



Pitching dominates in Pirates' sweep

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SLVH offers specialty care in Pediatrics from visiting Children's Hospital

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VOLUME 98, NO. 59

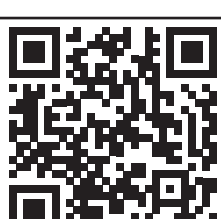
Valley Courier

SATURDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

April 13, 2024

\$1



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SLV Today

Annual Variety Show set for April 13 in Creede

CREEDE — The Creede Arts Council's 29th Annual Variety Show is at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 13, at the Ruth Humphrey's Brown Theatre. Talented local people, both new to the show and returning performers, will delight the audience with an eclectic mixture of music and dance.

Creede favorites Richie Ormsby, Caldera and the Monday Night Jam Band will perform along with other familiar performers and some new talent.

The CAC will also hold a silent auction of non-performance-oriented talents from residents and items from local businesses. Winners of the silent auction must pay for the items at the end of the show.

To make a reservation, contact 719-658-2333. Reservations will not be accepted after 3 p.m. on April 13. Tickets will be available at the door, starting at 6:15 p.m. on April 13; \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. CAC accepts cash, checks, and credit cards. Reservations are recommended.

Crestone Energy Fair

CRESTONE—Applications for musicians and presenters at the Crestone Energy Fair are open through May 1. See www.crestoneenergyfair.org for applications for the fair to be held Sept. 14-15.

SLV WEATHER



Sunny 70/25

Sun: Sunny, Breezy 71/30

Mon: Sunny, Gusty Winds 58/30

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New office for South-Central Colorado Seniors

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

ALAMOSA — On a stunning spring day about 20 people attended the groundbreaking ceremony in Alamosa for a new business office for South-Central Colorado Seniors (SCCS) on April 12. Those attending included employees, board members of the non-profit, employees of Alcon Construction, and several county commissioners from Rio Grande, Conejos, and Costilla counties who also serve on the board.

Monica Wolfe, Director at SCCS, said the facility is estimated to cost about \$1.7 million and is expected to be completed by November.

"We did get a grant for this building, this will be

■ See OFFICE page 3



Courier photo by John Waters

Left to right, are Helen Taylor, Lorrie Quintana, board member and Costilla County Commissioner, Stephanie Sales, Ken Anderson, Monica Wolfe, Betty Scott, Gene Glover, Rio Grande County Commissioner, and board member, and Joseph Baroz, Conejos County Commissioner and board member. Employees from Alcon Construction are pictured in the background.

Three students in AHS class of 2024 are Boettcher finalists

'It has to come from within'

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — In a first-ever event for Alamosa High School (AHS), three graduating high school students in the class of 2024 have been named as "initial winners" of the Boettcher Scholarship. Brock Benton and Jaymi Gile were recently notified that they have been offered the scholarship. Sienna Gallegos has been notified that she's an alternate.

Likely the most prestigious and competitive scholarship in the state, scholars who receive "the Boettch-

■ See AHS page 3



Photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Jaymi Gile, Brock Benton and Sienna Gallegos are finalists for Boettcher Scholarships.

Alamosa commissioners address violence in Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — On April 10, the Alamosa County Board of County Commissioners issued a proclamation in recognition of the trauma caused by sexual assault. On hand to receive the proclamation were Tu Casa employees, an organization that provides social services, including assistance to victims of sexual assault and child sexual abuse.

The proclamation read in part, "Throughout Alamosa County, Colorado, in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) we call attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in every community. SAAM aims to raise public awareness about sexual abuse, harassment, and assault

and educate communities about how to be involved in prevention. "This year's SAAM campaign theme, Building Connected Communities, calls on each of us to work together to prevent sexual abuse, harassment, and assault. We believe when anyone experiences sexual violence, every community member is affected. We must strive to build more connected, respectful, and inclusive communities to promote our collective well-being and protect against the risk of sexual violence. We believe all of our communities will be safer and stronger by making them more equitable for people of all gender identities and sexual orientations, races and ethnic backgrounds, ages, faiths, and abilities."



Courtesy photo

Left to right are Tu Casa employees, Janine Jiron, Theresa Ortega, David Herrera, Megan Lang, Shelly Martinez, Juana Francisco, Tiffany Martinez, Mari Avila.

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Record

OBITUARIES

Richard 'Happy' Chacon



Richard "Happy" Chacon, 60 of Romeo, Colo., passed away on March 20, 2024, at the San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center.

He entered the world on June 20, 1963, to Orlando and Tina Chacon in Romeo, Colo.

Richard was a "jack of all trades" "kind of guy". He worked on cars, worked construction and later hauled scrap for the last few years of his life. He enjoyed rock and roll music, favorite artist Bruce Springsteen, playing the guitar, even if it was out of tune. Richard was a kid at heart and had a collection of toy cars, which he would sit and play with his grandkids when they were little. He grew up in the Valley but later moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, where he met the mother of his children.

Richard is survived by his children Brandon (Gwen) Chacon of Salt Lake City, Utah, Josh (Shantel) Chacon of Ro-

meo, Colo., and Noel (Victor) Zepeda of Alamosa, Colo., siblings Diane (Mike) Vigil of Manassa, Colo., Manuel (Norma) Chacon of Capulin, Colo., Ray Chacon of Romeo, Colo., Juanita (Moises) Ruiz of Salt Lake City, Utah, Dennis (Reina) Chacon of Alamosa, Colo., Sidney Chacon of Romeo, Colo., Orlando (Jackie) Chacon of Salt Lake City, Utah, Angelo (Manuela) Chacon of Salt Lake City,

Utah, the mother of his children Carol Charley of Alamosa, Colo., brother-in-law Luis Cisneros of Salt Lake City, Utah, his grandchildren, all 17 of them and one great-grandson who was born days before his passing, as well as several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Orlando and Tina Chacon, sisters, Yolanda and Tina Chacon and grandson, Devonte Amari Zepeda.

A recitation of the rosary will be held at 9:30 a.m. followed by a 10 a.m. funeral mass at the St. Theresa Catholic Church in Manassa, Colo., on Saturday, April 20, 2024. Interment will take place following services at Los Cerritos Cemetery in Manassa, Colo.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of the arrangements. To leave online condolences, remembrances, and words of comfort for Richard's family, please visit www.RogersFunerals.com.

Karen Sue Malloy



Karen Sue Malloy, lovingly known by her friends and family as Sue, a beacon of gentle warmth and unwavering friendliness, passed away peacefully on April 10, 2024, at her home in Alamosa, Colo. Born on Jan. 1, 1948, in Great Bend, Kan., Sue's life was a testament to her nurturing spirit and her enduring commitment to her family and faith.

After graduating from high school in Junction City, Kan., in 1966, Sue pursued her passion for helping others by earning her nursing degree. Her career as a nurse was marked by the same kindness and care she bestowed upon her loved ones. Her compassionate nature found another avenue for expression through her devotion to her faith; Sue was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses on April 24, 1971. She found great joy and fulfillment in studying the Bible and sharing its hopeful messages with her community.

Sue's love for her family was the cornerstone of her life. She is survived by her children, Patrick and his wife Michelle Malloy of Pueblo, Colo.; Andrew Malloy of Lakewood, Colo.; and Molly and her husband Keith Curley of

Monte Vista, Colo. Her grandchildren, Jace Olan, Kai Olan, Emma, Daphne Curley, and Jaxon Curley, were the apples of her eye, and she cherished every moment spent with them. Sue also leaves behind her siblings, Shirley Green of Fort Worth, Texas, and Larry Tegtmeyer of Muncie, Ind., who will miss her deeply.

Beyond her professional and spiritual achievements, Sue had a passion for the simple pleasures in life. She was an avid cook, whose recipes and meals brought comfort and joy to family and social gatherings. Her flower garden was a vibrant tapestry of colors that reflected the beauty she saw in the world. Additionally, Sue's skillful hands crocheted many blankets over the years, each stitch a symbol of her love and care, which will continue to pro-

vide warmth and comfort to those she held dear.

Sue's grandchildren will remember her as the grandmother who adored them, always ready with a hug, a kind word, and an open heart. Her children will recall her as the rock of the family, the one who could always be counted on for support, wisdom, and a listening ear. Her siblings will reminisce about the countless memories they shared, each one etched with Sue's friendly smile and gentle nature.

As we bid farewell to Sue, we are reminded of the impact one life can have on so many. She was a woman who lived her values, who loved without reservation, and whose legacy of kindness will continue to inspire all who knew her. Sue's life was a journey of love, service, and faith — a journey that touched the hearts of everyone along her path.

Cremation was chosen and private services will be held.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of the arrangements. To leave online condolences, remembrances, and words of comfort for Sue's family, please visit www.RogersFunerals.com.

Tree pruning workshop in Center



By COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE

CENTER — The Colorado State Forest Service will be offering a tree pruning workshop on Monday, April 29, in Center. This workshop will be held at the Kiwanis Building at South Broadway Street and East 5th Street. The primary focus of the workshop will be the pruning of young trees from the ground without the use of a ladder. By using basic tools such as pruning shears and small pruning saws, participants will gain hands-on experience in basic and structural tree pruning techniques.

Trees add value to a property by accentuating a home's architecture, enhancing aesthetics, providing summer shade and offering protection from winter winds. Trees benefits can be improved through pruning young trees to provide clearance over sidewalks and streets will help to minimize the number of large-diameter limbs re-

moved in the future.

"It is better practice to remove branches while they are smaller," says Sam Scavo, Forester at the CSFS Alamosa Field Office. It is much easier for a tree to heal over a 1- to 2-inch diameter wound versus a 5- to 6-inch diameter wound, the latter caused by removing a larger branch later in a tree's life. It also is much more cost-effective to remove smaller branches than it is to remove larger ones.

The following pruning topics will be covered:

- Developing and maintaining one dominant vertical stem.
- Branch spacing.
- Where to prune.

- How much to prune?
- Basic fruit tree pruning.

Kamie Long, Western Slope Urban and Community Forestry Specialist with the CSFS, will be the guest instructor for the workshop.

The workshop will be offered from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on April 29 in the Center Kiwanis Building. The morning session will be classroom-based, with an afternoon field session. The cost of the workshop is \$20, which includes lunch. Space is limited to 20 participants so be sure to register early. Call 719-587-0915, for reservations.

USDA Forest Service invests more than \$232M to support schools, roads, other services

By USDA WASHINGTON

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service today announced it is issuing more than \$232 million to support public schools, roads and other municipal services through the agency's Secure Rural Schools program, including \$12,574,121 for Colorado.

The program was reauthorized for fiscal years 2021 through 2023 through President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Fiscal year 2023 funds will be paid to 745 eligible counties in 41 states and Puerto Rico.

"National forests and grasslands cover more than 193 million acres, including across rural counties that are important partners in helping sustainably manage resources," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "Thanks to President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Secure Rural Schools program is able to contribute

to the economic vitality and well-being of the communities intertwined with our forests."

"The Secure Rural Schools program is just one of the ways the Forest Service supports communities nationwide," said Forest Service Chief Randy Moore. "This funding aids schools and roads, reimburses counties for national forest emergency services, and assists in creating community wildfire protection plans — all critical programs designed to enhance the quality of life in these communities."

In addition to Secure Rural Schools payments, the Forest Service is using Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act

funding to improve forest conditions, support local economies and create jobs by investing in forest restoration projects, road and trail maintenance, recreation opportunities and wood innovation development.

Over the past 10 years, the Forest Service has distributed \$2.4 billion through the Secure Rural Schools program. The Forest Service retains some of the funding to support projects that improve forest conditions and support jobs in rural communities. Resource advisory committees made up of residents representing varied interests and areas of expertise review and recommend the projects that meet their local needs.



SOIL Sangre de Cristo hosts Rusty Welch on April 15

CONTRIBUTED

MONTE VISTA — SOIL Sangre de Cristo is hosting independent financial advisor Rusty Welch for a presentation from 5 to 7 p.m. on April 15 at the Pivot Gathering House in Monte Vista.

Welch, of Villa Grove, will be presenting "Growing Your Food Production Business with a 0% Interest Loan". The event is free and will be available in Spanish and English.

Welch works with small businesses helping them develop their full potential with sound investments and long-range planning. He is knowledgeable in ways to leverage money to create long-term success.

He will demonstrate how purchasing the equipment you need now using a 0% Interest Loan from SOIL Sangre de Cristo will build volume and sales while saving time on physical labor.

Appetizers will be available. To attend, visit the link online www.soilsangredecristo.org/event-details/soil-sangre-de-cristo-hosts-rusty-welch-in-monte-vista-leveraging-a-0-interest-loan-to-grow-your-business.

SOIL Sangre de Cristo supports farmers, ranchers and other food producers in our region with 0% Interest Loans. Investing with SOIL Sangre de Cristo gives Investor Members a mind-



Rusty Welch

ful and positive channel to generate resilience in regional, nourishing food. The board is an "all-volunteer" team. This keeps operating expenses low. The dollars invested stay in the community working repeatedly through the revolving loan fund.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

A.A. and N.A members primary purpose is to stay sober and help oth-

er alcoholics/addicts to achieve sobriety.

There are AA and NA 12-Step Meetings throughout the valley. The 6th Tradition states that we are not affiliated with any outside organizations, but in the

spirit of cooperation, we list these meeting schedules for friends and family. For information, call 719-937-5083 or see our website: slvaa.org

COURIER OBITUARY POLICY

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

Please email obituaries if possible to squintana@alamosanews.com If the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed.

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Alamosa Valley Courier

School Menu
Monday
April 15, 2024

BREAKFAST
Pop Tarts
Fruit & Milk

ELEMENTARY
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Steamed Broccoli/Breadstick
Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

MIDDLE SCHOOL
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Steamed Broccoli/Breadstick
Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

HIGH SCHOOL
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Steamed Broccoli/Breadstick
Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

Breakfast & Lunch Free for all students
Alamosa School District
To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

Valley News



Courtesy photo

Pictured left to right to receive the donation from the Centauri High School Student Council, is Kelly Gurule, Director, SLVH Foundation, and students Emma Garrison, Rhett Taylor, Nathaniel Garcia, Joslyn Sowards, EE-YAH-NEE Cordova, Mollie Hostetter, Lindsey Robins, Amy Larson (sponsor), Jaelyn Jackson, and Faith Cooper. Not pictured were students Rye Howsmon, Kaia Skadberg, Ada Pence, and Avery Hostetter.

CHS Student Council donates hospital hope basket to CCH

By SAN LUIS VALLEY HEALTH

LA JARA — On March 28, Conejos County Hospital was visited by Centauri High School Student Council in a hope to spread joy within their community by donating a hospital hope basket for elderly patients.

Centauri's Student Council aims to do philanthropy projects throughout the year and this month the project was brought about by student council members, Kaia Skadberg, Lindsey Robins, and EE-YAH-NEE Cordova.

The girls started this project in the hope of putting a smile on elderly patients' faces and decided to focus on geriatrics rather than pediatrics, because while both are equally important, elderly patients are often overlooked.

With the help of their sponsor, Amy Larson, and the rest of the council, the project was completed. Together the council sold

Amish fried pies as a fundraiser to finance their cause.

Inside the box contained puzzles, cards, slippers, coloring books, bath sponges, and large-print word searches. The committee selected items that would pass time and hopefully calm nerves. As well as helping the nurses and patients connect.

This was an enjoyable project which the Student Council hopes to continue in the future.

Gear Head Gala to host car show in Center on April 27

By MARIE MCCOLM

CENTER — High school students Mario Jaymz Varo, Max Almanza, and Angel Rios are part of the group called Gear Head Gala and will be hosting a car show at the end of April. Varo is excited about bringing this event to Center.

"It will bring some popularity there, and it will definitely benefit the town by bringing people in," Varo said.

Varo said that there will be plaques given away, and other prizes for more than one of the winners.

"We will be giving out a few plaques," Varo said. "Number one, of course, will get best of show. We will also be giving out 10 other plaques though. So, if you get involved with the car show, there is a high chance of you earning something for sure. We want people to be happy and know we haven't wasted their time. We are going to make people feel welcome and like it was worth it for sure."

Varo stated that people from all over the Valley and elsewhere are invited to attend.

"We aren't charging an admission fee," Varo said. "We want everyone to come out and have a good time and enjoy the show. We are only charging the actual participants in the car

show, and it's only a \$25 fee."

Varo stated that they also plan to have music at the car show.

Varo stated that the car show is a collaboration between himself and his friends, Angel, and Max.

"For me, the inspiration behind it is I am very into car culture," Varo said. "I am very into cars. With Angel and Max, the passion is there too. We all thought this would be a cool thing to do together, to carry on the car show tradition. We wanted to bring a car show to Center for people to enjoy."

Varo said they will try hard to make it a great event for everyone who attends and participates.

"We want to make this as cool and big as possible," Varo said.

Preregistration is recommended by texting 719-849-8252, but people can also register on the day of the car show. There are also local posters with QR codes available to use to register.

AHS

Continued from Page 1
er," have their college education paid for with the cost of tuition, fees, books, and other living expenses covered for the next four years.

"Our trophy case goes back to the 1950s and there have been maybe a dozen students [who were awarded the Boettcher]," says AHS Principal Andy Lavier. "In 1982, I think we might have had two. But we've never had this before - not three Boettcher finalists in one class."

Multiple finalists in one class would be a notable achievement for any high school, but three scholars coming from a rural high school with only 126 students in their graduating class is nothing short of stunning.

The scope of the selection process provides some context.

Close to 2,000 high school seniors across Colorado submitted applications where they were evaluated for their superior scholastic ability and intellectual curiosity, evidence of leadership and involvement, service to community and school and outstanding character.

That pool of 2,000 applicants were then narrowed down to semi-finalists who were asked to submit two letters of recommendation. Out of that group, the Boettcher committee selected 100 finalists brought in for individual interviews by a panel of nine to 15 individuals.

Out of those 100 students, 42 were awarded scholarships and eight were selected as alternates. Benton, Gile and Gallegos make up three of those 50.

Each student is exceptionally strong academically, but that just describes a part of who they are.

Brock Benton founded and got funding for "Minds In Shape," dedicated to destigmatizing mental health issues and empowering students through accessible resources. When he is not heading up the Information Technology Help Desk or being captain of the varsity cross country team, Brock researches and writes about politics, philosophical ideas, and physiological beliefs. He will attend the University of Colorado in Boulder and major in electrical engineering.

In addition to starting a mobile disc jockey business, Sienna Gallegos is a junior board member for the Homeless Coalition, the news editor for the school newspaper, Governor for the Rocky

Mountain District Key Club, class president and senior dancer performing regional Mexican dances with ASU's Semillas de la Tierra. She also works with livestock, repairs fences and operates machinery on the family farm. Sienna — who was also accepted to Columbia University in New York — is interested in History and is going to Colorado State University.

Jaymi Gile founded the AHS Recycling Club, participates in civil international political debate as a member of ASU's Model United Nations Club, is a staff writer and editor of the school newspaper, sits on the Alamosa Library Board and Tree Board while also working at Cattails Golf Course and the Alamosa Family Recreation Center. She was awarded both the Boettcher and the Daniels Foundation Scholarship and has the goal of becoming a lawyer specializing in Environmental Law with a focus on water law. She is committed to the University of Colorado at Boulder where she will major in political science and intends on attending CU's law school.

In speaking with the students, the most obvious questions were also the most interesting. What made them who they are? Who or what influenced them in school? To what do they attribute their success? In terms of family, none of the three are "first generation" college students as each of their mothers had been the first in their families to get college degrees. That played a significant role in each of their lives, as mothers and, in Brock's case, other members in his large, blended family emphasized the importance of what education had meant in their lives and would mean in the lives of their children.

The students also attributed their success to educators who saw potential in them, reinforced by being placed in advanced classes.

"We were put in advanced math in the sixth grade," Sienna says, "and that told me that my teacher saw something special in me. That was the first time that I remember thinking that and made me want to achieve something higher."

Brock, echoing Sienna, said it was further emphasized when they were put in advanced English and Science in 8th grade.

"It's crazy that that's your foundation," Jaymi says, "and to think that so much is formed by whether or not you got into an advanced

math class in the sixth grade. I think how much of my success has been founded on people who believed in me when I was younger. It was a gift. I can't believe how hard it must be for students who aren't told that they're special."

More than anything, the three attributed their success to friendships. Jaymi, Brock and Sienna have been very good friends since kindergarten and the first grade. "Sienna was my very first friend in kindergarten and we're still super close," Jaymi says. "She helped me learn to read."

But it was not just friendships in general that they credit, it was the specific people with whom they formed those relationships - friends who "were achievers", who cared about school, who were interested in learning, who found their identity in being good students and held each other accountable.

Brock cites Covid as having the greatest influence on his high school years. They were in the "advanced," cohort of 20 students and spent all day, every day with each other. He says he only became interested in politics because a fellow student started talking about it. He got involved in cross country running when he and a friend from the cohort decided to participate together. Those bonds continued throughout high school.

"It has to come from within," Jaymi says, "and that starts with being told you can do special things. It gives you confidence that would be difficult to get on your own. If there is one thing I would tell educators, it's that. Tell students they have potential in them."

"These three students have blazed a trail of hope for other students in our district," says Dr. Diana Jones, ASD Superintendent. "It is my wish that each student can see a part of themselves in these three students' journey and character."

"We want the very best school system for our students," says Murillo, ASD Assistant Superintendent. "We're all proud of being Mean Moose and having the resiliency required to live in this high-altitude desert. Investing in our students is investing in our community now, and in the future."

"You talk about how grit is a character trait that's in short supply these days," says Lavier. "They had a lot of grit and determination. And, like Sienna said, wanting to achieve at a higher level. Don't underestimate the power of motivation."

Office

Continued from Page 1

our new administrative offices. Currently, we are in a little tiny house on Third Street in Alamosa where we have seven employees. Senate Bill 290 provided the grant," Wolfe said.

SCCS Board President and Rio Grande County Commissioner Gene Glover said, "This is a community building and will represent the whole San Luis Valley, it is being built here in Alamo-

sa due to this being a central location for the entire Valley."

Lorrie Quintana, Board Member and Costilla County Commissioner told the Valley Courier, "This is a well-needed building, if you have seen the movie, *Hoarders*, with things piled up, that is their office, it is a very tight space."

The non-profit agency provides a variety of services including disease prevention/health promotion, support services, a long-term care ombudsman, SHIP State Health Insur-

ance Assistance Program, and nutrition assistance.

SCCS provides meals and community at the Alamosa Community Center, Antonito Senior Center, Blanca/Fort Garland Community Center, Center Housing Authority, the United Pioneer Church in Del Norte, and at the Little Shepard of the Hills Episcopal Chapel in Crestone.

Wolfe said the non-profit accepts grants. For more information, visit online www.slvaa.org or call 719-589-4511.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY COLORADO Great Stories Begin Here

| SUNDAY • 14 | MONDAY • 15 | TUESDAY • 16 | WEDNESDAY • 17 | THURSDAY • 18 | FRIDAY • 19 | SATURDAY • 20 |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| Softball vs. Colorado State University Pueblo DH 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. Softball Field Baseball vs. Metro State University of Denver DH 12 p.m. Baseball Field | Pride Month: Teaching Queer In and Out of the Classroom 12 p.m. McDaniel 101 | CASA Center After Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Games Yoga Dancing Cooking | 60 Championships Celebration: 3 p.m. Richardson Hall Front Lobby Write it Out: Writing Trauma Natasha Liebig, Ph.D., 6 p.m. Nielsen Library Second Floor Percussion Ensemble Concert: 7 p.m. Richardson Hall Auditorium Zacheis Planetarium Free Movies: 5:30 p.m. <i>Bella Gaia</i> and <i>Experience the Aurora</i> | Planetarium Free Movies: 5:30 p.m. <i>Exploding Universe</i> and <i>The Hot and Energetic Universe</i> Free Faculty Lecture: Misconceptions, Misinformation & Mis-spent Time: Media & Information Literacy for the 21 Century Paul Tunis & Kat Parker, M.F.A., 6 p.m. McDaniel Hall 101 Pride Month: Drag Bingo 6 p.m. CoRE Center | Pride Month: Photo Booth and Prizes 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. SUB Solarium Lacrosse vs. Colorado Mesa University 3 p.m. Lacrosse Field ASAP: Kayak Pool Session 5:45 p.m. Rex Activity Center Choir Concert: 7 p.m. Richardson Hall Auditorium | Softball vs. Chadron State College DH 12 p.m. & 2 p.m. Softball Field Sexual Assault Awareness Month: Tattoo #MeToo Clothesline Project & Karaoke 1 p.m. until 8 p.m. SUB Mall Court www.adams.edu |
| Through May 10, 2024 Cloyde Snook Gallery: We Were Here Bachelor of Fine Art Senior Exhibit Gallery Hours: 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday | | | | | | |

Opinion

An invitation to play the climate-change game

Let's play a game, the climate-change game that every living thing on Earth has no choice but to play, starting ... now.

The game is called Adapt/Move/Die, and the rules are simple. The object of the game is not to die. And the winners, well, the winners get to keep playing the game.

Writers On The Range



Pepper Trail

You may say wait, what about Solve? Isn't solving the climate crisis an option? Yes, of course, and a worthy goal.

But even if humanity somehow musters the now-lacking resolve to rapidly phase out fossil fuels, greenhouse gases already in the atmosphere are higher than at any time in hundreds of thousands of years. The effects on climate will continue to unfold for centuries.

Adapt/Move/Die used to have another name: Evolution. But Evolution was played without a time clock over centuries or millennia. Adapt/Move/Die is customized for our fast-paced world. Every round is a lightning round, and there are no time-outs.

Let's get started! Who's on Team Adapt? You already know some of them well because they are all around us — pigeons and rats, cockroaches and coyotes, dandelions and thistles. No matter how the climate changes, these adapters will find a way, and a place, to survive.

Under the old evolution rules, most species belonged to Team Adapt. But the pace of the new game has changed everything.

Just take a look at your local forest. Its trees were once adapted, attuned to the temperature, soil, patterns of rain



and snow and natural pests.

But now, every forest is full of dying trees. A report from the Forest Service estimated that over 36 million, yes, million, trees died in 2022 just in California.

For many plants facing rapid climate change, their only choices are Team Move, or Team Die. It is an unanswered and existential question whether the plants that support the biosphere can move fast enough.

And what of people? As befits our huge numbers and our great cleverness, it is likely that no species on Earth will show such complicated game play.

Team Adapt will mostly be drawn from the global North, where climate extremes may (repeat, may) be somewhat buffered, and where great economic resources can be brought to bear in the name of adaptation.

Here, we hope, coastal cities can be protected behind seawalls and levees. Infrastructure can be strengthened or moved or repaired. Some emergency assistance will be available for victims of "natural" disasters.

Tragically, none of these fixes will be available, or be enough, for huge num-

bers of people. The United Nations estimates that extreme weather caused 2 million deaths in the past 50 years, but that pales in comparison to what's coming.

The World Health Organization predicts that climate change will cause an estimated 250,000 additional deaths per year between 2030 and 2050 from disease, starvation and heat stress.

If true, Team Die will claim 5 million members over that 20-year span. Many of those deaths will come from the poorest countries, where people lack even the resources to join the last team: Team Move.

"Move" will, in fact, be the most disruptive play in the game. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees estimates that between 2008 and 2016, an average of 21.5 million people per year were displaced by climate-related events like floods, storms and wildfires.

But again, that is just a mild preview of what could be coming. The same report concludes that 1.2 billion people, or over 10% of the world's population, could be displaced globally by 2050.

When playing "Move" involves crossing national borders, it often has another

To submit news, email: news@alamosanews.com

To submit sports, email: khamrick@alamosanews.com

Letters policy

Letters are welcome and encouraged. All letters submitted for publication in the Valley Courier must be typewritten, signed by the author, and must include a phone number and address where the author can be reached. Letters must not be libelous. The Courier will not run letters that are negative to specific businesses. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, civility and accuracy. Please limit letters to 500 words or less.

The Courier's editorial board reserves the right to reject a letter for reasons it believes are appropriate. Letters may be subject to editing to fit available space, or exclusion from the Opinion Page. Please, no poetry. Please send signed letters to P.O. Box 1099, Alamosa, CO 81101 or email them to news@alamosanews.com. Letters to staff, not for publication, should be marked "personal."

er name: illegal immigration. From the United States to Europe to Australia, illegal immigration is already considered to be a crisis, and has been a key factor in the rise of right-wing political parties. Given the harsh response to the existing level of illegal immigration, it is frightening to imagine what the future flood of climate refugees could face.

There is only one way to win the game of Adapt/Move/Die. That is to recognize that we all share this critically damaged planet. To succeed, adaptation will require cooperation. To survive, those who must move will require help and compassion.

We can play the game together and win the right to keep playing, that is, to live. Or we can enlist in Team Die by choosing isolation and conflict.

Anyone want to roll the dice?

Pepper Trail is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He is a conservation biologist who has written widely on evolution and climate change. He lives in Ashland, Oregon.

Six county IGA — A unique collaboration

By THOMAS D. MCCracken

I'd like to report a very exciting success that will help safeguard our water for years to come. On Tuesday, April 2, Saguache County finalized a process that has taken nearly two years to complete. The Board of County Commissioners adopted land use regulations (1041s) that allow a Joint Planning Board to review water export applications from any jurisdiction in the Rio Grande Basin.

The six counties of the San Luis Valley have all joined together in an agreement, (IGA), to create a Joint Planning Area of State Interest, which is the aquifer and the surrounding watershed

of the SLV. The agreement is the first of its kind in the state and is unique in its scope.

The adoption of the six county IGA began in June of 2022 during a Water Smart Workshop at Adams State, when two attorneys from the firm Sullivan, Green, Seavy, gave a presentation during lunch to a small group of participants suggesting that if administrators of local jurisdictions could come together and adopt similar 1041 regulations, we would have a stronger position from which to resist water export projects.

I suggested to the group that the SLV Council of Governments, (COG), which

was floundering at the time, take this project on. As it turned out, support for this project was so strong that membership in the COG, which includes the municipalities of the Valley, flourished and we now have all but one town and all the counties participating. I am now in my second term as Chairman of the COG and we are working on other important projects such as regional workforce housing, expanding broadband and transmission lines.

I wish to thank commissioners from the six counties, the trustees from the municipalities and their attorneys for their unanimous support of the IGA.

This project could not succeed without it.

Residents from the Valley should be proud of their representatives for their dedication, and the work of the staff at the COG/DRG (Development Resources Group), who searched and found the funding needed to make the IGA a reality. I am pleased to have participated in helping steer this agreement to fruition, for the benefit of our county and the Valley as a whole.

Thomas D. McCracken is a Saguache County Commissioner and Chair of SLV Council of Governments.

LETTER

Corporations should pay their fair share of taxes

Editor,
People need government services, from competent fire and police departments to good schools and healthcare facilities. These things should be available to all without prohibitive cost. Their availability makes society run smoothly.

Taxes are how we pay for such services. It should be considered an honorable thing to pay taxes. It is how we contribute to the general well-being of society. While corporations provide jobs and goods, they also benefit from the infrastructure society provides such as electricity, roads, water, housing for employees, education for their employee's children, etc.

Thus corporations, which are considered people by the supreme court, should pay their fair share of taxes like everyone else. Currently, the graduat-

ed income tax structure calls for those making under \$11,000/year to pay 10% of their income, while those making over \$578,125 to pay 37%. We all know corporations making over \$578,125 pay much less than 37%! In 2018, U.S. corporations paid a 7.8% average cash effective tax rate on their U.S. Income. The 379 profitable Fortune 500 companies paid an average effective federal income tax rate of 11.3% on their 2018 income. That's a little less than the 12% that individuals making from \$11,000-\$44,725 pay in 2023. The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022—a Democratic bill—re-instituted an alternative corporate income tax of 15%. While too low in my opinion, that's still far better than the \$0 tax that at least 55 of the largest corporations in America paid in 2020. The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy notes that the fol-

lowing corporations, among many, paid ZERO taxes in 2020: Whirlpool, FedEx, Nike, HP and Salesforce. And not only that. The 55 corporations cited above would have paid a collective total of \$8.5 billion. Instead, they received \$3.5 billion in tax rebates, collectively draining \$12 billion from the U.S. Government.

So, you and I have worse schools, libraries, and public services while corporate CEOs and stockholders make out like bandits. If corporations are people, then they should be taxed like people. The alternative corporate minimum tax should be increased to the highest level that the individual tax is. Corporate profits as a share of national income have skyrocketed by 29% since the start of the pandemic. Corporations can afford to pay their fair share. And only the Democratic Party is fighting

for that to happen!
Elizabeth Kinney
Alamosa

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.

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Keith R Cerny
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Valley Courier
(ISSN 1047-1170)

Brian Williams
Managing Editor

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. 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.

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Your FIRST Source for Local News

Religion

Journalism still struggles with religion news, 36 years on

After studying relevant police reports, Americans Against Antisemitism issued a 2023 document of its victims, they suddenly couldn't get enough of them," wrote Ungar-Sargon, an Orthodox Jew. "Every outlet began running pieces ... blaming Orthodox recalcitrance to social distancing or mask wearing for spreading the virus, not just among their own communities but to their neighbors, too."

Many of these pandemic-driven stories were valid -- but packed with errors about Orthodox beliefs and traditions. Ungar-Sargon asked: Why did journalists jump into "hyperdrive" in this case, after downplaying all those antisemitic attacks? Why do many journalists see Americans they consider "less intelligent and uneducated" as "beyond salvation, irredeemable and filled with hate"? She has continued her work in a new book, "Second Class."

In the late 1970s, researchers began asking why journalists often struggle when covering religion stories or avoid religious news altogether. I wrote my 1982 University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign graduate project on this topic, and some of that work was published by Quill, the magazine of the Society of Professional Journalists.

This week marks the start of my 36th year writing this "On Religion" column. I also spent 20 years leading the GetReligion.org project, which closed in February, but its archive remains online for those studying religion and the press.

A decade into this column's life, Peter A. Brown, a Scripps Howard News Service colleague, shared an unpublished manuscript that began with examining the addresses and ZIP codes of 3,400 journalists in markets such as Little Rock, Arkansas, and Knoxville, Tennessee, as well as Washington, D.C., and New York City.

Brown asked marketing experts to analyze where journalists lived and found that they chose neighborhoods with labels such as "Bohemian mix" and "money and brains." Even in the heartland, journalists were more likely to be single than married with children. They read The New Yorker instead of Christianity Today. They favored theater over suburban yard sales.

Assaults on Orthodox men and women "ranged from spitting, to punching, to someone being hit in the face with a brick," noted Batya Ungar-Sargon, of Newsweek, in her book "Bad News." The crime wave produced few news reports until a 2019 mass shooting at a kosher supermarket in Jersey City and a knife attack at a Hanukkah party in Monsey, north of New York City.

Then came COVID-19, and Orthodox Jews, alongside other close-knit ethnic and immigrant communities, were hit hard. "Because the national

rejected Jesus as their Savior and Lord. Repent of sin before it is too late. "And they sung a new song, saying, 'You are worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for you were slain, and have redeemed us to God by your blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;'" (Revelation 5:9 AKJV)

That was a quarter of a century ago. Today, Ungar-Sargon is convinced unexamined class issues shape journalism about millions of Americans. For example, political reporters rarely examine the beliefs of churchgoing Blacks and Latinos, as well as the cultural differences between religiously unaffiliated "nones" who are atheists-agnostics and those who are "none of the above" believers, who are often blue-collar workers or unemployed.

"If journalists keep down-streaming the role of religion, they are not going to understand how many people -- Blacks, whites, Latinos and others -- look at life," she said, reached by telephone. "You can't sneer and act like it's completely lame for people to believe that God is real and has something to do with how they live their lives. ... If you do that, you are not going to understand ordinary Americans, especially working-class people."

Terry Mattingly is Senior Fellow on Communications and Culture at Saint Constantine College in Houston. He lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and writes Rational Sheep, a Substack newsletter on faith and mass media.



Terry Mattingly

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

- All-Denominational**
Emmanuel Chapel - Independent Bible Church
0432 Hwy 149, South Fork
719-573-5411
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.
- Catholic**
Sacred Heart Church
715 4th Street, Alamosa
Saturday, 4:00 p.m. - Mass
Saturday, 6:00 p.m. - Spanish Mass
Sunday, 8 a.m. - Mass
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Mass
- Church of the Living God**
11611 2nd Avenue, Hooper
719-378-2080
Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship
Sunday, 6 p.m. - Book of Acts Study
Monday, 7 p.m. - Youth
Thursday, 7 p.m. - Bible Study
- San Luis Valley Christian Center**
305 S. Broadway (3rd & Broadway), Monte Vista
719-852-6168
Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship
Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - Bible Study
- Prayer House Church**
410 Main Street, La Jara
Pastor Jaime Flores • 719-298-0007
Sunday Morning Service, 10:30 am
Wednesday Family Ministry, 6:30 pm
Friday Night Bible Study, 7:00 pm
- Sargent Community Church**
6967 N. County Rd. 2 E., Monte Vista (across from Sargent School)
Pastor Stephen Burns • 719-852-2980
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
- Back Row Church - Church Community**
In the Alamosa Presbyterian Church Building
Alamosa
www.backrowchurch.com
Kim Nipple • 303-532-9342
Worship Service - Wednesday Evening at 5:00 pm
- Apostolic**
Alamosa Apostolic Church
510 First St., Alamosa
Meets Sundays 1-2 p.m.
2-3 p.m. - Lunch
3-5 p.m. - Worship Service
- Antionito Apostolic Church**
710 Main St., Antionito
Meets sundays
11-12 p.m. - Sunday School
12-1 p.m. - Worship service
- Apostolic Pentecostal**
Church of Champions, Acts 2:38
9056 Hwy 285 South, Alamosa - 719-587-3351
Dan Dawning Pastor, 719-588-7307
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - Service
- Assembly of God**
River of Life Church
2602 Clark Avenue, Alamosa
Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship
Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Service
- Center Assembly of God**
7th & Miles • P.O. Box 507, Center, CO 81125
Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.
- Assembly of God**
Sons and Daughters of God Ministry
677 Madison Street, Monte Vista
Pastor Leonard Sandoval, 719-849-0212
Sunday 10:00 a.m. Service
Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Prayer
- New Life Fellowship**
520 7th St., Del Norte, 81132
719-657-3360
Adult Sunday School - 9:00
Services - 10:00
- Bahai Faith**
meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m on Zoom.
Email: haftline@joedade.org for a Zoom invite
- Baptist**
Grace Community Baptist Church
431 Lincoln Ave., Monte Vista
Rev. Bill Walstrom, 719-937-1451
Worship: 9:30; Sunday School: 11:00 am
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 pm
- Living Water Bible Fellowship**
2910 Clark Street, Alamosa
719-589-6351
Sunday, 9:00 & 10:45 am Worship Services**
Sunday, 10:45 am Children's Ministry (PreK-5th grade)
Sunday, 10:45 am Teen Bible Study (6th-12th grade)
Tuesday, 7:00 pm Young Adults College Group
Wednesday, 6:30 pm Bible Quizzing (1st-6th grade)
Wednesday, 6:30 pm Reign Youth Group (6th-12th grade)
Wednesday, 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study**
Saturday, 5:00 pm Worship Service**
Small Groups meets throughout week, please call for info
**Nursery is available (tuks-prek)
- College Heights Baptist Church**
Pastor Anthony Bowden
2045 Church Avenue, Alamosa
Sunday, 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. - Sunday School
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Morning Worship
- San Luis Valley Baptist Church**
930 State Avenue, Alamosa
719-589-5938
Pastor R.L. McDonald
Wednesday 7 p.m. - Worship
Saturday, 2 p.m.
Sunday, 10 a.m. - Sunday School
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Worship
Sunday, 6 p.m. - Evening Worship
Spanish Ministry- Iglesia Bautista Rehorot
Pastor Sal Garcia, 589-3020
- Calvary Bible Chapel**
7160 Brush Lane, Alamosa
Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Worship
Sunday, 10:20 a.m. - Sunday School
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Ministry of the Word
Small group studies meet during the week.
- Calvary Blanca**
Pastor Matthew Leonard - 719-379-3317
Sunday, 9:30 am - Bible Study
Sunday, 11:00 am - Service
Wednesday, 6:30pm - Community Get to Know You
- Calvary Baptist Church**
2160 Sherman Ave., Monte Vista
Sunday, 9:45 a.m. - Bible Study
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Worship
Tuesday, 6 p.m. - C.L.A.Y. Youth
Thursday, 6:30 p.m. - Ladies Bible Study
- South Fork Baptist Church**
0130 Four Seasons Dr.(Old Chizum Bldg), South Fork
Sunday, 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - Church Service
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - Bible Study
- Valley Fellowship**
240 East 5th Street, Center - 719-754-3904
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Contemporary
Worship, Prayer and Bible Study
*Bible Studies during the week, call for information.
- Episcopal**
Saint Thomas Episcopal Church
607 4th Street, Alamosa
Sunday, 9 a.m. - Service
- Saint Stephen the Martyr**
729 3rd Avenue, Monte Vista
Sunday, 10 am Service
- First Christian Church**
518 First St. (First & State) Alamosa
589-6805
Sunday, 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - Church Service
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - Bible Study
- First United Methodist Church**
2005 Mullins Ave., Alamosa - 719-589-2243
*Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
Morning Worship - Sunday, 11:00 am
Children's Church - Sunday, 10:30 am
- Community Churches**
United for Christ Community Church (SBC)
*Community Centered Around Love"
7th & Broadway in Blanca - 719-379-3317
Sunday School 9:30-10:30
Worship Service 11am
- Bible Believer's Community Church**
11762 E US HWY 160, Alamosa, CO 81101
719) 206-3239
Sunday worship 10:30
Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm
www.bbcchurch.co
- Presbyterian**
Alamosa Presbyterian Church
330 San Juan Avenue, Alamosa
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship
- Hispanic Pentecostal**
Iglesia Pentecostal Unida LA
907 Tenth St. Alamosa - 719-587-3546
Gudalupe Salazar Pastor
Wed. 7:00 p.m. Service
Sat. 7:00 p.m. Youth Service
Sun. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Sun. 5:00 p.m. Worship
- New Hope Church**
*The Church on the Hill"
25258 Hwy 160, South Fork, Co. 81154
Pastor John Jayne • 719-873-1202
www.newhopest.com
Morning Worship - 10:00 am
Sunday School for all ages - 9:00 - 9:45
- Anabaptist Fellowship of Alamosa**
330 San Juan Ave., Alamosa, CO 81101
alamosafellowship@gmail.com
Sunday 4:30 PM Worship in the north wing of the Alamosa Presbyterian Church
- Independent, Fundamental Baptist**
First Baptist Church of Costilla County
9717 County Rd H, Mesita - 719-206-0011
Pastor Paul Jones
Sunday, 9:45 am - Sunday School
Sunday, 10:45 am - Morning Worship
Sunday, 12 Noon - Potluck Dinner
Sunday after dinner - Afternoon Worship
Thursday, 7:00 pm - Mesita, Bible Study and Prayer meeting
- DEAF MINISTRY FOR ALL SERVICES**
Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Alamosa Y S A Ward
300 Richardson Avenue, Alamosa
Sunday, 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Alamosa
- Second Ward**
927 Weber Drive, Alamosa
Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Alamosa Third Ward**
300 Richardson Avenue, Alamosa
Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Alamosa Fourth Ward**
927 Weber Drive, Alamosa
Sunday, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Sierra Vista Branch (Spanish Language)**
300 Richardson Avenue, Alamosa
Sunday, 10:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.
- Lutheran**
St. Peters Lutheran Church & School
Church: 1821 Grande Avenue, Monte Vista
School: 330 Faraday Street, Monte Vista
Sunday, 10:15 a.m. - Services
School: K-8, Monday-Thursday
- Trinity Lutheran Church & School**
52 El Rio Drive, Alamosa
Sunday, 8:45 a.m. - Bible Study
Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship
- *Small Bible Study Groups Throughout the Week"
-Pre-School through 5th grade
Church: 589-4611, School: 589-3271
- Conejos Canyon Community Chapel**
20062 Slate Hwy. 17 (between mile posts 21 and 20)
Fellowship Sunday, 8:30 a.m.
Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - Worship Service
- Mountain Valley Church**
408 State St., 17, Alamosa
Pastor: Richard Pinkerton
589-2899 or 588-7662
Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship Service
- Presbyterian Church of Monte Vista**
702 Second Avenue, Monte Vista
(719) 852-2555
Sunday, 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Sunday Worship
- Seventh-day Adventist**
Seventh-day Adventist Church
315 Craft Drive, Alamosa
Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study
Saturday, 11:00 a.m. - Worship
- United Methodist**
Mosca United Methodist Church
538 Barker Street, Mosca
970-270-3078
Pastor Steve Dunkel
Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m.
- Unitarian Universalist**
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
330 San Juan Ave., Alamosa
*North Wing of Alamosa Presbyterian Church
719-587-5529
Service & Youth Programs at 10:30 am
Sunday.
- Valley Church of the Nazarene**
Pastor: Chris Yocom
228 Madison, Monte Vista - (719) 852-5858
churchoffice@valleymzn.com
Sunday
Sunday Morning Worship 10:15 a.m.
Sunday School Classes 9 a.m.
- Wednesday**
Dinner at 6 p.m.
Small Group Classes at 7 p.m.
- Thursday**
Teen Activities (beginning at 6:30 p.m.)
*Nursery is available during all services
Visit website at www.valleymzn.com for online
bulletins and service information or call the
number above.
- Church of Scientology**
511 Main Street, Suite #12, Alamosa
719-587-5554
Monday and Wednesday, 7-10p.m. - Services
- Grace Assurance Ministry**
Church without Religion
9851 CR 4 S, Alamosa, CO
Sunday Mornings - 10:30
Randy Brown - 719-588-7004
Eric Wolf - 719-480-3977

- Word of Faith Christian Center**
401 Sante Fe, Alamosa
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Friday, 6:00 p.m. M.O.S.H. Youth Night
- The Peak Community Church**
510 San Juan, Alamosa
Sundays, 6 p.m. - Fellowship
Sundays, 7 p.m. - Worship & More
- Pentecostal**
Alamosa Pentecostal Church
184 East 2nd St, Alamosa - 719-589-0475
Pastor Carl Sutter
Bible Study Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Sunday School Sunday 1:00-1:45
Worship 2:00-3:00
- Christian Fellowship Church**
The Door
1300 West 12th St., Alamosa
Pastor Martin Montoya • 719-587-6197
Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - Sunday School
Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - Worship
Sunday, 6:30 p.m. - Victory Service
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. - Revival
- Christian Independent**
Alamosa Christian Church
410 McQuerry, Alamosa
Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship
Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. - Family Night & Youth Group
- Christian Reformed**
Alamosa Christian Reformed, 719-589-3493
1861 Rd 10 S., Alamosa
Pastor Philip VanderWindt
Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - Sunday School
Sunday, 10:15 a.m. - Worship
- Churches of Christ**
Alamosa Church of Christ
408 Victoria Avenue, Alamosa
Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Bible Classes
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship
Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Bible Study
Healing Hearts, a Bible-based 12 step
group meets, every Friday at 7 p.m.
- South Fork Church of Christ**
205 Birch St. South Fork, 719-873-1259
Nathan Wheeler Pastor
Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship, 10:00 a.m.
- Central Church of Christ**
200 Franklin Street, Monte Vista, 719-852-3811
David L. Baker Preacher
Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Bible Class
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m. - Worship
Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Bible Study
- San Luis Valley Church of Christ**
704 Del Sol, Alamosa, 719-589-2114
Sunday Bible Study 9 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10 am
Wednesday Bible Study 6 pm
- Cornerstone Community Church**
Hwy. 160 Del Norte next to Rio Grande Medical
Clinic
Pastor Mark 719-657-9107
Sunday 9:50 a.m. free breakfast
Sunday 10:20 a.m. Contemporary
Worship & Children Sunday
School
Wednesday 5:15 p.m. Dinner, music, fellowship,
teachings

Bible Digest

Saturday, April 13
"And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to shame and everlasting contempt." (Daniel 12:2 AKJV)
Eternity awaits our arrival. If you have the Lord Heaven will be your home. If not, Hell is your destiny. Are you ready?
Sunday, April 14
"We love him, because he first loved us." (1 John 4:19 AKJV)
Do you love Jesus? Jesus said if we did that we would obey His commandments.
Monday, April 15
"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." (1 John 4:1 AKJV)
Judge the prophet by the Bible not the other way
Tuesday, April 16
"But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow to it." (Micah 4:1 AKJV)
One day Jesus will rule in Jerusalem during the millennium. All will come to Him. Amen!
Wednesday, April 17
"And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Revelation 6:16-17 AKJV)
God's anger will one day be seen by those who have
Thursday, April 18
"And they sung a new song, saying, 'You are worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for you were slain, and have redeemed us to God by your blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;'" (Revelation 5:9 AKJV)
Jesus is worthy to be praised. He shed His blood for our salvation. Amen!
Friday, April 19
"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for you have created all things, and for your pleasure they are and were created." (Revelation 4:11 AKJV)
We were created by God for God. You too can find your purpose by following Him.



The #1 Key to Having Peace

Peace is an amazing gift God offers us. I know what it's like to live without peace—upset most of the time, anxious, fearful, and worried. It's miserable! Since I've discovered how to live with God's peace, I will do anything I need to do to have it.
We have to understand the value of peace if we're going to have it. Because if you think it's really no big deal to lose your temper, worry, be stressed-out or upset all the time, you won't do what you need to do to live with peace.
I think it's interesting that one of the last things Jesus told His disciples before His crucifixion was about peace. John 14:27 (AMP) says, "Peace I leave with you; My [perfect] peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid. [Let My perfect peace calm you in every circumstance and give you courage and strength for every challenge.]"
In John 20:19, "Peace to you!" is the first thing Jesus said to His disciples after His resurrection. Verse 21 says, "Then Jesus said to them again, 'Peace to you...'" Notice the word "again." He must have wanted them to realize how important it was to maintain their peace.
Take a moment to think about how much peace you have. Do you worry, get upset or feel stressed out often? Many people do...but that's not the way God wants us to live.
A lot of Christians pray for God to give them peace, but they need to realize that as believers in Christ, they already have His peace. We need to pray for God to help us learn how to walk in peace.
Philippians 4:6-7 (AMP) says: "Do not be anxious or worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation] by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, continue to make your [specific] requests known to God. And the peace



Moving Up Higher
with
Joyce Meyer

miserable after I managed to get them. But once I started giving up my will and asking God to do what He wants to do in my life, I experienced peace and contentment that I'd never known before.
It was so freeing for me to give up trying to run my own life and instead focus on seeking God and trusting Him to give me what He wants me to have. Psalm 37:4 (AMP) says, "Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires and petitions of your heart."
I want to strongly encourage you today to purposely choose to seek God and delight yourself in Him before anyone or anything else in your life. He is the Source of love, joy and peace. And you'll live in peace as you live in Him!
For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-part teaching resource *How to Attack Anxiety*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.
Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 140 books, including *BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND* and *OVERCOMING EVERY PROBLEM (Faith Words)*. She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.
Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.
Sunday School 9am
Sunday Service 10:15am
1861 Rd 10 S
Alamosa
www.alamosacr.org
719-589-3493

See you at Sunday School

Sports

Pitching dominates in Pirates' sweep

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

MONTE VISTA – The Monte Vista High School baseball team tallied 35 runs in its doubleheader sweep of Custer County Friday at Adrian M. Gutierrez Memorial Field. But it was the Pirates' pitching game that was the real story. Monte Vista's pitchers allowed only one hit in the entire twinbill including a perfect game in the opener. The Pirates won by scores of 15-0 and 20-0.

"Pitchers did a great job throwing strikes," said Monte Vista coach Luke Bradshaw. "Overall we did a great job. It's easy to fall asleep in those types of games. We stayed focused and locked in and did a great job."

Game 1

After a scoreless first inning, the Pirates came alive in the second by scoring seven runs. Kaden Madrid started the rally with a walk and he stole second. He came home on Judah Howe's single. Connor Mellott and Domyon Naranjo both had singles to load the bases, and Howe scored on a wild pitch for a 2-0 lead.

Kobe Jiron also drew a walk to again fill the sacks. Jakoby Ross singled home Connor Mellott, and Azariah Hurtado cleared the bases with a triple. Hurtado came home on a wild pitch for a 7-0 lead.

Monte Vista put eight more runs on the board in the third. Madrid led off with a single, and Howe was hit by a pitch. Connor Mellott received a base on balls and Madrid, Howe and Connor Mellott all scored on wild pitches for a 10-0 advantage. Naranjo walked and Jiron was hit by a pitch. Both runners advanced on a wild pitch, and Naranjo scored on Ross' sacrifice fly. Kaden Mellott singled, and Madrid doubled home Jiron and Kaden Mellott. Howe's triple plated Deon Baumgardner who was courteous running for Madrid.

The game ended after four innings on the 15-run rule.

Kaden Mellott and Jeremiah Baumgardner combined for a perfect game. Not only that, they struck out every Bobcat batter with Mellott



recording nine strikeouts and the win, and Baumgardner had three.

Game 2

The Pirates got off to a good start in the nightcap by scoring 13 runs in the bottom of the first. Jiron, Kaden Mellott and Hurtado all walked and all three scored on wild pitches. Jeremiah Baumgardner singled and advanced on a wild pitch. Madrid then struck out, but the third strike got past the Custer County catcher and Madrid made it to first base. Howe then singled to plate Jeremiah Baumgardner and Chayse Bouet singled to bring home Madrid for a 5-0 lead.

Naranjo was hit by a pitch and Jiron's grounder erased Bouet on the basepaths, bit Jiron was safe on the play. Ross then doubled home Howe and Naranjo, and Kaden Mellott singled home Jiron. Hurtado's singled brought Ross home, and Jeremiah Baumgardner singled home Kaden Mellott. Madrid's single plated Hurtado, and Jeremiah Baumgardner and Deon Baumgardner both scored on wild pitches to wrap up the scoring for the first inning.

The Pirates put seven more runs on the scoreboard in the second. Todd Adams led off the inning by getting hit by a pitch, and Jiron followed with a double. Adams scored on a wild pitch, and Kaden Mellott



Courier photo by Ken Hamrick

Monte Vista High School's Kaden Mellott sends a pitch to the plate in the first game of a doubleheader Friday at Adrian M. Gutierrez Memorial Field. Mellott and Jeremiah Baumgardner combined for a perfect game in the opener in which all 12 outs were strikeouts. The Pirates won 15-0. In the second game, Kobe Jiron and Judah Howe combined for a one-hitter in a 20-0 victory.

single home Jiron for a 15-0 advantage.

Jeremiah Baumgardner reached on an error and Kaden Mellott scored on the play. Tyler Alley was hit by a pitch, and Howe's single plated Jeremiah Baumgardner.

Bouet singled to drive home Alley, and Jiron was safe on an outfield error and Howe and Bouet scored.

The game ended after three innings on the 20-run rule.

Jiron started on the mound for the Pirates and he allowed no runs and one hit with six strikeouts and one walk. Howe finished the game and gave up no runs and no hits and he struck out two and walked one.

What's next

Monte Vista (7-3, 4-0 Southern Peaks League) will host Sanford on Monday with a 4 p.m. start time.

"We're looking forward to that," Bradshaw said. "They've won some ball games and they haven't lost yet. These guys are looking forward to it."

Monte Vista 15, Custer County 0

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|---|---|----|---|---|
| Custer County | 000 | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Monte Vista | 078 | x | - | 15 | 9 | 0 |

Rusk, Carichner (2, L) and Bradford. K. Mellott (W), J. Baumgardner (4) and Madrid.

Monte Vista 20, Custer County 0

| | | | | | |
|---------------|--------|---|----|----|---|
| Custer County | 000 | - | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Monte Vista | (13)7x | - | 20 | 12 | 0 |

Simmons (L), Stotzfus (2) and Weeks. Jiron (W), Howe (3) and Madrid.

Lady Pirates open season at Swink Invite

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA—The Monte Vista High School girls golf team opened the 2024 season by participating in the Swink Invitational Friday at the La Junta Municipal Golf Course.

The Lady Pirates finished in seventh place with 314. They were led by Brooke Hoffstaetter who tied for 17th with a 103, followed by Ellaree Rockey who was 19th with a 105, Kiera Sanchez who tied for 20th with a 106, and Reagan Futrell who

tied for 34th with a 118.

Monte Vista also entered a second team which finished in 12th place with 384. Leading the second team was Destiny Pacheco who was 38th with a 120. Shaina Baumgardner tied for 46th with a 129, Kaitlynn Roberts was 49th with a 133, and Evie Hinds tied for 51st with a 137.

Manitou Springs won the tournament with 261, followed by Salida with 264, Limon with 291, Pueblo West with 294, and Swallows Charter

Academy with 303.

Salida's Kyndra Johnson was the individual medalist with a three-under-par 69. Manitou Springs' Addison Dorsey was second with a 74.

Monte Vista will next compete at the Durango Invitational at Hillcrest Golf Course. The tournament begins at 9 a.m.

Team scores

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------|----------------|--------|
| Manitou Springs | 261, | Salida | 264, |
| Limon | 291, | Pueblo West | 294, |
| Swallows Charter Academy | 303, | Fowler | 307, |
| Monte Vista | 314, | Las Animas | 326, |
| Swink | 353, | Limon | 2 361, |
| Pueblo County | 364, | Monte Vista | 2 384, |
| La Junta NS, | | Rocky Ford NS. | |

Sports Bulletin

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

SCOREBOARD

THURSDAY
Prep baseball
 Sierra Grande 10, Sargent 6
Prep girls soccer
 Crested Butte 10, Del Norte 0

FRIDAY

Prep baseball
 Monte Vista 15, Custer County 0, 4 inn.
 Monte Vista 20, Custer County 0, 3 inn.
 Questa (N.M.) at Centennial – no report
 Sanford 27, Antonito 4, 5 inn.
 Sanford at Antonito – no report
Prep girls soccer
 Alamosa at Montezuma-Cortez – no report
College baseball
 Metropolitan State-Denver at Adams State – late

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY
Prep baseball
 Bayfield at Alamosa (2), 11 a.m.
 Del Norte at Center (2), 11 a.m.

Gunnison at Centauri (2), 11 a.m.
 Branson/Kim JV at Sierra Grande, 1 p.m.
 Trinidad at Sargent (2), 1 p.m.

Prep track and field
 Alamosa, Antonito, Centauri, Center, Creede, Del Norte, Moffat, Monte Vista, Sanford, Sangre de Cristo, Sargent, Sierra Grande at Del Norte Invitational, 9 a.m.

College baseball
 Metropolitan State-Denver at Adams State (2), noon
College women's softball
 Colorado State Pueblo at Adams State (2), noon
College outdoor track and field
 Adams State at Bryan Clay Invitational (at Azusa, Calif.), TBA

SUNDAY

College baseball
 Metropolitan State-Denver at Adams State, noon
College women's softball
 Colorado State Pueblo at Adams State (2), 11 a.m.

MONDAY

Prep baseball
 Sanford at Monte Vista, 4 p.m.
 Centauri JV at Sierra Grande, 4:30 p.m.

Prep girls golf
 Alamosa, Monte Vista at Durango Invitational (at Hillcrest Golf Course), 9 a.m.

Monte Vista at Pueblo West Invitational, 9 a.m.

Prep girls soccer
 Del Norte at Dolores Huerta, 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

Prep baseball
 Buena Vista at Centauri, 3 p.m.
 Del Norte at Pagosa Springs (2), 3:30 p.m.
 Alamosa at Salida, 4:30 p.m.
 Antonito at Centennial, 4:30 p.m.
 Sargent at Sanford, 4:30 p.m.

Prep girls golf
 Alamosa at Montezuma-Cortez Invitational (at Conquistador Golf Course), 9 a.m.
 Monte Vista at Fowler Invitational, 9 a.m.
Prep girls soccer
 Alamosa at Rye, 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Prep baseball
 Sierra Grande at Monte Vista JV, 4:30 p.m.

Prep track and field
 Del Norte, Sanford at Bayfield Invitational, 1:30 p.m.
 Moffat at Montrose Mid-week Invitational, TBA

Electronics Recycling Event

Tuesday April 23rd

8:00AM-5:00PM

\$60 per Car Load (1 TV included of any size)

\$120 per Truck Load (2 TVs included of any size)

\$180 per Trailer Load (3 TVs included of any size)

\$220 per Truck & Trailer Load (4 TVs included of any size)

Additional TVs thereafter will be charged at \$25 per TV

We will accept computer components, small appliances, monitors, TV's, batteries and MORE!

21 Craft Dr.
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For more information contact us at

719.589.8940 or visit our website www.wsbcs.net

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Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

COSTILLA COUNTY CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
SAN LUIS, CO
GUADALUPE SANCHEZ DITCH PROJECT
 General Notice
 Costilla County Conservancy District (District) in conjunction with the landowner, ditch, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project. These bids will be reviewed and approved by the District as a special district and the financial agent for the project.
 Guadalupe Sanchez Ditch Project
 Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the Costilla County Conservancy District located at 324 Main Street, PO Box 42, San Luis, Colorado 81152 until 2:00 p.m., April 13, 2024 at 4:00 PM local time. On April 26, 2024, at 12:30pm the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.
 The Project includes the following Work:
 Construction of the Guadalupe Sanchez Ditch Works of Improvement The District anticipates that the Project's total bid price will be approximately \$300,000. The Project has an expected duration of approximately 6 months with a goal deadline of completion of October, 2024. Obtaining the Bidding Documents
 For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents. Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Costilla County Conservancy District Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM.
 Costilla County Conservancy District
 324 Main Street, San Luis, CO 81154
 Pre-bid Conference
 A pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on Tuesday, April 16th at 1pm at Costilla County Conservancy District, 324 Main Street, San Luis, CO 81152. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is encouraged but not required.
 This Advertisement is issued by:
 Owner: Costilla County Conservancy District
 By: Ronda Lobato as Secretary of the Board of Directors
 No. 3848.
 Published in the Valley Courier on March 26, 27, 29, 30, April 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, & 13, 2024.

East Alamosa Water and Sanitation District 2024 Drinking Water Quality Report Covering Data For Calendar Year 2023

Public Water System ID: C00102200
 Esta es informacion importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.
 We are pleased to present to you this year's water quality report. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Please contact Shannon Russell at 719-589-2649 with any questions or for public participation opportunities that may affect water quality. Please see the water quality data from our wholesale system(s) (either attached or included in this report) for additional information about your drinking water.

General Information.
 All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).
 The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants:** viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants:** salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides:** may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Radioactive contaminants:** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Organic chemical contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Shannon Russell at 719-589-2649. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Source Water Assessment and Protection (SW AP)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment may have provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit wgcd.compliance.com/ccr. The report is located under "Guidance: Source Water Assessment Reports". Search the table using system name or ID, or by contacting Shannon Russell at 719-589-2649. The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that could occur. It does not mean that the contamination has or will occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area are listed on the next page.

Please contact us to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about the Drinking Water Quality Report, to learn more about our system, or to attend scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

Our Water Sources

Terms and Abbreviations

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Health-Based** - A violation of either a MCL or TT.
- **Non-Health-Based** - A violation that is not a MCL or TT.
- **Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Violation (No Abbreviation)** - Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- **Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** - Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- **Variance and Exemptions (VE)** - Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** - Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.
- **Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** - Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- **Average (x-bar)** - Typical value.
- **Range (R)** - Lowest value to the highest value.
- **Sample Size (n)** - Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).
- **Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)** - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Not Applicable (N/A)** - Does not apply or not available.
- **Level 1 Assessment-A** study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- **Level 2 Assessment** - A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Detected Contaminants

EAST ALAMOSA routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one-year-old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.
Note: Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. Info tables appear in this section, then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

| Contaminant | MCL | MCLG | AL | TT | VE | RAA | LRAA | Avg | Range | n | Notes |
|------------------------------|------|------|-----|----|----|-----|------|-----|-------|---|---------------|
| Lead | 15 | 15 | 1.5 | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Copper | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.3 | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Nitrate | 10 | 10 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Nitrite | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.1 | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Calcium | | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Magnesium | | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Hardness | | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Dissolved Solids | | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Gross Alpha | 15 | 15 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Alpha | 15 | 15 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Radon | 4 | 4 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Coliform | 500 | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Coliform (MF/L) | 500 | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Coliform (MPN/100ML) | 500 | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| E. coli | 0 | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) | 0.2 | 0.2 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Trihalomethanes (THM) | 0.2 | 0.2 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Chloroform | 0.07 | 0.07 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Chloroform | 0.07 | 0.07 | | | | | | | | | None detected |

City of Alamosa 2024 Drinking Water Quality Report

Covering Data For Calendar Year 2023
Public Water System ID: C00 102100
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Our Water Sources

| Source | Distance from Well | Notes |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------|
| San Luis Reservoir | 15 miles | |
| San Luis River | 5 miles | |
| San Luis Ditch | 2 miles | |
| San Luis Reservoir | 15 miles | |

Please contact us to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about the Drinking Water Quality Report, to learn more about our system, or to attend scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

Terms and Abbreviations

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Health-Based** - A violation of either a MCL or TT.
- **Non-Health-Based** - A violation that is not a MCL or TT.
- **Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Violation (No Abbreviation)** - Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- **Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** - Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- **Variance and Exemptions (VE)** - Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** - Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.
- **Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** - Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- **Average (x-bar)** - Typical value.
- **Range (R)** - Lowest value to the highest value.
- **Sample Size (n)** - Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).
- **Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)** - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Not Applicable (N/A)** - Does not apply or not available.
- **Level 1 Assessment-A** study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- **Level 2 Assessment** - A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Detected Contaminants


The City of Alamosa routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one-year-old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.
Note: Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. Info tables appear in this section, then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

| Contaminant | MCL | MCLG | AL | TT | VE | RAA | LRAA | Avg | Range | n | Notes |
|------------------------------|------|------|-----|----|----|-----|------|-----|-------|---|---------------|
| Lead | 15 | 15 | 1.5 | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Copper | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.3 | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Nitrate | 10 | 10 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Nitrite | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.1 | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Calcium | | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Magnesium | | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Hardness | | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Dissolved Solids | | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Gross Alpha | 15 | 15 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Alpha | 15 | 15 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Radon | 4 | 4 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Coliform | 500 | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Coliform (MF/L) | 500 | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Coliform (MPN/100ML) | 500 | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| E. coli | 0 | | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) | 0.2 | 0.2 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Trihalomethanes (THM) | 0.2 | 0.2 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Total Chloroform | 0.07 | 0.07 | | | | | | | | | None detected |
| Chloroform | 0.07 | 0.07 | | | | | | | | | None detected |

No. 3895
 Published in the Valley Courier on April 13, 2024.

101 - MEMORIALS

2nd Year Anniversary
Joseph Frank 'Boogie' Romero
September 10, 1933 to April 13, 2022



Good morning Dad, Mom, 2 years have gone by so fast. I can't believe it. Just seems like I was showing you how to fish the other day or is it vice versa. I'm doing okay, still busy everyday. CD still looks for you every morning when I let her in the house. A lot of your's and moms friends have passed and I know you and mom were there to meet them. I love you dad & mom. Some days are good and some days are tough. I counted on both of you my whole life and I still do and always will. God bless you both. Don't worry about me I'm doing okay. I know you're angel wings will keep me safe & guide me in the right direction.
God Bless You Both!
Your Son Poncho Boogie JR.
I love you Dad & Mom
"One Day at a Time"

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Classifieds

173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

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CAPULINDITCHCO. is looking for a DITCH RIDER for the 2024 season- approx. Mid April through September. Pay is a set amount per day worked. For more information please contact Joseph Valdez at: 719-274-5109 (La Jara Pharm.) Or 719-588-2585. (4/20/24)

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

CONEJOS COUNTY IS seeking a HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR / DRIVER / LABORER. Applicant must be able to operate a loader, grader, belly dump, and drive a semi, must have a class A Commercial Driver's License, clean driving record and pass a pre-employment drug screen. Pay is \$19.91/hr \$41,412.80 annually. County application form required. Applications available at conejoscounty.colorado.gov or via email upon request at cricci@co.conejos.co.us. Inquiries call 719-376-6799. Deadline 04/22/24. (4/20/24)

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

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. Applications may be submitted electronically to Mr. Kevin Jones at kjones@sierragrandeschool.net or Mrs. Maria Atencio at matencio@sierragrandeschool.net, or can be turned in at the district office. For more information please contact the district office at 719-379-3259. (5/1/24)

OUTREACH ASSISTANT, SAN LUIS VALLEY LOCAL FOODS COALITION seeks an LFLP OUTREACH COORDINATOR. Strong communication and computer skills are required. Submit your resume and cover letter to opportunity.slvlocalfoods@gmail.com. Additional requirements can be found at www.slvlocalfoods.org/jobs/. (5/1/24)

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Classifieds

221- HELP WANTED

TOWN OF CENTER, COLORADO Seeks a **TOWN MANAGER**. General Statement of Duties: Supervises 22-25 employees of varied departments such as Utilities, Public Safety, Streets and Parks and Administration. Position Overview – As the Town Manager, you will serve as the chief executive officer of our municipality, responsible for overseeing all aspects of municipal operations and administration. You will work closely with elected officials, department heads, to implement policies, manage resources, and foster sustainable growth and development. Key Responsibilities: Provide visionary leadership and strategic direction to achieve the town's goals and objectives. Collaborate with elected officials to develop and implement policies that reflect the needs and priorities of the community. Manage the day-to-day operations of the Town's departments. Ensure efficient use of resources and adherence to budgetary constraints. Foster effective communication and engagement with residents and businesses. Represent the Town's interests in regional, state, and federal forums. Have some knowledge of Human Resources. Promote transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct in all town activities. Education and Experience: The Board will consider, on a case by case basis, a combination of education and experience that shows capacity to perform the essential functions of the job. Qualified candidates should submit their resume to Rose DeHerrera, Town Clerk at rose@centercolorado.gov or Town of Center, PO Box 400, Center, CO 81125. The Town of Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity at all levels of its workforce. Closing: Open until filled. Salary: DOE with benefits. Job Type: Full Time/Exempt. Location: Town Hall, 294 S. Worth Street, Center, CO. (5/3/24)

TOWN OF MOFFAT, Colorado, WATER OPERATOR / WATER CONSULTANT. Job Description **WATER OPERATOR DUTIES**: 1. The Operator Responsible in Charge (ORC) shall have a Small Systems (D1) certification in good standing. 2. Identify CDPHE's Monitoring Schedule for Moffat and complete all tasks needed for compliance including sampling, reporting, and maintaining programs such as backflow prevention. 3. Records and communications will be public information. 4. Requires independent contractor insurance. 5. Estimated hours per month: 5-12. 6. Certification training may be provided. 7. Estimated pay range \$25 - \$30 per hour depending on experience. **WATER CONSULTANT DUTIES**: 1. Interface with town attorney and engineer regarding water system installation. 2. Complete tasks for Division of Water Resources (DWR) compliance requirements. 3. Serve as point person for public outreach and education regarding new municipal water system connections, including number of population and costs involved. 4. Perform tasks as they arise in developing a new municipal water system. 5. Establish and maintain Fee Schedule. 6. Requires independent contractor insurance. 7. Estimated hours per month: 10-30. 8. Estimated pay range \$40 - \$50 per hour depending on experience. (5/15/24)

FIRST SOUTHWEST BANK, a locally owned CDFI community bank, is seeking a **RELATIONSHIP MANAGER** with 3+ years of commercial loan experience and a **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. EOE. (5/1/24)

221- HELP WANTED

SOUTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking anticipated **ELEMENTARY TEACHERS** for the 24-25 school year. Applicants must possess a Colorado Teaching License or be eligible to apply for one. Salary schedules are available on the district website. Please submit a district application, resume, cover letter, and transcripts at https://www.southconejos.com/page/how-to-apply. (5/1/24)

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26t 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 PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER**, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications: Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (5/15/24)

DEL NORTE BANK is seeking a candidate to fill a permanent position for 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 full time in the summer and part time in the winter, with an end of season bonus and an hourly rate range of \$14.42 to \$17.00. Please send your resume or application to postmaster@truelocalbank.com by April 30, 2024. Application is available at TrueLocalBank.com/careers or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Dawn. EOE. (4/30/24)

MOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1 in **SAGUACHE** is looking for a Highly Qualified **K-12 PRINCIPAL**. Candidates should have a current Colorado Principal License, have a good working knowledge of all areas of public education, and have a great ambition to help all students and staff in delivering/receiving a high-quality education. Applications are available in person or on our website. All inquiries should be sent to Mr. Stagner at Mountain Valley Schools, 403 Pitkin Ave. Saguache, Colorado 81149. (5/1/24)

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for an **INSTRUCTIONAL COMPUTER/LIBRARY PARAPROFESSIONAL** at **BILL METZ ELEMENTARY** for the 2024-2025 school year. A complete list of desired qualifications and experience is posted on the district website. Monte Vista School District operates on a 4-day week (Monday – Thursday) and offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, HSA match, and life coverage. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Paraprofessional Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by education and experience at time of hire. Applications will not be accepted after close of business on Monday, April 22, 2024 at 6:30 AM. EOE. (4/20/24)

SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT IS accepting applications for a **ONE ON ONE PARAPROFESSIONAL**. Applications can be downloaded at www.sanford-schools.org. Sanford School is an EOE&E. (4/27/24)

221- HELP WANTED

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for a 6th **GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER** at **MONTE VISTA MIDDLE SCHOOL** for the 2024-2025 school year. A complete list of desired qualifications and experience is posted on the district website. The District operates on a 4-day week (Monday – Thursday) and offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, HSA match, and life coverage. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Teacher Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by education and experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities by April 25, 2024 or until the position is filled. For application questions contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (4/30/24)

FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE PERSON needed for apartment complex in **MONTE VISTA**. Interested persons need to have a minimum 2 years maintenance experience, valid driver's license, clean background check and pass a drug test. Maintenance duties include but not limited to minor plumbing & electrical, grounds keeping, maintaining buildings & common areas, and painting, etc. Interested persons should pick up an application at 551 Monroe Street, Monte Vista CO 81144. If any questions or further information is needed, please call 719-852-5505 or send resume to mvha04@yahoo.com Attn: Alonzo. Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer. (4/20/24)

NOTICE OF JOB opening for **STAKING ENGINEER**. **SAN LUIS VALLEY RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.**, located at 3625 US Hwy 160 W, **MONTE VISTA, Colorado** currently has an open position for a **Staking Engineer**. Work hours are Monday – Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., forty hours/week plus additional time as duties require. Responsible for communications with stakeholders, developing best value construction standards, producing accurate staking sheets including material lists and costs estimates, obtaining easements and permits, contributing to economic development with best value electric and fiber service opportunities, and interpreting maps, surveys and electric drawings. Education requirements include a degree in engineering, land surveying, construction management, journeyman lineman certification, or equivalent. Additional testing will be required. Visit our website at www.slvrec.com to complete the job application. Applications will not be accepted after close of business on Monday, April 22, 2024 at 6:30 AM. EOE. (4/20/24)

ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for an **ADVISING COORDINATOR** for its **UPWARD BOUND MATH & SCIENCE PROGRAM**. The salary for this position starts at \$46,476 per year. A minimum Bachelor's Degree in science, technology, engineering, math, or related field is required for this exempt position. For application details and more information, please see https://www.adams.edu/hr/employment/ AA/EOE. (4/27/24)

221- HELP WANTED

WATER/SEWER OPERATOR: PART-TIME; Pay based on experience; Job Title: Water and Sewer Operator. Job Description: The Water and Sewer Operator plays a vital role in ensuring the efficient and safe operation of the town's water and sewer systems. Responsibilities include monitoring, maintaining, and repairing water treatment and distribution systems, as well as sewer collection and treatment facilities. To apply, submit a resume to townofromeo@gmail.com or come in during office hours Tuesday or Thursday 9 to 3 for application. You can call 719-843-5785 for more information. (4/26/24)

PART-TIME MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN/PARKS & RECREATION TECHNICIAN: Part-Time Hourly 15-20 hours; Pay rate \$14.42/hour. Job Description: We are seeking a skilled and dedicated Part-Time Maintenance Technician/Parks and Recreation Technician to join our team in maintaining and enhancing the beauty and functionality of our town's parks and recreational areas. As a vital member of our community, you will be responsible for ensuring the upkeep, safety, and cleanliness of our parks, playgrounds, and town buildings and facilities. To apply, submit a resume to townofromeo@gmail.com or come in during office hours Tuesday or Thursday 9 to 3 for application. You can call 719-843-5785 for more information. (4/26/24)

DEPUTY CLERK: PART-TIME Hourly 15-20 hours, Tuesday-Thursday and some Fridays; Pay Rate \$14.42. Position Overview/ Job Description: We are seeking a diligent and organized individual to join our team as a Part-Time Deputy Clerk for our small town. The Deputy Clerk will work closely with the Town Clerk and other municipal staff to ensure the efficient operation of administrative tasks and provide support in various municipal functions. This position offers an excellent opportunity for someone who is detail-oriented, community-focused, and eager to contribute to the smooth functioning of local government. To apply, submit a resume to townofromeo@gmail.com or come in during office hours Tuesday or Thursday 9 to 3 for application. You can call 719-843-5785 for more information. (4/26/24)

MECHANIC: JT TIMBER FALLING is hiring a full-time **HEAVY EQUIPMENT** and **TRUCK MECHANIC** in **BLANCA, CO.** \$25-\$45/hr depending on experience. Monday – Friday schedule. Benefits are available. Call 719-379-4066 or visit jttimber.com to apply. (5/8/24)

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 Any regular or guaranteed ad can be picked up into another classified category for the entire length of the running time. Must be same ad, no copy changes. Ads run multiple locations in same issues.

Plan THREE **Free Ad**
 As a thank you to our readers, any item placed in the Courier with an advertised price of \$50 or less will be published FREE for 1 week (4 issues). Here's how it works:
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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

LOOKING FOR A rewarding and fulfilling career? Are you a positive, self-motivated individual? Consider a career with the MONTE VISTA HEAD START. FISCAL OFFICER is responsible for the fiscal management and fiscal reporting to the Office of Head Start and the Grantee Board. Must be proficient in QuickBooks and Microsoft office applications. Qualifications are: Experience in business or fiscal management, BA accounting, Business Management or related field. For more information, you may contact the director at director@mvheadstart.org or call 719-852-3215. Positions opened until filled. (4/26/24)

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26Jt is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the position of K-12 ART 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. (5/8/24)

NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for (1) HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER for the 2024-2025 school year. Applicant must hold a current Colorado teaching license or be willing to work toward certification. NCSD offers a competitive salary, great discipline and environment for staff and students, and up to \$915 monthly towards health insurance. Application deadline is until position is filled. Applications are available at the District Administration Office, 17887 US Hwy 285, LA JARA, CO 81140 or can be downloaded at www.northconejos.com. Submit application to Mr. Darren Edgar, Superintendent. EOE. (4/24/24)

NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for (1) full-time SECONDARY EDUCATION TEACHER at North Conejos Alternative Program for the 2024-2025 school year. Contact Susan Hamilton for details at 719-580-5864. Applicants must hold a current Colorado Teaching License or be able to obtain proper endorsement. NCSD offers a competitive salary, great discipline and environment for staff and students, and up to \$915 monthly towards health insurance. Applications are available at the District Administration Office, 17887 US Hwy 285, LA JARA, CO 81140 or can be downloaded at www.northconejos.com. Submit application to Mr. Darren Edgar, Superintendent. Application deadline is until position is filled. EOE. (4/24/24)

DATA ANALYST - LA PUENTE HOME INC., seeks a Data Analyst for its Adelante Family Resource Center Program. This position is responsible for overseeing Adelante's Data Systems and reporting frameworks to ensure the timely and accurate recording of data, transforming raw data into structured information 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 to program staff, overseeing the Work- Together program reporting requirements, and implementation of team meetings. Salary \$37,800 to \$40,000, DOE. Submit resumes and cover letters to HR@lapuente.net. Resumes without phone numbers and an email will not be considered. (4/19/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

CITY OF MONTE VISTA is accepting applications for KIDS CONNECTION SUMMER PROGRAM LEADERS. Duties include, planning, scheduling, and implementing youth program activities. \$15 per hour. Job Description and applications are available at <http://www.cityofmontevista.com> or City of Monte Vista, Human Resources, 95 West First Ave, Monte Vista, Co. 81144. (5/1/24)

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 immediately, contact 719-850-2137. Must have experience around machinery and farming practices. (5/1/24)

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

RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL an opening for an ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT; Manage the CEOs calendar, including making appointments, arranging appointments as necessary and needed, and prioritizing the most sensitive matters. Present highly professional and warm image to staff, public, and clients. organizing meetings, scheduling, sending reminders, organizing catering (when necessary), agenda preparation, meeting minutes, maintaining integrated files. Responsible for ensuring that Rio Grande Hospital providers are fully compliant with all state and federal 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 license and credential expiration dates and advise staff members of required renew. RGH is an EOE, complete an application online at <http://riograndehospital.org> under CONTACT, EMPLOYMENT. Additional questions: Call Paula Pacheco email paupal@riograndehospital.net or call 719-657-4111. (4/17/24)

HEAD JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL 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 coaching techniques and a thorough knowledge of the rules of the sport; and have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with school administrators, parents, and students. Please contact Gibbs Sanchez, Athletic Director, at gsanchez@urters.org 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at ahardy@urters.org 719-657-4020. (5/1/24)

CAFETERIA STAFF NEEDED AT UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. Must have a high school diploma and some knowledge of working in a kitchen or a willingness to be trained. Pay is dependent on prior experience. Please contact Leslie Martinez at 719-657-4040, x1100 or email her at lmartinez@urters.org. (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 (scruz@urters.org) for more information, go on-line: urters.org, 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 graduate and have a substitute license from CDE (Colorado Department of Education). (5/1/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

CSU-SAN LUIS VALLEY RESEARCH CENTER is seeking TEMPORARY hourly employees to work M-F 8:00am to 4:30pm, 30 to 40 hours per week. Aids in the preparation of research field experiments and crops. Provides planting, irrigating, cultivating, harvesting, storing crops and various 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)

LA PUENTE IS seeking a self-starting individual for the position of EMPLOYMENT NAVIGATOR as the front line worker in our Employment Readiness program. This program engages clients experiencing barriers to employment to support their journey from unemployed or underemployed to stability and independence. The Navigator will work with La Puente's Shelter, Street Outreach, and Adelante programs, as well as local employers and employment programs to help clients overcome barriers and obtain employment. The Navigator also works to build trust, conduct assessments, make referrals, identify resources, and collect data. Ability to problem-solve and collaborate with other agencies is a must. 36k-40k DOE. Send resume: La Puente, P.O. Box 1235, ALAMOSA, CO 81101, 719 589-5909. www.lapuente.net Email: hr@lapuente.net. (4/17/24)

POTATO WAREHOUSE IN CENTER IN NEED OF WORKERS. There are SEVERAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE. Hours 8:00 am-??? Competitive wages. Please inquire at MOUNTAIN KING SPUD GROWERS, 1090 South Miles Street, Center, CO. (5/1/24)

SHIPPING CLERK NEEDED for a POTATO WAREHOUSE IN CENTER, CO. Hours are generally 8am-6pm Monday thru Friday, and possibly a few hours Saturday mornings. FAMOUS software experience and knowledge a must. Salary is negotiable. Please inquire at MOUNTAIN KING SPUD GROWERS, 1090 South Miles Street, Center, CO or email resume or application to tluna@mntknng.com. (5/1/24)

STEFFENS QUALITY PLUMBING & HEATING is looking for a LICENSED PLUMBER / HEATING TECHNICIAN. We offer an amazing benefit package with 401(k), paid vacation, and holidays. Licensed/experienced persons only. Please send resumé or job experience to amosaplumber@gmail.com. Or call 719-589-0257. (4/16/24)

DEL NORTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER needed at the URGS. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching 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 License. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Principal at aduda@urters.org, or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urters.org. (4/30/24)

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

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

221 - HELP WANTED

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 carrying petroleum products to our customers. We are currently seeking experienced CDL drivers to join our team in ALAMOSA, CO. This is a DAYSHIFT POSITION. EARNINGS! \$5,000 sign on bonus; Starting pay \$23/hr. For day shift; Additional \$1.00/hr. with one year of fuel experience; Performance Bonus \$5,000; Earn Your First Year; Day Shift Average (with 1 year fuel experience) - \$1,320 Weekly / \$76,640 Annually. WHAT YOU WILL LOVE ABOUT US! Home Daily! Health Benefits from day one! Medical with HSA and FSA options; three plans to choose from to fit your needs; Dental, Vision, Teladoc, Employee Assistance Programs; \$0 Premium Medical Insurance Option; Prepare for the Future with 401K Retirement Plan with company matching, no vesting period; Rest and Relaxation 120 hours PTO, 7 paid holiday, and 4 floating holidays; Financial Peace of Mind: Company paid Short-Term Disability, Life, and AD&D Insurance; Additional Perks We Offer: Long Term Disability Insurance, Accident & Critical Illness Insurance, Legal & Identity Theft Protection, Paid Uniform and Boots, Satellite Radio; Learning and Development, LinkedIn Learning; Fleet of modern vehicles with the latest in cab technologies; Referral bonus program. WHAT YOU WILL NEED! Current CDL; HazMat & Tank endorsements; Two years of recent Class CDL driving experience required; Pass required MVR and DOT pre-employment testing and background check. Apply Today! Questions 707.761.7671. (4/24/24)

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)

½ 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@urters.org. Applications may be picked up at the District Office or online at: urters.org. (4/17/24)

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@urters.org, 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at ahardy@urters.org, 719-657-4020. Applications may be found on our website: www.urters.org. (4/17/24)

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)

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

BLACK POWDER MORTAR with ammo. 69 caliber BLACK POWDER CANON with ammo. Call 719-850-1032. (4/24/24)

267 - WORK WANTED

FREELANCE DRIVER FOR HIRE. Will drive any vehicle across town or state. Call 719-580-5745. (4/13/24)

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)

324 - SEED & FEED

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

345 - WOOD

THANK YOU, VALLEY COURIER. I SOLD MY WOOD SPLITTER! Frank.

353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK

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

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

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)

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

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

368 - PETS & SUPPLIES

AKC ROTTI'S FOR SALE. Excellent temperament. 719-480-4940. (4/26/24)

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 & ACREAGES

160 ACRES W/ well, electric, and road. SAQUACHE COUNTY, \$80,000. 719-221-0825. (4/20/24)

426 - MOBILEHOMES FORSALE

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

525 - GUNS

BLACK POWDER MORTAR with ammo. 69 caliber BLACK POWDER CANON with ammo. Call 719-850-1032. (4/24/24)

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Now Taking Applications



Alamosa's elderly disabled apartment community is open. Spacious 2 bedroom apartments. Rent is based on income. Must meet eligibility criteria. Applications may be picked up at: 1410 W. 11th St. • Alamosa or call 589-4970 (behind Valley Athletics). This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.

Affordable Multi Family Housing

Multi-family apartment complex with affordable 1 & 2 bedroom units available, with rental assistance for those who qualify



Apply Today!

High Valley Manor
503 Batterson, Monte Vista
719-852-5711 • M-F, 8-Noon
This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.

We currently are accepting applications for the Sierra Vista Apartment Complex 2, 3 & 4 bedroom apartments.

Monte Vista Housing Authority
551 Monroe Street
Monte Vista, CO
719-852-5505

T.D.D.
1-800-659-2656



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

We currently are accepting applications for the Monte Vista Housing Complex 1, 2, 3 bedroom apartments.

Monte Vista Housing Authority
551 Monroe Street
Monte Vista, CO
719-852-5505

T.D.D.
1-800-659-2656



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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.



FEEL LIKE A FISH OUT OF WATER?

New in town? Get acquainted with and all it has to offer by ordering a subscription to the Valley Courier 719-589-2553

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Where To Dine!
Community Bulletin Board!
Professional Services!
...And more!



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Buying and Selling in the Valley Courier Classifieds can be the Best Way to get the most Bang for Your Buck!
Give Us a Try!

Valley Courier
589-2553

SAVE on FUEL Shop Locally

Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 — in (sign up)
 - 4 Recipe measure
 - 7 Sharpen
 - 11 Mal de —
 - 12 Angry
 - 13 City in Hawaii
 - 14 Anger
 - 15 Mattress size
 - 16 Stew pot
 - 17 Jeweled headband
 - 19 Stiff
 - 21 Droop
 - 22 — Maria
 - 23 Title of nobility
 - 24 Unfriendly
 - 25 Sch. in Cambridge
 - 28 Female animal
 - 29 "— Joey"
 - 30 Traffic barrier
 - 31 War god
 - 32 Get more mature
 - 33 "Clair de —"
 - 34 Tip

- 35 Hit show announcement**
- 36 Average (hyph.)**
- 37 Flower necklace**
- 38 Fear**
- 39 Versus**
- 43 "— we meet again ..."**
- 46 Lion's share**
- 47 Golf club**
- 49 Caviar**
- 50 Gothic arch**
- 51 Unseen emanation**
- 52 Stopped fasting**
- 53 Skyrocket**
- 54 Beak**
- 55 Golf target**

- DOWN**
- 1 Leave unmentioned
 - 2 Persian fairy
 - 3 Cherished
 - 4 Bovine creature

Answer to Previous Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | | |
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| W | A | S | E | T | C | D | A | S | H |
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- 5 "Exodus" author**
- 6 Five-pointed star**
- 7 Complete**
- 8 Sword handle**
- 9 "Legally Blonde" role**
- 10 Amphibian**
- 12 Step**
- 18 Does a lawn job**
- 20 — League**
- 23 "That — Cat!"**
- 24 Villain in Shakespeare**
- 25 Rodent catcher**
- 26 — — uncertain terms**
- 27 Casual shirt**
- 28 Actress — West**
- 29 Frenchman**
- 30 Buffoon**
- 35 D.C. bigwig**
- 36 Steam bath**
- 37 Metric measure**
- 39 Famous —**
- 40 — dancer**
- 41 Lost**
- 42 Factual**
- 44 Jot**
- 45 Wanton look**
- 48 Ball**

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| 53 | | | | 54 | | | | | 55 | |

ALLEY OOP

MAYBE I'M PARANOID, BUT NOTHING GOOD EVER CAME FROM A MYSTERIOUS DEVICE COUNTING DOWN TO ZERO.

I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING. MAYBE AT THE END, THERE WILL BE A BEAUTIFUL LIGHT SHOW. OR PERHAPS TINY ALIENS WILL EXIT THE DEVICE.

BUT JUST TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE, I THINK I KNOW HOW TO STOP IT FR—

10... 9... 8... 7...

6... 5... 4... 3... 2... 1...

KABOOM!

ARLO & JANIS

REALLY? GODZILLA VS KING KONG? AGAIN?

I WATCHED THOSE MOVIES WHEN I WAS A LITTLE KID!

THEY WERE OLD MOVIES THEN!

I MAY BE A GRUMPY OLD MAN WHEN THINGS CHANGE, BUT I'M GRUMPYER WHEN THEY DON'T!

we must destroy the monster.

yes we must!

BIG NATE

THANKS FOR NOTHING, WHITEY!

BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T GIVE ME A GOOD LUCK HUG, I COMPLETELY FAILED THE MATH TEST!

AW, SORRY, MAN.

SYMPATHY HUG.

THIS JUST MAKES ME MORE BITTER.

THE BORN LOSER

WILBERFORCE! HOW COULD YOU?

YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY—APRIL SHOWERS BRING...

MUD!

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

APRIL CAN YOU TAKE MY HAND? - I CAN'T REACH HER, ELLY!!

GRAB THAT BRANCH - I'LL HOLD YOUR JACKET!!

PLEASE... IF I NEVER DO ANYTHING ELSE IN MY WHOLE LIFE... LET ME DO THIS!!!

FRANK & ERNEST

BOOKSTORE

SELF HELP

THAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH LIFE, THERE'S PLENTY OF OWNER'S MANUALS BUT NO WARRANTIES.

GARFIELD

"BREAKFAST ALWAYS SERVED"

I'LL HAVE TWO EGGS OVER EASY FOR DINNER, THEN

RIGHT

WAKE UP THE CHICKEN!

AND GIVE THE PIG A NUDGE, TOO

THE GRIZZWELLS

WEIGHT

YOU WEIGH 900 LBS. WHICH ISN'T SURPRISING CONSIDERING ALL THE JUNK FOOD YOU EAT

PEANUTS

TO CONCLUDE...

IS READING REALLY IMPORTANT?

IF YOU WERE TO ASK ME, I'D SAY "YES!"

IF I SAID "NO" I'D GET A LOUSY GRADE!

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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| | | | 1 | | | | | 9 | |

HERMAN

"What am I going to do if it rains?"

Boyfriend's contact with exes raises fresh doubts

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have dated for seven months. We have a good relationship in terms of compatibility. We are both Christian and educated, and we have good professions. We are fun-loving and both of us like to invest and travel. He enjoys my company and says I am the girl with the best qualities he's ever dated.

But I do have one issue: He stays in close contact with his former on-and-off girlfriend of 10 years and other women he dated. When I asked him about it, he said he cares about other people and likes to keep in touch with them.

An example: Last year when he was single, he wanted to take his long-term ex-girlfriend out for a day trip, dinner and a musical so she could get away from her apartment. Her daughter and grandkids, who were living with her, made her life very tough. My boyfriend and this ex also text each other often to keep up with each other's family and life.

I feel uneasy about this. Wouldn't most women? To me, if you don't think a relationship is working, you should stop seeing each other so you don't cause more confusion or stir up more emotion. How should I deal with this? I like this guy a lot and really think we have something going. --

SHARINGHIMINTEXAS DEAR SHARING HIM: When people end long-term relationships, they don't all do it in the same way. Some of them have a dramatic blowup and never speak to the person again. Others remain friends for many years.

If your boyfriend's former flame has an adult daughter and grandkids, none of you are inexperienced kids yourselves. If you really want a future with him, you may have to accept that he won't be happy if you try to curtail his social contacts. If you can't summon up enough self-confidence to manage that, perhaps you should find someone else.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 68-year-old married man with no close friends. I worked for 35 years in my family-owned bar and restaurant, until they lost it. After that, I worked as an assistant manager in a few fast-food places, then as an assistant manager in a major pharmacy.

At 65, after three knee surgeries and a foot fusion, I retired from working full time. I now work part time for a physical therapy center, mostly to keep busy and make a few bucks. I have no hobbies or major interests. I have a few health issues, which are under control.

I feel lonely most of the time. I know a lot of people and get along with people



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

-- I just FEEL lonely. I have two sons I'm very proud of who have families of their own, but they're busy with their lives. I have no one to talk to who won't judge me for feeling the way I do. Can you give me any direction of where to turn? -- A BIT LONELY IN THE EAST

DEAR LONELY: You say you are married. Is it a happy marriage? You also have part-time employment. These are things to be grateful for. Your persistent loneliness may be something to mention to your doctors. The problem could be emotional, spiritual, existential or physical, or it may simply be boredom. But the place to start would be a doctor or a spiritual adviser to help you get to the bottom of this.

Lifestyle

SLVH offers specialty care in Pediatrics from visiting Children's Hospital

By SAN LUIS VALLEY HEALTH

ALAMOSA — San Luis Valley Health is thrilled to announce a significant enhancement in pediatric healthcare in the Pediatrics Clinic, thanks to a collaboration with Children's Hospital. This initiative brings specialized care teams directly to the patients in Alamosa, making advanced and highly specialized healthcare accessible right where it's needed.

In early April, SLVH welcomed Dr. Joyce Oleszek and the Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine team, along with Dr. Seema Bansal's Neurology team from Children's Hospital. This effort provided families the convenience of specialized care

in the familiar setting of their pediatrician's office, demonstrating SLVH's ongoing commitment to healthcare excellence within the San Luis Valley.

A special acknowledgment to Kelly Gurule, SLVH Foundation Director, who played a pivotal role in securing funding for two new hydraulic patient beds, significantly enhancing the care experience for the young patients. These beds were made possible by the generous donations from SLVH employees through their annual giving campaign, underscoring the collective effort and spirit of the organization.

SLV Health looks forward to hosting the Pe-

diatric Cardiology and Pediatric Development teams from Children's Hospital in the coming months. These specialists (along with the Rehab and Neurology teams) will visit on a rotating basis, further ensuring that children from this community have access to the care they need, when they need it.

For inquiries or further details, please reach out to the SLV Health Pediatric office at 719-589-8004. This collaboration with Children's Hospital, supported by the dedication and generosity of our staff, marks a step forward in providing comprehensive, specialized pediatric care closer to home for the families of the San Luis Valley.



Courtesy photo

The picture is of SLVH's Pediatrician, Dr. Jason Kalan, inspecting the new bed that raises and lowers in the clinic setting.



Snake alert: What to do if your pet is bitten

By PET TALK

Spring has sprung, but flowers may not be the only things popping up in your yard; this also is the season when snakes come out of hibernation.

There are almost 3,000 different species of snakes in the world, with less than a third considered venomous, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service. However, only four types of venomous snakes are found in the U.S., including rattlesnakes, copperheads, cottonmouths or water moccasins, and coral snakes — and all of them are present in Texas.

Regardless of the type of snake you may encounter, Dr. Christine Rutter, a clinical associate professor of emergency medicine at the Texas A&M School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, encourages owners to have all snake bites evaluated by a veterinarian if they suspect their pet has been bitten, as bites from non-venomous snakes can lead to medical complications as well.

Understanding Snake Behavior

Snakes, with their remarkable adaptability, live in a wide variety of places, from dense rainforests and arid deserts to urban environments.

"I live in a suburban environment, and I have seen snakes even in my small yard," Rutter said. "I make sure I turn on the house lights and make a bit of noise before letting my pets out, giving snakes a bit of warning and hopefully time to move away and hide. Snakes themselves don't want to interact with people or pets because they are interested in being left alone; they defend themselves only if they feel threatened."

To remain unnoticed, snakes often seek out hid-

ing places, but this natural inclination to hide can sometimes make it difficult for pets to notice them until they are too close, potentially causing the snake to react defensively.

"Snakes really love patches of tall grass, leaf piles, wood piles, sheds, and areas that have lower daily traffic, such as garages and storage buildings," Rutter said. "Snake deterrents and chemicals, unfortunately, don't work, so owners should keep pets away from outbuildings and maintain the pet's environment by removing leaves, debris, and tall grass."

Immediate Actions When Bitten

Despite taking precautions, there is always a chance that pets come across snakes, which is why it is important for owners to be able to recognize signs that their pet has been bitten.

"Dogs are most commonly bitten on the face, neck, and front limbs, while cats are most commonly bitten on their front paws," Rutter explained. "Because some snakes don't leave a typical 'bite' on a pet, owners may not find one or two bleeding puncture wounds. Instead, they should look for other signs in their pet, including pain, fear, abnormal mentality, seizures, or difficulty walking."

Unlike some other injuries or illnesses where first aid measures can be applied at home, all snake bites require immediate veterinary attention.

"Owners should immediately remove the collar of any animal that has been bitten to prevent it from becoming constricting should the pet have swelling around their head or neck," Rutter said. "Otherwise, there are no medications that can be given at home that are effective at treating snake bites or are appropriate to control the

pain, so don't administer anything — just see your veterinarian."

If possible, owners also should try to gather information about the snake culprit without putting themselves in danger, either by taking a picture of the snake from a safe distance or describing its size, color, and distinctive markings from afar.

"Many snakes are not venomous, but differentiating between venomous and nonvenomous snakes is quite difficult, especially in the moment," Rutter said. "Common things veterinarians will want to know are the snake's color(s); patterns such as stripes or shapes versus a solid color; and the presence of a rattle. Sometimes a snake's tail is a unique color, which can also be a helpful indicator."

Information about the snake can help veterinarians in determining the type of snake and whether administering an appropriate antivenom will be necessary, but owners should prioritize getting their pet to the veterinarian before a snake bite begins causing severe health problems such as difficulty breathing.

By being aware of your pet's surroundings and making small adjustments to their environment, you can help keep them safe from hidden dangers like snakes. Remember, if you have reason to believe your pet was bitten by a snake, it's important to visit your veterinarian as soon as possible.

Pet Talk is a service of the School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University. Stories can be viewed on the web at vet-med.tamu.edu/news/pet-talk. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to vbms-editor@tamu.edu.

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