



Alamosa Round-UP continues this weekend

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Crestone Food Bank opens in new location

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

June 19, 2024

\$1

SLV Today

APD requesting public's help in June 5 shooting

ALAMOSA — Investigators with the Alamosa Police Department continue to investigate the drive-by shooting of a house on State Avenue that took place in the later hours of June 5.

There were no injuries. This was an isolated incident, but investigators are asking for the public's assistance in identifying suspect(s).

Anyone who may have heard or seen anything or knows anything about this incident is encouraged to contact the Alamosa Police Department at 719-589-2548.

SLV REC board meeting June 25

MONTE VISTA — San Luis Valley REC will have the regular meeting of the board of directors at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 25, at 3625 US Highway 160 W, Monte Vista. Advance notice is required to attend the meeting, call Michelle Trujillo at 719-852-3538.

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.

SLV WEATHER

Mostly Sunny, Breezy 80/50

Thurs: Chance of Showers, Breezy 80/52

Fri: Chance of Showers, Breezy 77/51

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Jury acquits Thrash of all charges

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — The trial of Robert Thrash, 31, the bondsman charged with second-degree murder and burglary for fatally shooting Phil Lucero in December of 2022, ended this week with Thrash being acquitted on all charges.

On the afternoon of Dec. 8, 2022, Thrash and his friend, 31-year-old David Heinstein, went to the residence of Veronica Lazoya where they had been told Lucero was staying. Lucero had failed to appear in court on drug charges, violating a bond of \$1,000, posted by Thrash who was employed at Always Open

Bail Bonds.

As came out in the trial, both Thrash and Heinstein were armed when they entered the residence, with Thrash going in first and Heinstein entering when he heard yelling inside. Upon entering, Heinstein already had his weapon pulled and a struggle ensued between Thrash—who was armed, Lucero—who was not, and Heinstein.

During the struggle, Lucero managed to gain control of Heinstein's gun and shoot Heinstein in the arm. In response, Thrash fired his weapon at Lucero, striking him multiple times. Lucero later died of his injuries.

It was a complicated and rigorous case involving DNA samples, conflicting testimony and multiple witnesses, including Thrash, who took the stand in his own defense.

As also came out in the trial, the state of Colorado provides little guidance or regulation on what is considered to be legal, reasonable or appropriate conduct by bondsmen, many of whom, in the nature of their job, find themselves in volatile situations.

The trial lasted six days, including an entire day devoted to jury selection, with closing arguments made late in the afternoon on Monday. However, instead of

See THRASH page 3



Robert Thrash was acquitted of all charges by a jury of his peers



Children's Garden Early Learning Center is located at 1304 San Juan.

Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Two day care staffers charged with child abuse

Children's Garden director called law enforcement

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — Two staff members, currently on leave from employment with the Children's Garden Early Learning Center, appeared in county court on Tuesday for arraignment in connection with allegations of child abuse.

The two individuals, charged separately, were identified as Savannah Perales and Amber Rosario. Neither was arrested in connection with the allegations but, instead, were issued summons to appear in court.

According to documents obtained from the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office who assisted the Alamosa Police Department in investigating the case, a review of a videotape by the facility's director, Denayea Martinez, prompted the call to law enforcement.

The date of the video was April 23 and taken in a classroom of toddlers, where both women were working.

Martinez told ACSO Deputy Sergio Cazares that one segment of the video showed an incident where a staff member, identified as Perales, "forcefully picks up a child, forces the child into a chair and while doing so the child hit her head on the chair." The child was then "forcefully pushed" into a table, after which she begins to cry.

As described in ACSO's investigation... See ABUSE page 3

RIGHT - conserving land, water, and way of life for 25 years

By KYLER BROWN
SAN LUIS VALLEY

Twenty-five years ago, a group of concerned folks decided to protect all the things we hold dear about the San Luis Valley.

Under the threat of the latest water exportation schemes, land grabs, and a shifting environment, some of the founders, such as Cathy McNeil, Chris Canaly, Karen Henderderson, Susan Pierce, Pete Magee, and Mike Wisdom decided to create the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust, or RiGHT. It was this wisdom that led to protecting local lands with a local land trust.

Through the years of hard work and determination, 57 easements, 32,000 acres, and miles of river have been conserved. Pete and Leah Clark were the first easement RiGHT successfully conserved. Pete became a longtime, passionate board member to help other landowners... See RiGHT page 3

Colorado Springs to Great Sand Dunes National Park a top road trip for families

CONTRIBUTED

Colorado Springs to Great Sand Dunes National Park was second with voters in a survey of America's Top Family Friendly Road Trips.

The US offers an array of road trip routes that are globally renowned for their expansive skies, breathtaking natural landscapes, and opportunities to meet new people. While many of these journeys captivate adults, they might not always cater to the interests and energy levels of younger travelers, who may have limited attention spans and less interest in

lengthy drives focused on geography or history.

However, the country is packed with shorter, child-friendly road trips (and shorter day trips) ideal for young explorers. For example, Florida offers family-friendly adventures with attractions like the Key West Butterfly and Nature Conservatory, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay, and Orlando's theme parks such as Disney World and Universal Studios.

Gunther Mitsubishi carried out a survey of 3,000 families, asking them to identify the ultimate family road trip... See DUNES page 3



Courier file photo

Sand Dunes National Park was the destination of a family friendly road trip that began in Colorado Springs. The trip was voted one of the top road trips for families.

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Lee Crowther

Record

OBITUARY

Thomas Houghton

Thomas Peter Houghton, affectionately known as "Hometown" or "HT", passed away on June 13, 2024, in South Fork, Colo. He was born on Aug. 1, 1971, in Denver, Colo. Thomas led a remarkable life filled with dedication, adventure, and unwavering loyalty.

A proud graduate of Monte Vista High School in 1990, Thomas went on to serve as a Lance Corporal in the United States Marine Corps from 1989 to 1991. His proudest accomplishment was his service to his country during those years.

As a Houghton family tradition military service was a must and they were proud to serve their country.

Thomas's 25-year career as a self-employed master carpenter and 10-year career in the wind industry where he never missed a day showcased his skills and passion for building. Colleagues remember him for never being late. His craftsmanship and work ethic were



unparalleled.

Outside of work, Thomas indulged in various hobbies that brought him joy and relaxation. He was an avid Harley Davidson rider like his father and brother. He also enjoyed archery, boating, fishing, camping hunting and riding horses. He embraced life with a spirit of adventure. His love for playing pool, poker, horseshoes, and logging. He had the heart of a "Mountain Man" and a love of the outdoors.

Those who knew Thomas recognized him as a best friend with a huge heart. He was described as sentimental, generous, punctual, loyal, and someone who knew his true self. His adventurous nature and strength of character left a lasting impression on all who

had the pleasure of crossing paths with him.

Thomas will be deeply missed by his surviving family members including his mother Vicki S. Houghton; sister Suelynn Behil; brother Wayne Houghton; son Alexander Houghton; nephews Blaine Michael Behil and Blake Christopher Behil; cousins Fred Houghton III and Jeff Houghton, as well as other many other Houghton relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father Welcome Thomas Ashley Houghton; uncles Jack, Fred, Jerry; aunts Lulu, Sally and Big Sue; along with those who have gone before him.

We love and will miss you beyond words, now you are at peace.

Visitation services will be held on Friday, June 21, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Mountain Valley Mortuary located at 504 4th Ave. in Monte Vista. A Graveside Service with Military Honors will take place on Thursday, June 27, starting at 10 a.m. at Homelake Veterans Cemetery located at 3749 Sherman Ave in Monte Vista. To express condolences, please visit www.mvmortuary.com.

Democrat Adam Frisch is running TV ads in 3rd Congressional District GOP primary

By JESSE PAUL
The Colorado Sun
Democrat Adam Frisch is spending at least \$100,000 to air a TV ad in the Republican primary in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District in an apparent attempt to shape the race and give himself a better chance to win in November.

The ad attacks Grand Junction attorney Jeff Hurd for "ducking Republican debates" and for refusing to say who he voted for in the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections, as well as for being the beneficiary of corporate super PAC money.

It's a clear call to GOP primary voters in the Republican-leaning 3rd District to back a different candidate in the six-way race — someone Frisch believes will be easier to beat in November. Someone like former state Rep. Ron Hanks, an election denier who attended Donald Trump's rally on Jan. 6, 2021, in Washington, D.C., that preceded the deadly riot at the U.S. Capitol.

"As far as I'm concerned, the general election has started," Adam Frisch's campaign manager Camilo Vilaseca said in a written statement to The Colorado Sun on Tuesday that highlighted how Hanks has been endorsed by the Colorado GOP and reiterated the attacks on Hurd that are in the TV ad.

The strategy is risky. The 3rd District is so favorable to Republicans that it could backfire for Democrats and result in Hanks being elected to Congress as he is seen as Hurd's top opponent.

Frisch lost to Republican U.S. Rep. Lauren Boebert by 546 votes in the 3rd District in 2022. But without Boebert in the race this time around — she moved to the 4th Congressional District based on the other side of the state to improve her reelection chances — it's

not clear the former Aspen city councilman can win.

Voters in the 3rd District haven't sent a Democrat to Congress since 2008, and the district's boundaries have been redrawn twice since then to make it more favorable to Republicans.

But Frisch has a major war chest — \$3.8 million as of June 5, money he raised from across the country by appealing to Democratic hatred of Boebert — and it may be a better investment to shape the Republican primary now than to have to battle a formidable candidate like Hurd in November.

The Frisch ads run through primary Election Day on June 25.

The Hurd campaign blasted Frisch's tactics Tuesday in a written statement.

"A shock to no one, Adam and the Democrats are attacking Jeff because they know he is the only Republican who can beat Frisch and keep the seat red," the Hurd campaign statement said. "Voters in western and southern Colorado won't be duped."

The Frisch ad also comes as the Democratic super PAC Rocky Mountain Values has already spent about \$400,000 on TV and radio spots, as well as mailers and newspaper ads, elevating Hanks' profile in the district and attacking Hurd. The Rocky Mountain Values PAC ads, which were first reported by The Sun, have been on the air since the beginning of the month.

Republicans are clearly worried that the Democratic strategy to help Hanks may work.

The Congressional Leadership Fund, a group tied to U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson, a Louisiana Republican, is starting to air TV and radio ads in the 3rd Dis-

trict attacking Hanks for benefiting from the Rocky Mountain Values PAC spending and labeling him as a "liberal" who isn't loyal enough to Trump. Hanks was one of the most conservative members of the legislature when he was a state representative and he's promising to be a top Trump ally in Congress should he win in the 3rd District.

The CLF has spent about \$325,000 to air its ads, according to the media tracking company AdImpact.

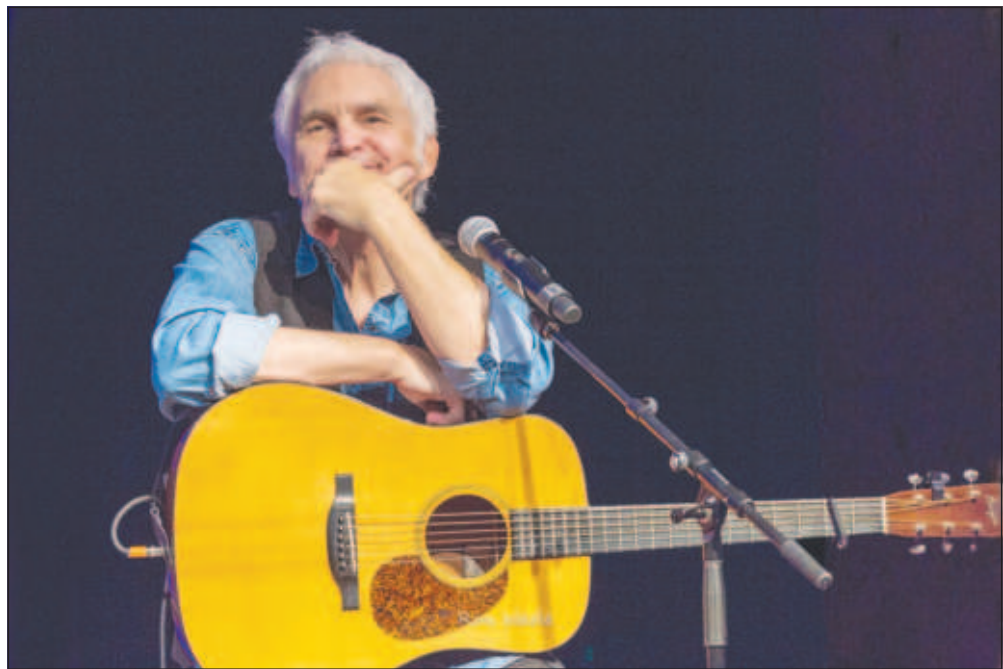
"Why are Democrat mega donors spending so much to prop up Ron Hanks' campaign? Republicans, beware," said Courtney Parella, communications director for the CLF.

The National Republican Congressional Committee, the U.S. House Republican campaign arm, meanwhile, attacked Frisch for his TV ad campaign.

"Adam Frisch's gutter-politics play reveals one thing: He can't win unless he plays dirty," said Delanie Bomar, a regional spokeswoman for the group. "Republicans must stand united to denounce Democrats' pathetic primary meddling — because Republicans should pick our party's nominee, not Democrats."

Hurd has been endorsed by a list of big-name Colorado Republicans and has the financial backing of a major national conservative group, Americans For Prosperity Action. He is seen as a leading contender in the crowded primary.

Carbondale investor Russ Andrews, another Republican primary candidate in the 3rd District, is also airing a TV ad attacking Hurd, calling him an "Ivy League lawyer" who's disloyal to Trump. Andrews has spent at least \$70,000 to air the ads.



Courtesy photo

Verlon Thompson will be in concert on June 23 at Society Hall.

Verlon Thompson to perform at Society Hall on June 23

CONTRIBUTED
ALAMOSA — Legendary singer-songwriter, guitarist, and accompanist of folk legend Guy Clark, Verlon Thompson, will be performing at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 23, at Society Hall.

Doors will open at 6:30. Tickets for the show are \$20 and available online at societyhall.org or in person at the Green Spot in Alamosa. The concert will also stream on the Society Hall Facebook page and YouTube channel.

"We've been wanting to get Verlon to Society Hall ever since we opened the doors," says Don Richmond, local musician, record producer and Society Hall board member. Richmond continues, "Besides being a fantastic guitarist, he's a truly great songwriter and performer, plus he was Guy Clark's right-hand man for decades, and he's got the stories to prove it!"

Songwriters seem to flourish on the fertile Oklahoma plains. Woody Guthrie, Roger Miller, Leon Russell, J.J. Cale and Jimmy Webb. Add Thompson to that list. Thirty years as a professional songwriter and traveling troubadour serve as credentials. As a solo performer, and as the trusted sidekick of Texas Americana songwriting icon Guy Clark, Thompson has viewed the world from stages everywhere from Barcelona to Binger (his hometown in Oklahoma). Along the way Thompson compositions have been recorded by Jimmy Buffett and Alan Jackson, Dierks Bentley, Anne Murray, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Kenny Rogers, Randy Travis, Del McCoury, Sam Bush, Trisha Yearwood and many more.

Thompson has co-produced Guy Clark's Gram-

my nominated cd "Cold Dog Soup" as well as "The Dark", "Workbench Songs" and "Somedays the Song Writes You".

Equally important in his songwriting and live performances, Thompson's guitar work cannot go unnoticed. His guitar can be heard on recordings by Restless Heart, Pam Tillis, and many more, including, and especially Guy Clark. He was honored to contribute to the score of the Tamara Saviano documentary "Without Getting Killed or Caught", the story of Guy and Susanna Clark and Townes Van Zandt.

In 2019, Thompson hosted his own 13-episode TV show called "Barnegie Hall". Filmed at his converted barn-home in rural Tennessee, the show aired nationally on PBS and received rave reviews. Society Hall is at the corner of 4th Street and Ross Avenue in Alamosa.



Photo by Marie Mccolm

The Monte Vista Elks Lodge hosts the Bike Rally with support of the Monte Vista Police Department.

Children learn bike safety at annual rally

MV Elks gave away bicycles, helmets and more

By MARIE MCCOLM
MONTE VISTA — Approximately 15 children attended the annual Bike Rally on June 15 that the Monte Vista Elks Lodge hosts with the Monte Vista Police Department.

This year a fun obstacle course was set up for the kids, made of orange safety cones. Children maneuvered their bicycles through the obstacle course. The purpose was to teach children the importance of bike safety.

Children of all ages rode their bikes, laughed, ran through the park, and looked at the four bicycles on display that were given away as part of a raffle that the children signed up for when they first got there. Parents mingled and enjoyed baked goods such as cookies and cupcakes, from a bake sale that was set up in the park.

Shari Desautell of the Monte Vista Elks Lodge was at the rally and spoke about how it works.

"We have had this for several years now," she said. "We try to do this

right around Flag Day so we can incorporate a Flag Day ceremony. We also have some little girls here having a bake sale. The police come in and have a nice obstacle course for the kids, where they teach them things. The police teach the kids hand signals and how to watch for cars, and all the bicycle etiquette. We also do drawings for bicycles, helmets, stuffed animals, coloring books, and other things for the kids. We also have other games here for the kids. We have some prizes for the kids for those games too."

A Monte Vista Police Department officer talked to members of the Elks Lodge and to the children. The Elks also served a free lunch for everyone. Subway sandwiches were served, with a bag of chips, and a cold bottle of water.

Everything got exciting when the tickets started being called by members of the Elks. The children ran across the park and got close to the table with the prizes on it, as the tick-

ets were called. Four bikes were given away at the rally, along with some helmets, coloring books, and stuffed animals. Manny Martinez, Zyanayaz Gonzalez, and Elijah Sasser all won a bike.

For more information on the rally or the Monte Vista Elks Lodge, call 719-852-2456.

School Menu
Wednesday
June 19, 2024

BREAKFAST

Yogurt/Granola
Fruit & Milk

ELEMENTARY

Frito Pie
Green Beans
Corn Bread
Fruit & Milk

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Frito Pie
Green Beans
Corn Bread
Fruit & Milk

HIGH SCHOOL

Frito Pie
Green Beans
Corn Bread
Fruit & Milk

Breakfast & Lunch Free for all students

Alamosa School District

To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

Valley News

Visits to Colorado ski areas reached 14 million in 2023-24

This is slightly down from prior year's record

By JASON BLEVINS
The Colorado Sun
Colorado ski resorts fared better than most others in 2023-24, with visitation reaching 14 million. That's a dip from the record 14.8 million visits logged by 27 Colorado ski areas in 2022-23. The slow arrival of snowfall in December troubled every ski area in the country and, while that changed for Colorado with bountiful snowfall in January, February and March, many regions endured below-average snow conditions for the entire season. All six regions tracked by the National Ski Areas Association showed declines in visitation in 2023-24, with 60.4 million visits, down 5 million from the previous season. "This season was a rollercoaster ride, starting off on the warm-and-dry side and ending with a notably snowy extended season that stretched deep into

spring," Colorado Ski Country chief Melanie Mills said in a statement announcing the early visitation tally. "Ski areas saw strong season pass sales and a robust economy, despite inflation, that buoyed visitation." Spending in Colorado ski towns hit record highs in 2023-24. The Colorado Sun tracks net taxable sales in 18 small and large municipalities next to ski areas in Colorado and total spending from November through March reached \$4.5 billion, up from \$4.4 billion in the record-setting 2022-23 season and up 50% from the pre-pandemic 2018-19 season. That increase in the economic impact of winter visitors jibes with a new economic analysis of the ski resort industry in Utah. The 15 ski areas in Utah attracted a record 7.1 million visits in 2022-23 and spending by nonresident skiers reached \$1.94 billion, according to a study released in April by the Ken C. Gardner Policy Institute at the University of Utah. Residents added \$694 million in spending at the state's ski resorts.

Overall spending was up 63% from the 2018-19 season. (Utah has not yet released skier visits for the 2023-24 season.) Lodging occupancy in 17 mountain resort communities in the West tracked by DestiMetrics, a division of Inntopia, was down 4.2% for the 2023-24 winter, compared with record occupancy in 2022-23. But lodge owners kept rates high — up 2.8% from the previous season — which offset the declines in total revenue for a slight 1.6% decline in lodging revenue earned from the roughly 18,000 units tracked by DestiMetrics in seven Western states. The National Ski Areas Association's six-state Rocky Mountain region, which includes Colorado, reported 26.7 million visits, down from the record 28.2 million in 2022-23. From the 2019-20 season through the 2022-23 season, visits to Rocky Mountain region ski areas increased at least 10% a year. The decline in 2023-24 marks the first downturn for the Rocky Mountain region since 2019.

Eastbound and westbound traffic counts through the Eisenhower and Johnson Memorial Tunnels on Interstate 70 reached 4.4 million from December through March in 2023-24, down slightly from the same period of 2022-23. Visits are no longer the best barometer for the health of the ski resort industry, as use shifts with the growing number of season passes. A decade ago, about 38% of visits were by skiers using season passes. For a second year in a row, more than 50% of all visits are by season-pass holders as both Vail Resorts and Alterra Mountain Co. attract more skiers to the Epic and Ikon passes and smaller ski areas join multi-resort pass programs like the Indy Pass and Mountain Collective. While season pass sales hit record highs, the average use of those passes is declining, hitting a 10-year low of 7.4 days in 2022-23, according to national industry reports. Participation totals are not yet tallied for the 2023-24 ski season but the 2022-23 season was a high mark,

with an estimated 11.6 million Americans going skiing, up from 10.7 million in 2021-22. The 2022-23 season was the third consecutive winter with increased participation in skiing. A better measure of resort industry health is investment. Since 2021, resorts have been pumping record sums into new lifts, infrastructure, terrain expansions and on-mountain facilities. In 2022-23, U.S. resort operators invested an all-time high of \$818.1 million, including nearly \$250 million on 149 new or upgraded chairlifts. That was more than double the investment of the 2021-22 ski season. Resorts in the Rocky Mountains invested \$465.5 million in 2022-23 — that's an average of \$35 for every skier visit — up from \$221.8 million in 2021-22. Investment by U.S. ski areas in 2024-25 is expected to top \$500 million, including plans for 71 new or improved lifts, according to the National Ski Areas Association. Vail Resorts, which reported an 8% decline in visits in 2023-24 across its

37 North American ski areas, including Vail, Breckenridge, Keystone, Beaver Creek and Crested Butte, plans to invest between \$219 million and \$224 million at its resorts in the U.S., Australia, Canada and Europe for the 2024-25 ski season. Vail Resorts, the largest resort operator in North America, told investors the decline in visitation to its resorts in 2023-24 was connected to an annual 28% drop in snowfall at its western North American resorts. Vail Resorts CEO Kirsten Lynch told investors in early June that the season's declining visitation was also part of a "broader industry normalization post-COVID" following record visitation in 2022-23. Despite the decline in visits, Vail Resorts reported a record \$1.28 billion in revenue from its season pass and lift ticket sales, ski school, retail, restaurant and lodging operations in February, March and April this year. The company told investors it earned \$654 million from that revenue in its fiscal third quarter that ended April 30.

RiGHT

Continued from Page 1
steward their easements through the steep learning curve he and the land trust experienced.

Protecting values important to keeping the "richness of the Valley" was what RiGHT was created to do, remembers Angie Krall, past president, and board member. There are a multitude of values that are worth protecting. From wildlife migration corridors to surface irrigation rights, the ways conservation benefits private landowners, and the public are numerous. Davie Colville, an easement holder with

RiGHT, notes that "conservation easements are a way to protect the open space, the landscape, a way of life and a place for future generations to enjoy!"

Many staff, executive directors, board members, donors, and volunteers have spent countless hours of effort to capture this beauty for future generations. Guy Keene, current RiGHT board president, said "RiGHT has, from day one, conserved agricultural lands with the goal to keep them as viable working lands through the use of conservation easements. RiGHT added the twist of forever tying the water rights

associated with those lands to the easements so they can never be separated."

Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust has provided a long-term foundation for the conservation of open spaces, working lands, wildlife habitat, and places for the future generations to enjoy. Long time board member Doug Clark says it best, "Conservation easements provide for farming/ranching and wildlife for many, many generations into the future. To be a part of such a large space-time effort makes this all worth living for and exciting!" We are proud of all the success RiGHT has had

over these last 25 years, but this is only the beginning. The next time you see an elk munching along a ditch bank or hear of a multi-generation ranch passed on to the kids along the Conejos or smell sweet clover along the Rio Grande... think of all the things that conservation has done to keep the valley a magical place. RiGHT feels so privileged to be a part of it!

Please join us to celebrate our 25th anniversary on the Scott Ranch east of South Fork, on June 28, for food, fun and music by The Rifters. For more information, visit online www.rightslv.org.

Abuse

Continued from Page 1
tive report, a second segment of the video, recorded 30 minutes later, showed an individual identified as Rosario "forcefully pulling a child across the room by his arm" and "lifting him off the ground with her left hand."

Cazares then viewed the videotape and confirmed that Martinez's description was accurate. He also spoke to the parents of the child who had been pushed into the table and was told that a "thin red mark" had appeared on the child's stomach. When interviewed by Cazares, Rosario said that she remembered the incident and was "confused" as to why she was being issued a summons. She felt the complaint had been filed out of retaliation for her reporting another teacher.

According to Rosario's statement, Perales had thrown shoes at the child's face, causing him to cry and prompting Rosario to pull him in front of the camera in the room to document what was happening.

Cazares told her there was no camera footage of Perales throwing shoes at the child.

Perales was out of state when ACSO reached out to her to issue the summons. When she returned to Alamosa, Cazares went to her home and explained the reason for the summons. The investigative report does not indicate any further conversation.

According to documents obtained from the court, Perales has been charged with suspicion of child abuse, a class 1 misdemeanor, and is scheduled to appear in court for a pre-trial conference on Aug. 14.

Rosario, who has been charged with suspicion of child abuse, a class 2 misdemeanor, is scheduled for her pre-trial conference on Aug. 10. She indicated at her arraignment that she plans to represent herself. "I have nothing to hide," she said.

The Valley Courier reached out to the director of Children's Garden Early Learning Center for comment but did not receive a response prior to press time.

Dunes

Continued from Page 1
ily-friendly road trips they aspire to experience this summer.

The top 5 were as follows:
1. Flagstaff to Grand Canyon: Arizona

Coming in first place, the route from Flagstaff to the Grand Canyon offers a variety of attractions. Start with the Lowell Observatory or the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff. Older kids will love the zip lining at the Flagstaff Extreme Adventure Course. On the way to the Grand Canyon, stop in Williams to enjoy a scenic ride on the Grand Canyon Railway. Conclude the trip at the Grand Canyon National Park, where families can enjoy breathtaking views, easy hiking trails, and ranger-led programs.

2. Colorado Springs to Great Sand Dunes National Park: Colorado
Taking the second spot, the trip from Colorado Springs to Great Sand Dunes National Park is filled with exciting stops. Start with the Garden of the Gods or Cheyenne Mountain Zoo. En route

to the Great Sand Dunes, stop at the Royal Gorge Bridge and Park for stunning views and thrilling rides. Finish the trip at the park, where kids can play on the massive sand dunes and splash in Medano Creek.

3. Hilo to Kailua-Kona: Hawaii
In third position, the route from Hilo to Kailua-Kona offers a mix of natural beauty and historical sites. Start in Hilo with visits to the Panaōewa Rainforest Zoo and Gardens or the Lyman Museum and Mission House. Don't miss the nearby Rainbow Falls, a stunning natural attraction. Continue to Kailua-Kona, detouring to visit Volcanoes National Park with its dramatic landscapes and educational exhibits. End the journey in Kailua-Kona with visits to the Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park, the Kona Coffee Living History Farm, or snorkeling at Kealahakua Bay.

4. Boston to Cape Cod: Massachusetts
Fourth on the list is a family trip from Boston to Cape Cod offering historical and coastal attractions. Start in Boston with a visit to the Boston Children's

Museum, the New England Aquarium, or the Museum of Science. A walk along the Freedom Trail is also great for exploring the city's history. On the way to Cape Cod, stop in Plymouth to see Plymouth Rock or visit Plimoth Patuxet Museums for a living history experience. Conclude on Cape Cod with beaches, the Cape Cod National Seashore, or a whale-watching tour. The Cape Cod Museum of Natural History is also a great stop for kids.

5. Buffalo to Niagara Falls: New York
Rounding out the top five, a trip from Buffalo to Niagara Falls combines cultural and natural attractions. Start in Buffalo with a visit to the Buffalo Zoo, the Buffalo Museum of Science, or the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. The Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park is also a great stop. Before heading to Niagara Falls, detour to Lockport to take a tour of the Erie Canal locks and enjoy a boat ride through the Lockport Cave. Conclude at Niagara Falls with a ride on the Maid of the Mist, exploring the Cave of the Winds, and visiting the Niagara Falls

State Park.
Colorado had two other trip routes voted among the most sought-after by families:
21. Denver to Rocky Mountain National Park
A family road trip from Denver to Rocky Mountain National Park offers diverse attractions. Start in Denver with a visit to the Denver Zoo, Denver Museum of Nature & Science, or the Children's Museum of Denver. Stop in Boulder to explore the Boulder Farmers Market or hike in Chautauqua Park. End at Rocky Mountain National Park with wildlife viewing, scenic drives, and easy hikes suitable for kids.

39. Fort Collins to Steamboat Springs
A road trip from Fort Collins to Steamboat Springs offers a variety of family-friendly activities. Start in Fort Collins with visits to the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery or the Gardens on Spring Creek. Stop in Estes Park to explore the town or enjoy a scenic drive through Rocky Mountain National Park. End in Steamboat Springs, where families can enjoy the Old Town Hot Springs and Yampa River Botanic Park.

Thrash

Continued from Page 1
excusing the jury with directions to come back the next morning to delib- erate the case, District Judge Crista Newmyer-Olsen, who mentioned a full docket, excused the jury to go into deliberation, indicating that she would order dinner for the jurors and seeming to encourage them deliber-

ating into the night. However, after close to five full days of testimony with some days going past 5 p.m., the jury was unanimous in their acquittal of all charges filed against Thrash after three hours of deliberation. When asked to comment on the outcome, Riley Selleck, defense counsel for Thrash, said, "This was justice for Robert Thrash. Robert saved the

life of David Heinstein and probably his own. "During this trial, Robert was portrayed as being violent and out-of-control. The district attorney called him 'Rambo.' Nothing could be further from the truth. Robert is a calm and intelligent young man. On the day in question, he did the right and necessary thing."

When asked for comment, 12th Judicial Dis-

trict Attorney Anne Kelly gave the following statement. "We are obviously disappointed with the outcome. I appreciate the hard work of the Alamosa Police Department in enabling my office to bring this important case to the community. This case highlights the need for clarity around regulation of the bondsman industry," she said.


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Opinion

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.

Writers On The Range



Molly Absolon

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 re-surfacing, although the tunnel that was previously proposed would not have bypassed the section of road that failed.

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

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

Jackson residents have responded to the crisis with compassion and financial aid. Homeowners have opened their houses in Jackson, and many are allowing people to pitch tents in their yards. Businesses are offering parking lot space for RVs. Teton County, Wyoming, eased its temporary shelter regulations,



and the daily commuter bus altered its schedule and waived its fees until June 30 to accommodate riders. The Teton Valley Community Foundation set up a fund that accepts donations for affected workers. I am sure there are many other services and resources as well.

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

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

The average list price for a single-family home in Jackson reached \$7.6 million at the end of 2022, according to the Jackson Hole Report. In the first months of 2024, 56 homes were on the market, with only three listed for less than \$2 million.

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

For years, affordable housing has been a hot-button topic on both sides



Photo courtesy of Wyoming Department of Transportation

Teton Pass after road collapse on June 12.

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.

LETTERS

Concerned about proposed walking trail along Lariat Ditch

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

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

tion 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 (handicap) 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*

Yoga in the San Luis Valley - International Day of Yoga - June 21

Editor,
June 21 is an International Day of Yoga. This day raises awareness around the benefits of yoga and encourages people to participate in this ancient practice.

The ancient practices mostly focused on meditation, breath, and lifestyle. The physical poses the western world today calls yoga were actually the last

piece of yoga to be developed.

According to the Yoga Alliance, 38.4 million humans practiced yoga in the US in 2022, 11% of the population (Yoga in the World Research Study).

Yoga has many benefits, including stress relief, self-awareness, improved mood, trauma recovery management, emotional flexibility, lung health, mental focus, balance, physical wellness.

A yoga practice does not always need a 60 min gymnastic-contortionist-style yoga studio class every single day to get these benefits. Many of these benefits can begin in as little as a few minutes of focused practice. We each can find 5 minutes.

I invite everyone to try a yoga practice right now. Try this: lift your shoulders toward your ears, then drop. Tuck the

chin toward the chest. Place hands over heart and press in a little bit. Inhale through the nose (or mouth) for three counts, while also lifting the chin upward. Exhale out the mouth for three counts, making an airy haaaaa sound while also lowering the chin down toward the chest. Repeat three times total — or as many times as you like. You just did yoga. Congratulations, and thank you for joining me. This is called a pranayama — a breathing practice.

Each yoga practice is entirely your own, so modify the directions above in any way necessary so you are able to participate in the practice. This is one of the reasons I enjoy yoga. We can modify every practice to match ability. Yoga is intended for the uplifting of every human.

To recognize and celebrate yoga in the San Luis is Valley, I invite you to check out your local yoga offerings. Also - enjoy the Free Community Yoga summer series, each Sunday, June 30 to Aug. 25, 10 a.m., Cole Park.

Yoga can benefit every brain, every life, and every body.

Namaste,
*Ellen Novotny
Yoga Teacher - RYT 200*

Keith R Cerny
Publisher

Valley Courier
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Brian Williams
Managing Editor

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Your FIRST Source for Local News

Lifestyles

Growing degree units

By **EMILY FOLZ**
CSU Extension - Colorado Master Gardener

SAN LUIS VALLEY

— We ask a lot of our garden plants here in the San Luis Valley. After they've survived the bitter cold winter, our trees, shrubs and perennials have only a short season of warm days to grow, blossom, fruit, and seed. And the vegetables we plant must tolerate cooler temperatures or mature quickly or both.

We often talk about the frost-free season, the period of time between the last frost of spring and the first frost of fall. The valley has a fairly short frost-free season. The last frost can occur in early June, and the first frost is often in September. However, our plants need more than just frost-free days. In order to thrive, they must also accumulate heat.

This concept of heat accumulation is new for me. Having gardened in parts of the country with long sultry summers, we paid attention to frost dates and when temperatures might get too hot for our plants, but not whether our plants were getting enough heat. Here in the valley, though, it's a major consideration.

A plant must accumulate heat during the growing season in order to go through each of its stages of development. For example, a fruit tree must accumulate a certain amount of heat to first produce leaves, then flower, then fruit, then ripen its fruit. In areas with short growing seasons like ours, a tree

could accumulate enough heat to produce fruit, but not accumulate enough heat to ripen the fruit.

Heat accumulation is measured in growing degree units, or GDUs (also known as growing degree days or heat units). GDUs are a measure of day and night temperatures and the length of the growing season. GDU information is typically used in agriculture and unfortunately isn't available for most other plants, but the concept is an interesting one to consider. A plant may be hardy in our area and survive our cold winters, but it may not grow well if it can't accumulate the heat it needs during our short growing season.

Each plant also has a "base temperature," the temperature below which it doesn't grow. "Cool season" plants have a lower base temperature than do "warm season" plants, meaning they begin growing at a lower temperature. For example, cool season vegetables such as lettuce, collards, peas, and potatoes all begin to grow when the daily temperature reaches their base temperature of 40°F. Conversely, tomatoes and peppers don't begin to grow until daily temperatures reach their base temperature of 50°F. Each species of plant has a unique base temperature and number of GDUs it requires to complete its stages of development.

How can we gardeners use this information? First, it may help us diagnose problems in our garden. Have you had a shrub that survived the winter, but got progressively

smaller each year and finally died? Or a fruit tree whose fruit doesn't ripen before the cold weather sets in? Or "fall blooming" plants that don't flower? These may all result when a plant doesn't accumulate enough heat.

Second, it may help guide what we choose to plant in our garden. For example, we might choose "cool season" plants that begin growing earlier in the season (have a lower base temperature) and require fewer GDUs to blossom or ripen. We can check seed packets and choose plants with shorter "days to harvest." Or plant "early bloomers" that require fewer GDUs to bloom. Note that the "days to harvest" are typically based on growth in warmer regions than ours, so will be longer here, and that "early blooming" plants may bloom later than expected in the valley due to our late start of summer.

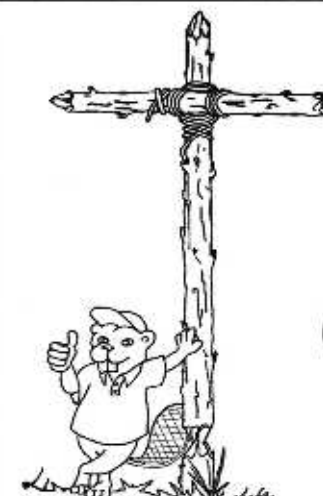
We might steer away from "late summer" and "fall blooming" plants, which require more GDUs and so may not bloom here at all. We might also steer away from "warm season" plants that not only start growing later in the season (have a higher base temperature), but also require more GDUs, a combination not well suited to our environment. Which trees and shrubs have you had success growing here in the valley? Which haven't done well? What are your favorite plants to grow here?

Send me an email at SLVgardening@gmail.com. And please share your photos!



Photo by Emily Folz


Golden currant (*Ribes aureum*), a Colorado native, acquires enough GDUs to produce these gorgeous, trumpet-shaped, yellow blossoms, and then produce and ripen its fruit, a great source of food for birds.



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- 5 Shopping Local retains our community:** Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.
- 6 Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness:** Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community's needs.
- 7 Shopping Local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Alamosa's diversity, charm & appeal. Which in turn, attracts new community members.
- 8 Shopping Local invests in community services and city economy.** Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Alamosa.
- 9 Local shops value you more:** Local businesses survive by their reputation & repeat business which means you get a higher standard of service.

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Sports

Sports Bulletin

SCHEDULE THURSDAY Rodeo

Alamosa Round-UP mutton bustin' and open barrel race, 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY PRCA Rodeo

Alamosa Round-UP, 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY PRCA Rodeo

Alamosa Round-UP, 6:30 p.m.

ALAMOSA PARKS AND RECREATION BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

12-14 Baseball

At Ortega Middle School south field

TUESDAY

Sanford A vs. Pirates, 5 p.m.
Sanford B vs. Blue Jays, 6:30 p.m.

12-14 girls softball

At Lee Field #1

THURSDAY

Buena Vista vs. Alamosa (2), 6 p.m.

TUESDAY

Salida vs. Alamosa (2), 5:30 p.m.

9-11 baseball

At Cole Park

THURSDAY

Red Sox vs. Angels, 5 p.m.

Dodgers vs. Cubs, 6:15 p.m.

Rockies vs. Pirates, 7:30 p.m.

9-11 girls softball

At Lee Field #3

TUESDAY

Gunnison vs. Battitudes, 4 p.m.

Gunnison vs. Ace of Bases, 5:30 p.m.

7-8 coed machine pitch

At Sunset Field

WEDNESDAY

Sliders vs. Strikers, 5:30 p.m. (southwest)

Longhorns vs. Thunderdogs, 5:30 p.m. (northeast)

Little Rascals vs. Bat Busters, 6:30 p.m. (northeast)

Co-ed Tee-ball

At Tee-ball field

MONDAY

Little Giants vs. Little Hitters, 5:30 p.m. (north field)

Sandhogs vs. Wolfpack, 5:30 p.m. (south field)

Outlaws vs. Rug Rats, 6:30 p.m. (south field)

Men's softball league

At Lee Field 2

THURSDAY

REC/Deuces vs. 99 Problems, 7 p.m.

Platinum vs. Happy Mountain/NGNL, 8 p.m.

WOLO vs. Happy Mountain/NGNL, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY

Platinum vs. REC/Deuces, 7 p.m.

REC/Deuces vs. Happy Mountain/NGNL, 8 p.m.

Happy Mountain/NGNL vs. 99 Problems, 9 p.m.

Coed Leisure softball

At Lee Field

MONDAY

Where My Pitches At vs. WOLO, 7 p.m. (Field 1)

Bros Before Throws vs. Battitudes, 7 p.m. (Field 2)

War Turtles vs. Steel Line, 7 p.m. (Field 4)

Top Notch vs. Tandberg's Angels, 8 p.m. (Field 1)

Cutthroats vs. SOS Misfits, 8 p.m. (Field 2)

Livingstone Trucking vs. Steel Line, 8 p.m. (Field 4)

All Valley Towing vs. The Dirty Dozen, 9 p.m. (Field 1)

The Undertakers vs. CRP Dust Devils, 9 p.m. (Field 2)

The Misfits vs. Bomb Squad, 9 p.m. (Field 4)



Nate Hoey in bull riding.

File photos courtesy Phillip Kitts



Cody Pratt in steer wrestling.



Kim Schultz in barrel racing.

Alamosa Round-UP continues this weekend

By KEN HAMRICK a concert by Justin Lawrence.

ALAMOSA – The annual Alamosa Round-UP will come to an end this weekend at the Alamosa rodeo grounds.

The weekend's activities will start at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday with the mutton bustin' and the open barrel race.

There are four age divisions in mutton bustin' – four, five, six and seven-year olds. The top four in each age division will come back to compete on both Friday and Saturday.

The top performers in the open barrel race will compete on Saturday.

The actual rodeo begins on Friday with the slack to take place at 10 a.m. and the first performance at 6:30 p.m.

The slack will be timed events such as tie-down roping, team roping, steer wrestling and barrel racing.

The first performance will have timed events as well as the rough stock events.

Following the first performance will be the block party in downtown Alamosa.

The rodeo wraps up with the second performance on Saturday at 6:30 p.m. All events will take place on Saturday.

Following the second performance will be



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Senior Lifestyles

The healing power of nature

Being in good health and avoiding various diseases often comes down to a combination of factors. Individuals may be aware that nutrition and exercise play important roles in personal well-being, but it appears that nature may provide its own medicinal benefits as well.

A number of studies have examined the potential healing components of being in nature. The World Health Organization released a report in 2023 titled "Green and Blue Spaces and Mental Health," which indicated that time in nature improves mood, mindsets and mental health. This occurs regardless of whether that nature was "country" regions or urban areas. The following are some of the ways nature can have a healing effect.

• Immunity protection: Trees and plants emit aromatic compounds called phytoncides. When inhaled, these compounds can ignite healthy biological changes similar to the concepts of aromatherapy. When people walk in forests or other green areas, they often experience changes in the blood

that are associated with protection against cancer, improved immunity and lower blood pressure, says Dr. Qing Li, a professor at the Nippon Medical School in Tokyo.

• Get a brain break: When spending time in nature, attention is focused on the scenery, the animals and the rest of the environment. This may help quiet the rush of thoughts in the head that clutters the ability to think freely.

• Reduce stress: Stress is a catalyst for a number of adverse health conditions. The Mayo Clinic says stress can cause headache, muscle tension, fatigue, changes in sex drive, and a weaker immune system, among other things. Being outside in nature and away from work and home responsibilities can help reduce stress levels. Dr. Mathew McGlothlin, senior medical director with WellMed Medical Group, says being in nature provides stress relief.

• Get vitamin D: The body naturally produces vitamin D from sun exposure. The National Institutes of Health says it is optimal to have sun expo-



sure for five to 30 minutes a day, most days a week, to absorb UVB rays and effectively make vitamin D. Vitamin D is a nutrient the body needs to build and maintain strong bones. Vitamin D also regulates many other cellular functions in the body, and may be able to prevent cognitive decline.

• Inspires exercise: Peo-

ple may be more inclined to be physically active while outdoors. Hiking, cycling, swimming, and even strolls in the park all make the outdoors more fun. Exercise promotes heart health and helps people maintain a healthy weight.

Nature can have a healing effect, and more time outdoors can promote mental and physical well-being.

Are there ways to prevent Alzheimer's disease?

Researchers around the globe continue to investigate Alzheimer's disease, the most commonly diagnosed form of dementia. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a progressive form of dementia that affects around 6.5 million people in the United States. Since AD affects parts of the brain that control thought, memory, and language, notable symptoms include memory loss and difficulties communicating.

AD can be a debilitating condition, so naturally people want to do all they can to avoid it. Right now there are no proven prevention strategies nor a cure. However, the Mayo Clinic says there is strong evidence that healthy lifestyle habits may play a role in reduc-

ing AD risk, as well as risk for other types of dementia. The Alzheimer's Association and the Mayo Clinic recommend these strategies to help reduce dementia risk.

• Reduce risk for heart disease. Some autopsy studies show that as many as 80 percent of individuals with AD also have cardiovascular disease. Lowering blood pressure and cholesterol levels may, in turn, help individuals reduce their risk for AD.

• Eat a balanced diet. Many doctors recommend the Mediterranean diet, which is rich in vegetables, fruits and lean protein coming from sources containing omega-3 fatty acids. This diet also is heart-healthy.

• Embrace physical activity. Regular physi-

cal activity may lower the risk of AD as well as vascular dementia. Exercise can boost blood and oxygen flow in the brain. Cardiovascular exercise is an essential part of any wellness plan.

• Quit smoking. Quitting smoking can help maintain brain health and reduce the risk for various diseases.

• Avoid head injuries. Always wear protective safety equipment when participating in sports or while riding motorcycles or other motorized vehicles. Fall-proof your home and wear seatbelts while riding in cars.

• Maintain social connections and activity. A number of studies indicate that maintaining strong social connections and keeping mentally active as people age might

lower the risk of cognitive decline as well as AD.

• Keep a healthy weight. Manage weight through diet and exercise.

Although there is no guaranteed way to avoid a dementia diagnosis, certain lifestyle changes may help people reduce their risk.

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Public Notices

Request for Proposal (RFP) Auditor Services

Introduction:
The Town of Crestone is seeking proposals from qualified firms to provide auditing services for fiscal years 2022-2024. The selected auditor will be responsible for conducting a comprehensive audit of the Town's financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

Scope of Work
The selected auditor will be expected to perform the following tasks:
- Conduct an audit of the Town's financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.
- Review internal controls and make recommendations for improvements, if necessary.
- Provide a management letter outlining findings and recommendations.
- Assist in the preparation of required financial reports and statements.
- Any other tasks deemed necessary for a comprehensive audit.

Proposal Submission:
Interested firms are invited to submit their proposals by email. Proposals should include the following:
- Firm profile, including relevant experience and qualifications.
- Proposed audit approach and methodology.
- Proposed timeline for completion of the audit.
- Fee schedule and estimated total cost.
- References from past clients, preferably in the public sector.
PO Box 64, Crestone, CO 81131, (719) 256-4313, crestonetownoffice@gmail.com.
No. 3950.
Published in the Valley Courier on May 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, 31, June 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 2024.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Integrated Project Delivery Method Utilizing CM/GC Services
Project: Early Care and Learning Center at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley
Location: 1115 Tenth St., Alamosa, CO 81101
Owner: Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley, PO Box 1032, Alamosa, CO 81101
Architect: Spencer Architecture Studio LLC, 404 San Juan Avenue, Alamosa, CO 81101. Don Spencer, A.I.A., NCARB Principal Architect. The Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley are seeking proposals for an Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) method utilizing Construction Management/General Contracting (CM/GC) services for the construction of an Early Care and Learning Center. Interested parties should submit a comprehensive proposal detailing their approach to IPD, relevant experience, timeline, budget estimates, and references. Contact for Architectural Inquiries: Don Spencer, A.I.A., NCARB Spencer Architecture Studio LLC 404 San Juan Avenue, Alamosa, CO 81101 dspencer2017@gmail.com (719) 696-5783
Contact for Project Inquiries: Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley PO Box 1032, Alamosa, CO 81101 aaron@bgcslv.org (719) 589-5252
Submission Deadline: No later than 5:00 PM, Monday, July 1, 2024
For the full RFP, visit: www.bgcslv.org/procurement No. 3990.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 12, 14, 18, 19, 21, 25, & 26, 2024.

Notice:

Request For Proposals: City of Alamosa is requesting proposals for: Plant Well Abandonment Project 2024
The City of Alamosa is seeking a contractor to provide material and labor to perform abandonment of existing well in compliance with State regulation 2-CCR-402-2. A RFP Bidders package and construction documents are available at the city website HERE.
All responders must provide the following criteria:
- Must hold a current General Contractor License issued by the City of Alamosa Building Department.
- Must provide Current General Liability Insurance in the amounts described in the RFP Bid package.
- Must Provide a completed RFP Bidders Package prior to the submission deadline.
- Must visit the site and understand the requirements of the project.
The City of Alamosa will be accepting responses until July 3, 2024. A pre-bid walk thru will be available June 20, 2024 at 10:00am. Respond directly to Roy Sanchez, at rsanchez@ci.alamosa.co.us. No. 3991.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 18, 19, 25, & 26, 2024.

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION

CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 960-24
To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
On April 17, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.
Original Grantor(s) George Ann Kane
Original Beneficiary(ies) MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR ALL REVERSE MORTGAGE, INC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt LONGBRIDGE FINANCIAL, LLC
Date of Deed of Trust April 20, 2018
County of Recording Alamosa
Recording Date of Deed of Trust April 23, 2018
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.) 369708
Original Principal Amount \$269,625.00
Outstanding Principal Balance \$84,482.40
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
THE WEST 100 FEET OF THE EAST 165 FEET OF LOT 1, AND THE EAST 100 FEET OF THE WEST 200 FEET OF LOT 2, MCKINLEY ADDITION, IN ALAMOSA COUNTY, COLORADO.
Also known by street and number as: 220 Curtis Lane, Alamosa, CO 81101.
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
NOTICE OF SALE
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 08/14/2024, at County Office Building, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication 6/19/2024
Last Publication 7/17/2024
Name of Publication Valley Courier
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
DATE: 04/17/2024
Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado
By: Amy McKinley, Public Trustee
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
Alison L. Berry #34531
Lynn M. Janeway #15592
Janeway Law Firm, P.C. 9540 Maroon Circle, Suite 320, Englewood, CO 80112 (303) 706-9990
Attorney File # 23-029908
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
No. 3951.
Published in the Valley Courier on May 22, 29, June 5, 12, & 19, 2024.

COMBINED NOTICE OF SALE PUBLICATION

(CRS §38-38-103)
FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2-2024
To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following Deed of Trust:
On March 29, 2024, under Reception No. 24000368, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Conejos records.
Original Grantor(s) Jeffrey Sisneros
Original Beneficiary Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Flagstar Bank, FSB, Its successors and assigns
Current Holder of the Evidence of Debt Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC
Date of Deed of Trust: January 14, 2022
County of Recording Conejos
Recording Date of Deed of Trust January 21, 2022
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.) Reception No. 21002233
Original Principal Amount \$40,900.00
Outstanding Principal Balance \$39,563.65
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated and/or Grounds for Acceleration of the Debt exists, for reasons including, but not expressly limited to, the following: Borrower's failure to make timely payments as required under the Evidence of Debt and Deed of Trust. THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
The property is all of the property encumbered by said Deed of Trust and is described as:
LOT THREE (3), IN BLOCK "B" IN THE ORIGINAL TOWNSHIP OF THE TOWN OF ANTONITO, COLORADO, as per the recorded plat thereof, on file in the office of the Conejos County Clerk and Recorder, State of Colorado.
A.P.N.: 598729121003
Purported Common Address: 605 State Street, Antonito, CO 81120
NOTICE OF SALE
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at the office of the Conejos County Public Trustee, Conejos County Courthouse, 6683 County Road 13, Conejos, CO 81129, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.
First Publication Date: June 5, 2024
Last Publication Date: July 3, 2024
Name of Publication: The Valley Courier
Date: June 3, 2024
Mack M. Crowther
Public Trustee in and for the County of Conejos, State of Colorado.
The name, address, telephone number and bar registration number of attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
Janeway Law Firm, P.C.
Attorneys for Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC
David R. Doughty #40042
Alison L. Berry #34531
N. April Winecki #34861
9540 Maroon Circle, Suite 320
Englewood, CO 80112
Phone: (303) 706-9990 Fax: (303) 706-9994
File: 24-032068/Sisneros
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU ARE IN BANKRUPTCY OR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN DISCHARGED IN BANKRUPTCY, THE COLLECTION ACTION DESCRIBED IN THIS NOTICE SHALL BE AGAINST THE REAL PROPERTY THAT SECURED THE DEBT AND NOT AGAINST YOU PERSONALLY.
No. 3975.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 5, 12, 19, 26, & July 3, 2024.

COMBINED NOTICE OF SALE- PUBLICATION

CRS § 38-38-103
Public Trustee Sale No. 3-2024
To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On April 10, 2024, under Reception No.24000428, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Conejos records.
Original Grantor(s) (Borrower): Eric R. Grossman
Original Beneficiary Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. acting solely as a nominee for NBH Bank, Its successors and assigns
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt: NBH Bank
Date of Deed of Trust 11/14/2022
Recording Date of Deed of Trust 11/16/2022
County of Recording CONEJOS
Recording No. of Deed of Trust RECEPTION No. 22001753
Original Principal Amount \$295,500.00
Outstanding/Unpaid Principal Balance \$287,056.03
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay the monthly installment of principal and interest due, together with other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the Deed of Trust and other violations of the terms thereof.
THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
The legal description of the Property that is subject to the Notice of Election and Demand in accordance with CRS §38-38-101(4)(g) is: A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 34 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE N.M.P.M., COUNTY OF CONEJOS, STATE OF COLORADO, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 29, THENCE NORTH 30 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE TRACT HEREIN DESCRIBED; THENCE WEST 538 FEET; THENCE NORTH 31'35" EAST 1027.16 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 875 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING.
Purported Common Address: 13995 County Road N, Antonito, CO 81120
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
NOTICE OF SALE
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 8, 2024, at the office of the Conejos County Public Trustee, Conejos County Courthouse, 6683 County Road 13, Conejos, CO 81129, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.
First Publication Date: June 19, 2024
Last Publication Date: July 17, 2024
Name of Publication: The Valley Courier
Date: June 14, 2024
Mack M. Crowther
Public Trustee in and for the County of Conejos, State of Colorado.
The name, address, telephone number and bar registration number of attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
BROWN DUNNING WALKER FEIN DRUSCH PC
Douglas W. Brown, Reg. No. 10429
7995 E. Prentice Ave., Suite 101E
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
Telephone: 303-329-3363
dbrown@bdwfd.com
Attorney File No. 3606-131
The attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
No. 3997.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 19, 26, July 3, 10, & 17, 2024.

ALAMOSA COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held before the Alamosa County Land Use Administrator Monday, July 22, 2024 at 2:00 PM, at the Alamosa County Annex Building, 8999 Independence Way, Suite 100, Alamosa, Colorado for the purpose of considering an application for a Replat submitted by Charles Heald. The applicant is proposing to replat tracts currently identified as 7059 Gaumer Ln (parcel 541506305020), 12255 Johnson Rd (parcel 541506305015) and 12245 Johnson Rd (parcel 541506305014) located in Section 7, Township 37 North, Range 11 East of the New Mexico Principal Meridian, County of Alamosa, State of Colorado.
The legal description is: Tract 38, Red Wing Subdivision according to the plat recorded August 20, 1963 under Reception No. 145106, and Lot 4 and Lot 5 of the Johnson Subdivision, the Plat of which was recorded October 2, 2003 at Reception No. 314008 County of Alamosa, State of Colorado.
Details regarding this application are available for public inspection in the Alamosa County Land Use Office at 8999 Independence Way Suite 100 during regular office hours or by calling (719) 589-3812.
Richard Hubler
Land Use Administrator
Alamosa County
No. 3999.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 19, 2024.

ALAMOSA COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held before the Alamosa County Land Use Administrator Monday, July 22, 2024 at 2:00 PM, at the Alamosa County Annex Building, 8999 Independence Way, Suite 100, Alamosa, Colorado for the purpose of considering an application for a Replat submitted by Mary and John Rasmussen. The applicant is proposing to replat tracts currently identified as 111, 113, and 115 Deer Run (parcels 514504202007, 5145042020008, and 514504202009) located in Section 33, Township 27 North, Range 73 West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, County of Alamosa, State of Colorado.
The legal description is: Lots 7, 8 & 9, Block 14 Unit 1, the Zapata, County of Alamosa, State of Colorado.
Details regarding this application are available for public inspection in the Alamosa County Land Use Office at 8999 Independence Way Suite 100 during regular office hours or by calling (719) 589-3812.
Richard Hubler
Land Use Administrator
Alamosa County
No. 4000.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 19, 2024.

099 -
ANNOUNCEMENTS

221 -
HELP WANTED

LAKE CITY HOSTS
a Wednesday Market for locally-grown foods and artisans in June, July, August. INTERESTED IN BEING A VENDOR? lakecitydirt.com/vibrant-economy. (6/26/24)

POWER ZONE EQUIPMENT is looking to hire a full-time CERTIFIED ELECTRICIAN with a MASTER ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE. Pay range of \$30-\$40/hr with benefits package. Deadline to apply 7/3/24. Send resume to greg@powerzone.com or call 719-754-1981 to apply. (7/9/24)

165 -
PERSONALS

CHRISTIAN [ORTHODOX] GENTLEMAN seeking a wife in Covenant Marriage, by way of Christian Dating. I'm in my 70's, well-looking, good health and never married/NO Baggage! [I was seeking "first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness."] I am a small-scale gifted Preacher/Minister, College Grad Plus, and well-traveled. I am NOT Computerized, with a simple phone and voice mail Only! After Military Service [Active 5 yrs.] I worked predominately in Agriculture - hands on; so I am rural, agrarian by choice, and a homeowner in N.M. Looking for a mature Lady of like precious Faith (NON-Denominational). I appreciate Hiking, camping, Birding and Real Christian Fellowship- [I believe the Holy Bible-KJV-unto Salvation.] Please write if interested and we can meet at a church or cafe in Alamosa or elsewhere in the Southwest. May God be with you in this I Pray. Sincerely in JESUS LORD of ALL Gerald CRILLY POB, 253 Tres Piedras, N.M. 87577 (7/5/24)

173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

LICENSED PLUMBER DOES all types of plumbing & plumbing repairs. Quick service! Call anytime, weekends & evenings: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (8/2/24-monthly)

221 -
HELP WANTED

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for a MIDDLE SCHOOL 8TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) TEACHER. A complete list of desired qualifications and experience is posted on the district website. Monte Vista School District operates on a 4-day week (Monday - Thursday) and offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, HSA match, and life coverage. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Teacher Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by education and experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities by July 2, 2024, or until the position is filled. For questions contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (7/9/24)



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TOWN OF DEL NORTE MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK. Town of Del Norte is hiring PART-TIME Municipal Court Clerk. High school graduate or GED equivalent and two years of office, legal, and court clerical. Will work closely with Town municipal judge for operations and procedures of the municipal court system. With knowledge of legal terminology and practices. Oversees and maintains the court dockets, records of all pending and disposed cases, and ensures accurate and updated information. All administrative and technical duties in support of municipal court. Send resume to Town of Del Norte -Attention Town Clerk. Resumes may be submitted by email to delnorte1860@outlook.com or mailed to Del Norte Town Hall 140 Spruce Street, Del Norte, Co 81132. EOE. (7/17/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

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, cash transactions, cleans and maintains 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 mailed to officemanager@slvlandfill.com or returned to the office. Download the application at slvlandfill.com. (7/2/24)

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. (6/21/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

VALLEY EDUCATORS CREDIT UNION is accepting applications for a TELLER/MEMBER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE. Successful candidate should have excellent communication and customer service skills, ability to listen, follow directions and identify the needs of others. They should possess a positive, friendly attitude, integrity, be a team player and ability to multi-task. Prior teller experience is a plus. To apply, email resume to laura@vecuslv.com or stop by our office at 910 Main Street in ALAMOSA to pick-up an application. VECU has been serving the SLV community for over 60 years and is an equal opportunity employer. (6/29/24)

THE CITY OF MONTE VISTA is seeking qualified applicants for position of POLICE OFFICER. Applicants must be POST certified as a Colorado Police Officer. Selected applicants must be able to pass physical, physiological evaluations, pre-employment drug test and extensive background check. Must be able to work all shifts. Starting hourly rate \$21.50 - 22.75. DOE. A \$5,000 hiring bonus is available with a signed two-year commitment. Application and complete job description may be found at https://cityofmontevista.colorado.gov/government/departments/human-resources. Open until filled. (7/3/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

SAN LUIS VALLEY HEALTH is seeking a full-time FACILITIES MANAGER to join our team! This position will train, lead, and direct custodians and housekeepers in the EVS department with daily, weekly, and monthly tasks and projects. The pay range for this position is \$21.98 - \$30.69. For more information and to apply please visit our careers page at www.slvh.org. (6/28/24)

SOUTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking an anticipated LEAD PRESCHOOL TEACHER for the 24-25 school year. Applicants must possess a Level 2 in Colorado Shines and preferred Lead Teacher Certificate. Salary schedules are available on the district website. Please submit a district application, resume, cover letter, and transcripts at https://www.southconejos.com/page/how-to-apply (Vacant Until Filled). (6/25/24)

SOUTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for BUS DRIVERS for the 2024-2025 school year. Must possess a valid Colorado driver's license and a commercial driver's license (CDL) or be able to obtain one. Please submit a district application, resume, cover letter, transcripts, and certifications at https://www.southconejos.com/page/how-to-apply. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled. (vacant until filled). (6/25/24)

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221 - HELP WANTED

COME BE A part of the growing CENTENNIAL R-1 TEAM! We are seeking applications for a SECONDARY MATH TEACHER, TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR, PRE-SCHOOL PARAPROFESSIONAL, PART-TIME CUSTODIAN, REGULAR BUS ROUTE or ACTIVITY BUS DRIVER, and a VARIETY OF SUBSTITUTES. Positions will remain open until filled. Each position has unique responsibilities, yet all require the same application process. Please submit a resume, three letters of recommendation, pertinent transcripts, and a background check/valid CDE license with an application. Submit applications through <https://www.applitrack.com/centennialsschool/onlineapp> or email kimba.rael@centennial.k12.co.us. All full-time positions qualify for a competitive benefits package and salary as outlined through our Master Agreement, which is available at centennial.k12.co.us. The starting pay range for certified staff is \$36,872 to \$49,509; 9-month staff is \$20,613 - \$26,205; and 12-month staff is \$29,812 - \$33,354; route/activity driver pay is based on route/mileage; substitute pay is \$120/day. We are doing great things in SAN LUIS; it's the perfect time to join our team. (7/3/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

DEL NORTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL is seeking an energetic, caring individual to serve as a SPECIAL EDUCATION PARAPROFESSIONAL. Applicants must have a high school diploma and prior experience working with students with special needs is preferred. Please submit your application to Amy Duda, DNES Principal at 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO 81132; aduda@urtigers.co; or call at 719-657-4050. The position will be open until filled. You can pick up an application at the District Office or on-line at urtigers.co. (7/3/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

SUBSTITUTES TEACHERS/LONG TERM SUBS needed at the UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT in DEL NORTE! Call or email: Sophia at 719-657-4040, x4000 (scrutz@urtigers.co) for more information, go on-line: urtigers.co, or stop by the district office at: 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO to pick up an application. You do not have to hold a college degree or be a certified teacher to substitute; however, you must be a high school graduate and have a substitute license from CDE (Colorado Department of Education). (7/3/24)

401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES

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For all your rental needs please call 719-589-5744 or stop by 823 Main St. Alamosa, CO 81101
www.alamosarentals.com

420 - LOTS & ACREAGES

ACREAGE FOR SALE - \$2,000/ACRE. Contact Rick 928-277-6140. (7/6/24)

426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

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

525 - GUNS

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

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

ALAMOSA: COZY 1 BEDROOM apartment near Cole Park. \$675 month, \$675 deposit. NO PETS. 719-580-5400. (6/25/24)

MODERN & SPACIOUS APARTMENT FOR RENT

in PRIME CRESTONE LOCATION. Welcome to your new home! Nestled in the heart of Crestone, this beautifully appointed apartment offers both comfort and convenience in every square foot. Key Features: Location: Prime Crestone location, offering easy access to local amenities and attractions. Size: Approximately 1,250 square feet of living space. Rent: \$1600 per month (inclusive of electricity, trash disposal, propane, sewer, and water services). Deposit: \$500 (plus first and last month's rent). Pets: Unfortunately, no pets allowed. Application Process: All potential tenants are required to undergo an interview and background check. Schedule a Viewing: Don't miss out on this opportunity to call this apartment home! Contact us today to schedule a viewing and start the application process. PO Box 64, Crestone, CO 81131; (719) 256-4313; crestonetownoffice@gmail.com (6/19/24)

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting applications for 2 bedroom apartments. Family living at an affordable price.
Guadalupe Hacienda Apts.
404 W. 8th
Antonito, Colo.
376-2025
TTY
1-800-659-2656
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

606 - BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT at 1016 West Ave., ALAMOSA. Call Mike (719)850-1961.

611 - HOMES FOR RENT

2 STORY HISTORIC RENOVATED 4 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH. Appliances furnished. Deck, shop, garage, large fenced in backyard. Excellent neighborhood; 416 2nd Ave., MONTE VISTA. \$2150/month, plus utilities. Yearly lease; available 6/1/24. Contact 719-852-5101 or 719-852-5350. (7/9/24)

630 - ROOMS FOR RENT

ROOMS FOR RENT: FURNISHED, ALAMOSA. 720-436-5550. (6/25/24)

634 - ROOMMATE WANTED

ELDERLY WOMAN TO share house in Monte Vista. 720-427-5953. (6/25/24)



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BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

FOR THE UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT, CDL & NON-CDL DRIVERS. Will pay for CDL license and training with contract. Must be able to pass a background and pre-employment drug test. If interested, please contact Demo Trujillo, 719-657-4040 x4007, dtrujillo@urtigers.co. Applications can be retrieved online at: www.urtigers.co. (7/3/24)

CAFETERIA STAFF NEEDED

AT UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. Must have a high school diploma and some knowledge of working in a kitchen or a willingness to be trained. Pay is dependent on prior experience. Please contact Leslie Martinez at 719-657-4040, x1100 or email her at lmartinez@urtigers.co. Applications can be retrieved online at: www.urtigers.co. (7/3/24)

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. (7/26/24)

MECHANIC POSITION AVAILABLE

at VALLEY TRACTOR REPAIR, MONTE VISTA, CO. This is a full-time position offering top pay with benefits. Contact Rick or Tony for qualifications, 719-852-0200. (6/19/24)

AT HOME CHILD CARE PROVIDER

needed at the UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. 150 days per year which includes all days that teachers are at school. Applicants must have a high school diploma and experience working with young children is a plus! Please submit your application and resume to: Aaron Horrocks, Superintendent, at 950 French Street, DEL NORTE, CO, 81132, or call at 719-657-4040, x4000. Applications may be retrieved online at urtigers.co or at the District Office. (7/3/24)

DIRECTOR FOR INFANT CARE CENTER

needed at the UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. Please submit your application and resume to: Aaron Horrocks, Superintendent, at 950 French Street, DEL NORTE, CO, 81132, or call at 719-657-4040, x4000. Applications may be retrieved online at urtigers.co or at the District Office. (7/3/24)

LEAD TEACHER FOR INFANT CARE CENTER

needed at the UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. 150 days per year which includes all days that teachers are at school. Please submit your application and resume to: Aaron Horrocks, Superintendent, at 950 French Street, DEL NORTE, CO, 81132, or call at 719-657-4040, x4000. Applications may be retrieved online at urtigers.co or at the District Office. (7/3/24)

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. (7/3/24)

NOW HIRING: PUBLIC WORKS ASSISTANT

Job Description: A Public Works Assistant is an on-call, PART-TIME position with no benefits, supervised by the Public Works Superintendent. The Public Works Assistant assists the Public Works Superintendent to service the sewer system, water system, roads and bridges, drainage, buildings, parks, Town properties, and cemetery. Required Knowledge, Qualities, Skills, and Abilities: Working knowledge of the language, principles, methods, materials, and equipment common to municipal public works repairs and maintenance of parks, roads, grounds, and buildings. Ability to operate and maintain small snow removal equipment, mowers, and a variety of power and hand tools. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with Town officials and employees, representatives of other agencies and organizations, and members of the community. Required Education, Training, and Experience: A valid Colorado driver's license or equivalent, and high school diploma or equivalent. Previous experience in a parks or public works department preferred. All applicants should fill out an application (located at <http://townofcrestone.colorado.gov/>) to submit along with a resume and cover letter to crestonetownoffice@gmail.com. (6/19/24)

FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS POSITION

open at the UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. Applicant must pass a background check and be able to work independently, be a forward-thinking individual with an overall team approach to all tasks at hand. Applicant must also be able to work in all weather conditions (snow removal/general landscaping). If interested, please contact Demo Trujillo, 719-657-4040 x4007, dtrujillo@urtigers.co. Applications can be retrieved online at: www.urtigers.co. (7/3/24)

AMERICORPS PATHWAYS NAVIGATOR, LOCAL

, well-respected non-profit agency seeking enthusiastic individual to coordinate and support AmeriCorps members serving with the Rural Alliance for Dignity. No AmeriCorps experience necessary. On the job training and professional development provided. This position will specialize in recruitment, placement, and guidance for AmeriCorps members serving in small non-profit organizations throughout SOUTHERN COLORADO. They will work with La Puente's team to provide career pathway, logistical and project support for our local cohort of AmeriCorps Members. Join our dynamic team of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of helping others. Qualifications: interest in non-profit organizations, ability to travel, relationship skills, organizational, and writing skills. \$41 - 45k/yr/benefit package. Send resume: La Puente Home, P.O. Box 1235, ALAMOSA, CO 81101, 719 233-2673 www.lapuente.net Email: hr@lapuente.net (6/19/24)

304 - LAWN & GARDEN

SPRINKLER REPAIR & INSTALLATION. Quick Service! Call evenings & weekends: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (8/2/24-monthly)

307 - APPLIANCES

MICROWAVE: 25X17X15, WORKS great. \$20. 719-480-3225. (6/22/24)

324 - SEED & FEED

HORSE & COW HAY: GRASS, GRASS/ALFALFA, ALFALFA. 3x3 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917. (7/3/24-monthly)

HAY FOR SALE

: \$7 bale. 719-274-0380. (7/9/24)

341 - GARAGE SALE

2 FAMILY ESTATE SALE: Friday 6/21, Saturday 6/22/24, 9:30-3:00PM, 12155 County Road 109 S, ALAMOSA. (6/22/24)

350 - FARM EQUIPMENT

2005 HESSTON 4910 BALER New Monitor, Preservative Applicator, moisture sensor, accumulator. Field ready. \$22500 OBO 719-850-1143. (7/13/24)

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

FOR SALE: LOTS OF STORE SHELVING available at former Sunshine Country Grocery Store. 719-852-6981. (6/22/24)

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West View Villas
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852-3949
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1-800-659-2656
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Gomez Manor Apts.
804 State St. Antonito, Colo.
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Crestone Food Bank opens in new location

By MARIE MCCOLM

CRESTONE – Approximately 30 people attended the grand opening of the Crestone Food Bank last month in its new location right next to the Baca Grande Library in Crestone.

At a little after 2 p.m. staff gathered at the top of a staircase that leads into the food bank, to cut the red ribbon that had been strung across the bottom of the staircase, to signify the official opening of the new food bank building. Everyone on the staircase clapped and cheered.

Saguache County Commissioner Tom McCracken made a brief speech at the ceremony. "I just want to express our excitement and happiness that the food bank is open again. I want to thank the stakeholders, the Baca POA with the building here. We have the Food Bank Network. We have the Community Care Collective, La Puente, Care and Share, Saguache County and Saguache County Human Services. All the volunteers that have helped pull this all together. We really appreciate it," he said.

McCracken also stated that they are excited that Saguache is going to be involved now, as a long-term partner. "They are going to be a permanent stakeholder now, and make sure that the food bank is sustainable for the future," he said. According to Commissioner McCracken the food bank had been closed for over a year and finding the new food bank building, along with renovating the new building, had been more than a 6-month process. "It's been in the making for a while. It was time for us to get it going," he said.

Managers of the prior food bank, Marge Hogllin and Joe Buckley, spoke about the opening of the new food bank. Hogllin said, "We ran the food bank at the previous location for about 3 years. I am just really happy that the new place is open, and it's happening, and everyone is working together. I think it's going to be great."

Both Hogllin and Buckley said that the prior location got to be too small. Buckley said that there was a definite need for more room. "We outgrew the space. The space had been donated. We started with about 400 people a week, and when we closed there was about 200 people," Buckley

said. Hogllin said that they began looking for another location, and they hoped to move into a place that was move-in ready. "There was a deadline, and the space just wasn't readily available. So, we made the decision to back off, and retire at that time too. We figured it was time to back off and let someone else run it. It's great to see all the people here today that we used to see. We always enjoyed the people. It's such a great organization," Hogllin said.

Hogllin also said that they were glad that the county had stepped up to help the food bank. "The food banks in Saguache and Center, are in the county, and staffed by county employees. Here in Crestone everything we offer, well we cover our own expenses, and have our own volunteers. When Tom became commissioner, he really wanted to change that. It's good to see that the county is helping and a partner now," Hogllin said.

Eden Elderberry, a volunteer of the food bank network for a long time, was proud to see the doors open to the food bank. Elderberry helped with the construction of the new food bank and was involved with all aspects of the new food bank. "It's neat to see this place come together. Everyone is very happy here today," Elderberry said.



Eden Elderberry, a volunteer of the food bank network for a long time, was proud to see the doors open to the food bank. Elderberry helped with the construction of the new food bank and was involved with all aspects of the new food bank.



The Crestone Food Bank has opened at a new location next to the Baca Grande Library on County Road T in Saguache County. The food bank is open on Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 p.m. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on May 30.

Right: The shelves of the Crestone Food Bank are stocked and ready to serve the community.

kids' corner

PEOPLE FACT!

PEOPLE ENJOY RIDING ON THESE THRILLING ATTRACTIONS AVAILABLE AT THEME PARKS ALL OVER THE WORLD.

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Ticket
- SPANISH:** Boletto
- ITALIAN:** Biglietto
- FRENCH:** Billet
- GERMAN:** Karte

What's the Difference?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A

B

Answers: 1. Man's hair is different 2. Ferris wheel in background 3. Boy wearing heart glasses 4. Girl has hand stamp smiley face

THIS DAY IN...

HISTORY

- 1898: JOSHUA SLOCUM OF NOVA SCOTIA COMPLETES THE FIRST SOLO CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF THE GLOBE.
- 1950: THE UNITED STATES DECIDES TO SEND TROOPS TO FIGHT IN THE KOREAN WAR.
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