

Shorts

REC meet and greet at community center in Creede

CREEDE — San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative will host a meet and greet at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, June 26, at the Creede Underground Mining Museum and Community Center. CEO Eric Ericksen, as well as Director Creede Hargraves, will be available to meet with members and discuss any issues or concerns.

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 or check out our whole summer Music in the Park lineup at www.creedeartscouncil.com.

San Juan Fiesta is coming to Center

By MARIE MCCOLM

CENTER — The beautiful and spirited San Juan Fiesta is coming to Center on Saturday, June 22, with a special mass beginning at 11 a.m., that will be held at Capilla De San Juan Bautista in La Garita and will

be followed by a nice meal.

On Sunday, June 23, there will be a Bilingual Catholic Mass held at the Catholic Church at 10 a.m., and the San Juan Fiesta will begin at 11 a.m. at Casa Blanca Park and will run until 6:30 p.m.

The park will be filled with lots of food, plenty of wonderful music, kids' games, a beer garden, drawings, a bake sale, a chicken dinner, and tons of vendors selling assorted items for everyone to enjoy.

Deacon Jerry LeBlanc spoke about

the Fiesta and what it means for the town of Center.

"This is the first time in five years that we have celebrated the San Juan Fiesta. This used to be an annual traditional celebration that always

Please see FIESTA on Page 2A

Alluvium Studios hosting fourth annual Solstice in Center

By MARIE MCCOLM

CENTER — On Saturday and Sunday, June 21 and 22, Alluvium Studios is hosting Solstice.

The event is being billed as a beautiful and unique art experience, with an exceptional variety of experimental music.

Solstice is a celebration of the changing of the seasons, from spring into summer. There is so much creativity behind the event. There will be art on display. There will be pictures, paintings, and many other types of art, including large-scale sculptures. There will be music. The event is open to the public.

Alluvium Studios is at 342 Worth St., Center, but there will also be music and art at the Center Motor Car Garage, 335 E. Third St.

On Friday, June 21, the event will start at 7 p.m. and on Saturday, June 22, the event will start at 10 a.m.

Please see SOLSTICE on Page 2A



Courtesy photo

A photo of one of the artists designs in the window at the 2023 Solstice in Center.

Deputies exchange gunfire with Monte Vista suspect

By KEITH R. CERNY

ALAMOSA — A 28-year-old Monte Vista man was hospitalized early Wednesday morning after an exchange of gunfire with local law enforcement.

Justin Trujillo sustained incapacitating injuries after allegedly firing at deputies with the Alamosa County Sheriff's Department (ACSO). Officers returned fire injuring the

suspect who was later flown out to a front range hospital in serious but stable condition, according to a press release from Sheriff Robert Jackson.

None of the deputies involved were injured.

Just after midnight Wednesday, deputies attempted to contact a vehicle in the Alamosa Safeway parking lot due to reckless driving. When they tried

to pull the vehicle over by initiating overhead emergency lights and siren, they failed to pull over and tried to flee.

After a brief pursuit, the driver stopped within the 1200 block of Third Street, exited the vehicle, and attempted to flee on foot while brandishing a firearm and firing at pursuing deputies, who returned fire.

All ACSO deputies involved in the

incident were placed on administrative leave until the conclusion of the investigation. The Colorado Bureau of Investigation is investigating the officer involved shooting and no further information will be released at this time.

Sheriff Jackson said this was an isolated incident and there is no risk to the community.

Saguache Volunteer Fire Department to host 4th of July celebration

By MARIE MCCOLM

SAGUACHE — Saguache has plenty to smile about this coming Independence Day, as the Saguache Volunteer Fire Department along with four other departments, will be hosting a 4th of July celebration, beginning at 4 p.m.

The celebration will have a barbecue with hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and a drink, all available for purchase to help the fire department along with a huge fireworks display.

Tabitha Hapl, of the Saguache Volunteer Fire Department, is excited about the upcoming celebration as it will be the first fireworks display in 30 years in Saguache.

"It's really exciting," Hapl said. "There has not been a fireworks display in a very long time. The commissioners donated to this too. We are just so happy. We want to make this a huge hometown festival for everyone."

Hapl said that there will be face painting for

the kids, and lots of kids activities. There will also be a live DJ and a street dance. There will be a watermelon eating contest, a sidewalk chalk art contest. There will be firefighter hats for the kids, squirt guns and a dunk tank, just tons of fun activities for everyone.

"There will also be vendors. There are currently vendor spots available. We aren't charging for the vendor spots, but we are asking for a donation," Hapl said.

Hapl said someone donated space to shoot off the fireworks.

"We had a property owner donate his space, it's just above the Oasis Restaurant and Saguache town market. It is on the hillside above where they used to shoot the fireworks off. That is where they are going to shoot them off again. It's so nice of the property owner to allow us to use the space for the fireworks, and you will be able to see them from Fourth Street. It's going to be great," Hapl said.

Hapl also said that there would be a beer garden.

"We wanted the majority of this to be free for everyone. The fundraiser will be made off the hamburgers, the hotdogs, the chips, the drinks and the beer garden. We have a First Responders Relief Fund. This is an account we collect and put money in. While we do have workman's comp that could cover us for anything that could happen to us, the comp can't make a car payment, it can't put food on the table for a volunteer firefighter that can't go to work either because he's injured, so we really wanted to do this," Hapl said.

Hapl also said that another exciting aspect of the event is that there will be a total of five fire departments involved in the event.

"It's Moffat, Crestone, Villa Grove, and Saguache. These four fire departments are all doing this together," Hapl said, adding that Center will be involved as well.

Hapl said she appreciates that the fire

departments are all unified, in Saguache County, and back each other up when it is needed.

"If we have a rather large fire and we get called out, all the units will respond together if needed. It's a wonderful structure when it's needed, it's seamless when it happens. We all just start rolling and functioning together when it's needed. We all train together too on some things when we do our training," Hapl said.

Hapl said she hopes they will have good attendance at the event and that everyone will come out and enjoy.

"The first display in 30 years, it's a pretty big deal. We hope everyone will come down and help the fire departments celebrate. We want to see the community come together and remember who we are this, Independence Day. We would love to see our community united," she said.

For more information on the event or to register as a vendor, contact Hapl at 719-221-8505.

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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.

SOLSTICE

Continued from Page 1A

Some of the featured artists and musicians for the event will be Alexander Anderson, Marie Bannerot McInerney, Amy Kligman, Mark Cowardin, Caleb Taylor, Misha Kligman, and Cory Imig.

Alluvium Studios owner Steve Huey is excited about the annual event.

"It's a free music and art event, and it's open to anyone who wants to roll in. It's going to be a great weekend event. There will be food vendors, so everyone can grab something to eat. There will be lots of art to see along with music. A real weekend for artists of all types, or just people who love art and music."

There will be somebody coming in from Kansas, Huey said, that will be projecting pictures or video. If people walk down the alley behind

M&M Liquor, there will be these images or videos projected on the side of the old movie theater there. There are people coming in from Colorado Springs and Denver. We have numerous people involved.

Huey owns Alluvium studios with his wife Krystal Anton. They feel culture in the Valley is important.

"This gets bigger every year, and this is our fourth year. We will see how big it is this year. This is a way to bring artists to the Valley, and to make them aware of the culture of the Valley, which is pretty unique. The scenic beauty of the Valley is really something to see. This helps create a little community for our art, in the community. We are looking forward to it and hope to see everyone there," he said.

Alluvium Studios is a functioning art studio for print, mixed media, collage, and induction.

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 his 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



Courtesy photo

Violinist Sarah Off and musician and composer Dylan Fixmer.

Public Radio's "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered." Sarah holds that creativity, advocacy, business 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, 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.

FIESTA

Continued from Page 1A

took place right around the 24 of June, which is the birth of Saint John the Baptist. A lot of people in our community have a devotion to Saint John the Baptist," he said.

Deacon LeBlanc said the Fiesta was significant to many people as they have that special relationship with Saint John. Leblanc also spoke of the mass that would take place in La Garita, and how the church in La Garita has recently been brought back to life.

"It has been completely restored, it was in horrible shape many years ago, it is now beautiful," he said.

He said that anyone attending the mass in La Garita was also welcome

to attend the meal afterward.

LeBlanc said that on Sunday there would also be mass held in Center at 10 a.m. and then a procession would take place from the mass to the Casa Blanca Park where the Fiesta would be held.

"The Fiesta will be outdoors, there's a beautiful pavilion at the park where it's being held. There will be a variety of drawings. A nice chicken and taco dinner. It's just going to be a great day. It's just a way for people in the community to celebrate this holy mass, that is worthy, from our faith and spirituality. It is sponsored by the Catholic Church here too," he said.

LeBlanc also said that one of the

biggest purposes of the Fiesta is to gather people of all faiths together, but to also raise funds for the Catholic Church in Center. Last year in September, the roof of the Catholic Church in Center was torn off by intense winds. Since the incident some of it has been repaired.

According to LeBlanc, the southern half of the roof has been repaired but they still need to repair the northern half.

"We want to use the Fiesta to gather people together in their faith and help raise funds to repair the northern half of the church. We have a very good community. We are hoping to see everyone at the Fiesta," he said.

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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



Photo courtesy of Wyoming Department of Transportation

Teton Pass after road collapse on June 12.

many are allowing people to pitch tents in their 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 Teton Passholes, 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

LETTER

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*

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RGH Wellness Center ribbon cutting ceremony June 22

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

DEL NORTE — After almost a year of construction, the Rio Grande Hospital Wellness Center will be officially opening to the public, patients and staff on Saturday, June 22.

The center has been part of a long-time dream of the hospital and the greater San Luis Valley.

“We want this facility to be a place for the community to come and feel a sense of family and togetherness. This is about preventative health, longevity living and so much more,” said RGH Development and Communications Officer Eva Timberlake as she walked through the freshly cleaned front lobby of the Wellness Center on Thursday, June 13. “We are promoting health in all forms and will be able to offer some help with that through this facility.”

Rio Grande Hospital’s vision for the Wellness Center began prior to 2020 as they began making plans and seeking funding from countless donors, but it was the COVID pandemic that stopped the project in its tracks until June of 2023 when the hospital broke ground.

“This is going to be amazing for the community and the hospital,” said Timberlake.

While venturing into the Wellness Center, one of the first things that catches the eye is the color scheme and the view. Panoramic windows capture the gorgeous colors of the La Garita foothills to the north of Highway 160 and offer a sense of peace and wellness that can only be found in this part of Colorado.

A drywall mural greets people thanks to the artistic talents of Casey McCoy. Viewers will notice when they first look at the wall, that there will be a young woman meditating in a yoga exercise. However, unlike the traditional yoga meditation pose, where the hands are closed or face down on her lap, McCoy made her

head look upward with her hands open. He made this change because he wanted to show the symbolism that this young lady is being open and ready to receive inspiration, revelation, guidance, direction, and change.

This little gesture has a big meaning behind it. McCoy has placed all sorts of symbolisms throughout this art piece and McCoy thinks it will be interesting to see what people will notice each time they see his finished work.

The front lobby opens to a wide-open space that will feature community happenings, resources for health and wellness and schedules for classes or events at the center for the public to enjoy.

Flowing off the main lobby is the teaching kitchen that, according to Timberlake, will serve as the heart of the Wellness Center that offers cooking and dietary classes for many to enjoy.

“We will even have a chef that can teach how to fit a healthy diet into your life and what you need for a better lifestyle,” she said.

The kitchen then opens into a main conference room that boasts an interesting twist on the floor in the form of a walking maze. When the conference room is not in use, all the tables and chairs can be whisked away, and guests can walk the calming maze while enjoying the view that is like the one in the lobby.

Beyond the many features the Wellness Center offers, it will also serve as a place for family and visiting physicians to stay whether it is in one of the cottages on the property or at the RV sites. The cottages are decorated in themes of places that have been proven to have longer living communities like those in Greece, Italy, Costa Rica, and Japan.

A ribbon cutting ceremony will be at the Wellness Center just west of the main hospital on June 22 at 1 p.m.



Photos by Lyndsie Ferrell

Rio Grande Hospital is having a ribbon cutting and open house event for its Wellness Center at 1 p.m. on Saturday.



The Rio Grande Hospital Wellness Center features a teaching kitchen, large conference space, cottages and an open lobby with expansive views and a welcoming mural.



The beautiful new Rio Grande Hospital Wellness Center was made possible by generous donors from all over the San Luis Valley and beyond.



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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 afternoon 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."



Courtesy photo

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.

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.



Courtesy photo

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

IN DEL NORTE

Kiley Lohr, FNP-C

Rio Grande Hospital Clinic

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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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 Cummins, BSN, RN, read about the award and posed for a photo with the traveling 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/.



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.

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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.

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

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

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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 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.



Courtesy photos

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

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



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6247-0324

South Fork gears up for 3rd of July celebration

By LYNDISIE FERRELL
SOUTH FORK — Nothing says summer more than long sunny days that fade into beautiful nights, especially those that end in epic firework shows like the one that is an annual celebration in South Fork on the 3rd of July.

For several years, the Town of South Fork has celebrated Independence Day one day early to the delight of locals and visitors.

This year, the Town of South Fork is preparing for another wonderful day filled with everything that makes a small mountain town in Colorado the perfect place to celebrate everything American. From catfish fries to farmer's markets packed with local fare, South Fork will be the place to be on July 3.

To kick the celebrations off, the South Fork Fire Rescue will

be hosting its annual Catfish Fry fundraiser. This event has been a staple in South Fork for many years, bringing crowds of more than 200 hungry people to the forefront with their generosity and love of a home fried catfish meal with all the fixings.

Vendors from all over the southwestern part of the state set up in the parking lot behind the South Fork Fire building located just south of Highway 160 in South Fork. Vendors offer many different types of arts and crafts. Vendors are open from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and the catfish fry is from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Be sure to hop online and get tickets today. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-annual-catfish-fry-fundraiser-tickets-920846485627?aff=FacebookTicket.

Following the catfish fry, people

can go to the frontage road on the western edge of town and grab a seat for the annual Third of July Parade. What makes this parade fun is that everyone is invited to participate. Sign up with the South Fork Visitor Center to join in on the fun.

After the parade there is just enough time to refresh and then go to the Rickel Rodeo Grounds for the Burris and Sons Rodeo. This event features bucking bulls, mutton busting and all top rodeo events.

Later, the annual firework display is put on by the Town of South Fork and South Fork Fire Rescue. The fireworks are shot off from the Rio Grande Club and Resort and can be seen from almost anywhere in town.

For more information or a full schedule of events, visit www.southfork.org.



File photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

South Fork is a great place to kick off Independence Day celebrations in the San Luis Valley. Come enjoy a Catfish Fry with South Fork Fire Rescue, an afternoon parade and a rodeo put on by Burris and Sons on the 3rd of July.

Summer Fun Quilt Show coming in July

CONTRIBUTED
ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Public Library and the San Luis Valley Quilt Guild are partnering to bring the community a gorgeous Summer Fun Quilt Show. The library, located at Alamosa City Hall, 300 Hunt Ave., will host an opening reception with refreshments, curated by San Luis Valley Quilt Guild members, at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 6.

Stroll through the Alamosa Farmers Market at Sixth and Ross streets; peruse the shelves of titillating books at Spines

Book Sale, sponsored by the Friends of the Alamosa Public Library; and then stop by the library to enjoy the Summer Fun Quilt Show and opening reception.

The quilts will be on display from Tuesday, July 2, through Saturday, July 20, at the Alamosa Public Library which is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The library is closed on Thursday, July 4.

For more information, contact the Alamosa Public Library at 719-589-6592.

Annual Villa Grove-Bonanza Volunteer Fire Department fundraiser BBQ

STAFF REPORT
SAGUACHE COUNTY — On June 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., join the firefighters from the Villa Grove-Bonanza Volunteer Fire Department for a day of fun and food at the Villa Grove Fire Station.

There will be BBQ sandwiches, hamburgers, hot dogs, bratwurst and all the fixings, the cost is \$15 adults, kids under 5 are free, 6-12 are \$5. There will be a silent auction starting at 2 p.m.

In 2023 the Villa Grove-Bonanza VFD responded to 59 emergency calls, 27 car accidents, seven wildland fires, five structure fires, five EMS assistance calls, vehicle and trash fires and other emergencies.

The volunteer firefighters contributed 1,340 working hours and 934 training hours to the community in 2023. Contributions can be mailed to: Villa Grove/Bonanza VFD, PO Box 73, Villa Grove, CO 81155.



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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.

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 Xeraphine 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.

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.



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05 Notices

For information on meetings for ALANON NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS AND ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Please visit 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 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 jttimber.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 or returned to the office. Download the application at 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. 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

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 or contact Annie at 719-657-4020. Applications can be found online at: 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				Accumulated Water Use (ET)				
		Shown (in./day)				From 6/13 (inches)				
		6/13	6/12	6/11	6/10	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
Potatoes										
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

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.

Available Programs:

- Individual & Group Lessons (English & Western, Roping & Goat Tying)
- Cowboy ethics
- 4H
- Rodeo team
- Day camps
- Drill teams

Day Camp - July 26th

Discount Day Lessons - June 21st, July 5th, July 19th

Signup via our website!

Scholarships available

Additional information & bookings are available through our website: www.luckyshoeridingclub.com/.

Phone: 719-849-1955

Location: 4195 North County Road 5 West, Monte Vista



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2024 Theme: Linked by Love

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- 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

0885 CR 20A, PO Box 186, South Fork, CO 81154
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.

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 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, 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/

year. 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 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, or faxed to 719-655-2543. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until a qualified candidate is hired. Saguache County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (6-19)

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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 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, 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
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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

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

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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
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

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

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M: 719-873-5605

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

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

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Luxury Home Broker
Licensed in 2011
I know mountain land
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05299 County Rd. 12 S. Alamosa, CO

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Owner Financing Available
West of Antonito in the Conejos Canyon CO

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Valley Wide Classifieds

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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)

37 Wanted

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

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San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

1408 Bear Creek Circle • South Fork



NEW LISTING!

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

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




193 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork



SOLD

Charming Mountain Retreat with Breathtaking Views Nestled in the picturesque town of South Fork, CO, this finely appointed 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

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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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222 La Lomita Circle • South Fork



JUST LISTED

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

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Valley Publishing
Brian Williams — bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com

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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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.
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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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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						
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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.

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate




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YVONNE HOFFMAN
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 M: 719-580-1901

UNDER CONTRACT

8 Acre Property with a Large Shop
 Stunning Mountain Views!
 \$250,000 MLS #813871
 1210 Juarez Road Fort Garland CO

TATE HUFFAKER
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-298-6560




Look At The View! Approx. 2.020 Acres
 \$89,900 | MLS #813683
 311 Vista De Verde Circle South Fork, CO

YVONNE HOFFMAN
 BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-1901




SOLD

3 bedroom, 2 bath 2,589 Sq. Ft. on 35.5 acres
 \$975,000 | MLS #808345
 6680 County Rd. 13 Del Norte, CO

BRUCE STEFFENS
 OWNER | BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-0770




The Stunning Grande Ponderosa!
 Approx. 2.54 Acres
 \$2,250,000 | MLS #813982
 695 Escondida South Fork, CO

YVONNE HOFFMAN
 BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-1901




Amazing Ranch Style House with Barn and 50 Acres!
 \$599,000 MLS #811695
 13725 Road 104 South Alamosa, CO

TATE HUFFAKER
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-298-6560




Beautiful River Lots/ Approx. 1.170 Acres
 \$239,031/MLS#811448
 149 Lots 2&3 Escondida Dr, South Fork, CO

AUNDREA LILLARD
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 706-622-0799




SOLD

Beautiful Ranch/Home on approx. 3,095 Acres
 \$2,200,000 | MLS #810790
 19198 county Rd. 15 Del Norte, CO

BRUCE STEFFENS
 OWNER | BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-0770




BEAUTIFUL RIVER LOT FOR SALE!
 APPROX. 0.500 ACRES
 \$174,900/MLS#812252
 63 Doe Circle South Fork, CO

AUNDREA LILLARD
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 706-622-0799




SOLD

Large Warehouse Approx. 6,579 sq. ft. on 1.57 Acres
 \$150,000 | MLS #811519
 1665 S. County Rd. 4 E. Monte Vista, CO

BRUCE STEFFENS
 OWNER | BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-0770




PRICE IMPROVEMENT!

Amazing Opportunity/Car Wash for Sale!
 \$215,000 | MLS #809144
 219 Main Street Antonito, CO

TATE HUFFAKER
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-298-6560




SOLD

Commercial Lot with Easy Access/ Approx 1.42 Acres
 \$79,900 | MLS #813004
 24 Riviere Road South Fork, CO

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 OWNER | BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-0770




Perfect Live/Work Property
 APPROX. 3.47 ACRES
 \$799,000/MLS#813618
 4 El Dorado Lane South Fork, CO

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