



**Mountain bike team to host annual 'Ride with a Rattler Day'**

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**McDaniel named Class 1A track athlete of the year**

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# Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

May 24, 2024

\$1

## Tandberg is optimistic about ASU



**David Tandberg**  
President of Adams State University

*'The University and the Valley sell themselves if the story is told right'*

By **JOHN WATERS**  
Courier News Editor

**ALAMOSA** — On April 21, 2023, David A. Tandberg, Ph.D., was selected by unanimous vote of the Adams State University Board of Trustees as the twelfth president. Before being named president, he

served as interim president for about 10 months.

At the time Tandberg said, "To say that I am excited to accept the position of Adams State University president, would be a great understatement. Since this summer, my wife and I have deeply connected with the campus and community. It strengthens my resolve to be a strong leader who knows how to listen, when to take action, and can visualize a path for a successful future."

Tandberg earned a bachelor's

in history/social studies education from Adams State in 2002 and was elected president of the Associated Students and Faculty while a student. Tandberg also ran cross country at ASU. He earned a master's in political science and a Ph.D. in higher education from Penn State University.

Tandberg's wife, Darin, is also a graduate of Adams State, Class of 2002. They have three children – Allyson, Bryce and Kai.

Recently, Valley Courier

News Editor John Waters met with Tandberg for a conversation about his first year in the position and some exciting projects the university is working on.

"It has been a good year, and it has gone fast. We've had our first increase in undergraduate enrollment in about 10 years. [Currently about 1,500 students] We've been challenged with declining undergraduate enrollment and we've turned that around. Our graduate enrollment is up. See ASU page 3

### SLV Today

#### Alamosa Memorial Day trash schedule

**ALAMOSA** — The City of Alamosa recently announced its trash schedule for Memorial Day:

Commercial Routes: Monday, May 27, will be collected Tuesday, May 28.

Residential Routes: Will remain the same.

Recycling Center: Will be closed Monday, May 27, and will reopen Tuesday, May 28.

Yard Waste: Will be collected Tuesday, May 28.

For more information or if you have any questions, contact the Public Works Department at 719-589-6631.

City facilities will be closed Monday, May 27, and will reopen Tuesday, May 28.

#### SLV REC Board of Directors meeting May 28

**MONTE VISTA** — San Luis Valley REC will have the regular meeting of the board of directors at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 28, at 3625 US Highway 160 W, Monte Vista.

Advance notice is required to attend the meeting, call Michelle Trujillo at 719-852-3538.

#### SLV WEATHER



Sunny, Breezy and Gusty Wind 71/38

**Sat:** Sunny, Gusty Wind 71/35

**Sun:** Sunny, Gusty Wind 72/35

#### INSIDE

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## There's a new chief in town

By **PRISCILLA WAGGONER**  
Courier Reporter

**ALAMOSA** — When George Dingfelder is introduced as Alamosa Police Department's (APD) new Chief of Police, one of the first things that is mentioned is the amount of time he's spent in law enforcement. And for good reason.

Over the course of 35 years, Dingfelder has gone from serving in the Military Police in the U.S. Army to spending 25 years with the Colorado State Patrol where he rose to the rank of Major overseeing 17 counties, including the six that make up the San Luis Valley. He then transitioned to hiring on as Police Chief of the Monte Vista Police Department (MVPD) and now, after four years with MVPD, he's stepped in as APD's top cop.

When asked why the change and why now, he starts at the beginning. "I've lived in the Valley off and on for 29 years. After getting out of the military, I joined the Colorado State Patrol. You have to work for two years before you can transfer in State Patrol and I



Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner

**Alamosa Police Department Chief of Police George Dingfelder talks with the Valley Courier about being hired as the city's top cop.**

thought, boy, as soon as those two years are up, I'm going back to Colorado Springs. I'd been stationed there at Fort Carson."

It wasn't long before Dingfelder's mind was changed. The San Luis Valley reminded him of growing up in Miles

City, Mont., a small town located at the confluence of the Yellowstone and Tongue Rivers.

"I love rural America," he says. "Easily 99.5% of the people are really, really good people."

■ See **CHIEF** page 3



Courtesy photo

**The Food Bank Network of the San Luis Valley held a successful benefit and auction on May 18 at the Colorado Farm Brewery. Auctioneer, Darius Allen, humored and inspired the crowd.**

## Generosity on Tap raises funds for local food banks

CONTRIBUTED

**ALAMOSA** — On Saturday, May 18, the Food Bank Network of the San Luis Valley held its annual fundraiser, "Generosity on Tap." The proceeds from the event will help the Food Bank Network support the family of 15 food pantries scattered throughout all six counties of the San Luis Valley.

Guests arrived at the Colorado Farm Brewery, and enjoyed cuisine prepared by Gosar Natural Foods and live music from Don Richmond.

■ See **FUNDS** page 3

## Cumbres and Toltec train season begins Memorial Day weekend

CONTRIBUTED

**ANTONITO** — The Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad's 2024 season opens Memorial Day weekend with departures on Saturday, May 25.

Travel back to the Old West on one of the most authentic rail trips available. Pulled by historic steam locomotive, you will ride in all original Denver and Rio Grande 19th century equipment.

Regular daily passenger service is May 25-Oct. 19, and will run six days a week, Tuesday-Sunday. Daily passenger service includes All

Aboard trips that run the full line between Antonito, and Chama, N.M., and Half Limited trips, which travel from either Antonito or Chama to Osier Station and then return to the point of origin.

The Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad

■ See **CUMBRES** page 3

**Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad Engine 488 rumbles across the Cascade Trestle. At 137 feet high, it is the highest bridge on the 64-mile route between Antonito and Chama, N.M., and crosses Cascade Creek.**

Photo by Brian Williams



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# Record

## Colorado Gators to celebrate new reptile barn



Courtesy photo

Just over a year after a fire destroyed the reptile barn at the Colorado Gator Farm near Mosca, a grand opening is set for today, May 24, for the replacement barn. A ribbon cutting ceremony at 11 a.m. will kick-off the celebration and provide an opportunity for visitors to meet the farm's new rescues. More than 100 reptiles were lost in the April 18, 2023, fire including numerous snakes, turtles, tortoises, caiman, and others.

## Spearman receives Del Norte Bank scholarship

CONTRIBUTED

**DEL NORTE** – Del Norte Bank recently announced Lane Spearman as its 2024 scholarship winner. The total award is \$4,000 at \$500 per semester for a 4-year college.

The winner was chosen based on academic achievement, community involvement and overall character. Applicants were also asked to write an essay regarding how they, as an individual, have made or can make a positive impact in the community they live in.

Spearman has always had a passion for learning new skills. Some of his interests include leatherworking, welding, working cattle and riding the range on his horse, Goldie. When he is not farming and ranching on the weekends and summers with his mentor,



Lane Spearman

Jake Pargin, he is usually working on vehicles or motorcycles, hunting or fishing.

Spearman has a great appreciation for production agriculture and

would like to pursue a career in farming and ranching. He will be attending West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas, this fall to study Agribusiness.

## OBITUARY

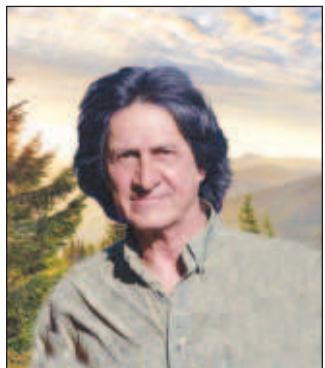
### Richard DeHerrera

Richard DeHerrera passed away May 18, 2024, at his brother's home, surrounded by his loving family, after a valiant battle with prostate cancer. He was born on Feb. 26, 1952, in La Isla, Colo., to Orlando and Ida DeHerrera. He was 72 years of age.

Richard was predominantly raised by his grandparents, Frutoso and Ana DeHerrera, who instilled within him a deep-rooted sense of family and community.

An avid outdoorsman, Richard's love for hunting and fishing showcased his deep connection with nature. He maintained a lifelong passion for raising animals. Known for his generosity and compelling storytelling, Richard touched the lives of many, sharing tales of travel and adventure that resonated with all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Richard's adventurous spirit led him on extensive travels through Central America and Mexico, where he met his future wife, Kerry Jex-Blake. Together for 15 years, they spent most of their time in New Zealand, raising their two boys. Richard managed a deer farm and was the president of the local deer farmer associa-



tion. In the mid-1990's, Richard returned to the United States where he undertook various roles across the country, forming new and lasting friendships wherever he went. His warm and affable nature made him well-liked, leading to a network of friends spanning the nation.

Eventually, Richard resettled in the San Luis Valley where he enjoyed giving back to his community, particularly through his work with the San Luis Valley Mental Health Center and contributions to the local senior citizens centers and community garden in Alamosa.

Richard is survived by his sons: Kael and Rosie and Joven and Kristina; his beloved grandson, Cruz; siblings: Ted and Janice DeHerrera, Guillermo and Jolie DeHerrera, Maria Morales, Kenneth and Yolanda DeHerrera,

Cindy and David Atencio, Teresa DeHerrera, Orlando Jr. and Tish DeHerrera, and James and Denise DeHerrera; sisters-in-law: Brenda DeHerrera, Geraldine DeHerrera, and numerous nieces, nephews, God children, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents Frutoso and Ana, parents Orlando and Ida, siblings: Andrew, Augustine, and Joan DeHerrera, and brother-in-law Moises Morales.

Richard's widespread friendships and lasting impact on the community are a testament to a life well-lived, filled with love, laughter, and an enduring commitment to the well-being of others.

A celebration of Richard's remarkable life will be held on May 27 at 11 a.m. in Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations by check to the Antonito Senior Center, PO Box 296, Antonito, CO 81120, a cause Richard passionately supported.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the loving care of the Johnson-Romero Family Funeral Home. Online Condolences and Shared Memories can be made at johnsonromero.com.

## Homelake Preservation and Restoration auction set for June 14

CONTRIBUTED

**MONTE VISTA** – The 19th annual Homelake Historic Preservation and Restoration meeting and silent auction fundraiser will be held at 6 p.m. on June 14, at Dos Rios Restaurant north of Monte Vista.

The June 14 event is the annual meeting for the Foundation that preserves and restores the historic campus of Homelake, the oldest veterans' center in Colorado and the official repository of all unclaimed military medals in the state. In addition, the Foundation will be holding its annual membership drive and donation requests.

Social hour is at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. and the meeting will follow. In addition, there will be a silent auction of a few items, including an antique punch bowl that belonged to Sierra Blanca No. 43 Order of Eastern Star, Alamosa, donated to the Foundation when the chapter closed in 2022. Dinner is

\$20 per person.

At the meeting, reports and news with the progress this past year will be given and five 3-year terms and one 2-year term that are up on the 15-member board will be filled. The board quarterly. Anyone interested in attending the meeting and dinner, becoming a member and/or serving on the board and being part of a worthy vital Foundation may call Foundation secretary Christa Davis at 719-588-2484.

People who cannot attend may still join HHPRF. Membership dues are \$15 per year for an individual membership, \$25 per year for a couple, \$100 for a sustaining member, \$500 for a corporate membership, and \$1000 for a life membership. Membership allows for a vote at the annual meeting and continued support of the foundation and its endeavors.

Membership forms are available from Christa Davis, 719-588-2484, or

via email, Christa Davis at christaksmile@gmail.com. One may send a check made payable to "HHPRF" at HHPRF c/o Christa Davis, P.O. Box 97, Homelake, CO 81135. Donations are also welcome; separate checks for these also are made payable to "HHPRF." Or they can be dropped by the Colorado Veterans Community Living Center – Homelake or mailed to the Homelake Foundation at P.O. Box 97, Homelake, CO 81135.

The foundation was established in 2005 and exists in partnership with the community of Homelake (CVCLC-Homelake) and the broader communities of the San Luis Valley primarily through the stabilization, restoration and preservation of the historic buildings of Homelake and safeguarding and displaying of military mementos and memorabilia that have been entrusted to it through the Homelake Museum.

## Taste of Creede: A celebration of art and food

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

**CREEDE** – The 36th annual Taste of Creede kicks off Memorial Day weekend with over 25 artists ready to share their talents and local chefs cooking for bragging rights in the annual K-Belle Community Cookoff. And nothing pairs better with these two events than the opening of Creede Repertory Theatre's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Homes Mystery."

The Taste of Creede was started by local artist Steven Quiller who wanted to bring inspirational art, delicious food and local theatre to the streets of this Southern Colorado mining town. The art and food festival has grown and changed over the years, but one thing remains and that is how much fun family and friends can have during the Memorial Day weekend.

The weekend starts on Saturday, May 25, with vendors, live music and artists lining Main Street to showcase their talents. People can venture downtown to enjoy shopping, wonderful restaurants, live entertainment, and music.

As the morning ends,

the Kentucky Belle Grocery will fire up the grills for local amateur chefs representing local businesses who will try cooking delectable food for a panel of judges. The market provides fresh ingredients along with their featured ingredient that all the chefs must use. This year's featured ingredient is quinoa. This event is fun to watch, and people can sample some amazing food.

People can also enjoy several vendors and shopping along Main Street, visit the National Small Print Show hosted by the Creede Arts Council where artists from across the US and Canada compete in this juried show with matted and hand-pulled prints.

Later in the evening, guests can purchase tickets for the opening of Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is all that is great about CRT. Directed by Christy Montour Larson, this play is sure to captivate audiences and add to that mysterious flair that CRT has become known for. This play opens May 25 and runs through Sept. 14.

"Mystery and mayhem, from the award-winning

mastermind of mayhem, Ken Ludwig ('Sherwood', 'Dear Jack, Dear Louise'), comes a fast-paced comedy about everyone's favorite detective solving his most notorious case. Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson must crack the mystery of 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' before a family curse dooms its newest heir. Watch as five actors deftly portray more than 40 characters. Does a wild hellhound prowl the moors of Devonshire? Can our heroes discover the truth in time? Get your deerstalker cap on – the play's afoot!"

On Sunday, people can venture out and watch the annual Artist Quickdraw along Main Street where local artists have one hour to complete a work of art that is later auctioned off to help promote art in Creede with proceeds from the event going toward future artistic events throughout the summer.

On Monday, a Memorial Day Service is held at 11 a.m. in Basham Park in Creede. The ceremony is organized by the Creede Elks Lodge BPOE No. 506.

For more information, visit online [www.creede.com/taste-of-creede](http://www.creede.com/taste-of-creede).

## ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

A.A. and N.A members primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics/addicts to achieve sobriety.

There are AA and NA 12-Step Meetings throughout the valley. 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 or see our website: [slvaa.org](http://slvaa.org)

School Menu  
Friday  
May 24, 2024

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## BIRTH

### Alana Flor Naminé Castillo

Alana Flor Naminé Castillo was born on May 11, 2024, to Jovanna Cortez and Carlos Castillo Jr. of Alamosa. Alana weighed

8 pounds 1 ounce and was 20 inches. Alana was born at SLV Health in Alamosa.

Maternal grandparent is Florence Cortez, of

Questa, N.M. Paternal grandparents are Carlos Castillo of Alamosa and Christina Martinez of Denver.

## COURIER OBITUARY POLICY

The Courier charges \$75 for each obituary per day. Pending arrangements or death notices are free. This charge affects funeral homes, family or other representatives that place obituaries. All paid obituaries are published on [www.alamosanews.com](http://www.alamosanews.com), for no additional fee.

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



# Valley News

## Chief

Continued from Page 1

Seeking a “different mission” prompted the move from the State Patrol to Monte Vista Police Department. Timing and opportunity prompted the move from Monte Vista to Alamosa. “I felt like we had accomplished some good things in Monte Vista. It was in a really good place with good officers and a good department. I’ve lived here in Alamosa for six years. The Alamosa Police Department is a very, very busy agency. This was an excellent opportunity and, when it came up, I thought it was time.”

When Dingfelder speaks about law enforcement, the same core themes surface, including public safety and being responsive to the community.

“There are always people who don’t like it so much when people say ‘we pay your salary’ but, well, they do. We work for the citizens and the visitors while they’re here, so we need to be responsive.”

“Yes, responding quickly is part of that but also so is being willing to have conversations, even when we disagree. Sometimes, those conversations are hard, but that’s part of the job.” Dingfelder, who is not a fan of social media, adds that he would greatly prefer to have those conversations face to face.

Another core theme

involves building trust with the community, something he says was greatly enhanced with body cameras.

“Bodycams take out the subjectivity,” he says. “Of course, it’s not the catch all. You still have to document an incident well, but, as far as public trust, having footage from a body cam says, ‘This is what it shows. This is what happened.’”

Dingfelder readily admits that sometimes bodycams sometimes reveal things about a police department that are not good, which he says is exactly one of the reasons to have them in existence. But, equally true, he says, is that they show actions that prove something else.

“In every profession there are bad apples, and, unfortunately, we all get lumped into that. But, for the majority of departments across the country, we’re doing it right and bodycams confirm that. I think that makes it one of the biggest gamechangers in how we solve problems and they help a lot to build public trust.”

Dingfelder is also a strong believer in the co-responder program, which he views as the second “game changer” he’s seen in law enforcement.

“The co-responder program here...they did a phenomenal job of getting that up and running.”

When asked if, in his new position, he plans on making any changes

at APD, Dingfelder answers the question in general terms.

“I’m not a big fan of making changes just to make changes,” he says. “This is not about me, at all. It can never be about me. This is about doing what’s right for the community and having a well-trained and professional police force. And you can accomplish that by making sure you have the right standards and the right policies in place.”

Police chiefs are often driven by priorities they have set but, in Dingfelder’s case, he also sees great importance in including the priorities of the community in making those decisions.

“This morning I stopped at the gas station,” he says, “and what was intended to be five minutes in and out turned into a 30-minute conversation with people catching me. Three out of four asked what are we going to do about drugs? So, that tells me that’s a very high priority for the community to get the drugs under control. It won’t happen overnight but that’s what we’re going to try to do.”

In any community, he says, drugs are going to play a role in crime rate, whether it’s violent crime or burglaries or shoplifting.

“Drugs really drive a lot of that. It’s a huge business. But I think we’ve had some pretty good successes in Monte Vista because of the strategies we used,

which involved using our federal partners – like DEA [Drug Enforcement Administration] and ATF [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives]. We targeted the violent criminals and the high-level drug dealers. I’m not saying we should ever use federal resources to target drug dealers on the street because that’s not what it’s for. Those federal resources are for targeting those bringing in the drugs that are poisoning the community.”

He also sees great success and promise in collaboration among law enforcement agencies in the Valley, something he acknowledges APD

and MVPD have done for quite a while.

“We’ve already seen what can happen when we collaborate. We can make a real difference. Alamosa Police Department was very instrumental in helping the detectives in Monte Vista target some of the higher-level dealers.”

And that brings the conversation back to the Alamosa Police Department to whom he is already committed and for whom he has nothing but high praise.

“At the municipal level, you can’t stay focused on just one thing, whether it’s homeless issues, drug issues or violent crimes. Being an administrator is just be-

ing an administrator, as far as how you allocate resources and things like that.

“But the big thing is to trust the people you’re working with and doing things right and that means giving them the training to do their job.”

“There are phenomenal people here. Captain Maestas and those detectives are absolutely some of the best investigators I’ve worked with. There are phenomenal individuals here who are doing really good things and doing it right.”

“Coming here was a great opportunity to help the community. I have a lot to learn but this is just a great opportunity.”

## Cumbres

Continued from Page 1

is a National Historic Landmark. At 64-miles in length, it is the longest, the highest and most authentic steam railroad in North America, traveling through some of the most spectacular scenery in the Rocky Mountain West.

Owned by the states of Colorado and New Mexico, the train crosses state borders 11 times, zigzagging along canyon walls, burrowing through two tunnels, and steaming over 137-foot Cascade Trestle. All trains steam along through deep forests of aspens and evergreens, across high plains filled with wildflowers, and through a rocky gorge of remarkable geologic formations. Deer, antelope, elk, fox, eagles and even bear are frequently spotted on this family friendly, off-the grid adventure.

For more information, visit <https://cumbrestoltec.com>.

### DEPARTING ANTONITO

The excitement begins the moment the train leaves the station in Antonito. Beyond the vast, open San Luis Valley, the imposing peaks of the Rocky Mountains

seem to stretch forever. The train quickly covers the flat ground and reaches a series of hills. It crosses Ferguson’s Trestle, named for a man who was hung there, then climbs to a lava mesa, a remnant of the mountains’ volcanic past. From here, the route winds around wide curves, going up into the mountains.

### Eleven State Border Crossings

White-barked, slender aspen trees, which turn yellow-gold in fall, form a light, whispery forest. We’ll pass Sublette, N.M., an abandoned railroad town that still provides water for the steam locomotives. Shortly after, the train makes another crossing between Colorado and New Mexico state lines. Can you count all 11?

### Rocky and Dramatic

One of the most spectacular parts of the trip starts as the train inches its way along the rim of Toltec Gorge. We’ll head through Mud Tunnel, which is supported by wood beams. Around Phantom Curve, named for a spire of rock that casts a ghostly shadow, then through Rock Tunnel is a narrow ledge where the dizzying view is straight down to the rushing Rio de los Pi-

nos. The train roughly follows this river along much of its route.

### Reaching New Heights

We’ll stop for lunch at the old townsite of Osier. Past Osier, the train first crosses 137-foot-tall Cascade Creek Trestle, the highest on the line. Trees are sparse here and the open mountain scenery is magnificent. Around Tanglefoot Curve, a loop so tight that the train seems almost folded in half, the locomotive steams toward Cumbres Pass. At 10,015 feet elevation, it is the highest pass reached by rail in the United States. There are tall conifers and meadows that bloom with wildflowers in spring and summer. At the summit is an old section house, one of many of the railroad’s historic buildings.

### Descending Into the Chama Valley

As the steep descent begins, sweeping views of the Chama Valley unfold. The lower elevations are dominated by aspen trees and grassy hills. Just past the area that was once the historic Lobato sheep ranch is the Lobato Trestle. This trestle spans Wolf Creek. Chama, N.M., the end of the rail, is just ahead.

## Funds

Continued from Page 1

and the Riffers.

Funding for the Food Bank Network was raised by the generous bids garnered from 49 live and silent auction packages. All items in the auction were donated from local businesses and artists. Auctioneer, Darius Allen, humored and inspired the crowd.

Last year, the 15 pan-

tries of the Food Bank Network provided food assistance to nearly 10,000 individuals and family members (unduplicated), with a total of over 440,000 meals. The Food Bank Network relies on supermarkets, local donors, gardeners, food drives, grants, Care and Share, and fundraisers to supply the shelves at their pantries.

Given the recent cuts in SNAP benefits (food

stamps), the number of individuals and families increased by 16% over the past 12 months. The proceeds from Generosity on Tap will go a long way to help the Food Bank Network meet that need.

The network is grateful for all who supported this event as well as their front-line volunteers, their local partners, and the many donors who make their work possible.

## ASU

Continued from Page 1

rollment continues an upward trajectory and I’m proud of that.”

Tandberg is excited the state has funded a new Facilities Service building, “Adams State had probably its best year before the state legislature that we have memory of. We had a significant increase in funding and a remodel and expansion of the Computing Services Building approved through the capital process. We started this year with the assumption of, ‘Oh, we’re not going to get capital funding approved,’ because we were the only entity in the state to get new capital funding last year. That was huge. We thought, ‘let’s be realistic we’re not going to get our facilities services building funded.’ This is a \$28 million project, this is a huge project with a brand new building. We pushed hard and they said yes. This has been a great victory and a lot of people contributed to making this happen.

“We had a strategy; we called it the Rural University Funding Request. Adams took the lead on organizing an advocacy strategy for extra state funding for our operations. We with Western and Fort Lewis went be-

fore the legislature and said, ‘Increase the funding for all higher ed, and on top of that we want \$3 million each and that is to recognize that running a small university in a rural location just costs more.’”

“When we do construction projects, we often get only one bid. We can’t outsource much. We don’t get the same per unit cost on purchasing that CU does [University of Colorado at Boulder] because we just don’t have the same volume, so they can get a lower cost per unit than what we can get. We don’t have the available labor pool. At the end of the day, \$3 million out of a budget of \$65-\$70 million doesn’t sound like a lot but it is flexible and untethered, and it allows us to invest in new faculty lines, new student success initiatives. When I was talking to the governor’s office and the legislature, I was like \$3 million isn’t even a rounding error in one of our big university budgets, they wouldn’t even know if they got it.” [CU 2023-2024 budget is approximately \$2.2 billion.]

“If you give me \$3 million, I will do a backflip. We received the \$3 million, so I recorded a video of me doing a backflip. You have to come through if you promise, so I did a back flip, I was spotted because I don’t know how to do one, but I made it

around and didn’t break my neck.

“At the end of the day, all of higher ed received a significant increase, we got our \$3 million on top and we got the facilities building. It has been just an epic year. I’m super excited, when I think about it, the good year we had last year and the good year this year.

“The University and the Valley sell themselves if the story is told right. The history, the culture, the geography, and the place, are unlike any other place in Colorado. The University is unlike any other in the state and it is because of where we are. We serve the largest share of low-income students of any university in the state. We do better than any other university by moving them up to a higher income quintile. We’re making the American dream a reality. We are the original Hispanic Serving Institution in Colorado, we are the only one that is a minority-majority.

“When I think of the really important organizations and movements throughout history, those that are trying to advance opportunity, economic mobility, equity, justice, all of those good things, that have always had to fight and struggle. I feel the legislature finally began to understand who we are. They see us as

a stock on the rise with the price increasing; you are not going to invest in a stock that is on the decline. They see a bright future for Adams and they have put money behind us and it is a major stamp of endorsement.”

Tandberg is especially proud of a new initiative to bring lower income students to the university through an innovative program, “We launched the Adams Promise and we drew a line south of Denver, any county, any school and any student that comes from a family making less than \$70,000 can come to Adams tuition and fees free. If you are making \$70,000 or less, we guarantee you can come to Adams State, tuition and fees are free. This is a big deal, and we are committed to serving lower-income families and committed to serving Southern Colorado.

“Way too many students think they can’t afford college and way too many students think they can’t afford Adams State University when they can. I visit every school district in the Valley each year, and I ask the graduating seniors, ‘How much do you think it costs to attend Adams State,’ and they always estimate way over the actual cost. Most of them can now come tuition and fees free. If they can’t come for free, they

can still get a huge chunk of their education paid for. What I don’t want is for any student to price themselves out of higher education. If they want to come, Adams State has a seat for them. And, if you are from the Valley, we will add money on top of that to help you pay for room and board. Valley kids, you can afford Adams.”

Tandberg said the University now sends out an acceptance letter to every student in the Valley as a direct admissions policy that will ideally increase enrollment. “And we will tell them, you can come to Adams tuition and fees free.

“The U.S. Department of Education rolled out a new application for financial aid, FAFSA [Federal Application for Financial Aid] and in the rollout, things got bungled bad and it was delayed for months and we are way behind. Every university is down between 10 and 40 percent in FAFSA completions, and this

is scary as Hell and it is none of our fault. The good news is that it now works and anyone thinking of financial aid needs to get their application completed and they can receive thousands of dollars in assistance.”

In concluding the conversation, Tandberg said, “I’m proud of what the University has done, the campus is a more lively, happy, place. The students are more engaged, they are reporting that they are enjoying it more, there is more to do and more energy. And I’ve heard the same on the faculty and staff side. We have created a place where people want to be and that is just awesome, you want activity, and noise and we are seeing that. I’m really happy about that. The community, Alamosa, and the San Luis Valley are seeing more going on, and that Adams State is offering more. I am just blown away by the work of all of our faculty and staff.”



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# Opinion

## Life is a gamble

The longer Ol' Dutch is on this old Earth the more I find out that life is really just a gamble in so many ways. And what is most interesting is that we all think we have it all planned out so perfectly, but I am not sure that anything we do really is anything but blind luck. I know many of you will argue that point and I can respect that, but it does seem that anything that doesn't happen by pure chance is just a coincidence of sorts.



by Kevin Kirkpatrick

Not a few times in my life have I been told I was "just lucky." And while a person can make their own luck doing things such as working hard at a job, sometimes it's just in the cards, so to speak, whether you will succeed or fail.

And I guess that can explain at least somewhat how Miss Trixie and I met as there is no other reason that I can come up with. Lucky for me that day and unlucky for her so they say. The word luck is defined as "success or failure apparently brought by chance rather than through one's own actions. And never more has that been true than with her and I.

I was reminded of this dance with "luck" as I drove past Winstar Casino in Oklahoma on my trip up to see Fast Freddy, my dad, in Kansas. It's quite a resort actually with big hotels and enough parking for the population of half of Dallas who seemed to be there this particular day.

At 3 p.m. on this Saturday the parking lot was full to overflowing. All of whom were inside trying their "luck" against insurmountable odds. If you do not know already it's not set up for you to win. And only between 2 and 10 percent of people who enter there actually come out with additional funds than they went in with.

Ol' Dutch has never been one to throw away money on a losing proposition so gambling of any sorts never has had any allure to me. I can drive past a casino a thousand times and never am tempted to stop and peruse the tables. But I also have friends who regularly drop some unbelievable sums at those games.

It used to be that the gaming places offered cheap and good food to lure people into the legal robbery rooms, but now they evidently have enough regular customers they don't even have to do that. And going there for "just the food" sounds too a little too much like the men who buy Playboy magazine for "just the good articles" found within for Ol' Dutch's tastes. Both are vices wrapped around tempting visuals and will suck you in like a camel eating a peach.

The only times I have gambled at a casino was when Miss Trixie and I got free RV parking there and some free chips. And true to form, those free chips went just as fast as any I would have purchased out of pocket. And even though that was not my money it sure felt like it as it disappeared like a turd down the toilet. About one good flush and it was gone.

So happily, I don't lose any hard-earned cash at such places, but I know many people who do so on a regular basis. So much so that casinos have built immense places for people to throw away their money. And so many are willing to give their money away to strangers that an entire city is dedicated to such goings on. And that is none other than Las Vegas, Nevada of course. Miss Trixie took me there one time and I am sure I looked like a turkey in a rainstorm, wide-eyed and gullible as I gazed upon the lights and action. But true to form, Ol' Dutch was able to watch the goings-on without losing his shirt.

I do have to admit to buying a lottery ticket when the winnings get over 100 million as I do believe with that much mammon, I might finally be happy in life. Well, maybe not happy but I bet I would smile.

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



To submit news, email: news@alamosanews.com  
To submit sports, email: khamrick@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. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, civility and accuracy. Please limit letters to 500 words or less.  
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."

### LETTERS

## McCracken has been a hard-working commissioner for Saguache County

**Editor,**  
In April, the Saguache County Board of Commissioners adopted regulations that allow our county to participate in an intergovernmental agreement with the five other counties in the San Luis Valley to allow a Joint Planning Board to review water export applications from any jurisdiction in the Rio Grande Basin. This is a huge victory for the people of our county in safeguarding the water of the San Luis Valley and was spearheaded by the efforts of our current Saguache County Commissioner Tom McCracken. Tom has been an incredibly hard-working commissioner for our community and our county and is up for reelection, running again for the Democratic party nomination in the June 25 primary.

Commissioner McCracken has worked hard to support all the communities in our county. In Center, he worked to get roads paved in the town; secured funding for a new jetter truck for sewer maintenance; and helped provide funding for the Center High football field announcer tower and

sports programs and equipment and for the Center Parks tree planting program, as well as providing consultation for a student tree planting program.

In the town of Saguache, he advocated for construction of the Hwy 285 Corridor Redevelopment project with the Transportation Planning Region; secured funding for redevelopment of the Saguache Hotel; helped fund Saguache Works as well as the Senior Programs they sponsor; and helped provide funding for the new Senior Center.

And in the Crestone/Baca community Tom worked with the Eastern San Luis Valley Trails Coalition to develop the Safe Routes to Schools, "Kiosk Connection" and Baca Nature and Heritage Trails; brought senior meals and the Chaffee Shuttle Service to the community; lobbied for County support of the Food Bank; and ensured long-needed road paving and maintenance was completed on county roads in the Baca Grande subdivision.

These are but a few of the projects Commissioner McCracken has been able to ac-

complish for our communities during his first term as commissioner. Please see his website at <http://mccrackenforcommissioner.com/> for a more complete accounting. We are particularly impressed with his work to support sustainable affordable housing throughout the county, which addresses both current needs and has the vision to provide solutions for the future.

The county commissioner's job is complex and is not learned overnight. Beyond listening to constituents' concerns, the commissioner must also foster relationships throughout the valley and the state to help leverage resources for our communities. Commissioner McCracken has shown repeatedly that he is able to do this. Let's not lose the experience and the vision he has gained from his first term. Please join us in voting for Tom McCracken for Saguache County Commissioner in the Democratic Primary June 25.

Jan Foster Müller and Bill Müller  
Crestone

## Encouraging votes for Saguache Commissioner McCracken

**Editor,**  
I am writing to encourage my fellow community members to cast their Democratic Primary ballot by June 25 for the re-election of our exceptional Commissioner Tom McCracken.

Tom has served tirelessly and creatively for our local community, for our county, and for our entire Valley during his term in office.

Most often, county commissioners are passive, supporting the status quo, glad-handing constituents, and pulling their nice paycheck. Tom is different. Tom cares deeply about the environment, economic opportunities in our community, and our water,

among many other things. Tom has made a difference during his tenure, and has a plan moving forward. He now serves as the Chair of the SLV Council of Governments. He facilitated a six-county intergovernmental agreement to protect Valley water from export. He is a strong advocate for multiple affordable environmentally positive housing projects throughout the county, and he has the experience to tackle upcoming challenges faced by the county including the need to regulate short term rentals, clean up the White Eagle Village and continue initiatives related to the environment and our water, including expansion of the San-

gre de Cristo Wilderness.

Our county is complex, and it takes time to learn the job of Commissioner. We are fortunate to have a great group of active, engaged commissioners. Tom McCracken gets a lot of credit for instilling an attitude of possibility and vision in county leadership. Let him keep up the good work! Tom is moving us forward.

Experience matters. Hard work matters. Leadership matters. Cast your ballot for Tom McCracken.

Vivian Lawson  
Crestone

## Republican politicians' view is that our system of justice is terrible

**Editor,**  
Top Republican politicians have shown up outside the Manhattan courthouse where Donald Trump is on trial. He is charged with trying to influence the 2016 presidential election by paying hush money to a porn star, Stormy Daniels, he reportedly had sex with. The Republican leaders lambast the entire court system: prosecutors, employees, judges, jury, and witnesses as being corrupt, prejudiced and unfair.

Meanwhile, the same Republican politicians say nothing about the Supreme Court of the United States slow-walking

the pending federal trials against Trump: for stealing top-secret government documents and keeping them unsecured at Mar-a-Lago, for his role in inciting the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection at the United States Capitol, and about federal judge, Aileen Cannon, delaying the trial for Trump's role in attempting to steal the 2020 presidential election in the state of Georgia. In all these cases, Trump appointees are acting to prevent these trials from going forward in front of the voters before the upcoming presidential election.

So, the Republican politicians' view is

that our system of justice is terrible if it attempts to hold Trump accountable, and is wonderful if it prevents him from going to trial.

I think it is clear how our system of justice will function if Trump is re-elected. There will be impunity for any actions by the allies of Trump and legal peril for anyone who opposes him. That's not honoring a system of justice in a democracy. It's creating a dictatorship.

David Lenderts  
Alamosa

## My Brothers Place owner, cook undergoing cancer treatment

**Editor,**  
I was recently intending to go to my favorite place for a birthday dinner and called ahead only to find the restaurant, My Brothers Place, had downsized their menu to only salads and pizza.

There was a little hesitation, but we went anyway. It is human nature to fill

in the void of what we do not see; perhaps it was a mistaken managerial decision based on money or workers or...?

However, this change is due to the excellent cook and owner undergoing cancer treatment while his fellow workers and family members keep our iconic My Brothers Place open during this time.

The flavors and reasons to be there are priceless, as always! Please, continue to appreciate the wonderful food and atmosphere, and support our special comrade in the community.

Laura Hays  
Alamosa

**Keith R Cerny**  
Publisher

**Valley Courier**  
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**Brian Williams**  
Managing Editor

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Your FIRST Source for Local News

Editor's Note: The views expressed in individual columns on this page do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Valley Courier.



# Lifestyles

## Mountain bike team to host annual 'Ride with a Rattler Day'

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — The San Luis Valley Rattlers Mountain Biking Team is hosting its annual "Ride with a Rattler Day" for middle school and high school students who are interested in trying mountain biking as an activity or sport. The ride will begin across from the Limekiln trailhead, just west of Monte Vista, on Saturday, June 1, at 10 a.m., to see what mountain biking is all about. Team riders and

coaches will orient students to their bikes and lead rides based on skill level. Take a short ride and experience the thrill of climbing, single track riding and navigating small obstacles. Team up with other students that have a love for the outdoors and learn skills that will last a lifetime. The Rattlers have a limited number of team bikes and helmets available for use. Details at [www.slvmbt.com](http://www.slvmbt.com).



The SLV Rattlers Mountain Biking Team is hosting its annual introduction to mountain biking event for student athletes. Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

**Regular cleaning can help protect your home from dust, dander, pollen, mold and other allergen.**

### Clean your air: six ways to manage allergens

(NAPSI) — As the warmer seasons unfold, a host of allergens and irritants become more prevalent, potentially disrupting your daily life and health — especially if you have asthma and allergies. According to the Allergy and Asthma Foundation of America (AAFA), millions of people are affected by allergies, and understanding how to control your environment can significantly improve your quality of life during this beautiful but challenging season. Here are effective strategies and types of products that can help reduce allergens and irritants in your home:

1. **Prioritize Indoor Air Quality** — Air Purifiers — Invest in a good air purifier. Devices with HEPA filters are especially effective at trapping allergens such as pollen, pet dander, and dust mites. To maximize their effectiveness, put air purifiers in commonly used areas such as bedrooms and living rooms. Humidity Control — Maintain indoor humidity levels between 30% and 50%. Humidifiers can add moisture to dry air, while dehumidifiers can help control mold growth and dust mites by reducing excess moisture. Both tools are essential in creating a balanced indoor environment.

2. **Keep It Clean** — Regular Cleaning — Weekly cleaning can significantly reduce the presence of allergens. Use a vacuum cleaner with a HEPA filter to capture the fine particles that traditional vacuums may recirculate into the air. Remember to wear a dust mask while cleaning to avoid inhaling allergens. Bedding and Upholstery — Encase mattresses and pillows in dust mite-proof covers. Wash bedding weekly in hot water to kill dust mites and remove allergens. Additionally, consider washing or replacing curtains and deep cleaning upholstery where allergens can linger.

3. **Filter and Ventilate** — Replace HVAC Filters — Regularly replace the filters in your heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. Opt for filters with a high MERV (Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value) rating that can capture smaller particles, thus improving indoor air quality. Check with your manufacturer to ensure you're using the right MERV rating for your system. Using a filter with too high a rating for your system can cause more harm than good, taxing your system and shortening its lifespan. Enhance Ventilation — Improve your home's ventilation by opening windows when the pollen count is low or using exhaust fans in the kitchen and bathrooms to reduce moisture and cooking fumes, which can exacerbate asthma symptoms.

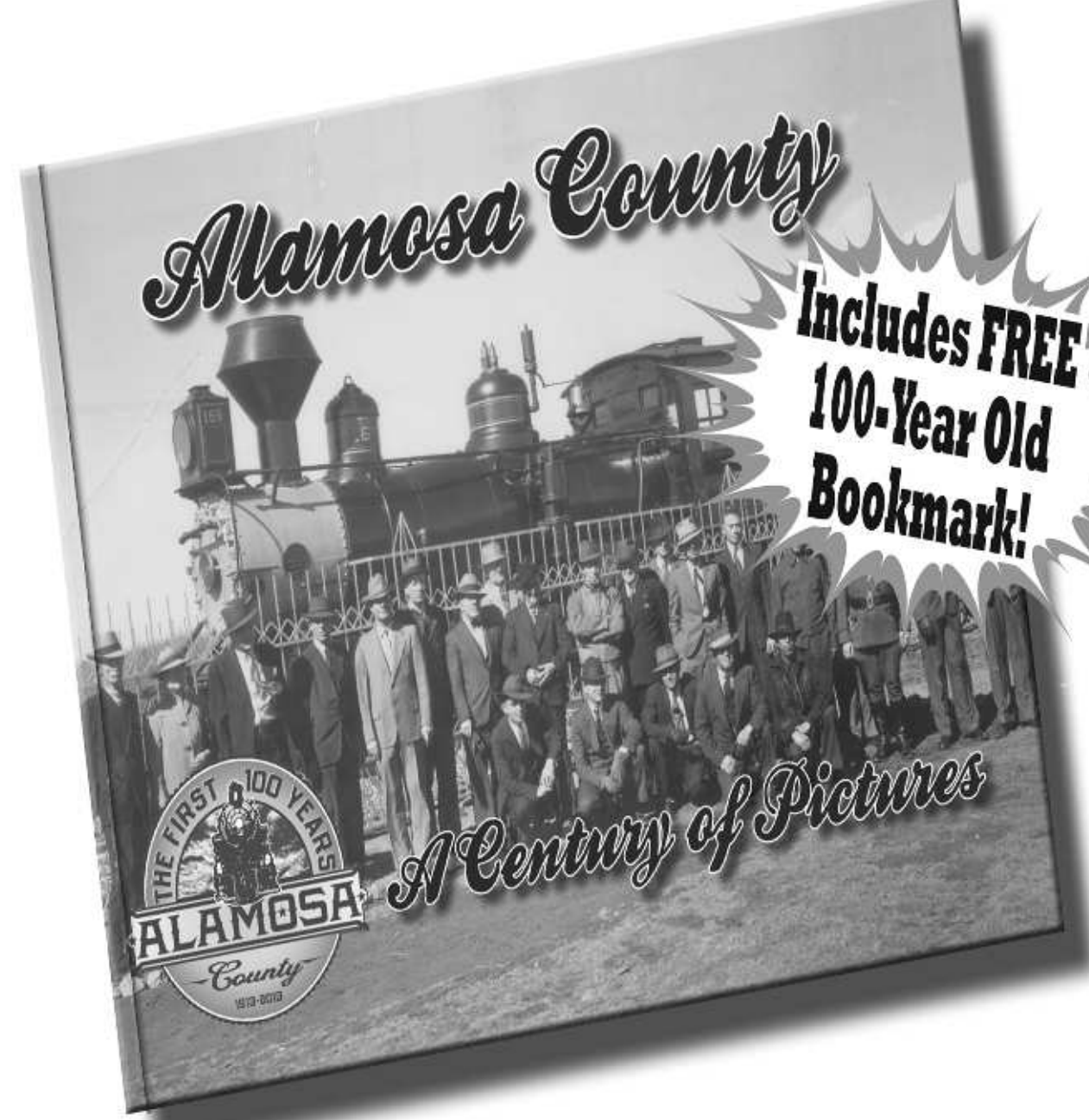
4. **Create a Pollen-Free Zone** — Keep windows and doors closed during high pollen days. Use air conditioning in your home and car to keep pollen out. Remove shoes at the door and shower after being outdoors to wash pollen off your skin and hair.

5. **Control Pet Dander** — If you have pets, groom them regularly to reduce the dander they shed. Also, establish pet-free zones, especially in bedrooms, to minimize allergy exposure while sleeping.

6. **Consider Indoor Plants** — Some plants can help improve indoor air quality. However, it's important to choose wisely, as some plants can also be sources of mold or pollen. Spider plants and ferns are good options for improving air without increasing allergens. By integrating these strategies and using effective products, you can significantly reduce the impact of allergens and irritants during the allergy and asthma season. Living with allergies and asthma can be challenging, but with these tips from BreathingClean.com, you can enjoy the season without the sneeze.

By integrating these strategies and using effective products, you can significantly reduce the impact of allergens and irritants during the allergy and asthma season. Living with allergies and asthma can be challenging, but with these tips from BreathingClean.com, you can enjoy the season without the sneeze.

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# Sports

## McDaniel named Class 1A track athlete of the year

13 SLV athletes on All-State track and field teams

By **KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*  
**ALAMOSA** – The Colorado High School activities Association released its All-State track and field teams on Thursday. All of the All-State teams are posted on the CHSAANow.com web site.

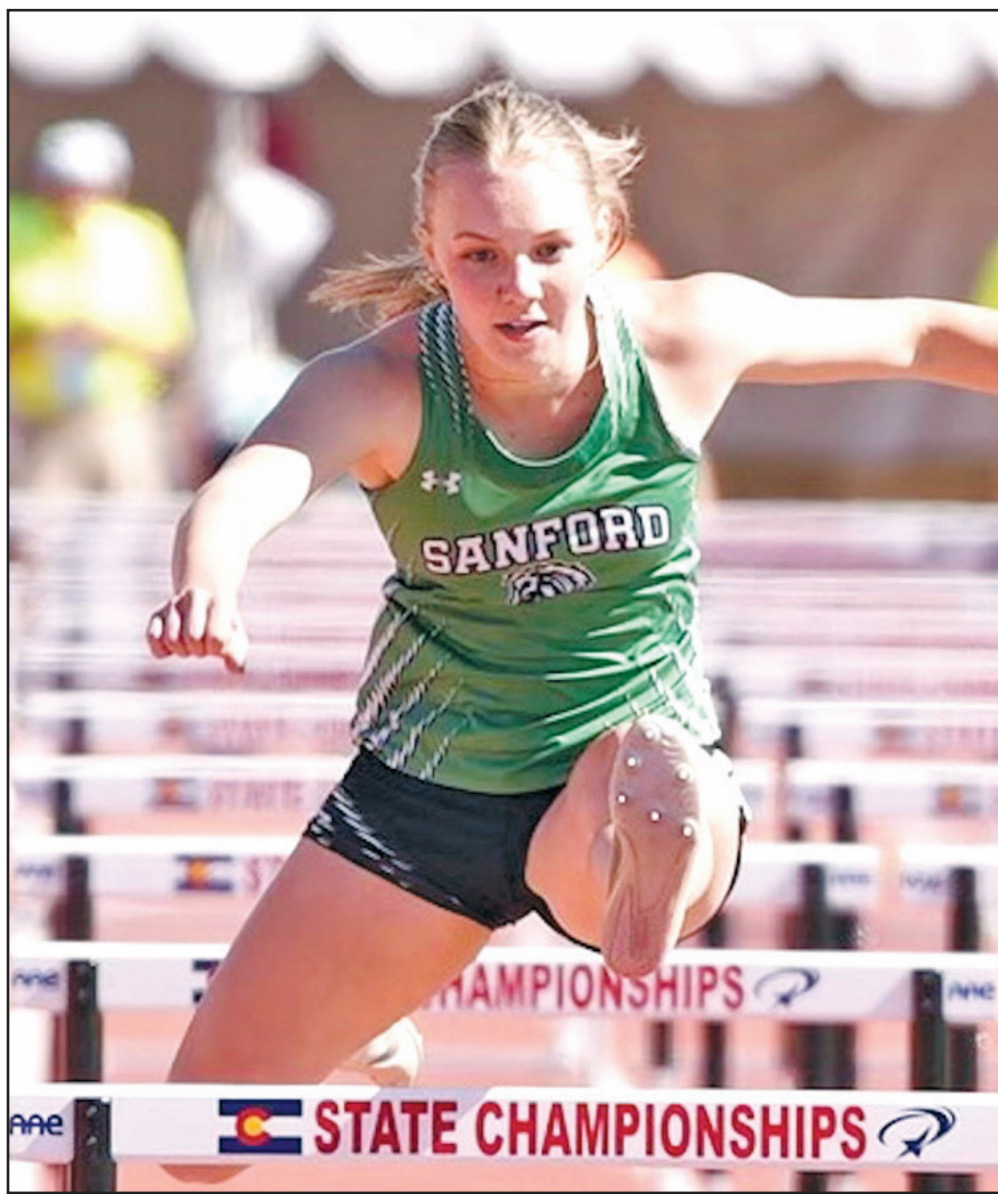
### Class 1A

The Sanford High School girls track team had six All-State selections with four of them on the first team. Leading the way for the Lady Mustangs who was named the Class 1A Track and Field Athletes of the Year. She was a state champion in the 100-meter high hurdles, the 300-meter intermediate hurdles and the triple jump. She was also on the state champion 800-meter sprint medley relay team along with Senior Ashley Dominguez, junior Erica Miller and junior Brooklynn Reynolds, all of whom were also first team selections.

The remaining two Sanford girls All-State selections were honorable mention. Sophomore Kacey Gylling and junior Kate McDaniel got the honors by being on the 4x100-meter relay team which also included Dominguez and Reynolds.

The Sanford boys had four All-State selections. Senior Lincoln Reynolds was a first team selection as he won state championships in the 100- and 200-meter dashes.

Mustangs named to the second team were junior Tucker Canty, freshman Kaden Cary and sophomore William Malouff, all of whom were



Courtesy photo by Cynthia McDaniel  
**Sanford High School's Holly McDaniel was named the Class 1A Track and Field Athlete of the Year and was a first team All-State selection.**

on the 4x200-meter relay team along with Reynolds.

Another San Luis Valley athlete on the Class 1A All-State team was Creede sophomore Jasmine Laing who was honorable mention in the high jump.

### Class 3A

Two SLV athletes were on the Class 3A All-State team.

Centauri senior Troy Sowards was a first team selection after he won the boys high jump at a personal best height of 6-9.

Alamosa senior Sarah DeLaCerde was honorable mention on the girls team for the 800-, 1,600- and 3,200-meter runs.

### Class 2A

No San Luis Valley athletes were placed on the Class 2A All-State team.



Courtesy photo by Joel Priest  
**Sanford's Lincoln Reynolds was a first team All-State selection.**

## Final Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference spring sports standings

Team	BASEBALL		Overall W-L
	Conf. W-L	W-L	
Colorado Mesa	24-8	38-18-0	29-21-0
Colorado School of Mines	20-12	32-24-1	28-24-0
Regis	19-13	24-28-0	29-23-0
Metropolitan State Denver	19-13	16-32-0	10-40-0
Adams State	17-15	8-41-0	
Colorado State Pueblo	13-19		
Colorado Colorado Springs	6-26		
New Mexico Highlands	6-26		
Colorado Christian	6-26		

Team	MEN'S LACROSSE		Overall W-L
	Conf. W-L	W-L	
Westminster (Utah)	7-1	11-3	13-4
Colorado Mesa	7-1	7-8	2-12
Concordia-Irvine (Calif.)	4-4	1-13	
Colorado State Pueblo	1-7		
Adams State	1-7		

Team	SOFTBALL		Overall W-L
	Conf. W-L	W-L	
Colorado Mesa	41-3	46-11	50-10
Colorado Christian	39-5	43-18	29-23
Metropolitan State Denver	33-11	29-23	33-26
Colorado School of Mines	25-17	22-35	17-30
Regis	23-19	19-32	13-37
Colorado State Pueblo	20-24	16-31	5-48
Fort Lewis	15-23		
Colorado Colorado Springs	16-26		
Black Hills State (S.D.)	14-28		
Chadron State (Neb.)	13-27		
New Mexico Highlands	12-30		
Adams State	3-41		

## Larry Holder golf tourney is June 29

By **KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*  
**ALAMOSA** – The Larry Holder Golf Tournament will take place on June 29 at the Monte Vista Golf Course.

This year, the tournament features golf with a twist on the Front 9 and with a glowball on the Back 9.

The entry fee is \$70 per player or \$120 for a team. It includes as dinner, which will be between the Front 9 and Back 9, but a golf cart is not included in the fee. Registration is at 4:30 p.m. with tee time from 5:30-6 p.m.

There are several sponsorships. The Ruby Sponsorship is \$1,500 which includes four teams and four golf carts and 16 drink tickets. The Platinum Sponsorship is \$750 and includes two

teams and two carts and eight drink tickets. The Gold Sponsorship is \$400 and it includes one team and a cart (if available) and two drink tickets. The Silver Sponsorship is \$300 which includes one team and two drink tickets. The Bronze/Glowball sponsorship is \$250, and hole sponsors are \$100.

There will also be a \$10,000 cash prize for a hole in one which is sponsored by the Bruce Denton Farmers Insurance Agency.

For sponsorship or information, call Karen Holder at (806) 542-1649, Jeff Holder at (719) 580-7136, or Michelle Burkhart at (719) 588-1594. You can also go to the web site at www.larryholdersurvivorship.com.



Courier file photo by Ken Hamrick  
**Centauri's Troy Sowards was a first team All-State selection in Class 3A.**

## Sports Bulletin

Follow sports editor **Ken Hamrick** on X. His handle is @KenHamrick1.

**SCHEDULE FRIDAY**

**Prep baseball**  
 Monte Vista vs. Denver Christian (Class 2A State Tournament at Runyon Sports Complex, Pueblo), 9:30 a.m.  
**College outdoor track and field**  
 Adams State at NCAA Division II Championships (at Emporia, Kan.), TBA

**SATURDAY Prep baseball**  
 Monte Vista at Class 2A State Tournament (at Runyon Sports Complex, Pueblo), TBA  
**College outdoor track and field**  
 Adams State at NCAA Division II Championships (at Emporia, Kan.), TBA

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# TASTE OF CREEDE

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KBelle Community Cook-Off

Children's Activities

Artist's Quick Draw

ART Auction

### 2024 Schedule

(Subject to Change)

#### Saturday, May 25th

- 10am - 5pm: Artists' on Main Street, Beer Garden, Food Samples, Craft Vendors, Kids Bounce House, Museum Tours, and Sidewalk Sales
- 10am - 3pm: Opening of the National Small Prints Show at the Creede Repertory Theatre. [creedeartscouncil.com](http://creedeartscouncil.com)
- Noon - 3pm Live Music under the Tent at the Creede Hotel
- 1pm: KBelle Community Cook-Off & Judging
- 5pm-8pm: Live Music under the Tent at the Creede Hotel
- 7pm: Baskerville, [creederep.org](http://creederep.org)



#### Sunday, May 26th

- 10:30-Noon: Kid's Art Class (Sign up in advance; call Quiller Gallery 719-658-2741)
- Noon - 1pm: Creede Hotel Cooking Demo @ Arps
- 1 pm: Artists' Quick Draw on Main Street
- 1pm: Baskerville, [creederep.org](http://creederep.org)
- 2:30pm: Live Art Auction



#### Monday, May 27th

- 11am: Memorial Day Service in Basham Park honoring our Veterans (provided by the Creede Elk's Lodge BPOE #506)



This year's 36th Annual Taste of Creede Festival will showcase local art and cuisine on Main Street. This annual event was envisioned by local artist Steven Quiller and the Taste of Creede Festival will delight visitors with inspired art,

theatre, live music and great food.

Wander among the 25+ artists on Main Street Saturday, as they bring to life their latest works. Pick a bench in Basham Park and enjoy listening to live music while munching delectable treats. Alcoholic beverages purchased from participating business are permitted outdoors within designated blocks of downtown. Sample the flavors of this unique boomtown with the first annual KBelle Community Cook-Off! Amateur contestants representing local businesses will face a panel of judges, while ladling out samples for everyone to try.

Peak into the Creede Repertory Theatre to grab tickets for a production of Baskerville, a fast-paced Sherlock Holmes mystery. Peruse this year's National Small Prints Show exhibition, where artists from all across America and Canada compete in a juried show with matted, hand-pulled prints.

On Sunday, head north on Main Street after lunch for the annual Quick Draw event. Artists begin with a blank canvas and have one hour to complete their one-of-a-kind works. Afterward, these pieces are offered in the annual art auction. Artists are readily available to offer their expertise to other interested art lovers.



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# Public Notices

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

FOR SAGUACHE COUNTY COURT FACILITIES FEASIBILITY STUDY

I. OVERVIEW  
PROPOSAL DUE DATE/DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS – Responses due by June 10, 2024 at 3PM

Delivery of 4 original copies either by USPS or hand delivered in a sealed envelope to:  
Wendi Maez  
PO Box 100  
505 3rd Street  
Saguache, CO. 81149

All official communication with Candidates and questions regarding this RFP will be via email to the Wendi Maez at wmaez@saguache-county-co.gov.

No inquiries will be accepted after the clarification deadline as indicated in the project schedule.

All Candidate inquiries will be responded to at the same time which will be after the "Clarification Deadline". Candidates should not rely on any other statements, either oral or written, that alter any specification or other term or condition of the RFP during the open solicitation period. Candidates should not contact any team member, or any individual associated with the Owner or Saguache County regarding this RFP or this project except to schedule an optional site visit.

RFP Schedule	
RFP Available	
May 1, 2024	
Optional Site Visit	
By apt with all	
RFP Clarification Deadline	May 28, 2024
RFP Clarification Responses	
May 31, 2024	
RFP Responses Due	
June 10, 2024	
Interview Invitations Sent	June 12, 2024
Interviews	
June 25, 2024	
Selections Made and Candidates Notified	
July 3, 2024	
Contract Negotiations/discussion - Complete	July 9, 2024
Notice to Proceed Given to Successful Firm	July 16, 2024
Study to begin	
July 17, 2024	
Study completion and submittal date	October 1, 2024
Report submitted and reviewed by BOCC	
October 8, 2024	
Report accepted and approved	
October 15, 2024	

II. Background  
Saguache County has outgrown the current space the county and judicial staff occupy. There is no additional space to expand and the need for more space continues to grow.

III. Project Description  
Saguache County is searching for a vendor to conduct a feasibility study which will assist in deciding the option that best suits Saguache County, it's needs and its circumstances. The options are – a) Construct a new "Judicial Building" that would house the judicial portion of the current courthouse, b) Remodel the 3rd floor of the courthouse to better accommodate the Judicial Department, c) Build a new County Government complex.

Cost of project study not to exceed \$70,000.

IV. Submittal Requirements  
Saguache County asks for a letter of interest which incorporates your experience and your qualifications. In addition, please include the cost of the study. Refer to the first page of this document for the address and manner of submitting your information.

V. Schedule – See RFP Schedule  
It is expected that the selected firm has the current capabilities and capacity to complete the project by the date listed in the project schedule. Provide a detailed schedule, including milestones, from the notice to proceed date the completion of the study, modifications or alterations, including deviations from the estimated schedule set forth in the RFP Schedule.

No. 3926.  
Published in the Valley Courier on April 30, May 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, & 31, 2024.

### NOTICE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc., Area Agency on Aging for Region 8 is accepting Request for Proposals (RFP) from both the public and private sectors representing both nonprofit and for profit entities interested in providing services to people age 60 and older for Fiscal Year 2025-2025. Services include: Transportation, Congregate Nutrition Services, In-Home Services (Homemaker, Home-Delivered Meals, Home Modifications), National Family Caregiver Services (support for caregivers). Other avenues of services to older adults will also be considered. South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc., Area Agency on Aging, serves all six counties of the San Luis Valley; Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache. RFP packets and instructions are available at South-Central Colorado Seniors, 1116 3rd Street, Alamosa, CO 81101. Completed proposals are due to South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc. no later than 5:00 COB, May 31, 2024. Please mail or deliver proposals to South-Central Colorado Seniors, Inc. at P.O. Box 639 or 1116 3rd Street, Alamosa, Colorado 81101. For more information, please call Monica Wolfe, Director, 719-589-4511.

No. 3935.  
Published in the Valley Courier on May 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, & 31, 2024.

### District Court Alamosa County, Colorado

Court Address: 8955 Independence Way  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
In the Matter of the Estate of Yolanda Pepita Duncan a/k/a Yolanda P. Duncan a/k/a Yolanda Duncan  
Deceased  
COURT USE ONLY  
Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address):  
Bernadette M. Lucero  
Fernando A. Martienz  
Address: P.O. Box 352, San Luis, CO 81152  
Case Number: 2024 PR 8  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Estate of Yolanda Pepita Duncan aka Yolanda P. Duncan a/k/a Yolanda Duncan, Deceased  
Case Number 2024 PR8  
All persons having claims against the abovenamed estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to District Court of Alamosa County, Colorado on or before 9/10/2024, or the claims may be forever barred.  
Bernadette M. Lucero  
Fernando A. Martienz  
Address: P.O. Box 352, San Luis, CO 81152  
NO. 3945  
Published in the Valley Courier on May 10, 17, and 24, 2024.

### Request for Proposal (RFP)

Auditor Services  
Introduction:  
The Town of Crestone is seeking proposals from qualified firms to provide auditing services for fiscal years 2022-2024. The selected auditor will be responsible for conducting a comprehensive audit of the Town's financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

Scope of Work  
The selected auditor will be expected to perform the following tasks:  
- Conduct an audit of the Town's financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.  
- Review internal controls and make recommendations for improvements, if necessary.  
- Provide a management letter outlining findings and recommendations.

- Assist in the preparation of required financial reports and statements.  
- Any other tasks deemed necessary for a comprehensive audit.

Proposal Submission:  
Interested firms are invited to submit their proposals by email. Proposals should include the following:  
- Firm profile, including relevant experience and qualifications.  
- Proposed audit approach and methodology.  
- Proposed timeline for completion of the audit.  
- Fee schedule and estimated total cost.

References from past clients, preferably in the public sector.  
PO Box 64, Crestone, CO 81131, (719) 256-4313, crestonetownoffice@gmail.com  
No. 3950.  
Published in the Valley Courier on May 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, 31, June 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 2024.

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

SANGRE DE CRISTO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-22J  
PROPOSED BUDGET  
On May 14, 2024 Notice was hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Education of Sangre de Cristo Schools RE-22J for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, and has been filed in the office of the Superintendent at 8751 Lane 7 North, Mosca, CO, where it is available for public inspection Monday through Thursday (May 20-23, 2024) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Such proposed budget will be considered for adoption at a Regular meeting of the Board of Education Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Sangre de Cristo School in the library at 8751 Lane 7 North, Mosca, CO.  
Any person paying school taxes in the said district may at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget file or register his/her objections thereto.  
No. 3953.  
Published in the Valley Courier on May 21, 22, 24, & 25, 2024.

### County Court Conejos County, Colorado

Court Address:  
6683 County Road 13, Conejos, CO 81129  
In the Matter of the Petition of: ANDRE JAMIL WILCOX  
Adult:  
For a Change of Name to: ANDRE JAMIL MARTINEZ  
COURT USE ONLY  
Case Number:  
2024C24  
Division B  
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
Public Notice is given on May 21, 2024 that a Petition for a Change of Name of a  
Adult has been filed with the Conejos Court.  
The Petition requests that the name of ANDRE JAMIL WILCOX be changed to ANDRE JAMIL MARTINEZ by FELIX GALLEGOS Clerk of Court  
No. 3961  
Published in the Valley Courier on May 24, 31, and June 7, 2024

District Court Denver Probate Court  
Alamosa County, Colorado  
Court Address:  
Alamosa Combined Court  
8955 Independence Way  
Alamosa, CO 80111  
In the Matter of the Estate of Billie Kathleen Carpenter; a/k/a Billie K. Carpenter; a/k/a Billie Carpenter  
Deceased  
COURT USE ONLY  
Myka Marie Landry  
133 County Road 17, Ste. E2E  
PO Box 2276  
Elizabeth, Colorado 80107  
Phone Number: 303-802-4672 Email:mykalandry@mykalandrylaw.com  
FAX Number: 303-646-2020 Atty. Reg. #: 20430  
Case Number:  
2024PR30016  
Division D Courtroom  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Estate of Billie Kathleen Carpenter; a/k/a Billie K. Carpenter; a/k/a Billie Carpenter, Deceased. Case Number 2024PR30016  
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to X District Court of Alamosa, County, Colorado on or before October 15, 2024 (date)\*, or the claims may be forever barred.  
Myka M. Landry, Attorney for PR Donald R. Carpenter  
Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice  
PO Box 2276  
Address  
Elizabeth, CO 80107  
City, State, Zip Code  
No. 3958.  
Published in the Valley Courier on May 24, 31, & June 7, 2024.

District Court Costilla County, Colorado  
Court Address: 304 Main St.  
P.O. Box 301  
San Luis, CO 81152  
In the Matter of the Determination of Heirs or Devisees or Both and of Interests in Property of:  
EUGENIA POKORNY  
Deceased.  
COURT USE ONLY  
Attorneys for Dana Pokorny:  
The Gasper Law Group, PLLC  
Catherine Anne Seal, #26908  
Jack Roth, #32040  
Emily Moy, #58186  
101 North Cascade Ave., Suite 100A  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
(719) 227-7779  
cseal@gasperlaw.com  
jroth@gasperlaw.com  
emoy@gasperlaw.com  
Case Number: 2024PR30006  
Division: B  
NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION TO INTERESTED PERSONS AND OWNERS BY DESCENT OR SUCCESSION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-1303, C.R.S.  
To all interested persons and owners by descent or succession (List all names of interested persons and owners by descent or succession): Peter Pokorny, Son of Eugenia Pokorny (DOD: March 14, 2022); Dana Pokorny, Widow of Peter Pokorny/Daughter-in-Law of Eugenia Pokorny.  
A petition has been filed alleging that the above decedent(s) died leaving the following property (including legal description if real property):  
Description of Property  
Location of Property  
Property 1  
Lot 3490 of Block 189 of Sangre de Cristo Ranches, Unit C-2  
Costilla County, CO  
Property 2. N/A  
The hearing via WebEx on the Petition for the Determination of Heirs or Devisees or Both, and of Interests in Property will be held at the following date, time and location or at a later date to which the hearing may be continued:  
Date: July 24, 2024 Time: 9:00 a.m. Division: B  
Address: 304 Main St., San Luis, CO 81152  
The hearing will take approximately one (1) hour.  
WebEx Attendance Information:  
For WebEx appearance options via smartphone, land-line phone, cell phone, or computer, please utilize one of the following options:  
1. Open the WebEx application and use the hyperlink for Judge Kim Cortez-Rodriguez WebEx as follows: https://judicial.webex.com/join/kimberly.cortez. When prompted, tap "join meeting" and wait for the host. If you have trouble connecting, enter the corresponding 9-digit access number 927 174 122; or  
2. Join by calling 415-655-0001 (U.S. toll) OR 720-650-7664 and enter the corresponding 9-digit access number 927 174 122 then #. Please attempt to use the first option. If you are unable to access the video feed, use the second option. Please do not call in using a Bluetooth or hands-free device and please ensure that you are calling in from a quiet area.  
Note:  
\* You must answer the petition on or before the hearing date and time specified above.  
\* Within the time required for answering the petition, all objections to the petition must be in writing, filed with the court and served on the petitioner and any required filing fee must be paid.  
\* The hearing shall be limited to the petition, the objections timely filed and the parties answering the petition in a timely manner. If the petition is not answered and no objections are filed, the court may enter a decree without a hearing.  
No. 3959.  
Published in the Valley Courier on May 24, 31, & June 7, 2024.

District Court Alamosa County, Colorado  
Court Address: 8955 Independence Way  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
In the Matter of the Estate of: Gunner Clay Andrews, a/k/a Gunner C. Andrews, a/k/a Gunner Andrews  
Deceased  
COURT USE ONLY  
Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address):  
Helen Sigmond, P.C.  
P.O. Box 1270  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
Phone Number: (719)589-6626 E-mail: helen@helensigmondpc.com  
FAX Number: N/A Atty. Reg. #: 13019  
Case Number: 2024 PR 30015  
Division Courtroom  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Estate of Gunner Clay Andrews, Deceased Case Number 2024 PR 30015  
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to X District Court of Alamosa, County, Colorado or Denver Probate Court of the City and County of Denver, Colorado on or before September 25, 2024 (date)\*, or the claims may be forever barred.  
John C.Andrews  
Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice  
721 Graf Drive  
Address  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
City, State, Zip Code  
No. 3960.  
Published in the Valley Courier on May 24, 31, & June 7, 2024.

099 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

221 - HELP WANTED

LAKE CITY HOSTS a Wednesday Market for locally-grown foods and artisans in June, July, August. INTERESTED IN BEING A VENDOR? lakecitydirt.com/vibrant-economy. (6/26/24)

SAN LUIS VALLEY HEALTH is seeking a highly organized and detail oriented EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT to work closely with the Chief Medical Officer. The Executive Assistant will provide high level administrative support to the CMO which will include managing schedules and arranging meetings. This position will play a crucial role in maintaining effective communication between medical staff leaders, hospital administration, and legal counsel. As Executive Assistant, you will serve as an essential link between senior management and medical staff to coordinate the operational processes of physician and allied health credentialing, meeting management, and flow of information while also maintaining strict confidentiality and ensuring compliance with organizational policies and accrediting and regulatory agencies. The pay range for this position is \$19.95 - \$27.84. For more information and to apply please visit our careers page at www.slvh.org (6/12/24)

163 - LOST & FOUND

LOST DOG: SMALL 14yo female POODLE MIX. White with darker long ears. Missing since May 18, near Cole Park, ALAMOSA. WEARING A BANDANA WITH SUNFLOWER PRINT. Please call if seen, 719-480-9744. (6/1/24)

LICENSED PLUMBER DOES all types of plumbing & plumbing repairs. Quick service! Call anytime, weekends & evenings: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (5/24/24-monthly)

173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

LICENSED PLUMBER DOES all types of plumbing & plumbing repairs. Quick service! Call anytime, weekends & evenings: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (5/24/24-monthly)

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

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**(719) 589-2553**

**kcerny@alamosanews.com**

PART-TIME SECRETARY AT SACRED HEART CHURCH. Monday thru Friday – Hours 9:00 am to 2:00 pm (25 hrs. a week). Should be bilingual and have some Microsoft programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher) and google email/calendar knowledge. Please submit resume to admin@sacredheartalamosa.org or come to the office for an application. If you have any questions, please call the office at (719) 589-5829, ext. 11. (6/12/24)

COSTILLA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES is hiring for a FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST; this position attends to visitors and deals with inquiries on the phone as well. Main job tasks and Responsibilities include but are not limited to answering phones, directing calls as well as taking and relaying messages. Candidate will track staff movements in and out of the agency. General administrative and clerical work as well as the preparation of letters and documents. Candidate is also responsible for receiving and sorting the mail, schedule appointments, maintain an appropriate appointment diary either manually or electronically and order all agency supplies. Issuing EBT cards and working directly with our SNAP team is also an expectation. A high school diploma or G.E.D. is required as well as knowledge of administrative and clerical procedures, software applications and keyboard skills. Key competencies include excellent verbal, written communication skills; as well as proper customer service orientation. Information management, organizing and planning are a must as well as being able to work in a stressful environment. Bilingual skills are preferred but not required. Applications can be picked up at the Costilla County Department of Social Services at 233 Main Street, SAN LUIS, Colorado. Position open until hired. (5/29/24)

TOWN OF DEL NORTE MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK. Town of Del Norte is hiring PART-TIME Municipal Court Clerk. High school graduate or GED equivalent and two years of office, legal, and court clerical. Will work closely with Town municipal judge for operations and procedures of the municipal court system. With knowledge of legal terminology and practices. Oversees and maintains the court dockets, records of all pending and disposed cases, and ensures accurate and updated information. All administrative and technical duties in support of municipal court. Send resume to Town of Del Norte - Attention Town Clerk. Resumes may be submitted by email to delnorte1860@outlook.com or mailed to Del Norte Town Hall, 140 Spruce Street, DEL NORTE, CO 81132. EOE. (6/12/24)

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AT ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY is seeking a FIELD PLACEMENT COORDINATOR. This position is responsible for coordinating field experiences across all Education programs, undergraduate and graduate, and works with program coordinators, and administrative personnel, as well as outside partners and constituents to provide high-quality experience for our pre-service educators. This is a twelve-month full-time, exempt position. The pay range for this position is \$46,476 - \$52,164 commensurate with experience and education. A master's degree in an education related field is required and experience in educator preparation is preferred. For more information and to apply, please visit https://www.adams.edu/hr/employment/ (6/11/24)

SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT IS accepting applications for a PART-TIME LIBRARIAN. All candidates must pass background checks. Applications can be downloaded at www.sanfordschools.org. Sanford School is an EOE&E. (6/8/24)

SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT IS accepting applications for a HIGH SCHOOL ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent, or such alternative to the above qualifications as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. All candidates must pass background checks. Applications can be downloaded at www.sanfordschools.org. Sanford School is an EOE&E. (6/8/24)

TOWN OF CENTER is accepting applications to fill 2 positions in their UTILITY DEPARTMENT. Applicant should possess knowledge and skills in all aspects of high voltage power lines, gas systems, water distribution, and sanitation. Applicant should accept duties of construction, repair, maintenance, and operation of these systems. Applicant must also have a valid driver's license and be able to operate trucks, backhoe, and other equipment in the performance of these duties. The duties also included are heavy manual labor and utilization of a large variety of hand tools. Some experience is preferred and continued training will be provided. Salary: \$19 - \$22 per hour depending on Experience. Generous Benefits Plan: 100% Employer-Paid Health Insurance, Competitive dental, vision, and life insurance plans, Generous PTO vacation earnings, Up to 3% match for retirement IRA's and Half-Day Fridays. Applicant must also have the ability to interact with customers and possess good communication skills. Applicant must also pass a background check and pre-employment drug testing. The candidate will also be subject to random drug testing upon hiring per CDOT regulations. CDL license preferable but not required. The application deadline is June 7, 2024. (6/7/24)

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# Classifieds

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**SARGENT EARLY LEARNING CENTER (SEL)** is hiring for a **LEAD TEACHER** beginning in the fall of 2024. Lead teacher salary begins at \$22,000 per year depending on experience and PDIS level. The lead teacher must hold a minimum of a level 2 in PDIS and must have the ability to be flexible, open to learning, and to take on new tasks/problems as they occur. He/she must also be able to pass the CBI/FBI/TRAILS background checks. Benefits include paid holidays, sick pay, vacation time, and a simple IRA. Learn more about the SELC at <https://sargentearlylearning.wixsite.com/selc/programs>. To apply, please send a letter of interest and resume to [sargentearlylearning-center@gmail.com](mailto:sargentearlylearning-center@gmail.com). Position open until filled. (5/28/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**NOW HIRING: PUBLIC WORKS ASSISTANT.** Job Description: A Public Works Assistant is an on-call, PART-TIME position with no benefits, supervised by the Public Works Superintendent. The Public Works Assistant assists the Public Works Superintendent to service the sewer system, water system, roads and bridges, drainage, buildings, parks, Town properties, and cemetery. Required Knowledge, Qualities, Skills, and Abilities: Working knowledge of the language, principles, methods, materials, and equipment common to municipal public works repairs and maintenance of parks, roads, grounds, and buildings. Ability to operate and maintain small snow removal equipment, mowers, and a variety of power and hand tools. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with Town officials and employees, representatives of other agencies and organizations, and members of the community. Required Education, Training, and Experience: A valid Colorado driver's license or equivalent, and high school diploma or equivalent. Previous experience in a parks or public works department preferred. All applicants should fill out an application (located at <http://townofcrestone.colorado.gov/>) to submit along with a resume and cover letter to [crestone-townoffice@gmail.com](mailto:crestone-townoffice@gmail.com). (6/19/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**ALAMOSA HOUSING AUTHORITY** is now accepting applications for a **PART-TIME GROUNDS' PERSON** for the summer. Must have basic knowledge in operating mowers, and trimmers. Applications may be picked up at The Alamosa Housing Authority at 213 Murphy Drive in ALAMOSA. Deadline for applications is May 31, 2024. (5/29/24)

**ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY** seeks applicants for a **STRUCTURAL TRADES I** position in the **ASU FACILITIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT**. Starting salary for this position is \$3,484 per month. For application or more information, please see <https://www.adams.edu/hr/employment/>. AA/EOE. (5/28/24)

**THE SLV LANDFILL** is accepting applications for a **TEMPORARY LANDFILL LABORER/BACKUP EQUIPMENT OPERATOR**. Maintain landfill property, pick up trash, and be a backup equipment operator. Position open until filled. \$16.00 to \$17.00 per hour, 32 to 40 hours week. Applications can be emailed to [Kim at officemanager@slvlandfill.com](mailto:Kim at officemanager@slvlandfill.com) or returned at the office. Download the application at [slvlandfill.com](http://slvlandfill.com). (6/5/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for the 2024-25 school year for (1) **CENTAURI HIGH SCHOOL MATH TEACHER**. Applicants must hold a current Colorado Teaching License or be able to obtain proper endorsement. Applications are available at the District Administration Office, 17887 US Hwy 285, LA JARA, CO 81140 or can be downloaded at [www.northconejos.com](http://www.northconejos.com). Submit application to the central office or email to [rmccarroll@northconejos.com](mailto:rmccarroll@northconejos.com). Position is open until filled. EOE. (5/25/24)

**NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for the 2024-25 school year for (1) **CENTAURI MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH TEACHER**. Applicants must hold a current Colorado Teaching License or be able to obtain proper endorsement. Applications are available at the District Administration Office, 17887 US Hwy 285, LA JARA, CO 81140 or can be downloaded at [www.northconejos.com](http://www.northconejos.com). Submit application to the central office or email to [rmccarroll@northconejos.com](mailto:rmccarroll@northconejos.com). Position is open until filled. EOE. (5/25/24)

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Alamosa, CO 81101  
Dbrown1@farmersagency.com  
Katrina Brown  
Katrina.dbrown1@farmersagency.com  
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**CONSIGNMENT AUCTION**  
Last Saturday of the month from April 27 until November 30. At the Community Building next to Quality Timbers on Hwy. 285. Taking consignments on Fridays. Sale starts at 10:00 am. Lunch available.

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# Classifieds

### 221 - HELP WANTED

**NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT** is currently accepting applications for **HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELOR**. Interested applicants must be certified/licensed in counseling. NCSD offers a competitive salary with a \$915 health benefit monthly. Applications may be picked up at North Conejos School District Central Office or downloaded on the district website at [www.northconejos.com](http://www.northconejos.com). Applications can be submitted to the central office or emailed to [rmccarroll@northconejos.com](mailto:rmccarroll@northconejos.com). Position is open until filled. EOE. (5/25/24)

**NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT** is currently accepting applications for an **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNSELOR**. Interested applicants must be certified/licensed in counseling. NCSD offers a competitive salary with a \$915 health benefit monthly. Applications may be picked up at North Conejos School District Central Office or downloaded on the district website at [www.northconejos.com](http://www.northconejos.com). Applications can be submitted to the central office or emailed to [rmccarroll@northconejos.com](mailto:rmccarroll@northconejos.com). Position is open until filled. EOE. (5/25/24)

**NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT** is currently accepting applications for an **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** in the **MIDDLE SCHOOL** and **HIGH SCHOOL**. Skills should include a knowledge of Excel, an ability to learn technical applications/systems for reporting, and highly organized. NCSD offers a competitive salary with a \$915 health benefit monthly. Applications may be picked up at North Conejos School District Central Office or downloaded on the district website at [www.northconejos.com](http://www.northconejos.com). Applications may be submitted to the central office or emailed to [rmccarroll@northconejos.com](mailto:rmccarroll@northconejos.com). Position is open until filled. EOE. (5/25/24)

**MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for **HS ASST. BOYS' BASKETBALL COACHES** (2 positions). The salary for these positions will be paid from the current MVSD Extra Duty Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities>, by May 29, 2024 or until the positions are filled. For questions contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (6/5/24)

**AMERICORPS PATHWAYS NAVIGATOR. LOCAL.** Well-respected non-profit agency seeking enthusiastic individual to coordinate and support AmeriCorps members serving with the Rural Alliance for Dignity. No AmeriCorps experience necessary. On the job training and professional development provided. This position will specialize in recruitment, placement, and guidance for AmeriCorps members serving in small non-profit organizations throughout SOUTHERN COLORADO. They will work with La Puente's team to provide career pathway, logistical and project support for our local cohort of AmeriCorps Members. Join our dynamic team of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of helping others. Qualifications: Interest in non-profit organizations, ability to travel, relationship skills, organizational, and writing skills. \$41 - 45k/yr/benefit package. Send resume: [LaPuenteHome.P.O.Box.1235.ALAMOSA.CO.81101.719.233-2673.www.lapuate.net](mailto:LaPuenteHome.P.O.Box.1235.ALAMOSA.CO.81101.719.233-2673.www.lapuate.net) Email: [hr@lapuate.net](mailto:hr@lapuate.net) (6/19/24)

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26Jt** is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the position of **ELEMENTARY TEACHER**, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications: Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employmentopportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (6/12/24)

### 221 - HELP WANTED

**SOUTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT** is seeking an **ELEMENTARY TEACHER** for the 24-25 school year. Applicants must possess a Colorado Teaching License or be eligible to apply for one. Salary schedules are available on the district website. Please submit a district application, resume, cover letter, and transcripts at <https://www.southconejos.com/page/how-to-apply>. (6/5/24)

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LA PUENTE SHELTER.** Local, well-respected non-profit agency seeking individual to provide leadership as Assistant Director of La Puente Shelter. This position will supervise staff and assist clients with navigating the experience of homelessness. Shares responsibility of daily shelter responsibilities with the Director, including on-call. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of helping others. Requirements: Strong organizational skills, management experience, group facilitation, crisis management, oral/written communication skills. \$45,000 to \$50,000 DOE, full benefit package. Send resume, request job description: La Puente Home, P.O. Box 1235, ALAMOSA, CO 81101, Email: [hr@lapuate.net](mailto:hr@lapuate.net) (5/24/24)

**DEL NORTE HIGH SCHOOL** is seeking a qualified **SECONDARY BUSINESS TEACHER**. We are seeking an experienced, hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, and vibrant team. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License with a Secondary Business endorsement. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Annie Hardy at [ahardy@urtigers.co](mailto:ahardy@urtigers.co) or call Mrs. Hardy at (719) 657-4020. Applications can be accessed online at [www.urtigers.co](http://www.urtigers.co). (6/15/24)

**JT TIMBER FALLING** is hiring **LOG TRUCK DRIVERS.** Class A CDL. Starting at \$25/hr (\$37.50/hr Overtime). Great benefits are available. Home every night and based out of **BLANCA, COLORADO.** Call 719-379-4066 or visit [JTTimber.com](http://JTTimber.com) to apply. (6/12/24)

**MAINTENANCE ASSOCIATE: LOCAL, WELL-RESPECTED** non-profit agency hiring a **PART-TIME MAINTENANCE ASSOCIATE.** Responsibilities include varied landscaping, grounds keeping and maintenance/repair projects, special projects, support for Maintenance Supervisor and maintenance team. We're looking for a motivated, values-driven individual with experience in maintenance and repair and excellent interpersonal skills. Initiative essential; training and support provided. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of serving others. \$18.00 hourly wage, 21 hours a week. Send resume: [hr@lapuate.net](mailto:hr@lapuate.net), 719-589-5909, ext238. [www.lapuate.net](http://www.lapuate.net) (5/29/24)

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26Jt** is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the position of **ELEMENTARY TEACHER**, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications: Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employmentopportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (6/12/24)

### 221 - HELP WANTED

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26Jt** is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the position of **ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER**, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications: Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employmentopportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (6/12/24)

**NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT** is currently accepting applications for **LA JARA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL.** Applicants must have a principal license/certification or be in the process of obtaining one. NCSD offers a competitive salary with a \$915 health benefit. Interested applicants may download an application at [www.northconejos.com](http://www.northconejos.com) or pick one up at North Conejos School District Central Office. Applications may be submitted to Superintendent Darren Edgar at [dedgar@northconejos.com](mailto:dedgar@northconejos.com) or delivered to the NCSD Central Office. Application deadline is Monday, June 3rd at 4:00 p.m. (5/29/24)

**PUBLIC HOUSING MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR.** The **HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ALAMOSA** is hiring for the position of **Maintenance Supervisor.** Qualifications include a bachelor's degree in business administration and or a minimum of 3-5 years of business and supervisor experience. Knowledge in residential and/or commercial building trades, good communication skills, experienced with tools, machinery, and equipment, manage maintenance department, repairs, and capital improvements for multiple properties, manage supplies, tools, and equipment, ability to qualify as an HQS inspector, basic computer skills, maintain records, physical ability to perform required duties. The Alamosa Housing Authority offers a competitive salary and benefits. Minimum salary starting at \$65,520.00. Letter of intent, resume, and references should be submitted to (or mailed to) 213 Murphy Drive, Co. 81101 by May 24, 2024. Equal Opportunity Employer) (5/25/24)

**ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY** is looking for candidates to fill the position of **BUDGET ANALYST** within the **BUSINESS AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT.** You can apply [https://adams.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/ENUS/ASU/details/Budget-Analyst\\_R188](https://adams.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/ENUS/ASU/details/Budget-Analyst_R188). We look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions please reach out to our Human Resources department 719-587-7990. (6/8/24)

**ALAMOSA COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE** is seeking a **DATA ENTRY CLERK.** This job requires data entry skills and working knowledge of the Assessor's Office to ensure accurate property data is generated to maintain complex records. Responsibilities include: Working independently or in a team setting, entering deed transfers (land splits/combination and replats of parcels into database), entering address changes into the computer system, answering phones and assisting the public at the front counter, copying maps, daily mail runs, participating in professional training, and perform all other duties as required by the County Assessor. \$17.00-\$19.00 per hour, full time, full benefits. Background check and drug screening required. Applications may be obtained online at [www.alamosacounty.org](http://www.alamosacounty.org). Inquiries may be directed to [humanresources@alamosacounty.org](mailto:humanresources@alamosacounty.org). (5/25/24)

**REGISTERED BLACK ANGUS BULLS** For Sale. Low pap scores, calving ease and grove, OLDEST ANGUS HERD in COLORADO. Smalley's Angus. 719-588-4664 or 719-378-2459. (6/4/24)

### 221 - HELP WANTED

**MOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT** has the following **COACHES POSITIONS** open for the 24-25 season: **HS FOOTBALL; MS FOOTBALL; HS WRESTLING; HS VOLLEYBALL; MS VOLLEYBALL; ASSISTANT POSITIONS** for HS coaching also open. Send inquiries/resumes to Mr. Stagner @ [Stagnerb@valley.k12.co.us](mailto:Stagnerb@valley.k12.co.us) or call 719-655-2578. (5/28/24)

**MOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT** has the following openings for the 24-25 school year: **KINDERGARTEN, K-12 ART, MS SCHOOL TEACHER, HS ELA, HS SOCIAL SCIENCES, K-12 PE, HS SCIENCE, K-12 PRINCIPAL.** Send inquiries/resumes to Mr. Stagner @ [Stagnerb@valley.k12.co.us](mailto:Stagnerb@valley.k12.co.us) or call 719-655-2578. (5/28/24)

**POLICE OFFICER** FOR the **MANASSA POLICE DEPARTMENT**, must be POST certified. Please pick up application at the Town Hall during business hours; Monday- Wednesday 8-4. (5/25/24)

**THE CITY OF MONTE VISTA** is accepting applications for a **SEASONAL PARKS MAINTENANCE WORKER.** This position is approximately 16 weeks, 40 hours/wk. Duties include mowing, trimming, watering parks and trash pickup. Wage is \$16.00-\$17.00 per hour. Applications and job description are available at [www.cityofmontevista.colorado.gov](http://www.cityofmontevista.colorado.gov) or pickup/return applications to the City of Monte Vista, Human Resources, 95 West First Ave., Monte Vista, CO. 81144. Open until filled. (5/31/24)

**POTATO WAREHOUSE IN NEED OF WORKERS.** There are SEVERAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE. Hours 8:00 am-???. Competitive wages. Please inquire at **MOUNTAIN KING SPUD GROWERS**, 1090 South Miles Street, Center, CO. (6/5/24)

**SHIPPING CLERK NEEDED** for a **POTATO WAREHOUSE** in **CENTER, CO.** Hours are generally 8am-6pm Monday thru Friday, and possibly a few hours Saturday mornings. FAMOUS software experience and knowledge a must. Salary is negotiable. Please inquire at **MOUNTAIN KING SPUD GROWERS**, 1090 South Miles Street, Center, CO or email resume or application to [tluna@mtknk.com](mailto:tluna@mtknk.com). (6/5/24)

### 304 - LAWN & GARDEN

**3 SEASONS YARD SERVICE.** Call 719-588-1183. (6/1/24)

**SPRINKLER REPAIR & INSTALLATION.** Quick Service! Call evenings & weekends: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (5/24/24-monthly)

### 324 - SEED & FEED

**HORSE & COW HAY:** GRASS, GRASS/ALFALFA, ALFALFA. 3x3 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917. (5/29/24-monthly)

### 345 - WOOD

**PECAN WOOD CHUNKS** for sale. Great for smoking meat! 719-588-1183. (6/1/24)

### 353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK

**REGISTERED BLACK ANGUS BULLS** For Sale. Low pap scores, calving ease and grove, OLDEST ANGUS HERD in COLORADO. Smalley's Angus. 719-588-4664 or 719-378-2459. (6/4/24)

**ATTENTION FARMERS & RANCHERS.** Show special. Seal leaking stock tanks, ponds, or reservoirs with **BENTONITE.** 719-580-6652. (5/24/24)

### 360 - MISC. FOR SALE

**MUST SELL: 6'X10' enclosed STORAGE TRAILER.** 7'x10' very LOW TRAILER. Small ARC WELDER. New 3" Skill BAND SAW. 4" BELT SANDER. Men's Carbondale BICYCLE. 2" black powder mortar. BEAVER pelts. Some LEATHER. Some ARCHERY. Trophy white tailed HEAD MOUNT. Craftsman RIDE ON LAWN MOWER. 719-850-1032. (6/4/24)

**2 RECLINERS \$150.** Bissell PET SHAMPOOER \$50. Call 719-376-2384. (5/24/24)

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

### 401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES

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**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](http://www.alamosarentals.com)

### 426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

**FOR SALE IN ALAMOSA County:** 1980 GLENWOOD TRAILER HOUSE \$6,700. Must be moved. 402-269-7172. (E-TFN-AS)

### 525 - GUNS

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

### 601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

**MODERN & SPACIOUS APARTMENT** for Rent in **PRIME CRESTONE LOCATION.** Welcome to your new home! Nestled in the heart of Crestone, this beautifully appointed apartment offers both comfort and convenience in every square foot. Key Features: Location: Prime Crestone location, offering easy access to local amenities and attractions. Size: Approximately 1,250 square feet of living space. Rent: \$1600 per month (inclusive of electricity, trash disposal, propane, sewer, and water services). Deposit: \$500 (plus first and last month's rent). Pets: Unfortunately, no pets allowed. Application Process: All potential tenants are required to undergo an interview and background check. Schedule a Viewing: Don't miss out on this opportunity to call this apartment home! Contact us today to schedule a viewing and start the application process. PO Box 64, Crestone, CO 81131; (719) 256-4313; [crestonetownoffice@gmail.com](mailto:crestonetownoffice@gmail.com) (6/19/24)

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT** in **DEL NORTE:** Remodeled 800 sq. ft. corner unit in a quaint and well-maintained four-plex. Pets and smokers are not permitted. \$800/mo., inclusive of water and sewer. Please call 719-850-0750. (5/25/24)

**FOR RENT** in **DEL NORTE:** Remodeled 1+ BEDROOM, 3/4 BATH unit in a quaint and well maintained four-plex. Pets and smokers are not permitted. \$700/mo., inclusive of water and sewer. Please call 719-850-0750. (5/25/24)

### 611-HOMES FOR RENT

**FOR RENT** in **DEL NORTE:** Remodeled 2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH home on a corner lot. Near biking/hiking trailhead. Pets and smokers are not permitted. \$875/mo. Please call 719-850-0750. (5/25/24)

**2 STORY HISTORIC RENOVATED** 4 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH. Appliances furnished. Deck, shop, garage, large fenced in backyard. Excellent neighborhood; 416 2nd Ave., MONTE VISTA. \$1850/month, plus utilities. Yearly lease; available 6/1/24. Contact 719-852-5101 or 719-852-5350. (5/28/24)

### 611- HOMES FOR RENT

**THREE BEDROOM,** ONE bath in **ALAMOSA.** One car garage, PETS NEGOTIABLE. 719-588-5303. (5/25/24)

### 630 - ROOMS FOR RENT

**ONE NICE FURNISHED ROOM,** close to downtown **ALAMOSA.** New carpet & paint. \$525 monthly, utilities included & free wifi. Must have \$1K per month verifiable income. References required. 720-436-5550. (5/31/24)

### 737 - RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

**2004 ALLERGO BUS:** 40'; sleeps 6; 3 slides; 400 Cummings; 7K watt generator. \$75,000. 719-580-2735. (5/29/24)



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# Comics

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 "— Pinafore"
  - 4 Insert mark
  - 9 Raven's cry
  - 12 "You are what you —"
  - 13 Last letter
  - 14 Santa —
  - 15 Always
  - 16 Bravery
  - 17 Offer a price
  - 18 Theft
  - 20 Pester in fun
  - 22 Put down
  - 23 Visitor
  - 24 Turn pages
  - 25 Armor's flaw
  - 28 Writer — Fleming
  - 29 Pole
  - 30 Fly unaccompanied
  - 34 Nervous
  - 36 Simian creature
  - 37 By way of
  - 38 Ray flower
  - 40 Bashful
- DOWN**
- 1 Get better
  - 2 Poet — Angelou
  - 3 U.K. money
  - 4 Flock
  - 5 "— for All Seasons"
  - 6 Depend
  - 7 Swellhead's problem

Answer to Previous Puzzle

HUG	TRAP	CAPS
ALL	HILLO	OLLALA
UNO	ROBS	REAL
LARGO	INTENT	
YEA	TEE	
UPD	ATED	EXCEL
SEAR	FEAR	ORE
SPY	STAG	LADE
ROSI	REG	ULAR
HES	BAL	ARM
UNW	ELL	REIGN
TEAR	IC	ONEE
AND	IC	ENNS
HESA	EWER	RET

- 8 Cloth pattern**
- 9 Plot**
- 10 Cordial flavoring**
- 11 Water bird**
- 19 Ceiling**
- 21 Club members**
- 23 Fruity drink**
- 24 Old cry of disgust**
- 25 Youth**
- 26 Wooden box**
- 27 Aspiration**
- 31 Spillage**
- 32 Tell a fib**
- 33 Wood for floors**
- 35 Yin and —**
- 39 Picturesque**
- 40 Actress — Farrow**
- 41 Lucid**
- 42 Therefore**
- 43 Said further**
- 44 Mountain ridge**
- 46 — monster**
- 47 Currier's partner**
- 48 Taxi charge**
- 49 Foil relative**
- 52 Fire result**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13					14			
15			16					17			
18			19				20	21			
	22					23					
24	25			26	27						
28				29				30	31	32	33
34			35		36				37		
			38	39					40		
41	42	43					44				
45					46	47				48	49
50				51	52				53		
54				55					56		
57				58					59		

## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

## HERMAN



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## ALLEY OOP



## ARLO & JANIS



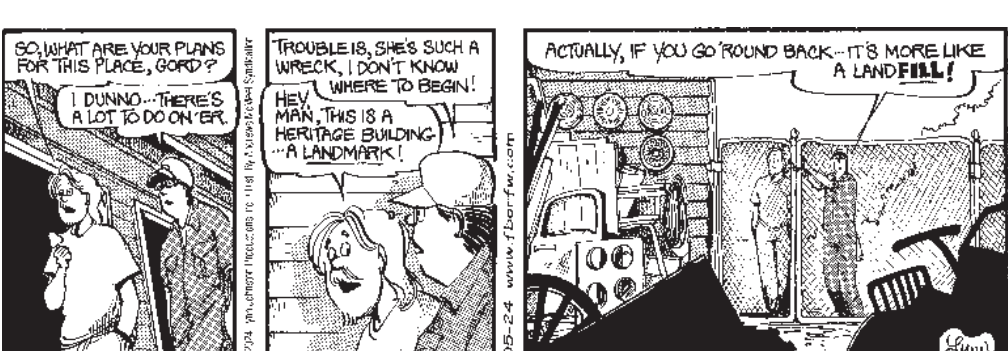
## BIG NATE



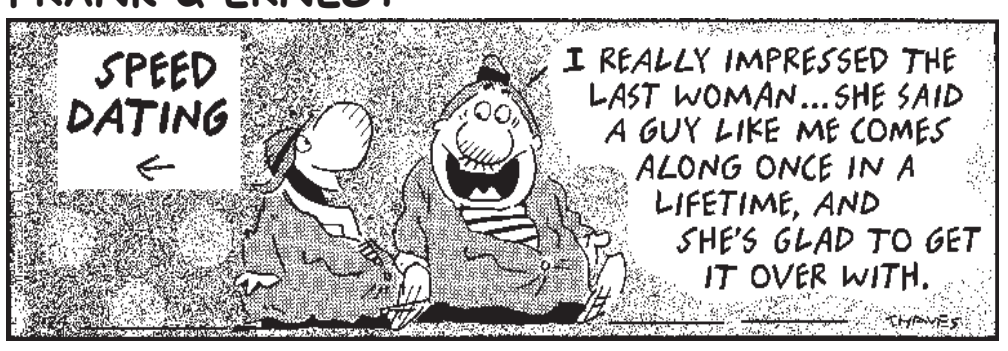
## THE BORN LOSER



## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



## FRANK & ERNEST



## GARFIELD



## THE GRIZZWELLS



## PEANUTS



# Friendship's decline doesn't stop a solicitation for cash

DEAR ABBY: My friend "Gene" and I have been friends since elementary school. We're now in our 50s. We were inseparable best friends all those years. When we were about 30, I started noticing our friendship seemed to be a one-way street because he made no effort to initiate contact.

Gene was gracious and inviting if I called him, but he never called me. Instead, he focused on friends he could benefit from professionally and withdrew from old friends like me. About 20 years ago, I stopped calling him and decided to move on with other friends who were more congenial and courteous.

You could count on one hand how many times I've seen or spoken to Gene in the past 10 years, but today I received a graduation invitation from his son who wants a cash gift for his high school graduation. Abby, his son wouldn't know me if I tapped him on the shoulder. To say I was appalled is an understatement.

I feel no obligation to send money to someone I don't know, and even less than that given the way Gene abandoned our decades-long friendship years ago. How can I handle this tactfully without coming across as rude or bitter? -- SHOCKED IN THE BLUEGRASS STATE

DEAR SHOCKED: The

polite way to handle it would be to send the young man a congratulatory card, wishing him well.

DEAR ABBY: I just said goodbye to my third beloved pet. Even though it has gotten easier over time, each passing has been devastating, and I have grieved deeply over their loss. When my mom passed a few years back, I was with her during that peaceful moment. I felt sadness, but nothing approaching the level as it has been with my pets.

My father's time is growing near, yet I don't feel sadness. I have had loving relationships with my parents, but not like some of my friends who described their parents as their rock or their best friend.

I'm worried that I lack something in my heart, and I should be feeling a greater loss for humans than for pets. Please help me make sense of this. I don't feel OK. -- GRIEVING DIFFERENTLY IN FLORIDA

DEAR GRIEVING: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your pet, and please stop flogging yourself for your feelings (or lack thereof). Everyone grieves differently. It is possible that you were able to accept the death of your mother because you were no longer interacting with her on the emotional level your friends did with their parents. The same may be true for your



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

father.

Your pets, on the other hand, were a source of emotional support on a daily basis. Sometimes pets become the equivalents of children, and the loss of that "child" can be more painful than losing one's parents.

DEAR ABBY: A very dear relative has just announced her engagement. This will be her third marriage. Are gifts necessary? -- HOPE NOT IN NEBRASKA

DEAR HOPE NOT: If you attend the festivities, you shouldn't come empty-handed. Some sort of gift is necessary. However, if you have generously shelled out for your relative's first two marriages, your third gift need only be something modest you think the couple might enjoy.



# Lifestyle

## Wine and Chocolate Festival to hit South Fork this weekend

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

**SOUTH FORK** — A new festival is coming to South Fork this weekend and those who have tickets are in for a treat. The inaugural South Fork Wine and Chocolate Festival, hosted by the Town of South Fork and the Rio Grande Club and Resort, will feature fine wines from selected wineries and chocolate from professional artisans.

According to event coordinator Celeste Anderson, the coming weekend is going to be packed with fun for the entire family.

"This is a family friendly event, and we even have tickets for those who do not like wine or just don't drink. We will have great music, delicious food and lots of fun," said Anderson.

The two-day festival kicks off on Saturday at 11 a.m. The Rio Grande Club and Resort located in South Fork will be transformed into a wine and chocolate paradise. Tickets for the event, including tickets for the VIP tent and wine pairing dinner hosted by the resort, are still available as well as a limited number of general admission and non-alcoholic tickets that will be available on the day of the event.

The festival will feature unique and delicious wines provided by vendors such as Cottonwood Cellars who have

been making Colorado wines for over 34 years. According to their history, "One of Colorado's oldest premium wineries, Cottonwood Cellars, is an old-world style, family-owned winery with a vineyard, Cottonwood Vineyards. The owners are Keith (the Winemaker) and Diana (Marketing) Read. The winery began operation in 1994. The first grape vines (5 acres) were planted in 1995 and has increased yearly to the current 22.5 acres. A new building was added in 1998 for barrel aging, case good storage, and the tasting room. In 2013, one additional tasting room was added with two more planned for this year."

Another winery coming this weekend is one of the newest wineries out of Montrose. LaNoue DuBois Winery has hit the wine scene with good reviews and a few questions about their name.

"We understandably get a lot of questions about what our brand means. LaNoue DuBois (pronounced LahNew DewBwah) isn't exactly the easiest name to say, but it has deep meaning to us. In French, it means 'LaNoue of the Woods.' LaNoue is our last name, and the maiden name of the matriarch in our family is Woods. All of the surrounding property around the vineyard and winery used to be part of the Woods Es-

tate, and the vineyard is still called Woods Estate Vineyard. This dream of ours couldn't have happened without both families, so we chose this name to be symbolic of 'LaNoue Wines from the Woods Estate'."

In addition to the many wines that will be available, the festival will also feature Pollinator Chocolate and other delectable treats such as homemade marshmallows in wine and chocolate flavors. Still Whiskey BBQ will be on site both days offering their wonderful array of barbecue and the Rio Grande Club and Resort will be open for lunch and snacks.

Throughout both days, there will be live entertainment featuring bands like David Nunn of Ridgway, Slopeside of Denver, and Steve Blechschmidt accompanied by Roger Bennett.

On Saturday night there will be a wine pairing dinner at the resort and entertainment from Halls Escape Room and Karaoke from Remote Control Karaoke.

There will also be several vendors offering goods like antiques, crafts, pottery, jewelry, woodworking, paintings and more.

Tickets are limited. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.southfork.org](http://www.southfork.org) or call the South Fork Visitor Center at 719-873-5512.



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