



# THE CONEJOS COUNTY CITIZEN

Volume 133, Number 25

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

75¢

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### DN Food Bank distribution June 22

**DEL NORTE** — The Del Norte Food Bank will be open for its June distribution on Saturday, June 22, from 10 a.m. until noon. Anyone in need of food assistance is welcome. If you are unable to attend during distribution hours and need food assistance, call 719-850-2643.

### Caldera performing June 23 in Creede

**CREEDE** — Caldera, a Creede combo, is scheduled to perform from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 23, at Basham Park in Creede. This is part of the Creede Arts Council's Music in the Park series of free public concerts. Sustained by engaging vocals and improvisatory sections, Caldera will light your fire with a blend of insightful originals and distinct covers. The Creede-based quartet melds Americana and rock sounds.

John Goss will be on the guitar, harmonica, and vocals; Steve Reynolds on lead guitar, resonator, mandolin; Malcolm Snead — drums, percussion; and Tommy Speake will be on the bass and guitar.

For more information, contact the Creede Arts Council at [creedearts@outlook.com](mailto:creedearts@outlook.com) or check out our whole summer Music in the Park lineup at [www.creedeartsCouncil.com](http://www.creedeartsCouncil.com).

## Man fatally stabbed in Fort Garland



### Woman in custody, charged with murder

By PRISCILLA  
WAGGONER

**FORT GARLAND** — A 52-year-old man was fatally stabbed in Fort

**Jessica Medina, 49, is being held in alleged connection with the murder of 52-year-old Jeffrey Segura.**

Courtesy photo

Garland on Sunday, leading to the arrest of a woman by deputies with the Costilla County Sheriff's Office (CCSO).

According to Costilla County Sheriff Danny Sanchez, a 911 call came in at about 4:15 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, with the caller stating that a woman had stabbed a man.

CCSO deputies responded to a residence in Fort Garland where they found a man, later identified as Jeffrey Segura, 52, in a car, the victim of an apparent stabbing.

Segura was declared deceased on the scene.

Deputies took a female suspect, identified as Jessica Medina, 49, into custody for her alleged involvement in the incident and transported her to the CCSO jail where she was in custody until scheduled to appear in court for a hearing on advisement Monday afternoon.

Judge Jason Kelly, who presided in the hearing, said Medina is facing a charge of murder in the first degree.

*Please see MURDER on Page 2A*

## Historic Presbyterian San Pablo Church destroyed in fire

### Fire started in house on property

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

**ALAMOSA** — The Presbyterian San Pablo Church in Costilla County was destroyed by fire Wednesday af-

*Please see FIRE on Page 2A*

**Smoke billows from the Presbyterian San Pablo Church in Costilla County on Wednesday afternoon as fire crews battled the blaze that ultimately consumed the historic building. Crews from five fire departments plus the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control responded to the scene but, sadly, the church and house behind it were both destroyed in the flames. There were no reported injuries in the incident.**

Courtesy photo



## Early in-person voting available statewide

By COLORADO  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**DENVER** — Early in-person voting is now available statewide, with 155 voting centers open to eligible voters statewide.

Election Day is June 25 and voters will find races for congressional districts, the state Board of Education,

the statehouse and other local races on their ballots.

"Access is critical to ensuring every eligible Coloradan can make their voice heard," said Secretary Griswold. "I'm proud that Colorado voters will have ample voting access across the state to cast their ballot this election."

Eligible Coloradans can still register

to vote and update their voter registration at [GoVoteColorado.gov](http://GoVoteColorado.gov) through Monday, June 17, to receive a ballot in the mail. After Monday, June 17, Coloradans can register to vote and vote in person at a voting center until 7 p.m. on Election Day.

Voters who plan to return their ballot by mail should do so by today

to ensure it is received by their county election official on time. Beginning June 18, voters should return their ballot to a drop box or voting center, or vote in-person.

Colorado Republican, Democratic, and Unaffiliated voters have been mailed a ballot. All Unaffiliated voters

*Please see VOTE on Page 2A*

## 2024 Colorado Byways awards presented at symposium

**CONTRIBUTEDALAMOSA** — Four organizations have been recognized for their outstanding contributions to the state's Scenic and Historic Byways. Colorado's Scenic and Historic Byways Commission presented awards for Protection, Partnerships, Promotion, and Placemaking at this year's Byways Symposium.

The first award, for Protection, was given to Keep It Colorado, for their outstanding stewardship of statewide resources. Their efforts included releasing "Conserving Colorado: A 10-year Roadmap for the Future of Private Land Conservation," a statewide plan to help prioritize preservation efforts. Keep It Colorado focuses on five areas,

including a forum, policy advocacy, health and sustainability solutions, coalition-building, and advancing a conservation culture.

Colorado Electric Byways, a collaboration between the Colorado Energy Office, Colorado Department of Transportation, and Colorado Tourism Office, received the Partnership award. These agencies collaborated to engage communities along the Byways to apply for grants to install Electric Vehicle Charging Stations. Once a Byway corridor has met specific guidelines, the team then recommends the Byway be approved by the Byways Commission to be a designated Colorado Electric Byway. Colorado has 17

Electric Byways to promote to electric vehicle owners.

The third award recognizes Promotion, through [ColoradoByways.com](http://ColoradoByways.com), to History Colorado and the Colorado Tourism Office. A branded URL has provided a successful landing page on [Colorado.com](http://Colorado.com) and was funded through the Colorado State Historical Fund, with matching funds and coordination from the CTO. In 2023, the landing page baseline analytics showed a total of 512,328 total views and 194,918 article views. The pages have had robust views, strong engagement, and lots of time spent with the content (one minute+ average time spent per "byway" page).

Local achievements are critical, so the fourth award for Placemaking was presented to the Pawnee Pioneer Trails Scenic and Historic Byway's Committee. While work progresses, the Byway has been consistently working with an engaged committee, a strong leader, updated their logo, map, and Corridor Management Plan, as well as hosted the Colorado Byways Photo Exhibit at Overland Trail Museum.

"These awards recognize the dedicated work that our Scenic and Historic Byway organizations and agencies deliver," says Heidi Pankow, current chair, and western Byways representative of the governor-appointed Byways Commission.

The Colorado Byways Symposium 2024 was hosted by the Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway and the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area in the culturally rich and beautiful San Luis Valley.

"It is gratifying to get together and recognize amazing achievements at our 35th anniversary event," said Lenore Bates, Colorado Byways program manager. "We appreciate the award winners, participants, sponsors, national presenters, hosts, and volunteers for making the Colorado Byways Symposium 2024 a success. Furthermore, having our Sister-Byways delegates join us from Scenic Byway Hokkaido, have inspired us until we meet again."

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# SLVH recognizes latest DAISY winner Garcia

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — San Luis Valley Health has another DAISY winner — Ellie Garcia.

Garcia was surprised to be chosen as a DAISY recipient at SLV Health. When the shock wore off a bit, she was all smiles. When she signed the traveling DAISY banner, she commented, "I'm going to sign my name right by Taylor's because she has been my mentor."

DAISY awards are given for nursing excellence and can be submitted by co-workers, patients, and family members.

This family member wrote this about Garcia, "My dad came into the Emergency Department in Alamosa with sepsis. The doctor/PA was very pessimistic. However, Ellie was a ray of sunshine. She explained everything she was doing, taught me how to read the screens, and helped my dad feel comfortable with everything that was going on. While we are still not out of the woods on his treatment, we are in a much better place than we might have been. I think Ellie was a big part of that. Her positive outlook and true care for my dad was so apparent and we are truly grateful for her."

Former DAISY recipient, Kat Cummings, BSN, RN, read about the award and posed for a photo with the travel-



Courtesy photo

Ellie Garcia, right, who works in the San Luis Valley Health Regional Medical Center's ED takes a photo with her supervisor, ED Director, Monica Hinds, RN.

ing banner. Garcia is the second nurse in the SLVH RMC ED to receive this distinguished recognition.

SLVH Chief Nursing Officer, Roberta Bean, RN, read about the history and origin of the award. She also read the nomination form to Garcia. At the reception, Garcia met many of the nursing leaders and senior team members at SLVH. She was also

surprised when her husband showed up to support her. The traditional cinnamon rolls were served and then Garcia jumped up high to place her name on the wall art for DAISY winners in the RMC lobby.

To nominate a nurse at SLVH for the DAISY award, visit online [www.sanluisvalleyhealth.org/about-us/daisy-nursing-excellence/](http://www.sanluisvalleyhealth.org/about-us/daisy-nursing-excellence/).



Courtesy photo

This kayak was retrieved from the Conejos River after its owner flipped it. He was later found safe.

## Kayaker found safe after accidental swim in the Conejos River

CONTRIBUTED

CONEJOS COUNTY — On June 11, at approximately 7 a.m., the Conejos County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of an upside-down kayak in the Conejos River.

The kayak was pinned against a rock in swift water. Emergency personnel could not determine if anyone was in the kayak. The South Fork Fire Department Swift Water Rescue team was dispatched. The team entered the river and recovered

the kayak.

The kayak had an expired Wyoming State Parks pass on the side. The river and surrounding areas were searched for the owner of the kayak. Investigators contacted Wyoming officials and determined the owner of the kayak and were able to contact the owner and determined he was safe. He said he was kayaking the river when the kayak overturned. The kayaker swam to the bank but lost the kayak in the swift water.

## VOTE

Continued from Page 1A

will receive a ballot for each major party and can only vote one of those ballots for their vote to be counted. Minor party voters in CD-4 whose party is not holding a primary election will receive a ballot featuring only the CD-4 Congressional Vacancy

Election.

Colorado voters can visit [GoVoteColorado.gov](http://GoVoteColorado.gov) to:

- Register to vote or update their voter registration
- Find their local County Clerk
- Find their closest drop box or

voting center

- Sign up to track their ballot using BallotTrax
- Learn about Colorado's secure election processes
- Find accurate election information

## FIRE

Continued from Page 1A

ternoon along with the house, located behind the church, that stood on the same property.

According to Costilla County Sheriff Danny Sanchez, the call reporting the fire came into the sheriff's office around 1 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon. Multiple agencies responded to the call, including the Costilla County Fire Department, Alamosa Fire Department, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control plus three fire stations from New Mexico, including Amilia, Cerro and Cuesta Fire Departments.

Sanchez stated that the fire started in the house and then spread to the church, destroying both buildings. The structures were occupied at the time the fire broke out, with an "elderly lady and an adult male" in the house and "an adult male" in the church. Fortunately, all three evacuated

in time, and no one sustained any injuries. Within just a few hours, the Red Cross was providing services to those who were impacted.

When the Valley Courier reached Sheriff Sanchez at about 5 p.m. Wednesday evening, he reported that several of the fire departments were still on the scene, and the fire was under control but still smoldering. The fire's cause is not known yet.

The church, located at 10516 County Road 21 in San Pablo, is on the south side of Culebra Creek and, according to a real estate listing, was built in 1897. Sanchez could not confirm the age of the building or if it was recognized as a historic site but said it looked "very old."

"I was there when it came down and you could see the adobe bricks," he said. "It was very sad."

## FULL-TIME SALES

Valley Publishing has an immediate need in advertising sales (full-time). Any sales experience is appreciated but will train. Email resume to General Manager Brian Williams at [bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com](mailto:bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com)

## MURDER

Continued from Page 1A

and set bond at \$75,000 cash surety or \$7,500 in cash.

When the Valley Courier spoke with Sanchez on Monday, he said Medina will be transferred to Archuleta County Detention Facility following her court appearance. Due to the

condition of the Costilla County Jail, individuals accused of committing serious crimes are routinely held in Archuleta County.

The Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has taken over the case and an investigation is ongoing.

## VALLEY PUBLISHING SEEKS REPORTER IMMEDIATELY

For the Conejos and Costilla areas. Writing and photography experience necessary. Send resume, writing and photography samples to Valley Publishing Inc., P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144 or email [bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com](mailto:bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com)

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# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## Haven't had a bath in 40 years

This past week has been a whirlwind of activity, par for the course when you are in close proximity to Miss Trixie. Those of you who know her at all understand her constant movement.

Ol' Dutch has almost gotten used to the beehive of her lifestyle and even though it drives me to distraction some days, at least there won't be any moss growing on her north side from lack of movement, which is a plus, I guess.

Living in an RV has its challenges and Miss Trixie and I have somehow managed to live together for 12 years in just such accommodations without one of us losing our ever-loving mind. And that is a miracle in and of itself for anyone in such close proximity to another human being.

I think the biggest challenge is the almost constant repairs that the big Conestoga requires. I have lived in houses down through the years and of course there are repairs that have to be made there but not like the amount that occurs in an RV.

Just this past week we had just such an event as we came home from a nice evening drive to find water pouring out of the sidewall like Niagra at peak flow. Trixie's cousin Susie Q and her husband Dartman, who are staying next to us in the park, quickly shut the water off and Ol' Dutch let out a low, sad moan as I knew what lay ahead.

Faced with the prospect of no water overnight which also meant no showers, Ol' Dutch began the tedious process of finding the leak and fixing it. Luckily, it was just a loose connection under the sink, and I was able to get us back in business without too much trouble.

Remembering other times when we had no water due to boondocking or a leak, we've actually taken showers with a gallon jug of water. Although it sounds impossible, you can actually get by with a lot less water than we normally use.

In Miss Trixie's mountaineering days, her baths consisted of a thimble of boiled snow and some disinfectant gel. And you wonder why she never married.

There was a comedy sketch one time on TV where a grizzled old prospector's only line was "I haven't had a bath in 40 years." He kept repeating this line to which the reply from anyone he met was "I know."

There is even a world record for the amount of time someone has gone unbathe and as far as I can tell that record is somewhere north of 60 years. And I am sure his neighbors also say "we know" when asked about his odiferous record.

And in fact, just this past week Ol' Dutch found out that many people get by with little to no water to bathe in including many movie star type people. Leonardo himself says he



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

doesn't bathe all that often to save water and the environment, which is in contrast to his flying in a private jet all across the globe on a regular basis.

So, it appears to me that he just uses that as a convenient excuse not to get his feet wet. And the most amazing thing to me is that women still flock around him like bees to pollen which only proves to me that his money doesn't stink.

Getting back to our problem, we got the water fixed and showered up and even Cooper had his bath. We are all fresh as a daisy for public exposure, so you don't have to keep your distance if you see us. Lacking the financial wherewithal of Decaprio, cleanliness is about the only thing Ol' Dutch has going for him at the time, so I am thankful for that at least.

And even though we come from a long line of unbathe pioneer type folks, this is 2024 folks. Get in there and scrub it and rub it til you shine. We all will appreciate your efforts.

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

## Wyoming road failure reveals a housing crisis

I live in Victor, Idaho — one of Jackson, Wyo.'s, bedroom communities. Every day roughly 3,400 Idaho residents drive over Teton Pass to work in Jackson. Only about 11,000 of us live on this side of the pass — 2,000 in Victor — so commuters make up a significant portion of our population.

Commuters include nurses, teachers, police, waiters, cooks, motel housekeepers, construction workers, landscapers, fishing and mountain guides, and salespeople. All are Jackson Hole's economic lifeline.

On June 8, the highway over Teton Pass failed catastrophically, part of it collapsing into an impassable cliff of rubble. The failure made national news, and now you can spend hours on Facebook reading everyone's opinions about what should be done. Calls for building a tunnel through the mountain are resurfacing, although the tunnel that was previously proposed would not have bypassed the section of road that failed.

The Teton Pass highway is vital to Jackson's functioning as a tourist mecca. In good conditions, driving the 24 miles from Victor to Jackson over Teton Pass takes about 35 minutes. Now, a detour means that workers have to drive roughly 85 miles to get to their jobs, adding about two hours to the daily commute.

Jackson town councilor and economist Jonathan Schechter estimates the road closure is costing the local economy roughly \$600,000 a day, and he says that's a conservative figure. Using IRS numbers for mileage reimbursement, the cost for drivers is \$88 a day, while the mean hourly wage in Jackson is \$40. Not only has the commute become nearly four times longer, but workers also have to put in an extra two hours to cover the cost of that drive time.

Jackson residents have responded to the crisis with compassion and financial aid. Homeowners have opened their houses in Jackson, and many are allowing people to pitch tents in their



Photo courtesy of Wyoming Department of Transportation

### Teton Pass after road collapse on June 12.

yards. Businesses are offering parking lot space for RVs. Teton County, Wyoming, eased its temporary shelter regulations, and the daily commuter bus altered its schedule and waived its fees until June 30 to accommodate riders. The Teton Valley Community Foundation set up a fund that accepts donations for affected workers. I am sure there are many other services and resources as well.

But camping in Jackson means you aren't going home after work. It means you may not see your children, partner or friends for days on end. It means you need to get someone to feed your dog or check in on your cat, horses, gardens or plants. It means you cannot enjoy the natural world — why most of us

live here — because you're driving a car. Most of us have a love-hate relationship with Teton Pass. There's an Instagram page called TetonPassholes, dedicated to showing people doing stupid things on the road. Most of the time it's video clips of truckers ignoring the winter trailer ban; sometimes it's pictures of people driving recklessly. We snarl and complain, but we still drive the road because it gets us where we need to go.

The average list price for a single-family home in Jackson reached \$7.6

million at the end of 2022, according to the Jackson Hole Report. In the first months of 2024, 56 homes were on the market, with only three listed for less than \$2 million.

In Victor, Idaho, the median price for homes was \$537,000, an asking price that's not reasonable for most working people. Housing is in short supply in Victor, too.

For years, affordable housing has been a hot-button topic on both sides of the pass, as well as an hour south of Jackson in booming Star Valley. Now that the funnel that allows Jackson to prosper has been blocked, we can see more clearly than ever that our current model — housing the rich in one town, workers in another — is not sustainable.

Wyoming Department of Transportation has indicated that it hopes to open a temporary bypass around the landslide in as little as two weeks. A long-term solution will undoubtedly take months, if not years.

In the meantime, I hope our community leaders take this as a wake-up call and address the absolute need for workforce housing. A temporary patch will not address the crisis that this road failure has dramatized.

*Molly Absolon is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit spurring lively conversation about the West. She is a writer in Idaho.*



By Molly Absolon

## LETTERS

### Concerned about proposed walking trail along Lariat Ditch

Editor,

I am writing to express my concerns over the proposed walking trail along the Lariat Ditch, north of State Highway 160.

Residents in the area of Lariat Ditch were informed this week that the City of Monte Vista and the Lariat Ditch Company were planning to use a grant from CU Anschutz to provide a concrete lining of the ditch and construct a walking trail on the ditch right of way. This is, no doubt, a generous offer from CU Anschutz, but it should be considered carefully before it is accepted. At the neighborhood meeting, local residents expressed concerns

regarding the location of the trail next to the Monte Vista High School and the potential for increased crime along the trail. As a retired Professional Civil Engineer and former City Traffic Engineer, I have two different concerns regarding this project.

First, is funding available to sustain the project? No matter how the trail is constructed, it will require ongoing maintenance to assure it remains a usable facility. Unless CU Anschutz is providing an ongoing grant, the cost of maintenance will fall to the City of Monte Vista to fund out of the city budget. This would be the same budget that currently cannot meet costs of

maintaining existing sidewalks. Adding to the City's financial obligations while ignoring our current obligations cannot be justified. I try to walk on a regular basis and walk rather than drive to most of my local destinations. This gives me a daily view of the sidewalks and ADA (handi-cap) ramps within our City. I am sorry to say that they are in deplorable condition.

Second, any project should be reviewed to determine the usefulness, not just is money available to build it. Due to the poor condition of existing sidewalks and the difficulty in crossing State Highway 160, most residents would need to drive to the trail in order

to use it. This will increase traffic on City Streets, put pressure on the City to provide trail parking, impact property owners along the trail, and restrict its usefulness to residents with vehicles.

If CU Anschutz is truly interested in improving the health of our residents (the stated grant goal) they should commit to helping the City improve their failing sidewalk system. Until residents can safely walk around their block or run an errand without a car, a new walking trail is not needed and should not be added as another financial burden.

*Kathleen Krager  
Monte Vista*



THE CONEJOS COUNTY  
**CITIZEN**

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# Innovative chamber musicians to perform June 23 at Colorado College

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — In a final musical spring offering, Performances at Baca welcomes back to Crestone faculty of the Mt. Blanca Summer Music Conservatory performing a potpourri of traditional and new classical works. The venue is the Baca campus of Colorado College at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 23. The chamber ensemble includes violinist Sarah Off, artistic director of the Mt. Blanca Conservatory; composer and musician Dylan Fixmer, cellist Mathieu D'Ordine, and pianist Randy Macy, a collaborative pianist at Adams State University, which has hosted the summer conservatory.

In addition to the first and third movements of Beethoven's "Spring Sonata" (a tentative as of this writing), they will perform works by Czech composer Bohuslav Martinu (1890-1959), Alan Hovhanness (1911-2000), an American composer of Armenian ancestry; Latvian composer Peteris Vasks (b. 1946), and American composers Jennifer Higdon (b. 1962) and Dylan Fixmer (b.1987). The program includes instrumental arrangements of "Stormy Weather," the 1933 torch song written by Harold Arlen and Ted Koehl; "Stardust" by Parish and Carmichael, and "Milonga del Trovador" by Astor Piazzolla and Horacio Ferrer.

Sarah Off, who comes from a musical family in Del Norte, completed her doctoral studies in music at Arizona State University with a thesis on "Building Musical Communities in Rural Areas." She currently teaches violin and music at University of Northern Colorado in Greeley and has established herself as an innovative and passionate performer both as a soloist and chamber musician in the United States and abroad. Her performances abroad include the International Kondo Festival, which showcased the work of Japanese composer Kohei Kondo; Iceland's Harpa International Music Festival; and the world premiere of Dylan Fixmer's Concerto for Violin in London in September 2022. She has been featured in The Times of London, on Radio Classique - Paris, and on Colorado Public Radio's "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered." Sarah holds that creativity, advocacy, business



Courtesy photo

Violinist Sarah Off and musician and composer Dylan Fixmer.

skills and community engagement are vital for the sustainability and progress of the arts in today's world. She is currently working on a book addressing the challenges of fostering entrepreneurial spirit in traditional schools of music pedagogy.

Dylan Fixmer is a passionate artist and composer whose works reflect his diverse music career. Classically trained at University of Colorado and Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, Dylan's music, inspired by the beauty of nature and the human spirit, draws on many musical styles and traditions. As a multi-faceted and imaginative composer, Dylan writes orchestral and traditional solo and ensemble works, including for theater, choir, film, and narrative, the latter including the soundtrack for the audio book "Adventures of a Mystic Warrior" by Robert Rocco D'Ordine. He has recorded numerous albums including with Embodying Rhythm Marimba Ensemble's "Music for Everyday Life."

Mathieu D'Ordine is a devoted interpreter of a wide variety of music from the last four centuries of the Western canon including music from living composers. Mathieu received his Master of Music degree from CU Boulder in 2011, where he was a long-time student of Judith Glyde. He also had the privilege of being a featured soloist with the Boulder Symphony and having two remarkable pieces

dedicated to him by acclaimed composer Anthony R. Green: "...On top of a frosted hill..." (2011) and "Colorful Open Space" (2023). He entertained the idea of becoming a novelist, or a poet, or a classicist, and still considers those careers monthly.

Randy Macy, a resident musician in the Valley, has worked as a salaried church musician in the Denver metro area and taught music at community colleges. He has served the last fourteen years as a collaborative pianist at Adam State University's Music Department. Randy is a founding member of Performances at Baca.

Tickets, \$20 for adults and \$10 for youth-students (ages 7-21), may be reserved through [bacaperformances@gmail.com](mailto:bacaperformances@gmail.com), payable in cash or check at the door, which opens at 6:30. All are invited to a reception for the artists in the lobby following the performance. The entrance to the CC Baca campus parking is off Road T less than a mile from Crestone.



Courtesy photo

1000 shadows at Cole Park in Alamosa.

# 1000 shadows take Battle of the Bands

CONTRIBUTED

COLE PARK— The Alamosa Live Music Association (ALMA) Battle of the Bands on Saturday, June 1, at SummerFest on the Rio, was a resounding success.

Five bands competed in front of a full audience, and a panel of expert judges. The winner was 1000 shadows, who had the crowd dancing in front of the stage. The prize is a \$1,000 contract

to perform at Sundays at Six on Aug. 18 in Cole Park.

The band was formed in 2022 in Pueblo, consisting of co-workers and longtime friends taking pride in writing original alternative rock music. Band members are Jim Miller, lead vocalist, Edward Dennis, rhythm guitar and backing vocals, Shaw Harrison, lead guitar, Jon Conley, bass, and Brett Pavlik, drums.

# ALMA Sundays at Six begins June 30

ALAMOSA – The Alamosa Live Music Association (ALMA) is again providing free live music in Cole Park all summer long, with its Sundays at Six concert series. Head on over to Cole Park at 6 p.m. on most Sundays this summer and enjoy some quality live music.

followed by the Chicano funk of Los Mocochetes on July 21. Finish July 28 with the indie stylings of Xerephine Band with Sage and Aera. Mojomama will bring their funky blues rock on Aug. 11, and Aug. 18 will feature the winner of Battle of the Bands 1000 shadows.

On June 30, the sound of bluegrass will fill Cole Park as Sundays at Six officially begins with Stillhouse Junkies. On July 14, indie rockers Mo Lowda and The Humble will wow the crowd,

The final show of the season is on Aug. 28, with the variety group Groove 'N Motion. The shows will be livestreaming on ALMA's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/almalive-music](http://www.facebook.com/almalive-music).



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# Free seed packets available for pickup across Colorado

CONTRIBUTED

**DENVER** — Generation Wild, a movement from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) that seeks to reconnect kids with nature, is calling on Colorado's kids to help Save the Bees this summer.

Generation Wild is distributing over 100,000 free packets of "Wilderflower" seeds — a nod to Generation Wild's friendly spokescreature, Wilder — and is encouraging kids and families to plant the seeds in their backyards. Wilderflower packets are now available for pickup at local libraries and more partner locations across the state.

This initiative aims to make our state more beautiful, more ecologically diverse and more friendly to pollinator friends — all while rewilding Colorado's kids.

"The Western Bumblebee population has declined in Colorado by 72% (CBS News), and we're calling on kids across Colorado to Bee the Change!" said GOCO Executive Director Jackie Miller. "Through this effort, kids will be empowered to improve the environment and learn firsthand what helps our local ecosystems thrive. Most importantly, they'll be outside engaging with nature in a fun and personal way— and Generation Wild knows that 'Kids Grow Better Outside.'"

The Wilderflower mix was developed in partnership with Applewood Seed Co. and packets are now available for pickup at local libraries and designated partner sites including more than 80 Little Free Library boxes.

By distributing 100,000 Wilderflower packets, Generation Wild is providing more than 56 million seeds for planting in every nook and cranny of the state. All seeds are regionally-native to Colorado, which is important for sustaining the living landscape of bees, birds and other animals.

Additionally, Wilderflowers use less water than non-native plants. This is especially important as we strive to conserve Colorado's precious water resources.

"Applewood Seed Co. was excited to jump in and help Generation Wild identify a seed mix that is native to the Colorado region and the American West, containing a diversity of flower species to attract and support Colorado's pollinator populations," stated Norm Poppe, CEO of Applewood Seed Co. "We hope efforts like this continue to educate the public on pollinator conservation and the need to protect our native bees and butterflies."

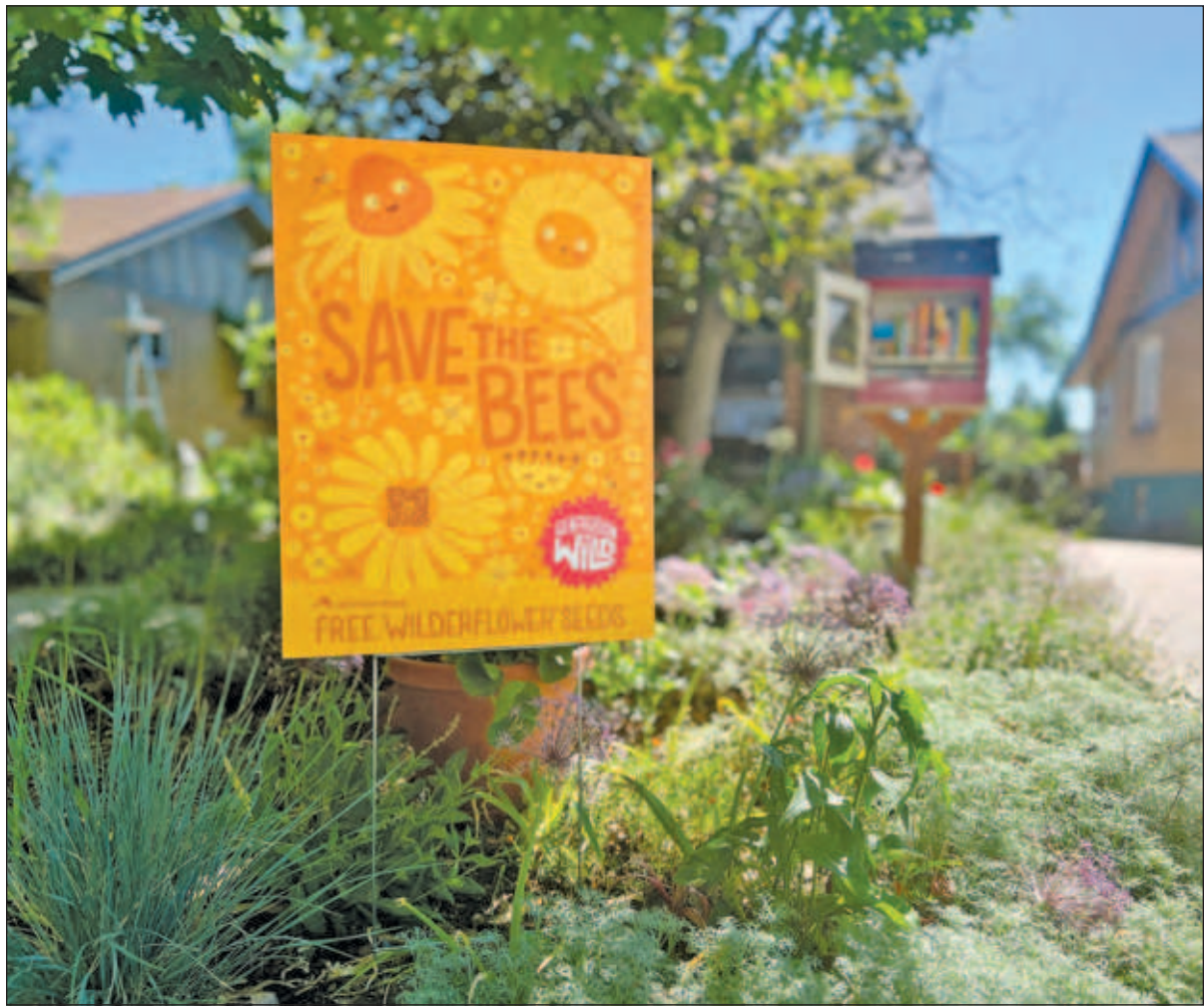
According to a new report from the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, 20% of Colorado's bumblebees are now at risk of extinction. Even in a small area like a backyard, planting Wilderflowers can make a positive impact on the local ecosystem and provide native bees a healthy place to live.

Wilderflowers are native Colorado wildflowers, which means they have adapted to our climate and soil, and don't need pesticides to survive. (Pesticides are another key cause of the decline in bee populations.)

With this initiative, Generation Wild is introducing the Bee Team, which will join Wilder out in the community this summer at various events for kids and families. Kids can join the Bee Team movement simply by spreading Wilderflowers in their own backyards and in public areas with approval.

In addition to providing seed packets, Generation Wild highlights several other ways for kids and families to get outdoors and take part in this movement, including:

Pollinator Week (June 17-24) is an annual celebration in support of pollinator health. What better time to spread Wilderflowers than during



Courtesy photo

Generation Wild is distributing over 100,000 free packets of 'Wilderflower' seeds and is encouraging kids and families to plant the seeds in their backyards.

Pollinator Week? Beginning in July, Colorado families can visit stops on the Pollinator Trail, a Denver Park Trust-led initiative to restore native landscapes throughout Denver, providing resilient habitats where nature can thrive.

Pollinators are responsible for one in every three bites of food we eat. In Colorado, pollinators help produce apples from Paonia, pumpkins from Lafayette, tomatoes from Grand Junction, peaches from Palisade, cantaloupes from Rocky Ford and

lots more.

On Generation Wild Day, kids statewide are encouraged to get outside and spread Wilderflowers. Those located in the Denver Metro area are invited to come celebrate at the Children's Museum's Joy Park Free Night from 4:30-8:00 p.m. where they

can get free Wilderflower seeds and meet Wilder.

For more information and a statewide directory for where to find seeds in every community, visit [generationwild.com/wilderflowers](http://generationwild.com/wilderflowers). Tag @GenerationWild on Facebook and Instagram to share your Wilderflowers.

## IN DEL NORTE

**Kiley Lohr, FNP-C**

**Rio Grande Hospital Clinic**  
[RioGrandeHospital.org](http://RioGrandeHospital.org)



Welcome Kiley Lohr, FNP-C in her role as a Certified Family Nurse Practitioner. Kiley has been in the medical field for 23 years, beginning with her certification as a nursing assistant in 2001 while still in high school. After graduating high school, she attended general education classes and acquired her prerequisites for Nursing School at Trinidad State Junior College. She continued to work as a CNA through nursing school and learned skills in Telemetry and ICU to work as a telemetry tech and ICU tech at SLV Health. Then, Kiley obtained her licensed practical nurse license in March of 2007. Kiley worked as a critical care flight nurse with Classic Air Medical Flight Company based in Cortez and Pagosa Springs. She flew in both Rotor Helicopters and Fixed Wing Airplanes.

Her interest in medical care peaked when she was a sophomore in high school when Kiley witnessed her mother providing aid to a man who was found down and not breathing in a store. Watching her mother provide help alongside the EMS crew as they arrived motivated her to want to take care of those in need and critical situations.

Her mother & father both used to work as nurses at RGH! When she's not spending time with her son and boyfriend, she enjoys cooking for her family, crocheting, hiking, and fishing.



**To schedule your appointment with Kiley Lohr, FNP-C, call 719-657-2418**

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# Library Concert Series brings classical Spanish guitarist to Alamosa

## SPECIAL TO THE VALLEY COURIER

**ALAMOSA**—For a few moments in May, the classics that reside quietly on the shelves in the Alamosa Public Library were serenaded with classics of a different nature.

Musician Javier de los Santos, who lives in Grand Junction, was at the library for a live performance featuring the music of Spanish composers from the 1800's through modern times as one of the performers in the Alamosa Library Concert Series.

Between songs, he would take a moment and explain the history and the stories that the pieces of music were created for.

The pieces he performed included works from Mateo Albeniz, Enrique Granados, Regino Sainz de la Maza, Joaquin Malats, Francisco Tarrega, Celedonio Romero and Tomas Marco.

De los Santos has performed extensively in México, the U.S., Spain, and Brazil, and holds a Master of Music in Guitar Performance from the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music where he studied with Maestro Ricardo Iznaola. He is also the president and artistic director of the Western Colorado Guitar Society based in Grand Junction, where he teaches performance and music theory at Colorado Mesa University. In 2009, he was named the first-place winner of the 2009 Denver Classical Guitar Society Solo Debut Competition.

The Alamosa Library Concert Series was made able thanks to a grant from the Alamosa Live Music Association.



Classical guitarist Javier de los Santos entertains the crowd at the Alamosa Public Library on Friday, May 24. Courtesy photo

# Freedom from Struggle

I've been asked, "Joyce, how do you live the Christian life?" My answer surprises a lot of people. I tell them, "You can't live the Christian life." I then say, "Only God can live it through you!"

One of the greatest lessons I have ever learned is that we can't change ourselves—it is only by God's grace that we can overcome our weaknesses and become more like Him. We struggle and get frustrated when we try to do things apart from God's grace and strength. The most frequent prayer we should all pray is, "God, help me!"

Years ago, when I first started reading the Bible and getting serious about God, I began seeing all of the things I needed to change—there were so many! I needed to clean up my mind and my mouth; I had to overcome being so negative and judgmental, and my behavior toward my husband Dave also had to improve.

I immediately went to work trying to do it myself. However, I ended up very frustrated and made little progress. Why? Because I was spending all of my own energy trying to something only God can do!

Maybe you're in the same place. You want to break a bad habit or change your behavior in some way, but you are frustrated and discouraged by a lack of progress. Here's the good news: God never intended for you to do it alone. In fact, there's nothing worse than trying to fix something only God can fix!

So, what is our part? Our part is to study God's Word, especially in the areas where we have a weakness, and spend as much time with the Lord as we can—whether it's talking to Him in prayer or even just sitting quietly in His presence.

As we do, the Bible says we will change into His image "from glory to glory" (2 Corinthians 3:18). Our part is to diligently and humbly seek the Lord and receive His grace, which is the power of the Holy Spirit to change us and meet our every need.

The Apostle Paul discusses this very thing in Romans Chapter 7. Paul, who wrote a large part of the New Testament and is widely regarded as one of the great

men of the early Church, realized he could do nothing without God's help.

He says, "I do not practice or accomplish what I wish, but I do the very thing that I loathe [which my moral instinct condemns].... I can will what is right, but I cannot perform it. [I have the intention and urge to do what is right, but no power to carry it out]" (Romans 7:15,18 AMPC).

Does this sound familiar? Have you ever intended to do the right thing but still struggled and couldn't make it happen regardless of how hard you tried? Paul was going through the very same thing, and he provides us with the answer in verses 24 and 25:

"Who will release and deliver me from [the shackles of] this body of death? O thank God! [He will!]"

Paul is saying we can't do it on our own. However, God will do it through us if we let Him.

This same principle applies to our relationships with other people—we can't change them! The greatest thing we can do is pray for others, love them, and allow God to change them Himself.

When my children were young, I was certain that a couple of them would never make it on their own. My daughter Laura was extremely messy, unorganized, and couldn't keep track of anything. My youngest son, Daniel, struggled his way through school, and I was convinced I would be taking care of him the rest of my life.

I spent so much time worrying and pestering and trying to change them on my own. Most of the time my efforts only seemed to make things worse! Yes, I needed to be a good mother and help them in every way I could. However, instead of worrying, struggling, and making us all miserable, I could have been praying, trusting God, and choosing to believe everything would work out well in the end.

You see, whether it's ourselves or someone else, the Lord wants us to seek His help, then rest in the knowledge that He is on the case. God doesn't want us to struggle; He wants us to believe. He



wants us to relax and enjoy our lives even while we're waiting to see things change.

Today, my daughter Laura is so organized that one of her jobs is to help keep my life organized! And Daniel? The boy who barely made it through school is now the CEO of U.S. Operations for Joyce Meyer Ministries, and he does a fantastic job! Now I look back and realize how much time and effort I wasted worrying and struggling when God had things under control all along!

So, what are you struggling with today? Your behavior, your finances, your kids, or maybe other people? Here's the best advice I can give you: You can't do it on your own.

Run to God for help, receive His grace, then make a firm decision to relax and enjoy your life while you trust Him to change things. As you do, you will find freedom from struggling...and discover a new level of God's peace and joy in the process.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-part teaching resource *Living a Life of Total Freedom*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

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

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

# ASU offers free help on the FAFSA

## By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

**ALAMOSA** – FAFSA Fridays have begun. Every Friday, until further notice, Adams State University offers free assistance in completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). FAFSA Fridays are held from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Adams State's One Stop Student Services, on the first floor of the SUB (Student Union Building), located on First Street in Alamosa.

In addition, Adams State is hosting free FAFSA webinars from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, until further notice. The webinars provide information on how to complete the FAFSA and address persistent issues being faced by students, their parents-guardians, and high school and college advisors and counselors. This is an open offer of support to students, their families-guardians, and school staff in

recognition of the crisis with the implementation of the new FAFSA. Anyone is invited to attend, no matter where the student will attend (or attends) college.

All college students, regardless of institution, need to file the FAFSA each year to qualify for scholarships, grants, and other forms of student aid. This includes the Adams State Promise, free tuition, and fees for up to four years for qualifying students, and the Grizzly Partner Scholarship for San Luis Valley high school graduates, \$2,200 for room and board; or \$300 a year for SLV students who commute to campus.

Adams State Financial Aid staff will help all prospective students, regardless of college choice. For more information, contact the Adams State One Stop Student Services at 719-587-7306 or [onestop@adams.edu](mailto:onestop@adams.edu). To access the webinar link visit [adams.edu](http://adams.edu) and click on the FAFSA Fridays graphic.

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SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE

# BGC of SLV takes summer whitewater adventure

CONTRIBUTED

**ALAMOSA** — The Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley was excited to kick off the 2024 Whitewater Season on June 5, by joining close to 200 other Boys and Girls Club members from across Colorado on a whitewater rafting adventure on the Arkansas River.

The excursion, generously provided by the Arkansas River Outfitters Association, included shuttle transportation, raft and gear rental, lunch, and an amazing day on the river with professional guides that ensured a positive and safe experience for all who attended.

The day started with a van trip to Cotopaxi where the rafters had lunch by the river before getting geared up with helmets, life jackets, and paddles. Shortly after, they received a very entertaining safety talk from our Royal Gorge Rafting guides, and then carried boats down to the shoreline of the Arkansas River. The boats were launched and the whooping and hollering began as the rafters were hitting one stacked wave after another.

A great time was spent swimming in the current, surfing on waves, and splashing other boats! After paddling from the launch all the way to the Texas Creek takeout, the group was soaked, smiling, and all thankful for the experience! The Boys and Girls Clubs are extremely grateful for the opportunities and continued support provided by communities, businesses and organizations from across Colorado.

This event would not have been possible without the support of

participating outfitters like Rocky Mountain Outdoor Center, River Runners, Noah's Ark, Wilderness Aware, The Adventure Company, Arkansas River Tours, Performance Tours, Echo Canyon River Expeditions and Royal Gorge Rafting. The amazing and dedicated staff from these organizations provided hundreds of kids with a rare opportunity to experience a whitewater adventure they will never forget. This event also received much appreciated financial support from the El Pomar Foundation.

The Boys and Girls Clubs strive to provide kids and teens with positive experiences that complement classroom learning and give them opportunities for personal growth and reflection. Events like whitewater rafting teach teamwork, build resilience and confidence, while allowing club members to form positive relationships with their peers. When combined with swimming lessons, hiking, camping, and other club programs, members begin to understand more about who they are and what they can become.

Trips like whitewater rafting, skiing, or flying in an airplane often become milestone events in the lives of club members that help them realize that their world is filled with possibilities. The Club strives to create meaningful programming that helps kids and teens understand and realize their full potential as responsible, caring, and productive citizens of our amazingly diverse world.

Whitewater rafting is just one of the club's planned excursions



Courtesy photos

Kids from the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley enjoyed rafting the Arkansas River on June 5.

for the Summer of 2024. Summer at the Club includes 10 weeks of themed programming and events like; Cumbres and Toltec Railroad, Weekly Fishing and Hiking, visits to the Rio Grande Farm Park, Splashland, Earthships in Taos, the Pueblo Zoo, and the Albuquerque Bio Park. Every week this Summer is packed with adventure and learning opportunities for kids and teens alike.

Running the Arkansas River by raft was enjoyed the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley earlier this month.



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# Staff recognized with Boots on the Ground Awards

**By MATTHEW TULLEY**  
ALAMOSA — The San Luis Valley Joint Interagency Oversight Group (SLV Joint IOG) is pleased to honor partner agency staff members with the “Boots on the Ground” award in recognition of employees who exemplify the spirit of cross-systems collaboration.

The award recipients for June 2024 are Cristalray Dominguez and Jamie Dominguez of Shooting Stars Cultural and Leadership Center. Both are co-founders of center and have passion to restore the generational trauma of Alamosa, CO. They were nominated by Don Hanna of PALS (Positive Activities Lead to Success).

“Jamie and Cristal have been incredible community advocates for years. Their hearts for the community, especially Southside residents and the Latino community is palpable. Again and again, they have gone above and beyond to lift up youth and families who too often are overlooked or fall through the cracks. Their sensitivity to the culture of the families and youth they are working with, their ability to share their lived experience, and their deep understanding of the needs of the community, make their efforts particularly valuable and effective. They both serve as shining lights for Alamosa. We are incredibly lucky to have them and the work that they are doing,” from the nomination written by Don Hanna.

Established in 2008 and funded through Colorado House Bill

1451, the SLV Joint IOG currently includes Alamosa and Saguache Counties. Over twenty agencies participate including the 12th Judicial District, Probation Department, the Colorado Youth Detention Continuum program, Alamosa County Department of Human Services, Alamosa County Public Health Department, Alamosa School District, Center for Restorative Programs, Colorado Division of Youth Services, Colorado Health Partnerships, Crossroads’ Turning Points, San Luis Valley Early Childhood Council, San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group, San Luis Valley BOCES, Signal Behavioral Health Network, Health Colorado Inc., Boys and Girls Club of the San Luis Valley, Saguache County Department of Social Services, Saguache County Public Health Department, Center School District, Moffat Consolidated School District, Mountain Valley School District, Valley-Wide Health Systems Inc., La Puente Inc., Tu Casa, and Teri Sisneros, Family Representative for the SLV Joint IOG.

The goal of the SLV Joint IOG is to develop collaborative approaches for the provision of individualized, strength-based, family-centered, and culturally sensitive services to children, youth, and families. The SLV Joint IOG works to increase the quality and appropriateness of services while encouraging cost sharing and reducing service duplication and fragmentation.



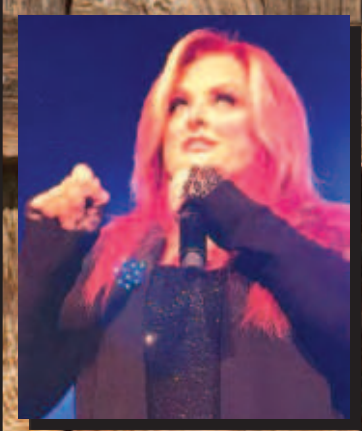
Award recipients for June 2024, Boots on the Ground, from left to right: Cristalray Dominguez, Don Hanna and Jamie Dominguez.

Courtesy photo



# July 11-14, 2024

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**Saturday Night PRCA Rodeo**  
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Courtesy photo

Courtney Hamilton, a 2021 Centauri High School graduate, at the CERN LAB in Geneva, Switzerland.

## Local graduate attends a 'History of Women in Science' study abroad program in Europe

CONTRIBUTED

Courtney Hamilton, a 2021 Centauri High School graduate, has been attending Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, where she is studying Health Science. Hamilton has been given an opportunity to study about the "History

of Women in Science" this summer in Europe. She will visit England, France, Switzerland, Germany and Sweden.

She will study the history of science, women's contributions to the field, and in supporting and

*Please see HAMILTON on Page 6*

## Stampede scholarship applications open

STAFF REPORT

SAN LUIS VALLEY — Applications are now open for the annual Ski-Hi Stampede Adams State University Foundation (ASUF) scholarship, with an application deadline of June 24.

The Ski Hi committee and ASUF have teamed up to provide three scholarships to any male or female SLV resident that plan to attend or continue to attend ASU, both traditional and nontraditional students.

During the Stampede, July 11-14, 2024,

three scholarships valued at \$3,500 each will be awarded to qualifying applicants. In the year of the scholarship application, the applicant must have participated or will be participating in any of the following events: Stampede rodeo, SLV high school rodeo, SLV Little Britches rodeo, or the SLV Regional Fair as a 4-H or FFA participant, or be a stockholder or child of a Stampede stockholder, or be a volunteer during the Stampede event.

To apply, go to [www.skihistampede.com/asu-scholarship-application](http://www.skihistampede.com/asu-scholarship-application).

## ALMA Sundays at Six begins June 30

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Live Music Association (ALMA) is again providing free live music in Cole Park all summer long, with its Sundays at Six concert series. Head on over to Cole Park at 6 p.m. on most Sundays this summer and enjoy some quality live music.

Grab your dinner and dessert from Tacos Martinez and Frosty Acres Rolled Ice Cream, whose food trucks will be on site selling their delicious offerings at each concert this summer. And please bring a non-perishable item for the food drive to benefit the Alamosa Food Pantry.

On June 30, the sound of bluegrass will fill

Cole Park as Sundays at Six officially begins with Stillhouse Junkies. On July 14, indie rockers Mo Lowda and The Humble will wow the crowd, followed by the Chicano funk of Los Mocochetes on July 21. Finish July 28 with the indie stylings of Xerephine Band with Sage and Aera. Mojomama will bring their funky blues rock on Aug. 11, and Aug. 18 will feature the winner of Battle of the Bands 1000 shadows.

The final show of the season is on Aug. 28, with the variety group Groove 'N Motion. The shows will be livestreaming on ALMA's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/almalivemusic](http://www.facebook.com/almalivemusic).

## San Luis town manager Sanderford honored by Colorado Preservation

STAFF REPORT

COSTILLA COUNTY — San Luis Town Manager Susan Sanderford has received the Colorado Preservation Inc. (CPI) Mark Rodman Award.

CPI is a statewide nonprofit historic preservation organization that advocates for the preservation of place. One of the ways that CPI supports the effort of local preservation is to acknowledge the individuals and projects occurring across the state that exhibit strong preservation practices, this annual recognition is given at their Dana Crawford and Alpine Bank State Honor Awards.

In 2023 with the passing of pres-

ervation leader, Mark Rodman, CPI introduced a new award focused on individuals making a strong difference in their communities.

Sanderford is the second individual to receive this award as a result of her commitment, vision, dedication and partnerships - often spearheading preservation projects within the community of San Luis.

CPI has worked on many projects within the Valley to include the People's Market (the R&R Market being listed as one of Colorado's Most Endangered Places) as well as the Sangre de Cristo Heritage Center, which received a finan-

cial grant from CPI's Rural Revitalization grant program last year.

CPI commends Sanderford's ability to move preservation forward locally. CPI recognized her commitment on May 20.

**Left to right, Tom Witt, CPI Board President, Susan Sanderford's son, Susan Sanderford, Jennifer Orrigo, and Charles Executive Director CPI. Susan Sanderford received the Colorado Preservation Inc. Mark Rodman Award on May 20.**

Courtesy photo



## SLVH, Children's Hospital Colorado form Care Alliance



Courtesy photo

The photo features Dr. Joyce Oleszek. She is one of the CHCO providers who will provide specialty care in Alamosa in the Pediatrics Clinic at San Luis Valley Health (SLVH).

*Shared goal: Deliver highest level of pediatric care close to home*

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — San Luis Valley Health (SLVH), the region's largest hospital, and Children's Hospital Colorado (Children's Colorado), one of the nation's top children's hospitals, announced Wednesday they have entered into a Care Alliance, which is a collaboration across the organizations to provide children and their families with the highest level of coordinated medical care as close to home when possible.

"We're very excited about the Care

Alliance with Children's Colorado," said Antonio Gurule, San Luis Valley Health's director of clinics. "This will improve our ability to deliver pediatric care right here in the San Luis Valley. It is very much in keeping with our 'trusted partner in health' philosophy. One important aspect of the Care Alliance is the Children's Colorado Regional Clinics which will be located in the pediatrician clinic space at San Luis Valley Health."

The formal agreement establishes a standing Care Alliance Steering Committee between the two hospitals. The committee's work will include streamlining care coordination to help reduce costs, improve quality, support collaborative case management, and knowledge sharing. Of key significance, the alliance means that local kids and their families will have increased access to some of the

best minds in pediatric care for their children and young adults without having to travel.

In addition to providing this care, the professional team from Children's Colorado will also provide mentoring, education, and training across care teams at SLVH to enhance delivery of pediatric care.

"We are humbled and proud to partner with San Luis Valley Health to bring increased access to top-ranked pediatric care closer to home for families in the San Luis Valley," said Jennifer Knotts, Children's Hospital Colorado's vice president of partnerships and business development. "Founded more than a century ago, our mission is to improve child health. This new partnership demonstrates our continued commitment to care for Colorado children regardless of *Please see ALLIANCE on Page 6*

# Valley-Wide Classified **FREE!** ON LINE! **MARKETPLACE**

Sell your household items for FREE. Total value of items must be \$50 or less. See details below.



## CLASSIFIED INDEX

- |   |   |  |
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## RATES

**15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications**  
**\$19.50 + 95¢ each additional word.**  
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To place your ad in person come to the office at 835 First Ave. in Monte Vista, or call (719) 852-3531. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also fax your classified to (719) 852-3387 or email at monte\_vista\_class@gmail.com  
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To ensure your ad is correct, check it the first day it appears in the paper. If there is an error in your ad, call us right away so we can correct it. If an error appears in your ad, Valley Publishing will credit you with one additional day of advertising.  
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### 05 Notices

**For information on meetings for ALANON NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS AND ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
Please visit [slvaa.org](http://slvaa.org) or call 719-937-5083.

### 07 Help Wanted

**Del Norte Bank is seeking to fill a full-time position for a Teller** in the Del Norte Branch. Duties will be to accept deposits, loan payments and process withdrawals while maintaining a balanced cash drawer. Must be personable and pleasant answering the phone and greeting customers. Many other duties will be assigned as needed. The position is permanent, full-time, M - F, 8am - 5pm, an hourly rate range of \$14.42 to \$17.00, with a robust benefits package. Application available at [TrueLocalBank.com/careers](http://TrueLocalBank.com/careers) or inquire at 705 Grand Ave, Del Norte or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Dawn. EOE. (6-19)

**Mechanic: JT Timber Falling is hiring a full-time heavy equipment** and truck mechanic in Blanca, CO. \$25-\$45/hr depending on experience. Monday - Friday schedule. Benefits are available. Call 719-379-4066 or visit [jt timber.com](http://jt timber.com) to apply.

**The SLV Landfill is accepting applications for a part time Scale Clerk.** Requires working the front office, waiting on customers, weighing loads, processing credit cards, handling cash transactions, cleaning and maintaining the office. Also fill in for Office Assistant as needed. Must be willing to work in all types of weather

and be able to work a fluctuating schedule including alternating Saturday's. Position open until filled. \$16.00 per hour 20-30 hours per week. Applications can be emailed to [officemanager@slvlandfill.com](mailto:officemanager@slvlandfill.com) or returned to the office. Download the application at [slvlandfill.com](http://slvlandfill.com). (6-26)

**The Town of Del Norte Board of Trustees is accepting letters of interest to fill two appointed positions on the Planning Commission.** The Planning Commission takes part in charting the course of growth and development within Town limits while learning more about local planning. The Planning Commission members are appointed by the Del Norte Town Board there are two terms (two- year term and four- term) and they meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. to review and make recommendations on subdivision proposals, zoning, conditional use applications. If you are interested in serving on the Del Norte Planning Commission. Applicants MUST BE qualified electors (live Town limits) of the Town of Del Norte. If you are interested in serving on the Planning Commission, please call Town Hall at 719-657-2708 to receive an application or email/mail letters of interest with application to Del Norte Town Hall at 140 Spruce Street, Del Norte, Colorado 81132, or email to [delnorte1860@outlook.com](mailto:delnorte1860@outlook.com). Deadline for letters of interest and application is July 9, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

**Rio Grande County is hiring!** Available full-time positions with competitive pay

and benefits include: Assessor's Office Appraiser Trainee Public Health Nurse Road & Bridge Equipment Operator Sheriff's Office Detention/Dispatch Deputy Sheriff's Office Detention/Dispatch Sergeant and Corporal Sheriff's Office Road Deputy Sheriff's Office Jail Cook Social Services Legal Technician Manager Benefits include medical, retirement, and paid time-off. Visit [www.riograndecounty.org](http://www.riograndecounty.org)

for details including applications and job descriptions or pickup at Human Resources: 925 6th St., Rm. 200, Del Norte, CO. (7-3)

**Jr/Sr High School Behavior Interventionist / School Assessment Coordinator,** needed at Del Norte Jr/Sr High School for the 2024-2025 school year. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic

team. Applicants must have a Colorado Teaching License. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, Principal at [ahardy@urtigers.co](mailto:ahardy@urtigers.co) or contact Annie at 719-657-4020. Applications can be found online at: [urtigers.co](http://urtigers.co). (6-26)

**Dairy Queen in Monte Vista is hiring a full-time Assistant Manager** to help us continue to grow. Applicants must have

## ESTIMATED CROP WATER USE

*Weather Data from SLV Research Center located on the 9N and Hwy 285*

Crop	Date Planted	Daily Crop Water use for Dates Shown (in./day)				Accumulated Water Use (ET) (inches)				
		6/13	6/12	6/11	6/10	From 6/13				
		2day	3day	4day	5day	7day				
Moravian 69	04/05	0.27	0.23	0.19	0.17	0.50	0.70	0.87	1.09	1.58
Moravian 69	05/05	0.26	0.22	0.18	0.15	0.48	0.66	0.81	1.00	1.41
Early Wheat	04/05	0.27	0.23	0.19	0.17	0.50	0.70	0.87	1.09	1.58
Early Wheat	05/05	0.26	0.22	0.18	0.15	0.48	0.66	0.81	1.00	1.40
White Wheat	04/05	0.27	0.23	0.19	0.17	0.50	0.70	0.87	1.09	1.58
White Wheat	05/05	0.26	0.22	0.18	0.15	0.48	0.66	0.81	1.00	1.40
WinterWheat	10/01	0.27	0.23	0.19	0.17	0.50	0.70	0.87	1.09	1.58
<b>Potatoes</b>										
Norkotah	05/05	0.10	0.07	0.05	0.04	0.17	0.23	0.26	0.31	0.40
Centennial	05/05	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.10	0.13	0.16	0.21	0.30
Nugget	05/05	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.10	0.13	0.16	0.21	0.30
Alfalfa	Est.	0.31	0.27	0.22	0.19	0.58	0.80	0.99	1.24	1.81
Lawnglass	Est.	0.26	0.22	0.18	0.16	0.48	0.66	0.82	1.04	1.51

For the latest ET information, call 719-754-3494 extension x40 for Center, x36 for Center #2, and x38 for La Jara. Use the crop maturity and planting data and weather station closest to your own. Find this up June 8d table each day at this web address: <http://aes-slvrc.agsci.colostate.edu/daily-crop-water-use-report/>  
*This information is provided by the SLV Research Center (Colorado State University) and the Colorado Potato Certification Service. For info, call 754-3494 x26 or e-mail: [andrew.houser@colostate.edu](mailto:andrew.houser@colostate.edu)*

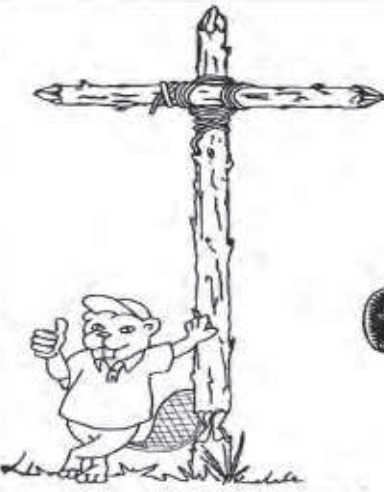
## Lucky Shoe Ranch



Are you looking for something fun to do this summer?  
**Join us & learn how to ride horses!**  
Summer session starts the last week of May, we supply the horses & tack.

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  - Cowboy ethics
  - 4H
  - Rodeo team
  - Day camps
  - Drill teams
- Day Camp - July 26<sup>th</sup>  
Discount Day Lessons - June 21<sup>st</sup>, July 5<sup>th</sup>, July 19<sup>th</sup>
- Signup via our website!**  
Scholarships available

Additional information & bookings are available through our website: [www.luckyshoeridingclub.com/](http://www.luckyshoeridingclub.com/).  
Phone: 719-849-1955  
Location: 4195 North County Road 5 West, Monte Vista



## BEAVER CREEK CHRISTIAN CAMP

2024 Theme: Linked by Love

As we seek to create and strengthen life giving relationships, we remember that love all love flows from God and links us together.



Camp Dates:  
1st, 2nd & 3rd Grade Camp - June 30-July 2  
4th, 5th & 6th Grade Camp - July 7-9  
7th & 8th Grade Camp- July 14-19  
High School Camp - July 21-26



Find more information and registration at:  
**[www.beavercreekcamp.org](http://www.beavercreekcamp.org)**  
0885 CR 20A, PO Box 186, South Fork, CO 81154  
[manager@beavercreekcamp.org](mailto:manager@beavercreekcamp.org) (719) 588-7627

Beaver Creek Youth Camp is an equal opportunity service provider and employer and operates under special use permit from the USDA Forest Service, Rio Grande National Forest.

# Valley Wide

# Classifieds

previous QSR management experience. Salary based on experience. PTO, Health insurance, and 401K available. Email resumes to [MVDairyQueen@gmail.com](mailto:MVDairyQueen@gmail.com).

**WANTED: Saguache County Road and Bridge and Landfill is looking to hire an Assistant Supervisor ....** Starting at \$67,000/year - DOE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must possess a current Colorado Class "A" Commercial Drivers License CDL with a heavy semi-truck endorsement and a current medical certificate. Applicants should have a high school diploma along with an extensive working knowledge of methods, operating rules, and equipment for road construction and maintenance operations. Prospective employees applying with Saguache County, please note that after a "conditional" offer is made, we may require disclosure of other information personal to the applicant. The prospective employee will also be required to submit and pass a pre-employment drug screening, before being hired. Road & Bridge and Landfill Assistant Supervisor is a full-time salaried position - qualified candidates will be responsible for assisting the head supervisor with the coordination and supervision of labor, maintenance crews, and equipment while reconstruction, resurfacing, and general county road maintenance are performed. This position is expected to work during road emergencies so you should be available to work nights, weekends, and holidays when needed. This position will assist the head supervisor in reviewing and evaluating employee performance, directing procedures to ensure compliance with established budgets, ensures that all purchases conform to departmental needs and goals. This position is also responsible for assisting the head supervisor with the Landfill department, providing information for reporting, monitoring the gas wells, and assuring compliance with all Colorado Department of Health regulations. This is only part of an extensive list of requirements for this position. In addition to the salaried rate, the County Employee benefit package includes vision, dental, and health insurance coverage, paid time off, and a generous 401a retirement plan. Applications and a complete job description are available at the Saguache County Road and Bridge Office, 305 3rd Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 - 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website - [saguachecounty.colorado.gov](http://saguachecounty.colorado.gov) under the Road and Bridge Department tab. Please fill out and submit both applications: The Saguache County Application and the Drivers-Application. Completed Assistant Supervisor applications - must be made to the attention of Hiring Committee and can be hand-delivered to the Road and Bridge Office located at 305 3rd Street in Saguache, mailed to Saguache County Road and Bridge Hiring Committee - PO Box 476 Saguache, CO 81149, sent by email to [mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov](mailto:mhashbarger@saguachecounty-co.gov), or faxed to 719-655-2543. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (6-19)

**WANTED: Saguache County Road and Bridge and Landfill is looking to hire a Head Supervisor ....** Starting at \$71,000/

**DISCLAIMER**  
Please read your ad on the first day of publication. If there are mistakes notify us **IMMEDIATELY**. We will make changes for errors and adjust your credit **but only if we receive notice on the first day the ad is published**. We limit our liability to you in this way and we do not accept liability for any other damages which may result from an error or omission in an ad. All ad copy must be approved by the newspaper which reserves the right to request changes, reject or properly classify an ad. The advertiser and not the newspaper is responsible for the truthful content of the ad. All classified advertising must be pre-paid.

## FULL-TIME SALES

Valley Publishing has an immediate need in advertising sales (full-time). Any sales experience is appreciated but will train. Email resume to General Manager Brian Williams at [bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com](mailto:bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com)

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For the Conejos and Costilla areas. Writing and photography experience necessary. Send resume, writing and photography samples to Valley Publishing Inc., P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, CO 81144 or email [bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com](mailto:bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com)

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SAN LUIS VALLEY, COLORADO





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# Valley Wide Classifieds

year - DOE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Applicants are preferred to possess or may be required to possess a current Colorado Class "A" Commercial Drivers License with a heavy semi-truck endorsement and a current medical certificate. Applicants should have a high school diploma along with extensive knowledge of methods, operating rules, and equipment for road construction and maintenance operations. Prospective employees applying with Saguache County, please note that after a "conditional" offer is made, we may require disclosure of other information personal to the applicant. The prospective employee will also be required to submit and pass a pre-employment drug screening, before being hired. The Road & Bridge and Landfill Head Supervisor is a full-time salaried position - qualified candidates will be responsible for the coordination and supervision of labor, maintenance crews, and equipment while reconstruction, resurfacing, and general county road maintenance are performed. This position is expected to work during road emergencies so you should be available to work nights, weekends, and holidays when needed. The Head Supervisor reviews and evaluates employee performance, prepares the annual budget, and monitors all expenditures and revenues. This position is also responsible for the Landfill department, reporting to the State of Colorado Department of Health

and the Board of County Commissioners, and assuring compliance with the Colorado Department of Health regulations. This is only part of an extensive list of requirements for this position. In addition to the salaried rate, the County Employee benefit package includes vision, dental, and health insurance coverage, paid time off, and a generous 401a retirement plan. Applications and a complete job description are available at the Saguache County Road and Bridge Office, 305 3rd Street, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149 - 719-655-2554 or on the Saguache County website - [saguachecounty.colorado.gov](http://saguachecounty.colorado.gov) under the Road and Bridge Department tab. Please fill out and submit both applications: The Saguache County Application and the Drivers-Application. Completed Head Supervisor applications - must be made to the attention of Wendi Maez and can be hand-delivered to the administration building located at 505 3rd Street in Saguache, mailed to Saguache County Administrator - Wendi Maez PO Box 100, Saguache, CO 81149, sent by email to [wmaez@saguachecounty-co.gov](mailto:wmaez@saguachecounty-co.gov), or faxed to 719-655-2635. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (6-19)

### 12 Houses for Rent

**House for Rent in Del Norte**, in town. 2br 1ba. Huge yard, large garage. Pets and

smokers not permitted. Available July 1. \$900/month, includes water and sewer. Please call 630-728-1728 (7-10)

**Newly renovated house in South Fork.** Fenced in yard. Detached garage. No smoking. No indoor pets. \$1750 per month. 719-580-1510 (7-3)

**For rent in Del Norte:** For use as office or home, a remodeled 1-plus rooms, 3/4 bath unit in a quaint four-plex in Del Norte. Pets and smokers are not permitted. \$700/mo., inclusive of water and sewer. Available June 2. Please call 719-850-0750.

### 16 Vacation

**Cabin for rent by the night only.** Small bath, queen bed, microwave and refrigerator only. 469-446-2499

### 36 Miscellaneous

**Cash for quality non-fiction books and LP records.** Jeff 720-315-9145 (TFN)

**Propane Refrigerators Sold Here.** Call For Options and Prices. We Also Stock Solar Powered Refrigerators and Freezers. Bontrager's Variety Store, 9726 S. County Road 3E, Monte Vista. (719) 852-0500

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# San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

**Secluded cabin on 20 acres - Gated Community**  
\$975,000 | MLS #803394  
3023 Bear Creek Circle, South Fork, CO

**DEE PLUCINSKI**  
LUXURY HOME BROKER  
M: 719-873-5605

**28 Acres on the Rio Grande River in South Fork**  
\$1,550,000 | MLS #807305  
27000 US HWY 160 South Fork, CO

**DEE PLUCINSKI**  
LUXURY HOME BROKER  
M: 719-873-5605

**3 bedroom cabin bordering National Forest**  
\$398,500 | MLS # 812823  
99 Aspen Dr. South Fork, CO

**DEE PLUCINSKI**  
LUXURY HOME BROKER  
M: 719-873-5605

**Luxury Home on 42 Acres - Borders Natl. Forest**  
\$899,000 | MLS #807998  
4100 Wilderness Canyon Rd. La Garita, CO

**DEE PLUCINSKI**  
LUXURY HOME BROKER  
M: 719-873-5605

**3 bedroom home on 5 acres near Alamosa**  
\$369,500 | MLS #810965  
532 Lane 8 N. Monte Vista, CO

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LUXURY HOME BROKER  
M: 719-873-5605

**DOMESTIC WELL SEPTIC SOLAR**

**Hunting Cabin on 40 Acres - Bordering National Forest**  
\$239,000 | MLS #812863  
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath Del Norte, CO

**DEE PLUCINSKI**  
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**Off-Grid Cabin on the CREEK 5.24 Acres**  
\$279,000 | MLS #809447  
7541 Indian Creek Rd. Fort Garland, CO

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**Luxury Mountain home on 15 acres in Bear Creek**  
\$1,399,000 | MLS #813316  
682 Bear Creek Circle, South Fork, CO

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All of my properties are detailed in my BLOG  
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**FOR SALE - Queen sofa bed brown leather (new mattress) \$150; DJ equipment speakers, lights, light stand (will break up) \$3000; Alesis Electric Drum Set, 11 pc. with hardware only used Sunday mornings in church (3 years) \$3500; Jacuzzi jetted bathtub (good condition) \$250; Stryker Crossbow 420 fps with bow crank, arrows and case \$2000; Guitar stand holds 5 guitars \$50; New in box 45,000 btu gas water heater (40 gal) reg \$615, selling for \$350. 719-588-0573 (7-10)**

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**Large Vermont Casting or Jotul stove with glass front. Porcelain or black. alpinhigh@gmail.com. (6-26)**

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**Let me haul off your old appliances and recyclable metals for you. Call Chris for prices and to set up a removal 719-395-2071 (6-26)**

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## San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

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## San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

**1408 Bear Creek Circle • South Fork**

Exceptional Mountain Retreat nestled within the prestigious gated community of Bear Creek, this Exquisite home at 1408 Bear Creek Circle offers an unparalleled blend of Elegance, Tranquility, and Natural beauty. With 3,882 square feet of meticulously designed living space, this property is a sanctuary for those seeking rest from the everyday hustle. Interior Features: Entryway with Stained Glass Doors: The grand entrance sets the tone, welcoming you into a large, elegant living room complete with a corner fireplace and an adjacent wet bar—perfect for entertaining guests. Large Custom Kitchen: The heart of this home boasts custom alder wood cabinets, beautiful quartz countertops, and a butler pantry with built-in custom shelving and storage cabinets. The kitchen seamlessly leads to a spacious laundry area flooded with natural light, making laundry a pleasant task. Beautiful Dining Room: Accessible from the kitchen, the dining room opens to a spacious awe-inspiring back deck. Perfect place to enjoy that first cup of morning coffee. Stairway to Loft: Ascend the large staircase to the open loft—an ideal space for a game area and home office. 3 Bedrooms: Master Bedroom (Main Floor): Flooded with ample natural light, the master bedroom provides a cozy ambiance. It features a spacious retreat with a jumbo-sized walk-in closet complete with custom shelving and cabinets. The master bath includes a walk-in shower and spa tub for your in-home spa experience. Additional 1 and a 1/2 Bath are Well-appointed and elegantly designed, the bathrooms provide comfort and convenience. Lower-Level Stairwell: Leads to an intimate family room and two spacious downstairs guest bedrooms. Immaculate 3-Car Garage and 1-Car Workshop: With custom cabinets and work benches a dream come true, providing plenty of room for all your tools and outdoor adventure toys. Outdoor Delights: Bear Creek runs through this property, nature's music to your ears. Mountain Views: Wake up to awe-inspiring vistas of the surrounding peaks. The ever-changing canvas of sunrises and sunsets will leave you breathless. Wildlife Haven: Immerse yourself in the enchanting wilderness. Mule deer, elk, and even the elusive black bear occasionally grace the property. Year-Round Adventure: Explore hundreds of miles of ATV trails right outside your door. In winter, hit the slopes at Wolf Creek Ski Area, just 30 minutes away. Tranquil Creekside Strolls: Meander along the community walking trails that follow the gentle curves of Bear Creek. Listen to the soothing sounds of water as you unwind. This is more than a home; it's an invitation to embrace the rugged elegance of Colorado's high country. Escape to 1408 Bear Creek Circle and discover a lifestyle where luxury meets wilderness. **MLS# 813472 - \$1,420,000**



**NEW LISTING!**

**Bernadette Gingrass**  
719-850-1993  
bmgingrass@gmail.com  
License #100072622

**193 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork**

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



**SOLD**

**Bernadette Gingrass**  
719-850-1993  
bmgingrass@gmail.com  
License #100072622

**0254 Timberline Trail • South Fork**

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



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719-850-1993  
bmgingrass@gmail.com  
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**222 La Lomita Circle • South Fork**

Perfect 2.0-acre lot to build Your Dream Home. Luxurious Mountain Retreat Awaits: Build Your Dream Home! Nestled amidst the majestic peaks, this pristine lot awaits your architectural vision. Imagine waking up to panoramic vistas that stretch as far as the eye can see—each sunrise painting the sky in hues of amber and rose gold. Welcome to your own private haven, where nature's splendor meets refined living. Breathtaking Views. This parcel of land boasts captivating views in every direction. Gaze upon rolling hills, snow-capped summits, and the meandering Rio Grande River. Whether you're sipping morning coffee or stargazing at night, the scenery will leave you spellbound. Ready for Your Vision. The canvas is blank, awaiting your brushstrokes. With water and sewer readily available, however you will need to secure your water and sewer taps. Picture a modern retreat with floor-to-ceiling windows, seamlessly blending indoor and outdoor spaces. Paved Road Access No rugged trails here—just a smooth, paved road leading to your paradise. Arrive in style. Over Two Acres of Possibility Spread your wings across two gently sloping sprawling acres. Design your oasis—an infinity pool, terraced gardens, or perhaps a meditation pavilion. Outdoor Enthusiast's Paradise For the angler's heart, the Rio Grande River beckons. Cast your line, and reel in memories. Nearby, the National Forest is a playground for hikers, birdwatchers, and seekers of solitude. Your Winter Wonderland Awaits Just 20 miles away, the Wolf Creek Ski Resort cradles you in its snowy embrace. Glide down powdery slopes, cozy up by the fire, savoring the warmth of shared stories. Your Legacy Awaits This isn't just land; it's your legacy in the making. Generations will gather here, creating memories under star-studded skies. Build your dream home refuge—a testament to life well-lived. More pictures coming soon. **MLS#812710 - \$79,900**



**JUST LISTED**

**Bernadette Gingrass**  
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bmgingrass@gmail.com  
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# Creede Vacation Bible Camp June 24-28

**CREEDE** — Give your imagination a short beach vacation at Creede Baptist Church. Creede Vacation Bible Camp will be held Monday, June 24, to Friday, June 28, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Camp includes a week full of music, games, crafts, refreshments and, most importantly, learning about God.

This free Vacation Bible Camp is open to all adventurous kids from over 3 years old to those having completed sixth grade.

Family and friends are invited to camp Friday, June 28, for a cookout at 6 p.m. followed by a children's program at 7 p.m.

# HAMILTON

Continued from Page 1

empowering women to pursue their scientific interests.

The study will include the European exploration into how politics, custom and society shaped the lives of early female scientists, and how these individuals worked to overcome obstacles and break the barriers of scientific thought.

In addition, she will hear from outstanding modern-day female scientists and champions of women in science, their advice for success, and the challenges they have overcome.

Highlights of the experience include visiting King's College in London to learn about Rosalind Franklin and her X-ray diffraction images leading

to deciphering of the DNA structure; hunting for fossils in the Lyme Regis region; visiting the Marie Curie museum in Paris and learning about her life contributions to chemistry, biology, and her discovery of novel elements; touring CERN, the European Organization for Particle Research near Geneva; visiting the Max Planck Institute for Science and Technology in Munich and Berlin; as well as viewing the Nobel Prize Museum and Concert Hall in Stockholm; all while exploring the culture and history of these five countries.

Hamilton received a competitive scholarship to help fund this experience.

# ALLIANCE

Continued from Page 1A

where they live by eliminating barriers and increasing access to the knowledge and care of our pediatric experts in partnership with San Luis Valley Health."

The only dedicated pediatric health system within a seven-state region, Children's Colorado partners with community hospitals across a 1,000-mile-radius that comprises Colorado, Montana, Wyoming and New Mexico to bring pediatric specialty care closer to home. This new partnership marks the 11th Care Alliance for the system. The Care Alliance goals are to support community hospitals across the region by elevating and enhancing pediatric care in communities and, when needed, to streamline care to Children's Colorado when a higher level of care or more specialized need arises for a family. Each Care Alliance is uniquely tailored to meet the specific needs of the community.

"Children's Colorado has and continues to help us support our most critically ill and complex patients, but this collaboration signals a focus on prioritizing and enhancing pediatric care in the San Luis Valley," said Dr. Amarilys Rojas, pediatrician, SLVH Pediatrics Clinic. "As the leading medical facility in the region

with the most on-staff pediatricians, it is our duty to provide comprehensive care and be the medical home for the valley's children. This is especially true for complex patients and families where it is extremely difficult for them to be away from home and/or work when their child has medical or surgical needs. This collaboration is vital to the advancement of pediatric medical care in the region and serves as proof that both

San Luis Valley Health and Children's Colorado are putting kid's health first, now and in the future."



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www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org

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*We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who have contributed to the success of the Upper Rio Grande Animal Society by contributions, donations, volunteering and general support at Conour Animal Shelter.*

## LOST & FOUND



Found on 5/22, brought to the shelter on 5/28 near the Broyles Bridge area



Found on 5/29 on Covey St in Monte Vista



Found on 6/1, brought to the shelter on 6/13 from the Del Norte area



Allium and Poppy are still here looking for their forever homes! All loves to play in the water, Poppy not so much, but she's not fearful of it either. They both do great with other dogs, new people, and kids! Come meet these sweethearts today!



**Treats, treats, treats!** One of the many things we use for training, comfort and just fun in general here at the shelter, we are running low on. Any and all treats are welcome, we just discourage rawhides. Pork rolls and beefhides are a great alternative. We appreciate all of you and thank you all in advance, and for your continued support!

*Please note adoptions go in order of contact made.*

**All breeds & ages of animals are a "best guess" and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping.**  
*This ad space donated by Valley Publishing Inc.*

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# Moffat Volunteer Fire Department hosts tasty Cajun Boil

By MARIE MCCOLM

MOFFAT — On Saturday, June 8, the Moffat Volunteer Fire Department hosted a scrumptious Cajun Boil fundraiser at the firehouse.

Members of the fire department served the meal. The meal consisted of a generous helping of white rice and beans, along with a few large, delicious shrimp, pieces of baked potato, onions, a generous amount of crab legs, corn on the cob and two hush puppies.

As an alternative people could also choose blackened chicken and rice for their donation of \$20. Drinks included iced tea, lemonade, or water. There was also soda available for sale.

There was a silent auction during

the boil that featured donated items from Valley businesses. There was also a 50/50 raffle.

Former member of the Moffat Volunteer Fire Department, Nelly Ruggles was at the Cajun Boil with her husband, and said the dinner was nice.

“This is great. We used to be members of the fire department. We were here, then we were in Springs for about 30 years, and then we came back. We had no idea they made a new fire house. We support the fire department totally. I was able to help with fires years ago, so I do know how those hoses, and that equipment works. It’s a lot of work. This is a great event tonight,” Ruggles said.



Photos by Marie Mccolm

**The Moffat Volunteer Fire Department hosted a scrumptious Cajun Boil and Silent Auction fundraiser inside the firehouse on June 8.**

MVFD Assistant Chief Francisco Silva, who headed up everything at the doorway, selling tickets and taking donations for the food at the Cajun Boil.

“We are excited. A lot of people showed up. We are happy with the turnout,” Silva said.

The Moffat Volunteer Fire Department extended thanks to everyone who supported their Cajun Boil event.



Moffat Volunteer Fire Department Assistant Chief Francisco Silva standing at the entrance of the fire house for the Cajun Boil and Silent Auction.

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## Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



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### CLUES ACROSS

1. Not invited
6. Whale ship captain
10. One point south of southwest
14. Small cavity in a rock
15. Recidivists
17. City of Angels hoopster
19. A way to mark with one’s signature
20. OJ trial judge
21. Rice cooked in broth
22. One point east of due south
23. One point east of southeast
24. Complements an entree
26. Grouped by twos
29. Disfigure
31. Woods
32. Political action committee
34. Longer of 2 bones in the forearm
35. Kin groups
37. Philippine Island
38. Contrary to
39. Bluish-gray fur
40. Comprehend the written word
41. Natural depressions
43. Felines
45. Breathe noisily
46. Taxi
47. Pancake made from buckwheat flour
49. Swiss river
50. Foot (Latin)
53. Have surgery
57. Formal withdrawal
58. Monetary units of Peru
59. Greek war god

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

60. 2,000 lbs.
61. High points
- CLUES DOWN**
1. Green and yellow citrus fruit
2. A bright color
3. Thicket
4. Journalist Tarbell
5. A place to work or relax
6. Sharp mountain ridge
7. Helicopter
8. Mimic
9. Suggests
10. More musty
11. Large, flightless rail
12. Make beer
13. Soviet Socialist Republic
16. People who can account for you
18. Taunt
22. South Dakota
23. Cover the entirety of
24. Kids’ favorite visitor
25. A way to save for retirement
27. Fencing swords
28. C. China mountain range
29. Type of sandwich
30. Team
31. Paddle
33. Partly digested food
35. Most cagey
36. Shoppers make one
37. Cathode-ray tube
39. Food supplies
42. Backbones
43. Concern
44. Blood group
46. Broadway songwriter Sammy
47. Dutch colonist
48. Full-grown pike fish
49. Deity of a monotheistic cult
50. Type of bread
51. S. Nigerian people
52. Scottish tax
53. Young women’s association
54. Brazilian city
55. Hide of a young animal
56. Midway between north and northeast

### Solution to last week’s puzzle

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

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# Valley Roots Food Hub SLV Farm Tours begin June 22

**By MARIE MCCOLM**  
**MOSCA** — Agriculture and farm lovers, are you looking for something fun and exciting to do this summer? Valley Roots Food hub has you covered. Valley Roots Food Hub will be hosting exciting San Luis Valley Farm Tours that will begin in June and go through September. Tickets for the tours are available online for \$35 each and include lunch and transportation to the farms. There will be three different areas where the tours will take place. June tours will take place in the west part of the Valley. July tours will take place in the south part of the Valley. September tours will take place in the north part of the Valley. The first set of tours will take place on June 22, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Farms that

are scheduled for that day are Laz Ewe 2 Bar Goat and Dairy Farm in Del Norte, Colorado Fresh Farms, and Three Guys Farm in Monte Vista. The second set of tours will take place on July 27 from 9 a.m., to 5 p.m. Current farms that are scheduled for that day are White Rock Specialties in Mosca, Rio Grande Farm Park in Alamosa, and Elevation Farm and Orchards in Alamosa. The third set of tours will take place on Sept. 21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Current tours schedule for that day are to Jones Farms Organics in Hooper, San Juan Ranch in Saguache County, and Alpine Valley Mushrooms in Saguache. More farms may be added to each of the tours. Nick Chambers spoke about the Valley Roots Food Hub, “Valley Roots

is a Colorado local food distributor. We have over a hundred producers in our network statewide, and that’s across produce, meat, dairy, and value added. You know we run online markets, where customers place orders. We are a project of the nonprofit in Alamosa called the San Luis Valley Local Food Coalition. We operate in Mosca, and we operate out of White Rock Specialties, which is a potato and quinoa plant. We are all about just small, medium, and large-scale Colorado local foods. We essentially aggregate all the products from those hundred producers that we have in our network. We put them all together for buyers to see. Buyers will get one invoice representing over 100 producers. This is again across, meat, dairy, produce, and value added, all those categories.” Chambers said they operate on a

produce model, so the idea is to sell the produce before it is harvested. Chambers explained that this gives farmers fresh numbers to know exactly how much to harvest. “When the food is harvested, it is picked up and aggregated in our warehouse in Mosca, and then it has a very quick turnaround time to our customers, since it’s already sold, of about 24 to 36 hours from warehouse to customer establishments,” he said. Chambers said that the customers in network include, grocers, restaurants, buying clubs, hospitals, dude ranches, dude trucks, caterers, and wholesalers. Chambers also said there is a CSA market specifically for people who like shopping from home. “We do home deliveries for them. We also have a bunch of pick-up locations in


their communities where they can pick up their goods once per week,” he said. Chambers said that for as many stakeholders and moving parts as Valley Roots has, they are mission driven as well. “We come out of the pioneers for organic food, are some of the founders of our board. We really want to promote soil health and growing food. We really wanted to bring that to the forefront of consumers’ buying choices. We really try to encourage the development of the economy and community. It really starts with the buying choices that all our community members have. We really want to be the ones that people buy from. We also know that if we keep the buying local, that’s how we create wealth and abundance in our community,” he said. For more information on the SLV Farm Tours, call 719-206-2839.

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