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News in Brief

Batterson, Dennis Streets Capital Improvement Project

MONTE VISTA — With summer quickly approaching, the City of Monte Vista is gearing up for its summer construction schedule. The first project is the completion of the Batterson, Dennis Streets Capital Improvement Project. The city has worked with a contractor for this phase of the project, ACI and has determined that the project will begin on April 1. The construction will begin on Batterson from 4th Avenue to Lariat. Construction will then proceed to Dennis Street from Lariat to 4th Avenue and the final phase will be construction on 4th Avenue from Batterson to Highway 15 (South Broadway). Door hangers will be sent out to the properties affected by the street closures as the project gets closer.

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

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

SLVREC board meeting set for March 28

MONTE VISTA — SLVREC will have the regular meeting of the board of directors on Thursday, March 28, at 9:30 a.m. located at 3625 US Highway 160 W, Monte Vista. This is a change from the regular meeting day. Advance notice is required to attend the meeting, call Michelle Trujillo 719-852-3538.

MV City Council OKs being fiscal agent for two grants

By MARIE MCCOLM
MONTE VISTA — Mikela Tarlow introduced herself to city council members and spoke of how she has applied for grants and would like the city to become her fiscal agent for the grants during a council meeting on March 7.

“I am here to ask if the panel would be willing to be the fiscal agent for two different grants. Only one was listed on the agenda,”

she said. Tarlow explained how the LOR Foundation, a nonprofit organization that helps with grants, is providing the matching funds for the REDI Grant.

Tarlow gave a brief background on herself explaining how she was formerly a corporate consultant for 25 years, and how she had begun working with different school systems in the Valley about 8 years ago.

“I deal with work-based learning with schools,” she said.

Tarlow explained how she works with students on something that she calls project-based internships.

“I will just give you a few examples. In Center, I work with students who have built a greenhouse on the side of one of the buildings there, 30 x 10 feet,” she said. “They have built it and now they are starting a business, with micro grains and selling flowers to the town. Another group has done surveys for the town, and developed newsletters, and websites. I am working with a group in

La Jara who are working up a mockup of a skateboard park. The group is going to present a grant proposal to a foundation for that. Another group of students in La Jara, is going to start a skateboard company and they have found somebody to print their skateboards, and they are going to start a business.”

Tarlow spoke of how these are the kinds of things that she works on with students, she looks for opportunities for the students in the community, and then connects with the schools. Tarlow stated that if the teachers are willing to

Please see CITY on Page 2A



Mountainfilm on Tour to screen in Monte Vista on April 11

CONTRIBUTED

MONTE VISTA — Mountainfilm on Tour brings a selection of culturally rich, adventure-packed and incredibly inspiring documentary films curated from the Mountainfilm festival in Telluride. The tour will visit Monte Vista at the Vali 3 Theater on Thursday, April 11, with films that explore themes connected to Mountainfilm’s mission of using the power of film, art and ideas to inspire audiences to create a better world.

Mountainfilm on Tour in Monte Vista is hosted by San Luis Valley Great Outdoors (SLV GO!) and sponsored by the LOR Foundation, San Luis Valley Federal Bank, SLV Health, Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, The Law Office of Mark Loy, LLC, Sweetgrass Therapeutics, and The Church Project. SLV GO! has been organizing Mountainfilm on Tour for three years and has



Photo courtesy Scott Secco

been working to provide accessible and inclusive outdoor recreation opportunities that balance conservation, connect communities, improve wellness, encourage stewardship, and contribute to the economic vitality

of the region. SLV GO! believes the great outdoors is a place of common ground, a place that transcends societal barriers, and has the ability to bring people together and foster

Please see TOUR on Page 2A

Paul Pacheco Easter Egg Hunt set for March 30

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA - On Saturday, March 30, at 1 p.m., the Polished Edge will again host the Paul Pacheco Easter Egg Hunt, on South County Road 1 East. People who would like to participate are encouraged to follow the balloons from the Polished Edge out to the hunt.

The entire community is invited to attend this festive event. The Easter Bunny will be at the event and there will be fun prizes given out at the event.

Approximately 200 people attended the event last year. The egg hunt had different age groups, with children lined up in different areas to hunt eggs. A line of string was placed in front of each age group’s division, and the entire field of about one acre

Please see HUNT on Page 2A

Grandin helps raise over \$8,000 for 4-H Specialist Endowment

By CSU SLV AREA EXTENSION

MONTE VISTA — Dr. Temple Grandin’s guest lecture at the Society Hall and sales from her book signings helped raise just over \$8,000 for the SLV Area Extension’s second 4-H Specialist Endowment fund.

Grandin was the main speaker of the Southern Rocky Mountain Agricultural Conference and Trade Show in Monte Vista and while in the area spoke at Society Hall in Alamosa.

“Temple, who participated in 4-H as a child, enthusiastically supports the SLV Area Extension office’s mission which fosters healthier kids and families, more prosperous farms, ranches and businesses, and stronger, more resilient communities with more

Please see GRANDIN on Page 8A

Dr. Temple Grandin’s guest lecture at the Society Hall and sales from her book signings helped raise just over \$8,000 for the SLV Area Extension’s second 4-H Specialist Endowment fund.

Courtesy photo




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

CONTRIBUTED

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

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

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



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

For up-to-date information, contact Alamosa and Monte Vista Refuge Manager Suzanne Beauchaine at 719-589-4021 x1003 or Assistant Refuge Manager Dean Lee at 719-589-4021 x1008, or Baca Refuge Manager Ty Benally at 719-256-5527.

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

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

Rio Grande State of the Basin Symposium March 30

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALAMOSA — Register now for the sixth annual Rio Grande State of the Basin Symposium that is on Saturday, March 30, on the Adams State University campus. This year's theme, "Perspectives on Historical Challenges," will include a keynote address by David Robbins. The event is free and open to the public.

Sponsored by the Adams State Salazar Rio Grande del Norte Center, the symposium will begin at 8 a.m. with registration and breakfast in Richardson Hall. The symposium begins with brief introductions and reports by Adams State President David Tandberg and State Senator Cleave Simpson, general manager of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD).

Aracely Chapa, University of New Mexico Center for Regional Studies, presentation and film clips "Acequias: The Legacy Lives On," begins at 9 a.m. followed by Acequia Associations and Colorado Title 7, Art. 42, speaker TBD.

Following a short break, "History and Context: The Rio Grande Compact," a panel discussion, will include Attorney David Robbins; Nathan Coombs, Colorado Water Conservation Board; and

Colorado Senator Simpson.

Just before lunch, participants will be updated on the ongoing lawsuit between compact states as well as "Prior and Paramount Water Rights" and the position of the middle basin pueblos in the Rio Grande compact.

Participants will then move to the Student Union Building for lunch and keynote address by David Robbins who will discuss prior water grab schemes in the upper basin.

According to hillandrobbs.com, David Robbins is president and co-founder of Hill and Robbins, P.C., where his practice emphasizes the fields of water and natural-resources law, water quality, and environmental law. Since 1981, Robbins has served as general counsel to the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, where he led efforts to defeat speculative proposals to mine the ground water of the San Luis Valley, *AWDI v. City of Alamosa*. The actions ultimately resulted in Congressional action on a bill Robbins initially drafted to create the Great Sand Dunes National



Courtesy photo of David Robbins. The sixth annual Rio Grande State of the Basin Symposium keynote speaker is David Robbins, president and co-founder of Hill & Robbins, P.C. The event, on March 30, is free and open to the public. Register now at adams.edu/about/salazar-center.

Park and Preserve. For more information, or to register, visit adams.edu/about/salazar-center.

TOUR

Continued from Page 1A

a sense of community, belonging, and shared stewardship for the environment. While hosting an inspiring collection of films, the show is also an opportunity to raise funds that support SLV GO! in ongoing outdoor recreation and conservation projects that improve community wellness and environmental stewardship.

SLV GO! is kicking off the event on Thursday, April 11, with a social hour beginning at 4:30 p.m. at The Pivot Public House at 201 Jefferson St. in Monte Vista. Stop by for appetizers,

drinks, good company, and a chance to win local prizes including artwork, outdoor gear, and outdoor experiences. Doors open at 6 p.m. at the Vali 3 Theater and showtime starts at 6:30 p.m. You can purchase your tickets at the door or online at eventbrite.com. The cost for the show is \$15 per adult and \$10 per student. If you have any questions, contact SLV GO!'s Community Outreach Manager, Dani Robben at danirobben@slvgo.com.

Mountainfilm is a documentary film festival that showcases stories about en-

vironmental, cultural, climbing, political and social justice issues. Mountainfilm is held every Memorial Day weekend in Telluride. Along with exceptional documentaries, the festival goes beyond the film medium by bringing together world-class athletes, change makers and visionary artists for a multi-dimensional celebration of indomitable spirit. Mountainfilm's mission is to use the power of film, art and ideas to inspire audiences to create a better world. To learn more about Mountainfilm, visit www.mountainfilm.org.

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

allow the students to do some of the work in the schools, she sees that there is also a much higher level of commitment from students.

"The reason paid internships are important, is because there are just not a lot of interesting job opportunities for kids. I usually pay them around \$700 for this internship for the kids. It's extremely motivating for the kids. They can put this on their resumes, apply for scholarships, and connect it with work-based learning," she said.

Tarlow stated she has been working quite a bit with Monte Vista High School and has seen many opportunities in the community for the kids.

Council member Loren Howard asked if the internships were just for the school year.

Tarlow explained that the grant she

applied for would likely go into the summer too.

"We have talked about murals for the town and some of the students doing a digital workshop for local businesses," she said.

Council member Howard also asked if Tarlow would explain what it would mean for the city to be a fiscal agent.

Tarlow explained that only towns can apply for a REDI Grant.

"You would just write the checks. I am not going to create anymore work for anybody in the town. It just means that the grant goes through the town," she said.

Tarlow explained that she has been doing so much research on the importance of getting more young people involved in happenings in the community. Tarlow said involvement helps

kids in many ways, including children being less likely to be involved in risky behavior and giving them better socialization and mental health skills.

"There's a lot of research," she said. "I am not saying that this is going to happen right away, but these are things that happen over time. Kids are seen to be more prosperous and more economically resilient. We must find a reason for some kids to stay here. I have seen students get excited with this and think maybe they may want to stay." Tarlow stated that overall, it's a good idea to help students in many ways.

A motion to engage as the fiscal agent for the REDI Grant and matching LOR Grant was passed unanimously.

The next City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 21, at 6 p.m.

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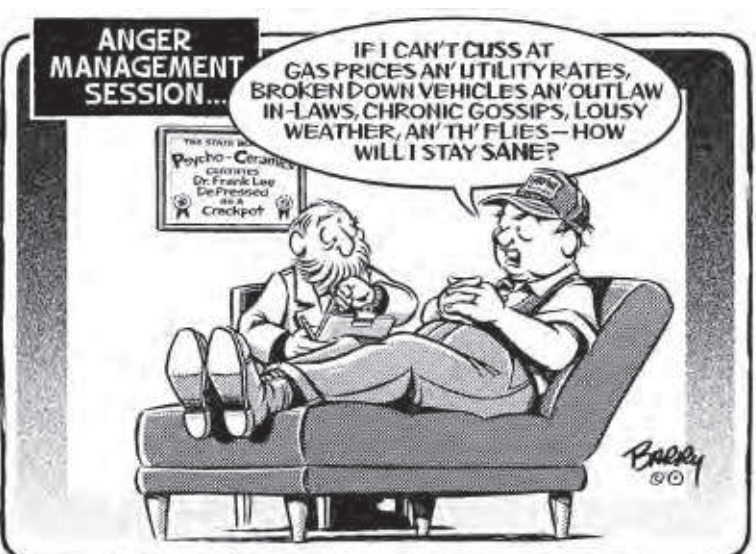


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OPINION & EDITORIAL

You're not the boss in wilderness



By JOHN CLAYTON

When my friends and I encountered the fresh grizzly bear scat, we were deep in Wyoming's Teton Wilderness, 20 miles from a trailhead. I'd seen grizzlies before — from the car. But this experience was on a whole other level. I felt vulnerable, nervous. I also felt fully alive.

should be left as unexploited as possible. It defined wilderness as being "in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape."

Preserving wildness calls for restraint. It calls for motorized users, e-bikers, mountain bikers, pilots, snowmobilers, technical climbers with hardware and drone flyers to recreate somewhere else. Yet hiking, hunting, boating, fishing and horseback riding are all allowed in wilderness, as well as grazing if grandfathered in.

The Act's primary author, Howard Zahniser loved hiking in wild places, and he was determined: In eight years of lobbying the Congress for The Wilderness Society, he helped rewrite the bill 65 times. By the time the Act overwhelmingly passed — 73-12 in the Senate and 374-1 in the House — Zahniser had died of heart disease at the young age of 58.

The Act is often discussed in terms of the acreage it protects, now comprising 806 wilderness areas and 112 million acres, roughly half of that in Alaska. Yet it's really about nature being the boss.

In wilderness, we recognize that always getting our way can devalue ecosystems. It can harm wildlife, clean water, fresh air and other widely shared resources. It can cause us to scorn Indigenous people's connections to the land when we should be honoring them.

Wilderness is not the only place we embrace not getting our way, just as the U.S. Capitol building is not the only place we embrace democracy, and Civil War battlefields are not the only places we honor fallen soldiers. With wilderness as reminders, we can also consider not being the boss in a city park or backyard, while watching birds or growing native plants.

Threats to keeping wilderness wild, however, have never subsided. Sixty years have brought us innumerable

technologies to help us get our way while recreating in nature. And as we've realized that making nature more accessible might make it more inclusive and its fans more diverse, some of us are tempted to relax recreational restrictions in wilderness.

That would miss the point. "We must remember always that the essential quality of the wilderness is its 'wildness,'" Zahniser said. "We must not only protect the wilderness from commercial exploitation. We must also see that we don't ourselves destroy its wilderness character in our own management programs."

Honoring wilderness ideals is especially important today because it represents the same lesson that we should be learning from climate change: People can't control nature. Thanks to the Wilderness Act, we can celebrate that some places remain free of our habit of changing everything — just because we can.

John Clayton is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent non-profit that promotes lively dialog about the West. He lives in Montana and writes the newsletter Natural Stories.

Claim to fame

It appears that 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 immediate area.

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 there.



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

For you see there is just not enough famousness going around for towns to have someone important born there so towns will just tag-along on celebrity coattails if that 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.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters are welcome and encouraged. They should be fewer than 300 words, unless arranged beforehand with the editor, and they are subject to editing for length and clarity.

All letters must be signed by the author and include a phone number and address where the author can be reached (these are not for publication). Letters forwarded from other organizations or sent to staff and not for print must be designated as such. Letters over 300 words and without contact information will be returned

to the sender or discarded.

We will accept one letter per person, per subject, per four issues. We reserve the right to reject letters for reasons we believe are appropriate. Please send letters to Letter to the Editor c/o Valley Publishing, PO Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144 or e-mail to bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com (Attention: Letter to the Editor). Deadline for letters is 5 p.m. Friday.

Political letters may be limited due to space constraints.

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CPW's Aquatic nuisance species roadside inspection program to become full-time after two successful pilot years

By COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

DENVER — Colorado Parks and Wildlife will begin operating two aquatic nuisance species (ANS) watercraft inspection and decontamination stations at the Colorado State Patrol Loma and Trinidad Ports Of Entry on Thursday, March 14. These two check stations are the first to open and operate during the boating season as full-time seasonal roadside inspection stations after two years of a successful pilot program.

Starting March 14 through Oct. 31, any vehicle with a motorized or trailered watercraft entering the state on I-70 east from Utah (Loma Port Of Entry) or I-25 north from New Mexico (Trinidad Port Of Entry) will be required to stop for an inspection Thursday-Monday. Watercraft that are clean, drained and dry will be provided a green seal and white inspection receipt showing they passed inspection. Watercraft found to have mud, water, plants or mussels will be decontaminated. All trailered and motorized watercraft will still be required to go through an ANS inspection at their final destination. Those with a green seal and white receipt from Port of Entry check stations will be expedited.

"Inspecting the highest risk watercraft at ports of entry will serve as a first line of defense and help ensure Colorado's lakes and reservoirs remain free of highly destructive aquatic nuisance species," said Robert Walters, CPW Invasive Species Program Manager. "The last two years and where we take this program into the future could not have been done

without our partners at Colorado State Patrol Port of Entry staff and the Colorado Department of Transportation, and we are looking forward to partnering with them again to protect Colorado's bodies of water."

"We are excited to see this program that helps to protect Colorado's recreational and economic interests through our highly visited lakes, reservoirs and rivers continue," said Yulonda Winterberg, Deputy Director of the Colorado State Patrol Port of Entry. "We appreciate this opportunity to partner with Colorado Parks and Wildlife in such a meaningful way."

After the passage of House Bill 21-1226 which provided authority for the pilot program, CPW launched the pilot program in 2022 with three separate roadside watercraft inspection and decontamination events at the Loma Port Of Entry, west of Grand Junction. CPW staff inspected a total of 95 watercraft at check stations that were open for one day each in May, July, and September. Of those watercraft, 60 were decontaminated and 26 were confirmed to have adult mussels.

After a successful first year, CPW expanded the program in 2023 to operate nine watercraft inspection and decontamination stations at multiple ports of entry and welcome centers across Colorado. ANS staff inspected 21 watercraft, two of which were found to have adult mussels.

"While we did not see the number of watercraft during the 2023 operations, we still prevented two boats with mussels from entering Colorado waters and gained a better understanding of motorized boat



Photo by R. Gonzales/CPW

CPW invasive species specialist inspects the motor on a patrol boat at Highline Lake on Oct. 12, 23. To help expedite the inspection process and minimize impacts to their travel, CPW encourages boaters to plan ahead and ensure their watercraft are clean, drained, and dry prior to arrival at the check station.

travel into the state," said Walters.

Based on the information gathered in 2022 and 2023, CPW determined that the Loma and Trinidad Ports Of Entry would be the highest impact locations for the next phase of the program, as they saw the highest number of high-risk out-of-state

motorized boats.

To help expedite the inspection process and minimize impacts to their travel, CPW encourages boaters to plan ahead and ensure their watercraft are clean, drained, and dry prior to arrival at the station. Watercraft found to have mud, plants, water or

mussels during inspection will be subject to decontamination.

In Colorado, inspections for aquatic nuisance species are mandatory on all motorized boats. Any motorboat and sailboat entering Colorado waters must have an ANS Stamp prior to launching.

Alamosa County seeks RGWCD board representative

ALAMOSA COUNTY — The Alamosa County Board of Commissioners have announced a "Notice of Vacancy" and are accepting applications for one position to represent Alamosa County on the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Board.

Expectations of a board member is to attend the meetings and actively engage in the direction and budget of the Rio Grande Water

Conservation District Board.

Those interested in applying for the Board must fill out an application. It may be found at www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov/commissions-boards.

Applications will be accepted until they are filled. Send your information to Jamie Greeman, Executive Assistant, 8900-A Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101 or to jgreeman@alamosacounty.org.

Health fair in Center will be April 12

CONTRIBUTED

CENTER — Center Head Start, in conjunction with Rio Grande Hospital, is planning to have a health fair again. The health fair will be from 7 to 10 a.m. on Friday, April 12, at the Center Head Start building, 301 E. 3rd St.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the health fairs were not held.

People can come and have blood work done at the health fair. There will be free screenings, including height, weight, blood pressure and blood glucose finger sticks.

For a free the following can be done:

Chemistry Panel, including TSH for \$30; PSA for \$30; hemoglobin A1C for \$30; blood type for \$25; CBC for \$20 and Vitamin D for \$45.

For more information on screenings, the health fair, or to have a booth at the fair, call Center Head Start at 719-759-9259.

The Fruitful vs. the Frustrated Life

In John 15:16 Jesus says, "I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last" (NIV). In fact, the Bible has a lot to say about how Christians bear fruit—and there are two ways that we can do it. One is by displaying the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). And the second way is by getting out in the world where God has planted us and being good to people.

I'm talking about helping people who are hard to love or don't seem to deserve it. Or giving to the poor and getting involved with people so you can make a difference and help make their lives better, rather than spending all of your time trying to make yourself happy.

I've discovered that being selfish and self-centered never makes anyone happy. Living for God is really just the opposite of that. God does want to bless us and give us the things we need, but when we give our lives to Him, our purpose is to serve Him.

In Matthew 12:33 (NIV) Jesus says, "...The tree is recognized by its fruit." And this is how people know who we are. Just as you recognize an orange tree by the oranges it produces, you know a Christian by the fruit of their lifestyle.

I've said often that you won't be recognized as a Christian just because you have a Christian bumper sticker on your car or you wear Christian jewelry or go to church every week. Most of the time people won't care what you have to say if your behavior doesn't back it up.

The fruit of our lives is seen in our behavior—what we do to help others and our attitudes—as well as what we

say. It's the visible expression of the invisible work that God is doing in us.

Jesus says in John 15:8 (AMP), "My Father is glorified and honored by this, when you bear much fruit, and prove yourselves to be My [true] disciples." In other words, we're not proving anything to anyone simply by what we say. It's the fruit of our lives that proves who we really are.

So it's good for us to frequently ask ourselves: Who am I helping in my life? How am I making a difference or making someone else's life better?

The key to bearing good fruit is found in John 15:5 (AMP), which says, "I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him bears much fruit, for [otherwise] apart from Me [that is, cut off from vital union from Me] you can do nothing."

Jesus is telling us that as we spend time with Him in prayer and by studying the Bible, His Spirit is working in us, changing us little by little (2 Corinthians 3:18), causing us to reflect His image or characteristics more and more. It's a progressive transformation that takes time and requires a consistent commitment throughout our lifetime.

If you aren't spending regular time with Jesus and growing in your relationship with Him through prayer and Bible study, I want to challenge you to reevaluate your priorities and put first things first. The truth is we put our time into what we really want to do. And if something is truly important to you, you will find time to do it.

God created you because He loves you, He wants to have a personal relationship with you, and He wants to do amazing things in you and



through you. Every day is a gift from God and it's so precious!

Ephesians 3:20 (AMP) says that God "is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us." He has a plan for you and He will give you everything you need to fulfill your destiny as you seek Him and grow stronger in your faith in Him.

I want to encourage you to focus on Jesus and live by the wisdom He reveals to you in His Word. If you choose today to help someone else, not only will you be happier, but you'll find that good fruit brings true satisfaction and fulfillment.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-part teaching resource **Busy Going Nowhere**. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 140 books, including *BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND AND OVERCOMING EVERY PROBLEM (FaithWords)*. She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.

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Provide your children with safe and long-lasting protection against measles by making sure they get the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine according to the CDC's recommended immunization schedule

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For more information call: 719-657-3352

<https://www.facebook.com/RGCPublicHealth/>

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WWW.CDC.GOV/MEASLES

The Fruitful vs. the Frustrated Life

Joyce Meyer

through you. Every day is a gift from God and it's so precious!

Ephesians 3:20 (AMP) says that God "is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us." He has a plan for you and He will give you everything you need to fulfill your destiny as you seek Him and grow stronger in your faith in Him.

I want to encourage you to focus on Jesus and live by the wisdom He reveals to you in His Word. If you choose today to help someone else, not only will you be happier, but you'll find that good fruit brings true satisfaction and fulfillment.

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CRT boasts educational and CMAC programs for coming season

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

CREEDE — Creede Repertory Theatre (CRT) has a year of discovery planned for the 2024 season and alongside the many unique and colorful productions, the theatre also has several educational programs

for adults and youth as well as a schedule of musical programs through the Creede Musical Arts Collective (CMAC). One of the longest standing educational programs offered through CRT is the Young Audience Outreach Tour. This program

has offered musical and theatrical art education to over 40,000 young people in the 40 years the program has been in place. This educational outreach has brought the joy and fun of theatrical education to several rural schools throughout the southwestern US and continues to grow each year.

This season, the Young Audience Outreach Tour will be bringing “Coyote and the Counting Game” to students beginning Aug. 30. Each production comes with a book that is passed out to students and this year the book and lyrics are by Diana Grisanti with music by Emiliano Messiez.

According to the play’s description, “Gaby’s having a rough year. She’s failing third grade math, her genius brother is about to go off to college, and her parents won’t buy her the drum set of her dreams. But when a crafty Coyote comes into her life, she discovers that she might be able to trick her way out of her troubles. A modern-day trickster tale, full of fractions, word problems, and good old-fashioned sibling rivalry.”

Another annual educational program brought to the community has been captivating students ages 10 to 18 since 2003 and this year will be no exception. This year’s production will be “Maximum Conflict and External Strife.” This is a comedy written by Steve Moulds and directed by Tyler Horn.

“There’s a new role-playing game that’s all the rage — though not everyone’s a fan. Some kids find the game’s wall-to-wall fighting exhausting. And parents are worried that it’s making their kids angrier. But when one family casts a magic spell that sucks them inside the game, they have to navigate the cartoonishly violent world of Maximum Conflict to find their way back home.”

Not only is the theatre continuing with their exceptional educational

programs, but they will be again offering musical programs through the Creede Musical Arts Collective and the Summer Concert Series.

“On the Stage of Sondheim: A Musical Adventure” is bound to bring a dash of class to Creede this summer. “Sondheim reaches new heights in Creede...”

Creede Rep teams up with the spectacular artists at Creede Musical Arts Collective (CMAC) to bring you a one-of-a-kind concert series.

Complementing our season of discovery, each concert will be a fresh experience with a rotating catalog of prolific songs and performers from both organizations who will use the magic of Stephen Sondheim to delight your ears and your heart this summer.”

The Creede Musical Arts Collective has brought music to the streets of Creede since 2021 and is known for popping up in wonderful places throughout town and during events to share their musical talents with visitors and residents alike.

Discover what CRT has in store by visiting www.creederep.org, to see a full schedule or to purchase tickets.



Photo by John Waters

The Colorado Coalition to Enhance Working Lands summit will be held at the Rio Grande Farm Park Education Center on March 21. There will be a field trip to Jones Farms Organics on March 22.

Celebrate Colorado Ag Week by cultivating connection between farmers and consumers

CONTRIBUTED

COLORADO — Agriculture Week is just around the corner, and Colorado is getting ready to celebrate the crucial role agriculture plays in our state’s diverse economy, heritage, and culture. In all corners of the state, anyone can join as we celebrate the bounty of Colorado agriculture between March 17-23.

The Colorado Department of Agriculture will hold a public forum on the Front Range on March 19 to give communities around the Denver metro area a chance to meet department staff, ask questions, discuss urban agriculture, and learn

more about CDA’s programs.

The Colorado Agricultural Commission will meet in Denver on March 20, near the Colorado State Capitol to celebrate the proclamation of March 20 as Colorado Agriculture Day. Ag Commission members will join the Colorado State Senate and later meet with Governor Polis as he issues the proclamation.

Additionally, CDA is co-sponsoring the 2024 Colorado Coalition to Enhance Working Lands (COCEWL) summit in the San Luis Valley, with events over two days at the Rio Grande Farm Park

Education Center in Alamosa and Jones Farms Organics in Hooper. The event is meant to help SLV producers share ideas about how to respond collectively to shared challenges while enhancing working lands. Registration is required to attend.

As the agency grows, CDA’s goal has been to increase outreach to agricultural communities by connecting directly with the people who live in those communities.

For more information and to register for the agriculture summit in Alamosa on March 21 and 22, visit <https://cocewl.org/summit/>.

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Check out the new Engineering Center at ASU

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALAMOSA — No fooling, the Adams State University/CSU Engineering Manufacturing Education Center (EMEC) is complete. An open house will be held from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday, April 1, in Porter Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

The event will include tours of the facility throughout the day; demonstrations of the new jet engine at 12:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.; and machine demonstrations throughout the day; 3D printer displays and free refreshments. Mechanical engineering students and staff will be available to share their knowledge of the program and instruments and Adams State Mechanical Engineer Director Matt Nehring, Ph.D., and Colorado State University Engineering Department Director Christian Puttlitz, Ph.D., will also be available for questions about the program.

Every participant will receive a small giveaway. Large groups

are welcome, including schools; to accommodate please schedule an appointment by contacting Scott Clayton, CSU Undergraduate Teaching Labs Engineer, at 719-587-7858.

Adams State partnered with Colorado State University to establish the mechanical engineering bachelor's degree. Students have the opportunity to earn the CSU degree, delivered entirely on the Adams State campus. Adams State provides all lower-division coursework for the first two years of the program and CSU provides all upper-division coursework with face-to-face instruction for the last two years by CSU faculty located in Alamosa.

The late William A. Porter, Class of 1951, was founder and chairman of E*TRADE Group, Inc. Porter donated \$4.6 million worth of stock in E*TRADE Group, Inc. in 1998. He received the Adams State Associated Alumni's 1991 Outstanding Achievement Award and the 2005 Billy Adams Award.



Courtesy photo

Adams State First Year Seminar Engineering students work in the new Adams State Engineering Manufacturing Education Center (EMEC). The public is invited to the EMEC Open House from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday, April 1, located in Porter Hall.

Adams State University summer registration has begun

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

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

The on-campus summer courses include Macroeconomics Principles, Microeconomics Principles, Intro to Environmental Science, Communication Arts I, Communication Arts II, and Dynamic Earth.

To view the entire summer class schedule visit adams.edu/onestop

and click on the class schedule link. There is no cost to apply for admission to Adams State. Visit adams.edu and click on the apply link.

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

HEARING NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given for a Hearing scheduled March 28th 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at 95 West 1st, Monte Vista CO. 81144 before the City of Monte Vista Board of Adjustment for the following:

Applicant(s): Ephraim Yoder
 Request: Requesting a Variance for Setback Requirements
 Location: 534 Jefferson St., Monte Vista CO

You can get more information by contacting the City Planners Office at 719-852-8288

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING

No. 4814 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE AT TAX LIEN SALE AND APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the Hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the Same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons Having Interest or Title of Record in or to the Said Premises and to Whom It May Concern and More Especially to:

- 1) Audrey May Sawyer Zinsser 1/4, Kathy Ann Penland Mehr 1/8, Sharon Lea Penland 1/8, 1694 Fish Road, Ridgeville, SC 29472; Section: 33 Township: 39 Range: 7 UNT 1/2 INT: SE4SW4 LESS E 100 FT CONT 36.80 AC (3333300619 COP 8857)
- 2) Daniel Murphy, 1694 Fish Road, Ridgeville, SC 29472; Section: 33 Township: 39 Range: 7 UNT 1/4 INT: SE4SW4 LESS E 100 FT CONT 36.80 AC (3333300620 COP 8858)
- 3) Patricia Murphy Porter, 1694 Fish Road, Ridgeville, SC 29472; Section: 33 Township: 39 Range: 7 UNT 1/4 INT: SE4SW4 LESS E 100 FT CONT 36.80 AC (3333300621 COP 8859)

You and Each of You are Hereby Notified that on the 17th Day of November A.D. 2020, The Then County Treasurer of the County of Rio Grande, in the State of Colorado, Sold at Public Tax Lien Sale to Steven Strohmeier, 868 Kim Court, Hickman, CA 85323, the Real Estate Situated in the County of Rio Grande, State of Colorado, Described Above, and Said County Treasurer Issued the Certificate(s) of Purchase Therefore to Steven Strohmeier.

That Said Tax Lien Sale was Made to Satisfy the Delinquent Taxes Assessed Against Said Real Estate for the Said Year 2019.

That Said Real Estate was Taxed or Specially Assessed in the Name(s) of Audrey May Sawyer Zinsser; Kathy Ann Penland Mehr; Sharon Lea Penland; Daniel Murphy; Patricia Murphy Porter

That a Treasurer's Deed Will be Issued for Said Real Estate to the Said Steven W. Strohmeier at 10:00 A.M. on the 28th Day of June, A.D. 2024, Unless the Same Has Been Redeemed.

Said Property May Be Redeemed From Said Sale at Any Time Prior to the Actual Execution of Said Treasurer's Deed.

Witness my Hand and Seal this 29th Day of February, A.D. 2024.

Rhonda Richardson
 RIO GRANDE COUNTY TREASURER

No. 4807 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, March 6, 13 and 20, 2024.

Call to get an ADT Security System + Get a \$100 ADT Visa Reward Card FREE*

ADT's 24/7 monitoring plus top of the line security cameras help ensure your loved ones are safe – whether you're out and about or in the next room.




*With 36-month monitoring contract. Early termination and installation fees apply. Reward card issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC. Card terms and expiration apply. For full terms, see below.



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*\$100 ADT Visa Reward Card: Requires 36-month monitoring contract starting at \$28.99/mo. (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees from \$495.76), and enrollment in ADT EasyPay. Requires minimum purchase price of \$449. One (1) Visa Reward Card valued at \$100 is redeemable seven (7) days after system is installed, wherein an email is sent to the customer's email address associated with their account with a promo code. The customer must validate the promo code on the website provided in the email and a physical card will be sent in the mail. Installation must occur within 60 days of offer expiration date to receive card. Applicable to new and resale sale types only. Card is issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC, pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. No cash access or recurring payments. Can be used everywhere Visa debit cards are accepted. Card valid for up to 6 months; unused funds will forfeit after the valid thru date. Card terms and conditions apply.
 Interactive Services: ADT Command Interactive Solutions Services ("ADT Command") helps you manage your home environment and family lifestyle. Requires purchase of an ADT alarm system with 36-month monitoring contract ranging from \$45.99-\$59.99/mo. with QSP (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees ranging \$1,103.76-\$1,439.76), enrollment in ADT EasyPay, and a compatible device with Internet and email access. These interactive services do not cover the operation or maintenance of any household equipment/systems that are connected to the ADT Command equipment. All ADT Command services are not available with all interactive service levels. All ADT Command services may not be available in all geographic areas. You may be required to pay additional charges to purchase equipment required to utilize the interactive service features you desire.
 General: Additional charges may apply in areas that require guard response service for municipal alarm verification. System remains property of ADT. Local permit fees may be required. Prices and offers subject to change and may vary by market. Additional taxes and fees may apply. Satisfactory credit required. A security deposit may be required. Simulated screen images and photos are for illustrative purposes only.
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 DF-CD-NP-Q421

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION
CRS 338-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 23-1119

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:

On December 19, 2023, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Rio Grande records.

Original Grantor(s)	S.E. Reeves and Thomas H. Reeves
Original Beneficiary(ies)	Argent Mortgage Company, LLC
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt	Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Argent Securities Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-W11
Date of Deed of Trust	August 13, 2004
County of Recording	Rio Grande
Recording Date of Deed of Trust	August 31, 2004
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book-Page No.)	00384161 Book: 0515 Page: 2783-2798
Original Principal Amount	\$173,000.00
Outstanding Principal Balance	\$137,534.26

Pursuant to CRS 338-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN

Lots 12, 13 and 14, In Block 26, Alpine Village No.7, In Rio Grande County Colorado

Which has the address of: 40 Comanche Peak Road, South Fork, CO 81154*

*Pursuant to Modification Agreement recorded August 31, 2004 in Book 0515 at Page 2799 at Reception No. 00384162

Purported common address: 40 Comanche Peak Road, South Fork, CO 81154.

THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST

NOTICE OF SALE

The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 04/17/2024, at Public Trustee Office, 925 6th St. Rm. 103, Del Norte, CO 81132, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorney's fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication	2/21/2024
Last Publication	3/20/2024
Name of Publication	Monte Vista Journal

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED

DATE: 12/19/2023
 Rhonda Richardson, Public Trustee in and for the County of Rio Grande, State of Colorado:

Rhonda Richardson
 By: Rhonda Richardson, Public Trustee

The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
 Barrett Frappier & Weissenmuller, LLP, 1391 Speer Boulevard, Suite 700, Denver, CO 80204 (303) 350-3711
 Attorney File # 0000009226502
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.

No. 4804 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, February 21 and 28 and March 6, 13 and 20, 2024.

Dedicated crew of Saguache Firewise has a productive season

By DANIEL JOHNSON

Saguache County Firewise

SAGUACHE COUNTY — It's been a highly productive fall and winter for the Saguache County Firewise Program, in its 15th year, mainly due to the skills and dedication of the workforce.

Kevin Matz, the Baca Assistant Fire Chief, was instrumental in helping do assessments and complete hands-on mitigation projects since we were funded again back in September. His chainsaw talents and ability to jump into the Site Boss role when we got spread out and split the crew made us versatile and his calm and detailed choice of tactics kept everyone safe.

The second Baca supervisor, Benjamin Antoniewicz who brought his knowledge of wildfire management after two years on the San Juan Hotshot Crew home to share. He split his time between the Greenbelt project and lot mitigation equally and stepped into the site boss position whenever needed.

This past winter, Cody Wolfe braved the biting cold winds and swirled snow on almost every project. He became proficient in ignitions to help folks with their pile burns. He literally moved tons of cut materials to piles or trailers to haul to the mitigation pit and has begun his apprenticeship in wildfire chainsaw use.

Grace Puchtel joined us last summer and became a regular on Firewise projects and is a great asset to the program.

Joshua Fruland made sure the Greenbelt crew had enough folks to operate before joining the lot

crew. Wherever he worked, a lot of slash was moved with his signature strap and drag technique. He is also becoming a skilled sawyer.

Our meticulous equipment officer, Jake Marcus, arrived every morning a half hour early to do rig checks and equipment rehab. Whenever needed for a large project, he swung off the Greenbelt crew to do whatever job was necessary. His chainsaw techniques vastly improved this year and I figure he'll make his FAL2 qualifications in the next year or so.

Stevo Hirsch drives the ambulance, day or night, rushing to help folks through some of their darkest moments. When available, he added his saw skills to projects, until a call for help came and he high-tailed it to get the ambo.

Another EMS responder is Quinn Kenny. He fit in with the crew and learned quickly how we run our dynamic work environment safely, adding his emergency coverage to our projects.

Angie Geis is a great organizer who works in the office one day and help swamp in the field the next. Most of us crave working outdoors and are grateful for those who can sit in front of a computer, which is a vital part of the job. She has a standing invitation to work with my crew anytime she needs to get outdoors and get 'er done.

The Firewise program has been augmented by a few others on occasion this past year. Alexandra Woods, is mainly an EMS person and admin worker, who plans to pursue fire communications but managed to join us a couple times.



Photos courtesy of Saguache Firewise

Saguache Firewise crew; Left to Right, Benjamin Antoniewicz, Jake Marcus, Cory Wolfe, Daniel Johnson Kevin Matz.

Popular musician Marcus Daniels was hired on a week-long private job since he is waiting for an opening on the fire department. Former fire chief Ben Brack helped us whenever we hit a huge job and he was available and even Kevin "Popeye" McConnaughay managed to leave his usual Greenbelt Site Boss position for a day on one of the retreat center jobs.

Gratitude to our county commissioners who have supported and funded the Firewise program since its conception. Thank all of you for making Saguache County a safer place to live.



Grace Puchtel with a burn pile.

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GOCO board awards Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust \$100K for new staff member in southern Colorado

CONTRIBUTED

DENVER — The Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) board awarded Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) a \$100,000 grant to employ a new regionally located staff member.

This grant is part of GOCO's Planning and Capacity program, which invests in projects that address opportunities, explore issues, engage communities, and examine outdoor trends.

This staff member will manage their newly opened office in Del Norte. The position will help enhance connections and relationships with communities, partners, and landowners in the San Luis Valley and surrounding regions of southern

Colorado. It will also support the organization's existing and future conservation services and easements in the region.

CCALT, which has offices in Lakewood, Carbondale, and Steamboat Springs, helps farming and ranching families conserve agricultural lands and their associated natural resources. For nearly 30 years, CCALT has partnered with more than 400 landowners to protect over 775,000 acres in Colorado. In southern Colorado, CCALT holds 251 conservation easements, including 54 in the San Luis Valley, totaling 175,272 acres.

"The addition of a regional position based in the San Luis Valley will enable CCALT to serve our landowner partners better, engage in the communities of southern Colorado,



Courtesy photo

The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) has opened a new regional office in Del Norte in November of 2023.

and expand conservation opportunities for farm and ranch families," said CCALT Executive Director Erik Glenn.

With this funding, CCALT expects to be able to significantly expand its conservation work in southern Colorado. CCALT's Agricultural Resiliency Fund will assist landowners in further leveraging the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Environmental Quality Incentives

Program and other resources to advance restoration and enhancement projects and outcomes throughout southern Colorado. CCALT will be better positioned to become actively involved in water issues and other discussions important to southern Colorado communities.

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife,

rivers, and open spaces. GOCO's independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Created when voters approved a constitutional amendment in 1992, GOCO has since funded more than 5,700 projects in all 64 counties of Colorado without any tax dollar support. Visit GOCO.org for more information.



Courtesy photo

Temple Grandin was the main speaker of the Southern Rocky Mountain Agricultural Conference and Trade Show in Monte Vista and while in the area spoke at Society Hall in Alamosa.

GRANDIN

Continued from Page 1A

pride," officials stated.

Beginning in 2021, the SLV Extension office has been in a rebuilding period. After years of instability and a reduction of staff, Larry Brown has stepped into the leadership role to rebuild the extension in the San Luis Valley. In just two short years, the full-time staff has doubled. Operating now with a Director/Ag Specialist, a Youth Development/4-H Specialist, a Family and Consumer Science Specialist, a Juntos 4-H Specialist, and an Office Administrator.

"Our newest addition, made possible by 3 years of funding from the Outcalt Foundation, is a second 4-H Specialist. Our team's focus now is to secure permanent funding for a second 4-H agent," officials stated.

Historically in the San Luis Valley Area Extension Program, there have been two full-time Youth

Development/4-H Specialists on staff.

Serving the youth of six counties can be overwhelming for even two Specialists, officials stated. Because of limited funding, it has been 12 years since they had two Youth Development/4-H Specialists. In those 12 years, they had a single Specialist on staff for 6 years and the other 6 years they did not have a Youth Development/4-H Specialist at all.

"The overall enrollment and quality of the program has suffered because of this inadequate staffing," officials stated. "We are extremely grateful and appreciative of all who have generously jumped on board and contributed to the project. Once our funding in the endowment fund is secured, this community-driven project will leave a lasting legacy for our youth."

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Courtesy photos

Rio Grande Hospital begins thanking the many donors who have helped bring the Wellness Center from a dream to reality. A huge thanks went out to Del Norte bank, RG Bank and San Luis Valley Bank for their contributions.



RGH gives update on Wellness Center, thanks donors

By LYNDIE FERRELL

RGH gives update on Wellness Center, thanks donors — Rio Grande Hospital announced recently that the new Wellness Center currently being built near the hospital will be finished by early summer and thanked everyone who has donated to the project.

According to Development and Communications Officer Eva Timberlake, the Wellness Center is on track to

Please see UPDATE on Page 6



SdCNHA hosting Colorado Byways Symposium May 1-4

CONTRIBUTED

There are 13 of Colorado's 26 byways designated by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation as America's Byways, which gives Colorado more national designations than any other state. The collection also includes 10 National Forest Scenic Byways and two Bureau of Land Management Back Country Byways. The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways program has been around since 1989.



The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission has helped guide the development of the state's roadways that have exceptional scenic, ecological, cultural, and historic attributes. The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Program is holding its anniversary symposium along Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway (129 miles) this year in the San Luis Valley from May 1-4.

Colorado Byways Symposium 2024 is expecting a little over 200 patrons from across Colorado, the United States of America, and a group from Japan.

The National Scenic Byways Foundation (NSBF) supports this event and will be in attendance. The NSBF is a nonprofit organization serving as

Please see SdCNHA on Page 2

People land in Monte Vista for Crane Festival

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — People from the San Luis Valley and outside of it were in Monte Vista on March 8-10 for the 41st annual Monte Vista Crane Festival.

The Craft and Nature Fair took place all three days at the Outcalt Event and Conference at SLV Ski-Hi Complex.

Dozens of vendors were set up inside with baked goods, homemade items, wood working, specialty art crafts, clothing, and jewelry.

The Monte Vista Emergency Food Bank was at the fair selling all kinds of goodies. The Kindness Club had a booth, Pam Self of the Homelake Veterans Living Center was also at the craft show.

Alfonso Duran was a vendor at the trade show and said, "I am happy to be here. This morning was a sheet of ice coming in. I live in Bailey, Colorado. This is my fourth or fifth time here. I missed the year when there was COVID. This is the first time I have ever come with snow out here, usually it's beautiful when the cranes come in. It's been a little slow this morning, but I bet it will pick up by this afternoon. Same thing yesterday. I enjoyed the Crane Festival. Lots to see."

Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce Manager Heather Hillin was at the vendor event and said, "Things are going well. We have had a lot of people come out. We look forward to a lot more. The snow won't slow it down. I

think it's going well despite the snow."

In addition to the Craft and Nature Fair, there were crane tours that took place mornings and evenings on Friday and Saturday, and Sunday morning. The crane tours ranged from the Baca Wetlands, to Homelake, and the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge. The tours were expert led and included viewing of multiple different wildlife, including ducks, geese, owls, and Sandhill Cranes. The weather was chilly but each morning the buses left for the tours, and the tours were all sold out. New this year was a Spanish led tour.

An art exhibit took place featuring artist Jocelyn Catterson. The movie "Migration" was also shown at Vali 3 Theatre for free. The animated movie followed a family of ducks on the vacation of a lifetime.

Marigold Watson and her daughter Daisy of Crestone were in town in

Please see CRANES on Page 6



Sandhill cranes seen Sunday morning in a grain field at the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge.



Photos by Brian Williams

People were at the Monte Vista Wildlife Refuge viewing area at sunrise on Sunday to view the Sandhill Cranes.

SdCNHA Continued from Page 1

the National Voice of Scenic Byways and Roads, dedicated to strengthening byways and actively advocating for renewed byway federal funding. During the week, symposium attendees will be visiting numerous sites throughout the San Luis Valley. Wednesday, attendees will be viewing the unique dark night skies, on Thursday, they will travel the Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway, and Friday will be numerous breakout sessions throughout the day followed by the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area's Annual Cinco de Mayo Block Party.

The San Luis Valley is a landscape speckled in a diverse cultural richness that dates back over 11,000 years. "As you crest one of the four major road passages into the San Luis Valley, your eyes lay sight on the majestic open skies, it is as if you traveled back in time," organizers stated. The 8,000 square mile alpine desert valley is tucked away where the southwestern culture of New Mexico tangles together with the western frontier culture of south-central Colorado.

Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway will take people through the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area. "An experience that will immerse you in vast, untouched natural beauty and inspiring narratives of native tribes, explorers, frontiersmen, buffalo soldiers, ranchers, miners, and railroad boomers. Where today you can sand board down the tallest dunes in North America at Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, have room to breathe, lay under a blanket of infinite stars in one of the nation's darkest places, and drift through the history between quaint towns of generations past in the back of beyond. This is where Colorado began and where the old west spirit of

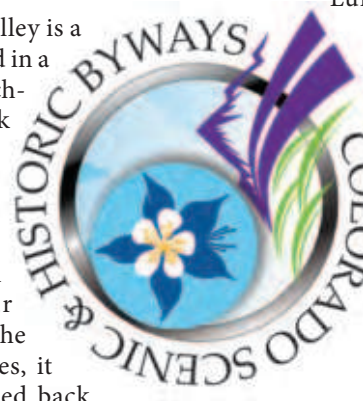
honesty, adventure, and small-town hospitality is still very much alive," organizers stated.

Along its 129 mile, three-county route, interpretive markers tell the story of the land, the people, and the history that intersects in this place. The scenic drive will take people through the heart of the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area.

This state scenic byway links the four Cornerstone Communities of Alamosa, Fort Garland, San Luis, and Antonito, as well as the Great Sand Dunes National Park, the San Luis Lakes State Park, the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge, Zapata Falls, the Medano-Zapata Ranch, the Rio Grande National Forest, the Conejos River, Culebra Creek, and the Rio Grande. Smaller communities along this route include: Mosca, Blanca, San Acacio, Manassa, Romeo, Conejos, Paisaje, Mogote, Las Mesitas, and Fox Creek.

There are 22 wayside exhibits along the way that provide interpretation of specific topics and sites. Interpretive topics include the Rio Grande River, the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, Conejos Canyon, Adams State University, Spanish Entradas, the Aquifers and Closed Basin, the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge, dune formation, Blanca Wetlands, Zapata Falls, Paleo-Indians, Tewa Indians, Blanca Peak, Penitentes, the Alpine Desert, Fort Massachusetts, Fort Garland, Buffalo Soldiers, San Luis the Oldest Town in Colorado, La Vega, Acequias, Stations of the Cross, Lt. Zebulon Pike, Pike's Stockade, King's Turquoise Mine, the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, Jack Dempsey Museum, and Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

To register for the event or become a sponsor, visit www.colorado-byways-symposium-2024.com/.



Batterson, Dennis Streets Capital Improvement Project

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

The first project is the completion of the Batterson, Dennis Streets Capital Improvement Project. The city has worked with a contractor for this phase of the project, ACI and has determined

that the project will begin on April 1. The construction will begin on Batterson from 4th Avenue to Lariat.

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

Door hangers will be sent out to

the properties affected by the street closures as the project gets closer.

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

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

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Charming Mountain Retreat with Breathtaking Views Nestled in the picturesque town of South Fork, CO, this fine Ranch Style home offers a delightful blend of comfort and rugged elegance. With 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, this home provides ample room for relaxation and rejuvenation. The open living area boasts a large Sunny Bay window, allowing natural light to flood the space and framing panoramic Mountain Views. The heart of this home is the well-appointed kitchen, abundance of cabinets, including convenient lazy Susan storage. You'll find all the essentials: a refrigerator, cookstove, dishwasher. Perfect kitchen for entertaining your friends and family. Gather around the wood-burning stove in the living room, where warmth and comfort await. The home's insulation ensures a snug retreat during chilly mountain evenings. Step onto the inviting front sitting porch, sip your morning coffee, and observe the local wildlife. Mule deer and wild turkeys frequently visit the serene Ponderosa Valley Estates. A large laundry room with abundant storage, a wash sink, and a washer and dryer adds convenience to daily living. Park your vehicles in the 2-car garage and utilize the detached cement floor garage/workshop with water supply and 110/220 power for all your mountain toys or hobbies. This home is ready for you to make it your own—whether it's your dream residence, a home away from home, or a vacation rental. Explore nearby activities such as skiing, four-wheeling, hiking, and gold medal fly fishing. The Rio Grande River is just moments away. Enjoy the convenience of paved roads, city water sewer system, and your very own well and large .83-acre lot. Priced at \$479,500 this property offers an exceptional opportunity to embrace mountain living. Schedule your private showing today and embark on Your Mountain Adventure in this beautiful, tranquil Ponderosa Valley Estates neighborhood! Don't wait, call and schedule today! **MLS#810774 - \$479,500**

Bernadette Gingrass

719-850-1993

bmgingrass@gmail.com

License #100072622

0254 Timberline Trail • South Fork

Discover The Essence of Excellence Mountain Living in this custom-built masterpiece! Situated on 1.84 sloping acres within the prestigious Rio Grande Club, this 4,466 sq ft home offers unparalleled vistas and modern elegance. Key Features: Inspiring Views: Unsurpassed panoramas stretch north, east, and south, capturing the rugged beauty of the San Juan Mountains. Architectural Marvel: A two-level design seamlessly blends contemporary finishes with a mountain aesthetic. Grand Entryway: Step into the vaulted ceiling living room adorned with Swedish Cope logs and a striking rock gas fireplace. Expansive Deck: Access the large stone rock deck from the living area, where you'll soak in views of the golf course, mountains, and valley below. Gourmet Kitchen: Culinary enthusiasts will appreciate custom cabinets, granite countertops, and top-of-the-line Wolf appliances. Master Suite: The upper-level primary suite boasts a spa-like bathroom and an adjacent study. Lower-Level Comfort: Three additional bedrooms with 9-foot ceilings offer Alderwood doorways and magnificent vistas. Entertainment Haven: The lower level features a spacious game room with a pool table, TV, and workout equipment. Year-Round Comfort: Radiant floor heat and an extra-large 1000-gallon propane tank ensure warmth during chilly days. Outdoor Delight: Enjoy ever-changing mountain views from the adjacent deck or cozy up by the stone mantel gas fireplace. Gas-Burning Fireplace: The lower level sitting area with a mini bar and stunning views is perfect for relaxation and entertaining family and friends. This home includes an adjacent parcel allowing direct access to the national forest from the front of the property so enjoying your favorite outdoor activities are just steps away. The 2-car garage has workshop hot & cold sink an extra - large 76-gallon water heater, water softener. Programmable hot water throughout the home, hot & cold water outside faucet and plenty of room for storage and a workbench. There is a security system monitored by Valley Lock and Security. Land lines in most every room. Century-Link phone highspeed internet and Direct TV. Managed lighting and surround sound throughout the home and the Smart Home allows you to control from anywhere. This home is a Hole in One! One of a kind, designed and built providing that sense of hospitality, openness, beauty, and tranquility. Location Highlights: Rio Grande Club: Overlooking the 11th hole, this exclusive community offers golf, recreation, and natural beauty. Outdoor Paradise: Explore nearby trails, fishing spots, the Rio Grande River, the South Fork River and Wolf Creek Ski area. Doesn't get any more epitome than this! Check out the Video. Call and schedule your private showing today! **MLS#811509 - \$2,750,000**

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05 Notices

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07 Help Wanted

Elementary Behavior Interventionist / School Assessment Coordinator / Response to Intervention Coordinator needed at Del Norte Elementary School for the 2024-2025 school year. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team. Applicants must have a 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. (3-27)

Instructional Coach needed at Del Norte Elementary 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. (3-27)

Del Norte Elementary School Teacher needed at the URGSD. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team for the 2024-2025 school year. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Principal at aduda@urtigers.co or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co. (3-27)

The SLV Landfill is accepting applications for a Full-Time Administrative Assistant/Scale Operator. Working in front office by waiting on customers, weighing loads, processing credit card transactions. Fill in for the Office Manager as needed. Must work in all types of weather and be able to work a fluctuating schedule altering Saturday's. Position open until filled. \$16.00 per hour, 40 hours week. Applications can be emailed to Kim at officemanager@slvlandfill.com or returned at the office. Download the application at slvlandfill.com. (4-10)

Field Inspectors Needed - Colorado Certified Seed! The Colorado Seed Growers Association is looking for reliable and energetic individuals to inspect certified seed fields. This is a seasonal position and requires individuals that are

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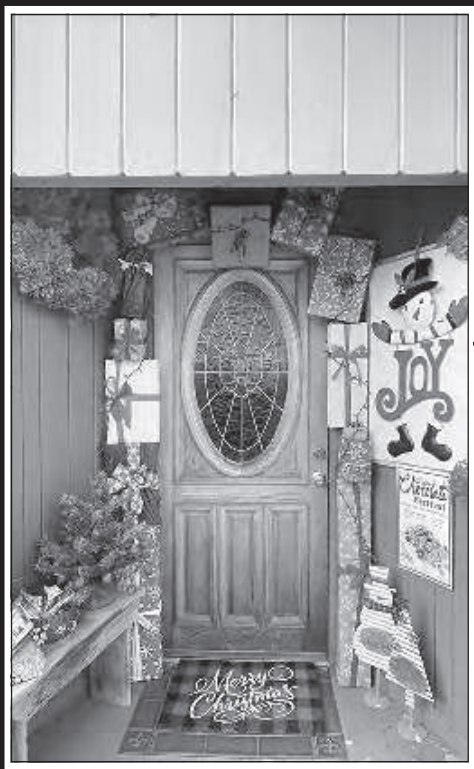
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It's Worth The Drive

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Valley Wide Classifieds

self-motivated, responsible and have experience in Agriculture or Natural Resources. If you are interested, please contact Linda Munk at the Colorado Seed Growers Association for more information: 970-491-6202 or linda.munk@colostate.edu. (3-27)

Half-Time Tiger Connection Coach (attendance & family connection) needed at Del Norte Elementary School. This will be a 2 year part time classified position paid for with the Stronger Connections Grant. For more information please contact Principal Amy Duda at 719-657-4050 or aduda@urtigers.co. Applications may be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co. (4-10)

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. (4-10)

The 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. (3-27)

The City of Monte Vista is currently accepting applications for an Equipment Operator I position. This position will perform skilled work in equipment operations, maintenance and repair work of streets, etc. This position may be asked to perform work for the Water/Sewer Dept and the Parks Dept. A valid Colorado Class B CDL License with air brakes is highly desirable. Requires HS diploma or GED equivalent and one-year prior experience as equipment operator. Candidates must be able to pass a pre-employment background check and drug test. This is a 40 hour per week full-time position. The general starting wage is \$16.75 - \$18.00 per hour plus an excellent benefit package. Please visit: <https://cityofmontevista.colorado.gov/government/departments/human-resources> for a complete position description and application. (3-27)

Conour *Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society*
www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org
If you are interested in adopting, call 852-3366
 Open Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m. -4 p.m. & Sat. & Sun. 1:30 - 5 p.m.
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We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who have contributed to the success of the Upper Rio Grande Animal Society by contributions, donations, volunteering and general support at Conour Animal Shelter.

Visit Our Facebook Page

LOST & FOUND



Found 3/15 at 510 French St. in Del Norte



Chuck and Serena are still looking for their furever homes! They're about 5 months old now, love kids and other dogs, and are ready to adventure. Please stop in and give these adorable floofs a home!

We want to say Thank You to everyone who came out to our open house, and to all those who made it possible! We wouldn't be where we are today without the support of our wonderful community!

The dogs have been a bit rough on our hard/super chewer toys lately and we're running low! They're a staple of playtime around here and we would really appreciate any that could be donated! Thank you all!

Please note adoptions go in order of contact made.

All breeds & ages of animals are a "best guess" and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping.
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San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

5299 County Road 12 S. Alamosa
 160-acre circle planted in Alfalfa. Two shares of Commonwealth Ditch and use of Carmel Drain. Zimmatic Pivot, three stock wells. Waverly area. MLS#810432 \$400,000



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28 acres on the Rio Grande River in South Fork.
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61 Red Tail Court
 - 6 acres with incredible views in the gated subdivision of Bear Creek, South Fork, CO. Owner financing is available for this gorgeous lot. MLS#803984 \$99,000



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Lots 11 & 12 in Riviere Estates Two lots together in a quiet community. VRBO & Air B&B OK subject to town guidelines. All utilities are available at the lot line. MLS 808212



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23 Fairway Drive - OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE
 - this beautiful lot is a 1-minute walk from the Clubhouse on the Rio Grande Club and Resort in South Fork. Flat and easy to build, this lot has water, sewer, electricity, landline phone and high-speed internet at the lot line. MLS#794077. \$56,000




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242 Birch \$69,000 MLS#810124 and **64 Vista \$49,000** MLS#810125. Two adjacent commercial lots in South Fork, each .35 acres. Right behind Mtn Pizza. Easy paved access off of Hwy 160.



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11 Rooms

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17 Real Estate For Sale

Thinking of buying or selling your home or land this year, call Yvonne Hoffman, 719-580-1901, Broker Associate Steffens & Co Realty Inc. (TFN)

32 Fuel & Heating

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Solution to last week's puzzle

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

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CRANES

Continued from Page 1

front of the Sandhill wings mural on the side of the Elks Lodge in downtown Monte Vista, taking pictures.

Watson said, "My daughter was all excited about taking a picture in front of these wings. This is her first time experiencing cranes, she just turned 5, and she giggled when I took her out to the refuge, and she watched the cranes flying around. I would recommend locals and out of towners to come to this every year. I come every year. This is an experience that you will never forget. Whether you go on a crane tour or drive yourself there, I did both, you just can't forget the beauty of the cranes, how they roost, how they fly, and how they

play together. It is one of the most breathtaking experiences I have ever had. I also now have memories with my daughter, and I know she won't forget it either. An amazing experience for the San Luis Valley and Monte Vista."

The fifth annual Swoop of the Cranes art project was also on display throughout downtown. Blank steel cranes were painted by local artists and hung on light poles right before the Crane Festival for people to enjoy.

Even though the festival is over, the cranes will be here for a couple of weeks. Local and out of town residents are encouraged to drive to the refuge and experience the cranes during their spring migration.



The Craft and Nature Fair took place all three days of the 41st annual Monte Vista Crane Festival at the Outcall Event and Conference at SLV Ski-Hi Complex.

Photo by Marie Mccolm

UPDATE

Continued from Page 1

open by June and the hospital plans to celebrate the grand opening in style.

"We are on track for the finish of the Wellness Center and our hope is to have a community grand opening by early summer. Construction on the project is nearing completion and we can't wait to share it with the community," she said.

The Wellness Center project began before 2020 to not only offer patients at the hospital and their families a place to stay but also to offer patients a way to learn about how to be healthier living through several different programs.

At the beginning of the planning phase of the project, Rio Grande Hospital CEO Arlene Harms looked at what are termed Blue Zones throughout the US and through her research and with the help of several different organizations and people they began to form a plan for what the Wellness Center would look like.

Blue Zones are in about five or six different countries throughout the world and are known for their healthy living lifestyles and longevity of the residents.

One group here in the US is known for the healthy living habits formed by its members which is group of Seventh-day Adventists. The group is in the Loma Linda area in California. The group has made headlines in certain circles for their residents who live almost a decade longer than the average person and they attribute this fact to their lifestyle.

The Wellness Center will have a community center where members of the community can come host meetings, meet for coffee or utilize resources offered by the center. It will be an intersection for employees who can take their breaks there, there will be games, books and computers to use, and help families that have members in the hospital.

The center will also house a teaching kitchen so that families can come and learn how to cook healthy meals; a greenhouse and herb garden; an educational room; meditation room; access to the nearby trails and hiking as well as so much more. For more information, visit the hospital's website at www.riograndehospital.org.

Now, with the project nearing completion, the hospital wanted to begin thanking those who have donated, beginning with local banks who have generously helped the project.

Shon Davis, the President and CEO of RG Bank, spearheaded a banker's forum for local banks in September of last year. RG Bank has always supported Rio Grande Hospital. Davis also sits on Rio Grande Hospital's Foundation Board, and in his short time on the board, he has made significant improvements in fundraising and brings valuable input to the board.

"I want to thank Shon for his commitment to Rio Grande Hospital," Timberlake said. "A huge thanks goes out to RG Bank, Del Norte Bank and San Luis Valley Bank and to everyone who helped make this dream a reality."

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30635 W. US HWY 160, South Fork, Colorado



Looking for your dream property to build your mountain retreat? This stunning 5.2 acre lot offers sweeping mountain views that will take your breath away! With gated access, you can enjoy privacy and security, ensuring that your mountain getaway will be your own personal haven. The property comes with private access to the Rio Grande River, so you can fish, kayak or simply enjoy the beauty of Colorado's most iconic rivers. Don't miss your chance to own this piece of paradise!

\$131,000 | MLS# 802486
147 Explorer Way South Fork, CO

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\$895,000 | MLS# 804698
4617 County Rd. 13 Del Norte, CO

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30635 W. US HWY 160, South Fork, Colorado



SOLD

Nestled in the scenic beauty of Del Norte, this 3.2 acre ranch with San Francisco Creek flowing through the center of the property allowing fishing on your own land. The residence itself is secluded, ensuring privacy with its 1/4-mile driveway that shields it from the main road. Call Bruce Steffens today for a showing appointment.

\$975,000 | MLS# 808345
6680 County Road 13, Del Norte, CO

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30635 W. US HWY 160, South Fork, Colorado



Great home located in Romeo, Colorado! This 1569 Sq. Ft. 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath home has plenty of space on 0.400 acres. This home has had many extensive improvements completed recently, from new skirting, to new vinyl flooring. The spacious lot has room for all your vehicles and toys. The home is ready to move in and is very comfortable! Town water and sewer assure minimal problems with utilities. The home is solid. If you're looking for a great deal in today's market, this one is for you!

Call Tate Huffaker today for more information.

\$150,000 | MLS# 810416
103 Antonito St. Romeo, CO

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30635 W. US HWY 160, South Fork, Colorado




UNDER CONTRACT

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\$150,000
16655 County Road 4 E.
Monte Vista, Colorado, 81144

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30635 W. US HWY 160, South Fork, Colorado



UNDER CONTRACT

Approx. 246 acres of Rio Grande River front and is zoned for residential. WATER RIGHTS: L #28 and #203. RIGHTS: 3 domestic. M irrigation well 3095. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms with lg. kitchen and 1 car garage. The guest house is 1486 sq. ft. with a 2 car garage and there's a 2000 sq. ft. steel shop with concrete floor. The property has approx. 1 mile of Rio Grande River front with lots of trees and native grasses. Call Bruce Steffens today for more information.

\$2,200,00 | MLS# 810790
19198 County Rd. 15 Del Norte, CO

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30635 W. US HWY 160, South Fork, Colorado

Tumbler online at Wolf Creek Ski Area



Courtesy Photos by Scott DW Smith
Wolf Creek Ski Area in Southern Colorado recently debuted its newest chairlift, the Tumbler. The Tumbler Lift has been running successfully for the past four weeks. To ensure all systems were working efficiently, Wolf Creek had a soft opening of the lift on Feb. 10.



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