

22 SLV hoopsters named All-State by CHSAA

— Page 6



Colorado Genuine



San Luis Valley Federal Bank

**VOLUME 98, NO. 46** 

**FRIDAY EDITION** 

Valey

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

March 22, 2024

### SLY Today **Volunteer at** the Rio Grande **Farm Park on** Saturday

**ALAMOSA** — Volunteers are needed from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on March 23 at the Rio Grande Farm Park to help build picnic benches and repair fences. The farm park is at 6935 Colorado Highway 17 in Alamosa.

### **DN** begins legwork for revitalization project

**DEL NORTE** — The Town of Del Norte's Revitalization Downtown 2016 project is happening, according to town officials.

The Town of Del Norte

and Element Engineering will be doing a door-to-door walkthrough of all business and residents along the Highway 160 corridor – Cherry Street to Alder Street — that this project will be impacting on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 26, and March 27, to discuss the timeline of the project and an alternate entrance of

gets started. The project consists of replacing all sidewalks, curbs and gutters and the installation of pedestrian lighting along the business

the business to not create

hardship when this project

"We hope to have the support of businesses and residents during this downtown project along with patience and cooperation from everyone impacted, even as we are disrupting your environment. We hope everyone will be pleased with the improvements," officials

For more information, call the Del Norte Town Hall at 719-657-2708 or Del Norte Public Works at 719-850-1968.

#### **SLV WEATHER**



Sunny, Breezy 59/30

Sat: Partly Sunny, Gusty Wind 58/31

**Sun:** Chance of Snow, Breezy 50/23

#### INSIDE

Record	Page 2
Valley News	Page 3
Opinion	Page 4
Lifestyle Pages 5	and 12
Sports	Page 6
March Madness	Page 7
Public Notice	Page 8
Classifieds Pages 9	and 10

Comics......Page 11

# Sand Dunes Solar Project public meeting shines light on local concerns

Ourier

Courier News Editor

public meeting at the Saguache Community Center on Tuesday, March 19, Georgi Velkov and a phalanx of five other representatives of the proposed Sand Dunes Solar Project met with about Several people raised forty residents.

The project owners are Horus Energy/Horus Capital, a London-based private equity firm proposing to build a 170MW solar farm on 1,000 acres wildlife. "One thing that about five miles south- we hope to dismiss right west of Moffat in Sagua-

about half of the land with SAGUACHE — At a the remainder owned by a private party. At the outset of the

meeting, project representative Jeremy Call asked the audience, "How many of you came tonight with healthy skepticism?" their hands. During the meeting, many of those in the audience expressed deep skepticism, especially regarding the effects the project may have on



Georgi Velkov (left) and Michael Klein (right) representatives from the proposed Sand Dunes Solar Project, a 1000-acre solar farm in Saguache County at a public meeting  $\blacksquare$  See SOLAR page 3  $\:$  the company held in Saguache on March 19.

# Fire destroys house in Moffat, continues to burn next day



WAGGONER Courier Reporter

MOFFAT — A house fire in Moffat, which began Wednesday night and destroyed a large residence on Lincoln Street near County Road T, continues to burn on Thursday afternoon. According to Saguache County Sheriff Dan Warwick, the fire will likely continue to burn until an excavator can be brought in to "bring down the structure" and the fire can be extinguished.

Firefighters from three agencies were on scene of a fire Wednesday night which destroyed large home in Moffat.

Courtesy photo

Northern Saguache Fire District, Mosca Hooper Fire Department and the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control are on the scene, monitoring the situation.

According to Warwick, at 6:02 p.m. on Wednesday night, a person inside the residence called the sheriff's office to report the house, owned by former Saguache County Clerk Melinda Myers, was on fire. It is not known if Myers was residing in the house at the time but Warwick confirmed that the resident was able to escape without

injury. to Bobby According Woelz, Saguache County

■ See FIRE page 3

# Alleged shoplifter shot by bystander

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA- A report-

incident involving ment reports that the treatment, an APD press vestigation. an alleged shoplifter at suspect pulled out a knife release said. Walmart led to the sus- near the hotel, prompting pect being shot in the leg the bystander to shoot. by a bystander near the The injury appears to be Fairfield Inn, just west of non-life threatening, al- APD was dispatched. Walmart around 4 p.m. though the male party

All parties involved stances leading up to the munity currently.

Alamosa Police Depart- further evaluation and identified for further in- tion is in the very early

The shoplifting sus-being detained and inter- at this time. pect reportedly fled from viewed by the Alamosa Walmart security and Police Department to incident and there is no

is being flown out for have been contacted and shooting. This investigastages and no further in-The shooter is currently formation will be released

> This was an isolated determine the circum- further risk to the com-

# Pianist Vynogradov performing March 24 at Baca Colorado College



concert on the Baca Colorado College "amphitheater," at 2 p.m on Sunday, March 24.

from the National Musical Acad- 2023 Cliburn International Juemy of Ukraine, Vynogradov has nior Piano Competition & Festiwon prizes in several interna- val in Dallas, Texas. From there tional competitions, performed as fate would have it, he came to

widely in Europe and the Ameri- Valley, where he mentors stu-Welcome cas, and mentored many stu- dents as a visiting professor at Spring to the sound of music dents at universities around the Adams State University's Music - and enjoy the artistry of the world. In 2009 for example, prior Department. Ukrainian piano virtuoso Dymito a professional career, he won tro Vynogradov. He will perform Second Prize at the 20th Conworks by Chopin, Liszt, Scriabin, cours International des Grands Rachmaninov, and a fascinating amateurs de Piano in Paris, and transcription for piano of Johann First Prize at the Rocky Moun-Strauss' "the Blue Danube, in a tain Piano Competition in Den-

Last June, he was granted leave from war-torn Ukraine to Since graduating with honors perform as a guest artist at the

Vynogradov is performing in the United States partly to raise funds for the victims of war in his country. He formed a non-governmental charity in Ukraine for this purpose that is run by a friend he trusts. A collection box at the Colorado College lobby will accept donations large and small. All are invited to a reception to honor Vynogradov in the lobby following the performance. ■ See PIANIST page 3



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# Record

#### **OBITUARIES**

### **Marilyn Eagles**

Marilyn Eagles, 83, died at Penrose Hospital in Colorado Springs, on March 17 surrounded by family. She was born in Denver, Colo., the daughter of Charles and Maxine Burton. She was raised in Denver, alongside her three siblings, and their tight-knit family.

Marilyn never met a stranger and brightened every room she walked into with her caring and loving spirit. She loved nothing more than to be surrounded by her family and friends, ensuring a kitchen that smelled of fresh baked sweets and homemade meals.

She kept chickens, had several flower gardens, as well as a large vegetable garden and worked hard to freeze the garden bounty. She was a willing farming partner and was often called upon for numerous errands and

Marilyn was an amazing, loving Grandma, who was always available to care for young grandchildren or attend numerous activities, alongside an enthusiastic Grandpa.

Marilvn graduated from West High School in 1959. In the same year, she started Nursing school at St. Lukes Hospital, where she would come to be class president, and earning the title of "that certain smile". After attaining her RN, in 1962, she got a job working at St. Luke's Hospital, carrying out her lifelong passion to help others. Her most important patient came to be her husband, Dick Eagles, who was recovering from a critical automobile accident and Marilyn was his ICU nurse. Once recovered from his accident. Dick bought Marilyn a bus ticket to the San Luis

ter, Colo. Dick and Marilyn were married nearly 60 wonderful years, and proudly raised their two children, Julie and BJ. They were overjoyed to be grandparents and fully loved and supported Nolan, Skylar, Lindsey, and Elle in every way.

Marilyn was a devoted homemaker and continued to carry out her nursing passion, by being a relief nurse for Dr Haskin, in Center. She also volunteered as a camp nurse, at Beaver Creek Camp in South Fork. Marilyn truly was the hardest worker around, keeping up with kids, gardening, helping however she could on the farm and being the #1 boom driver, for potato harvest. She ensured that her family had homecooked meals every day and a bottomless cookie jar. Marilyn and Dick also raised sheep, which is how Marilyn eventually earned the title of Grandma Lammy. Marilyn was well re-

spected in her community where she was very involved in the United Methodist Church in Center, serving several times in leadership roles as well as being in the church choir. The church was widely known for helped to create wreaths, centerpieces and provided homemade cinnamon rolls, cookies and caramels for the event. She was also involved in the Women's Federation for many years. In addition, Marilyn volunteered many years at the Center Schools, assisting with vision and hearing screenings and other events. Marilyn was awarded Master Farm Homemaker on Oct. 10, 1992.

Marilyn was overjoyed Valley, with a goal to turn to have four amazing made through Strohmthe city girl into a farm grandchildren that she constantly supported, by Monte Vista, Colo. Flow-Marilyn married the never missing the opporlove of her life and for- tunity to always cheer until Friday, March 22, at mer patient, on Dec. 7, them on at all phases of 1963, at Brentwood Unit- life. Whether it was eared Methodist Church in ly age artwork, sports, can be made to: Center Denver. Marilyn jumped school, and wherever United Methodist Church right into the farming life has taken them, she or Children's Diabetes lifestyle, building a beau- was always their #1 fan. tiful life together, on Even offering to be refertheir homestead in Cen- ences on resumes so she



could tell everyone how special her grandkids are. She was also overjoyed to hear that the great-grandchild would be arriving in September.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Maxine Burton, and her husband Dick Eagles along with many special friends.

She is survived by her daughter Julie and husband Troy Baker, son BJ Eagles and partner Amanda Stagner; four grandchildren, Nolan and wife Shelby Baker, Skylar Eagles, Lindsey and husband Alex Trujillo, and Elle Eagles; siblings Larry (Suzanne) Burton, the annual Christmas Linda (Dan) Hutchison, Bazaar, where Marilyn Allen (Nancy) Burton; and numerous nieces and

> A funeral church service will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2024, at 10 a.m. at the Center Methodist Church. reception will follow to culminate Marilyn's celebration of life after the church service.

Interment will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 10 a.m. at the San Luis Valley Cemetery in Monte Vista, Colo.

Arrangements ayer's Funeral Home, in ers can be received there 4 n m

Memorial contributions Foundation, through Strohmayer's Funeral

### Nicole M. (Kirkendall) Carragher

Nicole M. (Kirkendall) Carragher, passed away on March 16, 2024, in Mosca, Colo. Born on April 8, 1984, in Denver, Colo., Nicole's infectious laughter and love for life touched all who knew her throughout her 39

years.

life.

Nicole's early years were spent in the vibrant city of Denver, where she grew up surrounded by the love and support of her parents, Frank and Debi Kirkendall, and her brother, Dustin. Her family later expanded to include her cherished daughters, Aaliyah and Alyssa Valley of Colorado Springs, who brought immense joy and purpose to her

Throughout her career, Nicole was the welcoming face at the front desk of various hotels, where her love for meeting new people shone brightly. Her colleagues and guests alike were often greeted with her warm smile and a friendly conversation, figure in her profession- shared memories.

al community. Nicole had a passion for



mother, Debi. Her artistic talents were a source of happiness.

was another cornerstone Soto, cousins Darren, of her life, providing a soundtrack to many cherished memories with friends and family.

her late husband, Cyril grandparents Willa May Carragher, was one for the ages. Cyril was her life, and she loved him deeply. His passing a year prior left a void in her heart, but she con- ily Mortuary in Alamotinued to carry his spirit sa from noon to 2 p.m. in everything she did. A memorial service is Together, they shared a pending and will be anbond that transcended nounced at a later date. time and will continue making her a beloved to live on through their ary is in care of the ar-

A loving and devoted online Creative and funny, daughter, Nicole enjoyed words of comfort and helping her parents with tributes for Nicole's famthe arts, often spending home renovations, show-ily, please visit www. time crafting with her casing her knack for RogersFunerals.com.

painting and an exceptional talent for washing windows for them and all the neighbors. Her contributions to the family home were not only practical but also filled with laughter and love.

Nicole leaves behind a legacy of love and laughter. She is survived by her daughters, parents, brother, grandpa James Warner, grandparents Ted and Mary Kirkendall, aunts Carlena (Larry) Ceja and Carla (Dale) Fogery, uncle Ryan Wil-Nicole's love for music liams, and aunt Nicole Kyle, Jasper, Cameron, Jordan, and Jeffery.

She was preceded in death by her husband Nicole's love story with Cyril, cousin Terry Ceja, and Roger Williams, and Dean Kirkendall.

> A visitation will be held Friday, March 22, 2024, at Rogers Fam-

Rogers Family Morturangements. To leave condolences,



Alamosa firefighters battle an apparent chimney fire Tuesday night at 327 Edison. A passerby alerted the residents of the fire and they were able to escape unharmed.

### Family escapes house fire Tuesday of the Alamosa Fire De-side, Cerny said, but he STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — A pass-

ily that their home was originated in a wood pouring from the roof. The occupants of 327

Fourth and Edison, es-

partment (AFD). The believes the house is reerby alerted a local fam- fire is believed to have to the attic. The home

suffered Edison, at the corner of significant water dam- ficer with the Division age after firefighters of Fire Prevention and caped unharmed accord- fought the blaze from Control were on scene ing to Capt. Zach Cerny both the outside and in- for about 90 minutes.

pairable.

Thirteen firefighters on fire about 8 p.m. Tues- stove chimney with most from the AFD, with asday after noticing smoke of the damage contained sistance by five firefighters from the Monte Vista department and one of-

#### Phony investment 'opportunities' can cost you big, say U.S. Postal Inspectors (NAPSI) — Huge returns are at risk and what steps restitution.

and little to no risk? Who wouldn't want an investment opportunity like that? If you receive a pitch by phone, mail or email that makes such incredible financial promises as high returns with a low risk, you might ask yourself, "How is this possible?" Generally,

#### The Problem

Postal Inspectors say investment opportunities or "get rich quick" schemes are a favorite of fraudsters. Whether they sell bogus securities or commodities, oil wells, rare coins, or cybercurrency, these fraudulent promoters try to get you to invest your money — and lots of it. Some swindlers even surround themselves with the trappings of legitimacy — rented office space, a receptionist, investment counselors, and professionally designed color brochures describing the investment.

#### Who Gets Hurt

Older Americans are prime targets because they possess most of the nation's individual wealth. People who live on fixed incomes from Social Security and small pensions are especially vulnerable, as they frequently need supplemental sources of income to make ends meet, or are motivated to help younger family members seek out extra funds.

They may be manipulated into believing phony investment offers at a rate disproportionate to the rest of the population. Scammers know some older adults can be more easily disarmed by their convincing messages. These Americans may have difficulty discerning a fraudulent promotion from a legitimate one. It might be alarming to discover how vulnerable an older friend or loved one can be. It's important for family members and friends to understand why older adults

can be taken to minimize the chance they'll be taken advantage of by fraudsters. Some Scams

Every year, thousands lose between a few dollars and their entire life savings to fraudsters. Even the most experienced investors can be caught up in an investment scam. A perfect example of this is the number of professional money managers who placed their clients' money with Bernie Madoff. And that's just one example.

In a case investigated by Postal Inspectors, a con artist acting as the CEO of an investment firm defrauded investors out of more than \$4 million through a purported financial services firm he controlled. He lied to scure their identities. You investors about how much money had been raised, who by looking closely at conhad invested, how close the firm was to an IPO (initial public offering), and how he would use investors' money. The scammer appropriated most of the money for his own use or to pay off investors in a Ponzi-like fashion. He was sentenced to prison for his crimes.

Another man was sentenced to four years in prison for his role in two high-yield investment fraud schemes. Postal Inspectors said he and his co-conspirators defrauded vulnerable victims out of millions of dollars. The scammers have been handed down sentences ranging up to 12 years in prison.

In another Postal Inspection Service investigation. a real estate investment scammer defrauded numerous investors who invested in more than a thousand real estate investment properties. The real estate scammer convinced investors by misrepresenting returns, promoting fraudulent information and overinflating appraisals. He was convicted and sentenced to 10 years in prison and ordered to pay \$17 million in

#### **Some Solutions**

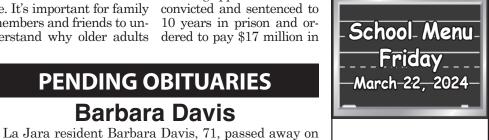
So, what do you do to protect yourself from these scammers who try to separate you from your hardearned money?

Education and information are your best defenses against investment fraud. Postal Inspectors urge potential investors to independently research registration of investment firms and be extremely cautious about unsolicited offers to invest through social media or the internet. Think about these things before jumping into

- an investment: · Anyone can be anyone on the internet. Scammers spoof websites and use fake social media accounts to obcan identify phony accounts tent. Pay careful attention
- to domain names. Take your time in deciding to invest — don't rush into accepting these "highprofit, low-risk" offers.
- · Get all information in writing before you consider investing.
- Beware of unsolicited offers and fake client reviews. Scammers often reference or publish positive, yet bogus testimonials purportedly drafted by satisfied customers.
- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Be careful of claims that an investment will make "incredible gains," is a "breakout stock pick," or has "huge upside and almost no risk!" "Guaranteed returns" aren't. All investments carry some degree of risk, and the potential profits are typically correlated with the

degree of risk. Learn More

For more info on avoiding scams, visit the Postal Inspection Service website at USPIS.gov.



#### Daniel Martinez Alamosa resident Daniel Martinez passed away on

### announced through Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

**PENDING OBITUARIES** 

Barbara Davis

March 16, 2024. Arrangements are pending and will be

announced through Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

March 15, 2024. Arrangements are pending and will be

Richard Chacon Romeo resident Richard Chacon, 60, passed away on March 21, 2024, at the San Luis Valley Health Regional Medical Center. Services are pending and will be announced soon. Rogers Family Mortuary is in care of arrangements. To leave online condolences,

visit www.RogersFunerals.com.

**Spring** Break!

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

# **Graduation held for** Strengthening Families program

**DREKMANN** 

LA JARA - 4-H is not just about taking care of animals. This organization also focuses on taking care of people - families and relationships.

Carol Gurule is the Juntos 4-H Youth Development Area Specialist through Colorado State University San Luis Valley Area Extension office. She is part of a special class called the Strength-

ening Families 10-14/Familias Fuertes program. It is a seven week "... preventative program," "to Gurule explained, help children and parents unite. To get families to communicate and have patience with each other. To put down the cell phone and pay attention to each other. Parents learn nurturing skills to support the child and how to have effective discipline. Children get tools to provide a healthy appreciation for parents. (The class) teaches skills to deal with peer pressure and stress...by doing skits (children) learn to stand firm on their decisions."

Parents watch videos. Families play games together. These are all strategies to unite and strengthen families. During that time, Gurule meets with the families and gets to know them.

Gurule adds how the

■ Continued from Page 1

away, is fear from skepti-

Early, Call claimed,

"We have done exten-

sive studies to locate the

project and find property

that is not in highly criti-

cal [wildlife] habitat."

Call also went on to dis-

cuss threatened and en-

he was interrupted by a

very skeptical audience

member questioning the

impact the solar farm will

have on wildlife. Another

in the audience stated, "I don't know if you under-

stand the herd mentality

of the elk... it takes very

minimal activity to upset this balance...those

elk are not going to have

their calves there and

if they don't have their

calves there, they are

One audience member

expressed his concerns

about the impacts the fa-

cility will have on sand-

Call was then asked

several more questions

from the audience all ask-

ing about wildlife. Call

said that wildlife corri-

As the meeting pro-

gressed, the represen-

tatives from Horus re-

sponded to a variety of

questions from the audi-

ence on numerous sub-

duced by the project will

be exported out of the

San Luis Valley. A Pow-

er Purchase Agreement

to facilitate this has not

been finalized. The web-

site for the project states,

"Sand Dune is expected to

execute an interconnec-

tion agreement with PSco

[Public Service Colorado]

in 2026, with construc-

tion to begin that year

and operations by mid-

Christine Canaly, Di-

rector of the San Luis

Valley Ecosystem Council

electricity pro-

dors would be studied.

hill cranes.

The

2028.'

probably going to die."

dangered species

Solar

cism," said Call.

class is structured. "Families are kept in

two separate rooms. Parents are in one room. Kids are in another room. Then the families get together. (People know) it is a safe place. All of the staff are mandated reporters in cases of abuse or suicide. There are two youth facilitators and two adult facilitators. There is a youth creed, parent creed, and family creed that people say at the beginning of each class - children talking about ...being strong and making good decisions. Parents agree to setting limits and help youth become responsible adults and being strong families who care about each other and have fun together."

goals, jobs, career, health, and having fun.

"It is a win-win situation," says Gurule, "It is very positive. As we're you. We can help." teaching, we are learnand take information. (We) teach your children and become part of your

The class is not run by Gurule alone. Dannette Jacquez Arila is the main weeks, families receive a facilitator. Cody Groff is certificate which can be another facilitator who is used in court for court also the new 4-H special- cases, department of hu-

ditional families are be- receive a gift basket and



Pictured from left to right are some of the Strengthening Families program graduates Noah Prieto, mom Marita Prieto, Olivia Prieto, Cynthia Cordova, Abry Cordova, Jace Cordova holding sign, dad Jamie Cordova, Zabian Vasquez, Esteban, and Gloria Quintana. ing introduced to Juntos prizes.

4-H. The goal is to get eighth-graders through 12th-graders to graduate. The class talks about 4-H is not just animals. It also has rocketry, computers, even fashion and Legos. It's \$30 for the year, but don't let it deter

Itzel Duran is the SLV ing. You learn something Familias Fuertes co-ordinew each time. You give nator. Lydia Cordoba also works with the Strengthening Families 10-14/Familias Fuertes program. Jessica Suazo is the childcare provider.

At the end of the seven man services or custody He explains, "Non-tra-cases. Graduates also

This year, eight families from the North Conejos School District completed the course and had a graduation ceremony at Centauri Middle School on March 11. Gurule worked and was supported by Centauri Middle School Principal Brian Riccatone and Jessica Shawcroft.

The Strengthening Families 10-14/Familias Fuertes program is free. Meals and childcare are provided as well as transportation. The program is available in several area

## **ASU** celebrating Women's Week

UNIVERSITY ALAMOSA

Adams State University Women of Higher Education has organized several events to celebrate Women's History Month from March 25 through March 30. This year's theme, "I'm Sorry, Not Sorry," will include poetry, a march, a walk, sundaes, and more. Chalk the Walk at the

Japanese American Memorial Garden. Throughout the week everyone is invited to write a short note stating what you have had to apologize for as a marginalized identity, but are not sorry for.

In collaboration with the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), the CAMP Bandana Project, will raise awareness about women's workplace sexual violence. The event will be held from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. Monday, March 25, in the Student Union Building (SUB) Atrium. At noon that same day a Kindred Spirits: "Challenges Facing Women at Work," by Stephanie Hilwig, Ph.D., professor of sociology, will be held in the SUB Banauet Room.

Male Advocates for Gender Equality, MAGE, will have an information table, "I'm Sorry, What's Next," from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Tuesday, March

26, in the SUB Atrium. Roll up your sleeves and help paint the Rock from 2 until 4 p.m. on the campus green north of the SUB.

Enjoy a sundae and learn more about menstruation from a panel of peers and experts from 6 until 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, in Richardson Hall Auditorium. Questions can be submitted anonymously.



28, at the North Campus Green. Clubs, groups, departments, and offices can register their group, accessing this QR code, for some healthy competition with a trophy prize for the winner. And that evening a Poetry Challenge, "I'm Sorry, Not Sorry, scheduled from until 8 p.m. in the CoRE Center, located on the north end of the SUB.

Prepare for the annual San Luis Valley Women's March by making signs from 5 until 7 p.m. Friday, March 29, in the SUB Atrium. The march begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 30, on the corner of Richardson Avenue and Highway 160, by the Visual Art Building.

# City of Alamosa receives **lower ISO classification**

**ALAMOSA** — The City of Alamosa recently anvices Office (ISO) protection rating from 4 to 3.

"Achieving this imtechnology," city officials

This accomplishment achievement; it carries tangible benefits for the dedicated efforts of the Al- of Alamosa. With a lowthe City has achieved an owners within the city improved Insurance Ser- limits may see reductions in insurance premiums.

provement. It reflects the see a reduction in premiwithin each individual cant policy.

Lowering the ISO ratis not merely a symbolic ing is a challenging process, demanding extensive training, planning, nounced that through the residents and businesses and investment. It signifies the City's preparedamosa Fire Department, er ISO rating, property ness to tackle fire risks, ensuring the safety of its residents.

"We would like to thank the dedicated members of According to a local in- the Alamosa Fire Departproved rating emphasizes surance carrier contacted ment for their unwavthe Department's dedi- by Alamosa Fire Chief ering efforts and comcation to continuous im- Bill Stone, residents may mitment to keeping our community safe. Their focus on thorough train- ums between 5-20 per- hard work and sacrifice ing, planning, and invest-cent as it relates to the have played a pivotal role ment in equipment and fire specific protection in achieving this signifiaccomplishment." city officials stated.



Horus Energy/Horus Capital, a British private equity firm is proposing to build a 1,000-acre solar farm near this site in Saguache County.

the citing of their project, between two transmission lines, collecting baseline on the hydrology and soils, avoiding wildlife corridor activity and placing the spacing of the panels to discourage attracting avian (bird) populations, is all good stewardship. It's encouraging to see companies looking for a win/win and minimizing impact."

Adam Kinney, who is a candidate for the Saguache County Board of Commissioners representing the Crestone Area, said, "I was very happy to see people from each district turn out to learn more and express their con-

cerns and ideas. opportunity here for the county to explore possible solar projects that could benefit the residents, with the understanding that environmental protections are put in place. I hope the commissioners offered that at the peak of will do their jobs and negotiate the best possible financial outcome for Saguache County, including the adjacent neighbors who are concerned about the two-year construction cycle affecting their liveli-

The developers proposed a \$13 million tax benefit to the county, over ic analysis of the project 20 years. That is \$650K a who was present for the year, which won't even The Valley Courier will meeting, told the Valley pave a mile of road. I'd make the study public

Courier, "It appears, SDP like to see more money for when it is available.

hoods.

did their homework with the county. Considering the project investment of the return will be sub-

> Company documents state, "An economic impact study for Saguache County is in progress. However, equivalent size projects being developed by Horus in Colorado are estimated to bring in \$13 million in taxes in the first 20 years of operation.

> In 2024, the Saguache County Budget was \$24.7 million.

During the meeting, the number of people employed at the proposed facility was discussed, "I think there is a viable and Velkov offered, "As an estimate up to 1,500 roughly for the development of that site." That number includes off-site jobs created by the project. Michael Klein, who will oversee construction, employment, "That workforce ramps up to about 250 people." A document handed out to the public includes, "Projects of this size are expected to provide approximately 2,000 direct and indirect jobs during construction and operational phase."

Velkov said an economwill have is underway.

\$250 million, I imagine stantial, and this should be part of the ongoing negotiations."

Fire ■ Continued from Page 1 Emergency Manager, the Northern Saguache Fire Protection District was first on the scene, including firefighters from the Saguache Fire Department, Moffat Fire Department and Villa Grove Fire Department. Saguache Fire Department took command and requested additional assistance from Mosca Hooper and Colorado Fire Prevention and Control. According to Warwick,

try to smack it with an axe. "We're going to have an excavator come in and 7-21), are available by Baca e-list, and for any

to get at the fire, you have to have a structure that's secure and stable enough so that it's not dangerous. [Firefighters] can't go inside the house to address the fire or even try from the outside to go through a wall

Saguache County Sheriff Dan Warwick said fire continued to burn inside the walls of

a Moffat home and plans called for bringing in an excavator to bring the structure

incubator for chickens and

"the flames are now inside

because the house is just too unsafe and unstable to

the fire originated in an knock it down so they can completely extinguish the

Courtesy of Saguache County Emergency Management Facebook page

fire at that time." Woelz, acting on first-As he explained, "In or- hand information from der to tear out the walls those on the scene, said, "The house had a basement and the first floor has collapsed. The second floor is in the process of collapsing. It's a total loss." He also anticipated that the fire would continue "to smolder for at least a couple of days." Lincoln Street is current-

> ly closed and emergency personnel on the scene are instructing people to avoid the area.

down to continue fire suppression.

Organized by Performances at Baca, tickets, \$20 for adults and \$10 for youth/students (ages

door. There is a reduced to seating capacity at the College. For reserved seating including the addition of one's e-address to the Performances at

reservation and at the queries, send an email bacaperformances@ gmail.com. The entrance to the Baca Campus of Colorado College in located off Road T between Moffat and Crestone.



■ Continued from Page 1

# Claim to fame

It appears Spring has sprung at least in Texas where Miss Trixie and Ol' Dutch have taken to spending their winters of late. You always can tell when it's close as the Big Box Stores load up on flowers and vegetables by the pallet load. It must be lucrative as the dickens as those same box doors



often catch a late frost which kills every plant they have in stock. Regardless of the risks, the stores all rush and hurry to be the first with tomato and pepper plants on the shelves.

We have been busy as the proverbial beaver as we are building a house and doing most of the work ourselves. It's quite a task to take on at my advanced age but it appears I may actually pull this one off. So chasing materials gets to be a weekly occurrence as I use it up about as fast as I can buy it. Which gets me out and about driving to and fro at least in the immedi-

Why, just the other day I found myself driving through Kingston, Texas, a wide spot in the road, and saw a sign declaring it as the birthplace of Audie Murphy.

I think that most of the readers have probably heard of him but if not, he was the most highly decorated soldier ever born. He worked to support his family after his father ran off leaving the mother with 12 children to support and so in the 5th grade found himself picking cotton instead of going to school.

Long story short, he enlisted in the Army after the attack on Pearl Harbor and due to some unbelievable heroic actions, became a famous soldier. Returning home to the USA, he became a movie star and so you may see him on the television even today in some Western movies.

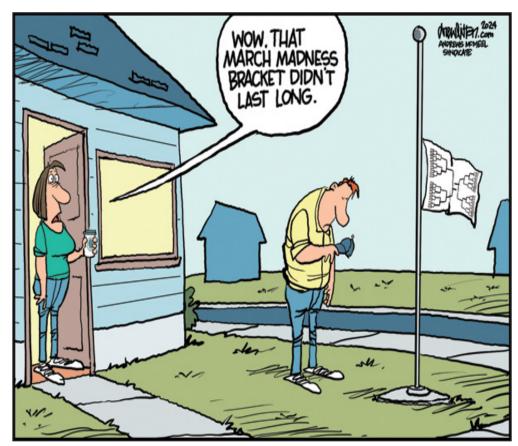
Seeing the sign about his birthplace I am reminded of how towns will grasp at the birth of some famous person as though their very presence at that juncture in life makes the town noteworthy and famous, too. I recall growing up reading about Dwight Eisenhower and that he was from Abilene, Kansas. But later in life I learned he was actually born in Texas but grew up in Abilene and Kansans thought enough about him to build a whale of a museum

For you see there is just not enough fathat person even visited there once. That's why in these parts of Texas there is the birthplace of Audie Murphy, the homeplace of the Murphy family, plus several towns have Memorials declaring Audie Murphy "a son" of their fair township.

And not to be outdone by having actual heroes or people of renown being from or passing through a place, we have also begun to celebrate where made up persons have been. Why just the other day I saw where the bench where Forrest Gump sat for a movie scene is quite the tourist attraction and people come from far and wide to see it and sit in it if possible. Now don't get me wrong, it was a good movie, all things considered, but I have to wonder if people actually think Forrest was a real person to be celebrated as such.

I guess it sells tickets and in this day and age that seems to be what is most important. So today as Ol' Dutch drives into town I am going to take special note of Audie's birthplace sign just a few short miles from here. And maybe, just maybe erect one of my own announcing "Ol' Dutch was here" for future generations to ponder and wonder.

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



To submit news, email: news@alamosanews.com

To submit sports, email: khamrick@alamosanews.com

### Letters policy

Letters are welcome and encouraged. All letters submitted for publication in the Valley Courier must be typewritten, signed by the author, and must include a phone number and address where the author can bereached. 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."

# Biden's 'lawfare' joke

Why do so many Democrats and

Day? The answer is simple: Because they think it will help President Joe Biden defeat Trump and win reelec-

to stand trial before Election

So far, the "lawfare" directed at Trump — two federal indictments from a special counsel appointed by the Biden Justice Department, plus two local indictments from elected Democratic prosecutors, plus a financial lawsuit from another

elected Democratic prosecutor and a sex-and-defamation lawsuit financed by a Democratic megadonor — has backfired at the polls. It helped boost Trump to a runaway victory in the Republican primaries, and so far, it hasn't hurt him in general election matchup polls against Biden.

Democrats hope a guilty verdict in a criminal trial — any trial will do — will peel away voters who say they support Trump now but would not support him if he were a convicted felon. We'll see.

mousness going around for towns to have having another effect on Trump. It cancel student debt doesn't apply to someone important born there so towns has put the former president under everyone. Just yesterday, a defeatedwill just tag-along on celebrity coattails if severe financial stress. In two ways, looking man came up to me and said The first is the tens of millions of dollars in legal fees Trump has already spent defending himself against the onslaught of criminal charges and lawsuits. The other is the crippling financial penalty — \$454 million in the lawsuit brought by the elected Democratic attorney general of New York, Letitia James.

> It was an unprecedented lawsuit in which James created what former federal prosecutor Andrew McCarthy called "a fraud case in which there are no fraud victims." Trump did not have the right to a jury trial, and a hostile judge came up with a devastating financial judgment.

their allies in the media desperately insurer that will post a bond for the want former President Donald Trump money so that Trump can proceed

with an appeal of the verdict. If he can't find an insurer to do that, New York law requires that Trump will either have to come up with the cash himself or sell some of his real estate holdings, just to be able to mount an appeal. And all that is on top of an \$83 million award in a separate sex-and-defamation

suit, the one financed by the Democratic donor.

No criminal trial has begun, but the swarm of Democratic legal actions has already cost Trump dearly. Of course, that was the idea, or at least part of the idea. And it's something that Biden himself indirectly acknowledged in a recent speech.

It happened in Washington at the Gridiron Dinner, a fancy white-tie gathering of major media figures and the top politicians they cover. Biden delivered a speech that was part comedy routine and part inspirational talk to his media base.

And this is a joke Biden told, accord-But the lawfare campaign is already ing to news accounts: "Our big plan to 'I'm being crushed by debt. I'm completely wiped out.' And I said, 'Sorry, Donald, I can't help you."

> Ha ha ha. The media audience, of course, laughed. With one joke, Biden acknowledged the work his party's lawfare warriors have done in the Trump matter. And how could Biden not be grateful? He's trailing Trump in the polls, facing an electorate that largely believes he is too old for a second term, and is underwater in approval ratings for his handling of most

No doubt Biden's joke about bankrupting Trump reflects his satisfaction that the lawfare effort is start-

Trump is now scrambling to find an ing to work. But Biden wants more. In February, Politico reported that Biden has "grumbled to aides and advisers that had [Attorney General Merrick Garland moved sooner in his investigation into former President Donald Trump's election interference, a trial may already be underway or even have concluded."

> In April 2022, the New York Times reported that Biden "confided to his inner circle" his belief that Trump "should be prosecuted." The paper added that while Biden "has never communicated his frustrations directly to Mr. Garland, he has said privately that he wanted Mr. Garland to act less like a ponderous judge and more like a prosecutor."

> Garland knows the president wants him to get Trump sooner rather than later. Garland's pick for special counsel, Jack Smith, who first wanted to put Trump on trial in January, is now racing to start a trial by summer. Anything to get the job done by Election Day. Maybe Smith will succeed, and maybe he won't. But the lawfare campaign is a heavy burden on Trump every day.

> Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.

### Write them

#### GOVERNOR

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

#### **STATE HOUSE**

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Office Building Washington DC 20510 (202) 224-5941

Contact: www.hickenlooper.senate.gov

### **ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS**

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

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

There are AA and NA 12-Step

Meetings throughout the valley. The 6th Tradition states that we are not affiliated with any outside organizations, but in the spirit of cooperation, we list these meeting schedules for friends and family. For information, call 719-937-5083 or see our website:slvaa.org





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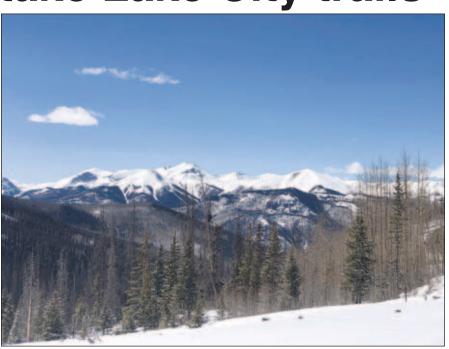
Editor's Note: The views expressed in individual columns on this page do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Valley Courier.

# Lifestyles

# **Snow County Explorers take Lake City trails**



On a sunny and warm Saturday, March 9, 12 riders on 10 sleds from the Snow County Explorers, the Creede snowmobile club, rode some of the Lake City trails. The ride started at Spring Creek Pass, across Jarosa Mesa, over to Rambouillet Park, down Sawmill Gulch, up to Slumgullion Pass, down through Oleo Ranch, and then back up to Spring Creek Pass. Most of the route was freshly groomed but unridden with about 4 inches of fresh powder making the ride that much more enjoyable. The group stopped for lunch halfway down Sawmill Gulch, where there was a magnificent view of the snow-capped San Juan Mountains against a perfectly blue sky. The Lake City trails are maintained by the Lake City Continental Divide Snowmobile Club and are groomed periodically by Tom Carl and Jeff Guthmiller.



Page 5

# **New arrivals at** the Alamosa **Public Library**

From the Librarian's Desk

**By MARIA KRAMER** 

New books are always coming in at the Alamosa Public Library! Here are 10 of our most intriguing arrivals.

**Fantasy** 

• The Book of Love by Kelly Link

Three teenagers reappear in their high school classroom a year after their mysterious disappearance. Each must complete a series of magical tasks in order to return to their livres. Some will win - and some will

• Fifty Beasts to Break Your Heart by GennaRose Nethercott

Two young women working at a sinister roadside attraction called the Eternal Staircase explore its secrets - and their own doomed summer love. A group of witchy teens concoct the perfect plan to induct the hated new girl into their ranks. This book is a collection of dark fairytales exploring all the ways love can save us - or go monstrously wrong.

#### **Fiction**

· A Present Past by Sergei Lebedev

In this collection of eleven short stories, the cruelty of Russia's Soviet past haunts the present literally and figuratively.

You Dreamed of Empires by Álvaro Enrigue

It is 1519, and the Aztec and Spanish empires are about to collide. This fictionalized account of the fall of Tenochtitlán puts the magic in magical realism strange, hallucinatory and metafictional.

#### **Nonfiction**

· Break the Cycle by Dr. Mariel Buqué

When a physical wound is left unhealed, it can infect the whole body. When emotions are left unhealed, they cause harm that spreads to other parts of our lives. Weaving together scientific research with practical exercises, Dr. Buqué teaches readers how trauma is transmitted from one generation to the next and how they can break the cycle through tangible therapeutic practices.

· Vegetable Gardening Made Easy by Resh Gala

No matter the size of your garden or your experience level, backyard gardeners like you can use the information found inside this book to grow a more productive and beautiful edible garden.

· The Moral Life by James F. Keenan

Jesuit theologian James F. Keenan presents eight stages of preparing for the moral life, describing vulnerability as the foundation for contemporary ethics.

· Literary Theory for Robots by Dennis Yi Tenen

Former Microsoft engineer and professor of comparative literature Dennis Yi Tenen provides crucial context for recent developments in AI, which holds important lessons for the future of humans living with smart technology.

#### **Roleplaying Games**

Candlekeep Mysteries by Wizards of the Coast Candlekeep Mysteries is a collection of seventeen short, stand-alone D&D adventures. Each adventure begins with the discovery of a book, and each book is the key to a door behind which danger and glory

#### **Science Fiction**

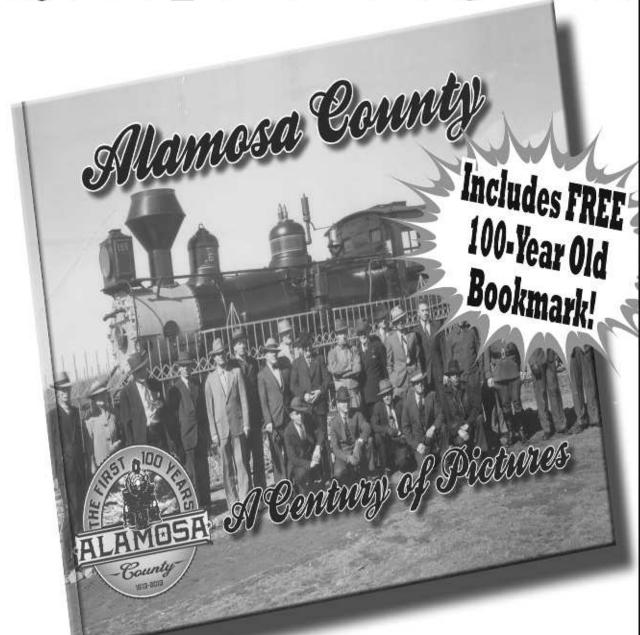
Convergence Problems by Wole

Nigeria, a roadside mechanic volunteers to undergo a procedure that will increase the electrical conductivity of his skin. On Mars, a woman races against time to save her brother.  $\operatorname{This}$ collection of short stories investigates the rapidly changing

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# 22 SLV hoopsters named All-State by CHSAA

By KEN HAMRICK Courier sports editor ALAMOSA - The Colorado High School Activities Association released its All-State basketball teams this week. The girls team was posted on Monday and the boys on Tuesday.

A total of 22 players from the  $\operatorname{San}$  Luis  $\operatorname{Valley}$  – 11 boys and 11 girls—were recognized.

Boys Class 2A Sanford

Leading the way for the SLV was Sanford senior Cash Caldon who was named to the first team in Class 2A.

CaldonledtheMustangs in scoring with 16 points pergame. Healso averaged 4.8 rebounds, 1.7 assists and 1.5 steals per game.

Two more Sanford players were named All-State as junior Ben Sittler was a second team selection, and sophomore Trason Gartrell was honorable mention.

Sittler averaged 10.6 points, 2.8 rebounds, 3.1 assists and 2.4 steals per game, while Gartrell averaged 10.6 points, 5.1 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 2.6 steals.

The Mustangs had a record of 22 wins and five losses and they won the league, district and regional champinoships and were the Class 2A state runners-up.

#### Monte Vista

One other local Class 2A player was an All-State selection in Monte Vista sophomore Azariah Hurtado who was honorable mention.

Hurtado led the Pirates in scoring with 12.7 points per game and in rebounding with nine per game. He also averaged 2.4 assists and 2.4 steals per game.

He led Monte Vista to a record of 15 wins and eight losses.

#### Class 3A Centauri

The Falcons had two All-State players in senior Chaz Holman who was placed on the second team, and junior Carson Bagwell who was honorable mention.

Holman averaged 9.3 points per game, 3.9 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 4.1 steals, while Bagwell averaged 12 points, 4.6 rebounds, 1.8 assists and 1.4 steals.

The Falcons won 18 games and lost six and advanced to the Class 3A State Tournament.

#### Class 4A Alamosa

Alamosa had one All-



Sanford's Cash Caldon, first team, Class 2A

State player in senior Brant Jackson who was honorable mention.

Jackson led the Mean Moose in scoring with 13.5 points per game, and in rebounding with 5.4 per game. He also averaged 0.2 assists and 0.6 steals per game.

Alamosa had a record of 13 wins and 10 losses and it advanced to the Class 4A State tournament.

#### Class 1A Sierra Grande

The remaining boys

All-State players were in Class 1A. Leading the 1A competitors was Sierra Grande senior Brian Ontiveros who was on the second team.

Ontiveros led the Panthers in scoring with 16.7 points per game. He also had averages of 2.2 rebounds, two assists and two steals.

Sierra Grande won 19 games and lost seven. The Panthers advanced to the Class 1A State Tournament where they finished in sixth place.

#### Antonito

Antonito had one All-State player in senior Jasiah Jiron who was honorable mention.

Jiron led the Trojans in scoring with 14 points per game, rebounding with eight per game, assists with 1.9 per game, and blocked shots with 2.5 per game. He also averaged 1.7 st4eals.

Antonito had a record of three wins and 14 losses. Moffat

Moffat's lone All-Stater was senior Ziah Pesqueira who was an honorable mention selection.

He led the Cowboys with 18.6 points, 3.9 assists and 6.2 steals per game. He also had an average of 4.7 rebounds per game.

Moffat won 13 games and lost eight.

Sangre de Cristo Sangre de Cristo was

represented by senior Kaiden Smit who was honorable mention. Smit averaged a double-

double with 15.9 points



Centauri's Chaz Holman, second team, Class 3A

and 12.1 rebounds per game. He also averaged 1.4 assists, 2.6 steals, and 1.9 blocked shots.

The Thunderbirds had a final record of 14 wins and eight losses.

#### Girls Class 4A Alamosa

Alamosa had one representative in junior Morgan Ortega who was an honorable mention selection.

Ortega led the Lady Mean Moose in scoring with 9.1 points and in assists with 4.1 per game. She also averaged 3.2 rebounds and 1.5 steals.

Alamosa finished the season with 12 wins and 11 losses and it advanced to the Class 4A State Tournament.

#### Class 3A Centauri

The Lady Falcons had two All-State players in iuniors Hannah Curtis and Braelyn Tucker, both of whom were honorable mention.

Curtis led the team in scoring with 10.6 points and in steals with 3.5 per game. She also averaged 5.3 rebounds and 1.6

Tucker averaged 8.6 points, 2.8 rebounds, 2.6 assists and three steals

Centauri won 17 games and lost seven and it advanced to the Class 3A State Tournament.

#### Class 2A Center

Center had one All-Stater in senior Alicia Rios who was honorable mention.

Rios led the Lady Vikings in scoring with 12.1 points, assists with 2.3 and steals with 3.6. She also averaged 3.1 rebounds per game.

Center had a final record of 11 wins and 10 losses. Monte Vista

Earning All-State for Monte Vista was junior Allessah Archuleta who was honorable mention.

Archuleta averaged 9.5 points, three rebounds,

Sanford's Ben Sittler, second team, Class 2A



Centauri's Hannah Curtis, honorable mention, Class 3A

three assists and 1.5 steals per game. The Lady Pirates won 17

games and lost four and were the league champion. Sanford

Sanford's representative was junior Brooklynn Reynolds who was an honorable mention selection. Reynolds averaged 10.2

points, 1.9 rebounds, 3.8 assists and 2.5 steals per game. The Lady Mustangs finished the season with

#### 18 wins and six losses. Sargent

Sargentwasrepresented by freshman Kandace Pargin who was honorable mention.

Pargin led the Lady Farmers in scoring with 12.4 points per game. She also averaged 4.6



Ontiveros, second team, Class 1A



Reynolds, honorable mention, Class 2A. rebounds, 1.7 assists and

3.3 steals.

Sargent had a record of 15 wins and seven losses. Class 1A

#### Creede Creede had one All-

State player in sophomore Lila Fairchild who was honorable mention. Fairchild led the Lady

Miners in scoring with 24.1 points per game and in rebounding with 6.6. She also averaged 3.7 assists, and seven steals per game. Sangre de Cristo

#### Sangre de Cristo had

two representatives in junior Jaydra Cordova and freshman Audrina Knorr who were both honorable mention selections.

Cordova led the Lady Thunderbirds in rebounding with 7.5 per



Alamosa's Jackson, honorable mention, Class 4A



Ortega, honorable mention, Class 4A

game. She also averaged eight points, 0.5 assists and 1.8 steals per game.

Knorr led the team in scoring with 10 points per game. She also had averages of 5.9 rebounds, 3.2 assists and 5.1 steals. Sangre de Cristo won 17

games and lost five.

#### Sierra Grande

Sierra Grande's only All-State player was junior Jaylyn Quezada who was honorable mention.

Quezada led the Lady Panthers in scoring with 11.5 points, assists with 2.1, and steals with 6.3 per game. She also averaged 3.6 rebounds.

Sierra Grande won 10 games and lost 13.

# Two locals play in CCGS **All-State Games**

By KEN HAMRICK Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – Two girls basketball players represented the San Luis Valley at the 46th Annual Colorado Coaches of Girls Sports All-State Games Sunday at Grandview High School in Aurora.

Center High School's Alicia Rios played in the Class 2A game and she played on the red team. Centauri's Lacey Johnson competed in the Class 3A game and was on the Blue Team.

Scores and statistics were unavailable.

### **Sports Bulletin**

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

#### **SCHEDULE FRIDAY Prep baseball**

Centauri vs. Center (Las Animas Tournament), 9 a.m. Sargent at Sierra

Grande (2), 11 a.m.

South Park at Sanford (2), 11 a.m. Prep track and field Alamosa at Chandler

(Ariz.) Rotary Invitational, 9 a.m. College baseball New Mexico High-

lands at Adams State,

3 p.m.

#### College men's lacrosse Condordia-Irvine at

Adams State, 3 p.m. College outdoor track and field

Adams State at Spank Blasing Invitational (at Pueblo), TBA

#### **SATURDAY** Prep baseball Alamosa vs. Brush (at

Runyon Sports Complex, Pueblo), 10 a.m. Antonito at Questa (N.M.) (2), noon

Centauri, Center at Las Animas Invitational, noon Alamosa vs. Eaton (at

Runyon Sports Complex, Pueblo), 12:30 p.m. Prep girls soccer

Del Norte at Ridgway, noon Prep track and field

Alamosa at Chandler

(Ariz.) Rotary Invitational, TBA

#### College baseball New Mexico Highlands at Adams State

(2), noon College women's softball New Mexico High-

lands at Adams State

#### (2), noon College outdoor

track and field Adams State at Spank Blasing Invita-

tional (at Pueblo), TBA

### **SUNDAY**

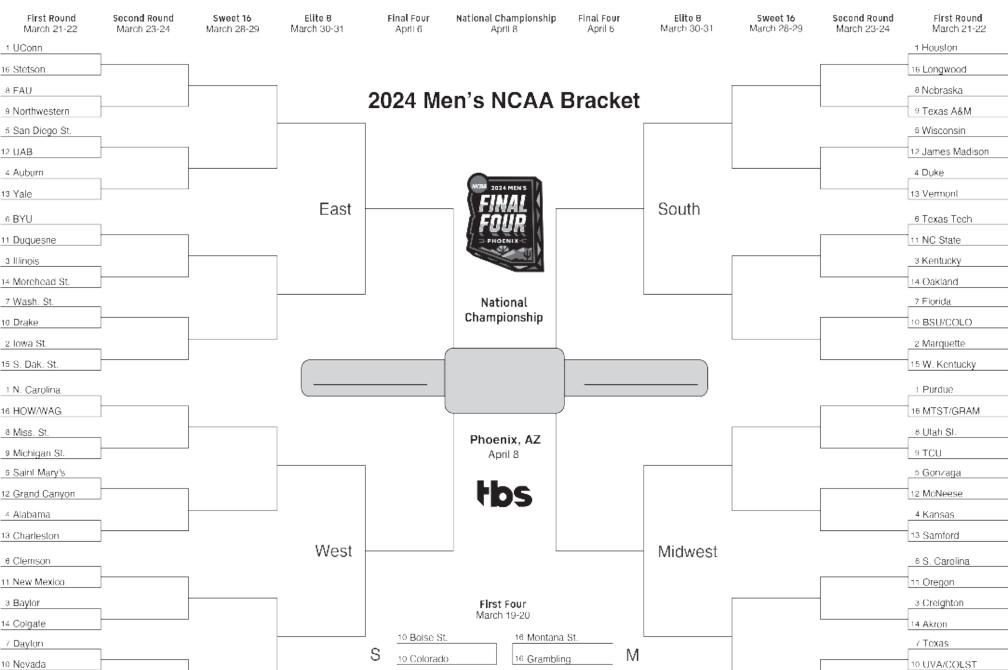
College baseball New Mexico Highlands at Adams State,

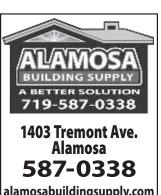
#### College women's softball

New Mexico Highlands at Adams State (2), 11 a.m.



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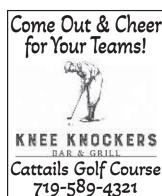
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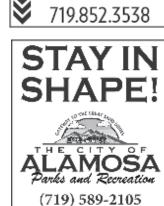
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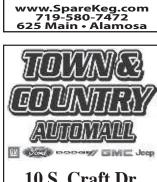
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# **Public Notices**

Valley Courier

#### INVITATION FOR BIDS

#### San Luis Valley Regional Airport-Bergman Field Alamosa, Colorado

#### AIP Project No. 3-08-0002-035-2024

The work involved will include the following:

Sealed bids, subject to the conditions contained herein, for improvements to the San Luis Valley Regional Airport-Bergman Field, Alamosa, Colorado, AIP Project No. 3-08-0002-035-2024 will be received by the San Luis Valley Regional Airport-Bergman Field, County Administration Building, Alamosa, Colorado, 81101, until Wednesday, April 17,2024, at 1:00 p.m., and then publicly opened

Schedule I - Replace Runway Distance Remaining Signs, REILs, PAPIs & BEACON

The approximate bid items and estimated quantities for the main

tems of work involved in the proposed work are:

Incom	Discription	unn	Schedule I
C 1054	Mr biliantie 1	1.5	1
L-100a	Remove L-802A Airport Beaton, Complete	6.5	1
Latetta	Install LED L 808A Alaport Beacon, Complete	E.A.	J.
L-100a	Berrove Bearing Beacon Towar and Foundation, Complete	105	1
E-1439	Install New Top-Down Bracon Role on New Foundation, Complete	BA.	1
L-106a	Install \$6 AWG, KHHW, 800V Wise	LF	2,000
F 198P	Install #6 AWG, Bar Copper Counterpoise Including Ground Reds and Terranation	II.	1,300
L-110e	Invall i -2" SCH, 40 PVC Conduit (DCB)	LF	145
L-125a	Asmova L-891 PAPI Syrrem, Complete	TCA	1
L-125b	Burnove L-849 REIL System, Complete	E.A.	2
L-125c	Remove L-898 B 8108 Sign, Complete	EA	7
L-125a	Invol. L.P.D. L. 100 PAPESyment, Style A on Paining	104	1
i115e	Foundation, Complete Install LIAD LASS BELL Sparra, Style E, on Bearing Foundation, Complete	EA	1
L-1251	Install EUD L-6866 BIDB Sign on Existing Constration,	TCA	7

Construction for this project is expected to take 14 calendar day(s). Contract Documents.
https://woolpert.com/bid Contract Documents. The bidding documents are available at https://woolpert.com/bid and/or www.questcdn.com - Reference Quest Number 9029967. To be considered a plan holder for bids,

register with QuestCDN.com for a free Regular membership and download the bidding documents in digital form at a cost of Twenty-Two Dollars (\$22.00). Downloading the documents and becoming a plan holder is recommended as plan holder's receive automatic notice of addenda, other bid updates. Contact QuestCDN Customer Support at 952-233-1632 or Support@QuestCDN.com for assis-Support at 332-233-102 or Support agreement assistance in membership registration or downloading digital bidding documents. Interested parties may view the contract documents at no cost prior to deciding to become a plan holder.

In order to submit a responsive bid as a Prime Contractor and to receive all necessary addendum(s) for this project, you must be on the Planholder's List. It is the planholder's responsibility to review the site for addendums and changes before submitting their propos-al. This includes review for environmental changes. Environmenta changes during construction could take up to three months for ap-proval. For additional information, please contact us via email at bid. nfo@woolpert.com.

Pre-Bid Conference. The pre-bid conference for this project will be held on March 27, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., in the Airport Fire Station at the San Luis Valley Regional Airport-Bergman Field, 2500 State Avenue, Alamosa, CO 81101. All bidders are required to examine the site to become familiar with all site conditions prior to submitting Bid Conditions. The bidder is required to provide all information as

bid Conditions. The bloder is required to provide all information as required within the Contract Documents. The bidder is required to bid on all items of every schedule or as otherwise detailed in the Instructions to Bidders. Bids may be held by Alamosa County for a period not to exceed 120 calendar days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of

evaluating bids prior to award of contract. The right is reserved, as Alamosa County may require, to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received

All questions regarding the bid are to be directed to Jon Weeks, PE with Woolpert, Inc., 720 South Colorado Blvd., Suite 1200-S, Glendale, Colorado, 80246, (303) 524-3030, Fax: (303) 524-3031,

or email Jon.Weeks@woolpert.com. Bid Bond. Guarantee will be required with each bid as a certified check on a solvent bank or a Bid Bond in the amount of five (5) % of the total amount of the bid, made payable to the Alamosa County.

Performance & Payment Bond. The successful bidder will be required to furnish separate performance and payment bonds each in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price. Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982 as Amended. In

will be required to comply with the wage and labor requirements and to pay minimum wages in accordance with the schedule of wage rates established by the United States Department of Labor.

Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Requirement. The proposed contract is under and subject to 41 CFR Part 60-4 and Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, and to the equal opportunity clause and the Standard Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Construction Contract specifications including the goals and timetables for minority and formula participation.

Title VI Solicitation Notice: Alamosa County, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that for any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, select businesses, or disadvantaged business enterprises or airport concession disad-vantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and no businesses will be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), creed, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), age, or disability in consideration for an award.

Proposers are advised that the agreement resulting from this so-licitation will include provisions mandated by the Federal Aviation Administration prohibiting discrimination by the contractor and its subcontractors. Alamosa County reserves the right to audit and inspect subcontracts to ensure compliance with this requirement DBE Requirement.

#### Bid Information submitted as a matter of responsibility: The Owner's award of this contract is conditioned upon Bidder or Of-

feror satisfying the good faith effort requirements of 49 CFR §26.53 As a condition of responsibility, every Bidder or Offeror must submit the following information on the forms provided herein within five days after bid opening. (1) The names and addresses of Disadvantaged Business Enter-

- prise (DBE) firms that will participate in the contract (2) A description of the work that each DBE firm will perform;
- )3) The dollar amount of the participation of each DBE firm listed (4) Written statement from Bidder or Offeror that attests their commitment to use the DBE firm(s) listed under (1) to meet the
- Owner's project goal; (5) Written confirmation from each listed DBE firm that it is partici-
- pating in the contract in the kind and amount of work provided in the prime contractor's commitment; and
- (6)If Bidder or Offeror cannot meet the advertised project DRF goal, evidence of good faith efforts undertaken by the Bidder or Offeror as described in appendix A to 49 CFR part 26. The documentation of good faith efforts must include copies of each DBE and non-DBE subcontractor quo when a non-DBE subcontractor was selected over a DBE for work on the contract.

The bidder shall make good faith efforts, as defined in Appendix A of 49 CFR Part 26, Regulations of the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, to subcontract 2.23 % of the dollar value of the prime contract to small business concerns owned and controlled by social by and economically disadvantaged individuals (DBE). In the event that the bidder for this solicitation qualifies as a DBE, the contract goal shall be deemed to have been met. Individuals who are rebutably presumed to be socially and economically disadvantaged in-clude, women, Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americaus, Asian-Pacific Americans, and Asian-Indian Americans. The apparent successful bidder will be required to submit information concerning the DBE's that will participate in this contract. The information will include the name and address of each DBE, a description of the work to be performed by each named firm, and the dollar value of the contract. If the bidder fails to achieve the contract goal stated nerein, it will be required to provide documentation demonstrating that it made good faith efforts in attempting to do so. A bid that fails to meet these requirements will be considered non-responsive Those firms currently certified as DBE's by the Colorado Department of Transportation are eligible to participate as DBE's on this contract. A list of these firms can be obtained from the State, the consulting engineer, or the Sponsor.

#### FAA Buy American Preference

The Contractor certifies that its bid/offer is in compliance with 49 USC § 50101, BABA and other related Made in America Laws, U.S

Published in the Valley Courier on March 20, 22, and 26, 2024

X District Court, Denver Probate Court Alamosa County, Colorado 702 4th St

Alamosa, CO 81101 In the Matter of the Estate of MARIA CATALINA MARTINEZ

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-

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 X 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. c/o McQuitty Tax Law, inc

Published in the Valley Courier on March 8, 15, & 22, 2024

Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice 630 Southpointe Ct Ste 200

No. 3833.

Address

Colorado Springs, CO 80906 City, State, Zip Code

statutes, guidance, and FAA policies, which provide that Federal funds may not be obligated unless all iron, steel and manufactured goods used in AIP funded projects are produced in the United States, unless the Federal Aviation Administration has issued a waiver for the product; the product is listed as an Excepted Article, Material Or Supply in Federal Acquisition Regulation subpart 25.108; or is included in the FAA Nationwide Buy American Waiv-

The bidder or offeror must complete and submit the certification of compliance with FAA's Buy American Preference, BABA and Made in America laws included herein with their bid or offer. The Airport Sponsor/Owner will reject as nonresponsive any bid or offer that does not include a completed certification of compliance with FAA's Buy American Preference and BABA. The bidder or offeror certifies that all constructions materials, de

fined to mean an article, material, or supply other than an item of primarily iron or steel; a manufactured product; cement and cementitious materials; aggregates such as stone, sand, or grav-el; or aggregate binding agents or additives that are or consist primarily of: non-ferrous metals; plastic and polymer-based prod-ucts (including polyvinylchloride, composite building materials, and polymers used in fiber optic cables); glass (including optic glass); lumber; or drywall used in the project are manufactured Per Executive Order 14005 "Made in America Laws" means all

statutes, regulations, rules, and Executive Orders relating to federal financial assistance awards or federal procurement, including those that refer to "Buy America" or "Buy American," that require, or provide a preference for, the purchase or acquisition of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States, including iron, steel, and manufactured products offered in the United States. Trade Restriction Certification

By submission of an offer, the Offeror certifies that with respect to this solicitation and any resultant contract, the Offeror –

- 1) is not owned or controlled by one or more citizens of a foreign country included in the list of countries that discriminate against U.S. firms as published by the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR);
- has not knowingly entered into any contract or subcontract for this project with a person that is a citizen or national of a for-eign country included on the list of countries that discriminate against U.S. firms as published by the USTR; and 3) has not entered into any subcontract for any product to be used
- on the Federal project that is produced in a foreign country in-cluded on the list of countries that discriminate against U.S. firms published by the USTR. This certification concerns a matter within the jurisdiction of an agency of the United States of America and the making of a false, fictitious, or fraudulent certification may render the maker subject to

prosecution under Title 18 USC § 1001. The Offeror/Contractor must provide immediate written notice to the Owner if the Offeror/Contractor learns that its certification or that of a subcontractor was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances. The Contractor must require subcontractors provide immediate written notice to the

Contractor if at any time it learns that its certification was erroneous

by reason of changed circumstances. Unless the restrictions of this clause are waived by the Secretary of Transportation in accordance with 49 CFR § 30.17, no contract shall be awarded to an Offeror or subcontractor:

- 1) who is owned or controlled by one or more citizens or nation of a foreign country included on the list of countries that dis-criminate against U.S. firms published by the USTR; or 2) whose subcontractors are owned or controlled by one or more
- citizens or nationals of a foreign country on such USTR list; or who incorporates in the public works project any product of a foreign country on such USTR list.
- Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the certification required by this provision. The knowledge and

information of a contractor is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings. The Offeror agrees that, if awarded a contract resulting from this solicitation, it will incorporate this provision for certification without modification in all lower tier subcontracts. The Contractor may rely

on the certification of a prospective subcontractor that it is not a firm from a foreign country included on the list of countries that discrimi-nate against U.S. firms as published by USTR, unless the Offeror has knowledge that the certification is erroneous. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reli ance was placed when making an award. If it is later determined that the Contractor or subcontractor knowingly rendered an erro-

neous certification, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) may direct through the Owner cancellation of the contract or subcontract for default at no cost to the Owner or the FAA. Notice Of The Requirement For Affirmative Action To Ensure

#### Equal Employment Opportunity 1. The Offeror's or Bidder's attention is called to the "Equal Opportu

- nity Clause" and the "Standard Federal Equal Employment Opportu nity Construction Contract Specifications" set forth herein.
- 2. The goals and timetables for minority and female participation expressed in percentage terms for the Contractor's aggregate work force in each trade on all construction work in the covered area are as follows:

Goals for minority participation for each trade: 19.0% Goals for female participation in each trade:

These goals are applicable to all of the Contractor's construction work (whether or not it is Federal or federally assisted) performed in the covered area. If the Contractor performs construction work in a eographical area located outside of the covered area, it shall apply the goals established for such geographical area where the work is actually performed. With regard to this second area, the Contractor also is subject to the goals for both its federally involved and nonfederally involved construction.

The Contractor's compliance with the Executive Order and the regu lations in 41 CFR Part 60-4 shall be based on its implementation of the Equal Opportunity Clause, specific affirmative action obligations required by the specifications set forth in 41 CFR 60-4.3(a) and its efforts to meet the goals. The hours of minority and female employ ment and training must be substantially uniform throughout the length of the contract, and in each trade, and the Contractor shall make good faith effort to employ minorities and women evenly on each its projects. The transfer of minority or female employees or trained from Contractor to Contractor or from project to project for the sole purpose of meeting the Contractor's goals shall be a violation of the contract, the Executive Order and the regulations in 41 CFR Part 60-4. Compliance with the goals will be measured against the total work hours performed.

3. The Contractor shall provide written notification to the I of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) within 10 working days of award of any construction subcontract in excess of \$10,000 at any tier for construction work under the contract resulting from this solicitation. The notification shall list the name, address, and telephone number of the subcontractor; employer identification number of the subcontractor; estimated dollar amount of the subcontract; estimated starting and completion dates of the subcontract; and the geographical area in which the subcon-

licitation, the "covered area" is Colorado, Alamosa County, and Ala-

#### Federal Fair Labor Standards Act (Federal Minimum Wage) All contracts and subcontracts that result from this solicitation in

corporate by reference the provisions of 29 CFR part 201, et seq, the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), with the same force and effect as if given in full text. The FLSA sets minimum wage, overtime pay, recordkeeping, and child labor standards for full and part-time workers.

The Contractor has full responsibility to monitor compliance to the referenced statute or regulation. The *Contractor* must address any claims or disputes that arise from this requirement directly with the U.S. Department of Labor – Wage and Hour Division.

#### Certification of Offeror/Bidder Regarding Debarment

or suspended by any Federal department or agency from participa Other Federal Provisions Award of contract is also subject to the

- · Civil Rights Title VI Assurances
- · Lobbying Federal Employees
- · Recovered Materials
- · Other Federal Provisions included in Part A of the Special Provi-Alamosa County

Alamosa, Colorado

#### DISTRICT COURT, CONEJOS COUNTY, COLORADO 6683 County Road 13, Conejos, CO 81129 VALERIE MORALES, an Individual, and AMY REGNIER,

DARLENE LETEY, an Individual

Defendant. A COURT USE ONLY A

Attorney for Plaintiffs: Samuel J. Scheurich, #46270 BURNHAM LAW 2760 29th Street, Suite #IE Boulder, CO 80301

sam@bumhamlaw.com Case No.: 2022CV30010

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on October 25, 2023, a Writ of Execution was issued out of the District Court for the County of Conejos directing the Sheriff of the County of Conejos, State of Colorado, to levy upon and seize certain property of Darlene Letey, the above named Defendant, and the Sheriff of the County of Conejos did levy

upon, seize and take into possession the following described prop-Lot 3, Block 12, Manaassa Parcel No. 2, County of Conejos, State Now, therefore, you Darlene Letey, Defendant, take notice, that within

fourteen (14) days from the date of service hereof, exclusive of the day of service, if served within this state, or if served by publication, you may make and file with the Clerk of the above-entitled court a written claim of any exemption which you may have under the statutes of the State of Colorado; and in case of your failure to make and file such written claim of exemption with the Clerk of said Court you shall be deemed to have waived your right of exemption under the Witness, Garth Crowther, Sheriff of Conejos County, Colorado, this 30 day of November, 2023.

GARTH CROWTHER CONEJOS COUNTY SHERIFF

No. 3844. Published in the Valley Courier on March 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29, 30, April 2, 3, 5, 6, & 9, 2024.

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/rfpintegrat-

Published in the Valley Courier on March 15, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, &

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Waverly Drainage District #1 will hold its Annual Meeting for the purpose of adopting the 2024 Budget and any other business that comes before the Board at that time. The Meeting will be held on March 23, 2024 at 10:00 AM at the Waverly Youth Community Center, 1869 S Cty Rd. 10 Alamosa, CO. Waverly Drainage Dist #1 Sharilyn Blais, Asst Secty/Treas.

Published in the Valley Courier on March 22, 2024.

173 - PROFESSIONAL **SERVICES** 

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

#### 221 -**HELP WANTED**

WE GOT THE HELP WE WERE LOOKING FOR WITH THE HELP THE VALLEY COURIER. Smokin

Spuds. (AS) CDL B TRUCK DRIV-ER: Earn Up to \$83k+. Join Us. Grow with Us! At World Fuel Services, our drivers are the key to our success. Tank Wagon drivers operate a straight truck carrying petroleum products to our customers. We are currently seeking experienced CDL drivers to join our team in ALAMOSA, CO. This is a DAYSHIFT POSI-TION. EARNINGS!: \$5,000 sign on bonus; Starting pay \$23/hr. For day shift; Additional \$1.00/hr. with one year of fuel experience; Performance Bonus \$5.000: Earn Your First Year; Day Shift Average (with 1 year fuel experience) - \$1,320 Weekly \$76,640 Annually. WHAT YOU WILL LOVE ABOUT US!: Home Daily! Health Benefits from day one!; Medical with HSA and FSA options; three plans to choose from to fit your needs; Dental, Vision, Teladoc, Employee Assistance Programs; \$0 Premium Medical Insurance Option; Prepare for the Future with 401K Retirement Plan with company matching, no vesting period; Rest and Relaxation 120 hours PTO, 7 paid holiday, and 4 floating holidays; Financial Peace of Mind: Company paid ibility, Life, and AD&D Insurance; Additional Perks We Offer: Long Term Disability Insurance, Accident & Critical Illness Insurance, Legal & Identity Theft Protection, Paid Uniform and Boots, Satellite Radio; Learning and Development, LinkedIn Learning: Fleet of modern vehicles with the latest in cab technologies; Re-

quired; Pass required MVR and DOT preemployment testing and background check. Apply Today! Questions 707.761.7671. (4/24/24) DEL NORTE BANK is seeking a candidate to fill a Seasonal position for a TELLER at our CREEDE BRANCH. Duties will be to accept deposits, loan payments, and process withdrawals while maintaining a balanced cash drawer. Must be personable and pleasant answering the phone and greeting customers. Many other duties will be assigned as needed. The position is seasonal, full time with a hourly range of \$14.42 to \$17.00. Please send your resume or application to postmaster@truelocalbank.com by April 12, 2024. Application is available at TrueLocalBank.com/careers or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Dawn. EOE.

(4/12/24)

ferral bonus program. WHAT YOU WILL

NEED!: Current CDL;

HazMat & Tank en-

dorsements; Two years

of recent Class CDL

driving experience re-

### 221 -

abnormal operating functions of assigned equipment; e. Ability to learn to operate various equipment, which may include heavy construction equipment; f. Requires the ability to exert up to 50 pounds of force occasionally, and/or up to 25 pounds of force frequently. Physical demands of work require walking or standing to significant degree. EDUCATION: High school or GED and preferred some vocational. high school or equivalent training. EXPERI-ENCE: A minimum of three (3) years manual labor or mechanical maintenance and repair. or an equivalent combi-

CO for an application. (3/30/24)LOCAL DRIVER -METZ POTATO COM-PANY is looking for a year-round full-time potato truck driver who will be responsible for loading and unloading trucks along with stacking or other duties in the warehouse. Wage of \$14.42-16/hr plus potential to earn bonus annually. Overtime eligible. after 6 months. Must have a valid driver's license and clean MVR. Applications can be completed at 971 E County Rd 6 N, MONTE

VISTA. (3/30/24) 1ST SOUTHWEST BANK, a locally owned CDFI community bank, is seeking a RELA-TIONSHIP MANAGER with 3+ years of commercial loan experience and a Regional Branch Manager with 5+ years of banking experience. FSWB offers competitive compensation, generous benefits, & career development. Join FSWB's award-winning team dedicated to supporting rural Colorado's agricultural, nonprofit and small businesses. For details and to apply, visit fswb.bank/about/ careers. EOE. (4/10/24)

TE VISTA is currently accepting applications for DEPUTY CLERK. This position will perform administrative and clerical work under the supervision of the City Clerk and may assist in the daily operations of the City's municipal court. Candidates must be able to pass a preemployment background check and drug test. This is a 40 hour per week full-time position. The general starting wage is \$16.79 - \$18.55 per hour plus an excellent benefit package. Please visit: https://cityofmontevista. colorado.gov/government/departments/ human-resources for a complete position description and application. (3/29/24)

## **HELP WANTED**

MAINTENANCE WORKER I. This is an entry-level position pay is hourly, 32 hours a week. QUALIFICAtendance & family con-TIONS: Knowledge of practices in: a. Construction, maintenance and repair of water and/or wastewater systems; use of hand tools; b. Ability to prepare and maintain simple records; c. Ability to perform strenuous physical work for extended periods of time in all weather conditions; d. Ability to recognize and report

nation of education and experience is required. SPECIAL REQUIRE-MENTS: A Class C driver's license and availability for on-call duty is required. Background check is required. Please contact Blanca Town Hall at 601 Main Street, BLANCA,

THE CITY OF MON-

CROSSROADS

TURNING POINTS, INC.

Where Recovery Happens!

**WE ARE HIRING!** 

Please apply online at:

www.crossroadstp.org

#### application, resume, cover letter, and transcripts at https://www. southconejos.com/page/how-to-apply. (4/2/24) 1/2 TIME TIGER CON-NECTION COACH (at-

221 -

**HELP WANTED** 

SOUTH CONEJOS

SCHOOL DISTRICT

is seeking a SEC-ONDARY 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

nection) needed at DEL NORTE ELEMENTA-RY 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: ur-

tigers.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 DI-

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 experiences. 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 sargentearlylearningcenter@gmail.com. Po sition open until filled, but applications received by March 15th will receive priority. (3/23/24)

ALAMOSA MOS-QUITO 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)

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applica-tions 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 alary 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)

### **HELP WANTED**

HOLIDAY INN EX-PRESS ALAMOSA now hiring Room Attendants, Laundry Attendant, Front Desk and Night houseman. Apply

in person. (3/22/24) HOSPICE DEL VALing 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 INTER-VENTIONIST: Fulltime 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 RECTOR for the 2024and Reading Specialist 2025 school year! The SELC is a nonprofit 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.

SARGENT SCHOOL **DISTRICT** Board of Education is seeking lowing 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

MAINTENANCE ASSOCIATE (FT). Skilled multipurpose person needed to sup-

port on-going repairs/

process can be found at

www.sargent.k12.co.us.

EOE. (3/30/24)

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 jovs and satisfaction

of serving others. Send cover letter, resume/request job description to Emily: hr@lapu-ente.net, 719 589-5909, ext238. www.lapuente. net (3/29/24)

# Classifieds

#### 221 -**HELP WANTED**

CONEJOS COUNTY LAND USE is seeking an energetic and selfmotivated individual to join our team as a LAND USE BUILDING IN-SPECTOR. Inspection of all new construction & building including alterations/repairs of existing structures. Ensure buildings are in com-pliance with adopted codes and regs. Permit plan review, issue permits, wrk at the counter, and field inspections. Great skills in work-ing with the public and contractors. Good communication, verbal, writing, organizational and computer skills a must. 3-5 years working in construction/building industry preferred. Salary \$45,000-\$52,000. Applications available at conejoscounty.colorado.gov, or via email upon request at cricci@ co.conejos.co.us. Inquiries call 719-376-6799. Deadline 03/27/2024. (3/27/24)

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

#### 221 -**HELP WANTED**

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

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

VENDOLA PLUMB-**ING &** HEATING is accepting applications for full time HVAC SERVICE TECHS. Please apply at 185 ½ Broadway, ALAMO-SA or send resumes to rhonda@vendola. com. (3/26/24)

#### 221 -**HELP WANTED**

opening for JOUR-NEYMAN LINEMAN. SAN LUIS VALLEY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, Inc., located at 3625 US Hwy 160 W, MONTE VISTA, Colorado currently has an opening for a certified Journeyman Line-man. The hourly rate of pay for a certified journeyman is \$50.87 with a very competitive benefit package. Forty hours/week plus additional time as duties require. After hours on-call required. Duties include construction, maintenance and repair of lines. Requirements: high school graduate or equivalent, certified journeyman lineman, must have CDL and be CPR certified. Visit our website at www.slvrec. com to complete the job application. Applications will not be accepted after March 25, 2024. SLVREC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (3/23/24)

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

KENNEL HELP NEEDED: MON-DAYS & 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)

#### 221 -**HELP WANTED**

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 de-scription and application. (3/23/24)

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)

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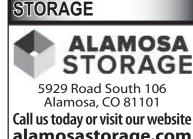
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719-696-5783









82 CONEJOS

**ALAMOSA** 



· House Park

· Stream Bank Restoration

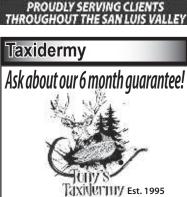
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# Classifieds

#### 221 -**HELP WANTED**

EARLY CHILD-HOOD 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 LUTHER-AN SCHOOL, 52 El Rio Drive, ALAMOSA, CO. (3/27/24)

HOSPICE DEL VALLE is currently seeking an ADMIÑ-ISTRATIVE ASSIS TANT. A part time to full time position available. Knowledge in payroll and Quick-Books 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)

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

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 applica-tions for a MAINTE-NANCE TECHNI-CIAN. 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. submitted through our online employment application https://www. pirates.monte.k12. co.us/employmentop-portunities, by March 21,2024 or until the po-

sition is filled. (3/26/24) CENTER CONSOL-IDATED 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 EDUCA-TION TEACHER, for the remaining 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; Special Education Certification as required by the State of Colorado or such alternative to the above qualifications as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable Applications can be found on the District Website https://www. center.k12.co.us/page/ employment-opportunities or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Posi-

tion is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)CENTER CONSOL-IDATED 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 applica-tions for the positions of ELEMENTARY 3RD GRADE & 5TH GRADE TEACHER, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website https:// www.center.k12.co.us/ page/employment-opportunities or contact

the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until

Position is Filled. EOE.

(4/5/24)

#### 221 -**HELP WANTED**

CENTER CONSOL-**IDATED 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 qualifica-tions as the Board may find appropriate and acceptable. Non- Certified Applications can be found on the District Website https://www.center.k12.co.us/ page/employment-opthe District Office at (719)754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE.

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

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

net(4/3/24) **BOE OF CENTER** SCHOOLS is now accepting applications for an ASSISTANT DIRECTOR to SU-PERINTENDENT. 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/employment-opportunities (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) ELEMENTARY BEHAVIOR IN-TERVENTIONIST / SCHOOL ASSESS-MENT COORDINA-TOR / RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION CO-ORDINATOR 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 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. Applica-tions can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co.

LABORERS AND **SORTERS** needed for POTATO WARE-HOUSE in CENTER. Experience not necessary, willing to train. 40+ hours/week. Stop by MOUNTAIN KING SPUD GROW-ERS, 1090 South Miles Street, Center, CO 81125 to fill out an ap-

plication. (3/22/24)

(3/26/24)

#### 221 -**HELP WANTED**

CENTER CONSOL-IDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26Jt is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the positions of HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website https:// www.center.k12.co.us/ page/employment-opportunities or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Ûntil

Position is Filled. EOE.

INSTRUCTIONAL COACH NEEDED AT DEL NORTE ELE-MENTARY SCHOOL. Candidate should be proficient in all areas of teaching and learning, with an emphasis on professional practice and the teaching and learning cycle. The coach will be responsible for consulting with and supporting the instructional teaching staff in using resources that impact student learning. The coach will provide support and professional learning to instructional staff as needed. 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. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co. (3/26/24)

DEL NORTE ELE-**MENTARY 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)SEED SORTERS WANTED: will last two weeks ..job will start soon. Please text or call 719-850-2137. (3/26/24)

#### 304 - LAWN & **GARDEN**

SPRINKLER RE-PAIR & INSTAL-LATION. Quick Service! Call evenings & weekends: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (5/24/24-monthly)

#### 307 -**APPLIANCES**

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

#### 314-CLOTHING

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

#### 324 - SEED & FEED

HORSE & COW HAY: GRASS, GRASS/ALFALFA, ALFALFA. 3x3 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917. (99/99/24AS-monthly)

#### 345 -WOOD

THANK YOU, VAL-LEY COURIER. I SOLD MY WOOD

SPLITTER! Frank.

#### 353 - FARM & **LIVESTOCK**

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

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

ATTENTION FARM-ERS & RANCHERS. Show special. Seal leaking stock tanks, ponds, or reservoirs with BEN-TONITE. 719-580-6652. (5/24/24)

#### 360 - MISC. **FOR SALE**

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

#### 368 - PETS & **SUPPLIES**

FOR SALE ROTT-WEILER/MASTIFF PUPPIES, adorable, will have soft hair, current shots given. \$400 each. Please call or text 719-588-7644 for info or pictures. Ready now. (3/26/24)

#### **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)

#### 401 - BUSINESS **PROPERTIES**

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Alamosa, CO 81101 www. alamosarentals .com

#### 415 - HOMES **FOR SALE**

BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1900 sq.ft., family room, living room, all appliances, pellet patio between stove, home / garage, 3 car garage, with chicken coup or shed, 6 acres plus fenced, and fenced vard, 15 minutes from ALÁMOSA. \$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 ALA-MOSA County: 1980 GLENWOOD TRAIL-ER HOUSE \$6,700. Must be moved. 402-269-7172.(E-TFN-AS)

#### 525 -**GUNS**

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

#### 601 - APARTMENTS **FOR RENT**

EAST ALAMOSA: SINGLE STUDIO, \$615/monthly, \$700/deposit, utilities included, no smoking, lease, references. 719-580-3710. (3/30/24)

#### 606 - BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

RENT COMMER-CIAL 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 ALA-MOSA 888-641-3750 / 719-232-3388. (4/9/24)

#### 701 - AUTOS FOR SALE

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

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

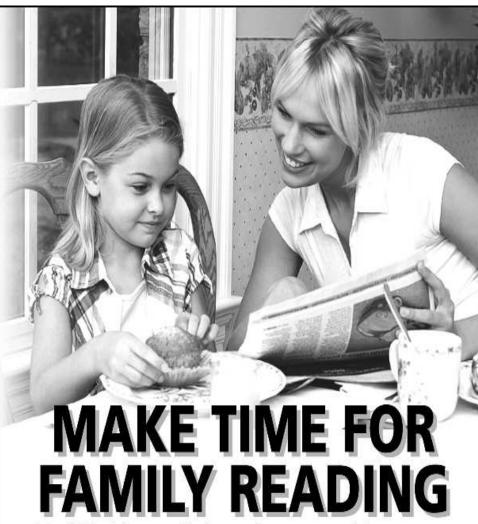
#### 715 - 4X4 **VEHICLES**

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 6½' 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

2019 ALUMA 141/2' single axle ALUMI-NUM TRAILER, wood floor, 4' flip up ramp, spare tire and toolbox. The trailer is LIKE NEW with only 90 ACTUAL MILES. Call or text 719-850-2775. (3/27/24)

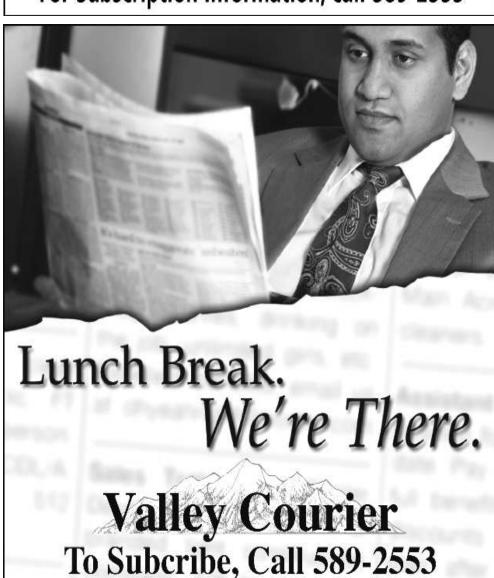




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#### CROSSWORD PUZZLE

35 Ladder

part

37 B&B

38 Cruel

41 Wall hanging

43 Aerie 44 Singer Orbison

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#### **NEA Crossword Puzzle**

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10 Brake

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9 Maple

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1 Gin mill
4 Cold and
damp
8 Recipe
amount
12 Mature
13 Memo
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(2 wds.)
14 Repeat
15 PC

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Answer to Previous Puzzle

HERA

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O S E

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T T E

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> variety 49 Actress Perlman 50 Oven 52 Heavy weight

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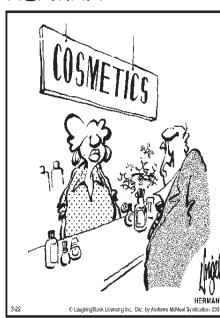
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### HERMAN



"I wanna buy a book about the universe."

## Wife's veganism has become a third party in marriage

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been teachers since 1999. We married in 2011. She became vegan in 2017. It helped her beat diabetes, which I love. However, she's pure vegan for animal rights and listens to vegan podcasts all day long after teaching and on the weekends. I mean all day, EVERY day with earbuds in. I have to say, "Knock, Knock" to even talk with her.

Right now, she's listening to podcasts and messaging vegan people on social media and doesn't even realize I'm typing. I love my wife, but I can't escape the frustration of not being able to have a conversation with her about anything.

We have no kids together, but I raised her son from 7 years old. He moved to live with his dad because of her obsessions with work and veganism. I love her, but the fridge is filled with kale. Should I stay, or should I go? --AFTERTHOUGHT IN OREGON

DEAR THOUGHT: Tap your wife on the shoulder and ask her to remove her earbuds. When she does, give her an earful. Tell her you love her but you need a partner who is willing to be more of

a companion than she

has become. Tell her you shouldn't have to ask permission to talk to her because of her preoccupation (obsession) with her

podcasts. If you want food in the house that isn't vegan, go out and buy some. And if she's unwilling or unable to accept and adapt, try marriage counseling before calling a lawyer. The marriage you have described is not a happy one, or you wouldn't have written to me.

DEAR ABBY: I'm growing concerned for my grandparents. They are in their late 80s and homebound. Recently, a new tenant moved into their garage apartment. They LOVE her. The rest of the family is suspicious of her. She has no job and no car and has never paid rent. She frequently spends the day with my grandparents and recently "helped" them change all their usernames and passwords to something more "simple and easy.

My grandparents live on Social Security. They have no savings, and I don't believe they have a will. From my perspective, they are setting themselves up to be robbed, abused and left high and dry by a crook disguised as their

friendly tenant.



#### ABIGAIL Van Buren

Is this worthy of an Adult Protective Services investigation? My grandparents guilt the rest of the family by saying, "At least our tenant comes over often, unlike the rest of you." (I live three hours away). Do I need to mind my own business? They aren't suspicious at all.
-- DUBIOUS IN TEXAS

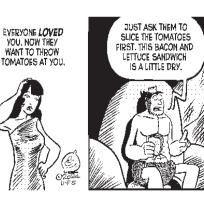
DEAR DUBIOUS: An investigation is not an accusation. The relationship your lonely grandparents have with this tenant is unusual. Contact APS, inform them about what's going on with your grandparents and let someone there decide whether your concerns are worth following up on. Better to

be safe than sorry.

#### ALLEY OOP







### ARLO & JANIS









### BIG NATE



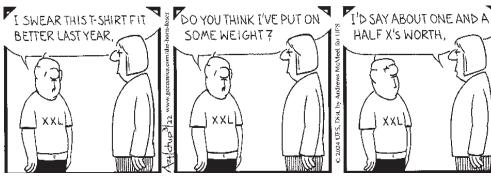






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# Town of Del Norte hosts Meet the Candidates

FERRELL

**DEL NORTE** — The Town of Del Norte in partnership with the Del Norte Chamber of Commerce hosted a Meet the Candidate night on Tuesday, March 12, at the High Valley Community Center.

The public was invited to ask questions of three mayoral candidates — incumbent Chris Trujillo, and challengers Shelly Burnett and resident Shawn Goforth.

In addition to the mayoral candidates, the audience was also introduced to the five candidates running for three open seats on the Del Norte Board of Trustees — Andrew Velasquez, Jonathon Medina, Louie Velasquez, Sarah A. White, and Bobby L. Lopez.

The meeting started with host Milcah Hawk, a long-time resident of the area and educator for many years, introducing the candidates and explaining the format.

"It takes a lot of cour-

table tonight and how for several years and has infrastructure taken care not present for the event to fight crime and drug much it takes to come for- raised his family in Del ward and take on things Norte. Goforth stated that are hard but also re- that he would like to see for the trustee position to help the town move in that he wanted to help warding for our commu- the town thrive and if nity," said Hawk.

Each candidate was stituents want done. given the opportunity to introduce beginning with the first recreational center, park three initial questions and then moving onto additional questions from the audience.

Burnett began by introducing herself. Bernett is see our city water get beta life-long resident of Del Norte and worked for 30plus years in the banking speak, stating that as

"I am a lifelong community member. I do know fantastic place where he the culture and I also raised his family and has know our people are not worked since he gradurich. I think we need to ated from college. Trujillo try and find ways to help said he has managerial fix our water, but we need experience and hopes to grant writer and other use it to continue as mayflows of income. I don't or of Del Norte. believe that we should put the expense all on our that I wasn't going to run citizens," she said.

age to step forward and 2015. Goforth  $\,$  stated ects that were put back serve. So, let's acknowl- that he has worked for because of COVID and I

elected, do what his con-

"I would like to see themselves, term limits, audits, a equipment for the river park and I would like to see the bad side of town get cleaned up a little bit better. I would also like to ter," he said.

> Trujillo was next to a long-time resident he knows that Del Norte is a

"My original plan was again," he said. "I figured Next to speak was Go- after four terms it was forth, who previously time for someone else to served as Mayor of South step up. The reason I am Fork for a short period running again is because during 2014 and into we have so many projedge those sitting at this the Wolf Creek Ski Area would like to get the town

Next, the candidates said that he has been in Del Norte for the past 10 years having come here from La Jara.

Lopez grew up in a small town and feels that experience gives him the knowledge of how small towns work.

"My priorities is that I would like to see change. I want there to be more youth involvement. The streets in our town need more work and we need to push to clean up more as a community," he said.

Velasquez was born and raised in Del Norte and has served on the town board for the past four years. Velasquez said that because he is a current trustee he is aware of what is happening in the town right now and is hoping to stay on for another four years.

'The reason I am running is because the town has a lot of projects like the revitalizing main street and completing the wastewater system. I want to be around to see that all completed," he

White was next to speak, stating that she is a retired educator after serving in her past position as the superintendent of the school district where she worked. White has been in the Del Norte area for 30 years.

"I am here to serve the community. When I think about priority, I think the biggest priority is making sure voices are heard,' she said.

Candidate Medina was

but sent in a comment problems in Del Norte. In stating that he would like addition, Medina stated spoke, introducing them- a positive direction and the community clean up selves to the audience be- that he would like to streets and have more ginning with Lopez, who help the law enforcement community events. get the tools they need



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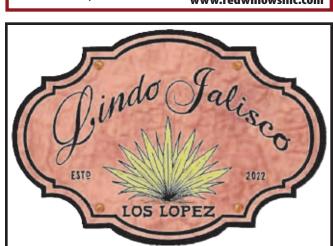
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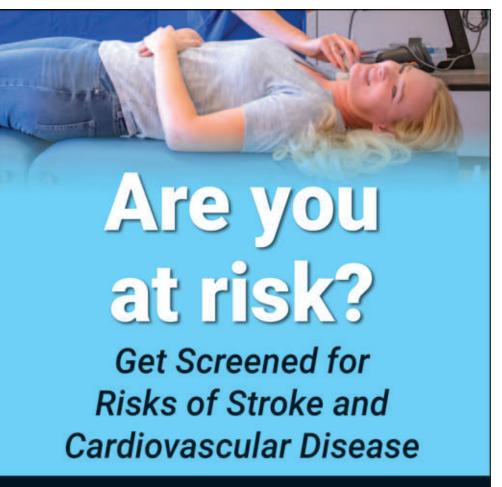
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The Del Norte Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Del Norte hosted a Meet the Candidates night on March 12. There are three mayoral candidates running for a four-year term and five candidates running for three open seats on the Del Norte Board of Trustees.



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# Key ways to keep children safe at home

Expecting parents process a barrage of information as they prepare for the day their child is born. No matter how many details they gather from doctors, their own research and individuals who have blazed parenting paths before them, there are still plenty of things to

One of the surprises new parents often face is how much trouble their youngsters can get into both inside and outside a home — particularly as they become mobile. Early lessons pertain to feeding and sleeping schedules, but it is important for parents to be mindful of all of the safety concerns they could face.

#### Bathing

learn on the job.

Water is necessary to keep children clean and healthy, but also poses a significant danger. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates more children ages one to four die from drowning than from any other cause.

Various precautions should be taken when bathing children. First and foremost, a child should never be left unattended in the bath or around water even for a second. Just a few inches of water can cause drowning. In addition, parents should exercise caution to check the temperature of the bath water to ensure that the child will not be scalded. There are special thermometers that can be used in the bath to indicate if the water has reached

It can be tempting to accept used baby items from other people in an effort to save money. However, these pieces from well-meaning friends and family may no longer meet current safety guidelines, particularly if they're from an older generation.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission advises that there should be no more than a 23/8-inch gap between crib slats (about the width of a soda can). The crib should be placed away from hazards like drapes or window covering cords. The crib should only have a firm mattress with a well-fitted sheet. Pillows, bumper pads, comforters, and the like can be hazardous in a crib.

Current safety guidelines recommend that children should be placed on their backs to sleep. After children are able to roll from back to stomach on their own, they may choose their own sleeping positions, as the risk for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is reduced at this point.

#### Around the house

Bathrooms, stairs, kitchens, and sharp furniture are all places where curious children can become injured. There are scores of safety products that can limit access to danger. Cushioned pads can be put on furniture edges. Heavy furniture, such as televisions and dressers, can be bolted to the wall to avoid tip-over accidents.

Parents should use gates to block

access to staircases or other off-limits spaces. Special door handle products can make it challenging for little fingers to get into rooms. Cabinet and toilet seat locks also can restrict access.

#### Feeding

While parents may want to dive right into offering solid foods, choking is an inherent danger. Most pediatricians urge avoiding foods that can block airways until a child reaches age four. Such foods include hot dogs, popcorn, whole grapes, and nuts. Safe finger foods include soft items that are easily swallowed, and O-shaped cereals.

Children have a tendency to put everything in their mouths, so small toys, parts and batteries can be risky.

Parents need to keep watchful eyes on their children and keep safety precautions in mind as their children grow up





# Did you know?

larity has waned in recent decades. Dining rooms were the spaces to host holiday dinners or family birthday rooms became obsolete in modern layouts. And in those homes that had formal dining areas, the need for home office spaces or playrooms for children saw many dining rooms repurposed. According to the Nationand casual dinner parties. Howev- hosting a little more intimate.

Formal dining rooms were once a er, even though dining rooms may must-have in homes, but that popu- no longer be de rigueur, designers are noticing an increase in clients requesting formal dining spaces, according to a report in Southparties. Slowly but surely, dining ern Living. Perhaps it's a matter of open-concept fatigue. After spending homes that favored open-concept a year or more during the height of the pandemic at home with few to no barriers between rooms, homeowners may be looking for homes that carve out niches for specific tasks (and privacy) once more. It may not al Association of Home Builders, 43 be long until homes come back to percent of millennials prefer the look including more traditional layouts and feel of an open-concept layout with separate dining spaces to make





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# Design ideas that can create a peaceful feel

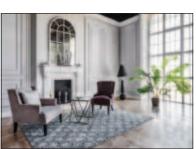
Homes are often characterized as sanctuaries for their residents. A calm place to come home to after a busy day at work or school is often just what people need to unwind.

Certain design components can help individuals turn their homes into relaxing respites from the daily grind. With that goal in mind, individuals can consider these ideas to create a peaceful feel inside their homes.

• Paint with neutral colors. Wall colors can define the mood in a given room, and neutral colors have long been linked to a calming effect. Subtle shades like beige, taupe and light gray are known to create a relaxed vibe in a room, so these colors can be a go-to choice. Some people consider neutral colors a tad boring, so individuals concerned by that impression can limit neutral colors to rooms designated as sanctuaries, like a reading room, a spa bathroom or a bedroom.

also can help to establish a serene setting at home. Large windows that let daylight in can improve anyone's mood. A 2022 study from researchers at the University of Chile in Santiago entered a home, the happier people larger windows in a home can help everyone goes to bed. to establish the relaxing, happy vibe individuals are aiming for.

tone. The United Kingdom-based Royal Horticultural Society notes that



research has found that indoor plants can benefit psychological well-being. The RHS notes that improved mood and reduced stress levels are two benefits that indoor plants can provide. A good mood and less stress can help individuals establish the peaceful feel they're aiming for at home.

• Keep devices out of bedrooms. Watching television while lying in bed, scanning a smartphone before turning off a nightstand light and retiring for the night, or reading an e-reader instead of a print book at • Employ natural light. Natural light night can transform a bedroom from a serene setting into one that's overrun with stimuli. According to the Sleep Foundation, technology stimulates the mind, which can make it harder to fall asleep. In addition, blue light found that the more natural light that emitted by devices disrupts the natural production of melatonin, a hormone said they felt. Study authors even not- that makes it easier to fall asleep. That ed that the largest uptick in well-being can negate any efforts individuals have was found among participants who undertaken to make their bedrooms lived in homes in which windows as peaceful as possible. Designate covered at least 40 percent of the bedrooms in the house as technolodwelling's wall space. Opening blinds gy-free zones to ensure the peaceful or curtains and, if possible, installing vibe continues uninterrupted until

A peaceful home makes for the perfect respite at the end of a busy • Utilize plants to set a peaceful day. Various design choices can help individuals establish a serene vibe throughout their homes.





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Photo courtesy of Beata Ramza with the city of Alamosa

Xeriscaping on properties throughout Alamosa.

# Xeriscaping brings beauty and color while saving water

By PRISCILLA
WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA —There have been a lot of conversations in the media lately about challenges with less and less water availability in Colorado along with steadily rising temperatures. The impact can be felt in a number of areas, not the least of which is evident in the yards surrounding people's houses. The cost of having a lush, green yard is increasing, not just in terms of how much water is consumed in keeping the yard green but also how much that water costs.

It's estimated that, in cities and towns, 50% of water consumed by residents is devoted to watering lawns and ornamental gardens. In 1981, when Denver was in a serious drought, the Denver Water Department addressed the issue by promoting water efficient landscaping practices.

As part of that effort, the Denver Water Board coined the term xeriscaping (pronounced zer-e -skaping), a combination of the Greek prefix "xero," which means dry, with landscaping. Looking back, it was a

genius move. Instead of just telling the people of Denver to be much more efficient in how they use water, they created a term that, in one word, offered an alternative approach to landscaping. Now, some forty years later, the term (and the idea behind it) has been widely embraced by states throughout the West where, like Colorado, less water and hotter temperatures are becoming part of life.

Xeriscaping is the practice of designing landscapes to reduce – or even eliminate – the need for irrigation - in other words, designing a yard where plants can be sustained with little or no more water than falls from the sky. If done correctly, it can also eliminate the need for fertilizer and pesticides.

While there may be different steps in this type of landscaping that require thought and planning, the steps themselves are relatively straightforward.

As described on the Water Smart website with the city of Alamosa, planning and design doesn't have to begin with a professional. What's important is to think about how the

■ See **WATER** page 7

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The state of the s

# Dark skies and you

#### By JOHN WATERS

Courier News Editor

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — We live in a remarkable place to enjoy our fantastic dark skies. Located far from any big city with light pollution and having the Sangre de Cristo Mountains blocking the bright lights of Colorado Springs, our skies are spectacular. Homeowners can take a few simple steps to reduce outdoor lighting and contribute to this great aspect of living here.

Light pollution is the human-made alteration of outdoor light levels from those occurring naturally. According to Dark Skies International (DRI), a non-profit dedicated to preserving this asset, when we overlight our outdoor environment we negatively affect migratory birds, pollinators, and mammals including humans. We also obscure our abilities to see deeply into our universe, our heavens above. In 2012, the American Medical Association Council on Scientific and Public Health reported, "Many Species (including humans) need darkness to survive and thrive."

In 2019, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve became certified as an International Dark Sky Park, meeting strict standards for sky darkness, limiting outdoor lighting, and working with communities to reduce light pollution.

Homeowners dark skies by limiting the brightness and duration of outdoor lighting, and in doing so, save money.

Dani Robben, who is the Community Connections Coordinator with San Luis Valley Great Outdoors, is an advocate of dark skies and recommends that homeowners check out the Five Principals for Responsible Outdoor Lighting.

Responsible outdoor lighting is: 1. Useful. All light should have a

Before installing or replacing a light, determine whether a light is needed. Consider how the use of light will impact the area, including wildlife and the environment. Consider using reflective paints or self-luminous markers for signs, curbs, and steps to reduce the need for permanently installed outdoor



Courtesy of Dark Sky International

This is an example of a dark sky community that has reduced and deflected outside lighting.

a clear purpose."

2. Light should be directed only to where it's needed.

Use shielding and careful aiming to the ground," said Robben.

EMERSY STAR

lighting. Robben said, "Just think if this target the direction of the light beam light is really necessary and does it have so that it points downward and does not spill beyond where it is needed. "Direct lighting and be sure lighting is fully shielded and points down to

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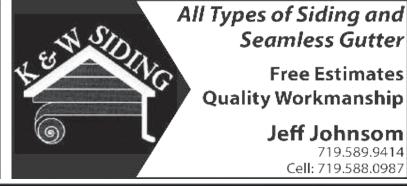
3. Illumination should be no higher than necessary.

Use the lowest light level required. Be mindful of surface conditions, as some surfaces may reflect more light ing wattage, which is a measure of into the night sky than was intended.

When purchasing outdoor lighting, Robben suggests consumers think in terms of lumens and says 500 lumens or less is ideal. Instead of consider-

■ See **DARK** page 7

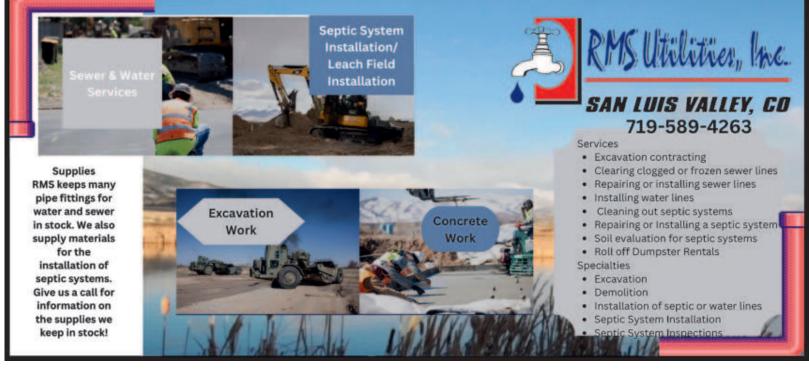
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# How DIY can be bad for homeowners' bottom lines

when starting a home improvement project. Home repairs and renovations can be costly, and the notion of saving money on such projects compels many homeowners to try their hand at home improvements. However, the DIY approach can be costly as well, and if things go awry, homeowners may end up with empty pockets and unfinished projects.

Online tutorials and advertisements for home improvement retailers can make DIY seem like a snap. However, there are potential pitfalls to consider that could make the ostensibly less expensive DIY route far more detrimental to the bottom line than homeowners may recognize.

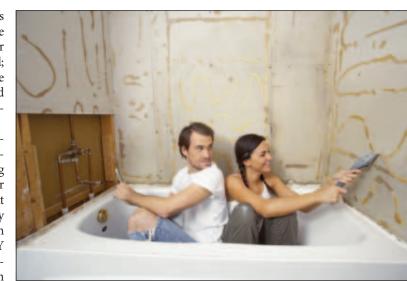
• Permits: Permits ensure work is done in accordance with local codes, which are designed to ensure the safety of residents and their neighbors. Licensed contractors know which permits are necessary for

Homeowners know it can be tempt- many even procure permits for their projects on their own. Ancillary costs ing to go the do-it-yourself (DIY) route clients (homeowners are urged to read estimates and contracts to determine who will be responsible for acquiring the appropriate permits). DIYers may not know about local permits, and therefore go ahead with projects without procuring any. That can be harmful in the short- and long-term. In the short-term, a failure to procure the appropriate permits can make a home less safe and potentially lead to costly fines and necessitate a complete do-over of the project. In the long-term, homeowners who did not when putting their homes on the market, which can make it very difficult to sell

• Ancillary costs: The ancillary costs of DIY are not often noted in online tutorials. However, such costs can dramatically increase the amount of money projects they're hired to work on, and DIYers shell out in order to complete to the dramatic increase in materials

include but are not limited to the price of tools and equipment; disposal fees for materials that will need to be discarded; and the cost of permits. These costs are often included in estimates provided by contractors, but they're easily overlooked by novice DIYers.

• Repairs: Even experienced contractors make mistakes, so DIYers, particularly novices, can anticipate making a few errors along the way. Minor mistakes may not prove too costly, but more significant mishaps can quickly secure the appropriate permits may not negate any cost savings associated with be given a certificate of occupancy (CO) DIY renovations. The cost to fix DIY mistakes varies depending on the project, but a 2019 survey from Porch.com found that the average DIY mistake cost homeowners \$310 and added five and a half hours to the overall time spent to complete a project. It's worth noting the Porch.com survey was conducted prior



costs related to inflation in recent years. So it's reasonable to assume that fixing DIY mistakes in 2024 could end up costing considerably more than a few hundred dollars.

Before diving in to DIY, homeowners may want to consider the real costs associated with forgoing professional experience in the potentially misplaced hopes of saving a few dollars.

# The important role played by bees in lawns and gardens

aesthetically appealing sight each spring and summer. The pleasant aromas emanating from such spaces only add

ing garden, and perhaps none

is more important than bees. North America is home to thousands of species of beers, but many of those species are experiencing dwindling populations. According

to Scott McArt, an assistant professor of pollinator health in the Department of Entomology at Cornell University, 53 bee species have experienced population declines or range contractions over the last several decades. Individuals accustomed to seeing bees as unwanted guests may wonder why that's a problem. Though declining bee populations pose a number of problems, perhaps none is more relatable than the link between bees and food production. A recent study published in the journal Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences noted that declines

tions raise significant concerns about long-term food security. Authors of the study noted that crop production would be higher if crop flowers received more

ues to increase, but it's also present-day from both a food security and economic perspective. In fact, the U.S. Food and

Drug Administration reports that commercial production of more than 90 crops relies on roughly 3,600 bee species. Declining bee populations could put that production in serious jeopardy and create a domino effect that impacts food security and individuals' livelihoods.

But all is not lost in the fight to restore bee populations. In fact, McArt indicated in a 2019 report that bee populations are thriving in agricultural and natural areas. But bee populations also must thrive in suburban and urban areas. Planting a pollinator-friendly garden is one step McArt suggested gardening

A colorful garden in full bloom is an in both managed and wild bee popula- hobbyists can take to help restore bee populations. When planting to combat declining bee populations, homeowners should always look for native plants, as they are well-adapted to local climates Many variables contribute to a thriv-pollination. That's a significant benefit as and unlikely to upset local ecosystems. the global population contin- Local garden centers can be great resources for anyone looking to plant a notable benefit in the native species. According to HGTV, the following are just a handful of the many bee-friendly garden flowers and plants homeowners can consider for their gardens:

- Bee balm
- Honeysuckle
- Sunflower
- Cosmos
- Strawberries Dahlia
- Butterfly bush
- Crocus · Pot marigold

• Geraniums Bee populations are in decline. If efforts to restore those populations are not embraced, the consequences for future generations could be dire. Homeowners can do their part by planting bee-friend-

ly flowers and plants on their properties.



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### Water

■ Continued from Page 4

yard is used and what is the look people hope to achieve. If plants are involved in the design, adding compost to the soil can help

xeric (drought resistant) plants thrive. If a homeowner isn't set on having turf, replace that turf with soil, landscaping rocks and plants that are suited to the climate in the valley and

recommended for growing in this If a homeowner still wants some

turf in their yard, choose a grass that is native to the valley versus, for example, Kentucky Blue Grass that consumes twice the amount of water as other grasses do. There are also some great "low water drought resistant" varieties of turf.

Make sure to use efficient irrigation, such as drip lines that can be run below the rock where water use is most efficient and greatly minimizes any water loss due to evaporation.

One of the most important steps as far as the environment is concerned, choose native, low water use plants and try to group plants with similar water, sun and soil needs together.

lighting practices on their own."

The website of Dark Sky International has more information on residential dark sky lighting including links to dark sky-friendly fixture retailers. Dark Sky Week is April 2-8, more information is available on the website. www.darksky.org.

The final point listed on the Water Smart website: Proper pruning, weeding, fertilization and maintenance of your irrigation system will preserve and enhance the quality of your xeriscape. In the long term, a landscape adapted to the local environment will require less maintenance, less fertilizer, and reduce the use of pesticides and herbicides.

"Xeriscaping is a good thing in Alamosa," says Brandon Garrison at Mortenson's Landscaping and Irrigation, an Alamosa based company with crews experienced in this water saving landscaping. "We do quite a tremendous variety in the color and bit of it. For the majority of people, the reason they want to xeriscape is and flowers that can thrive in Alamtake out the grass, you don't have to and groupings of plants, can take

Mother's Day. Based upon the plants that are chosen, the plants are usually established within the first season. You can put a drip line system in beneath

the xeriscape but you have to have plants that work in the valley because we're basically like the desert. Some plants grow here and some don't."

The cost of xeriscaping is largely based on the size of the yard, he says, but, typically, the choice of rock is the biggest determinant of cost. Most yards use probably six to ten tons of rock, which can range in price from \$50 to \$125 a ton.

Perhaps the greatest misconception about xeriscaping is the notion that a xeriscaped yard is void of color and variety. The opposite is true. There is appearance of trees, bushes, grasses because of their water bill. When you osa. That, plus the placement of rocks an "ordinary" yard and transform it The best time to xeriscape is after into a dynamic, highly appealing and beautiful outdoor space.

For those interested in learning more, the city of Alamosa is hosting a "How to design a low water garden"



Photo courtesy of Beata Ramza with the city

event at the Alamosa Public Library on Tuesday, April 9th at 5:30 p.m. The event is part of "Water Week," which will run from April 7 to the 13. For more information, call the planning department at the City of Alamosa.

### Dark

■ Continued from Page 5

energy it takes to produce a certain luminance, you want to start thinking about lumens, which is the actual measure of light output."

4. Light should be used only when it is useful.

Use controls such as timers or motion detectors to ensure that light is available when it is needed, dimmed when possible, and turned off when not needed. This is an easy way for consumers to save money and help with dark skies. Motion detectors also contribute to home security.

5. Use warmer-color lights where

Limit the amount of shorter wavelength (blue-violet) light to the least

amount needed. Light where you need it, when you need it, in the amount needed, and no more. Reducing lighting is a benefit to

health says Robben, "Lighting disrupts both human and wildlife circadian rhythm. Disrupting natural lighting, we are subject to insomnia, and having these sleep issues that can contribute to further health issues."

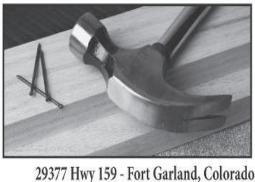
Contributing to dark skies is easy. According to the McDonald Observatory in Texas, "The solution to light pollution is 90% education and awareness, and 10% hardware. Identify examples of good lighting in your community and show them to your friends and neighbors. Once people see it, they can't un-see it. Once people understand the implications for cost savings and improved visibility, they are far more likely to adopt good







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Page 8

