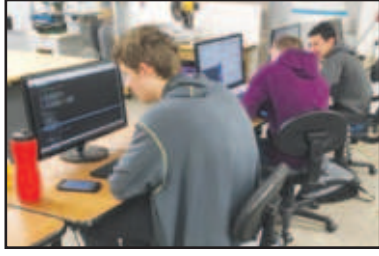




All-Valley Cross-Country team announced for the 2019 season.

— Page 6



Alamosa School District RE-11J is one of 250 school districts in the U.S. and Canada to earn AP District Honor Roll recognition.

— Page 5

San Luis Valley
Colorado Genuine
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VOLUME 94, NO. 11

Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

JANUARY 16, 2020

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Online threat closes ASD

ALAMOSA — Alamosa School District officials and local law enforcement officers are currently investigating an online threat. All Alamosa School District and

Ombudsman classes are canceled for Thursday, Jan. 16. Updates on any scheduled events and trips will be provided by the respective school and/or

coach-sponsor. At 8 p.m. on Wednesday, the Alamosa Police Department School Resource Officer received a Safe2Tell tip regarding a social

media post about a potential threat at the Alamosa High School.

■ See **THREAT** page 3

Alleged arsonist slated for hearing

Joergensen will be appearing in court today



Joergensen

By SYLVIA LOBATO
SAN LUIS — Jesper Joergensen, a 53-year-old immigrant from Denmark who is in the U.S. illegally and accused of more than 200 charges of felony arson is again slated for a hearing in Costilla County District Court. He will appear at 1:30 p.m. today. During June 2018, he was declared incompetent and was admitted to the Colorado Mental Health Institute in Pueblo, which didn't have a bed.

Then-12th District Attorney Crista Newmyer-Olsen, said a hearing was required to admit him for restoration and the courts were waiting for CMHIP. Until then the local courts

could do nothing with him. He was housed briefly in the Arapahoe County Detention Center's Restoring Individuals Safely and Effectively program, but has been back

in the Costilla County jail for a while, according to Sheriff Danny Sanchez, who said he wasn't sure what Thursday's hearing would entail.

In June 2017, Joergensen allegedly started the Spring Fire, which destroyed thousands of wooded acres and numerous homes in Costilla and Huerfano counties.

He was arrested June 27, 2017 near Mountain Home Reservoir and reportedly admitted he built a fire pit and cooked some meat in the area where the fire started.

He also reportedly claimed to have burned some trash, while a burn ban was in place.

Joergensen appeared to be irrational at a 2018 preliminary hearing when he waved a sheaf of papers and handwritten materials before presiding 6th Judicial District Judge Gregory G. Lyman of Durango, presiding after all judicial employees were recused due

to the fact that some lost homes and cabins in the fire.

An illegal national who stayed in the United States after his work visa expired, Joergensen turned the preliminary hearing into a forum in which to enter his own motions and voice his own opinions.

He was bound over for trial on the arson charges, all felonies.

The Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement has an immigration detainer on Joergensen, who had an expired worker's visa when arrested.

These detainees are placed on immigrants who are likely up for deporting, as well as immigrants who have allegedly committed a crime. Basically, the detainer means ICE would likely take custody of the person if and when they are released from jail for any reason.

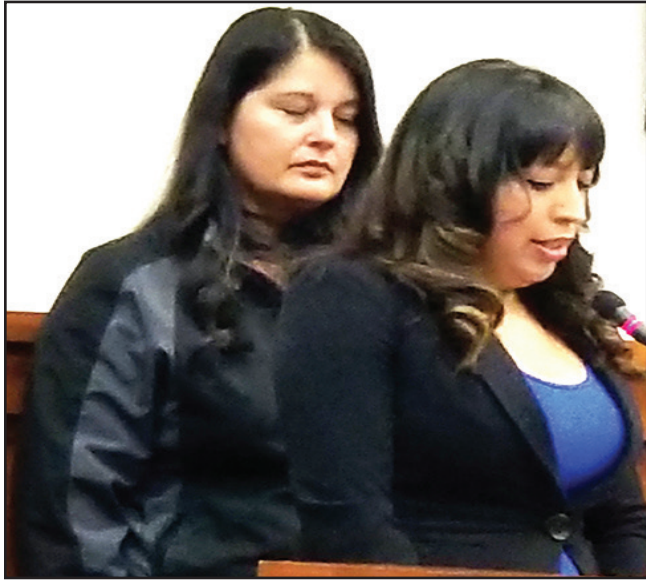
Before the incident, he wrote

■ See **JAIL** page 3

Residents, ASU tell their sides of story



Adams State University Director of Public Relations and Marketing Chris Lopez (right) addresses the audience, as ASU Vice President of Student Affairs Ken Marquez listens during Wednesday's Alamosa City Council meeting. The issue of discussion concerned ASU students parking in residential areas. Councilman Mike Carson's motion to table the issue while producing a work session until the issue can be resolved.



Alamosa City Clerk Holly Martinez (left) compliments Lachelle Montano for earning Certified Municipal Clerk recognition.



Alamosa resident Sam Maestas describes the difficulties he faces because ASU students create various problems concerning parking spaces and trash — among other issues — near his home.

County Commissioners declare vaping a public health crisis

By HELEN SMITH
Staff Writer
ALAMOSA — The Alamosa County Commissioners signed a proclamation declaring youth vaping to be a public health crisis on Tuesday morning. The document recognizes that tobacco use remains the leading cause of death in the U.S. and Colorado. Also, electronic smoking-device use has increased at an alarming

rate. In 2017, ESD use among San Luis Valley was estimated at 49.2%, higher than the state average of 44.2%. Furthermore, vaping was recently linked to a new condition known as Acute-Onset Lung Disorder.

The board heard a presentation from AHS students, Reese Canaan, Chenoa Candy, Kaidence Boehm and Jaimey Turner. As members of the SADD (Students Against Destructive

Decisions) Council, each addressed the difficulties that students face when it comes to peer pressure and advertising campaigns. The group was in attendance to show their support for the measure.

The proclamation cites the Colorado Public Health Act of 2008 as a basis that requires the Public Health Department Board to promote policies that are deemed necessary for a healthy community. "I wholeheartedly

support this measure," said Commissioner Helen Sigmond. She went on to express her concern over the issues and health risks that vaping is causing for Valley youth. Commissioners Michael Yohn and Darius Allen also expressed their full support for the measure.

The county is hopeful the act will help to foster change within local government policies and the sale of tobacco-related products.

Women's March on Saturday

ALAMOSA — Everyone is invited to join the San Luis Valley Women's March at 10 a.m. Saturday at the corner of Richardson Avenue and Main Street in Alamosa. This family-friendly, nonpartisan event will be led by the Adams State University Drum Line. The theme, "Vision 2020," celebrates 100 years of women voting. Following the march will be a one-hour program at Adam State University's Carson Auditorium, located in the Student Union Building. Community members will present information on various social issues. Join us! For more details, call 719-480-4771.

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SLV WEATHER



Cloudy 31/18

Fri.: Cloudy 37/-3

Sat.: Partly Sunny 29/2

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OBITUARIES

Nora Ornelas, 82

ALAMOSA — Alamosa resident Nora Ornelas, 82, passed away peacefully on Jan. 10, 2020.

Nora is survived by her loving and devoted husband, Jim Ornelas, the love of her life; her son, Timothy A. Ornelas; grandchildren, Matthew Espinoza, Karie Lichtenfeld and Vaughan J. Ornelas; great-grandchildren Harper, Sawyer and Asher Ornelas.

She was preceded in death by her son, Jeffrey Ornelas; and grandson Elexis Ornelas; with whom she will be reunited.

She adored and cherished her family and loved spending time with her grandchildren, especially her three great-grandsons.

Nora and Jim are longtime residents of Alamosa. They are well known across the entire San Luis Valley. Nora and Jim owned and operated O&V Printing from its inception for many years. Nora sold the beautiful tea towels she embroidered there. Nora loved her walks. If she



wasn't home, you'd find her out walking, bowling or at the casino. Nora loved her weekly trips to New Mexico and Jim ensured she was able to do this. Jim and Nora are well traveled and left a lasting impression with everyone they met.

A Resurrection of the Mass will be held at Sacred Heart Parish on Friday, Jan. 17, 2020 at 10 a.m.

To leave online condolences, please visit romerofuneralhomes.com.

The arrangements have been entrusted to Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

Lavada Katheryn Finley (Meyer), 85

SAN LUIS VALLEY — Lavada Katheryn Finley (Meyer), 85, passed away Jan. 14, 2020 in Denver. She was born Nov. 25, 1934, in Trenton, Neb., to Otto John Meyer and Aurelia Hartman. She graduated from Paonia High School and was a long-time resident of the San Luis Valley.

She was a member of the American Legion

Auxiliary and the Ladies Red Hat Club. She served for several years on the Tri-County Health Board.

She is survived by four children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Cremation was chosen, and a celebration of her life will be announced at a later date.

Arrangements in care of Strohmayer's Funeral Home.

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 [## ONGOING VALLEY MEETINGS](mailto:mkmiller-</p></div>
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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 slv-photostephen@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

tion, 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: womanscitizenshipclub@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

ALAMOSA — Grief support group meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Alamosa 1st United Methodist Church from 5:30-6:30 p.m. 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.

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.

Del Norte set to throw an Appreciation Party

DEL NORTE — At 4 p.m. on Saturday at the Gateway Church of Del Norte, there will be an Appreciation Party for outgoing Del Norte Chief of Police, Bobby Fresquez. A potluck meal is planned as an opportunity

to say "thank you" for 32 years of service to the Del Norte community.

Residents are asked to come and show their support.

To RSVP, please text either 719-849-8506 or 719-849-5600.

Alamosa Senior Center looking for artists

ALAMOSA— Alamosa Senior Center is looking for artists 50 years old and older to participate in its "Senior Art from the Heart" Art Show, to take place at San Luis Valley Health Regional Medical Center

from February-April.

For more information, please contact Lynette Cotton at 719-589-3277 or by emailing senior.director@hotmail.com.

Deadline for participation is Jan. 17.

North Conejos School Board will be meeting Tuesday

LA JARA — A regular Board Meeting for the North Conejos School District Board of Education will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at the District Adminis-

tration Office in La Jara. Agendas are available at the District Administration Office, 17890 US Highway 285, La Jara or on our web site www.northconejos.com.

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 Meeting at Masonic Hall, 598

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

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY
12 p.m. First Christian Church at 1st and State, Alamosa
12 p.m. Crestone Baptist Church, County Rd. T, Crestone

7 p.m. Community Church on Main St., Creede
7:30 p.m. Creative Resource Center at 304 Walnut St., La Jara.
7:30 p.m. Ables/Disables, Baptist Church at 751 Lincoln St., Monte Vista

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

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

AL-ANON

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

School Menu - Thursday - Jan. 16, 2020

BREAKFAST

Breakfast Pizza
Juice & Fruit

ELEMENTARY

Easy Tacos
Seasoned Carrots
Cowboy Bread
Vegetable Bar

SECONDARY

Dominos' Pizza
Potato Wedges
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 sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

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Valley News

Jail

Continued from Page 1

repeatedly on social media about anarchy and hatred of government and now faces trial on more than 200 felony charges.

He was bound over for trial Feb. 14, 2019 in Costilla County and faced charges from Huerfano.

On April 23, 2019, Joergensen was back in the courtroom for a status update on the motions filed by both the defense and prosecution.

Disputing the charges, Joergensen claimed his attorney wasn't giving him information on the case and asked the judge for new representation.

While evidence taken didn't support any deliberate action by Joergensen to start the raging wildfire, the inspector said he did start an initial fire by open burning when a Stage One Burn Ban was in effect.

Inspector David Chadwell, tasked with primarily enforcing fire and building code compliance, said he was told to determine the origin of the wildfire.

He said a four-man team including himself and inspector Balthazor began working in an area east of Fort Garland on a road identified by other authorities at the command center, following the rustic road, then a small path of a road to a dry creek bed, they studied burn patterns to determine a location near a burned camper.

His defense attorney refuted these claims



The Spring Fire

and Lyman accepted his explanation. Joergensen then asked for a change of venue and a different judge, claiming he did nothing wrong and is being treated unfairly.

On April 23, 2019, Joergensen was back in

the courtroom for a status update on motions filed by both the defense and prosecution.

In his arrest affidavit, however, Joergensen changed his story on how the fire started multiple times, claiming it was an accident.

Topping the list was the story of how he cooked meat to eat and didn't watch the burn pit in which the fire was started. Another explanation of burning trash was also questioned, since he admittedly didn't ensure the fire was out before going into his RV camper home and falling asleep.

When he awakened, he called to report the fire, which had spread to some bushes next to his place and then tried to quell the flames with towels and a blanket, suffering facial burns and scorched clothing.

He drove to nearby Mountain Home Reservoir, where he was taken into custody.

Still confined in the Costilla County Jail, Joergensen spends his days writing about and declaring his innocence. A gag order bars jail staff from communication with him about anything other than his basic needs.

Since Joergensen is not a citizen of the United States, he will be turned over to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement after the arson case concludes, according to the Post. ICE has a detainer hold on him and will wait on action until the local charges are satisfied.

According to ICE, Joergensen is a deportable alien, "admitted to the United States subject to any grounds of removal specified in the Immigration and Nationality Act. This includes any alien illegally in the United States, regardless of whether the alien entered the country by fraud or misrepresentation or entered legally but subsequently violated the terms of his or her nonimmigrant classification or status."

Del Norte Police Chief resigns with heavy heart

By LYNDIE FERRELL
Valley Publishing

DEL NORTE—Emotions were palpable in the meeting room located at the Del Norte Town Hall Wednesday, Jan. 8, as residents, guests, family members and business owners gathered for the monthly Del Norte Town Board meeting.

As temperatures dropped outside, the feelings of those in attendance to show support for Police Chief Robert Fresquez set the stage for an emotional goodbye as the chief prepared to give his final speech to the board that chose not to renew his employment contract.

According to Fresquez, he and his family came to a final decision in light of the news that his contract with the town of Del Norte was not to be renewed. He would follow the advice of their lawyer and resign from a 32 year career in law enforcement, most of which was spent in the town of Del Norte. "I cannot speak to the agreement that was made between myself and the town but it was in the best interest for me and my family, as well as, my future career in law enforcement to resign and so that is what I am here to do," said Fresquez.

The meeting began with the approval of the minutes from previous meetings before Mayor Chris Trujillo opened the floor for the public comment

period. At this time a former law enforcement official and Del Norte Resident Lyle Tuoti took a moment to speak. "I know Robert and Frank Archuleta have spent a lot of time working without being paid and I watched these guys put in 16 hour days. I would beg, plead with them to take a break. Tell them you're sick. Tell them you're exhausted. But every time I did, both of them would say that they just couldn't do that and that their community needed them. I am a bit appalled and embarrassed that they didn't get any compensation for that," stated Tuoti.

He continued, "The amount of time and effort that these gentlemen put in for you? To keep you protected. For them not to be compensated for what they did. I am mad at this board for not paying these gentlemen for what they are worth especially when they were doing it for you. It's not too late for you to compensate these men for the time and efforts they put forward away from their families for this community."

It was at that time that Mayor Trujillo cut Tuoti off and moved forward with the meeting after a brief comment by board member Sam Scavo that the board had made an agreement to compensate for some of the hours in question during an executive session held in a previous meeting. Trujillo did not allow for any further public comment.

During the next portion of the agenda, which was the approval of the consent agenda and after a progress report made by Officer Frank Archuleta, Police Chief Fresquez stood up and addressed the board.

"This is the hardest thing that I have ever had to do. I put in service here for 32 years, and this is the way that I am going to be treated? I at least deserve the respect to be able to say something. I turned in my resignation, signed the agreement and you received that, but this is not how I wanted to get out. This town is changing, projects going on in this town that two officers had to take care of. I have come to meetings countless times asking for additional officers and the reason I get for not renewing my employment is that I can't find more officers but there are no officers. Departments across the state are struggling to find officers right now."

"Last thing I heard from you as a board was that it was time for change, and you know what, maybe it is. I will move forward. I will continue in law enforcement because it is in my blood. I hope you have a plan in place for the future. When I was presented with the agreement to resign, my heart just sank. I dedicated my whole entire life to this community. If I had been doing something wrong, I would have loved to have been told that. I did nothing wrong. I came to do something that is just going to kill me,

this right here is the worst thing that I will do. But you know what? It is not forever."

Audience members at that point gave a standing ovation to Fresquez and began to speak out about not wanting to see the chief leave, how much the community is in need of law enforcement officials, all of which was ignored by the board who moved on to the next item of the agenda.

In a statement made later Town Manager Bernadette Martinez stated, "It is always hard for everyone when any employee who has been with their current employment for so many years to accept change and change sometimes is for the best interest of all. I personally accepted the resignation and accepted the fact that he closed this chapter in his life and he wanted to try something new and reach new goals. And he did this with no regrets, as he stated in his letter of resignation. Robert's dedication and commitment was never unnoticed as those attending Wednesday's night Town Board meeting may have thought it did."

There will be a dinner and honor ceremony held for Fresquez on Saturday, Jan. 18, at 4 p.m. at the Gateway Church in Del Norte. Fresquez will be recognized for his many years of service and the event is open to the public. Those who are planning to attend are asked to bring a dish to share with everyone and to RSVP via text to 719-849-8506.

Expect additional traffic on MLK weekend Threat

DENVER—The Colorado Department of Transportation is reminding drivers to anticipate heavier than normal traffic along the Interstate 70 corridor and connecting highways for the next few days, as people hit the road for the three-day Martin Luther King Jr. weekend.

Winter recreational traffic traditionally increases beginning with the MLK holiday and continues through mid-April. Factors include additional snowfall, the upcoming Presidents Day weekend and spring break in the latter half of March.

Last year's MLK weekend vehicles counts at the Eisenhower/Johnson To help enhance safety and coinciding with the MLK weekend, CDOT is releasing a new travel resource for tourists.

Since Colorado has unique weather and travel conditions, CDOT's new brochure contains tips for visitors to the state, especially when they

venture to the mountains. It includes information on:

- ▶ Colorado's Traction Law
- ▶ Avoiding traffic delays
- ▶ Using Express Lanes
- ▶ Driving in snow
- ▶ How to use roundabouts
- ▶ State laws on texting, buckling up and impaired driving

"Driving in Colorado can be tricky," said Shoshana Lew, CDOT's executive director. "We have unpredictable weather, wildlife that cross our roads and many roundabouts to navigate.

This brochure will help Colorado visitors learn the tricks of the trade and help them get to their destination safely so they can enjoy our beautiful state."

The new brochure (https://www.codot.gov/travel/assets/tourist-driving-brochure_final.pdf) will be available at Welcome Centers and Visitor Centers across the state

beginning this weekend.

In addition, Enterprise, National and Alamo rental car companies will be handing out the brochure to its rental customers at DIA over the MLK weekend.

"Colorado's spectacular winter offerings attract visitors from across the country and the globe, including lots of people who have never seen snow," said Colorado Tourism Office Director Cathy Ritter. "These winter driving tips will be valuable in so many ways, including helping travelers make good decisions about whether it's a good idea to drive or use some other form of transportation."

Drivers can get the latest travel conditions by calling 511 or at www.cotrip.org or www.goi70.com.

Report courtesy of Bob Wilson, CDOT Statewide Communications Manager.

Rio Grande National Forest planning control burns

MONTE VISTA — The Rio Grande National Forest plans to burn numerous piles of woody debris generated as a result of timber sale and thinning projects on the Rio Grande National Forest. Ignition times are weather and condition dependent. The project areas include:

- ▶ The Zissou Timber sale in the Pool Table Mtn. area 9 miles northwest of South Fork
- ▶ The Easy Money timber sale in the Moon Pass area 18 miles northwest of La Garita
- ▶ The Jasper, Reservoir, Lobo, El

Gato, Spruce Park and Rendezvous timber sales in the Cumbres Pass area 6-8 miles southwest of Horca

Burning will be deferred on a limited number of accessible slash piles in some areas to allow firewood removal prior to burning—for more information on firewood gathering opportunities, please contact your local ranger district office.

The piles will be burned when there is sufficient snow cover to prevent them from spreading. Smoke from these pile burns may be visible for several days.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information see <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

For more information concerning the planned pile burning, contact Sid Hall at the Rio Grande National Forest Supervisor's Office at 719-852-6205.

Gregg Goodland, Public Affairs Officer, Forest Service, Rio Grande National Forest, p: 719-852-6212, c: 719-588-7045, gregg.goodland@usda.gov.

Costilla County lawman charged with a felony

By SYLVIA LOBATO
SAN LUIS — A lengthy investigation into an inmate complaint some time ago yielded felony charges Monday against a long-time law enforcement veteran, according to Costilla County Sheriff

Danny Sanchez.

An inmate some time back had accused Undersheriff Randy Herrera of excessive use of force, launching investigations by the 12th Judicial District Attorney, the County Sheriff and the Colorado Bu-

reau of Investigation.

It was established that the District Attorney found charges based on probable cause that the offense had been committed.

He is accused of restraining the inmate to a chair.

Sanchez said Herrera told him he would be resigning and "he is not employed at this time."

He has been working in law enforcement in one capacity or another for some 30 years.

Continued from Page 1

The Alamosa Police Department through investigation learned the identity of the suspect, who is a juvenile male and has since placed the suspect in custody.

At this time, the Alamosa Police Department encourages all students, faculty and community members to report all potential threats immediately through safe2tellco.org 1-877-542-7233.

The District appreciates everyone's cooperation in keeping all students and staff safe.

An update on whether school will be open on Friday, Jan. 17 will be sent by the end of Thursday.

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Opinion

God bless America ...

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

Drake University hosted the debate between the dwindling numbers of Democratic candidates Tuesday in Iowa. A diversity problem has arisen. Cory Booker dropped out of the field the day before, leaving Elizabeth Warren to claim she's the only African-American candidate left in the race.

Iran's government conceded Monday that its rockets accidentally shot down the Ukrainian airliner last week and blamed the shoot-down on human error.

That may well be true. Any time Iranian missiles are able to hit anything or shoot down anything, it is assumed to be not on purpose.

The White House trumpeted good news in manufacturing, housing starts, home sales, retail sales, online business and record low unemployment on Monday. We're pretty much firing on all cylinders now. The Trump economy is doing so well it's got Royals coming off the welfare rolls.

Queen Elizabeth agreed to allow Harry and Meghan to make their home in Vancouver, from which they'll shuttle back and forth to London for family and Hollywood for business. There's one good thing about living in Canada instead of Hollywood. You're surrounded by fewer snowflakes.

Prince Harry and Meghan are seeking financial independence from the stipends they receive from Prince Charles' Duchy of Cornwall estate.

However many Royal watchers are concerned that the couple isn't prepared for the real world. I'm afraid they could end up on the streets castle-less.

Duchess Meghan stated she wants to live in Canada until Trump is no longer president since she deems him to be racist.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's habit of appearing in blackface isn't nearly as racially offensive as Trump's orange spray tan. Apparently Orange really is the New Black.

Queen Elizabeth reminded her family Sunday they also represent the Church of England.

It's a thought that inspires me. My line of Hamiltons has been Anglican, either Episcopal or Methodist, for over four centuries and I'd just like to say thank God that Gwyneth Paltrow isn't selling ice cream.

Gwyneth Paltrow was the talk of social media last week when she introduced for sale a scented candle which she advertised as having the same fragrance as her vagina.

You can't make it up. So next day, I bought one and ever since I can't parallel park and seagulls are banging at my window.

Business Insider praised Gwyneth Paltrow for breaking the Internet with her vagina-scented candle.

Last night I went to a girlfriend's apartment and made the mistake of complimenting her on her new Gwyneth Paltrow candle. When she said she didn't have one, I showed myself to the door.

O.J. Simpson sued the Las Vegas Cosmopolitan Hotel for defamation of character for evicting him recently. He was asked to leave for what the casino considered to be drunken and obnoxious behavior in the hotel's steakhouse restaurant. O.J. told the waiter to tell his dad that he's still looking.

Broadway producers are casting a musical about the life of Michael Jackson.

They're looking for a 10- to 12-year-old African-American boy to play the young Jackson and an animated corpse of an elderly white woman to play older Michael. The kids in the chorus will be rotated weekly.

Sacramento is weighing a bill to allow California to make its own generic drugs, just as effective as brand-name drugs.

Generic cocaine in Compton sells for half the price name-brand cocaine sells for in Beverly Hills. And they both make you the King of England for the next 20 minutes.

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



Argus Hamilton



Child asks for a 'very good dad'

Jesus said in Matthew 25:40 KJV, "Whatever you've done unto the least of these (kids or adults), you've done it unto me."

I found a story I want to share with you, about a 7-year-old boy who was living with his mother in a temporary shelter due to his father's domestic violence at home (typical life for kids like me). He asked Santa for books and a "very good dad." The story was written by Alisha Ebrahimji, CNN.

"A 7-year old Texas boy temporarily living in a domestic violence shelter with his mom wrote a letter to Santa, the shelter shared, with a heartfelt plea for presents and something money can't buy.

The boy asked Santa for chapter books, a dictionary, a compass and a watch — but perhaps the biggest ask for the man in red was for a "very very Very good dad."

His mom found a handwritten letter in his backpack a few weeks ago and shared it with SafeHaven of Tarrant County staff, a shelter for domestic violence victims in Fort Worth, Texas, its president/CEO, Kathryn Jacob told CNN.

SafeHaven shared the letter on social media Wednesday morning, noting they changed the boy's name to Blake for his family's safety:

Dear Santa, we had to leave our house. Dad was mad. We had to do all the chores. Dad got everything he wanted. Mom said it was time to leave and she would take us to a safer place where we don't have to be scared.

I'm still nervous. I don't want to talk to the other kids. Are you going to come

Amarah's Corner



'Kids Like Me'

this Christmas? We don't have any of our stuff here. Can you bring some chapter books, a dictionary, and a compass and a watch? I also want a very very Very good dad. Can you do that too?

Love, Blake."

Children Need Help Too! Children in families experiencing alcohol or drug abuse need attention, guidance and support.

These children need to have their experiences validated. They also need safe, reliable adults in whom to confide and who will support them, reassure them, and provide them with appropriate help for their age. They need to have fun and just be kids.

Families with alcohol and drug problems usually have high levels of stress and confusion. High stress family environments are a risk factor for early and dangerous substance use, as well as mental and physical health problems.

It is important to talk honestly with children about what is happening in the family and to help them express their concerns and feelings. Children need to trust the adults in their lives and to believe that they will support them.

For More Information: SAMHSA's National Helpline 1-800-662-HELP www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov.

National Association for Children of Alcoholics: www.nacoa.org.

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence: www.ncadd.org.

Alcohol and Drug Addiction Happens in the Best of Families ... and It Hurts.

It doesn't have to be that way. ~Reference DHHS Publication No. (SMA) 06-4159 Printed 2005 Reprinted 2006 NCADI Publication No. PHD1112.

From my own personal experience, I advocate for all kids like me to have a psychological evaluation (Medicaid pays

Husband's TV choices bother reader

DEAR HARRIETTE: My husband and I have very different tastes in television programs. I like romance and drama. He watches shows about UFOs. It makes my skin crawl when he turns on shows about extraterrestrials and then lectures me about his beliefs -- backed up by these programs -- that aliens are living among us. I don't believe it, but I also know that I can't do anything about it, even if it is true.

How can I get him to watch some of my shows? I am tired of being forced to endure the shows he likes. It makes me really angry, and that's no good for our relationship. — No More Aliens

DEAR NO MORE ALIENS: Schedule together time and alone time. Let your husband know that you realize that you don't share the same interests in TV programming. Rather than feeling that you are being held hostage watching and responding to something that irritates you, recommend that each of you enjoy alone time when you want to watch your separate TV shows. When you come together, consider turning off the TV and talking to each other or engaging in other activities that do not have the television as a distraction.

As far as watching something together, figure out what you both like and agree to watch that during those together moments.

DEAR HARRIETTE: I just graduated from college this year, and I got a credit card for the first time. I was told that I have to build up credit in order to be able to buy

property or even get an apartment. I can't get a lease for my own place without proof that I have good credit. Nobody ever told me that before.

I don't want to ask anybody for help. Plus, my parents really can't afford it. They did tell me I can live with them until I get it together. I feel like a failure. I did very well in school, have almost no college debt and recently got a job, but it's still not enough. What should I do? -- No Credit

DEAR NO CREDIT: It is true that you generally need to have established credit in order to be able to do many things, including renting or buying an apartment -- unless you can pay cash upfront for an extended period of time.

Take your parents up on their offer for you to live with them while you build your credit. Be disciplined about using your new credit card. You must use it, though. Each month, make some charges on your card, preferably using less than 30% of the total amount of credit. Always pay your bill on time. You can pay the total balance in full each month, either on time or early, or you can pay a portion of the bill on time. Either way will help build good credit. If you pay it off in full each month, your credit score will rise higher and you will not incur interest charges.

Sign up for a credit monitoring app, like Credit Karma, so that you can immediately access your credit score. A year's worth of good credit plus some dollars in the bank

To submit news, email:

news@alamosanews.com

To submit sports, email:

sjiron@alamosanews.com

Letters policy

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

Keith R Cerny Publisher

Daniel McKillop Managing Editor

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Harriette Cole is a lifestyleist and founder of DREAMLEAPERS, an initiative to help people access and activate their dreams.

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Lifestyle



Mr. Relyea's AP Physics A class



Mrs. Henderson's AP Chemistry class



Mrs. Manesiotis' AP Calculus AB class



Mr. Schweizer's AP Computer Science class

Alamosa High School Advanced Placement students and teachers named to 10th annual AP District Honor Roll.

ALAMOSA — The AP District Honor Roll recognizes school districts committed to increasing access to AP for underrepresented students while simultaneously maintaining or increasing the percentage of students earning AP Exam scores of 3 or higher.

AP District Honor Roll recipients are committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among prepared and motivated students of all backgrounds.

Alamosa School District RE-11J is one of 250 school districts in the U.S. and Canada to receive this honor. Three other Colorado school districts were also named to the AP District Honor Roll: Durango, Gunnison, and the Archdiocese of Denver.

The Alamosa School District has 30% or greater enrollment of American Indians, African Americans, and Hispanic/Latino students and it has a 30% or greater enrollment of students who qualify for

Free and Reduced-Price Lunch.

Inclusion on the 10th Annual AP District Honor Roll is based on the examination of three years of AP data, from 2017 to 2019, for the following criteria:

Increased participation/access to AP by at least 4% in large districts, at least 6% in medium districts, and at least 11% in small districts.

Increased or maintained percentage of American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students taking exams and increased or maintained the percentage of American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students scoring 3+ on at least one AP Exam; and

Improved performance levels when comparing the percentage of students in 2018 scoring a

3 or higher than those in 2016, unless the district has already attained a performance level at which more than 70% of its AP students are scoring a 3 or higher.

When these outcomes have been achieved among an AP student population in which 30% or more are underrepresented minority students (American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander) and/or 30% or more are low-income students (students who qualify for College Board's AP fee reduction), a symbol has been affixed to the district name to highlight this work.

Potato Leadership, Education and Advancement Foundation launched at Potato Expo 2020

LAS VEGAS — At Potato Expo 2020, the largest annual potato industry event held in North America, growers and allied industry partners joined together to launch a new initiative dedicated to growing future leaders.

The Potato Leadership, Education, and Advancement Foundation (LEAF), a new 501(c)3 organization, was created to provide tools, training, and support necessary to develop growers and industry members as leaders.

"Like most family farms, developing the next generation of leaders is part of our DNA.

But as family farms become more complex, the demands upon our leaders become more intense," said Shelley Olsen of LJ Olsen, Inc. in Othello, Wash., and Potato LEAF chair. "I'm pleased to see the industry come together to launch the Potato LEAF organization dedicated to growing leaders who will thrive in the competitive global marketplace of the future."

Potato LEAF also serves to encourage members to commit their time and energy to the betterment of the U.S. potato industry as a whole. Potato LEAF supports the cultivation of future leaders through

three key programs:

Leadership development. Growers and industry members will learn what it takes to become effective communicators, influencers, and decision-makers for the industry.

Educational training. Future leaders will be taught how to broaden their understanding of the key opportunities, practices, and challenges affecting national potato production.

Advancement opportunities. Participants will build their industry network through opportunities for collaboration with grower-leaders from around the country.

The Potato LEAF governing body includes chair, Shelley Olsen, and voting directors RJ Andrus of Idahoan Foods, Gregg Halverson of Black Gold Farms, Dan Moss of Moss Ag/Arrowhead Potato Co., and Richard Pavelski of Heartland Farms. Non-voting directors include Kam Quarles, National Potato Council CEO, Blair Richardson, Potatoes USA CEO, and Shawn Boyle, Idaho Growers Shippers Association president and general counsel.

More information or to contribute to the Potato LEAF organization, visit pleaf.org.

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Sports

2019 All-Valley Cross-Country team

Student-athletes from all over the valley were recognized for their cross-country efforts this past fall. The members of the All-Valley Cross-Country team were released.

The All-Valley Cross-Country team contains a spattering of runners that qualified for the state finals as well as harriers also on the CHSAA All-State team.

Both Alamosa teams qualified for state as well as the girls team from Centauri

and the boys team from Sargent. As far as All-State honors went both Josh Medina and Josh Lopez of Alamosa earned first and second-team All-State respectively. Riley Kenison and Nigel Cortright of Sargent were honorable mentions.

For the girls, it was Lilly Lavier of Alamosa and Kendra Sears of Sargent who added All-Valley honors to their First and Second team honors respectively. Emily Lavier picked up on honorable mention.

Photos courtesy of Larry Zaragoza

1. Centauri; from left - Kelcee Coombs, Lizzie Valentine, Abigail Sowards, and Mason Sowards not pictured Bo Cormier. 2. Monte Vista; Heather Prevatte. 3. Del Norte; Ben Parra. 4. Sargent; from left Riley Orr, Riley Kenison, and Nigel Cortright not pictured Kendra Sears. 5. Center, Dolores Estrada. 6. Alamosa boys; from left - Josh Lopez, Gradie Gardner, Isaac Higareda, Cole Schwiezer, and Josh Medina. 7. Alamosa girls; from left - Emily Lavier, Lilly Lavier, Alliyah Molina, Anahi Molina, Whitney Thong and Abby Wubben.



Results

Adams State Basketball
Jan. 10 Colorado School of Mines 79, ASU 36 (W)
Colorado School of Mines 90, ASU 64 (M)
Jan. 11 UC-CS 69, ASU 54 (W)
UC-CS 92, ASU 85 (M)

Prep Basketball
Jan. 10 Center 29, Mancos 24 (G)
Mancos 71, Center 57 (B)
Rocky Ford 40, Sangre de Cristo 23 (G)
Sangre de Cristo 60, Rocky Ford 53 (B)
Jan. 11 Crested Butte 65, Creede 33 (B)
Sargent 56, Center 38 (G)
Center 38, Sargent 30 (B)
Questa 49, Antonito 20 (G)
Antonito 72, Questa 67 (B)
Alamosa 59, Pinnacle 22 (B)
Alamosa 44, Ignacio 39 (G)
Primero 67, Sierra Grande 46 (B)
Del Norte 48, Sangre de Cristo 44 (G)
Sangre de Cristo 73, Del Norte 60 (B)
Pagosa Springs 42, Sanford 29 (G)
Sanford 51, Pagosa Springs 37 (B)
Kent Denver 69, Monte Vista 46 (B)
Jan. 14 Center 33, Monte Vista 32 (G)
Monte Vista 56, Center 33 (G)
Cotopaxi 63, Creede 20 (G)
Cotopaxi 63, Creede 31 (B)
Pueblo East 56, Alamosa 52 (B)

Adams State Wrestling
Jan. 10 ASU 25, San Francisco State 20
ASU 36, Simon Frasier 9
Minnesota State 22, ASU 21

Prep Wrestling
Jan. 10 **Alamosa Duals**
Alamosa 61, Widefield 18
Alamosa 36, Adams City 33
Centauri 41, Bennett 31
Rocky Ford 42, Centauri 30
Jan. 11 **Gary Ramstetter Classic**
1. Alamosa - 200, 9. Alamosa JV - 52

Cowboy Invitational
7. Sierra Grande/Centennial-110.5, 8. Del Norte 70.5, 12. Center 48, 13. Sargent - 43

Rocky Mountain Wrestling Tournament
3. Centauri- 200, 7. Monte Vista - 108

Upcoming Events

Sports Bulletin

Adams State Basketball
Jan. 17 5:30/7:30 p.m. ASU at Colorado Mesa (W/M)
Jan. 18 5/7 p.m. ASU at Western Colorado (W/M)

Prep Basketball
Jan. 16 4 p.m. Ignacio at Del Norte (G)
4:30 p.m. Lake City at Sierra Grande (G/B)
4:30/ 6 p.m. Sargent at Mancos (G/B)

Jan. 17 12 p.m. South Park at Center (G)
1:30 p.m. Sanford at South Park (B)
4 p.m. Del Norte at Crested Butte (B)
4:30 p.m. Centennial at La Veta (G/B)
5 p.m. Sierra Grande at Creede (G/B)
5 p.m. Antonito at Manzanola (B)
5:30/ 7 p.m. Alamosa at Bayfield (G/B)
5:30/ 7 p.m. Centauri at Monte Vista (G/B)
Jan. 18 TBA Sierra Grande at Aguilar (G)
2 p.m. Crested Butte at Sanford (G/B)
2 p.m. Cripple Creek at Moffat-Mtn. Valley (G/B)
3 p.m. Center at Del Norte (G/B)
3/5 p.m. Sargent at Custer County (G/B)
5 p.m. Creede at Antonito (G/B)
5:30/ 7 p.m. Centauri at Pagosa Springs (G/B)
5:30/ 7 p.m. Monte Vista at Alamosa (G/B)

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

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

Adams State Wrestling
Jan. 16 6 p.m. Western Colorado at ASU

Prep Wrestling
Jan. 16 6 p.m. Gunnison at Del Norte
6 p.m. Alamosa at Monarch
Jan. 17 6 p.m. Dolores Huerta at Sierra Grande-Centennial

Mel Smith Husky Invite
TBA Centauri, Del Norte, Monte Vista at Florence

Top of the Rockies Tournament
TBA Alamosa at Centaurus
Jan. 18 **Husky Invite**

TBA Centauri, Del Norte at Florence

Pueblo Centennial Tourny
TBA Center at Pueblo Centennial

Top of the Rockies Tournament
TBA Alamosa at Centaurus

Gene Gagliardi Tourney
Sierra Grande-Centennial at Trinidad

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

Sports

Grizzlies look to defend the den in first home dual

By **GEORGE A. GALAVIZ-ORTIZ**
ASU Sports Information

ALAMOSA — The Adams State Wrestling Squad heads into action this Thursday, looking to host their first home dual of the 2019-20 season. Grizzlies are set to host the Western State Colorado Mountaineers in Plachy Hall, Thursday, January 16th kicking off at 6:00 PM. We encourage fans planning to attend tomorrow's dual to bring spare pairs of socks to donate to our sock drive. Parking will be available in the Bubble Parking Lot and in the Main Lot on Campus.



Keeping up With the Grizzlies
Adams State grapplers last saw action in the San Francisco State duals last weekend, going head to head with Minnesota State – Mankato, Simon Fraser University, and San Francisco State and ending at 2-1 on the day. Minnesota State – Mankato came first and earned their way to a single-point win over the Grizzlies.

Grizzly grapplers were faced with foes from North of the border, going head to head with Simon Fraser University and earning a blowout victory to bounce back from the early morning loss. Adams State would only allow the Clan nine points on their 36 to earn their first victory on the season.

Conference foes, San Francisco State would be saved for last, as the Grizzlies would put up a quick lead within the lighter weight-classes and finally put it away in the 174-pound bout between Isaac Lopez and Maleselino Salt of SF State. Grizzlies would earn their second dual victory of the season over SF State, putting up 25 points to the Gators' 20.

Isaiah De La Cerda (125 lbs), Jonathan Andretta (133 lbs), Noah Hermosillo (141 lbs), and Gavin Davy (165 lbs) would show out and earn three straight wins at the duals.

Adams State comes in ranked 11th in the NWCA Coaches Poll. Jonathan Andretta comes in ranked 4th within the 133-pound weight class, Noah Hermosillo comes in with a ranked third in the 141-pound weight class, and Josiah Rider is ranked 6th at 149 pounds. Grizzlies are 2-1 on the season and look to earn their first conference win of the season.

Scouting Western State
The No. 23 Mountaineers come in

with an overall record of 6-4 including a 1-0 record within the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. Western State put up an impressive showing at the 30th Annual Tracy Borah Duals last weekend, going 4-1. Mountaineers would earn four wins against UNC Pembroke (27-10), Fort Hays (25-18), Indianapolis (30-17), Findlay (39-9), then would end up falling against Air Force.

Western State comes in with four ranked grapplers, including No. 3 in the 125-pound weight class, Patrick Allis. Cody Fatzinger comes in ranked 11th in the 133-pound weight class. Freshman, Jimmy LaConte comes in also ranked 11th in the 174-pound weight class, and Ruger Wyneken ranked 12th within the 184-pound weight class.

Adams State Projected Lineup

125 Isaiah De La Cerda

133 Jonathan Andretta

141 Noah Hermosillo

149 Josiah Rider

157 Ryan Rochford

165 Gavin Davy

174 Isaac Lopez

184 Will Tyler

197 Cole Gustavson

285 Sylvester Montgomery

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schedule

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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
12 PM Polar Plunge

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

Lifestyle

Update on Colorado Department of Public Safety Investigations into Reports of Suspicious Drone Activity

LAKESWOOD — On Jan. 10-12, the Colorado Department of Public Safety (CDPS) continued field investigations into reports of suspicious drone activity in northeastern Colorado. The investigations involved both air and ground-based resources deployed during the evening to search for suspicious activity and to respond to suspicious drone reports.

In response to public concern over reports of unusually large-sized drones flying patterns in groups, CDPS has been gathering and analyzing information since November 23 and has conducted field investigations since January 6. Personnel from the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM), Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) and Colorado State Patrol have participated in these operations.

On Jan. 10, field investigations increased due to the report of a drone in close proximity to a Flight for Life helicopter. After speaking to Flight for Life, the incident does not appear to be related to the northeastern drone activity. This determination was made based on the information shared directly with CDPS staff, including the incident occurred during daylight hours, involved one drone, and the pilot cannot identify a specific location. Unfortunately, this type of drone incursion is an all-too-frequent event with medical helicopters and serves as an important reminder to drone operators to follow FAA operations guidance.

To date, CDPS has confirmed no incidents involving criminal activity, nor have investigations substantiated reports of suspicious or illegal drone activity. The Colorado Information Analysis Center (CIAC) will continue to receive and analyze suspicious drone activity reports.

Investigative facts and findings from the CIAC as of January 13:

Overall:
 ▶ From Nov. 23 to Jan. 13: 90 reports of drone activity received by the CIAC

▶ Of these, 14 were visually confirmed to be hobbyist drones by law enforcement.

▶ The 14 individual drones and operators were not identified. Nor did they fit the description of large wingspan drones traveling in groups.

▶ Confirmed instances of illegal drone activity: 0

▶ One instance of a drone flying close to a helicopter during the daytime was reported but has not been confirmed and/or identified as a violation.

During field investigative operation period:

▶ From Jan. 6 to Jan. 13: 23 drone activity reports received by the CIAC

▶ Sightings determined to be planets, stars or small hobbyist drones not meeting the description of large wingspan drones traveling in groups: 13 reports

▶ Sightings ruled out as atmospheric conditions or identified commercial aircraft: 6 reports

▶ Sightings confirmed by law enforcement but unable to identify: 4 reports

Contextual data from the FAA:

▶ Colorado has a significant presence of legal professional and hobby drone operators:

▶ Registered hobbyist/non-hobbyist drones in Colorado: 24,030 (as of Q4 2019)

▶ The FAA publishes drone registry enrollment data on this web site: https://www.faa.gov/foia/electronic_reading_room/

▶ Drone sightings from pilots are a common occurrence in the U.S. and in Colorado:

▶ The FAA receives more than 100 reports of drone sightings from pilots per month.

▶ Colorado drone sightings reported to the FAA by pilots in 2018: 2,209

▶ The FAA publishes drone sighting reports from pilots on this web site: https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/public_records/uas_sightings_report/

Based on the data gathered and analyzed during these investigations, CDPS will scale back proactive operations but will continue to respond to and investigate reports of suspicious activity. The public can submit reports of suspicious activity through this web form

on the CIAC website: <https://ciacco.org/default.aspx?menuitemid=1095>.

“The public has been worried about the reports of strange drone activity. Our duty is to be responsive to community concerns and to investigate suspicious activity, and so we mobilized our teams to look into this,” said CDPS Executive Director Stan Hilkey. “Despite all of the reported activity, we are still unaware of any crime being committed. While I can’t conclusively say we have solved the mystery, we have been able to rule out a lot of the activity that

was causing concern. We will continue to remain vigilant and respond as new information comes in.”

Hilkey added: “The efforts we have put forth on this issue have been valuable.”

In addition to gathering information, this past week’s operations have been an excellent opportunity for our teams to collaborate and hone their skills with new and emerging technologies.”

Daily media updates on this matter will not be issued unless new information is confirmed.

Sargent School’s Honor Roll

SARGENT — Sargent High School Superintendent’s Honor Roll 4.0:

Madelyn Beiriger, 9; Stephanie Johnson, 9; Kyla Davis, 10; Kamryn Holland, 10; Ashlyn Rockey, 10; Taylor Rockey, 10; Katherine Sewell, 10; Mary Willis, 10; Payton Brown, 11; Lauren Hefner, 11; Kage Pepper, 11; Caden Stickens, 11; Autumn Yocom, 11; Nigel Cortright, 12; Jennifer Johnson, 12; Clay Kimberling, 12; Breannen Maxwell, 12; Akyia Ross, 12; Cole Seger, 12; Drew Smith, 12; Noah Young, 12.

Sargent High School Honor Roll 3.5-3.99:

Antonio Garcia, 9; Megan Peterson, 9; Whitney Brimhall, 10; Mallory Carbutt, 10; Karen Holguin-Guzman, 10; Chinmay Jayanty, 10; Madison Kyffin, 10; Antonio Martinez, 10; Daylon Maze, 10; Aiden Price, 10; Lindsey Temple, 10; Carson Wolfe, 10; Montana Younkerman, 10; Lexus Aguilar, 11; Braxton Asbell, 11; Blake Behil, 11; Christopher Brandt, 11; Lauren Deacon, 11; Jaylynn Gomez, 11; Sara Hensley, 11; Cameron Hsu, 11; Riley Kenison, 11; Marian Kidd, 11; Makayla Larimore, 11; Sadie Mitchell, 11; Caleb

Rabon, 11; McKenzie Tolliver, 11; Albert Floriani, 12; Luke Hoffstaetter, 12; Ryan Holland, 12; Danae Lucero, 12; Trevor Paskett, 12; Kendra Sears, 12; Angelica Urbina, 12.

Sargent Junior High Superintendent’s Honor Roll 4.0:

Makayla Brown, 7; Jessica Buser, 7; Liam Ellithorpe, 7; Ellaree Rockey, 7; Emma Sewell, 7; Becca Stambaugh, 7; Mayah Stephens, 7; Josiah Yocom, 7; Giovanni Aguilar, 8; Kaesyn Eagles, 8; Brooke Hoffstaetter, 8; Saige Hostetter, 8; Sydney Lorentzen, 8; Trenton Lovelace, 8; Aaron Price, 8; Jordan Rockey, 8; Garrett Thomson, 8.

Sargent Junior High Honor Roll 3.5-3.99:

Cheyenne Bloodgood, 7; Deonisia Camacho, 7; Lucas Garcia, 7; Tanner Kenison, 7; Maia Krattli, 7; Mia Stickens, 7; Fernando Venzor, 7; Seth Waggoner, 7; Daniel Willis, 7; Bailey Asbell, 8; Abby Birdsong, 8; Westen Burkhart, 8; Joshua Carbutt, 8; Chloe Gerlach, 8; Annabelle Heineman, 8; Tori Hill, 8; Cayden Larimore, 8; Hayden Lester, 8; Azmarae Lister, 8; Genevieve Maxwell, 8; Jack Noonan, 8; Corbyn Wright, 8.

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2018 Jeep Grand Cherokee
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Lifestyle

Faint constellations alongside Orion

By **DARLENE DANKO**
VALLEY PUBLISHING

Winter is a great time to look at the night sky with long dark nights.

If people are bold they can go out on a clear dark evening or just turn off their house lights and look out a window. Orion the Hunter dominates the evening sky this time of year. Maybe that's why it's a favored constellation.

There are two fainter constellations that are next to Orion. To his lower right is the fainter Eridanus constellation in the southern sky, which was touched on in November. On his left is Monoceros the Unicorn which also sits in front of the Milky Way in the SE. Since the last quarter moon is on the 17th and the New Moon is on the 24th, this is a good time to look for these winter constellations.

Eridanus is a wiggly river shaped constellation that meanders just to the right of Orion's



left foot star Rigel deep into the southern sky and terminates at its brightest star Acherner, which means river's end.

Its range is 58 degrees, which is the largest

of any constellation. Despite the large size, the 33 stars are mostly faint.

It contains a few bright deep sky objects. There are a few galaxies and one planetary nebula NGC 1535, which can be seen with binoculars or a telescope on very clear nights. Its brightest star Acherner is also called Alpha Eridani and it's a large blue white giant 140 light years away. Even though it's the ninth brightest star in our sky, it may be too low in the sky for us to see.

Epsilon Eridani is one of his highest stars and is one of the closest Sun-like stars to Earth. It's just a little cooler and fainter than our Sun and is 10.5 LY away. Omicron-2 Eridani is a triple star system 16 LY away and hosts the most easily seen white dwarf star in our sky. The primary star is a red dwarf and its companion is the white dwarf. There's also another red dwarf partner. It's also near the top and to the

left of Epsilon.

Monoceros is to the lower left of Orion and is 'W' shaped. It sits between Betelgeuse in Orion, Procyon in Canis Minor and the bright star Sirius. Since it sits in front of the Milky Way, it's rich in star clusters and nebula. Like Eridanus it mostly lacks bright stars.

Alpha Monocerotis is a bright orange star 175 LY away. Beta Monocerotis is a beautiful triple star with three blue white stars. M50 is one of many open clusters. Rosette Neovia is a glowing gas cloud, which is part of a huge star forming complex and can be seen with binoculars.

This is a more recent constellation and has no mythology. It was created in 1624 to fill a gap in the sky. The two stars closest to Betelgeuse represent its head. When there is a clear, dark sky, that is a good time find these constellations in the SE.

A handful of ways to prevent and treat chapped lips

Chapped lips can be an unpleasant reminder that the weather is changing. Many different people experience chapped lips periodically, but they seem to be especially common when the air is dry and cold.

The health and wellness resource Healthline.com said that, because the lips do not contain oil glands like other areas of the skin, they are more prone to drying out. Therefore, people need to take extra steps to keep their lips moist.

Licking your lips when they are dry is a reflex habit, and one that will only temporarily address the dryness. The Mayo Clinic said that saliva evaporates quickly, which can leave lips drier than they were before being licked. Flavored lip balms may entice one to lick his or her lips more, so avoid them if that flavor is just too much to resist.

Use a lip balm that contains sunscreen, which can help prevent the lips from damage caused by UV rays, further exacerbating dryness. UV rays are present all year long. If one knows it's going to be

cold and dry outside, apply a lubricating lip cream or balm before heading outdoors. Products containing petroleum, beeswax or coconut oil can help lock moisture in. Reapply often. Also, a scarf or balaclava can help block

wind that dries out lips.

Some people are prone to allergic reactions from cosmetics or skin care products. Read the ingredients carefully and avoid those that have led to reactions in the past.

Be sure to drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration, which can dry out lips and skin.

While one is hydrating from the inside, also try to improve the air humidity inside of the home or office. A

humidifier can make the environment more comfortable and help combat dry lips.

Drawing air in through your mouth can further dry out the lips. Alleviate a stuffy nose so you can breathe through your nose

more easily.

The Mayo Clinic recommends speaking with a doctor if chapped lips are chronic and not easily remedied, as this may be a symptom of an underlying condition. TF19C542

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Public Notices

DISTRICT COURT RIO GRANDE COUNTY
 Court Address: 925 6th St., Rm 204, Del Norte, CO. 81132
 719-657-3394
 In re: the Marriage of:
 Petitioner: MARIA VAZQUEZ DEL ROSARIO SANCHEZ RAMIREZ
 Respondent: FAUSTO RAMIREZ REYES
 Case Number: 2019DR48
 Division 1
NOTICE TO RESPONDENT
 Alamosa County, District Court, Case No. 2019DR48
 FAUSTO RAMIREZ REYES, YOU ARE NOTIFIED, pursuant to C.R.S. 14-10-107 (4), that an action has been filed for Dissolution of Marriage. Regarding your marriage to MARIA DEL ROSARIO VAZQUEZ SANCHEZ RAMIREZ.
 You are further notified that a copy of the PETITION and SUMMONS may be obtained from the clerk of court during regular business hours and that a default judgment may be entered against you if you fail to appear or file a response within 35 days after the date of publication.
 December XX, 2019
 HOLLIE WHEELWRIGHT
 Clerk of Court
 Mary L. Parker
 Domestic Relations Specialist
 No. 1203
 Published in the Valley Courier on December 19, 26, 2019, January 02, 09, and 16 2020.

District Court
 Alamosa County, Colorado
 Court Address:
 In the Matter of the Estate of
 Lori Sue Beierle
 Deceased
COURT USE ONLY
 Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address):
 Robert Dean Beierle
 2705 Clover Road
 Golden, CO 80401
 Phone Number: 303-587-3129
 E-mail: thebeierlehome@msn.com
 FAX Number: N/A
 Atty. Reg. #: N/A
 Case Number: 2019PR22
 Division
 Courtroom
NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO B 15-12-801, C.R.S.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Estate of Lori Sue Beierle, Deceased
 Case Number 2019PR22
 All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to District Court of Alamosa County, Colorado on or before May 1, 2020 (date), or the claims may be forever barred.
 Robert Dean Beierle
 Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice
 2705 Clover Road
 Address
 Golden, CO 80401
 City, State, Zip Code
 No. 1227
 Published in the Valley Courier on January 9, 16, and 23, 2020

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1
 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LA JARA, COLORADO, DEFINING SHORT-TERM RENTALS, PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSING THEREOF, REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET BEFORE LICENSING, AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES WITH RESPECT THERETO.
 Title published in accordance with the provisions of 31-16-105, C.R.S.
 /s/
 Larry Zaragoza, Mayor
 (S E A L)
 /s/
 Shawn Pagnotta, La Jara Town Clerk
 No. 1251
 Published in the Valley Courier on January 16, 2020

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION
CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 905-19
 To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
 On November 12, 2019, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.
 Original Grantor(s)
 TRACY ARCHULETA
 Original Beneficiary(ies)
 MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INC., ACTING SOLELY AS NOMINEE FOR MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS OF COLORADO, LLC
 Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
 PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION
 Date of Deed of Trust
 October 28, 2009
 County of Recording
 Alamosa
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust
 November 02, 2009
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
 340371
 Original Principal Amount
 \$100,917.00
 Outstanding Principal Balance
 \$87,598.19
 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
 THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
 LOTS 7 AND 8, BLOCK 29, GODFREY AND BOYD'S FIRST ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ALAMOSA, LESS AND EXCEPT THAT PORTION DEEDED TO VAL DURAN AND VICKIE M. MARTINEZ IN DEED RECORDED APRIL 4, 2002 AT RECEPTION NO. 305958, COUNTY OF ALAMOSA, STATE OF COLORADO.
 Also known by street and number as: 184 RIO GRANDE AVE, ALAMOSA, CO 81101.
 THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
NOTICE OF SALE
 The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
 THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 03/11/2020, at County Office Building, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
 First Publication 1/15/2020
 Last Publication 2/12/2020
 Name of Publication Valley Courier
 IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.
 DATE: 11/12/2019
 Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado
 By: Jurice Montoya, Deputy Public Trustee
 The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
 Barrett Frappier & Weissman, LLP 1199 Bannock Street, Denver, CO 80204 (303) 350-3711
 Attorney File # 8669814
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
 No. 1252
 Published in the Valley Courier on January 16, 22, 29, February 5, and 12, 2020

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

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. The project consists of the following: The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area/Rio Grande Natural Area is looking for the installation and fabrication of one Sign Panel (Special)-6 Panel Portals, located at Colorado State Highway 142 near the Rio Grande River crossing between Manassa, CO and San Luis, CO. Bid designs will be similar to those of the Portal Signs located in San Luis (Main Street next to the park), Antonito (south of Antonito across from Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad) and Alamosa (Rio Grande Farm Park) along the Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway. Copies of the Plans may be obtained by emailing San Luis Valley Great Outdoors at slygreatoutdoors@gmail.com. It is anticipated that the project construction will begin March, 2019.(1/24)

163 LOST & FOUND

TWO MISSING DOGS Brown Yorkie, with micro chip. Family desperately seeking deceased mother's dogs. Please call 720-588-7974 or 720-996-8980. Locally call 719-580-6635. (1/18)

LOST DOG REWARD

Offered. In the area of San Luis. Male shepherd/heeler mix approx. 2 yrs old tan with tip on tail tummy black. Big thick brown leather collar. Not neutered. Call 505-506-8755 goes by "Leo"(1/17)

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

SIERRA VISTA LUMBER 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)

CENTER FIRE DEPARTMENT

is looking to hire a board secretary. Individual must be self-motivated and QuickBooks proficient. Duties include: Payroll, Setting up budgets, taking minutes at monthly meetings, 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)

EXPERIENCED DENTAL HYGIENIST

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

221 HELP WANTED

CHIEF OF POLICE-TOWN OF Del Norte-Full-time, FLSA Exempt. Working Chief Position, plans, organizes, and directs the activities of the Police Department in law enforcement and crime prevention. The position is expected to carry out the duties of the department in a manner that inspires trust and confidence among our citizens and staff. Any combination of training and experience that provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities is qualifying; typical education, but is not limited to BS/BA in Business Administration, Public Administration, or Criminal Justice. Experience would include 5 years of responsible command/management experience in law enforcement agency. Salary \$55K-\$60K annually. Must possess a POST certificate. Must possess valid Colorado driver's license. Must sign waiver for Town of Del Norte to obtain ALL information from previous employers. Must past background, drug and psychological tests. Applications and job description are available from Del Norte Town Hall 140 Spruce Street, Del Norte, Co or website: delnortecolorado.com. Please send application attention to Del Norte Town Administrator.140 Spruce Street, P.O. Box 249, Del Norte, Colorado 81132 Deadline for applications Jan. 31, 2020. EOE.(2/5)

ARLAN'S PRO SERVICE

looking Drug/Alcohol Technician with computer skills, will train \$13-\$15. Apprentice Electricians \$20-\$25. Apply in person at 6750 Cramer Road, Alamosa CO. or call 719-496-6901.(1/22)

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS ALAMOSA

hiring all AM/PM Desk Shifts and Night Audit. Apply in person (1/21)

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. Applicants should have a high school diploma or GED and six months or more of relevant experience. Final candidates applying with Saguache County will be required to submit and pass a pre-employment drug screen and criminal background check. Pay D.O.E. Landfill Attendant is a full time 40 hour per week position - starting at 8:00 A.M. each day Tuesday through Saturday (subject to change) Those applying must be an experienced front end loader operator, have the ability to do strenuous outdoor physical labor in extreme weather conditions and be able to lift and/or move 20 lbs. to 75 lbs. Applications are available at the Saguache County Road and Bridge/Landfill Office 305 3rd Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website - www.saguachecounty.net under the Landfill Department tab. Completed applications can be hand delivered or mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge/Landfill Office - at the address listed above, sent by email to mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov or faxed to: 719-655-2543. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (01/31)

CALDON TRUCKING IS

looking for a CDL driver. Please call 719-274-4464.(1/21)

221 HELP WANTED

C V C L C A T HOMELAKE is seeking permanent full-time CNA positions for our 24-hour Skilled Nursing Home and a Temporary full-time Equipment Operator (transportation Driver). Prefer experience with long-term care but not required. We offer competitive salary, retirement plan (Public Employees Retirement Account (PERA), 401K/457), health and dental insurance options, life insurance, short term disability, 10 paid holidays/year, sick leave and paid vacation for permanent positions. Must have a current driver license; pass a CBI/FBI background check, and drug screen. Interested candidates in the above positions must complete an official State application. http://agency.governmentjobs.com/colorado Contact Nina Esquivel for assistance at 719-852-8215. For questions regarding available open shifts for CNA positions contact Crystal Gallegos, DON or Sandra Qualls, ADON, at 719-852-5118.(1/18)

CONEJOS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

is seeking a Patrol Deputy. Duties include: Enforces Colorado laws & ordinances, report writing, investigates, apprehends and arrests suspects. Patrols entire county. Must be 21 years of age, have a valid driver's license and be Colorado Post Certified. Must be eligible to carry a firearm. Must pass background check and drug screen. 2 years' relevant law enforcement experience preferred. Starting salary is \$35,360. County Application Required. Deadline Ongoing. Applications available at the Conejos County Human Resources Office or via email upon request at cricci@co.conejos.co.us. Inquiries call 719-376-6799 or 719-376-2196. (1/17 #2)

221 HELP WANTED

CONJOS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE is seeking full-time and part-time Detention Deputies in the jail. \$15.00/hr. Performs routine work in the safekeeping of prisoners, oversees inmates during transport, testifies in court, and processes arrest/booking paperwork for detention and courts. Experience preferred. High School Diploma or equivalent. Must be able to pass pre-employment background check, and drug screen. County Application Required. Deadline: January 17, 2020. Applications available at Conejos County Human Resources or via email upon request at cricci@co.conejos.co.us. Inquiries call 719-376-6799 or 719-376-2196. (1/17 #3)

221 HELP WANTED

SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS Association 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 sjma.org/jobs-sjma/(01/23)

NEED A SECOND INCOME?

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

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Classifieds

221 HELP WANTED

SIGNING BONUS-\$1,000 AT hire, \$1,000 after completing one year of service. Conejos County is seeking a Caseworker for the Department of Social Services and offering a signing bonus. Annual Salary \$35,000. Responsibilities include: Intake and/or ongoing social casework services to families/adults, attending drug court, performing assessments, counseling, and crisis intervention. Duties are to protect children and adults from situations of abuse, neglect and other forms of maltreatment. Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, Psychology or related field required. One-year experience preferred. Applications are available at Conejos County Administration Office 6683 County Rd. 13, Conejos, CO 81129, or via email upon request at cricci@co.conejos.co.us. Deadline is Wednesday, January 15, 2020. Inquiries call (719) 376-6799 EEOE (1/17)

221 HELP WANTED

CONEJOS COUNTY PUBLIC Health is seeking an Assistant Personal Care Provider Scheduler. Duties include: Scheduling and finding substitutes for PCP's. Conducts orientation on policies, conducts supervisory visits, training, home visits, prepares PCP timesheets, monitors PCP placements, and notifies clients of changes in scheduling. Fills in as on call PCP. Knowledge of Microsoft Office, data entry skills a must. Bilingual preferred and High School Diploma or equivalent. Application Form Required available at County Human Resources/Administration Office 6683 County Rd. 13, Conejos CO. or via email upon request at cricci@co.conejos.co.us. Deadline is Wednesday, January 15, 2020. Inquiries call (719) 376-6799 (1/16)

221 HELP WANTED

OTERO JUNIOR COLLEGE Child Development Services 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 www.cds-headstart.com 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 michelle.weaver@ojc.edu Otero Junior College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Title IX/Section 504 employer.(1/27)

221 HELP WANTED

THE ALAMOSA COUNTY Board of Commissioners is seeking interested citizens to serve on the Alamosa County Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is comprised of five volunteer citizens and one alternate appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. They advise the County on planning, land development, and land policy within Alamosa County. This position is appointed to attend Planning Commission Board meetings. Those interested in applying for the board member position must submit an application and current resume. Applications may be picked up at the County Administration office at 8900-A Independence Way or online at alamosacounty.org. Applications must be received by January 16, 2020. Send your information to Belina Ramirez, Executive Assistant, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101 or to bramirez@alamosacounty.org. If you have questions please contact the Alamosa County Land Use Department at landuse@alamosacounty.org or (719) 589-3812. (1/16)

221 HELP WANTED

WANTED - RANCH/FARM Hand 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 fuchsranchinc@gmail.com.(2/5)

324 - FEED & SEED

PREMIUM ALFALFA AND grass/alfalfa, small bales \$8.00 in shed, \$7.00 outside (719) 580-2509. (02/19)

369 - PETS & SUPPLIES

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

426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

MOBILE HOME for sale - 1982 Atlantic, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 14x52, nice, very clean. Remodeled. In a nice/quiet trailer park. Listed price \$19,995/OBO. Call 719-496-7937 or 801-647-3944.(TFN-11/21)

330 FREE

FREE COUCH PLEASE call 719-849-0483 for more information (1/23)

351 LIVESTOCK

SALE REGISTERED BLACK Angus Bulls and semen sales Brink Livestock Services admin@brinklivesock.net www.brinklivesock.net 888-641-3750/719-480-3932.(1/21)

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

360 - MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

NEW, MUST SELL Couch. Medium gray in color. 719-580-2332. (1/22)

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

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

369 - PETS & SUPPLIES

FREE KITTENS to good inside home. Call 719-250-7597.(1/22)

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

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

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

409 FARM & RANCH LAND

HAY GROUND WANTED for share crop or cash lease. Over 20 years experience 719-850-1626. (2/5)

415 - HOMES FOR SALE

VERY CLEAN 2 Bedroom Home for sale / With Fireplace. Priced in the \$90's. Call 719-480-9893. (01/22)

525 GUNS

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

601 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Century Property Management & Sales, LLC Alamosa • 589-5744 **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICE** For all your rental needs please call 719-589-5744 or stop by 823 Main St. Alamosa, CO 81101 www.alamosarentals.com

2 BEDROOM, 1 Bathroom duplex Monte Vista. 2 car garage W/D included \$700/Mo includes W/S/T. No pets/smoking 303-589-5455. (1/15)

611 - HOMES FOR RENT

AFFORDABLE 2 Bedroom House for rent in Monte Vista. Call Raymond (719)850-2069.(1/28)

HOUSE FOR RENT 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)

RENT COUNTRY HOME 3 Bedroom & Loft 2 bathrooms 2mi Alamosa 800-641-3750 / 719-480-3932. (1/21)

THE CITY OF Alamosa 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 www.cityofalamosa.org under Employment or at the HR Department, 300 Hunt Avenue, Alamosa, Colorado. Closing date is January 24, 2020 at 5 pm. (1/24)

SIERRA GRANDE SCHOOL District 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 www.sierragrandeschool.net Applications may be submitted to Mr. Darren Edgar at dedgar@sierragrandeschool.net or turned in at the district office. For more information please contact Mrs. DeAnn Arellano at 719-379-3257.(1/24)

SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for High School Baseball Coach. Applications can be downloaded at www.sanfordschools.org Sanford School is an EOE&E. (1/24)

FRIDAY HEALTH PLANS is a company designed for the new healthcare economy and empowers more consumers to choose their own health coverage. FRIDAY IS LOOKING FOR ITS NEXT GREAT CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE IN ALAMOSA TO JOIN OUR RAPIDLY GROWING TEAM! The successful candidate must have 1-2 years' experience in a customer facing position. Must also have excellent interpersonal skills, good communication skills, and professionalism in dealing with coworkers, members, and providers. Interested candidates should send their resume and cover letter to resumes@fridayhealthplans.com. (01/18)

RIVER VALLEY INN Nursing Home now hiring LPN's OR RN's. Come join our team! Must have a current license and CPR. Night shift with differential. Please stop in for an application at 1335 6th St. in Del Norte CO or call 719-657-1105. Ask for Susan or Paula. (RVI is EOE). (1/22 #1)

RIVER VALLEY INN Nursing Home in Del Norte is looking for CNA's to join our Family! Night shift with differential, health benefits/competitive wages. Please stop in for an application at 1335 6th St. in Del Norte Co or call 719-657-1105. Ask for Susan or Paula. (RVI is EOE) (1/22 #2)

WAITRESS POSITION AVAILABLE at El Charro Café. Hours vary. Apply in person 1605 Main, Alamosa. (1/16)

TIMBERLINE CATTLE INC. is hiring a full time farm/ranch hand. Can start immediately. Please call 719-588-1379 to apply.(1/17)

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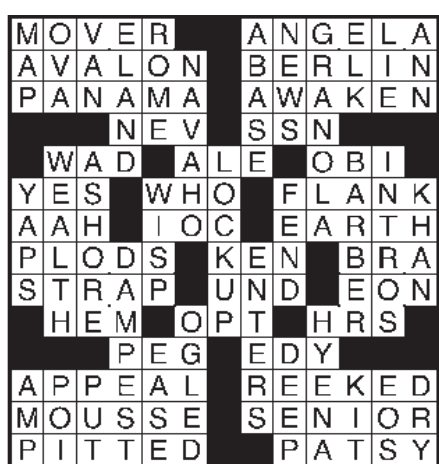
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

40—
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11 Toughen by exposure
12 Ballpark event
13 Temperament
15 Spice rack item
16 Baby food
18 Galleon cargo
19 Casino action
21 Assistance
22 Ration out
23— St. Laurent
25 Call out
28 Shake off
30 Mind reader's letters
31 Tend the garden
32 Grassy surface
33 "Gal" of song
35 Roughly
37 Dazzle
38 Perched

DOWN

41 Grass skirt go-with
42 Like some hours
43 Shaggy-haired ox
46 Stock holder
48 Did not cook (2 wds.)
50 Mystery
54 Bounded along
55 Use a prayer rug
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57 Insurance worker
1 Shark feature
2 Collection of tales
3 Snip off
4 Released violently
5 Prefix for "trillion"
6 Sidekick
7 Undergo decomposition

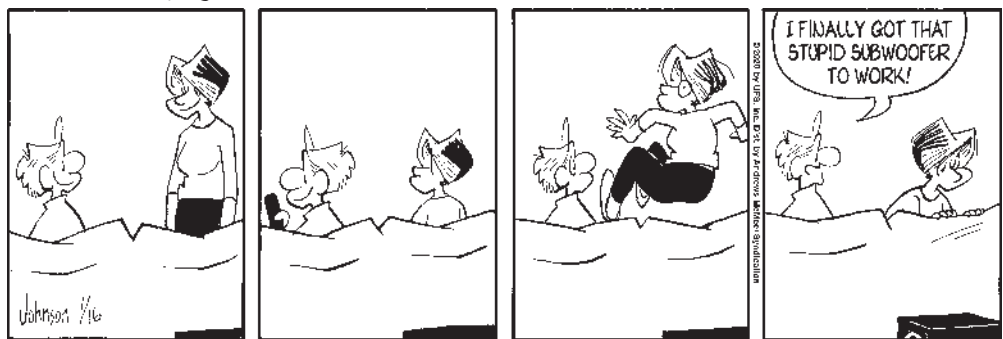


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29 That senora
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36 Weeping noisily
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ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



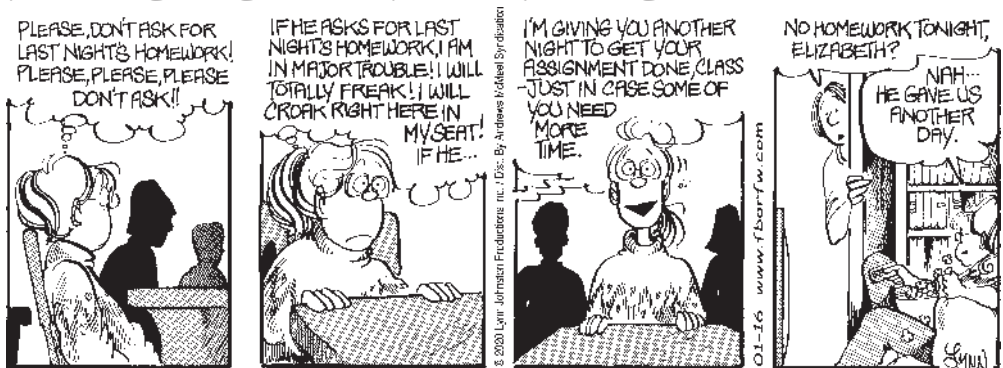
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THE BORN LOSER



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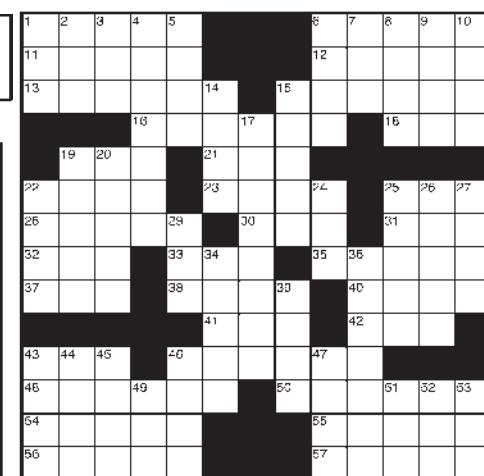
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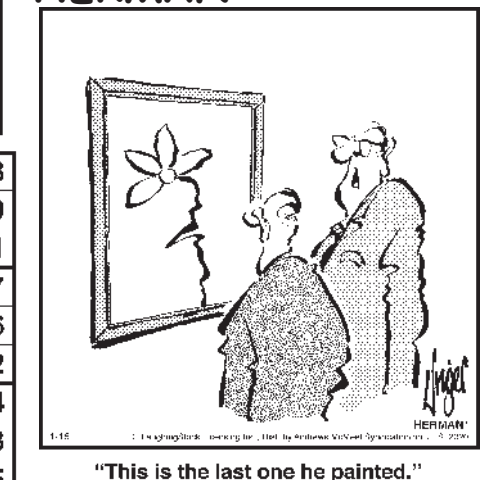
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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HERMAN



"This is the last one he painted."

Man disabled as a teen is haunted by parents' inaction

DEAR ABBY: When I was a junior in high school, I sustained a neck injury (at school) that damaged my spinal cord. I recovered mostly from that, but I have residual weakness in my right side and severe neck pain. I was able to work until, at 57, I had to go on disability. Because of that, my financial situation is difficult, increasingly so now that my wife will be retiring.

At the time of my injury, my parents didn't sue the school, although clearly the school was responsible. I was too young and certainly in no shape to address the situation.

A lawyer approached my parents at the time, and my physician stated my injuries would limit my long-term work abilities and drastically affect my life. My parents were aware that I would have limited work years, thus affecting my financial situation. I feel anger toward them because of their inaction regarding my injury and not suing the school.

I see them once or twice a week, and I'm wondering if I should bring this up to them now. They're in their mid-80s but are quite lively and take care of themselves. It consumes my thoughts each time I visit them, but I've said nothing. Do you think I

should bring this up to them? -- INJURED IN TENNESSEE

DEAR INJURED: Yes, I do. You deserve to know why they were so apathetic in taking care of your welfare -- and they should be made aware of the impact it has had on your life. It may be too late to sue the school for what happened to you, but at least you will have some answers.

DEAR ABBY: I am suffering from postpartum depression while trying to reconcile with my husband, "Derek." He had several emotional affairs during my recent pregnancy, as well as after I gave birth.

His parents attacked me about the postpartum. I was hospitalized for a week because of it, but they said it was an act. Recently, his mom texted him saying he should use my mental illness as grounds to divorce me. I texted her, asking her to stop attacking me that way. She responded, calling me a devil, saying she's always hated me. Now she's turning his entire family against me, spreading vicious lies. She even accused me of trying to sleep with my father-in-law, which Derek knows is ridiculous.

I have asked Derek to address the situation, but what else can I do? I'm no longer comfortable around his parents or sending my



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

children to be around them. I don't want Derek to be in an awkward position, but it's not fair for me to be attacked with malicious lies because of her jealousy -- especially 12 years in. Please help. -- DISRESPECTED IN ILLINOIS

DEAR DISRESPECTED: You may be suffering from postpartum, but your mother-in-law appears to have more problems than you do. I don't envy you for being her target, or your husband for having to buffer you.

It might be helpful if the two of you consult a licensed mental health provider to figure out how to deal with her, if that's possible. And Derek should waste no time letting the rest of the family know that none of what his mother is saying is true.