



LOR Foundation
donates \$1,500 to
MVHS FBLA students

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Lady Tigers fall to Ignacio

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

April 5, 2024

\$1

SLV Today

SLVH advises people to beware of scam

ALAMOSA — SLV Health has become aware of a phishing attempt using its clinic phone number. SLVH officials ask the public to be cautious of any calls claiming to be from SLVH requesting personal information or payment.

If you receive such a call, hang up immediately and call one of the SLVH clinics to report this activity, 719-589-3000.

Washington Avenue road closure begins Monday, April 8

ALAMOSA — As part of the Alamosa Streets Trust Fund tax that was passed in 2019, beginning Monday, April 8, crews will begin the reconstruction work of Washington Avenue. This project will include replacement of infrastructure such as water, sewer, curb, gutter and sidewalks. Construction is anticipated to last 4 months.

For questions, contact the Public Works Department at 719-589-6631.

Sangre de Cristo School Board of Education meeting

MOSCA — The Sangre de Cristo School Board of Education regular monthly meeting will be Tuesday, April 9, in the school Library at 8751 Lane 7 North, Mosca CO at 6 p.m. Copies of agendas are posted at school site, website, the Hooper and Mosca Post Offices, and the Mosca Pit Stop. Meetings are open to the public.

SLV WEATHER



Mostly Sunny, Windy, Blowing Dust 66/31
Sat: Snow Likely, High Winds, blowing Dust 41/21
Sun: Sunny, Breezy 53/21

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Council approves on first reading ordinance to set hours, ban weapons in city parks

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — An ordinance that sets curfews at all city parks, trails, open spaces and dog parks and prohibits dangerous and or deadly weapons in all city parks and recreation facilities in Alamosa was passed by the city council on first reading during Wednesday night's meeting.

In the past, hours for the parks and recreation

■ See **PARKS** page 3

Cole Park in Alamosa.

Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner



Danielle Wobith (left), and Cari Conari owners of the SLV Apothecary in their new location at 1617 State Avenue in Alamosa.

SLV Apothecary grows with new location

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

ALAMOSA — SLV Apothecary, the local old-time herb tea shop which also has foods from local cultivators and producers, has expanded to a new State Avenue location on the south side of Alamosa. The location boasts a kitchen and is at 1617 State Ave. The store is open Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The apothecary moved into their current location in mid-

January from the old downtown Alamosa venue and now has all the needed permits to operate the kitchen that offers lunch for sale and the galley for guest chefs.

The shop is owned by CaRi Conari and Danielle Wobith, the shop offers many custom tea blends including Insomnia Tea which includes Valerian leaf and flower, orange peel, and chamomile, and Easy Digest Tea a blend of leaves, lilac blossoms, fennel, and rose-

mary. The business began in Alamosa two years ago after the two met and decided their skills complemented each other and the business was born.

Wobith describes the location as, "a grocery store — apothecary. There is the food bank on one side and we are on the other. We bring an apothecary and groceries to an area that does not have one, so that is exciting. Local farmers can come

■ See **GROWS** page 3

USDA Rural Development announces Baroz as new Single Family Housing Director in Colorado

She will work out of Alamosa office

By US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DENVER — U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) Colorado Acting State Director, Irene Etsitty announced Tineel Baroz as the new Single Family Housing Programs Director in Colorado. Baroz was born and raised in the San Luis Valley and has been with the agency nearly for

16 years. Baroz will work out of the Alamosa USDA Rural Development Office, located at 101 S. Craft Dr., Alamosa.

"The work we do here at USDA RD improves the quality of lives in rural America. Every day we are given an opportunity to make a difference and I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve as the Single Family Housing Program Director for Colorado," said Baroz.

USDA Rural Development has over 70+ programs available to help with affordable housing,

business development, and community infrastructure. Our team in Colorado provides tools and resources that ensure rural families, businesses, and communities have the help they need to prosper, today and in the future.

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs, and

improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety, and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, tribal, and high-poverty areas. For more information in Colorado, visit www.rd.usda.gov/co.



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Record



Courtesy photo

The LOR Foundation donated \$1,500 to the Monte Vista High School Future Business Leaders of America club to help the students attend a state competition in Denver this week.

LOR Foundation donates \$1,500 to MVHS FBLA students

By MARIE MCCOLM MONTE VISTA — On Tuesday, March 26, the LOR Foundation donated \$1,500 to the Future Business Leaders of America club at Monte Vista High School. The money was given to assist the business students with their attendance at the state competition for FBLA to help with expenses associated with the trip. The sponsorship will help with the cost of travel, meals, and lodging.

The students were excited about the scholarship and publicly thanked the LOR Foundation for their help.

The LOR Officer for Monte Vista, Ivette Atencio, was excited to help the students.

"I feel very honored to help our local schools and our students with their educational endeavors. No student should be limited to their educational opportunities due to financial barriers. This funding will also help alleviate any financial worry that the students' families may have about the trip. I am very happy to have the opportunity to help with this," she said.

The idea for the sponsorship began when Monte Vista High School business teacher John

Naranjo reached out to the LOR Foundation to request help. Naranjo reached out as there are 21 students who are set to compete at the state FBLA competition this week.

According to Atencio, while the school was able to cover most of the trip, donations and sponsorships are always helpful as many schools require more funding to completely cover trips. This ensures that there is less financial strain on students and their families.

The \$1,500 that was awarded by the LOR Foundation will help cover anything that the school cannot cover.

Future Business Leaders of America, better known as FBLA, is one of the largest business student organizations in the world. According to FBLA.org, students in FBLA gain like-minded business socialization skills, and networking connections. The organization helps prepare students for career development in business beyond their high school and college years.

FBLA helps students build and obtain confidence in themselves, through recognition awards and there are even ways students can

use FBLA to obtain scholarships for continuing education.

The FBLA state competition allows students to compete in different areas to obtain leadership and awards. There are different competitive events and subjects at the competition including Public Speaking, Business Law, Entrepreneurship, and Accounting.

According to the LOR Foundation website, the LOR Foundation is a private nonprofit organization that works with individuals and business organizations to help with projects that benefit rural areas. The LOR Foundation helps with funding, support, and resources.

The LOR foundation seeks community, social, and individual input on how to kick start projects that benefit many rural areas in the Mountain West area. The LOR Foundation helps improve the quality of life for many individuals and organizations by assisting with money and resources. LOR stands for Livability, Opportunity, and Responsibility.

For more information on FBLA or the LOR Foundation you may visit their online websites and Facebook Pages.

SLVH's Wisniewski achieves expert designation

By SAN LUIS VALLEY HEALTH ALAMOSA — Thomas Wisniewski, Director of Pharmacy, San Luis Valley Health, has completed the Apexus Advanced 340B Operations Certificate Program and is now recognized as a certified expert in the 340B Drug Pricing Program.

The program is a federal drug discount program that permits eligible hospitals, community health centers, and clinics to purchase outpatient prescription drugs at significantly reduced discounts as a way to extend their scarce federal resources within their communities. The program is critical to generating savings for America's safety-net hospitals to provide programs and services for poor and underserved patients.

"Completing the Advanced 340B Operations



Courtesy photo

San Luis Valley Health Director of Pharmacy Thomas Wisniewski recently completed the Apexus Advanced 340B Operations Certificate Program.

Certificate program was a difficult but rewarding accomplishment that will greatly help SLV Health and our patients," commented Christine Hettlinger-Hunt, Chief Operating Officer at SLVH. "The 340B program is incredibly complex. Completing this level of education provides knowledge that is vital to implementing and maintaining a com-

pliant 340B program. Congratulations to Tom for achieving this level of expertise."

Wisniewski acknowledged that the training was rigorous, and he learned a lot along the way.

"Graduating from this program will allow more opportunity to innovate and provide solutions to our team and the community," he said.

Culvert repair project got underway April 1

Project will occur at five different locations in two counties

By COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CHAFEE AND COSTILLA COUNTIES — The Colorado Department of Transportation began culvert repair work this week along four roadways in two south-central Colorado counties: US Highway 160 in Costilla County and US 24, US 285, and US 50 in Chaffee County. American West Construction, is the contractor for this project.

Project work will be implemented in phases between April and August. The first culvert repair project will happen on US 160 at Mile Point 265, about seven miles east of Ft. Garland. Crews will then move operations to US 285 at MP 130, three miles north of Poncha Springs. The third phase of the project will happen on US 50 at MP 223, one

mile east of Salida. The project team will then move operations to US 285 at MP 136, nine miles north of Poncha Springs. The final phase of the culvert repair project will be on US 24 at MP 202, eight miles north of Buena Vista.

Culverts are required features of roadway infrastructure to pass water under a road at drainage areas or stream crossings. The project will make necessary enhancements to accommodate higher accumulations of rainfall and lower the risks associated with flooding to maintain safe driving conditions. Work will primarily consist of regrading the culvert inlet to align drainage with the invert of the pipe, removing the existing inlet headwalls, and replacing the culverts with new headwalls, wings, and concrete lining the pipe.

Traffic Impacts

Beginning April 1, motorists will encounter the first culvert repair work zone located on US 160 east of Ft. Garland (MP

265). Traffic impacts will include:

- Daytime work hours range from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday

- Vehicles may occasionally be reduced to a single-lane, alternating traffic intermittently in either direction, throughout the duration of the project

- Any periodic lane closures would be guided by flaggers and could have up to 10-15-minute delays

- The speed limit will be reduced to 45 mph through the work zone

- The project is expected to last until the end of August

Project Information

For additional information about this project:

- Call the project information line at 719-581-4849

- Email the project team at: southcentralculvertrepairs@gmail.com

- Visit the project website at: codot.gov/projects/southcentralculverts

Election: New mayors for Center and Del Norte

STAFF REPORT VALLEY — Del Norte and Center are poised to have new mayors according to the initial results of Tuesday's municipal elections.

Daniel "Archie" Gallegos was leading Center's mayoral election, according to preliminary unofficial results released by the Town of Center.

Gallegos was a current trustee and decided to run for mayor against incumbent Anthony Tony Garcia in the April 2 election. Gallegos received 175 votes and Garcia received 140.

Four trustee seats were also before voters — three 4-year terms and one 2-year term. Incumbents Nivek Beiriger with 213 votes and Bill McClure with 159 and newcomer Paul Lopez with 220 votes were leading in the race for the 4-year terms. James Sanchez with 152 votes was leading in the 2-year term.

There could be some jostling in the trustee races as more votes are counted.

Susan Gardea was fifth with 143 votes, followed by Natalia Judith Hernandez with 107 and Rogelio Aguilar with 101 votes.

Voters were also deciding Issue A, which creates a special economic development fund to be used for downtown revitalization and North 90 development. It received 175 yes votes and 126 no votes.

If approved, it takes .5 percent of the voter-approved 2 percent sales tax passed in 2020 to create the new economic development fund. The remaining 1.5 percent will continue to be used for capital improvements to town assets, public safety services, and park equipment improvements in the general fund.

Burnett leading in Del Norte mayor's race

The Town of Del Norte woke up to change Wednesday morning April 3 as unofficial results were released late Tuesday night, April 2. According to the Town of Del Norte, Mayoral candidate Shelly Burnett was eas-

ily in front with 205 votes. Incumbent Mayor Chris Trujillo was next with 36 votes followed by mayoral candidate Shawn Goforth with 29 votes.

In the election for the three open trustee seats, Sarah A. White received the most votes with 211, followed by Louie Velasquez with 148 and Andrew Velasquez with 131. Bobbie L. Lopez came in with 123 votes and Jonathon Medina came in with 113 votes.

Crestone elects four trustees

Crestone voters elected four trustees from five candidates during their election Tuesday. The leading vote getters according to preliminary results from the Town of Crestone were Benjamin Byers with 40 votes, Armando Mendez with 36, Dennis Posluszny with 32 and Kimberly Martinez with 27. Dana Oglesby received 20 votes.

More ballots are being counted and verified. Official results will be announced when it is certified.

Eligible Coloradans encouraged to apply for Colorado's Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) by April 30 deadline

By COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DENVER — April 30 is the last day to apply for Colorado's Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP). LEAP helps eligible individuals and families pay a portion of winter home heating costs by making a one-time payment directly to the utility company on behalf of each LEAP-eligible household. This season, eligible families can expect to receive between \$200 to \$1,000 in energy assistance, depending on the type of heating fuel, household income and other factors.

"It's not too late for Coloradans to apply for LEAP," says Theresa Kullen, LEAP manager. "The extra money that LEAP provides to help pay home energy bills can make a difference for the nearly 500,000 Coloradans who have report-

ed finding it very difficult to pay basic household expenses recently."

To qualify for LEAP, Coloradans may have an income of up to 60 percent of the state median income. This equates to a household income of less than \$71,112 a year for a family of four. For a further breakdown of income requirements, visit the LEAP website.

Additionally, LEAP recipients must pay home heating costs directly to a utility company or landlord as part of their rent and have at least one U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident of the U.S. living in the household.

To access the LEAP application, visit cdhs.colorado.gov/leap. Online applications are processed through the Colorado PEAK system. You can also call the HEAT HELP line at 1-866-HEAT-HELP (1-866-432-8435)

to receive an application via mail or email or visit your local county department of human services office to pick up or drop off an application.

PENDING OBITUARIES

Charles Sylvester

Alamosa resident Charles Sylvester, 37, passed away April 2, 2024. Arrangements are pending and will be announced through Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

Francisco D. Martinez

Ft. Garland resident Francisco D. Martinez, 25, passed away April 2, 2024. Arrangements are pending and will be announced through Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

Jeffrey John Gonzales

Former Monte Vista resident Jeffrey John Gonzales, 44, passed away on April 1, 2024, in Pueblo, Colo. Arrangements are pending and will be cared for through Mountain Valley Mortuary.

School Menu
Friday
April 5, 2024

No
School

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

Valley News

Proclamation night in Alamosa

Three proclamations were approved by the city council during their Wednesday night meeting, which were read by the newest council members as well as Mayor Coleman. The week of April 2-8 was declared Dark Sky Week in Alamosa, with Councilor Dominguez reading. April was declared Sexual Assault Awareness month, with Mayor Ty Coleman reading. And the third, declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention month, was read by Councilor Jackie Vigil. Following each proclamation there were group photos. In this photo, staff members with Tu Casa posed with Mayor Ty Coleman and other members of city council for the Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Tu Casa staff were presented with the Child Abuse Prevention month proclamation, as well.

Photo by Holly Martinez, City of Alamosa



Red Flag Warning issued for the San Luis Valley

VALLEY — The National Weather Service in Pueblo, Colorado has issued a Red Flag Warning for the San Luis Valley including Alamosa, Del Norte, Fort Garland, and Saguache.



A Red Flag Warning remains in effect from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday for gusty winds and low

relative humidity for fire weather zone 224.

- Winds — South 30 to 40 mph with gusts up to 50 mph.
- Relative Humidity — As low as 12 percent.
- Impacts — Conditions may be favorable for rapid rates of fire growth and spread.

Precautionary pre-

paredness actions: A Red Flag Warning means that critical fire weather conditions are either occurring now or will shortly. A combination of strong winds, low relative humidity, and warm temperatures can contribute to extreme fire behavior. Additional Red Flag Warnings are possible through Monday. Fire burn restrictions may also be in effect.



Courier photo by John Waters

This new location of the SLV Apothecary on State Avenue in Alamosa is much larger than the previous location the purveyor of fresh, local foods, herbs, teas, and more.

Water

Continued from Page 1 for fightin’.”

On Friday, April 12, kids can whet their creative appetite when they “Decorate a pot for a low water plant” at the library. Kids event is at

1:30 p.m. Tweens at 5:30 p.m. On Saturday, April 13, the whole family is invited to wade into the topic of saving water with a Family Water Conservation event at the library. Drop in from 12 to 2 p.m. “Water touches everything,” as the saying goes.

And with water scarcity an ever-increasing concern, learning about conservation — and having fun while you’re at it — is one of the best things you can do for the good of everyone. Questions or to RSVP, contact bramza@ci.alamosa.co.us.

Parks

Continued from Page 1 facilities have been set by policy by the city of Alamosa. The same holds true for safety provisions regarding weapons.

As explained by Andy Rice, director of Alamosa Parks and Recreation when presenting the ordinance to the council, recent incidents of violence that occurred last year in two different parks in the city sparked a conversation between Parks and Recreation and the Alamosa Police Department (APD).

Specifically, last year, a youth allegedly shot someone in Carroll Park, and, in an unrelated incident, a juvenile was taken into custody after stabbing the proprietor of a carnival being held at Cole Park.

Although infrequent, the violence of the situations and their impact on public safety prompted the discussion of what measures should be put in place.

As Rice explained, currently parks are open 24 hours. Although camping in public parks is prohibited, APD officers have encountered individuals who claimed they were not camping, they were “napping”, which put officers in the position of having to discern whether further engagement was required.

As APD Sergeant Squires told council, setting hours “gives us a reason to contact people and check out what they’re doing.” It is also believed that the curfew will reduce vandalism.

If passed, Ordinance 4-2024 will set hours for

city parks from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m., with the exception of special events that have been reviewed and approved by city staff on a case-by-case basis. Overnight camping, tents, enclosures, or other unpermitted structures such as “bouncy castles” or the sale of goods and services are prohibited, unless otherwise posted or authorized by Alamosa Parks and Recreation.

Open space and dog parks will be open from dawn to dusk, unless otherwise posted or authorized by Alamosa Parks and Recreation.

There is a caveat built into the ordinance that pertains to “transient,” use of parks and open spaces, citing runners and walkers as an example. “There are a lot of people who like to run or walk on paths in the park or the trails,” Rice said.

As worded in the document given to council members ahead of Wednesday night’s meeting, “Like most rules and regulations, enforcement is at the discretion of law enforcement and would be used when appropriate versus prohibitive towards exercise and wellness type use.”

As its title, “Setting Official Hours for Public Use of Alamosa Parks and Open Spaces and Prohibiting Deadly Weapons in all Parks, Open Space and Recreation Facilities,” states, Ordinance 4-2024 also bans weapons in parks and recreation facilities including knives or any other dangerous instrument capable of inflicting cutting, stabbing, or tearing wounds having a blade of over 3.5 inches.

An exception is provided for hunting or fishing knives carried for sports

use. Except for law enforcement officers in the lawful discharge of their duties, possession or use of deadly weapons are also prohibited. As defined in C.R.S. § 18-1-901(3)(e) a deadly weapon includes firearms, bludgeons, or any other weapon intended to be used or capable of death or serious bodily injury.

The ordinance makes exceptions for bows and arrows permitted at the archery range. And licensed concealed carry of firearms is permitted but is also discouraged.

Most Saturdays, the Alamosa Family Recreation Center is packed with kids and families participating in group activities. There is no reason for weapons to be present when a sizable population of families is congregated. This ordinance would in theory help deter the threat of violence.

The Director of Parks and Recreation is empowered to make minor amendments to the rules without approval from the city council, but any amendments changing the prohibition on weapons, alcohol or drugs will require council involvement.

A list of the twenty-five properties, including parks, recreation parks and facilities can be found as an attachment to the ordinance listed on the agenda for April 3, 2024. That can be found at www.cityofalamosa.org/city-council/agendas.

Ordinance 4-2024 is scheduled for a second reading, including public comment, during the April 17, meeting to be held in council chambers at 300 Hunt Ave. in Alamosa.

Grows

Continued from Page 1 and bring their produce, meats, and product.”

The new location is about twice the size of the former location.

Smith is also the proprietor of InfiTea Farm, a business, “Where I cultivate the herbs and make tea blends, tinctures, and salves. I also do hydrosols.”

Smith grows herbs including lovage, lemon balm, and lemon verbena at the Rio Grande Farm Park in Alamosa. Smith added that she engages in no-till agricultural techniques at the farm and focuses on producing perennial plants.

“Our main goal, other than selling our products, is selling San Luis Valley-produced products. Our focus is SLV products, Alamosa, La Jara, Crestone, Saguache, and Monte Vista,” Conari said.

On a recent visit, this reporter purchased a loaf of turmeric, onion sourdough bread from Tumbleweed Bakery that was exquisite. The San Luis Valley-based bakery takes pride in using mostly locally grown grain that is stone ground into

unrefined flour which preserves the plentiful nutritional benefits found in unprocessed berries/seeds. “We are proud to be the San Luis Valley’s naturally leavened, whole grain, wholesale bakery,” according to the website of the bakery.

The new location has a large walk-in refrigerated unit that unfortunately needs \$4,000 in repairs. The two are seeking a grant from the Colorado Department of Agriculture to cover the cost. Conari said that having the cold space working will assist in their mission of bringing regenerative and local agriculture to market.

The duo also gathers herbs in the wild, Wobith harvests the herb Oshá, in the San Juan Mountains at an elevation of about 10,000 feet. According to the University of Kansas Native Medicinal Plant Research Program, “The root of Ligusticum porteri, known as Oshá, has long been esteemed — particularly among Native Americans and Hispanic populations in the Southwest and Mexico — as a traditional remedy for colds, sore throat and other ailments. Its use as an herbal remedy has increased significant-

ly in the North American natural products market over the past two decades.”

Local producers are a hallmark of the apothecary and products include bread and pizza dough from Tumbleweed Bread, locally grown meat, and mushrooms from Alpine Valley Mushrooms in Saguache. Conari says the pioppino mushrooms are excellent on pizza made from the dough made locally.

The apothecary also offers classes such as a Sleeping Tincture Class on April 13 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Participants can learn about herbs that can help you get rest. The cost is a suggested donation of \$20.

On April 20, there will be an Earth Day dinner featuring local farmers and producers that will include local handmade potato gnocchi, rosemary butter, mixed green salad, fresh chevre cheese-cake, and much more. Guest Chef Desiree from Gracie’s Farmstand will oversee the dinner. The cost is \$30 per person and seating is limited.

SLV Apothecary can be reached at 719-496-6114 or www.slvapothecary.com.



Valley-Wide Welcomes
Vanessa Sonnen, FNP

to
Convenient Care Community Clinic
1131 Main Street, Alamosa, CO

Vanessa strives to assist patients in obtaining their health goals through education and promoting preventative healthcare, accountability, and autonomy.

Early in her career, Vanessa recognized how many ailments and illnesses could be mitigated through education, moving our bodies and screenings. She has previous experience working as an RN in a high risk Labor and Delivery Unit, a Maternal Fetal Medicine Unit, and an intensive care unit. Vanessa was born and raised in rural Idaho. When her husband began graduate school, she moved to Aurora, CO, and in 2013, they moved to Alamosa. Outside of the clinic, Vanessa enjoys reading, weightlifting, exploring the outdoors and spending time with her husband and beautiful baby. She is also a volunteer member of the Alamosa Homeless Coalition board.

Choose Vanessa Sonnen and Convenient Care Community Clinic when you need a quick visit!



valley-widehealth.org

Opinion

Little things in big packages

It looks like we got through another Easter this past weekend which means all the candy is on sale at the Big Box stores. I am not sure how that system works for them but it appears to me they way over-buys on all the sweet confectionary goodies prior to the actual Holiday which also means if you are patient you can score big on big bags.

Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick

Way long ago the only candy bars a person could get were the full-size ones but someone had the great idea to package titty-bitty ones in a big bag so that people could feel like they were not overeating. Now, however, folks eat ten of the small ones, making up in volume with quantity. All those small items in a big bag got me to thinking — a dangerous proposition for Ol' Dutch according to Miss Trixie — about little things in big packages. Now before you make some derisive statement about the size of my brain in a big package, that's not what we are talking about here. We are talking about things of small size that seem to come in massive packaging comparatively.

Just the other night as Ol' Dutch was standing at the vanity dosing out his daily pill quantities, I noticed just how small the pills were in relation to the size of the container they came in. And there was no rhyme or reason to how they were pack-



aged as it seems the tinier the pill, the larger the bottle was. I have no idea who or how these things are packaged up as I have to order them through a mail order service as getting them local well, just does not make sense.

But regardless of the method the medicine shows up on time and in the right quantity, I think. Pharmacy error rates can range from .00003% (or 43 in 1,420,091 prescriptions) to 55% (or 55 in 100.) You know I don't mind being in the bottom percentage of mistaken meds but 55 out of 100 would be a little too risky even for my blood.

But come they do and the last order came with really large bottles for little pills. I have to assume that due to the volume of medication this pharmacy puts out that the pill filling probably has been taken over by machines. This means that

a whole slew of pharmacists were put out of work due to the modernization of the industry. But don't be concerned as I think I know where those same pharmacists are now working after they left Big Pharma. They went to Amazon.

You may ask just how Ol' Dutch came to such a mind-blowing conclusion and I am so glad you asked that. It's like this. Miss Trixie has long been an Amazon ordering phenomenon in her own right and has taught Ol' Dutch the ins and outs of the trade. So almost daily it seems we get some package from the great Santa Claus in the sky and boxes show up with the regularity of a Metamucil-induced colon cleanse.

And one thing you will find that there is no rhyme or reason to the packaging as some tiny little item will arrive in a box big enough to ship a small child in.

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."

(Something Ol' Dutch thought about doing a time or two while raising kids.) Which just goes to prove that ex-clinical workers who were involved in the pharma trade are now running the show at Amazon. The upside is with the arrival of the big boxes every day seems like Christmas and every child in us is happy to get the big present.

So, get out there quick and score some of those small candy bars in a big package before it's too late. And feel good about how few calories you are consuming in each one as you down the tenth candy bar.

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

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month

By TU CASA

Child Abuse Prevention Month (CAPM) is a time to highlight the importance of individuals and communities working together to prevent child abuse. Our goal is to increase awareness about child abuse and neglect and to decrease it from occurring. During 2023, in the San Luis Valley there were 1072 child abuse reports made to the Colorado Department of Human Services.

In honor of CAPM, the Children's Advocacy Center of the San Luis Valley (SLV CAC) would like to invite you to wear a blue ribbon throughout the month and to participate in "Wear Blue Day" on April 5. The blue-ribbon campaign began after a grandmother used it to honor her grandson who was killed while being abused. The blue ribbon is a symbol of hope that one day no child will suffer from abuse and gives you the opportunity to tell others that you support child abuse prevention. By wearing blue on Friday, April 5, you will join communities across Colorado in taking a stand. If you are in need of a blue ribbon to wear, contact Tu Casa, Inc. at 719-589-2465.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) is a campaign to raise public awareness about sexual assault and educate the community about how to prevent sexual violence. This year marks the 23rd anniversary of SAAM; however,

efforts to end sexual violence began decades before, with advocates like Rosa Parks whose efforts led to events in the late 1970's. One of those events was the "Take Back the Night" event, which was held in San Francisco. The Take Back the Night event protested rape and sexual assault that women encountered while walking the streets at night. This event started a movement across the U.S. which helped form SAAM.

Tu Casa, Inc. (TCI) is helping raise awareness about sexual assault throughout the month of April by wearing a teal ribbon. TCI also invites you to wear some form of denim for "Denim Day" which is observed on Wednesday, April 24. By wearing teal and or denim, you will be taking a stand against sexual violence with others across the U.S. and showing your support for efforts to end sexual violence. If you are interested in wearing a teal ribbon, but don't have one please contact TCI at 719-589-2465.

Throughout the month of April, advocates from TCI will be hosting a Clothesline Project. The Clothesline Project began in 1990 as an effort to educate people about violence against women and to break the silence. It was developed after a striking comparison was made by the Men's Rape Prevention Project: During the Vietnam war 58,000 soldiers were killed and during

that same time period 51,000 women were killed by interpersonal violence. The Clothesline Project has allowed communities to come together to expose the truth about violence and its impact. The SLV Clothesline Project will be displayed throughout the month of April at various locations, including Adam's State University (ASU), Trinidad State Junior College (TSJC), SLV Health, and Spare Keg. We invite the community to participate in this project by decorating a bandana, which will be available at TCI's April Lunch and Learn hosted at Behavioral Health Group on April 18 at 12 p.m. The Tu Casa Program will also be hosting a "Chalk the Walk" event at both ASU and TSJC in honor of SAAM, so look for common myths versus facts, national statistics, and phrases to use when asking for consent on ASU's & TSJC's main campus sidewalks.

Every April, the SLV CAC organizes a poster contest with the Alamosa Elementary schools and Ortega Middle School. This year's theme is "It's A Beautiful Day to Protect Kids". The winners from 2023 will be on display throughout the San Luis Valley. Please look for the posters in your community.

Throughout April you can stay updated on events and activities by following our Facebook: www.facebook.com/TuCasaInc and Instagram: www.instagram.com/slvtucasa/ pages. We also

request that you share photos of how you are raising awareness to the above-mentioned social media accounts.

Child abuse and sexual assault can no longer be ignored; we must work together to raise awareness and to end violence. If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, call the Tu Casa, Inc. 24-hour hotline at 719-589-2465. If you would like to make a donation in honor of those who have been impacted by abuse, visit our website www.slvtucasa.net, and click on the link to donate. If you are interested in volunteering with our agency or would like more information about events, contact us at 719-589-2465.

Tu Casa, Inc., is a non-profit and an umbrella organization that houses the Tu Casa Program, the Children's Advocacy Center of the San Luis Valley Program, and the SANE program, that helps children and adults live healthy, violence-free lives throughout the San Luis Valley since 1979. In 2022, the Tu Casa Program provided services to 240 people, the Children's Advocacy Center of the San Luis Valley provided services to 92 children, and the Tu Casa, Inc. 24-hour hotline received 414 calls. All services are free, confidential, and available in English and Spanish — do not allow language to be a barrier to seeking help, we will always find a way to help.

LETTER

CCSP seeks to help people in the San Luis Valley

Editor, Christian Community Service Projects (CCSP) is a non-profit organization in Alamosa that seeks to help the residents of the San Luis Valley. Our mission statement is this: "To address

the physical and spiritual needs of people in the San Luis Valley Community through service projects in the name of Christ."

CCSP is directed by an interdenominational board and the work, which is

all done by volunteers, is supervised by a manager and job site coordinator. Work projects are solicited by the manager and selected according to need and our ability to do the job.

Projects typically include light con-

struction, handicapped accessibility, painting, and projects to enhance safety and comfort for the residents. Residents are asked to provide materials if they are able, and if not, CCSP has limited funds to assist in paying for the improvements. All the work is done by donated labor and is supervised by an experienced contractor/job site coordinator.

CCSP is funded by volunteer groups who donate not only their labor but also pay a fee to cover their expenses and fund some of the project work.

Donations from local businesses also provide a generous part of the funding for those who truly need the help and to whom we can show the love of Christ by improving their living conditions and their lives in general.

The need for help in the San Luis Valley is phenomenal and CCSP has been able to provide much needed and appreciated assistance to many elderly and underprivileged residents in the Valley.

For more information or to apply for a work project, call 719-589-2330.

Keith R Cerny
Publisher

Brian Williams
Managing Editor

Valley Courier

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Lifestyles

The Heat Is On Spring Events DUI enforcement began Thursday

By COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATEWIDE

Spring is officially here, and the Colorado Department of Transportation is encouraging Coloradans to leave the 'buzz' to the bees and away from the driver's seat. From April 4-24, CDOT will support the Colorado State Patrol (CSP) and 73 local law enforcement agencies for The Heat Is On Spring Events DUI enforcement period. During the 21-day enforcement period, there will be additional law enforcement officers on duty across the state to remove impaired drivers from roadways. Drivers may also see saturation patrols and sobriety checkpoints dedicated to arresting impaired drivers.

"Alcohol and other drugs impair your ability to concentrate and decrease your ability to focus on speed, other motorists and lane positioning," said Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "To put it simply: getting behind the wheel while impaired puts you and others at risk of a fatal crash — it's never worth the risk. Even buzzed driving is drunk driving and can result in a DUI arrest."

CSP crash investigations have found that Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights ranked the highest for impaired driving-related crashes. Since 2019, impaired drivers have been involved in 5,509 fatal, injury and property crashes during the weekend period in Colorado, mostly in the evenings. This is a nearly 27% increase compared to the 4,322 DUI crashes reported during the week since 2019.

With more Coloradans attending warm weather activities such as concerts, festivals and sporting events this spring, it is crucial for motorists to plan a sober ride to and from their destinations. Through high-visibility enforcement efforts, law enforcement remains proactive in reducing DUI crashes. Last year, there were 621 reported DUI arrests over the same Spring Events enforcement period. To date in 2024, impaired drivers have been involved in 24 traffic fatalities on Colorado roads.

"This spring, remember: the sun is out and so is law enforcement," said CDOT's Office of Transportation Safety Director Darrell Lingk. "Make the responsible choice if you've been consuming

alcohol or cannabis — put down the keys and plan a sober ride. Your decision could prevent a fatal crash and save lives."

With the availability of safe-ride options such as rideshare services, taxis and public transit, there is no excuse to drive under the influence. If you have a designated driver, make sure they are not impaired before entering their vehicle. Even if you think you're OK to drive, it's always better to find a sober ride than risk a DUI or worse.

The recent St. Patrick's Day Weekend enforcement period concluded with 239 arrests across 80 participating agencies. The agencies with the highest arrests were Denver Police Department (33), Douglas County Sheriff's Office (17) and Colorado Springs Police Department (15). CSP reported 42 arrests. The next DUI enforcement period will be Memorial Day Weekend from May 16-June 5.

For yearly impaired-driving crash and fatality data in Colorado, visit www.codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety/data-analysis/fatal-crash-data. For local law enforcement agency plans, visit www.codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety-reporting-portal.

CPW, Dept. of Ag provide information on range riders, budget proposals to state legislature to assist ranchers, livestock owners

By COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

DENVER - Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and the Department of Agriculture (CDA) provided information today on range riders and budget proposals to the state legislature to assist ranchers and livestock owners. CDA and CPW are working on a plan to get on-the-ground assistance within the next two weeks with range riders.

CDA's budget request to the legislature includes funding to hire range riders, who are boots-on-the-ground support to livestock producers to help protect herds from wolves. A human presence like a range rider can help detect wolves and deploy non-lethal deterrents to avoid depredation of livestock. While this request for range riders is pending at the legislature, CDA and CPW are deploying other available resources to provide immediate support and are working on a plan to deploy on the ground assistance through range riders this month.

Additionally, CPW and CDA are working close-

ly with the herd owner and producers in Grand County to coordinate an immediate response to the depredation incident from April 2. The state agencies, which work together through a Memorandum of Understanding, have been building the capacity to anticipate and prepare for any predator livestock incidents and are working towards deploying range riders to help with non-lethal deterrence.

A dedicated Wolf Depredation Compensation cash fund has \$175,000, provided from the state's General Fund, in its balance and will receive \$350,000 additional General Funds per fiscal year to keep a healthy balance in the fund on an ongoing basis. For the current fiscal year, CPW has spending authority for up to \$175,000 from this fund to compensate livestock owners for wolf depredation. CPW requested increased ongoing spending authority of up to \$525,000 per year beginning FY 24-25 in the department's budget proposal, which is currently being considered by the General Assembly as part

of the Long Bill.

CDA has a \$580,936 General Fund request included in the Long Bill under consideration by the state legislature in FY 2024-25 and \$424,647 General Fund ongoing to provide non-lethal wolf depredation assistance, including range riding and supplies to Colorado's farmers and ranchers through a network of three wildlife managers.

When a depredation is confirmed, livestock producers will be eligible for fair market value compensation if a claim is submitted. CPW provides reimbursement for damages caused by gray wolves to livestock defined in C.R.S. 33-2-105.8 and animals used for guard/herding purposes and may provide conflict minimization materials under its Gray Wolf Compensation and Conflict Minimization Program. Following the recent incident in Grand County, CPW staff will continue contacting producers in the area, and encouraging the use of appropriate non-lethal deterrents available through the agency.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife confirms wolf-livestock depredation in Grand County

By COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

GRAND COUNTY — On the morning of April 2, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) received a report of a possible depredation incident after a landowner in Grand County contacted officers to report a dead calf. CPW wildlife officers quickly responded, conducted a field investigation, and confirmed a wolf-livestock depredation had occurred.

"The results of this investigation indicated wounds consistent with

wolf depredation," said CPW Area Wildlife Manager Jeromy Huntington. "The field investigation found multiple tooth rake marks on the calf's hindquarters and neck, and hemorrhaging under the hide, consistent with wolf depredation. Wolf tracks were also found nearby."

The livestock producer will be eligible for fair market value compensation if a claim is submitted. CPW provides reimbursement for damages caused by gray wolves to livestock defined in C.R.S. 33-2-105.8 and animals

used for guard/herding purposes and may provide conflict minimization materials under its Gray Wolf Compensation and Conflict Minimization Program.

Per Colorado Revised Statutes 24-72-204(3)(a) (XXI), CPW may not release private landowner information. The landowner has requested not to be contacted.

CPW staff will continue contacting producers in the area and encouraging the use of appropriate non-lethal deterrents available through the agency.

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- 4 Shopping Local saves you money and time!** Travel expenses and personal time make the overall cost of items higher.
- 5 Shopping Local retains our community:** Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.
- 6 Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness:** Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community's needs.
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- 8 Shopping Local invests in community services and city economy.** Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Alamosa.
- 9 Local shops value you more:** Local businesses survive by their reputation & repeat business which means you get a higher standard of service.

Sports



Courier photo by Ken Hamrick

Del Norte High School's Emely Gurrola (9) pushes the ball up field in Thursday's game against Ignacio at the Del Norte stadium. Gurrola scored three goals, however, the Lady Tigers lost to the Lady Bobcats 8-3.

Lady Tigers fall to Ignacio

By KEN HAMRICK
Courier sports editor
DEL NORTE – Emely Gurrola scored all of the goals for the Del Norte High School girls soccer team, however, it wasn't enough as the Lady Tigers lost to Ignacio 8-3 Thursday at the Del Norte stadium. Darlyn Mendoza-Lechuga scored all of the Lady Bobcats' goals. Gurrola staked Del Norte to the early lead as she took a pass from Tessa Vita and put the ball into the back of the net in the game's ninth minute. Mendoza-Lechuga tied

the score five minutes later on an assist by Laine Bradley. The Lady Bobcats took the lead three minutes later on a penalty kick by Mendoza-Lechuga. Mendoza-Lechuga then scored two unassisted goals in the 27th and 31st minute. She then scored on another penalty kick in the 33rd minute to give Ignacio a 5-1 lead at halftime. Gurrola scored twice early in the second half to bring the Lady Tigers back into the game, tallying goals in the 48th and 50th minutes. Emma Parra

assisted on both goals. Mendoza-Lechuga scored in the 71st minute off an assist by Maliyah Martinez, and she added an unassisted goal in the 76th minute. She wrapped up the scoring a minute later with Marlene Martinez-Perez getting the assist. Ignacio had 20 shots on goal compared to 12 for the Lady Tigers. Peyton Neal had 12 saves for the Lady Tigers. Del Norte (0-5, 0-2) will travel to Colorado Springs on Saturday to face Banning Lewis Academy. The opening

kickoff is at noon.
Ignacio 8, Del Norte 3
Ignacio 5 3-8
Del Norte 1 2-3
Scoring
DN – Gurrola (Vita), 9:00
I – Mendoza-Lechuga (Bradley), 14:00
I – Mendoza-Lechuga, 27:00
I – Mendoza-Lechuga, 31:00
I – Mendoza-Lechuga, 33:00
DN – Gurrola (Parra), 48:00
DN – Gurrola (Parra), 50:00
I – Mendoza-Lechuga (Martinez), 71:00
I – Mendoza-Lechuga, 76:00
I – Mendoza-Lechuga (Martinez-Perez), 77:00
Shots on goal – Ignacio 12-8-20; Del Norte 5-7-12.
Corner kicks – Ignacio 2-2-4; Del Norte 2-3-5.
Goalkeepers – Ignacio: Lorenzini (saves 4-5-9); Del Norte: Neal (saves 7-5-12).

Duran, Valadez sign with Trinidad State

By KEN HAMRICK
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – Two Center High School wrestlers signed to continue their academic and athletic careers with Trinidad State College earlier this month.

The two Vikings who signed were Jordan Duran and Aaron Valadez.

Valadez had a record of 35 wins and four losses this season, and he advanced to the state championship match at 144 pounds in Class 2A where he finished second. Valadez was also a regional champion as well as All-League and All-State.

Duran had a record of 31 wins and six losses this season and he took third place at 113 pounds at the Class 2A State Tournament. Duran was also a regional champion and was All-League.

Duran and Valadez led the Vikings to a sixth-place finish in the 2A State Tournament team standings.

High school spring sports standings as of Tuesday

BASEBALL

Class 3A/2A Intermountain League

Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Pagosa Springs	0-0	4-1
Centauri	0-0	4-3
Montezuma-Cortez	0-0	4-5
Bayfield	0-0	3-6
Alamosa	0-0	1-10

Class 2A Southern Peaks League

Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Sanford	3-0	5-0
Monte Vista	2-0	4-2
Trinidad	1-0	2-5
Del Norte	0-0	1-1
Custer County	0-1	0-3
Center	0-1	0-4
Sargent	0-2	0-5
South Park	0-2	0-6

Class 1A Southern Peaks League

Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Sierra Grande	0-0	1-0
Antonito	0-0	2-3
Centennial	0-0	0-2

GIRLS SOCCER

Class 3A Intermountain League

Team	League W-L-T	Overall W-L-T
Bayfield	1-0-0	3-0-0
Pagosa Springs	0-0-0	2-0-0
Alamosa	0-0-0	1-3-0
Montezuma-Cortez	0-1-0	0-3-0

Class 2A Southwest League

Team	League W-L-T	Overall W-L-T
Crested Butte	1-0-0	6-1-0
Ridgway	1-1-0	2-2-0
Telluride	1-1-0	1-3-1
Ignacio	0-1-0	0-3-0
Del Norte	0-1-0	0-4-0

Sports Bulletin

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

SCOREBOARD MONDAY

Prep girls soccer
Bayfield 8, Del Norte 0

TUESDAY

Prep baseball
Antonito 12, Sargent 2, 5 inn.
Centauri 19, Walsenburg 0, 4 inn.
Gunnison 8, Alamosa 1
Gunnison 16, Alamosa 10
Sanford 15, Center 5, 5 inn.

WEDNESDAY

College men's lacrosse
Concordia-Irvine (Calif.) 17, Adams State 1

THURSDAY

Prep girls soccer
Ignacio 8, Del Norte 3

SCHEDULE FRIDAY

Prep baseball
Monte Vista vs.

Rangely (Buena Vista Invitational), 10 a.m.

Manzanola at Sierra Grande (2), 11 a.m.

Antonito at Branson/Kim, (2), 2:30 p.m.

Prep girls golf
Monte Vista at Swink Invitational (at La Junta), 9 a.m.

Prep girls soccer
Alamosa at Pagosa Springs, 4 p.m.

Prep track and field
Sangre de Cristo, Sierra Grande at Ray Headley Invitational (at Swink), 9 a.m.

College baseball
Adams State at Colorado School of Mines, 6 p.m.

College women's softball
Adams State at Colorado-Colorado Springs (2), noon

College outdoor track and field
Adams State at Jo Meaker Classic and Multi (at Canyon, Texas), TBA

SATURDAY

Prep baseball
La Veta at Sierra Grande, 9 a.m.

Durango at Alamosa, 10 a.m.

Monte Vista vs. Meeker (Buena Vista Invitational), 10 a.m.

Bayfield at Centauri (2), 11 a.m.

Center at Sargent (2), 11 a.m.

Del Norte at Trinidad (2), 11 a.m.

Monte Vista at Buena Vista (Buena Vista Invitational), 3 p.m.

Prep girls soccer
Bayfield at Alamosa, 11 a.m.

Del Norte at Banning Lewis Academy, noon

Prep track and field
Creede, Del Norte at Abel Velasquez Invitational (at Ignacio), 8 a.m.

Alamosa, Moffat, Monte Vista, Sanford, Sargent at Thunderstorm Invitational (at CSU Pueblo), 9 a.m.

Antonito, Center, Monte Vista at Salida Invitational, 9 a.m.

Centauri at Pueblo County Invitational, 9 a.m.

College baseball
Adams State at Colorado School of Mines (2), noon

College men's lacrosse
Adams State at Colorado State Pueblo, noon

College women's softball
Adams State at Colorado-Colorado Springs (2), 11 a.m.

College outdoor track and field
Adams State at Jo Meaker Classic and Multi (at Canyon, Texas), TBA



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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

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

LAPUENTE 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)

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)

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

CAPULIN DITCH CO. 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. (4/6/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

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

HELP WANTED: SOMEONE TO CLEAN the TOWN HALL OFFICE. MUSEUM HELP: Must be 16 yrs of age or older for 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)

221 - HELP WANTED

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

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

1ST SOUTHWEST BANK, a locally owned CDFI community bank, is seeking a **RELATIONSHIP MANAGER** with 3+ years of commercial loan experience and a Regional Branch Manager with 5+ years of banking experience. FSWB offers competitive compensation, generous benefits, & career development. Join FSWB's award-winning team dedicated to supporting rural Colorado's agricultural, nonprofit and small businesses. For details and to apply, visit fswb.bank/about/careers. EOE. (4/10/24)

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CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Last Saturday of the month from April 27 until November 30. At the Community Building next to Quality Timbers on Hwy. 285. Taking consignments on Fridays. Sale starts at 10:00 am. Lunch available.

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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

DEL NORTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER needed at the URGSD. 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@urtigers.co or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co. (4/30/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

ARE YOU PASSIONATE about making a positive impact on people's lives? **SIERRA GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT** is currently accepting applications for **BEHAVIOR HEALTH COUNSELOR/MTSS COORDINATOR** for the 2024-2025 School Year. Our school has a reputation as being a great place to work. We currently have a state of the art facility, supportive administration, paid health insurance, free lunches, 4 day school week. A current license/state certification in counseling is highly recommended to apply. Application forms are located at 17523 Hwy 160 BLANCA, CO. 81123 or on the district's website at www.sierragrandeschool.net. 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. (4/5/24)

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

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)

JR. HIGH CHEER COACH needed at DEL NORTE JR. HIGH SCHOOL. Experience as a coach is preferred. Please contact Gilbert "Gibbs" Sanchez, Athletic Director, at: gsanchez@urtigers.co, 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at: ahardy@urtigers.co, 719-657-4020. Applications may be found on our website; www.urtigers.co. (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, CO. 81101 or 719-589-9019. (4/17/24)

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26Jt is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the position of **ELEMENTARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER**, for the remaining 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; Special Education Certification as required by the State of Colorado or such alternative to the above qualifications as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 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 positions of **ELEMENTARY 3RD GRADE & 5TH GRADE TEACHER**, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 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 positions of **ELEMENTARY 3RD GRADE & 5TH GRADE TEACHER**, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

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, CO. 81101 or 719-589-9019. (4/17/24)

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 positions of **HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER**, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26Jt is looking for a **MIDDLE SCHOOL HEAD TRACK COACH** for the 2024 season. Qualifications: Must be over 18, have a high school diploma/GED and be able to pass a background check, or, such alternative qualifications as the Board may find appropriate and acceptable. Non-Certified Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719)754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

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

261 - WORK WANTED

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

304 - LAWN & GARDEN

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

307 - APPLIANCES

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

324 - SEED & FEED

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

345 - WOOD

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)

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

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

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

387 - WANTED TO BUY

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

401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES

Century Property Management & Sales, LLC
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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

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

426 - MOBILE HOMES FORSALE

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

525 - GUNS

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

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

606 - BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

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

611 - HOMES FOR RENT

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

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

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

701 - AUTOS FOR SALE

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



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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Varnish ingredient
 - 4 "— About You"
 - 7 Make music
 - 11 In the style of
 - 12 Be gloomy
 - 13 Broccoli —
 - 14 Toy that twirls
 - 15 Poker stake
 - 16 Bunsen burner
 - 17 Funeral vehicle
 - 19 Line of gab
 - 21 Malicious
 - 23 Lager
 - 24 Usual weather
 - 26 Top
 - 28 "I wouldn't — on it"
 - 29 Actress — Russo
 - 31 Old monarch
 - 35 Recites
 - 37 Gumbo veggie
 - 39 Kind of ideal
- 40 — and dine**
- 42 "Bad, Bad — Brown"
 - 44 PR slant
 - 46 Reverie
 - 48 Light fixture
 - 50 Quiver contents
 - 53 Chilly
 - 54 Covenant
 - 56 Bit to drink
 - 57 Surgeon type
 - 58 — of March
 - 59 Stat. in baseball
 - 60 "And Then There — None"
 - 61 Roadster
 - 62 Half a score
- DOWN**
- 1 Wood strip
 - 2 — vera
 - 3 Maximum occupants
 - 4 French artist
 - 5 Likely
 - 6 "How — Is Your Love"

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	Y	A	L	A	C	K	D	O	S	E
R	O	E	I	C	O	N	A	W	A	Y
A	R	R	N	I	N	E	N	E	V	E
M	E	O	W	E	D	L	A	U	D	E
M	E	O	S	E	A	T	T	U	B	
A	P	P	A	R	E	L	L	E	G	U
S	O	A	K	G	O	A	D	U	S	E
A	R	C	W	O	O	D	T	I	D	E
P	E	E	V	E	P	O	P	U	L	A
F	A	N	T	Z	E	A	L	O	T	
A	C	L	U	P	E	A	L	E	L	M
N	E	N	E	R	N	E	S	E	E	
G	R	A	D	D	E	E	R	S	O	N

- 7 False reason
- 8 Caffe —
- 9 Daisy Mae's guy
- 10 Twelve-month
- 12 Maven
- 18 Butt
- 20 Honest —
- 22 Pulled hard
- 24 TV network
- 25 Grassy expanse
- 27 — contra
- 30 Many years
- 32 Short talk on a Sunday (var.)
- 33 Past
- 34 Singer — Clark
- 36 Scam
- 38 Spreads the news
- 41 Business abbr.
- 43 Pinna
- 44 Cut a line in
- 45 Of a frozen region
- 47 Marathon man
- 48 Barge
- 49 Traditional story
- 51 Telegram
- 52 Reach across
- 55 Oklahoma city

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11			12					13	
14			15					16	
17			18			19	20		
		21				22	23		
24	25				26	27			
28			29	30				31	32
33	34								
35			36		37			38	39
			40	41			42	43	
	44	45			46	47			
48				49		50			51
52				54	55				56
57				58					59
60				61					62

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

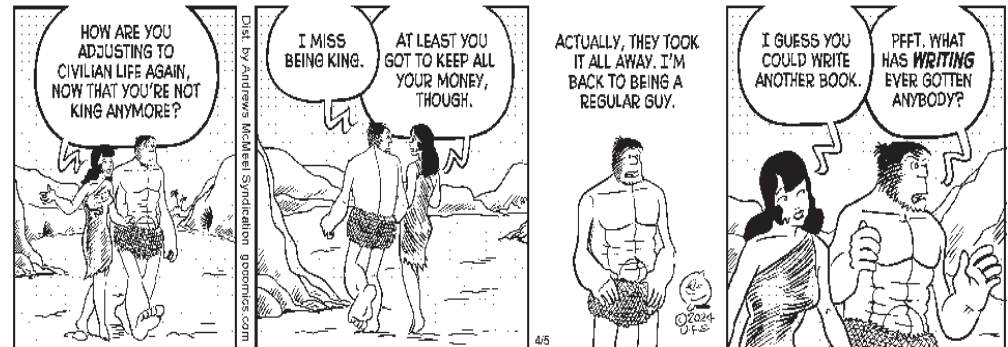
HOW TO PLAY:
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

HERMAN



"Getting ready for the annual sheep count, Mildew?"

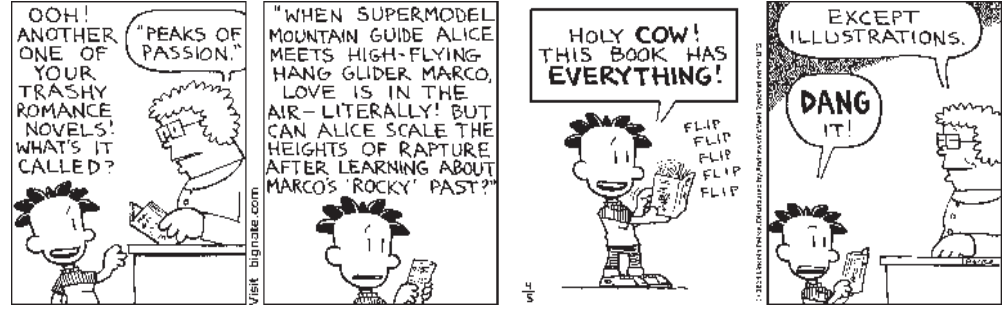
ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



BIG NATE



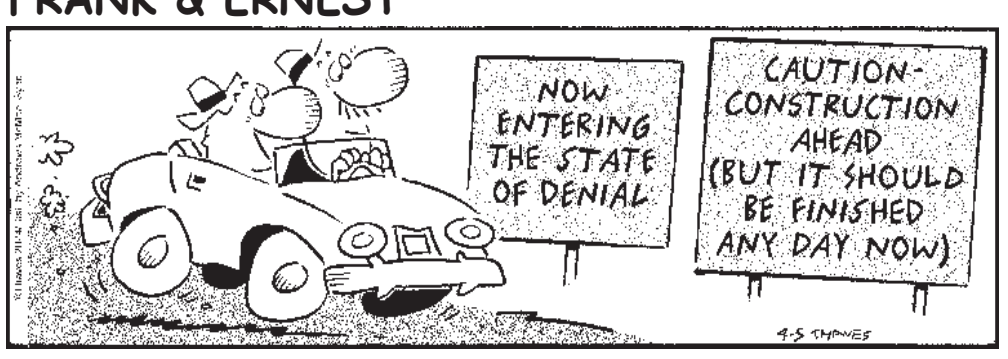
THE BORN LOSER



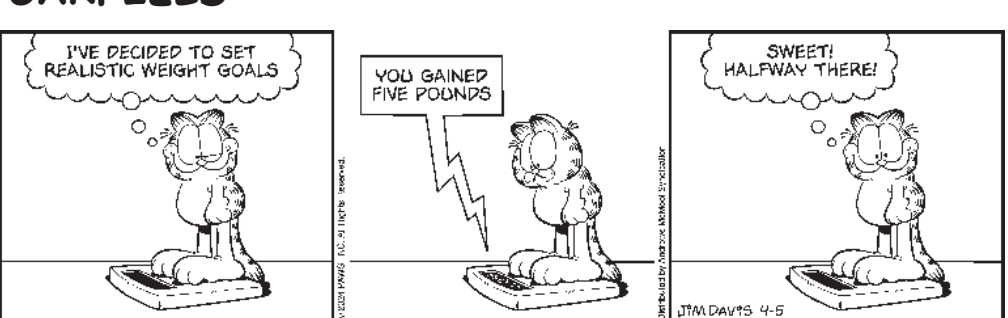
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



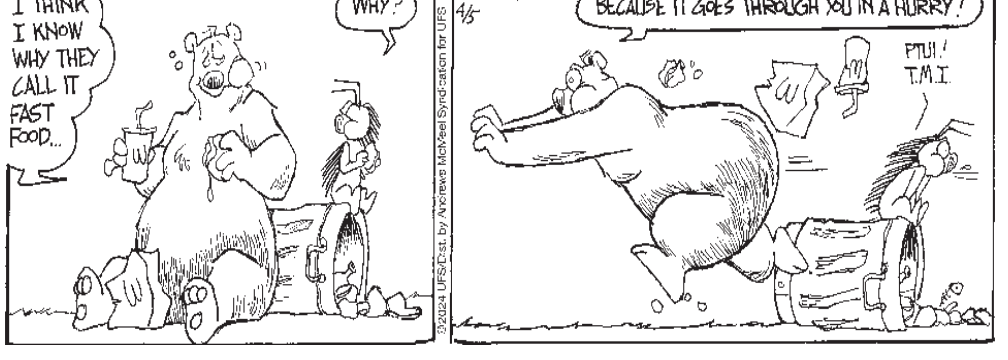
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



Man can no longer support his ne'er-do-well brother

DEAR ABBY: My brother (eight years younger) has been hooked on drugs and in and out of jail for decades. Our father passed away five years ago. My brother lived with him in a different state until then. Prior to that, he stole from our mother and from me repeatedly. He's a criminal and is currently in jail. When he's not in jail, he is homeless. Of course, the only time we hear from him is when he needs money. To top it off, my special-needs son recently passed away. Of course, my wife and I are devastated, although we have come to terms with the fact that he is in a better place. With my brother back in jail, the focus has gone back to him. I have always tried to be a good brother, but I have now completely washed my hands of him. At this point, I need peace in my life, and as long as he is in mine, I will never have it. This crushes my mother, but it's how I feel. Right or wrong, I don't feel that just because someone is family, it gives them the right to make others miserable. I would love to know your thoughts on this. -- BETTER BROTHER IN FLORIDA

DEAR BROTHER: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your

beloved son. That you feel you cannot handle the added stress of interacting with or supporting your drug-addicted brother (who has stolen from you) is understandable. Do not allow your mother to guilt you into doing anything with which you are uncomfortable. If your mother decides to take him in when he's released, caution her to first remove any items of value from her home. DEAR ABBY: Four years ago, a former friend, "Karla," offered me a nice oak side chair of hers. Karla said she had no use for it and assured me she wouldn't want it back. I accepted the chair and have used it since then. When it was given to me, the back cushion was missing and the seat cushion was hard. After a couple of years, I bought nice fabric and had the chair repaired and reupholstered. It cost me \$175. If I had thought the chair was on loan only, I wouldn't have done that. I sent her a pic of the finished improvements, and she replied that it looked nice. A year later, she abruptly ended our friendship. She was angry with me because I had confused her airport arrival time



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

and she had to wait an hour. Twice I apologized profusely, but Karla has not responded. (That was 14 months ago.) Ten days ago, I received a text from one of her friends, telling me Karla wants me to return the chair she "let me borrow." The friend wanted to know when I could deliver it. I'm completely taken aback. She GAVE it to me! What is your take on this pickle? -- BAFFLED IN TEXAS

DEAR BAFFLED: Ignore the text. If Karla wants the chair returned, she should ask you herself. If she does, and if you agree to it, be sure she repays IN CASH the money you spent to have the chair refurbished.