



Panther-Rams clean up in Del Norte Triangular

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Tips on ways for seniors to combat age-related loss of flexibility.

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# Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS JANUARY 24, 2020 \$1

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**SLV Today**  
Ice Fest change

**ALAMOSA** — The Rio Frio Ice Fest, which will be held from Friday-Sunday, has changed for the location of the Luminaria X-Country Skiing Event. It will now be held at Blanca Vista Park on the pond this Friday evening — at the same time — from 6-8 p.m.

**SLV Electric meets Tues.**  
**MONTE VISTA** — The regular board of directors meeting for San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. is scheduled for Tuesday at the office located at 3625 U.S. Highway 160 W. Monte Vista, CO 81144. This meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. with a SLV Energy Foundation and Ciello board meeting immediately following.

**Office closed for training**  
**ALAMOSA** — Alamosa County Treasurer & Public Trustee, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101, sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience, but its office will be closed for training on Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. for Software Training. Its normal hours are M-F 8-4:30 and we don't close for lunch.

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**SLV WEATHER**

Partly Cloudy  
37/5

**Thur.:** Partly Cloudy 38/1  
**Fri.:** Partly Cloudy 36/7

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## Moffat fire began in greenhouse

### Propane tank ignited blaze

By **TERESA L. BENNS**  
VALLEY PUBLISHING

**LAKEWOOD** — Following a preliminary report last month regarding the origin of the Moffat fire and explosion Oct. 15, the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (CDFPC) released its official report to the Saguache County Sheriff's Office last week.

The cause of the fire remains undetermined and no indication of an incendiary cause was found. But some of the initial conclusions are contradicted in the final report.

Investigator Dawn Tollis and Chief of Investigations Jerry Means (Adams County Fire Department) were assigned by CDFPC to assess the fire and explosion. According to their report, Means interviewed the owner of a residence located at the northwest corner of the block, Skip Benson.

Means stated that Benson reported

to him he and a female companion smelled smoke from inside the residence, went outside to see where the smoke was coming from, and saw the northeast corner of the structure located at 645 East Moffat Way on fire. "Benson said he heard the propane tank start to 'whistle,' recognized that sound as trouble, and told the female companion that they needed to move back. While starting to turn, he witnessed the propane tank explode, and the rest of the world was on fire."

This residence, then, "a wood framed structure with a 250-gallon propane tank located at the northeastern most corner of the building, was determined to be the origin of the fire. The structures involved were surrounded by tall grass, which allowed the fire to spread quickly to other buildings on the block."

Part of the propane tank traveled 820 feet southeast of the site of origin and ignited a grass fire.

Means then examined other locations to see what was ignited as a result of the propane tank explosion, later

■ See **IGNITE** page 3



A Moffat firefighter (above) observes the fire near the department's main pumper just across the street from the fire station. Three homes, including one believed to be the first building ever built in the town, were destroyed along with numerous vehicles. While literally burning to the ground, this Toyota pickup (below) was like the little train engine that said it "thinks it can," its headlights burning bright until the end.

## Rally for School Choice Week



**Alamosa High School held a rally in celebration of School Choice Week. The football field was full of energetic students representing their various clubs and sports. As a nonpartisan, nonpolitical public awareness effort, National School Choice Week shines a positive spotlight on effective education options for students, families, and communities around the country. From Jan. 26 through Feb. 1 more than 50,000 independently-planned events will be held in celebration of the week. For more information, visit [www.schoolchoiceweek.com/colorado](http://www.schoolchoiceweek.com/colorado).**

Courier photos by Helen Smith

## Ice Fest helps economy

By **HELEN SMITH**  
Staff Writer

**ALAMOSA** — The Rio Frio Ice Fest produces an economic impact for Alamosa during a traditionally slow time of the year for the San Luis Valley.

According to a 2018 study from the Alamosa Convention and Visitors Bureau, there are an estimated 1,400 participants involved in the Rio Frio Ice Fest. The spending impact from day travelers was estimated at \$5,700. The effect of overnight participation saw an impact of \$9,725. These numbers brought a total traveler impact of \$15,425.

Kale Mortensen, of Alamosa CVB, noted that numbers come from the reporting of the participation from last year's event and then added to Colorado's averages for traveler spending.

"This is just a small glimpse of the impact of the event as it relates to tourism," he said.

Mortensen said the CVB office cannot speak for the impact of local participation expenditure and that it is difficult to measure the long-term impact on the quality of life for Alamosa and the San Luis Valley.

The 2020 edition of the Rio Frio Ice Fest begins today. Participation is expected to be at healthy levels.

The numbers in this story are based on self-reporting by the Rio Frio Ice Fest and research on traveler spending done by the Colorado Tourism Office through Longwoods International.



Fire 'n' Ice, pictured above from last year's event, is scheduled at 7 tonight at San Juan Ave.

## Sacred Heart, SLV Health to host Wellness Fair

**ALAMOSA** — Sacred Heart Catholic Church, in collaboration with the SLV Area Health Education Center, is host-

ing a free community wide Health and Wellness Fair on Feb. 15 from 8-11 a.m. at Faistl Hall, 715 4th Street. Free

screenings will include cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure and Body Mass Index. Lab results will be available within minutes.

For optimal results, fasting for 12 hours with water consumption is suggested. For more info, call 719-588-5363.

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OBITUARIES

Kyle Montgomery, 30

BOUNTIFUL—Bountiful resident Kyle Montgomery, 30, died Jan. 21, 2020 at the University Hospital in Aurora.



Kyle was born in Alamosa on Oct. 27, 1989. He loved his family dearly and was a great dad, brother and son.

His most important treasure was his daughter, Evolet Marie Montgomery. Kyle enjoyed carpentry work and the art of farming.

He always maintained a good sense of humor and never lacked a bad joke. In his spare time, he could be found conquering video games or wiring up a sound system in a vehicle.

Kyle is survived by his mother, Carolyn Guymon of Bountiful; his daughter, Evolet Marie Montgomery; and her mother, Ashley Butcher; both of Monte Vista; his brother, sisters and nieces: Jo-Vonna (Ross) Hamilton, daughters, Elsie and Lillie of West Jordan, Utah; Alex Guymon of Sanford; and Kimberly Guymon of Logan.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Grant and Elsie So-

rensen; and his brother Shawn Boutwell.

A visitation will be held Saturday, Jan. 25 from 10-10:45 a.m. in the Relief Society Room at the La Jara First Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

A funeral service will follow the visitation on Saturday at 11 a.m. at the same church.

Interment will take place in the Sanford Cemetery.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of the arrangements.

To leave online remarks, condolences and words of comfort for the family, please visit www.RogersFunerals.com.

ALAMOSA—The San Luis Valley Military Family Support Group meets the fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Alamosa. For more info call Vicki Jones at 852-3123.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALAMOSA — American Legion Auxiliary Unit #113, Alamosa, holds its monthly meeting at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday at the American Legion Building at 514 Fourth Street, Alamosa. Call Evelyn Espinola at 719-313-1466 or Alice Robinson at 589-0543.

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

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

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

MONTE VISTA — Valley Fiber Art Guild — VFA is a group for anyone interested in fiber arts: knitting, crocheting, weaving and spinning. We work on our individual projects, sometimes do projects together and learn from each other. We meet the fourth Saturday of every month from 1

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

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

ALAMOSA—A Caregivers Support Group meets at First United Methodist Church, 2005 Mullins, Alamosa, on the first Monday of every month. For more information, call 589-2243.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

COURIER POLICY ON OBITUARIES The Courier charges \$30 for each obituary per day. Pending arrangements or death notices are free. This charge affects funeral homes, family or other representatives that place obituaries. All paid obituaries are published on www.alamosanews.com, for no additional fee. Please email obituaries if possible to news@alamosanews.com. If the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed.

CPAC election approaching

SAN LUIS VALLEY — The Colorado Potato Administrative Committee annual election will be Feb. 4-6. If anyone is interested in serving as a member of CPAC, please submit one's name to the CPAC office as a nomination to be placed on the ballot.

USDA and CPAC encourages committee membership that reflects the diversity of the individuals served by its industry.

Diversity includes gender, race, disability, length of service and size and type of operation. Available positions include; one Alamosa County Grower, one Rio Grande County Grower, one Saguache County Grower, one Costilla/Conejos County Grower, two Independent Handlers and one Bulk Shipper and an alternate for each position.

Report courtesy of Linda Weyers, Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, 719-852-3322.

Rotary Club presents Carver at Juanito's

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Rotary Club is pleased to announce that Alamosa County Clerk and Recorder office Election Supervisor Terri Carver will speak on Monday at noon at Juanito's Restaurant, 1019 6th Street.

Carver will present information on the upcoming election cycle, including the presidential primary election, caucuses and the general election.

Note that beginning in March, Colorado will hold a presidential primary election.

For more information, see https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/FAQs/primaryElectionsFAQ.html To find out more about Rotary International, visit www.rotary.org.

For more information about the Alamosa Rotary Club, visit our Facebook page or contact club president Chris Quintana at chris.quintana@slvfd.com. The club meets Mondays at noon at Juanito's in Alamosa and everyone is welcome to attend.

Reserve a table now for ASU's Spring Career Fair

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

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

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

Early Bird registration is \$40, through Jan. 31 and cost is \$50 after the deadline. To register visit adams.edu/students/career-services/employer-resources/. Registration includes a 6-foot table, two chairs, lunch for two, WIFI, and free parking.

For more information, call 19-587-8105 or civicengagement@adams.edu.

ONGOING VALLEY MEETINGS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

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

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

SUNDAY 5:30 p.m. Sacred Heart Parish Center at 3rd and Edison, Alamosa 7 p.m. Town Hall at 108 W Galena Ave., Crestone

MONDAY 12 p.m. St. Thomas Episcopal Hall at 607 4th St., Alamosa 5 p.m. Women's Meet-

ing at Masonic Hall, 598 Spruce St., Del Norte 7 p.m. Community Church on Main St., Creede 7:30 p.m. Creative Resource Center at 304 Walnut St., La Jara

TUESDAY 12 p.m. First Christian Church at 1st and State, Alamosa 8 p.m. Mountain View Presbyterian Church at 2nd and Broadway, Monte Vista

WEDNESDAY 12 p.m. First United Methodist Church at 2005 Mullens, Alamosa 6 p.m. Senior Citizen's Building at 710 Main St., Antonito 6 p.m. Amistad of San Luis at 403 Main St., San Luis 7:15 p.m. RV Park in Blanca 7:30 p.m. Masonic Hall at 598 Spruce, Del Norte. 8 p.m. St. Thomas Episcopal Church at 607 4th St., Alamosa.

THURSDAY 12 p.m. First Christian Church at 1st and State, Alamosa 12 p.m. Crestone Baptist Church, County Rd. T, Crestone 7 p.m. Community Church on Main St., Creede 7:30 p.m. Creative Resource Center at 304 Walnut St., La Jara. 7:30 p.m. Ables/Disables, Baptist Church at 751 Lincoln St., Monte Vista

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

SATURDAY 5:30 p.m. at 929 State Ave., Alamosa 6 p.m. Senior Citizen's Building at 710 Main St., Antonito. 8 p.m. Mountain View Presbyterian Church at 2nd and Broadway, Monte Vista

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

AL-ANON

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

WEDNESDAY 5:30 p.m. SLV Behavior Health Group at 8745 CR 9S., Alamosa

THURSDAY 5:30 p.m. First Christian Church at 518 1st St., Alamosa 7 p.m. Crestone Town Hall, downtown Crestone (second and fourth Thursdays)

San Luis Valley Crimestoppers. If you have information about an unreported or unsolved crime in the San Luis Valley, Crimestoppers pays for information that leads to the arrest of criminal offenders. Citizens may report crimes anonymously and remain eligible for rewards. Call San Luis Valley Crimestoppers at 589-4111.

SAVE ON FUEL SHOP LOCALLY

School Menu - Friday Jan. 24, 2020. BREAKFAST: Mini Donuts, Juice & Fruit. ELEMENTARY: Turkey Sub, Potato Salad, Vegetable Bar. SECONDARY: Turkey Sub, Potato Salad, Vegetable Bar. An assortment of fresh fruit and canned fruit as well as fresh vegetables and canned vegetables will be offered weekly. Menu subject to change. To sponsored by the School Menu call 589-2553

# Valley News

## Colorado Army National Guard heads to Middle East

### Space Support Team ready to deploy to war fight

**CENTENNIAL** — Army Space Support Team 24, comprised of Colorado National Guard Soldiers from the 117th Space Battalion, will be honored at a departure ceremony at Fort Carson today. Family, friends and dignitaries will gather at the 168th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, to bid farewell to the six-member team as they prepare to depart for the Middle East to support U.S. Central Command operations. “Colorado’s highly-skilled National Guard space warriors are trained and

ready to deploy to the war fight,” the Adjutant General of Colorado U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Mike Loh said. “The support of their families, civilian employers and communities is the key to their mission success.”

Army space support teams are small, highly trained and specialized teams that enable operations by maximizing military use of space-based assets to include satellite imagery, missile warning systems, satellite communications, space-based weather, and global positioning system capabilities for combatant commanders.

During this deployment, ARSST-24 will perform a variety of important missions in the defense of its nation and coalition partners.

The soldiers will play an important role in defeating adversaries by providing direct support to war fighters on the ground in the USCENTCOM area of responsibility and will play a key role in the strategic deterrence of regional state actors against American and coalition forces and interests in the Arabian Gulf region.

Since 9/11, the 117th has provided regular space support to joint war fighting headquarters during overseas contingency operations. The 117th is the only unit of its kind in the Army National Guard.

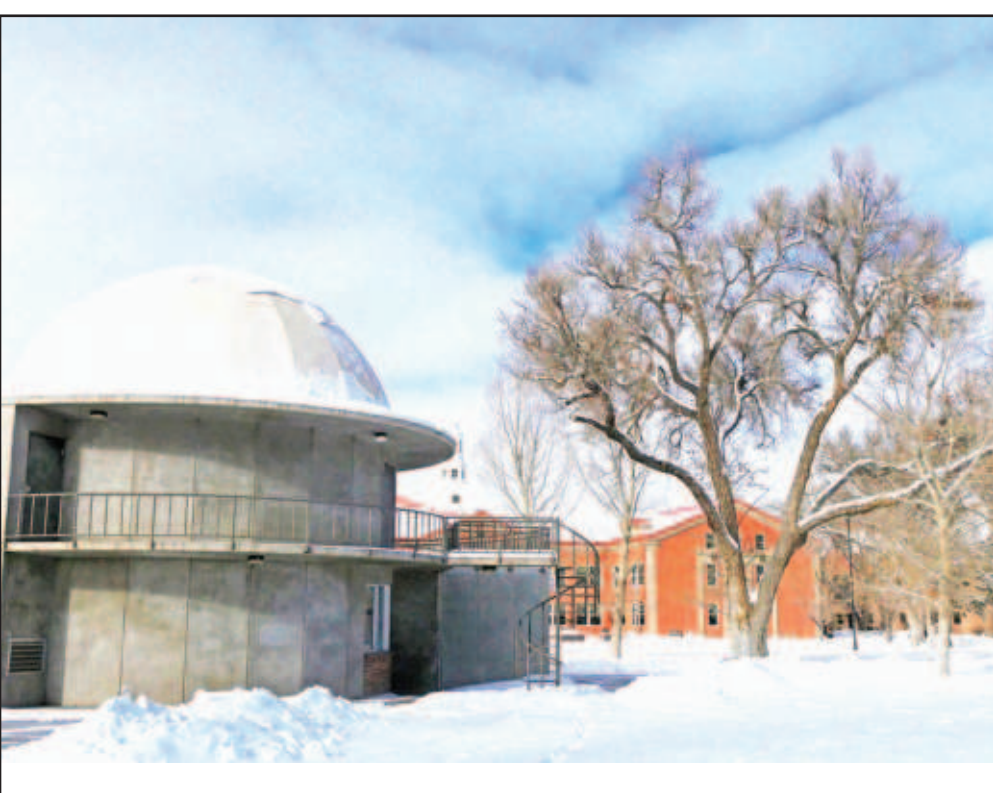
The unit also has a distinguished history of support to domestic operations, including Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts; the 2008 Democratic National

Convention in Denver; Colorado wild-land fire response missions during the Black Forest, High Park, West Fork Complex, and Waldo Canyon Fires; and, historic flooding in Colorado in 2013.

A state-of-the-art readiness center that is under construction at Fort Carson will serve as an epicenter of ARNG Space Operations, bringing \$18 million in jobs into the Colorado Springs economy.

The soldiers will train, learn, improve and, if necessary, operate from this location to support war fighters across the world.

*Report from a press release courtesy of the Colorado National Guard Public Affairs.*



Courtesy Photo by Jonah Bricker

Zacheis Planetarium, pictured above, adds two new free movies to schedule.

## Zacheis Planetarium continues free movies

**ALAMOSA** — The Adams State University Zacheis Planetarium now has two new movies included in its free public movie rotation.

**Thursdays, 7 p.m.-7:45 p.m.:**

Jan. 30: Origins of Life and Two Small Pieces of Glass

Feb. 6: Dream to Fly and Tales of the Maya Skies

Feb. 13: Escher’s Universe and NEW Europe to the Stars

Feb. 20: NEW Mayan Archaeoastronomy: Observers of the Universe and From Earth to the Universe

Feb. 27: Saturn: Jewel of the Heavens and Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity

**Saturdays, 3 p.m. and 3:45 p.m.:**

Jan. 25: Dynamic Earth: Exploring Earth’s Climate Engine and Dawn of

the Space Age

Feb. 1: The Hot and Energetic Universe and The Dark Matter Mystery

Feb. 8: Solar Superstorms and Dark

Feb. 15: Seven Wonders and Bella Gaia

Feb. 22: Ice Worlds and Experience the Aurora

Feb. 29: From Dream to Discovery: Inside NASA and Exploding Universe

As always, admission is free for everyone, just check in at the front desk. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Doors open 15 minutes before the first show.

*Report from a press release courtesy of Linda Relyea, assistant director of communications, Adams State University | public relations.*

## BLM looks into grazing

### Notice of Intent covers nearly 18,000 permits

**WASHINGTON** — The Bureau of Land Management has published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to consider proposed revisions to the agency’s grazing regulations.

The BLM currently manages livestock grazing on 155 million of the 245 million acres of public land and administers nearly 18,000 grazing permits and leases.

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

The proposed revisions will update, modernize and streamline the grazing regulations and provide greater flexibility for land and resource management. Through this rulemaking, the BLM seeks to improve existing land-use planning and grazing permitting procedures, while simultaneously promoting public lands conservation.

The BLM hopes to improve its stewardship of the nation’s range-land resources by strengthening controls to prevent unauthorized grazing, enhancing environmental protections across various non-grazing, land-use programs, and improving public input opportunities.

The BLM is currently managing 11 demonstration projects in six states as part of its outcome-based grazing authorizations initiative.

These demonstration projects provide BLM, working in partnership with ranchers and other partners, with op-

portunities to improve its guidance and best management practices to use when issuing grazing permits.

Lessons learned from developing cooperative monitoring plans and land health evaluations under this initiative may also be incorporated into this regulatory process.

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

Public scoping meetings will be held in February to further inform the public about this project.

These meetings include:

► Miles City, Montana: Feb. 6, at the Sleep Inn and Suites, 1006 S. Haynes Ave., from 4:30-7:30 p.m.;

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

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

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

Comments on the proposed regulation revisions may be submitted in writing until Feb. 28.

Meeting information, announcements, instructions on how to provide comments, and pertinent documents can be found at the BLM website at <https://go.usa.gov/xyMqB>.

For more information, contact Seth Flanigan, BLM Project Manager, at 208-384-3450 or [sflanigan@blm.gov](mailto:sflanigan@blm.gov).

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. Diverse activities authorized on these lands generated \$96 billion in sales of goods and services throughout the American economy in fiscal year 2017. These activities supported more than 468,000 jobs.

*Report from a press release courtesy of BLM’s Aragon, Jillian G. <jgaragon@blm.gov>.*

## Small businesses access to surplus federal personal property

**DENVER** — The U.S. Small Business Administration is seeking comments on a proposed rule that would allow veteran-owned small businesses, including companies located in Puerto Rico and disaster areas, access to property no longer needed by the federal government.

The Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation Program, managed by the U.S. General Services Administration, enables non-federal organizations to

obtain excess property the government no longer uses.

Surplus property would include computers, office equipment, tools, vehicles, heavy construction equipment and any property except land or other real property.

The proposed rule is in accordance with the Recovery Improvements for Small Entities After Disaster Act of 2015 (RISE Act, Section 2105), the Veterans Small Business Enhancement Act of 2018, and the John S.

McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019.

Comments must be submitted on, or before, March 23 to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), identified by Regulation Identifier Number RIN 3245-AH18. One may also mail comments to Brenda Fernandez, Office of Policy, Planning and Liaison, 409 Third Street, SW, 8th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20416.

The SBA will post all comments on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

If someone wishes to submit confidential business information, mail it to Brenda Fernandez at the above address, or send an email to [brenda.fernandez@sba.gov](mailto:brenda.fernandez@sba.gov).

**ABOUT THE U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the

SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start and grow their businesses. It delivers services to people through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).

*Report from a press release courtesy of SBA’s Collier, Stephen J. <Stephen.Collier@sba.gov>.*

## Ignite

Continued from Page 1

returning to the 645 East Moffat Way address to examine debris at the site.

“Several large pieces of equipment used for the occupant’s business were uncovered,” the report states. “These pieces of equipment showed extensive burn patterns, and it was suspected these pieces could be significant in the cause of the fire.”

The nature of the equipment examined, however, was not identified.

While assessing the excavation site, the owner of the business known as Crystal Stix, Bill Vestil, arrived on the scene.

Means asked Vestil what he witnessed at the time of the fire.

According to Vestil, he heard one Toby Jones, a friend staying at the busi-

ness/residence, “screaming that the greenhouse was on fire.”

Vestil told Adams he went out a side door located on the east side of a section of the building that connected a greenhouse to the main building.

He stated he saw flames coming from the northwest corner of the greenhouse.

At this time, it was not known by investigators that a greenhouse had been attached to the building. No remnants of the greenhouse remained when the initial assessment was made.

Vestil states he grabbed a garden hose to try and put the fire out but was not successful in his attempt and had to escape the scene.

When Vestil was questioned about the operation of the equipment, he stated those specific pieces had never been operational and were never used.”

In the light of this new information, Chief Means and Investigator Tollis decided to reassess the scene, and reinterview Benson for additional details.

On reinterview, Benson clarified that the flames were coming from the greenhouse, not the structure. Due to the complete degradation of the greenhouse from the fire, it was determined that a further layer search of the area was not possible.”

The lack of water hindered firefighting efforts.

The report continues: “Fire personnel from the local fire department stated they received a call at approximately 4:20 p.m. to respond to a structure fire on 5th Street. Staff responded approximately 11 minutes later and immediately observed a structure located at 645 East Moffat Way with heavy smoke and fire coming from the rear of the

building, moving toward the front of the building.”

Personnel stated that they started suppression efforts but were quickly hindered due to the lack of water supply in the area, as no hydrants were installed in the town.

Fire personnel from surrounding communities were called to assist. Departments responding to the fire, hauled water to the scene in an effort to provide additional water resources. A well located at the Moffat Consolidated School was also accessed for water.”

Law enforcement confirmed the lack of water availability. “There were no water sources to be able to tap into,” Saguache County Sheriff Dan Warwick told CBS on Oct.16, 2019. “To pump water, the nearest resources from here are about a 15-mile drive.”

The proposed Potch LLC/ Area 420 Moffat Annexation 3 has been challenged on the grounds that marijuana extraction operations pose a fire hazard.

Without sufficient water to fight potential fires, and Saguache County Commissioners have raised this issue with the town of Moffat, another disaster possibly even worse than the Moffat fire and explosion may not be able to be avoided.



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Fri. 5:00, 8:10  
**JUST MERCY**  
This is about all of us PG-13

Fri. 5:25, 8:15  
**JUNGLE HUNTERS**  
PG-13

Fri. 5:30, 8:10  
**DOLITTLE**  
Robert Downey Jr., Arden Randolph PG

Fri. 5:25, 8:10  
**BAD BOYS FOR LIFE**  
Will Smith, Martin Lawrence R

Fri. 5:20, 8:10  
**THE FRENCH CONNECTION**  
Dennis Johnson, Kevin Hart PG-13

Fri. 4:45, 8:00  
**STAR WARS**  
Ever a generation, has a legend PG-13

# Opinion

## God bless America ...

**HOLLYWOOD**—TV sex therapist Dr. Ruth Westheimer advised Baby Boomers in their 60 to stay healthy by staying sexually active.

She doesn't have to tell anyone in West Hollywood. Last night I engaged in a threesome, and even though there were a couple of no-shows I still wound up having a great time.

The DEA said illegal drug use by young adults was down last decade after peaking back in the 1970s.

Where you lived was a factor. After moving to L.A. in 1976, I visited home the next year and I was helping mom prepare dinner when she noticed I was chopping the onions with a credit card.



Argus Hamilton

The Weather Channel said a massive Polar Vortex descended over the Great Lakes region and into the Eastern Seaboard this past week.

It brought record low temperatures, howling snowstorms and cancelled flights.

It was the worst natural disaster to hit Chicago since the bullet shortage of 1944.

President Trump speaking in Davos, vowed to obtain a free trade deal with England once Brexit is finalized. The U.S. has free trade pacts with Australia, Canada, New Zealand and soon Britain to match our mutual defense pacts with each of them. In other words, we're right back where we started.

Chief Justice John Roberts presided over the first day of the impeachment trial Tuesday as the opposing case managers sparred for hours over whether or not they may call witnesses.

All 100 senators have to remain quiet throughout the trial. Perhaps we should have these more often.

Donald Trump named President Bill Clinton's Special Prosecutor Ken Starr to his legal team Friday which infuriated the Democrats.

Their logic is sound, if vulgar. Democrats insist that it's hypocritical for Starr to prosecute one president for oral sex and defend another president who sucks.

Trump lawyer Alan Dershowitz was featured in the mini-series The People vs. O.J. Simpson as an O.J. defense lawyer.

What a cast. Evan Handler played Dershowitz, John Travolta played Robert Shapiro, David Schwimmer played Bob Kardashian and Peyton Manning was the white Bronco.

Senator Elizabeth Warren refused to speak to Bernie Sanders after the Iowa debate last week and now they're stuck in the Senate together. She said they used to be old chums.

But if that fin sticking out of the water in Long Island is Hillary Clinton, they could all be chum by Super Tuesday.

Prince Charles said he'll provide private financial support for Harry and wife Meghan as they set out on their own.

Harry and Meghan are moving to Canada and losing their titles. This is good news for Prince Andrew who'll get to move back to the adult table every Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Prince Harry met with reporters Monday and detailed his plans to fly back and forth between London and Vancouver and Vancouver and L.A. The prince lost his temper when a reporter asked him to account for his carbon footprint.

Harry yelled out that he is tired of everybody calling her that.

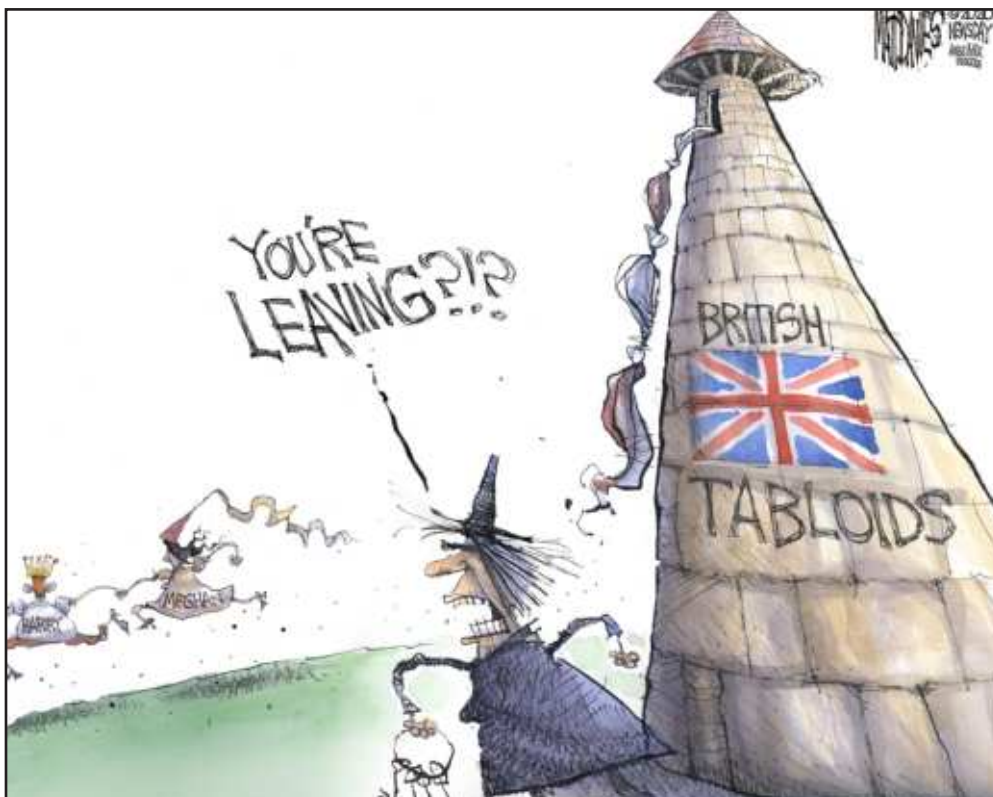
Business Insider published an article chronicling the rise and fall of Bed, Bath and Beyond on Friday as the retailer announced the closure of 44 outlets nationwide.

Last weekend, I got kicked out of one of their stores in Westwood. In my defense the sign clearly said, Throw Pillows.

Pornhub website commissioned a nationwide survey of viewers and revealed that Washington D.C. residents watch more porn than people in any other city in America.

It's considered online learning in D.C. They're constantly looking for bigger and better ways to screw the American taxpayer.

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](mailto:Argus@ArgusHamilton.com).



To submit news, email:

[news@alamosanews.com](mailto:news@alamosanews.com)

To submit sports, email:

[sjiron@alamosanews.com](mailto:sjiron@alamosanews.com)

### Letters policy

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

## As trial begins, White House strikes back

"Trump has no defense at all," Harvard law professor Laurence Tribe, an influential figure among impeachment Democrats, tweeted recently.

"The case is uncontested," Democratic House impeachment manager Rep. Hakeem Jeffries said.

"They can't contest the facts," said lead Democratic impeachment manager Rep. Adam Schiff.

In the last month or so, it has become commonplace for Democrats and their allies in the press to argue that President Trump simply has no defense against the two articles of impeachment passed by the House. Republicans disagreed, and vigorously defended the president in House hearings, but the fact was, the White House had not released a comprehensive defense in the nearly four months since Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced the beginning of impeachment proceedings.

Until now.

On Monday the White House released a 110-page defense memorandum signed by White House counsel Pat Cipollone and Trump lawyer Jay Sekulow. In it, the two lawyers address the substance of the Democratic charges against the president: the Trump-Zelensky phone call of July 25, 2019, the decision to withhold and later deliver security assistance to Ukraine, the legitimacy of Trump's concerns about Ukrainian activities in the 2016 election, the case of Hunter Biden, and more.

In other words, all the things the president's adversaries said he could not address -- all those things are addressed in the Cipollone-Sekulow memo.

The lawyers also criticize the process of impeachment in the House, and the definition of an impeachable offense. Taken together, the memo is the across-the-board defense that many Republicans have long wanted the White House to mount.

On the substance of the abuse-of-power article against the president, Cipollone and Sekulow present a detailed analysis of the Trump-Zelensky call and events surrounding it. The

rough transcript of the call released by the White House on Sept. 25 "shows the president did nothing wrong," they write. Trump's discussion of burden-sharing has been a "consistent theme" of his presidency.

As far as the president's discussion of the 2016 election was concerned, "Uncovering potential foreign interference in U.S. elections is always a legitimate goal, whatever the source of the interference and whether or not it fits with Democrats' preferred narrative." There were, in fact, legitimate concerns about Ukrainian efforts to influence the 2016 election, and it was not improper for the president to inquire about them.

It was also legitimate to bring up the issue of Hunter Biden and Burisma, the lawyers argue. "Public reports indicate that then-Vice President Joe Biden threatened withholding U.S. loan guarantees to secure the dismissal of a Ukrainian prosecutor, even though Biden was, at the time, operating under what appeared to be, at the very least, a serious conflict of interest," they write.

Then there was the issue of the temporarily withheld assistance. "There was no discussion of the paused security assistance on the July 25 call," Cipollone and Sekulow write. The Ukrainians have said there was no pressure on them, and they did not know that security assistance had been paused at the time of the call. "House Democrats' charge is further disproved by the straightforward fact that not a single witness with actual knowledge ever testified that the president suggested any connection between announcing investigations and security assistance," the memo says.

Cipollone and Sekulow single out for special criticism Gordon Sondland, the U.S. ambassador to the European Union who offered changing testimony to House impeachers. "House Democrats base their case [for a quid pro quo] on witnesses who offer nothing but speculation," they write. "Worse, it is speculation that traces back to one source: Sondland. Other witnesses

repeatedly invoked things that Ambassador Sondland had said in a chain of hearsay that would never be admitted in any court."

On the issue of process, Cipollone and Sekulow argue that House Democrats cut so many corners in the impeachment inquiry that the White House had legitimate reasons not to participate. Finally, on the question of impeachable offenses, they argue that "abuse of power" is not only not a crime but is far too broad and ill-defined to be impeachable. As far as obstruction of Congress is concerned, they argue that in the face of a reckless impeachment investigation, the White House simply asserted legitimate constitutional rights, and the assertion of legitimate constitutional rights cannot be an impeachable offense.

All in all, it was an argument that heartened many Republican defenders of the president.

"I think it effectively lays out why this impeachment proceeding is flawed on every basis — factually, legally and constitutionally," said GOP Rep. John Ratcliffe. "The complete deprivation of due process alone, where the president's counsel was forbidden from participating during the first 71 days of the impeachment inquiry, should result in a dismissal of both articles at the onset of the trial proceedings."

Now, the important question is how Senate Republicans will react. Many have not followed the details of impeachment closely. The Cipollone-Sekulow memo gives them the first all-inclusive defense of the president anyone has seen. It will likely become the template for Republican defenses in the contentious days and weeks to come.

York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.

## Write them

### GOVERNOR

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### STATE HOUSE

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**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

### O.J. murder trial begins 25 years ago today

Today is the 24th day of 2020 and the 35th day of winter.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** In 1848, gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill, setting off the California Gold Rush.

In 1984, the first Apple Macintosh computer went on sale.

In 1995, the O.J. Simpson murder trial began as the prosecution made its opening statement.

In 2003, former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge was sworn in as the first secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** Pierre de Beaumarchais (1732-1799), playwright; Edith Wharton (1862-1937), author; Robert Motherwell (1915-1991), artist; Ernest Borgnine (1917-2012), actor; Oral Roberts (1918-2009), evangelist; Neil Diamond (1941-), singer-songwriter;

Aaron Neville (1941-), singer; John Belushi (1949-1982), actor; Nastassja Kinski (1961-), actress; Mary Lou Retton (1968-), Olympic gymnast; Ed Helms (1974-), actor; Mischa Barton (1986-), actress.

**TODAY'S FACT:** The first Apple Macintosh computer had a 9-inch monitor and 128 kilobytes of RAM. It was priced at \$2,495.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** In 1980, Fred Wilpon and Nelson Doubleday bought the New York Mets for an estimated \$21.1 million, at the time the most ever paid for a baseball franchise.

**TODAY'S NUMBER:** \$81 million — estimated value (not adjusted for inflation) of the gold extracted from California in 1852, the peak year of the California Gold Rush.

<b>Keith R Cerny</b> Publisher	<b>Valley Courier</b> (ISSN 1047-1170)	<b>Daniel McKillop</b> Managing Editor
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# Religion

## Church Calendar

# What's the purpose of this life?

By **KERRY AND JACQUE HART**  
*Column*

"When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life so that when you die, the world cries and you rejoice." These are the words of the great Native American Chief, White Elk of the Odo tribe.

There are a couple of profound messages in White Elks words that go beyond the obvious beauty of the passage. First, there is an implication that life continues after the physical death of the body (i.e., the goal is to be able to rejoice when you die); and second, making a positive difference in this world is dependent on our relationships and how we treat others (i.e., if the world cries at your death, it means you have personally touched lives in a positive way).

Knowing how to treat others is learned behavior. If we functioned only on instinct, we would function on the same level as animals. But humans have a spiritual nature in addition to our physical nature and those who teach us how to treat others and achieve our full spiritual potential are the divine educators: the prophets of the world's great religions that have provided guidance for humanity throughout the ages. At one time Abraham was the teacher for humanity; at another time it was Moses. Other divine educators include Krishna (Hindu), Buddha (Buddhism), Zoroaster (Zoroastrian), Christ (Christianity), Mohammed (Islam), and in this day, Baha'u'llah, prophet-founder of the Baha'i Faith.

Baha'is believe there is only one God Who is an unknowable Essence. The only way we can know and love God is through the messengers He sends about every 1,000

years to provide guidance on how to live our lives in a spiritual way. The fundamental spiritual message has been the same from one God throughout the ages. The Golden Rule is an example:

Hinduism: "That man, guided by affection, regards all creatures impartially, considering them worthy of being cherished with loving aid."

Judaism: "The stranger who dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself."

Zoroastrian: "He is not to seek his own welfare and advantage through the injury of anyone else."

Christianity: "Speak not evil one of another, brethren ... Who art thou that judgeth another?"

Buddhism: "Never allow an ill word to pass your lips, but always to abide in compassion and goodwill with no hate in your hearts."

Islam: "Be good to your parents, relatives, orphans, and destitute, speak fair to the people."

Baha'i: "Let them at all times concern themselves with doing a kindly thing for one of their fellows, offering to someone love, consideration, thoughtful help."

With each successive era, civilization has advanced and the capacity for acquiring greater knowledge has increased—similar to advancing from first grade to second grade, etc. In the days of Moses, the teachings for relationships were geared toward a tribal society. In the days of Christ, community building required a new set of social teachings. In the days of Islam, the teachings were for nation-building. And in

this day, the teachings of Baha'u'llah are for a global or world civilization. Baha'u'llah said, "We desire but the good of the world and the happiness of the nations ... That all nations should become one in faith and all men as brothers; that the bonds of affection and unity between the sons of men should be strengthened; that diversity of religion should cease, and differences of race be annulled — what harm is there in this?"

This teaching of love for humanity falls under the umbrella of the unity of humanity as the primary tenet of the Baha'i Faith. Fundamental to advocating for the unity of humankind are Baha'i principles that include: the elimination of prejudice of all kinds, the equality of women and men, a spiritual solution to the extreme disparity

of wealth and poverty, universal compulsory education, the harmony of science and religion, and the recognition that all religions come from the same source.

While the Baha'i Faith encompasses unique social teachings for the age in which we live, the spiritual foundation (i.e., the spiritual teachings), are the same as those found in all the world's great religions as reference earlier with the universal Golden Rule. If we want to live our lives so that the world cries and we rejoice when we die, then let's be good students, open our books, and put the teachings of the Divine Educators into action.

*Kerry and Jacque Hart,  
Baha'i Faith*

## Dr. Kinney to speak at UU

**ALAMOSA**—The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Alamosa welcomes Dr. Elizabeth Kinney as she speaks about the intersectionality of health with climate disruption.

Dr. Kinney recently spoke at the fourth annual Women's March in Alamosa.

She will connect her presentation to the UU principles of justice, equity and compassion for all people.

The UUs meets at 10:30 a.m. in the community hall of the Presbyterian Church, 330 San Juan Ave.

Call Jan Oen, 719-480-4771, for additional information.

## Preparing for Lent, Easter

The Christian tradition of Lent is celebrated across the globe by many different denominations of the faith.

Lent is a 40-day period of sacrifice that begins on Ash Wednesday on Feb. 26 and culminates with the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday on April 12.

Lent is designed to help Christians prepare for Easter through prayer, repentance of sins, almsgiving, denying the ego, and putting an end to sinful practices. Fasting is a component of Lent, as is abstinence from certain behaviors. In fact, in some Western countries, Catholics have been

encouraged to adopt forms of abstinence that do not involve food and drink during Lent. All actions serve as forms of self-denial to mirror the sacrifice Jesus Christ made for his people.

Today, fasting is primarily reserved for Ash Wednesday and Fridays during Lent, including Good Friday. Adherents may opt to fully fast, but most only eschew meat and poultry as a nod to self-denial, opting for seafood and vegetarian fare instead.

While much focus is placed on what is denied during Lent, it can be an ideal time to reflect on what is gained by living a life in which God is first and foremost. TF202712

## LWBF will be resuming Monthly Hymn

**ALAMOSA**—Living Water Bible Fellowship will resume its Monthly Hymn Sing at 6 p.m. and dismiss for a time of fellowship at 7 on Sunday.

A well-known Christian author refers to hymns as a "rich heritage" and they

"make [a] point(s) more piercingly than prose could ever do." (J. I. Packer) Come join and sing praise to God Almighty and His Son Jesus our Christ. One will find joy and encouragement at 2910 Clark Street in Alamosa (by the "Round About").

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship		
<b>All-Denominational</b> Church of the Living God 11311 2nd Avenue, Hooper 719-579-2881	Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship Sunday, 6 p.m. - Book of Acts Study Monday, 7 p.m. - Youth Thursday, 7 a.m. - Bible Study	<b>Hooper Church</b> 36 and Adams Hooper Sunday 9 a.m. - Morning Worship
<b>San Luis Valley Christian Center</b> 336 S. Broadway (Old & Broadway), Monte Vista 719-852-9165	Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - Bible Study	<b>Meditation Kyja</b> McLean Institute Alamosa - (576) 758-6875
<b>Flower Hills Church</b> 410 N. Main Street, La Jara Pastor Jaime Reese - 719-262-0007	Sunday Morning Service, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Family Ministry, 6:30 a.m. Friday Night Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.	<b>United Church of La Jara</b> 622 Walnut, La Jara 719-274-5267
<b>Sargeant Community Church</b> 5609 N. County Rd. 2 E, Monte Vista (across from Sargeant School) Pastor Hugh Harris - 719-852-2987	Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship	<b>Christian Science Services</b> 400 Rose Avenue, Soledad Hill, Alamosa Services - Sundays at 10:30 a.m. The Second (Wednesday) of each 4 a.m. The Third (Sunday) Day 10 a.m.
<b>Back Row Church - Church Community in the Alamosa Presbyterian Church Building</b> www.backrowchurch.com Kathy Hagle - 338-822-5052	Worship Service - Wednesday Evening at 8:00 p.m.	<b>Pioneer United Church in Del Norte, Colorado</b> A Congregation of Evangelical Covenant and Presbyterian 835 Spruce St., 115 Mosses south of Hwy 150 Adult Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Sunday Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Sunday
<b>Apostolic</b> Alamosa Apostolic Church 510 First St., Alamosa	Meets Sundays 4-2 p.m. 2:30 p.m. - Lunch 3:45 p.m. - Worship Service	<b>Church of the South Fork</b> 415 Lander Dr., South Fork, CO 81154 Sundays are at 9 a.m. - Services School Room. Choir's held on Wednesday and on during the summer months with a trial service at 8:15 a.m. on Sunday
<b>Antioch Apostolic Church</b> 710 Main St., Antioch	Meets Sundays 11-12 p.m. - Sunday School 12 p.m. - Worship service	<b>Christian Bible Center Church</b> Pastor Eric Lind Worship Service Sunday, 8:00 p.m. Bible Study Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Bible Classes Monday Free Music Classes Instrumental Classes 7:30-8:30 p.m. Voice & Bass Classes 8:30-9:30 p.m.
<b>Apostolic Pentecostal</b> Church of Champions, Aids 238 5069 Hwy 285 South Alamosa - 719-857-5361 Don Downing Pastor - 719-857-7307	Sunday, 10:30 p.m. - Service	<b>Word of Faith Christian Center</b> 401 State Pl., Alamosa Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, 8:30 p.m. Friday, 8:00 p.m. M.O.S.H. Youth Night
<b>Assembly of God</b> River Life Church 2802 Clark Avenue, Alamosa	Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Service	<b>The Peace Community Church</b> 610 San Juan Alamosa Sundays, 9 a.m. - Fellowship Sundays, 7 p.m. - Worship & More
<b>Center Assembly of God</b> 7th & Main - P.O. Box 307, Center, CO 81128 Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.	Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Service Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Prayer	<b>Pentecostal</b> Alamosa Pentecostal Church 194 East 2nd St., Alamosa - 719-588-0475 Pastor Carl Sutter
<b>Assembly of God</b> Sons and Daughters of God Ministry 877 Madison Street, Monte Vista Pastor Leonard Sandoval - 719-849-0212 Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Service Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Prayer	Adult Sunday School - 9:00 Services - 10:00	<b>Christian Fellowship Church</b> The Door 1300 West 12th St., Alamosa Pastor Martin Moraga - 719-887-8187 Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - Worship Sunday, 8:30 p.m. - Midway Service Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. - Revival
<b>Living Water Bible Fellowship</b> 2910 Clark Street, Alamosa 719-852-9361	Sunday, 9:30 AM at "The Round About" Sunday, 11:45 AM at Children's Church (Park & Spruce) Sunday, 11:45 AM at "The Round About" Sunday, 11:45 AM at "The Round About" Sunday, 11:45 AM at "The Round About" Sunday, 11:45 AM at "The Round About" Sunday, 11:45 AM at "The Round About" Sunday, 11:45 AM at "The Round About"	<b>Christian Independent</b> Alamosa Christian Church 410 McQuerry, Alamosa Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. - Family Night 7:15 Youth Group
<b>College Heights Baptist Church</b> 2046 Clark Avenue, Alamosa Sunday, 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 11 a.m. - Morning Worship	Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship	<b>Christian Reformed</b> Alamosa Christian Reformed, 719-588-9483 1881 Rd 10 S, Alamosa Pastor Philip Verbeke Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 10:15 a.m. - Worship
<b>San Luis Valley Baptist Church</b> 600 State Avenue, Alamosa 719-852-9835 Pastor R.L. McDonald	Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Worship Sunday, 2 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 11 a.m. - Worship Sunday, 8 p.m. - Evening Worship	<b>Churches of Christ</b> Alamosa Church of Christ 428 Victoria Avenue, Alamosa Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Bible Classes Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Bible Study Healing Hearings, a Bible-based 12 step group meets every Friday at 7 p.m.
<b>San Luis Valley Baptist Church</b> 600 State Avenue, Alamosa 719-852-9835 Pastor R.L. McDonald	Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Worship Sunday, 2 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 11 a.m. - Worship Sunday, 8 p.m. - Evening Worship	<b>South Fork Church of Christ</b> 226 E. 1st St., South Fork, 719-879-1259 Rev. Shady Pastor Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Central Church of Christ 220 Francis Street, Monte Vista - 719-852-3511 David L. Baker Preacher Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Bible Class Sunday, 10:30 a.m. & 2 p.m. - Worship Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Bible Study
<b>San Luis Valley Baptist Church</b> 600 State Avenue, Alamosa 719-852-9835 Pastor R.L. McDonald	Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Worship Sunday, 2 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 11 a.m. - Worship Sunday, 8 p.m. - Evening Worship	<b>San Luis Valley Church of Christ</b> 724 Del Sol Avenue, Alamosa Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Bible Class Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Bible Study
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# Sports

## Grizzlies prepare to host Colorado Christian, Regis

By AARON KINNISCHTZE  
ASU Sports Information Director

ALAMOSA — The Adams State Grizzlies Men's and Women's Basketball teams are back at home this weekend, prepared to host a pair of RMAC opponents, Colorado Christian on Friday and Regis on Saturday, hoping to snap their losing skids and get on the winning track. Women's games both nights will begin at 5:30 PM, with the men set to tipoff at 7:30 both games from Plachy Hall. Friday's games are sponsored by Colorado Sports, with Saturday night's contests sponsored by San Luis Valley Federal Bank.

face a Regis Rangers team who is 5-6 in conference play, but come in riding high off of a road win against Dixie State in St. George last Saturday. Tipoff for both games is set for 5:30 both nights from Plachy Hall.



### On the Men's Side

The Adams State Men's Basketball team is coming off of a heartbreaking back and forth loss to Western Colorado Saturday night, which dropped their RMAC record to 3-8 overall. They hope to reverse their fortunes and defend home floor again, which is something they have done very well this season, as the Men come into the weekend with a home record of 4-1. Friday night, they are set to host a Colorado Christian team who currently sits alone in last place in the conference, with a 1-10 RMAC record. Saturday, they will host Regis who like the Grizzlies, are fighting hard for playoff relevancy, and are a middle of the pack team at 5-6 in conference play. With two victories this weekend, the Grizzlies can vault their way up the standings and hopefully get back into the playoff conversation.

Women's games both nights are set to tipoff at 5:30 both nights, with the men directly following at 7:30. Go Grizzlies!

### On the Women's Side

The Adams State Women's Basketball team comes into this weekend riding a five-game losing streak, with their last win coming at home against Chadron State back on January 3rd. Friday night, they prepare to host a 5-12 Colorado Christian team who is also looking to break their losing skid, as they have lost four in a row. The Grizzlies who are 2-9 in RMAC play, have gotten both of their wins on their home floor, and hope to get a third against Cougars Friday night from Plachy Hall. Saturday, they prepare to

## Sierra Grande-Centennial picks up two at Del Norte

By STEPHEN JIRON  
Courier Sports Editor

DEL NORTE — Thursday night Del Norte wrestling played host to Sierra Grande-Centennial and Sargent for a Triangular. The Panthers-Rams dispatched both of the other squads thanks to a large team. SG-Centennial got the better of Del Norte 48-28 and cleared Sargent 53-11.

the Farmer to even things at 6 points. Following the assignment of the forfeits, Del Norte claimed the 30-24 win.

### Sierra Grande-Centennial 48, Del Norte 28

In the second dual of the night, the Tigers and Panther-Rams faced off. The first bout of the contest took place between Del Norte's Anthony Balderas and SG-Centennial's Bobby Maes.

Balderas was in control for the majority of the first period scoring with a takedown and picking up 6 near fall points to lead 8-0 into the second period. A takedown in the second period and a reversal and 3 more near-fall points pushed Balderas to a 15-0 Major Decision giving the home team a 4-0 lead.

The second match took place between Del Norte's Preston Terrell and Isabella Durgan in the 170-pound class. Durgan was a state qualifier last year. Through the first two periods, Terrell was scoring consistently while Durgan picked up two points with escapes. Terrell led entering the third period 12-2. There Terrell would score with 5 more near-fall points to earn a major decision over Durgan 17-2.

The final weight up for grabs in the dual was 152 pounds and pit Isaac Peerman of Del Norte against Brady Kuhns of SG-Centennial. Kuhns quali-

fied for the State Tournament at 152 pounds last year representing Sanford. Kuhns earned a win with a pin at 1:15 to get Sierra Grande's first on the mat points of the night trailing 10-6. Sierra Grande-Centennial fielded a larger team in the dual and picked up the lion's share of the forfeit points to take a 48-28 win.

### Sierra Grande-Centennial 53, Sargent 11

The final dual took place between SG-Centennial and Sargent.

Diego Ocampo of Sierra Grande and Parker Ford of Sargent met at 126 pounds. Ford worked quickly and efficiently to build a 4-2 lead after one. A reversal and 5 near-fall points in the second period gave Ford a 12-2 lead entering the third. Ford added 5 more points in the final period to take a 17-2 Major Decision giving Sargent a 5-0 lead.

At 132 pounds, it was Sierra Grande's Richie Atencio facing Byron Burkhart of Sargent. Following a takedown from Burkhart, Atencio earned a reversal and turned it into a near fall to take a 5-2 lead after one. From the down position in the second period, Atencio picked up a reversal and a near fall. He would later amass points with two more takedowns and another near fall to go ahead 16-4 entering the final

period. Three more near-fall points in the third period gave Atencio the Major Decision and tied the team score at 5 apiece.

That brought Sargent's Mitchell Plane and Isaias Minchaca of Sierra Grande to the mat at 138 pounds. Minchaca controlled the pace taking a 14-2 lead into the third period. There Minchaca earned a pin at 4:22 to give the Panthers-Rams an 11-5 lead.

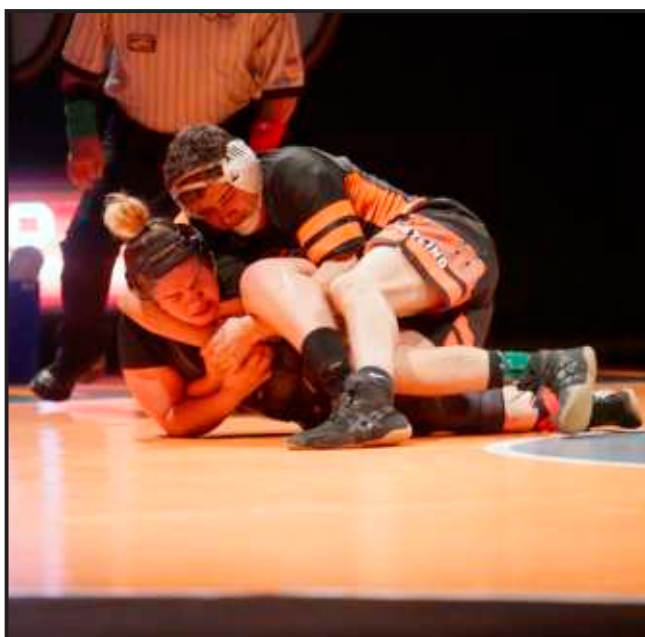
The final bout of the night took place at 152 pounds between Manuel Morales-Palma of Sargent and Michael Lobato of Sierra Grande. The bout between Morales-Palma and Lobato saw scoring from both sides. Lobato led the first period with a reversal and a near fall to go up 5-2. Morales did the majority of the scoring in the second period to take the lead 8-7 entering the third period. In the final period, Morales gave Sargent 6 more team points scoring a fall at the 4:22 mark to tie the dual at 11-11. All of the forfeits went to Sierra Grande-Centennial and they would claim a 53-11 team win.

All three teams' next action will be tournament play at the Custer County Bobcat Invite this Saturday, the action begins at 9 a.m. All three teams will also be back in the valley for Center's Valley Classic on February 1st.



Courier photos by Stephen Jiron

Sargent's Manuel Morales-Palma of Sargent tilts Isaac Peerman during the Sargent-Del Norte match at 152 pounds on Thursday night.



Del Norte's Anthony Balderas gets the beginnings of a cradle against Sierra Grande-Centennial's Bobby Maes during the SG-Centennial vs Del Norte 160 pound bout.



Sierra Grande's Richie Atencio slips underneath Sargent's Byron Burkhart looking for a fireman's carry during the SG-Centennial vs Sargent 132 pound match.

## Sports Bulletin

### Results

#### Prep Basketball

Jan. 21 Alamosa 50, Bayfield 35 (G)  
Jan. 23 Sargent at Bayfield -Postponed to 2/18  
Sargent 53, Creede 43 (B)

#### Prep Wrestling

Jan. 23 Del Norte 30, Sargent 24  
Sierra Grande- Centennial 48, Del Norte 28  
Sierra Grande- Centennial 53, Sargent 11

### Upcoming Events

#### Adams State Basketball

Jan. 24 5:30/7:30 p.m. Colorado Christian at ASU (W/M)  
Jan. 25 5:30/7:30 p.m. Regis at ASU (W/M)

#### Prep Basketball

Jan. 24 TBA Cotopaxi at Sangre de Cristo  
1 p.m. Creede at Aguilar (G)  
3 p.m. Sanford at Center (G/B)  
5 p.m. Sargent at Del Norte (G/B)  
5 p.m. Sierra Grande at Moffat-MV (G/B)  
5/ 8 p.m. Antonito at Centennial (G/B)  
5:30/ 7 p.m. Monte Vista at Pagosa Springs (G/B)  
5:30/ 7 p.m. Bayfield at Centauri (G/B)  
5:30/ 7 p.m. Montezuma-Cortez at Alamosa (G/B)  
Jan. 25 1 p.m. Moffat-MV at Primero (B)  
1 p.m. Centennial at Manzanola (G/B)  
1 p.m. Center at Crested Butte (G/B)  
3 p.m. Del Norte at Custer County (G/B)

5 p.m. Sanford at Sargent (G/B)  
5 p.m. Sangre de Cristo at Antonito (G)  
5:30/ 7 p.m. Bayfield at Monte Vista (G/B)  
5:30/ 7 p.m. Montezuma-Cortez at Centauri (G/B)  
5:30/ 7 p.m. Pagosa Springs at Alamosa (G/B)

#### Adams State Swimming

Jan. 25 12 p.m. ASU at Western Colorado (W)

#### Prep Wrestling

Jan. 25 8 a.m. Alamosa at Brighton Tournament

Platte Valley Duals  
TBA Monte Vista at Platte Valley

2020 Screaming Eagle  
TBA Center at Paonia

#### Bobcat Invite

Alamosa, Centauri, Del Norte, Sierra Grande-Centennial, MV-Moffat, Sanford, Sargent, SG-Centennial at Custer County

#### Adams State Wrestling

Jan. 22 6 p.m. New Mexico Highlands at ASU

Schedules subject to change

### Adult Volleyball League

ALAMOSA — Alamosa Parks and Recreation Adult Volleyball registration is open.  
Team Registration: Jan 8 - Feb 5, 2020  
Team Fee: \$100 Player Fee: \$30/Division  
Player Registration: Opens Jan 8, 2020

Season: mid - Feb to late - April (min. 10 season games + tourney)

For more information, contact the AFRC · (719) 589-2105; Website: www.AlamosaRec.org

### 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

# Lifestyle

## The legalization of marijuana in the United States has been, well, a slow burn.

Less than 20 years ago, all 50 states had strict laws criminalizing the possession, use, production, and selling of marijuana for any reason. While the medical and recreational use of marijuana remains illegal on the federal level, 11 states and Washington, D.C., have passed laws legalizing marijuana for recreational use. However, marijuana users are certainly not confined to legal states. In fact, 1 in 7 Americans used marijuana in 2017, and daily use among adults is on the rise.

So how many people are traveling to states where marijuana is legal, and what does the trip entail? We surveyed over 1,000 people who had traveled to buy recreational marijuana to learn which states are the most popular cannabis destinations, which products people are buying, and whether they risk bringing it home.

In 2014, Colorado became the first state to legalize recreational marijuana. In June of 2019, the state reached another milestone when it became the first state to surpass \$1 billion in total

cannabis-related revenue. Colorado's sales are not only from state residents, however. Over 52% of people named Colorado their marijuana travel destination, making an average of 2.5 trips since legalization. California was the second most popular destination, with nearly one-third of respondents traveling there.

The chosen location and number of trips taken likely depends on the user's home state. Considering it is illegal to fly with marijuana, traveling to states that require a plane ride to bring some home could be especially risky. In fact, 57.3% of people traveled by car to their marijuana destination, while only 36.5% traveled by plane (although driving it into a state where it is illegal is still a crime). While 67.4% of travelers lived in states where recreational use was illegal, nearly 30% lived in a state where recreational use was legal.

**Budding Over Budget**  
There are many ways to consume marijuana, and while smoking remains the most common form among users, people

who traveled bought edibles more than any other product. Sixty-nine percent of people said they purchased edibles, while 57.1% and 38.8% bought marijuana buds or leaves and prewrapped joints, respectively. CBD oil, which has exploded in popularity, was also relatively common, with 22.3% purchasing it during their trip.

Depending on the strain, potency, and form of marijuana, the price can vary drastically. The average price of just 1 gram of marijuana in the U.S. is \$14, and while travelers left their home state with a budget in mind, they ended up spending significantly more than they planned. Compared to an average

budget of \$206, people actually spent an average of \$265.

However, taking into account the national average per gram of marijuana, travelers didn't spend all that much. In most legal states, people can purchase up to an ounce of marijuana – or about 28 grams. Daily users purchased 31 grams, while weekly users purchased 30.6 grams – based on the national average, that much marijuana would cost \$434.

**More Than Marijuana**  
Purchasing marijuana is only one cost of a THC trip, though. On top of the \$265 spent on cannabis products, lodging, transportation, activities, and food all cost a pretty penny. A

trip to purchase recreational marijuana legally cost users an average of \$980. While people spent an average of just 4.3 days on their recreational trips, they could take a weeklong exotic vacation for around the same price – or spend nine days at Disneyland.

**Sneaking Souvenirs**  
However, people choosing to travel with marijuana took precautions: Nearly 1 in 5 people who bought marijuana products to bring home mailed them to avoid transportation security (although mailing marijuana is still illegal), while only 7.2% of people tried to bring marijuana products home on their flight. For those who chose not to bring marijuana home, 56.8%

did so because it was illegal in their home state, while 40.2% said they were scared they would be caught with it.

Written by: Dwight K. Blake

Dwight was a Mental Health counselor at Long Island Psychotherapy & Counseling in Westbury, New York for more than 15 years. He believes that CBD is the prime solution to this mental illness and more- with proper research, medical acknowledgment, and application. Through his work at AmericanMarijuana, together with the rest of the team, he wishes to provide everyone with genuine results and high-quality product reviews for everyone to enjoy for free.

### Marijuana on the Map

#### Top States People Travel to for Recreational Marijuana

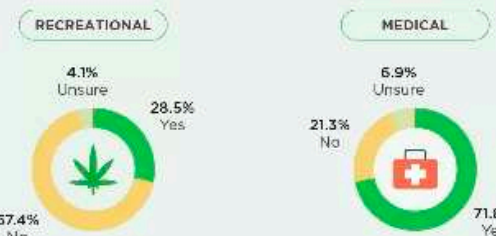
Overall Average Number of Trips



57.3% OF PEOPLE TRAVELED BY CAR TO THEIR MARIJUANA DESTINATION. 36.5% TRAVELED BY PLANE.

#### Is Marijuana Legal in Your State?

BY CLASSIFICATION



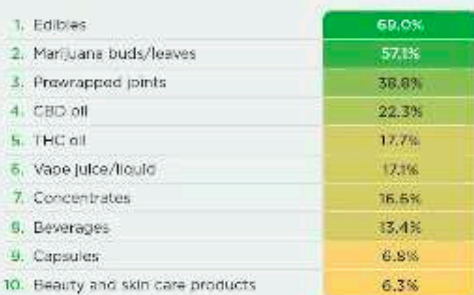
20.2% OF PEOPLE WHO TRAVELED FOR RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA HAD A MEDICAL MARIJUANA CARD.

Source: Survey of 1,000 people traveling to another state to buy recreational marijuana.

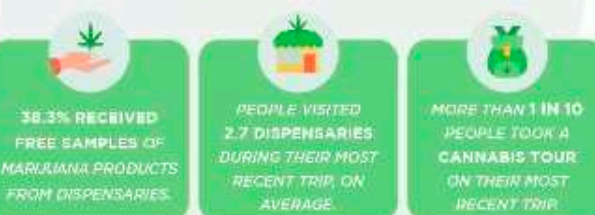


### Marijuana Shopping Spree

#### Top Marijuana Products Purchased on Most Recent Trip

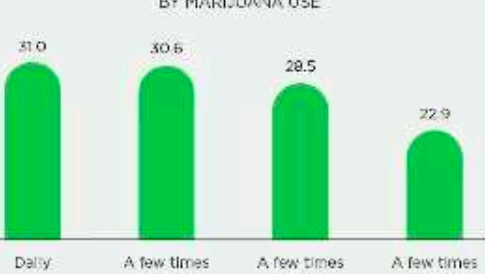


#### Allocated vs. Actual Average Spending on Marijuana Products on Most Recent Trip



#### Average Grams of Marijuana Purchased on Most Recent Trip

BY MARIJUANA USE



Source: Survey of 1,000 people traveling to another state to buy recreational marijuana.



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PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE

<p>NEW 2019 FORD <b>FUSION</b> SE STK# FC0978 MSRP: \$26,110</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$21,995.99</b> PER MONTH <b>\$298</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 FORD <b>ESCAPE</b> SE 4WD STK# FT3578 MSRP: \$30,785</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$22,995.99</b> PER MONTH <b>\$311</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 FORD <b>RANGER</b> XL CREW 4X4 STK# FT2033 MSRP: \$36,840</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$33,995.99</b> PER MONTH <b>\$461</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 FORD <b>F-150</b> XL SUPERCAB 4X4 STK# FT3899 MSRP: \$42,230</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$35,995.99</b> PER MONTH <b>\$488</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 FORD <b>EDGE</b> TITANIUM AWD STK# FT6284 MSRP: \$48,085</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$39,995.99</b> PER MONTH <b>\$542</b></p>
<p>NEW 2020 FORD <b>EXPLORER</b> XLT 4WD STK# FT3894 MSRP: \$46,730</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$41,995.99</b> PER MONTH <b>\$569</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 FORD <b>F-250</b> XLT CREW 4X4 STK# FT2901 MSRP: \$59,645</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$53,995.99</b> PER MONTH <b>\$732</b></p>
<p>NEW 2019 FORD <b>EXPEDITION</b> LIMITED 4X4 STK# FT2504 MSRP: \$79,280</p>		<p>AUTOMALL PRICE <b>\$64,995.99</b> PER MONTH <b>\$881</b></p>

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.

# Lifestyle

## Colorado Parks and Wildlife approves 13 trails

**DENVER** — At its January 15 meeting, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission unanimously approved trail-funding allocations for the 2019-2020 Colorado the Beautiful Trail Grants as recommended by the Colorado Recreational Trails Committee. The Committee recommended funding 13 grants for a total award amount of \$2,988,006.81.

Statewide Trails Program Manager Fletcher Jacobs highlighted the Committee's wildlife review process and the importance of "balancing wildlife and habitat needs with recreation needs in Colorado. These trail projects will connect Coloradans to the outdoors with new and improved trails that provide more places for everyone to

get outside."

**BACKGROUND**  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife's (CPW) Trails Program administers grants for trail-related projects on an annual basis. Local, county, and state governments, federal agencies, special recreation districts, and nonprofit organizations with management responsibilities over public lands may apply for and are eligible to receive non-motorized and motorized trail grants.

### COLORADO THE BEAUTIFUL GRANT PROGRAM

The Colorado the Beautiful Grant Program funds construction or planning projects to increase access to public lands for Coloradans and visitors alike. The program is

a unique opportunity that has goals, objectives, and criteria independent of the normal motorized and non-motorized CPW grants that run each fall.

Construction grant applications prioritized connections to existing outdoor recreation opportunities, proximity and benefit to local communities, wildlife/resource mitigation, and improved links to other trail systems.

Planning grant applications prioritized large-scale trail and resource planning efforts, collaborative multi-agency and organization approach, and a holistic balance and evaluation of trail system improvements and wildlife/resource conservation and mitigation.

The Colorado the Beautiful Grant Program is a partner-

ship between CPW and Great Outdoors Colorado. This was the final grant cycle of the program.

### GRANT STATS/ CONSTRUCTION

Seven grants totaling \$2,365,816

### PLANNING

Six grants totaling \$634,082  
At the Jan. 15 meeting, Parks and Wildlife commissioners praised the considerations given to wildlife in the grant application process. Suzanne O'Neill, executive director of the Colorado Wildlife Federation, commended Colorado Mountain Bike Association's Outside 285 project in the northeast region, saying their master plan did a great job of balancing the demand for recreational needs with wildlife. "We're satisfied this

could be a very good spot and a model," she said.

The Outside 285 project seeks to complete a regional planning effort to connect areas of interest along the US-285 corridor in a sustainable and environmentally conscious manner. Connections include areas near Staunton State Park, Buffalo Creek and the North Elk recreation areas.

Commissioners concurred that the Outside 285 Plan was a great example of the mountain bike community working to balance trails and wildlife habitat.

A complete list of the Colorado the Beautiful Trail Grants is available on CPW's website.

### ABOUT THE GRANT PROCESS

The Colorado Recreational Trails Committee is responsible for the review process for the trail grant applications and makes recommendations to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission regarding funding for grants. Subcommittees for each grant category and their members are appointed for the purpose of reviewing and ranking grants and compiling funding recommendations for the Committee. Subcommittee members include Committee members, representatives from GOCO, CPW Trails Program staff, and volunteer peer reviewers. After receiving recommendations from the Committee and approval from the Commission, grants are awarded for the 2019 Colorado the Beautiful grants.

## Hidden grave in South Fork yields stories from past

By LYNSIE FERRELL

*Valley Publishing*  
**SOUTH FORK** — Tucked away, just off County Road 15 in the rolling foothills northeast of South Fork lies a grave of a man who most have never heard of and some revere for his bravery, dedication and perseverance.

A marker placed on the side of the dirt road reads simply, "Historical Marker: Homestead and gravesite of Col. Albert H. Pfeiffer 1822-1881. Soldier and Scout for Kit Carson, Indian Agent, adopted by Utes."

There are several men and women of the Valley's past that stand out among others for their tough personalities and wild adventures; some of which helped shape the cities and towns one lives in today and Colonel Albert Pfeiffer was one of those men.

His story alone speaks volumes to how people survived in the rough and tumble world of the 1800s in Colorado and how their bravery and sacrifice withstand the test of time for generations to come.

According to historical documents pulled from the Del Norte Prospector and findagrave.com, Pfeiffer was born in Friesland, Netherlands, in 1822 and traveled to the United States in 1844 at the age of 22.

From there he lived a unique life as a frontiersman, soldier, fur trapper, Indian Scout and agent, as well as Colonel and assistant to Kit Carson.

But his story doesn't end there and what he did for the remainder of his years still astonishes historians and history buffs to this day.

Like out of a made-up western novel, Pfeiffer rose quickly in rank when he joined the Army in Sante Fe, N.M., and swiftly became highly regarded by the local Ute Indian tribes in the northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado territories.

In fact, according to documents collected by local historian Rosalind Weaver, he even married into a prominent Ute family.

"While serving at Fort McRae, near present Truth or Consequences, N.M., in 1863 he and his wife, along with a party of 10, were bathing in the hot springs near Taos, N.M., when they were suddenly attacked by a band of Apache Indians.

Pfeiffer was seriously wounded by arrows, with one arrow going completely through his body just below his heart."

The archives continue to state that the Apaches carried his wife, who was later killed, and five other men who were mortally injured.

"It was from that day forward that Pfeiffer hunted and killed Apaches with a vengeance. It was reported that at one time, he said, "they paid for it, yes they have paid for it in blood. I fight 'em night and day — everywhere in all seasons."

Pfeiffer, with nothing left to lose, fought in many battles over the years but the one that he is most remembered for occurred after his retirement from the Army. Pfeiffer returned to his homestead just east



Courtesy photo  
**Colonel Albert Hinrich Pfeiffer played a large role in the history of South Fork and Pagosa Springs areas. His gravesite is at Country Road 15 east of South Fork since 1881.**

of the town of South Fork, then known as Baxterville, to live a quiet life when he was contacted by his Ute tribe.

The Utes were in a war with another Navajo tribe over the ownership of the hot springs near Pagosa Springs. According to history, the Utes had possession of the hot springs for many years and after several days of fighting, the Utes sought assistance from Pfeiffer.

"Pfeiffer traveled over Wolf Creek Pass to Pagosa Springs and worked out a deal with the Navajos. It was agreed that each tribe would put up one man to battle each other to the death with the winner taking possession of the hot springs and the other leaving peacefully."

The Navajos sent a young and seasoned warrior as their champion and the Utes sent Pfeiffer, who was 5-foot-5 and was in his late 40s.

Pfeiffer agreed to do the fight for the Utes under one condition. The fight was to be done in the nude. The Navajos agreed and the fight commenced on the following day.

On the day of the scheduled epic battle, the young Navajo warrior took one look at Pfeiffer's mangled and scarred body from past battles and submitted to the man, calling a draw and peacefully surrendering the hot springs to the Utes.

The hot springs remained in the possession of the Ute tribe for many years, until after the death of Pfeiffer, when they had to concede their land in 1873 to the United States Government.

Colonel Albert Pfeiffer died in his bed at his homestead near South Fork in 1881.

He was 59 years old and insisted on a quiet burial in the foothills of his home where he rests today. Those interested can visit the grave site by traveling along County Road 15. The exact location is hard to describe, so drive slowly, and watch for the historical marker, which is placed on the northern edge of the road.

It is a beautiful drive and a great opportunity to see the countryside.

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# Lifestyle

## Home safety measures for seniors

The population of 65-plus is seeing major growth, as the baby-boom generation continues to age. There are currently around 40 million people aged 65 years or older. Many seniors and families are choosing to stay at home, depending upon individual needs and while this may be comforting, home accidents are the most prevalent cause of injury in seniors. As we age, our senses, strength, and reaction time decline posing many threats to our safety and security, but maintaining independence is often a concern of many families and aging seniors, so there are small steps that can be taken to improve home safety for seniors.

Here are a few general safety tips to avoid injury

- for seniors living at home:
- Keep a list of emergency contact information by each telephone.
- Ensure that doors have strong locking mechanisms and are easy for seniors to operate.
- Check and maintain fire and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Remove any loose rugs or purchase rubber-backed carpeting
- Relocate electrical cords out of traffic areas — hallways, doors, etc.
- Install adequate lighting and provide a flashlight or lamp next to the bed.
- Use chairs that have arms to assist in standing and sitting.
- Check to ensure railings, grab-bars, and towel bars are securely fastened.
- Keep outdoor walkways

maintained and clear walkways.

If possible, install an alarm system to alert to the opening or closing of a door or window.

For more information contact Mary Ellen Fleming at 852-7381 or visit the CSU Extension Office for the San Luis Valley Area



**Mary Ellen Fleming**

at 1899 E. Hwy. 160 in Monte Vista.

Please feel free to visit our website at: <http://sanluisvalley.colostate.edu> for information about

services provided.

Extension programs are available to all without discrimination. Colorado State University Extension, U.S. Department of

Agriculture and Colorado Counties cooperating.

Eye on Extension, Mary Ellen Fleming, Area Extension Agent.



Courtesy photo

Stretching, yoga and swimming, pictured above, help keep seniors muscles flexible.

## People may feel less flexible with age

According to the University of Maryland Medical Center, that loss of flexibility is because muscles lose both strength and elasticity as the body ages.

A lack of flexibility can make men and women more vulnerable to certain types of injuries, including muscle strains and tears. While people might not be able to maintain the flexibility they enjoyed in their 20s, there are ways for them to combat age-related loss of flexibility.

- ▶ Stretch frequently. Stretching is a great way to combat age-related loss of flexibility. Stretch major muscle groups, such as hamstrings and shoulder muscles, several times per week. When practicing static stretching, the goal is to gradually elongate the muscle being stretched before holding the elongated position, and ultimately allowing the muscle to return to resting position. As flexibility improves, elongated stretches can be held for 30 seconds.
- ▶ Avoid stretching muscles that are sore or injured, and discontinue a stretch if pain or discomfort is felt.
- ▶ Include yoga in your exercise regimen. Practitioners of yoga typically love how this unique discipline that exercises the body while relaxing the mind improves their flexibility. Many yoga poses are designed to improve the

strength and flexibility of muscles, and some physicians may even recommend yoga to aging patients. Yoga DVDs or streaming sessions can be great, but beginners may want to visit yoga studios or sign up for classes at their gyms so instructors can personally ensure they are doing each pose correctly. As their flexibility improves, men and women can try more difficult poses and classes if they so desire.

- ▶ Get in the pool. Swimming is another activity that can help aging men and women improve their flexibility. Strength-training exercises are an important component of a well-balanced exercise regimen, but such workouts tend to focus on one or two muscle groups at a time. That means other muscle groups may be inactive and tighten up as a result. Swimming works the entire body, which helps all muscle groups stay loose and flexible. One or two swimming sessions per week can contribute to great gains in overall flexibility, especially for men and women who remember to stretch when they get out of the pool.

Flexibility may decrease as men and women age, but there are various ways to combat the natural loss of flexibility. LP183789

## Avoid Scams in 2020

The start of a new year often means setting new goals or creating resolutions. Why not make a resolution to stay scam free in 2020?

While scams can take various forms, there are often “red flags” that are common to many scams.

Recognizing red flags will help one avoid scams. The following are some common red flags that may help one identify if a scammer is trying to steal money or personal information:

- ▶ When asked to send payment in a non-traditional way, such as via pre-paid gift card, wire transfer or crypto-currency
- ▶ Receiving unsolicited contact from a government agency, business or other entity that is unexpected and unprofessional
- ▶ When one is requested to provide or verify critical information such as a bank account number or Social Security

number

- ▶ The request is urgent in nature, often with a timeline to ensure there is not time to verify its legitimacy
- ▶ The offer seems “too good to be true” or not in line with market value for the product or service
- ▶ There is little or no contact information for the organization and third-party reviews are limited or don’t exist

Aside from recognizing red flags, one of the best ways to stay scam free is to “trust one’s gut,” if something doesn’t sound right, don’t go along with it. If one has a question about a fraud or scam contact an AARP ElderWatch volunteer specialist at 1-800-222-4444, option 2 for information and assistance. Stay Scam Free in 2020.

Report courtesy of press release from Mark Fetterhoff, AARP ElderWatch.

**Rio Frio Ice Fest**

# beach party

In the Coldest Place in the Nation\*

**schedule**

- friday**  
6-8 PM Luminaria X-Country Skiing  
5:30-7:30 PM Race Packet Pick Up/Registration
- saturday**  
8-9:30 AM Race Packet Pick Up/Registration  
10 AM Rio Frio 5K on the Rio Grande  
12 PM Live Ice Sculpting  
12-3 PM Beach Party, Downtown  
2 PM Kiwanis Costume Contest  
3-7 PM Grub n' Pub  
7 PM Fire and Ice Bonfire
- sunday**  
10 AM Kristi Mountain Sports Fat Bike Races  
11 AM Pond Ice Curling  
12 PM Polar Plunge

**january 24-26**

Alamosa, CO

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

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# Classified Marketplace

## FREE!

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



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### Public Notices

#### NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PRAIRIE DITCH COMPANY SHAREHOLDERS

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED: That the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the Prairie Ditch Company will be held on February 1, 2020 at 9:00 AM., at the Mosca United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, located in Mosca, Colorado.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF CRESTONE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PURPOSE: Public comment on a Planned Unit Development proposal for Tract 3, which consists of 4.62 acres of E. Lime Ave. within the Town of Crestone and Zoned Rural Residential.

#### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR ALAMOSA MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a regular election will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2020, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. At that time, two (2) Directors will be elected to serve a three-year term, and one (1) Director will be elected to serve a two-year term.

#### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR ALAMOSA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a regular election will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2020, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. At that time, two (2) Directors will be elected to serve a three-year term.

#### 099 ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO BID Location: San Luis Valley Conejos County Hwy 142 near the Rio Grande Bridge. Separate sealed BIDS for the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area/Rio Grande Natural Area Sign Panel (Special)-6 Panel will be received by San Luis Valley Great Outdoors, P.O. Box 300, Alamosa, Colorado 81101, located at 610 State Ave, Alamosa, Colorado 81101, until 2:00 P.M. on January 24th, 2019.

#### 173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

LICENSED PLUMBER DOES all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodel done at reasonable rate. Call 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593.(02/01)

#### 221 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".

#### 221 HELP WANTED

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.

#### 221 HELP WANTED

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.

#### 221 HELP WANTED

MONTE VISTA AREA Ditch Companies seeking a ditch rider, experience preferred. Must have a valid CDL reliable transportation, Welding capabilities, able to run and maintain heavy equipment.

#### 221 HELP WANTED

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL District is accepting applications for a Middle School Math Teacher for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. A complete list of desired qualifications and experience may be viewed on the district website.

JAY MEYER INSURANCE Agency is now hiring an experienced Customer Service and licensed insurance representative. Applicants must have the ability to be licensed with good interpersonal skills.

LOOKING FOR A career opportunity and being a part of your local community? 1st Southwest Bank is growing and hiring an IT Systems Support Technician, offering a strong benefits package & career growth opportunities.

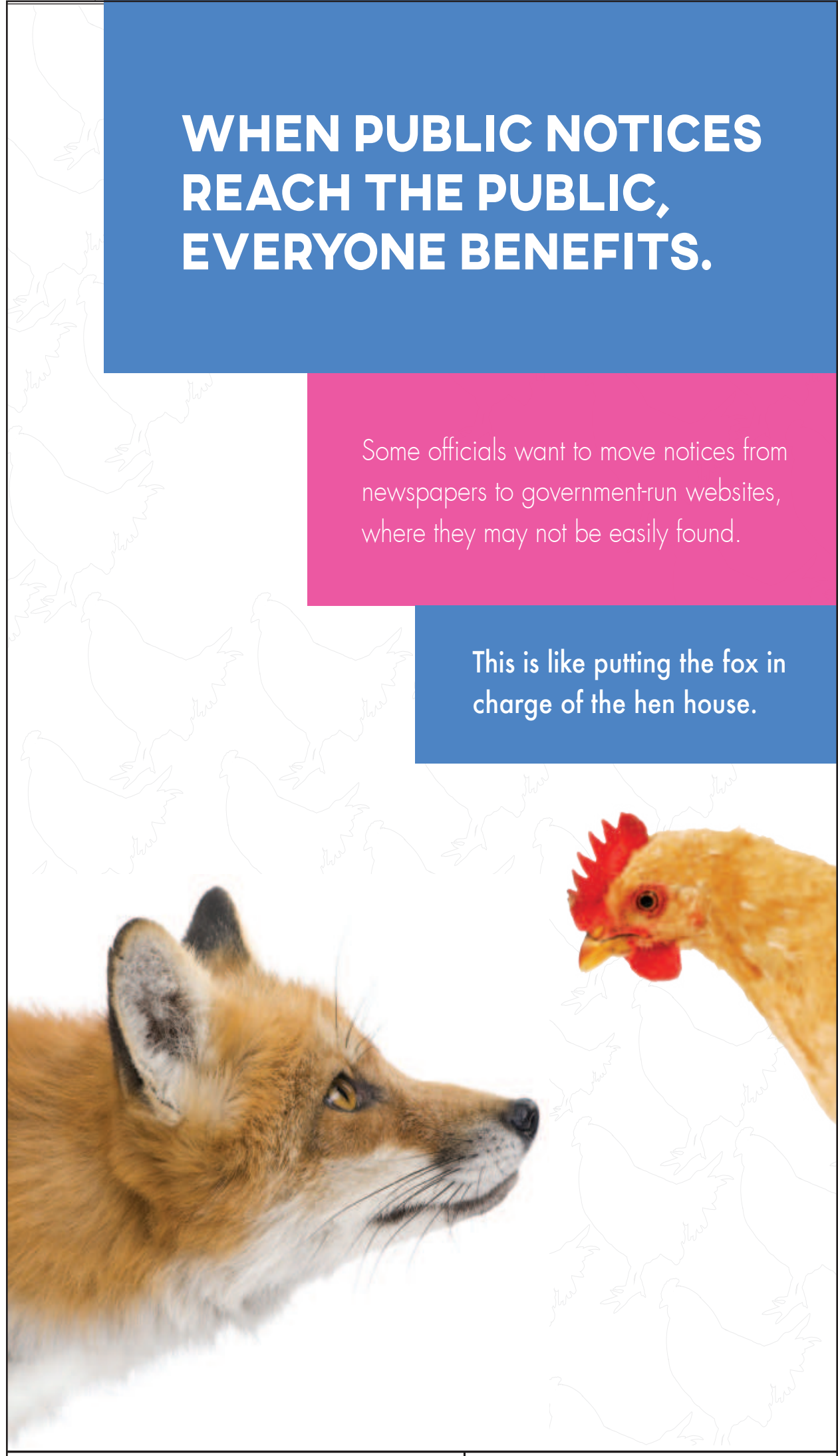
NEED A SECOND-IN-COME? child support? Car Repairs? Taxes Due? Earn up to \$800/month delivering the Valley Courier. Contact Keith at 589-2553. (2/26-TFN)

### ALAMOSA COUNTY JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- Detention Officer
• Patrol Deputy
• Road & Bridge Maintenance Technician
• DHS Child Welfare Social Worker
• DHS Adult Case Manager

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## WHEN PUBLIC NOTICES REACH THE PUBLIC, EVERYONE BENEFITS.

Some officials want to move notices from newspapers to government-run websites, where they may not be easily found.

This is like putting the fox in charge of the hen house.

Keep Public Notices in Newspapers



# Classifieds

<p><b>221 HELP WANTED</b></p> <p><b>ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY:</b> Counseling, Career and Accessibility Services Adams State University seeks applicants for Counseling Services Coordinator of Accessibility services. AAEOE. For more information visit: <a href="https://www.adams.edu/hr/administrative-positions/">https://www.adams.edu/hr/administrative-positions/</a> (2/19)</p> <p><b>COMMUNITY BANKS OF Colorado</b> is seeking a candidate to fill a Universal Banker position in our La Jara Banking Center. If you have client service, sales and cash handling experience, we'd like to speak with you. For position details and to apply, please visit <a href="http://www.nbh-bank.com">www.nbh-bank.com</a>. NBH Bank is an equal opportunity employer.(2/7)</p> <p><b>THE BOE OF Center Schools</b> an innovative individual to fill a full time 9th Grade Paraprofessional position for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. The right candidate will have experience in secondary academic content, with working with families and school, preferably bilingual, and will preferably have a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalency, or such alternative qualifications/experience as the Board may find appropriate and acceptable. This full time position will begin as soon as filled. The position salary will be based on experience. Center Consolidated Schools is an equal-opportunity employer. If you wish to apply, please send a cover letter and resume and completed certified employment application found at <a href="https://www.center.k12.co.us/District/1115-Employment-Opportunities.html">https://www.center.k12.co.us/District/1115-Employment-Opportunities.html</a> to Mrs. Carrie Zimmerman, Superintendent of Schools, Center School District 26JT, 550 S. Sylvester Avenue, Center, CO 81125. For more information, please contact Katrina Ruggles at <a href="mailto:kruggles@center.k12.co.us">kruggles@center.k12.co.us</a>. (1/30)</p>	<p><b>221 HELP WANTED</b></p> <p><b>THE NORTH CONEJOS School District</b> is accepting applications for (1) assistant CHS Baseball coach and (1) assistant CHS Track coach. Applications can be downloaded at <a href="http://www.northconejos.com">www.northconejos.com</a>, or may be picked up at the administration office, 17890 US Hwy 285, La Jara, CO 81140. Submit applications to Mr. Curt Wilson, superintendent. Application deadline is until filled. EOE (1/29)</p> <p><b>LOOKING FOR A career opportunity</b> and being a part of your local community? 1st Southwest Bank is growing and hiring an IT Systems Support Technician, offering a strong benefits package &amp; career growth opportunities. EOE. Go to <a href="https://www.fswb.bank/who-we-are/careers/">https://www.fswb.bank/who-we-are/careers/</a> for more details &amp; to apply. (1/25)</p> <p><b>ROTECH HEALTH-CARE IS</b> currently taking applications for a part-time PPS-RT (Respiratory Clinician Pay Per Service). Applicant can consist of RN, CRT or RRT. If interested in the position apply at <a href="https://careers-rotech.icims.com/(1/28)">https://careers-rotech.icims.com/(1/28)</a></p> <p><b>MONTE VISTA SCHOOL District</b> is accepting applications for a full-time School Nurse. A complete list of duties and desired qualifications may be viewed on the district website <a href="http://ww2.monte.k12.co.us/employment-opportunities.html">ww2.monte.k12.co.us/employment-opportunities.html</a>. Monte Vista School District offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, and life coverage. Applications may be submitted to the District Office, 345 E. Prospect Ave., Monte Vista, CO 81144, by January 30, 2020, or until the position is filled. Applications may be downloaded from the district website or call 719-852-5996.(2/1)</p>	<p><b>221 HELP WANTED</b></p> <p><b>CENTER FIRE DEPARTMENT</b> 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, filing 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)</p> <p><b>EXPERIENCED DENTAL HYGIENIST</b> wanted. Established practice in Alamosa, full time or part time. Must have active license. Send resume to PO Box 1841 Alamosa, CO 81101.(1/15-TFN)</p> <p><b>OTERO JUNIOR COLLEGE Child Development Services</b> accepting applications for positions at the Center, Colorado Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Center Full-time Family Advocate Full-time Head Teacher (non-classroom supervisory position) Full-time Bus Driver/Janitor. All positions eligible for health, dental, vision and life benefits. Participate in Public Employees Retirement Association. Earn sick and personal leave. Job descriptions with qualification requirements and applications are available at the CDS website employment page at <a href="http://www.cds-headstart.com">www.cds-headstart.com</a> Application deadline for the Family Advocate position is January 27, 2020. Applications for Head Teacher and Bus Driver/Janitor position will be accepted until positions filled. For more information contact Michelle Weaver, 719-384-3103 or at <a href="mailto:michelle.weaver@ojc.edu">michelle.weaver@ojc.edu</a> Otero Junior College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Title IX/Section 504 employer.(1/27)</p>	<p><b>221 HELP WANTED</b></p> <p><b>SIERRA VISTA LUMBER</b> is seeking a full time Yard person 40-50 hrs per week to load customers, load and unload trucks and keep lumber yard and warehouse organized. Must be dependable, a self starter and be able to pass a drug test. \$12.50 per hour or more, depending on skills and experience. Apply at Sierra Vista Lumber, 1301 West Ave., Alamosa.(1/31)</p> <p><b>THE CITY OF Alamosa</b> is seeking a Full-Time Water/Wastewater Technician I to perform operations, maintenance, and repairs within the water and sewer divisions under the supervisor of senior personnel. This position is responsible to provide on-call service on a rotating basis to cover after-hours repairs and maintenance, as required. Starting salary is \$15.25 - \$16.78 per hour (DOQ), including a comprehensive health benefits package, CO PERA retirement, and vacation, personal, and sick leave. Applications can be found online at <a href="http://www.cityofalamosa.org">www.cityofalamosa.org</a> under Employment or at the HR Department, 300 Hunt Avenue, Alamosa, Colorado. Closing date is January 24, 2020 at 5 pm. (1/24)</p> <p><b>SANGRE DE CRISTO School District</b> is looking for full time / part time custodian position. For more information please call 719-378-2321. Applications may be downloaded from <a href="http://sdc.schoolsdesd.net">sdc.schoolsdesd.net</a> or picked up at school office. Positions open until filled.(1/24)</p> <p><b>JOHNNY'S AUTO TRIM &amp; Rod Shop,</b> Alamosa, looking for experienced mechanic, fabricator, paint/body, upholster, electrical, detailer and p/t bookkeeper. Quality a must; see FB page. Send resume to <a href="mailto:johnnysautotrim@msn.com">johnnysautotrim@msn.com</a>; salary TBD on experience. (01/31)</p>	<p><b>221 HELP WANTED</b></p> <p><b>WANTED - RANCH/FARM Hand</b> for cow/calf and hay operation. Need experience with calving, fencing, irrigating, loaders, hay equipment operating and maintenance, light mechanic work and welding. Steady, long term position for honest, reliable, motivated individual. Housing and utilities included with wages based on experience and responsibilities. Please respond with resume, references and salary expectation to <a href="mailto:fuchsranchinc@gmail.com">fuchsranchinc@gmail.com</a>.(2/5)</p> <p><b>SIERRA GRANDE SCHOOL District</b> is currently accepting applications for the position of school secretary/receptionist. Applicants should have a background in clerical/office work as well as excellent management skills and experience in working with the public. Experience in automated data management skills and electronic web-based platforms is preferred, but not required. Application forms are available at the district office located at 17523 E. Hwy 160 Blanca, CO 81123 or on the District's website at <a href="http://www.sierragrande-school.net">www.sierragrande-school.net</a> Applications may be submitted to Mr. Darren Edgar at <a href="mailto:dedgar@sierragrandeschool.net">dedgar@sierragrandeschool.net</a> or turned in at the district office. For more information please contact Mrs. DeAnn Arellano at 719-379-3257.(1/24)</p> <p><b>SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS Association</b> Visitor Information Specialist The San Juan Mountains Association is seeking a full-time Visitor Information Specialist to provide top-notch customer service for the Rio Grande National Forest in Monte Vista and/or Del Norte. Salary range is \$28,000-\$30,000 per year (depending on experience) plus health care stipend, paid vacation, and retirement contribution. For more information please visit <a href="http://sjma.org/jobs-sjma/">sjma.org/jobs-sjma/</a>. (01/23)</p>	<p><b>324 - FEED &amp; SEED</b></p> <p><b>PREMIUM ALFALFA AND grass/alfalfa,</b> small bales \$8.00 in shed, \$7.00 outside (719) 580-2509. (02/19)</p> <p><b>HORSE AND COW hay:</b> grass, grass/alfalfa, alfalfa. 3x3 and 4x4 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917 (7-13-TFN)</p>	<p><b>369 - PETS &amp; SUPPLIES</b></p> <p><b>FREE KITTENS TO good inside home.</b> Call 719-250-7597.(1/30)</p> <p><b>OOPS! GOT PUPPIES</b> who need a home? San Luis Valley Animal Welfare Society is a nonprofit animal rescue dedicated to stopping the euthanasia of healthy adoptable pets. Having pets altered is the number one way to stop pet overpopulation. If your pet has had puppies contact us. We will take the puppies into our rescue and spay the mama dog for free after the puppies are weaned. If needed we will also provide dog food &amp; gas money to get the dogs to us to help in this situation. Spay/neuter is one of the greatest gifts you can provide your pet, your family and your community. We have found good responsible homes for over 8,000 animals. Contact 719-587-9663 (WOOF); email: <a href="mailto:woof@slvaws.org">woof@slvaws.org</a>. (TFN)</p> <p><b>NEED CATS FOR mousers?</b> Want to adopt kittens? Help trap/neuter/release efforts? Donate food/litter/supplies? Low cost spay/neuter clinic for cats. <a href="http://www.catsaliveslv.com">http://www.catsaliveslv.com</a> 719-298-7028. (TFN)</p> <p><b>FREE TO GOOD home.</b> Adults and kittens. NO MOUSERS OR BARN CATS. Spay/neuter clinics coming to Alamosa in near future. Call Donna K 719-589-5952 or 719-580-9078. (TFN)</p>	<p><b>415 - HOMES FOR SALE</b></p> <p><b>2 HOMES/ 5.25 Acres,</b> Trees!, 3 wells!, Extra electric System, Trees!, Corral. \$184,000.00 970-640-9562.(2/15)</p> <p><b>VERY CLEAN 2 Bedroom Home</b> for sale / With Fireplace. Priced in the \$90's. Call 719-480-9893. (01/22)</p>
		<p><b>330 FREE</b></p> <p><b>FREE COUCH PLEASE</b> call 719-849-0483 for more information (1/23)</p>	<p><b>351 LIVESTOCK</b></p> <p><b>PIGS FOR SALE</b> \$1.00 lb. live weight. 570-395-0184 (TFN)</p>	<p><b>360 - MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE</b></p> <p><b>110V WELL PUMP</b> with 5 gallon pressure tank. \$110.00 OBO please call 719-480-3497.(1/30)</p> <p><b>SMALL ANTIQUE TABLE</b> with chairs. New 11 tables and 52 chairs. 719-589-0464/719-580-9648. (2/5)</p> <p><b>NEW, MUST SELL Couch &amp; Love Seat.</b> Medium gray in color. 719-580-2332. (1/30)</p> <p><b>RAMSEY 12 VOLT Pro 8000R Series #817508</b> wench 93 ft. 5/16 cable. Remote switch, roller fairlead. 719-852-2285 (10/22-TFN)</p> <p><b>ZACH'S EUROPEAN MOUNTS.</b> Professional work, low prices. 719-580-0398. (TFN)</p>	<p><b>409 FARM &amp; RANCH LAND</b></p> <p><b>HAY GROUND WANTED</b> for share crop or cash lease. Over 20 years experience 719-850-1626. (2/5)</p>	<p><b>525 GUNS</b></p> <p><b>ZACH'S EUROPEAN MOUNTS.</b> Professional work, low prices. 719-580-0398. (TFN)</p> <p><b>601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT</b></p> <p>Century Property Management &amp; Sales, LLC Alamosa • 589-5744</p> <p><b>PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICE</b></p> <p>For all your rental needs please call 719-589-5744 or stop by 823 Main St. Alamosa, CO 81101 <a href="http://www.alamosarentals.com">www.alamosarentals.com</a></p> <p><b>AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY NICE</b> 1 bedroom Apt. across from ASU 719-251-3597. (1/25)</p> <p><b>611 - HOMES FOR RENT</b></p> <p><b>2 BEDROOM 1 Bath,</b> efficiency kitchen, upstairs, garage. \$850/Mo. plus utilities. Del Norte. Call 719-539-7879 Avail. February 01..(2/01)</p> <p><b>AFFORDABLE 2 BEDROOM House</b> for rent in Monte Vista. Call Raymond (719)850-2069.(1/28)</p> <p><b>HOUSE FOR RENT</b> in Alamosa, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, \$800 per month, \$800 damage deposit. Price includes all utilities. No pets, nonsmokers. Call 719-480-0108. (1/31)</p>	
		<p><b>330 FREE</b></p> <p><b>FREE COUCH PLEASE</b> call 719-849-0483 for more information (1/23)</p>	<p><b>351 LIVESTOCK</b></p> <p><b>PIGS FOR SALE</b> \$1.00 lb. live weight. 570-395-0184 (TFN)</p>	<p><b>360 - MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE</b></p> <p><b>110V WELL PUMP</b> with 5 gallon pressure tank. \$110.00 OBO please call 719-480-3497.(1/30)</p> <p><b>SMALL ANTIQUE TABLE</b> with chairs. New 11 tables and 52 chairs. 719-589-0464/719-580-9648. (2/5)</p> <p><b>NEW, MUST SELL Couch &amp; Love Seat.</b> Medium gray in color. 719-580-2332. (1/30)</p> <p><b>RAMSEY 12 VOLT Pro 8000R Series #817508</b> wench 93 ft. 5/16 cable. Remote switch, roller fairlead. 719-852-2285 (10/22-TFN)</p> <p><b>ZACH'S EUROPEAN MOUNTS.</b> Professional work, low prices. 719-580-0398. (TFN)</p>	<p><b>409 FARM &amp; RANCH LAND</b></p> <p><b>HAY GROUND WANTED</b> for share crop or cash lease. Over 20 years experience 719-850-1626. (2/5)</p>	<p><b>415 - HOMES FOR SALE</b></p> <p><b>FOR SALE IN Alamosa.</b> Nice log home, 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms. Totally remodeled 719-589-0464/719-580-9648. (2/5)</p>	

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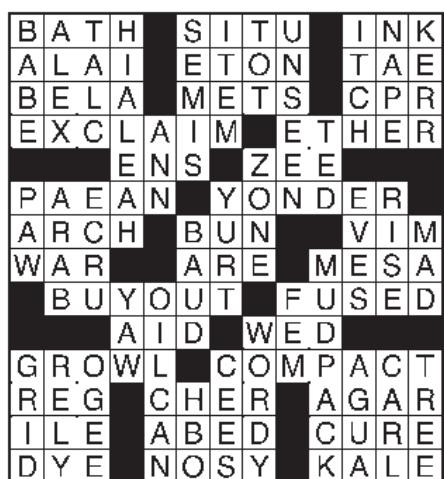
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<p><b>Earth Moving</b></p> <p><b>Earthworks of Southern Colorado LLC</b> Troy Geringer 719-480-1756</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trenching</li> <li>• Backfilling</li> <li>• Site Cleaning &amp; Prep</li> <li>• Driveway Construction &amp; Grading</li> <li>• Landscaping</li> <li>• House Pads</li> <li>• Stream Bank Restoration</li> <li>• Irrigation Welding &amp; Fabrication</li> <li>• Tractor Mowing</li> <li>• Dirt Work</li> <li>• Demolition</li> <li>• Snow Removal</li> </ul>	<p><b>Electrical</b></p> <p><b>ALPINE ELECTRIC &amp; SOLAR INC.</b></p> <p>82 CONEJOS ALAMOSA 719-589-9144</p>	<p><b>Gardening</b></p> <p><b>Alamosa Garden Supply and Grow Store</b> 0711 W. Highway 160, Suite C, Alamosa, CO 81101 719-206-3336 Monday - Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm</p> <p>Get ready for spring gardening now! Fall is the best time to amend your soil after you've put the garden to bed. We carry a wide variety of soil, trace minerals, soil conditioners, mycorrhizae mixes, bio-char and so much more.</p> <p>HAPPY FROG SOIL SPECIAL! 2 FOR \$36 - TAX 25% OFF FISH SH*T SOIL PROBIOTICS * 25% OFF ALL DOWN TO EARTH PRODUCTS We will meet or beat any local competitor's price!</p>	<p><b>Home Maintenance</b></p> <p><b>Marty's Maintenance INC.</b> PLUMBING/HVAC/REMODELING CONTRACTOR</p> <p>Plumbing Contractor #3462 Master License #600346</p> <p>CONTACT US TODAY! <a href="mailto:Marty_Husmann@yahoo.com">Marty_Husmann@yahoo.com</a> 719.480.3375</p>
<p><b>Advertising</b></p> <p>Advertise Your Business in this SPACE Only \$99 per month* *3 month commitment</p>	<p><b>Lumber</b></p> <p>Lumber • Steel Engineered Trusses</p> <p><b>SIERRA VISTA LUMBER &amp; STEEL COMPANY</b> 1301 West Ave. • Alamosa (719) 589-3254</p>	<p><b>Real Estate</b></p> <p><b>PORTER REALTY, INC.</b> 813 Main Street, Alamosa, CO 719-589-5899 <a href="http://www.PorterRealty.com">www.PorterRealty.com</a></p> <p>PRESTON PORTER <a href="mailto:Preston@PorterRealty.com">Preston@PorterRealty.com</a> GREG GOODWIN <a href="mailto:Greg@PorterRealty.com">Greg@PorterRealty.com</a></p> <p>♦ Excellent Service ♦ Expert Advice ♦ Exceptional Results</p>	<p><b>Real Estate</b></p> <p><b>RIBAUDO REALTY</b> 719-580-2541 Serving All Your Real Estate &amp; Auction Needs</p> <p>View my website for listings and upcoming auctions: Joe Ribaldo Independent Broker, Auctioneer <a href="http://www.ribaudorealty.com">www.ribaudorealty.com</a> <a href="mailto:joer@ribaudorealty.com">joer@ribaudorealty.com</a></p>
<p><b>Real Estate</b></p> <p><b>Schulz Realty</b></p> <p>Looking to Buy or Sell? Let us help you with your real estate needs and see real results! (719) 589-6977 • <a href="http://www.slvproperties.com">www.slvproperties.com</a></p>	<p><b>Tires</b></p> <p><b>Jim's Tire Store</b> 711 1/2 State Ave. • Alamosa 719-589-9690 NEW • USED • RECAPPED Great Service!</p>	<p><b>Tractor Repair</b></p> <p><b>For All Your Tractor Repair Needs</b></p> <p>EXPERT SERVICE 60+ years experience <b>VALLEY TRACTOR REPAIR</b> 719-852-0200</p>	<p><b>We Buy Cars</b></p> <p>FREE Estimates We Welcome Insurance Claims</p> <p><b>L&amp;M Paint &amp; Body Shop</b> 8425 Rd. 8 South • Alamosa 589-9205</p>

# Comics

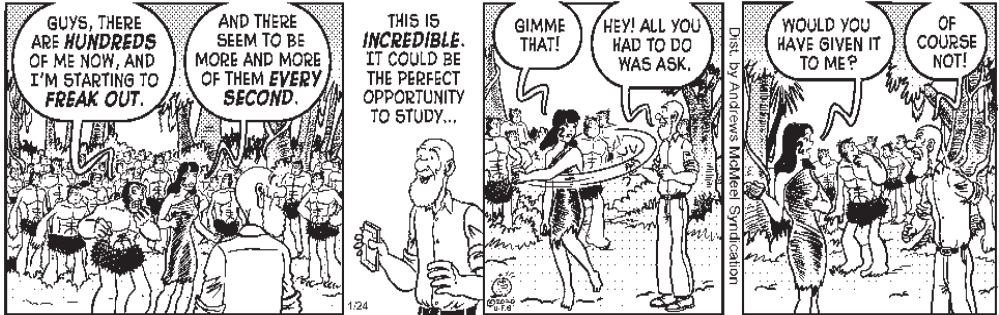
## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fittingly
  - 5 Quick turn
  - 8 Crafty
  - 11 Saturate
  - 13 Cl- or Ca++
  - 14 Want-ad abbr.
  - 15 False faces
  - 16 Having subtle differences
  - 18 Oil cartel
  - 20 Alaskan town
  - 21 Art category
  - 23 Seashell seller?
  - 24 Strut along
  - 25 Big oil supplier
  - 27 Price paid
  - 31 Wish undone
  - 32 Domino
  - 33 Is, in Madrid
  - 34 Keats' works
  - 36 Holland export
  - 38 Courteney — of "Friends"
  - 39 Take a bath
- DOWN**
- 1 Cloudy
  - 2 Ms. Thurman
  - 3 UPS units
  - 4 Neighbor of Alaska
  - 5 Trace mineral
  - 6 Item in a poker pot
  - 7 Grind, as teeth
  - 8 Denomination
  - 9 Onion's kin
  - 10 The Force was with him
  - 12 — de corps
  - 17 Dorothy, to Em
  - 19 Weirdest
  - 21 Red-coated cheese
  - 22 Three-sided swords
  - 23 Smuggled
  - 24 Facial feature
  - 26 Mr. Alan —
  - 28 Film award
  - 29 Legend
  - 30 Cab
  - 35 Monsieur's gesture
  - 37 Servile
  - 43 Honshu port
  - 45 Wyoming range
  - 46 D.C. biggie
  - 47 Famous lioness
  - 48 Not far away
  - 49 State, in Paris
  - 51 Name, to Pierre
  - 53 Grow older
  - 54 Tell tales
  - 55 Watch readout, briefly

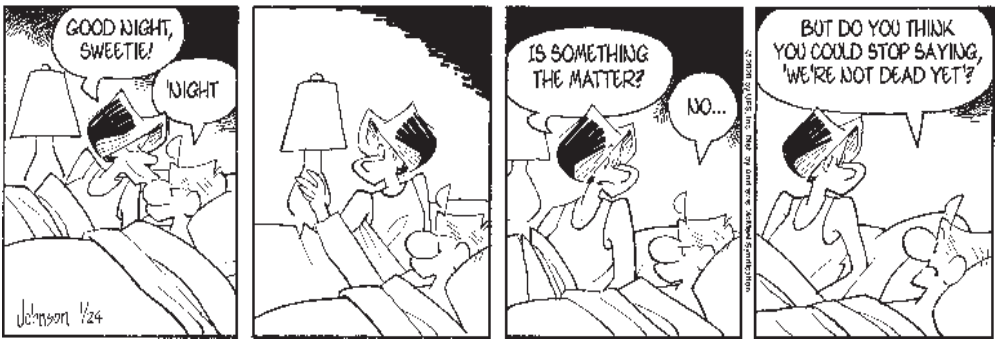


- ACROSS**
- 40 Quaff with sushi
  - 41 Christina's pop
  - 42 Nonsense!
  - 44 Contest mail-in
  - 46 Goddess of beauty
  - 49 Singer — Adams
  - 50 Polished
  - 52 To any degree (2 wds.)
  - 56 That, to Jaime
  - 57 RVer's stopover
  - 58 Sound reasoning
  - 59 Golfer's benchmark
  - 60 CPA's sum
  - 61 Shortfall
- DOWN**
- 7 Grind, as teeth
  - 8 Denomination
  - 9 Onion's kin
  - 10 The Force was with him
  - 12 — de corps
  - 17 Dorothy, to Em
  - 19 Weirdest
  - 21 Red-coated cheese
  - 22 Three-sided swords
  - 23 Smuggled
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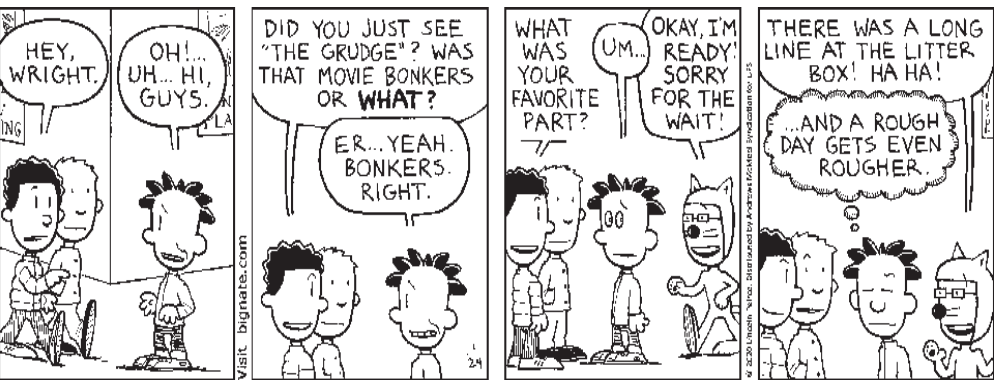
## ALLEY OOP



## ARLO & JANIS



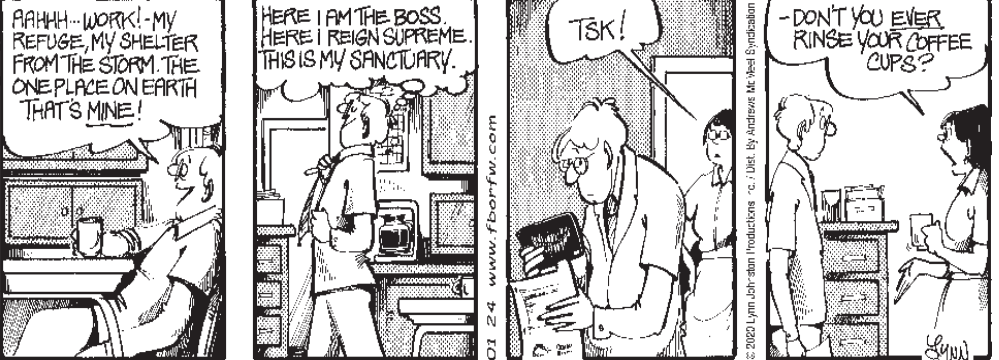
## BIG NATE



## THE BORN LOSER



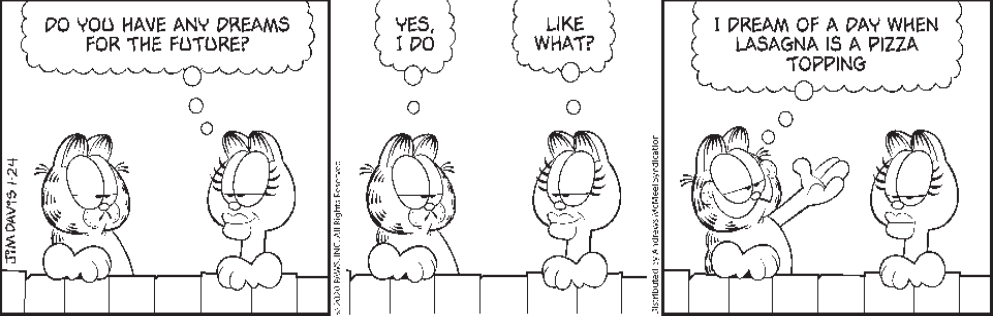
## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



## FRANK & ERNEST



## GARFIELD



## THE GRIZZWELLS



## PEANUTS



## HERMAN



"She's here to get some entry forms for the Miss Universe competition."

## 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.

" IS NSSR JC C DTPJEDO XSCXVS  
 PJ CZD VPHSU. PW OCZ KPHS RYSN  
 E LYEJLS, SHSDOCJS YEU  
 UCNSRYPK ENEMPJK RC CWWS D."

TODAY'S CLUE: Z equals W

Previous Solution: "It's our job — as parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles — to find books our kids are going to like." — James Patterson

# New hire is disappointed to be working as a gofer

DEAR ABBY: I recently landed a new job and was excited about doing work that would be directly in line with my education and background. I left a job of more than a decade to pursue this field. My problem is, I'm being asked to carry luggage, make coffee, run errands, etc. This was not in my job description, nor was it what I was hired for.



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

Abby, I have worked many intern positions. I do not believe I am too good for any job, but I have worked my way up and have abilities that could contribute greatly to this company. What they have me doing now is not beneficial for me or them.

If you believe I should say something, what should it be? I'm afraid they can easily find a substitute who may perform these tasks, as they aren't every day, but it's often enough to make me uncomfortable. It's a small company, and my pay is good, so I don't want to leave. Please advise me, Abby. -- SCARED TO SPEAK UP

DEAR SCARED: I see nothing wrong with having a discussion with your employer. However, because you are so new to the job, it should be done delicately. Tell the person you feel you could be contributing more to the company than you are currently doing, but do not complain about the menial tasks. It often falls to the newest member of the team

of that.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO MY ASIAN READERS WHO CELEBRATE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR: The Year of the Rat begins today. I wish a happy, healthy new year to all who celebrate this holiday. People born in the Year of the Rat are said to be instinctive, acute and alert, which makes them exceptional in business. They are sophisticated and popular in social interaction. But they can sometimes be stubborn and picky. Notable individuals born in the Year of the Rat include not only George Washington, Wolfgang Mozart, William Shakespeare and Charlotte Bronte, but also Gwyneth Paltrow, Ben Affleck, Eminem, Prince Charles of Britain and his son Prince Harry.

I realize I have moved on fairly quickly, but the way I see it, death is a part of life, and what's done is done. How can I explain to them that while I'm sad, I have accepted what happened without sounding like I didn't care about my dad? -- MOVED ON IN THE WEST

DEAR MOVED ON: Point out to your well-meaning friends that your relationship with your father may not have been like the ones they had with their fathers. That you were "a bit estranged" may have made his death less traumatic than if he had been a major part of your life. It should not be necessary to put on a display of sackcloth and ashes. Everyone grieves differently, so remind them