



SLV well-represented on All-League basketball teams



Ribbon cutting held for Rocky Mountain Munitions and Surplus



Today's Issue Sponsored By:



VOLUME 98, NO. 53

# Valley Courier

WEDNESDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

April 3, 2024

\$1

## SLV Today 'Just Say No' color contest winners

**VALLEY** — Winners of the Valley Courier's annual "Just Say No to Drugs" coloring contest have been announced. Each winner in the age categories will receive \$25 cash courtesy of the Courier and sponsors.

Brandi Glass of La Jara was judged the best entry for the PK-1st grade division, while Janine Patigdas of La Jara topped the grades 2-3 division, and Lexi Miller of Sanford won the grades 4-5 division.

Prizes for all three winners are available at the Courier office.

## Celebrate Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve

**ALAMOSA** — The We Love Our National Park celebration returns to Alamosa in April. First Fridays with Visit Alamosa will celebrate with a block party on San Juan Avenue on Friday April 5 starting at 4 p.m.

This special edition of First Fridays will feature live entertainment, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve Park Rangers will offer several information tables and activities for all ages, and Visit Alamosa will host a libation station, and various ways to win We Love Our National Park swag.

## Welcome Center hosting First Fridays Food Truck

**ALAMOSA** — As part of the Visit Alamosa's fourth annual We Love Our National Park celebration, the Colorado Welcome Center, 610 State Ave., will be hosting the First Fridays Food Trucks on April 5.

The Youth Art Show submissions will be taken at the Colorado Welcome Center from April 15, through April 22, for Opening Reception on April 27, during the unveiling of the "Share the Love" mural unveiling.

## SLV WEATHER

Sunny 60/26

**Thurs:** Sunny, Breezy 65/31

**Fri:** Mostly Sunny, Gusty Winds 65/31

## INSIDE

Record ..... Page 2

Valley News ..... Page 3

Opinion ..... Page 4

Lifestyle..... Pages 5, 7, and 12

Sports ..... Page 6

Public Notice ..... Page 8

Classifieds..... Pages 9 and 10

Comics ..... Page 11

## Boys and Girls Clubs honors Mason Miltenberger

By JOHN WATERS

Courier News Editor

**ALAMOSA** — Almost 100 people gathered at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley for a fundraiser event and to celebrate the Youth of the Year. This year, Mason Miltenberger was chosen for the youth award that recognizes leadership, service, and academic excellence.

The event keynote speaker was Jamie Dominguez with the Shooting Stars Cultural and Leadership Center who began his remarks by congratulating Mason on being chosen as Youth of the Year, and the pleasure it has been to have watched him grow up.

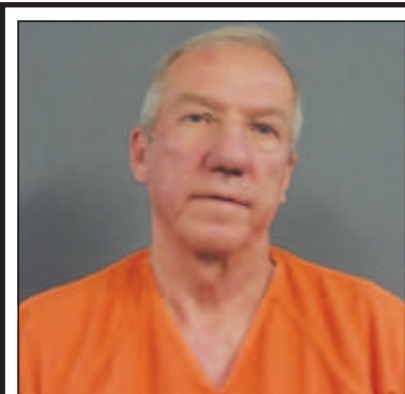
David Tandberg, President of Adams State University (ASU) presented

■ See **EVENT** page 3



Mason Miltenberger in his acceptance speech after being chosen as the Boys and Girls Club of the San Luis Valley Youth of the Year.

Courier photo by John Waters



## William Crowther sentenced to jail, 'lifetime' probation for sexual assault of a child

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

Courier Reporter

**ALAMOSA** — William Crowther, 62, of Sanford, appeared in District Court last Friday for sentencing after pleading guilty to sexual assault on a child, a Class 4 felony, and unlawful sexual contact, a Class 1 misdemeanor. District Court Judge Kimberly Cortez presided in the case.

In March of 2023, Crowther ■ See **CROWTHER** page 3

## Annual seed exchange is a success

**Jaе Sanders, Executive Director of the SLV Seed Exchange said the annual gathering held at the Joyful Journey Hot Springs on March 30, and 31 in Saguache County was a success. In this photo at the seed exchange, Al Stone and Mike Prater with the Valley Roots Food Hub were on hand to explain to the public what the hub does. 'We believe that our goal in feeding the people is sourcing the best foods that we can get our hands on and providing it at the best price that we can,' said Prater.**



Courier photo by John Waters

## 2024 Summerfest on the Rio – seeking food and craft vendors

CONTRIBUTED

**ALAMOSA** — Alamosa's iconic "Welcome to summer in the San Luis Valley" is back for 2024 from Friday, May 31, to Sunday, June 2. Yes, Sunday is back.

This annual festival provides extensive arts and craft talents, food, musical entertainment for the entire family and many activities for kids. Situated along the winding Rio Grande in the beautiful and spacious Cole Park, the festival is known for its music, family fun, and culinary delights.

Arts and crafts as well as food vendor applications are

being accepted now. The deadline for vendors to apply is Monday, April 15, for food and Saturday, May 25, for arts, crafts and information booths.

"Summerfest is a great way to show off your goods and have fun with your business," organizers stated.

Reasonable sponsorship opportunities are available as well. Go to [www.summerfestontherio.com](http://www.summerfestontherio.com), for more information.

We are also looking for community-minded people to volunteer for a couple of hours during the festival to help sell and pour beverages. This small but valuable commit-



ment helps keep the festival free to attendees by avoiding staffing costs.

"Plus, giving back to the community feels good too; you may even get a few drink tickets," organizers stated.

To sign up or for more information, contact [info@summerfestontherio.org](mailto:info@summerfestontherio.org).

## Looking for a new AG lender? Look no further!

Chad and Lee are both lifelong farmers/ranchers and have vast experience both in the field and in the office. We have a lending team and support systems for your operation whether it's Cow/Cal, Hay, Chickens... whatever your operation demands, we can help.

Please call us today!

Chad - 719-657-4550 • Lee - 719-657-4553

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



Chad Spearman



DEL NORTE BANK



Lee Crowther



52078 00101 0



# Record

## Monte Vista Elks and Monte Vista Police Department host an Easter Egg Hunt

By MARIE MC-COLM

MONTE VISTA — Approximately 150 people, including adults and children, attended an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30, at Chapman Park. The hunt was a collaboration between the Monte Vista Elks Lodge and the Monte Vista Police Department.

Children were lined up for the hunt ready and excited, holding various multi-colored Easter baskets, eagerly awaiting their chance to hunt eggs at Chapman Park.

Before the hunt began, Joy Werner, trustee of the Monte Vista Elks, spoke to the attendees about the hunt and how it would work.

“We want to thank all our volunteers for their help,” she said. “We want to thank the Monte Vista Police Department for their help. We want to let you know that the Easter Bunny is on his way to see everyone.”

The age groups are going to be 0-5, 6-9, and 10-12, she said. Some of the eggs had prizes. Wener also stated that if there were attendees that did not want to take the plastic eggs with them, they could put them into a plastic bag and they could be used next year.

The Easter Bunny arrived in a Monte Vista Police Department car, with the lights on top of the car flashing. The Easter Bunny stepped out of the car wearing a blue vest and pink bowtie, hopped over to where the volunteers were laying eggs and waved at all the kids, while the eggs were being placed by them.

Once all the eggs were laid out, the first group



Photo by Marie McColm

On Saturday, March 30, approximately 150 people attended an Easter Egg Hunt at Chapman Park in Monte Vista. The event was a collaboration between the Monte Vista Elks Lodge and the Monte Vista Police Department.

began their hunt, with children laughing, running, and gathering eggs into their baskets.

The volunteers helped place more eggs in between each hunt. Many children received eggs with prize slips. Prizes consisted of books and toys, such as stuffed animals.

Overall, Werner said that the event was a suc-

cess. “I was a little worried about the weather. Each year we do fight weather conditions because we just never know what kind of weather we are going to have this time of year. Overall, I am happy with the turn out and the kids seem to really be enjoying themselves. Everyone looks happy,” she said.

## Free dirt from the Blanca Vista Pond dredging project

CONTRIBUTED ALAMOSA — The City of Alamosa has a large supply of dredged material that the public is welcome to take as needed for dirt and or soil projects.

By taking any of the material, one assumes all liability associated with it, and the City

makes no claims as to the actual profile of the contents. Interested parties are responsible for loading and hauling any material from the site.

The material is on the Alamosa Ranch near the Disc Golf Course entrance on Maddux Lane, just North of the

Cattails Golf Course. The material may be accessed during daylight hours and the existing ground may not be taken or disturbed in any meaningful fashion.

For more information, contact Parks, Recreation and Library Director Andy Rice at 719-587-2529.

## Colorado House approves \$40.6 billion amended state budget

By SARA WILSON Colorado Newswire

The Colorado House of Representatives approved the state’s \$40.6 billion budget and its accompanying bills on Monday, approaching the end of the constitutionally-required, months-long process to craft a balanced spending plan.

The long bill, as the budget legislation is known, passed on a 46-18 vote, with one member excused. It includes about a dozen amendments lawmakers approved last week during a marathon debate.

“We have a responsibility to govern and at the end of the day, the budget is about how we fund governance in the state of Colorado. I take that responsibility seriously,” Rep. Shannon Bird, a Westminster Democrat who chairs the budget-writing Joint Budget Committee, told colleagues ahead of the final vote. “This document, filled with spending, will benefit constituents across the entire state in every one of our districts.”

In debate before the final vote on the long bill, which covers the fiscal year that begins July 1, Republicans objected to the overall growth of the budget and state government, as well as the defeat of their priorities from last week’s amendment battle.

“These are people who, generationally, have had to tighten their belts over and over and over again,” Assistant Minority Leader Ty Winter, a Trinidad Republican, said of his constituents. “They are a group of people who just don’t understand, while they’re tightening their belts, why the government doesn’t have to.”

The core of the budget funds the operating expenses of the departments, agencies and programs that make up the state government. This year’s \$2 billion overall budget increase, reflects bumps in spending for public education, governmental workforce and behavioral health services.

“We weren’t able to do everything. Money is limited. That’s evidenced by the fact that there were over \$100 million in amendments,” Bird said.

In the end, House lawmakers signed off on an increase of about \$11 million in general fund

revenue — the money that primarily comes from taxes — for various amendments offered by non-JBC members.

That includes \$6.1 million from the general fund for senior services in the Department of Human Services, an amendment offered by Rep. Mary Young, a Greeley Democrat, Rep. Mary Bradfield, a Colorado Springs Republican, and Rep. Jenny Willford, a Northglenn Democrat. The amendment would eliminate the current waitlist for services like in-home and congregate meals, transportation, in-home help, adult day care and case management through the Office of Adults, Aging and Disability Services.

Another amendment from Democratic Reps. Jennifer Bacon of Denver and Matthew Martinez of Monte Vista would add \$1.5 million from the general fund for the Tony Grampsas Youth Services Program, which supports community-based violence prevention and intervention programs for minors and their families. Part of the amendment’s funding mechanism would take money from an auto-theft public service announcement.

A bipartisan amendment from Rep. Lorena Garcia, an Adams County Democrat, and Rep. Matt Soper, a Delta Republican, would reduce the appropriation for new prison beds and shift the money to reentry workforce development, competency restoration and targeted crime reduction, among other programs.

There were two different prison caseload estimates this year from the Division of Criminal Justice and Legislative Legal Services — one outlined a need of over 100 beds and the other estimated a surplus. The JBC used the former for its work.

“This complete and wild differentiation is one of the reasons why it’s important to scrutinize this element a little bit closer,” Garcia said.

An amendment that initially passed on the floor on Thursday would have provided \$2 million from the general fund for the School Security Disbursement Grant Program. That program, enacted by 2023 legislation, gives schools and districts money for projects intended to improve school

safety, such as training in student threat assessment, school emergency response training and school resource officer implementation, among other uses.

The amendment was brought by Rep. Brandi Bradley, a Littleton Republican, who introduced a bill this session to infuse a similar amount of money into the program for the purpose of providing schools with firearm detection software. That bill passed its first committee and awaits an appropriations committee hearing.

Though Bradley’s amendment passed during second reading on a voice vote, it was pulled back later in the day and failed through a recorded 33-24 vote, after eight Republicans — including Bradley — had left for the day in order to attend a Republican special congressional nomination convention in Hugo.

“(The amendment) wasn’t about my bill,” Bradley said on Monday during the budget’s third reading. “What this amendment was, was a choice for schools to individually decide what makes them safer.”

A separate budget amendment to add \$200,000 to the school security fund, brought by Democratic Rep. Regina English of Colorado Springs, successfully made it through.

A clean, unamended version of the budget now heads to the Senate for consideration. Senators will offer their own amendments this week, and the JBC will need to decide whether to remove any before passing it to Democratic Gov. Jared Polis for his signature.

Democrats hold strong majorities in both chambers of the Legislature.

## Frost moon

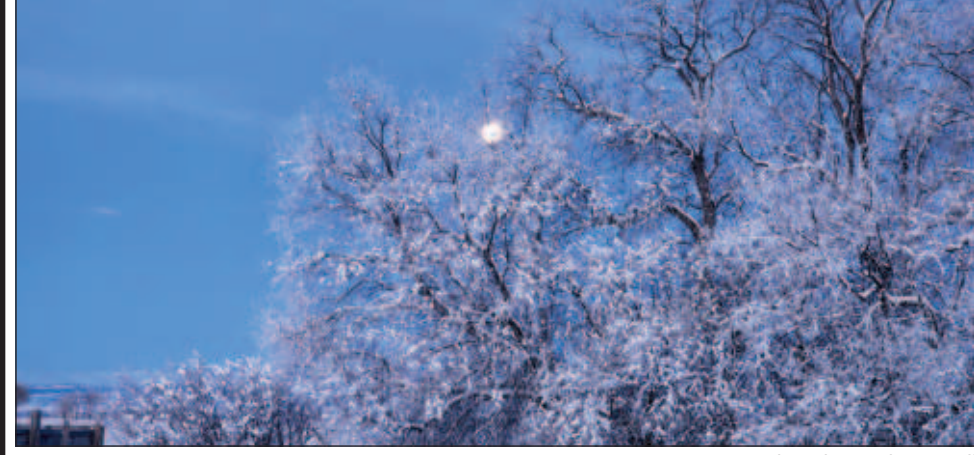


Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

The March full moon set behind frosted trees during the early morning last week, casting the landscape with a soft spring glow after a small snow squall moved through the San Luis Valley.

## City of Alamosa receives \$5K grant from CTC

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — The City of Alamosa has received a \$5,000 grant from the Colorado Tree Coalition (CTC) for the Alamosa South Entrance Park Enhancement tree planting project.

The City Parks and Recreation Department along with community volunteers will be planting 30-36 trees at the Sunset Ball Fields and Friends Park. The project benefits are numerous including providing shade for users, blowing dust mitigation, species diversity, a natural pedestrian safety fence and improved community aesthetics.

The Colorado Tree Co-



alition (CTC) is a non-profit whose mission is to preserve, renew and enhance community forests statewide. The CTC awarded \$113,463 in grants to 29 organizations in 2023. These grant projects allowed recipients to plant and manage trees in community forests across Colorado.

Grants are made possible through the Colorado

State Forest Service, the Xcel Energy Foundation, Colorado Public Radio and our CTC members and supporters. Since 1991, the CTC has awarded grants to 235 communities and organizations totaling more than \$1,239,000. These grants have been matched with more than \$8 million in community money and in-kind services.

<b>School Menu</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>April 3, 2024</b>

<b>BREAKFAST</b>
Mini Cinnamon Roll
Fruit & Milk
<b>ELEMENTARY</b>
Tony's Cheese Pizza
Salsa
Green Beans
Fruit & Milk
<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>
Tony's Cheese Pizza
Salsa
Green Beans
Fruit & Milk
<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b>
Tony's Cheese Pizza
Salsa
Green Beans
Fruit & Milk
Breakfast & Lunch Free for all students
Alamosa School District
To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553



# Valley News

## Local artist selected to showcase talent at new RGH wellness center

By LYNDISIE FERRELL DEL NORTE — Rio Grande Hospital recently announced that it had selected a local artist to add a touch of artistic flair to the new wellness center for its grand opening this summer.

Artist Casey McCoy grew up in the Alamosa area and knew from a young age that he was destined to be an artist.

"I was always drawn to art. Whether it was painting, sketching, or working on digital artwork, I was just always happier when I was working on something," said McCoy.

In his earlier years, his passion for art almost cost him, but as he grew older, he realized he could pursue his passion and make a living while doing it.

"I almost didn't graduate high school. I spent more time drawing than I did schoolwork. So, after some of my previous jobs, I decided to try and pursue my art full-time," he said.

McCoy's mother was the person who turned him toward his current medium

after seeing an artist work with dry wall on Pinterest.

"My mom came to me one day and said I needed to see this artist on Pinterest and after watching him work, I knew that this was the type of art I wanted to do," he said.

McCoy began picking up jobs working with drywall to create his drywall art and after a rough first year, began his artistic career.

"I had a rough first year and learned a lot of first lessons. Now, I can do what I love and support my family at the same time," McCoy said.

McCoy was contacted by Rio Grande Hospital and commissioned to work on a piece for the new wellness center and while coming up with ideas for his art, he became more aware of how important health and wellness is for everyone.

"I hope someday I can share what it is like for me to look at a blank wall and just see what wants to come out of the drywall. My imagination takes off and while working with Rio Grande Hospital CEO

Arlene Harms, I began to see how I could capture the openness of health and wellbeing. I am thrilled and honored to be part of what this center represents," he said.

Harms shared her vision of the wellness center with McCoy and how it was based on "Blue Zones" the epitome of longer living.

"There are healthy lifestyle choices like eating better, exercise and movement, and belonging to a tribe," he said. "Let's take a minute and just look at what it means to belong to a tribe. We don't think about how important it is to belong. Finding your own group of people that are your support group throughout this life. Not saying being alone is a bad thing, but being alone for long periods of time can lead to depression and suicidal thoughts. How important it is to be a part of something where you can share goals, achievements, or issues you're facing, and have the support group cheering you and help problem solve. Since start-



Courtesy photos

**Casey McCoy's artwork captures the essence of health and wellbeing, and he hopes to inspire those who utilize the new wellness center at Rio Grande Hospital to seek help and guidance on their journey to healthier living.**



Casey McCoy

ing my small business, I've developed my own support group, and they are just as much of this dream job as I am."

As McCoy's vision began to take hold, he used his experience in life to help mold the finished piece.

"I'm a man of faith and a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This church has over 300 temples, some that are built, and some announced for building. I've only been to three of them, but inside this wonderful craftsmanship is beautiful artwork and symbolism. So, with my project for Arlene and this wellness center, I wanted to replicate that same beautiful art style and symbolism. To tell a bigger story than

what's just seen," he said.

Viewers will notice when they first look at the wall, there will be a young woman meditating in a yoga exercise. However, unlike the traditional yoga meditation pose, where the hands are closed or face down on her lap, McCoy had her head look upward with her hands open. He initially made this change because he wanted to show the symbolism that this young lady is being open and ready to receive inspiration, revelation, guidance, direction, and change.

This little gesture has a big meaning behind it. McCoy has placed all sorts of symbolisms throughout this art piece, and he thinks it will be interesting to see what viewers will

notice the first time, second time, or third time seeing his finished work.

"I am putting my whole heart into this, and I'm honored to be involved with this," he said. "Part of the reason I go to my church is because of the good standards and life lessons it teaches and the tribe I have there. How great to be creating something special here. My only hope is that my art can spark inspiration into others or help them change or just feel the love that I've placed into this piece. I don't know who is going to view this project, but I do know I'm grateful to share my gifts and talents with others."



Courier photo by John Waters

**About 100 people turned out for the annual Youth of the Year award ceremony and breakfast at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley. The event was also a fundraiser. Aaron Miltenberger, President and CEO of the clubs said over \$10,000 was raised.**

## Event

Continued from Page 1

Mason with a packet that detailed the four-year scholarship to ASU he had been awarded. Tandberg said, "This is one of the most important organizations in the San Luis Valley in supporting our youth and the future of the Valley. It is an honor to support it and be here and to give this scholarship to Mason."

Soon-to-be Alamosa Police Chief George Dingfelder said, "This is such a great organization, Aaron [Miltenberger] has done a phenomenal job in supporting the community. The club does so much for our youth and community." The City of Alamosa was well represented at the benefit by Mayor Ty Coleman and members of the city council.

Alamosa County Sheriff Robert Jackson told the Valley Courier he has been a supporter of the club for over 25 years, and fondly recalled his time on the club board of directors.

Attending the event were Alamosa County Commissioners Lori Laske and Vern Heersink. "There is evidence that there is a demand for the services provided by the Boys and Girls Club. They go above and beyond to provide a welcoming and community feel for our children. I am so proud of the accomplishments of the club and our youth who attend there," said Laske. Heersink added,

"For some of our youth there is no other place for them to go to and this is a valued tool." The Boys and Girls Clubs provides a safe, stable, intentional way to keep kids from falling off a cliff. I don't think there is a better way to spend my money or someone else's money," said Amanda Pearson with La Puente Homes.

Aaron Miltenberger, President and CEO of the club said the organization has raised over \$3.6 million of a \$8 million capital campaign to fund "a brand new innovative childcare facility." He said he is optimistic a groundbreaking will take place in August.

A highlight of the event was to hear from the Youth of the Year, who gave a short and eloquent speech, "Good morning, I am Mason Miltenberger. Thank you for this chance to come before you and share my story."

"I was born and raised in the San Luis Valley. Surrounded by mountains, this alpine valley desert is a haven for culture, food and innovation. Growing up in the Valley has taught me the importance of community in a small town, in the ways people come together to accomplish goals and support one another. I grew up on a small micro farm outside of Alamosa Colorado that was shared with my family and our neighbors. We have goats, chickens, sheep, and a garden full of veggies. My daily chores include making sure all of the animals are fed and have water as well as helping plant, water and weed the garden.

"Being homeschooled has given me plenty of time to work on the farm and experience life in my community from day to day, but didn't always allow for much social interaction outside of the circle of friends I've had since birth.

"The club was an opportunity for me to experience a piece of school life and talk to people I probably would not have otherwise. The club has been a huge part of my life, it has shown me how to respect others, lead people and helped me strengthen my social skills to where they are today. I started going to the club almost eight years ago

and it has been a home and safe space for me and many other people I know ever since. I remember when I first walked into the club, scared and overwhelmed by the new faces and loud noises. I felt lost, until two kids I didn't know approached me and asked if I was new. I said "Yes" and they invited me to their table thanks to those two kids, who are now close friends of mine, I felt a strong sense of belonging.

"One of my goals, at the club and in life, has been to make sure other people feel included the same way I did that day. As scared as I was when I first went to the club. I quickly found a home there and many good friends I still talk to. It didn't take long for me to realize I wanted to spend a lot of time at the club and get to know all the kids. The Boys and Girls club brings people together, regardless of their background, and I want to represent that. I will use my voice and story to inspire those around me by striving to make everyone feel included and bring all of the different and unique people on this planet together. I will advocate for diverse learning opportunities, both in and out of classrooms, and show people that you don't have to come from a normal background to make it and make a difference in your communities, cities, and countries. I will use this platform to learn more about this diverse world we live in and bring people together. The club has been a place where I have learned to grow, change, and be with other kids who are also trying to figure this life out. And life is easier to figure out together."

Miltenberger now is eligible to be considered at the state level as the Colorado Youth of the Year with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Colorado.

## Crowther

Continued from Page 1

was initially charged with sexual assault of a child by one in a position of trust, a Class 3 felony, and child abuse (non-injury), a Class 2 misdemeanor.

As was reflected in the resolution, District Attorney Anne Kelly, who was prosecuting the case, agreed to amended charges in exchange for Crowther pleading guilty.

As was stipulated in the resolution, Judge Cortez sentenced Crowther to 365 days in jail on the unlawful sexual contact charge. For the charge of sexual assault on a child, Crowther will be on "intensive sexual offense probation for the rest of his natural life", a sentence that, as Kelly describes it, will include a "very invasive and intrusive level of supervision."

Crowther is also prohibited from contact with anyone under the age of 18 years old while he is on probation.

"This is what the court has ordered. Even if other members of the family feel that Mr. Crowther could have contact with some children in the family, it would be entirely inappropriate and illegal for him to have contact with any child," Kelly said.

When asked why she chose to agree to proba-

tion instead of a sentence in the Department of Corrections (DOC), Kelly said that pursuing that charge would have certainly involved the victim being required to testify.

"Although the family has been very strong throughout this entire process," having the child testify is not something the family wanted, Kelly said, adding that she understood their concerns.

"It is always very traumatic for a child who has been victimized to then be put on the stand and subjected to questions about the incident."

Also, as Kelly described it, due to Colorado law, being sentenced to DOC for sexual assault on a child would essentially be a life sentence.

"What was most important to the family — and to me — was to see him plead guilty to sexual assault on a child. We got that," Kelly said. "And the level and type of supervision Mr. Crowther will be under for the rest of his life is invasive enough that the likelihood of him ever doing anything similar again is greatly diminished."

Crowther was superintendent of Sargent Schools until, according to redacted arrest documents obtained by the Valley Courier from the Conejos County court, he resigned on Feb. 6,

2023, just two days before Feb. 8, when the Conejos County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) received a report of the allegations.

Upon receiving the report, the Conejos County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) immediately launched an extensive investigation with assistance from the Children's Advocacy Center, an agency that is part of the Office of Justice Programs in the U.S. Department of Justice. The results of the investigation were filed with District Attorney Kelly's office, which resulted in a warrant for Crowther's arrest being issued and executed on March 6.

"William Crowther grossly violated the trust of his family and community," Kelly said in a statement to the Valley Courier following Friday's sentencing. "The criminal justice system cannot heal the pain and suffering his actions have caused. Watching the Conejos Sheriff's Office handcuff and take to jail a man that once enjoyed the trust of the community serves as a reminder that our community will hold sexual offenders accountable for the lives they destroy. The defendant will be intensively supervised as a sex offender for the rest of his life. The Conejos Sheriff's Office did an outstanding job investigating this case."



Valley-Wide Welcomes

**Cheyenne Atencio, BHA**

to

Valley-Wide Counseling & Support Center  
128 Market Street, Alamosa, CO

Cheyenne understands that there is a stigma surrounded by receiving mental health services, and she is passionate about providing others with a space where they feel safe and heard. She believes that clients should have access to affordable mental health care and is excited to be a part of the Valley-Wide team! Cheyenne has experience working with clients ages 8-55 and predominantly worked with clients that are experiencing anxiety and depression. She is especially interested in lifespan and development as well as trauma informed care. Cheyenne grew up in Antonito, CO. She enjoys working with adolescents, and if she didn't choose a career path in the behavioral health field she would have been a teacher. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her friends and family. Summer is her favorite season because some of her favorite hobbies include fishing, hiking and riding ATVs. Cheyenne also enjoys traveling and listening to music.

To schedule and appointment with Cheyenne, please call, 719-587-5955



valley-widehealth.org



# Opinion

## We need to know avalanches inside and out

There's a fine line between learning from the mistakes of others and shaming people for their ignorance.

Twelve people have died in avalanches in the United States this winter, including an expert skier in Oregon who was also an avalanche forecaster. He was killed in early March despite deploying an airbag that kept him from being buried. On average, 27 people die in avalanches in the United States each year.

Three-hundred and fifty avalanches have been reported by the Bridger-Teton Avalanche Center since last September. Many of these incidents were triggered by humans, and four resulted in fatalities.

Some avalanches caused injuries and required complex rescues. In their aftermath, communities in the Northern Rockies have been trying to make sense of the circumstances and decision-making that led to these accidents.

Sometimes that debate gets heated. I've been part of these conversations, writing always about how unpredictable avalanches are. Feedback can get negative, with some people accusing me of shaming the victims. Others say I don't go far enough in calling people out for putting themselves and others at risk with their behavior.

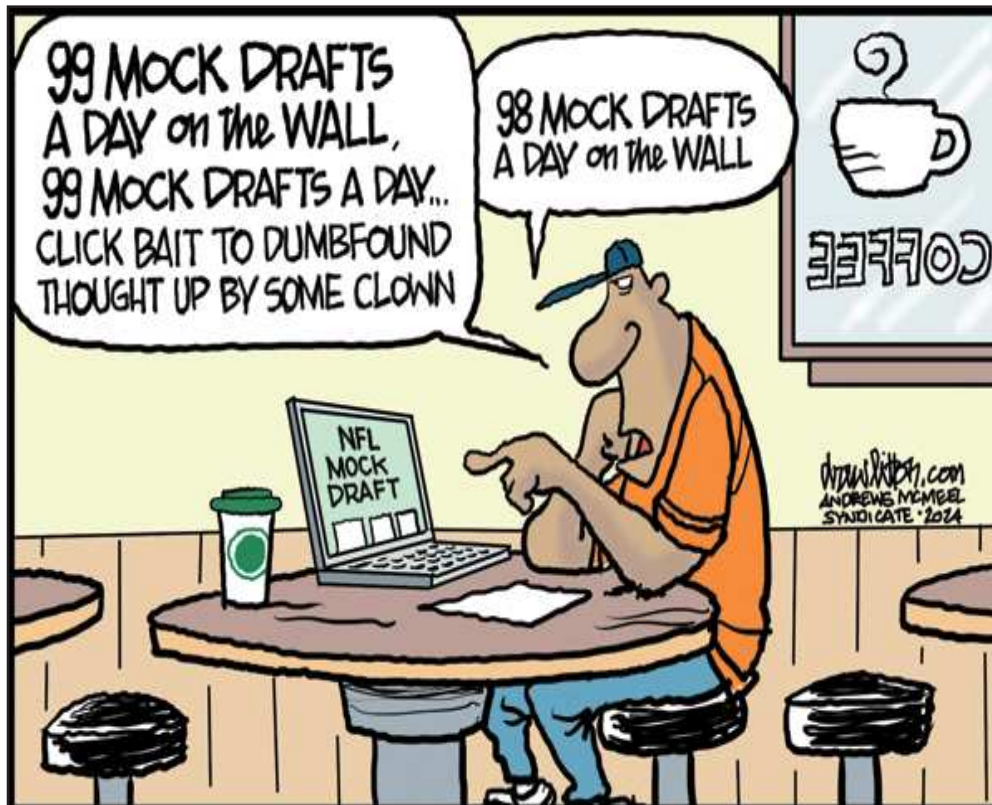
Discussion also takes place on social media, where anonymity seems to increase the vitriol of commentators. I bet these kinds of conversations take place in every mountain town where avalanches are a winter hazard.

Analyzing accidents in the outdoors has a long tradition. The American Alpine Club published the first edition of its annual publication, "Accidents in North American Climbing" (now "Accidents in North American Mountaineering"), in 1948. The goal then — and now — was to share lessons to help us avoid

### Writers On The Range



Molly Absolon



making the same mistakes others have made. The question is, does this kind of analysis really help?

Dale Atkins, a longtime avalanche professional in Colorado, questioned the efficacy of the practice during a talk at an avalanche workshop in Jackson, Wyoming, a few years ago.

He said it was too easy for us to examine an incident with hindsight and conclude that we would never make the same mistakes. Knowing the outcome prejudices are our opinions.

Instead, Atkins encouraged people to consider what made the people involved in an accident think they were making a good decision. What personal blind spots might have affected their thinking process?

I know my personal blind spots. I am easily drawn in by untracked powder and my fear of missing out. Other classic vulnerabilities include ego, the sense of being invincible, competitiveness, time pressure or a commitment to a goal.

All of us are driven by something that colors our perceptions and decisions — something that in hindsight can look really stupid.

Why did two seasoned skiers I know get caught by an avalanche while digging a pit to analyze the risk that day? On the surface, you might conclude

these individuals were simply not thinking or were being reckless, when in fact there may have been all sorts of factors contributing to their decision-making. It's understanding those outside factors that can help us learn.

But here's the dark side: We need to remember that behind the clinical, emotionless words found in an avalanche report there are real people. People who may be facing a long recovery from injuries or who may never be coming home again.

Their partners and the rescuers on the scene may be traumatized. Families and friends are grieving. Analyzing their story is not just an abstract examination of a chain of events. It's an examination of lives that were forever changed during a beautiful day on the snow that turned into a tragedy.

I think we all benefit when we conduct an avalanche analysis with empathy and compassion. The average number of avalanche deaths per year in the United States has stayed the same for more than a decade, despite the growing number of winter backcountry travelers — and that means something is working.

Experts believe education is helping stabilize that number, and education means analyzing how an avalanche

To submit news, email: [news@alamosanews.com](mailto:news@alamosanews.com)

To submit sports, email: [khamrick@alamosanews.com](mailto: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](mailto:news@alamosanews.com). Letters to staff, not for publication, should be marked "personal."



Image by Will Turner, via Unsplash broke loose to injure or kill people.

Molly Absolon is a contributor to *Writers on the Range*, [writersontherange.org](http://writersontherange.org), an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. She writes about the outdoors from her home in Victor, Idaho.

## Progressive gun control bills defy common sense

By MARK HILLMAN  
Capitol Review

Although I am less optimistic, I still hold out hope that Colorado isn't irrevocably doomed to follow California, Oregon and Washington into the hopeless abyss of Progressivism.

A few key indicators will soon reveal if we have passed the point of no return, including whether enough common-sense Democrats remain to stand with Republicans against the Far Left's relentless assault on our Second Amendment rights.

Senate Bill 131 would prohibit licensed concealed-carry permit holders from carrying their guns in "sensitive spaces," which sponsors Sen. Sonya Jaquez-Lewis (D-Boulder) and Chris Kolker (D-Centennial) defined as most places outside your home.

The bill would ban legal possession in these gun-free zones by licensed permit-holders. It would, of course, do nothing to deter criminals whom Progressives prefer to coddle (for example, by killing a bill to increase the penalty for stealing a firearm).

Facts presented by David Kopel of Independence Institute reveal, based on a Washington Post analysis, 86% of mass shootings nationally occurred within these supposed gun-free zones. Even after amendments, the bill would multiply opportunities available for mass shooters to target unarmed and vulnerable men, women and children.

Meanwhile, House Bill 1348 would implement an absolutely ridiculous "safe storage" mandate for guns in vehicles. Reps. Elizabeth Velasco (D-

Glenwood Springs) and Lorena Garcia (D-Adams County), along with Sen. Jaquez-Lewis, would require gun owners who leave a firearm in a vehicle to store it in a "locked hard-sided container."

OK, so you could put it in your locking glove box, console or trunk, right? No, because the locked hard-sided container must be "out of plain view."

This isn't firearm safety; it's "because we say so" harassment by Progressives who seem to believe lawful gun owners are more dangerous than drug dealers.

Sponsors clearly know little about responsible concealed-carry or gun safety because the interplay of these two bills, as writer Ari Armstrong points out, amounts to requiring permit holders to "frequently take the gun off of their person, where it is at almost no risk of theft, and place it in a vehicle where it is at higher risk of theft."

Next, consider the recklessly named "assault weapon" ban by uber leftist Reps. Elizabeth Epps and Tim Hernandez, both D-Denver.

"Assault weapon" is a politically-biased term which falsely implies that machine guns are readily available at your local gun store. In reality, "assault weapons" as defined by HB 1292 are ordinary guns with cosmetic features that may look — but do not function — like military guns.

The bill purportedly addresses "certain firearms used in mass shootings." Again, Kopel reveals the facts: Less than 10% of mass shootings involve a so-called "assault weapon." The bill declares, "assault weapons are not suit-

able for self-defense," yet it allows police officers to use these same guns. Why do police officers choose their firearms? "For only one reason: lawful defense of self and others."

Other "assault weapon" characteristics (pistol grip, grip for the non-trigger hand, adjustable stock, barrel "shroud" or handguard) improve stability and accuracy.

"When law-abiding Colorado citizens are defending themselves against violent criminal attackers," Kopel reasons, "the bill sponsors want victims to be forced to use firearms that are difficult to use."

Other bills in the Progressive agenda of harassing lawful gunowners:

- Force all gun owners to purchase liability insurance (HB 1270) or else petition a court to decree they cannot afford it. Think criminals will comply?

- Impose an 11% sales tax (HB 1349) on gun sales. Guns sold illegally remain untaxed.

- Require eight hours of in-person instruction to obtain or renew a concealed-carry permit (HB 1174). Lawbreakers avoid the training requirement.

- Impose separate state licensing for legal firearms sellers (HB 1353), who are already subject to rigorous federal licensing.

Now consider that our state's concealed-carry permit holders are 39 times less likely to be arrested than the general public, based on reports county sheriffs submit annually to the legislature.

To anyone persuaded by facts or logic, these bills do not make Colorado safer.

Instead, they amount to arbitrary harassment of law-abiding gun owners to satisfy Progressive dogma.

Colorado voters handed Democrats super-majorities in the Legislature. We will soon learn whether enough common-sense Democrats remain to protect the rights of honest citizens.

Mark Hillman served as Senate Majority Leader and State Treasurer. To read more or comment, go to [www.MarkHillman.com](http://www.MarkHillman.com).

## Write them

### GOVERNOR

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

### STATE HOUSE

**Matthew Martinez (D)**, Colorado State Representative, District 62, 200 E Colfax, Room 307, Denver, CO 80203; phone: 303-866-2916; email: [matthew.martinez.house@coleg.gov](mailto:matthew.martinez.house@coleg.gov)

### STATE SENATE

**Cleave Simpson (R)**, Colorado State Senator, District 35, 200 E Colfax RM 346 Denver, CO 80203; Phone: 303-866-4875

[cleave.simpson.senate@coleg.gov](mailto:cleave.simpson.senate@coleg.gov)

### U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Lauren Boebert (R)**  
Pueblo Office: 503 N. Main, Suite 426, Pueblo, CO 81003 (719) 696-6970;

Washington Office: 1609 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-4761

Fax: (202) 226-9669;

Contact: <https://boebert.house.gov/>

### U.S. SENATE

**Michael Bennet (D)**  
SLV Regional Office: 609 Main Street, Suite 110, Alamosa 81101; Phone: 587-0096; Fax: 587-0098;

Washington office: 458 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; DC Phone: 202-224-5852;

Contact: [bennet.senate.gov](mailto:bennet.senate.gov)

**Keith R Cerny**  
Publisher

**Brian Williams**  
Managing Editor

# Valley Courier

(ISSN 1047-1170)

The Valley Courier is published daily, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday by San Luis Valley Publishing, 2205 State Ave., Alamosa, Colo. 81101. Web site: [www.alamosanews.com](http://www.alamosanews.com). Periodicals Postage: is paid at Alamosa, Colo., Monte Vista, Colo., La Jara, Colo., and Fort Garland, Colo. Phone (719) 589-2553. Postmaster send change of address to P.O. Box 1099.



Debbie Sowards  
Adam Lopez  
John Waters  
Priscilla Waggoner

Advertising Manager  
Advertising & Digital Sales  
News Editor  
Staff Writer

Ryker Alonzo  
Ken Hamrick  
Shasta Quintana  
Richard R. Quintana

Editorial Assistant  
Sports Editor  
Circulation  
Mailroom Supervisor/Press

**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

## Hispanics and African Americans at higher risk for eye disease

(NAPSI) — If you think you'd know if you were losing vision to an eye disease, you might want to think again. The symptoms of glaucoma can start so slowly that you may not notice them. That's why half the people with glaucoma don't even know they have it. The good news is that regular eye exams and timely treatment can preserve your sight. But, the only way to find out if you have glaucoma is to get a comprehensive dilated eye exam.



Courtesy photo

**Keep an eye on your vision. Regular eye exams can help reduce your risk of glaucoma.**

The American Academy of Ophthalmology recommends all healthy adults get an eye exam by age 40, and every year or two after age 65. An ophthalmologist, a physician who specializes in medical and surgical eye care, may recommend more frequent exams based on your family history and other factors that can increase your chance of developing vision-threatening eye conditions.

**What is Glaucoma?**  
Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that can cause vision loss and blindness by damaging the optic nerve — the nerve that connects your eye to your brain.

The most common type of glaucoma happens gradually. Like a clogged drain, the eye does not drain fluid as well as it should. As pressure builds inside the eye, damage to the optic nerve begins. This type of glaucoma is painless and as your brain adapts to this slow vision loss, you may not notice any changes to your eyesight.

There's no cure for glaucoma, but early treatment can often stop the damage and protect your vision.

Glaucoma Does Dis-

criminate

A recent Harris Poll showed that most Americans are unaware that various ethnic groups may be more vulnerable to the effects of certain eye diseases. This is especially true for the most common form of glaucoma.

Glaucoma occurs about six times more often in African Americans. Glaucoma is also six times more likely to result in blindness in African Americans. And it often occurs earlier in life in African Americans, about 10 years earlier than in other ethnic populations.

Glaucoma is also more common in Hispanic Americans compared with white Americans. It's the leading cause of blindness among Hispanics over age 40 years. Unfortunately, some 75 percent of Hispanics with glaucoma are unaware that they have the disease, according to one study.

The good news is, getting regular eye exams is an easy and effective way to protect your vision. Getting a comprehensive eye exam before eye disease develops will not only give you peace of mind, but an ophthalmologist can also help you understand your risk factors and recom-

mend a healthy lifestyle to help prevent disease. This could include diet changes or other insights into the latest research on disease prevention.

**Glaucoma Runs in the Family**

Knowing your family history is another way to protect yourself from vision loss. You're about three times more likely to develop glaucoma if a family member has it, especially if a parent or a sibling has or had glaucoma.

Knowing your family history can help you and your ophthalmologist come up with the best eye screening schedule for you.

Can't Afford an Eye Exam? EyeCare America Can Help

Individuals who are at high risk for glaucoma or are over the age of 65 may be eligible for a no-out-of-pocket-cost medical eye exam through the American Academy of Ophthalmology's EyeCare America® program. This public service program matches volunteer ophthalmologists with eligible patients in need of eye care across the United States.

To see if you or a loved one qualifies, visit [www.aao.org/eyecare-america/glaucoma](http://www.aao.org/eyecare-america/glaucoma).

## Durango-area seasonal closures continue until end of April

**By COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE**

**DURANGO, Colo.** — Colorado Parks and Wildlife reminds the public that seasonal closures in place at Bodo and Perins Peak State Wildlife Areas remain in place through the end of April, and public access is not allowed until May 1.

At the June 22, 2023 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting, a regulation change was approved to permanently extend these closures from the previous April 15 date to April 30.

"These closures are in place to protect wildlife during a critical time," said CPW Assistant Area Wildlife Manager Steve McClung. "When we see violations of those closures this time of year, it puts unnecessary stress on wildlife when they need protection the most. These animals have almost survived the winter, but they are on their last calorie reserves until forage greens up and high-country snow starts to melt."

While the Durango area hasn't seen much low-elevation snow this winter, the high country has an average snow-

pack, and it will take time before the snow melts and wildlife can migrate into transitional range and summer habitat.

"With snow conditions being what they are, elk and deer will continue to use winter range until they can follow that green forage higher into the mountains," McClung said. "These closures aren't about trail conditions. Even if the trail is dry, the reason these areas are closed during this time of year is because of the impact human recreation can have on wildlife survival."

CPW's general provisions do not allow for domestic pets on State Wildlife Areas, but exceptions are made on specific properties. At Bodo and Perins Peak, dogs are permitted May 1 through Sept. 30, but all dogs must be on a physical leash.

"That means a hand-held leash clipped to the dog," McClung said. "Not an electronic collar or simply having a leash with you. We are trying to balance the desires for recreation and the needs of wildlife. We know dogs on leash are less disruptive to wildlife than off-leash dogs."

CPW officers have observed violations to seasonal closures all winter, with most violators also accompanied by off-leash dogs. All areas with seasonal closures are well signed with closed gates to clearly mark the closures.

Those in violation of CPW closures are subject to a fine of \$139.50.

The Bureau of Land Management prioritizes wildlife in several Durango-area properties where they have similar seasonal closures to CPW's. For a full map detailing all of the seasonal closures on BLM lands across Colorado, go to [cpw.info/BLMClosures](http://cpw.info/BLMClosures). Here are the Durango-area CPW closures:

- Bodo State Wildlife Area: Public access is prohibited from Dec. 1 through April 30. The Smelter Mountain Trail is open for foot access only from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dogs are prohibited. Small game hunting is allowed south of County Road 210.

- Perins Peak State Wildlife Area: Public access is prohibited from Dec. 1 through April 30. However, closures remain in effect through July 31 in areas east of La Plata County Road 208.

# Here's Your Sign!

**We can fill it for you.  
Call Keith or Debbie,  
719-589-2553**

## Bar Code?



**An approach to advertising...**

If each line in the barcode represents a radio station, that's how many stations you'd have to buy to equal the reach of your local newspaper. How often & for how long do you listen to ONE radio station?

**You GOTTA BE IN THE PAPER**

**Valley Courier**

**719-589-2553**

**[www.alamosanews.com](http://www.alamosanews.com)**

**email: [ads@alamosanews.com](mailto:ads@alamosanews.com)**



# Sports

## SLV well-represented on All-League basketball teams

By **KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*

**ALAMOSA** – The All-League basketball teams were released in March with several players from the San Luis Valley getting recognized.

**Class 4A/3A Intermountain League**  
Seven local players were placed on the Intermountain League boys team with four coming from Centauri and three from Alamosa.

For the Falcons, Chaz Holman and Carson Bagwell were both first team selections while Kallon Russell and Troy Sowards were both honorable mention.

The Mean Moose All-League players included Brant Jackson and Tajuan Jamestown being placed in the first team and Victor Zepeda was honorable mention.

Pagosa Springs had the most selections including Co-Players of the Year Blake Laner and Colt Lewis. They were both first team selections along with Nate Kinsley. Ridge Wilson and Chase Harper were honorable mention.

Pagosa's Wes Lewis was named the Coach of the Year. Montezuma-Cortez, Ignacio and Bayfield each had two players selected. For Cortez, Tay Wheat was first team and Trey Hall was honorable mention. Ignacio's all-League players included Gabe Cox on the first team and Devonte Montoya named honorable mention. Bayfield's representatives were Cooper Rodrick on the first team, and Lincoln Williams was honorable mention.

For the girls team, Centauri had five All-League players and Alamosa had two.

The Lady Falcons All-League players included Hannah Curtis and Braelyn Tucker on the first team and Jocelyn Jarvis, Joselyn McCarroll and Lacey Johnson were honorable mention.

For the Lady Mean Moose, Morgan Ortega and Jaelin Garcia were both first team.

Pagosa Springs had four representatives. Elizabeth Currier, Annie O'Donnell and Karsyn Shahan were first team and DaveyAnn Snarr and Kylie Ketchum were honorable mention.

Its coach, Sarah Osborn, was the Coach of the Year.

Ignacio had two representative including Solymar Cosio, who was first team and the Player of the Year, and Darlyn Mendoza Lechuga, who was honorable mention.

Montezuma-Cortez had three All-League players including Savannah Haselroth and Taylor Whited on the first team, and Markylla Jones who was honorable mention.

Bayfield's representatives were Genesis Barrera and Renae Foutz who were both honorable mention.

**Class 2A Southern Peaks League**

Sanford led the way on the Class 2A Southern Peaks League with three selections.

Cash Caldon was not only first team but also the Co-Player of the Year. Also named to the first team were Ben Sittler and Trason Gartrell.

Sanford's Brice Crowther was also named the Coach of the Year.

Monte Vista had two selections. Azariah Hurtado was named to the first team and Alex Marquez was named to the second team.

Sargent also had two selections. Hayden Lester was a first team player

while Lucas Garcia was honorable mention.

Del Norte had two selections. Kelby Mondragon was placed on the second team, and Jace Pacheco was honorable mention.

Center's sole representative was Javier Ramos who was on the second team.

Also named were Crested Butte's Weston Miller, who was first team and the other Co-Player of the Year. Adin Kurak was also first team, Riley Davis was second team, and Porter Donohue was honorable mention.

Rounding out the All-League team was Trinidad's Nathan Sandoval who was second team.

On the girls team, Monte Vista had four selections. Alessah Archuleta was first team, Stefanie Lopez and Zariah Archuleta were second team and Heysenny Beltran was honorable mention.

Monte Vista's Shawna Larson was the Coach of the Year.

Sanford had three selections. Brooklynn Reynolds was named the Player of the Year and first team, Shasta Bond was also first team, and Riley Willett was honorable mention.

Sargent had three representatives. Bailey Asbell was a first team selection, Kandace Pargin was also first team, and Angelise Sandoval was honorable mention.

Center also had three on the All-League team. Alicia Rios was first team, and Ximena Miranda and Ciara Paiz were both honorable mention.

Del Norte was two selections. Kayleigh Haynie was a second team selection, and Baylie Laymon was honorable mention.

Also selected were Crested Butte's Molly Grace Miller on the second team, and Lexi Pickering was honorable mention, and Trinidad's Danica Shipley was second team, and Monserrad Viera Flores was honorable mention.

**Class 1A Southern Peaks League**

Sangre de Cristo had

four selections and it was led by Kaiden Smit who was the Most Valuable Player. Kolby Shellabarger was second team, and Deagon Rogers and Jaron Mason were both honorable mention.

Sierra Grande also had four All-League players. Brian Ontiveros was first team, Jadyne Martinez and Aron Ojeda were second team, and Manuel Miranda was honorable mention.

Panthers' coach Matt Lucero was the Coach of the Year.

Centennial had three players on the All-League team. Devon Vigil was first team, Martin Navarro was second team, and Samuel Aguilera was honorable mention.

Moffat also had three representatives. Ziah Pesqueira was a first team selection, Noble Cole was second team, and Jacob Martinez was honorable mention.

Antonito had two selections including Jasiah Jiron on the first team, and Rylan Trant was honorable mention.

Creede also had two All-League players. Will Roden was placed on the first team, and Jaxson Fazio was honorable mention.

Also named were Lake City's Silas Hartman who was honorable mention.

Sangre de Cristo also led the girls team with four selections. Jaydra Cordova and Audrina Knorr were first team, Presley Wilson was second team, and Haylee Freel was honorable mention.

Sierra Grande had two All-League players. Jaylyn Quezada and Alexia Gonzales were both first team selections.

Creede also had two selections including Lila Fairchild, who was first team and Most Valuable player, and Jasmin Laing who was honorable mention.

Creede's James Laing was the Coach of the Year.

Centennial had two representatives in Rhylina Serna who was second team, and Laila Garcia

who was honorable mention.

Antonito also had two selections in Luz Elena Parra on the second team, and Destanaya Quintana was honorable mention.

Moffat also had two All-League players including Sequoia Sirois on the second team, and Kadence McWilliams was honorable mention.

Lake City's only All-League player was Kadance Simmons who was on the first team.



ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY  
GRIZZLY CLUB  
GOLF TOURNAMENT

*All proceeds benefit ASU student athlete scholarships*

**SATURDAY MAY 4, 2024**  
**CATTAILS GOLF CLUB**  
**SCRAMBLE - TEAMS OF 4**  
**SHOTGUN START - 9:30 A.M.**

FUN PRIZES AUCTION
\$80 PER PLAYER W/LUNCH

REGISTER  
IN THE PRO SHOP  
OR EMAIL KATELYN SMITH  
athletics@adams.edu



Courier photos by Ken Hamrick

UPCOMING GRIZZLY ATHLETIC EVENTS

**Friday, April 5**

*Softball at University of Colorado Springs at Colorado Springs, Colo.*

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

*Baseball at Colorado School of Mines at Golden, Colo.*

6:00 p.m.

**Saturday, April 6**

*Softball at University of Colorado Springs at Colorado Springs, Colo.*

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

*Baseball at Colorado School of Mines at Golden, Colo.*

12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

*Men's Lacrosse at Colorado State University Pueblo at Pueblo, Colo.*

12:00 p.m.

**Saturday, April 7**

*Baseball at Colorado School of Mines at Golden, Colo.*

12:00 p.m.

**Monday, April 8**

*Women's Golf vs Hardrocker Spring Invitational at Rapid City, S.D*

TBA

# EXCITING NEWS!

SAN LUIS VALLEY REC IS BRINGING ENERGY-EFFICIENT HOME UPGRADES TO YOU THROUGH OUR NEW ON-BILL REPAYMENT PROGRAM!

Co-op members can make energy-efficient home upgrades including heat pumps, windows and doors or a new heat pump water heater with no money down, no credit check and low interest rates thanks to this program.

**READY TO START?**  
Visit [slvrec.com/electrify-and-save](http://slvrec.com/electrify-and-save)



# Lifestyle

## HVCC glad to be back from Spring break

By HIGH VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

**DEL NORTE** — We are glad to be back from Spring break! HVCC missed all the kids, and it has been such a blast getting to hang out with them again this last week.


Our soccer season is officially upon us! We already have a couple of practices under our belt, but we have many more in our future. K-2 grade practices every Wednesday from 5-6 p.m. at Voss Field. 3-4 grade practices every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at

the Del Norte River Park. 5-8 grade practices every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:15-6:15 p.m. at the Del Norte River Park. Games will begin April 6, and they will be held at Chapman Park in Monte Vista.

Baseball Registration is now open! Head to thehvcc.org to register — ages 7-10 will need to register for machine-pitch, and ages 10-12 will need to register for fast-pitch. The last day to register

is April 15. We have a great week planned, including marshmallow geometry, a tower competition and a Friday field trip to the trout farm! We hope you can join us for a week full of fun activities.

As always, feel free to stop by HVCC to say hi! We love getting to see our community members and showing them why we believe so strongly in the youth of this valley. Youth Are The Solution!


**Are you at risk?**

**Get Screened for Risks of Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease**

**Call 833-939-0353**

*Screenings are easy, painless and non-invasive*

**Special Screening Package for \$149**



**LIFE LINE SCREENING**  
*The Power of Prevention*



METRO photo

Identity theft is an ever-present threat and consumers must exercise due diligence to protect their personal information.

## 5 common identity theft scams

(METRO) — Consumers can never let their guard down when it comes to identity theft. Personal information is much more accessible in an increasingly digital world. Consequently, instances of identity theft and consumer fraud continue to grow.

• The Identity Theft Research Center (ITRC) reported a record number of data compromises in the United States in 2021, amounting to a 68 percent increase over 2020.

• The Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Sentinel Network received more than 5.7 million reports of fraud and identity theft in 2021.

• In Canada, there are 12 victims of identity theft per every 100,000 residents and 52 victims of ID fraud.

• Many North Americans have been victims of COVID-19-related fraud, including scams involving fake testing, vaccines and treatments, and charities.

The FTC says identity theft is when someone uses your personal or financial information without your consent. Commonly stolen data includes addresses, credit card numbers, bank account information, Social Security numbers, or medical insurance numbers.

Though thieves can gather information by intercepting it through digital channels or simply by stealing mail or go-

ing through trash, many times people inadvertently share personal information with scammers themselves. Here's a look at five common scams.

### 1. Phone scams

Phone scams may involve telemarketers trying to sell you something in exchange for personal information given over the phone, as well as people impersonating government agencies or credit card companies. "Please confirm account information" or "We'll need your financial information to process" are some of the phrases these scams utilize. Never give out personal information over the phone unless you've confirmed the individual you're speaking to is legitimate.

### 2. Text links

The Pew Research Center says 81 percent of adult mobile phone users use text messages regularly. Scammers utilize text messages to try to gain information. The text includes a link to a site that will request personal information. Do not respond to such texts and avoid clicking on the links.

### 3. Phishing emails

Phishing emails look like they are coming from legitimate sources, but they often contain malware that can infiltrate computers and other devices to steal identity data. Phishing increased during the

COVID-19 lockdowns as more people were working from home, according to the ITRC.

### 4. Medicare card verification

Older individuals long have been targets of criminals. Seniors are now being called, emailed or even visited in person by scammers claiming to represent Medicare. Perpetrators of this scam offer new services or new chipped Medicare cards in exchange for verification of Medicare identification numbers. Medicare numbers should be carefully guarded, and seniors should keep in mind it's highly unlikely Medicare representatives will contact them in this way.

### 5. Data breaches

It's not just a home computer or phone breach you need to worry about. According to ARAG Legal, security experts indicate many major companies are being breached. By the time it's discovered that data was stolen, your personal information, which usually includes credit card numbers, email addresses and home addresses, has been circulating for some time. While it's impossible for private citizens to prevent this type of data breach, a credit monitoring service can alert consumers if their information shows up where it seemingly doesn't belong.



**It's not just a generator. It's a power move.**

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase\* - valued at \$535.

**Call 719-895-6158 to schedule your free quote!**

\*Terms and Conditions apply.

**GENERAC**



# Public Notices

**DISTRICT COURT, CONEJOS COUNTY, COLORADO**  
 6683 County Road 13, Conejos, CO 81129  
**VALERIE MORALES**, an Individual, and **AMY REGNIER**,  
 an Individual  
 Plaintiffs,  
 v.  
**DARLENE LETEY**, an Individual  
 Defendant.  
**COURT USE ONLY A**  
 Attorney for Plaintiffs: Samuel J. Scheurich, #46270 BURNHAM LAW  
 2760 29th Street, Suite #E Boulder, CO 80301  
 Phone: 303.990.5308  
 Fax: 303.200.7330  
 sam@burnhamlaw.com  
 Case No.: 2022CV30010  
 Division: C  
**NOTICE OF LEVY**  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on October 25, 2023, a Writ of Ex-  
 ecution was issued out of the District Court for the County of Conejos  
 directing the Sheriff of the County of Conejos, State of Colorado,  
 to levy upon and seize certain property of Darlene Letey, the above  
 named Defendant, and the Sheriff of the County of Conejos did levy  
 upon, seize and take into possession the following described prop-  
 erty:  
 Lot 3, Block 12, Manaassa Parcel No. 2, County of Conejos, State  
 of Colorado  
 Now, therefore, you Darlene Letey, Defendant, take notice, that within  
 fourteen (14) days from the date of service hereof, exclusive of the  
 day of service, if served within this state, or if served by publication,  
 you may make and file with the Clerk of the above-entitled court a  
 written claim of any exemption which you may have under the statu-  
 tes of the State of Colorado; and in case of your failure to make and  
 file such written claim of exemption with the Clerk of said Court you  
 shall be deemed to have waived your right of exemption under the  
 statutes of this state.  
 Witness, Garth Crowther, Sheriff of Conejos County, Colorado, this 30  
 day of November, 2023.  
**GARTH CROWTHER** CONEJOS COUNTY SHERIFF  
 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 /s/  
 No. 3844.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on March 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27,  
 29, 30, April 2, 3, 5, 6, & 9, 2024.

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING CONCERNING THE DRAFT  
 ANNUAL REPLACEMENT PLAN FOR SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT  
 DISTRICT #1 OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION  
 DISTRICT**

Notice is hereby given that the DRAFT Annual Replacement Plan for  
 Subdistrict #1 will be considered at a special meeting of the Board of  
 Managers for Special Improvement District No. 1 of the Rio Grande  
 Water Conservation District to be held on April 11, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.  
 The meeting will be held at Rio Grande Conservation District located  
 at 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101. This meeting will  
 also be held by Zoom teleconference. The public may participate by  
 attending the meeting in person or listen in to the meeting by dialing in  
 to the Zoom/teleconference. To join please call either number: 1-301-  
 795-8592 or 1-669-900-6833, enter the Meeting Id: 895 1080 8329##,  
 and wait for the meeting to begin. There is no charge for this call. This  
 meeting is open to the public.  
 Comments addressing the draft Annual Replacement Plan should  
 be submitted to the Rio Grande Water Conservation District by mail,  
 email or in person any time prior to or during the scheduled meet-  
 ing. We ask that comments made at the meeting be limited to 3 min-  
 utes. The draft Annual Replacement Plan can be viewed on the Rio  
 Grande Water Conservation District's website (www.rgwc.org) or at  
 the principal office of the District located at 8805 Independence Way,  
 Alamosa, CO. Please email comments to taylor@rgwc.org.  
 No. 3870.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on April 3, 2024.

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING CONCERNING THE DRAFT  
 ANNUAL REPLACEMENT PLAN FOR SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT  
 DISTRICT #3 OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION  
 DISTRICT**

Notice is hereby given that the DRAFT Annual Replacement Plan for  
 Subdistrict #3 will be considered at a special meeting of the Board of  
 Managers for Special Improvement District No. 3 of the Rio Grande  
 Water Conservation District to be held on April 11, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.  
 The meeting will be held at Rio Grande Conservation District located  
 at 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101. This meeting will  
 also be held by Zoom teleconference. The public may participate by  
 attending the meeting in person or listen in to the meeting by dialing in  
 to the Zoom/teleconference. To join please call either number: 1-301-  
 795-8592 or 1-669-900-6833, enter the Meeting Id: 850 3049 4310##,  
 and wait for the meeting to begin. There is no charge for this call. This  
 meeting is open to the public.  
 Comments addressing the draft Annual Replacement Plan should  
 be submitted to the Rio Grande Water Conservation District by mail,  
 email or in person any time prior to or during the scheduled meet-  
 ing. We ask that comments made at the meeting be limited to 3 min-  
 utes. The draft Annual Replacement Plan can be viewed on the Rio  
 Grande Water Conservation District's website (www.rgwc.org) or at  
 the principal office of the District located at 8805 Independence Way,  
 Alamosa, CO. Please email comments to angelo@rgwc.org.  
 No. 3872.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on April 3, 2024.

**NOTICE**

Alamosa School District RE11J  
 Mailing Address: Ortega Middle School, 401 Victoria Ave, Alamosa,  
 CO 81101 Physical Address: Administration Office, 403 Santa Fe  
 Ave, Alamosa CO 81101  
 Tel: 719-587-1600  
 Fax: 719-587-1721  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**  
**PRIME VENDOR/DISTRIBUTOR - SCHOOL FOOD and PAPER  
 GOOD SUPPLIES 2024-2025 Year**  
 Complete Request for Proposal documents and instructions can be  
 found on the Alamosa School District Website: www.alamosaschools.  
 org under Foodservice Department, Food Bid Folder.  
**DATE PROPOSALS ARE DUE:** Wednesday, April 24th, @ 2:00PM  
 In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of  
 Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution  
 is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national  
 origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability,  
 age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.  
 Program information may be made available in languages other than  
 English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of  
 communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large  
 print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the res-  
 ponsible state or local agency that administers the program or US-  
 DA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact  
 USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.  
 This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider  
 To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should  
 complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint  
 Form which can be obtained online at:  
<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>,  
 from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a  
 letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's  
 name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the  
 alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant  
 Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an al-  
 leged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must  
 be submitted to USDA by:  
 1. mail;  
 2.  
 3.  
 U.S. Department of Agriculture  
 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
 1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
 Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or  
 fax:  
 (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or email:  
 program.intake@usda.gov  
 No. 3874.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on April 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17,  
 19, 20, & 23, 2024.

**NOTICE**

District Court Rio Grande County  
 Court address:  
 925 6th St. Rm 204 Del Norte Co 81132  
 In re the Marriage of:  
 Petitioner: SHARON MARIE MARTINEZ  
 And  
 Respondent: SELSO JERME MARTINEZ  
**COURT USE ONLY**  
 Attorney or Party without Attorney (address and phone):  
 Case Number: 2024DR9  
 Division 1  
**NOTICE TO RESPONDENT**  
 Rio Grande County, District Court, Case No. 2024DR9  
 SELSO MARTINEZ, YOU ARE NOTIFIED, pursuant to C.R.S. 14-  
 10-107 (4), that an action has been filed for Dissolution of Marriage,  
 regarding your marriage to SHARON MARTINEZ  
 You are further notified that a copy of the PETITION and SUMMONS  
 may be obtained from the clerk of court during regular business hours  
 and that a default judgment may be entered against you if you fail to  
 appear or file a response within 35 days after the date of publication.  
 Date: April 1, 2024  
**MARISOL HERNANDEZ**  
 Clerk of Court  
 By: /s/ Kaitlin McCoy  
 Court Judicial Assistant  
 No. 3875.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on April 3, 2024.

**ALAMOSA COUNTY  
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a Public Hearing will be held before  
 the Alamosa Planning Commission on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at  
 6:00 PM and again before the Alamosa Board of County Commission-  
 ers on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 8:30 AM, in the Alamosa County  
 Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, Colorado for the  
 purpose of considering an application for a Replat and Minor Subdivi-  
 sion submitted by James Hsu of Marquis Development Limited on  
 property currently addressed as 8440 & 8494 S River Rd, Parcels  
 541314200036 & 541319200016.  
 The applicant is proposing to replat and subdivide the existing two  
 tracts totaling 3.71 acres into Tract 1 of 1.670 ac, Tract 2 of 1.020  
 ac, and Tract 3 of 1.020 ac. This property is in the Rural (RU) zone  
 district.  
 The legal description of the property is: A fraction of the north half  
 of Section 14, Township 37 North, Tange 10 East, N.M.P.M., County  
 of Alamosa, State of Colorado, being more particularly described by  
 metes as bounds as follows:  
**GREENHILL TRACT**  
 Beginning at a point on the easterly right-of-way of South River Road,  
 which point is also the southeast corner of the tract herein described,  
 from which the Center Quarter Corner of said Section 14, as monu-  
 mented by a No. 6 rebar with a 3.25" aluminum cap set by PLS No  
 22583, bears S 09° 51'44" E a distance of 716.57 feet; thence N  
 43°46'59" W along said right-of-way a distance of 397.83 feet to a  
 point on the East line of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 14;  
 thence S00° 02'08" W along said East Line a distance 192.01 feet;  
 thence S 26° 38'24" W a distance of 77.28 feet, thence S 40°09'32"  
 W a distance of 32.14 feet, thence S 34°43'21" W a distance of 119.29  
 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1.80 Acres, more or less.  
 This tract is subject to any and all existing easements and/or rights  
 of way of whatsoever nature.  
**MARQUIS DEVELOPMENT TRACT**  
 Beginning at a point on the easterly right of way of South River Road,  
 which point is also the southwest corner of the herein described tract,  
 from which the Center Quarter Corner of said Section 14, as monu-  
 mented by a No. 6 rebar with a 3.25" aluminum cap set by PLS No  
 22583, bears S 09° 51'44" E a distance of 716.57 feet; thence N 34°  
 43'21" a distance of 119.29 feet; thence N 40°09'32" E a distance of  
 32.14 feet; thence N26°38'24"E a distance of 77.28 feet to a point  
 in the centerline of the Rio Grande River; thence along said centerline  
 of the Rio Grande River along the arc of a curve to the left (Curve  
 Data: Central Angle = 27° 8' 33". Radius = 900', chord bearing = S  
 45°19'41"E, chord length = 422.38") a distance of 426.35 feet to the  
 northeast corner of the herein described tract; thence S 44° 31'42" W  
 along the east line of the herein described tract a distance of 233.84  
 feet to a point on the northerly right of way for South River Road;  
 thence N43° 46'59" W along said right-of-way a distance of 198.10  
 feet; thence N43°46'59" W along said right-of-way a distance of  
 177.95 feet to the point of Beginning, containing 1.91 acres, more or  
 less. This tract is subject to any and all existing easements and/or  
 rights of way of whatsoever nature.  
 Details regarding this application are available for public inspection in  
 the Alamosa County Land  
 Use Office at 8999 Independence Way Suite 100 during regular office  
 hours or at (719) 589-3812.  
 Richard Hubler  
 Land Use Administrator  
 Alamosa County  
 No. 3876.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on April 3, 2024.

**163 - LOST &  
 FOUND**

**LOST BRACELET IN  
 WALGREENS parking  
 lot. Bracelet has silver  
 etched rounded beads.  
 \$50 REWARD for safe  
 return. Linda 719-580-  
 4463. (4/12/24)**

**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**

**WE GOT THE HELP  
 WE WERE LOOKING  
 FOR WITH THE HELP  
 OF THE VALLEY  
 COURIER. Smokin  
 Spuds. (AS)**

**SOUTH CONEJOS  
 SCHOOL DISTRICT** is  
 seeking a PRESCHOOL  
 AIDE. Preferred quali-  
 fications include a Level I  
 or II in Colorado Shines  
 or a teaching assistant  
 certificate. Salary sched-  
 ules are available on the  
 district website. Please  
 submit a district applica-  
 tion, resume, cover  
 letter, and transcripts at  
<https://www.southconejos.com/page/how-to-apply>.  
 (4/10/24)

**SANGRE DE CRISTO  
 SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
 has the following posi-  
 tions available for the  
 2024-2025 school  
 year: HS GIRLS BAS-  
 KETBALL COACH &  
 FOOD SERVICE  
 DIRECTOR. Please  
 visit our website [www.sangreschools.org](http://www.sangreschools.org)  
 to apply. If you have any  
 questions, please call  
 719-420-1422. (4/19/24)

**DATA ANALYST - LA  
 PUENTE HOME INC.**  
 seeks a Data Analyst for  
 its Adelante Family  
 Resource Center Pro-  
 gram. This position is  
 responsible for over-  
 seeing Adelante's Data  
 Systems and reporting  
 frameworks to ensure  
 the timely and accu-  
 rate recording of data,  
 transforming raw data  
 into structured informa-  
 tion and reports, and  
 supervising performance  
 and quality assurance  
 processes to pinpoint  
 areas for enhancement.  
 Other duties include  
 training new staff and  
 providing ongoing data  
 entry support, oversee-  
 ing the Working Together  
 program reporting re-  
 quirements, and imple-  
 mentation of team meet-  
 ings. Salary \$37,800 to  
 \$40,000. DOE. Submit  
 resumes and cover let-  
 ters to HR@lapuente.  
 net. Resumes without  
 phone numbers and an  
 email will not be con-  
 sidered. (4/19/24)

**CITY OF MONTE  
 VISTA** is accepting  
 applications for KIDS  
 CONNECTION SUM-  
 MER PROGRAM  
 LEADERS. Duties in-  
 clude, planning, sched-  
 uling, and implementing  
 youth program activi-  
 ties. \$15 per hour. Job  
 Description and applica-  
 tions are available at  
<http://www.cityofmontevista.colorado.gov>  
 or City of Monte Vista,  
 Human Resources, 95 West  
 First Ave, Monte Vista,  
 Co. 81144. (5/1/24)

**RIO GRANDE HOS-  
 PITAL** an opening for  
 an ADMINISTRATIVE  
 ASSISTANT; Manage  
 the CEOs calendar,  
 including making appoint-  
 ments, arranging ap-  
 pointments as necessary  
 and needed, and priori-  
 tizing the most sensitive  
 matters, Present highly  
 professional and warm  
 image to staff, public,  
 and clients, organizing  
 meetings, scheduling,  
 sending reminders, or-  
 ganizing catering (when  
 necessary), agenda pre-  
 paration, meeting min-  
 utes, maintaining inte-  
 grated files, Responsible  
 for ensuring that Rio  
 Grande Hospital provid-  
 ers are fully compliant  
 with all state and fed-  
 eral regulations. Must  
 also ensure that every  
 member of medical staff  
 is legally licensed and/  
 or credentialed and up  
 to date with the latest  
 medical policies and  
 procedures. Monitor li-  
 cense and credential  
 expiration dates and ad-  
 vise staff members of  
 required renew. RGH  
 is an EOE, complete an  
 application online at  
<http://riograndehospital.org>  
 or under CONTACT,  
 EMPLOYMENT. Addi-  
 tional questions: Call  
 Paula Pacheco email  
[paupal@riograndehospital.net](mailto:paupal@riograndehospital.net) or call 719-657-  
 4111. (4/17/24)

**221 -  
 HELP WANTED**

**POOLE CHEMICAL  
 SEASONAL TRUCK  
 DRIVER:** Now-August,  
 (local deliveries). Must  
 have a CDL Class A and  
 pass drug screen. Apply  
 in Person 2060 S. Rd.  
 5E, MONTE VISTA.  
 (4/17/24)

**LOOKING FOR  
 YEAR round HELP  
 ON POTATO GRAIN  
 FARM,** starting im-  
 mediately, contact 719-850-  
 2137. Must have experi-  
 ence around machinery  
 and farming practices.  
 (5/1/24)

**NORTH CONEJOS  
 SCHOOL DISTRICT** is  
 accepting applica-  
 tions for (1) CENTAURI  
 HIGH SCHOOL HEAD  
 GIRLS BASKETBALL  
 COACH and (1) CHS  
 HEAD CROSS COUN-  
 TRY COACH. Applica-  
 tion can be downloaded  
 at [www.northconejos.com](http://www.northconejos.com)  
 or may be picked up  
 at the administration  
 office, 17887 US Hwy  
 285, LA JARA, CO, 719-  
 274-5174. For questions  
 call Jesse Shawcroft at  
 719-274-5178. Submit  
 application to Mr. Dar-  
 ren Edgar, Superinten-  
 dent. Application dead-  
 line is until filled. EOE.  
 (4/6/24)

**ALAMOSA COUNTY  
 ASSESSOR'S OFFICE**  
 is seeking a DATA EN-  
 TRY CLERK. This job  
 requires data entry skills  
 and working knowledge  
 of the Assessor's Office  
 to ensure accurate prop-  
 erty data is generated  
 to maintain complex  
 records. Responsibilities  
 include: Working inde-  
 pendently or in a team  
 setting, entering deed  
 transfers (land splits/  
 combination and replats  
 of parcels into data-  
 base), entering address  
 changes into the com-  
 puter system, answer-  
 ing phones and assist-  
 ing the public at the front  
 counter, coping maps,  
 daily mail runs, partici-  
 pating 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 ob-  
 tained online at [www.alamosacounty.org](http://www.alamosacounty.org). In-  
 quiries may be directed  
 to [humanresources@alamosacounty.org](mailto:humanresources@alamosacounty.org).  
 (4/6/24)

**HEAD JUNIOR  
 HIGH GIRLS' VOL-  
 LEYBALL COACH**  
 needed at DEL NORTE  
 JR. HIGH SCHOOL.  
 Experience as a coach  
 or assistant coach at  
 the MIDDLE SCHOOL  
 and or HIGH SCHOOL  
 level is preferred. Must  
 possess: effective coach-  
 ing techniques and a  
 thorough knowledge of  
 the rules of the sport;  
 and have the ability to  
 establish and maintain  
 effective working rela-  
 tionships with school  
 administrators, parents,  
 and students. Please  
 contact Gibbs Sanchez,  
 Athletic Director, at:  
[gsanchez@urtigers.com](mailto:gsanchez@urtigers.com)  
 or 719-657-4020; or An-  
 nie Hardy, Principal,  
 at: [ahardy@urtigers.com](mailto:ahardy@urtigers.com)  
 or 719-657-4020. (5/1/24)

**CAFETERIA STAFF  
 NEEDED** at UP-  
 PER RIO GRANDE  
 SCHOOL DISTRICT.  
 Must have a high school  
 diploma and some  
 knowledge of working  
 in a kitchen or a willing-  
 ness to be trained. Pay  
 is dependent on prior  
 experience. Please con-  
 tact Leslie Martinez at  
 719-657-4040, x1100 or  
 email her at [lmartinez@urtigers.com](mailto:lmartinez@urtigers.com). (5/1/24)

**SUBSTITUTES  
 TEACHERS NEEDED**  
 at the UPPER RIO  
 GRANDE SCHOOL  
 DISTRICT in DEL  
 NORTE! Call or email:  
 Sophia at 719-657-  
 4040, x4000 ([scruez@urtigers.com](mailto:scruez@urtigers.com)) for  
 more information, go on-  
 line: [urtigers.com](mailto:urtigers.com), or stop  
 by the district office at:  
 950 French Street, Del  
 Norte, CO to pick up  
 an application. You do  
 not have to hold a college  
 degree or be a certified  
 teacher to substitute;  
 however, you must be  
 a high school gradu-  
 ate and have a substi-  
 tute license from CDE  
 (Colorado Department  
 of Education). (5/1/24)

**CSU-SAN LUIS VAL-  
 LEY RESEARCH  
 CENTER** is seeking  
 temporary hourly em-  
 ployees to work M-F  
 8:00am to 4:30pm, 30  
 to 40 hours per week. Aids  
 in the preparation of re-  
 search field experiments  
 and crops. Provides  
 planting, irrigating,  
 cultivating, harvesting,  
 storing crops and vari-  
 ous tasks important to  
 the research initiatives at  
 this station. Please apply  
 at <https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/141377>  
 or contact Sharon at (719)  
 754-3594 x17. (4/17/24)

**221 -  
 HELP WANTED**

**TOWN OF HOOPER**  
 is accepting applica-  
 tions for the PARK  
 AND TOWN MAIN-  
 TENANCE POSITION.  
 Job begins in April -  
 September, up to 30  
 hours per month. The job  
 duties include maintain-  
 ing park, maintaining  
 mowing equipment etc.  
 and town weed control  
 and various other duties.  
 Job description available  
 upon request. Send re-  
 sume or letter of interest  
 including experience, to  
 PO Box 1, Hooper, CO  
 81136 or [telerk.hooper@gmail.com](mailto:telerk.hooper@gmail.com), include in  
 the subject line, Hooper  
 Maintenance Position.  
 For more information  
 call 719-937-3683. Ap-  
 plication deadline, April  
 15, 2024. (4/6/24)

**LA PUENTE IS**  
 seeking a self-starting  
 individual for the po-  
 sition of EMPLOY-  
 MENT NAVIGA-  
 TOR as the front line  
 worker in our Employ-  
 ment Readiness pro-  
 gram. This program  
 engages clients experi-  
 encing barriers to em-  
 ployment to support  
 their journey from un-  
 employed or underem-  
 ployed to stability and  
 independence. The Na-  
 vigator will work with La  
 Puente's Shelter, Street  
 Outreach, and Adelante  
 programs, as well as  
 local employers and em-  
 ployment programs to  
 help clients overcome  
 barriers and obtain em-  
 ployment. The Naviga-  
 tor also works to build  
 trust, conduct assess-  
 ments, make referrals,  
 identify resources, and  
 collect data. Ability to  
 problem-solve and col-  
 laborate with other agen-  
 cies is a must. 36k-40k  
 DOE. Send resume: La  
 Puente, P.O. Box 1235,  
 ALAMOSA, CO 81101,  
 719 589-5909. [www.lapuente.net](http://www.lapuente.net) Email:  
[hr@lapuente.net](mailto:hr@lapuente.net). (4/17/24)

**POTATO WARE-  
 HOUSE IN CENTER  
 IN NEED OF WORK-  
 ERS.** There are SEV-  
 ERAL POSITIONS  
 AVAILABLE. Hours  
 8:00 am-??? Competi-  
 tive wages. Please in-  
 quire at MOUNTAIN  
 KING SPUD GROWERS,  
 1090 South Miles Street,  
 Center, CO. (5/1/24)

**SHIPPING CLERK  
 NEEDED** for a PO-  
 TATO WAREHOUSE  
 IN CENTER, CO. Hours  
 are generally 8am-6pm  
 Monday thru Friday,  
 and possibly a few hours  
 Saturday mornings. FA-  
 MOUS software experi-  
 ence and knowledge a  
 must. Salary is negoti-  
 ation. Please inquire  
 at MOUNTAIN KING  
 SPUD GROWERS,  
 1090 South Miles Street,  
 Center, CO or email  
 resume or application  
 to [tluana@mtnking.com](mailto:tluana@mtnking.com).  
 (5/1/24)

**CAPULINDITCH CO.**  
 is looking for a DITCH  
 RIDER for the 2024 sea-  
 son- approx. Mid April  
 through September. Pay  
 is a set amount per day  
 worked. For more in-  
 formation please con-  
 tact Joseph Valdez at:  
 719-274-5109 (La Jara  
 Pharm.) Or 719-588-  
 2585. (4/6/24)

**STEFFENS QUAL-  
 ITY PLUMBING &  
 HEATING** is look-  
 ing for a LICENSED  
 PLUMBER/HEATING  
 TECHNICIAN. We offer  
 an amazing benefit  
 package with 401(k),  
 paid vacation, and holi-  
 days. Licensed/expe-  
 rienced persons only.  
 Please send resume of  
 job experience to [alamo-saplumber@gmail.com](mailto:alamo-saplumber@gmail.com).  
 Or call 719-589-0257.  
 (4/16/24)

**DEL NORTE ELE-  
 MENTARY SCHOOL  
 TEACHER** needed at  
 the URGSD. We are  
 seeking a hardworking  
 and enthusiastic teach-  
 ing professional to join  
 our dynamic, vibrant  
 and fun-loving team for  
 the 2024-2025 school  
 year. Applicants must  
 have a bachelor's degree  
 or higher and possess  
 or be able to obtain a  
 Colorado Teaching Li-  
 cense. Please submit  
 your application, re-  
 sume and cover letter  
 to: Amy Duda, Principal  
 at [aduda@urtigers.com](mailto:aduda@urtigers.com)  
 or contact Amy at 719-  
 657-4050. Applications  
 can be picked up at the  
 District Office or online  
 at: [urtigers.com](mailto:urtigers.com). (4/30/24)

**HOME HEALTH  
 AIDE** for individual  
 needed near LA JARA.  
 CNA helpful but not  
 required, on the job  
 training. Good pay, flex-  
 ible hours, must pass  
 background check. Call  
 or Text 719-580-9633.  
 (4/26/24)

**221 -  
 HELP WANTED**

**ADAMS STATE  
 UNIVERSITY** is hir-  
 ing a DIRECTOR OF  
 SPECIAL PROJECTS  
 for our EXTENDED  
 STUDIES PROGRAM.  
 This is a twelve-month  
 exempt, at-will, full-  
 time position with the  
 primary responsibility  
 of managing the enroll-  
 ment, development and  
 delivery of PreK-12 pro-  
 fessional development  
 concurrent enrollment  
 opportunities for high  
 school students, pro-  
 fessional development  
 for private sector and  
 other special projects  
 as assigned. This indi-  
 vidual will work collab-  
 oratively with Extended  
 Studies staff, ASU staff,  
 external stakeholders/  
 clients, and staff of other  
 educational institutions  
 to support the delivery  
 of quality off-campus  
 programs. The position  
 will provide high levels  
 of customer care and  
 relevant, timely and in-  
 novative solutions to  
 students and stakehold-  
 ers. Travel is required,  
 and the position will  
 represent Adams State  
 University at various  
 meetings, conferences,  
 and workshops. Apply  
 here <https://adams.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/ASU>  
 or contact Renae  
 Haslett [haslett@adams.edu](mailto:haslett@adams.edu)  
 719-587-8144  
 for more information.  
 (4/5/24)

**HELP WANTED:  
 SOMEONE TO CLEAN  
 THE TOWN HALL  
 OFFICE. MUSEUM  
 HELP:** Must be 16 yrs  
 of age or older for mu-  
 seum, must have some  
 knowledge of Jack  
 Dempsey history. Also,  
 CHIEF OF POLICE  
 & POLICE OFFICER.  
 Please pick up applica-  
 tion at the Town Hall  
 office during business  
 hours. (4/8/24)

**CDL B TRUCK  
 DRIVER:** Earn Up to  
 \$83k+. Join Us, Grow  
 with Us! At WORLD  
 FUEL SERVICES,  
 our drivers are the key  
 to our success. Tank  
 Wagon drivers operate  
 a straight truck carry-  
 ing petroleum products  
 to our customers. We  
 are currently seeking  
 experienced CDL driv-  
 ers to join our team in  
 ALAMOSA,



# Classifieds

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**FIRST SOUTHWEST BANK**, a locally owned CDFI community bank, is seeking a **RELATIONSHIP MANAGER** with 3+ years of commercial loan experience and a Regional Branch Manager with 5+ years of banking experience. FSWB offers competitive compensation, generous benefits, & career development. Join FSWB's award-winning team dedicated to supporting rural Colorado's agricultural, nonprofit and small businesses. For details and to apply, visit [fswb.bank/about/careers](http://fswb.bank/about/careers). EOE. (4/10/24)

**DEL NORTE BANK** is seeking a candidate to fill a **TELLER** at our **CREEDE BRANCH**. Duties will be to accept deposits, loan payments, and process withdrawals while maintaining a balanced cash drawer. Must be personable and pleasant answering the phone and greeting customers. Many other duties will be assigned as needed. The position is seasonal, full time with a hourly range of \$14.42 to \$17.00. Please send your resume or application to [postmaster@truelocalbank.com](mailto:postmaster@truelocalbank.com) by April 12, 2024. Application is available at [TrueLocalBank.com/careers](http://TrueLocalBank.com/careers) or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Dawn. EOE. (4/12/24)

**SANGRE DE CRISTO SCHOOL DISTRICT** is looking for a **MUSIC TEACHER** for the 2024-2025 school year. For more information and to download an application please see our website at [sangreschools.org](http://sangreschools.org). (4/5/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**ARE YOU PASSIONATE** about making a positive impact on people's lives? **SIERRA GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT** is currently accepting applications for **BEHAVIOR HEALTH COUNSELOR/MTSS COORDINATOR** for the 2024-2025 School Year. Our school has a reputation as being a great place to work. We currently have a state of the art facility, supportive administration, paid health insurance, free lunches, 4 day school week. A current license/state certification in counseling is highly recommended to apply. Application forms are located at 17523 Hwy 160 BLANCA, CO. 81123 or on the district's website at [www.sierragrandeschool.net](http://www.sierragrandeschool.net). Applications may be submitted electronically to Mr. Kevin Jones at [kjones@sierragrandeschool.net](mailto:kjones@sierragrandeschool.net) or Mrs. Maria Atencio at [matencio@sierragrandeschool.net](mailto:matencio@sierragrandeschool.net), or can be turned in at the district office. For more information please contact the district office at 719-379-3259. (4/5/24)

**LOCAL DRIVER - METZ POTATO COMPANY** is looking for a year-round full-time **POTATO TRUCK DRIVER** who will be responsible for loading and unloading trucks along with stacking or other duties in the warehouse. Wage of \$14.42-16/hr plus potential to earn bonus annually. Overtime eligible. Simple IRA matching after 6 months. Must have a valid driver's license and clean MVR. Applications can be completed at 971 E County Rd 6 N, MONTE VISTA. (4/10/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**SKYLINE POTATO CO.** in CENTER, CO is looking for a **SHIPPING CLERK/ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR** for their bulk division. Applicants must be Bilingual (English/Spanish) and capable of using Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word and able to learn other computer/shipping programs. Work week consists of Monday-Friday and some Saturdays. Responsibilities will be the following: Weigh in and out incoming trucks, ship out trucks with outgoing product and produce paperwork for the truck, coordinate incoming and outgoing trucks with supervisor and shipping/loading crew, help supervise employees. For an application please contact Margaret Limon @ 719-754-2043. (4/30/24)

**SDEC SCHOOL DISTRICT** is seeking a **HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL COACH** for the 2024 fall season. Applicants must have CHSAA certification or have a CDE teaching license. Applications may be picked up at the school office: 8751 Lane 7 North in MOSCA, CO. For more information, contact David Mejia at 719-378-2321 or 719-677-8217. (4/3/24)

**1/2 TIME TIGER CONNECTION COACH** (attendance & family connection) needed at **DEL NORTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**. This will be a 2-year part time classified position paid for with the Stronger Connections Grant. For more information please contact Principal Amy Duda at 719-657-4050 or [aduda@urtigers.co](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co). Applications may be picked up at the District Office or online at: [urtigers.co](http://urtigers.co). (4/17/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**JR. HIGH CHEER COACH** needed at **DEL NORTE JR. HIGH SCHOOL**. Experience as a coach is preferred. Please contact Gilbert "Gibbs" Sanchez, Athletic Director, at: [gsanchez@urtigers.co](mailto:gsanchez@urtigers.co), 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at: [ahardy@urtigers.co](mailto:ahardy@urtigers.co), 719-657-4020. Applications may be found on our website; [www.urtigers.co](http://www.urtigers.co). (4/17/24)

**ALAMOSA MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT** is now hiring for **SEASONAL STAFF**. Please go to their website [www.mosquitobytes.org](http://www.mosquitobytes.org). Click on **EMPLOYMENT** for job descriptions and applications. Alamosa Mosquito Control District is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Must be 18+ to apply. (4/3/24)

**MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for a **HS HEAD BOYS' BASKETBALL COACH**. The salary for this position 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 March 28, 2024 or until the position is filled. For questions, contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (4/3/24)

# Always the Last to Know?

If you keep finding out about local events after they happen, it's time to subscribe to the Valley Courier.

Subscribe today and stay connected to your world.

**Valley Courier**  
**719-589-2553**

## You'll find it all in the ... **Business & Service Directory** • Easy to Read Format • Affordable • Seen 4 Days a Week To Place Your Ad Call (719) 589-2553

**APPLIANCE REPAIR**  
All Major Brands of Kitchen & Laundry Appliances  
• Trained and Certified Technicians  
**ALTITUDE APPLIANCES**  
Open 10-6 Mon-Sat  
611 Main • Alamosa  
(719) 206 - 2844

**dylan brown agency**  
**Local Medicare Help**  
719-350-6941  
2415 Mullins Avenue  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
Dbrown1@farmersagent.com  
Katrina.dbrown1@farmersagency.com  
\*Medicare Advantage \*Supplements \*Part D Prescription Plans

**STORAGE**  
**ALAMOSA STORAGE**  
5929 Road South 106  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
Call us today or visit our website  
[alamosastorage.com](http://alamosastorage.com)  
(719) 992-3440

**HEATING & GAS**  
**RMHG**  
Rocky Mountain Heating & Gas Service  
Installation, Service & Repair  
Heaters, Fireplaces,  
Wood & Pellet Stoves Sales  
Stason Gomez 719-628-9310  
RMHGENT@gmail.com

**Attorney**  
**ATENCIO LAW**  
719.589.6005  
• Civil Litigation  
• Real Estate • Water Law  
• Business Law  
• Wills & Probate  
STEVE ATENCIO  
steve@atenciolaw.net  
www.atenciolaw.net  
PROUDLY SERVING CLIENTS  
THROUGHOUT THE SAN LUIS VALLEY

**Architecture**  
**SPENCER ARCHITECTURE STUDIO**  
Your Local SIV Architecture Firm for Residential, Commercial, Industrial and Agricultural Projects  
Don Spencer, A.I.A.  
719-690-5783  
Steve Copley  
Sr. Project Manager, E.I.T.  
[spencerarchitecturestudio.com](http://spencerarchitecturestudio.com)

**CONSTRUCTION**  
**Cerro Colorado Construction LLC**  
Commercial and Residential  
• Sheds & Walk  
• Basins  
• Ra-Sheds  
• Sinks  
• Pools  
• Excavation/Retainment  
• Holes  
• Driveway  
• House Remodeling and more!  
Call or Text  
(719) 927-8080 (719) 927-8023 (719) 589-2424  
[CerroColoradoConstruction@gmail.com](mailto:CerroColoradoConstruction@gmail.com)  
Cerro Colorado Construction LLC  
FREE ESTIMATES

**Electrical**  
**ALPINE ELECTRIC INC.**  
82 CONEJOS ALAMOSA  
719-589-9144

**Earth Moving**  
**Earthworks of Southern Colorado LLC**  
Troy Geringer 719-480-1756  
• Trenching  
• Dirt Cleaning  
• Site Cleaning & Prep  
• Driveway Construction & Grading  
• Landscaping  
• House Pans  
• Stream Bank Restoration  
• Irrigation Writing & Fabrication  
• Tractor Mowing  
• Dirt Work  
• Demolition  
• Snow Removal

**Taxidermy**  
Ask about our 6 month guarantee!  
**Judy's Taxidermy** Est. 1995  
719-480-9300

**Real Estate**  
**Greg & Jeni Goodwin**  
**PORTER REALTY, INC.**  
303 Main Street, Alamosa CO  
719-589-5899  
www.PorterRealty.com  
jени@porterrealty.com  
(719) 580-2636  
♦ Excellent Service ♦ Expert Advice ♦ Exceptional Results

**Advertising**  
Advertise Your Business in this **SPACE**  
Only \$99 per month\*  
\*3 month commitment

**FOOD TRUCK**  
**SUAVECITO** Follow us on Facebook  
719-588-7485  
**CERVAL**  
Catering located in the parking lot in front of Little Caesars.

**Advertising**  
Advertise Your Business in this **SPACE**  
Only \$99 per month\*  
\*3 month commitment

**LOCKSMITH**  
Locked Out? Lost Your Keys? Just Need a spare? We've Got You Covered!  
• Smart Keys • Transponders • Fobs  
Serving The San Luis Valley And Surrounding Areas  
Call or Text us Today 719-Mrk-Lock (719-675-5625)  
MrKLock.com  
Mr. K Lock & Key  
**LOCKSMITH**  
719-Mrk-Lock - (719-675-5625)

**Advertising**  
Advertise Your Business in this **SPACE**  
Only \$99 per month\*  
\*3 month commitment

**AUCTION**  
**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.

**TREE SERVICE**  
**Thomas Trees Services & Lawn Care**  
719-480-1821  
Residential and Commercial Tree removal, trimming, topping, stump removal, pruning, lawn care, we put gravel etc.  
Free estimates

**Stucco**  
**Sanchez Plastering & Masonry**  
Synthetic Traditional Patches Interior Exterior Paint  
Fully Insured & Bonded Fully Licensed Work Guaranteed  
(719) 486-6781

**Tires**  
**Jim's Tire Store**  
711 1/2 State Ave. • Alamosa  
719-589-9690  
NEW • USED • RECAPPED  
Great Service!

**Plumbing & Remodeling**  
**DEREK'S Plumbing & Remodeling**  
Derek Marquez  
Master Plumber, Plumbing Contractor  
(719) 588-0682  
[dereksplumbing@outlook.com](mailto:dereksplumbing@outlook.com)  
1110 Alamosa Ave. • Alamosa, CO

**We Buy Cars**  
FREE Estimates  
We Welcome Insurance Claims  
**L&M Paint & Body Shop**  
8425 Rd. 8 South • Alamosa  
589-9205

**Construction**  
**ZTEC Construction**  
5" & 6" SEAMLESS RAIN GUTTERS  
Free Estimates  
Mervin Fisher 719.992.1396  
14972 CR 13 • La Jara, CO 81140



# Classifieds

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**MACKAY CONSTRUCTION CO., LLC** is looking for a **WELDER/FABRICATOR** with MIG experience and some field stick welding. Salary will be based on skill and experience. Please call 719-852-3222. (4/3/24)

**HOSPICE DEL VALLE** is currently seeking an **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**. A part time to full time position available. Knowledge in payroll and QuickBooks preferred but not necessary. Please call or stop by Hospice del Valle for further information: 514 Main Street, ALAMOSA, Colo 81101 or 719-589-9019. (4/17/24)

**HOSPICE DEL VALLE** is currently seeking a **REGISTERED NURSE PRN** or part time with a possibility of full time. We are a great team looking for someone special to fill this position. Competitive wages and among other benefits. Please call or stop by Hospice del Valle for further information. 514 Main Street, ALAMOSA, Colo 81101 or 719-589-9019. (4/17/24)

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26J** 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 SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER**, for the remaining 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; Special Education Certification as required by the State of Colorado or such alternative to the above qualifications 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/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26J** 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 positions of **ELEMENTARY 3RD GRADE & 5TH GRADE 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/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26J** 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 positions of **ELEMENTARY 3RD GRADE & 5TH GRADE 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/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

**THANK YOU, VALLEY COURIER. I SOLD MY WOOD SPLITTER!** Frank. (4/5/24)

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26J** 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 positions of **HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES 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/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

**REGISTERED BLACK ANGUS BULLS** for sale. Low pap scores, calving ease and grove, oldest Angus herd in Colorado. Smalley's Angus. 719-588-4665 or 719-378-2459. (4/19/24)

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

**WANTING TO BUY** high power rifle 416 Rigbe bolt action or single shot. Remington Winchester Ruger No. 1 or CZ. 785-475-3107. (4/10/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**VEGI EDUCATION & GARDEN MANAGER. VEGI** (Valley Education Gardens Initiative) teaches both youth and adults the craft of gardening with the goal of enhancing participants' understanding of health and nutrition. VEGI is seeking a motivated garden enthusiast to manage the program's garden operations, coordinate garden/nutrition education efforts in partnership with local school districts, supervise staff and volunteers, and oversee special events. We're looking for someone with knowledge and enthusiasm about gardening, experience working with children, and strong communication and organizational skills. This person will have opportunities to work with their hands both in the dirt and in an office space. Initiative essential; training and support provided. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of serving others. Salary \$44k-47k DOE, full benefit package. Send cover letter, resume/request job description to Emily: hr@lapuente.net, 719 589-5909, ext238, www.lapuente.net(4/3/24)

**304 - LAWN & GARDEN**

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

**307 - APPLIANCES**

**PAT SOLD HER ELECTRIC STOVE IN JUST 3 DAYS THROUGH THE VALLEY COURIER'S CLASSIFIED ADS.** (AS)

**314 - CLOTHING**

**FOR SALE: CHEROKEE BOOTS** size 12 MEN. Like new - \$50. Call 719-256-4058 or 719-429-9900. (2/17/24)

**324 - SEED & FEED**

**HORSE & COW HAY:** GRASS, GRASS/ALFALFA, ALFALFA. 3x3 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917. (4/24/24AS-monthly)

**345 - WOOD**

**I SOLD MY HORSE IN 2 DAYS TO A GOOD HOME. THANKS VALLEY COURIER!** Rick. (AS)

**353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK**

**TNT BULLS FOR Sale!** Angus, Balancer & Charolais. 719-850-1923 or 719-850-9056. (5/7/24)

**360 - MISC. FOR SALE**

**SOLD MY WHEELCHAIR IN 2 DAYS. WONDERFUL HEARTWARMING EXPERIENCE. A WIN-WIN FOR BOTH OF US!** Yolanda. (AS)

**387 - WANTED TO BUY**

**WANTING TO BUY** high power rifle 416 Rigbe bolt action or single shot. Remington Winchester Ruger No. 1 or CZ. 785-475-3107. (4/10/24)

**401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES**

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

**420 - LOTS & ACRES**

**5 ACRES FOR sale** - \$7,000. Contact Rick 928-277-6140. (4/6/24)

**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**

Accepting applications for 1 bedroom apartments. Must be 62 or older or disabled  
**Cielo Vista Apartments**  
166 S. Wills Center, Colo  
**754-3664**  
TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting Applications for 2 & 3 bedroom family units  
**Valley Grande Apts.**  
2256 E. Drive Monte Vista, CO  
**852-4302**  
TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting Applications for waiting list for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family units available  
**West View Villas**  
510 Dunham Monte Vista, Colo  
**852-3949**  
TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Rent based on income for qualifying households.  
**Gomez Manor Apts.**  
804 State St. Antonito, Colo.  
**376-2388**  
TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Accepting applications for 2 bedroom apartments. Family living at an affordable price.  
**Guadalupe Hacienda Apts.**  
404 W. 8th Antonito, Colo.  
**376-2025**  
TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Accepting applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family living at an affordable price. Disabled Unit Available.  
**Casita del Sol**  
1405 West 11th St. Alamosa, Colo.  
**589-8663**  
TTY 1-800-659-2656  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**606 - BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT**  
**RENT COMMERCIAL SPACE SETUP FOR HAIR SALON**  
888-641-3750 / 719-232-3388. (4/9/24)

**611 - HOMES FOR RENT**

**KUDDOS TO THE VALLEY COURIER FOR RENTING OUR HOUSE IN 2 DAYS!** Thanks. Gerry. (AS)

**RENT 3 BEDROOM BUNGALOW ALAMOSA** 888-641-3750 / 719-232-3388. (4/9/24)

**ALAMOSA: 2 BEDROOM HOME,** 28 Cascade, \$990 / rent, \$1,000 / deposit, pets negotiable. 719-580-3710. (4/5/24)

**701 - AUTOS FOR SALE**

**1 DAY ADVERTISED IN THE VALLEY COURIER, SOLD MY CAR! GREAT SERVICE!** Samuel. (AS)

**Save on Fuel**

**SHOP LOCALLY!**



## MAKE TIME FOR FAMILY READING

You'll find fun and informative news and features on a wide range of topics. Plus, reading the newspaper with your children helps them understand what's happening in the world and how it affects them.



For Subscription Information, call 589-2553



**Lunch Break. We're There.**

**Valley Courier**  
To Subscribe, Call 589-2553



# Comics

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Hang — thread
  - 4 Dearth
  - 8 Recommended amount
  - 12 Caviar
  - 13 Religious image
  - 14 Far and —
  - 15 Timetable abbr.
  - 16 Playing card
  - 17 Actress — Campbell
  - 18 Made a soft cry
  - 20 Praised
  - 22 — otter
  - 23 Plastic container
  - 24 Dress
  - 28 Helping hand (2 wds.)
  - 32 Steep
  - 33 Urge
  - 35 Put into play
  - 36 Curve
  - 37 Lumber
  - 38 Neap —
  - 39 Grievance
  - 41 Bestselling
- DOWN**
- 1 "Dracula" author
  - 2 Antiquity
  - 3 High-tech industry
  - 4 Straight
  - 5 Lab substance
  - 6 Swindle
  - 7 Genuflected
  - 8 Vienna's river

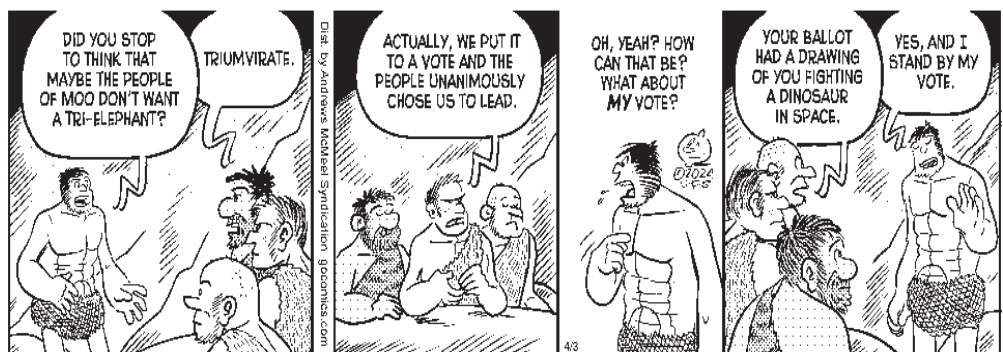
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 9 Was in the red
- 10 Except
- 11 Watched
- 19 Puny
- 21 New Year's word
- 24 "On the double!"
- 25 Skin opening
- 26 Conceit
- 27 Fly up and around
- 29 Innocent
- 30 Meat-grading org.
- 31 Equal
- 34 "Much — About Nothing"
- 37 Journeyed
- 38 Salad fish
- 40 Esteemed
- 42 Kitchen gadget
- 44 Hunted and pecked
- 46 Tooth
- 47 Maple genus
- 48 Skeletal part
- 49 Writer — Grey
- 50 Bread spread
- 51 Agents (hyph.)
- 54 Palindrome word

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				60				61		

## ALLEY OOP



## ARLO & JANIS



## BIG NATE



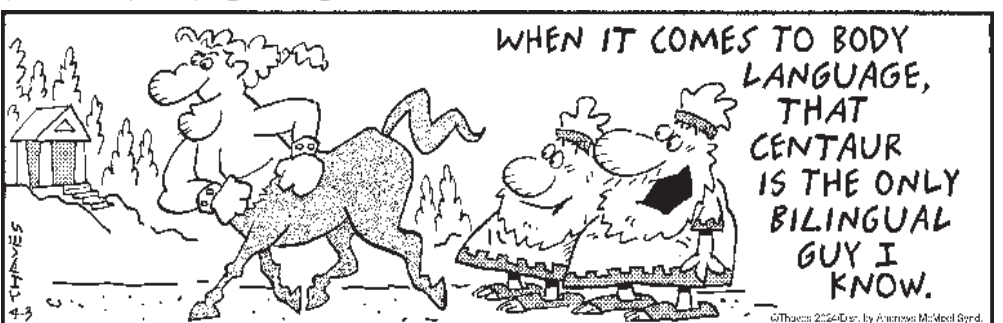
## THE BORN LOSER



## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



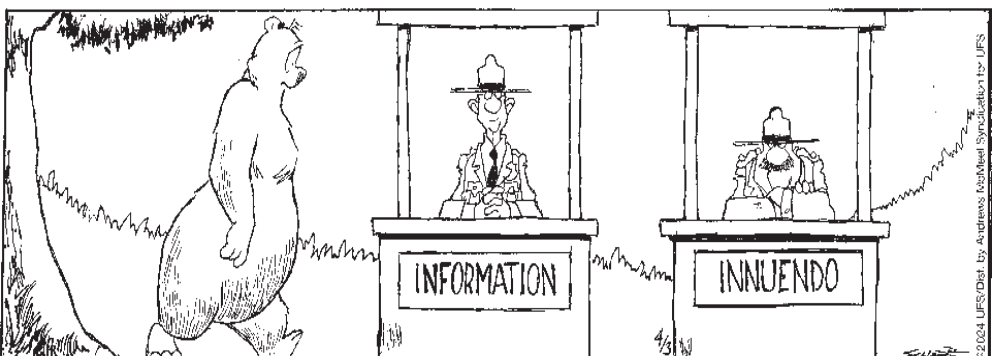
## FRANK & ERNEST



## GARFIELD



## THE GRIZZWELLS



## PEANUTS



## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

## Disturbing secret revealed as farmstead changes hands

DEAR ABBY: I need a second opinion. My grandfather sold me an old farmstead that has been in the family for 200 years. Last week, he showed me a wooded area behind the barn with a human skull. He told me that when his father died more than 50 years ago, he was curious about how long it would take a body to decompose, so he left his body in the woods to keep track of its progress. He has 50 years' worth of pictures and notes. He told the rest of the family that Great-Grandpa had been cremated, and apparently no one questioned him about the ashes.

At this point, the skull is all that's left. I checked with a lawyer, who tells me that in my state no laws were broken. That said, I don't want my great-grandfather's skull sitting in the woods behind my barn! My husband says I should quietly bury it, burn the pictures and the notes and forget about it. That just doesn't feel right to me.

It feels like I'm helping my grandfather get away with something and it feels "icky." Should I tell the rest of the family, or continue allowing them to believe that Great-Granddad was cremated? I'm resenting my grandfather for putting me in the middle of this,

and any advice you have would be greatly appreciated. -- BOUGHT MORE THAN I BARGAINED FOR

DEAR BARGAINED: Your letter is a first. Why do I get the impression that your grandfather must have HATED his father to have treated his remains so disrespectfully? The farmstead and everything that goes with it is yours now to keep or dispose of.

What you need to do is decide whether to donate your great-grandfather's skull to a medical or dental school (or coven?), place it in a columbarium or bury it on your property. As to whether to tell the rest of the family, what positive thing would be accomplished by sharing this unpleasantness with them? You are a caring individual; let your conscience be your guide.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a full-figured 25-year-old woman who lives at home. My family has three dogs. Every night, I go into my mother and father's bedroom to pick up the youngest one to hold for a few minutes and say goodnight. The dog likes to sleep closer to the middle of the bed, so I need to bend over to reach the dog. When I bend over, my mother gives me a "look" because she says my shirt starts to reveal my body and I should be "mindful"



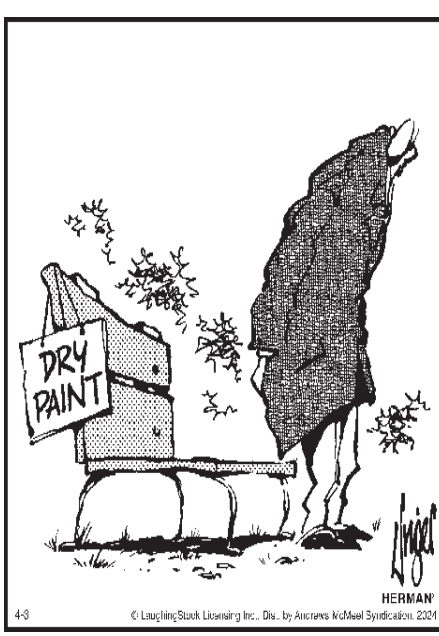
## ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

of my dad.

I wear long T-shirts, long pants, and sometimes bras when I'm around the house because I'm trying to be mindful of my dad and younger brother. I want to be free to not think I need to cover up when I'm doing something small like picking up the dog. Dad is a good man. He has never disrespected me in any way as I matured into a woman, so my mother's extra "carefulness" bothers me. What should I do? -- JUST WANT MY DOG

DEAR JUST WANT: Because at 25 you are still living under your mother's roof, you should respect her wishes. Once you get a place of your own, you can bounce around as much as you wish.

## HERMAN



© LaughingStock Licensing Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication 2024



# Lifestyle

## Ribbon cutting held for Rocky Mountain Munitions and Surplus

By MARIE MCCOLM  
MONTE VISTA — A ribbon cutting ceremony was held for a new Monte Vista business — Rocky Mountain Munitions and Surplus — on 229 Adams St.

The Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce was present along with the OptiMystics Citizens Action Network. Heather Hillin, manager of the Monte Vista Chamber, congratulated the three partners in the business as Reyes Nevarez cut the red ribbon in front of the store, with a large pair of scissors.

The business partners — Nicholas Pieper, Nevarez, and Trysten Ogden — along with their media representative and on-line sales director, Gage Steffens, all stepped into the store to proudly show what they have for sale. About 16 people attended the ribbon cutting and open house.

Pieper spoke about the store and what the store has inside.

"The store has been open for about six weeks now," Pieper said. "Everything we have is pretty much strictly military surplus. We do have a few survival items, a lot of cold weather gear, including some level 7, special operations cold weather jackets, ready for negative 60 degrees Fahrenheit. That's definitely our prize item right now. We also are going to be adding first responder and more survival items, and some fishing gear as well."

Ogden spoke about the specialty ammunitions and firearms they will be carrying in their store soon.

"Our goal is by September to be manufacturing our own ammunition on a proprietary design and within the next 18 to 24 months we are hoping to be manufacturing our own firearms also on proprietary designs," Ogden said.

Ogden explained that the only hold up on the ammunition and firearms is paperwork. It was explained that between the FFL, the Federal Firearms License, and state limitations on munitions, that it does get expensive and is also time consuming for the application.

Ogden said that Nevarez is working on obtaining some grants to help the business with more inventory and with firearms and ammunitions.

Ogden also said that if it's possible, depending on the legal end of it, they would also like to repair firearms, but that is something that they will have to investigate more.

Pieper said he thinks that the specialty firearms and ammunitions are going to help establish the store.

"We just have to get to that point first, but we are hoping that it will be soon," Pieper said.

The idea for the store began with Pieper, Nevarez, and Ogden attending the Marine Corps. Pieper stated that there aren't many stores around the Valley that carry military surplus and they wanted to bring something different that people had a use for to the town and give back to the community.

The three also spoke of their different visions for the store and what they hope to accomplish.

Ogden said, "Most of the major ammunition manufacturers, in the last four years have effectively cornered the market in terms of pricing of ammunition but they also constantly talk about shortages of supplies, with their prices constantly going up too. The four of us are all supporters of the second amendment. The goal is to be able to provide the quality of the higher end things at bulk ammo prices, because there is no second amendment, with no ammunition."

Nevarez said, "With so much that's going on within the ammo industry right now, it kind of makes it hard to enjoy shooting. The goal would be to have ammunition that performs really well, at a good price. That sounds like a dream come true to me."

Steffens who is helping with the advertising and marketing end at the store said, "I just came into this a couple of weeks ago on the market-

ing end. It's good to be a part of it all. I honestly just want to see the store do good; I want to see the store do well."

Pieper said, "My answer is a conglomeration of all three of what has been said. I think Trysten is going to make the history books with his designs, but ultimately seeing us succeed is my driving goal."

All three were excited about the ribbon cutting and open house. Pieper said, "We want to thank the City of Monte Vista, the Monte Vista Chamber and the OptiMystics, for helping us out with this ribbon cutting today. Thank you for acknowledging us. We are excited about bringing the store to the community. We just want to thank everyone. We look forward to bringing in more people and growth with success."

For more information, visit the store at 229 Adams St., Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Photo by Marie Mccolm

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held last week for Rocky Mountain Munitions and Surplus in Monte Vista. The business was started by from left to right, Nicholas Pieper, Reyes Nevarez and Trysten Ogden.

**kids' corner**

**BOOK FACT:**

IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS FORM OF LITERATURE CAME BEFORE LANGUAGE ITSELF, PROBABLY BECAUSE IT HAS CLOSE TIES TO MUSIC.

ANSWER: POETRY

### Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20. The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

	10	2	16
20		1	29
	15		26
30	33	8	

5	15	6
1	8	20
2	10	4

Solution

### Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

H R Y G N M I D S O W R

Answer: Rhyming words

### THIS DAY IN...



### HISTORY

- 1614: NATIVE AMERICAN POCAHONTAS MARRIES ENGLISH COLONIST JOHN ROLFE.
- 1862: THE BATTLE OF YORKTOWN BEGINS DURING THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR.
- 1998: THE AKASHI KAIKYO BRIDGE OPENS TO TRAFFIC IN JAPAN, BECOMING THE LONGEST BRIDGE SPAN IN THE WORLD.



### METER

the rhythm of a piece of poetry

### How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Verse
- SPANISH:** Verso
- ITALIAN:** Verso
- FRENCH:** Strophe
- GERMAN:** Verse



POETRY CAN BE TRACED BACK TO ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS SUCH AS MESOPOTAMIA, EGYPT AND GREECE.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: HARDCOVER BOOKS



www.alamosastatebank.com

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

CELEBRATING 117 YEARS!

2225 Main Street  
Alamosa



Ph. 589-2564