



37th Annual Arby's All-Star games are tonight at ASU

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CPW's Southwest Region announces state park boat ramp opening dates for 2024

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Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

March 15, 2024

\$1

SLV Today

Batterson, Dennis Streets Capital Improvement Project

MONTE VISTA — With summer quickly approaching, the City of Monte Vista is gearing up for its summer construction schedule.

The first project is the completion of the Batterson, Dennis Streets Capital Improvement Project. The city has worked with a contractor for this phase of the project, ACI and has determined that the project will begin on April 1. The construction will begin on Batterson from 4th Avenue to Lariat.

Construction will then proceed to Dennis Street from Lariat to 4th Avenue and the final phase will be construction on 4th Avenue from Batterson to Highway 15 (South Broadway).

Door hangers will be sent out to the properties affected by the street closures as the project gets closer.

During the construction the following streets will be closed to through traffic:

- 4th Avenue from Dennis to State Highway 15 (S. Broadway)
- Batterson Street from 4th to Lariat Road
- Dennis Street from 4th to Lariat Road

'A Trip to the Moon' being performed March 21-23 in Creede

CREEDE — Creede Community Players, a community theatre group based in Creede, will be performing "A Trip to the Moon" by Tracy Wells March 21-23 at the Creede Community Church.

Set in the summer of 1969, "A Trip to the Moon" is the story of reaching for dreams of love, equality and landing on the moon.

Each performance begins at 7 p.m. inside the church's fellowship hall. Reservations are available by calling 719-849-3123 and entry cost is a suggested \$5 donation.

Food bank distribution set for March 23

DEL NORTE — The Del Norte Food Bank will be open for its March distribution on Saturday, March 23, from 10 a.m. to noon. Anyone in need of food assistance living in the Del Norte or South Fork area is welcome.

If you are unable to attend during distribution hours and need food assistance, call 719-850-2643.

SLV WEATHER

Snow Likely 4/19
Sat: Chance of Snow and Rain 4/24
Sun: Chance of Snow 4/22

INSIDE

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Traffic stop leads to arrests on drug related charges

Second case in as many weeks

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — A routine traffic stop in the city of Alamosa Tuesday night resulted in the arrest of two residents on charges related to possession and distribution of controlled

substances.

According to a statement from the city, Alamosa Police Department (APD) Officers Sarmiento and Aziz stopped a vehicle in the 2200 block of Ross Avenue for failing to use a turn signal. The vehicle appeared to have fictitious license plates and the driver did not have a valid driver's license.

APD Officer Moreno and his partner K9 Officer Kilo were called to

the scene where K-9 Kilo alerted on the vehicle. During the search that ensued, officers located 850+ fentanyl pills, cocaine, a large amount of marijuana, US currency plus clear baggies and a scale, items which are frequently used in the distribution of drugs.

Both the driver of the vehicle, 29-year-old Fantashia Aragon of San Luis, and her passenger, ■ See ARRESTS page 3

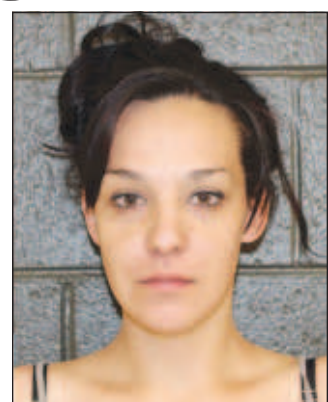
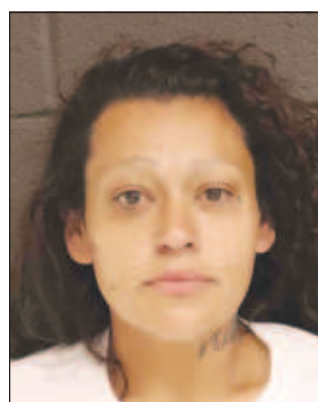


Photo courtesy of Alamosa County Detention Center
Defendants Aragon and Archuleta are facing charges of possession and distribution of controlled substances.

San Luis Great Outdoors receives \$137K grant for trails



Lobatos Bridge project left out of funding round

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

DENVER — The San Luis Valley Great Outdoors (SLV GO) received a \$137,314 grant for trail maintenance as part of the San Luis Valley Open Spaces Trail Stewardship program. The grant was approved by the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Commission and was one of 29 trail projects to receive funding. The Great

■ See GRANT page 3

The San Luis Valley Great Outdoors Trail Stewardship Crew was one of 29 recipients in Colorado to receive Outdoor Recreational trail grants.

Photo courtesy of CPW

Friends of the Alamosa Library continue unwavering support

Special to the Valley Courier

ALAMOSA — With the donation of \$9,000 to support library programming, the non-profit group Friends of the Alamosa Library kicked off their goals in 2024, continuing their unwavering support for the Alamosa library and its needs.

These dedicated volunteers conduct book sales and many other activities to raise money for the library and advance literacy in the community. Throughout the year, they col-

lect, sort and sell used books at Spines, the Book Nook inside

■ See FRIENDS page 3

The Friends of the Alamosa Library recently donated \$9,000 to support library programming. This annual donation is one of the many ways the group supports the library and its needs. From left: Friends of the Alamosa Library members Kris Steinberg, Tim Delleit, Alamosa Librarian Maria Kramer, Allyn Lewis, Patty Cambell, Don Thompson and Salai Taylor.

Photo by Dawn Krebs



RSVP of Alamosa County Partners with Care and Share

CONTRIBUTED
SAN LUIS VALLEY

— Spark the Change Colorado's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) in Alamosa County has recently partnered with Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado to recruit older volunteers to assist with efforts in combating food insecurity in our community.

Nancy Harris, the Manager of RSVP in Alamosa County, says of this new partnership, "Spark the Change has been in communication with the food bank since 2021, when

the Care and Share Distribution Center in Alamosa started preparing its location to serve the Southern part of the state. I am thrilled to collaborate with the SLV Development Director of Care and Share, Meagan Smith, to assist with the local organization's volunteer needs in 2024 and beyond."

Volunteers are needed each month to help Care and Share pack and distribute food to neighbors in need throughout the Valley.

Food packing duties include unpacking food box-

es, organizing tables, and packing food into plastic bags each month at the food bank distribution center in Alamosa.

Duties include packing produce and bread, delivering food to clients in their vehicles, and light cleanup of trash, and this volunteer opportunity happens monthly

■ See CARE page 3

RSVP volunteers, Sherry Taylor and Donna Theimer, assist with frozen food packing at Care and Share in Alamosa on February 13, 2024.

Courtesy photo



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Record

OBITUARIES

Steven Bruce Reynolds

Steven Bruce Reynolds, a cherished son, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away peacefully on March 11, 2024, in La Jara, Colo. Born on Oct. 4, 1984, in Alamosa, Colo., Steven's journey through life was marked by his wisdom, thoughtfulness, and exceptional handiness — qualities that endeared him to all who knew him. He was the beloved son of Ricky and Mariam Reynolds of Sanford, Colo., who provided him with a foundation of love and support that he carried throughout his life. Steven's bond with his family was his greatest treasure.

He leaves behind a loving sister, Rhonda (Kermit) Snyder of Rocky Ford, Colo., and a devoted brother, Ryan (Deborah) Reynolds of Sanford, Colo. His presence will also be deeply missed by his caring relatives Jacklynn (Sam) Larson of Virginia, Abigail Snyder of Virginia, Mackenzie Reynolds, Brooklynn Reynolds, and Riley Reynolds all of Sanford, Colo., as well as numerous aunts, uncles, and extended family members who were all significant parts of his life.

Steven's love for the outdoors and his family's farm and ranch was a cornerstone of his existence. The Reynolds Farm and



Ranch was not just a place of work for him; it was a place where he found joy and contentment. Steven took great pride in caring for his horses and cows, and he shared a special bond with his beloved dog, Max. His family fondly remembers him for his great personality and the sheer fun he brought into their lives.

An avid sports enthusiast, Steven's passion for the Pittsburgh Steelers was unmatched. He relished in the simple pleasures of a Sunday well spent, enjoying a football game with his homemade popcorn in hand. His laughter and excitement during these moments were contagious and will be lovingly remembered by all who shared them with him.

Steven's love for fishing and the serene beauty of the mountains was well-

known. He often retreated to the tranquility of nature, where he found solace and happiness. His adventures in the great outdoors were not only hobbies but also moments of reflection and appreciation for the world around him.

Beyond his hobbies and love for nature, Steven was most admired for his role as an uncle. He took immense pride in watching his nieces and nephew play sports, cheering them on with enthusiasm and pride. His wisdom and thoughtfulness shone through in his interactions with them, as he was always ready with encouragement or a helping hand.

A visitation will be held on Monday, March 18, 2024, from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. with a funeral service starting at 11 a.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Sanford 3rd Ward, 755 Main St. Sanford, CO 81151. Committal services will follow the funeral service at Sanford Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Humanitarian Aide Fund.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in the care of the arrangements. To leave online condolences, tributes, and words of comfort for Steven's family please visit www.Rogers-Funerals.com.

Mary Ann Valdez

ALBANY, NY — Mary Ann Valdez, 76, of Albany, formerly of Monte Vista, Colo., passed away peacefully in the comfort of her own home surrounded by her loving family on Feb. 18, 2024, in Albany.

The daughter of the late Joe P. and Evangelina F. Madril, Mary Ann was born on May 14, 1947, in Monte Vista, Colo. She was raised in Monte Vista, Colo., and has since lived in Cossackie, NY, Beatrice, N.E., and lastly Albany, NY.

She earned a Bachelor's degree in Education/Spanish and became a first grade elementary school teacher for 30 years in Colorado until retirement.

Artistically gifted, Mary Ann enjoyed embroidery, computer puzzles, gardening, bird watching and spending

time with her family. She was a member of the Lariat Community Baptist Church for many years and held her faith close to her heart.

She was the loving mother of: Arthur (Tammy) Valdez and Venus Jo Valdez.

Cherished grandmother of: Anika Moe, Anthony Peek, Genesis Fielder, Javier Fuentes, Raquel Fuentes, Amberly Valdez and Annabelle Valdez, and great-grandmother of: Lila Peek, Sophia Peek, Karsen Peek, Logan Benkufsky, Talia Moe, Adrian Fuentes and Legend Fielder. Dearest sister of: Roger (Pauline) Archuleta, Jake Archuleta, Fred Madril and the late Patricia Chavez (Rene).

Mary Ann's family is forever grateful to: George Fielder, Laura



Sanson and Brittany Peek for their compassion and care.

Cremation has taken place through the care of Simple Choices, Inc. The Valdez Family has chosen to honor Mary Ann's memory and mourn their loss in private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Mary Ann's memory may be directed to: the Lariat Community Baptist Church in Monte Vista, Colo.

In loving memory of Karen Lee Rivera

Karen fell asleep peacefully on Feb. 27, 2024. She was born in Pueblo, Colo., to Librita Arellano and Celedonio Rivera on Sept. 18, 1953.

Karen was raised in Chama, of the San Luis Valley, Colo., and moved to the north Denver metro area in 1971.

Karen was an avid animal lover, enjoying the company of many dogs, cats, and even an orphan squirrel or two. If her husband would have let her, she would have taken every animal she crossed home.

She loved to dance, especially to anything Conjunto Primavera sang. She was no stranger to shopping and hitting the town. She enjoyed



fast cars, but not for too long, due to the string of speeding tickets that followed.

She was known for her breakfast burritos and her obsession with New York City. She was a devoted Broncos fan, and always had the game on, jersey ready, win or lose.

Richard 'Dick' Doyle

Richard "Dick" Doyle was born June 2, 1951, in Fort Collins, Colo., to Anne and Don Doyle. The Doyle family moved to the San Luis Valley in 1953 where Dick remained for most of his life until Sept. 2023 when he moved to Leesburg, Va., to reside with his son and family. Dick passed away March

9, 2024, in a Leesburg hospital from complications of respiratory issues. His son was by his side.

Preceding him in death in 2008 were his parents Don and Anne Doyle.

He is survived by his son Jamie (Tracy) and their three sons; his daughter Kyla (Dana) Eastabrooks; his four

siblings David Doyle, Dianne Machado, Dana (Kenny) Smith from the San Luis Valley, and Deb (Lynn) Christensen from Loma, Colo.; his ex-wife Kate and her son Ross, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and many lifelong friends.

May Dick now rest in peace.

Elvin Johnny Rufus Jack

Johnny's life began on Oct. 30, 1925, in Manassa, Colo., born to James Rufus Jack and Leola King Jack. He married his longtime sweetheart Marie Hicks on Jan. 19, 1946, in Merced, Calif. They enjoyed more than 61 years together until her death on March 11, 2007.

Johnny was a proud member of the US Navy who survived the torpedoing of the USS Honolulu on July 13, 1943.

One of Johnny's favorite pastime activities was supporting his wife Marie on her hunting and fishing expeditions.

Johnny owned and operated Quality Packing Company and M&J Corrals for many years. Due to his generosity, many of the less fortunate in the community did not go hungry. His kindness provided comfort for countless people. He was a wonderful spouse, father, and grandfather and loved spending time with his family.



Johnny was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He served in numerous positions, including Fox Creek Branch President, Stake President in Sunday School, and Single Adult Coordinator, among others.

Johnny is survived by his children Eileen Meyers of Alamosa, Colo., and Robert Jack of La Jara, Colo.; three grandchildren, Nathan (Rena) Haslett of Alamosa, Chad (Belinda) Haslett of Arkansas, Robin (Delbert) Rivera of Farmington, N.M.; numerous great-grandchildren and great-

great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and extended family and friends.

Johnny was preceded in death by his parents, James Rufus and Leola Jack, his wife Marie, and his siblings Eloise Dosch, Carl Jack, Leon Jack, and an infant sister Debra Jack.

A Visitation will be held Monday, March 18, 2024, from 9-9:45 a.m., followed by a Funeral Service at 10 a.m., all at the Manassa Stake Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Interment will follow services in the Fox Creek Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the remarkable nurses and staff at Evergreen Nursing Home for the exceptional care that was given to Johnny. You will not go unmentioned in our prayers.

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

Brenda P. Medina

San Pablo resident Brenda P. Medina 58 gained her angel wings on March 4, 2024, in Denver, Colo., surrounded by her loving family. Brenda was welcomed into the world on Jan. 24, 1966, to Joseph Medina and Edna G. Taylor Medina. She was a graduate of Centennial High School.

Brenda became a loving mother of two boys. Brenda's sons were her life and would do anything for them. She loved spending time with her family and would make sure they were all taken care of.

In her spare time, she loved to crochet, bake and was always cooking for her family and friends. Brenda was very devoted to her faith. She was a member of the Carmelites and Sacred Heart of

Jesus in her local parish. She will be truly missed by all who knew her.

Brenda's legacy will live on through her two sons; Derick C. Medina and Santino Medina both of San Pablo, Colo., and one grandson Nelson Medina, three sisters; Mary (Albaro) Hernandez, Julia Diaz, Anita Martinez, two brothers; Larry (Diann) Medina and Lee Quinzer as well as many nieces, nephews and friends.

Brenda was preceded in death by her parents Joseph and Edna Medina and one sister Dianna Medina.

Services for Brenda will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2024, at Sangre De Cristo Catholic Church in San Luis with a viewing from 1 to 5 p.m. with the Rosary to follow at 6 p.m. The mass of Resurrection



will be held on Monday, March 18, 2024, at 10 a.m. also at Sangre De Cristo Catholic Church in San Luis. Interment will follow at the San Francisco Cemetery.

To leave online condolences, please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. The care of arrangements has been entrusted to Romero Valley Funeral Home of Alamosa.

Prescribed burns planned on Alamosa, Baca, and Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuges

CONTRIBUTED
ALAMOSA — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be conducting prescribed fire operations on the Alamosa, Baca, and Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuges to remove old and matted vegetation to improve wildlife habitat.

Additionally, slash piles of natural materials will be burned as conditions and needs exist. Professional fire personnel from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mid-Plains Fire Zone, State, and Federal Partners will conduct the fire operations.

Planned target dates for burning will be during the months of March

and April and again in October and November. The Refuges' Auto Tour Routes and Walking Trails may be temporarily closed to the public during fire operations for safety concerns. Areas will re-open as soon as possible based on fire activity and safety.

Smoke will be visible to local residents, towns, and highways during the day and may last for a few days following burning operations. Signs will be posted along the nearest major roads and all burns will be monitored until they are declared completely out.

For up-to-date information, contact Alamosa

and Monte Vista Refuge Manager Suzanne Beauchaine at 719-589-4021 x1003 or Assistant Refuge Manager Dean Lee at 719-589-4021 x1008, or Baca Refuge Manager Ty Benally at 719-256-5527.

Additional information can be found on our San Luis Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SanLuisValleyRefugeComplex.

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

Adams State summer registration has begun

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALAMOSA — Catch up on your general education (gen ed) requirements this summer at Adams State University. All gen ed classes are guaranteed transferable throughout Colorado public institutions of higher education.

The on-campus summer courses include Macroeconomics Principles, Microeconomics Principles, Intro to Environmental Science, Communication Arts I,

Communication Arts II, and Dynamic Earth.

To view the entire summer class schedule visit adams.edu/onestop and click on the class schedule link. There is no cost to apply for admission to Adams State. Visit adams.edu and click on the apply link.

For information regarding financial aid please contact the Adams State One Stop, located in the Student Union Building, 719-587-7306 or onestop@adams.edu.

School Menu
Friday
March 15, 2024

Spring
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Valley News

Portion of I-70 closed to commercial vehicles until noon today

COLORADO SUN

Interstate 70 will be closed to commercial vehicles between Eagle and Morrison through Friday as heavy snow continues to fall along the major highway making for treacherous driving conditions.

The 90-mile closure, between mile marker 169 through mile marker 259, will be in effect until noon Friday, the Colorado Department of Transportation said just before 1 p.m. Thursday in a post on X, formerly known as Twitter.

The closure comes as “a couple hundred vehicles” remained stranded on I-70, including a ski bus full of 50 women who ran out of food and water after being stuck for 16 hours. The ski bus has since started moving.

There are numerous road closures along mountain roads and travelers can check cotrip.org for the latest updates.

CDOT has 38 plows along the I-70 mountains from Morrison to the Eisenhower tunnel that are “plowing around the clock,” but stuck semi-trucks, many which did not have chains, are thwarting their efforts, said Stacia Sellers, a spokesperson for the department.

Hundreds of vehicles, including this Amazon truck, became stuck along I-70 Thursday amid a massive winter storm that brought heavy snow across the Front Range and foothills.

Photo by Colorado Department of Transportation



Grant

Continued from Page 1

Outdoors Action Team (GOATs) crew, in collaboration with other agencies, plans to maintain approximately 30 miles of trails on public lands. The work will include clearing felled trees, restoring trail braiding and widening, building boardwalk structures to help with flooding, and protecting old-growth cottonwood habitat.

In a statement to the Valley Courier, Mick Daniel of SLV GO said, “This grant is a trail maintenance grant from Colorado Parks and Wildlife Recreational Trails program.

This is a trial run of what they are calling the Good Stewardship Program which will allow organizations like SLV GO to provide trail maintenance across multiple jurisdictions. We are super excited to be in the first round of this opportunity and it will provide us a chance to touch up many of the projects we have worked on over the last six years.

The Great Outdoors Action Team (aka the GOATs) will work in collaboration with the City of Alamosa, Costilla County, Bureau of Land Management, and the US Forest Service. The work will include trail maintenance, tree clearing, and some new boardwalk structures on the the City of Alamosa trail system.” According to CPW documents, SLV GO will receive a grant of \$137,314 of the estimated \$174,440 cost of the project.

The grants are made as part of the Non Motorized Trails program that provides funding for trail construction, maintenance, and planning. The program is a multi-agency partnership that includes CPW, Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), Colorado Lottery, the federal Recreational Trails Program, and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund which is administered by the National Park Service.

The Lobatos Bridge recreational and educational project did not receive funding, “GOCO turned us down for the first application but wants us to ap-



Courier photo by John Waters

The Lobatos Bridge education and recreation project in Conejos County did not receive funding in a recent round of grant allocations.

ply again in July, so we’re 9 months delayed on any possible GOCO funding.

“Great news is that so far in 2024, we’ve received donations from Occidental and Trinchera Blanca Foundation. We’re now at 30% raised to date, which also qualifies us for other grants. Just this am, we submitted a grant to another Foundation that’s been looking for a project in Conejos County so that’s exciting. And, we’re working on other grant funding opportunities with deadlines before our 2nd submission to GOCO is even due,” according to Lori McCullough with the Great Outdoors Fund in a statement to the Valley Courier.”

The Lobatos Bridge Recreation and Interpretive Education site has raised \$202,927 of the needed \$669,650. The project includes the goals of providing educational signs to detail the cultural and natural history of the area near the bridge, and increase recreational opportunities such as a boat ramp.

“Colorado’s hiking trails are a major way we experience and enjoy our great outdoors. Whether it’s hiking through your favorite state park, exploring a new corner of our state, or taking a walk with family and friends, we are now helping more people get outside and have healthy fun by expanding trails and increasing access to them across Colorado,” said Governor Jared Polis.

There were a total of 29 Outdoor Recreational Grants funded this year totaling \$7,918,274. According to Travis Duncan with CPW, of this, \$5,478,274 came from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), \$1,500,000 from Great Outdoors Colorado, and \$939,276 from the Colorado Non-Motorized and Diversified Recreational Trails Program. The Land and Water Conservation Fund was established by Congress in 1964 and is funded through federal offshore oil and gas leases. In 2020, the Great American Outdoors Act fully and permanently funded the program.

Statewide Trails Program Manager Fletcher Jacobs highlighted the Colorado Recreational Trails Committee’s wildlife review process which emphasizes the importance of balancing wildlife and habitat needs with recreation needs in Colorado.

“We’re excited to announce these Non-Motorized Trail and Land and Water Conservation Grants that will empower local agencies to create and maintain accessible trails while prioritizing wildlife conservation,” said CPW Director Jeff Davis. “Our agency is tasked with providing wildlife management and world-class outdoor recreation opportunities. To deliver on this mission, we recognize that recreation and conservation goals can often support each other, and

that funding partnerships with other organizations and agencies across the state are critical to accomplish those goals. These projects will connect Coloradans and our visitors to the outdoors with new and improved opportunities to get outside.”

CPW is excited to also launch a new Trail Stewardship pilot program with additional support from Great Outdoors Colorado. This program provides funding specifically to support trail stewardship crews hired by land managers and non-profits who focus on maintenance work throughout Colorado. The State Trails Program will utilize \$500,000 in funding from Great Outdoors Colorado to start this pilot based on the “Good Management” concept, which the OHV Program has operated successfully for trail maintenance and resource protection.

“As we continue to see increased use and natural disasters impact our outdoor spaces, we are fortunate to partner with Great Outdoors Colorado to launch a new opportunity to fund stewardship crews who are caring for trails across the state,” said Jacobs. “These increased ‘boots on the ground’ trail crews will help support the Governor’s Wildly Important Goals [WIG program] to balance conservation and recreation by increasing the number of trail crew hours funded by the State Trails Program.”

Powered by AmeriCorps Seniors, Alamosa’s RSVP matches older adults who are willing to help with local organizations on the front lines of meeting community needs. Spark the Change Colorado believes that folks aged 55 and up have much to contribute to our community through volunteer engagement.

The current focus of the local RSVP program is addressing food insecurity, which makes Care and Share an ideal partner. Spark the Change’s RSVP is a program of AmeriCorps Seniors. Each year, AmeriCorps Seniors engages more than 200,000

older adults in volunteer service through its Foster Grandparent, Senior Companion, and RSVP programs, enriching the lives of the volunteers and benefiting their communities.

RSVP pairs thousands of Americans aged 55 and older with organizations making change in communities across the country. Consider staying active and making a difference in your community by serving as an RSVP volunteer today at Care and Share or at one of the program’s other local volunteer stations. For more information, contact Harris.

volunteers who share in that mission, they were able to distribute 18.9 million meals. This year marks Care and Share’s 50th anniversary of helping communities with food insecurity.

With the addition of the SLV distribution center last year, Care and Share will now have the ability to reach more neighbors in need in more areas, “We look forward to serving Southern Colorado for 50 more years!” says SLV Development Director, Meagan Smith.

For more information, contact Meagan at Meagan@careandshare.org or 719-695-4333.

Friends

Continued from Page 1

the library and other locations in Alamosa. In addition, they create and sell journals and other crafts made from discarded books.

From these proceeds, they purchased a book, and stock it with free reading materials for community events such as First Fridays and the Farmer’s Market.

In addition, they maintain a large portion of the Little Free Libraries in Alamosa, making sure these free public boxes are well-stocked with books. They also help maintain the Story Walk in Cole Park that winds around the Alamosa City Hall.

For more information on how to make a donation or be a volunteer with the Friends of the Alamosa Library, please email Allyn Lewis at allynjl53@gmail.com.

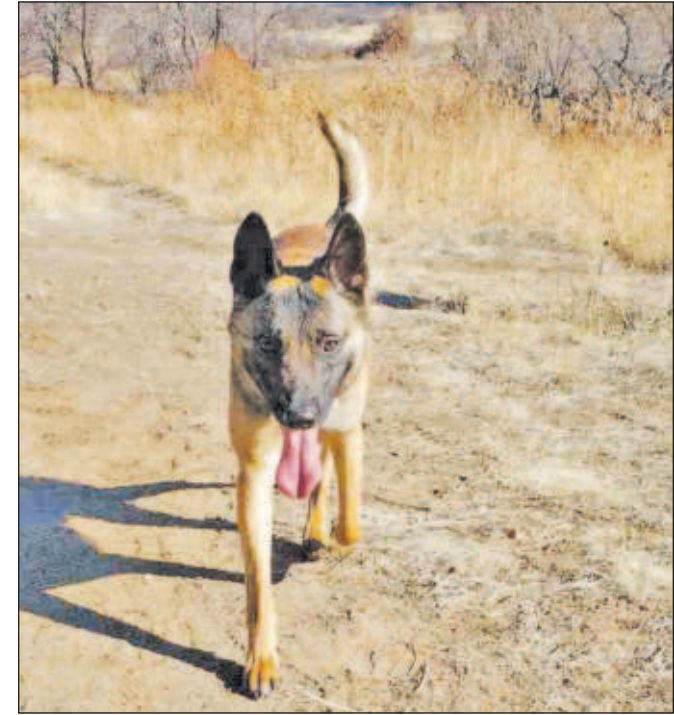


Photo courtesy of city of Alamosa

APD K-9 Officer Kilo comes through first time on the job in successfully alerting partner Officer Moreno to the presence of drugs in a vehicle.

Arrests

Continued from Page 1

Renee Archuleta, 36, of Alamosa, were taken into custody and charged with unlawful distribution of a controlled substance (Drug Felony 1), unlawful possession of a controlled substance (Drug Felony 4) and marijuana offense (Drug Felony 2). The suspects were then transported to the Alamosa County Detention Center.

“More than 850 fentanyl pills is a significant amount for one person to have and definitely qualifies as distribution level,” says Interim Police Chief Joey Spangler. When asked what kind of impact distribution of that much fentanyl could have within a community, Spangler says, “It depends upon tolerance and a person’s past use of the substance. But a single fentanyl pill would be enough for an individual with low tolerance to overdose or worse.”

Bond was set for Aragon at \$10,000 cash surety and \$20,000 for Archuleta. As of Thursday afternoon, both women were still in the detention center and are scheduled to appear in court on March 26 for a Return Filing of Charges.

This is the second time in as many weeks that a routine traffic stop involving residents has led to the discovery and subsequent arrest for unlawful possession and distribution of controlled substances along with items used for distribution. In the February 29 case, the suspects, both from Alamosa, had more than 400 fentanyl pills and other drugs in their possession.

Both times, the K-9 officers called to the scene were responsible for alerting their partners that there were drugs in the vehicle. In the February incident, K9 Officer Goose was responsible and, as stated, K-9 Officer Kilo alerted on the vehicle Tuesday night.

It should be noted that, according to Spangler, APD K-9 Officer Kilo had just received his certification, and Tuesday night was his first time called to a scene.

All individuals are presumed innocent until proven otherwise in a court of law.

Care

Continued from Page 1

at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista. Interested individuals are encouraged to contact Harris at nharris@sparkthechangeolorao.org or 303-867-0868.

RSVP of Alamosa County is a program of Spark the Change Colorado’s Empowering Aging work. Spark is a volunteer center that inspires, engages, mobilizes, and empowers individuals and organizations to become a driving force for good through the work of talented volunteers.

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Opinion

It's a circus out there

If you have had the good fortune to have been on this old Earth for an extended period, you've had the opportunity to experience some real oddities in human nature. And, no, I am not talking about visiting the freak show at the circus. I'm talking about the normal,

Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick

everyday happenings around us that people have taken to tearing asunder for reasons known only to them.

We have seen some real doozies too, such as concerns for cow farts in their contribution to global warming, all the while we as humans gather in increasing masses in traffic-clogged cities with polluted air as the result. And like most things of that nature, it does not have to make sense to become a rallying point for some environmental whacko group to gather round either. Masses of their leaders will fly hundreds of private jets to destinations far away, polluting more than any thousand cows ever could, just to try and take away your gas stove, fireplace or car.

I can recall an interview I heard where one of the Kennedys told the host that he himself had a big SUV, three mansions and flew private but he "needed" all that pollution spewing lifestyle whereas the common folk do not.

Now Ol' Dutch usually just goes along with such nonsense and lets it slide considering the source of such ideas but of late the whacko's have taken on some new things to ban and it's just driven me over the edge. Miss Trixie says I went over that proverbial and maybe actual edge long before this, but you know how excitable she can be at times. So there is that.

It was bad enough that they have taxed people to death on cigarettes and booze, plus, where legal, marijuana all under the guise of helping them to quit. Now, though, they have started on something near and dear to the American soul. Yes, you guessed it, the merry-go-round. For it seems that the lovely, colorful ride seen at carnivals and State fairs has somehow become a danger to us. A danger on a level far exceeding even world wars as we are being asked to give up the first and not the latter by these well-meaning folks.

So what is the big offense of a brightly-colored merry-go-round you may ask? I am glad you asked that question as you know Ol' Dutch was gonna tell you anyway. It seems that to incorporate carved wooden exotic animals in a ride has somehow become a sort of an insult to those mighty beasts. Apparently having little children ride around in a circle atop a plastic or wooden camel or zebra has brought pain and suffering to the animal kingdom.

Even Ol' Dutch can stretch his old noggin and see that animals have been abused in many places across the globe, but honestly, it's hard for me to see that riding around in a circle on these contraptions has ever hurt one of them.

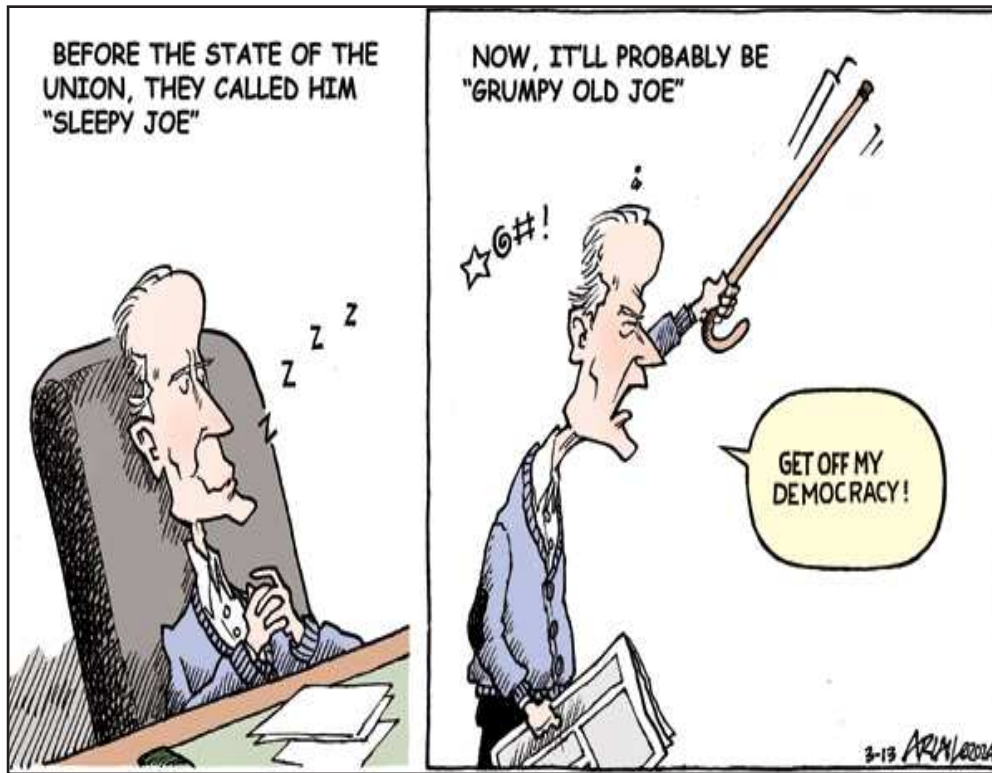
Maybe it could become a teachable moment to people about the plight of such beasts, too. I guess like their real life namesakes, we should also demand that the wooden ones be fed and watered on a daily basis, too. (They do know they are fake, don't they?)

And for sure we want to try and hide from concerned eyes the fact that all of those same exotic beasts are being chased and eaten by lions and tigers on a daily basis. Which seems to Ol' Dutch to be a tad worse than being ridden by an old woman or diaper wearing toddler.

But hey, that's just me. Regardless of your treatment of fake animals that you have participated in during your lifetime, we all have to admit that we have reached a level of stupidity in the human experience. And just think. It's only going to get worse as the powers that be come after everything you enjoy including your food and drink until finally we will be reduced to eating the styrofoam packing peanuts that arrive with our purchases.

I am going to quickly go ride a wooden horse before they are relegated to the pile of human insanity for good. And eat a big old steak before those are outlawed as well.

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.



Trump is subtracting, not adding

By STEVEN ROBERTS

There's an ancient and accurate political adage: Elections are about addition, not subtraction. That's especially true this year, since the last two presidential contests have been extremely close. The decisions of a few swing voters in a few swing states have decided both outcomes, and that's likely to happen again.

But it's clear that Donald Trump is following a very different strategy. His aim is to solidify and energize his most fervent supporters, the true believers of MAGA Nation, while ostracizing voters he decries as RINOs, Republicans in Name Only, who don't pledge total fealty to his personal preeminence.

The Republican primaries reveal the validity of another verity: For every action in politics, there is a reaction. A limited — but significant — number of Republicans despise the MAGA movement and are determined to defect in November.

Trump may own the Republican Party, but he does not own individual voters. This is a divorce based on irreconcilable differences strongly expressed by both aggrieved antagonists.

Trump's opponent, Joe Biden, is an uninspiring and at times even feeble candidate who has troubles of his own with younger, more liberal and nonwhite supporters. But the cleavage in Republican ranks could provide him with a critical advantage in the handful of states that will decide the election.

Nikki Haley's departure from the GOP race, combined with Biden's highly partisan State of the Union address, signal the start of the general election campaign, almost eight full months before Election Day. "Typically at this moment," writes

the Associated Press, "candidates will shift their message to speak to a broader swath of voters — especially moderates and independents — that play a more influential role in general elections compared to the hardcore base voters that decide primaries." Trump, however, "is showing little interest — or ability — to embrace a more inclusive or moderate tone."

Far from being "inclusive or moderate," Trump seems determined to do the opposite, to purge his party of heretics. Using his derisive sobriquet for Haley, Trump thundered in January: "Anybody that makes a 'Contribution' to Birdbrain, from this moment forth, will be permanently barred from the MAGA camp. We don't want them, and will not accept them."

In another assault on his foes, Trump vowed: "We're getting rid of the Romneys of the world. We want to get Romneys and those out." He was referring to Sen. Mitt Romney, an ardent Never Trumper who is retiring from the Senate, and Romney's niece, Ronna McDaniel, who Trump fired as GOP party chairman and replaced with his daughter-in-law, Lara Trump. "Trump is actively rejecting people from the Republican Party -- a losing strategy in November and a recipe for extinction in the long run," Haley predicted.

McDaniel issued a parting shot of her own against Trump: "We don't win if we only talk to each other. We have to go out and engage independent and swing voters and sell them on our vision for this country."

The primaries demonstrate Trump's problem with those independent and swing voters. As Politico reported: "Trump struggled in places where a majority of adults are college-educated, including in key suburbs that doomed his campaign 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."

LETTERS

Remember the struggle involved in passing and implementing Title IX

Editor,
Congratulations to the ASU women's basketball team's outstanding season and participation in the Division II Basketball Tournament!

Caitlin Clark's recent scoring record before 15,500, the intense rivalries before capacity crowds in women's college basketball, the 19,727 fans attending the Division I Women's Volleyball National Championship on Dec. 17, 2023, Oklahoma University's 71 game softball win streak, South Carolina basketball's undefeated season, and other notable events mark the evolution and growth of women's sports over the recent decades. This did not happen spontaneously. There is a history.

The Title IX Amendment of the Higher Education Act of 1972 is a federal law that prohibits sex-based discrimination in educational programs and activities. It was sponsored by Senator Birch Bayh, Democrat of Indiana and Representative Patsy Mink, Democrat of Hawaii. Representative Mink was the first Asian American and first woman of color elected to the House. Title IX was a source of contention for years and was weakened by a Supreme Court Decision in 1984 but

was subsequently bolstered by the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, which addressed the Supreme Court's issues and was passed over President Ronald Reagan's veto. Title IX continued as a source of controversy and misinformation through the 1980's.

Phylis Schlafly, a conservative anti-feminist, and many others vehemently opposed Title IX, stating it would masculinize women and was "a tool to punish men." The National Collegiate Athletics association challenged Title IX's legality in an unsuccessful lawsuit.

Many who opposed the passage and subsequent implementation of Title IX stated that it would destroy men's athletics. However, progressives across America resolutely addressed these issues and eventually not only was it the law of the land it was fully implemented and enforced.

As a result, women's athletics flourished. An article authored by Sara Pruitt for the History Channel in 2023 noted that in 1972 female athletes received, "2 per cent of college athletic budgets, and athletic scholarships for women virtually non-existent."

According to Pruitt, by 2012 the num-

ber of girls in high school sports had risen tenfold, from 300,000 to more than 3 million and more than 190,000 women were competing in intercollegiate sports. Much of this gain in participation was due to the formation of new programs in basketball, volleyball, track, lacrosse, field hockey and softball.

According to the Women's Sports Foundation 1 in every 5 high school girls played sports in 2016, compared to 1 in 27 before passage of Title IX.

Currently the expansion in women's athletics is fully embraced, especially in rural areas, where women's high school sports have passionate fans and are the source of animated conversation at rural gathering areas.

Meanwhile men's athletics were in fact not destroyed, but have expanded.

As we read the Courier's women's sports coverage, we should remember the struggle involved in passing and implementing Title IX. We should not forget the late Representative Patsy Mink and the late Senator Birch Bayh for their vision, progressive ideas, and courage to do the right thing despite unfavorable odds.

Robert N Rice
Alamosa

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Publisher

Brian Williams
Managing Editor

Valley Courier

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Lifestyles

After two months of primaries and caucuses, Biden, Trump clinch their nominations

By JACOB FISHLER
Colorado Newsline
The rematch is set.

President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump clinched their parties' nominations for president by winning state primaries Tuesday, setting up the same choice voters saw in the 2020 election.

Both candidates are unpopular with the general electorate, but neither faced serious hurdles to their nominations in the states that have held presidential nominating contests.

Early polls of the November election show Trump with a slim lead at the national level and in key swing states.

Control of both chambers of Congress will also be at stake in November. Democrats face a disadvantage in defending their U.S. Senate majority, while House Republicans' effort to keep their slim majority will hinge on a handful of key races.

Biden, who defeated Trump's reelection attempt in 2020, won Democratic primaries in Georgia, Mississippi and Washington state on Tuesday, giving him 2,107 delegates. The Democratic National Committee rules required a candidate to secure 1,968 delegates to clinch the nomination.

Democrats will officially nominate Biden at their national convention in Chicago from Aug. 19 to 22.

Trump swept Republican primaries and caucuses in Georgia, Hawaii, Mississippi and Washington on Tuesday, giving him 1,241 delegates so far. He needed 1,215 to clinch the nomination. Republicans will make him their presidential nominee for the third straight cycle at their convention in Milwaukee July 15-18.

The candidates clinched nominations after only about half of states held nominating contests. The process, which Republicans kicked off Jan. 15 with the Iowa caucuses and the Democrats started with their first official primary in South Carolina in February, is designed to take months, as only a few states generally hold contests in any given week.

To win in November, the candidates already are focused on a handful of swing states - Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin - that will award 93 of the 270 electoral votes needed to win the White House.

Biden: 'Freedom and democracy are at risk'

In a statement on becoming the presumptive Democratic nominee, Biden harked back to his successful 2020 campaign against Trump. He reminded voters he considered the 2020 race "a battle for the soul of the nation."

He said the country was "in the middle of a comeback" and framed the upcoming rematch with Trump as another crucial crossroads for the country's democratic future, much as in his State of the Union speech.

"Amid this progress, we face a sobering reality: Freedom and democracy are at risk here at home in a way they have not been since the Civil War," he said. "Donald Trump is running a campaign of resentment, revenge, and retribution that threatens the very idea of America."

Biden, whose disapproval rating is 18 percentage

points higher than his approval rating, according to an average compiled by FiveThirtyEight, will likely seek to make much of the race about Trump, whose net approval rating is also in the negative double-digits.

Trump issued his own statement on his social media platform, Truth Social, that celebrated a "UNITED and STRONG" Republican Party and blasted Biden for his handling of inflation and immigration and the Justice Department's prosecutions of the former president.

"We are now, under Crooked Joe Biden, a Third World Nation, which uses the Injustice System to go after his political opponent, ME!" Trump wrote. "But fear not, we will not fail, we will take back our once great Country, put AMERICA FIRST, and MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN - GREATER THAN EVER BEFORE."

Trump's choice for his next running mate will likely come in the weeks leading up to the July convention. Trump and his vice president, Mike Pence, had a public rift over Trump's handling of the 2020 election loss and conduct leading up to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Trump pressured Pence to reject the certification of the electoral votes, which Pence was not authorized to do, and took hours to intervene as a mob of his supporters, some chanting, "Hang Mike Pence," caused mayhem at the Capitol.

Legal troubles no bar to GOP nomination

Trump faces felony charges in four cases, including two related to the Capitol attack, any of which on their own are unprecedented for a major-party nominee.

But even together, the spate of legal troubles did not deter GOP voters who clearly backed him in early states. He led in polls in the months leading up to the first contests, then won a slim majority in a multi-candidate field in Iowa, forcing most of the other candidates to drop out.

In the second contest, New Hampshire's primary, he won a head-to-head race that was considered the most favorable territory for his last rival, former United Nations Ambassador and South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley.

After winning races in Nevada and Michigan, Trump also bested Haley by more than 20 percentage points in her home state on Feb. 24.

Haley won the March 3 primary in the District of Columbia, becoming the first woman to win a GOP presidential primary, and the Vermont primary two days later, on Super Tuesday, when 865 delegates were at stake in all those states, including Colorado.

She dropped out of the race after Super Tuesday but has not endorsed Trump.

Because Trump has a majority of delegates, the upcoming Republican presidential primaries in Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Kansas and Ohio next week will be formalities, though some states are also holding congressional primaries.

Biden coasts despite concern over Gaza

Biden easily won the Democratic kickoff state of South Carolina, which the party chose this cycle to replace Iowa as the

first-in-the-nation contest, in part because of Biden's strength with the state's Black Democratic electorate.

More than 95% of Democrats in South Carolina backed Biden in the Feb. 3 contest and nearly 90% voted for him later that week in Nevada's primary.

Neither U.S. Rep. Dean Phillips of Minnesota nor author Marianne Williamson bested Biden in any state.

But Muslim voters and progressives in the party sent a dissenting message, starting with the party's third official race in Michigan in late February.

More than 100,000 Michigan Democrats, 13.2% of primary voters, selected "uncommitted" rather than vote for Biden or any of the other declared candidates. The protest vote that denied the incumbent two of the state's 117 delegates was seen as a rebuke of Biden's handling of Israel's war with Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

A week later, on Super Tuesday, 18% of Minnesota Democrats selected "uncommitted," reserving 11 of the 75 delegates at stake in the race.

The discontent with Biden did not meaningfully help Phillips' long shot bid, and the moderate House member suspended his campaign after receiving less than 8% of the vote in his home state.

Phillips' futility against Biden was clear from the first, unsanctioned Democratic primary in New Hampshire.

After the Granite State refused to give up its first-primary status even after the Democratic National Committee selected South Carolina for that position, Biden didn't campaign or even appear on the ballot there but still managed 65% as a write-in candidate to Phillips' 20%.

Control of Congress To maintain their 51-49 edge in the U.S. Senate, including the three independent senators grouped with them for the purposes of organization, Democrats have virtually no margin for error.

Retiring West Virginia Democrat Joe Manchin III's seat is almost certain to flip to the state's Republican Gov. Jim Justice.

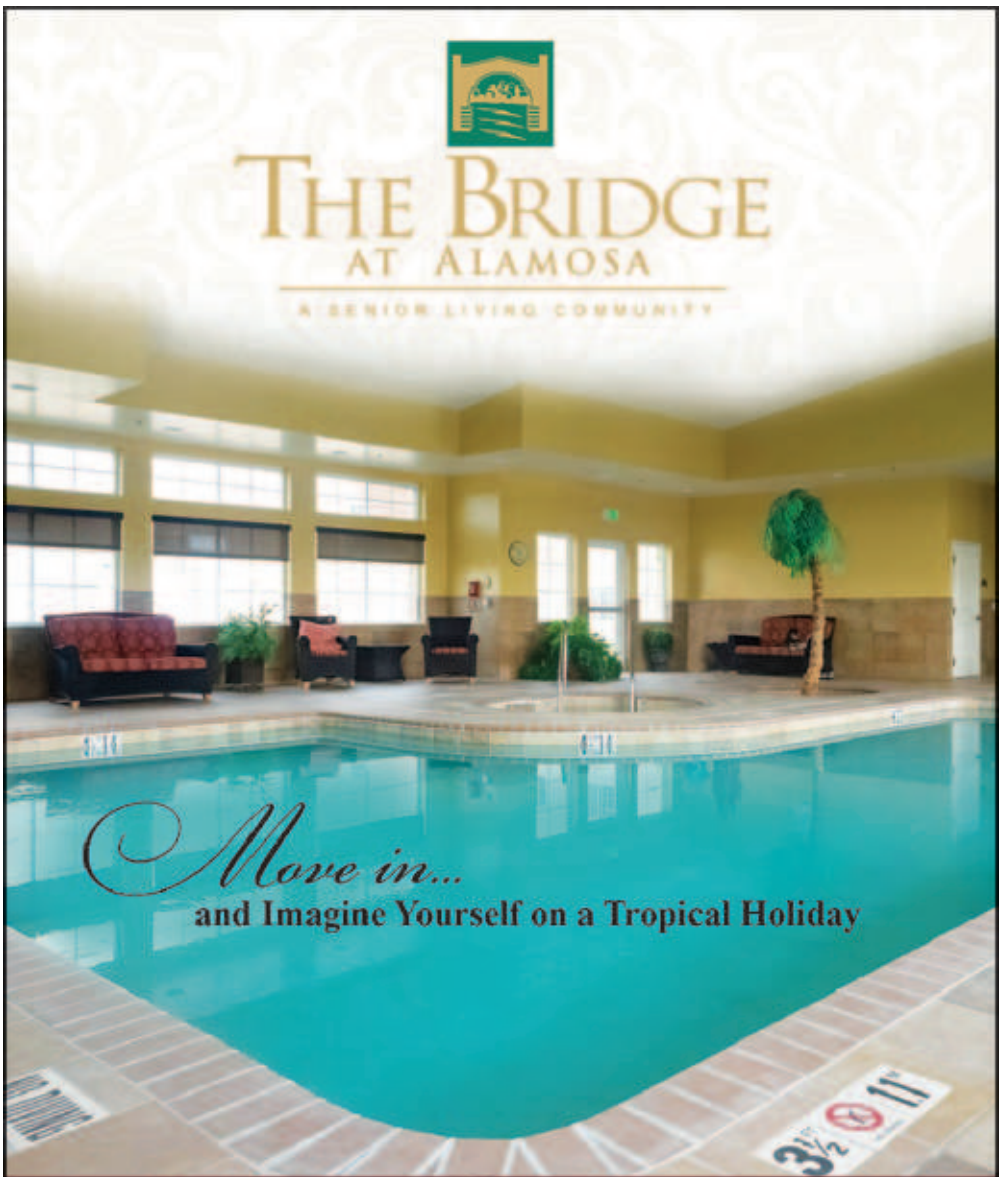
Assuming the party change in West Virginia, Democrats would have to sweep the remaining competitive races, several of which are in Republican-leaning states. Virtually no Republican incumbents are considered at risk of losing their seats.

Inside Elections, an elections analysis site, considers Democratic Sens. Jon Tester of Montana and Sherrod Brown of Ohio toss-ups in their reelection races.

Independent Sen. Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona is not pursuing reelection and that state's race between U.S. Rep. Ruben Gallego, a Democrat, and Republican Kari Lake is also considered a toss-up.

Democratic Sens. Bob Casey in Pennsylvania and Jacky Rosen in Nevada are considered slight favorites in their reelection races, and Democrats are slightly favored to retain the Michigan seat now held by retiring Democrat Debbie Stabenow.

Neither party has as solid an advantage in the House, with various forecasters listing about 20 toss-up races that will determine control. Democrats would need a net gain of four seats to win back control of the chamber.



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Sports

37th Annual Arby's All-Star games are tonight at ASU



Hot Shots girls

Courier photos by Ken Hamrick
 Back row, from left, coach Greg Parra (Del Norte), Karizma Gallegos (Antonito), Yanelli Garcia (Center), Kadence McWilliams (Moffat), Stefanie Lopez (Monte Vista), Arazeliz Garcia (Center), Kevyn Aragon (Antonito), coach Gilbert Sanchez (Del Norte). Front row, from left, Jazmin Salcido (Centennial), Jenessia Tafoya Limon (Center), Marie Velasquez (Moffat), Kayleigh Garcia (Monte Vista).

Top shots girls

Back row, from left, Rhylina Serna (Centennial), NayLani Velasquez (Sierra Grande), Jalen Laing (Creede), Annika Martinez (Antonito), Zariah Archuleta (Monte Vista), Alycia Espinoza (Monte Vista), coach James Laing (Creede). Front row, from left, Ciara Paiz (Center), Alicia Rios (Center), Bailey Asbell (Sargent), Shay Sidel (Moffat).



Top shots boys

Back row, from left, coach Mike Roberts (Moffat), Martin Navarro (Centennial), Noble Cole (Moffat), Zack Crowther (Alamosa), Corbyn Wright (Sargent), R.J. Meis (Alamosa), Tajuan Jamestown (Alamosa), Kallon Russell (Centauri), coach Tyler Berger (Moffat). Front row, from left, Jacob Martinez (Moffat), C.J. Donaldson (Center), Devon Vigil (Centennial), Brian Ontiveros (Sierra Grande), Michael Motz (Alamosa).



Hot shots boys

Back row, from left, Roj Larson (Sanford), Javier Ramos (Center), Parker Gilmore (Alamosa), Orlando Maes (Sierra Grande), Kaiden Smit (Sangre de Cristo), Hayden Lester (Sargent), Brant Jackson (Alamosa), Jasiah Jiron (Antonito), Samuel Aguilera (Centennial), coach Sheldon Rockey (Sargent). Front row, from left, Ziah Pesqueira (Moffat), Kiko Ruybal (Alamosa), Derek Martinez (Sierra Grande), Alex Sittler (Sanford), Kiler Ullery (Alamosa), Trenton Paskett (Sargent), Chaz Holman (Centauri).



Sports Bulletin

State 8

SCHEDULE FRIDAY

Prep boys basketball
 Arby's All-Star Game (at Plachy Hall), 8 p.m.

Prep girls basketball
 Arby's All-Star Game (at Plachy Hall), 6 p.m.

Prep baseball
 Alamosa vs. North Fork (Delta Invitational), 11 a.m.
 Swink at Centauri (2), 11 a.m.

Monte Vista vs. Limon (Crowley County/Fowler Invitational at Fowler), noon

Monte Vista at Crowley County (Rocky Ford/Fowler Invitational), 3 p.m.
 Alamosa vs. Gunnison (Delta Invitational), 4 p.m.

Prep track and field
 Antonito, Centauri,

Center, Sargent, Sierra Grande at Bayfield Invitational, 9 a.m.

College women's basketball
 Adams State vs. Texas-Permian Basin (NCAA Division II South Central Region Tournament at Denton, Texas), 6:30 p.m.

College baseball
 Adams State at Colorado Christian, 3 p.m.

College outdoor track and field
 Adams State at Dr. Dan Caprioglio Invitational (at Pueblo), TBA

SATURDAY Prep baseball
 Alamosa vs. Liberty (Delta Invitational), 1:30 p.m.

Monte Vista at Crowley County/Fowler Invitational

(at Fowler), TBA
Prep track and field
 Alamosa, Sargent at Larry Pickering Invitational (at Dutch Clark Stadium, Pueblo), 9 a.m.

College women's basketball
 Adams State/Texas-Permian Basin winner vs. Colorado School of Mines/Texas Woman's winner (NCAA Division II South Central Region Tournament at Denton, Texas), TBA

College men's wrestling
 Adams State at NCAA Division II Championships (at Park City, Kan.), TBA

College baseball
 Adams State at Colorado Christian (2), noon

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

College outdoor track and field
 Adams State at Dr. Dan Caprioglio Invitational (at Pueblo), TBA

SUNDAY College men's wrestling
 Adams State at NCAA Division II Championships (at Park City, Kan.), TBA

College baseball
 Adams State at Colorado Christian, noon

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

MONDAY Prep baseball
 Questa (N.M.) at Antonito (2), 2 p.m.

TUESDAY Prep baseball
 Pueblo Centennial at

Alamosa, 1 p.m.

STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS BOYS

Class 6A - Valor Christian
 Class 5A - Mesa Ridge
 Class 4A - Resurrection Christian
 Class 3A - Yuma
 Class 2A - Limon
 Class 1A - Cheyenne Wells

GIRLS

Class 6A - Valor Christian
 Class 5A - Roosevelt
 Class 4A - Riverdale Ridge
 Class 3A - Colorado Springs Christian
 Class 2A - Merino
 Class 1A - Briggsdale

Follow Sports editor Ken Hamrick on X. His handle is @Ken Hamrick1

SCOREBOARD TUESDAY

Prep baseball
 Centauri 14, Sargent 4, 5 inn.

Prep girls soccer
 Alamosa 10, Ignacio 0

WEDNESDAY

Prep girls soccer
 Salida 7, Alamosa 0

THURSDAY

College men's lacrosse
 Quincy (Ill.) 23, Adams

Lifestyle

Bureau of Animal Protection assists with removal of 22 animals

Owner now faces criminal charges of cruelty to animals

By COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BROOMFIELD

Since the summer of 2023, The Bureau of Animal Protection staff worked with the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) and the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region (HSP-PR) to respond to reports of animal neglect. The investigation led to the removal of 22 animals from a Pueblo County resident, Elizabeth Barnes, due to ongoing animal welfare concerns.

BAP agents and staff assisted with the removal of six horses, one chicken, one dog, one cat and two snakes in August 2023. Eight more dogs and three cats were removed by HSP-PR and PCSO in December 2023. On De-

ember 15, 2023, the BAP team and the Attorney General's office obtained an Order for a Permanent Injunction that prohibited Ms. Barnes, among other requirements, from owning or possessing any horses. Injunctions are a form of civil action which can work independently or in conjunction with a criminal case.

"This outcome was the result of months of dedication and hard work from several organizations who worked together to enforce Colorado's robust animal protection laws," said Bureau of Animal Protection Lead Investigator Taylor Peterson. "The Bureau of Animal Protection's collaborative partnerships with local law enforcement agencies throughout the state continue to grow and aid in successful outcomes to cases involving animal cruelty and neglect."

Ms. Barnes is due in court on March 14, 2024, regarding criminal charges brought against her by the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office. She is facing

one felony count of aggravated cruelty to animals, twenty-four misdemeanor counts of animal neglect and mistreatment, and two counts of child abuse-negligence with no injury.

During the removal of animals, BAP staff assisted officers from the Pueblo Sheriff's Office and Animal Law Enforcement officers from the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region.

"The support that the Bureau of Animal Protection provided to our Animal Law Enforcement Officers in this case is a great example of how essential this program is for Colorado," said Stephanie Garcia, Animal Law Enforcement Lieutenant of the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region. "Through collaboration, we can work to ensure the best possible outcome for the animals affected while making sure offenders are held accountable both civilly and criminally."

The horses removed from the property in August were underweight and experienced a va-

riety of medical issues. The horses were moved for rehabilitation to the Harmony Equine Center, where they were able to gain a significant amount of weight. The six rehabilitated horses have since been adopted.

"We are happy to provide

this necessary partnership so that the horses in this case had a safe place to land and received the necessary care they needed," said Bobbi Priestly Director of Field and Equine Services for the Dumb Friends League (DFL) Harmony Equine Center.

To report cases of animal abuse or mistreatment, the best thing to do is to contact your local law enforcement agency. You can learn more about how the Bureau of Animal Protection supports law enforcement at ag.colorado.gov/BAP.

CPW's Southwest Region announces state park boat ramp opening dates for 2024 season

By COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE RIDGWAY, Colo.

The boat ramp is open for the season at Navajo State Park, and more openings are soon to come at state parks in the Southwest Region of Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Ridgway State Park will be next to open March 15. The ramp will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

CPW reminds the public that Paonia State Park's boat ramp will be closed on Tuesdays in 2024 for wakeless days. Hand-launched boats will still be permitted.

Before launching in Colorado waters, boaters will need to ensure their boat is registered, purchase an aquatic nuisance species (ANS) stamp and follow all ANS inspection requirements.

"We always want to remind everyone to make



CPW photo by Dustin Doskoci

The boat ramp at Ridgway State Park is pictured in 2017.

sure their boats are clean, drained and dry," said Ridgway State Park Ranger Derek MacLachlan.

All boats are also required to have one Coast Guard-approved life jacket for each person on board. Life jackets can save lives when they fit properly and are worn when recreating on the water. Boaters are also encouraged to take a boating safety course with CPW to learn navigation safety and what to do in case of an accident.





- Opening dates:**
- Crawford: Saturday, May 4
 - Mancos: TBD after April 9
 - Navajo: Friday, March 1
 - Paonia: Wednesday, May 22
 - Ridgway: Wednesday, March 15
 - Sweitzer Lake: Monday, April 22
- Boat ramp hours will be limited from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. until late May when hours are extended. For more information about state park boat ramp hours, go to cpw.state.co.us.

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(1/2 Pg. with the Matching Space)
- 1/2 Pg. \$499
(Full Pg. with the Matching Space)
- Full \$699
(2 Full Pgs. with the Matching Space)

For More Information, Contact the Valley Courier at 719-589-2553 or Valley Publishing at 719-852-3531.

Deadline Thurs., March 21st

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EASTER EGG HUNT CONTEST

WIN EASTER CASH!

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Your Easter Egg could be HERE!

Contact Adam at 719-589-2553 or email alopez@alamosanews.com

4 5 2 1 3

Public Notices

NOTICE

District Court
Costilla County, Colorado
Court Address: PO Box 301
304 Main St.,
San Luis, CO 81152
In the Matter of the Estate of
Albert L. Ellis
Deceased
Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name & Address):
James J. Ellis
1008 St. Clair Ave., Collinsville, IL 62234
Phone Number: 618-447-6037 E-mail: jimellis238@gmail.com
FAX Number: Atty. Reg. #:
COURT USE ONLY
Case Number: 2024PR1
Division C. Courtroom
NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO 15-12-801, C.R.S.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Albert L. Ellis, Deceased Case Number 2024PR1
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to District Court of Costilla, County, Colorado or on or before 01 July 2024 (date)*, or the claims may be forever barred.
James J. Ellis
Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice
1008 St. Clair Ave.
Address:
Collinsville, IL 62234
City, State, Zip Code
No. 3822.
Published in the Valley Courier on March 1, 8, & 15, 2024.

Public Notice

Request for Bids for replacement of interior and closet doors.
The Center Housing Authority is requesting bids for replacement of interior and closet doors for 2 & 3 bedroom units, for a total of 20 units. Contractors interested may contact Geraldine Martinez at 138 S. Worth Street, Center, CO or you can call at (719) 754-2537 for more information. Deadline for submission of bid will be 03/22/24.
No. 3832.
Published in the Valley Courier on March 8, 9, 12, 13, & 15, 2024.

NOTICE

District Court, Denver Probate Court
Alamosa County, Colorado
Court Address:
702 4th St
Alamosa, CO 81101
In the Matter of the Estate of
MARIA CATALINA MARTINEZ
Deceased
COURT USE ONLY
Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address):
Jack H. McQuitty Jr
630 Southpointe Ct Ste 200
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
Phone Number: E-mail: jack@mcquittytaxlaw.com
FAX Number: Atty. Reg. #: 29452
Case Number:
2024PR30002
Division Courtroom
NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of MARIA CATALINA MARTINEZ, Deceased Case Number 2024PR30002
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to District Court of Alamosa, County, Colorado or Denver Probate Court of the City and County of Denver, Colorado on or before 07/09/2024 (date)*, or the claims may be forever barred.
Loretta Margarita Martinez Diaz
c/o McQuitty Tax Law, Inc
Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice
630 Southpointe Ct Ste 200
Address
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
City, State, Zip Code
No. 3833.
Published in the Valley Courier on March 8, 15, & 22, 2024.

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR BIDS

The East Alamosa Water and Sanitation District is accepting bids for a lease on an 80-acre parcel of farm ground located on Road 12 South, Alamosa, CO, along with 2 shares of Commonwealth Water. Bids should include the annual payment in addition to the payment of water assessments. Bids can be mailed to P.O. Box 1092, Alamosa, CO 81101, or hand delivered to 10 Costilla Blvd. Alamosa, CO. Bids will be reviewed by the end of March. The district reserves the right to reject any and all bids.
No. 3839.
Published in the Valley Courier on March 13, 15, 16, & 19, 2024.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:

The Center Consolidated School District is seeking proposals for an integrated project delivery method utilizing construction management/general contracting (CM/GC) services for a new auxiliary gym and additional classrooms project. The complete RFP can be found on the district website at: <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/rfpintegratedproject>
No. 3840.
Published in the Valley Courier on March 15, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, & 26, 2024.

TOWN OF ANTONITO, COLORADO

RESOLUTION 24-02
A RESOLUTION CANCELING THE APRIL 2, 2024, REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION AND DECLARING CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICES OF TOWN TRUSTEE ELECTED
WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Town of Antonito, Colorado, finds that there are no more candidates for the Board of Trustees of said Town than there are vacant seats to be filled at the April 2, 2024 general municipal election; and
WHEREAS, pursuant to law, an election will therefore be unnecessary, as no write-in candidates have filed an affidavit of intent for any positions for the Board of Trustees after the filing of petitions of nomination and write-in candidates and prior to nineteen days before the day of the election.
NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Town of Antonito Code Sec. 2-1-30, it is hereby resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Antonito that the Board authorizes the Town Clerk to cancel the April 2, 2024 election.
BE IT FURTHER HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees that those candidates that filed nomination petitions Loren Brian Velasquez and Felipe Romero, are declared elected to the Board of Trustees for the following terms and positions at the April regular Town Trustee meeting to wit:
One (4) year term for Trustee: Loren Brian Velasquez
One (4) year term for Trustee: Felipe Romero
FURTHER, the election scheduled for April 2, 2024 shall be canceled, as of March 7, 2024, NINETEEN days prior to the scheduled April 2, 2024, election.
Done this 14th day of March 2024.
TOWN OF ANTONITO, COLORADO
By: Paul Jiron, Mayor
ATTEST:
Stephanie Trujillo, Town Clerk
No. 3841.
Published in the Valley Courier on March 15, 2024.

221 - HELP WANTED

SOUTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking a SECONDARY SCIENCE TEACHER for the 24-25 school year. Applicants must possess a Colorado Teaching License or be eligible to apply for one. Salary schedules are available on the district website. Please submit a district application, resume, cover letter, and transcripts at <https://www.southconejos.com/page/how-to-apply>. (4/2/24)

CITY OF MONTE VISTA is currently seeking a dynamic and experienced individual to fill the role of CHIEF OF POLICE. This position offers an exciting opportunity for a proven leader with a strong commitment to community safety and effective law enforcement practices. Salary range \$95,000 - \$105,000, plus benefits. Position open until filled, EOE. Please visit: <https://cityofmontevista.colorado.gov/government/departments/human-resources> for a complete position description and application. (3/23/24)

½ TIME TIGER CONNECTION COACH (at-tendance & 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)

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)

SARGENT EARLY LEARNING CENTER (SELC) in MONTE VISTA, CO is hiring an EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for the 2024-2025 school year! The SELC is a nonprofit childcare center that offers daycare and preschool programs. The Executive Director is responsible for providing a developmentally appropriate program for children ages 12 months to 5 years old, program accountability, financial management of the SELC, staff development, and parental involvement activities. The successful applicant will have the following qualifications: Large center director level qualification; Minimum of an AA, BA preferred; Knowledge and experience in working in early childhood education; Knowledge and experience in staff development and leadership; Ability to work closely as a team player with staff, parents, and the community; Previous experience with grant writing, grant management, and financial management preferred; Ability to be flexible, open to learning, and to take on new tasks/problems as they occur; Knowledge of State Licensing and Colorado Shines Rating; Must be able to pass CBI/FBI/TRAILS background checks. Salary starts at \$35,000 per year dependent upon qualifications and experience. Benefits include paid holidays, sick pay, vacation time, and a simple IRA. Learn more about the SELC at <https://sargentearlylearning.wixsite.com/selc/programs>. To apply, please send a letter of interest and resume to sargentearlylearning-center@gmail.com. Position open until filled, but applications received by March 15th will receive priority. (3/23/24)

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

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS ALAMOSA now hiring Room Attendants, Laundry Attendant, Front Desk and Night houseman. Apply in person. (3/22/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

THE SLV LANDFILL is accepting applications for a Full-Time ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/SCALE OPERATOR. Working in front office by waiting on customers, weighing loads, processing credit card transactions. Fill in for the Office Manager as needed. Must work in all types of weather and be able to work a fluctuating schedule altering Saturday's. Position open until filled. \$16.00 per hour, 40 hours week. Applications can be mailed to officemanager@slvlandfill.com or returned at the office. Download the application at slvlandfill.com. (4/3/24)

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

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

SARGENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Board of Education is seeking applications for the following positions for the 2024-2025 school year. ELEMENTARY READING INTERVENTIONIST: Full-time position, starting salary Step 0 \$35,845.00, placement on the salary schedule will be based on years of experience up to 10 years. Benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, optional \$1,200 a year toward an HSA, and life insurance coverage. 4-day week, professional learning opportunities, free admission to all home athletic events, mentor program for new teachers, staff wellness room, discount rates to Monte Vista Athletic Club, Sand Dunes Swimming Pool, and Monte Vista Golf Course. Elementary Teaching License and Reading Specialist K-12 required; please complete the certified application and submit with unofficial transcripts, three letters of recommendation and resume. More information concerning job requirements, qualifications, and application process can be found at www.sargent.k12.co.us. EOE. (3/30/24)

SARGENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Board of Education is seeking applications for the following positions for the 2024-2025 school year. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS: Salary/Benefits: \$90,000 to \$110,000/Full family medical insurance coverage Negotiable. The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for the general management of the schools of the district under the requirements of the state and the policies of the Board. The superintendent is responsible for guiding the development of the educational objectives and programs of the school district to fulfill the educational needs of all students. The superintendent shall provide overall direction to the activities of the school district and its personnel toward the accomplishment of district goals, administer the policies of the Board, conserve the school district's assets and resources, and maintain and enhance the school district's standing in all its internal and external relationships. The management responsibilities of the superintendent shall extend to all activities of the district, to all phases of the educational program and to all parts of the physical plant. Applicants must hold a current Colorado Professional Administrator License or Master of Arts degree in School Administration. More information concerning job requirements, qualifications, and application process can be found at www.sargent.k12.co.us. EOE. (3/30/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for a HS HEAD BOYS' BASKETBALL COACH. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Extra Duty Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities>, by March 28, 2024 or until the position is filled. For questions, contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (4/3/24)

MAINTENANCE ASSOCIATE (FT). Skilled multipurpose person needed to support on-going repairs/maintenance of facilities, appliances, vehicles etc. Skills needed: (moderate) plumbing/electric, carpentry, general construction, auto maintenance/repairs, appliances. Salary: \$40-42K DOE / full benefit package. Requirements: initiative, good people skills, references. Training and support provided. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of serving others. Send cover letter, resume/request job description to Emily: hr@lapuente.net, 719 589-5909, ext238. www.lapuente.net (3/29/24)

EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER needed for the 2024-2025 school year. Lead Teacher qualification preferred. Assistant Director qualified is a bonus. Please pick up an application at TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL, 52 El Rio Drive, ALAMOSA, CO. (3/27/24)

GUNBARREL STATION IS hiring a full-time store ASSISTANT MANAGER. Starting pay is \$16/hour. Must be 18 with high school diploma. Must be willing to work some weekends. Call 719-754-3543 or stop in for an application. (3/27/24)

SOUTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking a SECONDARY SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER for the 2024-25 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>. (3/15/24)

SLV FEDERAL BANK is now accepting applications for MORTGAGE LOAN PROCESSOR in our ALAMOSA OFFICE. Applications and position descriptions are available at www.slvfed.bank or at each branch location. Equal opportunity Employer, including considering individuals with Disabilities and Veterans/Affirmative Action Employer. (3/26/24)

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for a MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN. This is a full-time position with benefits. A complete list of desired qualifications and experience can be viewed on the district website. Monte Vista School District 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 Maintenance Technician Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities>, by March 21, 2024 or until the position is filled. (3/26/24)

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

221 - HELP WANTED

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26Jt is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the position of ELEMENTARY 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/employmentopportunities> 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/employmentopportunities> 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 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/employmentopportunities> 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/employmentopportunities> or contact the District Office at (719)754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

VEGI GARDEN MANAGER, VEGI, VALLEY EDUCATIONAL GARDENS INITIATIVE is seeking motivated garden enthusiast to manage the program's garden operations, garden/nutrition education efforts, staff and volunteers, and special events. We're looking for someone with knowledge and enthusiasm about gardening, experience working with children, and strong communication and organizational skills. This person will have opportunities to work with their hands both in the dirt and in an office space. Initiative essential; training and support provided. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of serving others. Salary \$38k-44k DOE, full benefit package. Send cover letter, resume/request job description to Emily: hr@lapuente.net, 719 589-5909, ext 238. www.lapuente.net (4/3/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE POSITION in ALAMOSA. SAN LUIS VALLEY FARM WORKER HOUSING CORPORATION is seeking a qualified Full-Time Maintenance Position in Alamosa. Minimum of 3 years' experience. Must be knowledgeable in heating, small appliance repair, plumbing, and minor electrical work, landscaping, painting and cleaning apartments to make ready. Willing to be on call after normal working hours. Must have a valid driver's license. Must be able to pass background investigation and a drug test. Wage is determined upon experience. Job will close on March 15, 2023. Mail resume to 980 S. Broadway, Center, Co. 81125. Equal Housing Opportunity Employment. (3/15/24)

CITY OF MONTE VISTA is accepting applications for the position of UTILITIES MAINTENANCE WORKER II. Utilities Maintenance Worker II is a skilled position with a minimum requirement of a Small Systems Wastewater Certification and preferably a Class D Wastewater Treatment Certification. A HS Diploma, and one year of experience working within a treatment facility is required. The hiring range for this position is \$21.00 to \$24.00 per hour DOE. Candidates will need a valid driver's license and be able to pass a pre-employment background check and drug test. Please visit: <https://cityofmontevista.colorado.gov/government/departments/human-resources> for a complete position description and application. (3/19/24)

BOE OF CENTER SCHOOLS is now accepting applications for an ASSISTANT DIRECTOR to SUPERINTENDENT. Qualifications: Advanced Degree, Administrative License, or such alternative to the above qualifications as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. This position will assist the Superintendent in the professional organization and administration of the School District. Salary commensurate with experience. For information and application materials please visit the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employmentopportunities> (fill out the licensed employee application) or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: April 1, 2024. EOE. (3/30+1/24)

SURGICAL AND INFUSION NURSE (full-time) in DEL NORTE. Bachelor's of Science preferred, Associates Degree in Nursing required. This is a dual role in a small critical access hospital with outpatient surgery and infusions. Primary duties include circulating nurse and outpatient infusions; ability to be flexible and work in a dynamic team environment is central to this role. Preferred minimum of 2 years Circulating Nurse experience for more information, contact Kayla Jordan at 719-657-4160 or complete an application online at <http://rio-grande-hospital.org> Under Contact/ Employment. RGH is an EOE. (3/15+1/24)

PERIOPERATIVE REGISTERED NURSE (PART-TIME) 20-29 hours a week in DEL NORTE. PREOP and PACU RN position. This position offers the option for an experienced nurse to work additional hours on the inpatient unit or emergency department. Must have verbal skills to present information and ideas essential to team participation. Understand general nursing theory and practice; capable of dealing with people and working closely with patients; workable knowledge of safety procedures; must have patience and enthusiasm as well as the willingness and ability to handle difficult situations with good judgment; must be able to work as a team member; must be willing to learn. For more information, contact Kayla Jordan at 719-657-4160 or complete an application online at <http://rio-grande-hospital.org> Under Contact/ Employment. RGH is an EOE. (3/15+1/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

1ST SOUTHWEST BANK, a locally owned CDFI community bank, is seeking a RELATIONSHIP MANAGER with 3+ years of commercial loan experience. FSWB offers competitive compensation, generous benefits, & career development. Join FSWB's award-winning team dedicated to supporting rural Colorado agricultural, nonprofit, and small businesses. For details and to apply, visit fswb.bank/about/careers. EOE. (3/20/24)

RIO GRANDE HOSPITAL CLINIC has a Full-Time MA position available in our clinic. Must be dependable, have the ability to multitask, be a self-starter and pay close attention to detail complete application online at <http://rio-grande-hospital.org> Under Contact/ Employment. Additional question contact Ted Andersen at teda@rio-grandehospital.net or call 719-657-2418 RGH is an EOE. (3/15/24)

MAINTENANCE WORKER I. Definition: This position performs skilled and unskilled work in the operation of automotive and light construction equipment involved in the maintenance and cleaning of streets and maintenance utility system (water and sewer.) Direct supervision is required under a foreman. This is an entry-level position to all the functions of the Public Works Department. The Maintenance Worker I position is hourly, 32 hours a week position. QUALIFICATIONS: Preferably some knowledge of practices in: Construction, maintenance and repair of water and/or wastewater systems; Knowledge and use of hand tools appropriate to the Public Works tasks; Ability to prepare and maintain simple records; Ability to perform strenuous physical work for extended periods of time in all weather conditions; Ability to follow oral and written instructions; Ability to communicate effectively with other employees, superiors and the public; Ability to recognize and report abnormal operating functions of assigned equipment; Ability to learn to operate various equipment, which may include heavy construction equipment; Requires the ability to exert up to 50 pounds of force occasionally, and/or up to 25 pounds of force frequently, and/or a negligible amount of force constantly to move objects. Physical demands of work require walking or standing to a significant degree. Education: High school or GED and preferred some vocational, high school or equivalent training. EXPERIENCE: A minimum of three (3) years manual labor or mechanical maintenance and repair, or an equivalent combination of education and experience is required. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: A Class C driver's license and availability for on-call duty is required. Back ground check is required. Probation: No less than a 90-day period. Applications can be picked up at Blanca Town Hall during normal business hours. (3/13+1/24)

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: LaPuente.P.O.Box.1235@alamosa.co, 81101, 719 589-5909. www.lapuente.net Email: hr@lapuente.net (3/13+1/24)

173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

LICENSED PLUMBER DOES all types of plumbing & plumbing repairs. Quick service! Call anytime, weekends & evenings: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (3/15/24-monthlyAS)

221 - HELP WANTED

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

CITY OF MONTE VISTA is currently accepting applications for an EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I position. This position will perform skilled work in equipment operations, maintenance and repair work of streets, etc. This position may be asked to perform work for the Water/Sewer Dept. and the Parks Dept. A valid Colorado Class B CDL License with air brakes is highly desirable. Requires HS diploma or GED equivalent and one-year prior experience as equipment operator. Candidates must be able to pass a pre-employment background check and drug test. This is a 40 hour per week full-time position. The general starting wage is \$16.75 - \$18.00 per hour plus an excellent benefit package. Please visit: <https://cityofmontevista.colorado.gov/government/departments/human-resources> for a complete position description and application. (3/23/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

SDECD SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking a HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL COACH for the 2024 fall season. Applicants must have CHSAA certification or have a CDE teaching license. Applications may be picked up at the school office: 8751 Lane 7 North in MOSCA, CO. For more information, contact David Mejia at 719-878-2321 or 719-677-3217. (4/3/24)

KENNEL HELP NEEDED: MONDAYS & Tuesdays, 8 AM to 2 PM. Must have strong work ethic. Shelter is 45 min. from Alamosa. Must have own reliable transportation. Background check. Tel. 719-588-5560. (3/23/24)

Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

ELEMENTARY BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONIST / SCHOOL ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR / RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION COORDINATOR needed at DEL NORTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL for the 2024-2025 school year. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team. 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. (3/26/24)

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. (3/26/24)

324 - SEED & FEED

HORSE & COW HAY: GRASS, GRASS/ALFALFA, ALFALFA. 3x3 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917. (3/20/24AS-monthly)

345 - WOOD

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

353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK

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

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

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

387 - WANTED TO BUY

TOYOTA TRUCKS ONLY: 4x4 from 80's to early 90's, running or not, wrecked ok. 719-580-8101 call or text. (3/27/24)

409 - FARM & RANCLAND

PASTURE FOR RENT: 50 pair in SAN ACACIO. Call 719-580-5767 after 1:00 p.m. (3/15/24)

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

415 - HOMES FOR SALE

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1900 sq.ft., family room, living room, all appliances, pellet stove, patio between home / garage, 3 car garage, with chicken coup or shed, 6 acres plus fenced, and fenced yard, 15 minutes from ALAMOSA. \$325,000. 719-480-1856. (3/27/24)

420 - LOTS & ACREAGES

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

426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

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

525 - GUNS

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

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)

701 - AUTOS FOR SALE

2017 CHEVY TRAVEL SUV: 96,000 miles, new tires, good condition. \$12,000 OBO. 1-832-683-3533. (3/30/24)

701 - AUTOS FOR SALE

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715 - 4X4 VEHICLES

2017 POLARIS RZR XP 1000 EPS, top of the line model 2 seater. 110 Horsepower, 14" HD tires with bead lock rims, power steering, full skid plates, winch with 6 1/2' adjustable snow plow blade. Comes with lots of extras and has only 61 ACTUAL MILES. It is LIKE BRAND NEW! Call or text 719-850-2775. (3/27/24)

742 - TRUCKS & TRAILERS

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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Reservoir structure
 - 4 Legal tender
 - 8 Bovine
 - 11 Regret
 - 12 Stir up
 - 13 Drink to excess
 - 14 "— on a Grecian Urn"
 - 15 Like wings
 - 16 Indigo shrub
 - 17 Concise
 - 19 Looked over
 - 21 Perfectly good (hyph.)
 - 23 Catchall abbr.
 - 24 Supremacy
 - 29 "No —, and/or but!"
 - 32 Seed cover
 - 33 Ring out
 - 34 Vinaigrette ingredient
 - 35 "— in Black"
 - 36 Box a little
- DOWN**
- 1 Lemon candy
 - 2 Luxury car brand
 - 3 Encounter
 - 4 Coloring stick
 - 5 Trouble

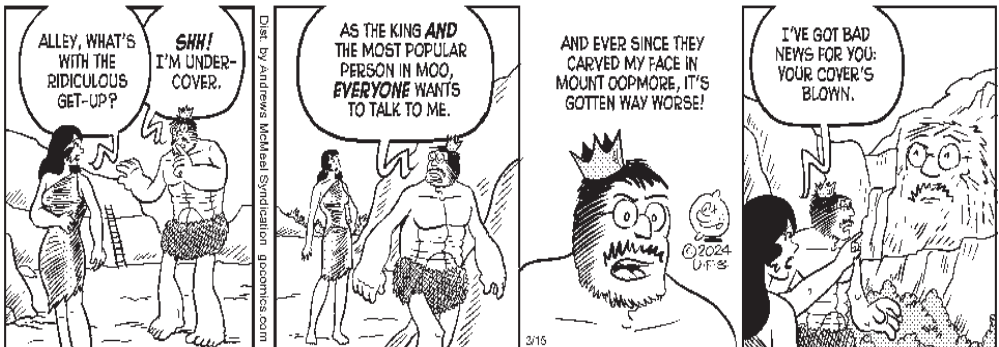
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

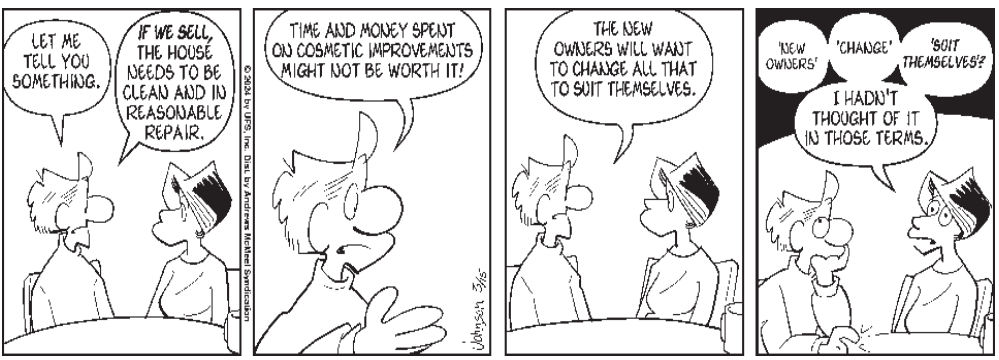
- 6 — on the wrist
- 7 "Present!"
- 8 Wide-awake
- 9 Early Ron Howard role
- 10 Fuse metal
- 13 Not slack
- 18 "— to the Chief"
- 20 Spool
- 22 Phi Beta —
- 24 Not quite dry
- 25 Word on a cookie
- 26 Vertical tunnel
- 27 Proximate
- 28 Chili con —
- 30 Detonate
- 31 Winter fun item
- 36 Bar order
- 37 "Hey!"
- 40 Overacted
- 42 Hoarfrost
- 44 — Major
- 45 Unmixed, said of liquor
- 46 Burn
- 47 Patriot Nathan —
- 49 Stockings
- 50 Taylor Swift's The — Tour
- 51 Wine list section
- 54 Rival

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11							13		
14				15			16		
17			18			19	20		
		21			22		23		
24	25	26				27	28		29 30 31
32				33			34		
35				36			37		
38				39			40		
		41	42			43			
44	45				46	47	48	49	50 51
52					53		54		55
56					57				58
59					60				61

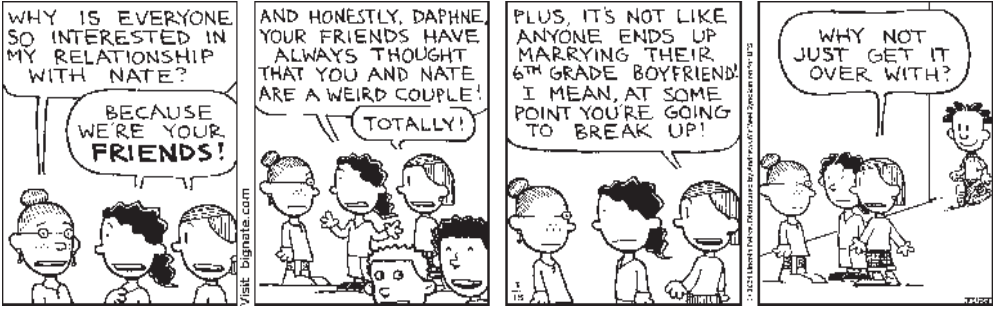
ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



BIG NATE



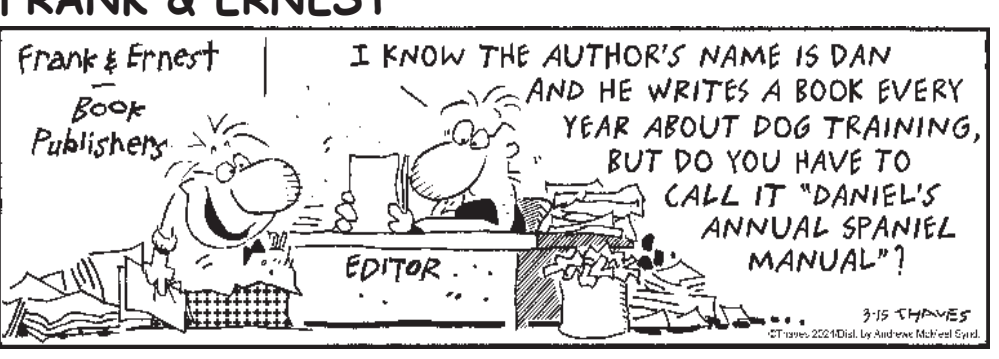
THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



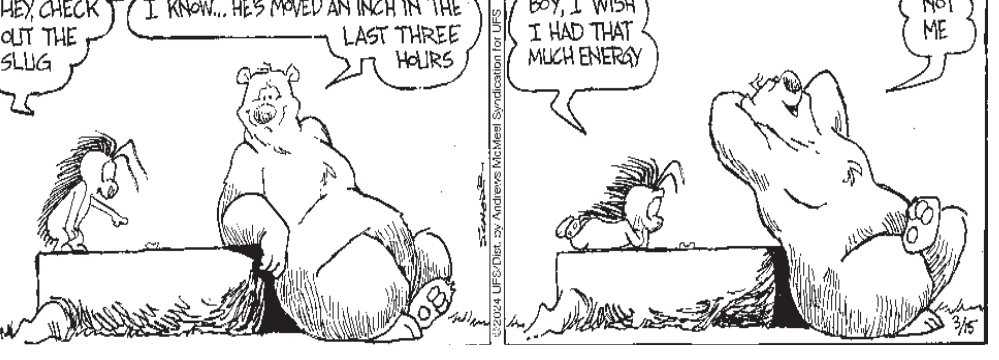
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

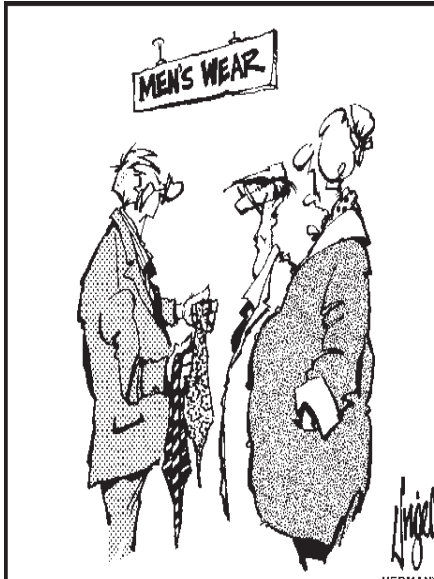
		7			1	5		8
8	6			3				
5				4				
		3		1	4	2		
				5	6	9		
		1		3	2		4	
				5				9
				8			4	7
3	4	9				6		

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

HERMAN



Estranged daughter is out of loop on dad's health

DEAR ABBY: Three years ago, our 40-year-old daughter, "Tanya," suddenly accused me of abusing her during her childhood. She also accused my husband, her dad, of enabling this abuse. Abby, the abuse never happened!

Could some therapist have planted these ideas in her head? Tanya has problems with alcohol (which she blames on me) and has been divorced from two wonderful men who she claims also abused her. She can't maintain friendships with women because as soon as they do something that makes Tanya mad, she cuts them off.

Our other daughter, "Nadia," is three years younger. She doesn't have an alcohol problem and has a great husband and a toddler. Tanya has cut her off as well and has never met her brother-in-law or nephew. Nadia says her childhood was idyllic. Neither child lives near us.

My husband is living with incurable cancer, which Tanya knew before she excommunicated us. I don't know if I should inform her when her father dies, or let her find out through others on Facebook. My husband and I and Nadia don't use Facebook, but relatives do, and I am sure they will make it known.

I am torn about this. Tanya has hurt all of us repeatedly for so many years

that we all agree that life is more pleasant without her around us. However, I'm afraid not telling her will cause more problems. Advice? -- DAMNED BOTH WAYS IN ILLINOIS

DEAR DAMNED: You stated that Tanya has "excommunicated" you, her father and her sister. She appears to be an angry and bitter woman who needs to find someone other than herself to blame for her unhappiness. She's unlikely to improve without professional help or an alcohol intervention.

When your husband passes, I'm hoping you will write her a brief letter explaining that you want her to know her father loved her. Give her the date of his passing, his obituary and the location of his final resting place. If you do, your conscience should be clear. What, if anything, she decides to do with that information is up to her.

DEAR ABBY: I had a long and wonderful marriage before my husband passed away after a lengthy illness three years ago. I have supportive friends to go to lunch and coffee with, but I miss the companionship of a special someone. One of them is a man I have known for many years. He has been a widower for more than 10 years. He has dated several women with no commitments and is always a



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

gentleman.

Before my husband's passing, he once said if I wasn't married, he would call me. He hasn't contacted me. How can I contact him without seeming aggressive? He has said that he's pleased with his current companion because there is "no drama." Please advise how an elegant lady can call him on the phone (he doesn't use email). -- CLASSY IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CLASSY: Consider this: Throw a small party and invite some of your friends to join you. Then, pick up the phone and ask this gentleman if he AND his lady friend would like to join you. There is no reason you can't be friends, as long as you realize he is involved with someone else (for now).