



CCSD students shine at SLV Regional Science Fair



Historic Season Ends in Round of 32



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# Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

March 19, 2024

\$1

## SLV Today

### Coffee with Rep. Martinez and Sen. Simpson

**ALAMOSA** — The League of Women Voters of the SLV is hosting coffee with Colorado State Representative Matthew Martinez and Senator Cleave Simpson from 1-3 p.m. on March 30 at Society Hall, 400 Ross Ave. The event is open to the public. The representatives will be talking about current issues and answering questions.

### 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.

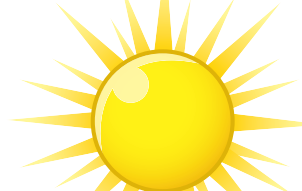
Those interested in applying for the Board must fill out an application. It may be found at [www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov/commissions-boards](http://www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov/commissions-boards).

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](mailto:jgreeman@alamosacounty.org).

## CORRECTION

**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — The Valley Courier article, New solar development planned for Saguache County, should have stated the proposed solar farm is to be west of Moffat.

## SLV WEATHER



Sunny 53/23

Wed: Mostly Sunny 56/21

Thurs: Sunny, Breezy 59/24

## INSIDE

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## Alamosa City Council to consider allowing Patel to apply for a code variance

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER  
Courier Reporter

**ALAMOSA** — During the meeting of the Alamosa City Council scheduled for Wednesday, city staff will recommend that Mayor Coleman be approved to execute a "Property Ownership and Agency Affidavit" that would allow local businessman and real estate developer, Manish Patel, to apply for a code variance on property that used to be the site of the Walsh hotel.

■ See VARIANCE page 3



Photo by Priscilla Waggoner

**Future site of proposed downtown hotel at the intersection of 6th Street and State Avenue. Developer and local businessman, Manish Patel, has indicated he plans to ask for a variance that would allow fewer parking spaces than what is called for in the city's unified code. The city of Alamosa, as current owner of the property, has to first allow him to submit the variance request.**

## AHS Knowledge Bowl Team heads to national championship



**ALAMOSA** — After a winning performance in the knowledge bowl state tournament, the Alamosa High School (AHS) Knowledge Bowl Team is headed to the National Academic Quiz Tournament Small Schools National Championship in April. The competition will be held on April 27 in Chicago.

Team members include AHS students Brice Wisener, Jake Fricke, Madelyn Garberich, Brock Benton, and Jason Duncan (coach).

■ See AHS page 3

**AHS Knowledge Bowl Team scores a spot at upcoming national championship. Pictured left to right: Erika Henderson (coach), Matt Relyea (coach), Brice Wisener, Jake Fricke, Madelyn Garberich, Brock Benton, and Jason Duncan (coach).**

Photo courtesy of Mollie Heredia, OMS

## 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

■ See WEEK page 3

**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.**

Courier photo by John Waters



## Denver Air Connection receives nod from county for federal subsidy

### FAA nears settlement agreement with the airport

By JOHN WATERS  
Courier News Editor

**ALAMOSA** — The Alamosa County Board of County Commissioners has given their recommendation to

■ See SUBSIDY page 3

**The San Luis Valley Regional Airport in Alamosa may continue to have passenger service by Denver Air Connection if the airline receives a subsidy under the federal Essential Air Service program. In this photo an Embraer 175 jet readies for takeoff.**

Courier photo by John Waters



## Looking for a new AG lender? Look no further!

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Lee Crowther

# Record

## OBITUARY

### Darlene Hilderman Gunther

Darlene Hilderman Gunther, 73, passed away at home with her husband Jerry and step-daughter Tracie (Gunther) Meister at her side.

Darlene grew up in Park City, Mont., the daughter of Harry and Lucille Hilderman. In 2003, Darlene was happily married to Jerry Gunther who was her partner for almost 21 years at the time of her death.

Darlene has had several battles with cancer throughout her life. Darlene stayed strong and positive through it all. Darlene was always very thoughtful and never forgot a birthday or special occasion. Upon going into hospice, she made sure her two living sisters had a necklace from her.

Darlene and her husband Jerry enjoyed their home in Center, Colo., with wide open spaces surrounded by farmland. They enjoyed the many card games they played with friends, she especially enjoyed poker. Darlene was also an avid Broncos fan.

Survivors include her wonderful husband Jerry who was always by her



side, her daughter Becky Raiha; her grandsons Hadly, Brennan, and Brady; her granddaughter Baylee; as well as two great-grandchildren Brinley and Rhett; her sister Roberta (Scott) Marquez, her sister Becky (Dennis) O'Reilly; her brother Harry (Sue) Hilderman and many nieces and nephews.

Darlene was preceded in death by her parents Harry and Lucille Hilderman, her sister Kay Stewart and her nephew Garrick Logsdon.

"When Tomorrow Starts Without Me.

When tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand.

That an angel came and called my name, and took me by the hand.

The angel said my place was ready in heaven far above.

And that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.

But when I walk through Heaven's Gates, I felt so much at home.

For God looked down and smiled at me, and told me welcome home.

So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart.

For every time you think of me, I'm right there in your heart."

There will be no service at this time. In lieu of flowers please consider making contributions to Hospice del Valle at 514 Main St., Alamosa, CO 81101 or to the American Cancer Society at [www.cancer.org/donate/donate-by-mail-or-phone.html](http://www.cancer.org/donate/donate-by-mail-or-phone.html).

Rogers family Mortuary is in care of arrangements. To leave online condolences, tributes and words of comfort for Darlene's family please visit [www.RogersFunerals.com](http://www.RogersFunerals.com).

## ALAMOSA POLICE REPORT

Alamosa Police Department report for week of March 9 to March 15, 2024

Gary Dugas, 38, of Alamosa was cited for safety glazing material in vehicle, drian ving under restraint, unregistered vehicle.

Catherine Reynolds, 33, of Alamosa was cited for domestic violence, harassment, violation of restraining order, obstruction.

Salvador Lucero, 48, of Alamosa was cited for violation of restraining order, 1st degree criminal trespass.

Nasibullah Rehan, 27, of Kansas City, Missouri was cited for required position and method of turning — left.

Elijah Baca, 23, of Alamosa was cited for failing to yield ROW upon entering highway.

Alexis Deherrera, 28, of Center was cited for theft under \$300, false reporting,

identity theft.

Cody Lakey, 19, of Alamosa was cited for speeding 20-39 over the limit.

Brendon Huffaker, 23, of La Jara was cited for speeding 10-19 over the limit in a pedestrian safety zone.

Joseph Kofman, 37, of Ft. Garland was cited for driving under restraint, uninsured vehicle, expired tags over 60 days, unlawful possession of controlled substance.

Sarah Andreas, 27, of Alamosa was cited for unlawful possession of controlled substance.

Renee Archuleta, 36, of Alamosa was cited for unlawful distribution, dispensing, sale of controlled substance, unlawful possession of controlled substance x2, marijuana offenses.

Rodney Ruybal, 53, of Antonito was cited for speeding 10-19 over the speed limit, drank from/possessed

an open alcoholic container.

Fantasia Aragon, 29, of San Luis was cited for unlawful distribution, dispensing, sale of controlled substance, unlawful possession of controlled substance x2, marijuana offenses, failed to use turn signals, driving under restraint, uninsured vehicle.

Marissa Martinez, 20, of Monte Vista was cited for displaying fictitious plate, uninsured vehicle.

Christina Agustin, 36, of Blanca was cited for speeding 5-9 over the speed limit.

Patrick N. Garcia, 27, of Alamosa was cited for trespassing.

Joseph Arellano, 54, of San Luis was cited for changing lanes when unsafe.

Cody Palmer, 30, of Alamosa was cited for unlawful possession of controlled substance, violation of protection order.

## Here's how the special election to replace Ken Buck will work in Colorado

By SARA WILSON  
Colorado Newsline

Colorado voters in the 4th Congressional District will vote in two separate elections on June 25: the congressional primary for November's general election, as well as a special election to immediately replace Republican Rep. Ken Buck, who announced on last week that he is resigning and leaving Congress nine months ahead of schedule.

It could add confusion to a competitive and crowded race in Colorado's Eastern Plains.

Buck had already announced his intention to retire and not seek reelection this year, but he surprised the political world this week by announcing that he would leave Congress on March 22, versus sticking around until the end of his term.

That sets off a seldom-used process to fill a congressional vacancy via special election that, according to a decision announced by Gov. Jared Polis on Tuesday, will coincide with the June 25 congressional primary election. The winner of that special election will fill the remaining months of Buck's term, but would still need to win the party's nomination that day and then the general election in November to secure a full term in Congress.

Each party will convene a special convention made up of party insiders to select one nominee for the special election. According to state statute, those special conventions need to happen within 20 days of the governor issuing a formal order for the special election, which hasn't technically happened yet.

The 4th District leans more Republican than any in the state, so whoever wins the special Republican nomination will likely go on to win the special election, and whoever wins the Republican primary will likely go on to win the general election.

That opens up a couple possibilities: The district will be represented by the same person from June 25

onward because they win both elections, or the winner of the special election will hand the seat off to the winner of the general election — almost certainly the winner of the Republican primary — early next year.

The state Democratic Party said on Tuesday night that it will hold its special convention no later than April 1. The convention will include the district's central committee members and all the precinct organizers in the district. Ike McCorkle and John Padora have both signaled they will seek the Democratic special nomination.

The state Republican Party has not yet made its special convention plans public and leaders did not reply to requests for comment Wednesday. That gathering will involve officers of the congressional district and the county chairmen in the district, according to party bylaws. The state party's assembly, where delegates will pick candidates to appear on the primary ballot, is already set for April 5 in Pueblo.

Nine Republicans were vying for the Republican nomination in the district before Buck's early retirement announcement: current 3rd Congressional District Rep. Lauren Boebert, former state lawmaker Jerry Sonnenberg, state Reps. Mike Lynch and Richard Holtorf, conservative radio host Deborah Flora, former state lawmaker Ted Harvey, businessman Chris Phelen, businessman Peter Yu and Justin Schreiber.

Those candidates can all put themselves forward to be considered for the special election nomination.

Sonnenberg, Flora and Harvey have all indicated they will pursue the nomination.

"This new vacancy doesn't change my race, nor my commitment to proving to Republicans voters why I am the strongest conservative voice to serve them in Washington. I look forward to earning this nomination and getting to D.C. as soon as possible," Sonnenberg wrote in a statement.

Flora wrote in her own statement that the district can't afford a "placeholder" between Buck's retirement and the new term next year.

Holtorf has not indicated if he will seek the special nomination, but he called Buck's decision a "selfish move" that will "potentially create bias during the election cycle" in a statement Tuesday.

Boebert, however, will not seek the special nomination. If she wins the special election, she would have to resign her current position representing the 3rd District, setting off a vacancy process in that district.

"I will not further imperil the already very slim House Republican majority by resigning my current seat and will continue to deliver on my constituents' priorities while also working hard to earn the votes of the people of Colorado's 4th District who have made clear they are hungry for a real conservative," she said in a statement.

She called Buck's announcement a "swampy backroom deal to try to rig an election."

With Buck's resignation, the GOP's majority in the U.S. House of Representatives will shrink to 218-213.

The 4th District includes most of Douglas County and the Eastern Plains.

## Forecasts show a strong Colorado economy but a 'constrained' state budget

By CHASE  
WOODRUFF

Colorado Newsline

Wage growth and Colorado's overall economic output continue to exceed expectations as inflation ebbs, state economists told lawmakers at the Capitol on Friday. But pressure in the form of high housing costs and other factors still pose significant "downside risks," they warned, and quirks in the state's constitutionally-mandated budgetary limits may put the squeeze on state social spending.

The March updates to the state's official economic forecasts were presented to the Legislature's powerful Joint Budget Committee, which will play a key role in shaping Colorado's roughly \$40 billion budget in the coming weeks. Two different quarterly forecasts are prepared by analysts from the Legislative Council Staff, an arm of the General Assembly, and the governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting.

Both forecasts revised upwards some of their key estimates from previous figures in December, projecting that Colorado's gross domestic product and state tax revenues will be higher than expected in 2024. But because tax revenues in Colorado are strictly limited by a 1992 constitutional amendment, the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, that means that Coloradans

three years, according to the forecasts.

The combination of the TABOR limits and higher-than-expected revenues for the state's cash funds — which collect fees and allocate them for a dedicated purpose, like transportation — could mean less wiggle room in the state's general fund, much of which is allocated to education, health care and other social services.

"When we have increasing cash fund revenue subject to TABOR, we have an increased general fund obligation for TABOR refunds that limits available budget space," Greg Sobetski, the chief economist for LCS, told lawmakers.

In a press release, Democratic legislative leaders said the forecasts showed a "strong economy" but a "constrained state budget." "The March economic forecast represents the final set of data before we finalize this year's budget," said state Sen. Rachel Zeninger, an Arvada Democrat and vice chair of the JBC. "Today's cautiously optimistic outlook reaffirms our budget work thus far: to be bold in supporting critical services by fully funding schools and health care provider rates, but to be responsible and constrain spending so we remain well-prepared for the future."

The excess revenue under TABOR can be refunded through a variety

of mechanisms. For the second fiscal year in a row, Coloradans this year will receive "flat" refund checks of \$800 each, rather than tiered payments based on income levels, under a plan enacted by lawmakers in a special legislative session last year.

Though neither forecast projects that an economic downturn is likely in the short term, the OPSB still estimated the odds of a recession in the next year at 30%. Consistent with national trends, Colorado's inflation rate continues to fall, while its unemployment rate has risen slightly as higher interest rates have put a damper on job growth. Both forecasts noted the upward pressure on living costs exerted by Colorado's housing shortage, and looked ahead to potential federal interest-rate cuts in mid-2024, which could help ease "shelter inflation" by spurring more home construction.

"Colorado continues to lead the nation with strong economic growth and unemployment below the national average," Gov. Jared Polis, a Democrat, said in a statement Friday. "Our focus on continuing to strengthen our workforce and saving Coloradans money on housing, education, healthcare, and more will drive an even more dynamic economy while protecting our reserves and the financial strength of the state."

School Menu

Tuesday

March 19, 2024

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# Valley News

## Society Hall welcomes back Grammy Award winning Mollie O'Brien and Rich Moore

By SOCIETY HALL ALAMOSA — Society Hall is thrilled to welcome back the superb sounds of Mollie O'Brien and Rich Moore on Friday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. The concert will also stream live on the Society Hall Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door and are available at the Society Hall website at [www.societyhall.org](http://www.societyhall.org) or at the Green Spot, at 711 State Ave. in Alamosa.

Mollie O'Brien and her husband, guitarist Rich Moore, have for more than 30 years been one of the most beloved and best-known musical acts in the Colorado music scene and are also respected and revered both nationally and internationally. Their blend of acoustic blues, folk, jazz and Americana, all delivered through

the powerful, fluid, and seemingly boundary-less voice of Mollie and the impeccable guitar accompaniment and interplay of Rich's guitar work regularly leave audiences with that, "It just doesn't get any better than this" feeling.

Grammy Award winner Mollie O'Brien became known to the rest of the world as a singer's singer when, in 1988, she and her brother Tim O'Brien released the first of three critically-acclaimed albums for Sugar Hill Records (Take Me Back, Remember Me and Away Out On The Mountain). Eventually, Mollie recorded five equally well-received solo albums (Tell It True, Big Red Sun and Things I Gave Away for Sugar Hill Records, and I Never Move Too Soon and Everynight In The Week for Resounding Records). Additionally, she

was a regular on the nationally-syndicated radio show, "A Prairie Home Companion" from 2001 through 2005. She's long been known as a singer who doesn't recognize a lot of musical boundaries, and audiences love her fluid ability to make herself at home in any genre while never sacrificing the essence of the song she tackles. O'Brien has focused her efforts on the fading art of interpretation, and the result is a singer at the top of her game who is not afraid to take risks both vocally and in the material she chooses.

Husband Rich Moore has busied himself in the Colorado music scene for many years. While staying home with the kids when Mollie & Tim toured, he held a day job and continued to perform locally with a variety of Colorado favorites, including



Mollie O'Brien and Rich Moore will perform at Society Hall in Alamosa on Friday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m.

Pete Wernick and Celeste Krenz. Not only is Moore known to produce some of the funniest onstage running commentary, he's also a powerhouse guitar player who can keep up

with O'Brien's twists and turns from blues to traditional folk to jazz to rock and roll. He creates a band with just his guitar and, as a result, theirs is an equal partnership. Their latest release is Love Runner on Remington Road Records.

The Society Hall board, a non-profit organization dedicated to provid-

ing a place for community celebrations of all kinds, invites everyone to join them in the hall for another great evening of music with Grammy Award winning Mollie O'Brien and Rich Moore at Society Hall, at the corner of 4th Street and Ross Avenue in Alamosa, Friday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6:30.

## Subsidy

Continued from Page 1  
the federal Department of Transportation (DOT) for Denver Air Connection to continue to receive federal Emergency Air Service (EAS) subsidies and serve the San Luis Valley Regional Airport.

The recommendation of the carrier by commissioners weighs heavily in the decision-making process by the department which values local input.

The Essential Air Service program was established in 1978 to ensure that smaller communities have access to the national air transportation service and provide subsidies to carriers when necessary. The program provides air service to 60 communities in Alaska and 115 communities in the lower 48 contiguous states. Currently, Alamosa, Cortez, and Pueblo are the airports eligible to receive federal fund-

ing in Colorado.

Alamosa County Commissioner Vern Heersink confirmed the county made the recommendation to the Department of Transportation that Denver Air Connection continue to serve Alamosa for an additional two years.

On Jan. 31, the airline submitted a bid to the DOT to receive the subsidy for one, two, three, and four years of operations. Under the two-year bid, if approved, the airline will receive a \$6,077,476 subsidy to operate 12 flights a week between Alamosa and Denver.

Denver Air Connection is a passenger airline operated by Key Lime Air Corporation, its parent company. Key Lime Air was founded in 1996. It has grown its scheduled passenger service by focusing on its mission to empower emerging communities with global travel and economic access by providing safe

and reliable regional airline service, according to company documents.

In March 2022, the airline submitted and received \$5.2 million in EAS funding to serve Alamosa and began flights between the airport and Denver in June 2022.

As previously reported in the Valley Courier, on Feb. 22 Jon Coleman with the airline made a presentation before the Alamosa County Board of County Commissioners and said that in 2023 the number of "Alamosa to Denver passengers was 11,318, Denver to Alamosa, 10,634, for a total of 21,952." The subsidy per passenger per flight was about \$118.

Boutique Air also made a presentation to county commissioners via Zoom at that meeting and proposed the airline fly the route using a nine-passenger Pilatus PC-12 aircraft. A third carrier, Contour Air, also applied for EAS funding but did

not make a presentation to commissioners.

A third carrier seeking EAS funding is Contour Airlines, which did not make a presentation to the commissioners nor did it respond to emails and phone calls from airport staff.

In other airport news, Rick Breitenfeldt with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), has confirmed their attorneys are near a final settlement agreement with the San Luis Valley Regional Airport for the proposed \$1.2 million fine the regulatory body is seeking from the airport. In June of last year, the FAA announced a \$1,290,780 civil penalty against the owners of the airport, the City of Alamosa and County of Alamosa, for allegedly failing to ensure aircraft rescue and firefighting personnel were available during scheduled air carrier flights at San Luis Valley Regional Airport.

## Week

Continued from Page 1  
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/>.

## AHS

Continued from Page 1  
Fricke, Madelyn Garberich and Brock Benton.

According to Mollie Heredia, school counselor at Ortega Middle School, the team recently placed second in the 3A classification

and third across all classifications at the state tournament, garnering them a place in the national championship.

The Valley Courier congratulates Wisener, Fricke, Garberich, Benton and their coaches and wishes them the best of luck in Chicago.

## Variance

Continued from Page 1  
A Property Ownership and Agency Affidavit is a standard planning form that allows for someone who is not the owner of the property to go through a land use process.

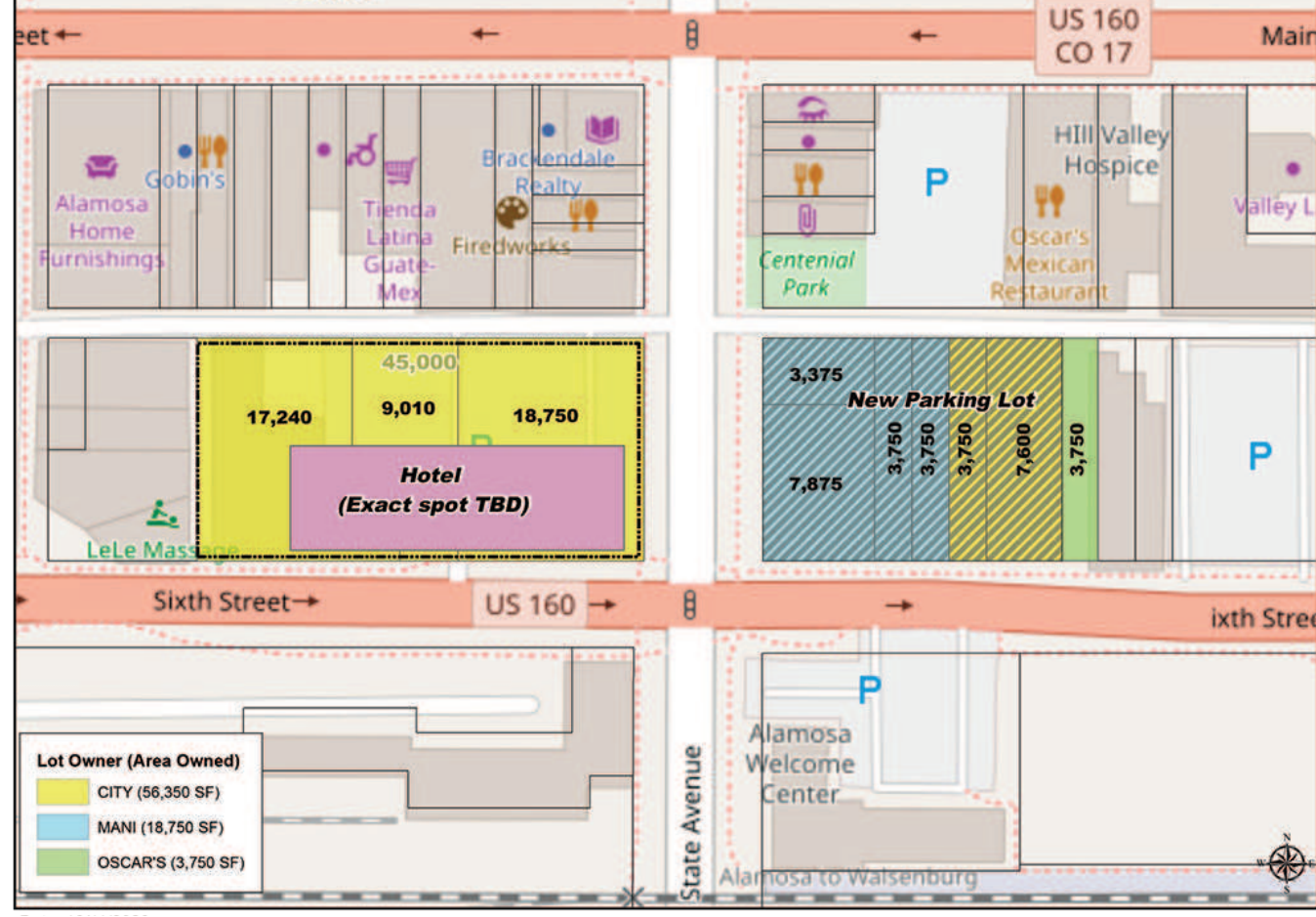
Patel has negotiated a deal to purchase the property located at 6th Street and State Avenue currently owned by the City of Alamosa. As his development plans have progressed, it has been determined that fewer parking spaces are required than first thought, leading to Patel's intention to ask permission to have fewer parking spaces than what the city's unified code typically requires.

Since Patel is not yet the owner of the property, the city code requires him to obtain permission to apply for the variance from the current landowner, which, again, is the city. Council agreeing to grant Patel the right to apply for a code variance (reducing the number of parking spaces does not involve the city in any of Patel's "obligations or development plans". It only allows him to submit the application, which will go to the Planning Commission for final approval or denial.

Typically, the Development Services Department with the city reviews the variance request and makes a recommendation to the Planning Commission. In this case, according to City Manager Heather Sanchez, members of the city's staff were concerned that Development Services' involvement in the process would be perceived as a conflict of interest. "It is important to add a layer of separation between the applicant/application and the Development Services chain of command. Having the mayor execute the document that goes to the Planning Commission adds a layer of separation and checks and balances." Also, for clarity, the mayor's handling of the document neither endorses nor opposes the variance Patel is requesting; it just grants him the ability to make the request. Although there has been no official information provided about when the transfer of the property will be finalized, a note in the coversheet to the council provided a glimpse into how the project is progressing. In discussing the ramifications of not approving the mayor's involvement, it read, "Per the timelines in the development agreement and Mr. Patel's desire to begin construction, delays on this item could set the project back several months."

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Diagram of property as outlined in an exhibit to the Development Agreement.



Courtesy of the city of Alamosa

Diagram of property as outlined in an exhibit to the Development Agreement.

When asked if she had an estimate of when the transfer of the property to Patel might be complete or, if not, a recap of what the agreement between Patel and the city entails, Sanchez said, "Patel is working with his professionals to fit as much parking on the Walsh side of the street as possible, around the hotel. The development agreement sets out that Patel

and the City swap property once his plans are approved by the City."

To clarify, the agreement between the city and Patel states that, in exchange for Patel being given ownership of the property where the Walsh Hotel used to be located, Patel agrees to give the city ownership of the property across the street, which is in his possession.

"I'm not sure when Patel will have his official plans submitted so I don't have a timeframe to answer that part of the question," Sanchez continues. "But that means he would own the Walsh property and the City will own the property across the street otherwise known as the Pink Elephant property. The development agreement also requires Patel to pave the new parking

lot, although his costs will be reimbursed from the sales tax collected from the new hotel. Some of the spots on the Pink Elephant parking lot will be needed to help Patel meet his parking requirements."

The Alamosa City Council will meet on Wednesday, March 20, at 7 p.m., at the Alamosa City Hall located at 300 Hunt Ave.

# Lifestyles

## Colorado wildlife officials are visiting wolf-impacted communities after rocky start to reintroduction

By TRACY ROSS  
The Colorado Sun

In some of their first meetings with the general public since wolves were released in December, CPW got pelted with questions from ranchers and recreationalists wanting to dig deeper into the nuances of living with wolves after the groups had time to digest their arrival.

At meetings that unfolded from Feb. 26 to March 3 in Silverthorne, Steamboat Springs, Winter Park and Florence, attendees asked questions about everything from how to recreate around wolves to what happens if wolves attack cows in pooled herds.

"The meetings were well-received by both the general public and the agricultural community," said Travis Duncan, CPW spokesperson. "Attendees have been engaged and stayed well after the meetings to ask more questions specific to them."

The gatherings come two months after state Sen. Dylan Roberts, at a Joint Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources hearing, accused CPW of intentionally withholding information about the wolves' release from impacted communities and asking director Jeff Davis if he agreed a "loss of trust" resulted in those communities. Davis agreed, saying, "We have a lot of work to do to work with stakeholders to repair relationships."

These meetings appear to support that effort. Attendees had different concerns in different regions.

At presentations in Silverthorne on Feb. 26 and Winter Park on March 3, audience questions focused on the biology of wolves and diving deeper into best practices when recreating with them, Duncan said.

Local staff reminded attendees that they have a far greater chance of encountering a moose while recreating in Summit and Grand counties than they do a wolf, and that most of the same principles apply when recreating around them, he added.

CPW's Living with Wolves brochure calls wolves "generally calm" and "elusive habitat generalists" that favor deer and elk. It says wolves are "unlikely to approach people or homes."

Jeanette McQuade, a Fraser resident, said CPW gave the Winter Park audience additional directives, including "leave space between you and them, warn them you're out there by talking and carry a whistle, leash your dogs when recreating, and if you do encounter a wolf, face it and slowly back away, haze it if you can and fight back if needed."

McQuade said interactions during the question-and-answer session following the presentation "didn't get contentious, and when they headed that direction, audience members reminded the crowd to not villainize CPW because they are fol-

lowing state statute." In Silverthorne, questions also veered to the agriculture community, according to a March 4 story by CBS News.

Eric Odell, CPW's wolf conservation program manager, said the wolves, captured in Oregon, had a history of depredation, but had not killed livestock for six months prior to capture.

Odell said wolves are opportunistic eaters and that the Colorado wolves, "have plenty of resources to feed on." CPW says there have been no reports of depredations on livestock since their arrival. The topic of depredation has been front and center for ranchers since two wolves migrated into Colorado from out of state and began preying on rancher Don Gittleston's animals in 2021.

In December, after more attacks, Gittleston asked CPW if "20 mauled or dead animals qualified the wolves as chronically depredating" and requested help dispatching them.

CPW denied his request, telling him to continue using nonlethal mitigation tools. This prompted Sen. Roberts, D-Avon, to admonish the agency for "causing unnecessary hardship for livestock producers."

Shortly thereafter, Duncan told The Colorado Sun that CPW had entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Colorado Department of Agriculture on expanding assistance to farmers and ranchers to avoid wolf predation.

On Wednesday, he said, "CPW staff is working on a definition of chronic. It will be going through our regulatory process and will most likely be scheduled to be heard by our commission at the May meeting."

On Feb. 28, at a meeting titled "Wolves are Here, What's Next?" CPW joined the Routt County-Colorado State University extension office to address questions from area ranchers.

Todd Hagenbuch, agriculture and natural resources specialist for the office, said around 85 ranchers attended.

Among their main concerns was compensation for cattle lost to attacking wolves.

"We had, I would call it, a conversation, and the ranchers brought up some excellent questions," Hagenbuch said. "CPW was very honest about explaining how they are 'redlining' some of the rules related to compensation."

Current rules state that if a rancher loses cattle to a confirmed wolf attack, they qualify for additional compensation for cows from the same herd that go missing. But the ranchers wanted to know if cows that are commingled with a herd that has an attack also qualify for compensation.

Duncan said CPW plans "to work towards revising current rules pertaining to cattle pools," and that the meeting was "well-re-

ceived by the agriculture community."

Compensation rules for ranchers may be up in the air, however, after Rep. Tammy Story, a Democrat from Evergreen, introduced a bill in the legislature Wednesday that would require ranchers use nonlethal wolf deterrence measures to be eligible for state compensation if their livestock is killed by predators.

In emails to The Sun, Duncan mentioned one more meeting CPW held, with the Fremont County Cattlemen's Association, on March 2.

Erin Spaur, executive vice president of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, said the Fremont group "has a lot of anxiety about what's coming."

"There's a concern because of what Fremont County encompasses — other high-mountain towns and high-mountain counties," she added. "So, if there are future releases in Gunnison, it's only two-and-a-half hours away" from Florence through the Gunnison National Forest.

Spaur said around 50 people attended the event where the discussion focused on the "wolf process" and livestock practices with wolves present.

CPW shared its most recent wolf map, which details where wolves have traveled since their release "to show members how communications are taking place," she added.

But "there really are no formal communications" in agriculture communities that she's heard of to date, she said. "It's, really, if a local CPW officer sees a wolf in a local area, they're calling the producer there or the president of the local cattlemen's association. And then it's up to the president to have a calling tree to get the word out. So we're trying to get that set up to notify people."

Spaur said area ranchers are also nervous about "nonlethal deterrents to the whole range of lethal deterrents, knowing what is available. So it was really (ranchers asking) those general questions about what will happen. And what we're getting back is a lot of 'We'll see. We'll wait and see what happens.'"

But attendees "were pretty agreeable and understood, I think because they don't have the impending pressure of wolves," she said.

Still, the Fremont members are asking for more communication, Spaur said. "I think wolves are now on the ground and producers are pretty anxious for CPW to be saying although they're here, we don't have a plan. Or to be told to wait and see. What we keep preaching to CPW is 'communicate. Over-communicate.' It will do wonders in the end."

Duncan said CPW will hold additional meetings, including one scheduled for the Lake County Conservation District on March 19.

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# Valley Courier

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# Lifestyles




Courtesy photo

Center Consolidated School District students participated in the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair, from left to right, Eva Trujillo, Able Trujillo, Concetta Vigil, Ryann Barbosa, Kyerra Cazares, Eccselynce Berry, Westlea Tipsword, Taisley Ortiz, and Jesus Moreno. Not pictured Alina Gonzalez.

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## CCSD students shine at SLV Regional Science Fair

**By MARIE MCCOLM CENTER** — The San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair recently took place and according to Center High School Science Teacher and fair coordinator, Stephanie Archuleta, 10 Center Consolidated School District students participated — eight from Haskin Elementary and two from Skoglund Middle School. The science fair is open to grades 4-12.

“The kids did really well. The kids had been working on projects for a while,” Archuleta said. “We would meet after school on Wednesdays, and this began back in October of last year. The students then begin thinking about their projects and what they wanted to put together. They did so well with everything, they really did. Two of our kids went home with awards, and I think they were all very happy just to be there.”

Archuleta said she is happy with the current science fair program in the district.

“We are totally rebuilding the program a little bit with the change of teachers, and COVID dropping in numbers. We are totally coming back. Center is

making a comeback,” she said.

The students who participated in the science fair included, Eva Trujillo, Able Trujillo, Concetta Vigil, Ryann Barbosa, Kyerra Cazares, Eccselynce Berry, Westlea Tipsword, Taisley Ortiz, Jesus Moreno, and Alina Gonzalez.

The projects of the students included, elementary students, Moreno with Zoomee Balloonie Zoom, Vigil and Ortiz with Chemistry Behind Ice-Cream, Barbosa, Cazares, and Gonzalez, with Elephant Toothpaste, Berry with S.O.S — Save Our Soil, and Able Trujillo with the Amazing Robotic Hand.

Middle school projects included, Tipsword with Effects of Burnt Soil on Seed Germination and Eva Trujillo with Bending Bones.

Archuleta said that many of the elementary students were fascinated with doing the baking soda vinegar volcanoes, and a cardboard hand out of rubber band and strings. Archuleta let the children choose their own projects and feels they did well with their topic.

Fifth-grader Berry won the Rio Grande Soil and Water Conservation Dis-

trict Award and took third place in Elementary Environmental Science.

Middle School awards went to Tipsword who won a Colorado Rio Grande Headwater Restoration Award, a Center Soil and Water Conservation District Award and an Honorable Mention for Middle School Botany.

Archuleta currently oversees elementary and middle school science projects and is working on getting the high school involved again.

“We are trying to build our high school class again, but high schoolers have a lot of different commitments,” she said.

Archuleta enjoys working with the diversity in science.

“It’s definitely fun,” she said. “I just like seeing them interested in their own projects and doing something fun that they want to do. It’s neat working with them when they are younger, and then they come to my room as freshman, and they already know me. The kids did great at the fair. I was proud of how they all pulled it together at the end. They worked on some awesome projects. I am definitely proud of all of them.”

## Less obvious sources of caffeine

(METRO) — Caffeine is the most widely consumed psychoactive substance in the world. Caffeine speeds up the central nervous system and can make users feel more alert. The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Canada says more than 80 percent of adults regularly consume caffeine, which is often used to provide an energy boost or increase alertness.

It’s widely recognized that caffeine is found in coffee, teas, colas, and chocolate in varying amounts. Still, some may be surprised to learn caffeine can be found in other places as well. While some caffeine daily is generally safe, excessive caffeine consumption can cause insomnia, headaches and high blood pressure, says the Mayo Clinic. Quitting caffeine cold turkey also can lead to withdrawal symptoms, particularly for those who consume it regularly in high amounts.

Learning about less obvious sources of caffeine can help people avoid over-consumption.

- Energy drinks: The National Institutes of Health says the primary ingredient in energy drinks is caffeine. Approximately two-thirds of energy drink consumers now fall between the ages of 13 and 35. Energy drinks usually contain large amounts of sugar and anywhere from 80 to 150 mg of caffeine per 8 ounces. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has said that 400 mg of caffeine daily has generally not been associated with adverse health effects. Most energy drinks are 16 ounces or more, so it’s important individuals monitor their consumption of such beverages. Drinking multiple energy drinks can quickly add up.
- Decaffeinated products: Despite the name decaffeinated, these beverages are not entirely devoid of caffeine. The FDA requires 97 percent of the caffeine to be stripped in products marked “decaf,” but that still leaves some caffeine.
- Snack bars and pre-workout drinks: Protein

and energy bars and drinks may feature various ingredients to give individuals energy. It’s important to check the nutrition information to determine caffeine content.

- Kombucha: This product is a fermented tea beverage. Since tea contains caffeine, kombucha will have caffeine as well. Kombucha caffeine levels range from 5 to 15 mg per serving, says Health.com.
- Additives: Some additives and other ingredients in foods and beverages contain caffeine. The Mayo Clinic says choline, ginseng, guarana, kola nut, malic acid, and maltodextrin can contain caffeine.
- Painkillers: Certain pain relievers, particularly those that are geared toward headache relief, contain caffeine. Caffeine is put into some painkillers to ensure their active ingredients work. A pill can contain upwards of 65 mg.
- Non-cola sodas: Cola sodas usually contain caffeine, but lighter soft drinks, such as lemon-lime or orange varieties, also can contain caffeine.

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# Sports

## Historic Season Ends in Round of 32

By ERIC R. FLORES  
ASU sports information  
DENTON, Texas – Despite a valiant effort, the Grizzlies couldn't overcome scoring droughts, marking the end of what many consider to be the best season in the history of the Adams State Women's Basketball program. The host and No. 1 seeded Texas Woman's University Pioneers secured a 74-63 victory over the Grizzlies on Saturday night in the semifinals of the women's South Central Region tournament.

With only two seniors on the squad, the 2024 Co-RMAC Champions are already eyeing a return to the postseason next year.

The game started promisingly for the Grizzlies, who opened with a perfect 2-for-2 from the field, both shots from beyond the arch, securing a 7-0 lead within the first two minutes. However, the Pioneers swiftly countered with a 9-0 run, leaving the Grizzlies scoreless for 3:54. Both teams traded buckets, resulting in a narrow 11-9 lead for TWU at the first media break.

TWU continued to extend their lead to 26-15 with just over a minute remaining in the first half. Despite a late surge from the Grizzlies, TWU maintained a comfortable



Courtesy photo/ASU sports information

**Adams State University's Angelline Nageak (10) puts up a shot over Texas Woman's University's Jada Celsur (23) in Saturday's NCAA Division II South Central Region game in Denton, Texas. The Lady Grizzlies lost 74-63 to end the season with a record of 25 wins and nine losses.**

47-32 lead going into halftime.

Adams State fought back in the second half, narrowing the gap to as little as 12 points before TWU regained momentum, leading by 17 points with two minutes left in the third quarter. The final quarter saw the Grizzlies outscore the Pioneers by four points, but it wasn't enough to mount a comeback.

Adams State's defense, typically strong, only provided seven steals and 14 forced turnovers on the night.

Leading the scoring for the Grizzlies were Elaina Watson and Kayla Harris, each contributing

15 points. Harmanie Dominguez added 12 points, finishing the season with the second-highest point total in a season, just 16 points shy of the record set by Vera Jo Busto in 2010-11. Dominguez also achieved a single-season record for three-pointers with 101.

Reflecting on the game, Head Coach Mario Caetano expressed pride in his team's performance: "I'm proud of how we played; we just couldn't respond to that first quarter. The girls fought since day one. We knew how good we were all year; these girls earned this. The future is bright."

## Pair of fourth place finishers lead Grizzlies

By ERIC R. FLORES  
ASU sports information

PARK CITY, Kan. - Following an impressive performance on the opening day of the 2024 NCAA Division II Wrestling Championships, Adams State's three qualifiers aimed to climb higher on the podium on Saturday. As the season drew to a close, Isaiah Gamez and Angel Flores both secured fourth place finishes, while Aaden Valdez settled for seventh.

Adams State emerged as the top team from the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) with 33.5 team points, boasting only three wrestlers in contention. Western Colorado trailed with 20.5 points, followed by Colorado School of Mines with 17, and Colorado Mesa with just 6.5 despite having six qualifiers. Chadron State, the RMAC dual performance champions, managed just one point.

On Saturday, Gamez displayed resilience, going 2-1 with a thrilling sudden victory over Davenport's Manuel Leija in the first match and securing a fall in 4:06 against Wisconsin-Parkside's Shane Corrigan in the consolation



semifinal. However, Gamez narrowly missed third place, falling 4-3 to Laner's James Joplin.

At 141 pounds, Angel Flores mirrored Gamez's efforts, clinching a tiebreaker win over West Liberty's Khyvon Grace and a major decision victory over Upper Iowa's Tate Murty. Nevertheless, Flores settled for fourth place after an 11-2 major decision loss to McKendree's Ronan Schuelke.

Valdez contributed to the Grizzlies' campaign with an exchange of sudden victory matches. Despite dropping the consolation third-round match, he rebounded in the seventh-place match, triumphing over St. Cloud State's Anthony Herrera with a commanding 13-0 victory.

## High school winter and spring sports standings as of Saturday

BOYS BASKETBALL			CLASS 4A/3A INTERMOUNTAIN LEAGUE			CLASS 1A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE		
FINAL			FINAL			FINAL		
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L	Team	League W-L	Overall W-L	Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Pagosa Springs	10-0	24-2	Trinidad	0-6	11-12	Sangre de Cristo	5-1	17-5
Centauri	8-2	18-6				Creede	5-1	13-8
Alamosa	5-5	13-10				Sierra Grande	5-1	10-13
Montezuma-Cortez	4-6	8-14				Moffat	2-4	4-14
Ignacio	2-8	8-15				Centennial	2-4	5-16
Bayfield	1-9	3-17				Antonito	1-5	1-16
						Lake City	0-6	4-10
CLASS 3A/2A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE			CLASS 1A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE			BASEBALL		
FINAL			FINAL			CLASS 3A/2A INTERMOUNTAIN LEAGUE		
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L	Team	League W-L	Overall W-L	Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Sanford	6-0	22-5	Sangre de Cristo	6-0	14-8	Centauri	0-0	1-0
Crested Butte	5-1	17-6	Sierra Grande	4-1	19-7	Pagosa Springs	0-0	4-1
Monte Vista	4-2	15-8	Centennial	4-2	10-9	Montezuma-Cortez	0-0	1-3
Sargent	3-3	15-7	Moffat	3-3	13-8	Bayfield	0-0	1-4
Del Norte	2-4	7-14	Antonito	2-4	3-14	Alamosa	0-0	0-3
Center	1-5	3-17	Creede	1-5	3-15			
Trinidad	0-6	3-18	Lake City	0-5	0-7			
CLASS 1A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE			CLASS 3A/2A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE			CLASS 1A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE		
FINAL			FINAL			FINAL		
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L	Team	League W-L	Overall W-L	Team	League W-L	Overall W-L
Sangre de Cristo	6-0	14-8	Monte Vista	0-0	1-2	Monte Vista	0-0	1-2
Sierra Grande	4-1	19-7	Center	0-0	0-0	Center	0-0	0-0
Centennial	4-2	10-9	Custer County	0-0	0-0	Custer County	0-0	0-0
Moffat	3-3	13-8	Del Norte	0-0	0-0	Del Norte	0-0	0-0
Antonito	2-4	3-14	Ignacio	0-0	0-0	Ignacio	0-0	0-0
Creede	1-5	3-15	Sanford	0-0	0-0	Sanford	0-0	0-0
Lake City	0-5	0-7	South Park	0-0	0-0	South Park	0-0	0-0
			Trinidad	0-0	0-0	Trinidad	0-0	0-0
			Sargent	0-0	0-1	Sargent	0-0	0-1
GIRLS BASKETBALL			CLASS 1A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE			GIRLS SOCCER		
CLASS 4A/3A INTERMOUNTAIN LEAGUE			FINAL			CLASS 3A INTERMOUNTAIN LEAGUE		
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L	Team	League W-L	Overall W-L	Team	League W-L-T	Overall W-L-T
Pagosa Springs	9-1	21-5	Antonito	0-0	0-0	Bayfield	1-0-0	1-0-0
Centauri	7-3	17-7	Centennial	0-0	0-0	Pagosa Springs	0-0-0	1-0-0
Montezuma-Cortez	6-4	12-11	Sierra Grande	0-0	0-0	Alamosa	0-0-0	1-1-0
Alamosa	5-5	12-10				Montezuma-Cortez	0-1-0	0-1-0
Ignacio	3-7	9-14						
Bayfield	0-10	4-16						
CLASS 3A/2A SOUTHERN PEAKS LEAGUE			CLASS 2A SOUTHWEST LEAGUE					
FINAL			FINAL					
Team	League W-L	Overall W-L	Team	League W-L-T	Overall W-L-T			
Monte Vista	6-0	17-4	Crested Butte	0-0-0	2-1-0			
Sanford	4-2	18-6	Telluride	0-0-0	0-1-1			
Sargent	4-2	15-7	Del Norte	0-0-0	0-1-0			
Del Norte	4-2	10-12	Ignacio	0-0-0	0-1-0			
Center	2-4	11-10	Ridgway	0-0-0	0-1-0			
Crested Butte	2-4	10-12						

## Sports Bulletin

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

### SCOREBOARD SATURDAY

- Prep baseball: Limon 9, Monte Vista 1
- Monte Vista 3, Crowley County 0
- College women's basketball: Texas Woman's 74, Adams State 63
- College women's softball: Colorado Mesa 8, Adams State 2; Colorado Mesa 9, Adams State 3

### SUNDAY

- College baseball: Adams State 3, Colorado Christian 0; Adams State 6, Colorado Christian 1
- College women's softball: Colorado Mesa 5, Adams State 4; Colorado Mesa 13, Adams State 3, 5 inn.

### MONDAY

### College baseball

- Adams State 25, Colorado Christian 7
- Adams State 13, Colorado Christian 10

### SCHEDULE TUESDAY

- Prep baseball: Pueblo Centennial at Alamosa, 3 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY

- Prep baseball: Questa (N.M.) at Antonito (2), 3 p.m.

### 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 Highlands 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), 11 a.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 Highlands at Adams State (2), noon

### College outdoor track and field

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

### SUNDAY

- College baseball: New Mexico Highlands at Adams State, noon

### College women's softball

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



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**GENERAC**

# Lifestyle

## Memorial Bench placed at Creede Family Practice

**By Lyndsie Ferrell**  
**CREEDE** — A memorial bench was placed at the Creede Family Practice to honor a local who spent her life serving in the medical field in Creede. Sandy Kroll, who died in November, was an integral part of the Creede community and to memorialize her contributions to Creede, the Mineral County Ambulance Service purchased the bench and had it placed last week.

Kroll worked as a Deputy/Dispatch for Mineral County for 31 years. Someone recently said she was not just a part of the Creede community, she was embedded in the community through her numerous volunteer activities which included her many years as an EMT. She was one of the founding members of Mineral County Ambulance back in the mid-1970s. She served about 35 years on the board with tireless dedication.

When she retired from being an EMT, she remained on the board until 2016. She helped create the EMS service and was a dedicated supporter. Among her many accom-

plishments, she helped the board build the new ambulance barns; purchased new ambulances; supervised the EMT squad, training, etc. She assisted in purchasing new, top of the line equipment for the service, wrote countless grants and attended hundreds of trainings. She kept records, did the ambulance billing for many years and was an invaluable member of the board. She was also on the Underground Mining Museum Board and was Mineral County Democratic Chair.

In addition to her volunteer duties, she assisted many people in the community, including her mother, siblings, friends, and neighbors. She would help by taking them to appointments,

providing meals, cutting hair, literally anything they needed. People often joked and called her "Florence Nightingale."

She loved spending time with her family and friends, and she loved a good margarita, her family stated. She had many hobbies. One of the first was learning to play the guitar. She taught her grandson his first guitar chords and his first song on the organ in her living

room. She played Tuesday Night Volleyball for many years. She loved

to dance, she loved playing golf and she loved to laugh. She loved life. She

was loved and she will be forever in the hearts of the Creede community.



Sandy Kroll



Courtesy photos

A bench in memory of Sandy Kroll was installed at the entrance to the Creede Family Practice. The Mineral County Ambulance Service purchased the bench to honor longtime EMT and ambulance board member Kroll, who died in November. She was a founding member of the ambulance service in Mineral County and donated endless hours promoting the service.

## Celebrating the San Luis Valley Nonprofits

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# Public Notices

### NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given of a public hearing before the Town Board of the Town of Hooper, Colorado, on March 20, 2024, at 6:30 PM, at the Town Hall, 8660 Main St. Hooper, CO 81136.

The public hearing is for the purpose of considering whether to adopt, by reference, the Town of Hooper Municipal Code, which consists of: Title I: General Provisions; Title II: Administration; Title III (Reserved); Title IV (Reserved); Title V: Animal Regulations; Title VI: Nuisances; Title VII: Business Regulations; Title VIII: General Offenses; Title IX: Land Usage; Appendix A: Procedure and Rules of Order; and Appendix B: Zoning Code.

The code relates, primarily, to the codification of existing ordinances, modifications to update ordinances, and the repeal of obsolete ordinances.

Copies of the proposed Town of Hooper Municipal Code is on file at the office of the Town Clerk and may be inspected during regular business hours.

No. 3818.  
Published in the Valley Courier on February 28 & March 19, 2024.

### NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR BIDS

The East Alamosa Water and Sanitation District is accepting bids for a lease on an 80-acre parcel of farm ground located on Road 12 South, Alamosa, CO, along with 2 shares of Commonwealth Water.

Bids should include the annual payment in addition to the payment of water assessments. Bids can be mailed to P.O. Box 1092, Alamosa, CO 81101, or hand delivered to 10 Costilla Blvd. Alamosa, CO. Bids will be reviewed by the end of March. The district reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

No. 3839.  
Published in the Valley Courier on March 13, 15, 16, & 19, 2024.

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:

The Center Consolidated School District is seeking proposals for an integrated project delivery method utilizing construction management / general contracting (CM/GC) services for a new auxiliary gym and additional classrooms project. The complete RFP can be found on the district website at: <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/rfpintegratedproject>

No. 3840.  
Published in the Valley Courier on March 15, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, & 26, 2024.

### DISTRICT COURT, CONEJOS COUNTY, COLORADO

6683 County Road 13, Conejos, CO 81129  
VALERIE MORALES, an Individual, and AMY REGNIER, an Individual  
Plaintiffs,  
vs.  
DARLENE LETEY, an Individual  
Defendant.  
A COURT USE ONLY A  
Attorney for Plaintiffs: Samuel J. Scheurich, #46270 BURNHAM LAW  
2760 29th Street, Suite #E Boulder, CO 80301  
Phone: 303.990.5308  
Fax: 303.200.7330  
sam@burnhamlaw.com  
Case No.: 2022CV30010  
Division: C  
NOTICE OF LEVY  
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 property:  
Lot 3, Block 12, Manaassa Parcel No. 2, County of Conejos, State of Colorado  
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 statutes of this state.  
Witness, Garth Crowther, Sheriff of Conejos County, Colorado, this 30 day of November, 2023.  
GARTH CROWTHER CONEJOS COUNTY SHERIFF  
By:  
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.

### NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS: The Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation (Foundation), Farmers Union Canal, and Rio Grande #1 ditch water users are accepting bids for the Farmers Union Canal Multi-Benefit Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Project permitting and environmental/cultural compliance. The Project includes completing all permitting for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and environmental, biological, cultural, and other required NEPA compliance assessments and consultations for the construction of new and improved diversion and headgate structures at the Farmers Union Canal and Rio Grande #1 ditches, streambank restoration and stabilization, and in-channel aquatic habitat enhancement, near Del Norte, CO. Bidding documents will be made available upon request from the Foundation office located at 623 Fourth Street, Alamosa, CO 81101 beginning March 15th, 2024, from 9:00am-5:00pm daily. Bids are due by April 3rd, 2024 @ 4:00pm MST. The Foundation, Farmers Union Canal, and Rio Grande #1 ditch water users reserve the right to reject any bids in the best interest of the Project Partners. Requests for Bidding Documents and questions regarding the project may be directed to Daniel Boyes, Phone: 719-589-2230, Email: [daniel@riograndehadwaters.org](mailto:daniel@riograndehadwaters.org).

No. 3845.  
Published in the Valley Courier on March 19 & 20, 2024.

### NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ON APRIL 2nd, 2024, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. an election will be held in the Town of La Jara, Colorado, in the La Jara Town Hall at 221 Broadway, La Jara, Colorado.

Registered voters within the Town of La Jara will vote on the election of One (1) Mayor seat, Four (4) seats on the Board of Trustees, and decide if Town Ordinances can be published in the Valley Courier by title only.

At such election, a Mayor will be elected for a four-year term; three (3) Town Trustees will be elected for a term of four-years and one (1) Town Trustee will be elected for a term of two years (determined by the total number of voters).

The candidates that have submitted nomination petitions for the Mayor or seat for four (4) year term are:  
Paula Medina  
The candidates that have submitted nomination petitions for the Town Trustee seats for four (4) year term or two (2) year term (determined by the total number of votes) are:  
Margie Wagener  
Rita Gonzales  
Robert Cummings  
Curt Wilson  
Annette Chavez  
Amanda Cornum  
Jennifer Salazar

Voters will decide on the following question:  
SHALL SECTION 10.41 OF THE TOWN OF LA JARA'S CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING THE PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCES, BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:  
§10.41 PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCES.  
"ALL ORDINANCES... SHALL BE PUBLISHED BY TITLE ONLY UNLESS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED TO BE PUBLISHED IN FULL BY STATUTE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO IN THE VALLEY COURIER...."

Elector must possess the following qualifications in order to vote in the Municipal Election:  
1. Must be at least 18 years of age.  
2. Be a resident of the state of Colorado and reside within the city limits of the Town of La Jara for 22 days prior to the date of the election.  
3. Must register to vote. May register to vote up to and including Election Day.

Notice is further given that applications for absent voter's ballots may be filed with the Town Clerk not later than the close of business on the Friday immediately preceding the election.

Questions regarding this election may be directed to:  
Shawn Pagnotta, CMC - Town Clerk  
Town of La Jara  
221 Broadway  
La Jara, CO 81140  
(719) 274-5363  
No. 3846.  
Published in the Valley Courier on March 19, 2024.

**173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**CONEJOS COUNTY LAND USE** is seeking an energetic and self-motivated individual to join our team as a LAND USE BUILDING INSPECTOR. Inspection of all new construction & building including alterations/repairs of existing structures. Ensure buildings are in compliance with adopted codes and regs. Permit plan review, issue permits, wrk at the counter, and field inspections. Great skills in working 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](http://conejoscounty.colorado.gov), or via email upon request at [crizzi@co.conejos.co.us](mailto:crizzi@co.conejos.co.us). Inquiries call 719-376-6799. Deadline 03/27/2024. (3/27/24)

**ARE YOU PASSIONATE** about making a positive impact on people's lives? SIERRA GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT is currently accepting applications for BEHAVIOR HEALTH COUNSELOR/MTSS COORDINATOR for the 2024-2025 School Year. Our school has a reputation as being a great place to work. We currently have a state of the art facility, supportive administration, paid health insurance, free lunches, 4 day school week. A current license/state certification 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](http://www.sierragrandeschool.net). Applications may be submitted electronically to Mr. Kevin Jones at [kjones@sierragrandeschool.net](mailto:kjones@sierragrandeschool.net) or Mrs. Maria Atencio at [maticencio@sierragrandeschool.net](mailto:maticencio@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)

**VENDOLA PLUMBING & HEATING** is accepting applications for full time HVAC SERVICE TECHS. Please apply at 185 1/2 Broadway, ALAMOSA or send resumes to [rhonda@vendola.com](mailto:rhonda@vendola.com). (3/26/24)

**NOTICE OF JOB** opening for JOURNEYMAN 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 Lineman. 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.slvec.com](http://www.slvec.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 SECONDARY SCIENCE TEACHER for the 24-25 school year. Applicants must possess a Colorado Teaching License or be eligible to apply for one. Salary schedules are available on the district website. Please submit a district application, resume, cover letter, and transcripts at <https://www.southconejos.com/page/how-to-apply>. (4/2/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

**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)

**1/2 TIME TIGER CONNECTIONS 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](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co). Applications may be picked up at the District Office or online at: [urtigers.co](http://urtigers.co). (4/17/24)

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

**SARGENT EARLY LEARNING CENTER (SELN)** in MONTE VISTA, CO is hiring an EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for the 2024-2025 school year! The SELN is a nonprofit childcare center that offers daycare and pre-school 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 SELN, 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 SELN at <https://sargentearlylearning.org/learningsite.com/selc/programs>. To apply, please send a letter of interest and resume to [sargentearlylearning-center@gmail.com](mailto:sargentearlylearning-center@gmail.com). Position open until filled, but applications received by March 15th will receive priority. (3/23/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

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

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

**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](http://www.slvfed.bank) or at each branch location. Equal opportunity Employer, including considering individuals with Disabilities and Veterans/Affirmative Action Employer. (3/26/24)

**MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for a MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN. This is a full-time position with benefits. A complete list of desired qualifications and experience can be viewed on the district website. Monte Vista School District offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, HSA match, and life coverage. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Maintenance Technician Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities>, by March 21, 2024 or until the position is filled. (3/26/24)

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26JT** is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the positions of ELEMENTARY 3RD GRADE & 5TH GRADE TEACHER, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26JT** is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the positions of HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or, such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (4/5/24)

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

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

**BOE OF CENTER SCHOOLS** is now accepting applications for an ASSISTANT DIRECTOR to SUPERINTENDENT. Qualifications: Advanced Degree, Administrative License, or such alternative to the above qualifications as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. This position will assist the Superintendent in the professional organization and administration of the School District. Salary commensurate with experience. For information and application materials please visit the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/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 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](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co) or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: [urtigers.co](http://urtigers.co). (3/26/24)

**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](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co) or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: [urtigers.co](http://urtigers.co). (3/26/24)

**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](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co) or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: [urtigers.co](http://urtigers.co). (3/26/24)

**LABORERS AND SORTERS** needed for POTATO WAREHOUSE in CENTER. Experience not necessary, willing to train. 40+ hours/week. Stop by MOUNTAIN KING SPUD GROWERS, 1090 South Miles Street, Center, CO 81125 to fill out an application. (3/22/24)

**100 - BIRTHDAY**



**Happy 90th Birthday MOM!**

**Dorothy E. Romero**  
March 19, 1934

I love you, always have, and always will. Thank you for the best 67 years of my life.  
Say "Hello" to my day, okay? I love you both. I will sing Happy Birthday to you! May you and dad rest in peace. "God Bless You Both"  
Your son Frankie J Romero "Pancho"  
I'm doing good!  
Don't worry, Be Happy!



# Classifieds

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

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

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

**304 - LAWN & GARDEN**

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**307 - APPLIANCES**

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

**314 - CLOTHING**

**FOR SALE: CHEROKEE 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. (3/20/24AS-monthly)

**345 - WOOD**

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

**353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK**

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

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**356 - MEAT & PRODUCE**

**E & M CUSTOM BUTCHERING** is accepting new appointments. 719-992-8334, 8249 CR 13, ANTONITO, CO. 81120. (3/20/24)

**360 - MISC. FOR SALE**

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**360 - MISC. FOR SALE**

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

**368 - PETS & SUPPLIES**

**FOR SALE ROTTWEILER/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**

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**401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES**

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**415 - HOMES FOR SALE**

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**420 - LOTS & ACREAGES**

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

**426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE**

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

**525 - GUNS**

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

**606 - BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT**

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**611 - HOMES FOR RENT**

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

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

**701 - AUTOS FOR SALE**

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

**701 - AUTOS FOR SALE**

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**715 - 4X4 VEHICLES**

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# Comics

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Actress — Adams
  - 4 Wild soliloquy
  - 8 Picket crosser
  - 12 Contend
  - 13 Hedge-podge
  - 14 Musical sound
  - 15 "— Never Smile Again"
  - 16 Cry
  - 17 Use a blue pencil
  - 18 Perry's secretary
  - 20 Antelope
  - 22 Tanker contents
  - 23 "Kinder-garten —"
  - 24 Crime-ridden
  - 28 Noted fabulist
  - 32 Uncertain
  - 33 Scot's garment
  - 35 Swelled head
  - 36 After Thur.
  - 37 British car part
- DOWN**
- 1 Enthusiastic
  - 2 "The Green —"
  - 3 Tuna variety
  - 4 "Casino —"

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 5 Cakes and —
- 6 Nada
- 7 Subject
- 8 Asian plain
- 9 Concluding musical section
- 10 Blue dye
- 11 Phi — Kappa
- 19 Easter flower
- 21 Castle defense
- 24 Upward force
- 25 Natural hairdo
- 26 Firmament
- 27 Your majesty
- 29 Punctuation mark
- 30 Arch type
- 31 Swimming hole
- 34 Directed
- 37 Ousted ruler of old
- 38 Remotely
- 40 Photo finish
- 42 Hinder
- 44 Orchid part
- 46 Little terrors
- 47 Desired result
- 48 — bene
- 50 Erase
- 51 For fear that
- 54 Hosp. area
- 55 Racket

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13				14				
15			16				17				
18			19			20	21				
		22				23					
24	25			26	27		28	29	30	31	
32				33		34			35		
36				37					38		
39			40			41		42			
			43			44		45			
46	47	48					49			50	51
52				53	54	55			56		
57				58					59		
60				61					62		

## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

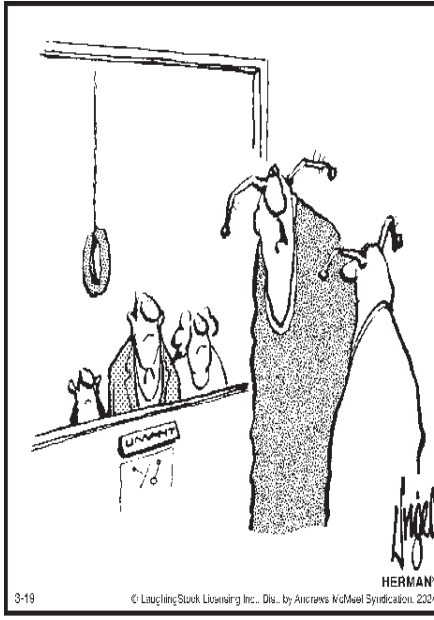
	4		6		5	2	8	9	
		6			9			4	
		7	4	8			1		
					9	1	8	5	
1	9				5			4	2
2		5	8	6					
	7				2	8	4		
4			7				9		
6	1	9	5	3				2	

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

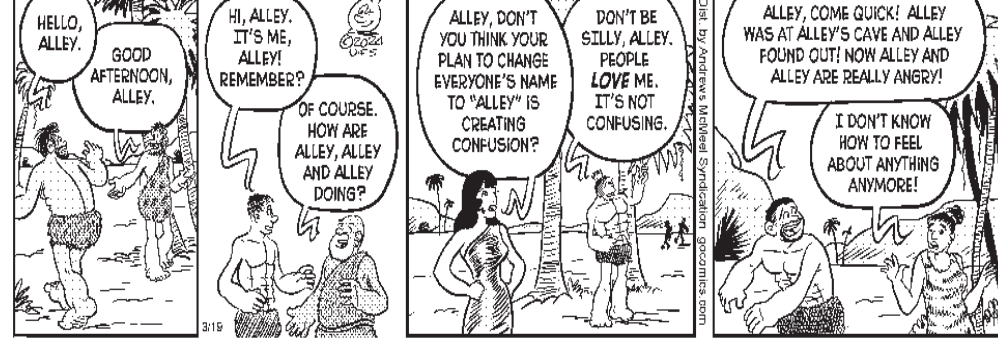
5	4	1	7	3	2	8	6	9
9	8	2	4	6	5	1	3	7
7	3	6	9	1	8	4	2	5
4	9	8	1	7	3	6	5	2
2	7	5	8	9	6	3	4	1
1	6	3	2	5	4	7	9	8
6	1	7	3	2	9	5	8	4
8	5	9	6	4	1	2	7	3
3	2	4	5	8	7	9	1	6

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

## HERMAN



## ALLEY OOP



## ARLO & JANIS



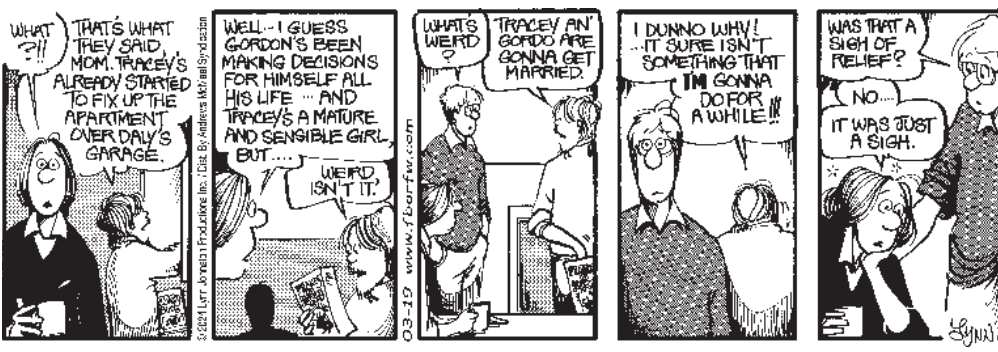
## BIG NATE



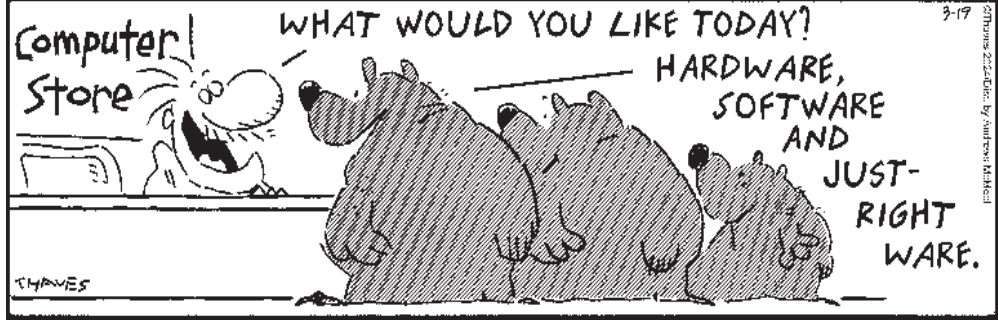
## THE BORN LOSER



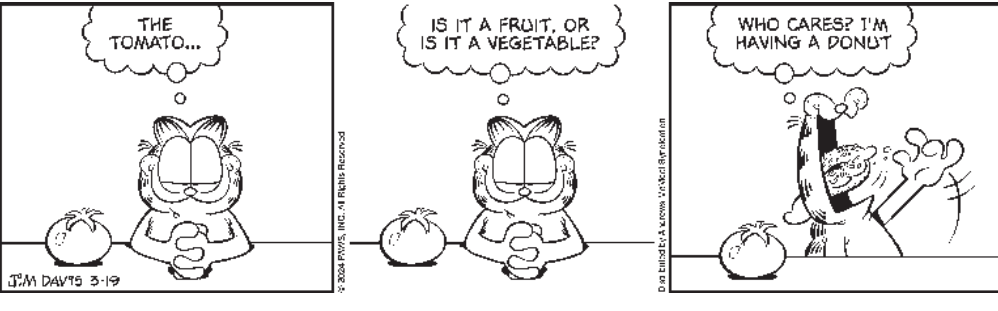
## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



## FRANK & ERNEST



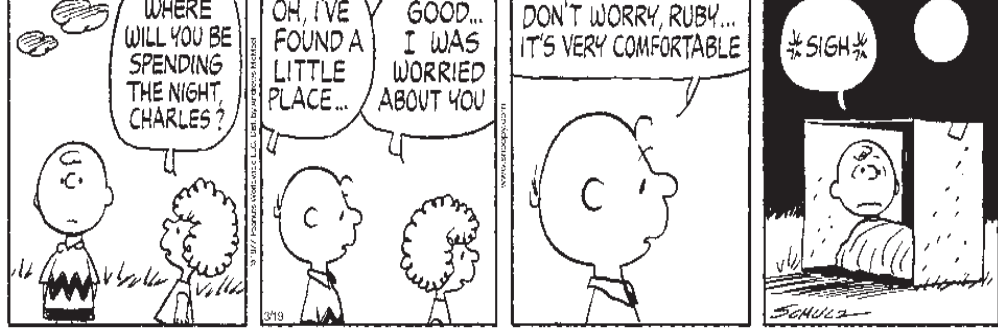
## GARFIELD



## THE GRIZZWELLS



## PEANUTS



## Freeloading boyfriend makes woman feel like a bad person

**DEAR ABBY:** I've been with the same guy for almost five years. I was madly in love with him the first three years, but after I had my daughter, things slowly changed. We haven't been intimate in a while. I had some female issues I wanted to take care of, plus I'm not physically attracted to him anymore. He makes little comments about it to make me feel bad. He doesn't want to discuss anything, so talking to him is impossible.

We broke up a few months ago but got back together. He moved all his stuff out, so now he makes me feel guilty, telling me he has nothing and our house doesn't feel like his anymore. By the way, he doesn't pay for rent or household expenses like groceries, etc. I pay for everything because he doesn't work. Yet I have to give him money for his gambling addiction.

I don't want to be with him anymore. But the last time we broke up, he was terribly verbally abusive, and I don't want to go through that again. What should I do? -- **INDECISIVE IN ILLINOIS**

**DEAR INDECISIVE:** Tell him you no longer want to be his sugar mama; he will have to find someone else to feed him and finance his gambling

addiction. Do NOT do it while the two of you are alone. Make sure to have several friends or relatives with you for moral support and to help him collect whatever things he has at your place. If you do, it may curb his verbal abuse. After that, change the locks on your doors and do not admit him to the house again. If he forces his way in, summon the police. If you don't rid yourself of him, he will suck you dry.

**DEAR ABBY:** My in-laws live 90 minutes away, so when they visit, they usually stay with us for a night or two. I don't mind hosting them. They are delightful people, and we always have a good time. However, now that they're getting older, I'm wondering what the etiquette is for sleeping arrangements.

We don't have a guest bedroom, so they sleep on a pullout sofa with a pillow topper. While they've never mentioned it, I know it's not all that comfy, and I know they have some age-related aches and pains. When my grandparents stayed with us when I was a kid, they usually slept in my sister's double bed, and she slept on the floor in the room I shared with my other sister.

Would offering my in-



## ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

laws my son's double bed be a good idea going forward? (Something about offering the master bedroom seems weird.) I'm fortunate to have great in-laws and would like to do right by them. It's just a night or two, after all. What would you recommend I do? -- **COMFORT CREATURE IN NEW JERSEY**

**DEAR COMFORT CREATURE:** Ask your in-laws whether they would be more comfortable if you changed their sleeping arrangements. If they say yes, have a chat with your son, explain the problem and tell him you want him to sleep on the pullout sofa bed when his grandparents are visiting.