

New arrivals at the Alamosa Public Library

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Grizzlies squash Yellowjackets 83-63

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

March 6, 2024

\$1

## SLV Today

### 'Electrify and Save' coming to SLVREC members

**MONTE VISTA** — In the market for new insulation, windows and doors, water heaters, HVAC systems and other qualifying energy-efficient technology? Take advantage of San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative's (SLVREC) Electrify and Save on-bill repayment program for a simple and transparent financing option.

The new program, "Electrify and Save," launched for its electric members on March 4. Through partnerships with REC's wholesale power supplier Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association and the Colorado Clean Energy Fund (CCFEF), REC is offering the on-bill repayment program to REC members or business owners to install certain energy upgrades to their properties at no upfront cost.

The term "repayment" denotes that a third party, in this case CCEF, provides the upfront funding for the installation. In turn, REC will bill members monthly to recover CCEF's costs over an agreed-upon timeframe. Since there are no loans, these home upgrades will not affect credit scores or add to the homeowners' debt.

"San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative members will be at the forefront of what we believe will be a cutting edge, significant Tri-State program offering unique to our cooperative industry," said Pete Rusin, Tri-State electrification manager. "On-bill repayment gives consumer cooperative members an equitable and common sense means by which they can reduce overall utility spend and improve their quality of life."

As an example, Rusin noted that SLVREC members still using propane could see their overall bills decrease, by addition dual fuel air source heat pump to an existing propane furnace, or even by financing a full furnace replacement through the on-bill repayment program.

Upgrades include new insulation, windows and doors, water heaters, electric HVAC systems, electric vehicle chargers and more. In many cases, the energy savings achieved through the newly installed measures are greater than the monthly repayment obligation, thereby saving members money on their utility bill every month.

For more information or to apply for a free, data-driven energy assessment of the project, visit [www.slvrec.com/electrify-and-save](http://www.slvrec.com/electrify-and-save).

## SLV WEATHER

Sunny, Breezy 53/17

**Thurs:** Slight Chance of Snow, Breezy 50/24

**Fri:** Snow Likely 43/17

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## Costilla County commissioners extend moratorium on fences taller than 5 feet

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER  
Courier Reporter

COSTILLA COUNTY —

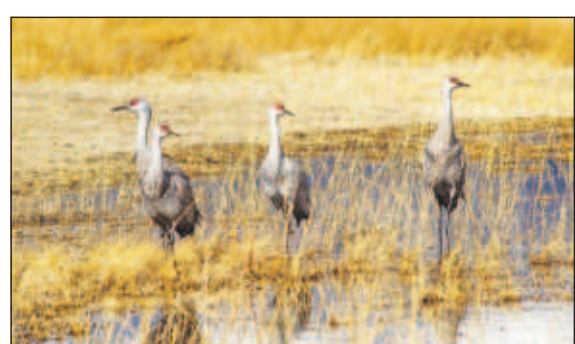
In a sign that they have no intention of backing down in a court battle with Cielo Vista Ranch (CVR), 88,000 acres of property owned by Texas billionaire William Harrison in the Culebra section of the Sangre De Cristos, Costilla County commissioners voted 3 to 0 on March 5 to extend a moratorium until September that prohibits construction of any fence that is more than 5 feet tall.

The vote followed multiple and impassioned comments from members of the public who attended the commissioner meeting and see the presence of CVR's fence as

■ See **FENCES** page 3

**Example of erosion caused by 12-foot fence road bulldozed on a steep slope in the Culebra watershed.**

Photo by Bernadette Lucero



File photo

The 41st annual Crane Festival is flying into Monte Vista on March 8-10. The festival is collaborative effort of the Friends of the San Luis Valley National Wildlife Refuges, the City of Monte Vista, the Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce, and the San Luis Valley National Wildlife Complex.

## MV Crane Festival set for March 8-10

By MARIE MCCOLM

**MONTE VISTA** — It is that time of year again, the 41st annual Crane Festival is flying into Monte Vista on March 8-10. The festival is collaborative effort of the Friends of the San Luis Valley National Wildlife Refuges, the City of Monte Vista, the Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce, and the San Luis Valley National Wildlife Complex.

Soon people will be able to witness the majestic flight of these beautiful birds on their springtime migration through the San Luis Valley. Every year, people flock to the Monte Vista National

■ See **CRANE FEST** page 3

## Great Sand Dunes National Park to receive bison conservation funding

By JOHN WATERS  
Courier News Editor

**SAN LUIS VALLEY** — The National Park Service has announced it will fund \$7.4 million for bison conservation in Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, Yellowstone National Park, and Glacier National Park. The funding is part of the Inflation Reduction Act.

In March 2023, Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said, "The American bison is inextricably intertwined with Indigenous culture, grassland ecology, and American history. While the overall recovery of bison over the last 130 years is a conservation success story, significant work remains to not only ensure that bison will remain a viable species but also to restore grassland ecosystems, strengthen rural economies dependent on grassland health and provide for the return of bison to tribally owned and ancestral lands."

The Nature Conservancy transferred 9,362 acres of the Medano-Zapata ranch to the park in 2022, consisting of inholdings within the park. This transfer will support bison habitat.

At the time, then-park Superintendent Pam Rice said, "The transferred land includes important springs and wetlands that support a rich diversity of life."

According to a park service ungulate (animals with hooves) management plan, the park will have an initial genetically pure bison herd consisting of 25-50 animals. The

■ See **FUNDING** page 3



Photo by National Park Service

Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve will receive funding for bison conservation and may have a herd in the park by 2029. Bison are extremely fast and can run at speeds of up to 35 MPH. They are very agile and can spin around quickly and jump high fences. In May 2016, President Obama signed the National Bison Legacy Act designating the American Bison as the National Mammal of the United States.

## Educator Highlight Award for February goes to Aaron Williams



Courtesy photo

**Pictured, left to right, Adams State School of Education Director Curtis Garcia, Ph.D.; Adams State Teacher Education Program Coordinator Advisor Chrissy McKinney; Adams State February Educator Highlight Award recipient, Aaron Williams; and GOAL High Principal Jason Hochevar.**

### English teacher at GOAL High School meets students where they are

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

**ALAMOSA** — Aaron Williams wants you to believe. Believe in yourself, believe in your abilities, and believe in what you're capable of accomplishing.

As an English teacher at GOAL High School and a track coach at Alamosa High, Williams preaches to

students the importance of believing. His work and accomplishments led Adams State School of Education to present Williams with its Educator Highlight Award during a ceremony this week.

"He understands our population," said GOAL High Principal Jason Hochevar. "When a student needs something, needs help, he's always willing to jump in and listen to the kids' stories and find a solution around their barriers and their issues to give them a second, third, fourth chance which is what it takes sometimes."

GOAL High, with a new regional office off Highway 160 in Alamosa, is Colorado's growing online school with more than 5,000 students across the state taking courses with GOAL. Williams is a statewide English teacher, meaning he's working online with students who are in Fort Morgan, Colorado Springs, Cortez and elsewhere across Colorado.

Williams said he'll interact with 20 or so students on a daily basis and around 200 for a school semester through GOAL's online model. "We're trying to

■ See **AWARD** page 3

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# Record

## OBITUARIES

### James K. Chapman



Alamosa native, James K. Chapman, 74, of Sun City, Ariz., died Feb. 21, 2024, from a fall and broken neck. He was born in Alamosa, Colo., the loving son of Ada Beth (McClanahan) and Kenneth Chapman. Jim was married to Barbara (Bobbie) Chapman in 1981.

Jim worked most of his life in sales, starting at KENN Radio in Farmington, N.M., selling advertisements and hosting a four-hour radio show. Later, he was a radio announcer and sold advertising for KSLV in Monte Vista.

Most folks know Jim as being their Holsum bread man or he sold them their car at Spradley-Barr Motors, Benway Chevrolet or Whitlock Motors.

But Jim's fondest job was working for Mike and Kevin Rogers at Rogers Family Mortuary in Alamosa taking loving care of the families of his classmates and friends. Most recently, Jim worked part-time at Regency Mortuary in Sun City, Ariz.

Jim was very proud of his 23 years as a volunteer firefighter for the Alamosa Fire Department where he retired as Captain. Jim cherished the brotherhood and the friendships he had with

Christine Chapman-Vigil, Beth Chapman, grandchildren Kenneth Chapman, Max Vigil and Alyssa Vigil and five great-grandchildren, brothers Ron (Cindy) Chapman and Don (Debbie) Chapman, as well as several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Celebration of Life will be held April 20, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Church of the Palms, Sun City, Ariz. Attendees are asked not to wear black but instead to come in bright, colorful colors with men asked to wear cargo shorts, which is all Jim ever wore in Arizona...he would want folks to be happy and celebrate knowing him.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Alamosa Firefighters Association, P.O. Box 419, Alamosa, CO 81101, or to Social Justice Programs, Church of the Palms (UCC), 14808 N. Boswell Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351.

Arrangements made by Regency Mortuary, 9850 W. Thunderbird Blvd, Sun City, AZ 85351. Cremation was chosen and ashes will be scattered at favorite fishing spots in South Fork and Creede, Colo.

Condolences can be made on Jim's tribute wall at regencymortuary.com.

the men and women of the fire department.

After retiring in 2007, Jim and Bobbie sold their home and possessions, bought a one-ton pickup and a fifth-wheel RV and hit the road. They traveled the country for nearly nine years making lifelong RV friends along the way. To finance their travels Jim and Bobbie worked on the road for Amazon Fulfillment Centers in Kansas and Kentucky as well as working as gate guards at oil wells in Texas for several years. Most summers you would find them camp hosting in campgrounds in the Rio Grande National Forest in South Fork, Colo. In 2015, they happily settled in Sun City, Ariz., enjoying the many clubs and amenities offered as well as the warm weather.

Jim is survived by his wife Barbara (Bobbie) Chapman, daughters

### Shirley Kingsley



Shirley Kingsley, a compassionate soul who touched the lives of many, passed away peacefully on Sunday morning Feb. 25, 2024. Born in an era when kindness was a currency, Shirley dedicated her days to selflessly serving others. Her legacy is etched in the hearts of those who knew her.

Shirley's unwavering commitment to community service was remarkable. She delivered meals on wheels, bringing nourishment and smiles to the doorsteps of those in need. At the state veteran's center, she washed and styled hair, offering dignity and care to our nation's heroes. Her tireless efforts extended to her neighbors, where she provided companionship and support, making their burdens lighter.

A thrifty spirit, Shirley reveled in finding bargains. Whether it was a hidden gem at a garage sale or a discounted plant for her beloved garden, she knew the value of a dollar. Her green thumb flourished as she tended to her flowers, coaxing life from the soil and finding solace in nature's beauty.

Shirley drove a school bus for many years

in the West side of Monte Vista. Shirley's leisure hours were filled with newspaper puzzles, readers digest, chocolate, gardening, solar lights and puzzle pieces. Sisterly bonds were precious to her, and she embarked on delightful trips with her two sisters, Dolly and Charlotte, creating memories that would last a lifetime. She was a talented oil painter and many family members enjoy her works in their homes.

Her grandchildren held a special place in her heart. Shirley's love knew no bounds, and she was always willing to lend a helping hand especially if someone was needing help with something. Thursday morning coffee with her fellow vet center volunteers was a cherished ritual — a time for laughter, shared experi-

ences, and camaraderie.

Shirley Kingsley was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Sylvia Pargin, her husband James Kingsley, her youngest son, Larry Kingsley, and her granddaughter Danielle Kingsley.

She is survived by her sisters Charlotte Metz of Aztec, N.M., and Dolly Dillinger of Pagosa Springs, her children Paul Kingsley of Monte Vista, Charles Kingsley and Shawna Baker of Oklahoma, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

As we bid farewell, let us honor her memory by extending a helping hand, sharing a smile, and cherishing the simple joys that Shirley held dear. There will be a memorial celebration in June 2024 in Pagosa Springs. No service at this time.

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

Rest in peace, dear Shirley. Your light will forever illuminate our hearts.

## From the Librarian's Desk — New arrivals at the Alamosa Public Library

By MARIA KRAMER ALAMOSA — New books are always coming in at the Alamosa Public Library! Here are 10 of our most intriguing arrivals. For more information, or to have a book reserved for you, check [alamosalibrary.org](http://alamosalibrary.org) or call 719-589-6592.

**Fiction**  
• Standing Heavy by Gauz'

This story follows three men, in three different times, all trying to make a living as undocumented African immigrants in France.

• The Bullet Swallower by Elizabeth Gonzalez James

In 1895, Antonio Sonoro sets out to rob a train, only to lose his brother. In 1964, his grandson Jaime lives a comfortable life as Mexico's leading actor and singer. When a stranger gives him a mysterious book, purporting to tell the story of his forebears back to the days of Cain and Abel, Jaime finds himself forced to atone for his ancestors' crimes.

**Horror**  
Relucant Immortals by Gwendolyn Kiste

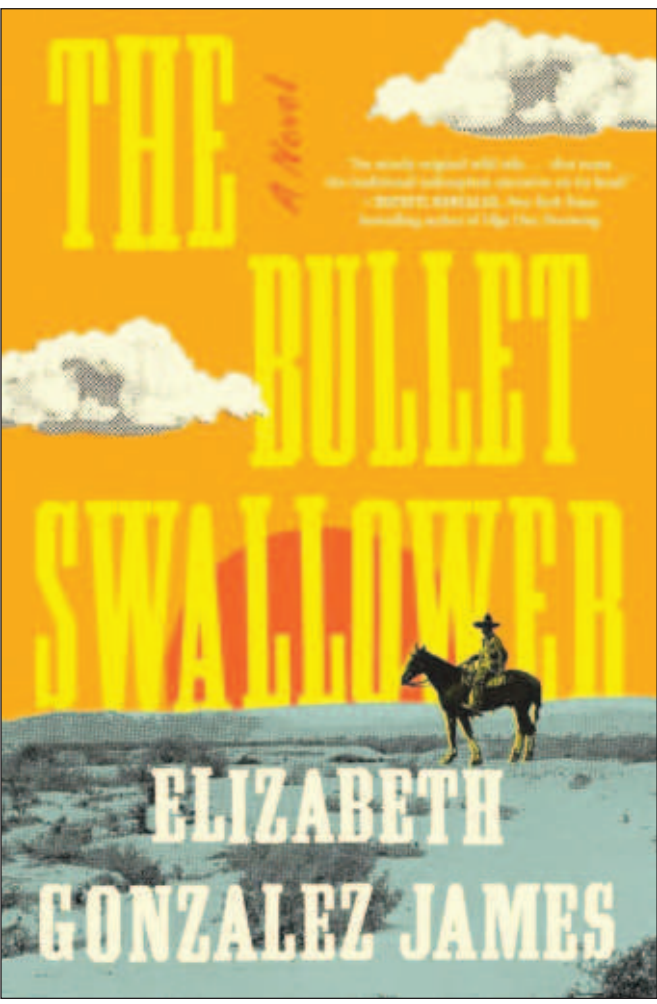
Lucy and Bertha are refugees from classic horror stories - Lucy fleeing from Bram Stoker's Dracula and Bertha from imprisonment by Mr. Rochester. Now, both women are immortal, living together in 1960's LA. When the men from their pasts reappear, they must work together to protect their new lives.

**Mystery**  
Midnight by Amy McCulloch

Olivia is delighted to get an invitation to join an exclusive cruise to Antarctica with her boyfriend Aaron, and when Aaron doesn't make it she embarks herself. But all is not well on board the ship. A dead body is found, and Olivia sees someone watching her. Who can she trust?

**Nonfiction**  
• Why Does Everything Have to Be About Race? by Keith Boykin

With a mixture of personal experience, reportage, and extensive research, Keith Boykin



takes a wrecking ball to twenty-five of the most widespread deceptions about race and shows us how to refute lies, myths, and misinformation with history, knowledge, and truth.

• Tripping On Utopia by Benjamin Breen

In the '40s and '50s, transformative drugs - such as LSD - rapidly entered mainstream culture, where they were not only legal, but openly celebrated. At the center of this revolution were the pioneering anthropologists Margaret Mead and Gregory Bateson. As we follow Mead and Bateson's fractured love affair from the espionage of WWII to the scientific revolutions of the Cold War, a new origin story for psychedelic science emerges.

• Dwelling in the Wilderness by Jason M. Brown

Whereas many of us are constantly on the go, stressed out, and focused on productivity, the life of a monk prioritizes staying put and paying attention. Dwelling in the Wilderness examines how contemporary Benedictine Roman Catholic monks in the American West fall in love with their landscapes and how, in troubled times, we might do the same.

• Witchcraft: A Histo-

ry in Thirteen Trials by Marion Gibson

Offering a vivid, compelling, and dramatic story, unspooling through centuries, about the men and women who were accused of witchcraft, this book gives a voice to those who were silenced by history.

• Praisesong for the Kitchen Ghosts by Crystal Wilkinson

An expert cook, Wilkinson shares nearly forty family recipes rooted deep in the past, full of flavor, while exploring the untold heritage of Black Appalachia.

**Western**  
Small Light of Discretion by J. Hoolihan Clayton

In 1879, Charles Wolfe Collins is sent upon a mission into Colorado to assess the disintegrating state of affairs between the mercenary ambitions of white men and the treaty prerogatives of Ute Indian peoples. Drawn into a quagmire of hired provocateurs, vitriolic newspaper propaganda, fraudulent government contractors, and the baffled frustration of irate Ute chiefs, Charles Collins is charged with preventing a violent collision between U.S. cavalry troops and Ute warriors dedicated to protecting their families.

## ALMA seeks bands for Battle of the Bands

**CONTRIBUTED**  
ALAMOSA — Alamosa Live Music Association's Battle of the Bands is back by popular demand. The battle will happen on June 1, from 4 to 7 p.m., in Cole Park in Alamosa in conjunction with Summerfest on the Rio. The victor gets a \$1,000 contract to perform at Sundays at Six in Cole Park

on Aug. 18. Five bands will compete, and each band will have approximately 20 minutes to wow the audience and judges. To submit your band for consideration, fill out the submission form at <https://bit.ly/2024-battleofthebands> or at [almaonline.org](http://almaonline.org), by April 8. For more information,

like ALMA on Facebook or go to [www.almaonline.org](http://www.almaonline.org).

## PENDING OBITUARY

### Serena Hard

Blanca resident Serena Hard, 37, passed away at the San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center on March 5, 2024. Services are pending and will be announced through Rogers Family Mortuary.

## Workshop on weeds set for March 18

**CONTRIBUTED**  
ALAMOSA — On Monday, March 18, a workshop will be held at Society Hall on weeds. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. and organizers are asking for a \$5 donation. The donation will be used in Mom's Garden to implement a weed program. Society Hall is at 400 Ross Ave., Alamosa.

Armando Ross, supervisor of the Rio Grande County Weed District,

and local business owner, Ruthie Brown of Green Spot Garden Center, will be hosting the workshop.

Topics to be covered include types of plants — undesirable/desired — and why they are important in lawns, flowerbeds, curbside, and parks. Including native, ornamental, noxious and nuisance.

Types of control will include integrated pest management, chemicals, and the Colorado insecta-

ry. Weeds to be discussed will include, but not be limited to, puncture vine (goat heads), iron weed, bindweed, whitetop, dandelions, and clover. There are some plants that need more control and attention, and the hosts will tell you why.

If you have specific questions you would like to have addressed, give Ross a call at 719-852-4804 or Brown at 719-580-7838.

### COURIER OBITUARY POLICY

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Please email obituaries if possible to [squintana@alamosanews.com](mailto:squintana@alamosanews.com) If the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed.

### School Menu Wednesday March 6, 2024

<b>BREAKFAST</b>
Turkey Sausage Patty/W/G Roll Fruit & Milk
<b>ELEMENTARY</b>
Chili Dog Steamed Broccoli Veggie Bar Fruit & Milk
<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>
Chili Dog Steamed Broccoli Veggie Bar Fruit & Milk
<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b>
Chili Dog Steamed Broccoli Veggie Bar Fruit & Milk

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

# Valley News

## Funding

Continued from Page 1

plan mentions the possibility the herd may increase to 580 bison. A request for comment from the park regarding the potential number of bison was not returned by press time.

National parks across the United States will use this Inflation Reduction Act funding to prepare for the impacts of climate change, protect species, restore ecosystems, and invest in conservation jobs.

"This investment in conservation demonstrates an unprecedented commitment towards tackling the climate crisis and strengthening America's resilience," said NPS Director Chuck Sams in a press release. "From restoring species to cleaning up abandoned mines in our national parks, this investment will support ongoing efforts to protect and preserve our nation's most cherished places."

The American bison is an essential component of grassland ecology and an iconic symbol of American culture. The species once numbered 60 million in North America, with the population centered in the central United States.

Many Indigenous cultures, especially in areas where the species was most abundant, developed strong ties with bison and relied upon them for sustenance, shelter, and cultural and religious practices. In the 19th century, bison were nearly driven to extinction through uncontrolled hunting and a U.S. policy of eradication tied to intentional harm against and control of Native American Tribes.

By 1890, only several hundred wild bison remained. In addition to depriving Tribes of a critical resource and lifeway, the



Photo by National Park Service

**The American bison has the scientific name of *Bison bison*. They are sometimes erroneously called buffalo, a species native to Africa.**

persecution of bison contributed to the decline of healthy grassland ecosystems and, eventually, to the Dust Bowl. The loss of the keystone species, coupled with land conversion, led to declines in other important grassland wildlife, such as migratory birds and pollinators.

Beginning in the early 20th century with the support of President Theodore Roosevelt, conservationists and scientists made a collective effort to restore the American bison. Roosevelt was a co-founder of the American Bison Society, a group dedicated to saving the animal from extinction. Conservation and restoration efforts have increased the number of wild bison in the United States from fewer than 500 to more than 15,000.

Although wild numbers have recovered dramatically, they are functionally extinct to both grassland systems and the human cultures with which they coevolved.

According to the U.S. Department of the Inte-

rior, "Our attention and efforts must turn toward the ecological restoration of bison as native North American wildlife. Significant conservation work is necessary not only to ensure that bison will remain a viable species but also to restore ecosystem function, strengthen rural economies dependent on grassland health, and provide for the return of bison to Tribally owned and ancestral lands."

"The imperative for ecological restoration is made even more urgent by climate change. Warming temperatures exacerbate the pressures on grasslands, with historic droughts, wildfires, and invasive species threatening the grassland ecosystems and the communities they support. The best science shows that returning bison to grasslands can enhance soil development, restore native plants and wildlife, and promote carbon sequestration, thereby providing benefits for agriculture, outdoor recreation, and Tribes. In addition, restoring bison and healthy grasslands."

The park service has had great success in bison recovery and reintroduction. Wind Cave National Park began bison conservation in 1905. When Theodore Roosevelt National Park was established in 1947, there were no bison in the park. After 29 bison were introduced a decade later, the herd increased and has grown to an estimated 600-800. In the 1960s, Badlands National Park reintroduced 50 animals from Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Today, Badlands has an estimated bison population between 1,000 to 1,200. The park is now a source of creating bison herds across the United States.

Of the approximately 15,000 wild bison in the United States, the Department of the Interior manages 11,000 bison in herds across 4.6 million acres of U.S. public lands in 12 states. The Yellowstone National Park herd is the largest at approximately 4,800 animals. Most herds contain between 300 and 500 bison. Tribes have collectively restored an additional 20,000 healthy bison on Tribal lands, particularly in the Northern Great Plains and Intermountain states.

In addition to funding bison conservation, the park service recently that announced parks in the Colorado River basin will also receive approximately \$4.6 million to assess the effects of climate change and inform Colorado River management plans, as well as to remove invasive species and protect at-risk species. Another \$4 million will go to fourteen national parks across the arid Southwest to restore native plants and reduce the vulnerability of river systems to climate change.

In 1889, Roosevelt wrote this in his journal about bison, "I have a half-melancholy feeling, few indeed are the men who now have or evermore shall

have, the chance of seeing the mightiest of American beasts, in all his wild vigor, surrounded by the tremendous desolation of his far-off mountain home."

Through Roosevelt's efforts and those of the National Park Service, today, millions of visitors annually enjoy sightings of bison, our national mammal.

## Award

Continued from Page 1

reach them wherever they are in life. Every kid that comes to us is different so we're allowed to be flexible and get them what they need," he said.

When he's done at GOAL for the day, he'll head to Alamosa High where he works as an assistant track coach. Last track season he coached Aani Hardesty to state track titles in the 100- and 300-meter hurdle races. Again, by getting her to believe in the training and what she was capable of accomplishing.

"When I work with kids online, I try to keep that same energy I have if they're right here in front of me," he said.

"It's a unique experience, I'd say," he said of working both for GOAL online and coaching at Alamosa High. "Track is what brought me to school here and what

brought me to Alamosa. So it's a way for me to give back to the community."

Williams hails originally from Richmond, CA., and enrolled to run track at Adams State. Like so many others, he met a girl from Alamosa, married her and settled down and settled in for life's haul. He and his wife, Marina, now have two children, Kinwood and Onyx, and he has a growing career in teaching at GOAL and coaching track at Alamosa High.

All because he believed. This monthly award recognizes Adams State University School of Education alumni, prominent local teachers, and other educators working within or hailing from the San Luis Valley. In so doing, Adams State University hopes to build familiarity with the community as a serious destination for future educators. To nominate and educator email Chrissy McKinney at [cmckinney@adams.edu](mailto:cmckinney@adams.edu).

## Crane Fest

Continued from Page 1

Wildlife Refuge to view the cranes.

Along with the festival the Craft and Nature Fair will be held at the Outcalt Event and Conference Center at the SLV Ski-Hi Complex. There will be photography for everyone to enjoy along with nature art, carvings, baked goods, handmade jewelry, clothing, and much more. It will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to noon on Sunday.

Bus-guided crane tours will be available during the festival and new this year, the festival will offer Spanish language bus tours. The new tours will help the festival reach a larger audience. Tickets must be reserved, to ensure a spot on the tour.

There will be morning, afternoon, and evening crane tours during the festival. The tours will leave the Ski-Hi grounds and will be led by specialists who will speak about Sandhill Cranes and other birds as the tour proceeds to the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge.

A special access tour of the Blanca Wetlands is also scheduled.

Drive-yourself-tours at Trinchera Ranch and Home Lake are also available. All tours will be expert led; the Home Lake Tour will feature John Rawinski, a local ornithologist and author, who will share his expertise on local birds and where to find them. This tour will involve some walking, less than a mile on level ground.

The Trinchera Ranch tour is a half-day tour which will allow attendees to learn more about forestry, wildlife, and fisheries. Visit [mvrcranefest.org](http://mvrcranefest.org), for more information on specific times, costs and to register.

The Monte Vista Crane Festival is a unique event for all different ages of people.

The Sandhill Cranes are known to roost and feed at the Monte Vista Wildlife Refuge. In the past, attendees have enjoyed viewing and taking pictures of the cranes, early morning when the sun is rising and early evening while the sun is setting.

For more information and to register for events, visit [mvrcranefest.org](http://mvrcranefest.org).

## Fences

Continued from Page 1

a real threat to aspects of the area that are of great significance.

The moratorium is just the latest action taken by the commissioners in a struggle that, in many ways, has been ongoing since Harrison bought the land. But, in this instance, the struggle began in the late summer of 2023 when commissioners heard multiple complaints from concerned locals about an 8-foot perimeter fence Harrison was constructing.

As described in documents submitted to the court by attorneys representing the county, the 8-foot barrier is restricting migration of wildlife and causing both immediate and foreseeable damage to wildlife habitat in the area. Additional significant damage has been created in the 12-foot-wide fence roads that Harrison crews have bulldozed to construct the fences, many of which are on steep slopes and are causing extensive erosion and diversion of water that areas of historic and archaeological importance are facing significant threat.

Ben Doon, Costilla County's chief administrative officer, says one site that is at significant risk is La Morada, located in the small town of San Francisco. Erosion and water are threatening the adobe structure that the state has designated as a historic site. And neighbors, whose property is close to CVR, are experiencing significant damage, as well.

Costilla County commissioners first approved a resolution adopting a moratorium on Sept. 7, 2023, prohibiting fences taller than 5 feet and grading slopes that will cause erosion and degradation of the watershed.

Despite being notified of the resolution, CVR crews continued with construction of the fence in direct violation of the moratorium, according to court documents.

On Sept. 21, 2023, after commissioners got repeat-

ed reports of more fence being constructed, attorneys for the county filed a complaint with the court and a motion for a Temporary Restraining Order and a Preliminary Injunction to stop fence construction and grading of the 12-foot roads.

CVR's response was that the moratorium was "moot" and did not apply to them.

In an Oct. 12, 2023, ruling that said it was "not moot", District Judge Crista Newmyer-Olsen granted the Preliminary Injunction and ordered CVR to stop construction.

Doon says all construction has presumably stopped but, between Sept. 7 when the moratorium was approved and Oct. 12 when the court made its ruling, "thousands of feet of fence were constructed."

Attorneys for the county have requested that the court order remediation for all the fencing built illegally after September, either in modifying the fence to abide by the 5-foot rule that is now part of Costilla County Land Use Code or removal of the fence all together.

Newmyer-Olsen did not address that request in her ruling, so the fence continues to stand, as is.

The moratorium passed in September was set to expire on March 5. It was that expiration date that prompted the vote this week to extend the moratorium until September.

Right now, the case of Costilla County versus William Harrison and Cielo Vista Ranch is set to go to court in October where it is hoped that Costilla County's power and authority to regulate fence construction and grading will be upheld and a permanent injunction to remove all fencing illegally constructed between Sept. 7 and Oct. 13 will be granted.

But October is seven months away, which means that, for at least the next seven months, migration of wildlife will continue to be restricted and both erosion and diversion of water from areas destroyed by construction of fence roads will continue to threaten some of Costilla County's most



Photo by Bernadette Lucero

**Photo of significant erosion and water diversion caused by grading on a steep slope. Eight-foot perimeter fence visible in foreground.**

treasured lands.

Throughout this battle, individuals have reached out to the governor for assistance, including submitting a petition with more than 3,000 signatures, but were told the governor cannot intervene in county land use issues. There have also been discussions with the AG's office about assistance but nothing conclusive has been announced to the public.

"But more than the governor or the AG's office, the lack of concern from Colorado Parks and Wildlife has been difficult," Doon says. "The Parks and Wildlife people are basically telling us either 'the fence is fine' or we don't have jurisdiction to do anything about it'. That just seems crazy."

"The fence is clearly inhibiting wildlife movement. And 'the state owns the wildlife', right? But they just don't seem to have any concern with the wildlife — not the elk or...anything. They're putting their head in the sand. The lack of anybody besides the county — even coming down and seeing it, let alone advocating for something — that's very frustrating."

When asked what he'd like to see come out of the October trial, Doon says, "We want the fence they built during the morato-

rium to come down. We're not saying a person doesn't have the right to build a fence on their property. But we would like a fence that's more compatible with wildlife. That's for sure. The type of fence they built cuts off all wildlife."

"Their construction practices need to be more responsible and not create so much erosion and just bulldozing lines through a steep mountain corridor. That's completely irresponsible."

"In a dream world, yeah, I would say 'no fence'. But they're going to build a fence. We're saying this needs to be done in a way that's responsible for wildlife, the watershed, downstream users and the neighbors."

Quoting a former commissioner, Doon said, "Ever since Jack Taylor bought the property in 1960 and started fencing it and really changed the way the locals got to use that property, there's been a chapter of a struggle one way or another. There was the original court case, there was the original fencing in the 60s, there was logging. There's always been something."

"This is our chapter between the rich owner of the mountain and the communities where that land is part of their heritage."



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## UPCOMING GRIZZLY ATHLETIC EVENTS

**Thursday, March 7**

*Women's Wrestling NCWWC National Championships at Cedar Rapids, Iowa*

TBA

**Friday, March 8**

*Women's Wrestling NCWWC National Championships at Cedar Rapids, Iowa*

TBA

*Men & Women's Track at NCAA Division II Indoor Track & Field Championships at Pittsburg, Kan.*

TBA

*Baseball vs Regis University at Alamosa, Colo.*

2:00 p.m.

**Friday, March 8**

*Men & Women's Track at NCAA Division II Indoor Track & Field Championships at Pittsburg, Kan.*



TBA

*Baseball vs Regis University at Alamosa, Colo.*

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

*Softball at Black Hills State University (S.D.) at Spearfish, S.D.*

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

# Opinion

## Glen Canyon Dam has created a world of mud

When the San Juan River flows out of the San Juan Mountains in Southwestern Colorado, it contributes 15% of Lake Powell's water.

But there's a problem: The river carries a hefty 55% of the sediment entering the reservoir, and that mud is piling up, and that mud is piling up.

The sediment-heavy river flows south into New Mexico before jogging into Utah, then it joins the Colorado River close to the Arizona border. The confluence is submerged under Lake Powell.

After decades of drought, the reservoir created by Glen Canyon Dam has dwindled to just a third full. Now, as the San Juan River flows toward Lake Powell, it rambles over a huge pancake of mud that's 49 miles long, a mile wide in some places, and as much as 120 feet deep in the final reaches of the San Juan River.

Unique hydrology has contributed to this plug. A relatively wide canyon and multiple waterfalls slow down the river, allowing sediment to drop out. Though the San Juan is the muddiest tributary, all the Colorado's tributaries drop a good deal of mud 100 miles or more upstream of Glen Canyon Dam.

It's a Western phenomenon caused by damming swift rivers, said Jeff Geslin, a geologist at Fort Lewis College in Durango. The result is that reservoirs in the West have become "temporary sediment storage facilities."

If that mud could move through the Grand Canyon, like it did before the dam, biologists say that would help restore the canyon's ecosystem, which depends on sediment-laden flushes in spring to scour riverbanks. Then, as the river slows, beaches form and vegetation returns.

Gary Gianniny, professor of Geosciences at Fort Lewis College in Durango has been studying the San Juan River, along with river researchers who call their team, "The Returning Rapids Project."

The group's big worry is that without drastic action — draining Lake Powell to let the Colorado River run free — time may be running out for the languorous San Juan River.

Mike DeHoff, principal investigator of

### Writers On The Range



Dave Marston



the Returning Rapids Project said the sediment layer on the San Juan has created new channels and new waterfalls. DeHoff added that no one knows whether the river's sediment plug would dissipate even if Glen Canyon Dam were breached.

Researchers boating the San Juan River where it approaches Lake Powell say they're forced to navigate an ever-moving pile of sediment that also involves portaging around rock waterfalls. When they finally arrive at Lake Powell, there's dangerous liquefied clay and sand to navigate.

"I've seen people sink to their chests in the mud, saved only by their flotation devices and nearby boaters," said DeHoff of Moab, Utah.

"We'll need a drone to study that area," added Gianniny.

Researchers with the Returning Rapids Project talk a lot about what to call these giant slabs of calving sediment. DeHoff suggests "mud bergs."

Semi-solid mud walls along the river have already been dubbed "the Dominy Formation," named after the avid federal dam-builder Floyd Dominy.

"Technically, Gianniny said, the giant mud plug is a "mass of uncompacted mud and sand that causes alluvial fanning." And falling slabs of sediment, those "mud bergs," act as semi-permanent river features.

BLM River Ranger Chad Niehaus uses a packraft to regularly visit what researchers are calling the Lowest San Juan. He floats over 30-plus miles of the muddy river, finishing with a four-mile backpack out to a four-wheel drive vehicle 48 miles from Page, Arizona as the crow flies.

Niehaus marvels at the deserted region. "Sediment is moving around, and



Photo courtesy Chad Niehaus

### Calving sediment below Clay Hills, San Juan River.

you must be vigilant in a different way than you do on a 'normal' river."

Drought, climate change, "whatever you call it, the Lowest San Juan has re-emerged," Niehaus said about wildlife in the once-submerged canyon. "I've seen river otters, mountain lions, coyotes — even pelicans — but the most astounding aspect is how quickly nature is coming back." In places, cottonwood trees are 20 feet high, he said.

"When I was a teenager there were places on maps that were considered forever gone," he said, pointing to sections on the map entitled, "Glen Canyon National Recreation Area."

Now, he said, "some forever-gone places

To submit news, email:  
news@alamosanews.com

To submit sports, email:  
khamrick@alamosanews.com

### Letters policy

Letters are welcome and encouraged. All letters submitted for publication in the Valley Courier must be typewritten, signed by the author, and must include a phone number and address where the author can be reached. Letters must not be libelous. The Courier will not run letters that are negative to specific businesses. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, civility and accuracy. Please limit letters to 500 words or less.

The Courier's editorial board reserves the right to reject a letter for reasons it believes are appropriate. Letters may be subject to editing to fit available space, or exclusion from the Opinion Page. Please, no poetry. Please send signed letters to P.O. Box 1099, Alamosa, CO 81101 or email them to news@alamosanews.com. Letters to staff, not for publication, should be marked "personal."

## LETTERS

# Local funeral directors privileged to serve their communities

### Editor,

Doug Manning, a best-selling author, former Pastor, and grief expert wrote "The calling of the funeral director is to be there when someone is in need. To be there no matter the time or the conditions. To be there with words of comfort and concern. To be there to give quiet guidance through the storm. To be there for the final tribute that honors a life. There is no higher privilege."

To the large majority of funeral directors in this country and our state, these thoughts are reflective of the call to service we feel as men and women in the funeral industry.

In the past few months, especially in Colorado, the spotlight has been focused on the tragedies that have affected many families regarding the irresponsible acts of a very small minority of people associated with fu-

neral homes. We are often reminded of the sales of body parts in Montrose a few years ago, the issues at a funeral home in Leadville, and more recently the alleged improper storage of close to 200 decedents in Penrose and as of this past week cremated remains and a body found in Colorado Springs in relationship to a funeral home that had closed over a year ago.

With all that is going on, it is important to know that legislatures are working on new bills, to put protections in place for families and their loved ones.

As a member of the Colorado Funeral Directors Board, we are working with legislatures to ensure that the bills presented benefit the families of Colorado.

Where I grew up, the local funeral directors were an active part of the community, they went to our churches,

served on our local non-profit boards, and were active in local civic groups. These were individuals that the community looked up to and held in high regard.

In the San Luis Valley, the local funeral homes that we have do much the same. We serve the communities of the San Luis Valley with dignity and compassion. We all strive to honor the life of the decedents in our care to the best of our abilities. The funeral home staff that serves the community strives to provide the highest quality of service in our ways.

Much like the town I grew up in, as your funeral directors, we live, worship, and share in the same community as those we serve.

Stephen Hunzeker  
Mountain Valley Mortuary

Keith R Cerny  
Publisher

Brian Williams  
Managing Editor

# Valley Courier

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# Sports

## Grizzlies squash Yellowjackets 83-63

By **KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*

**ALAMOSA**—For the second straight year, the Adams State University women’s basketball team will play in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Tournament Final 4 as the Lady Grizzlies defeated Black Hills State (S.D.) 83-63 Tuesday at Plachy Hall gym.

“It was a great win,” said ASU coach Mario Caetano. “We had the energy and after we settled in after that first quarter, our nerves kind of settled and we started to make the shots that we normally make.”

Kayla Harris gave the Lady Grizzlies the early lead with a layup and a free throw, but Morgan Hammerbeck put the Lady Yellowjackets on the board with a jumper.

The teams then exchanged baskets until Ellie Moore made a layup and Hammerbeck tied the score at 9-9 by splitting at the free throw line.

Alessia Capley gave Black Hills State its only lead with a layup. But Christabel Longe knocked down a jumper to tie the score at 11-11 after the first quarter.

ASU started to heat up early in the second quarter as Angeline Nageak and Riahana Davis made back-to-back 3-point baskets. Kaycee Groves scored two baskets to bring BHSU within 17-15, but Nageak made another three for a 20-15 lead.

Haylee Weathersby scored four straight points to reduce the margin to 20-19, but Kiiyani Anitelu drove for a layup and later drained two treys and the Lady Grizzlies had a 27-19 advantage.

Hammerbeck scored five straight points and Kalla Bertram two as the Lady Yellowjackets closed to within 30-26.

But Elaina Watson made two free throws, and Nageak buried another 3-pointer and Adams State led 35-26 at halftime.

Davis opened the second half with a layup, but Gracie Haneborg answered with one on the other side of the court. Watson drove for a layup and Anitelu swished a three for a 42-28 lead.

Davis then scored a layup and was hard fouled on the play. She was awarded two free throws, which she converted, and the lead grew to 46-30.

Davis made a 3-pointer and Nageak knocked down a jumper for a 51-33 lead.

Capley made one of two from the line, and Raven Cournoyer and Capley both scored to reduce the Lady Yellowjackets’ deficit to 51-38.

Nageak ended the run with another trey and Watson scored a layup. Moore scored a layup, but Harmanie



Courier photo by Ken Hamrick  
**Adams State University’s Riahana Davis (24) fires in a 3-point shot in Tuesday’s Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Tournament game at Plachy Hall gym. Davis scored 20 points as the Lady Grizzlies defeated the Lady Yellowjackets 83-63. ASU will next play Regis University Friday in Denver at 5 p.m.**

Dominguez scored ASU’s final five points of the third quarter and the Lady Grizzlies had a 61-43 advantage. Nageak began the fourth quarter with a jumper, but Black Hills State got a 3-pointer from Jaylen Ostenson and a layup from Moore. Anitelu scored a layup, but Hammerbeck and Haneborg both scored to bring BHSU

within 65-52 with 7:21 left in the game.

But Nageak ended the run with a three and she later added a layup.

ASU led 73-59 when Harris made a 3-pointer. Dominguez scored again and so did Harris. Davis hit a short jumper and added a free throw to wrap up the scoring for the Lady Grizzlies.

Four ASU players scored in double figures with Nageak leading the way with 23 points. Davis scored 21, and Harris and Anitelu both scored 10.

Dominguez set a new school record with 97 3-pointers for the season.

Hammerbeck led the Lady Yellowjackets with 21 points.

Adams State set a new team record for with 24 against only seven losses. The Lady Grizzlies’ next game will be in the RMAC semifinals against Regis which defeated Colorado Christian 61-58.

The Final 4 will take place at Regis as top-seeded Colorado Mesa lost to Colorado State Pueblo 66-57.

“I Have to go home and watch some film and figure it out,” Caetano said. “We have to make sure we’re doing everything right on the defensive end and fix some mistakes and we’ll be ready to go.”

Tip-off at the Regis Fieldhouse is at 5 p.m. The second game will be between CSU Pueblo and Colorado-Colorado Springs at 7 p.m. The Lady Mountain Lions defeated the Colorado School of Mines 71-65.

**Adams State 83, Black Hills State 63**

Black Hills State – Bertram 1-6 1-2 3, Haneborg 3-5 0-1 6, Moore 4-9 0-0 8, Hammerberg 8-10 3-5 20, Ostenson 2-5 2-2 7, Groves 2-3 0-0 4, Smith 0-0 0-0 0, Capley 2-4 3-4 7, Cournoyer 1-7 0-0 2, Sanger 0-0 0-0 0, Pautz 0-1 0-0 0, Weathersby 1-1 4-4 6. Total 24-51 13-18 63.

3-point goals – Haneborg 0-1, Hammerbeck 1-3, Ostenson 1-3, Bertram 0-3, Cournoyer 0-4. Total 2-15.

Adams State – Dominguez 3-9 0-0 7, Harris 4-5 1-1 10, Nageak 9-11 0-0 23, Watson 3-9 2-2 8, Davis 7-13 4-5 21, Knothe 0-0 0-0 0, John 1-4 0-0 2, Linnear 0-0 0-0 0, Anitelu 4-10 0-0 10, Longe 1-5 0-0 2. Total 32-66 7-8 83.

3-point goals – Dominguez 1-6, Nageak 5-6, Watson 0-1, Davis 3-6, Harris 1-2, Anitelu 2-5. Total 12-26.

Black Hills State	11	15	17	20 – 63
Adams State	11	24	26	22 – 83

Rebounds – Black Hills State 36 (Bertram, Capley, Haneborg 5), Adams State 27 (Davis 7). Assists – Black Hills State 15 (Haneborg, Moore 3), Adams State 22 (Nageak 8). Fouls – Black Hills State 11, Adams State 18. Turnovers – Black Hills State 22, Adams State 12.

## Three Grizzlies Secure Berths at Nationals

By **ERIC R. FLORES**  
*ASU sports information*

**PUEBLO** – Three wrestlers from Adams State University secured their spots at the NCAA Division II Wrestling Championships following their top-three finishes at the NCAA Region VI Tournament hosted by CSU Pueblo.

Isaiah Gamez secured a berth at 125 pounds with a second-place finish, while Angel Flores qualified at 141 pounds after claiming third place. Aaden Valdez emerged as the lone individual champion for the Grizzlies, punching his ticket at 165 pounds.

Valdez dominated his opponents, going 4-0. He started with a 12-3 major decision victory, followed by a 17-2 tech fall in the quarterfinals. In the semifinals, he secured a 5-0 shutout, and he clinched the title with a win over Kyle Botelho from San Francisco State. Valdez accrued 17.5 team points.

Gamez finished second, narrowly missing the individual title after a tiebreaker favored Zachary Ourada from Nebraska-Kearney. Gamez earned 18.5 team points.

DJ VanMatre placed sixth at 133 pounds, contributing seven points before Flores added 13 with a third-place finish, sealed by a 6-5 decision victory over Johnny Lopez from San Francisco State.

Jack Faczak went 0-2 at 149 pounds, while Nico Carasso claimed fifth place at 157 pounds, securing

nine points. Ben Tonnessen also finished fifth at 197 pounds, earning 11 points.

Samuel Loera (174), Hunter Tobiasson (184), and Wil Aucoin (285) went 0-2 in their respective weight classes.

Overall, the Grizzlies amassed 76.5 points, finishing seventh as a team.

The trio of Grizzlies will now prepare for the NCAA National Championships in Park City, Kan., scheduled to commence on Friday, March 15.

### Holland Qualifies for NCWWC National Championships

**DENTON, Texas** – The Adams State University Grizzly women’s wrestling team showcased their prowess on Feb. 25, securing three placers at the NCWWC Region VI Tournament held at Texas Woman’s University in Denton, Texas.

With the top four finishers in each weight category earning a ticket to the NCWWC National Championships in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in two weeks, Austria Holland emerged as the sole qualifier from the team, clinching third place in the 116-pound division.

In a thrilling showdown, Holland clinched victory in the third place match with a 4-2 decision over Jaia Ashley of Schreiner University.

Among the other standout performers for the Grizzlies were Canice Brickell, who claimed sixth place in the 109-pound category, and Trinity Perez, who secured eighth place in the 130-pound division.



## ASU’s Hyde sets national record in the 3,000

By **KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*

**ALAMOSA** – Adams State University’s Gracie Hyde set an NCAA Division II record in the 3,000-meter run on Feb. 9 at the David Hemrey Valentine Invitational in Boston.

Hyde, who hails from Benton, Ark., shattered the record set by another ASU track athlete Stephanie Cotter. Hyde’s time was 8:58.33 and she becomes the first woman to break the nine-minute barrier in Division II history.

Hyde was also named the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference’s women’s track and field

Athlete of the Week, as well as the USTFCCCA’s National Athlete of the Week, for that time period.

Cotter’s time set last season was 9:06.03.

### National indoor meet is this week

Hyde will be one of 25 ASU track and field athletes to compete at this week’s NCAA Division II Indoor Meet at Pittsburg, Kan.

Below is the complete list of who has qualified for the Grizzlies and in what event:

- MEN**  
Kidias Begashaw – mile  
Dayton Brown – 5,000-meter, 3,000-meter  
David Cardenas – 800-meter, distance medley relay  
Miguel Coca – mile, 3,000-meter  
James Dunne – mile, distance medley

- relay  
Yonas Haile – 3,000-meter  
Romain Legendre – 5,000-meter  
Andrew O’Keefe – 5,000-meter  
Ja’Warren Smith – distance medley relay  
Jonah Vigil – 400-meter

- WOMEN**  
Victoria Amiadamen – 4x400-meter relay, distance medley relay  
Isila Apkup – 4x400-meter relay  
Elena Carey – mile  
Liekke Hoogsteen – 800-meter, distance medley relay  
Gracie Hyde – mile, 3,000-meter, distance medley relay  
Morgan Hykes – 3,000-meter  
Maggie McCleskey – 3,000-meter  
Jada Miller – 4x400-meter relay  
Ava O’Connor – 3,000-meter  
Precious Robinson – 5,000-meter, 3,000-meter  
Brianna Robles – 5,000-meter, 3,000-meter  
Emily Schoellkopf – 5,000-meter, 3,000-meter  
Jessica Simon – 800-meter, 4x400-meter relay, distance medley relay  
Tristan Spence – 5,000-meter, 3,000-meter

## Molina, Haile national champions for TSC

By **KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*

**ALAMOSA** – Former Alamosa High School student-athlete Alliyah Molina was one of two individual national champions for Trinidad State College at the NJCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships last weekend at the Alachua County Sports and Events Center in Gainesville, Fla.

Molina’s championship came in the women’s 5,000-meter run in a time of 17:00.17. In addition to her championship, Molina also placed second in the 3,000 meters in 9:54.79



and fifth in the mile in 4:56.57.

Also placing for the Lady Trojans was Megan Garrett who was third in the mile in 4:52.83 and fourth in the 1,000 meters in 2:58.60.

TSC’s other national

champion was Hanibal Haile who won the men’s 5,000 meters in 14:02.78, which is also a facility record.

He also took third in the 3,000 meters in 8:08.56 and third in the mile in 4:07.66.

The Lady Trojans finished eighth overall with 33 points. Barton County (Kan.) and Iowa Western were the co-champions with 106 points each.

The Trojans were 12th with 22 points. Indian Hills (Iowa) was the men’s national champion with 91 ½ points.

**Sports Bulletin**

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

**SCOREBOARD**  
**TUESDAY**  
**College women’s basketball**  
Adams State 83, Black Hills State (S.D.) 63

**SCHEDULE**  
**WEDNESDAY**

**College men’s lacrosse**  
Colorado State Pueblo at Adams State, 3 p.m.

**THURSDAY**  
**Prep boys basketball**  
Centauri vs. Yuma (Class 3A State Tournament at University of Denver), 8:30 p.m.  
Sanford vs. Crowley County (Class 2A State Tournament at Loveland), 8:30 p.m.  
Sierra Grande vs. Denver Jewish Day (Class 1A State Tournament at Greeley), 8:30 p.m.

**Prep girls basketball**  
Centauri vs. Yuma (Class 3A State Tournament at University of Denver), 7 p.m.

**College women’s wrestling**  
Adams State at NCAA Adaments (at Cedar Rapids, Iowa), TBA

**Prep baseball**  
Alamosa vs. Severance (Montrose Invitational), 1 p.m.

**FRIDAY**  
**Prep boys basketball**  
Sanford vs. Denver Christian or Merino

(Class 2A State Tournament at Loveland), 1:15 or 8:30 p.m.  
Centauri/Yuma winner vs. Salida/Forge Christian winner (Class 3A State Tournament at University of Denver), 8:30 p.m.  
Sierra Grande vs. Peetz or Cheyenne Wells (Class 1A State Tournament at Greeley), TBA

**Prep girls basketball**  
Centauri/Yuma winner vs. Strasburg/Peyton winner (Class 3A State Tournament at

University of Denver), 7 p.m.

**Prep baseball**  
Monte Vista at Gunnison, noon  
Sargent at Antonito, 1 p.m.

**College women’s basketball**  
Adams State at Regis winner (RMAC Tournament), 5 p.m.

**College indoor track and field**  
Adams State at NCAA Division II Championships (at Pittsburg, Kan.), TBA

**College men’s**

**wrestling**  
Adams State at NCAA Division II National Championship (at Wichita, Kan.), TBA

**College women’s wrestling**  
Adams State at NCAA Adaments (at Cedar Rapids, Iowa), TBA

**Prep baseball**  
Alamosa vs. Glenwood Springs (Montrose Invitational), 1 p.m.

**College baseball**  
Regis at Adams State, 2 p.m.

# Lifestyle

## Wolverine reintroduction bill is introduced through Colorado Legislature

By COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

DENVER — Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and a bipartisan group of legislators joined together on Monday to announce legislation that would give the agency the authority to reintroduce the North American wolverine to Colorado.

Colorado wildlife officials considered the restoration of wolverine, along with Canada lynx, in the 1990s. However, due to complexities, the wolverine restoration plans were delayed in favor of lynx restoration. After lynx restoration was deemed a success, CPW returned to the idea in 2010 and completed a plan for reintroduction informed by partners and stakeholders, but that was halted because of uncertainty surrounding a federal listing decision.

Because the wolverine has been listed as a threatened species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act, SB24-171 states that reintroduction of wolverines would not begin until a final rule designating the North American wolverine in Colorado as a nonessential experimental population (known as a 10(j) rule), had taken effect.

“Colorado is the right state to take on this work,” said CPW Director Jeff Davis. “The North American wolverine requires a high-elevation habitat with persistent, deep snowpack, and Colorado has some of the best remaining unoccupied wolverine habitat in the lower 48 states. This legislation would put us on the

right path toward a successful wolverine reintroduction effort in Colorado.”

“Wolverines are one of the last native species missing from our state,” said House Sponsor Representative Barbara McLachlan. “The time is right to enhance Colorado’s wildlife diversity with a threatened species. We will be a better state for it.”

“Colorado has great unoccupied wolverine habitat, and we have the opportunity to conserve a species that has been missing from our state in addition to supporting the species by increasing their population capacity across the Western U.S.,” said Senator Perry Will. “This legislation will provide the nation’s top wildlife agency and wildlife professionals the right method to reintroduce a species. Let’s manage the wildlife resources of Colorado the correct way through scientific wildlife management. I am excited to see this through.”

“Increasing biodiversity and doing our part to responsibly promote the return of threatened species is the Colorado way,” said Senator Dylan Roberts. “After a long process of scientific research, engagement with communities, businesses, and groups across the state, and with the proper legislative guardrails, Colorado is ready to move forward with restoring a sustainable population of wolverines to our high altitude landscapes. I am excited to work with a bipartisan group of legislators, CPW, and folks across the state to get this done.”

Key components for the

legislation include:

- As long as the North American wolverine remains on the list of threatened or endangered species pursuant to the federal act, CPW will not reintroduce the species in the state until the effective date of a final rule designating the wolverine in Colorado as a nonessential experimental population.

- CPW will work cooperatively with federal land management agencies with jurisdiction over federal public lands where North American wolverines may be released in Colorado.

- The Parks and Wildlife Commission shall adopt rules providing for payment of fair compensation to owners of livestock for losses of livestock caused by the North American wolverine.

- Before the reintroduction effort occurs, CPW will prepare and deliver a report on the North American wolverine in the state. CPW will also prepare a report for each of the five years after the reintroduction of the North American wolverine occurs.

- CPW may not use funds generated from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses or from associated federal grants to implement the reintroduction.

- The bill authorizes the CPW Director to use \$750,000 from the Species Conservation Trust Fund for the reintroduction effort. The funds would become available in the state fiscal year 2024-25.

Background on wolverines

- With a solitary nature and a strong survival in-

stinct, the wolverine is an icon of arctic, boreal, and alpine environments. The wolverine, (scientifically known as the gulo gulo) is the largest terrestrial member of the weasel family. With short, rounded ears, a broad head, and a stocky body, wolverines are sometimes compared to a skunk-badger-bear combo.

- Wolverines are a native species to Colorado, and their range once spanned down the Sierra Nevada in California and the Rocky Mountains to Colorado, but the species was extirpated in Colorado in the 1900s due to unregulated harvest, and broad-scale carnivore poisoning.

- Wolverines, which number in the thousands in Canada and Alaska, have since reestablished populations in Washington, Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming, but have not re-

turned to stay in Colorado.

- It is estimated that there are fewer than 400 wolverines in the contiguous United States, and the most significant stressor on wolverines in the coming years will be climate change, according to an analysis by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- Climate change is likely to present new and growing challenges to the species, most in the form of a reduction in the cold, snowy habitat that wolverines prefer. Colorado’s high snowy mountains are the species’ largest unoccupied territory in the lower 48, and will only become more important as a warming climate shrinks the snowpack the wolverines need for dens.

- Colorado’s mountains, which are at high elevation, are predicted to retain their snowpack as well, if not better than, the lower-

elevation mountains in the Pacific Northwest.

- CPW biologists estimate that the state has enough suitable terrain to support approximately 100-180 animals at full carrying capacity, significantly bolstering the species’ long-term viability with a potential to increase the population in the Western U.S. by 20% or more.

- Wolverines are opportunistic feeders and eat a variety of foods that are available in their harsh alpine/subalpine environment: small rodents, rabbits, porcupines, ground squirrels, marmots, birds and eggs, fish, carrion, and plants. Wolverines will occasionally eat deer and other large ungulates. These are probably scavenged, although wolverines can kill large ungulates if those animals are weakened and bogged in deep snow.

**IMAGINE ALAMOSA Comprehensive Plan**

*Kick Off Events*  
**MARCH 11TH to 14TH**  
 hosted at various locations throughout the County!

**ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATIONS**  
 3.11 SLV Federal Bank 11am-1pm 3.12 Juanito's Restaurant 5pm-7pm

**ONE ON ONE LISTENING SESSIONS**  
 3.11, 3.12 & 3.14 Visit the website for locations and times!

Visit the project website to register for the events!  
[www.imaginealamosa.com](http://www.imaginealamosa.com)





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**DEADLINE MARCH 29**

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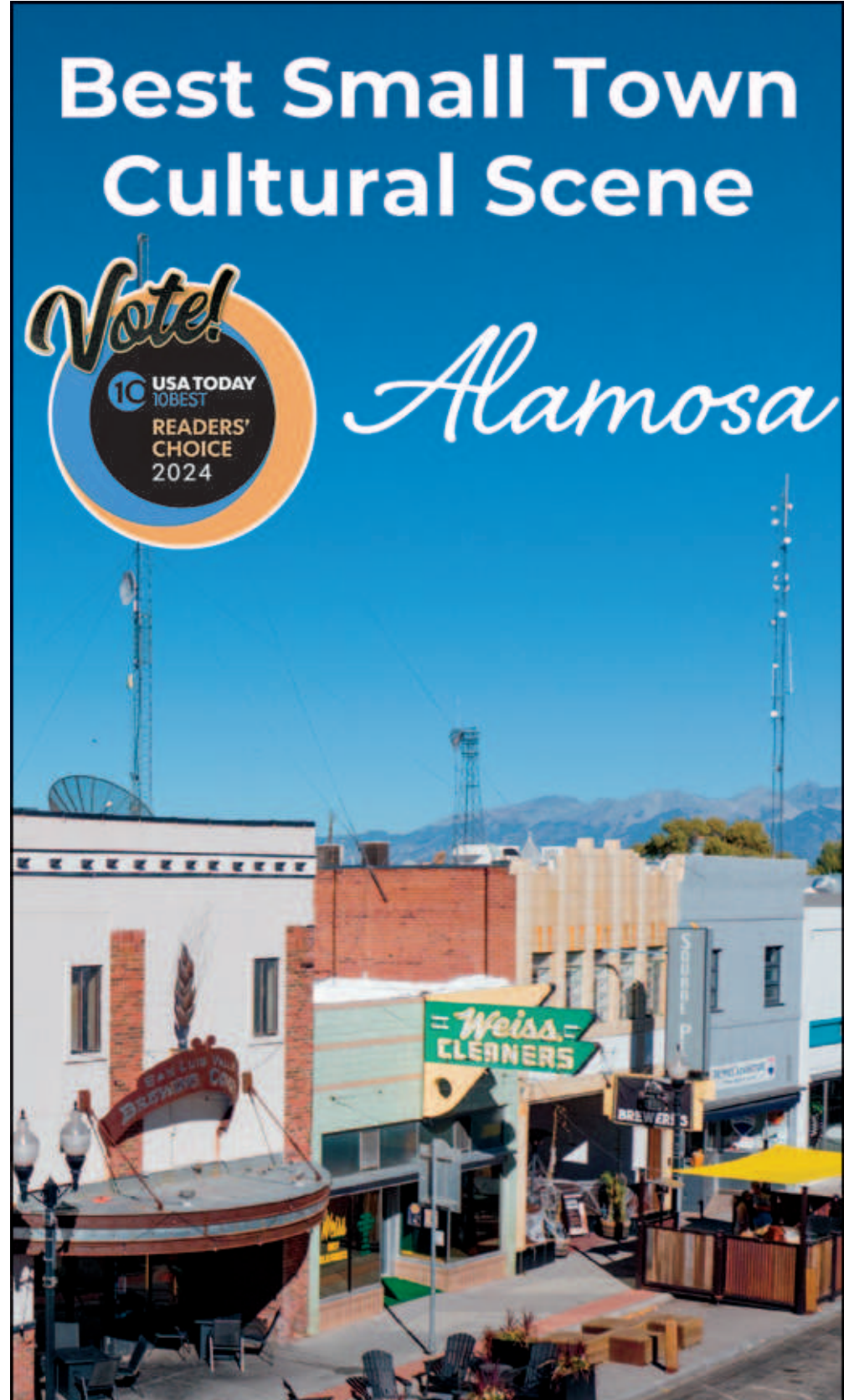


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# Public Notices

**COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION**  
 CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 956-23  
 To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:  
 On December 20, 2023, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.  
 Original Grantor(s)  
 Samuel G. Burris  
 Original Beneficiary(ies)  
 Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Generation Mortgage Company  
 Current Holder of Evidence of Debt  
 LLACG Community Investment Fund  
 Date of Deed of Trust  
 April 14, 2011  
 County of Recording  
 Alamosa  
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust  
 April 25, 2011  
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)  
 345355  
 Original Principal Amount  
 \$210,000.00  
 Outstanding Principal Balance  
 \$208,038.94  
 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: For reasons including, but not limited to, the failure to pay monthly payments of principal and interest together with all other payments provided for in the Deed of Trust and Note.  
**THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.**  
**THE LAND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SITUATED IN THE STATE OF COLORADO, COUNTY OF ALAMOSA, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:**  
 A TRACT OF LAND CONTAINING 3 ACRES DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:  
 BEGINNING AT THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF THE WESTERLY R.O.W. LINE FOR S. H. NO. 285 AND THE SOUTH LINE OF THE N.W. 1/4 SEC. 5, T. 36N., R. 10E., OF N.M.P.M., FROM WHICH POINT THE N.W. CORNER OF SAID SEC. 5 BEARS N. 3 DEG. 31' 37" W. A DISTANCE OF 2657.11 FT. THENCE S. 89 DEG. 42' 45" W. ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF THE N.W. 1/4 SAID SEC. 5 AND N.E. 1/4 SEC. 6, A DISTANCE OF 325.00 FT. THENCE N. 22 DEG. 45' E., PARALLEL TO THE WESTERLY R.O.W. LINE FOR S.H. NO. 285, A DISTANCE OF 436.93 FT. THENCE N 89 DEG. 42' 45" E., PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH LINE OF THE N.W. 1/4 SAID SEC. 5, A DISTANCE OF 325.00 FT. TO A POINT ON THE WESTERLY R.O.W. LINE FOR S.H. NO. 285. THENCE S. 22 DEG. 45' W., ALONG SAID WESTERLY R.O.W. LINE FOR S.H. NO. 285, A DISTANCE OF 436.93 FT. TO A POINT OF INTERSECTION WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID N.W. 1/4 SEC. 5, WHICH IS THE POINT OF BEGINNING, ALL IN ALAMOSA COUNTY, COLORADO.  
 Also known by street and number as: 12483 US Highway 285 S, Alamosa, CO 81101.  
 THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCOMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.  
 THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 04/17/2024, at County Office Building, 89899 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.  
 First Publication 2/21/2024  
 Last Publication 3/20/2024  
 Name of Publication Valley Courier  
 IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;  
 DATE: 12/20/2023  
 Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado  
 By: Amy McKinley, Public Trustee  
 The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:  
 Jeremiah B Hayes #34002  
 Taherzadeh, PLLC 15851 N Dallas Parkway, Suite 410, Addison, TX 75001 (469) 729-6800  
 Attorney File # Burris 190-00165  
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.  
 No. 3797.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on February 21, 28, March 6, 13, & 20, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED**  
 To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having an Interest or Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:  
 1) /AK Lonepine Ranch LLC, whose last known address was P.O. Box 129, Capulin, CO 81129-0129.  
 THE W1/2 NW1/4, AND THE SE1/4 NW1/4, AND THE SOUTH 16 ACRES OF THE NE1/4 NW1/4, AND THE N1/2 SW1/4 OF SECTION 13; THE E1/2 NE1/4, AND THE NE1/4 SE1/4, AND THE EAST TWO-THIRDS NW1/4 SE1/4, AND THE EAST TWO-THIRDS OF THE SW1/4 NE1/4 OF SECTION 14; ALL IN TOWNSHIP 35 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE N.M.P.M., COUNTY OF CONEJOS, STATE OF COLORADO, LESS 1/2 INTEREST IN MINERAL RIGHTS AS DESCRIBED IN BOOK 226 AT PAGE 10 OF THE CONEJOS COUNTY RECORDS.  
 571713200046  
 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 19th day of November A.D. 2020, the then County Treasurer of the County of Conejos, in the State of Colorado, offered for sale at a public tax lien sale the above described real estate situated in the County of Conejos, State of Colorado, to satisfy the delinquent taxes assessed against said real estate for the year 2019.  
 That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of /AK Lonepine Ranch LLC, for the said year 2019.  
 That at said sale, said real estate was struck off to Jericho Holdings LLC; whose address is 6000 Liebig Ave, Bronx, NY 10471, and the Treasurer's Certificate of Purchase was issued therefore to Jericho Holdings LLC. And as present holder of the certificate they have made a request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said real estate.  
 That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said real estate to the said Jericho Holdings LLC at 3:00 P.M. on the 12th day of June, 2024, unless the same has been redeemed.  
 Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.  
 Witness my hand and seal this 21st day of February A.D. 2024.  
 Mack M. Crowther  
 Conejos County Treasurer  
 No. 3800.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on February 21, 28, & March 6, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED**  
 To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having an Interest or Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:  
 1. /AK Lonepine Ranch LLC, whose last known address was P.O. Box 129, Capulin, CO 81129-0129.  
 THE W1/2 NE1/4 NW1/4 AND THE S1/2 NW1/4 OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 35 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST, N.M.P.M., COUNTY OF CONEJOS, STATE OF COLORADO, LESS AND EXCEPT A TRACT OF LAND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SE CORNER OF THE SE1/4 NW1/4 OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 35 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST, N.M.P.M., COUNTY OF CONEJOS, STATE OF COLORADO, AND RUNNING THENCE NORTH ON THE QUARTER SECTION LINE 77 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 83°25' WEST 670.9 FEET TO THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF THE SAID SE1/4 NW1/4 OF SAID SECTION 12; THENCE RUNNING EAST ON THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE 666.5 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.  
 A TRACT OF LAND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE NW CORNER OF THE SAID NE1/4 SW1/4 OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 35 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST, N.M.P.M. COUNTY OF CONEJOS, STATE OF COLORADO, AND RUNNING THENCE SOUTH ON THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID NE1/2 SW1/4 OF SAID SECTION 12, 77 FEET; THENCE NORTH 83°25' EAST 670.9 FEET TO THE NORTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID NE1/4 SW1/4 OF SECTION 12; THENCE RUNNING WEST ON THE NORTH BOUNDARY LINE 666.5 FEET TO THE PLACE BEGINNING.  
 571712300034  
 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 19th day of November A.D. 2020, the then County Treasurer of the County of Conejos, in the State of Colorado, offered for sale at a public tax lien sale the above described real estate situated in the County of Conejos, State of Colorado, to satisfy the delinquent taxes assessed against said real estate for the year 2019.  
 That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of /AK Lonepine Ranch LLC, for the said year 2019.  
 That at said sale, said real estate was struck off to Jericho Holdings LLC; whose address is 6000 Liebig Ave, Bronx, NY 10471, and the Treasurer's Certificate of Purchase was issued therefore to Jericho Holdings LLC. And as present holder of the certificate they have made a request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said real estate.  
 That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said real estate to said Jericho Holdings LLC at 3:00 P.M. on the 26th day of June A.D. 2024, unless the same has been redeemed.  
 Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.  
 Witness my hand and seal this 28th day of February A.D. 2024.  
 Mack M. Crowther  
 Conejos County Treasurer  
 No. 3807.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on February 28, March 6, & 13, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED**  
 To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having an Interest or Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:  
 1. /AK Lonepine Ranch LLC, whose last known address was P.O. Box 129, Capulin, CO 81129-0129.  
 SE1/4 OF SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 35 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, N.M.P.M., COUNTY OF CONEJOS, STATE OF COLORADO.  
 571907400016  
 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 19th day of November A.D. 2020, the then County Treasurer of the County of Conejos, in the State of Colorado, offered for sale at a public tax lien sale the above described real estate situated in the County of Conejos, State of Colorado, to satisfy the delinquent taxes assessed against said real estate for the year 2019.  
 That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of /AK Lonepine Ranch LLC, for the said year 2019.  
 That at said sale, said real estate was struck off to Jericho Holdings LLC; whose address is 6000 Liebig Ave, Bronx, NY 10471, and the Treasurer's Certificate of Purchase was issued therefore to Jericho Holdings LLC. And as present holder of the certificate they have made a request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said real estate.  
 That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said real estate to said Jericho Holdings LLC at 3:00 P.M. on the 26th day of June A.D. 2024, unless the same has been redeemed.  
 Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.  
 Witness my hand and seal this 28th day of February A.D. 2024.  
 Mack M. Crowther  
 Conejos County Treasurer  
 No. 3808.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on February 28, March 6, & 13, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED**  
 To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having an Interest or Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:  
 1. /AK Lonepine Ranch LLC, whose last known address was P.O. Box 129, Capulin, CO 81129-0129.  
 N1/2 S1/2 NW1/4 OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 36 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST, N.M.P.M., COUNTY OF CONEJOS, STATE OF COLORADO, LESS THE 30 FEET AS DESCRIBED IN BOOK 345 AT PAGE 992.  
 556324200037  
 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 19th day of November A.D. 2020, the then County Treasurer of the County of Conejos, in the State of Colorado, offered for sale at a public tax lien sale the above described real estate situated in the County of Conejos, State of Colorado, to satisfy the delinquent taxes assessed against said real estate for the year 2019.  
 That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of /AK Lonepine Ranch LLC, for the said year 2019.  
 That at said sale, said real estate was struck off to Jericho Holdings LLC; whose address is 6000 Liebig Ave, Bronx, NY 10471, and the Treasurer's Certificate of Purchase was issued therefore to Jericho Holdings LLC. And as present holder of the certificate they have made a request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said real estate.  
 That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said real estate to said Jericho Holdings LLC at 3:00 P.M. on the 26th day of June A.D. 2024, unless the same has been redeemed.  
 Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.  
 Witness my hand and seal this 28th day of February A.D. 2024.  
 Mack M. Crowther  
 Conejos County Treasurer  
 No. 3809.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on February 28, March 6, & 13, 2024.

**SAVE GAS!**  
 Shop Locally

## 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Monte Vista Crane Festival

### March 8-10, 2024

Sandhill Cranes and other migratory birds follow a long route during their seasonal migrations. Along the way, there are many places where you can stop and view these beautiful creatures. So what makes the Monte Vista Crane Festival unique? We believe it is a combination of unmatched scenery, exceptional wildlife viewing, and the friendly, welcoming communities of the San Luis Valley.



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 278 N Broadway • Monte Vista  
 (719) 852-6945  
 Monday-Friday 7-2  
 Saturday 7-12 Breakfast Only

At the Monte Vista Crane Festival you can enjoy thousands of Sandhill Cranes, ducks, and geese flying against a backdrop of mountain scenery. Raptors will adorn the power poles and owls will be sitting with their young. A visit to the Monte Vista Crane Festival is an opportunity to see an amazing natural spectacle as well as experience a unique rural community.



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 4WD, 5.0 L, Bluetooth

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**1999 Toyota Tacoma**  
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**1591 State Ave. • Alamosa • 719-206-2777**  
**garciaautosales.1591@gmail.com**

**NOTICE**  
 is hereby given that a supplemental budget has been submitted to the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Alamosa for the year of 2023; a copy of such supplemental budget has been filed in the Office of the County Finance Officer. Said document is available for public inspection at the front reception area. A final hearing on the supplemental budget will be held at 9:30 AM, March 13, 2024 at a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Such a supplemental budget will be considered for adoption in the Board's Chambers, Alamosa County Administrative Services Building, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101. Any interested parties may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto until the conclusion of the final budget hearing. MariCruz Mora, Controller  
 No. 3828.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on March 6, 2024.



# Classifieds

**COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION**  
 CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 957-23  
 To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:  
 On December 27, 2023, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.  
 Original Grantor(s)  
 Betty J. Croft  
 Original Beneficiary(ies)  
 Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Universal Lending Corporation  
 Current Holder of Evidence of Debt  
 LLACG Community Investment Fund  
 Date of Deed of Trust  
 November 22, 2011  
 County of Recording  
 Alamosa  
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust  
 November 29, 2011  
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)  
 347407  
 Original Principal Amount  
 \$262,500.00  
 Outstanding Principal Balance  
 \$254,043.35  
 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: For reasons including, but not limited to, the failure to pay monthly payments of principal and interest together with all other payments provided for in the Deed of Trust and Note.  
 THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.  
 TRACT 4, NEWTON SUBDIVISION-EXEMPTION, THE PLAT OF WHICH WAS FILED JANUARY 08, 1979 UNDER RECEPTION NO. 201105, COUNTY OF ALAMOSA, STATE OF COLORADO  
 Also known by street and number as: 202 Northwood Lane, Alamosa, CO 81101.  
 THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCOMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.  
 THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 04/24/2024, at County Office Building, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.  
 First Publication 2/28/2024  
 Last Publication 3/27/2024  
 Name of Publication Valley Courier  
 IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;  
 DATE: 12/27/2023  
 Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado  
 By: Amy McKinley, Public Trustee  
 The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:  
 Jeremiah B Hayes #34002  
 Taherzadeh, PLLC 15851 N Dallas Parkway, Suite 410, Addison, TX 75001 (469) 729-6800  
 Attorney File # Croft 190-00166  
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.  
 No. 3813.  
 Published in the Valley Courier on February 28, March 6, 13, 20, & 27, 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. (3/15/24-monthlyAS)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**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)

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**ALAMOSA SCHOOL DISTRICT** is now accepting applications for the following position: PAYROLL/HUMAN RESOURCES CLERK. Applications are available online at https://www.alamosaschools.org/ For more information, contact Tracy Vigil at 719-587-1600 or tvigil@alamosaschools.org. Application deadline is until filled. EOE. (3/13/24)

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

**MACKEY 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**

**SOUTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT** is seeking a SECONDARY SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER for the 2024-25 school year. Applicants must possess a Colorado Teaching License or be eligible to apply for one. Salary schedules are available on the district website. Please submit a district application, resume, cover letter, and transcripts at https://www.southconejos.com/page/how-to-apply. (3/15/24)

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

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**CONEJOS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH** is seeking a Part Time, 30 hrs a week, ASSISTANT PERSONAL CARE PROVIDER SUPERVISOR. Starting rate \$17.50/hr Duties include: Scheduling and finding substitutes for PCP's. Conducts orientation on policies, conducts supervisory visits, training, home visits, data enters PCP timesheets, and notifies clients of changes in scheduling. Fills in as on call PCP. Knowledge of Microsoft Office, data entry skills a must. Bilingual preferred and High School Diploma or equivalent. Application Form Required available on Conejos County Public Health Facebook Page or via email upon request at cricci@co.conejos.co.us. Deadline is March 11, 2024. Inquiries call (719) 376-6799. (3/9/24)

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

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

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# Comics

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Potbellied pet
  - 4 Aide (abbr.)
  - 8 Lesson for youngsters
  - 12 Frozen water
  - 13 Spanish Surrealist
  - 14 Plunder
  - 15 Swindle
  - 16 Of the ear
  - 17 Actress — Sorvino
  - 18 Opposite word
  - 20 Like spoiled bread
  - 21 Evergreen
  - 22 Newsman — Rather
  - 23 Fake identity
  - 26 Twining plant part
  - 30 Mongrel
  - 31 Grief
  - 32 Yoko —
  - 33 Shade tree
  - 34 Drone
- DOWN**
- 1 Type size
  - 2 Religious picture
  - 3 Fellow
  - 4 Handsome guy

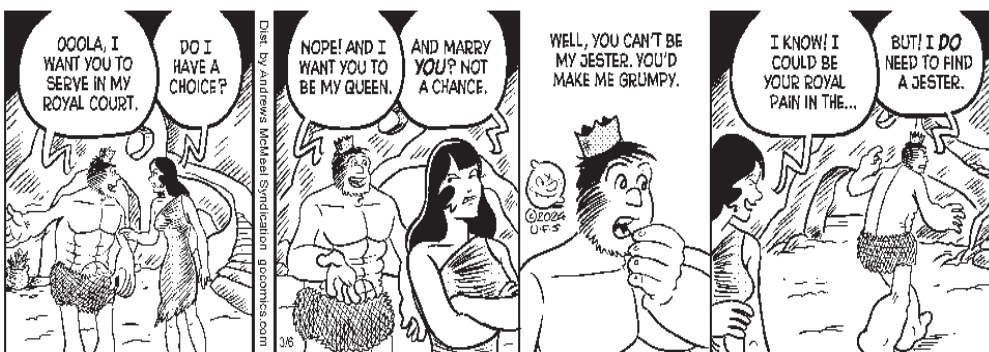
### Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

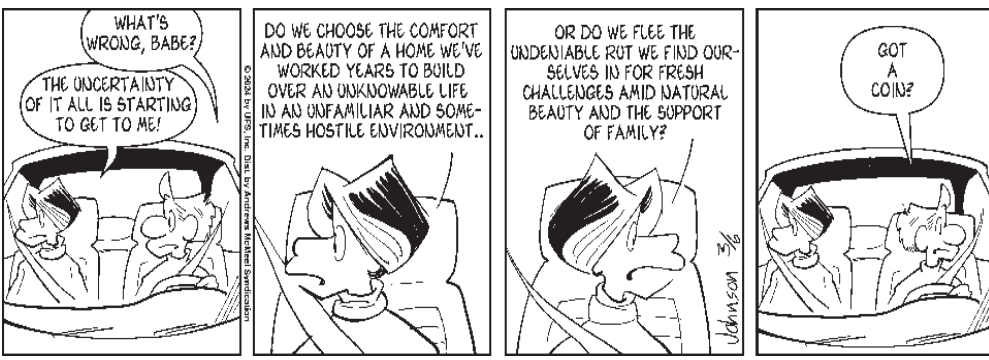
- 5 Creature of myth
- 6 Reedy
- 7 Spasm
- 8 Marzipan nut
- 9 Seethe
- 10 Wood quantity
- 11 Collar insert
- 19 Birds — feather
- 20 Artist — Ray
- 22 Judge
- 23 Playing cards
- 24 Respite
- 25 Shirley MacLaine role
- 26 — de force
- 27 Stir up
- 28 Dividing
- 29 At sea
- 31 "— Harry Met Sally"
- 37 Settled snugly
- 38 Deer
- 39 ETs
- 40 Too casual
- 42 Soft candy
- 43 Lipstick targets
- 44 Wet nurse
- 45 Heap
- 46 Witticism
- 47 Drop tuber
- 48 Edible
- 49 Sword
- 51 FBI cousin

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		

## ALLEY OOP



## ARLO & JANIS



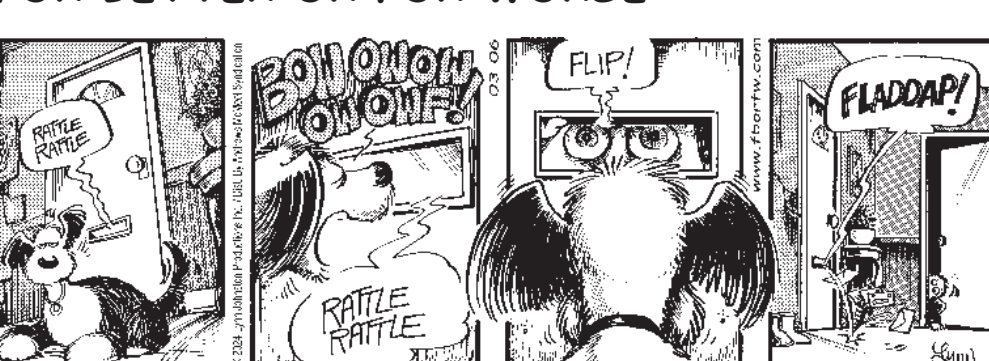
## BIG NATE



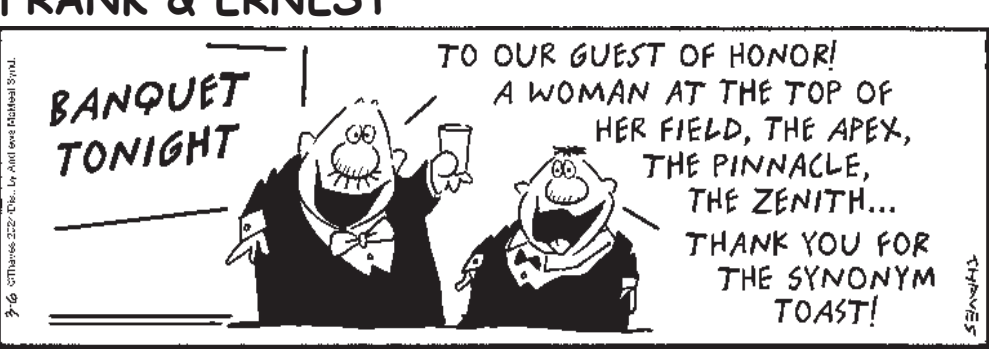
## THE BORN LOSER



## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



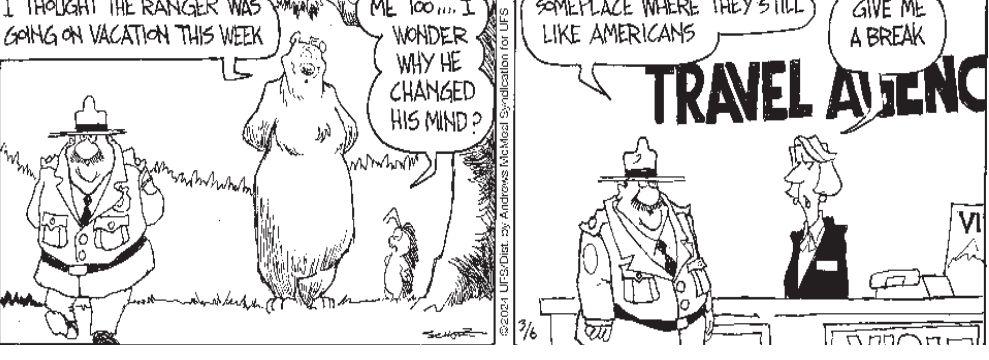
## FRANK & ERNEST



## GARFIELD



## THE GRIZZWELLS



## PEANUTS



## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

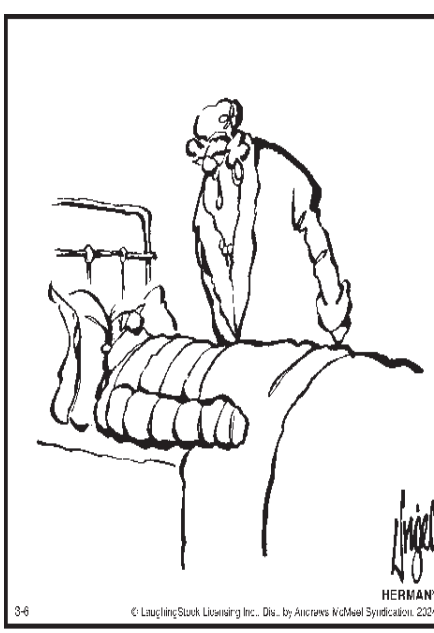
4	9	2						3
7			3	2				5
	5			8	7			4
				9	8	6		
	4			7				2
		9	5	4				
	8		7	6				3
	1			5	2			7
9						4	6	5

### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

## HERMAN



# Husband pressures wife to dress more provocatively

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband wants me to wear more revealing clothing. I've always enjoyed dressing attractively, and have never felt behind the times or like a frump, but I do have my opinion about what is appropriate. For example, if I'm wearing leggings, I wear a long top to cover my bum. My outfits are attractive and not ultra-conservative by any means, but I'm not a crop top, low-cut, skin-tight kind of gal.

has immersed herself in politics to the extreme. She believes the other side is wrong no matter what. We are in the same political party, but I don't paint as broad a brush as she does on various issues. I try to change the subject if politics arises. I try to keep an open mind until I get all the facts, whereas she listens to nothing that could be positive about the other side. You guessed it -- our discussions always turn into fights and anger with each other. Any suggestions? -- **TIRED OF TALKING POLITICS**



## ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

I want to be attractive to my husband, but I am growing really annoyed by his pestering me to wear things in public that make me feel like I'm oversharing. He says he's a guy and he would know if it's inappropriate. I conceded a few times, but it just felt showy and uncomfortable. Your thoughts? -- **STINGY WITH THE GOODS IN MAINE**

**DEAR STINGY:** My thought is: Do nothing that makes you feel self-conscious. Your husband may be a "guy" and think he knows what is appropriate attire, but the "bottom" line is that YOU must be comfortable and not feel embarrassed by what you are showing when you are out in public.

**DEAR TIRED:** In the interest of saving your marriage, because talking about politics causes fights and lingering anger, agree to defer listening to news broadcasts together and engaging in those conversations until after the next election.

**DEAR ABBY:** My daughter is being married. My wife is demanding that I tell her that my stepdaughter, "Gia" (my wife's only daughter), must take part in the wedding. Gia, who is several years younger, is self-absorbed and has made no effort to be close to her older siblings. My wife has indulged and catered to Gia's every whim since she was a little girl.

short ceremony, and she doesn't want her stepsister to have a role. She has chosen her close friends since high school to be her bridesmaids. My wife thinks it's my daughter's "duty" to include Gia in her wedding. Is my wife right? -- **EXASPERATED HUSBAND**

**DEAR HUSBAND:** No rule of etiquette requires your current wife's self-centered daughter to play a role in your daughter's wedding. If you are arm-twisted into allowing your wife to insert Gia into the wedding as more than a guest, have her stand by the guest register to ensure everyone signs in. That way she'll be away from the altar and out of the picture.

**DEAR ABBY:** My wife

My daughter wants a

# Lifestyle

## Property tax exemption for qualifying senior citizens, disabled Veterans, and Gold Star Veteran spouses

**CONTRIBUTED**  
 The Colorado Constitution establishes a property tax exemption for senior citizens, veterans with a disability and gold star veteran spouses. For those who qualify, 50 percent of the first \$200,000 in actual value of the primary residence is exempted from property tax. The State of Colorado pays the property taxes on the exempted value. Qualifying seniors are urged to submit applications if they have not yet done so.

**SENIOR CITIZEN EXEMPTION:**  
 Basic Qualifications — Generally, each of the following statements must be true to qualify for the senior citizen exemption. The qualifying senior:

Must be at least 65 years old on Jan. 1 of the year the application is filed; and

Must be the current owner of record, and listed as the owner of record for at least 10 consecutive years prior to Jan. 1; and

Must occupy the property as his/her primary residence, and must have done so for at least 10 consecutive years prior to Jan. 1.

Surviving spouses of previously qualified senior citizens may be able to continue receiving the exemption with a long form application.

Exceptions to Basic Qualifications — The applicant may still qualify if one or more of the following statements are true:

Ownership is in the spouse's name, and the spouse also occupies the property;

Ownership has been transferred to or purchased by a trust, corporate partnership or other legal entity solely for estate planning purposes;

The qualifying senior or his/her spouse was or is confined to a health care facility;

The applicant was forced to move when the prior residence was condemned in an eminent domain proceeding;

The applicant is the surviving spouse of a senior who met the requirements on Jan. 1, 2002, or on any Jan. 1 thereafter.

The qualifying senior citizen's prior residence was destroyed or otherwise rendered uninhabitable by a natural disaster.

How to Apply — To apply, you must complete the appropriate application form and return it to the assessor by July 15. The assessor must accept late applications until Aug. 15. The "Short Form" application may be used by qualifying senior citizens who meet each of the basic qualifications. The "Long Form" application must be used by applicants who satisfy one or more of the exemptions to the basic qualifications. If you would like to receive an application form or a brochure that explains the senior citizen exemption in greater detail, or if you have any questions regarding the exemption, call the Alamosa County Assessor's Office at 719-589-6365.

**VETERANS WITH A DISABILITY EXEMPTION:**

Basic Qualifications — Generally, each of the following statements must be true to qualify:

The applicant must be a veteran who sustained a service-connected disability while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This includes members of the National Guard and Reserves who sustained injuries while serving on active duty;

The applicant must have been honorably discharged;

The Federal Department of Veterans Affairs has rated the applicant's service-connected disability as a one hundred percent permanent disability through disability retirement benefits pursuant to a law or regulation administered by the department, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, or the Department of the Army, Navy, or Airforce.

The applicant must be the owner of record and must have been the owner of record since Jan. 1 of the current year.

The applicant must have occupied the property as his/her primary residence since Jan. 1 of the current year.

In many cases, an eligible surviving spouse of a previously qualified disabled veteran may continue to receive the exemption by submitting a disabled veteran surviving spouse form to the assessor's office.

Exceptions to Basic Qualifications — The applicant may still qualify if one or more of the following statements are true:

Ownership is in the spouse's name, and the spouse also occupies the property;

Ownership has been transferred to or purchased by a trust, corporate partnership or other legal entity solely for estate planning purposes;

The qualifying disabled veteran and his/

her spouse was or is confined to a health care facility.

The applicant was forced to move when the prior residence was condemned in an eminent domain proceeding.

The applicant is the surviving spouse of a previously qualified veteran who met the requirements through the Colorado Division of Veterans Affairs.

**GOLD STAR VETERAN SPOUSE EXEMPTION**

Basic Qualifications — The applicant may qualify if the following statements are true:

The surviving spouse was legally married to a qualifying Gold Star Veteran that has passed away; and

Ownership is in the surviving spouse's name and was the primary residence of the surviving spouse as of Jan. 1 in the year of the application; and

The surviving spouse cannot have remarried.

How to Apply — To apply, you must complete the appropriate form and return it to the assessor by July 1. If you would like to receive an application form or a brochure that explains the disabled veteran exemption in greater detail, or if you have any questions regarding the exemption, call the Alamosa County Assessor's Office at 719-589-6365.



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 SUN. MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> ~ 10AM ~ 2PM

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**kids' corner**



**FOOD FACT!**

THIS PART OF THE BODY STORES IMPORTANT NUTRIENTS. THAT MAKES IT A HIGHLY NUTRITIOUS FOOD.

ANSWER: LIVER

### Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20. The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

2		19	27
	8		26
9	10		33
26	24	36	

4	0	6
3	8	5
19	6	2

Solution

### Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

RUTNOITNI CFSAT

Answer: Nutrition facts

### THIS DAY IN...



### HISTORY

- 1769: MOZART DEPARTS ITALY AFTER THE LAST OF HIS THREE TOURS THERE.
- 1837: THE CITY OF CHICAGO IS INCORPORATED.
- 1913: THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR IS FORMED.

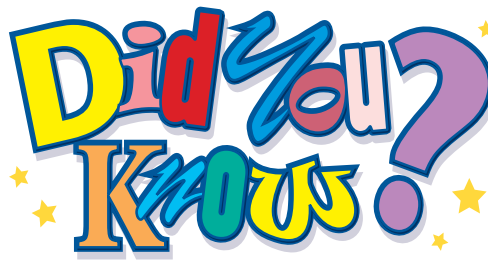


### MINERAL

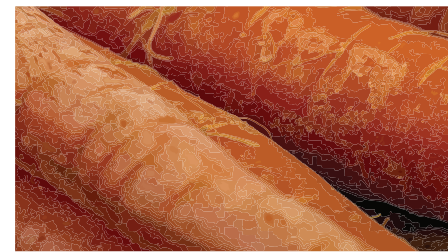
a solid inorganic substance of natural occurrence

### How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Nutrient
- SPANISH:** Nutriente
- ITALIAN:** Sostanza nutriente
- FRENCH:** Nutriment
- GERMAN:** Nährstoff



NUTRITION IS THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING FOOD NECESSARY FOR HEALTH AND GROWTH.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CARROTS



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