker confirmed Tuesday that the motorist was speeding and said the matter has been referred to the Alamosa district attorney. The accident is still under investigation.

In the letter sent to the Moffat board, commissioners noted the county has "lost a beloved community member ... by a person that was exceeding the speed limit through the Town. We suggest that the speed limit be lowered

and files are ready. Wilson also signed up Alejandro Heredia, Code Enforcement officer, for septic inspector training.

**Sarah Koehn Frye — Northern Saguache County Library District**

Frye delivered the yearly update for 2019. The libraries of Northern Saguache County welcomed 26,444 visitors and hosted over 100 meetings in the libraries. There were 4,148 computer uses on in-house desktop computers. The libraries have been approved for nearly \$23,000 in grants and provided an average of four kids' programs per week. The Town of Crestone donated 2 acres of their land in the Town of Crestone for the purpose of a new library. They are just currently having issues agreeing on a location.

"Nearly all of the projects and programs we offer would be impossible without the additional grant funding, Koehn said. "We thank the county commissioners for their continued support of our libraries."

**Motions approved**

Commissioners approved motions to sign the letter of support for the SLV trails coalition and send the letters to CDOT to reduce speed on Highway 17 for Moffat, Highway 50 for Sargents and Highway 285 through Saguache.

and the flashing speed limit sign be installed through the Town of Moffat on Highway 17 to help this not happen again in the future." The first sentence of the letter specifically mentions the town of Moffat.

Moffat citizens have complained to the board on several different occasions that vehicles are speeding down Highway 17 past the town and pose a safety hazard.



## Traditional IRAs vs. Roth IRAs

Adequate retirement planning can set men and women up to enjoy their golden years however they see fit. Getting to retirement with enough money takes discipline and commitment and may require some sacrifices along the way.

"Retirement planning" is an umbrella term that covers various types of financial products and investments. One of the products prospective investors are likely to hear about when mulling their retirement investment options is an Individual Retirement Account, or IRA. An IRA is a personal retirement savings plan that can provide tax benefits to those who qualify. When speaking with a financial planner or exploring options on their own, prospective investors will hear about Traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs and wonder what distinguishes one from the other. The following breakdown can help investors understand those differences with the hopes of finding the best option for them.

### Contributions

Contributions to Traditional IRAs are pre-tax, and they may be tax deductible depending on the account holder's income and other factors. Contributions to Roth IRAs are made with post-tax income and are not eligible for tax deductions.

### Taxes on distributions

While men and women about to open an IRA likely won't have to worry about distributions for quite some time, it's important that prospective account holders know that, according to Prudential, Traditional IRA account holders will pay federal taxes on their account's investment earnings and on pre-tax contributions when money is withdrawn. Roth IRA account holders will not pay federal taxes on withdrawals, including their investment earnings, if they meet certain eligibility requirements. Prospective

investors should know that there are tax penalties for account holders who withdraw money from their Traditional or Roth IRAs before they reach age 59 1/2. Exceptions to that rule should be discussed with a tax or accounting professional.

### Income requirements

In order to open an IRA, whether it's a Traditional or Roth IRA, prospective account holders must have earned income, such as wages, salaries or income from self-employment. Men and women who do not work can still open an IRA, but only if their spouse is employed and the couple jointly files their tax return.

There also may be income limits depending on which type of IRA an investor chooses. There are no income limits attached to Traditional IRAs, but account holders' ability to deduct contributions from their income may be

limited if their spouse is eligible to participate in an employer-sponsored retirement plan. There are income limits associated with Roth IRAs. Account holders' adjusted growth income must be below certain limits depending on their tax filing status (i.e., filing single or filing jointly with a spouse).

### Distributions and age

The Internal Revenue Service notes that Traditional IRA account holders must begin taking distributions by April 1 following the year in which they turned 70 1/2 years of age and by December 31 in future years. No minimum distributions are required for Roth IRA account holders.

Understanding the various types of IRAs can be difficult. Prospective investors who need help navigating their retirement planning should not hesitate to contact financial planning professionals. MM16C617

**H&R  
BLOCK**

**Business Services  
Bookkeeping  
Payroll  
Taxes & Advice  
AVAILABLE YEAR-ROUND**

**Call today to make an appointment!**

**409 Main St.  
Alamosa  
Ph. (719) 589-6594  
Fax (719) 587-0262**

**210 Adams St.  
Monte Vista  
Ph. (719) 852-3338  
Fax (719) 628-2736**

# SPORTS

## Early rush carries Sanford to win over Center

By **STEPHEN JIRON**

**CENTER** — The first meeting between Southern Peaks (SPL) teams went to visiting Sanford by a score of 49-38.

The Sanford boys basketball team (8-3, 1-0 SPL) has been performing well thus far this season. Despite playing a large portion of their early schedule in the 3A class, they enter their league schedule bearing only three losses. Center (6-4, 1-1 SPL) entered Friday's game on a high after some nifty perimeter shooting gave them the win over Del Norte on the road.

A game of swings went to Center early. With Sanford struggling with turnovers, Center pounced and ran out to an 8-0 lead thanks to three-pointers from Devin Porres and Habran DeLaCruz. Sanford made

some adjustments and halted Center's first-quarter run.

With Center silenced, Sanford rattled off 11 points to close the first quarter and finished the rally with 8 more in the second quarter for 19 unanswered points between quarters. Sanford's Trent Koenig contributed a team-leading 10 points to Sanford's first-half burst. Four points from Center closed the half with the visitors leading 19-12. Having grabbed the lead, Sanford played well down the stretch not to let Center back in the game. Sanford senior Thomas Faucette got better as the game went on hitting 12 points in the second half to lead his team in scoring on the night with 17 points.

The two traded shots in the third quarter and Center was able to outscore

Sanford 16-15 but it wasn't near enough to dig Center out of the hole. The fourth quarter was occupied by a number of fouls and the two teams combined for seven visits to the charity stripe Sanford getting the better of the final quarter by a 15-10 margin giving the visitors a 49-38 win.

Center senior Devin Porres led the Vikings in scoring with 17 points 9 coming off 3 pointers.

The win marked a two-win streak for Sanford and notched their first league win of the season. Sanford will visit rival Sargent on Saturday for a league meeting. Center will get a chance to bounce back from this loss going on the road to meet Crested Butte on Saturday. Sanford and Center will meet for another league designated game on Feb. 14th.



Photo by Stephen Jiron

Sanford junior Trent Koenig (3) gets vertical as Center's Carlos Almeida (22) and Victor Almeida (10) look on.

## Sanford girls prove to be too much for Center

By **STEPHEN JIRON**

**CENTER** — It was a non-league meeting of two Southern Peaks League (SPL) teams. Sanford met Center girls basketball on Friday night. Sanford took the win by a score of 41-28.



Photo by Stephen Jiron

Sanford's Mackenzie Peterson (2) drives as Center's Alexis Varela (22) and Elexus Trujillo (23) defend during Friday's game.

Sanford (6-4, 1-0 SPL) entered their league schedule with a splash last week knocking off South Park 60-6. Center entered the league schedule with two straight games against the strength of the SPL. Last week they took on Del Norte (9-1) and Friday they met Sanford.

Sanford got off to a great start on the road against Center. After creating a 10-6 lead in the first quarter, the visiting Sanford girls kept building with 13 more unanswered points that continued into the second quarter. Sanford sophomore Haley Faucette chipped in 5 points during the run. A free throw from Center's Elexus Trujillo got Center on the board in the second quarter. Sanford's Asia Caldon sank the final basket of the half

and Sanford went to the break with a 25-7 lead.

One can only speculate what kind of motivational speech Center's head coach Jan Vigil gave in the locker room but the Vikings came out with some fire in their belly.

Center's Brandi Almeida and Alexis Varela combined for 5 points coming back from the break. Two treys from Sanford's Cheyenne Caldon and Mackenzie Peterson got Sanford on the board in the third and Center kept pushing the pace with a 9-point run to close the third quarter.

A productive quarter helped Center close the distance to a 31-21 deficit. But the second-quarter lull was too much to overcome.

Sanford stayed hot from beyond the arc with Asia Caldon and Faucette chipping in threes in the fourth to help cement their lead, both teams combined for four trips to the free-throw line late

and Sanford got out of Center with a 41-28 win.

Alexis Varela led Center in scoring with 11 points. For Sanford, it was Asia Caldon who posted 14 points in the win.

The win puts Sanford on their second streak of the year, they will take that momentum with them for the

second road contest of the weekend against Sargent (5-5, 1-0 SPL) on Saturday. Center will get a week off and will take the court next against Sierra Grande (3-6) on Jan. 31. The league designated game between Center and Sanford is slated for Valentine's Day in Sanford.

### Saguache County Sales Tax Grants now available!

The Saguache County Board of Commissioners will be taking Grant Applications for Saguache County Sales Tax Grants until 3:00PM, Friday, February 14, 2020. To be eligible grant applications must be for either: Emergency Services/Public Health and Safety; Youth and Senior programs, projects, or organizations; or Renewable Energy projects/Business Opportunities and Job Creation.

Grant applications are available on our website at [saguachecounty.net/administration](http://saguachecounty.net/administration) - see "sales tax grant application form 5" or you can contact the Saguache County Administration office at 719-655-2231 to request a copy of the grant application.

No. 1551 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2020.

## San Luis Valley Scoreboard Basketball 2019-2020

### Girls

Alamosa 50	Bayfield 35
Sierra Grande 56	Manzanola 30
Centennial 82	Lake City 17
Centauri 43	Bayfield 32
Moffat 53	Sierra Grande 46
Antonito 47	Centennial 38
Sangre de Cristo 34	Cotopaxi 27
Sanford 41	Center 28
Del Norte 43	Sargent 19
Pagosa Springs 75	Monte Vista 19
Alamosa 52	Montezuma-Cortez 20
Centennial 63	Manzanola 52
Sangre de Cristo 72	Antonito 29
Del Norte 62	Custer County 24
Sanford 36	Sargent 18
Centauri 57	Montezuma-Cortez 28
Pagosa Springs 35	Alamosa 24
Bayfield 46	Monte Vista 24

### COLLEGE

Colo Christian 77	Adams State 51
Adams State 73	Regis 56

### Boys

Alamosa 61	Bayfield 40
Sierra Grande 62	Manzanola 52
Sargent 53	Creede 43
Centauri 65	Bayfield 46
Antonito 51	Centennial 48
Sierra Grande 56	Moffat 47
Sangre de Cristo 60	Cotopaxi 35
Sanford 49	Center 38
Sargent 44	Del Norte 42
Pagosa Springs 64	Monte Vista 45
Alamosa 68	Montezuma-Cortez 55
Monte Vista 49	Bayfield 32
Alamosa 57	Pagosa Springs 49
Sanford 73	Sargent 31
Del Norte 63	Custer County 47
Primerio 57	Moffat 47
Manzanola 50	Centennial 29
Sangre de Cristo 69	Antonito 14

### COLLEGE

Adams State 101	Colo Christian 82
Regis 99	Adams State 94

Thanks to these businesses for supporting SLV sports!

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

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

Absolute Shine  
 Auto Body & Detail  
 852-5700  
 859 Acequia Monte Vista



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

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

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

Household Size	Monthly Gross Income 60% of State Median Income Level
1	\$2,371
2	\$3,101
3	\$3,831
4	\$4,561
5	\$5,290
6	\$6,021
7	\$6,157
8	\$6,294
Each additional person	\$137

LEAP is designed to help eligible households with winter home heating costs.  
 LEAP is not intended to pay the entire cost of home heating.  
 For questions, inquiries, broken heater/furnace issues, contact **HEAT HELP.**  
**1-866-432-8435**

# CONCUSSION

Continued from Page 6A

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

After the meeting took place, school officials met with the Del Norte Prospector and answered some of the lingering questions that the issue created. The school officially stated that they do have a concussion protocol in place and that once aware of the situation, took immediate action to help in any way they could. "We were first notified Nov. 7, 2019, of the incident. Our primary motive is to protect students and ensure their safety. Every athlete takes an impact test and a physical is required before they are allowed to participate in any sport. This includes a mental evaluation. All of our coaches, staff and volunteers have to be CHSAA certified. We also have something other schools do not, called a Bumps and Bruises Clinic that is held every Monday morning at the school where any student or parent with concerns for their child can see our athletic trainer from Rio Grande Hospital free of charge. Once a student has been diagnosed, we

# CANNABIS

Continued from Page 1A

cultivation sites in private property areas have established encampments where hundreds of people are living in unpermitted and illegally constructed dwellings without permitted sewage disposal systems or potable water supplies.

"Additionally, solid waste is not properly removed from the site and is either illegally burned on-site, accumulated on-site causing a vector attraction, buried on-site or left to blow into neighboring properties, all constitute maintenance of a public nuisance in violation of existing codes... Hundreds of pervasive fire hazards, insecticides, pesticides, rodenticides, fertilizers, trash, and unsanitary conditions which severely impact health, safety and quality of life for countless county residents and led to three carbon monoxide deaths in 2018 have been uncovered."

While similar conditions exist in Saguache County on a smaller scale, it is still unknown exactly how many illegal grows exist countywide and what is being done to locate and eliminate them. Rumors of drug sweeps by DEA and other agencies have circulated for quite some time but have never come to fruition. Some in law enforcement have remarked that these investigations often take years to pan out.

In the meantime, county residents are caught in the crosshairs of cannabis development and feel they have little recourse to maintain the quality of life they came to the Valley to enjoy. This is especially true of those in Moffat, many of whom are literally surrounded by marijuana operations and the new Moffat annexations.

Commissioners should ponder their options well where Moffat is concerned and also re-evaluate their commitment to continued approval of conditional use permits for marijuana retail sales and cultivation. It is a known fact that several drug cartels now operate in southern Colorado and this alone should discourage further development. Whether it will or not is another story.

follow the recommendations from the doctor and notify staff immediately," stated Superintendent Chris Burr. "The quote for the paper is this; the coaches did not see anything. They did not see anything."

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

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

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

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

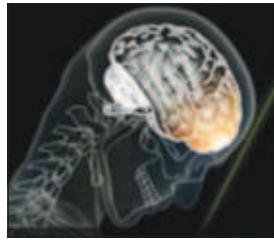
According to the Mayo Clinic, "A concussion is a traumatic brain injury that affects your brain function. Effects are usually temporary but can include headaches and problems with concentration, memory, balance

and coordination. Concussions are usually caused by a blow to the head. Violently shaking the head and upper body also can cause concussions. Some concussions cause you to lose consciousness, but most do not. It's possible to have a concussion and not realize it. Concussions are particularly common in contact sports, such as football. Most people usually recover fully after a concussion.

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

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

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



# GATEWAY MOTORS

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



Kenneth Martz

## 2016 Chevy Sonic

Low Miles



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

## 2015 Toyota Corolla



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

## 2012 Toyota Rav 4



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

## 2014 Jeep Cherokee



4X4

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

## 2013 Chevy Tahoe LTZ



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

## 2012 Nissan Titan



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

**GATEWAY MOTORS** **719-852-0203**  
 1603 East US HWY 160 Monte Vista, CO 81144  
[www.GatewayMotorsCO.com](http://www.GatewayMotorsCO.com)

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



# Lifestyles

Serving the entire San Luis Valley

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

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



Courtesy photo

## Registration for Kids Ski Free Program ends Jan. 31

**COLORADO** – Families interested in Colorado Ski Country USA’s (CSCUSA) industry leading 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Passport Program must register for the program by Jan. 31 in order to enjoy free or reduced-price Passport skiing and riding this year.

The Passport Program is unparalleled with its access to 22 ski areas and Colorado’s signature winter sports, skiing and snowboarding. The program is ideal for families of all types including those that have never visited a ski area, are new to Colorado or are lifelong skiing or riding families.

The 5th Grade Passport provides fifth-graders three days of free skiing at 22 CSCUSA member ski areas. The 6th Grade Passport allows sixth-graders four days of skiing at the same 22 ski areas for \$130.

CSCUSA’s First Class lesson program complements the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Passport Program and provides eligible fifth-graders who have never been on

the slopes the possibility of getting one (1) free ski or snowboard lesson and one (1) full equipment rental at a participating ski area of their choosing.

To register for the Passport Program and for more information about First Class Lessons, parents can visit [www.ColoradoSki.com/Passport](http://www.ColoradoSki.com/Passport). The CSCUSA Passport Program enjoys the support of presenting sponsor Christy Sports, which provides one (1) free equipment rental to all Passport holders per season redeemable at any Christy Sports location.

Participating resorts in the 2019-20 Passport program include: Arapahoe Basin, Aspen Highlands, Aspen Mountain, Buttermilk, Cooper, Copper Mountain, Echo Mountain, Eldora, Granby Ranch, Howelsen Hill, Hesperus, Kendall Mountain, Loveland, Monarch, Powderhorn, Purgatory, Snowmass, Steamboat, Sunlight, Telluride, Winter Park and Wolf Creek.

## Wolves definitely in Colorado

By TREY SPAULDING

**ROCKY MOUNTAINS** – On Nov. 3, 2020, Colorado voters will vote “yes” or “no” to the Colorado Gray Wolf Reintroduction Initiative as an initiated state statute. A “yes” vote supports requiring the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission to create a plan to reintroduce and manage gray wolves on designated lands west of the Continental Divide by the end of 2023. A “no” vote opposes creating a plan to reintroduce and manage gray wolves on designated lands west of the Continental Divide by the end of 2023.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) the range-wide gray wolf population stands at more than 6,000, exceeding the combined recovery goals for the Northern Rocky Mountains and Western Great Lakes populations.

The USFWS service states that the gray wolf joins the bald eagle, peregrine falcon, American alligator, brown pelican and 33 other species of animals and plants in U.S. states territories and waters that have been brought back from the brink with the help of the Endangered Species Act.

The gray wolf has been delisted from its endangered species status in the Northern Rocky Mountains states. The states of Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington have shown their ability to manage this delisted wolf population responsibly so that it remains healthy and sustainable. Wolves have begun to expand into northern California, Western Oregon, Washington and now Colorado. Wolf populations in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota are also strong and abundant.



Courtesy photo

**CPW wildlife officers investigated the discovery of an animal carcass surrounded by large wolf-like tracks in the northwest corner of Moffat County.**

Due to the vast numbers of wolves, the states of Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming allow the public to hunt wolves during the regular hunting seasons. The states of Oregon, Washington, Montana and Idaho allow the killing and trapping of wolves by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) officials for wolf livestock depredation.

When wolves kill domestic animals it is called depredation. In general, livestock-raisers are eligible for depredation compensation equaling fair market value per animal killed. The stipulations for receiving compensation vary by state, whether a rancher can prove depredation, if an animal is lost in a known wolf range, etc. However, ranchers are not compensated for the residual income loss of future

lamb and calves that the depredated animal would have produced.

Wolf livestock depredation numbers are across the board depending on which organization is conducting the analysis. In Idaho for example, USFWS confirmed 109 killings of Idaho livestock by wolves between July 1, 2018, and Sept. 30, 2018. USFWS reported 87 different Idaho livestock producers in 15 counties had wolf depredation. The agency reported the investigations found wolves killed 29 cows, 48 calves, 89 sheep and three dogs. The USDA reported higher depredation numbers.

According to the National Park Service (NPS), Wolves consume a wide variety of large and small prey. Wolves efficiently hunt large prey such as elk. In Yellowstone, **Please see WOLF on Page 7**

## He wondered how he’d tell her

The rancher told his foreman, “Looks like things are gettin’ tough  
The price of calves is deadly, heck, there may not be enough

To pay the note this winter, I’m already overdue  
What with buyin’ that new tractor, shoot, it wuddn’t even new

‘Course I’d bought the neighbor’s cow herd back when things were lookin’ good  
Then we had that bout with Anaplaz, which I never understood.

We buckled down and rode it out but luck weren’t on our side.  
You’ve worked for me for twenty years, you know how hard I’ve tried.

I’m not worried for my own self, it’s mother

and the kids  
I don’t know how they’ll take it if they put us up for bids.

The last two kids were born here in that house where you live now  
We’ve raised ‘em right and taught ‘em all there is about a cow

And now they’re off to college to explore a new career  
But deep inside they’re plannin’ to come back and live right here.

But that’s never gonna happen. The writing’s on the wall.  
It’s what I’ve always dreaded and today I got the call.

Bankruptcy’s hangin’ over me. The lawyer

says I’m through  
I’ve lost it all. A lifetime’s work. I don’t know what I’ll do.”

The cattle foreman nodded. But his mind was faraway  
On doctor bills and braces, pickup payments left to pay

He glanced up to his little house, his kids and wife and truck,  
And wondered how he’d tell her. But he said, “Boss, I wish you luck.”

*Baxter Black, former large animal veterinarian and irregular commentator on National Public Radio, is America’s best-selling cowboy poet. He is a frequent performer at national stock shows and rodeos as well as in many smaller local events. He is author of several*



books, including *Cactus Tracks*, *Croutons on a Cow Pie*, *Hey, Cowboy, Wanna Get Lucky?* and *Dunny and the Duck*. Baxter Black can be contacted via e-mail at: [vikki@baxterblack.com](mailto:vikki@baxterblack.com)



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

# ‘Colorado...it’s AgriCultural’ photo contest

**BROOMFIELD** - Colorado agriculture provides picturesque landscapes for both amateur and professional photographers. Winning entries in the 22nd annual “Colorado...it’s AgriCultural” Photography Contest showcase the state’s agricultural diversity, from crops being harvested in dim evening light before a storm and a close-up of a curious cow to aerial views of fields and pollinators at work.

“Judges were excited to see the next generation of Colorado agriculture featured in the winning photo,” said Wendy White, marketing specialist at the Colorado Department of Agriculture. “It is encouraging to see young and beginning farmers interested in pursuing a career in agriculture.”

The winners were selected based on relation to Colorado agriculture, creativity and technical quality. The grand-prize winner, which best depicts the “spirit” of Colorado agriculture, is Brandee Gillham of **Peetz**, Colorado, with the entry entitled “Pursue the Dream.” The winning photograph shows a young cowboy watching his family herd cattle.

Other top finishers from across Colorado include Travis Harvey of **Pueblo**, first place in the ag from above category; Allison Porter of **Cortez**, first place in the crops category; Michael McCaffrey of **Cope**, first place livestock; Ethan Voth of **Monument**, first place urban agriculture; and Bryan Harding of **Loveland**, first place open professional.

Individuals receiving an honorable mention include



Shelby Chesnut, **Kersey**; Jennifer Nichols, **Eckert**; Michael McCaffrey, **Cope**; Allison Porter, **Cortez**; Emily Sierra Photography, **Berthoud**; Brandee Gillham, **Peetz**; and Amy Hadden Marsh, **Glenwood Springs**.

Started in 1998, the “Colorado...It’s Agricultural” Photography Contest is sponsored by the AgInsights Committee, Colorado Department of Agriculture and Northeastern Junior College. Winning photographs will be displayed in the Beede-Hamil Agriculture Building at Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Colorado. They are also available online at [www.coloradoagriculture.com](http://www.coloradoagriculture.com).

## El Pomar Foundation gives \$25,000 grant to Montana Azul Park

**ALAMOSA** - El Pomar Trustees approved a \$25,000 grant to a government entity in the San Luis Valley region at the Foundation’s December Trustees meeting. Through the Foundation’s competitive grant making process, the City of Alamosa received \$25,000 for the Montana Azul Park project.

Founded by Spencer and Julie Penrose in 1937, El Pomar Foundation has an established legacy of general purpose grant making. The competitive process remains the Foundation’s primary vehicle for organizations to receive funding. Additionally, over the last 80 years, El Pomar has either developed or been entrusted with the stewardship of a number of other funds. Competitive applications are accepted on a rolling basis. To view a full listing of El Pomar’s funds and grant making areas, please visit our website at <https://www.elpomar.org/grant-making/>.

El Pomar Foundation is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in Colorado. El Pomar contributes approximately \$22 million annually through grants and Community Stewardship

programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations involved in health, human services, education, arts and humanities, and civic and community initiatives. Spencer and Julie Penrose founded El Pomar in 1937.

**THANKS**  
to our amazing  
community for your  
support in 2019 and  
Happy Holidays!  
We'll see you in 2020!

**THE HISTORIC  
UTE THEATRE  
in Saguache**

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT  
[HISTORICUTETHEATRE.COM](http://HISTORICUTETHEATRE.COM)  
OR CALL (719) 427-1080

### Sweet Heart Sale!

Jan. 27 ~ Feb. 15, 2020

El Pomar Foundation gives \$25,000 grant to Montana Azul Park

### Clothing

& women's Carhartt, & Cinch clothing

**30% OFF**

**Boots**

All men's & women's Tin Haul boots

**30% OFF**

All other men's & women's boots

**25% OFF**

purses, accessories

**25% OFF**

All other men's & women's clothing

**25% OFF**

(excludes 13mwz)

**Appliances "Couples"**

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

**\$629<sup>99</sup>** each

**Selected Maytag, Amana & Whirlpool appliances on SALE!**

**Love Your Animal**

Pro 89 Dog food **\$39<sup>99</sup>**

Diamond High Energy dog food **\$32<sup>99</sup>**

Selected animal supply products

**50% OFF**

regular price!

**Keep Me Warm**

Baldy Mountain wood pellets

**\$4<sup>99</sup>** per bag

Delivery services available!

**MVC**

Community Committed  
Agriculturally Driven

**MV Coop Farm Store**

852-5181 • 1901 East Hwy 160 • Monte Vista

No Rain Checks. In stock items only!

# REAL ESTATE

## Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

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

**\*\*\*SOLD\*\*\*** - Beautiful Home on The Range! Pion Hill Estates where the Mule Deer and the Rocky Mountain Elk play! This 2,457 sq. ft. meticulous, comfortable well-maintained log home is located on 40 acres with reach out and touch mountain views and moments from the Rio Grande National Forest. Wild Life is abundant; Elk, Mule Deer, Turkey, Fox, Bald Eagles and more. Located in beautiful quiet Pinon Hills Estates tucked away from traffic and people and still easy driving to South Fork or Del Norte. Open great room living room, kitchen and dining room with accent logs and floor to ceiling windows and wood burning stove. Custom built log staircase. The upstairs is a Master Suite with two large walk-in closets, master bath with Jacuzzi tub looking out at the mountains views with floor to ceiling windows, a separate tiled shower and double sinks. Upstairs also has a sitting room /office area. Main floor has a bedroom, full bath and laundry room with Alder cabinets and large pantry with sliding shelves. Beautiful newly built sun room on south side of the home is spacious and bright. Ground level floor has a bedroom with 1/4 bath. Adjoining room is a great relaxing den or game room providing space for reading, games, watching television or crafts. Attached cement floor two car garage large enough for storage, 4 wheelers, fishing gear, tools and more. Beautiful home with landscaping and two huge decks two levels-one open wood deck and one covered stained concrete.

## Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

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

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

**LOOK! Reduced Price \$295,500** Perfect Home or Vacation Rental Opportunity, 2,231 sq. ft. of endless possibilities. This beautiful home has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen with mud room, dining room and living room with propane

## Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

heat and wood burning stove. Enjoy the large private fenced backyard with green house, patio area, gardens, wood storage carport and your very own workshop. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to have your home and business all in one spectacular resort location. Walk out your front door to a wonderful 574 sq. ft. business on scenic byway, Hwy 149. Your dreams are coming true. Come live, work and play here in South Fork, CO. This won't last long. **Call Bernadette Gingrass 719-850-1993 and schedule your showing today! MLS # 755964**

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

**\*\*\*SOLD\*\*\* \$325,000** Enchanting Mountain Home! You can see the forest beyond the trees - It's right there in

## Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

your own back yard. Beautiful 1,750 sq. ft. home back up to the mountain side. 3 bedrooms two baths with Master bedroom upstairs and loft office area. Cathedral ceiling with open dining / living area with wood burning stove and rock hearth and propane furnace to keep you warm on cool winter evenings. Beautiful large windows to enjoy the mountain views and the mule deer and wild turkeys that visit daily. Kitchen includes all appliances and laundry area with washer and dryer. Wonderful front deck to enjoy your morning coffee on with additional covered side porch area and detached storage shed to store grills, garden tools and more. This enchanting home has a large 896 sq. ft. cement floor 3 car garage and plumbed for water with side storage area. Plenty of storage for 6 cords of firewood or more. Garage has wood burning stove and wonderful workbench and box trust with pull down currently leading to bright roomy artist studio! Home comes partially furnished. This is your dream place or perfect get-a-way in enchanting Ponderosa Valley Estates with no HOA complete with its own private well and town sewer system on paved roads. Moments from hiking, gold medal fishing, rafting, hunting and skiing. Bring your passion for Adventure and **Call Bernadette Gingrass 719-850-1993 and schedule your private showing today! MLS#756372 \*\*\*SOLD\*\*\***

**New Listing** - Affordable, charming one bedroom, one full bath park model with enclosed sun room for extra living space. Located in River's Edge Mountain View RV Resort. All furniture and furnishings included. Nice kitchen all kitchen appliances including conventional oven and microwave, dishes and pots and pans. Includes washer and dryer in large storage shed w freezer and workbench area. This home is your perfect weekend get-a-way or vacation home in this 55+ neighbor-

## Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

hood. Planned activities such as fishing, hiking, 4 wheeling and fun community potlucks. Moments from the Rio Grande River, 20 minutes to Wolf Creek Ski Area. All you need is your tooth brush! Adventure is waiting for you right on your front door. Priced to sell \$89,000. Won't last! **Call Bernadette Gingrass 719-850-1993** and schedule your showing today! **MLS# 760432**

**New Listing!** Affordable Charming Log Home! Call and schedule your showing today! 4 bedroom 2 bath home located in South Fork Small Tracks. Priced to sell \$223,900 Call and schedule your showing today! **Call Bernadette Gingrass 719-850-1993** and schedule your showing today! **MLS #758665**



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



*Call Bernadette today!*  
**719-850-1993**

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

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

**Special Offer! Save 25-50%**  
Start 2020 being happier and healthier. You owe it to yourself and your loved ones to take advantage of this Limited Time Offer. These savings will be gone January 31, 2020!  
*(Medicare can be utilized to add to savings!)*

### Teeth In A Day

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

### Medicare Certified Provider

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

Other patients have had 30-50% of surgical procedures covered.

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

Credit Cards Accepted   

### A Courtesy for You at No Charge ...

- Courtesy Consultation (regularly \$172)
- Courtesy CT Scan (Regularly \$300 both arches)
- FREE REPORT
- New Teeth in One Day™ All-on-4 Implants
- Offer Expires January 31, 2020



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

~Bernie B.

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



**Pagoda dental implant center**

**William F. Thornell**  
DDS, MAGD, DICOI



**Medicare Certified Provider**  
pagodadentalimplantcenter.com



**Rated 5 Stars**  
*"They have everything! Signature pizza, local beer and friendly staff! This is definitely a great welcome at the first meal after a struggling driving experience! Love this place!"*  
- Picheng Z., Google

**\$6 Combo Deals**  
11 a.m.-5 p.m. EVERY DAY  
Your choice of:

- 8" Cheese Pizza and Fountain Drink
- 1 Calzone and Fountain Drink
- Caesar Salad and Fountain Drink

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

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

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

**EASY Online To-Go Orders:**  
**MountainPizzaTapRoom.com**

# Valley-Wide Classified MARKETPLACE

**FREE!**

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



## CLASSIFIED INDEX

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

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

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

## RATES

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

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

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

### Convenient ad placement:

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

### Check your ad the first day:

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

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

## DEADLINE

**Thursday 5:00 pm**

**Call 719-852-3531**  
 or email: [MonteVistaClass@gmail.com](mailto:MonteVistaClass@gmail.com)

## Easy Payment Options

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



### 05 Notices

**WE BUY ANTLERS:** 5 miles west of Del Norte on US 160 at Elk Ranch. 719-657-0942. (01/22 TFN)

### New Inspirational Book Club:

Looking for 8-12 interested adults to start a book club. Organizational meeting in February with parameters of Tuesday or Thursday evening meetings of approximately 1.5 hours. For more information please call Steve at (719) 849-0310 (02/05)

### 07 Help Wanted

**Del Norte Bank** is seeking to fill a **full-time** position for Teller in the Del Norte office. Duties will be to accept deposits, loan payments and process withdrawals while maintaining a balanced cash drawer. No experience necessary, but must be personable, pleasant and a "problem solver". Many other duties may be assigned as needed. This position offers a competitive wage and robust benefit package. Application is available at [TrueLocalBank.com/careers](http://TrueLocalBank.com/careers). Inquire at 705 Grand, Del Norte, CO 81132 or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Dawn or Stacy. Submit applications by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. EOE. (1/29)

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

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR AIRPORT ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE MONTE VISTA MUNICIPAL AIRPORT**  
 The City of Monte Vista, CO as sponsor of a public use airport facility, is soliciting qualification based sealed Statements of Qualifications for the selection of a principal airport consultant to provide Engineering Services for the Monte Vista Municipal Airport. A complete SOQ packet can be requested via email at [rvance@ci.monte-vista.co.us](mailto:rvance@ci.monte-vista.co.us). Submittals will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. (local time) on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 in the office of Robert Vance, City of Monte Vista, 95 W. First Ave., Monte Vista, CO

81144. 719-852-8281. The Sponsor plans to award a five-year contract for airport engineering services subject to review on an annual basis for any and all engineering projects subject to federal assistance under the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, as amended, or other sources of funding. The contract will be for the basic airport engineering consulting services as defined herein. The City of Monte Vista reserves the right to inquire into the prospective proposer's ability to provide professional services, as defined below. The City of Monte Vista also reserves the right to amend the Schedule of Projects and contract Scope of Work at the sole discretion of The City of Monte Vista on behalf of the Monte Vista Municipal Airport. Our selection process is intended to be in compliance with the current version of FAA Advisory Circular AC-150/5100-14, "Architectural Engineering and Planning Consultant Services for Airport Grant Projects" (1/29)

**Wolf Creek Ski Area** is seeking full and part time positions in the following positions: **Snow Re-**

**porter** – Must have interactive web experience, strong organizational and communication skills. Hours 6am to 3pm. willing to work weekends. **Ski School Instructor** – Duties include teaching guests in a group setting, customer service and other duties assigned by supervisor. **Shuttle Bus Drivers** – Part-time. Experienced driver looking to make extra money during Christmas, Presidents Day, MLK, Jr. and Spring Break holidays. A Commercial Drivers License is not required, however pay is commensurate with professional experience and licensing. **Professional Baker/Food & Beverage** - Line/grill cooks, bakers and baristas. **Ticket Office Cashier** – Part-Time - Must have prior experience in POS system. Friendly, hard working, flexible, organized with good communication skills. **Winter seasonal positions with competitive wages.** Applications can be downloaded from [WolfCreekSki.com](http://WolfCreekSki.com) employment page. Send resumes and applications to [wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com](mailto:wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com) or P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. (1/29)

**The Center Fire Department** is looking to hire a board secretary.

**Individual must be self-motivated and QuickBooks proficient.** Duties include: Payroll, setting up budgets, taking minutes at monthly meetings, filling state requirements, and some department business. Grant writing experience or desire to learn to write grants a plus. 50-60 Hours per month. Pay will be determined from experience. If interested send resume to Center Fire Department P.O. Box 845 Center CO 81125. (1/29)

**WANTED: Saguache County Landfill is Hiring for an additional Full Time Attendant. REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must fill out and submit an application, must be an experienced front end loader operator and possess a valid driver's license. Applicants should have a high school diploma or GED and six months or more of relevant experience. Final candidates applying with Saguache County will be required to**

<p>Colorado Statewide Classified Advertising Network</p> <p>To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado newspapers for only \$300, contact your local newspaper or call Colorado Press Association Network at 303-571-5117.</p>	
<p><b>EQUIPMENT SALE</b></p> <p>TURNKEY SCREEN PRINTING OPERATION,                  6-Color 8-station automatic press, compressor, chiller, two 24" dryers, two 4-color manual presses, exposure unit, washout booth, screens, ink \$18,000 For information Call: 970-249-9827</p>	<p><b>WANTED</b></p> <p><b>Cash for Mineral Rights</b>                  Free, no-risk, cash offer. Contact us with the details:                  Call: 720-988-5617                  Write: Minerals, PO BOX 3668, Littleton, CO 80161                  Email: <a href="mailto:opportunity@ecmresourcesinc.com">opportunity@ecmresourcesinc.com</a></p>
<p><b>CONCRETE SERVICES</b></p> <p>Concrete Services                  Foundation Walls - Concrete Site Work                  Flatwork - Stamped Concrete - Concrete Demo - Excavation                  Call or Text                  Ken 970-768-3005</p>	<p><b>Colorado Press Network</b></p> <p>Buy a 25-word statewide classified line ad in newspapers across the state of Colorado for just \$300 per week. Ask about our frequency discounts!                  Contact this newspaper or call Colorado Press Network, 720-274-7174</p>

# A & M Construction

**Work Shops • Garages**  
**Pole Barns • Roofing • Decks**  
**New Construction or Renovations**  
**Call today for a FREE estimate!**

*Serving the San Luis Valley*

## 719-580-9090

**FAX: 719-852-7323**

## 36th Annual Monte Vista Crane Festival

March 6-8, 2020

**Keynote Address: "I So Declare It"**  
 Teddy Roosevelt's conservation crusade for America as portrayed by Kurt Skinner  
 Saturday 7:00 pm Vali 3 Theatre  
 Open to public \$10 ticket at the door

FRIDAY 7:30 Movie - "Rango" (G) Vali 3 Theatre FREE

**Movies and Guest Speakers**  
 Open to public \$5 at the door  
 Vali 3 Theatre

Ham-noon Talk - "Grains for Cranes" Max Ceiglo

1-2:40pm Movie: "Bird of Prey"  
 Saving the Great Philippine Eagle

3-4pm Talk: "Dealing with Water Scarcity" Clore Simpson

**Craft/Nature Fair**  
 Free admission open to public  
 Ski Hi Complex

**Friday**  
 10:00am - 4:30pm

**Saturday**  
 8:00am - 4:30pm

**Sunday**  
 9:00am - 2:00pm

FRI & SAT: SUNRISE AND SUNSET CRANE TOURS  
 SUN: SUNRISE CRANE TOUR  
 FOR OTHER TOURS [WWW.MYCRANEFEST.ORG](http://WWW.MYCRANEFEST.ORG)

A collaborative effort by:

For more information go to [mvranefest.org](http://mvranefest.org)

# Valley Wide Classifieds

submit and pass a pre-employment drug screen and criminal background check. Pay D.O.E. Landfill Attendant is a full time 40 hour per week position – starting at 8:00 A.M. each day Tuesday through Saturday (subject to change) Those applying must be an experienced front end loader operator, have the ability to do strenuous outdoor physical labor in extreme weather conditions and be able to lift and/or move 20 lbs. to 75 lbs. Applications are available at the Saguache County Road and Bridge/Landfill Office 305 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 – 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website – www.saguachecounty.net under the Landfill Department tab. Completed applications can be hand delivered or mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge/Landfill Office – at the address listed above, sent by email to mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov or faxed to: 719-655-2543. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (1/22)

### 10 Apartments for Rent

Two bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Del Norte Utilities Included. No smoking, no pets. Call Tomas at 849-1942 \$475 Per Month. (01/29/20)

### 12 House for Rent

For Rent Country living Northeast Del Norte 4-bedroom 2 bath (No Pets) inquire at 719-657-2201.

### 14 Business Properties For Rent

Beauty Salon for rent Monte's Corner 1<sup>st</sup> and Adams 4 stations \$550.00 Per month. Call 719-992-4705. (02/19)

### 17 Real Estate For Sale

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

125-150 cow/calf ranch 1154 acres with top water rights, production, 1.2 miles of Rio Grande River and ½ mile of Conejos River. \$1,750,000. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-580-0770

Pasture Land, 397 acres in north of Monte Vista Airport on County Line Road with good grass and location. Also contains a huge amount of gravel on the property \$525,000.00 call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc 719-580-0770.

240 deeded acres in irrigated grass west of Monte Vista with 6 shares Lariat ditch. Call Bruce at Steffens & Company Realty, Inc. 719-873-1700. (01/22 TFN)

### DISCLAIMER

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

### 36 Miscellaneous

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

**SOLAR PANELS! 240 WATT AND SMALLER.** We Stock Inverters, Charge Controllers, and Batteries In Brand Names of Outback, Magnum, Rolls, More. We Also Carry Cable and PV Wire. Thank you for Buying at Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500. (TFN) (1/22)

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

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

### 38 Machinery, Tools, and Equipment

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

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

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

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

**42 Feed & Seed**  
**Premium alfalfa and alfalfa/grass, small bales, in shed \$8, outside \$7.** (719)580-2509. (02/27)

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

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

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

**Full-Size Australian Shepard Puppies Ready December 12,** 2019 Call 588-3561. (01/22)

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

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

### 56 Business Opportunity

**Augmentation water For LEASE:** TransMtn water, fully severed for Wildlife or AG use anywhere off the Rio Grande. \$100/acft, OBO 719-580-0661 (02/27)

### 59 Vehicles Wanted

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

### 65 Professional Services

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

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

## SAN LUIS VALLEY SERVICE DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Your ad could be here for only \$22/week!  
Call 852-3531

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

# Valley Calendar

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

## Feb. 14-15

**CREEDE** - Cabin Fever Daze will kick off the weekend of Feb. 14 with a Valentines and fundraiser dance hosted by the Mineral County Fairgrounds Association at the Elks Lodge in town. Tickets for the dance are \$50 per person and all funds raised during the event will go toward the Fairground Association. Tickets also include a prime rib dinner and a chance to win an OHV Razor. Other activities will include Ice Curling at the Silver Ice Park Saturday and Sunday. The C. Waters Gallery will have live artists demonstrations with the theme, "Cabins" and the Quiller Gallery will be open throughout the weekend. Weather permitting there will also be a Nordic ski tour and ice carving competitions. Those interesting in signing up for a curling team can get more information through the chamber by visiting [www.creede.com](http://www.creede.com) or by calling 719-685-2374.

## Feb. 15

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

## ONGOING

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

• **ALAMOSA** — Circle of Parents in Recovery provides a safe, supporting, confidential, non-judgmental environment where parents can openly discuss the successes and challenges of parenting in recovery. Circle of Parents in Recovery values reciprocity and the development of leadership among participants. The group will meet every first and third Tuesday from 4-5:30 p.m. at Living Water Bible Fellowship 2019 Clark Street Alamosa. Contact Mary Lambert for more information (719)587-6965 or [mlambert@slvbhg.org](mailto:mlambert@slvbhg.org)

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

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

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

Wednesdays at the Ruth Marie: Yoga with Leigh Anne Lobato from 5 to 6:15 p.m. donation fee of \$5-\$6

to The Ruth Marie. Phone 850-0750, [lobato@myamigo.net](mailto:lobato@myamigo.net)

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

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

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

• **MONTE VISTA** — Pool Playing for men and women every day at the Tri-County Senior Center, 311 Washington. Tournaments held periodically with other San Luis Valley Senior Centers

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

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

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

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

# Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



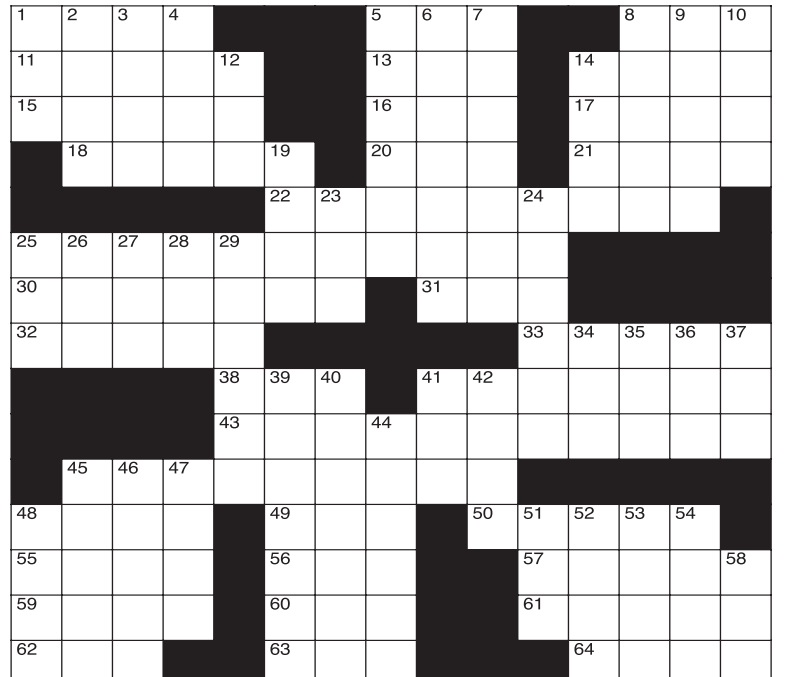
**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL • TRASH REMOVAL  
RECYCLING • DUMPSTERS • ROLL-OFFS  
CREEDE • SOUTH FORK • DEL NORTE • MONTE VISTA  
(719)658-3060 • [www.MDSWasteAndRecycle.com](http://www.MDSWasteAndRecycle.com)**

## ACROSS

1. Egyptian bull-god
5. America
8. Type of field (abbr.)
11. Reagan's Deputy AG
13. Negative
14. Mother of Hermes
15. Summer and Winter Olympics gold medal winner
16. In shape
17. Oh my goodness!
18. People of Guinea or Sierra Leone
20. A form of "to be"
21. Succulent plant
22. Estranges
25. Honest
30. Showing conviction
31. High schoolers' test
32. Implant
33. Acknowledgment
38. Cash dispenser
41. Transferred to another
43. Superhero group
45. Photographers
48. Small, rich sponge cake
49. Power to perceive
50. Heavy cavalry sword
55. Israel's first permanent UN delegate
56. Everything
57. Afflicted
59. Language spoken in Chad

## Solution to last week's puzzle

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



60. Pioneering MC Kool Moe
61. Jewish spiritual leader
62. Keyboard key
63. Soviet Socialist Republic
64. Impudence
26. Computer memory
27. One who buys and sells securities
28. Midway between north and northeast
29. Quiet and rather dull
34. A limb on which to walk
35. It precedes two
36. Of she
37. Commercials
39. Necessary for sewing
40. Infectious viral disease
41. Expression of good wishes
42. Some are contact
44. More plentiful
45. Secret political clique
46. Behind the stern of a ship
47. Supernatural force
48. Altar in Orthodox churches
51. Swiss river
52. Impartiality
53. "Luther" actor Idris
54. They resist authority (slang)
58. Criticize

## DOWN

1. Type of degree
2. Expression of sorrow or pity
3. Large, predatory lizard
4. River in Romania
5. Biased
6. Parties
7. TV's used to need one
8. Philly football player
9. Recognized ethnic group of China
10. Gradually disappear
12. Large, dark antelope
14. Vegetarians won't eat it
19. Takes the energy out of
23. Body part
24. Succeed in achieving
25. Where golfers begin

# Business Showcase

Plan a fantastic Super Bowl party with our great tasting dips and cheese balls. Easy to fix and great tasting!

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

# This Week's Feature



# THE HOLY MOSES

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

It's Worth The Drive

Mon. - Sat. 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Nick & Vicki Kulyk  
121 N. Main • 658-2848 • Creede

# WOLF

Continued from Page 1

90 percent of wolves winter prey consists of elk while 10–15 percent of their summer prey is deer. They also kill beavers and predators including mountain lions, bears, foxes, coyotes and other wolves in their territory. It is estimated that one wolf will kill and consume 18-23 elk per year. In Idaho there are currently approximately 540 to 810 wolves, which according to NPS reports, each consume 1.5 elk/deer each month. This means that wolves in Idaho kill an estimated 9,720 to 14,580 elk/deer annually.

On Jan. 19, 2020, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) wildlife officers investigated the discovery of an animal carcass surrounded by large wolf-like tracks in the northwest corner of Moffat County. While conducting their investigation in the field, wildlife officers were surprised when they heard distinct howls within the area. CPW officials confirmed

they have additional evidence that a group of wolves is now residing in northwest Colorado. "Right after two CPW officers heard the howls from the wolves, they used binoculars to observe approximately six wolves about 2 miles from the location of the carcass," said JT Romatzke, Northwest Region Manager for CPW. "After watching them for about 20 minutes, the officers rode in to get a closer look. The wolves were gone but they found plenty of large tracks in the area." According to the officers, the tracks measured approximately 4.5 to 5.5 inches and appear to have been made by at least six animals.

"This is a historic sighting. While lone wolves have visited our state periodically including last fall, this is very likely the first pack to call our state home since the 1930s. I am honored to welcome our canine friends back to Colorado after their

long absence," said Governor Jared Polis. "It's important that Coloradans understand that the gray wolf is under the protection of the Endangered Species Act in Colorado. While the animals have naturally migrated to our state and their presence draws public interest, it's important that people give them space. Due to their Protected status, there are severe federal penalties for anyone that intentionally harms or kills wolves in Colorado."

"As we have made clear, Colorado Parks and Wildlife will not take direct action in these cases," said Dan Prenzl, Director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife. "We have the leading experts on wildlife management and species recovery working for our agency, but while wolves remain federally protected, they are

under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We will continue to work with our federal partners and monitor the situation." According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, killing a wolf in Colorado can result in federal charges, including a \$100,000 fine and a year in prison,

per offense. The public is urged to contact CPW immediately and fill out a report if they see or hear wolves or find evidence of any wolf activity in Colorado. The Wolf Sighting Form is at <https://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/Wolf-Sighting-Form.aspx>

**Conour** *Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society*  
[www.slvanimalshelter.com](http://www.slvanimalshelter.com)  
 If you are interested in adopting, call 852-3366  
 Open Tues.-Sat. • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Closed Sunday & Monday • 2825 Sherman Ave. • Monte Vista



This is Bastian, he is a pitbull mix around 3 months. He is a very loving doggie, he loves to be held and loves to play. He is 90% potty trained and sleeps well in a bed all night. He understands "sit", "go to your bed", "lay down", and "up". He does well with kids and doesn't let other dogs bother him.



This is Finesse, she is a pitbull mix around 3 years old. She is friendly with people, but doesn't really care too much for other dogs, she would need to be the only dog in the house.



This is Wiley, he is a 4 year old medium mix. He can be a little stand-offish at times with new people, but he is a sweet dog and loves attention and belly-rubs.

This is Roxy, she is a husky mix about 3 years old. She is a little bit shy but very friendly.



This is Prince, he is a pitbull mix around 2 years old. He is friendly with people and dogs, he loves attention from people.

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

**SPECIALIZING IN QUALITY POST FRAME BUILDINGS**

**Commercial Equestrian Hobby Shops** | **Agricultural Garages And More!**

**GINGERICH STRUCTURES**

NE and Western IA: 1626 Washington St. Blair, NE 68008 402-426-5022  
 Eastern CO: 222 Oak Ave. Eaton, CO 80615 970-230-2052

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

JOIN US FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL

# WOOF CREEK CHALLENGE

South Fork's Sled Dog and Skijor Race

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN SLED DOG CLUB**  
 and Friends of South Fork

**President's Day Weekend - February 15 & 16 • South Fork, Colorado**  
 For weather-related changes visit [Woof Creek Sled Dog & Skijor Race Facebook page](#)

**2020** Come see these Amazing Furry Athletes race their humans around a six-mile course in dogsled and skijor teams!

Races start at 9:00 am each day at the Rio Grande Club (or Willow Creek Trail Head by Tiny Timbers, depending on snow)  
 On Saturday at 6 p.m., "Musher Madness" Dinner and Dance with the Roadrunners at the Rio Grande Club  
 Please RSVP to 719.873.1995  
 Please leave your own pets at home during this event!

**First-Place Purse Sponsors**  
 Land Properties-Connie Goodnight  
 Del Norte Bank  
 Goodnight Construction  
 Rainbow Grocery  
 B200 Mountain Sports  
 Switchback Liquors  
 Tiny Timbers Resort & Coffee Bistro  
 Team Murphy Realty  
 Outdoor Depot  
 Rocky Mtn. Ski and Raft  
 Steffens & Co. Realty  
 Rio Grande Club & Resort  
 Shampooch Dog Grooming  
 Twin Pines Motor Sports  
 South Fork Powder Busters  
 South Fork Chamber of Commerce

**Additional Sponsors**  
 Big R  
 Holiday RV South  
 SLV Federal Bank  
 SLV REC  
 Network Funding Mortgage  
 Incorrigible Candies  
 Three Barrel Brewing Co.  
 South Fork Propane  
 Ramon's Mexican Restaurant  
 Monte Vista COOP

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN SLED DOG CLUB**  
**UAS**  
**Rio Grande Club & Resort SOUTH FORK, COLORADO**  
**ISDRA SANCTIONED SOUTH FORK COLORADO**

Additional info and UTD Race info visit: [Woof Creek Sled Dog & Skijor Race Facebook page](#) or [riograndeclubresort.com](http://riograndeclubresort.com)

LIMITED-TIME OFFER

# iPhone 11 On Us.

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

**VIAERO WIRELESS**

**Switch To The Better Unlimited!**

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

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



2020

# PROGRESS Economy

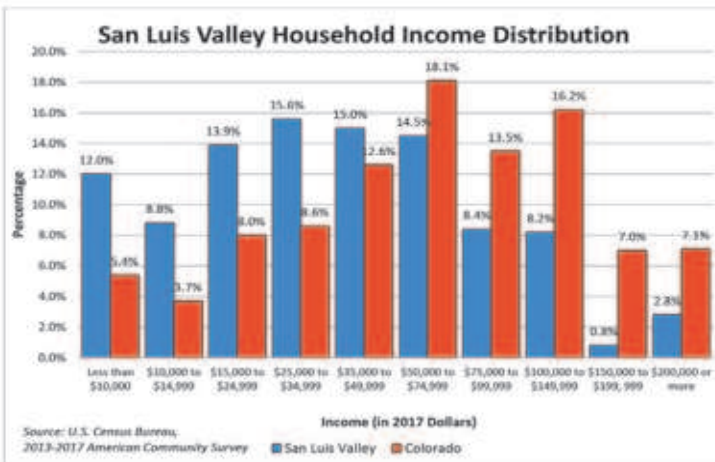
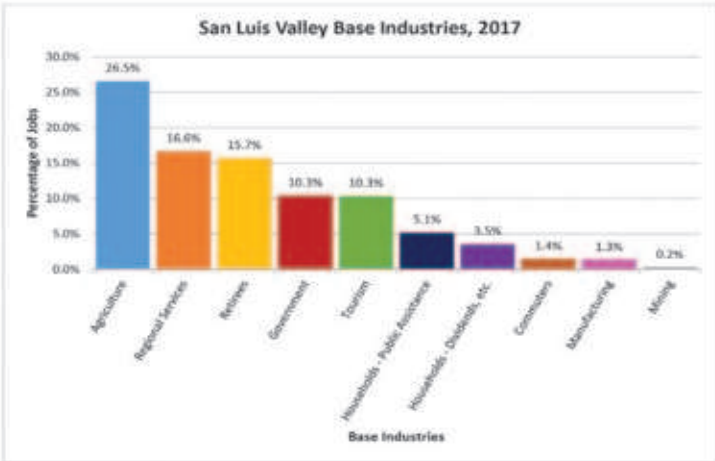
## A snapshot of the economy in the San Luis Valley

**Job sectors** - Identifying the industries which drive growth and change in a community is a vital part of understanding community dynamics. Growth in jobs results in growth in residents from migration to a community. Identifying the trends of growth and decline of jobs and the types of jobs available within the community is important.

**Population** - The two lines diverge over time due to the aging of our population and continued growth in our under 18 population – two segments of the population that are less likely to be employed. Growth in the 65 plus population in the labor force through 2040 compared to the universe population of those over the age of 16 since labor force participation declines with age, especially among those eligible for pensions or social security. The population base and trends of an area determine the needs for housing, schools, roads and other services. The age, income, race and ethnicity, and migration of the population of a community are all vital in planning for service provision. The most significant demographic transitions for Colorado and its communities are related to disparate growth, aging, downward pressure on income, and growing racial and ethnic diversity.

**Household income** comes primarily from work, but government transfer payments such as Social Security and TANF and unearned income from dividends, interest and rent are also included. Income and education levels are highly correlated; areas that have lower educational attainment than the state will typically have lower income household incomes. The relative rank of high-paying sectors, such as mining, information and financial and insurance services versus mid-range jobs (e.g. construction, health care and government) and lower-paying industries such as retail trade and accommodation and food services, will have an impact on a county's overall economic health.

**Land Use** - About 2.3 million (43.6 percent) of the total Valley acreage is utilized as rangeland; 2.1 million acres (39.3 percent) is forest; and a little over 616,000 acres (11.8 percent) is classified as agricultural land. County land uses vary from the regional pattern. Alamosa (60.4 percent), Conejos (51.7 percent), and Costilla (47.5 percent) have higher percentages in rangeland; Rio Grande (25.2 percent), Alamosa (24.3 percent), and Conejos (16.0 percent) have relatively greater shares for agriculture; and Mineral (71.2 percent) and Saguache (43.6 percent) have larger percentages of forest. About 2.1 million acres covering the area defined as the "valley floor." Larger concentrations include: heavy vegetation (21.2 percent); irrigated meadow (13.1 percent); medium vegetation (9.6 percent); and sparse vegetation (26.5 percent). Crop acreages include about 139,000 acres of alfalfa; 114,000 of grain; 80,000 acres of potatoes; 7,600 acres for other vegetables.



Graphics and text provided by  
  
**SAN LUIS VALLEY DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES GROUP**  
 Hew Hallock researched and wrote the CEDS.



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

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

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

Household Size	Monthly Gross Income 60% of State Median Income Level
1	\$2,371
2	\$3,101
3	\$3,831
4	\$4,561
5	\$5,290
6	\$6,021
7	\$6,157
8	\$6,294
<b>Each additional person</b>	<b>\$137</b>

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

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

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

**1-866-432-8435**





# 2020 Southern Rocky Mountain Agricultural Conference & Trade Fair



**Ski Hi Park • Monte Vista • Feb. 4 - 6, 2020**

**NAME**

---

**ADDRESS**

---

Please check to be added to Extension mailing list

---

**TELEPHONE #**

---

**E-MAIL ADDRESS**

---

**Make Checks to: SLV Area Extension**

---

**Mail to: Southern Rocky Mountain Ag Conference**  
c/o SLV Area Extension  
P O Box 30, Monte Vista, CO 81144

**COST CALCULATIONS:**  
Please register each person (x) for specific days; One day \$30 or entire conference \$60. Spouse is \$15/day or \$45 entire conference. Please indicate which days you will attend. Thank you!

Name	Name
Spouse	Spouse
Tues., Feb. 4th ( )	Tues., Feb. 4th ( )
Wed., Feb. 5th ( )	Wed., Feb. 5th ( )
Thurs., Feb. 6th ( )	Thurs., Feb. 6th ( )
Total \$ _____	Total \$ _____
Name	Name
Spouse	Spouse
Tues., Feb. 4th ( )	Tues., Feb. 4th ( )
Wed., Feb. 5th ( )	Wed., Feb. 5th ( )
Thurs., Feb. 6th ( )	Thurs., Feb. 6th ( )
Total \$ _____	Total \$ _____
Total Fee included with this form	\$ _____
Check No.	Cash

Please let us know if you have special needs due to disabilities. Call Maxine at 719-852-7381 by January 31st.

Conference Sponsored By:  
Colorado State University Extension  
Trade Fair Sponsored By: Monte Vista  
Chamber of Commerce

*Valley Publishing*  
(719) 852-3531 • 835 First Ave. • Monte Vista, Colo.

# Potato Growers select Mattive of Monte Vista to NPC leadership

**LAS VEGAS** – The National Potato Council’s (NPC) 2020 annual meeting in Las Vegas, Britt Raybould of Rexburg, Idaho was elected to serve as NPC’s 2020 President and to lead the council’s Executive Committee.

Raybould serves as chief financial officer of Raybould Brothers Farm. She previously served the NPC Board as First vice president and vice president of the Legislative and Government Affairs Committee. She is the third generation of the Raybould family to serve as NPC President and the first female president in NPC’s 72-year history. As president, Raybould will host the 2020 NPC Summer Meeting in Boise, Idaho, June 24-26. The Executive Committee holds office for one calendar year.

**NPC delegates also approved:**

- Dominic LaJoie of Van Buren, Maine as First vice president and vice president of the Environmental Affairs Committee;
- R.J. Andrus of Idaho Falls, Idaho as vice president of the Legislative Affairs Committee;
- Jared Balcom of Pasco, Washington as vice president of the Trade Affairs Committee;
- Bob Mattive of Monte Vista, Colorado as vice president of the Finance and Office Procedures Committee; and,
- Ted Tschirky of Pasco, Washington as vice president of the Grower Outreach and Industry Research Committee.

The 2019 President, Larry Alsum of Friesland, Wisc., will continue to serve on the Executive Committee as the Immediate Past President. The 2020 Executive Committee will meet at the Potato D.C. Fly-In, Feb. 24-27 in Washington, D.C., to continue their work for the industry. This includes leading more than 150 growers and industry partners to Capitol Hill to meet with members of Congress, staff, and key administration officials to communicate industry priorities. Policy issues to be addressed this year include trade, agriculture labor reform, nutrition, access to crop protection tools, and research for potatoes. The National Potato Council represents the interests of U.S. potato growers on federal legislative, regulatory, environmental and trade issues. The value of U.S. potato production is over \$3.7 billion annually and supports hundreds of thousands of jobs both directly and indirectly.



**NPC 2020 Executive Committee (left to right): R.J. Andrus, Jared Balcom, Bob Mattive, Britt Raybould, Dominic LaJoie, Ted Tschirky and Larry Alsum**

Courtesy photo

## National Potato Council applauds house passage of Farm Workforce Modernization Act

### Agriculture labor reform measure goes to Senate

**WASHINGTON** – The National Potato Council today welcomed U.S. House passage of the Farm Workforce Modernization Act (H.R. 5038). The bill, sponsored by Reps. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Dan Newhouse (R-WA), and Mike

Simpson (R-ID), now goes to the U.S. Senate for consideration.

“Representatives Lofgren, Newhouse, and Simpson are commended for reaching across party lines to create and pass a bipartisan bill that will benefit both growers and laborers. Even during these highly partisan times, the passage of an agricultural labor reform bill demonstrates how Congress can work together to do what’s best for farms, families, and communities” said

Kam Quarles, CEO of the National Potato Council. “The U.S. potato industry is proud to work with our partners on Capitol Hill to promote solutions to address American agriculture’s labor crisis. As the bill moves through the legislative process, will continue to work with the Senate and in conference committee to improve the measure and enact long-term labor solutions that support the health of our industry.” “The House should be commended

for taking the crucial step of starting the legislative process to stabilize our agricultural workforce and contribute to the future success of the U.S. potato industry. The Farm Workforce Modernization Act seeks to enhance the efficiency of the H-2A program for seasonal workers while creating a new long-term solution for year-round agricultural labor, including necessary strong enforcement measures,” said NPC First Vice President of Legislative and Government Affairs Britt

Raybould of St. Anthony, Idaho.

The National Potato Council represents the interests of U.S. potato growers on federal legislative, regulatory, environmental, and trade issues. The value of U.S. potato production is over \$3.7 billion annually and supports hundreds of thousands of jobs both directly and indirectly. NPC is a member of the Agricultural Workforce Coalition that speaks for American agriculture on labor reform legislation.

**Great Plains**  
"Harvest Starts Here."

**Heavy-Duty Headquarters**

**50' HD**  
The new 35-5000 brings a new level of productivity to box drills! Its vast 50' drilling width covers more ground in a single sweep while its 3.2 bushel-per-foot seed boxes hold 149-bushel of seed on board to reduce downtime between fills.

**40' HD**  
These drills are designed for the large-scale operator to cover more acres every day. They feature the largest-in-class seed box to keep you in the field longer by minimizing fill time and waterproof lids for maximum protection.

**30' HD**  
All models feature heavy-duty openers with larger disks, stronger opener bodies, beefier down-pressure springs to penetrate tough ground, and a re-engineered seed tube that effectively guides the seed all the way to the bottom of the trench.

**28' HD**  
Sub-frames pivot around a line through the axles so, even on terraces and uneven terrain, the openers attack the ground at the proper angle rather than bulldozing or lifting like the competition.

**GREAT PLAINS HEAVY-DUTY DRILL FAMILY**  
Great Plains offers a full line of quality, high-performance tillage, seeding, and nutrient application products.

SEE YOUR LOCAL DEALER OR GET MORE INFORMATION AT: [www.greatplainsag.com](http://www.greatplainsag.com)

**Sorum Tractor Co., Inc.**  
7727 Hwy. 160 • Alamosa • 589-2822 • [www.sorumtractor.com](http://www.sorumtractor.com)

**At Stone's we've always been PASSIONATE ABOUT PROVIDING EXCELLENT SERVICE...**

For over 60 years, Stone's Farm Supply has been invested in the success of local farmers. We provide the fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, custom application, equipment and planning needed to help your crops and your farm grow, from planting through harvest. Stop by to talk about how our services can enhance your success, the coffee is always on.

*We're proud to partner with the industry's most innovative brands to bring the latest technology and products for all of the Valley's crops, creating solutions to keeping local growers sustainable.*

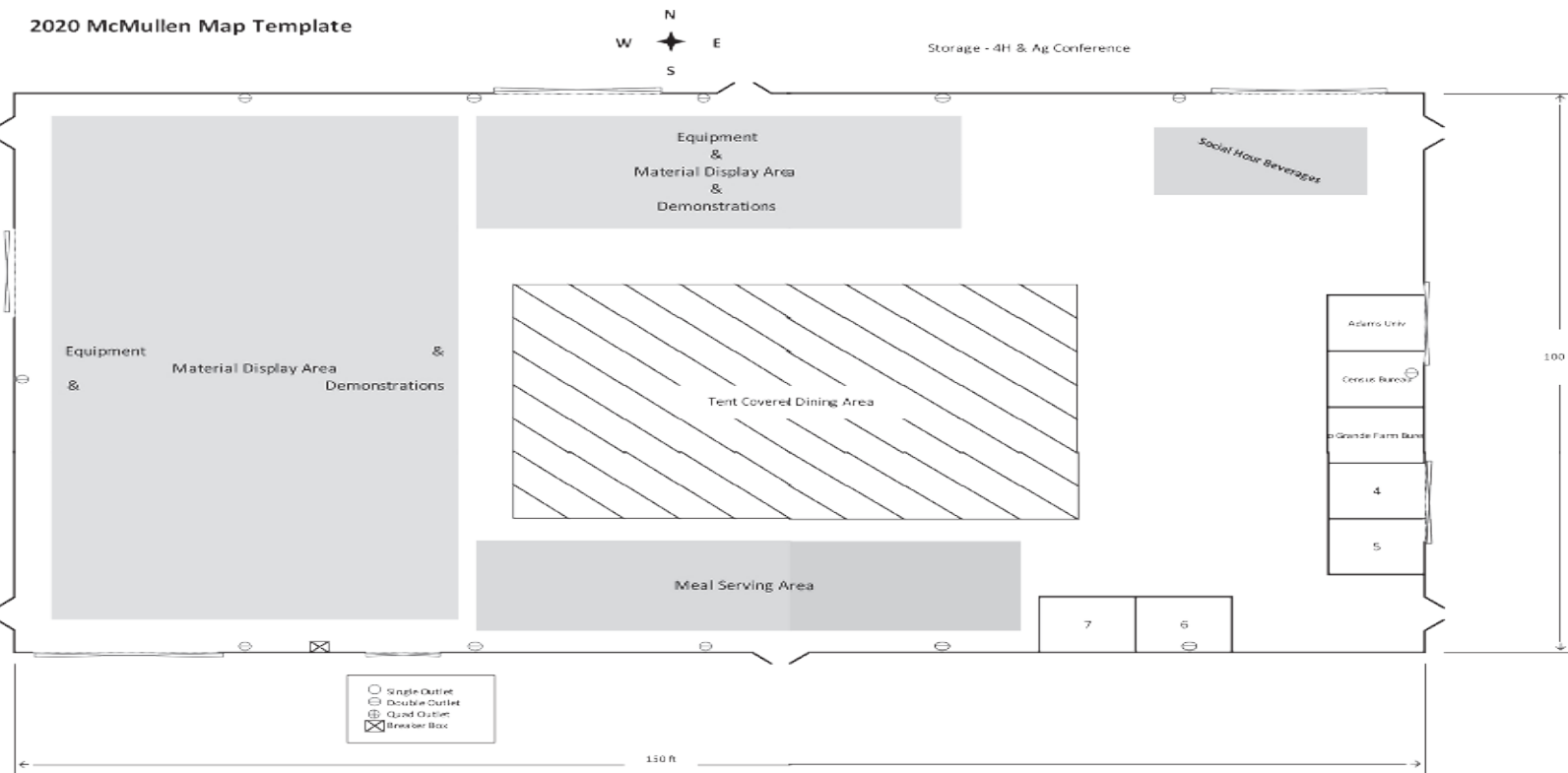
**Stone's Farm Supply, Inc.**  
On the corner of 3rd & Torres • 719-754-3453

# Vendor Map

- 64 Agri-Inject
- 18 Agri-Stor Company
- 25 Agro Engineering, Inc.
- 2 Agro Plasma Inc.
- 58 Agrotech
- 90 Alamosa Home
- 51 BASF
- 19 Bayer
- 28 Beiriger & Sons Irrigation
- 3 Buffalo Brand Seed
- 10-20 Central Pump Co.
- 9 Certis, USA
- 39-49 CIA Leavitt
- 12 Colorado Certified Potato
- 78 Colorado Dept of Agri
- McM - 3 Colorado Farm Bureau
- 81 Colorado Fruit and Veg
- 89 Colorado Realty
- 47 Community Banks of CO
- 30 CPAC
- 69 Colorado Seed LLC
- 13 Compost Technologies
- 44 Corteva Agri Science
- 60 Dells Insurance Agency
- 46 Disinfecting Services, LLC
- 29 FMC
- 57 First Insurance Services, Inc.
- 5 Formation-Ag / Power Zone
- 66 GMX Irrigation Water Treat
- 14 Holmes Enviro, LLC
- 27 Industrial Ventilation
- 50 IAS (Inter-Ag Services)
- 38 Intergrated Biological Sys
- 34 Keeter Ariel Spraying
- 87 Lawson Products
- 79,84,85 Monte Vista COOP
- 86 Netzero Rocky Mountain
- 33 Nutrient Solutions
- 1 Partsmaster
- 21 to 24 Pepper Equipment/Lenco
- 74 Phytech-USA
- 70-71 Plant Nutrient Solutions
- 80 Pletcher Enterprises LLC
- 5 Power Zone/Formation Ag
- 55 Precision Profiles
- 53 Rabo Agrifinance, LLC
- 37 Rio Grande Bentonite
- 88 Rio Grande Seed & Grain
- 73 Rio Grande Water Cons
- 52 Rocky Mtn Ag
- 32 Rusler Implement Co
- 15 Spectra-Comm
- 4 Stoller
- 35 SWIIM System
- 76-77 Syngenta / 3D Exhibits
- 68 T.K.Z. Center Pivot
- 54 Transwest Trailers
- 42 Tri Est Ag Group
- 48 Trinity Trailer Mfg
- 8 Troy Plane State Farm
- 31 United Potato Growers
- 40 U.S. Tractor & Harvest
- 7 Valley Electric Inc.
- 63 VIVE Crop Protection
- 61 Wagner Equipment
- 75 Water Works Irrigation
- 59 Wenta Nip & Sanitizing LLC
- 82-83 Wilbur Ellis Co.
- 36 World Fuel Services/Alta
- 56 Yara

West Garage Door	Break Area Coffee / Snacks	9 Certis Diamond	8 Troy Plane	7 Valley Electric	6 Farm Credit	5 Power Zone Inform/Ag	4 Stoller	3 Buffalo Brand Seed	2 Agro Plasma	1 Partsmaster Chamber	Utility	
Break Area Presentation KSLWKYDN Broadcast		19 Bayer Diamond	18 Agri-Stor Diamond	17 Ag Pro Systems	16 SLVREC	15 Spectra	14 Holmes Enviro	13 Compost Technologies	12 Colo Certified Potatoes	11 Double L	10 Central Pump	90 Alamosa Home
Rest Room		29 FMC Diamond	28 Beiriger	27 Industrial Ventilation	26 Faribank Equip	25 Agro Engineering	24 Pepper Equipment	23 Pepper Equipment	22 Lenco West	21 Lenco West	20 Central Pump	89 Colorado Realty & Land
Wilbur Ellis		39 CIA Leavitt	38 Intergrated Bio	37 Rio Grande Bentonite	36 Alta Fuels	35 SWIIM	34 Keeter Ariel	33 Nutrient Solutions	32 Rusler Implement	31 United Pot Growers	30 CPAC	88 Rio Grande Seed & Grain
Rest Room		49 CIA Leavitt	48 Trinity Trailers	47 Community Banks	46 Disinfecting Services	45 4 Rivers Equipment	44 Corteva	43 High Valley	42 Tri-Est Ag Group	41 Hortau Irrigation	40 US Tractor	87 Lawson Products
Wilbur Ellis		59 Wenta Nip	58 Agrotech	57 First Insurance	56 Yara	55 Precision Profiles	54 Transwest Trailers	53 Rabo Agri Finance	52 Rocky Mtn Ag	51 BASF 1/20/20	50 InterAg Services	86 Netzero
Rest Room		69 Colorado Seed	68 TKZ Center Pivot	67 AIRSCOUT	66 GMX Watershed Treatment	65 Sorum Tractor	64 Agri-Inject	63 VIVE	62 D n R Develop	61 Wagner Equipment	60 Dell's Insurance	85 MV COOP
Wilbur Ellis		78 CO Dept of Ag	77 Syngenta Diamond	76 Syngenta Diamond	75 Water Works Irrigation	74 Phytech	73 Rio Grande Water	72 SLV Trading Posts	71 Plant Nutrient Solutions	70 Plant Nutrient Solutions	CSU	84 MV COOP

2020 McMullen Map Template



**Agriculture Consulting Services**  
 Certified Crop Advisor  
 Alfalfa & Grass Seed  
 Agriculture Chemicals  
 Gloves at Dealer Prices

**DP Ag Services**  
 Don & Pat Henderson  
 852-0824  
 850-1679

**A NEW WAY TO IRRIGATE**  
 3 NEW PANELS

**100% REINKE CERTIFIED**

**RPM ADVANCED PLUS™**  
 With a simple to use touchscreen display, the RPM Advanced Plus Main Control Panel comes equipped with all the advanced features needed for your smart irrigation practice.

**RPM ANNEX™**  
 Utilizing the backend components of an existing control panel, the RPM Annex allows you to upgrade to the latest pivot control technology for a fraction of the cost.

**RPM CONNECT™**  
 Designed for today's progressive farmer, the RPM Connect Main Control Panel utilizes remote control technology and comes equipped with all the necessary features to keep you connected.

**CPC**  
 Reliable Efficient Pump Solutions

**Central Pump Company**  
 719-754-3936  
 570 E Hwy 112 Center  
[www.cpcpump.com](http://www.cpcpump.com)  
[www.reinke.com](http://www.reinke.com)

**Reinke**  
 MORE RIGHT THAN RAIN

# Loma teacher wins Colorado Agriculture in the Classroom® Award

LOMA, Colorado - As an educator in a rural, agricultural community, one might think there is not a tremendous need for agricultural literacy education or that the impact on the students and community would be less than in an urban or suburban community. That scenario couldn't be further from the truth for Cindy Staheli Pearson of Loma, Colorado.

Mrs. Pearson has been a third-grade teacher at Loma Elementary for 12 years and finds creative ways to tie agriculture into everything she teaches. Loma Elementary is part of Mesa County Valley School District 51.

Pearson is the winner of the 2020 Outstanding Agriculture in the Classroom® teacher award. The award is sponsored by the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture and the Colorado Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee. The purpose of this award is to recognize Colorado teachers, from preschool through 12th grade, for their creative efforts to integrate agriculture topics into the classroom to increase agricultural literacy.

Integrating agriculture into classroom learning is important to Cindy because she believes that as a society, we are losing touch with where our food and fiber comes from. "I feel it is important for students to understand that without farmers they will not have food or clothing. My students are from a rural area, many are already involved in agriculture, but many still do not understand where their food comes from," says Pearson. "I try to give them a glimpse into food production and the rich history of agriculture in our community and our state."

Pearson adds agriculture concepts into units for reading, writing, science, social studies, math and even art. One of the students' favorite activities is a writing project called "Flat Aggies." Students are paired up with farmers, ranchers and agriculture-related businesses all over the United States and Canada. The students make a paper doll character of themselves and write letters asking questions about their counterparts' agriculture business. Their counterpart replies back, answering the questions, and including photos of their "Flat Aggie" on various adventures.

The "Flat Aggies" project meets a state content standard for informational writing, a skill that is fast-declining in today's mobile



Cindy Staheli Pearson

Courtesy photo

device driven society. Students learn about agriculture products produced across North America and how those products are grown and marketed. They also learn about the wide variety of careers in agriculture.

Mrs. Pearson takes all of the third-graders at Loma Elementary on a field trip to her family's cow-calf ranch and small feedlot. They also make a visit to the local sale barn. Mrs. Pearson uses the scales at the farm and the sale barn to teach math concepts. The students even try their hand at being an auctioneer.

Other classroom activities include the annual incubation, hatching, and care of chickens as part of the students' lesson on life cycles. For the school art show, Mrs. Pearson's students created a mural they called Agriculture - A Science and an Art. Last year, the students even wrote and published a book titled The Important Book of Agriculture.

"Cindy is a great advocate for the Agriculture in the Classroom program," said Jennifer Scharpe, executive director for the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture. "She is a graduate of our summer Agri-

CULTURE Institute, a weeklong professional development course for teachers. She regularly utilizes the resources and programs of the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture and the National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization. Most importantly, she shares these resources with her fellow teachers."

For winning the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture Outstanding Agriculture in the classroom teacher award, Pearson receives a \$500 monetary gift. She also earns a trip to the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference, which will be held June 22-26, 2020 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

"The third-grade students at Loma Elementary greatly benefit from having Mrs. Pearson as their teacher. Through her creativity and passion for agriculture, she is able to make learning fun for her students," Scharpe added.

For more information about this award or the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture, visit [www.GrowingYourFuture.com](http://www.GrowingYourFuture.com) or contact Jennifer Scharpe, Colorado Foundation for Agriculture executive director at [Info@GrowingYourFuture.com](mailto:Info@GrowingYourFuture.com) or 970-818-3308.



"Comprehensive  
Agricultural  
Consulting Since 1982"

**We provide support and answers  
for your agricultural needs**

Irrigation ~ Pests ~ Fertility  
All Pre & Post Growing Needs

**CALL TODAY TO SEE HOW WE CAN HELP YOU!**

**Agro Engineering, Inc.**  
0210 Rd 2 S Alamosa  
719-852-4957 [www.agro.com](http://www.agro.com)



**Farm to Table**

**Mahindra**  
TRACTORS



**Valley Tractor Repair**

2573 S. County Road 6E - Monte Vista CO 81144

**Ric Myers, Owner**

(719) 852-0200 office  
(719) 852-2767 fax

Cell: (719) 850-2804  
Email: [ricmyers@gojade.org](mailto:ricmyers@gojade.org)  
[www.valleytractorrepair.com](http://www.valleytractorrepair.com)



HIGH Quality Ingredients

**John L Braly**

General Manager

office: (719)754-3858

fax: (719)466-2185

email: [jlbraly@gmail.com](mailto:jlbraly@gmail.com)

P.O. Box 730

789 E. Second Street  
Center, CO 81125

**MONTE ELECTRIC**

ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE

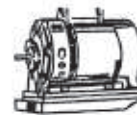
1325 N. Hwy. 285 on North Gunbarrel • Monte Vista

REWINDING & REPAIR

1/4 HP through 300 HP

ELECTRIC MOTORS

MOTOR CONTROLS



**NEW**

Baldor Motors

A.O. Smith Motors

**852-2832**

After Hours call Glenn Slingerland 588-1081

**monte vista  
machine tool**

Proudly serving the San Luis Valley since 1979

- Machine Work of All Types
- Welding of All Types including ALUMINUM & STAINLESS
- CUSTOM FARM EQUIPMENT AND REPAIR
- Driveline Specialists
- Surface Brake Drums, Rotors and Flywheels
- CRANES - 7/50/75/100 Ton Capacities

0839 N Hwy 285 • Monte Vista  
(719) 852-4990 • [www.mvmachinetool.com](http://www.mvmachinetool.com)

**SLV Garden Center, LLC**

The Sawyer Brothers

719-852 GROW (4769) • 1669 N Hwy 285 • Monte Vista  
(north of Dos Rio Restaurant)

**Four Years Strong and Still Going!**

The Valley's Premier, Full-Spectrum CBD Store!  
Tinctures, Creams, Salves, Capsules, Pet Products  
and much more! Best selection in the SLV!

*Specializing in customer service*

WINTER HOURS — Monday-Friday 9:30-4:30

29th Annual  
**Pot of Gold  
Bull Sale**

**Friday, February 28, 2020 • 12:00 noon**  
**Jim's Auction Barn, Montrose, CO**  
**Offering 100 Yearlings Bulls**

**Gelbvieh • Balancers®**

Tested Negative for Trich & PI-BVD  
P.A.P., Gain & Fertility Tested  
EPD's & Pedigrees on each bull  
Top A.I. Sired Bulls

**Balancers® Include:**  
Red Angus/Gelbvieh  
Balancers®  
Black Angus/Gelbvieh  
Balancers®

**Thick Meaty Bulls with Good Disposition**

**Free Delivery to the San Luis Valley**

All Phone Bids are 100%  
Satisfaction Guaranteed — You Will  
Like Them When You Get Them!

**DVAuction**  
Broadcasting Real-Time Auctions  
For online bidding sale day

**For information or catalog:**

Dave 970-323-6833 • Mark Covington 970-209-1956

On line Catalog at: [www.gelbviehbulls.net](http://www.gelbviehbulls.net)

# Waters of the United States jurisdiction changed

By **TREY SPAULDING**

**WASHINGTON** – Jan. 23, 2020, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler announced the improved definition for “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) with the Navigable Waters Protection Rule. “The Navigable Waters Protection Rule ends decades of uncertainty over where federal jurisdiction begins and ends. For the first time, EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers are recognizing the difference between federally protected wetlands and state protected wetlands. It adheres to the statutory limits of the agencies’ authority. It also ensures that America’s water protections – among the best in the world – remain strong, while giving our states and tribes the certainty to manage their waters in ways that best protect their natural resources and local economies.”

In March 2014, the Obama administration released a regulation that would assert Clean Water Act jurisdiction over nearly all areas including those with undiscernible connections to water resources and man-made conveyances. Specifically, the Obama WOTUS rule expanded agency control over 60 percent of the country’s streams and millions of acres of wetlands that were previously non-jurisdictional. In September 2019, the Trump administration, EPA and Army Corps of Engineers repealed the controversial 2015 WOTUS rule and proposed a new Clean Water rule clarifying which level of government, federal or state, would oversee water features and dry land that is sometimes wet.

The revised WOTUS definition identifies four clear categories of waters that are federally regulated under the Clean Water Act: the territorial seas and traditional navigable waters; perennial and intermittent tributaries; certain lakes, ponds and impoundments; and wetlands that are adjacent to jurisdictional waters. The final action also details what waters are not subject to federal control, including features that only contain water in direct response to rainfall; groundwater; many ditches, including most farm and roadside ditches; prior converted cropland; farm and stock watering ponds; and waste treatment systems.

Leaders of the National Potato Council (NPC) welcomed the announcement that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized its proposed rule defining the Waters of the United States

(WOTUS) rule with the Navigable Waters Protection Rule. EPA’s action also defines what waters are not subject to federal control, including most farm and roadside ditches, prior converted cropland, and farm and stock watering ponds.

“Potato farmers are committed to protecting the nation’s waters,” said Britt Raybould, President of the National Potato Council. “However, the imposition of unnecessary federal burdens, such as regulating ditches on private farms that are generally dry throughout the year, undermines that overall mission by creating uncertainty and increasing costs. EPA’s newly issued rule avoids those negative outcomes and provides increased clarity regarding the responsibilities of farmers under the Clean Water Act in protecting our nation’s surface water resources.”

NPC vice president of Environmental Affairs Dominic LaJoie also welcomed the news. “NPC appreciates EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers for issuing a final rule defining what waters are subject to the permitting authority under the Clean Water Act. While we are still reviewing the rule, it appears that the federal agencies have adopted a common-sense approach in determining the act’s scope. It recognizes the authority of the states to continue to manage their waters while providing the federal government appropriate authority to protect navigable waters,” said LaJoie.

“Presidents of Colorado Corn Growers Association and Colorado Corn Administrative Committee made statements regarding the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) replacement regulation for Waters of the United States (WOTUS) Rule, which replaces the 2015 version that would have increased regulatory burdens and costs for farmers and other businesses. The new Navigable Waters Protection Rule Clean Water rule is welcome news to farmers,” stated CCAC President Troy Schneider.

“It gives us clarity and certainty about which waters come under federal versus state jurisdictions to make water management more efficient and effective. It puts small bodies of water back into the hands successfully managing them all along – state and local governments. And gives farmers, land and business owners a way to keep protecting the environment without threat of government action. Farmers rely on clean water to make a living and often go above and beyond regulatory



requirements to be avid stewards of all their resources,” said CCGA President Dave Cure.

Contrastingly, Jill Hunsaker Ryan, executive director, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment stated, “The EPA’s announcement today is alarming as it puts our precious waters at risk. Every Coloradan, and so many others from neighboring states, are dependent on Colorado’s healthy waterways. At the department, regardless of what happens at the federal-level, we’ll always be committed to the health of our waters. Healthy waters mean healthy Coloradans,” said Jill Hunsaker Ryan, executive director, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

“In the absence of federal leadership, we are going to do everything possible to protect streams and wetlands in Colorado. It’s sad that we have to step up in contrast with our federal government on something so basic as protecting our water, but we must. The rollback removes huge swaths of Colorado’s waters from federal jurisdiction, waters used by 19 states and Mexico. It’s estimated that almost 70 percent of our Colorado Waters could be impacted by this rule. Additionally, the change will impose significant burdens upon the State of Colorado,” said Patrick Pfaltzgraff, director, Water Quality Control Division.

Earlier in the year, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Colorado Department of Natural Resources, and Colorado Department of Agriculture collectively rebuked the EPA’s proposed rule change.

## WATER...

### It’s the Life Blood of Our Valley

With the current condition of our water supply, it is everyone’s responsibility to conserve & use it wisely!  
The life of our land depends upon it.

### Conserve San Luis Valley Water!

**Rio Grande Water Conservation District**  
**589-6301**



8805 Independence Way • Alamosa

## JV Smith COMPANIES



**719-754-2681**  
**55 Torres St. • Center**

*Rio Grande Seed & Grain*  
**Eric Kimberling & Brett Hemmerling**  
**Malt Barley Contracts**  
ADM Spring Triticale, Oat & Cover Crop Seed  
**Large selection of Alfalfa Seed & Baling Twine**  
**Serving the San Luis Valley Farmers Since 1990**  
**719-852-4088 • 2485 East Rd. 4 North • Monte Vista**

**RANCHWAY FEEDS**  
Offering Ranchway Feeds!

**WE INSURE MORE THAN YOUR STUFF, WE INSURE A LIFESTYLE**

**HOME • RANCH • AUTO • BUSINESS • LIFE • ANNUITIES**

**360 Insurance Company**  
**Shari Oliver, Agent**  
(719) 852-8840  
729 First Ave, Monte Vista (open M-F, 9 AM-5 PM)

### One Series Large Square Baler

**ONE SERIES LARGE SQUARE BALERS – GET MORE OUT OF EVERY FIELD AND EVERY DAY.**

The One Series Large Square Balers from John Deere are built in North America and produce 3x3 or 3x4 bales. They feature the widest pickup in the industry, the most accurate moisture sensor, weights throughout the baling process and the convenience and reliability of BalerAssist. The One Series also includes a Double-Tie Knottter system and Preservative Application system.

**www.ustractor.com**

#### 8R/8RT Series Tractors

The 8R/8RT Series tractors leave no room for compromise. Intuitive and powerful, these machines are ready to impress with up to 370 horsepower that’s surprisingly efficient and smart while delivering torque when you need it most.

#### 9R/9RT/9RX Series Tractors

The 9RX Family of Tractors offers you so many choices in large-horsepower tractors. Need a track or wheel model? a 2-track or a 4-track solution? A wide or narrow track? A range of horsepower from 370 to 620 to fit your operation?

<b>Alamosa</b> 701 West Ave Off: (719) 589-4962 TF: (800) 241-4962	<b>Craig</b> 3025 West Victory Way Off: (970) 824-6163 TF: (800) 254-4020	<b>Fruita</b> 1984 Hwy. 6 & 50 Off: (970) 241-5566 TF: (855) 256-556	<b>Monte Vista</b> 1345 North Hwy 285 Off: (719) 852-5928 TF: (800) 952-5928	<b>Montrose</b> 4766 N Townsend Off: (970) 249-4990 TF: (800) 638-4774
---	--	---	---	---

**March Filter Sale: 15% Off select Filters!**



## Farm & Ranch Equipment Tires

NEW • USED • RECAPPED

### Jim's Tire Store

711-1/2 State Ave. • Alamosa • 719-589-9690

# Ag Conference Schedule

## Tuesday, February 4

7-8 a.m. Breakfast — Sponsored by Monte Vista Cooperative

8:15 a.m. What Weather to Prepare for in Colorado, Dr. Russ Schumacher, State Climatologist, CSU

8:50 a.m. Snotel and Lidar Sensing of Snowpack, Blake Osborn, Regional Water Specialist, CSU

9:15 a.m. Doppler Information and Update, Ken Howard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Severe Storms Lab, Norman, OK

10 a.m. BREAK — Sponsored by Bayer Crop Science

10:15 a.m. Water Roundtable Discussion (With Cleave Simpson, Craig Cotten, Nathan Coombs, Pat McDermott, Russ Schumacher, Chris Ivers, A.m.ber Pacheco, Marisa Fricke), Heather Dutton, Director, SLV Water Conservancy District

11:30 a.m. Water Use in Alfalfa, Dr. Joe Brummer, Associate Professor, Extension Forage Specialist, Soil and Crop Sciences, CSU

Noon LUNCH — Sponsored by Farm Credit

1:30 p.m. Hemp Harvester/Equipment Demonstration (McMullen Building), FormationAg, Monte Vista, CO

1:30 p.m. Seed Certification: Your Best Option for the Management of Tuber Necrotic Viruses, Dr. Stewart Gray, Virologist, USDA/APHIS, Cornell University

1:50 p.m. PVY Grower Panel, Dr. Andrew Houser, Manager, Colorado Potato Certification Service, CSU/SLVRC, Center, CO

3 p.m. BREAK — Sponsored by Certis

3:20 p.m. Hybrid Potato Breeding, Dr. Dave Douches, Potato Breeder, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

3:50 p.m. Update on Hybrid Potato Breeding at Colorado State University, Dr. David Holm, Professor, Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, CSU/SLVRC, Center, CO  
Factors Affecting San Luis Valley Grower Decision to Produce Specialty Potato Varieties, Sahar Bagheri, CSU Graduate Student

4:10 p.m. Does PVY Have an Impact on Certified Seed and Potato Yield/Quality in the San Luis Valley?, Dr. Andrew Houser, Manager, Colorado Potato Certification Service, CSU/SLVRC, Center, CO

4:30 p.m. Soil Carbon Sponge, Didi Pershouse, President, Soil Carbon Coalition  
Social in McMullen Building — Food Refreshments Sponsored by San Luis Valley Federal Bank

## Wednesday, February 5, 2020

7-8 a.m. Breakfast — Sponsored by San Luis Valley Rural Electric

8:15 a.m. Potassium Nitrate: A Soluble Source of Potassium Fertilizer that Improves Production of Premium Size Tubers, Dr. Samuel Essah, Associate Professor, Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Extension Specialist and Physiologist; CSU/SLVRC, Center, CO

8:40 a.m. Baleage Demonstration, Stinger Inc., (McMullen Building)

8:40 a.m. White Mold Management in Potatoes — a Midwestern Perspective, Dr. Jamie Wilbur, Assistant Professor, Department of Soil and Microbial Sciences, MSU, Lansing, MI

9:15 a.m. Production Management Review of the San Luis Valley, Dr. John Jemison, Extension, University of Maine, Orono, ME

9:50 a.m. National Potato Council, Kam Quarles, CEO, Washington, D.C.

**FORMATIONAG**

Hemp Harvesting and Processing Equipment

Formation-Ag.com  
1021 US Hwy. 285 N  
Monte Vista, CO 81144  
719.849.6633

# TOP POTATO FARM FOR SALE

KOPFMAN FARM--11 full circles with excellent Valley center pivots, 22 irrigation wells & 7 residential wells with a total of 20,295 GPM water M/L.

Two super nice homes, 4000 sq. ft. steel shop, seed potato storage, 16 steel grain bins, 158,000 cwt potato storage at Canon Spud Growers in Center, 18,000 gallon fuel storage, 6 storage buildings, all farming equipment, Santa Maria Reservoir, Rio Grande Canal and Farmers Union Canal water rights.

Call Bruce 719-580-0770 or email at [steff@gojade.org](mailto:steff@gojade.org)  
Serious inquires only.

## Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

Bruce Steffens, Broker/Owner

30635 US Hwy 160 • P.O. Box 205

South Fork • (719) 873-1700

[steff@gojade.org](mailto:steff@gojade.org)

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

**OVER \$141,000,000 IN SALES  
THE LAST 6 YEARS WITHIN  
THE S.L.V. AND CLIMBING.**

## WE NEED YOUR FARM OR RANCH

We have buyers, with cash, looking for Agriculture Lands From 1 quarter, 2-4 quarters, 5-10 quarters, and up.

Any size of Farm or Ranch, can close by May 1!

Consistently one of the Top Farm/Ranch Brokers in Southern Colorado.

100% Agriculture driven business model.

**FOR AN APPOINTMENT OR TO FIND  
OUT THE TRUE VALUE OF YOUR  
AG. PROPERTY CALL: STEFFENS &  
COMPANY REALTY, INC. 719-873-1700**  
All inquires and information is kept strictly confidential.

## Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.

Bruce Steffens, Broker/Owner

30635 US Hwy 160 • P.O. Box 205

South Fork • (719) 873-1700

[steff@gojade.org](mailto:steff@gojade.org)

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

# Ag Conference Schedule

- 10:20 a.m. BREAK** — Sponsored by FMC Corporation of North America
- 10:40 a.m. Nutrition for Developing Heifers and Steers** (McMullen Building), Clay Burson, Beef Technical Sales Specialist, Purina Nutritionist, Sponsored by Monte Vista Cooperative
- 10:40 a.m. State of Higher Education in Agriculture**, Dr. James Pritchett, Interim Director College of Agriculture Science, Director of Ag Experiment Station, CSU
- 11:05 a.m. Producing Triticale in the San Luis Valley**, Eric Wilkey, President, Arizona Grain Inc., Casa Grande, AZ
- 11:30 a.m. Pre and Post Natal Nutrition of Cattle**, Eric McPhail, Director, Gunnison County Ext. CSU
- Noon Lunch** - Sponsored by: Frontier Bank
- 1:30 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Global View from Home – Bring the Globalization of Agriculture Home for Your Operations Business Strategies**, Stephen Nicholson, Vice President, Rabo Research, Food and Agri Business, Grains and Oil Seeds, Rabo Agro Finance, Chesterfield, MO
- 2:45 p.m. Break** — Sponsored by Syngenta
- 3 p.m. Seed Cutter/Seed Diseases** (McMullen Building), Dr. Chakradhar Mattupalli, Plant Pathologist, Research Professor/Extension Specialist, CSU/SLV Research Center, CO
- 3 p.m. Colorado Ag Commission Report**, Kate Greenberg, Commissioner, Colorado Ag Commission, Broomfield, CO
- 3:30 p.m. P, Ca, and Mg for Quality Potatoes**, Jimmy Ridgeway, Regional Sales Representative, Yara International, ID
- 3:30 p.m. Managing Calving Difficulties** (McMullen Building), Alpine Veterinary Hospital, Monte Vista, CO
- 4 p.m. The Economic Contribution of Irrigated Cropping to the San Luis Valley**, Dr. Rebecca L. Hill, Research Scientist, Community and Resource Economics II, CSU Social in McMullen Building – Food Sponsored by Sunflower Bank Refreshments Sponsored by A&L Coors

## Thursday, February 6, 2020

- 7-8 a.m. Breakfast** — Sponsored by Rio Grande Seed & Grain
- 8 a.m. Water Use in Hemp Production**, Brian Mitchell, CSU Graduate Student
- 8:35 a.m. Challenges with Hemp Production, Grower Panel**: Monte Robertson, (SLV Hemp); Corbett Hefner, (FormationAg); Shanan Wright, (FormationAg); Andrew Brown, (Powder Hemp, Alamosa); Brian Mitchell, (CSU Graduate Student)
- 9:40 a.m. BREAK**
- 10 a.m. San Luis Valley Composting Experiment**, Patrick O'Neill, Owner, Soil Health Services, Alamosa, CO
- 10:15 a.m. Bubbler Irrigation Techniques**, Wade Henderson, Engineer, Davis Engineering, Alamosa, CO
- 10:40 a.m. Ergot in Barley**, Stephen Wyka, CSU Grad Student
- 11 a.m. Potatoes USA**, John Lundeen and Ben Harris, Research Director and Research Associate Manager
- 11:30 a.m. Farm Service Agency: Available Programs for SLV Ag Producers**, Brandon Terrazas, Executive Officer, USDA, UNM, Albuquerque, NM
- Noon Lunch** — Sponsored by First Southwest Bank
- 1 p.m. Commercial and Private Pesticide Applicator Seven Core Credits for Pesticide Application**, Don Henderson, Owner/Operator, DP Ag Services, Monte Vista, CO

Safe Travel Home!

## DEMONSTRATIONS & Programs (In the McMullen Building)

### Tuesday:

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

### Wednesday:

- 8:40 a.m. Baleage Demonstration**, by Stinger Inc.

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



**A local family-owned business specializing in potato sprout control and crop storage management solutions.**

**“Sprouts Wenta-Away”**

**Wenta Nip & Sanitizing, LLC**

Monte Vista, Colorado  
(719) 852-0353 • www.wentanip.com



**La Jara**  
TRADING POST  
LUMBER & BUILDING MATERIALS  
719-274-5857



**ALAMOSA**  
BUILDING SUPPLY  
A BETTER SOLUTION  
719-587-0338

1/2 mile east of La Jara on Sanford Hwy.      1403 Tremont, Alamosa



**Buffalo Brand**  
SHARP BROS. SEED CO.



**NEXGROW**



**ALFALFAS**  
BETTER SEED THROUGH RESEARCH

**Grass & Pasture mixes available.**

**See us for all of your Alfalfa needs. Call Store for details.**

VISA   MasterCard   DISCOVER   **Kickback Rewards**   Not responsible for printing errors.



**COOLEY & SONS**  
EXCAVATING  
INC.

for all your construction needs

**(719) 378-2520**

Cell: (719) 588-2406

**James Cooley**


4469 N. CR 108 • Mosca

More  
**CLEAN ENERGY**  
FEWER EMISSIONS

Cooperative power. Transformed.




Free Wi-Fi at the conference provided by **ciello**



**INDUSTRIAL**  
**IVI VENTILATION, INC.**

Providing the Valley with Ventilation,  
Refrigeration & Post Harvest Chemical Needs

**John Martinez, Service Manager**  
Mobile (719) 588-2485  
1393 E. Hwy 160 • Monte Vista




**Improve Irrigation Efficiency**  
with GMX Magnetic Water Treatment

- Improves Penetration through soil
- Improves Nutrient Mobility & Uptake
- Improves Fertilizer Effectiveness

After two successful seasons with GMX Magnetic Water Treatment: "Using GMX magnets in our pivots I've seen improved plant health and improved soil health, even across fields with inconsistent soil types. They have definitely helped with clodding and I've seen less dry rot and pink rot in our potatoes. I've seen an improved product quality and improved yields and I'm excited to see the new system going on more pivots this year. I would definitely recommend a set!" ~ Cody Carpenter

Get More from Your Water with GMX Irrigation Treatment

**GMX** Made in America Permanent Equipment No Maintenance Lifetime Replacement Warranty Established 1992



The Proactive Crop Management Tool™

Scouting is

- effective
- precise
- revolutionary

**What is Proactive Crop Management?**

Being proactive means you have the information and the will to take action as soon as you see something going wrong with your crops. **You can only be proactive if you know. And you can only know if you can see.**

That's where AirScout™ comes in. AirScout augments ground-scouting by providing new kinds of aerial crop imagery, every two weeks throughout the growing season. AirScout provides Thermal, Visual and new ADVI images straight to your computer in 24 hours, each serving a specialized function from the farmer's point of view, providing images that show very early plant stress from irrigation problems, disease or insects. Get Thermal Images delivered right to your phone with the AirScout Access App. By using our custom GPS mapping and guidance system, you can make the most of your investment and plan precise treatments for your fields while you are standing in them.

**Larry Brown, R&L Enterprises Inc.**  
4624 Cty. Rd. 9 S. • Alamosa

**(719)589-0661 office**  
**(626)484-7744 cell**  
larry@gmxinternational.com

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

Your cattle will pack on the pounds. You'll pack in the savings.

Keeping the herd well-fed demands a tractor that's up to the task. You need the powerful, dependable and hard-working M5, M6s or M6. Get a great deal by visiting us today.



\$0 DOWN 0% APR 48 MONTHS

Monte Vista Coop - Equipment Div.

2607 US HWY 285

Monte Vista, Colorado 81144

719-852-5565

KubotaUSA.com

© Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2020. \$0 Down, 0% A.P.R. financing for up to 48 months on purchases of select new Kubota M Series equipment from participating dealers' in-stock inventory is available to qualified purchasers through Kubota Credit Corporation, U.S.A.; subject to credit approval. Some exceptions apply. Example: 48 monthly payments of \$20.83 per \$1,000 financed. Offer expires 2/29/20. Terms subject to change. For complete warranty, safety and product information see dealer or KubotaUSA.com.

Check Out Our Inventory of PJ Trailers Flatbeds, Utility, Dump & Carhaulers



Dump Trailers

14X83  
16X83  
Sizes Available



Utility Trailers

8X60  
10X60  
12X77  
14X77  
16X83  
Sizes Available



Nutritional stress is a thing of the past



bridon cordage



POWDER RIVER

LIVESTOCK HANDLING EQUIPMENT

All Powder River Equipment 10% OFF February 3-8, 2020

We have Chutes available



MV Car Care Center Sprinkler Tires

11 R 24.5 Sprinkler Caps Reg. \$199<sup>99</sup>

Sale Price \$160

11 R 22.5 Sprinkler Caps Reg. \$199<sup>99</sup>

Ask about our Farm Tire Sale

CALL US FOR SIZES

Prices good through Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> on Tires Only Sales price good for In-Stock ONLY.

Call us for all of your Fertilizer INPUT NEEDS at 719-852-4046



Providing Quality...

Fuels • Fertilizer • Farm Supply • Feed • Tires • Equipment • Seed • Chemicals



Monte Vista Cooperative (719) 852-5181 1901 E Hwy 160 • Monte Vista www.mvcoop.com



Community Committed... Agriculturally Driven





SAN LUIS VALLEY VARIETIES  
Over 70 Varieties of Colorado Potatoes

**Attention Farmers and Ranchers:**  
Seal your leaking livestock tanks, ponds & reservoirs with bentonite.

**Spring Special 10% OFF**  
**Rio Grande Bentonite**  
**(719) 580-6652**

# National Potato Council welcomes phase one agreement signing

*Industry hopes agreement brings new export opportunity to China*

tariffs and boost Chinese purchases of American farm, energy and manufactured goods.

“The U.S. potato industry welcomes the signing of this Phase One Agreement and hopes the agreement will bring new opportunities for the export of United States fresh and processed and potatoes to China,” said Larry Alsum, President of the National Potato Council.

The U.S. potato industry comprises a total annual value of \$3.7 billion and exports 20 percent of its overall crop to international markets. China is currently a top 10 export market for potatoes, primarily in processed

products. With a combination of competitive tariffs and enhanced market access, China could become a top five market in the near future.

“This signing, coming on the heels of the new Japan free trade agreement and the anticipated ratification of the USMCA, creates trade momentum for our industry and sets the stage for future increased market access that may result in substantial gains for U.S. growers,” said Jared Balcom, vice president of Trade Affairs for NPC.

The National Potato Council represents the interests of U.S. potato growers on federal legislative, regulatory, environmental and trade

issues. The value of U.S. potato production is over \$3.7 billion annually and supports hundreds of thousands of jobs both directly and indirectly.

WASHINGTON – On Jan. 15, 2020, the National Potato Council welcomed the signing of the Phase One Agreement reached between the United States and China by President Trump and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He at the White House. The agreement is expected to reduce

# United States-Mexico-Canada agreement Senate approved

COLORADO – On Jan. 16, 2020, the United States Senate passed the United States-Mexico-Canada agreement by an 89-10 vote. The following statement is attributed to Don Shawcroft, President of the Colorado Farm Bureau:

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



USMCA official. While the process has taken longer than we hoped, we are thankful for today’s news and are

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

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

**Talk About LOCAL!**

**In Print & Online**

**Monte Vista Journal**  
www.montevistajournal.com

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

**Center Post-Dispatch**  
www.centerpostdispatch.com

**The South Fork Times**  
www.southforktimes.com

**Citizen**  
www.conejoscountycitizen.com

**Mineral County Miner**  
www.mineralcountyminer.com

Valley Publishing **719-852-3531** Find us on Facebook

**AMERICAN NATIONAL**

**SMART THINKING, REWARDED®**

**AUTO • HOME • LIFE • FARM & RANCH • BUSINESS INSURANCE**

**Cheyenne Banderas, Agent**  
630 Grand Ave. • Del Norte • (719) 580-2368  
cheyenne.banderas@american-national.com

**For Forklift Service or Repairs**



**VALLEY FORKLIFT**  
1507 N. Hwy 285, Monte Vista, CO 81144  
719-852-5277 or  
**REPAIR SERVICE**  
Call GILBERT at 588-1649

**I&F INDUSTRIAL AND FARM SUPPLY CO.**

**YOUR BEARING SOURCE**

BEARINGS, HOUSINGS  
SPROCKETS, SEALS  
ELECTRIC MOTORS  
GEAR BOX REDUCERS  
CONVEYOR BELTING  
ROLLER CHAIN  
TILLAGE PARTS (R&H  
CHISEL POINTS, WEAR STRIPS)  
KEYED SHAFT (1/2" TO 1 1/2")  
LUBRICANTS (including food grade H1)

PARKER HYDRAULICS  
Hose, Fittings, Adapters  
1/4 to 2", 2 and 4 wire

**CELEBRATING 21 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE VALLEY**

**Monte Vista Store**  
1224 N. Hwy 285, 719-852-4033  
**Center Store**  
367 E. Third St., 719-754-3288

To all of our customers,  
**Thank You!**  
for your business!

**CIA-Leavitt Insurance**  
A Leavitt Group Agency


Protecting YOUR way of life...

100 Premium Way  
P.O. Box 5002  
Alamosa, CO 81101-7012

**719.589.3611**

FARM/RANCH | CROP | WORKERS' COMPENSATION | BUSINESS  
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | HEALTH | LIFE

**Rio Grande Water Leaders Course**  
**March 23-27, 2020**



The Rio Grande Water Leaders Course has been organized to provide the opportunity for 25 community members to engage in education and networking to prepare to take a future role in safeguarding, developing, and managing the water resources in the San Luis Valley.

For more information on course topics and how to apply, visit [riograndeheadwaters.org](http://riograndeheadwaters.org).

# Small Farms Workshop Track to be featured

*CFVGA Sixth Annual Conference Feb. 24-25, 2020*

**COLORADO** - The Colorado Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association (CFVGA) will feature a small farms workshop track throughout its sixth annual conference Feb. 24-25 at the Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel. Workshop sessions will include produce pricing strategies, developing & implementing a farm food safety plan, farm labor management best practices and recordkeeping & farm management.

«Most who are new to farming will tell you there is so much to learn and that they greatly appreciate opportunities to learn and be mentored.» said Adrian Card, CFVGA founding Board member and chair of the conference committee. «This special track for small farmers provides four and a half hours of training on some fundamental principles for successful farming. It also provides an opportunity for small farmers to meet others at a similar place in their careers and continue networking after the conference concludes.»

To emphasize its focus on including beginning growers, CFVGA is offering a free, annual membership to growers who join for the first time and attend conference. When joining at <https://coloradoproduce.org>, new members may use the code first-timer to

claim their free membership, before completing conference registration.

Also featured will be new technologies and products offered by an expected 50-plus exhibitors and the grower-buyer networking session, which introduces farmers to produce buyers in a fast-paced, «speed-dating» style format.

In addition to the small farm track, conference sessions will include produce marketing trends, agricultural labor, organic rule changes, new market opportunities, biological pest control, produce safety and more. Also part of the conference is CFVGA's annual member meeting to be held following lunch Feb. 24.

More information on the small farm workshop track and all CFVGA conference topics is available at: <https://cfvga.org> Those companies and organization that want more information on the grower-buyer networking session or on being an exhibitor can find details at this same site, or they can contact CFVGA directly at 303.594.3827 or [admin@coloradoproduce.org](mailto:admin@coloradoproduce.org)

The CFVGA is comprised of more than 250 members, including growers of all sizes and types of production throughout the state, as well as representatives of allied industries. The Colorado fruit and vegetable growing sector contributes nearly \$485 million to Colorado at the farm gate and is multiplied as it goes through the distribution chain. Over 90,000 Colorado acres are in fruit and vegetable production.



## Hemp Regulatory and Production Symposium

**COLORADO** - The Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) will present a public Hemp Regulatory and Production Symposium at the Department's Broomfield, Colorado campus and via live webinar on February 19, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. To provide increased service and in response to stakeholder interest, the symposium will expand on CDA's annual Hemp Program Year in Review meeting to also include education, fostering consumer and farmer protection, and pre-empting noncompliance issues.

Attendees will learn how to alleviate risk and noncompliance issues related to the cultivation of industrial hemp while improving their economic success. Experts from CDA and Colorado State University will speak on topics including the Colorado State Hemp Plan and USDA Interim Final Rule, seed and plant quality, THC testing, pest management and more.

View the full symposium agenda here. The onsite event is limited to 100 participants and early online registration is encouraged. Register here to attend in person or participate via webinar.

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



**Justin Pepper - President**  
(719) 850-0126 Cell

**LENCO WEST, Inc.**  
121 N. Broadway  
Monte Vista, CO 81144  
(719) 852-0299

**LENCO GRIMME SPUDNIK NEW HOUSE Greentronics Agparts Black Ace Broekema Kryptane Noffsinger Lemken Hydraulic Systems**

**\* Committed to Quality & Service**

## PEPPER EQUIPMENT CORP.

**Full Lines of Produce Packaging Equipment, Custom Equipment Sales, Installation, Service**



Ag-Pak



NEWTEC

GILLENKIRCH

*We provide the highest quality equipment for the produce industry, giving our customers an excellent value in return for their investment.*

719.852.4092 • [pepperequipmentco.com](http://pepperequipmentco.com)  
0931 N. Hwy 285 • Monte Vista



**UPGRADE YOUR PIVOT TO FULL CONTROL**

### FIELDNET PIVOT CONTROL

By retrofitting an existing system with pivot control, you gain the advantages of FieldNET® by Lindsay's web and mobile capabilities, including real-time alerts.

- Full remote control of pivots, pumps and injectors, and monitoring sensors
- Compatible with almost any pivot
- GPS positioning for precision irrigation
- Basic variable rate irrigation (VRI) with up to 360 sectors [www.myfieldnet.com](http://www.myfieldnet.com)

Ask Your Local Dealer about Money-Saving Offers.

**WATERWORKS IRRIGATION**  
(719) 587-2000 Alamosa

**LINDSAY™ ZIMMATIC™ BY LINDSAY** **FIELDNET™ BY LINDSAY**

**Stop by our booth at the Ag Conference!**

# Wolves definitely living in Colorado

By TREY SPAULDING

**ROCKY MOUNTAINS** – On Nov. 3, 2020, Colorado voters will vote “yes” or “no” to the Colorado Gray Wolf Reintroduction Initiative as an initiated state statute. A “yes” vote supports requiring the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission to create a plan to reintroduce and manage gray wolves on designated lands west of the Continental Divide by the end of 2023. A “no” vote opposes creating a plan to reintroduce and manage gray wolves on designated lands west of the Continental Divide by the end of 2023.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) the range-wide gray wolf population stands at more than 6,000, exceeding the combined recovery goals for the Northern Rocky Mountains and Western Great Lakes populations.

The USFWS service states that the gray wolf joins the bald eagle, peregrine falcon, American alligator, brown pelican and 33 other species of animals and plants in U.S. states territories and waters that have been brought back from the brink with the help of the Endangered Species Act.

The gray wolf has been delisted from its endangered species status in the Northern Rocky Mountains states. The states of Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington have shown their ability to manage this delisted wolf population responsibly so that it remains healthy and sustainable. Wolves have begun to expand into northern California, Western Oregon, Washington and now Colorado. Wolf populations in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota are also strong and abundant.

Due to the vast numbers of wolves, the states of Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming allow the public to hunt wolves during the regular hunting seasons. The states of Oregon, Washington, Montana and Idaho allow the killing and trapping of wolves by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) officials for wolf livestock depredation.

When wolves kill domestic animals it is called depredation. In general, livestock-raisers are eligible for depredation compensation equaling fair market value per animal killed. The stipulations for receiving compensa-

tion vary by state, whether a rancher can prove depredation, if an animal is lost in a known wolf range, etc. However, ranchers are not compensated for the residual income loss of future lambs and calves that the depredated animal would have produced.

Wolf livestock depredation numbers are across the board depending on which organization is conducting the analysis. In Idaho for example, USFWS confirmed 109 killings of Idaho livestock by wolves between July 1, 2018, and Sept. 30, 2018. USFWS reported 87 different Idaho livestock producers in 15 counties had wolf depredation. The agency reported the investigations found wolves killed 29 cows, 48 calves, 89 sheep and three dogs. The USDA reported higher depredation numbers.

According to the National Park Service (NPS), Wolves consume a wide variety of large and small prey. Wolves efficiently hunt large prey such as elk. In Yellowstone, 90 percent of wolves winter prey consists of elk while 10–15 percent of their summer prey is deer. They also kill beavers and predators including mountain lions, bears, foxes, coyotes and other wolves in their territory. It is estimated that one wolf will kill and consume 18-23 elk per year. In Idaho there are currently approximately 540 to 810 wolves, which according to NPS reports, each consume 1.5 elk/deer each month. This means that wolves in Idaho kill an estimated 9,720 to 14,580 elk/deer annually.

On Jan. 19, 2020, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) wildlife officers investigated the discovery of an animal carcass surrounded by large wolf-like tracks in the northwest corner of Moffat County. While conducting their investigation in the field, wildlife officers were surprised when they heard distinct howls within the area. CPW officials confirmed they have additional evidence that a group of wolves is now residing in northwest Colorado. “Right after two CPW officers heard the howls from the wolves, they used binoculars to observe approximately six wolves about 2 miles from the location of the carcass,” said JT Romatzke, Northwest Region Manager for CPW.



Courtesy photo

CPW wildlife officers investigated the discovery of an animal carcass surrounded by large wolf-like tracks in the northwest corner of Moffat County.

“After watching them for about 20 minutes, the officers rode in to get a closer look. The wolves were gone but they found plenty of large tracks in the area.” According to the officers, the tracks measured approximately 4.5 to 5.5 inches and appear to have been made by at least six animals.

“This is a historic sighting. While lone wolves have visited our state periodically including last fall, this is very likely the first pack to call our state home since the 1930s. I am honored to welcome our canine friends back to Colorado after their long absence,” said Governor Jared Polis. “It’s important that Coloradans

understand that the gray wolf is under the protection of the Endangered Species Act in Colorado. While the animals have naturally migrated to our state and their presence draws public interest, it’s important that people give them space. Due to their Protected status, there are severe federal penalties for anyone that intentionally harms or kills wolves in Colorado.”

“As we have made clear, Colorado Parks and Wildlife will not take direct action in these cases,” said Dan Prenzl, Director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife. “We have the leading experts on wildlife management and species recovery working

for our agency, but while wolves remain federally protected, they are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We will continue to work with our federal partners and monitor the situation.” According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, killing a wolf in Colorado can result in federal charges, including a \$100,000 fine and a year in prison, per offense. The public is urged to contact CPW immediately and fill out a report if they see or hear wolves or find evidence of any wolf activity in Colorado. The Wolf Sighting Form is at <https://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/Wolf-Sighting-Form.aspx>

## PUBLIC AUCTION

We will hold our 30th Annual SLV Machinery & Equipment Consignment Sale at the Monte Vista Co-op

**Tuesday, March 17, 2020**  
**10:00 o'clock a.m.**

**Tractors**  
**Hay • Grain • Tillage • Potato Equipment**  
**Construction Equipment • Livestock Equipment**  
**Trucks • Trailers • Vehicles**

**Due to space limitation NO SMALL ITEMS**  
**No Hand Tools - No Scrap or Junk**

**Tuesday, February 18th Deadline**  
**to have items listed on Sale Bill.**

Art Goehl (719) 588-1812 **CALL** Jim Higel (719) 589-2116  
 Cole Larsen (719) 480-3414  
*All vehicles must have proof of title.*



**(719) 852-3921**  
**2701 E. Cty. Rd. 1 S.**  
**Monte Vista**  
**www.wilburellis.com**

WILBUR-ELLIS

## Products and services, tailored to your challenges and needs

Wilbur-Ellis Agribusiness Division is a leading provider of innovative solutions in plant protection chemistry, plant nutrition and seed technology. These solutions are complemented with the one-on-one relationship our skilled field specialists develop with every customer we serve.

Wilbur-Ellis serves small and large professionals alike. We deliver extensive experience in pest diagnosis, soil analysis, water management, nutrition, and regulatory and environmental issues. We provide the most advanced crop production technology available. We do it all with a singular goal of maximizing our customers' return on investment.

### We have all your crop chemical supplies!

- Fungicides
- Insecticides
- Herbicides
- Application and Fertilizer

# Saturated market leaves little room for growth in hemp

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

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

Strang has been growing hemp for CBD extraction for well over 10 years and his plans to continue have not altered much since the plant became federally legal in early 2019. "We really anticipated a drop in sales once the laws passed to make hemp federally legal to grow but, in all honesty, our online sales increased because people were no longer afraid to have it shipped to them. Most of the growers here in the Valley underestimated the market and grew too many plants. Now, they don't know what to do with their surplus product. You have to know these things before jumping in."

Strang and his wife Lisa grew about an acre and a half of hemp

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

Strang stated that new laws are coming into effect later this year requiring hemp growers to allow labs to come to their fields and have their plants tested. "I am really glad about the changes that are coming because as I have said before it will help weed out the harmful, fake plants and stop it from getting on the market. People are getting burnt out because they are using the wrong stuff and if anything will hurt our business it will be that."

On the other side of the Valley in Del Norte SLV Hemp is also starting

the year off with some struggles due to the over saturated market. According to owner Monte Robertson SLV Hemp will be starting from scratch this season and will aim their focus toward growing hemp for edibles and animal medicinal products. "It is where our heart lies. There is two parts to the hemp plant that are used for two purposes. The green leafy part is used to extract the CBDs and the seed can be used for grain or edible products. We plan to really push our animal product line and grow for grain," explained Robertson.

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

Robertson and others have watched the industry explode over the course of a year and seasoned farmers such as himself are disappointed with how things are starting off. "From what I have seen and heard, 60 to 70 percent of the product grown in

the San Louis Valley this last year is not going to the market. It is being disposed of as far as I know and when you over produce like that, market prices drop."

Robertson will have a booth at the coming Agricultural Conference in Monte Vista this spring and hopes to interest local ranchers in growing

hemp as a cleanser crop in rotational fields or to use for livestock grain. "What some people don't understand is that if you grow hemp in a field that has been contaminated by insects or pesticides, it will cleanse the soil so ranchers can continue their rotational planting. The plant also makes for great grain and feed for livestock animals."

- Farm/Ranch • Household
- Benefit/Fundraising
- Equipment Appraisals

**COMPUTERIZED SYSTEM  
INTERNET CAPABILITIES**



Owner/Auctioneer  
**Brady Stagner**  
719-588-2573



## Airgas

GASES, WELDING & SAFETY PRODUCTS  
**Airgas - USA, Inc.**  
6685 Hwy. 160 West • Alamosa  
fax (719) 589-3772  
Email: scott.clutts@airgas.com

**Scott Clutts,**  
Branch Manager

**719-589-5810**

We do eCommerce

**We Have  
Everything the  
Job Requires:**

**SAFETY**

Eye wear • Respirators  
First Aid Kits

**POWER TOOLS**

Welder Generators  
Hard Hats



195 N. Washington • P.O. Box 68  
Monte Vista • (719)852-3505

America's Alfalfa  
Pasture Grass Seed  
Turf Grass Seed

Legumes  
Pasture Mixes

*We understand CREP mixes and have seed in stock to make them*



*Combined  
for strength,  
committed to  
excellence.*

(719) 852-2600  
15 Washington, Suite 207  
Monte Vista  
Email: customerservice@ffdllc.net



**Beiriger & Sons  
Irrigation**

754-3555  
676 E. Hwy. 112  
P.O. Box 368  
Center

www.valleyirrigation.com

Now for a limited time, when you purchase a new center pivot, linear or corner machine, save on a new Valley, ICON10, ICON5, ICON1 or AutoPilot\* control panel. Select 1 of 2 valuable offers:

**\$2,500 CONTROL TECHNOLOGY REBATE**

— OR —

**\$2,000 INSTANT CASH REBATE**

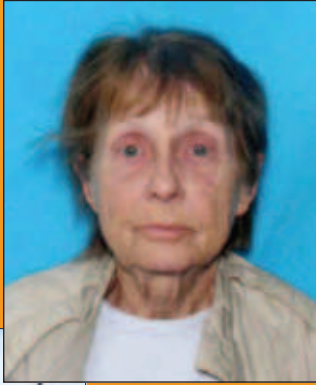
\*AutoPilot control panel specifically for linear machines

Don't delay - this offer ends  
**January 31, 2020**  
Contact your dealer today!



FREE  
Take One

# DECADE IN REVIEW 2010s



## January 29, 2020

Valley Publishing

719-852-3531 • 835 First Ave. • Monte Vista, Colo.

SAN LUIS VALLEY **REC**  
POWERING A VITAL VALLEY



1937



1981



2020

From 1937 to 2020... Decades of Powering a Vital Valley

# 2010



A nighttime fire at Lobato Trestle derailed the New Mexico end of the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad season.



Sgt. Faith Hinkley was brought home for burial after dying in combat near Baghdad, Iraq, on August 7. The large funeral took place in the high school gym and she was laid to rest at the Colorado State Veterans Cemetery, Homelake.



A giant "rubber ducky" advertised South Fork's duck race.



The new runway was opened at Del Norte's Astronaut Kent Rominger Airport



A good crowd attended the grand opening of the new Sargent High School, the first to be finished under Colorado's Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program.



Left: Instead of cutting a ribbon, Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter tied the ribbon together as he applauded the community's successfully working Main Street Initiative.

Providing our customers with the highest quality repairs and custom body work and a commitment to a cleaner environment for 18 years, with over 30 years of experience!

*From our family to yours, have a great new decade!*

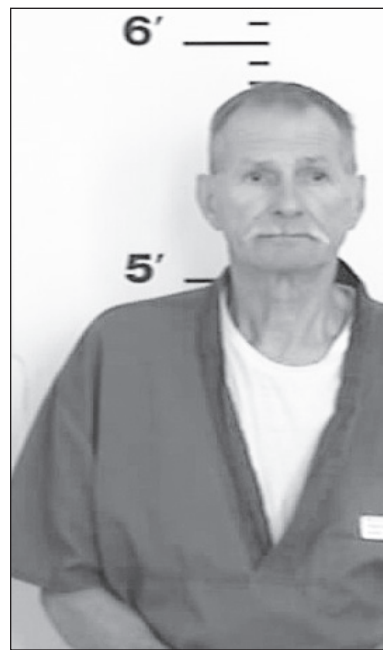


Free Estimates  
Glasurit Waterborne Paint...  
Environmentally Friendly  
859 Acequia • Monte Vista  
852-5700

# 2011



The grand opening of the Edward M. Kennedy Health Clinic, the result of a successful partnership between the City of Monte Vista and Valley-Wide Health Systems, was held Nov. 17.



The Danice Day story continued, with the filing of perjury charges against Vernon Braun, father of Danice's confessed killer, Victor Braun, who was her live-in boyfriend at the time of her death.



Mud volleyball was part of Del Norte's summer.



Heather Meyer of South Fork was named Mrs. Colorado and began working to eliminate domestic violence as part of her public service efforts.



The US Freestyle Ski Team made their way to Wolf Creek to use the abundant snow conditions for mogul training. Visiting skiers and snowboarders were able to observe training from the Treasure Chairlift from Nov. 14 to 19. Ski Team members also took part in a meet and greet on Nov. 19 to visit and sign autographs.



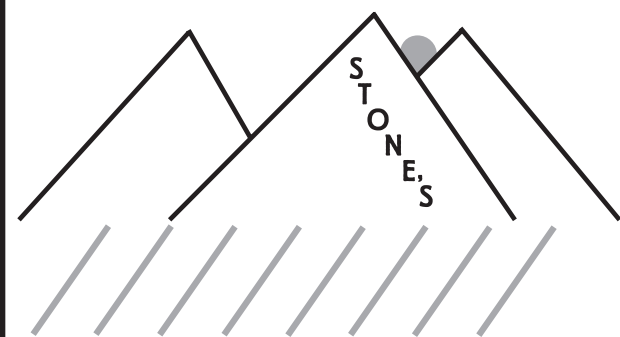
Creede Elks Lodge 506 members and Mayor Debby Roughton-Miles worked to get the Veteran's Memorial Park ready for planting. Annually the Elks spend more than \$1,000 to make a colorful park that elicits "wows" from all who see it. Pictured, left to right: Elks member Don Braley, Exalted Ruler Ray Dellenbaugh, Creede Mayor Debby Roughton-Miles and Elks member Charlie Brown.



John Caudle pled guilty in March to one count of murder in the second degree for the death of his stepfather, Tracy Aaron Rinebarger, 38, one count of reckless manslaughter for the death of his mother, Joanne Marlee Rinebarger, 34, and one count of crime of violence with a lethal weapon, a handgun, a sentence-enhancing charge.

# Family owned and operated Since 1954

## Proud to be serving the San Luis Valley Community!



# Stone's Farm Supply, Inc.

754-3453  
3<sup>rd</sup> & Torres  
Center

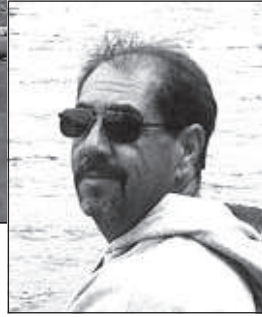
# 2012



Work continued on the recall of Saguache County Clerk Melinda Myers, inset, who was ousted on Jan. 24 and replaced with Carla Gomez.



On Feb. 13, Sarah Janay Beasley and John Salazar, insets, were shot to death in their home on Lyell St. in Monte Vista.



The Gene Autry Engine headed home to Antonito from Monte Vista, where it had been restored.



South Fork celebrated its 20th birthday with a gala town picnic and other entertainment.



A time capsule found in the Monte Vista High School gym was opened and its contents shared at an all-school assembly.



The Del Norte trail system was opened to include pergolas and kiosks with visitor information.



The ribbon was cut at the new Ruth Humphreys Brown Theatre in Creede.

## 3<sup>RD</sup> Generation Family Owned for over 40 years! *Serving the San Luis Valley!*



### Specializing in boiler heat systems, new construction and **Rinnai** heaters and water heaters!

# HUSMANN

*Plumbing*

**589-4125** • 18 Conejos Ave. • Alamosa  
husmannplumbing@hotmail.com

*Call us for all your plumbing needs!*



# 2013



Turning the first shovels full of soil on the new Colorado State Veterans Center cemetery expansion are, from left, Reggie Bicha, executive director of the Colorado Department of Human Services; former State Senator Lewis H. Entz; Jay Bobick, chairman of the Colorado Commission on State and Veterans Nursing Homes; Maryann Terry, Colorado Commission on State and Veterans Nursing Homes; Youlon Savage, chair of the Colorado Human Services Board; State Senator Larry Crowder; Robbie Robinson, chair of the Colorado Board of Veterans and Military Affairs; and Viki Manley, director of the Office of Long-term Care in the state Department of Human Services.



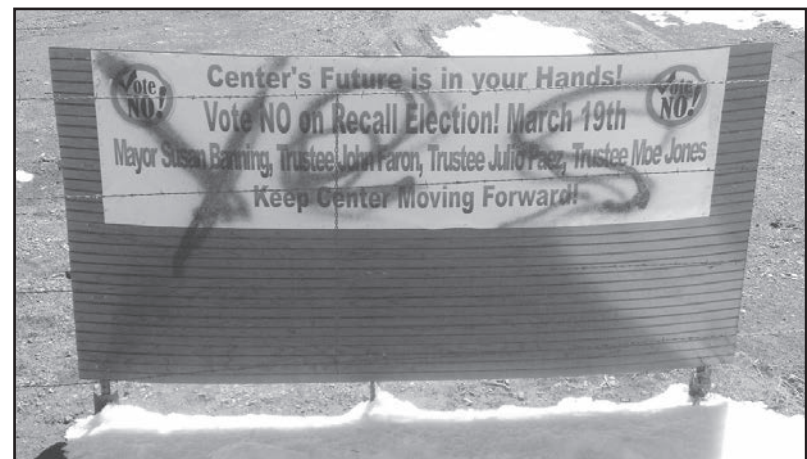
Ernesto (Chayo) Valdez visits his home after it burned to the ground in Antonito.



Ride the Rockies make their way through the San Luis Valley, riders are shown above taking a break in South Fork.



It was uncertain whether or not the balloons helped this young lady go faster, but she sure was colorful during the annual Creede Gravity Derby.



A sign placed at Jones Oil by Center trustees running for election against recall opponents was vandalized. Mayor Susan Banning and Trustees John Faron and Moe Jones were recalled and replaced by Mayor Herman Sisneros and Trustees Edward Garcia and Geraldine Martinez.



Workers disassemble piping used in the fracking process at the FLE drill site.



Fred Gingerich and son, Chester, drive their buggy from the feed load out to the feed store weigh station after loading two, 55 gallon barrels into their buggy in La Jara. The feet sticking out of the rear of the buggy belong to Mike Kester, owner of the feed store who was, "Just along for the ride."



**WE'VE BEEN MAKING MORTGAGES IN THE SAN LUIS VALLEY FOR 99 YEARS AND WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER DECADE!**



**DEL NORTE BANK**  
TRUE · LOCAL · BANK

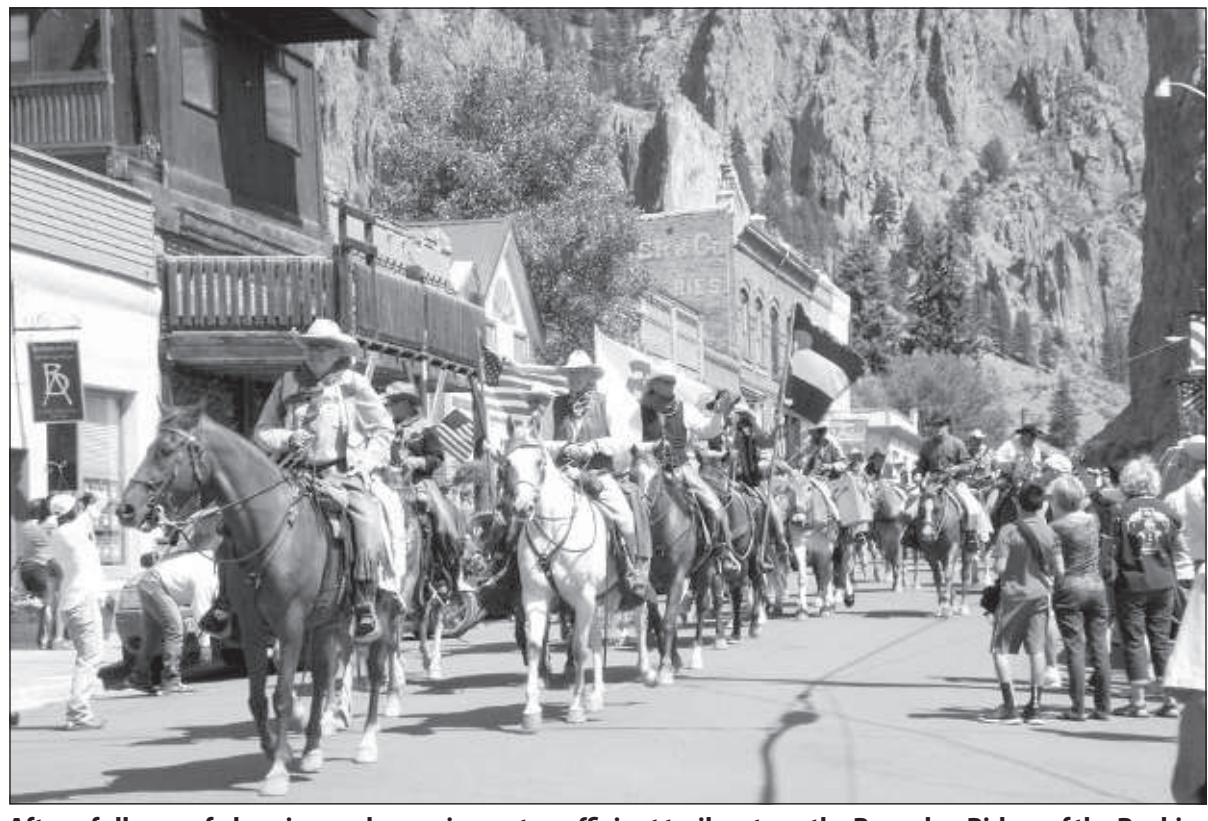
[www.truelocalbank.com](http://www.truelocalbank.com)

**Del Norte      Creede**  
**719-657-3376    719-658-0126**  
Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

# 2014



Sanford seniors Dalton Rodriguez left, and Calder Larsen flank manager Chris Petty, as they took a moment to pose with the 2A State Championship trophy won at Massari Arena in Pueblo.



After a full year of planning and mapping out a sufficient trail system, the Roundup Riders of the Rockies took their 67th adventure, this year over the La Garita Mountains. The riders wrapped up their journey in Creede after traveling Western style through 90 miles of trails.



Critical emergency care is now more readily accessible for western Valley residents with the new addition of a 24/7 emergency air ambulance transport service to Denver, based at the Kent Rominger Airport in Del Norte. The Eagle Air Med airplane can transport a patient to Denver in about 40 minutes.



A crowd comprised of mostly South Fork residents opposed to the creation of a new parks and recreation district filed into the courtroom for a hearing on the matter. The district would have benefited the High Valley Community Center, whose director, Adrienne Atencio, later decided to scale the proposed district back to primarily Del Norte. In the November 2014 election, the vote was split approving the establishment of the district but not its funding.

Right: Center students showed off signs made in support of Superintendent George Welsh; Welsh was asked to resign by board members Phillip Varoz and James Sanchez.



A hidden cash craze hit Monte Vista; clues were given via Facebook and Twitter to find cash within the community. Finders were asked to "pay it forward."



The Centauri Falcons dominated the Class 3A Region 4 regional tournament in February as they won their second straight regional title. They advanced 10 wrestlers to state.

Courtesy Photo

# 2015



"I never had a dull moment and only an occasional bad day" Charles Ernest "Ernie" Wilkinson. Wilkinson, whose life was certainly devoid of "dull moments," passed away on Tuesday, Aug. 11 at the age of 91. A Monte Vista author whose newspaper columns entertained and educated audiences for many years, Wilkinson had also written an autobiography, "Colorado Outdoor Living, Eighty-Plus Years," released when he was 84 years old.



South Conejos students prepared to cut the ribbon officially opening the new South Conejos PreK-12 school on Sept. 5. Board of Education members looked on as Treasurer Melton Ruybal held one end of the ribbon.



The fellowship between firefighters and law enforcement was evident at the memorial for Monte Vista Fire Chief Charles "Chuck" Archer. Law enforcement officers stood at attention and then saluted the passing cavalcade of fire department vehicles and their occupants as they passed through the blocked off intersection of Highway 285 and Highway 160 on Saturday afternoon, March 7. Assistant Fire Chief of the Monte Vista Fire Department Pat Sullivan was the master of ceremonies and his respect and love for Chuck was evident in his kind and respectful words about his dear friend.



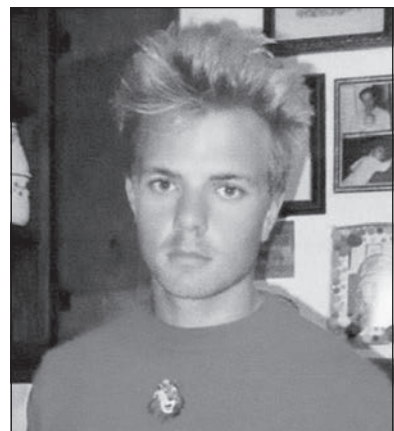
Noting that the fatal shooting occurred in front of the defendant's 2-year-old daughter, Chief District Judge Pattie Swift on June 24 sentenced Mark Gutierrez, 47, to 32 years in prison for the May 2014 death of Edward DuPont, 27 (pictured).



Departing superintendent George Welsh and Center School Board president Michael Lobato accepted Welsh's Friend of the Press award from Valley Publishing during Welsh's final school board meeting on June 30. Welsh received the first-time award for his transparency and for providing timely school news updates for publication.



Colorado Senator Larry Crowder presents John Howard with both the Colorado flag and American flag for the new school in Creede.



Friends and family offered a \$10,000 reward for the return of Joseph "Joe" Keller, 18, who went missing July 23 in the rugged San Luis Valley mountains in Conejos County above Horca. His body was found July 6, 2016 in the Conejos Canyon near where he was last seen; his death was believed to be the result a fall.

## Serving the San Luis Valley for over 30 years *Dedicated to Customer Service*

PC Compatible Computer Sales & Service - Security & Virus Protection  
Network & System Consulting & Installation - Internet Consulting  
A+ Certified - Network Plus Certified - Certified Community Banking Security Professional  
Computer Peripherals, Supplies & Parts - Office Supplies - Copy, Fax & Scan Services



### Southern Colorado Computer Services

157 Adams Street, Monte Vista, CO 81144  
(719) 852-3512 / www.sccsonline.com



#### Store Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm  
(Lunch: 12:50 pm to 2:10 pm)  
Saturday: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Other Hours Available by Appointment

*When the Chips are Down, Call the Professionals at SCCS*

# 2016



The first-ever music festival kicked off the last weekend in August in Creede showcasing local talent. The Headwaters Music Festival originated when local residents decided that the one thing Creede was missing was a music festival.



Rio Grande Hospital and Clinics celebrated the grand opening of its new Monte Vista clinic location on Feb. 20. A large group of patients, board members, construction crew members and community members gathered at the remodeled building to commemorate the new clinic.



Denver and Rio Grande Railroad Director Don Shank confirmed April 11 that he has placed the line up for sale. This was the first year since 1992 that the rail has been closed. The line was later taken over by Mineral County but has not operated as a tourist line.

Would-be shoppers found Carters Thriftway closed Sept. 4 with paper covering the store's windows. Some town residents speculated the store was forced to close after suffering extensive losses from theft. Tim Kaiser, Moe Jones and Cindy Jones purchased and reopened the store in October as K&J Thriftway.



Monte Vista native Dusty Claunch, 27, a Rio Grande County Sheriffs Deputy, was laid to rest in August following a service with processional from Ski Hi Park. Emergency personnel from throughout the Valley gathered to lead him to his final resting place. Claunch died in a crop dusting plane crash.



Smoke is shown coming from an area beside the altar in Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church at Conejos as a fire was battled in February. The fire was placed under control and later determined to be accidental.



High Valley Community Center continues to demonstrate that youth are the solution rather than the problem. In 2016 they expanded greatly moving into a prime location in town in a large brand new building at 595 Grand Avenue.



The human remains located in Saguache County in early January were officially identified as Michael Damian Rust. Rust was reported missing in Saguache County in 2009.



KSLV General Manager and pillar of the community Gerald Vigil, 57, of Monte Vista, died June 12 in a motorcycle crash west of Saguache.

# 2017



Multiple arrests were made in March involving the alleged sexual assault of an 8-year-old South Fork girl dating back to late 2015. Those arrested include: Mario Dominguez, 26, of Del Norte; Cristal Middleton, 21, of Alamosa; Victor White, 56, of Del Norte and Helen Price, 56 who was arrested in Moravia, Iowa.



A large rock about the size of a small compact car fell onto Highway 149 during the evening of July 15, blocking the road.



The body of James Sprouse, 77, was discovered in a freezer at the Romeo's Little Market building on April 19. He was killed in June 2016. His step-grandson, Michael John Robinson, was arrested in California in May of 2017 and was sentenced in 2019 to life in prison without parole.



Two men, Guadalupe Cervantes, 57 and Jose M. Archuleta, 54, died at the scene and Marissa Herrera, 30, later died at a Denver hospital and another man, Don L. Martinez, was injured following a shooting spree just after 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15 in Capulin. Suspect Santos Navares, pictured, was arrested and in 2017 was sentenced to life in prison without parole.



Two young children were left without their mother and a \$1,000 reward was offered for the man who left her to die following a Jan. 16 crash on U.S. 285 south of Alamosa. Following investigation, the Colorado State Patrol (CSP) named a suspect in the incident; Angel Nieto, 31, Alamosa, also known as Angel Martinez, was wanted in connection with the fatal hit and run crash that took the life of Marcie Quintana, 24. He was sentenced to 12 years in prison plus 90 days in jail for contempt of court in May of 2018.



Jason Ingalsbe was treated for a gunshot wound received during his arrest on Feb. 12. Two Saguache County Deputies were placed on leave and later cleared of any wrongdoing in March. Ingalsbe allegedly yelled at officers and was waving a gun when they responded to his home.



The Creede boy's basketball team posed with their plaque after winning a 63-47 game against Sierra Grande becoming Thunderbird Shootout Champions on Dec. 2.



A large crowd attended the June 24 open house for River Valley Inn. The 37,500-square foot facility was built almost entirely by local contractors which helped boost the economy in and around Del Norte exponentially. A band played while guests were taken on a tour of the new facility by members of the staff.



Sargent Schools celebrated their 100th anniversary as a school district by hosting a reunion celebration July 1 attended by alumni from many different eras and generations. Attendees lined up to make a 100 for a commemorative aerial drone photo.



The first-ever CHSSA sanctioned all girls state wrestling championship was held at Northglenn High School in February. Del Norte High School sophomore Natalie Benavides took second place in her 131-lb. weight class.

# Brown's

## SEPTIC SERVICE, INC.

*Experience Has No Substitute*

*Locally Owned & Family Operated*

**P.O. Box 220 • Del Norte**  
**(719)657-3022**  
**[browns.septic.info@gmail.com](mailto:browns.septic.info@gmail.com)**

**Septic Tank Pumping • Clogged or Frozen Sewer Lines**  
**Leach Field Rejuvenation • Portable Restrooms • Septic Inspections**

# 2018



Jesper Joergensen, a 52-year-old immigrant from Denmark is accused of starting the Spring Creek Fire, which ultimately became the third largest wildfire in Colorado history. The Spring Creek Fire burned 108,045 acres and destroyed over 200 structures in Costilla and Huerfano Counties including 141 structures in Costilla County, with numerous homes in the Forbes Park area destroyed. The fire started on June 27 and caused evacuations in both counties and came close to the town of La Veta. La Veta Pass was also closed for several days after the fire jumped the road. At its peak in early July, 1,800 firefighters fought the blaze. Joergensen faces 141 counts of first-degree arson and is also on an ICE hold, which will be addressed following trial proceedings and potential sentencing for arson take place.



Costilla County Sheriff Amos Medina was mourned by law enforcement across Colorado. He passed away Nov. 30 following 31 years in law enforcement, the last eight as sheriff.



In August Crestone resident David Freeman, 60, was extradited from Utah and booked into the Saguache County Jail. Freeman left the state with a 12-year-old male juvenile June 23, prompting an AMBER alert and nationwide search for the boy.



The G6 restaurant in Antonito was the scene of the fatal shooting of Byron "Bubba" Garcia-Duran, 26 on Sept. 1 by the business owner, Felix Gallegos. Following a CBI investigation, District Attorney Crista Newmyer-Olsen announced in November that Gallegos would not face charges.



Saguache business owner Steven Heimberg, 58, was arrested in the shooting death of Richard Wharton, 42, of Saguache, after Wharton was found dead atop one of the buildings in Heimberg's business complex. Heimberg alleged Wharton posed a threat to him and was standing on his roof and swinging a metal pipe at him. Heimberg was later found not guilty of second degree murder in 2019.



The Outdoor Depot in South Fork was the scene of a fire on Jan. 10. Owners Rob and Kari Navara thanked the community for their overwhelming support during their difficult time. The outer building was saved thanks to the efforts of local fire departments from South Fork and Del Norte.



The Creede Miners were crowned the 2018 1A District 6 champions.



A fundraiser for the Monte Vista Middle School baseball program, the Harlem Wizards descended upon Monte Vista in February. A young audience member (pictured) won a jersey and photo with the Harlem Wizards.



The new Eagle Shuttle Line bus opened its route to Center in June with a grand opening welcome from Center Mayor Herman Sisneros, Michael Briley of Saguache, Center Town Administrator Brian Lujan, Center Mayor Pro Tem Mary McClure and bus driver Tim Chittum.



Elite athletes from extreme motorsports company Octane Addictions performed a mixed bag of flips, jumps and other motorcycle tricks for the community at Ski Hi Complex during the annual potato festival.

This June marked the 100th anniversary of the Sargent Community Church north of Monte Vista. Art Jones talked about how his grandfather drove his prized Studebaker to Sunday service every morning. He drove that very same, spit-shined Studebaker to the anniversary celebration.



Talk About **LOCAL!**

**CENTER POST-DISPATCH**  
www.centerpostdispatch.com

The Del Norte Prospector  
www.delnorteprospector.com

Monte Vista **JOURNAL**  
www.montevistajournal.com

THE CONEJOS COUNTY **CITIZEN**  
www.conejoscountycitizen.com

The Mineral County **Miner**  
www.mineralcountyminer.com

**THE SOUTH FORK TINES**  
www.southforktines.com

Valley Publishing **719-852-3531**



# 2019



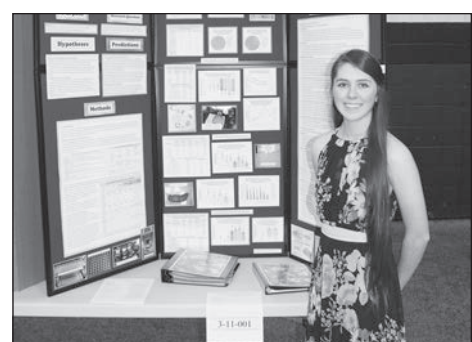
Monte Vista Pirates Marching Band won the 2019 1A State Championship.



An explosion and fire broke out just across the street from the Moffat fire station. Sheriff Warwick said witnesses speculated a propane tank near one of the destroyed structures may have exploded and ignited the conflagration that sent smoke soaring thousands of feet in the air. Located about a block east of Highway 17 and on the north end of Moffat, the fire quickly engulfed and destroyed a historic home on the Northwest end of the block, leaving nothing but two brick chimneys standing.



On Saturday, June 15 at 8:33 p.m., Mineral County Sheriff's Office received a report that a female from Colorado Springs was standing on a rock overlooking the river when she fell into the south fork of the Rio Grande on Wolf Creek Pass, near mm 175.5 on Highway 160. The body of Roberta Rodriguez, 38, of Colorado Springs, was recovered 100 yards from where she fell in on June 25.



Alyssa Rawinski's Science Fair Project "Mealworms...A Potential Solution to the Global Plastic Problem" has won both state and national acclaim. Rawinski was named as Regeneron Science Talent Search scholar, a prestigious honor that is bestowed on only 300 students from throughout the United States.



Larry Mitchell was honored with the "VFW Salute to Service Volunteer Award." Mitchell has been a member of VFW Post 8121 Del Norte/South Fork since 1990. He has served in many capacities over the years, including post commander, district commander, state commander, National Council of Administration member, National Youth Development Scholarship recognition committee member, national vice chairman of the Military Assistance committee, national vice chairman of the POW-MIA Committee and national chairman of the POW-MIA Committee. He's pictured with (left to right) Michael Stawn, post commander; Mitchell; Todd Davidson, post quartermaster and Joe Baca, post member.



Built in 1963, the Conejos County Hospital (CCH) has been the birthplace to many county residents and was showing its age when staff and administrators began working toward renovations. The grand re-opening was held Saturday, June 22, welcoming updates to its emergency area, along with many upgrades to the hospital. An ambulance sits outside the new emergency room entrance at San Luis Valley Health Conejos County Hospital.



Xcel employees responded to a natural gas outage Dec 14. There was an equipment failure in one of the regulators and one of the backup regulators in the town of Del Norte. An estimated 800 people were left without natural gas service. Service was reinstated 18 hours after the outage. There were 170 Xcel personnel who went door-to-door to relight pilot lights in businesses and homes.



The Flying W Ranch was under about eight inches of water while the Rio Grande ran at unprecedented rates. An aerial picture of the Flying W Ranch showed the extent of flooding.



Mineral County Search and Rescue (SAR) team members and other volunteers carry a pontoon boat across the Wason bridge over the Rio Grande on Thursday, June 27 as the search got underway for 33-year-old Creede resident Zack Jones whose raft turned over in high waters earlier that day. Jones was a popular Creede resident and was mourned and remembered by the community throughout the month of July. His body was found on July 27 in the Rio Grande north of Monte Vista.



This year, Center HS Knowledge Bowl beat Sargent by four points to qualify for the state competition at CSU, March 18-19. Qualifiers were Javier Leon-Villegas (sophomore), Hunter Paiz (senior), Kristine Hoffner (junior), Obed Perez (junior) and Isaiah Callum (junior). The team is under the leadership of tenth grade language arts teacher Hannah Hays.



## LA PUENTE

RAINBOW'S END OF MONTE VISTA  
154 ADAMS STREET · 852-3930  
KEEP GIVING! ALL PROFITS BENEFIT LOCAL CHARITIES!  
WWW.LAPUENTE.NET

# SERVING THE SAN LUIS VALLEY SINCE 1999

RAINBOW'S END IS A COMMUNITY THRIFT STORE PROVIDING EARNED INCOME TO LA PUENTE HOME, EMPLOYMENT TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES, AND OUTREACH ASSISTANCE TO HOUSEHOLDS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN CRISIS IN THE SAN LUIS VALLEY.



Heirs to the land grant for the 83,000-acre Cielo Vista Ranch had their land use rights reaffirmed by the Colorado Supreme Court in November 2018.



Mark and Colleen Desanto's home in Moonshine Acres just southwest of Creede caught fire around 3 p.m. Oct. 6, 2017. Witnesses on scene said a trash barrel may have caught a wood pile on fire which spread to the garage and home, burning it to the ground.



Former Saguache resident Daniel Bessey, 43, was found guilty as charged on all counts in Dec. of 2014 and could spend as much as 232 years behind bars. Bessey was accused of killing Sarah Janay Beasley, 29, and John Salazar, 54, in the early morning hours of Feb. 13, 2012, at the home they shared in Monte Vista.



Wolf Creek Mountain Folk offered wagon rides in place of a sleigh due to lack of snow at the first annual South Fork Winterfest held in December 2014.



Community members Ray and Colette Skeff, Monte Vista Mayor Debbie Garcia and Monte Vista Community Fund President Bob Bryning were instrumental in the successful reopening of the Vali Theatre. With their generosity and community pride, in addition to the help of many Monte Vista citizens, phase one of the Vali Theatre was completed in January 2015.



South Fork was chosen as a top Colorado adventure town in the "Elevation Outdoors" small-town category in 2015. The town was featured in an article in the November issue of the magazine.



A firefighter sprayed water on the Center Head Start building, keeping the fire from spreading to other businesses. Fire departments from across the valley came to aid the Center fire department on Nov. 7, 2015.



South Fork town officials continued negotiated with railcar owner Ed Ellis in 2016 to have the cars blocking the view of businesses along the Highway 160 corridor removed. The cars were moved in in late May and were removed by September in exchange for advertising and promotion for the San Luis and Rio Grande Railroad tourism train.