



# THE CONEJOS COUNTY CITIZEN

Volume 135, Number 29

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

75¢

## Manassa Pioneer Days July 18-20



### STAFF REPORT

**MANASSA** — The annual Manassa Pioneer Days, a celebration of history, legacy and family, is July 18-20.

Manassa Pioneer Days is one of the oldest festivals in the state of Colorado, tracing its history back to the founding of Manassa in 1879 by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

*Please see PIONEER on Page 4A*

Manassa Pioneer Days brings thousands of people to town for its biggest celebration of the year, July 18-20. The event includes parades, rodeos and a carnival on Friday and Saturday, plus live music, and hamburgers.

File photos

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Community Open Classes at SLV Fair

**MONTE VISTA** — Community members can exhibit their items at the San Luis Valley Fair next month via the Community Open Classes. People can compete in different indoor projects like quilting, photography, canned goods, leather crafts, baked goods, and gardening. There is no fee, no pre-registration. Check-in is available on Sunday, Aug. 4, from 4-6 p.m. or Monday, Aug. 5, from 9-11 a.m.

For more information, contact Brandy Meyers at 719-849-1522 or Janae Naranjo at 719-480-4212.

#### 1974 Centauri HS 50th class reunion

**LA JARA** — The 50th class reunion of the Centauri High School Class of 1974 will be held at 6 p.m. on Friday, July 19, at the Calvillo's Mexican Restaurant, 400 Main St., Alamosa. Cost is \$25 per person.

For more information, call any of the planning committee members: Tom Medina at 719-588-0401, Melanie Woodward at 719-580-0338, Laurie Kay Quintana at 719-480-3146, Dennis Ortiz at 719-588-7283, Hazel Madrid, or Vivian Gallegos at 719-206-0118.

#### Open Quilt Show returning to SLV Fair

**MONTE VISTA** — The SLV Fair is bringing back the Open Quilt Show. This is a show only; quilts will not be judged. The goal is to showcase the wonderful talent in the San Luis Valley. It is open to all ages, and there is no entry fee. People can also submit the quilt's story, if there is one.

People can bring their quilt on Tuesday, Aug. 6, from 8-10 a.m. For more information, call Janae Naranjo at 719-480-4212 or Brandy Meyers at 719-849-1522.

## AG Weiser talks youth mental health, mergers and fences

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

**ALAMOSA** — While he was in the San Luis Valley this week, Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser told the Valley Courier, "I have an obligation as the people's lawyer to really listen hard and find solutions [to problems]. That's what I've done in a range of other areas and that's what I'm going to do here."

### FENCES

Weiser was repeating what he had told a large group of residents from San Luis who had gathered to discuss egregious damages and hardship caused

by a 20-mile 8-foot wire grid fence around an area known as La Sierra, an area of deep, historic importance. The fence was erected by William Harrison, the billionaire ranch owner from Texas.

The fence, people told Weiser, is restricting the ability of wildlife to reach sources of water and interfering with typical patterns of migration. Its construction also involved the bulldozing of a 20-yard-wide path through forests and habitats, causing further harm to wildlife and creating significant erosion that has resulted in large deposits of

sediment on property outside of the ranch.

"I have not seen many public meetings like I just witnessed," Weiser said. "Over 70 people at that meeting in the middle of a workday in a county that has 1,000 people. People wanted and needed to be heard. I listened and learned a lot about how this fence is affecting the community, the water and wildlife and even mental health."

"We're going to work with the county and see what we can do. I have an obligation as the people's lawyer

*Please see WEISER on Page 4A*

## Wynona dazzles on the Stampede stage

*Country music legend sang many of her hits*

By MARIE MCCOLM

**MONTE VISTA** — Country singing legend Wynonna brought that "true country bass" to kick off the 102nd annual Ski-Hi Stampede.

Thursday's crowd helped themselves to the delicious annual Monte Vista Rotary Chuck Wagon Dinner before the concert and took in the

*Please see CONCERT on Page 5A*



Photos by Brian Williams

The Ski-Hi Stampede continued Friday with a parade in Downtown Monte Vista. Friday's Grand Marshals Domey, left, and Rodney Salazar, right, wave to the crowd from the back seat of a classic convertible.



Country singing legend Wynonna kicked off the 102nd Ski-Hi Stampede by performing at the annual concert on Thursday in Monte Vista.

## Bareback, bull riding champs determined on Stampede's final day

By KEN HAMRICK

**MONTE VISTA** — The 102nd Annual Ski-Hi Stampede took place over the weekend with several participants from all over the country and some from out of the country competing.

Two of the rough stock events had their champions crowned on Sunday.

In bareback riding, there was a tie for first place. Gavin French of College Station, Texas, scored 83 points on Desert Inn, and Jade Taton of Kersey recorded the same score on Louisiana Woman.

*Please see CHAMPS on Page 8A*

Jade Taton of Kersey turns in an 83-point ride on Louisiana Woman and finished tied atop the bareback riding on Sunday at the Ski-Hi Stampede in Monte Vista.

Photo by Brian Williams



Subscribe  
Online!



THE CONEJOS COUNTY  
CITIZEN

www.conejoscountycitizen.com

# OBITUARIES

## Larry Eugene Carpenter

Larry Eugene Carpenter, a longtime Valley resident, passed away in Alamosa, Colo., on July 4, 2024, surrounded by his family. He was born on May 22, 1941, in Center, Colo., to LT and Alice Carpenter.

Larry graduated from Sargent High School in 1959 and began farming in the Sargent community. He met his loving wife of 60 years, Connie Helms, and they married on Dec. 31, 1964. Together they raised their four children on the family farm growing potatoes and Coors Barley.

In 1988, they moved to Great Bend, Kan., and then to Greeley, Colo., where Larry continued farming. In 1995, they returned to the San Luis Valley and purchased Alamosa Truck Brokers. Larry retired from the brokerage in 2006 and began driving a shuttle van for Blue Peaks Day Services, a job that brought him great joy.

Larry was an active member of the Sargent community. He was a member of the Sargent Community Church, drove the athletic bus for many years, and during the basketball season you would find him in the Sargent Gym at the scorekeeper's desk. He was a member and served on the board of the Monte Vista Potato Association, a longtime member of the Monte Vista Elks, and in his later years a member of the Kiwanis Club of Alamosa serving a term as President and was the pancake chef for the 4th of July breakfast.



Larry had a love of the outdoors and enjoyed hunting, fishing and being in the mountains. Many weekends were spent with his family at Santa Maria fishing and riding motorcycles in the summer and snow machines in the winter. He enjoyed many hunting seasons with his son and brother. Larry believed the mountains and their beauty were his church and the best way to honor his faith was spending time as a family enjoying the great outdoors.

Larry is survived by his wife, Connie, who stood with him for 60 memorable years; his children, Lynnette Carpenter, Steve Carpenter (Janalyn), Karen Goodwin (James), and Susan Seder; his seven grandchildren, Jade (Micaela) Gale, CJ (Samantha) Carpenter, Katelyn Brown,

Jace (Jude) Carpenter, Micalyn (Brady) Covert, Cadence Seder, and Tyson Tellez; and his three great-grandchildren, Bentlee, Cecilia and Tripp. He is also survived by his siblings, Donald Carpenter, Carolyn Gustafson, Mary Ann Arnett, Theresa Harrison, and Vicki Jones (Art), as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents Lawrence "LT" and Alice Carpenter, and his siblings Warren Carpenter, Virginia DePriest, and Isla Jean Crawford.

Larry was a man of few words. He will be remembered as a quiet and gentle soul by some, an ornery prankster by others, and a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle and friend by many. He will be greatly missed.

A graveside memorial will be held on July 27 at 9:30 a.m. at the Alamosa Cemetery with a Celebration of Life Service at the Cattails Golf Course Knee Knockers Restaurant beginning at 11:30 a.m. with lunch following.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Larry's name to Alamosa Hospice del Valle or the Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Wildlife and Conservation Division.

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

## (Harriet) Lynn Knight-Montaño

(Harriet) Lynn Knight-Montaño passed away peacefully on the morning of June 22, 2024, in Crestview, Fla., at the age of 83. Born May 3, 1941, in Frankton, Ind., she was one of nine children to Helen (Soots) and Woodrow Knight.

In her early 30's Lynn moved to Colorado and on Jan. 14, 1988, she wed (Alex) Manuel Montaño. After Manuels passing in 2009, Lynn remained in Colorado until 2020 when she moved to be near family in DeFuniak Springs, Fla.

She enjoyed collecting antiques, loved her pets and was an amazing family historian.

Lynn was preceded in death by her husband Manuel of Colo.; mother, Helen Albrecht of NY; father, Woodrow Knight of Ind.; sisters, (Shirley) Arleen of Fla., Vella of Fla., Ginger of Ind., (Margaret) Peggy of Ky., Donna of NY; brothers, (Lawrence) Larry of Ind., (Theodore) Teddy of Fla., many dear family members and friends.

Lynn is survived by her sibling (Charles) Charlie Albrecht of NY; stepdaughters, Kimberlee and Michelle of Colo., Taileigh of N.M., TJ of Ga.; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, cousins and friends that she loved dearly.



A Celebration for Lynn and interment will be held on a later date near DeFuniak Springs, Fla. Those wishing to attend are asked to contact her family.

## Angelina Ortega

This obituary is in the loving memory of our mother. She died at the golden age of not quite 88 years old. She passed on with her two children at her side at the

Alamosa hospital. She will be missed by all who knew her. Please say a prayer for her.

## DEATH NOTICE

### William L. Kuhlke

Beloved husband, father, grandfather, uncle, teacher and mentor to many, William L. Kuhlke, passed away peacefully after a brief illness on June 17, 2024, in Alamosa, Colo. He is survived by his wife Betty Jean Myers, his children, and grandchildren.

## FULL-TIME SALES

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



Courtesy photo

Alamosa firefighter Johnny Quintana is shown applying water to the trailer of hay on fire Sunday night southwest of town.

## Fire departments respond to hay trailer ablaze

### STAFF REPORT

VALLEY – Alamosa and Monte Vista firefighters both responded to a goose-neck trailer of alfalfa hay on fire about 7:30 p.m. Sunday at the intersection of the 10 South (Waverly Road) and Alamosa-Rio Grande County line.

Alamosa Fire Department Capt. Zach Cerny said the trailer and load of hay were a total loss. The truck towing the trailer was unhitched and

unharmed. Firefighters were on scene for about three hours, but the cause of the fire is unknown.

Cerny said both departments responded with seven personnel each, Alamosa with four fire trucks and Monte Vista three.

Alamosa also responded to two fireworks-caused fires on Independence Day, Cerny said, one at the public display at the fairgrounds and another at a personal residence.

## VALLEY PUBLISHING SEEKS REPORTER IMMEDIATELY

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

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Valley Publishing, Inc. • 229 Adams St. • Monte Vista



Call 852-3531

Get all the local news, subscribe today! Call 852-3531 to get The Conejos County Citizen delivered each week!



Meet Belinda, a foodie who loves dining out at **The Roast - Craft Coffee & Libations**

With our debit card, she earns reward points on every purchase, including today's delicious smothered burrito.

Sign up now to start earning rewards and redeem them for amazing experiences!

[WWW.SLVFED.BANK/REWARDS](http://WWW.SLVFED.BANK/REWARDS)



REGISTER

EARN

REDEEM



(719) 589-6653

**San Luis Valley Federal Bank**

COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS



# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## Summer on the wane

It's hard to believe but the summer is half over for most of us, and more so, I guess, for those who have kids in school.

That start date seems to have gravitated to an earlier and earlier time as the years have gone by and now some kids must start in early August.

It was not too long ago that school did not start until after Labor Day but with the advent of air conditioning in the classroom, they now start in what normally would still be called summer.

Miss Trixie says that only Ol' Dutch's schools ever started after Labor Day. And maybe she is right. Ol' Dutch was a handful way back then and a late start to school gave the teachers more of a break from his nonsense.

But in modern days, with this early start, the tourists will start packing up their campers, cars and trucks and heading back to wherever they came from after a sojourn in the beautiful Rocky Mountains.

For the folks past the years of herding kids around, they now start to look south for warmer climes, and it seems like they are leaving Colorado earlier and earlier every year in a mad rush to secure a favorite spot in Arizona or South Texas.

Even though the summer seems fleeting already and soon to pass into the proverbial books, there still is plenty to look forward to in the next two months. First and foremost is the huge Ladies Aide garage sale in Creede this week.

It's a grand time of fun and laughter amongst friends and culminates with a mad rush as people are allowed to fill bags with "treasures" the last hour or so of the sale. (On Thursday, July 18 this year. So, if you are reading this on Thursday morning, get yourself to the Virginia Christensen Center in Creede before 3 p.m.)

It's not free but for a nominal fee you can buy a bag and fill it to the brim with anything that is left over and if you buy enough bags, you too can have a garage sale with the purchased stuff. But regretfully it also means Miss Trixie brings home more junk.

I had told her some time ago that whatever amount she brings in, the same amount has to go out and now all of Ol' Dutch's things are outside. That didn't work out quite the way I planned and should teach me to legislate ill-advised rules.

We are currently still rafting on the Rio Grande with Narrow Ridge Outdoors/Mountain Man Rafting. 8200 Outdoor Sports is still offering great fishing trips for the neophyte and experienced anglers alike. So, there are a lot of opportunities for



**Trout Republic**  
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

those wanting to still have fun.

And this weekend, Logger Days will arrive here in South Fork and a lot of folks will see the skills of modern-day Paul and Paulette Bunyans as they cut and dismember big logs brought to the Community Center from the area forests.

The Wood Carvers are happening this weekend in Creede, and soon the Gem and Mineral show will be there, too. Ol' Dutch will most likely get dragged along to see one or both of these gatherings.

Soon after that the long doldrums of August will start to drag on and by then the slow and low River will call my name and I will head out to wade the cool waters and catch some Rocky Mountain trout.

For Miss Trixie and me, the fall days of September herald in the start of Elk Season for Ol' Dutch and sometimes a bear or antelope or deer even finds its way into our ample larder.

And thankfully that is the case as if not for a bear season some 12 years ago, which was our first real date, Miss Trixie and I would never have begun our blessed journey on this Earth.

So, you and she can blame the Colorado Department of Wildlife and Parks for our cohabitation I guess and the rest, as they say, is history.

Miss Trixie has plenty of time to reflect on that as she lies naked on the bearskin rug I had made from that first hunt.

Well, maybe not lying on the rug but she does reflect a lot on that fateful day, and it causes a furrow to appear on her brow.

Happy 2024 summer folks, there is still lots of fun out there. Go grab yourself some.

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



## A hike to visit old trees

The sun flashed through the rustling aspens as we quietly hiked a short downhill section of the trail. Reaching the bottom, the sky appeared a dazzling blue above the ridgeline on the short uphill slope in front of us. We anticipated an amazing view as a little spring in our step pushed us up the last 50 feet of the slope.

True to form, the Alamosa Canyon appeared in all its grandeur for our viewing pleasure. The prominent feature in our view, Cornwall Mountain projecting its nose for all to see, topped the slopes of the south side of the canyon. Farther back, Conejos Peak displayed her snow speckled slopes, a subtle reminder of where we live. Instantly in awe, we abruptly halted our forward progress to stand and appreciate what was ours for the taking.

Phones quickly took photos as our mouths eventually closed and we regained our composure. I wondered if that entire trail was designed for that single location.

We started the hike from the Comstock Campground in the Rock Creek drainage just south of Monte Vista. Seemingly following an old jeep road, the Alamosa River/Rock Creek Trail #703 quickly gains elevation through the cool forest as you pass over loose rocks and rutted sections, often making you pay more attention to your steps than you care to.

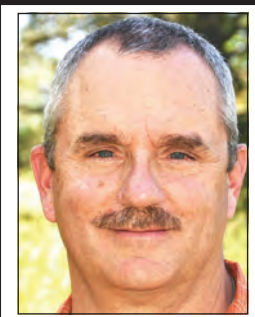
The views from the trail alternate from a dark forest to a more open aspen forest with better light, to open meadows then back into the darker forest. The lush green vegetation, fueled by the ample precipitation from this early summer, was a pleasing sight to most westerners. Not too much fire risk to distract us here.

Probably not quite at their peak, the wildflowers proudly displayed their brilliant colors and unique character. I'm not a flower expert by any means but the commonly known species were all there for us to enjoy. The mountain asters and fire weed mixed in well with the wild rose.

My favorites, Indian paintbrush and columbine were abundant and simply beautiful as they seemingly waved to me in the light breeze. We even saw monkshood and, of course, several species I can't identify.

After a while, the trail became less steep and more flowing-like as it guided us over the casual undulations of the mountain. More time for looking around while we hiked was welcomed. We eventually arrived at that amazing vista point I described earlier. A short pause for better appreciation of the view and we pushed on. I had to see some of my much "older friends."

Not too much farther towards the Silver Mountain Trail #704 junction they appeared, just as they always have. Most of them massive in girth and some of them towering well above the rest of the forest. The numerous old Douglas fir trees are a magnificent feature of this trail.



**Land Water and People**  
By Gregg Goodland



Photo courtesy of Rio Grande National Forest  
**Gregg Goodland standing with a large Douglas Fir tree on the Alamosa River to Rock Creek Trail #703.**

As you approach the large trees that are next to the trail you must take note of the size and grandeur of those farther away. It will give you a better appreciation for the ones you are compelled to stand under and take photos with.

They don't mind and their expression rarely changes so they are a safe bet to be photographed with. My wife took a photo of me standing next to a large tree with a trunk that reminded me of the bell bottom pants from the 1970's. It's pretty evident that this tree did, in fact, live through the 70's. My timber specialist estimates it at around 300 years old!

The decision point happened when we reached the trail junction. Do we head down the really cool but consistently steep trail to the bottom of the Alamosa Canyon, or head back for the truck? I had visions of me grumbling about the long uphill trek, and while I love that section of trail, brighter minds prevailed and we turned back for the truck.

It was a glorious Southern Colorado day, and the hike was wonderful, as expected. We never saw another human until after we got back to the truck. And, to my absolute surprise, my heart was warmed by the fact that we never saw even one tiny speck of litter. It makes me proud to be in an area where all the trail users take the extra care to not leave litter from their forest experience. I sincerely hope that this will be the case for everyone this summer!

*Gregg Goodland is the Public Affairs Officer for the Rio Grande National Forest. As an avid outdoor enthusiast, he encourages individual stewardship and responsible use of our public lands.*



THE CONEJOS COUNTY  
**CITIZEN**

- Brian Williams..... GM/Editor
- Marie Mccolm .....
- Monte Vista Journal/Center Post Dispatch Reporter
- Lyndsie Ferrell..... South Fork/Creede Reporter
- Shasta Quintana .....
- Ellie Bone .....
- Roxie Beutler.....
- Richard R. Quintana..... Mailroom Supervisor/Press

**www.conejoscountycitizen.com**

THE CONEJOS COUNTY CITIZEN (USPS 308-760) is published weekly (every Wednesday) at 835 First Ave., Monte Vista, CO 81144, by Valley Publishing. Successor to the La Jara Gazette and Antonito News-Ledger as a Colorado statutory publication meeting the requirements of CRS (1973) 24-70 et seq. Official newspaper of the Towns of La Jara and Antonito, and sole legal newspaper published in the County of Conejos.

Established June 11, 1892

Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144 • Main office, Want ads and Subscriptions: (719) 852-3531

Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, Colo., 81144

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to P.O. Box 607, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144

Subscriptions: \$45 one year in the San Luis Valley; \$40 one year seniors (65 and older) in the San Luis Valley; and \$55 one year out of the San Luis Valley. (719) 852-3531

San Luis Valley Publishing, LLC

# WEISER

Continued from Page 1A

to really listen hard and find solutions. That's what I've done in a range of other areas and that's what I'm going to do with this fence, as well. We've committed to work with the county and to make sure that no one gets bullied, or their rights get trampled."

### YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Weiser, who was in Alamosa for the grand opening of Hope in the Valley, is also focused on youth mental health. In 2020, Weiser, on behalf of the state of Colorado, filed a lawsuit against Juul Labs after an investigation showed the company was targeting youth in their marketing of e-cigarettes and misrepresenting the health risks.

The lawsuit was successful, and Weiser reached a multi-state settlement of \$462 million, of which \$31.7 million was allocated to Colorado.

"We've already given out our first round of grants from suing Juul. We just announced \$817,000 in grants to the valley. That's round one," he said.

"Now we're working on round two. We want to see school-community partnerships addressing youth mental health."

Weiser recalled a roundtable discussion in 2023 devoted to the topic of youth mental health.

"Jamie Dominguez talked about his work that he's doing with young people. Cindy Medina is teaching kids to fish and to read. We know there are a lot of programs and collaborations working with young people. The goal is how do we lift them all up? How do we bring people together for young people who are hurting? I'm really looking forward to what type of grant proposal people can put together here," he said.

According to information from the Office of the Attorney General, of the \$817,000 awarded to the San Luis Valley, Alamosa School District received \$244,968; San Luis Valley BOCES received \$273,870; and Sierra Grande School District received \$100,985.

### KROGER-ALBERTSONS MERGER

During that same visit in 2023, Weiser met with residents, ag producers, union officials and employees of two of the grocery stores in Alamosa - City Market and Safeway - regarding the proposed merger of Kroger (which

owns City Market) and Albertsons (which owns Safeway). If the merger happens, there is the likelihood that the future of Safeway is uncertain.

According to a Tuesday announcement from Albertsons Companies and Kroger, 89 of the 103 existing Safeway stores in Colorado would be sold to C&S Wholesalers Grocers, a company based in New Hampshire. Included in the list is Safeway in Alamosa.

"That was a powerful conversation, and I took it with me. People were saying we need to take more control of our local food ecosystem. We have too little competition, too little local food available. This merger is already taking a problematic situation and making it worse," he said.

In February of 2024, Weiser filed a lawsuit in Denver District Court to block the \$24.6 billion proposed

merger.

When asked for an update, he said, "The hearing is in August in Denver. We're asking for a preliminary injunction to stop this merger from happening. The Federal Commission is bringing its own case in Oregon - some states are part of that. We're bringing our own case here in state court, and Washington is bringing their case to state court, too."

One area of expertise in Weiser's background is antitrust after he served as senior counsel to the Assistant AG for the Justice Department Antitrust Division from 1996 to 1998 followed by his 2009 appointment by President Obama as Deputy Attorney General in the Justice Department's Antitrust Division.

"I think we're going to win," Weiser said. "We've got the right arguments on



Photo by Priscilla Waggoner

**Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser listens to Alamosa resident, Darrell Cooper, about the Kroger-Albertson merger.**

our side. We've got the evidence we've collected. And this is really important to the people of Colorado."

## The World Can't Give It to You

People search for happiness in a lot of places. They look to things like relationships, money, vacations, houses, clothes, and even open doors of opportunity. Yet, while these things can bring a degree of excitement for a period of time, happiness is based on what is happening "in the moment."

I was a Christian for several years before I understood that enjoying true peace, joy and fulfillment is the most important thing in life. It's something that goes far beyond happiness to a deeper joy, regardless of our circumstances. And no matter what we own, where we go, or what we do, only one thing can give us this true satisfaction—God.

Simply put, without God, we will never truly be able to have everyday joy.

Psalm 27:4 has become one of the foundational scriptures of my life. It says, "One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek, inquire for, and [insistently] require: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord [in His presence] all the days of my life, to behold and gaze upon the beauty [the sweet attractiveness and the delightful loveliness] of the Lord and to meditate, consider, and inquire in His temple."

Seek is a strong word. It means "to crave, pursue, and go after something with all of your might." Many people want a greater relationship with God—and they want to have the immense joy and fulfillment that comes with it—but they don't *crave* and *pursue* Him or lay aside other things in order to have it."

I love Psalm 16:11. It says, "You

will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy, at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

The Lord desires for us to *live* with His joy—to be permanently, *consistently* satisfied. This all comes from spending quality time with God...from reading and studying His Word, talking to Him in prayer, or simply sitting quietly in His presence.

The truth is everything we need to live a joyful, successful life is waiting for us in His presence. Because of the sexual abuse I suffered as a child, I was forced to grow up quickly and worry about things a child should never have to worry about. As a result, I never had the chance to be a kid—to enjoy life care-free and simply have fun. As far back as I could remember, I was always tremendously serious and intense.

Maybe you can relate. Maybe life has thrown you some curves and left you joy-less. Or maybe you are so caught up in the hurry and worry of everyday life that you've forgotten how to simply stop, have fun, and enjoy yourself. If so, I want you to look at Matthew 11:28. Jesus says, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden and overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. [I will ease and relieve and refresh your souls]."

Jesus offers us *rest* and *relief*. It's the rest we need to live in the world and deal with stressful situations without letting them upset us, ruin our health or steal our joy. It's a supernatural rest we can only find through a personal relationship with Him—it's not something we can find in the



Moving Up Higher with Joyce Meyer

world.

What is our part? We simply need to go to Him! Jesus never promised us we'd have a trouble-free life, but He said we can live above our circumstances. With His grace, wisdom, peace and strength, we can deal with stress and trouble and maintain a good attitude. His rest is a rest we can have in our souls—our mind, will and emotions.

Having this rest is like giving your soul a vacation. It means that no matter what's going on, you don't have to worry about it and try to figure everything out. It's a wonderful place to be, because when your soul is at rest in Christ, your emotions are stable and you have peace and joy.

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

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

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



File photo

# PIONEER

Continued from Page 1A

The celebration packs the town with carnival rides, fair food, Miss Pioneer princesses, and the event's crown jewel, the parade — a parade so spectacular, it runs up and down Main Street twice on Friday and Saturday mornings.

Following is the celebration schedule:

### Thursday, July 18

Miss Pioneer and her court will be crowned at 6 p.m. at a new location, Manassa Elementary gymnasium. There will be live and silent auctions. Silent bids begin at 6 p.m. and the live auction begins at 7 p.m. Food vendors will be at the school. The carnival opens at 7 p.m.

### Friday, July 19

Featuring elegant floats and entries, the parade will run at 10 a.m. up and down Main Street. The carnival will run from 10 a.m. to just before midnight. Long waited for its food, the Hamburger Stand will be open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. at its usual spot next to Town Hall.

Live entertainment will be offered following the parade at Dempsey Park.

Mutton Bustin' will be at 5:30 p.m., followed by the rodeo at 6 p.m. at the fairgrounds east of Manassa.

### Live Music

Noon to 2 p.m. - Daniel Beddoes and the Common Souls  
2:45 to 3:45 p.m. - The Front Line  
4:40 to 6:30 p.m. - Sol Boyz  
7:15 to 9 p.m. - Absolution

### Saturday, July 20

The carnival will run from 10 a.m. to just before midnight and live music is planned to follow the parade at Jack Dempsey Park.

The parade will be at 10 a.m.

Following the parade, is the Conejos County La Jara Rotary annual Pioneer Days Duck Races at the intersection of M and County Road 15.

The third annual Manassa Pioneer Days Car Show will be at Aspen Park beginning at 10 a.m.

Rodeo slack events will take place at the fairgrounds at 8 a.m. The rodeo is at 12:30 p.m.

The Hamburger Stand will be open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The roaring, crashing fan-favorite demolition derby will roll out at 6 p.m., followed at 9 p.m. by the lighting of the M Mountain and a fireworks display.

### Live Music

Noon to 2 p.m. - Ol' Scratch  
2:45 to 3:45 p.m. - SLV Big Band  
4:40 to 6:30 p.m. - Indian Nickel  
7:15 to 9 p.m. - Hazy Blues

For more information, visit [www.manassapioneerdays.com](http://www.manassapioneerdays.com).

## Christmas In July Sale!

### Get the Latest Smartphones On Us!

#### Includes A Free Charging Block!

New and renewing customers get up to \$770 off the purchase of a new Galaxy S24 series or iPhone 15 series phone when they trade in a qualifying phone and activate it on a Viaero Better, Best, Ultra, First Responder, or Single Unlimited plan. Requires phone trade-in and ASP. Sales tax on the full price of the device is due at purchase. Requires approved credit. Taxes and fees not included. Certain restrictions and exclusions may apply.

**VIAERO WIRELESS**

# CONCERT

Continued from Page 1A

sights at Wright's Amusements carnival before heading into the concert venue.

Country music icon Wynonna Judd stepped onto the stage in a black country and western style blazer, with light blue trim on the arms and pockets, gemstones on the sleeves, and a sharp black cowboy hat adorned with sparkling rhinestones. Her long, red, wavy hair cascading from under the hat and framed her beautiful smiling face.

The crowd went wild as she stepped to the front of the stage, complete with a blue string electric guitar and opened with the fan favorite "I Saw the Light." Many in the audience sang along with Wynonna.

During her 90-minute set, Wynonna sang "I Hear You Knocking," "I Know Where I Am Going," "Rock Bottom," and "Hey Good Looking," all the while speaking casually with the crowd throughout the evening.

"Is this really happening? We are in Colorado," Wynonna said. "I am so glad to be here with you, it's been a long journey to get out here. Rodeos are my absolute favorite places to play, I was 18 years old when I played my first rodeo. You all are my kind of people.

"I wish the rest of the nation did life like you all do," she said with big smile.

Wynonna pointed to a woman in the audience holding a baby and said, "Glad you brought the baby and some headphones for her, too. She doesn't know who I am, and she don't care, but mamma does and that's what matters."

Wynonna explained that for those in the crowd who did not know who she was, that she was an artist who was formerly known as the Judds musical duo with her late mother, Naomi, who died in 2022.

The Judds were one of the most successful acts in country music history, winning five Grammy Awards for Best Country Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal, and nine Country Music Association awards. They also charted more than 20 singles on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts, including fourteen that went to number one.

The Judds disbanded in 1991 and Wynonna began a solo career. Wynonna has released eight studio albums, a live album, a holiday album, and two compilation albums, with over 20 singles.

In 2022, Wynonna was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame

as a member of The Judds. Wynonna has five songs that are number one and she was part of 14 top hits with the Judds.

Wynonna told the crowd she loved country music because it was so "real." At one point, she looked up to the sky and said, "Thank you Mamma."

Wynonna sang some of her greatest hits, including "No One Else on Earth," "Tell Me Why," "Only Love," and "Grandpa." She invited the crowd repeatedly to sing along with her, and they did.

Wynonna lit up the stage, dancing, walking around and entertaining the crowd. At one point, she introduced her husband, Cactus Moser, who plays the drums fiercely in her band. Moser bantered with Wynonna to the delight of the crowd, even stealing a kiss on stage.

"Thank you for showing up for me tonight," she said. "Out of all my husbands, I love you the best," she said with a chuckle. The crowd went wild. Then Moser announced that he was from Colorado, with Wynonna adding that he was from Montrose.

Moser came from behind the drum set and stood next to his wife Judd and they played and sang a couple of songs together. Wynonna dedicated her song "Love is Alive," to Moser, and anyone in the audience who needed some inspiration that night.

Judd finished her set with "No One Else on Earth," but returned an encore song, that was followed with a firework display.

Max McNown, of Bend, Ore., got the crowd revved up for Wynonna with a crisp 30-minute performance playing a blend of original material and some well-known covers.

McNown sang a piece he wrote for his brother, Brock, who is battling cancer, called "Can't Hide Light." Brock was on the stage filming his brother's performance.

"This next song is really close to my



Photos by Brian Williams

**Max McNown, of Bend, Ore., got the crowd revved up for Wynonna with a crisp 30-minute performance.**



Wynonna lit up the Ski-Hi Stampede stage Thursday night, dancing, walking around and entertaining the crowd.



heart. My older brother Brock, who is taking photos right there. I wrote this

song about everything he has gone through, and how there's always a light in it, and it never ever went out so, you can't highlight," McNown said.



**719-587-1231**

**Radiology & Imaging**

[www.slvh.org](http://www.slvh.org)



**Coronary Calcium Scoring**  
**Direct to Consumer**  
 \$100 + Radiologist report  
**No doctor order needed**

*Would you like to be tested or get a baseline for possible hardening or thickening of the arteries due to a buildup of plaque in your inner lining of an artery? Call us to get scheduled today!*



**NEED**

**PROPANE?**

**AUGUST PROPANE SPECIAL IS EXPANDING!**

**JULY 1 - SEPT 30**

CALL

**719-852-5181**

**FOR PRICING AND SET UP!**

# SCOTUS ruling allows punishment for homelessness

**By PRISCILLA WAGGONER**  
ALAMOSA — For decades, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) has declined to take on the issue of homelessness. That all changed a week ago with a SCOTUS ruling that allows for the legal punishment of homelessness. The decision was 6-3 along ideological lines with the six conservative justices supporting the ruling.

Since a 2018 decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in the case, *Martin v. Boise*, Alamosa and other municipalities have been expected to abide by a lower court 2018 ruling that said — when there is no other place for a person who is homeless to sleep — ticketing, fining, arresting or otherwise prohibiting them from “camping” in public places is cruel and unusual punishment and violates the 8th Amendment to the Constitution. What a difference a week can make. On June 28, SCOTUS overturned that court ruling and issued a landmark decision that basically guts the idea that being fined or arrested for sleeping outside — even when there is nowhere else for a person to sleep — is cruel and unusual punishment.

Six years ago, that 2018 ruling had a significant impact on Alamosa. And, depending upon Alamosa’s response, this 2024 ruling could, too.

A summary of local history helps to provide context.

For the past six years or longer, Alamosa has had a growing population of people who were unsheltered. According to City Manager Heather Sanchez, many of those who were homeless were camping in places that led to numerous, sometimes daily, complaints to the city.

With no alternative place for unsheltered people to sleep, the 2018 ruling alerted the city to the possibility of being sued and, if so, losing in court.

When COVID hit, the rationale for a place where people could camp became even more evident, resulting in the construction of St. Benedict’s Campsite in May of 2020.

“In order to keep unsheltered individuals in Alamosa from camping throughout the community in alleys, trails, parks, sidewalks, open space or other public lands,” Sanchez told the Valley Courier in 2021, “it is legally necessary for the city to have a location where people who are homeless can camp.”

After the SCOTUS ruling was released last week, the Valley Courier reached out to Sanchez, asking if the city planned on revisiting the need for St. Benedict’s since the legal justification no longer existed.

“This ruling does change the justification for having St. Benedict,” Sanchez responded. “Our plan is to host some sort of public meeting where City Council can hear from the public on their thoughts of keeping St. Benedict and provide direction to staff.”

“The details of this meeting have not yet come together, but we will obviously want to get the details out as broadly as possible once they are set. Homelessness is such a complex and controversial topic that we want to make sure we handle this discussion appropriately and transparently.”

While the City of Alamosa considers what different path, if any, to take going forward, other cities are applauding the 2024 ruling, saying the 2018 ruling was too ambiguous or tied their hands in keeping public spaces open and safe.

Others are hoping that exercising legal authority to ticket or arrest people will strongly encourage them to access what services are available or force them to move on to some other place.

Those who oppose the ruling are asking questions that are not easy to answer. Homelessness is on the rise, everywhere. In 2023, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 653,104 people experienced homelessness in the U.S., marking a record-high tally and a 12 percent increase over 2022. Among them, 111,620 were children without homes. While there clearly are other contribut-

ing factors, there is widespread agreement that the number one cause of homelessness is a lack of affordable housing.

If someone has to sleep on a sidewalk, it’s likely due, at least in part, to no place to rent or what places there are to rent costing more than they can pay.

With that in mind, what will issuing a ticket accomplish other than forcing him or her to move where she will likely get another ticket?

And for those who are issued so many citations that they end up in jail, what is accomplished by having a record that makes it even more difficult to get a job

or place to live?

Lance Cheslock, executive director of La Puente Home Inc. and longtime advocate for people who are homeless, voiced similar oppositions.

“This ruling will have national and Colorado implications. It’s a progression of events that ultimately creates barriers to people being able to be sheltered when the lack of shelter is what is causing the problem.

“Progressively, as people get ticketed and are unable to pay their fines or unable to relocate to a different place, ultimately the inability to pay those mounting fines

makes it difficult for a person to stay within the boundaries of the law.

“When people end up in jail for a situation that, for whatever reason, they currently are unable to change, that’s basically turning someone who is homeless into someone who will be identified as a criminal.

“Life is going to get harder for those we all serve. Outside of shelters and the couches of friends, where will people experiencing homelessness be welcome?”

Homelessness is complex. How this ruling helps or makes it worse is yet to be discovered.



Photo by John Waters  
**St. Benedict’s Encampment in Alamosa.**

The Valley Courier reached out to Alamosa Police Department Police Chief George Dingfelder for his reaction but there was no response prior to press time.

Join millions of older Americans who are rediscovering the joy of walking

## “I’m on the move again with my UPWalker!”

**FREE Shipping!**

The UPWalker is a revolutionary new mobility device that can change your life by changing the way you walk. It enables you to stand upright when you walk— with your spine straight and your eyes looking straight ahead. Your weight is supported by your upper arms and shoulders, some of the strongest parts of your body. Traditional walkers and rollators force you to put the pressure of your body weight on your hands and wrists. You push them in front of you, looking at the ground instead of where you going. The UPWalker moves with you, with your body perfectly aligned and your feet free to walk in a normal fashion. Its easy-adjust height system allows it to be the perfect fit/height for anyone from 4’10” to 6’1” and supports up to 300 pounds. The new stand-assist handles enable you to distribute your weight across your arms and shoulders, not your hands and wrists to help reduce back, neck, wrist pain and discomfort. It features comfortable arm pads, hand brakes, a fold-down seat, a backrest and two storage bags. It’s built with aircraft-grade aluminum to be sturdy yet lightweight, and its sleek design and oversized wheels make it perfect for tight spots in the house or walking in the yard.

**Includes 6 FREE Accessories!** (a \$142 value)

**From the makers of the original UPWalker™**

- Stand-Assist Handles
- Comfortable Seat
- Folds Easily
- Adjustable Backrest
- Optimized Center of Gravity
- Easy-Brake Wheels

Plus, now you can choose between dark luster silver or champagne

Why spend another day bent over and shuffling around— or worse yet, plopped in front of the TV all day. Pick up the phone and take back your life. Call now.

Old Way

Better Way

**UPWalker® Premium Lite**  
from Journey Health & Lifestyle

Call now Toll-Free  
**855-417-6301**

Please mention promotion code 601943.

© 2023 Journey Health and Lifestyle

BBB Accredited Business

Back by Popular Demand!  
**FREE SHOWER PACKAGE!**

**NORTH AMERICA'S #1 Selling Walk-In Tub**

Featuring our Free Shower Package

Now you can finally have all of the soothing benefits of a relaxing warm bath, or enjoy a convenient refreshing shower while seated or standing with Safe Step Walk-In Tub's **FREE Shower Package!**

- ✓ First walk-in tub available with a customizable shower
- ✓ Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for your height and pivots to offer a seated shower option
- ✓ High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub
- ✓ Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price

Now you can have the best of both worlds—there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!

**FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS 15% OFF**  
FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY  
Call Toll-Free 719-259-4323

**safestep**

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase.

**Call Today for Your Free Shower Package**

# 1-719-259-4323

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

EASE OF USE CERTIFIED

MADE IN TENNESSEE

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY

# Your Community Connection

In Print & Online

Take a Peek This Week and see what you've been missing!

- Neighborhood News & Events - Local Editorial Perspectives
- Local Politics & Talking Points
- Health, Business & Financial Features
- Area Homes for Sale or Rent
- Full-time & Part-time Local Jobs
- New & Pre-owned Cars, Motorcycles, Boats, ATVs, RVs & More
- Classified Deals on Furniture, Bikes, Electronics, Sports Equipment & More

**Subscribe Today and Get 12 Months for Only \$45 In Valley**

SIGN ME UP OR  RENEW SUBSCRIPTION TODAY!

Monte Vista Journal  Center Post-Dispatch  
 Mineral County Miner  South Fork Times  
 Del Norte Prospector  Conejos County Citizen

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

VISA  MasterCard  Discover  American Express

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Check or money order enclosed

P.O. Box 607 • Monte Vista, CO • 81144  
(719) 852-3531 • email: office@valleypublishinginc.com \*1-year limit.

# Dancing across stages for over 50 years



Courtesy Adams State University

A reception for Semillas de la Tierra will feature photos of their performances over five decades. The event begins at 4 p.m. on Thursday, July 18, in the Adams State University Luther Bean Museum, located on the second floor of Richardson Hall.

## Adams State Semillas de la Tierra photos on display in the Luther Bean Museum

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALAMOSA — Beautiful outfits and intricate steps keep the tradition of Mexican baile folklórico alive at Adams State University. Photos from over five decades of Semillas de la Tierra performances are currently on display in the Ad-

ams State University Luther Bean Museum.

A reception celebrating the music, stories, and dances is scheduled from 4 until 6 p.m. Thursday, July 18, in the museum, located on the second floor of Richardson Hall.

The event also features wardrobe fashions, worn by current Semillas de la Tierra members, and event posters, created by Rogelio Briones, Audrey Liu, Javier González, and Cathy McCurdy.

Herman Martinez, Ph.D., Class of 1969, and Patsy Martinez, Class of 1970 and 1990. They founded Semillas de la Tierra in the fall of 1972. They will join current director Domingo Estrada for brief remarks.

The reception is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. The Luther Bean Museum is open from 1:30 until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays.

## Rainbow trout added to Blanca Vista Pond

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — Rainbow trout were added to Blanca Vista Pond. The City of Alamosa sent out a press release thanking the multiple sponsors of the project.

“The City of Alamosa would like to thank Donnie Bautista and Sand Dunes Recreation Inc. for spearheading a fish stocking effort at Blanca Vista Pond in Alamosa,” city officials stated.

Every day, people can drive by and see many kids outside enjoying the local fishery. Other financial contributors included Jared Myers and Allied Potato Co., Dylan Brown and the Dylan Brown Farmers Insurance Agency, and Richard Esquibel and the High Peak Event Company, the city stated.

The City of Alamosa contributed \$4,000 toward 620 pounds of rainbow trout.

A special thank you to Crowther’s Fish Farm for providing the fish and throwing in a few extra “big ones” for the kids.

Blanca Vista Pond is a family fishery designed for kids to learn to fish. Adults 18 and over must have a child accompanying them to fish the pond. CPW stocked over 7,000 fish this spring in the pond and this week’s supplement



Courtesy photo

Rainbow trout were added to Blanca Vista Pond. The City of Alamosa sent out a press release thanking the multiple sponsors of the project.

will further enhance the fishing experience.

“The city expressly thanks Mr. Bautista and all the contributors for supporting children’s activities in the city and their support of Alamosa Parks and Recreation,” city officials stated.

County Court  District Court  Denver Juvenile Court  
 304 Main St San Luis County, Colorado  
 Court Address: DATE FILED: June 24, 2024

In the Matter of the Petition of: Aurelia Hernandez  
 Adult:  
 or  
 Parent/Petitioner:  
 for Minor Child:  
 For a Change of Name to: Aurelia Alicia Hernandez  
 Division B Courtroom

**ORDER FOR PUBLICATION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

The Court having read and considered the Petition for Change of Name of  Minor Child or  Adult finds:

- That the statements made in the Petition satisfy the statutory requirements.
- That the desired change of name is proper and not detrimental to the interests of any other person.
- That the Petitioner has submitted the documentation required in §13-15-101(1)(b), C.R.S. from the fingerprint-based criminal history record check or has provided appropriate certified copies of any dispositions that would constitute a felony conviction in this state or any other state or under federal law.
- That the change of name is in the best interest of the minor child.
- Individuals over the age of fourteen (14) have submitted the documentation required in §13-15-101(1)(b), C.R.S. from the fingerprint-based criminal history record check or has provided appropriate certified copies of any dispositions that would constitute a felony if committed by an adult in this state or any other state or under federal law.

The Court orders the following publication for a change of name:

1. Name of Aurelia Hernandez  
 is requested to be changed to Aurelia Alicia Hernandez

2. Pursuant to statute, public notice of this change of name shall be published three times in a legal newspaper published in this county. This publication is to be made within 21 days of the date of this Order.

3. Proper proof of publication shall be filed with the Court upon final publication to receive a Final Decree for a Change of Name.

Date: June 24, 2024  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge Magistrate

No. 5223 published in the Conejos County Citizen, Wednesday, July 3, 10 and 17, 2024.

**Be prepared before the next power outage.**

**It's not just a generator. It's a power move.™**

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase\* - valued at \$535.

Call 719-900-0326 to schedule your free quote!

\*Terms and Conditions apply.

**GENERAC**

**Consumer Cellular®**

**NO HIDDEN FEES. NO HIDDEN ANYTHING. FREEDOM CALLS.**

Plans start at just \$20/month.

**AWARD-WINNING CUSTOMER SUPPORT 15 TIMES IN A ROW.**  
 We've been ranked "#1 in Customer Service among Wireless Value MVNOs, 15 Times in a Row."

**100% U.S. BASED CUSTOMER SUPPORT.**  
 All of our support teams are just a call or click away.

**844-459-2467**

© 2024 Consumer Cellular Inc. Terms and Conditions subject to change. For J.D. Power 2024 Wireless Customer Care Value Mobile Virtual Network Operator Study award information, visit jdpower.com/awards.

# CHAMPS

Continued from Page 1A

Finishing in third place was Boyce Kraut of Kim with an 82 1/2 point ride on SW also on Sunday. Fourth place went to Isaac Ingraham of Eunice, La., with 79 1/2 points on Nevada Smith on Sunday. Finishing in fifth place was Spur Lacasse of Calgary, Alberta Canafa with 77 1/2 points on Kicking Feathers on Sunday, and Monte Downare of Hartsel with 77 points on Windy Whisky on Sunday.

The bull riding champion was also determined on Sunday. Scottie Knapp of Albuquerque, N.M., who scored 86 1/2 points on Ironman. Chris McKenna of Walsenburg was the only other qualified ride as he scored 63 points on Short Change on Friday.

The saddle bronc champion was on Friday as Gus Gaillard of Morse, Texas, had an 86.5-point ride on Cool Hand Luke. The runner-up was also on Friday as Kody Rinehart of Rienzi, Miss., scored 84.5 points on Cow Camp.

Blake Starrett of Weatherford, Texas, finished third with 82 points on Karen's Klown on Saturday. Jade Taton followed up his bareback ride with a fourth-place finish with 79 1/2 points on Flirtin' Voice on Sunday. Ean Price of Leedey, Okla., was fifth with 79 points on Bolo Tie on Sunday, and Joe Priebe of Cody, Wyo., and Jack Skavdahl of Harrison, Neb., both scored 76 1/2 points on Sunday. Priebe's ride came on Sweetness, and Skavdahl's was on Deep Water.

In permit bareback riding, Cauby Betony of Tonalea, Ariz., won with 70.5 points on Ghost Ride, and Jacoby Campbell of Brighton was second with 62 points on Crabby Steve. Both rides were on Friday.

In permit saddle bronc riding, Coleman Shallbetter was first with 78 points on Black Silver on Friday. Skinny Parsons of Springdale, Ark., was second with 77.5 points on Maiden Voyage also on Friday.

In other events, Brady Reneau of Los Lunas, N.M., won steer wrestling in 4.1 seconds on Saturday. Jace Logan of Yampa was second in 5.6 on Sunday, Logan Kenline of Penrose was third in 6.5, Talon Sterkel of Brighton was fourth in 6.8 on Sunday, Jacob Wang of Laramie, Wyo., was fifth in 7.2 on Friday, Zach Hamar of Yuma and Brian Snell tied for sixth in 7.4 both on Sunday, and Hadley Jackson of La Junta was eighth in 7.8 on Friday.

Riley Pruitt of Gering, Neb., saw his 8.6-second run in the slack hold up to win tie-down roping. Jayden Broussard of Broussard, La., was second in 9.1 seconds also in the slack.

Dean Holyan of Coyote Canyon, N.M., was third in 9.5 on Friday, Blaze Byler of Bellevue, Texas, was fourth in 9.7 on Saturday, Roan Hudson of Arcadia, Fla., was fifth in 9.8 on Saturday, Jacques Trahan of Hackberry, La., was sixth in 10.3 in the slack, Ryan Belew of La Junta was seventh in 10.9 on Friday, and Brody Stallard of Fort Sumner, N.M., was eighth in 11.0 on Sunday.

In women's events, Taryn Boxleitner of Loveland won barrel racing in 15.62 seconds on Friday. Jana Bean of Fort Hancock, Texas, was second in 15.68 on Saturday, Jentry Vandenberg of Bellevue was third in 15.71 in the slack, Amanda Welsh of Stephenville, Texas, was fourth in 15.86 on Friday, Loralee Ward of Fort Lupton was fifth in 15.89 in the slack, Codi Hartman of Whitesboro, Texas, was sixth in 15.92 on Sunday, Fallon Taylor of

Collinsville, Texas, was seventh in 16.02 on Sunday, C.J. Vondette of Rifle was eighth in 16.07 in the slack, Tara Seaton of Winslow, Ariz., was ninth in 16.13 on Sunday, Madison Bean of Lubbock, Texas, was 10th in 16.19 on Sunday, Rayne Grant of Wheatland, Wyo., was 11th in 16.21 in the slack, and Sarah Kieckhefer of Prescott, Ariz., was 12th in 16.29 on Saturday.

The breakaway roping was a tie between Taya McAdow of Fort Lupton, and Amber Hutto of North Zulch, Texas, who both had times of 2.6 seconds. McAdow's time was in the slack and Hutto's was on Saturday.

Local rodeo  
The local rodeo consisted of three events - barrel racing, tie-down

roping and team roping.

In team roping, which took place on Friday, Monte and Tate Huffaker won in 13.5 seconds. Tate Koenig and Bailey Danylo were second in 18.4, and Brian Cowan and Aaron Laske were third in 19.7.

In local tie-down roping, which was on Friday and Saturday, Travis Canty was the champion in 12.2 seconds. Ryan Canty was second in 20.1, Grant Koenig was third in 23.7, and Tucker Canty was fourth in 25.5.

The barrel racing took place on Saturday and Sunday, and it was won by Rosemary Egolf in 16.67 seconds. Bailey Danylo was second in 16.74, Raelyn Bouet was third in 16.78, and Megan Davenport was fourth in 17.02.



Photo by Brian Williams

Scottie Knapp of Albuquerque, N.M., rides Ironman on Sunday during the Ski-Hi Stampede in Monte Vista. Knapp won the bull riding event after receiving an 86.5 from the judges.

# CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

## Friday & Saturday, July 26-27, 2024

Friday  
Tack 3:00 PM  
Horses 4:00 PM

Saturday - 9 AM  
Tack, Machinery  
Antiques, etc

Directions: From Monte Vista, CO take Hwy 15 (Gun Barrel) South 13 1/2 miles to 26503 County Road 6, LaJara, CO 81140



**HORSES:** \*FLASH - 3 year old black Stndbrd/Morgan gelding, quiet, well mannered, is driving good and will meet you at the gate. \*SPECKLES - 4 year old red & white paint pony/quarter horse mare, TSS, broke to ride & drive single or double and for anyone. \*SONNY - 2yr old 33" red roan mini horse gelding, broke to drive. \*MIDNIGHT - yearling black Friesian/stnbrd mare. \*BUBBA - 2 yr. old dark bay 37" mini pony gelding, broke to drive. \*ROCKEY - 3 yr. old registered buckskin quarter horse gelding, 14.3 hh, quiet, gentle, well started, will finish out big & blocky. \*TWILA - 3 yr old brown & white paint 34" mini pony mare, broke to drive and bred to mini pony for '25. \*PEARL - 8 yr old registered bay standardbred mare, deluxe surrey horse, women can drive, watches bigger trucks some. \*BENTLY - 2 yr. old brown and white 28" mini pony gelding, broke to drive. \*SHADY D - 4 yr. old registered 15 hh chestnut quarter horse gelding, gentle, easy to please, finish him the way you like. \*NO NAME - 7 yr. old buckskin quarter horse, broke to ride. \*BUD - 3 yr. old 59" black Friesian/Quarter horse gelding, rides good, drives single or double, been worked in the field, will make a companion. \*SPEEDY - 12 yr. old gruella mini mule gelding, broke to ride and drive, tough enough for a day's work yet quiet enough for the children, super cute. 52 horses, ponies, & mules were consigned to last years' auction.



**LAWN & GARDEN:** Gas jugs, Aluminum scoop shovel, 100 lb. & 20 lb. propane cylinders, 500 gallon & 1000 gallon propane tanks (new), step ladders, extension ladders, 150 gallon poly tank, 250 gallon poly totes, MS180 Stihl chain saw, several sizes pet taxis, plus much more.



**TACK & SADDLES:** English & western style horse and pony size saddles, cross bucks, canvas pack panniers, load of new tack including: Lead ropes, halters, feed buckets, breast collars, headstalls, mounting blocks, whips, lariats, girths, reins, apple pickers, horse blankets, curbs, harness hooks, tack racks, hay nets, bits, bio pony harnesses, air tired low rider youth top buggy, single Delaware style top buggy, pony carts, 10' x 18' steel Run-in style horse shelter, and much much more.



**TOOLS & MISC.** Ridgid pipe wrenches, Channellock pliers, Milwaukee, DeWalt, and Ridgid power tools, 3/4" drive socket set, T-post driver, barb wire, solar water heating panels, 40 gallon propane water heater, rough cut lumber, metal roofing, skid steer attachments include: 4200 lb. & 5500 lb. pallet forks, 3 prong & 4 prong custom hay spears, dirt bucket, snow plow, trailer mover, JCT rock picker, quick attach plate, tractor bucket, 8', 10', 12', 14', & 16' pipe gates, continuous fence panels, transmission jack, 10' x 12' t1-11 storage barn, 300 gallon fuel tank on stand, "Lifetime" tables, chairs, benches, etc., 16' flatbed trailer with new paint, new floor, and lights, 16' Aluminum boat and trailer with 15 hp outboard & more.



**ANTIQUES:** Whiskey barrel, metal fruit press, butcher kettle, copper kettle, sad iron heater, snow shoes, egg crate, copper boiler, camel saddles, seed planters, TEXACO fuel jug and sign, CONOCO fuel jug, galvanized cowboy bathtub, Davis sowing churn, ox yokes, metal signage, water pump, wash machine with hand crank wringer, hand agitators, wooden butter churn, coal shovel, sifter shovels, wooden forks, wagon jack, 50lb-150lb anvils, blacksmith forge, #2 dinner bell, COKE cooler, "Maytag" gyrotator washer, sack carts, rope maker, cheese cutter, brass bell, smaller sowing churn, wooden chicken coop, coin banks, kettle ladles, fence stretchers, old "savage" washer/dryer, Coleman lanterns, steel wheels, old wooden wagon wheels, wooden buggy wheels, flare side "Economy" covered wagon, wooden wheeled wagon, doctor's buggy, claw foot bath tub, load of antiques from Kansas & Missouri, and much more. (Over 800 lots sold at last years' auction)



**QUILTS:** lots of the good woven rugs and runners, green "Irish Chain" queen size quilt, purple, gray & black, "Trip Around the Wolves" 59 1/2" x 59 1/2" wall hanger, green purple & blue "Trip Around the Wolves" 110" x 100" quilt, "Old Fashioned Double Wedding Ring 102" x 116" quilt, green, yellow & brown Old Fashioned Double Wedding Ring twin size quilt, 94" x 114" red & white pieced top, Black, gray & red "Star Medallion" queen size top, 100" x 110" green white and brown log cabin at attic windows with deer .



**GUNS:** Winchester model 1906 22 cal. Pump, Winchester Model 1890 octagon barrel 22 cal. Pump, Winchester mod. 94 lever action 30-30, Winchester mod. 67 single shot 22 cal., Winchester mod 1200 12ga Pump, Marlin mod. 39A 22 cal. Lever action, Stevens mod. 325 30-30 bolt action, Stevens 22 cal. Crack-shot, Savage mod. 24 over/under 22/410, Flobert 22 cal Octagon barrel, Iver Johnson single shot .410, Old double barrel Damascus steel side hammer shotgun, R26 Ravin Crossbow.



THIS IS ONLY A PARTIAL LISTING. WE WILL BE ACCEPTING YOUR QUALITY CONSIGNMENTS UNTIL FRIDAY NOON, JULY 26. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT ELECTRONICS, GLASSWARE, TIRES, FURNITURE, BOX LOTS, AND JUNK. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY ITEMS. WE WILL BE SELLING IN MULTIPLE RINGS ALL DAY SO COME OUT AND SPEND THE DAY BIDDING, BUYING, SOCIALIZING, AND EATING GOOD FOOD WITH US.



Terms: Cash, Credit Card or good check. Nothing removed from premises until paid for. Not responsible for accidents or theft. Everything is sold "AS IS, WHERE IS". Announcements day of auction take precedence over printed material.



For More Info Contact  
Phil Eicher 719-849-8261  
Tim Graber 719-588-5757

No Buyers Premium

RV's Are Welcome

Auctioneers include  
Mel Yoder-MO, Morris Yoder-KS, Calvin Raber-IN, Jess Raber-IN  
Les Longenecker - PA, Nathaniel Longenecker - CO

Lunch & Bake Sale by Amish School

Bring A Friend

Multiple Rings All Day





# Lifestyles

Serving the entire San Luis Valley

Supplement to The Monte Vista Journal, Center Post-Dispatch, The Conejos County Citizen, The Mineral County Miner, The South Fork Times, and The Del Norte Prospector.

BOXHOLDER LOCAL-RURAL CAR-RT SORT STANDARD MAIL RATE U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 70 Alamosa, CO 81101

## Monte Vista Coop celebrates 75 years

CONTRIBUTED

**MONTE VISTA** — In 1949, a group of forward-thinking farmers formed the Monte Vista Coop to pool resources to buy in bulk. Today, 75 years later, the Monte Vista Coop has more than 8,000 members and offers farming and ranch necessities.

At the annual membership meeting, MV Coop General Manager Eric Hinton thanked the employees and members for their contributions.

“Another year has swiftly passed for Monte Vista Coop, and our unwavering dedication to meeting your needs remains steadfast. I extend my sincere gratitude to our employees and members for their invaluable contributions, which propelled us to another successful fiscal year,” he said.

*Please see MV COOP on Page 11*

A recent aerial photo of the Monte Vista Coop at 1901 E. Highway 160 on the eastern edge of Monte Vista.

Courtesy photo



## Saguache Arts Walk and Hollyhock Festival July 27

CONTRIBUTED

**SAGUACHE** — The Town of Saguache is busy preparing for its signature annual event, the Saguache Arts Walk, Hollyhock Festival and Fairy House Tour to take place on July 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Each summer Downtown Saguache comes alive with this vibrant celebration of creativity and community spirit, showcasing the diverse talents of local artists, artisans, and performers while opening local gardens that showcase the town’s flower, the Hollyhock.

The heart of the Arts Walk is on the picturesque Saguache County Courthouse lawn. The lawn will

*Please see FESTIVAL on Page 12*

**This image will be on the 2024 Hollyhock Seed Card, which will be available for purchase. This image is from the 2023 Hollyhock Arts Contest winner, Lupe Hernandez. This was her rendition of the hollyhock. Commemorative T-shirts with a creation from a previous art contest winner will also be for sale on that date along with Hollyhock plants.**

Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

Rio Grande sucker

## CPW applauds USFWS decision on Rio Grande chub and sucker

CONTRIBUTED

**MONTE VISTA** — Generations of Colorado Parks and Wildlife staff were rewarded for their work this month as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced its decision to not list the Rio Grande chub and Rio Grande sucker under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Colorado Parks and Wildlife com-

mended the USFWS for its June 17 decision that acknowledged critical partnerships that have ensured neither species is in danger of extinction or likely to become in danger of extinction.

“CPW staff have worked tirelessly for decades to ensure Rio Grande chub and sucker continue to persist,” said Matt Nicholl, CPW’s Assistant Director of

*Please see SUCKER on Page 9*

## Valley projects net \$394K in GOCO grants for staffing and farm and ranchland conservation

CONTRIBUTED

**DENVER** — The Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) board awarded a \$294,375 grant to Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust (RiGHT) to hire two new conservation staff positions and providing staff training in the San Luis Valley; a \$75,000 grant through Keep It Colorado to RiGHT for a conservation easement that protects JRA Farm on the Rio San Antonio; and a \$25,000 grant through Keep It Colorado to Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) for a conservation easement that protects Rockin’ S Ranch in the southern part of the Valley.

The first grant is part of GOCO’s Planning and Capacity program, which invests in projects that address opportunities, explore issues, engage communities, and examine trends in the outdoors.

RiGHT will hire two new staff positions and enhance staff training to promote conservation and restoration in the Valley. With this added capacity, RiGHT expects to create cost and administrative efficiencies, increase the donor pool and donations by as much as 30%, and advance 2-3 new conservation easements per year, while better serving and representing the region.

A conservation connector position will help RiGHT’s three program directors conserve new properties, steward lands with conservation easements and restore ecosystem function on public and private lands.

Additionally, an administrator/events and outreach coordinator will engage the community through events and targeted fundraising, and support the executive director in administrative and operational tasks. To better represent the population of the Valley, RiGHT hopes to recruit a local candidate for one or both positions.

Staff training will include Esri geographic

information system (GIS) mapping and drone operations, allowing the organization to conduct these activities in-house and reduce outside contracting costs while supporting staff retention through professional development opportunities.

“We are so grateful to GOCO for this opportunity to enhance our capacity and excited to continue supporting local agriculture, conservation, and restoration efforts,” said Laura Cusick, Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust’s interim executive director. “This funding ensures that RiGHT can conserve more acreage, further

*Please see GRANTS on Page 10*

# San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

Thinking of Selling in 2024  
Expect the Best,  
Call Bernadette



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



## 328 Fir Drive • South Fork

Your Mountain Dream Awaits! Discover this splendid 3 bedroom home perfect for Vacations or Year-Round living, boasting an excellent rental history. Nestled in a hollow brimming with aspen trees, this 3-bedroom, 2-bath home is all on one level, ranch style and easily accessible. Two bedrooms feature walk-in closets. Enjoy an open floor plan with wood and laminate floors, aspen paneling, and abundant sunlight in the living areas. The large kitchen offers plenty of cabinets, an island for eating or work, a laundry closet, and a walk-in pantry. Stay cozy with a grand wood stove, solar heat, backup electric baseboard heat, and ceiling fans. This heavily treed lot provides privacy and tranquility, complemented by a large storage shed. There's ample parking for multiple vehicles, ATVs, or snowmobiles. The backyard, enclosed by an 8-foot privacy fence, is wired for a hot tub. High-speed internet is available, and the Town of South Fork maintains and plows the roads. Conveniently located within town limits, Moments from the Rio Grande Club and Wolf Creek Skiing. It's an easy walk to the Rio Grande River and town amenities. Bring your Fishing Pole and Live Your Dream! Don't let this One get away! Call me for more information and schedule your showing today! More pictures coming soon. MLS# 7894641 - \$350,000



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

## 0254 Timberline Trail • South Fork

Discover The Essence of Excellence Mountain Living in this custom-built Masterpiece! Situated on 1.84 sloping acres within the prestigious Rio Grande Club, this 4,466 sq ft home offers unparalleled vistas and modern elegance. Key Features: Inspiring Views: Unsurpassed panoramas stretch north, east, and south, capturing the rugged beauty of the San Juan Mountains. Architectural Marvel: A two-level design seamlessly blends contemporary finishes with a mountain aesthetic. Grand Entryway: Step into the vaulted ceiling living room adorned with Swedish Cope logs and a striking rock gas fireplace. Expansive Deck: Access the large stone rock deck from the living area, where you'll soak in views of the golf course, mountains, and valley below. Gourmet Kitchen: Culinary enthusiasts will appreciate custom cabinets, granite countertops, and top-of-the-line Wolf appliances. Master Suite: The upper-level primary suite boasts a spa-like bathroom and an adjacent study. Lower-Level Comfort: Three additional bedrooms with 9-foot ceilings offer Alderwood doorways and magnificent vistas. Entertainment Haven: The lower level features a spacious game room with a pool table, TV, and workout equipment. Year-Round Comfort: Radiant floor heat and an extra-large 1000-gallon propane tank ensure warmth during chilly days. Outdoor Delight: Enjoy ever-changing mountain views from the adjacent deck or cozy up by the stone mantel gas fireplace. Gas-Burning Fireplace: The lower level sitting area with a mini bar and stunning views is perfect for relaxation and entertaining family and friends. This home includes an adjacent parcel allowing direct access to the national forest from the front of the property so enjoying your favorite outdoor activities are just steps away. The 2-car garage has workshop hot & cold sink an extra - large 76-gallon water heater, water softener. Programmable hot water throughout the home, hot & cold water outside faucet and plenty of room for storage and a workbench. There is a security system monitored by Valley Lock and Security. Land lines in most every room. Century-Link phone highspeed internet and Direct TV. Managed lighting and surround sound throughout the home and the Smart Home allows you to control from anywhere. This home is a Hole in One! One of a kind, designed and built providing that sense of hospitality, openness, beauty, and tranquility. Location Highlights: Rio Grande Club: Overlooking the 11th hole, this exclusive community offers golf, recreation, and natural beauty. Outdoor Paradise: Explore nearby trails, fishing spots, the Rio Grande River, the South Fork River and Wolf Creek Ski area. Doesn't get any more epitome than this! Check out the Video. Call and schedule your private showing today! MLS#811509 - \$2,750,000



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

## 193 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork

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



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

## 222 La Snowita Circle • South Fork

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



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

## 1408 Bear Creek Circle • South Fork

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



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

## 48 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork

Mountain Charm - Where Dreams Blossom Nestled in the heart of South Fork, Colorado, this Mountain haven awaits where simplicity meets enchantment. Picture it: a 3-bedroom, 2-bath retreat, bathed in the golden light of the Mountains. With 1,440 square feet and attached large 2 car garage. This home will cradle your memories like a cherished heirloom. This lot steals your breath—a canvas of possibility stretching wide. Here, mule deer and wild turkeys play, visiting often as if drawn by whispers from the pines. No stern HOA rules here; just a neighborhood that nods in camaraderie. Large lot to grow your own garden and enjoy the existing rhubarb patch! Imagine stepping onto your covered front porch, the scent of freshly baked rhubarb pie dancing in the air. Yes, you'll bake your own—pluck ruby-red stalks from the earth, mix them with sugar and secrets, and let the mountains witness your culinary magic. Paved roads with city water and city water & sanitation. Modern comfort wrapped in rustic allure. All this and more, only a short walk takes you to the Rio Grande River, its waters a silver ribbon of promise. Gold medal fishing awaits, and the mountains echo your joy. And when winter blankets the land, Wolf Creek Ski area beckons. Adventure, your faithful companion, stands at your doorstep. Your Dream come true, pick up the phone. Schedule your showing, and step into the pages of Mountain Charm. Your Adventure starts here, give me a call today! MLS#814960 - \$367,900



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

## 259 Orville Way • South Fork

Idyllic Mountain Retreat" Nestled within 1,956 square feet of meticulously maintained living space, this tranquil home offers room for everyone. With 4 bedrooms and 3 baths, it's a haven of comfort. The attached 2-car garage ensures convenience, while the back deck, adorned with a charming gazebo, invites relaxation and al fresco dining. As you soak in the mountain vistas, enjoy the comforting shade of the ponderosa pines, listen to the babbling stream, and watch for glimpses of elk, deer, and other wildlife. The culinary kitchen is a chef's delight, ready for gourmet creations. Whether you seek a permanent residence or a vacation rental, create lasting memories in this idyllic setting. Start living your mountain dream—call and schedule your showing today! MLS#815727 - \$669,500



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

Your Real Estate Listings could reach over 18,000 prospective buyers!  
Get in on this Great Deal and see the results.

Reserve space for a minimum of twelve (12) weeks for ...  
3.4" wide x 2" tall .....\$35 per week  
3.4" wide x 4" tall .....\$70 per week  
3.4" wide x 6" .....\$105 per week  
7" wide x 2" tall .....\$70 per week

**Valley Publishing** CALL TODAY!  
719-852-3531  
Brian Williams — bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com

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

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



## CLASSIFIED INDEX

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 01 TICKETS
- 02 CARD OF THANKS
- 03 MEMORIALS
- 04 LOST & FOUND
- 05 NOTICES/BAZAARS
- 06 PERSONALS
- EMPLOYMENT
- 07 HELP WANTED
- 08 WORK WANTED
- 09 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

### FOR RENT

- 10 APARTMENTS
- 11 ROOMS
- 12 HOUSES
- 13 MOBILE HOMES
- 14 BUSINESS PROPERTY
- 15 WANTED TO RENT
- 16 VACATION
- REAL ESTATE
- 17 REAL ESTATE
- 18 LOTS & ACREAGE
- 19 FARM & FARMLAND
- 20 BUSINESS PROPERTY
- 21 MOBILE HOMES
- 22 PROPERTY WANTED

### MERCHANDISE

- 23 LAWN & GARDEN
- 24 GARAGE SALES
- 25 AUCTIONS
- 26 ANTIQUES
- 27 APPLIANCES
- 28 HOUSEHOLD GOODS
- 29 MUSICAL ITEMS
- 30 ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS
- 31 HEALTH
- 32 FUEL & HEATING
- 33 BUILDING MATERIALS
- 34 OFFICE EQUIPMENT
- 35 HEAVY EQUIPMENT
- 36 MISCELLANEOUS
- 37 WANTED
- 38 MACHINERY, TOOLS & EQUIPMENT
- 39 SPORTING GOODS
- 40 AUTO PARTS
- FARMER MARKET
- 41 FARM EQUIPMENT
- 42 FEED & SEED
- 43 FARM PRODUCTS
- 44 FARM SERVICES

### ANIMALS

- 45 ANIMAL BREEDING
- 46 PASTURE FOR RENT
- 47 HORSES & CATTLE
- 48 PETS & SUPPLIES
- 49 ANIMAL CARE
- 50 LIVESTOCK
- RECREATIONAL
- 51 BOATS & EQUIPMENT
- 52 CAMPING EQUIPMENT
- 53 TRAILERS
- 54 SNOWMOBILES/ATV'S
- 55 R.V.'S/CAMPERS
- FINANCIAL
- 56 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
- 57 INVESTMENTS
- TRANSPORTATION
- 58 MOTORCYCLES
- 59 VEHICLES WANTED
- 60 CLASSIC CARS
- 61 4X4'S
- 62 VANS
- 63 TRUCKS
- 64 AUTOS FOR SALE
- SERVICES
- 65 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- 66 CHILD CARE

## RATES

**15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications**  
**\$19.50 + 95¢ each additional word.**

**Garage Sale Ads: 15 Words or less for 1 week**  
**\$12 + 35¢ each additional word.**

**Free ads:** Lost & Found • Non Commercial items Sold for \$50 or less • Any Item or Animal being given away. (Limited to private party only, 2 ads per person, 4 weeks.)

### Convenient ad placement:

To place your ad in person come to the office at 835 First Ave. in Monte Vista, or call (719) 852-3531. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also fax your classified to (719) 852-3387 or email at montevisaclass@gmail.com

### Check your ad the first day:

To ensure your ad is correct, check it the first day it appears in the paper. If there is an error in your ad, call us right away so we can correct it. If an error appears in your ad, Valley Publishing will credit you with one additional day of advertising.

**Our ad policy:** Valley Publishing accepts all classified advertising except that which it deems objectionable to its readers. Credit or replacement ads will not be given for early ad cancellation.

## DEADLINE

**Thursday 5:00 pm**

**Call 719-852-3531**  
or email: rbeutler@valleypublishinginc.com

## Easy Payment Options

We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover, Checks, Money Orders & Cash



## 05 Notices

For information on meetings for ALANON NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS AND ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Please visit slvaa.org or call 719-937-5083.

## 07 Help Wanted

Del Norte Jr/Sr High School is looking for an energetic and experienced candidate to serve as the district's Strength and Conditioning Coach. This position will assume the responsibility and obligation of establishing and maintaining a strength and conditioning program for all sports. Additional responsibilities include teaching junior high school physical education and high school physical education/weight training courses. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree and either possess or be able to obtain the appropriate Colorado teaching license. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, DNHS Principal at ahardy@urtigers.co or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. Applications can be found online at www.urtigers.co. (7-31)

Jr/Sr High Language Arts Teacher needed at Del Norte Jr/Sr High School. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and pos-

sess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License with a secondary Language Arts endorsement. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, DNHS Principal at ahardy@urtigers.co or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co. (7-31)

MDS Waste & Recycle has an immediate opening for a Route Driver. As a Route Driver, you are responsible to follow a route and use the supplied Android tablet to correspond pick-ups with the route. Professional and respectful communication is required between the office, other drivers, and supervisors to keep a clear picture of field activities. Your route is established and once learned should be completed in a reasonable time frame barring any mechanical or other work-related setbacks. MDS Waste & Recycle offers competitive pay and benefits including paid vacation, paid holidays, insurance, annual reimbursement for work clothes/boots, and reimbursement for personal cell phone. Qualified candidates must have at the minimum a Class B CDL with an airbrake endorsement, excellent communication skills, general knowledge of Android tablets, and work well independently.

## ESTIMATED CROP WATER USE

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

Crop	Date Planted	Daily Crop Water use for Dates Shown (in./day)				Accumulated Water Use (ET) From 7/11 (inches)				
		7/11	7/10	7/9	7/8	2day	3day	4day	5day	7day
		Moravian 69	04/05	0.21	0.18	0.23	0.22	0.38	0.62	0.84
Moravian 69	05/05	0.25	0.21	0.27	0.25	0.46	0.73	0.98	1.24	1.79
Early Wheat	04/05	0.24	0.20	0.27	0.25	0.44	0.71	0.96	1.22	1.77
Early Wheat	05/05	0.25	0.21	0.27	0.25	0.46	0.73	0.98	1.24	1.79
White Wheat	04/05	0.25	0.21	0.27	0.25	0.46	0.73	0.98	1.24	1.79
White Wheat	05/05	0.25	0.21	0.27	0.25	0.46	0.73	0.98	1.24	1.79
WinterWheat	10/01	0.16	0.14	0.18	0.17	0.30	0.48	0.65	0.84	1.25
<b>Potatoes</b>										
Norkotah	05/05	0.27	0.22	0.28	0.26	0.49	0.76	1.03	1.30	1.88
Centennial	05/05	0.23	0.18	0.22	0.20	0.41	0.63	0.82	1.02	1.41
Nugget	05/05	0.22	0.18	0.22	0.20	0.40	0.62	0.81	1.01	1.41
Alfalfa	Est.	0.29	0.24	0.30	0.29	0.53	0.83	1.12	1.42	2.05
Lawnglass	Est.	0.24	0.20	0.25	0.24	0.44	0.70	0.93	1.18	1.71

For the latest ET information, call 719-754-3494 extension x40 for Center, x36 for Center #2, and x38 for La Jara. Use the crop maturity and planting data and weather station closest to your own. Find this up/June 8d table each day at this web address: <http://aes-slvrcc.colostate.edu/daily-crop-water-use-report/>

This information is provided by the SLV Research Center (Colorado State University) and the Colorado Potato Certification Service. For info, call 754-3494 x26 or e-mail: andrew.houser@colostate.edu

Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society

[www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org](http://www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org)

If you are interested in adopting, call 852-3366  
Open Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Sat. & Sun. 1:30 - 5 p.m.  
Monday & non-business hours by appointment only  
2825 Sherman Ave. • Monte Vista

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

Visit Our Facebook Page

## FULL-TIME SALES

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

## VALLEY PUBLISHING SEEKS REPORTER IMMEDIATELY

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

## LOST & FOUND



Found 7/3 between Batterson St and Stallo St in Monte Vista



Found on 7/10 at 604 Batterson St in Monte Vista



Found on 7/11 at the park in Del Norte



Found together on 7/6 in Del Norte, turned into the Police Department



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

# Valley Wide Classifieds

Let's Talk Trash! Contact our office via email at mdssolidwaste@gmail.com today! (7-31)

**Join Our Team!**  
**Hiring all positions**  
**\$15 an hour to start plus tips**  
**weekly pay fun atmosphere.**



**All season farm work including upkeep** of yard and work at the elevator. Experience preferred. Must be at least 21 years old and have your own transportation. Must be able to pass drug test, background, and reference checks. \$18-20/hour DOE. Please send your resume to lwagner@excelpersonnel.com. (7-17)

**12 Houses for Rent**  
**House for rent Center.** Remodeled 3-bedroom 1-bath 1-car garage. \$1,200. Text Cooke at 719-207-6890. Available Sept. 1. (8-7)

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

**24 Garage/Yard Sales**

**Estate Sale:** 25 Papoose St. Every Sat & Sun in July. Beauty shop equipment. At 8:00-Noon (7-24)

**32 Fuel & Heating**  
**Firewood For Sale.** Call or text Mark 662-361-7530 Located in Saguache.

**36 Miscellaneous**  
**Trailer for hauling \$3000,** old metal bed, old wooden bed, free old mattress and springs, set of Heartland dishes \$150. Call 661 487-4312 (8-7)

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

**Propane Refrigerators and Freezers.** We also stock "Sunstar" refrigerators and freezers in DC/AC power. Bontrager's Variety Store, 9726 S. County Road 3E, Monte Vista. (719) 852-0500

## DISCLAIMER

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

**STEEL STORAGE CONTAINERS** – Sales, Rentals & Modifications! Containers are water & rodent proof. 8' wide, 8'-53' in length. Call for more information and pricing. **Healdworks, Inc. – Your Total Storage Solution!** 719-850-0346 (TFN)

**SOLAR PANELS!** Large and small. Inverters, charge controllers, lead acid and lithium batteries. Brand names include Outback, Magnum, AIMS, EG4, Sol-Ark, and Rolls. Custom cables and PV wire. Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500. (TFN)

## 65 Professional Services

**Need Storage, We Build New Storage Sheds, HY County Sheds** Call 719-849-8106 (9-4)

**Let Me Haul Off Your, Old Appliances** and Recyclable Metals for You. Call Chris for Prices and To Set Up A Removal 719-395-2071 (8-7)

**Fire Mitigation:** Weed And brush mowing to reduce fire danger. Call Darrell 715-699-3703 (9-11)

**WE BUY ANTLER:** \$16/lb for Elk Grade A and \$11/lb for Deer Grade A. 5 miles west of Del Norte on Hwy 160. 719-657-0942 (TFN)

**RELIABLE CARPENTRY** 40-plus years-experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-496-7630. (TFN)

**LICENSED PLUMBER** does all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodels at reasonable rates. Quick service. Call anytime, available weekends and evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (TFN)

**Need beautiful window blinds** at the best prices? Call THE BLIND GUY at 970-799-0388 for a free estimate.

**Sprinkler repair and winterizations.** Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (TFN)

# Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



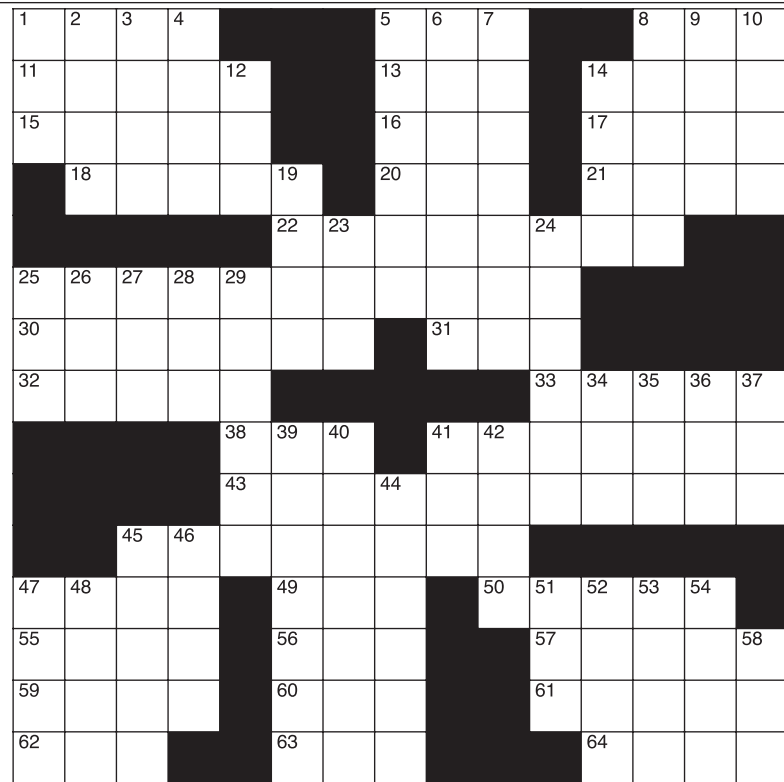
**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL • TRASH REMOVAL**  
**RECYCLING • DUMPSTERS • ROLL-OFFS**  
**CREEDE • SOUTH FORK • DEL NORTE • MONTE VISTA**  
**(719)658-3060 • www.MDSWasteAndRecycle.com**

## CLUES ACROSS

1. In a place to sleep
5. Chemical compound (abbr.)
8. A way to fish
11. Classic Linklater film “\_\_ and Confused”
13. Legume
14. Indonesian island
15. Smooth, creamy substance
16. Arctic
17. Wood sorrels
18. Defied
20. Cattle
21. Tableland
22. Honorably retired and retaining one's title
25. Repossession
30. Danced
31. Adult males
32. A type of section
33. Type of Japanese animation
38. Satisfaction
41. Fit
43. “Ain't No Sunshine” singer
45. Failure
47. Israeli city
49. French river
50. Cavalry-sword
55. Nocturnal S. American rodent
56. Liquefied natural gas
57. Afflicted
59. Electronic counter-countermeasures
60. Popular HBO fantasy series (abbr.)
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation

## Solution to last week's puzzle

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



62. Large body of water
63. \_\_kosh, near Lake Winnebago
64. Impudence

## CLUES DOWN

1. Payroll firm
2. Unit of transmission
3. Rockers Better Than \_\_
4. Bambi is one
5. Highest parts of something
6. Correct behavior
7. Batty
8. Cyprinid fishes
9. Expression of sorrow or pity
10. Site of the famous Leaning Tower
12. American rocker Snider
14. W. African language
19. Symbol to mark for removal
23. \_\_ Squad
24. Resident
25. Federal savings bank
26. Paddle
27. Returned material

28. One point south of due east
29. Winter melon
34. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
35. Anger
36. Central European river
37. First responders
39. Spanish noble
40. Persons with absence of skin pigment
41. Defunct airline
42. Small island (British)
44. The extent of something from beginning to end
45. Capital of Bangladesh
46. Dutch cheese
47. Imitates
48. A contest of speed
51. Swiss river
52. Prejudice
53. Actor Idris
54. UNLV's are Runnin'
58. Criticize

# Business Showcase

**Bears waiting for good home!**

**The Holy Moses**  
 Open Daily  
 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**658-2848**  
**121 N. Main**  
**Creede**



# This Week's Feature



# THE HOLY MOSES

*An enchanting Collection of Cabin Decor, Colorado Pottery, Quilts, Linens & Specialty Foods!*

**It's Worth The Drive**

Open Daily 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nick & Vicki Kulyk  
 121 N. Main • 658-2848 • Creede



Photo by Donne Wehe, Director of Communications, SLVH

The atmosphere was festive in launching a project that will meet a long-term goal. Pictured left to right: Ryan Kessinger – Contractor, GH Phipps; Jeremy Gonzales, SLVH, Director of Facilities; Crestina Martinez, USDA State Director of Rural Development; Steve Watkins, Contractor, GH Phipps; Konnie Martin, CEO SLV Health; Tim Agnew, SLVH Project Manager, and Karla Hardesty, SLVH Board of Trustees, Chair.



Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/ValleyPublishing](https://facebook.com/ValleyPublishing)

## Lucky Shoe Ranch



Did you miss out on the Summer session?

Do you want to learn how to ride horses or continue enhancing your riding skills?

Fall session starts the last week of August, bookings are now available!

We supply the horses & tack.

Day Camp - July 26<sup>th</sup>

Discount Day Lessons - July 5<sup>th</sup> & July 19<sup>th</sup>

Scholarships available

Signup via our website!

### Available Programs:

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

Additional information & bookings are available through our website: [www.luckyshoeridingclub.com/](http://www.luckyshoeridingclub.com/).

Phone: 719-849-1955

Location: 4195 North County Road 5 West, Monte Vista

# SLV Health launches 'milestone' renovation project

*CEO Konnie Martin: 'A significant change that our patients deserve'*

USDA – a key piece in making this project happen - it would not have been possible for us to have achieved such a significant change.”

In a nod to the USDA directors who were present for the announcement, Martin added, “I also want to acknowledge how special it is to celebrate this accomplishment with USDA leaders, one former (Armando Valdez) and one current (Crestina Valdez), who are also known to us as friends and neighbors.”

The project will not increase the numbers of in-patient beds at SLVH, but will, instead, renovate existing space to create the private rooms that can accommodate the need for isolation, when needed. The rooms will also be updated to meet current standards of care, will have an up-to-

*Please see PROJECT on Page 6*

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

ALAMOSA — With the help of a \$1 million grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), San Luis Valley Health (SLVH) will be renovating a permanent structure to create five private rooms in an area of the hospital named “Three South.”

“The total project budget is about \$3.1 million,” SLVH CEO Konnie Martin told the celebratory crowd of supporters who filled the lobby of the San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center last Wednesday. “Without this foundational funding from the

# NEED PROPANE?

AUGUST PROPANE SPECIAL IS EXPANDING!

# JULY 1 - SEPT 30

CALL 719-852-5181 FOR PRICING AND SET UP!

**BUFFET IS BACK! ~ Sundays Open to Close**



Join Our Team!  
Full or Part Time starting \$15 hr. plus tips!



Google Customer Reviews ★★★★★  
“I think this was really good and fun to watch the tv. the wing we're awesome and good pizza.”  
— Amy B.

Law Enforcement, Firefighters, EMTs and our Veterans always receive 20% off!

30483 Highway 160, South Fork Open DAILY — 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Easy Online To-Go Orders: [MountainPizzaTapRoom.com](http://MountainPizzaTapRoom.com)

# PROJECT

Continued from Page 5

date healing aesthetic and, of course, provide patient privacy.

Although the idea of the renovation has been a long-standing goal for SLVH, the possibility of it becoming a reality dates back almost three years to 2021 when the USDA announced Recovery Grant Funding was available.

But the situation that created SLVH's undeniable need for renovation preceded the grant even being made public.

"In 2021, during the pandemic, RMC (SLV Regional Medical Center) was the only facility in this south-central region of the state accepting positive COVID patients," Martin told the group. "Conejos County Hospital and Rio Grande Hospital provided care to less acute patients and patients

recovering from COVID.

"At the time we wrote the grant, we were averaging 22 patients a day - bed placement for patients presented significant challenges, both for patients with and without COVID. We were also getting calls from other areas of the state - and even out-of-state - who didn't have beds available for COVID patients who needed them.

"And RMC's hospital rooms are semi-private and over-crowded with medical equipment, entering and exiting staff, bathrooms that don't meet ADA requirements, and lack patient privacy."

When the grant was made public, its goals - supporting immediate health care needs, helping to prepare for a future pandemic, increasing access

to quality health care services and improving community outcomes - seemed tailor-made for SLVH, and an application was submitted.

"It was a perfect fit," Martin said.

"We've been looking for something like this for a long time," Karla Hardesty, chair of the SLV Health Board of Trustees, told the Valley Courier. "We're really excited to offer this to our patients. It will be a lovely asset to our facility."

"We're focused on improving access of care to our community across the Valley and even beyond, especially in the summer when we get people here

from other places. I also think it's very forward-thinking for us to be thinking about upgrades to our facilities. Patient quality is first and foremost but so is a good experience when people are going through hardships. They're not here because they're feeling good. They're here because they need quality medical care.

We're able to do that having top notch facilities."

Hardesty went on to add, "We're fortunate to have partnerships with the USDA. It's very supportive of poor, rural communities to make these investments and sustain our financials

and our communities' access to care."

When asked what message she thinks an investment like new private rooms sends to the funders, Martin told the Valley Courier, "I think this shows federal agencies that leaders believe in what we're doing here and we're worthy of this kind of investment. And we're going to do good things with federal money and turn it into a community solution."

When asked what message adding five private rooms sends to the patient population of the Valley (and beyond), Martin responded, "We believe our patients deserve the best health care we can provide. Having private rooms with better visitation and state-of-the-art equipment is what our patients and our community deserve. And that is our goal every single day."



# San Luis Valley Area Real Estate



**Custom mtn cabin + adjacent full apartment**  
\$575,000 | MLS # Borders Natl Forest  
595 Aspen Dr. South Fork, CO

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



**NEW PRICE**



**1,270 Sq.Ft. Off-Grid Cabin on 5.24 Acres - Creek!**  
\$272,500 | MLS #809447  
7541 Indian Creek Rd. Fort Garland, CO

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




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

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




**5 bedroom home - Borders Public Lands - RV STORAGE!!**  
\$500,000 | MLS #  
95 Hubbard Trail, South Fork, CO

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




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

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



**UNDER CONTRACT**



**Approximately 160 Acres Farmland**  
\$400,000 | MLS #810432  
05299 County Rd. 12 S. Alamosa, CO

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





**Approx. 0.280 Acres Near Rio Grande Club**  
\$53,500 | MLS #794077  
23 Fairway Drive South Fork, CO

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



**NEW PRICE**



**3 bedroom cabin bordering National Forest**  
\$397,500 | MLS # 812823  
99 Aspen Dr. South Fork, CO

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



**UNDER CONTRACT**



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

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



**DOMESTIC WELL SEPTIC SOLAR**

**NEW PRICE!**



**Hunting Cabin on 40 Acres - Bordering National Forest**  
\$220,000 | MLS #812863  
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath Del Norte, CO

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




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

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




**Dee Plucinski**  
Luxury Home Broker  
Licensed in 2011  
**I know mountain land**  
**719-873-5605**  
Dee@SLVluxuryproperties.com

**3D VIRTUAL TOURS**  
**PROMPT, EASY COMMUNICATION**  
**VIDEO WALKTHROUGHS**  
**RESIDENTIAL PHOTOGRAPHER**  
**LICENSED & INSURED DRONE PILOT**



All of my properties are detailed in my BLOG  
Please scan -->




**Rito Hondo Estates- 18 Rural Mtn Lots Avail**  
17.5 & 35 Acre Lots  
**Owner Financing Available**  
West of Antonito in the Conejos Canyon CO

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



**NEW PRICE!**



**Luxury Home on 42 Acres - Borders Natl. Forest**  
\$850,000 | MLS #815205  
4100 Wilderness Canyon Rd. La Garita, CO

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



# San Juan Sports celebrates 50 years of adventure in Creede

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

**CREEDE** — San Juan Sports is celebrating its 50th year in business on July 13. The store will be closing the section of Main Street in front of the store and having a giant street party to celebrate 50 years of adventure and a lifetime of service to Creede.

George Ameel started the business as “San Juan Hiking” in June 1974. It was located where the Creede Olive Oil company is now. When it first opened, the business focused on hiking gear and custom T-shirts but over the years it expanded to include some apparel and in 1980 moved to its current location, at 102 S. Main St., and changed its name to San Juan Sports.

San Juan Sports became a staple of Creede, and a place people could go for all their outdoor adventure needs. Their slogan quickly became, “Before you go out, come in!”

Ameel was a popular local resident and often was seen at the 4th of July parades, skate-skiing down Main Street or working in the community hosting mushroom forays and wildflower workshops.

In 2006, Ameel began considering selling the store and in 2011 Amy and Michael McNeil bought it from him, and his wife Charlene, in February of that year. In April 2011, San Juan Sports went under construction to remodel the look and layout of the store.

The new rustic and eclectic look gave San Juan Sports a special welcoming feeling when customers walked in the doors. Soon, a new tradition would begin where folks that bought new shoes would toss their old ones over the sign out front and this soon became a permanent part of the store’s history.

In 2018, the owners busted through the south wall and extended San Juan Sports to the space south of the original building, which had been a dream of Ameel’s for a long time. In 2020, Amy and Michael’s dream became a reality when they opened Sunnyside Bar, a beer and wine bar located inside San Juan Sports.

Sunnyside Bar got its name from a dairy topper from the Sunnyside Dairy that was found



Photos courtesy of San Juan Sports

**San Juan Sports in Creede is gearing up to celebrate 50 years of business in the small mountain town and plans to honor the original and current owners of the store.**

under the floor while running plumbing for the bar. Since it opened, Sunnyside has become “Creede’s Living Room” hosting karaoke, game nights, sports events, live music, town events and even birthday parties.

In September of 2023, Ron and Deb Durre, of Monte Vista, purchased the store and continue to honor its legacy and push its boundaries. In May 2024, they opened Sweet-T’s, two doors down from San Juan Sports and it is the town’s ice cream and souvenir shop.

When asked what advice he had for the next

50 years, original owner Ameel said, “Go with the flow! And listen to your customers!”

For 50 years, San Juan Sports has been the place to go for all outdoor gear. Now it’s also the place to go to get a drink, meet up with friends, get the latest trail reports, sing your heart out, meet up for a race, gear up before a backpacking trip, and, most of all, gather with friends.

For the 50th celebration, attendees will be able to have drinks from Sunnyside Bar outside on the street. There will be burgers and hotdogs served as a fundraiser for the Creede boys

basketball team, a bounce house for the children and music all day.

Lucky Overton and the Yardangs will be performing at noon, Corey and the Contradictions (FKA The Bent Ears) performing at 3 p.m., and The O’s, a singing along, dancing along, drinking along, and playing along type of band, will perform at 6 p.m. San Juan Sports is also encouraging anyone who has ever worked at the store to attend. Ameel, the founder of San Juan Sports, will be there as well as the new owners, Ron and Deb Durre.



**NORTH AMERICA'S #1 Selling Walk-In Tub**  
Featuring our Free Shower Package

Back by Popular Demand!  
**FREE SHOWER PACKAGE!**

Now you can finally have all of the soothing benefits of a relaxing warm bath, or enjoy a convenient refreshing shower while seated or standing with Safe Step Walk-In Tub's **FREE Shower Package!**

- ✓ First walk-in tub available with a customizable shower
- ✓ Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for your height and pivots to offer a seated shower option
- ✓ High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub
- ✓ Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price

Now you can have the best of both worlds—there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!

**FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS 15% OFF**  
FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY  
Call Toll-Free 719-259-4323

**safestep**

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase.

**Call Today for Your Free Shower Package**  
**1-719-259-4323**

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

EASE OF USE CERTIFIED  
MADE IN TENNESSEE  
BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS  
LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY

**inogen**

**PORTABLE OXYGEN FOR YOUR ON-THE-GO LIFESTYLE**

Call us toll-free at  
**1-719-490-4844**

CLAIM YOUR **14-DAY RISK-FREE TRIAL**<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>14-day risk-free trial- Return within 30 days of purchase for a full refund of purchase price.

PM230469 EN\_EX\_USA  
Rx Only. © 2023 Inogen, Inc.  
301 Coromar Drive, Goleta, CA 93117  
Inogen® is a trademark of Inogen, Inc. The usage of any Inogen, Inc. trademark is strictly forbidden without the prior consent of Inogen, Inc. All other trademarks are trademarks of their respective owners or holders.

# SLV Regional Airport to receive federal funds

By JOHN WATERS

WASHINGTON, DC—The San Luis Valley Regional Airport in Alamosa will receive \$456,849 in federal funding for snow removal equipment.

On July 2, U.S. Senators John Hickenlooper and Michael Bennet celebrated an additional \$10 million in new funding from the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for infrastructure improvements at 16 Colorado airports.

"From Yuma to Montrose, Colorado's airports help connect rural communities and power local economies," said Hickenlooper. "Our Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is providing much needed improvements to make air travel safe and accessible for

all Coloradans."

"Colorado's regional and municipal airports are an important part of our state — they connect our communities and boost local economic development," said Bennet. "This funding will support airports across Colorado as they make critical investments to meet our changing needs."

The investments are funded through the FAA's AIP and the Airport Infrastructure Grants (AIG) program, which deliver funding for airports nationwide to improve runways, taxiways, and airport signage, lighting, marking, and facilities. The programs receive funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which Hickenlooper helped negotiate. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law has provided over \$399 million to Colorado airports across the state for

infrastructure improvements since being signed into law., which deliver funding for airports nationwide to improve runways, taxiways, and airport signage, lighting, marking, and facilities. The programs receive funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which Hickenlooper helped negotiate. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law has provided over \$399 million to Colorado airports across the state for infrastructure improvements since being signed into law.

Annually, the Airport Improvement Program receives \$3.3 billion in federal funding. In other previously announced financing, the San Luis Valley Regional Airport in 2023 received \$2,012,948 to construct an Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting building and an additional \$550,000 for the facility in 2024.



Photo by John Waters

The San Luis Regional Airport in Alamosa will receive \$456,849 from the federal government for snow removal equipment.

# San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

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

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

**Rio Grande Riverfront Home**  
 4 Bedroom, 4 Bath, Approx. 3,740 Sq. Ft. / and 0.630 Acres  
 \$1,595,000 | MLS #815364  
 11 Iron Bridge Place South Fork, CO

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

**UNDER CONTRACT**

**Mountain Outlook /Approx. 69.750 Acres**  
 \$245,000 | MLS #806781  
 000 County Road 13 Del Norte, CO

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

**Amazing View and Year-Round Creek Front!**  
 Approx. 7.520 Acres / \$172,500 / MLS # 813894  
 1416 Bear Creek Circle, South Fork, CO

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

**UNDER CONTRACT**

**2 Bedroom, 1 Bath 1,440 Sq. Ft. on 198.07 Acres**  
 \$2,777,700 | MLS #812760  
 5295 County Road 28 Monte Vista, CO

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

**CHARMING HOME**  
 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Approx. 1,364 Sq. Ft.  
 \$250,000 | MLS #814179  
 334 Broadway Monte Vista, CO

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

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

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

**SOLD**

**Ready to Move in Home!**  
 \$150,000 | MLS #810416  
 103 Antonito Street Romeo, CO

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

**BEAUTIFUL RIVER LOT FOR SALE!**  
 APPROX. 0.520 ACRES  
 \$174,900 / MLS #812252  
 63 Doe Circle South Fork, CO

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

**Mountain Paradise! River Island Ranch**  
 Approx. 9.620 Acres  
 \$125,000 | MLS #815119  
 423 Frontier Way South Fork, CO

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

**Exceptional 70 Acre Ranch Property Borders the Rio Grande River!**  
 \$2,500,000 | MLS #812559  
 12286 HWY 112 Del Norte, CO

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

**Build Your Private Mountain Retreat!**  
 APPROX. 1.710 ACRES  
 \$112,100 / MLS #814971  
 545 Church Creek Drive South Fork, CO

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

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

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

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

**Charming Lovely Home**  
 Approx. 1,544 Sq. Ft. / 3 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom  
 \$380,000 / MLS #814904  
 175 Orondoa Road South Fork, CO

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

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

**Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.**  
 719-873-1700  
 SteffensRealty@GoJade.org  
 30636 W. US HWY 160  
 South Fork, Colorado



# SUCKER

Continued from Page 1

Aquatic Wildlife. “The responsibility of successfully managing these two species deeply aligns with our mission, and we are thankful for the continued support and collaboration with all of the partners who have made this announcement possible.”

CPW along with several agencies and species experts consulted with the USFWS during its status review for each of the cool-water fish species that occur within the Rio Grande Basin.

For several decades, CPW and multiple partners including federal agencies, states, tribes, municipalities, non-government organizations and private landowners have worked to conserve the two species and implement long-term management actions to ensure their persistence.

“CPW has provided steady leadership in the recovery of Rio Grande sucker and Rio Grande chub, though this progress has always been mediated through strong partnerships,” said CPW Native Species Aquatic Biologist Daniel Cammack. “Through a shared commitment to execute the meaningful and collaborative conservation actions, the future for these important native species is bright.”

Historic accounts suggest that Rio Grande chub and sucker were some of the most common fishes in the Rio Grande and its tributaries, though declines were evident as early as the late 1800s because of dewatering, habitat degradation and invasive species establishment. Recognizing significant declines, CPW initiated conservation efforts of these species in the early 1990s.

Work included translocations to establish new populations, broodstock development, genetic testing, invasive species removal and habitat protection and enhancement. CPW identified both species as Tier I Species of Greatest Conservation Need under the State Wildlife Action Plan and designated Rio Grande sucker as State Endangered and Rio Grande chub as a Species of Special Concern.

Over the past three decades, CPW and its partners have completed five chemical reclamations and numerous habitat and connectivity enhancements related to these species. The CPW Native Aquatic Species Restoration Facility (NASRF) in Alamosa has served a critical role in recovering both fishes, innovating novel culture techniques and writing the book for production methods of these fish.

“Since 2002, NASRF has stocked nearly 450,000 Rio Grande suckers in

20 waters and 1.2 million Rio Grande chub in 11 waters,” Cammack said.

CPW maintains two Rio Grande sucker broodstocks and seven Rio Grande chub broodstocks to sufficiently represent genetic diversity within Colorado and has produced fish for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish to support repatriation projects for the partner agency.

Cammack said CPW’s aquatic biologists have worked tirelessly to monitor and conserve aboriginal populations and to identify suitable habitats for reintroduction efforts.

“Synergy between field biologists and hatchery staff has translated to reestablishing multiple populations of both species in the San Luis Valley,” he said. “This progress is especially evident for Rio Grande sucker, as there were only two self-sustaining populations of this species in Colorado by the early 2000s. Now, there are eight established sucker populations with multiple other reintroduction sites showing great promise.”

Following the 2014 petition to list these species under the ESA, CPW coalesced with multiple state and federal agencies, tribal entities and other stakeholders throughout the species’ range to form the Rio Grande Chub and Sucker Conservation Team.

In 2018, a Conservation Agreement with 12 signatories, including CPW, was finalized to implement carefully coordinated conservation measures for both species to mitigate the threats that could eventually lead to their federal listing under the ESA. The conservation team collaborated on a Conservation Strategy for each species, which was adopted in 2021.

Over the past two years, species experts from CPW have served on the Technical Advisory Team to support USFWS in developing a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for each species. This included providing thorough input on early drafts of the SSA and enhancing the scientific accuracy and defensibility of this document to support an informed listing decision.

“CPW biologists played a significant role in the writing of this strategy, which details specific conservation actions and collaborative approaches that will reduce and/or eliminate threats to the long-term viability of both species,” Cammack said. “Following this announcement from the USFWS, we look forward to continued partnership with the conservation team as we continue to advance conservation goals for these unique species.”

## Call to get an ADT Security System + Get a \$100 ADT Visa Reward Card FREE\*

ADT’s 24/7 monitoring plus top of the line security cameras help ensure your loved ones are safe – whether you’re out and about or in the next room.



\*With 36-month monitoring contract. Early termination and installation fees apply. Reward card issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC. Card terms and expiration apply. For full terms, see below.



\$100 value  
**BONUS**<sup>†</sup>  
ADT Visa Reward Card



Choose ADT today and receive a \$100 Visa Reward Card to spend on anything you want!

Call today to speak with a home security expert  
**1-719-628-5729**



\*\$100 ADT Visa Reward Card: Requires 36-month monitoring contract starting at \$28.99/mo. (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees from \$695.76), and enrollment in ADT EasyPay. Requires minimum purchase price of \$449. One (1) Visa Reward Card valued at \$100 is redeemable seven (7) days after system is installed, wherein an email is sent to the customer's email address associated with their account with a promo code. The customer must validate the promo code on the website provided in the email and a physical card will be sent in the mail. Installation must occur within 60 days of offer expiration date to receive card. Applicable to new and resale sale types only. Card is issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC, pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. No cash access or recurring payments. Can be used everywhere Visa debit cards are accepted. Card valid for up to 6 months; unused funds will forfeit after the valid thru date. Card terms and conditions apply.  
Interactive Services: ADT Command Interactive Solutions Services (“ADT Command”) helps you manage your home environment and family lifestyle. Requires purchase of an ADT alarm system with 36-month monitoring contract ranging from \$45.99-\$59.99/mo. with QSP (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees ranging \$1,103.76-\$1,439.76), enrollment in ADT EasyPay, and a compatible device with Internet and email access. These interactive services do not cover the operation or maintenance of any household equipment/systems that are connected to the ADT Command equipment. All ADT Command services are not available with all interactive service levels. All ADT Command services may not be available in all geographic areas. You may be required to pay additional charges to purchase equipment required to utilize the interactive service features you desire.  
General: Additional charges may apply in areas that require guard response service for municipal alarm verification. System remains property of ADT. Local permit fees may be required. Prices and offers subject to change and may vary by market. Additional taxes and fees may apply. Satisfactory credit required. A security deposit may be required. Simulated screen images and photos are for illustrative purposes only.  
©2021 ADT LLC dba ADT Security Services. All rights reserved. ADT, the ADT logo, 800.ADT.ASAP and the product/service names listed in this document are marks and/or registered marks. Unauthorized use is strictly prohibited. Third-party marks are the property of their respective owners. License information available at www.ADT.com/legal or by calling 800.ADT.ASAP. Licenses: AL 233, 234, 458, 506, 1519, CA AC07155, 974443, PPO120288; FL EF0001121; LA F1639, F1640, F1643, F1654; MA 172C; NC Licensed by the Alarm Systems Licensing Board of the State of North Carolina; 2736-CSA, 2397-CSA, 2381-CSA; NJ Burg & Fire Business Lic. #348F00048300, 200 East Park, Ste. 200, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054; NY 12000305615; PA 090797; MS 1501951. DF-CD-NP-G421

## DENTAL Insurance

Great coverage for retirees.



Coverage for **cleanings, fillings, crowns** – even **dentures!** Get **dental insurance** from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company.



**Go to any dentist,** but save more with one in our network



Helps cover **over 400 procedures**



No deductible, **no annual maximum**



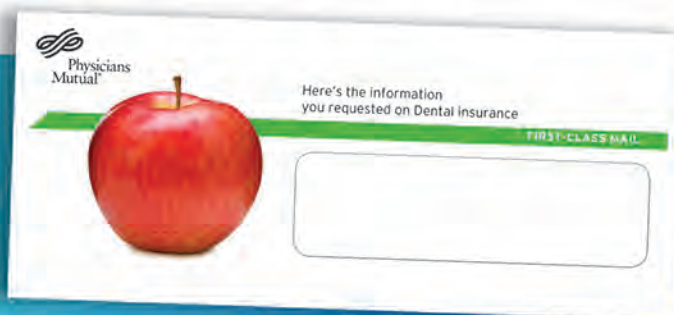
**100% preventive care** when you see in-network provider

Get your **FREE** Information Kit

It's easy! Call today

**1-833-643-1677**

or go to [Dental50Plus.com/Monvis](http://Dental50Plus.com/Monvis)



## It's not just a generator. It's a power move.™

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase\* - valued at \$535.

Call 719-900-0326 to schedule your free quote!



\*Terms and Conditions apply.

Product/features not available in all states. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. To find a network provider, go to [physiciansmutual.com/find-dentist](http://physiciansmutual.com/find-dentist). This specific offer not available in CO, NY, VA - call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for a similar offer in your state. Certificate C254/B465, C250A/B438 (ID: C254ID; PA: C254PA); Insurance Policy P154/B469, P150/B439 (GA: P154GA; OK: P154OK; TN: P154TN). 6347

# June weather review

**By NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**

**COLORADO** — June of 2024 saw a meandering ridge of high pressure across the Rockies, which brought periods of very warm temperatures, as well as periods of abundant available moisture and heavy rainfall to portions of south central and southeast Colorado. Alamosa recorded 2 inches of precipitation through June. This is 1.57 inches above normal and makes

June of 2024 the second-wettest June on record, just behind the 2.58 inches of precipitation recorded in June of 1969. For the month of June as a whole, above-normal temperatures were experienced across south-central and southeast Colorado, with generally above-normal precipitation across south-central Colorado and pockets of above-normal and well-below-normal precipitation across southeast Colorado. The preliminary average temperature

in Alamosa for June was 64.3 degrees. This is 3.7 degrees above normal and makes June of 2024 the second-warmest June on record in Alamosa, just behind the 64.5-degree average June temperature in 2012. The average June maximum temperature in Alamosa was 82.3 degrees, which is 2.1 degrees above normal. The average June minimum temperature in Alamosa was 46.3 degrees, which is 5.4 degrees above normal.

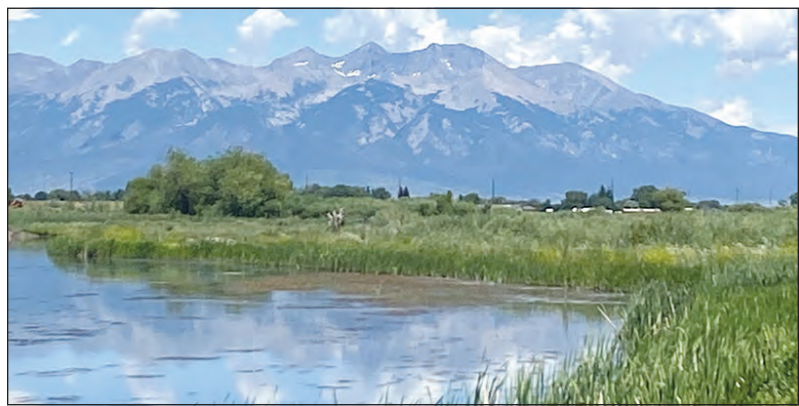


Photo by John Waters

According to the National Weather Service, June was the second warmest and second wettest on record. Seen here are the Rio Grande and the Blanca Massif on a recent early July afternoon.

## GRANTS

Continued from Page 1

protect water rights, and include more voices from the community we serve in the San Luis Valley?

RiGHT has served the San Luis Valley since 1999 and, as the organization embarks on its 25th year, they're celebrating over 32,000 acres conserved via 57 easements, 95% of which are on working lands.

The next two grants are part of Keep It Colorado's Transaction Cost Assistance Program (TCAP), which re-grants GOCO funds to nonprofit land trusts to help cover the costs associated with conservation easement transactions. It enables landowners who have urgent opportunities to conserve their properties, but who face financial barriers to facilitating the transaction, to conserve land more quickly.

With its \$75,000 TCAP grant, RiGHT will conserve JRA Farm, a traditional 80-acre property comprising farmland, hay meadows, and riparian acres, including approximately half a mile of river frontage. With two branches of the Rio San Antonio running through it, the property is prime habitat for the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. This project builds on previous efforts by Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust to support the area's historically underserved Hispano landowners in reaching their conservation goals.

With its \$25,000 TCAP grant, CCALT will conserve Rockin' S Ranch, a 301-acre working cattle ranch in the southern San Luis Valley near Antonito. The landowner prioritizes rotational grazing and riparian improvement practices. Rich in wildlife and wetland habitat, the property is critical for aquatic species such as the globally threatened Rio Grande chub, and birds such as greater sandhill crane, golden eagle, and bald eagle. The landowner comes from a multi-generational Hispanic ranching family in the Valley.

Ducks Unlimited is contributing \$50,000 to the project.

To date, GOCO has invested more than \$5.3 million in Conejos County and partnered to conserve 6,438 acres of land there. GOCO funding has supported the San Luis Valley Generation Wild community, the Conejos Ranchland Initiative conserving important agricultural lands, and the North Conejos Activity Complex, among other projects.

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers, and open spaces. GOCO's independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Created when voters approved a constitutional amendment in 1992, GOCO has since funded more than 5,700 projects in all 64 counties of Colorado without any tax dollar support.

# SAN LUIS VALLEY SERVICE DIRECTORY

## Sanchez Plastering & Masonry

Synthetic  
Traditional  
Patches  
Interior/Exterior  
Paint



Fully Insured  
& Bonded  
Fully Licensed  
Work Guaranteed

Owners: David D. Sanchez Jr. & Brandon Sanchez

**Call Today (719) 486-6781**

## CUSTOM MARBLE DESIGN

Call for  
Free Estimate!

719-849-3990

E-MAIL: cmd@ibyfax.com

Solid Surface Countertops  
Kitchen Countertops  
Vanity & Table Tops  
Window Sills  
and More

## Sheri Bongers

Independent Broker Agent  
720-543-2188

Sheri@DenverInsuranceTeam.com

## Tom Bongers

Independent Broker Agent  
720-543-2189

Tom@DenverInsuranceTeam.com

Auto | Home | Life | Commercial | Workers Comp



## Your Great Outdoors

Specializing in  
Vinyl Fencing

Wood, Barbed Wire and All Types of  
Residential & Commercial Fencing

Serving the SLV-Free Estimates

Good Fences Make Good Neighbors!\*

(719) 849-1568

\*We make no guarantees of your neighbor quality, just high quality fences.

## Quality Spray Foam Insulation LLC

Let us fill your needs with **SPRAY FOAM** insulation!

Alvin • (719) 849-5233 catpower@ibyfax.com

7268 S. County Road 4 E • Monte Vista

Call us for all your **LOOSE-FILL & BLOW** in Attic Insulation needs!

## ROOFING BUILDINGS

Metal Roofing Panels & Trims • Garages, Horse Barns, Hay Sheds

Complete Building packages • 26/29 Gauge, 20 Colors, Numerous Profiles

Let us find your contractor! • Free Estimates/Quick Turnaround

Your Local Metal Roofing Manufacturer!

**SKYLINE METAL**

(719)852-0113

M-F 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

David Miller, Owner  
719-480-2145  
9318 County Road 16  
Antonito, CO

## Cozy Home Insulating

For All your Foam Insulation Needs

**Call us for a free estimate!**

Specializing in open and closed cell spray foam insulation for all applications

- Residential
- Commercial
- New or Existing Construction

# MV COOP

Continued from Page 1

Hinton spoke about the highlights of the past fiscal year and welcomed a “newer” board of directors.

“In 2024, we donated over \$150,000 to various causes and continued our support for graduating seniors through scholarships, nurturing the next generation of leaders,” Hinton said. “We have a newer Board of Directors that is extremely focused on your company’s future. We welcome your involvement in different coop committees and activities, along with providing any feedback. As always, my door remains open, and I look forward to engaging with more of you in the coming year. I wish all of you a healthy and prosperous year ahead.”

Each department is strategically operated with the best interests of area farmers and ranchers in mind, helping to keep the local economy robust and thriving.

Whether engaged in farming, ranching, recreation, or just living, fuel products are a necessity for everyone. Therefore, the Monte Vista Coop Energy Division delivers diesel, gas, and propane. The service department installs and services both residential and commercial propane tanks, and heaters.

Fuel is one of the necessities for a farmer or rancher. That is why the Monte Vista Coop delivers diesel, gas, and propane along with having a service department that installs both residential and commercial propane tanks. The Monte Vista Coop Energy Division offers a wide range of products and services, along with years of experience.

Now through Sept. 30, the Monte Vista Coop Energy Division August Propane Special is expanding to the

Summer Fill Special. People can get the same great special delivered during a multi-month period beginning July 1-Sept. 30. During the Summer Fill Special, people can switch to an MVC tank and get tank rent waived until April 2025. MV Coop offers Budget Billing, where a person can spread their annual propane cost over 11 equal payments beginning in July. People can also receive an additional discount if they sign up for reoccurring monthly payments.

As a Cenex brand dealer, the Monte Vista Coop provides all the conveniences people are accustomed to: 24-hour pay at the pump gas diesel fuel, freshly made cold and hot foods and tasty snacks and beverages at the C-Store location in Monte Vista. Download the MVC Loyalty app and start earning points toward selected purchases at the MVC C-Store.

The Monte Vista Coop Car Care Center offers tires, batteries, accessories, plus a mobile tire service truck. Whether at the station, on the road, or at the farm, MV Coop can provide complete tire service for any size vehicle with excellent service provided to all customers.

The Monte Vista Coop Equipment Division prides itself on matching each customer’s unique needs with the Kubota that will serve them best. They also offer quality hay and potato equipment services and products.

Fertilizer is also another necessity for Monte Vista Coop members. MV Coop’s Agronomy Division provides conventional and organic fertilizers, crop protection products, seed, and a variety of other agricultural products. At three locations, the

Monte Vista Coop Agronomy Divisions can mix customized fertilizer blends to meet a grower’s unique needs and field conditions, and with the capability to spread dry or liquid at a variable rate, MV Coop brings even more value to customer’s bottom-line profitability. MV Coop now offers drone applications.

The Monte Vista Coop Farm Store is a hardware store with an agricultural emphasis. Carrying everything from paint and plumbing to tack and clothing, the Monte Vista Coop Farm Store is a major retail location for farmers and non-farmers alike. They also carry a large selection of PJ and Orange Line trailers, Troy Bilt mowers and tractors, stoves, top quality pet foods, lawn and garden fertilizer and products, and Powder River Cattle Equipment.

With feed warehouse locations in Alamosa and Monte Vista, the Monte Vista Coop Feed Division provides premium feed, essential livestock products, and educational insight.

Monte Vista Coop is passionately committed to providing its customers with the highest quality products, most innovative solutions, and services delivered with integrity and professionalism.

“This year, the Monte Vista Coop celebrates its 75th anniversary. The Monte Vista Coop would like to thank our members, customers, employees, and community for your dedication and support through the years. We look forward to serving you for many more years to come.”

Stay connected to us on Facebook, Instagram and its website, MVCoop.com.



Courtesy photo

In 1949, the Monte Vista Coop opened in a small building near the railroad tracks, across from what is now Polished Edge in Monte Vista. The building is no longer standing.

### Known General Managers of the Monte Vista Coop

- Don Spencer – 1961 - 1972
- Andy Anderson – 1972 - 1976
- Doyle Smith - 1976 - 1981
- Roger Polfer – 1981 - 1983
- Gerold Palmgren – 1983- 2006
- Aaron Hackerott – 2006 - 2007
- Mike Kelley – 2007 - 2012
- Mike Boothe – 2012 - 2019
- Eric Hinton – 2019- present

### Timeline of Monte Vista Coop

- 1949 – Opened the Monte Vista Coop in a small building near the railroad tracks, across from what is now Polished Edge in Monte Vista. Building is no longer standing.
- Early 1960s – moved into building across the highway, south of Loves in Monte Vista.

1974 – Moved the Coop to the main office location where MVC is located today.

1981 – Merger with Alamosa and Monte Vista Cooperatives.

1998 – C-Store was built in Monte Vista.

2021 – Dry Fertilizer Shed and Crop Protection Shop were built.

### Original 1949 Board Members

- George Benton
- Forrest Bishop
- Ernest Bloxson
- Walter Brink
- Orvil Drake
- W.J. Drake
- Herb Edwards
- Raymond Entz
- Dale Hodgell
- Paul Lincoln
- Arthur Martin

## Clean Up with Spring Savings!

**\$50 VISA GIFT CARD**  
Upon completion of appointment

**15% OFF TOTAL SALE\***  
Does not include cost of materials

- LIFETIME NO-CLOG WARRANTY
- MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME
- THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM.
- SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH

\*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

\*All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 Visa card. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age, if married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Card may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Except in the states of MD, NY and DC, where the gift card offer is limited to \$25. Offer not available in the states of CA, IN, PA and MI. Expires 5/31/24.

Call Today for Your **FREE Estimate!**

**719-493-9644**

**SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE**

ADVERTISEMENT

## Why you need dental insurance in retirement.

Many Americans are fortunate to have dental coverage for their entire working life, through employer-provided benefits. When those benefits end with retirement, paying dental bills out-of-pocket can come as a shock, leading people to put off or even go without care.

Simply put – without dental insurance, there may be an **important gap** in your healthcare coverage.

**When you're comparing plans ...**

- ▶ Look for coverage that helps pay for major services. Some plans may limit the number of procedures – or pay for preventive care only.
- ▶ Look for coverage with no deductibles. Some plans may require you to pay hundreds out of pocket before benefits are paid.
- ▶ Shop for coverage with no annual maximum on cash benefits. Some plans have annual maximums of \$1,000.

**Medicare doesn't pay for dental care!**

That's right. As good as Medicare is, it was never meant to cover everything. That means if you want protection, you need to purchase individual insurance.

**Early detection can prevent small problems from becoming expensive ones.**

The best way to prevent large dental bills is preventive care. The American Dental Association recommends checkups twice a year.

**Previous dental work can wear out.**

Even if you've had quality dental work in the past, you shouldn't take your dental health for granted. In fact, your odds of having a dental problem only go up as you age.<sup>2</sup>

**Treatment is expensive — especially the services people over 50 often need.**

Consider these national average costs of treatment ... \$222 for a checkup ... \$190 for a filling ... \$1,213 for a crown.<sup>3</sup> Unexpected bills like this can be a real burden, especially if you're on a fixed income.

1 "Medicare & You." Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2024. 2 "Aging changes in teeth and gums", medlineplus.gov, 4/17/2022. 3 American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute, 2020 Survey of Dental Fees, Copyright 2020, American Dental Association.

## DENTAL Insurance

from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

### Helps keep more money in your pocket!

- Go to any dentist you want
- Helps pay for over 400 procedures
- No deductible, no annual maximum on cash benefits

Call for a **FREE Information Kit!**

**1-833-643-1677**

Dental50Plus.health/monvis

**"Absolutely love"**

"I absolutely love my dental insurance. My dental office files the claims, leaving me with very little balance to pay."

Dorothy P., TN

Here's the information you requested on Dental Insurance

Product/features not available in all states. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. To find a network provider, go to physiciansmutual.com/find-dentist. This specific offer not available in CO, LA, NV, NY - call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for a similar offer in your state. Certificate C254/B465, C250A/B438 (ID: C254ID; PA: C254PA); Insurance Policy P154/B469, P150/B439 (GA: P154GA; NY: P154NY; OK: P154OK; TN: P154TN).

6247-0324

# FESTIVAL Continued from Page 1

be lined with numerous artist booths where visitors can explore a variety of artwork and find the perfect piece to take home.

From local painters and photographers to potters and woodworkers, visitors will find a diverse display of talent highlighting artists from Saguache, the Valley and beyond.

For example, renowned local Saguache artist Gary Wilfong will be participating for the second year in a row, sharing his evocative drawings and paintings that captures the spirit of the West. Wilfong's work is a testament to his deep connection to his heritage, his study of Native histories and traditions and the inspiration of his mother, a natural artist who had always encouraged him to keep drawing. At his booth, visitors can view a collection of his latest pieces, engage in discussions about his artistic journey, and purchase his works.

Beyond visual arts, there will also be live music and interactive activities while a food truck will again, offer loaded fries and local vendors will offer a variety of refreshments.

Another highlight of the day is the opportunity to discover the enchanting display of Saguache Fairy Houses scattered throughout town. Families can pick up a map and take a self-guided tour to find these miniature, intricately crafted dwellings, each one a unique

testament to the creativity and imagination of local artist Sarah Krantz.

The Saguache Arts Walk and Hollyhock Festival is proudly presented by the Saguache Chamber of Commerce, an organization dedicated to promoting local businesses and fostering community engagement.

The festival not only highlights the artistic talents within Saguache but also boosts the local economy as visitors often spend the day exploring local galleries, dining and shopping, thereby supporting small businesses and organizations.

The Chamber is committed to highlighting the town's rich cultural heritage and supporting its arts

scene through this annual event supported generously with funding provided through a Saguache County Sales Tax Grant.

The 2024 Saguache Arts Walk is the perfect combination of artistic expression, community interaction, and family fun and a delightful way to spend a summer day.



## Christmas In July Sale!

### Get the Latest Smartphones On Us!

#### Includes A Free Charging Block!

New and renewing customers get up to \$770 off the purchase of a new Galaxy S24 series or iPhone 15 series phone when they trade in a qualifying phone and activate it on a Viaero Better, Best, Ultra, First Responder, or Single Unlimited plan. Requires phone trade-in and ASP. Sales tax on the full price of the device is due at purchase. Requires approved credit. Taxes and fees not included. Certain restrictions and exclusions may apply.

# SAGUACHE

## Arts Walk & Hollyhock Festival

*Join us July 27th, 2024  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.*

**Featuring local & regional artists and crafters, live music, fairy houses, children's activities, and Hollyhock Garden viewings.**

**Come enjoy galleries, restaurants, shops and booths.**

County Courthouse lawn and Saguache Hotel courtyard-Downton Saguache/4th Street

Contact Carla Quintana, Saguache Chamber of Commerce, for Hollyhock Festival inquiries @ 719-530-1707.

Email Sarah Krantz for more information about the Arts Walk @ [saguacheartswalk@gmail.com](mailto:saguacheartswalk@gmail.com)

Special thanks to Saguache County, Town of Saguache and Tourism Council for funding this event.

