



Centuari hosts Alamosa for wrestling dual



Mitguards bring unique style to Del Norte.

San Luis Valley
Colorado Genuine
Today's Issue Sponsored By:

NINO'S
DEL SOL
¡Mas Delicioso!

Rio Grande
Motor Parts
FOREIGN DOMESTIC

VOLUME 94, NO. 7

Valley Courier

FRIDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS JANUARY 10, 2020 \$1

Imagine
Your Ad Here!

SLV Today
ASU will feature art

ALAMOSA — Cloyde Snook Gallery, Adams State University Art Department, 208 Edgemont Blvd., Alamosa, CO 81101. Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. La Sierra, Shelby Head, Jan. 13-Feb. 6. Opening reception, Friday, Jan. 17, 5-7 p.m. For more information, contact the ASU Art Department at lesliemacklin@adams.edu, or call 719-587-7823.

SDCSBOE will meet Jan. 14

SANGRE DE CRISTO — The Sangre de Cristo School Board of Education monthly meeting will be Jan. 14 in the school library at 8751 Lane 7 North, Mosca, with an executive session from 6 to 6:30 p.m. and an open session at 6:30 p.m. Copies of agendas are posted at school site, the Hooper and Mosca post offices, and the Mosca Pit Stop. Meetings are open to the public.

Seniors will host dance

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Senior Citizens will hold its New Year's dance from 1:30 p.m.-4 p.m. on Friday at 92 Colorado Ave. Bernal and Alex will provide the music and the cost is \$5 per person or \$3 if one brings a snack to share.

Follow us on Facebook - Alamosa Valley Courier
SLV WEATHER



Partly Cloudy
28/-13

Sat.: Mostly sunny 23/-8
Sun.: Partly Cloudy 25/-4

INSIDE

- Obituaries..... Page 2
- Valley News..... Pages 3
- Opinion..... Page 4
- Religion..... Page 5
- Sports..... Page 6
- Lifestyle..... Page 7, 8, 12
- Public Notices..... Page 9
- Classified..... Pages 10
- Comics..... Page 11

Much ado about support drone

Clarification of Multi-Mission Aircraft involved in joint operations

CENTENNIAL — The Colorado Department of Public Safety has received a high level of interest in and speculation about the participation of the state Multi-Mission Aircraft in a joint operation on Monday in relation to reports of suspicious drone activity in northeast Colorado.

CDPS has offered its expertise and resources to assist federal and local agencies as they investigate the reports of suspicious drone activity.

Three members of the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Colorado Information Analysis



Center attended a joint operation coordination meeting on Monday, and the CIAC has been actively monitoring information related to abnormal drone activity in Colorado.

In discussing additional ways CDPS could support our local and state partners, CDPS leaders decided to contribute one Multi-Mission Aircraft as a resource to coordinate the investigative ground resources involved in the

one-night joint operation. On Monday, the MMA flew for 4.8 hours in northeast Colorado, communicating with law enforcement vehicles on the ground. As calls came in reporting potential suspicious drone activity, the MMA was prepared to identify which ground resource was closest to the sighting in order to deploy that vehicle in search of more information. The aircraft typically flies 10,000 feet above ground level, well above drone operations. The MMA has the capability to detect heat signatures; it did not detect any suspicious heat

signatures or drones related to the drone reportings during its flight. During the flight of the MMA, every report of a suspicious drone was investigated and was resolved, and none was substantiated. The MMA was not diverted from any other operational needs in order to serve this mission.

Press release for report courtesy of Micki Trost, Strategic Communications Specialist, Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Contact information for Trost is 303-472-4087 by phone or micki.trost@state.co.us by email.

Putting on quite a production



Pinocchio (Owen Stults, who is pictured above,) sings a solo with the cast behind him, and the cast (pictured to the left) performs the opening number, *Once Upon a Time as the students of St. Peters Lutheran School performed "No Strings Attached," a musical adaptation of Pinocchio, by Carlo Collodi in Monte Vista on Thursday afternoon.*

Courier photos by Helen Smith



Snow raises avalanche concern

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**
Valley Publishing

WOLF CREEK — It has been almost two weeks since the last snowstorm moved over the San Juan Mountain Range and now the older snow has heightened avalanche danger from minimal to moderate. According to the Colorado Avalanche Information Center or CAIC the high country is heading into a period of unsettled weather beginning Thursday, Jan. 9.

In a post shared on Facebook the



Photo of a slab avalanche caused by a person snowshoeing at the top of the ridge. Courtesy Photo

■ See SNOW page 3

State, SLV put generosity on display

Colorado Gives Day raises over \$183,000 for San Luis Valley nonprofits

ALAMOSA — Colorado Gives Day, which was held Dec. 10, raised \$39.6 million statewide. In the San Luis Valley, over \$183,000 was raised for 26 nonprofit organizations that serve the residents of the San Luis Valley. Special incentive winners were

Habitat for Humanity and Valley Humane League. Business sponsors were the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad and SLV Brewing/The Roast. Presented by Community First Foundation and FirstBank, Colorado Gives Day is an annual statewide movement to celebrate and increase philanthropy through online giving. The event is powered by ColoradoGives.org, a year-round, online giving website. The Community Foundation of the San Luis Valley is the Regional Champion for Colorado

Gives Day in the San Luis Valley. Community First Foundation and FirstBank each contributed \$500,000 to create a \$1 Million Incentive Fund, one of the largest gives-day incentive funds in the

■ See GIVES page 3

ALAMOSA STATE BANK
A Real Community Bank®
Local Ownership. Local Commitment.

SERVING THE SLV FOR 112 YEARS!
589-2564 | www.alamosastatebank.com



Valley News

Vatican debates concerning pachamama rites won't fade

The scene during the Vatican's Christmas concert was simple and even child-like, as a young woman from Latin America instructed participants — including smiling cardinals — to fold their arms over their chests.

But this was a religious ritual, not a 1990s Macarena flashback.

You will feel a strong vibration," she said, according to translations of the online video. "That is the heart — your heart, but also the heart of Mother Earth. And on the other side, where you feel the silence, there is the spirit — the spirit that allows you to understand the message of the Mother.

"For us indigenous peoples ... Mother Earth, Hitchauaya, is everything. It is that Mother who provides food. She is the one who gives us the sacred water. She is the one who gives us medicinal plants and power and reminds us of our origin, the origin of our creation."

On Religion



Terry Mattingly

The name "Hitchauaya" was new, but battles over "Pachamama" rites had already emerged as one of the strangest Vatican news stories of late 2019. For weeks, progressives and conservatives argued about the relevancy of the first of the Ten Commandments: "You shall have no other gods before me."

Three events in Rome fueled the Earth Mother wars. For some Catholics, they became linked, theologically, to an early 2019 meeting in Abu Dhabi when Pope Francis signed an interfaith document that included this: "The pluralism and the diversity of religions, color, sex, race and language are willed by God in His wisdom."

First, early in the fall's Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazon region, there were rites that included wooden statues of a pregnant Amazonian woman. Some journalists reported that they represented "Our Lady of the Amazon" or were symbols of new life. Outraged Catholics then stole the statues and tossed them in the Tiber River.

Speaking as "bishop of this diocese," Pope Francis apologized and sought "forgiveness from those who have been offended by this gesture." He said the

■ See IDOLS page 5

Conejos Gift of Giving grateful to those who made Christmas better

CONEJOS—The sixth annual Conejos County Gift of Giving Committee would like to thank all those who helped make this year a success for the children of Conejos County.

The committee, which served 750 children in Conejos County, works with the schools, churches and other services to help give the children a Merry Christmas.

Again, the committee wants to thank all who helped in any way to make this a memorable Christmas for the children of Conejos County.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

Town & Country Auto Mall
Dr. Vaughn D. Jackson
Ed Sowards & Family, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Sowards
Mr. and Mrs. Jerome G. Anderson
Marine Toys For Tots
Bonds Manassa Market, INC
Mr. & Mrs. Guy Mortensen
Mr. & Mrs. J. Steven McCarroll
Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Peterson
Mark L. Jackson, CHTD
SLV Builders, INC
Standard Service, LLC
Mr. & Mrs. Carlos Garcia
Centauri Skills Club
Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Prieto
Elk Creek Veterinary Clinic
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Holman
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Peterson
Mr. Mark Bechaver, Federal Savings Loan
Mr. & Mrs. Mack Crowther
Mr. & Mrs. Melissa Faucette
Sanford School Jingle Jar
Outdoor Sports
Robins Construction
Lisha Rogers, LLC
Mr. Paul Perea
Espinoza properties, LLC, Romeo Liquors
Tims Transmission & Auto Repair
Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Cary

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Reynolds
Town of La Jara
Canty Electric, LLC
Edgar Enterprise, INC, Subway
Mr. & Mrs. David Faucette
Triple C Farms
PEF, INC
Macks' Machine & Repair Co.
Timberline Cattle, INC
Mr. & Mrs. Durward Rutland
Mr. & Mrs. Derek Van Berkum
Buhr Trucking Co.
Mr. & Mrs. Reed Leech
Veronica Atenico Agency
Mrs. Kathleen Chavez
Rogers Family Mortuary, INC.
Colorado Realty, Land Co,
Water Works Irrigation
Vance & Larson
Accent on Flowers
Valley Meats and Food LLC
Baroz Auto Service Paint and Body Inc.
Louis' Auto Sales and Paint and Body Shop
Allpine Lumber Co.
Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish
Frontier Bank
Guadalupe Parish Credit Union
Town of Sanford
Conejos County Dept. Of Social Services
Dutch Mill Restaurant
Alamosa State Bank
La Jara Pharmaceutical Center, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Marty Peterson
Sanford Country Store
Town of Antonito
Conejos County—La Jara Rotary Club
Conejos Community Church
La Jara Trading Post
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Quinlan
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Parrish
Dr. and Mrs. Ted Morrison
Gift of Giving Committee
Others who donated anonymously
Kelanee Crowther
Marjorie Ree

Report courtesy of the Conejos County Gift of Giving Committee.

Snow

■ Continued from Page 1

CAIC stated, "We are heading into a period of unsettled weather beginning Thursday. Before an incoming storm, forecasters pay close attention to the old snow surface. We ask ourselves what the new storm snow will be falling on.

"Will the new snow bond well to this surface? Or is it falling on a crust or surface facets that could be our next weak layer? As you move around your favorite back-country locale, be a forecaster; take a mental picture (or an actual picture), where are the wind slabs we have been avoiding the last week?"

"How is the current snow surface going to interact

with this week's new snow? You'll be prepared to make decisions as conditions change. This photo was taken yesterday by our Highway 550 forecasters looking at surface conditions in highway paths ahead of the next storm."

As of Dec. 30, Wolf Creek Ski Resort reported 193 inches of snow for the season.

A hardened 1- to 2-inch layer is now on top of powder snow.

This hardened surface can cause any new snow to slide especially around windrow piles and drifts or overhanging ridge lines.

Outdoor enthusiasts are urged to use caution while in the back country and to be aware of the surroundings before heading out to enjoy the snow.

He added: "Look for

signs of recent drifting to spot the danger. Avoid steep slopes with smooth pillows of stiff dense wind-deposited snow. Seek out safer (and softer) conditions in lower angled, more wind-sheltered terrain. A triggered wind slab can step into older snow layers and become a dangerous persistent slab avalanche. We haven't seen a lot of that, but the possibility should not be overlooked."

For more information or to check current weather conditions in the Colorado high country, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/coavalancheinfo> or to report additional information on snow conditions, interested parties can visit <https://avalanche.state.co.us/observations/submit-a-report/>

residents of the San Luis Valley," says Mike Roque, Executive Director of the Community Foundation of the San Luis Valley, the Regional Champion of Colorado Gives Day for the San Luis Valley.

ABOUT SAN LUIS VALLEY GIVES
San Luis Valley Gives is an effort by the Com-

munity Foundation of the San Luis Valley to inspire philanthropy in our six-county community and increase online giving for local participating nonprofits.

ABOUT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SLV
The Community Foun-



Valley Publishing photo by Trey Spaulding

Now, as of Jan. 1, a Colorado resident can have their firearms temporarily confiscated if evidence that a person poses a significant risk to self or others by having a firearm in his or her custody or control or by possessing, purchasing or receiving a firearm.

Local sheriffs respond to Red Flag law enforcement

By LYNDIE FERRELL

VALLEY PUBLISHING
SAN LUIS VALLEY—

In light of the new year many new laws have come into effect as of Jan. 1, including the controversial Red Flag Gun Law.

The sheriffs in the western end of the Valley have gone on record about enforcement of the law.

The Red Flag law creates the ability for a family or household member or a law enforcement officer to petition the court for a temporary extreme risk protection order (ERPO).

The petitioner for an ERPO must establish by a preponderance of the evidence that a person poses a significant risk to self or others by having a firearm in his or her custody or control; or by possessing, purchasing or receiving a firearm.

The petitioner must submit an affidavit signed under oath and penalty of perjury that sets forth facts to support the issuance of a temporary ERPO and a reasonable basis for believing they exist.

The court must hold a temporary ERPO hearing in person or by telephone on the day the petition is filed or on the court day immediately following the day the petition is filed. Many Colorado residents believe the new law infringes on their constitutional rights.

In a brief interview with Rio Grande County Sheriff Don McDonald, the sheriff stated in reference to the new law that he and his crew will uphold the constitution and will handle each case on a case by case basis. "We already have restraining orders and other laws that prohibit people that may be mentally unstable to be in possession of firearms. Those laws have worked for countless years and with this new law, I sincerely feel we have awoken a sleeping giant. There is no way that this law will do anyone any good."

McDonald and Rio Grande County Commissioners have passed a resolution classifying Rio Grande County as a "sanctuary" county.

The resolution states, "Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Rio Grande County, Colorado, pursuant to Colorado Statute is vested with the authority of administering the affairs of Rio Grande County, Colorado, and Whereas the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution, adopted in 1791 as part of the Bill of

Rights, protects the inalienable and individual right of the people to keep and bear arms."

The resolution declaring Rio Grande County as a "sanctuary" county was recorded by Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorder on March 21, 2019, and will be used as a means to uphold the Second and Fourth Amendments set forth by the Constitution and Bill of Rights and will be unenforced by Rio Grande County Sheriff in light of the new law.

"We took our oaths of office on the Constitution and that is what we will uphold," stated McDonald.

Sheriff Fred Hosselkus in Mineral County took a similar stance on the topic but also stated that he will do as ordered by the courts. "We are a sanctuary county and will uphold the constitution, but we will do as ordered by a court of law if an order comes through to confiscate weapons. I trust the court system and will abide by those orders. Everything will be handled on a case-by-case basis and we will leave it up to the courts to decide whether or not we will confiscate weapons based on a complaint. We have a due process and an investigation will be performed before any action is taken."

In Saguache County, Saguache County Sheriff Dan Warwick says he cannot in good conscience enforce the passed red flag bill for Colorado. "I don't agree with it by any means," Warwick commented. "The law is poorly written and it violates constitutional rights."

Accused individuals should be issued a summons to appear in court for a hearing regarding having their guns removed, but as the law now stands, the accusations can be made against them and they have no right to be advised of the hearing or plead their case.

"This is no different than being charged with any other crime," Warwick pointed out. "You get your day in court. They can say it's a law, but that doesn't mean we have to enforce it. "Who's to say what is more important — what takes precedence — to violate someone's constitutional rights or to obey the 'law?'"

The new law will face many legal challenges, he added, and until it is actually declared constitutional, which could take a U.S. Supreme Court determination, "I can't enforce the law

if there is a constitutional question."

Warwick went on to explain that mental health providers should be the ones reporting potentially dangerous individuals to law enforcement or the courts because they have the expertise to determine when a true danger exists and when it does not. Privacy and legal issues, however, prevent them from providing this information, and these are the issues that should have been addressed, he said.

The legislature should have explored how to empower mental health to better make these determinations, Warwick observed, so they could distinguish who should temporarily have their firearms removed and returned within a short period of time and who should not possess firearms at all. Mental health providers would then be able to work in concert with the courts to provide such information on which a judge could base a decision. Better supervision and training of mental health personnel would also be in order to assure proper treatment and evaluation of those referred by the courts.

Colorado is the 15th state to pass a red flag law and pro-gun activists across the state have filed a lawsuit hoping to have the new law overturned in coming months.

The law has caused an upheaval of controversy ever since it was proposed by Governor Jared Polis last summer.

SKI-HI 6 SHOWTIMES

719-589-4471

Fri. 5:40, 8:20

LIKE A BOSS

The world of beauty is about to get ugly R

Fri. 5:30, 8:20

UNDERWATER

Below the ocean surface something has awakened PG-13

Fri. 5:20, 8:10

JUMANJI

Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart PG-13

Fri. 4:45, 8:00

STAR WARS

Every generation has a legend PG-13

Fri. 5:35, 8:10

THE GRUDGE

It will never let you go R

Fri. 5:20, 8:10

BOMBHELL

Charlize Theron, Nicole Kidman R



A&M WINDOWS & DOORS, L.L.C.

We manufacture windows right here in the Valley. Any size you need.

Doors • Screens • Storm Doors
Insulated Glass Units
(719) 589-9952

Opinion

God bless America ...

HOLLYWOOD — God Bless America, and how's everybody?

Graceland in Memphis had a vigil Wednesday to mark the 85th anniversary of the birth of Elvis Presley. When he died, pathologists found in his blood large amounts of Dilaudid, Percodan, Demerol and codeine and Quaalude.

Elvis may be the only man in history who descended to Heaven.

President Trump announced that tensions with Iran have eased Wednesday after Iran fired off wild missile shots missing U.S. personnel.

There won't be a war. The president's good news was quickly contested by his two leading Democrat critics, Damned if He Does and Damned if He Doesn't.

Nancy Pelosi griped Tuesday that Trump didn't brief Congress before the U.S. attack on Iran's terrorist general. He'd just learned a new trick. Trump was going to send his attack plans over to Pelosi but he decided to hold them up until Congress lets him know how they're going to handle them.

Nancy Pelosi reportedly declined a phone call from Mike Pence intended to give her a security update on Iran on Tuesday as she was busy at a D.C. restaurant party.

No hard feelings. Trump just offered to keep Nancy Pelosi in the loop on the Iran situation by inviting her to follow him on Twitter.

Iran launched 15 missiles on Tuesday intended to go in the general direction of a U.S. Army base in Western Iraq, 11 of which missed and four of which are unaccounted for.

However, one Ukrainian airliner is down. It's an awful thing for the Iranians to celebrate but I guess it's something.

President Trump said Iran has stood over after their futile missile response to his drone strike on Iran's terrorist general.

He gave up a lot to take him out. With an \$80-million bounty on Trump's head, imagine how awful his hair is going to look now that he's cutting it himself.

Joe Biden pitching for eco-votes called for a ban on plastic bags Wednesday. They're serious about that out here. Last year, California released thousands of prisoners convicted of selling drugs unless they sold the drugs in plastic baggies, and then more prison time was added to their sentences.

Harvey Weinstein's trial for rape and sexual assault got underway in Manhattan on Tuesday with jury selection.

He forgot where he was. Halfway through the proceedings, the judge threatened to throw Weinstein in jail for whipping it out in the courtroom, only this time it was just his cell phone.

President Trump's campaign just bought a 60-second Super Bowl ad this week in response to Mike Bloomberg purchasing a one-minute Super Bowl ad.

It's unprecedented. In the past the Super Bowl has always banned issue ads, unless the issue is whether or not cleavage sells Budweiser.

The Daily Mail said Queen Elizabeth will be handing over more royal duties to Prince Charles this year.

It's reported she drinks four cocktails a day plus a glass of champagne every night just before going to bed — that's right a glass of champagne at bedtime. Who does she think she is, herself?

The L.A. Times ripped Ricky Gervais's Golden Globes hosting for ripping Hollywood hypocrisy Sunday. He's a liberal, but a free-speech advocate who refuses to live with political correctness.

Now is as good a time as any to say I am inexpressibly saddened by Ricky Gervais's suicide next week.

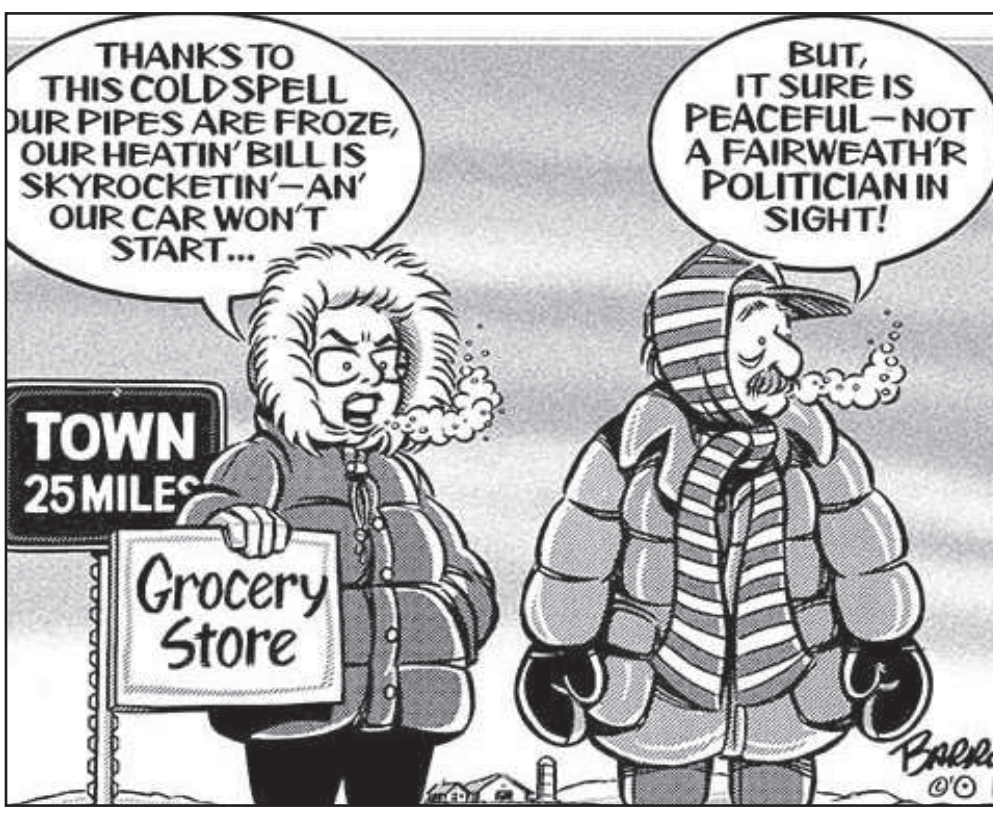
Retired General Jack Keane assured Fox News viewers during the missile attack Tuesday that Iran was staging a face-saving attack that would intentionally hit nothing, allowing Trump to avoid war and declare victory the next day.

It played out just that way. The way Fox News cleverly uses beautiful blonde anchors to lure Trump into watching tutorials could win them the Nobel Peace Prize.

Argus Hamilton is the host comedian at The Comedy Store in Hollywood and entertains groups and organizations around the country. E-mail him at Argus@ArgusHamilton.com.



Argus Hamilton



To submit news, email: news@alamosanews.com
To submit sports, email: sjiron@alamosanews.com

Letters policy

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

Behind Bolton's decision

By **BYRON YORK**
Column

Former national security adviser John Bolton shook up the Trump impeachment standoff recently with his announcement that, if subpoenaed, he is "prepared to testify" before a Senate trial.

It's still not clear, of course, when or even if a trial might occur, since House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is withholding the articles of impeachment. But if there is a trial, and if the Senate subpoenas Bolton, he won't fight it.

Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer has demanded the trial include witnesses. Schumer specifically wants the Senate to hear testimony from Bolton, current White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, and two other White House officials, Robert Blair and Michael Duffey.

To testify or not to testify? The potential witnesses have a lot of thinking to do. Their situation is unprecedented. There is no guidebook to tell them what to do. So here are some of the factors that Bolton, Mulvaney and other possible witnesses have to weigh:

HOUSE VS. SENATE

Neither Bolton nor Mulvaney testified before the House impeachment inquiry. Bolton did not receive a subpoena. Mulvaney defied one, at the direction of the White House.

Bolton's former deputy, Charles Kupperman, was subpoenaed and asked a court to decide whether he would be required to testify. At that point, House Democrats abruptly withdrew the subpoena. Pelosi, impeachment leader Rep. Adam Schiff, and others claimed that a court fight would take too long, given the urgency that Trump be removed from office as soon as possible. So they dropped the issue.

A judge later declared the matter moot.

Now, the questions surrounding potential testimony remain unanswered. If there was a problem requiring judicial resolution in the House, wouldn't there also be a problem when the Senate seeks

testimony?

The answer is yes, but possibly in different ways. First, it seems extremely unlikely that a court would rule that the president's aides have a blanket immunity that would prevent them from even appearing before the Senate. But at the same time it seems likely that some, or perhaps all, of the conversations between Bolton and the president, or Mulvaney and the president, would be covered by executive privilege.

It is not clear whether the White House will assert the privilege. But there seems little doubt that the White House, should it seek to bar the president's closest advisers from answering at least some questions, would have some legal options to pursue. It's not clear that they would be winning options, but they could involve some fighting in court as the Senate trial gets underway.

THE ROBERTS FACTOR

House and Senate impeachment proceedings are entirely different from each other, and one of the biggest differences is the presence in the Senate trial of a representative of the judicial branch of government, in the person of the chief justice of the Supreme Court. The Constitution says the chief justice will "preside" over the Senate trial. On the other hand, the Constitution gives the Senate the "sole power" to try the impeachment. So it is highly unlikely that Chief Justice John Roberts will take charge of the Trump impeachment trial. Of the Bill Clinton trial in 1999, then-Chief Justice William Rehnquist wrote, "I did nothing in particular, and I did it very well." Roberts probably won't do much more.

But he will be there, even if he is just a rubber stamp — in other words, he will give the imprimatur of the judicial branch to the Senate's actions. So, say the Senate, with the chief justice presiding, voted to issue a subpoena to Bolton, or Mulvaney or anyone else. And say the recipient of the subpoena challenged it in court. How exactly would that work? Federal judges are not in the business

of overruling the chief justice of the Supreme Court. If an impeachment dispute ends up in court, Roberts' role could make the decisions of lower court judges — in other words, the entire federal judiciary — awkward at best.

SHOW UP, YES; ANSWER QUESTIONS, NO

Finally, even if Bolton or Mulvaney or others were subpoenaed, and even if they challenged the subpoena in court, and even if they lost, there is a difference between showing up to testify and actually answering questions. There is no doubt that both men, and perhaps others, could honor a subpoena, appear and then decline to answer a number of questions on the basis of executive privilege.

If executive privilege covers anything, it is a president's deliberations with his chief of staff and his national security adviser on the issue of foreign policy. The privilege is the president's, not Bolton's or Mulvaney's or anyone else's. Bolton's brief statement said that he is "prepared to testify," but it did not get into details of whether he would answer all questions or whether he would follow White House directions, if there were any, or what else he might or might not do.

That will be critical if Bolton, Mulvaney or other witnesses appear before the Senate. Each will be allowed to have a lawyer present, and it seems likely that White House lawyers will be present, too. Those lawyers could raise privilege issues repeatedly, depending on what is asked. Testimony that is billed as dramatic, and even explosive, might be somewhat less exciting in reality.

Bolton's statement is an important development. But there is a lot more to the question of how testimony would work in a Senate impeachment trial. It might not even happen — at least four Republican senators would have to join minority Democrats' call for witnesses. And even if it does, it could quickly turn into a very complicated affair.

York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.

Paine's 'Common Sense' published 243 years ago

Today is the 10th day of 2020 and the 21st day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1776, Thomas Paine published his pro-independence pamphlet "Common Sense," which quickly sold some 100,000 copies.

In 1863, the London Underground subway began operations.

In 1901, the Spindletop oil field was discovered in Beaumont, Texas, leading to the Texas Oil Boom.

In 2003, North Korea withdrew from the multi-nation treaty barring it from developing a nuclear weapons program.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Ray Bolger (1904-1987), actor/dancer; Paul Henreid (1908-1992), actor; Stephen E. Ambrose (1936-2002), author/historian; Sal Mineo (1939-1976), actor; Jim Croce (1943-1973), singer-songwriter; Rod Stewart (1945-), singer-songwriter; George Foreman (1949-), boxer; Roy Blunt (1950-), U.S. senator; Pat Benatar (1953-), singer-songwriter; Jemaine Clement

(1974-), actor/comedian.

TODAY'S FACT: The 29 oil refineries located in the state of Texas can process more than 5.7 million barrels of crude oil per day, accounting for more than a quarter of the total U.S. refining capacity.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1982, Dwight Clark caught a Joe Montana pass for a touchdown with 51 seconds left on the clock, securing a 28-27 San Francisco 49ers victory over the Dallas Cowboys in the NFC championship game.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "At the core, the American citizen soldiers knew the difference between right and wrong, and they didn't want to live in a world in which wrong prevailed. So they fought, and won, and we all of us, living and yet to be born, must be forever profoundly grateful." — Stephen E. Ambrose, "Citizen Soldiers"

TODAY'S NUMBER: 9.2 million — estimated population of London, England, in 2019.

Keith R Cerny Publisher

Daniel McKillop Managing Editor

Valley Courier
(ISSN 1047-1170)

The Valley Courier and Conejos County Courier are published daily, Tuesday through Saturday by Alamosa Newspapers, Inc. 2205 State Ave., Alamosa, Colo. 81101. Periodicals Postage is paid at Alamosa, Colo., Monte Vista, Colo., La Jara, Colo., and Fort Garland, Colo. Phone: (719) 589-2553. FAX: (719) 589-6573. News Media Corp. Web Site: <http://www.newsincorporation.com>. Postmaster send change of address to P.O. Box 1099.

Stephen Jiron	Sports Editor/Asst. Editor	Lany Sveum	Production Manager
Helen Smith	Staff Writer	Vernon Trujillo	Production/Press Foreman
Debbie Sowards	Advertising Manager	Ryker Alonzo	Editorial Assistant
Morgan Neely	Sales Associate	Richard R. Quintana	Mailroom Supervisor
Shasta Quintana	Circulation		

Your FIRST Source for Local News

Write them

GOVERNOR

Governor Jared Polis (D), State Capitol Building Room 136, 200 East Colfax, Denver CO 80203; (303) 866-2471; Fax: (303) 866-2003.

STATE HOUSE

Donald Valdez (D), Colorado State Representative, District 62, 200 E Colfax, Room 307, Denver, CO 80203; phone: 303-866-2916; email: Donald.valdez.house@state.co.us

STATE SENATE

Larry Crowder (R), Colorado State Senator, District 35, 200 E Colfax, Denver, CO 80203; phone: 303-866-4875 capitol, 719-850-2459 cell; email: larry.crowder.senate@state.co.us

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Scott Tipton (R) Regional Office — 719-587-5105; 719-587-5137 (fax); Washington, DC — 326 Cannon HOB, Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4761; 202-226-9669 (fax); <http://tipton.house.gov>

U.S. SENATE

Michael Bennet (D) SLV Regional Office, 609 Main Street, Suite 110, Alamosa 81101; Phone: 587-0096; Fax: 587-0098; Washington office — 458 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; DC Phone: 202-224-5852; bennet.senate.gov

Cory Gardner (R), Regional Office, 503 N Main Street, Ste, 426, Pueblo, 719-543-1324, fax: 202-228-7174; Washington office: 354 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; 202-224-5941

Religion

Church Calendar

Biblical salvation is a 'know-so' salvation

By PASTOR JEFFREY C. DAY Guest column

Today we live in a hustle and bustle world where everybody seems to be going over a hundred miles per hour each and every day.

Stress levels have never been so high as people try to react to the demands that life and the workforce requires of us daily.

Most people have long ago stopped going to church. Many don't take time to think about God, about their own mortality or where they will spend their eternity.

The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 4:3-4, "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

In case you didn't know, the god of this world is Satan, not God. Satan currently rules in this world and that is why Jesus said in the Lord's prayer, "Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven". The implication is that God's will is not currently being done on earth, yet He gets blamed for many injustices that He had nothing to do with. It was the god of this world that created the injustices.

The god of this world has blinded the

eyes of people because the stakes for him are very high. The god of this world wants you to be too busy to stop and consider spiritual things.

He gives you headaches, deadlines, computers, video games, television sets, radios, anything that will keep you occupied so you don't consider the spirit world or your own standing with the God of the Universe.

Now, I'm not saying that those things, in and of themselves, are evil, but they pull us away from hearing the true God ...the Lord Jesus Christ.

He, Jesus, never intended our lives to be that way. In fact, He proves this when He said in Matthew 11:28, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Jesus did everything for you so that salvation can be easy for you. A great preacher once said, "Salvation is free, but it ain't cheap."

Salvation came at a cost, which the Lord Jesus Christ paid for in whole on the cross of Calvary. He wants to deliver you from your stressors and give you peace in your heart. Your circumstance most likely will not change, but you'll have the peace that comes from nothing other than the Lord Jesus Christ, and what's most amazing, is the salvation He offers is a "Know-so" salvation. You

don't have to sit around guessing about whether you are saved or not. You can know for sure that you are saved and that you are going to heaven.

If you look in your Bible to 1 John 5:13, it says, "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God."

Many people have given up on church and say things like, "I don't go to church because it's all a bunch of hypocrites." It's true that churches have hypocrites, but most have room for one more, come on out.

You see, we all are hypocrites to one degree or another. It's not our "goodness" or "good acts" that distinguishes us as true Christians.

The book of Titus 3:5 states, "Not by

works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;" You see, you cannot be "good enough" to earn your way to heaven. You are saved by the grace of God and it has nothing to do with the works you do.

Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

If you have given up on church, I invite you to come and join us for service. I can take just a few minutes and show you right out of the Bible how you can know that you are going to heaven. You see, it is a "know-so" salvation.

Pastor Day is from Alamosa's own Bible Believer's Community Church.

Idols

Continued from Page 3

Images were displayed "without idolatrous intentions." A Vatican transcript indicated that Francis referred to the statues as "Pachamama," a traditional name for an Andean fertility goddess, or "Mother Earth."

Father Dwight Longenecker, a popular American commentator, outlined the ensuing confusion on Twitter: "It wasn't Pachamama but the pope said it was but he didn't really and it wasn't idolatry because they don't think she's god but she's a goddess sort of and they weren't bowing down to her but just a little maybe but it wasn't to her they were bowing down but to fertility and ..."

Rome buzzed with speculation that the Pachamama statues would reappear, in some way, during synod events. They didn't, but that wasn't the end of the story.

During the final synod Mass, a representative of the indigenous peoples of

Brazil carried a black bowl — containing green plants, with red flowers — in the offertory procession. She presented this offering to Pope Francis, an act featured on page 1 of the Spanish edition of the Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano. The pope gave the bowl to the master of ceremonies, who placed it on the altar near the candles. Videos showed that it remained there for the rest of the Mass, including the consecration prayers.

What was this offering? Conservatives circulated descriptions of traditional Pachamama rites, noting online guides to the use of pots containing plants, dirt, some kind of food and something red, a color frequently associated with Pachamama.

Conservative journalist Robert Moynihan wrote to the Vatican inquiring about the contents of the bowl and received a statement that there would be "no particular information about the plant. ... We only know that it was planted at the

beginning of the Synod and delivered to the offertory to adorn the altar."

A frequent critic of Pope Francis, Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, argued that St. Peter's Basilica should be cleansed with new consecration rites after these "appalling idolatrous profanations." The synod, he told LifeSite News, was "a launching pad" for a "syncretistic, neo-pagan church, which is dedicated to the cult of Mother Earth."

But Austrian Cardinal Christoph Schonborn defended these images as "pro-life" symbols, telling Austrian newspaper Die Furche that the "controversial Pachamama statue is simply a heavily pregnant woman. ... As 'mother earth' and 'mother of life,' she is an archetype, which naturally has its place in Christianity."

Mattingly is the editor of GetReligion.org and Senior Fellow for Media and Religion at The King's College in New York City. He lives in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

UU's explore the baloney detection kit

Unitarian Universalists have as a core belief, "a free and responsible search for truth and meaning."

But how do we know what to believe as truth? Carl Sagan, a noted Unitarian Universalist, used as his method of truth detection, what he called his baloney detection kit. Don Thompson will use Carl's baloney detection kit as a source

to help us all resist the urge to pass on statements that are untrue.

The UU's will be meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday at 3:30 p.m. at San Juan following a 9:30 a.m. community breakfast with the members of Alamosa Presbyterian Church.

For information, please call Don Thompson at 719-587-5529.

The Right Time for Your Dream to Come True

When God created you, He made you a unique individual and He has a special plan for your life. You have a God-ordained destiny! As you pursue a personal relationship with Him, you can discover the wonderful life He has for you in Christ and become everything He's created you to be. Your relationship with Christ is a daily, lifelong journey, and along the way God will give you dreams, desires, and hope for change in your life. Maybe you want to see a change in your family relationships, friendships, work situation, or finances. Or you may be hoping and praying for changes to happen in your loved ones' lives.

My Crazy Dream I remember when God put His dream in my heart in 1976 to teach the Bible to people all over the world. It seemed crazy because I was nobody from nowhere with a twelfth-grade education who almost failed English, and I hadn't been to Bible college or seminary. But I knew in my heart that God wanted to use me to preach the Gospel. When God speaks something to your heart, as crazy as it may seem, you can believe it! You have a passion to do it, it's on your mind a lot, and you will sacrifice anything to get it. From the day God revealed His call on my life, I have wanted to teach His Word more than anything else in the world. But it didn't happen overnight. There were years of preparation I had to go through to get to the point where I could do what I'm doing today. It wasn't easy because I wanted my ministry to grow so badly and I couldn't understand why it was taking so long. But during these years, I learned what it means to really trust God and know that He will do the best thing for me at the right time.

There are examples in the Bible of people who had to wait for God to fulfill their dreams: Moses wanted to deliver his people from slavery in Egypt and he spent 40 years in the desert before he was ready. Joseph spent 13 years in prison for something he didn't do before God gave him favor with Pharaoh, who gave him a position of authority over all the land of Egypt. David was anointed to be king 20 years before he sat on the throne. God wants to give us favor and the ability to fulfill our destinies, and He will do so as we learn to trust His timing with a good attitude.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-teaching CD series When, God, When? You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org. Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 100 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and YOUR BATTLES BELONG TO THE LORD (FaithWords). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org. Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.

Advertisement for Joyce Meyer Ministries featuring the text 'Moving Up Higher with Joyce Meyer' and a photo of Joyce Meyer. The ad includes contact information and a website link.

CHURCH DIRECTORY Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

Church Directory listing various churches in Alamosa, CO, including denominations like All-Denominational, Baptist, Catholic, and others, with their respective services and contact information.

Advertisement for Alamosa Christian Reformed Church featuring the text 'You are loved.' and 'see you in Sunday school!' along with the church logo.

Sports

Adams State prepares for tough stretch

Grizzlies look to carry momentum into road split at Colorado Mines, UCCS

By AARON KINNISCHTZE
ASU Sports Information Director
ALAMOSA — The Adams State Grizzlies Men's Basketball team looks to extend their win streak this weekend, as they travel north to face off against RMAC opponents Colorado Mines on Friday and UCCS on Saturday. The Grizzlies are coming off of a tremendous weekend last Friday and Saturday, that saw them take down conference opponents Chadron State and Metro State, and improve their RMAC record to 3-4. With a good weekend on the road, the Grizzlies could climb their way back into the RMAC playoff race and begin to put the rest of the conference on notice, making themselves true contenders for the postseason.

While the Grizzlies have not yet won on the road this season, they look to end that notion and get their first road victories against a Mines team that currently sits tied for second in the conference on Friday, and the Mountain Lions of UCCS who sit deadlocked in 5th place with four other teams. The Grizzlies at 3-4 in RMAC competition are on the outside looking in but could be right back in the fold at the end of the weekend, which is something that has been an expectation of the team in recent years.

Guard Juwan Green has continued to impress this season, particularly on the offensive end of the floor. After a small scoring slump, forward Kaelin Crane has rejoined him as the second big scorer for

the Grizzlies. Throw in key contributors Rickey Norris, Szymon Walczak and Rylan O'Brien, and the undersized Grizzlies are a force to be reckoned with when they play to their potential. Last weekend, particularly Saturday's blowout win against Metro, the Grizzlies shot 55% from three-point range en route to an 18-point victory against the Roadrunners on their home floor. Shooting had been an area that had plagued the Grizzlies all season long but they appeared to hit their stride Saturday shooting the ball, and hope to carry that momentum into this weekend.

History has not been kind to the Grizzlies at Mines or UCCS, as they have not won in Golden since the 2014-15 season, one of those losses being their first-round playoff exit last season in the RMAC tournament. In Colorado Springs, the Grizzlies last win against the Mountain Lions on the road came in the 2012-13 season, and they will look to end that streak this weekend as well.

If the Grizzlies can continue to shoot the ball well and hold their own on the glass as they have thus far this season despite losing the size advantage, they are fully capable of winning their third and fourth game in a row and raising their RMAC record above .500 on the year. Tip-off in Golden Friday night is set for 8 PM while Saturday night's matchup in Colorado Springs is set to tip-off at 7:30. Live stream as well as live stats will be provided by the opposing schools' websites.

Grizzlies head north to take on the Orediggers and Mountain Lions

By CORRI ZAIGER
ASU Sports Information Assistant
ALAMOSA — The Adams State Women's Basketball team heads back out on the road to take on two more RMAC competitors. The Grizzlies will first travel to Golden, Colorado to challenge Colorado School of Mines, Friday, Jan. 10 at 6:00 p.m. Adams State will then come down to take on UC-Colorado Springs, Saturday, Jan. 11 at 5:30 p.m.

Adams State is coming off of a split weekend at home, defeating Chadron State 73-58, and falling to MSU-Denver 66-58. Leading the Grizzlies offense last weekend were Zakiya Beckles, Marshall Hollins and Laura Gutierrez. Beckles totaled 41 between the two games, with three steals. Gutierrez added 32 points, with 4 steals on the weekend. Hollins tallied 24 points, with 11 rebounds between the two games. Following Hollins with rebounds, Kassie Schell and Paiton Demps also crashed the boards, with Schell totaling 10 rebounds and Demps with 9 on the weekend.

Scouting the Orediggers
Colorado School of Mines is entering the weekend 7-5 overall, and 4-3 in RMAC play. The Orediggers are also coming off of a split weekend when facing a loss to Dixie State and a big win against the #12 ranked Westminster Griffins. This season the Orediggers are being led by sophomore, Denali Pinto. Pinto is averaging 18.9 points a game. Another big player for Colorado School of Mines is

sophomore Sammy Van Sickle, who has a .403 field goal average.

The last time these two teams matched up, the Orediggers walked away with the 59-48 win in Alamosa, Colorado. The Grizzlies are 5-13 overall against Colorado School of Mines in the last 15 years. The Grizzlies and Orediggers will tipoff at 6:00 p.m. at the Lockridge Arena in Golden, Colorado on Friday, Jan. 10.

Watching the Mountain Lions
UC-Colorado Springs heads into the weekend 2-11 overall and 1-6 in Conference. The Mountain Lions are coming out of a split weekend in Utah, beating Dixie State 67-40, and falling 75-64 to #12 Westminster College. The Mountain Lions are being led by junior, Abby Feickert. Feickert is averaging 10.8 points per game while having a .409 field goal average. Another offensive leader for the Mountain Lions is senior, Madi Gaibler, averaging 9.9 points a game, with a .404 field goal average.

Last year when these two teams matched up, UC-Colorado Springs came out victorious, 77-46. Historically, the Grizzlies are 8-20 against the Mountain Lions in the past 14 years. The Grizzlies will tipoff against the Mountain Lions at 5:30 p.m. at the Gallogly Events Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado on Saturday, Jan. 11.

Coming Up
The Grizzlies will stay on the road, where they will travel to Grand Junction and Gunnison, Colorado to take on Colorado Mesa and Western Colorado.

Alamosa takes down Centauri in dual

By STEPHEN JIRON
Courier Sports Editor
LA JARA — Thursday saw a dual between Alamosa and Centauri. The Mean Moose controlled the lower weights and ran away with a 55-24 win.

Both the Falcons and Moose have garnered plenty of respect in the On the Mat rankings by Tim Yount. As a team, Alamosa was ranked first overall in the 3A class which Centauri held the No. 10 spot in 2A wrestling according to the week five rankings.

Alamosa has stayed busy picking up big wins in duals as well as seeing wrestlers get to the later rounds in both the Tournament of Champions in Las Vegas and also the Warrior Classic in Grand Junction. Thursday marked Centauri's first action back from the Christmas break,

before that they were on the road at the North Colorado Christmas Tournament in Greeley.

Before the boys hit the mat, everyone was clad in Leukemia awareness orange, bearing the statement 'No One Fights Alone' in support of Aundre Chavez. Both Alamosa and Centauri showed support for Chavez who was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL).

When the action got underway Alamosa swept the lighter weight classes.

At 106 pounds was a competitive matchup as both boys ranked in the top ten of their respective classes. Alamosa freshman Kyler Liddell escaped Mario Vigil hanging on with a 7-5 decision that came down to the final seconds.

From 113 up things went quickly. Alamosa's 113 pounder Dario Valdez

scored a fall in the second period against Xander Lopez, at 120, 126 and 132 Alamosa's Davion Chavez, Trevor Maestas and Colton Liddell respectively scored first period pins for the visitors. Both Chavez and Liddell are ranked in their respective weight classes. Chavez third at 120 and Liddell first at 132. Going by weight class, the Moose led 21-0.

Centauri's second-ranked 138 pounder Eyan Chavez put the Falcons on the board with a first-round fall for the home squad. Immediately following, a forfeit at 145 put the Moose ahead 27-6.

Freshman Erik Maestas and sophomore Zach Buhr started a run for the Falcons with two straight pins bringing Centauri closer, by weight the home team trailed 27-18.

Alamosa's Hunter and Garrett Smith retook the momentum with two more falls credited to the Moose for a 39-18 lead by weight class. Alamosa's Zeke Rangel would add a decision followed by a pin from All-American Austin Trujillo. A forfeit at 285 pounds to Centauri's Remi Lucero sealed the dual at a 55-24 win to the visitors.

Both teams will be back at it on Friday for duals in Alamosa. Alamosa will stay home for more grappling on Saturday as they host the Alamosa Classic Tournament.

To register for updates from On the Mat via Tim Yount visit <http://www.cowrestling.com/OTMrankings.htm>.

For more information or to make a donation in support of Aundre Chavez's fight against Leukemia, be sure to visit www.gofundme.com/f/aundre-fight039s-leukemia.



Courier photos by Stephen Jiron

'No One Fights Alone' Centauri's wrestling team warms up in Leukemia awareness orange in support of Aundre Chavez prior to their dual with Alamosa on Thursday night.



Alamosa's Hunter Smith checks his progress with the ref while imposing a cradle on opponent Byron Shawcroft during Thursday's dual in La Jara. Both teams will be back on the mat Friday for Alamosa's duals.

Results

Adams State Basketball
Jan. 3
Adams State 73, Chadron State 58 (W)
Adams State 81, Chadron State 79 (M)
Jan. 4
Metro State 66, Adams State 58 (W)
Adams State 91, Metro State 73 (M)

Prep Basketball
Jan. 4
Rocky Ford 48, Center 27 (G)
Center 53, Rocky Ford 45 (B)
Sangre de Cristo 76, Creede 15 (G)
Sangre de Cristo 79, Creede 31 (B)
Centauri 47, Sanford 43 (G) OT
Centauri 47, Sanford 34 (B)
Jan. 7
Pueblo Central 57, Monte Vista 38 (B)

Prep Wrestling
Jan. 4
Colt "Bobby Hawk" Classic
12. Alamosa 55.5
Jan. 9
Alamosa 55, Centauri 24

Upcoming Events

Adams State Basketball
Jan. 10
6/8 p.m. ASU at Colorado School of Mines (W/M)
Jan. 11
5:30/7:30 p.m. ASU at UC-CS (W/M)

Prep Basketball
Jan. 10
2:30 p.m. Center at Mancos (G/B)

Sports Bulletin

3/4:30 p.m. Sanford at Ellicot (G/B)
5 p.m. Sangre de Cristo at Rocky Ford (G/B)
5 p.m. Dolores Huerta at Creede (G/B)
7 p.m. Alamosa at Kent Denver (B)
TBA Antonito at Escalante (B)
Jan. 11
1 p.m. Creede at Crested Butte (G/B)
2 p.m. Sargent at Center (G/B)
4 p.m. Antonito at Questa (B)
4 p.m. Alamosa at Pinnacle (B)
5 p.m. Sierra Grande at Primero (B)
5:30 p.m. Alamosa at Ignacio (G)
5:30/7 p.m. Del Norte at Sangre de Cristo (G/B)
5:30/7 p.m. Sanford at Pagosa Springs (G/B)
5:30/7 p.m. Monte Vista at Kent Denver (G/B)

Prep Hockey
Jan. 17
6:40 p.m. SLV at Taos
Jan. 18
8:40 a.m. SLV at Taos

Adams State Swimming
Jan. 17
Colorado Classic
ASU at Colorado College (W/M)

Adams State Wrestling
Jan. 10
All Day ASU at San Francisco State Tourny
Jan. 16
6 p.m. Western Colorado at ASU

Prep Wrestling
Jan. 10

4 p.m. Alamosa Duals
Jan. 11
TBA Centauri at Pagosa Springs

9 a.m. Alamosa Invitational
Cowboy Invitational
Center, Del Norte, Sierra Grande-Centennial at Gunnison

Schedules subject to change

AHS Basketball Reunion

ALAMOSA — Alamosa High School is hosting a reunion for former coach Ken Niven. While at Alamosa, Niven oversaw a Mean Moose run of four consecutive titles from 1989-92 over Classes AA and 4A. He also had four Division I signees. The reunion will take place Friday and Saturday of Jan. 24th and 25th. Friday will be the home games against Montezuma-Cortez at 5:30/7 p.m. followed by a social at the Bankshot. Saturday will be a mid-morning shoot around at AHS then the home games against Pagosa Springs at 5:30/7 p.m. Niven and Alumni players will be recognized at halftime. Saturday's social will take place at the Purple Pig Pizzeria following the games.

ASU Volleyball open tryouts

ALAMOSA — Saturday, January 25th the ASU Grizzlies Volleyball team will be holding tryouts. The event is open to any 2020/2021 high school students and/or Junior College players. For the registration form email alimiller@adams.edu. Participants are asked to bring or email in a completed registration form, a current sports physical and a proof of insurance (company and policy information). For questions or to email in a form, physical, insurance package be sure to contact Coach Miller at alimiller@adams.edu or at (720) 879-2803

Valley News

Safety, sensitivity and older drivers

LAKEWOOD — Driving is a feeling of freedom one gets when he or she can travel anywhere they wish.

But, there may come a point in time when either he or she or a relative or friend must make the decision to put the keys away and find another way to commute.

Talking to an older people about their driving can be difficult and is often delayed until their driving is to a point of being dangerous. But if delayed too long, it can be a hesitation that can turn fatal.

"I speak from personal experience when I lost my grandmother in a crash," said Colorado State Patrol Master Trooper Gary Cutler by press release. "The signs were there prior to the fatal crash, but we failed to see them as a serious enough problem and hesitated in having her stop driving."

"It started with a few scratches here and there on the car — and pulling into the garage a little too far. Perhaps, if we had acted upon those signs we may have had her around longer."

Cutler added: "Years later when another driving situation approached my family, we didn't hesitate to take action."

When his father began to show signs of having trouble driving due to early onset dementia, Cutler

said, he and his family took steps to keep him from driving and possibly hurting himself or someone else.

A problem people may face is when older drivers believe they are driving fine, Cutler said, when in fact a dangerous problem exists.

"I won't tell you it was easy to have the conversation," Cutler said. "My father was upset with us for a while, but I would do it again to make sure it keeps everyone safe."

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration showed that in 2018, 19% of all fatal crashes were caused by drivers 65 years and older.

Now, this doesn't mean just because someone turns 65, such a person should have his or her driver's license taken from them.

"Far from it, it just means it's time to start being aware of any changes," Cutler said. "For a start, keep track of eyesight, physical fitness and reflexes."

"If you are an older person, try to avoid driving in bad weather, driving at dusk or night, where it may be harder to see things, or if bright lights have started to bother your eyes."

Other ways to make sure one is being safe is to give oneself more distance between cars and to constantly

scan the road ahead, Cutler said.

"Look (for) ways you can extend your driving by being aware of any changes that could be dangerous on the roadways for you and others by adjusting those problems as they arise," he added.

For family members with aging relatives, plan ahead so when the time comes everyone involved knows what needs to be done, Cutler said. Have a discussion with family members about what should be done, and how everyone should respond when and if the time comes.

"Be sensitive to ways you can preserve the older driver's self-respect," Cutler said. "Present concerns in non-threatening terms. Use 'I' messages rather than 'you' messages."

He added: Focus on a plan that maximizes community safety and try to look for ways that can put into place ways that allow the older person to continue to drive if possible by changing habits.

"Don't wait to take steps that could save lives," Cutler said. "As always, safe travels."

For more information on driving for the elderly, visit www.nhtsa.gov.

Story courtesy of Cutler.



Courtesy photo

Top eight ways of coping with stress

It's the start of a new decade and a time when many people are trying to make more positive changes in their lives.

One of the best things one can all do is focus on reducing his or her stress simply because of the adverse physical and mental health effects that come from not managing it.

Dr. Alok Trivedi is a human behavior expert, founder of the [Aligned Performance Institute](http://aligned-performanceinstitute.com) and author of the book 'Chasing Success.' His seven tips for reducing stress are:

1. Measure one's stress levels: At the end of each day, give oneself a score from 1 to 10 describing one's level of stress on that day. Average out one's numbers at the end of the week to monitor the stress level. Knowing where one stands is important to determine how strong a grip stress has over an individual.

2. Reduce time around the stressor: Maybe it's a coworker. Maybe it's an ex. Perhaps it's watching political news on television. Whatever is causing such stress, reduce the time spend engaged with it. In fact, do what needs to be done in order to avoid this person or thing as quickly as possible so one can move forward and feel better. For those situations that can't be avoided, ask oneself, "What is the healthiest way to respond?" Remember, one can't control the stressor. One can only control one's response.

3. Find outlets for an individual's stress: Whether it's hitting the gym or reading a book, everyone needs an outlet to reduce stress. This is usually around an activity that one enjoy and find pleasurable. Whatever it is that takes one's mind off the hustle and bustle of everyday life and makes one feel free, do more of it.

4. Max O2 Breathing: Most people are adding to their stress due to improper breathing or breathing through the chest. Instead, slow one's breathing and inhale through the diaphragm (stomach area) for seven seconds, hold it for seven seconds and slowly exhale through the lips for seven seconds. This prevents hyperventilation, makes one feel calmer and allows the mind and body to reset.

5. Get rid of your family: For 30 minutes, that is. No matter where one lives, what one does for a living or any other life circumstance, everyone needs to take at least 30 minutes each day for themselves. If one is not taking the time to relax, refresh and recharge one's mind and body, one is going to drown in stress and be unable to function at optimal performance.

6. Take a Freedom Day: A longer version of "me" time is taking an entire mental health day all to oneself. In fact, many companies now offer these to their employees. This is a day one spends doing whatever one want, wherever one wants and with whomever one wants. There are no rules to be followed except getting away from the grind and having fun.

7. Slow down: We live in a very fast-paced time where we are all super connected and multitasking is a way of life. If one want to reduce one's stress, as Supertramp said, "Take the long way home." Walk instead of run. Take the scenic route. Focus on completing one task at a time. Admire one's surroundings. Taste one's food instead of gulping it down. Disconnect from social media and the internet for just one day. Be present in all that one does.

8. Stop being so rigid: Having these set and strict expectations to follow isn't healthy. Instead, be fluid and go with the flow more. Things don't always have to go one's way and one doesn't always have to be in control all of the time. Learn to let go, relax and let life take one wherever it does.

For more information, click onto <http://aligned-performanceinstitute.com/>

Report courtesy of Mike Larson. He can be contacted at 954-821-3434 or mike@serbinmedia.com.

TOWN & COUNTRY AUTOMALL

PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE

START SOMETHING NEW SALES EVENT

CHRYSLER DODGE Jeep RAM

NEW 2019 DODGE
CARAVAN
SE
STK # D69866
MSRP: **\$29,930**



AUTOMALL PRICE
\$26,995.99
PER MONTH
\$367

NEW 2019 JEEP
RENEGADE
TRAILHAWK
STK # J9989
MSRP: **\$33,655**



AUTOMALL PRICE
\$27,995.99
PER MONTH
\$380

NEW 2019 JEEP
CHEROKEE
TRAILHAWK
STK # J2119
MSRP: **\$38,235**



AUTOMALL PRICE
\$32,995.99
PER MONTH
\$448

NEW 2019 DODGE
CHALLENGER
GT AWD
STK # D65433
MSRP: **\$38,780**



AUTOMALL PRICE
\$33,995.99
PER MONTH
\$462

NEW 2019 JEEP
GRAND CHEROKEE
LIMITED
STK # J8319
MSRP: **\$49,835**



AUTOMALL PRICE
\$43,995.99
PER MONTH
\$598

NEW 2019 JEEP
WRANGLER
UNLIMITED RUBICON
STK # J5022
MSRP: **\$47,730**



AUTOMALL PRICE
\$43,995.99
PER MONTH
\$598

NEW 2019 RAM
1500
REBEL CREW 4X4
STK # DT3874
MSRP: **\$55,820**



AUTOMALL PRICE
\$48,995.99
PER MONTH
\$667

NEW 2019 RAM
2500
BIG HORN CREW 4X4
STK # DT9646
MSRP: **\$62,475**



AUTOMALL PRICE
\$56,995.99
PER MONTH
\$775

NEED TO SELL YOUR VEHICLE?
WE WILL BUY IT!

TownAndCountryAlamosa.com
719-587-1800 • 20 Craft Drive Alamosa, CO 81101
Monday - Saturday - 8:30 am - 6 pm

All prices exclude tax, tags and title. Price includes delivery and handling fee of \$359.99. Artwork used for illustration purposes only. All offers valid on in-stock units only. Finance 3.9% for 75 months with 10% down. Must qualify for all applicable factory offered rebates. Must qualify for Factory Conquest Bonus on certain vehicles. Must be financed with Chrysler Capital. See dealer for details. Offers expire on 01/31/2020.

Lifestyle

South Fork renovates ice skating rink

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

SOUTH FORK — The new year may be over but the fun is still continuing in South Fork. With the help of the town in partnership with the Friends of South Fork, those coming to the area for some winter fun now have a warm place to go near the ice skating rink located in Rickel Park.

For many years the town has placed the ice skating rink in the parking lot of the visitor center, but this year moved it to a more picturesque setting at Rickel Park. The small rink is now surrounded by frost laden willows edged by the South Fork of the Rio Grande. A sledding hill and playground make it the perfect destination for a day or night of family fun.

In years past, the town and South Fork Visitor Center have offered free skates for those who wish to come enjoy the little ice-skating rink and may not have the equipment to skate. This year, skaters will not pick up their skates or sleds at the Visitor Center. Now sleds and skates are available at the rink at the newly erected ice skating shed.

The town, with a small donation from the Friends of South Fork, recently built a warming hut near the skating rink for everyone to enjoy. The building is small but functional and is laden with every size skate for skaters of all ages to enjoy. “The skates are free, but donations can be made in the donation box located in the warming hut. Donations are used to help keep the rink and shed maintained for the public to enjoy,” said visitor center Director Mark Teders.

The warming hut will also have some sleds for anyone who wants to enjoy the sledding hill located right above the skating rink and playground. Families from all over the Valley come to the area to enjoy the small sledding hill which is perfect for families of all ages. Guests can be seen on any given day out enjoying the snow in the park and now they have a warm place to go.

The rink and warming hut are open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week. For more information please call Mark at 719-873-5512.



Photos by Lyndsie Ferrell



A new warming hut (below) has been built by the Town of South Fork near the ice-skating rink (above) located at Rickel Park. Skates and sleds are available for the public to use and donations are welcome.



Do things outdoors even when it's cold

Cold weather can make the desire to be outside less appealing, but it is important for one's mental and physical well-being to get outside. The following activities might coax people outside for some crisp air. TF18C525

The amount of time people spend outdoors has dramatically decreased, as the Environmental Protection Agency now reports the average American spends 87 percent of his or her time in a residence, school building or workplace.

Being outside is linked to better moods, more physical activity and less exposure to contaminants (concentrations of some pollutants are often two to five times higher indoors). Also, people who spend time outside may not come into contact with surface germs or develop various illnesses spread as often as those who spend a lot of time indoors.

Cold weather can make the desire to be outside less appealing, but it is important for one's mental and physical well-being to get outside. The following activities might coax people outside for some crisp air.

CREATE SNOW CRITTERS

Why do snowmen and women get all of the fanfare this time of year? Just about any living or fictional creature can be molded from snow and embellish landscapes. Use food-grade coloring in spray bottles to added even more creative flair to snow designs.

GO ON A NATURE HIKE

While many plants and animals hibernate in winter, there is still plenty to see. Bring along a sketch book or camera and capture nature in winter. White-washed hills can be beautiful to behold, and many small animals and birds look even more vivid against the white backdrop of snow.

MAKE AN OBSTACLE COURSE

Turn an area of the yard or park into a homemade obstacle course. It's much more difficult — and a great workout — to try to jump over snow mounds or run down paths when decked out in warm layers. Engage in light-hearted competitions with friends and family members.

GET SPORTY

Sledding, skating, snowshoeing, and ice hockey are just a few of the winter sports that can get the heart pumping and muscles working outside. These activities are entertaining and also great exercise.

When venturing outdoors in winter, dress in layers. This way clothing can be put on or taking off to reduce the likelihood of hypothermia. TF18C525

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

TOWN & COUNTRY AUTOMALL

PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE

Ford

NEW 2019 FORD FUSION SE STK# FC3976 MSRP: \$26,110		AUTOMALL PRICE \$21,995.99 PER MONTH \$298
NEW 2019 FORD ESCAPE SE 4WD STK# FT3576 MSRP: \$30,785		AUTOMALL PRICE \$22,995.99 PER MONTH \$311
NEW 2019 FORD RANGER XL CREW 4X4 STK# FT2033 MSRP: \$36,840		AUTOMALL PRICE \$33,995.99 PER MONTH \$461
NEW 2019 FORD F-150 XL SUPERCAB 4X4 STK# FT3699 MSRP: \$42,230		AUTOMALL PRICE \$35,995.99 PER MONTH \$488
NEW 2019 FORD EDGE TITANIUM AWD STK# FT6284 MSRP: \$48,085		AUTOMALL PRICE \$39,995.99 PER MONTH \$542
NEW 2020 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4WD STK# FT3694 MSRP: \$46,730		AUTOMALL PRICE \$41,995.99 PER MONTH \$569
NEW 2019 FORD F-250 XLT CREW 4X4 STK# FT2901 MSRP: \$59,645		AUTOMALL PRICE \$53,995.99 PER MONTH \$732
NEW 2019 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED 4X4 STK# FT2504 MSRP: \$79,280		AUTOMALL PRICE \$64,995.99 PER MONTH \$881

MONDAY - SATURDAY - 8:30 AM - 6 PM

NEED TO SELL YOUR VEHICLE?
WE WILL BUY IT!

All prices exclude tax, tags, title. Prices include delivery and handling fee of \$359.99. All prices include Ford Owner loyalty. Finance at 3.9% for 75 months with 10% down. Must qualify for all applicable factory incentives. Artwork for illustration purposes only. All offers valid on in stock units only. See Dealer for complete details. Offers expire on 01/31/20.

Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 42 Zippy the Pinhead's word
 - 43 Generally
 - 46 Estuary
 - 49 In the past
 - 50 Profound
 - 53 Kind of stork
 - 56 Stadium level
 - 58 Survey chart
 - 59 Writer — Buscaglia
 - 60 Sky bear
 - 61 Prefix for "trillion"
 - 62 Ben & Jerry rival
 - 63 Seeger or Sampras
- DOWN**
- 1 "Most Wanted" org.
 - 2 Gray wolf
 - 3 Phillips University town
 - 4 Early moralist
 - 5 Clean air org.
 - 6 Drawer freshener
 - 7 Esoteric
 - 8 Say more
 - 9 Bunion sites
 - 10 Prefix for directional
 - 11 Party fabrics
 - 17 Co.
 - 19 Speckled horse
 - 23 Explosive letters
 - 24 Himalayan legend
 - 25 Clumsy boats
 - 26 Advanced, as cash
 - 27 Wild plum
 - 28 Delicate
 - 31 About 2.2 pounds
 - 32 Lots and lots
 - 34 Montreal player
 - 37 1040 pro
 - 38 Kept back
 - 40 Feast
 - 41 Wrinkle-free
 - 44 Tank
 - 45 Pause
 - 46 Spellbound
 - 47 Inactive
 - 48 Not shut
 - 51 Ireland
 - 52 Nuisance
 - 54 Ms. Hagen
 - 55 Plaything
 - 57 "Norma —"

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

ALLEY OOP

FRIENDS, I'M BACK! ALBERT HAS GIVEN US A DEVICE TO ESCAPE OUR TRIAL.

IS IT A STINK BOMB?

OR A ROBOTIC TIGER, TO EAT THE JURORS?

OH, I KNOW! IT'S A MINIATURE VOLCANO THAT WILL COVER THE COURT-HOUSE IN LAVA.

I BET IT'S T-REX COSTUMES TO THROW THEM OFF OUR TRAIL.

DON'T WORRY, THEY'LL TIRE THEMSELVES OUT BEFORE TOO LONG.

ARLO & JANIS

FEEL BETTER ABOUT THINGS THIS MORNING?

YES.

YES, I DO!

IT'LL WEAR OFF, YOU KNOW!

PITY!

BIG NATE

SO WHAT IF MY I.P. PROJECT IS SORT OF LIKE "STAR WARS"? I MITATION IS THE SINCEREST FORM OF FLATTERY!

WHAT ARE THEY GONNA DO, SUE ME?

DING DONG!

IT'S FROM THE WALT DISNEY COMPANY.

DELETE DELETE DELETE

THE BORN LOSER

AN ALBERTA CLIPPER SYSTEM CONTINUES TO IMPACT OUR WEATHER...

THE HIGH TODAY WAS THREE DEGREES, AND TOMORROW'S HIGH WILL BE SIX DEGREES!

YIPPEE! TOMORROW'S GONNA BE TWICE AS WARM AS TODAY!

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

WELL, I THINK I'VE NARROWED IT DOWN TO SHANNON, ROBIN OR ERIKA FOR A GIRL, AND BRENDAN, GLENN OR ANDREW IF IT'S A BOY...

I DON'T KNOW! MAYBE WE SHOULD GO WITH SOMETHING MORE OLD-FASHIONED OR OUT OF THE BIBLE... AND MAYBE INCLUDE A FAMILY NAME.

MOM? WHEN DO PEOPLE FINALLY DECIDE WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO CALL A BABY?

... WHEN THEY RUN OUT OF TIME.

FRANK & ERNEST

BOWLING 24 LANES

GOING BOWLING FOR DATE NIGHT WITH MY GIRLFRIEND WAS A BAD IDEA... A SPLIT WAS INEVITABLE.

GARFIELD

LIZ IS SO GOOD-LOOKING

AND YOU'RE SO NOT

I ASSUME YOU JUST INSULTED ME

IT'S NOT AN INSULT IF IT'S TRUE, PAL

THE GRIZZWELLS

GINTHER, OUR SNOOPY NEIGHBORS NEXT DOOR HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT US AGAIN

WHAT DID THEY SAY?!

I COULDN'T TELL... IT'S HARD TO HEAR THEM WHEN THEY KEEP THEIR WINDOWS SHUT REAL TIGHT

PEANUTS

WOODSTOCK! THAT WAS WOODSTOCK WHO JUST FLEW OVER!

HE WAS GOING TO SEE ME, AND I WAS GOING TO SEE HIM!

BONK!

EVEN ON A CLEAR DAY, WOODSTOCK FLIES IN A FOG!

HERMAN

"I'm sorry, we're out of multivitamins with iron."

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13				14	
15					16				17	
	18				19				20	
					22				24	
25	26	27			28				29	30
31					34				35	
36									37	38
39									40	41
									42	
									43	44
46	47	48			49				50	51
52					54				56	57
58					59				60	
61					62				63	

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

" G S V V Z P E T Y P M U N L M A O T H P Y O . . .
 O E T O E Y T T L X C A E P F T S M O T Y T A O S M
 W L V S O S K A . . . H T ' Y T X C M U S O A ! H T ' Y T
 M L O W C M U S O A ! " — N L I G T E P Y

TODAY'S CLUE: V equals F

Previous Solution: "I like a little chaos. I think that's really true for my inner Buddha. ... Maybe I can't take total peace." — Meredith Vieira

Ashes have waited 30 years to be scattered over hawaii

DEAR ABBY: Thirty years ago, a friend of my husband's roommate passed away of AIDS and was cremated. His family had ostracized him. I have no idea who they are or where they are. The roommate left and later died, also from AIDS. He left his friend's ashes in his old room in my husband's house in the San Francisco Bay area with instructions to scatter them in Hawaii. The ashes have been sitting reverently in a cardboard box on a shelf in our several homes for all these 30 years. We are still together, but getting old. There is no paperwork of any kind. All we know about the deceased is his name and the fact that he was a friend. Before I die, I would like to resolve this problem and arrange for the ashes to have a permanent resting place, preferably in Hawaii. I have a nephew who lives on the Big Island, where the scattering should take place. How should I proceed, in light of the no paperwork problem? -- MIKE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR MIKE: I applaud your caring heart and your determination to carry out this man's last wishes. I took your question to Joshua Slocum, executive director of the Funeral Consumers Alliance, and this is what he told me: "There is no impediment to your taking the ashes and placing them where you wish since there are no relatives

who have an interest in them. If you plan to carry them on an airplane, be sure to have them in a scannable container -- nothing metal or such heavy earthenware that an X-ray scanner would be prevented from seeing inside. There is no requirement that you carry a death certificate, or any other certificate, with you. You do not need 'papers' to walk around with an urn or to travel with one. "As far as scattering goes, people scatter ashes all the time. Cremated remains are sterile calcium and no threat at all to the environment. While public lands usually discourage, or prohibit by rule, scattering of ashes, it is common practice that cannot be stopped. Use discretion and care -- there is no such thing as 'ashes police.'"

DEAR ABBY: I am older and on a fixed income. At times I still date, and I'm not sure how to handle this. After one or two dinners out or glasses of wine, etc., I feel my dates are waiting for me to treat them, and I can't afford it. I don't know how to explain that I don't have enough money to do that. I'm a very giving person, and I would love to make them dinner if I knew them better. One time I brought someone a huge amount of beautiful organic vegetables, but that wasn't enough. He was really upset I didn't buy him wine on one of the dates. What to do? -- REALLY WISH I COULD



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR REALLY WISH: The person who was really upset that you didn't buy him wine on one of those dates should have been told that you are on a fixed income and it wasn't within your budget. You should also have told him you were reciprocating within your ability. If he needed a drink that badly, he could have paid for his own. You're lucky to be rid of him. In the future, TELL the man you are seeing that after you know him better, you would love to treat him to some home-cooked meals, which might actually be nicer than what you can afford to buy him in a restaurant. He might appreciate both your candor and the food. If he doesn't, I think you will be lucky to be rid of him, too. P.S. Have you considered paying the tab for a casual breakfast, lunch or a coffee/pastry date instead of dinner?

Lifestyle



Mitguards bring unique style to Del Norte

Wildwood Sounds hosting its 727th concert

DEL NORTE — The Mitguards' musical style, a hybrid of American roots music that includes folk, country and swing, makes their sound powerful and distinct, and they will be performing at Wildwood Sounds on Friday, Jan. 17.

Based in Colorado Springs, the band consists of Chris Mitguard on acoustic guitar, harmonica and vocals and Deb Mitguard on mandolin, accordion and vocals.

Their original songs, framed by unique musical arrangements, weave a mixture of humor and tragedy through the stories they tell. Chris, a Colorado native, is the songwriter for the band and has been writing songs since he was a young boy in the 1960s. His songs create powerful, visual, almost cinematic images. His well-crafted story lines are full of twists, turns and irony. They create the perfect backdrop for his sad, beautiful, sometimes dangerous and undeniably human characters. Deb grew up north of Detroit and has been performing since she was a young girl. Through the years she fell in love with mandolin and accordion and has developed a unique and charming style of playing. She has a natural sense of composition and theme, which

adds layers of texture to The Mitguards' sound. Said Bill Reed of the Colorado Springs Gazette, "In his (Chris') songwriting, Mitguard resists the urge to turn roots music into a reach for some mythical, idyllic past, and goes for a more relevant and immediate impact."

The Mitguards are constantly expanding and stretching their material and performance style. Their spirited banter and engaging humor on stage creates an endearing and intimate atmosphere. The Mitguards have played internationally in Canada and Australia. They perform primarily throughout the west with regular tours through Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, South Dakota, and northern California.

The price for tickets are \$20 door /reserve. For more information, call 719-657-4757, or wwshcv7@gmail.com. Doors open at 6:30 and Showtime is at 7 p.m. Sweetie snackie Refreshments will be of the potluck variety. Attendees can bring their favorite treat to share with coffee and tea on the house.

Wildwood Sounds is located at 850 Grande Ave. in Del Norte on Highway 160. A perfect listening room with perfect acoustics. This will be the venue's 727th concert.

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

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

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

30 **\$100**

75% OFF LABOR[†]

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

ENGLERT LeafGuard
(719) 493-9169

Call Today for Your FREE Estimate!

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

Remember When "Decade in Review"



This was a memorable decade and this review will be highly read and treasured for years to come!

Choose the year you'd like to sponsor for only \$199
(Two sponsors per year)
or reserve the back page for just \$499.

PUBLISHES: SAT., JAN. 18

DEADLINE: WEDN., JAN. 15

Valley Courier

www.alamosanews.com

Contact Keith, Debbie or Morgan today!

719-589-2553

