

Stunner Bridge replacement to begin

— Page 5



New AHS AD brings wealth of administrative experience

— Page 6



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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

July 19, 2024

\$1

SLV Today

New Courier website debuts today

VALLEY – If all goes as planned, the Valley Courier will roll out a new website today (Friday) at www.alamosanews.com.

“The new site will be more reader-friendly and offer more content than has been available on our longtime previous site,” said Courier Publisher Keith R. Cerny. “It will also offer more advertising opportunities and include videos and podcasts in the future.”

Cerny said content on the new site will be available to all users for the next few weeks.

Public meeting on future of St. Benedict

ALAMOSA – The recent Supreme Court decision on City of Grants Pass, Oregon v. Johnson overturned previous legal precedent guiding local government enforcement of no-camping ordinances set by the Ninth Circuit in Martin v. Boise in 2018. It was this 2018 decision that partially led the City of Alamosa to create St. Benedict in 2020.

With the recent decision, the City of Alamosa no longer needs St. Benedict to enforce the no-camping ordinances on public property – sidewalks, parks, trails, alleys, etc. Given this significant shift, the Alamosa City Council will be hosting a public meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 14 at City Hall to receive input from the public and to discuss the future of St. Benedict.

City council encourages everyone who has an opinion to attend the meeting. Anyone not able to attend, can share their thoughts with Alamosa City Council members through their contact forms found on the City website <https://cityofalamosa.org/departments/city-council/>.

The public meeting will also utilize zoom, which allows for public comment as well at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85753492744>.

SLV WEATHER

Afternoon Showers Likely, Breezy 84/49

Sat: Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 80/48

Sun: Chance of Showers, Breezy 76/46

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Council votes to put marijuana on ballot



File photo

The Alamosa City Council voted 4-3 to put a measure on the November ballot that would allow medical and or retail marijuana shops to operate within the city limits.

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — With a larger than usual sized audience in attendance, the Alamosa City Council voted during Wednesday night's meeting to place a measure on the November ballot asking residents of the City of Alamosa if they want to allow medical and or retail marijuana shops to operate within the city limits.

Councilor Jan Vigil made the motion to put the measure on the bal-

lot, leading to the vote of four to three, in favor of the ballot. At the request of some who were in the audience, the names of councilors and their vote were made visible to the public.

Those voting in favor included Councilor Jamie Dominguez, Ward 4; Liz Hensley, Councilor Ward 1; Councilor Jackie Vigil, Ward 3; and Councilor Jan Vigil, Councilor-at-large. Those who voted against included Michael Carson, Councilor-at-Large, Mayor Ty Coleman and Councilor Dawn

Krebs, Ward 2.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Vigil began the conversation by saying there were four members of council who had been requested by citizens to bring the measure before the council. He then provided some history, stating that, in 2017, citizens had circulated a petition with enough signatures to bring the issue to a vote by the public. At that time, it failed. He acknowledged that he would have preferred that same process be followed now. “But,” he

See **BALLOT** page 3



Courier photo by Keith R. Cerny

As bees buzz around his head, Alamosa beekeeper Devin Haynie gathers up a swarm of honeybees near the corner of Main and San Juan downtown around noon Wednesday. The estimated 20,000-25,000 bees were transferred to a hive overseen by fellow Alamosa beekeeper Aaron Miltenberger.

What's the buzz?

Honeybee swarm collected for new hive

By KEITH R. CERNY
Courier Publisher

ALAMOSA — An estimated swarm of 20,000-25,000 honeybees were collected near the corner of Main and San Juan here around noon Wednesday.

Beekeeper Devin Haynie said the bees likely came from a natural hive in the downtown area and were

first seen on a chimney at The Hub operated by the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley at Sixth and San Juan. He would not disclose the location of the natural hive.

Fittingly, a sign posted in front of The Hub states “Save the Bees” by spreading wildflowers in a “Generation Wild” promotion. Generation Wild is a movement by Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) to encourage kids to plant wildflowers to help save bees with over 100,000 packets of seeds distributed

statewide.

Haynie explained that it's normal for a hive to divide and move to a new location as part of their natural reproduction cycle and can do so up to three times per year. He has been a registered beekeeper for about eight years.

Before forming a swarm, bees “gorge themselves on resources to produce honey,” he explained, thereby limiting the distance they and the queen bee can fly. Honey-engorged bees weigh

See **BUZZ** page 3

ASU Salazar Center to host Jason Ullmann

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALAMOSA – The Adams State University Salazar Rio Grande del Norte Center will host “A Conversation with Jason Ullmann” at 6 p.m. on Monday, July 29, in McDaniel Hall 101.

The event is free and open to the public and will include 30 minutes of moderated conversations and 30 minutes of questions and answers.

The Colorado Division of Wa-

ter Resources State Engineer Jason Ullmann will discuss recent developments in the Division of Water Resources and the significance of Texas vs New Mexico and Colorado.

As State Engineer, Ullmann directs the Division of Water Resources in the performance of its responsibilities, which include administration of water rights in Colorado, issuing well permits, performing administrative approvals for water use, admin-

istering programs that ensure the safety of dams and the safe construction of water wells, and providing information and education resources to the public.

See **ULLMANN** page 3

Colorado Division of Water Resources State Engineer Jason Ullmann will answer questions and provide information on current Colorado water issues July 29, on the Adams State University campus.



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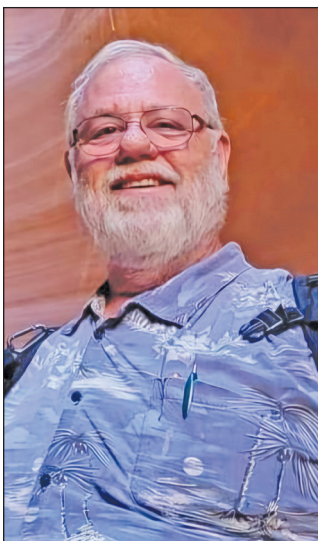
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OBITUARIES

Mark Colman



Mark Colman, 63, of Alamosa, Colo., passed away on June 28, 2024. He was enjoying the freedom of flight when his plane crashed in Big Creek, Idaho, and he succumbed to a fatal injury as a result.

Mark was born in Newfoundland, Canada, on June 24, 1961. He was married to Becky on Feb. 8, 1980; they were married 44 years. Mark entered the Air Force in 1980, where he served proudly for 12

with his wife for an additional 19 years. His passion was flying, teaching, and people.

Mark is survived by his wife, Becky, his children, Douglas (Rebekah) and Christina (Justin), as well as his father, Robert (Peggy), brother, Steven (Melissa), and uncle, Bruce (Margaret).

Mark was preceded in death by his mother, Eleanor.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations will be collected to form a scholarship fund to expand the joy of flying to aspiring pilots. Donations may be given to Christina Colman, email MarkColmanMemorialScholarship@gmail.com, for more information.

Leonard Martinez



Leonard served his country with honor and valor in the United States Navy. His service aboard the U.S.S. Blue Ridge took him across the globe to places such as Vietnam, Okinawa, Hong Kong, and Rio de Janeiro. His experiences during his service not only shaped his character but also instilled in him a deep sense of patriotism and camaraderie.

MONTE VISTA—Leonard Martinez, a man of spirited intelligence and profound faith, passed away peacefully on July 14, 2024, in Pueblo, Colo. Born on Aug. 5, 1950, in Center, Colo., Leonard's life was a testament to the love and dedication he had for his family, his country, and the simple joys that life had to offer. Leonard's journey began as the cherished son of Josie and Celedon Martinez, whose memory he now joins in eternal rest, along with his beloved daughters Leeann, Louann, Gwen, and Jessica.

His life was a tapestry woven with the love of his surviving family members, who were the cornerstone of his existence. His devoted wife, Louella, was his lifelong companion and best friend. Leonard's legacy continues through his brother Elmer, sister Gloria, daughter Anneli (Mike) Savala, and son Leonard William Jr. His grandchildren, Alexis (Jerry) Huff, Austin Echeverria, Genesis Savala (Diego Villegas), Devon Martinez (Kriselle Dupont), Michael (Ceri) Savala, and Jeremiah Silva, along with great-grandchildren Tanzen Garcia, Wynona Huff, and Shia Savala, will carry forward the light of his spirit. A proud Veteran, Leon-

who knew him.

Spirituality was the compass by which Leonard navigated life. His faith was unwavering, and it guided him through life's challenges and triumphs. His family was his sanctuary, the place where he found the most joy and fulfillment. Leonard's love for his wife, Louella, was unparalleled. He often proclaimed that she was "the best cook in the world," and their inseparable bond was a testament to their enduring love.

A recitation of the rosary will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 18, 2024, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Monte Vista, Colo.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Friday, July 19, 2024, at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Monte Vista, Colo. Burial with Military Honors will be held at Homelake Veterans Cemetery following the Mass.

Rogers Family Mortuary is in the care of the arrangements. To leave online condolences, tributes, and words of comfort for Leonard's family, please visit www.Rogers-Funerals.com.

Marylou Perea



Marylou is survived by her children, Tammy Ruybal, Jackie (Terry) Cunningham, Roberta Martinez, Dondy (Dishon) Perea and Rodger (Nikki) Perea. She is survived by seven grandchildren, Roger Romero Jr., Rick J Romero, Don Jacob Ruybal, Corey James Ruybal, Lenny Martinez, Michael Martinez, and Keith Martinez. She is also survived by her siblings Joe, Sunny, Ruby and Lupe and many nephews and nieces.

Alamosa resident Marylou Perea, 85, fell asleep in death on July 2, 2024. Marylou was born to John Smith and Molly Padilla on March 6, 1939, in Greeley, Colo. Marylou came to love and appreciate Jehovah's ways (John 17:3). Marylou loved reading her Bible every day.

Along with reading her Bible, she loved studying and preparing for Christian meetings at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses. She enjoyed associating with her brothers and sisters at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses. Marylou was extremely lovable and was loved by family and friends.

Marylou fell asleep knowing that she will be resurrected in perfect health and young again and will live in a beauti-

again when Jesus will resurrect them and that thought alone reassured her heart of better things to come.

Marylou was preceded in death by her siblings Ruth, Jessy and Bobby and her grandson Luke Martinez.

Memorial services for Marylou are pending.

ful paradise here on earth just as it is promised in the Bible at Psalm 37:29- "The righteous will possess the earth, and they will live forever on it" and John 5:28 & 29- "The hour is coming is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out." She held on to the hope of living forever on earth and seeing her loved ones

Motorcycle crash fatalities on the rise

CONTRIBUTED STATEWIDE

The 100 deadliest days of summer is the well-known time between Memorial Day and Labor Day that law enforcement sees an increase in traffic crashes and fatalities. July frequently ends up being the peak month for various crash types investigated by Colorado State Troopers, including those involving motorcycles.

This year is no exception. So far, in 2024, troopers have investigated 135 fatal crashes from Jan. 1 through July 16, and 15.5% (21) of those involved a motorcycle. But when the Patrol isolated just the first two weeks of July, the percentages more than doubled, with 16 fatal crashes and 37.5% (6) of those involving a motorcycle.

"Riding a motorcycle comes with greater risk than driving a car or truck due to the lack of safety features, including airbags and seatbelts. Riders are simply more vulnerable," stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "This underscores the responsibility that every rider must assume for their own safety. Receiving ongoing training, wearing protective gear

and adhering to the rules of the road - these are the necessary steps for every rider."

Colorado offers some of America West's most scenic and popular motorcycle rides, including routes like the San Juan Skyway National Scenic Byway and Santa Fe Trail. Due to the increase in riders during the warmer weather months, the Southwest District of the Colorado State Patrol began to track serious injuries and fatal motorcycle crashes at the beginning of the riding season (April/May) this year.

From Jan. 1 to July 17, troopers in District 5 responded to and investigated 18 serious injury or fatal crashes involving a motorcycle, including two in the San Luis Valley - Del Norte and La Jara. Most riders were from Colorado but not always from the region. Sixty-one percent of the riders had an endorsement and wore a helmet.

"It's not the number of years you've owned a motorcycle that builds mastery; it's the actual time spent learning how to control, corner, emergency brake and practice evasive maneuvers," stated Col. Packard. "Advanced motorcycle courses are a

fantastic way to learn the best techniques without building bad habits while increasing skills to help you enjoy the ride."

Mountain riding also comes with some common hazards. Here are what riders riding on our Western Slope should watch for during their ride:

- Blind corners with sheer rock faces next to the road
• Narrow shoulders or no shoulder at all with sharp drop-offs
• Rocks, gravel and other debris from snow melt
• Switchbacks and tight corners with little preparation time
• Congestion from RVs and vehicles towing boats and ATVs
• Potholes, bumps and weather-damaged surfaces
• Wildlife

With practice and following the posted traffic rules, you will be ready to tackle the western slope and enjoy the scenic views.

District 5 of the CSP encompasses the following counties: Alamosa, Archuleta, Conejos, Costilla, Delta, Dolores, Gunnison, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mineral, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray, Rio Grande, Saguache, San Juan and San Miguel.

July events at the Narrow Gauge Book Cooperative

CONTRIBUTED ALAMOSA

The Creede Repertory Theatre is the featured nonprofit in July. With every purchase, you have the option to round up and donate your change to help support this wonderful organization.

Spadefoot Story Slam: July 20 at 6 p.m. Be sure to check out the Spadefoot Story Slam Community, which meets at the bookstore on the third Saturday of every month.

Each month, the NGBC hosts the Spadefoot Story Slam. For July, the theme is Making Peace. Bring your stories of

resolving conflict, or resolving to let go and be okay. Share your experiences of times when you apologized, or times when you were able to accept an apology. Or, bring your stories of times when you did not make peace! We encourage creative interpretations of the theme! Perhaps you made peace for yourself, and it was about your state of being and not about conflict at all.

Stories must be true as remembered by you, and stories must be spoken from the heart, not off the page. We'll see you at 6 p.m. on July 20.

Ted Conover: Cheap Land Colorado Paperback Release

July 30, 6 p.m. at Milagro's Coffee House

The Narrow Gauge Book Cooperative is excited to welcome Ted Conover back to Alamosa for the release of the paperback version of "Cheap Land Colorado: Off-Gridders at America's Edge." Conover will be joining us at Milagro's Coffee House on July 30 at 6 p.m. for a reading, Q&A, and signing. Books will be available for sale at the event, and Milagro's will have their full tea and coffee menu available.

CORRECTION

In the July 16, 2024, edition of the Valley Courier, the article "Wesley Stafford is the DA's new Assistant District Attorney (ADA)" read that Wesley Stafford, the new ADA for the 12th Judicial District, came to the position with 10 years of experience as a prosecutor. That was reported by the Courier as the result of a misunderstanding on the reporter's part. Stafford has a total of

7 years - 4 spent with the District Attorney for Miami, Fla., and 3 with the DA in Houston, Texas. The Valley Courier apologizes for the confusion.

Also, the reporter was informed that District Attorney Anne Kelly has not worked without an Assistant District Attorney for the entire two years she has been in office. As Ms. Engel informed the Valley Courier, for the first five

months of Kelly's tenure - from Sept. 1, 2022, to Jan. 27, 2023 - Patryce Engel filled the role of ADA. As was stated in an email, "ADA Engel came out of retirement to help DA Kelly to help her get the office up and running and fully staffed."

COURIER OBITUARY POLICY
The Courier charges \$75 for each obituary per day. Pending arrangements or death notices are free. This charge affects funeral homes, family or other representatives that place obituaries. All paid obituaries are published on www.alamosanews.com, for no additional fee. Please email obituaries if possible to squintana@alamosanews.com

School Menu Friday July 19, 2024
BREAKFAST: Blueberry Muffin, Fruit & Milk
ELEMENTARY: Sunbutter Sandwich, Cheese Stick, Grape Tomatoes, Fruit & Milk
MIDDLE SCHOOL: Sunbutter Sandwich, Cheese Stick, Grape Tomatoes, Fruit & Milk
HIGH SCHOOL: Sunbutter Sandwich, Cheese Stick, Grape Tomatoes, Fruit & Milk
Breakfast & Lunch Free for all students Alamosa School District To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

VALLEY — The San Luis Valley offers many Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous groups.

A.A. and N.A members primary purpose is to

stay sober and help other alcoholics/addicts to achieve sobriety.

There are AA and NA 12-Step Meetings throughout the valley. The 6th Tradition states that we are not affili-

ated with any outside organizations, but in the spirit of cooperation, we list these meeting schedules for friends and family. For information, call 719-937-5083 or see our website:slvaa.org

Valley News

Merna Lewis returning to the SLV with Nashville's Gone With the West at Society Hall

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA – Society Hall is excited to welcome back to the Valley Merna Lewis with her new Nashville-based all-star western band Gone With the West, in concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, July 26.

Lewis is the niece of San Luis Valley fiddling legend Bettie Freel and grew up playing with her Aunt Bettie and her mom, Bobbie Heersink, in the Bowen String Band and many other ensembles.

She has spent years now in the thick of things in Nashville, Tenn., playing her fiddle with many different bands and performers, often working eight shows a week. Now, she has joined forces with three other Nashville star performers in a new western group and is bringing it the Valley.

What do you get when you combine award-winning singer/songwriters, a four-part harmony, a fiddle, keys, two guitars and lyrical imagery drawn from the West? You get taken on a musical journey out West...



Courtesy photo

Nashville's Gone With the West, including Merna Lewis, will be performing on July 26 at Society Hall in Alamosa. Mary Kaye Holt, Micki Fuhrman, Tecia McKenna and Lewis formed the new 'supergroup'.

cowboy and cowgirl life (and love), campfires, horses, music and the beauty of the landscape.

This is Gone With the West — Mary Kaye Holt, Micki Fuhrman, Tecia McKenna and Lewis have fused their talents into an exciting new sound.

And here's a quote from a fellow that knows

a bit about western music.

"Looks like a new supergroup has saddled up and is riding in over the horizon. With exquisite harmony, superb original songs and very fresh takes on western classics, you are not going to want to miss Gone With the West," said Ranger Doug, of Riders in the Sky.

Doors at 400 Ross Ave., Alamosa, will open at 6:30. Tickets are \$20 in advance, or \$25 at the door, and are available online at www.society-hall.org, or in Alamosa at the Green Spot, 711 State Ave. The concert will also stream live on the Society Hall Facebook page and YouTube channel.



Courier photo by John Waters

If a supermarket merger deal between Kroger Inc., and Albertsons Stores is approved, this Safeway store in Alamosa and 578 other supermarkets nationwide may be bought by C&S Wholesale Foods.

Safeway

Continued from Page 1
hurt employee bargaining power.

The attorney generals in Washington and Colorado also filed suit to halt the merger.

In the lawsuit filed by Colorado Attorney Phil Weiser in February 2024, "Few issues impact Colorado citizens, especially families, more than food. What to eat, where to buy, and the cost of groceries are constant sources of anxiety for Colorado families.

"Rising grocery prices lead to food insecurity and hunger, strain the resources of local governments and non-profits, and harm every Coloradan. Now, in an already concentrated Supermarket industry, two of the largest supermarket companies in Colorado—and in the U.S.—seek to merge. Kroger, which operates King Soopers and City Market, intends to buy its chief competitor, ACI, which operates Safeway and Albertsons."

C&S was founded in 1918, by two Worcester, Massachusetts entrepreneurs, and owns the Grand Union and Piggly Wiggly brands of supermarkets. There are 11 Grand Union stores and more than 500 Piggly Wiggly stores in 18 states according to the websites of the companies.

Most of the Piggly Wiggly stores are independently owned. If the merger is approved, C&S will dramatically increase the number of stores it operates. C&S

owns a vast network of food distribution companies.

The company website includes community involvement including \$4.3 million donations in 2022-2023. Of that, \$1.3 million went to charities including the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, and the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. Other recipients include the Congressional Hunger Center, Keene Pride, and Latino Outdoors. The company received a rating of 100 from the Human Rights Campaign as a Leader in LGBTQ+ Workplace Inclusion.

Rick Cohen, a descendant of C&S founders, owns the company individually and through a family trust. According to Forbes, the privately held company had revenue of \$34.7 billion in 2023 and has about 15,000 employees.

Cohen is also the CEO of Symbotic Inc., an artificial intelligence (AI) enabled robotic technology platform that according to the company, "Is changing the way consumer goods move through the supply chain. Intelligent software orchestrates advanced robots in a high-density, end-to-end system — reinventing warehouse automation for increased efficiency, speed, and flexibility."

Requests for comment for C&S to elaborate on the stated commitment to keeping the acquired stores open if the divestiture and merger are approved were not returned by press time.

Buzz

Continued from Page 1
in at about 10,000 bees per pound, Haynie said, and he estimates he collected about two and one-half pounds of bees, therefore netting around 25,000 bees.

The swarm is carefully collected into a transfer box and doesn't typically have as much protective instinct while forming a new colony, he said. He recalls collecting bee swarms in that general vicinity at least three times in recent years. Bees are then transferred to a new hive.

Haynie said this swarm was adopted by fellow Alamosa beekeeper Aaron Miltenberger, executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs, who lost his hive over this past winter. Both Haynie and Miltenberger are contacts for the bee swarm hot-

line operated by the Colorado State Beekeepers Association (CSBA), primarily taking calls in Alamosa, Conejos and Costilla counties.

Haynie had a similar call earlier this week for a bee swarm at the Rio Grande Farm Park in East Alamosa. He encouraged residents who encounter a bee swarm to call the hotline rather than attempt to kill the bees, noting their importance in the pollination of plants, including food production.

The hotline number is 1-844-SPY-BEES (844-779-2337) or visit the CSBA website at <https://coloradobeekeepers.org/>.

CSBA encourages people to support local beekeepers by purchasing locally crafted bee products including honey, propolis, pollen and wax. Local farmer's markets are a great location to find honey and other bee products.



Courier photo by Keith R. Cerny

A sign posted in front of The Hub states 'Save the Bees' by spreading wildflowers in a 'Generation Wild' promotion. The bee swarm was originally spotted at this location operated by the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley at Sixth and San Juan.

Ballot

Continued from Page 1
said, "that's not the issue before us tonight and the city has the authority to do this."

Vigil then talked about the outcome of that vote in 2017, noting that the vote was taken in an "off year," — meaning a vote in a year when there is no general election. "Turnout in an off-year election is always low. Always," he said. Turnout in 2017 was 41%. Vigil felt that was partly responsible for the measure failing 63% to 37%. "In 2017, I don't think we got a full reflection of what the community wants. We need to let the voters decide."

The entirety of the conversation by the council on Wednesday night was focused on the issue at hand: not whether or not medical and/or recreational marijuana should be sold but how that decision should be brought before the voters, by city referendum or by citizen petition.

That statement, "let the voters decide," largely summarized the stance of those in favor of putting a measure on the ballot.

Councilor Dominguez, who was the first to speak following Vigil, noted that he had gotten more feedback on this question than almost any other since taking office. He also cited his experience sitting on a state board for the last three years that addressed the use of cannabis, and his stand was to support the city putting the measure on the ballot. "There are great benefits that people experience from using medical marijuana." Against that backdrop, Dominguez brought up the issue of accessibility and the numbers of people who are forced to drive outside of the city to access medical marijuana. "With the way opioids have been passed out in this city over the past ten to fifteen years, the people should have the freedom to handle their medication and see for themselves if they get any benefit from medical marijuana. Whether people vote for that or not is up to them."

Councilor Krebs stated that, at first, she was in favor of putting the measure on the ballot. "I thought, why not?" But after doing her own re-

search, she also cited she heard more from the people in her ward than "the entire time I've been sitting up here."

While she is entitled to her own opinion, "the people in my ward have told me they are not in favor of this and it's my responsibility to represent the people in my ward." Krebs also had concerns about the fiscal impact to the city. "If it is as important to these people as they say it is, they should circulate another petition."

Councilor Hensley asked APD Chief Dingfelder what his thoughts were about how, if passed, access to medical and/or recreation marijuana might impact the community. Chief Dingfelder stated, when marijuana was first legalized, "it was a mess." But now the state has a Marijuana Enforcement Division that assures business owners are following the rules, and he has no concern about how diligent they will be.

Councilor Jackie Vigil said she, also, had received a lot of responses from her constituents and, those who contacted her, were in favor of the

motion. Consequently, she would be voting to support the motion.

Councilor Carson said, a number of times, that he was "very torn," about how to vote. In the past, he had voted against allowing medical and/or recreational marijuana outlets in the city but he has since had a lot of "meaty" conversations. "I have nothing against pot," he said. "If you want it, you can drive fifteen minutes in any direction, and I don't think this stands a snowball's chance. My advice to those who are against it, campaign against it and get it voted down." At that point, he said he thought he would vote for it.

Mayor Coleman said, "We have a process in place. When citizens want something to be put on the ballot, they circulate a petition to show the needs and desires of the community." He also said that passing the measure "undermines the process and those who voted against it in 2017."

Councilor Hensley brought up that citizen petitioning is not the only process. Council has put measures on the ballot before. "There are just times

that things have to be put on the ballot," she said.

Before taking the vote, City attorney Eric Schwieso emphasized that the issue was not instigated by staff in any way but was the result of councilors being approached by constituents.

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Ullmann

Continued from Page 1

He has worked for the Division of Water Resources since 2010, first as the assistant division engineer in Division 4 (Gunnison

and San Miguel Basins) for 11 years followed by three years as a deputy state engineer.

Before coming to the Division of Water Resources, Ullmann served as city engineer for the City of Montrose, and before that, worked for consulting firms designing raw water infrastructure. He is a native of Colorado and a graduate of Colorado State University.

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COLE PARK ALAMOSA

Opinion

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

Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick



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 op-

portunities for 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

To submit news, email: news@alamosanews.com

To submit sports, email: khamrick@alamosanews.com

Letters policy

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

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

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.

Donald Trump and the J.D. Vance calculation

By BYRON YORK

MILWAUKEE, Wisc., -- Former President Donald Trump once privately told associates that the problem he faced selecting a running mate was that the field of potential partners did not include a no-brainer -- a candidate whose appeal was so strong, so obvious and so broad that he or she would have been a consensus pick that Trump could make without agonizing deliberations. Not having that no-brainer meant Trump would have to choose between less-than-perfect possibilities. On Monday afternoon at the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, he announced his choice: Ohio Sen. J.D. Vance.

Trump was tremendously successful in keeping his selection a secret. Modern political conventions don't have much drama -- by 4 p.m. on the first day, the delegates had formally voted and declared Trump the official 2024 GOP nominee, which was its big job for the week. Trump likes to create drama and excitement. He kept his choice a secret until almost literally the last minute -- Vance was notified that he had been selected about 20 minutes before Trump publicly announced it on TruthSocial, his social media network.

In the hour or two after the announcement, after Vance came personally to the floor of the convention where delegates instantly voted for him by acclamation as the Republican vice-presidential choice, I walked the halls of the Fiserv Forum and talked to quite a few delegates, alternate delegates, party officials, guests and other political types. I asked each what they thought of the Vance pick. The

results were mixed, reflecting the accuracy of Trump's observation that there was no no-brainer in the vice-presidential field.

Some loved the choice. That was especially true, you will not be surprised, of the Ohio delegation. They liked Vance's youth -- he is 39 and many see him, a millennial, as Trump's nod toward generational change, 39 years younger than Trump, 41 years younger than President Joe Biden, and 20 years younger than Vice President Kamala Harris. They like his enthusiastic embrace of America First and MAGA policies. They praised his intelligence, which is formidable, and they look forward to a Vance-Harris debate.

More generally, they were impressed with Vance's genuinely impressive life: an impoverished childhood in Appalachia, growing up in a family hit hard by drug addiction -- Vance told Fox News' Sean Hannity Monday night that, "My mom is about to celebrate 10 years sober" -- service in the U.S. Marines, college at Ohio State, law school at Yale, and then success in tech investing, a hugely successful memoir, "Hillbilly Elegy," that was made into a movie, and finally a shift to politics, with his first elected position being U.S. senator. That's quite a resume.

Still, other convention-goers were a little less enthusiastic. They fell into a couple of groups. One group had been looking for a more conventional pick, specifically one of the two businessman-governors in Trump's field of possibilities, North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum, and Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin. These people tended to want executive experience in a choice,

and the two governors, who were running their states after success in business, fit the bill perfectly. On the other hand, neither threw off sparks the way Vance can. If the selection was about who is more interesting -- and that is important to Trump -- they didn't make the cut.

Of course, because Vance is Trump's choice, and everybody here supports Trump, now everybody supports Vance, too. The delegates woke up on Monday not knowing who Trump's vice-presidential candidate would be. After they found out, with the Truth-Social post, Vance instantly became the man. As Trump's pick, he is riding a new wave of support from Trump's party.

There's no doubt Trump put a lot of thought into it. When I talked to him on Sunday aboard his 757 as he flew to Milwaukee -- less than 24 hours after he had been hit by a would-be assassin's bullet that easily could have killed him -- the first thing he wanted to discuss was the VP question. (He gave no clues about his decision.) He sought input from everybody. I really believe that if Trump ordered a pizza, he would have asked the delivery guy for his thoughts on the vice-presidential candidates. He is a habitual audience researcher; he always wants to know what people think.

Now he has made his choice. It's safe to say that as a vice presidential candidate, Vance will be a forceful advocate for Trump, a strong defender of Trump in the media and a smart adviser. Vance's Appalachian background and Marine experience might well help Trump expand his already-strong working-class appeal. Vance

told Hannity that Trump specifically mentioned the possibility that Vance would help the ticket win the crucial states of Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin. If Vance can do that, even in just one of those states, he will very likely be the next vice president of the United States.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.

Write them

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Lifestyles

Faith Hinkley Veterans Memorial Park Fundraiser is July 27

By MARIE MCCOLM MONTE VISTA — The Faith Hinkley Veteran's Memorial Park Fundraiser is being held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, July 27, at Chapman Park in Monte Vista.

The event will raise funds toward the completion of the Memorial Paver Installation Project, at Faith Hinkley Veteran's Memorial Park. This is sure to be a memorable event and will honor local fallen heroes and all the brave women and men who have served.

The City of Monte Vista is hosting this event. This is going to be an exciting experience from beginning to end for the entire family. There will be a poker run, a car and motorcycle show, vendors, food trucks, a beer garden, and music from a DJ and live bands. There will be kids games, a cornhole tournament, a dunk tank, and much more.

The Faith Hinkley Memorial Park Project began March 10, 2011. The City of Monte Vista, partnered with the Monte Vista School District to create the beloved park to celebrate and remember the lives of fallen U.S. Army Sgt. Faith Hinkley, and U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Glen E. Martinez. There have been many donations over the years from local businesses, and residents to help finish the park. This year, a stone will also be added by local businessman Bob Richards, and James Pacheco of the Polished Bean, for World War II Veteran George Blake, a Homelake Veterans community resident who passed away recently.

The fundraiser will help complete the Memorial Park project. Everything kicks off at 9 a.m. at Chapman Park with a poker run hosted by Larry Garner. Registration for this event opens at 8 a.m. The \$20 fee for the run also gets you into the car show; any licensed vehicle, cars,

trucks, and motorcycles are welcome to attend the run. At 9 a.m., everyone will follow Garner from Chapman Park, and the poker run will visit five historic sites. According to Garner, everyone from the run should be back by around 12:30 p.m.

At 10 a.m., the park activities will open for everyone to enjoy. Registration for a cornhole tournament will take place at 10 a.m., with the tournament starting at 11.

From 12 to 4 p.m., there will be live music, in this order, Marc Albion, The Rooster/Mikey Dynamic Drum Duo, Ol Scratch, and the SLV Big Band. At 2 p.m., the car show will commence, and at 5 p.m. there will be non-traditional fun awards given out for the car show, and at 6 p.m. the event will end.

All day long vendors will be selling their wares in the park, there will also be a lot of fun games going in the park for the kids to enjoy, including bouncy houses, and there will be a dunk tank, too. Nine food trucks are scheduled to be at the event. The food trucks will range from Mexican to American and all that's in between. There will also be a beer garden hosted by Colorado Farm Brew.

Students from the Byron Syring DELTA Center created some amazing T-shirts that will be available at the event for purchase for \$25.

The City of Monte Vista would like to thank all of the amazing sponsors that have donated to the event including, Valley Tractor Repair LLC, the Nazarene Thrift Store, RG Bank, The LOR Foundation Inc, Poole Agribusiness, H&R Block, Mackey Construction, The Roberts Team, Proud Military Parents and Supporters, O&V Printing Inc, Troy Plane Insurance Agency, David Hinkley, Rocky Mountain Memorabilia, and Brown's Septic.

Food truck vendor registration is closed, but there is still time to donate to the cause for the completion of the park and register to be a vendor. For more information about registering, contact City Clerk Unitia Vance at City Hall at 719-852-6171.

Vance is proud to be a part of the team that helped put this all together, as according to her and City Manager Gigi Dennis, the city has never hosted an event like this.

"Without everyone working on this together, it would not have been possible. We want to thank all our sponsors, and everyone at the city for pulling together to make this possible," Vance said.

Garner said, "This is a one-time event, to help finish the Faith Hinkley Memorial Park. I would really like to encourage people to come to this particular event, because it is so important."

City Manager Dennis said she appreciates all the hard work that all the city members have put in and all the sponsors and donations.

"Everyone has really pulled together to help with this event," she said.

Dennis also thanked Colette Skeff and her family for their generous donation of \$30,000 to help finish the park.

Skeff had this to say of the donation that she made, "These funds are in memory of Ray Skeff, Colette Skeff, and Margaret Skeff Family Funds. We are proud and honored to make this \$30,000 donation to the Faith Hinkley Memorial Park. The park provides a beautiful memorial to honor the veterans who have passed as well as celebrate those with us today who have served our country. The fundraiser by the City of Monte Vista inspired the Skeff families to make the donation to help the city with the funds to complete the park."



Courtesy photo

The attached photo is of the Stunner Bridge in the Alamosa Canyon.

Stunner Bridge replacement to begin

Minimal traffic delays expected

CONTRIBUTED

LA JARA — The Conejos Peak Ranger District announced Wednesday, July 17, that construction on the Stunner Bridge Replacement Project on Forest Service Road No. 250 will begin soon. The project is located approximately 5 miles northwest of Platoro. Equipment was scheduled to begin moving into the Alamosa Canyon as early as this week.

The plan is to use the

existing bridge as a bypass just adjacent to it, while the new bridge is constructed. Upon completion of the new bridge, the old bridge will be removed. The work will begin as soon as all the equipment is in place and conditions remain favorable.

"We are pleased to be working with Robins Construction from Antonito, CO on this project," said Judi Perez, acting Conejos Peak district ranger. "Having a local contractor implement this fourth and final planned Alamosa Canyon bridge construction project benefits our communities by cre-

ating jobs and providing a safe and sustainable transportation route. We thank the public, in advance, for their patience with slight travel delays that may be caused by heavy equipment activity in the area."

This project is funded through the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA), which aims to benefit the American public through significant investments in recreation infrastructure, public lands access and land and water conservation.

The construction of the new bridge may take until fall of 2025 to be completed.

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- 1 Shopping Local Creates Jobs:** The jobs created allow spending in the local economy and helps create more jobs.
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- 3 Local businesses sell a wide range of great products at affordable prices and cater to the needs and wants of the community.**
- 4 Shopping Local saves you money and time!** Travel expenses and personal time make the overall cost of items higher.
- 5 Shopping Local retains our community:** Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.

- 6 Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness:** Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community's needs.
- 7 Shopping Local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Alamosa's diversity, charm & appeal. Which in turn, attracts new community members.
- 8 Shopping Local invests in community services and city economy.** Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Alamosa.
- 9 Local shops value you more:** Local businesses survive by their reputation & repeat business which means you get a higher standard of service.

Fiesta de Santiago y Santa Ana

July 25-28, 2024

Thursday, July 25

5pm **Mass of Santiago**
Immaculate Conception Church, Chama
Crowning of the Santiago and Santa Ana Queen
Potluck dinner following Mass and crowning

Friday, July 26

5pm **Mass of Santa Ana**
Sangre de Cristo Church, San Luis

6pm - 7pm **Move Mountains Rap Video Shoot**
San Luis Community Park

8pm - 12am **Live Music - Bad Attitude**
San Luis Community Park

Saturday, July 27

All Day Adventure Zone Amusement Park
American Legion Field

All Day Santa Ana Softball Tournament
Delfino Salazar Field

10am **Fiesta de Santiago y Santa Ana Parade**
San Luis Main Street

11am - 4pm **Family Fun Event**
Free food, live music, games @ the San Luis Inn

12pm - 4pm **Low Rider Car Show**
Sangre de Cristo Parish Parking Lot
Award show at 4pm

2pm **La Vega Rubber Duck Race**
Culebra Creek, La Vega

6pm - 8pm **Milagro Beanfield War Play**
Sangre de Cristo Cultural Heritage Center Theater

6pm - 8pm **Live Music - Sangre Joven**
San Luis Community Park

8pm - 12am **Live Music - Grupo Mezcal**
San Luis Community Park

Sunday, July 28

7am **Stations of the Cross 10k Run**
San Luis Town Hall

10am **Fiesta de Santiago y Santa Ana Parade**
San Luis Main Street

11am **Grace Chapel Service**
San Luis Community Park

11am **Mariachi Mass**
Sangre de Cristo Church Courtyard
Mariachi performance and BBQ following Mass

1pm **Spanish Dancers, Los Vecinos Balladores**
Sangre de Cristo Church Courtyard

1pm - 3pm **Milagro Beanfield War Play**
Sangre de Cristo Cultural Heritage Center Theater

2pm - 3pm **Santa Ana Softball Tournament Championship**
Delfino Salazar Field

San Luis, Colorado

Painting by: Susan Sanderford

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Sports



Courtesy photo

Rick Lovato is Alamosa High School's new athletics director.

New AHS AD brings wealth of administrative experience

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – Rick Lovato, Alamosa High School's new athletics director, brings in many years of administrative experience, mainly as a school superintendent.

But he also has experience as an AD. "When I was in Cheraw, I was also the athletic director," Lovato said. "I was there for nine years, but mostly I was a superintendent for 19 years."

He spent the last 10 years as the superintendent at the East Otero School District in La Junta.

"I liked the superintendent job," Lovato said. "Post pandemic employee management was tough. I'm getting into the twilight of my career and being closer to the students was a draw to get out of that and kind of to move back down to being more of a worker than a manager."

Lovato started as a student-athlete at Swink High School where he played basketball.

He then attended and played basketball at Otero College in La Junta.

After completing his academics at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, he returned to Swink as a coach where he helped the Lions to a Class 2A state championship in 1996. He then coached at Cheraw and helped lead the Wolverines to Class 1A championships in 2001 and 2002.

"I coached with the 1996 state championship team at Swink," Lovato said. "I then coached with my dad at Cheraw in 2001 and 2002."

Lovato says he is looking forward to meeting with the community as he begins his new position.

"Right now, I really just want to meet the staff, the coaches, the community

and kids," Lovato said. "I also want to do my part to not mess up any tradition. There are pretty high expectations here for athletics and I want to be part of that and just getting to meet the people and learn the expectations."

"I come in with a pretty good spot right now," Lovato continued. "Coach (Greg) King has stepped in since Mr. (Erik) Melgoza's passing and kind of carried on what Erik had started. I just hope to keep the momentum moving in a positive direction. I would like to be able to work as long as I can. I am getting close to that retirement age and I'm doing this for my livelihood. It's what I want to do and I it's what I enjoy doing. I just want to keep enjoying the job and enjoying the kids."

Lovato is the father of four children. His son, Treyce, will attend Alamosa and look to play basketball and baseball.

"My daughter, Brooklyn, is staying in La Junta with her mom, and my son, Treyce, will be coming with me as a junior. He plays basketball and baseball. He can shoot it a little bit. He's not a physical yet as I think he could be, but he likes to shoot it from the outside and can handle the ball pretty well. So he's kind of a bigger guard about 6-2 or 6-3."

Lovato had a chance to meet with the coaches and staff when he accepted the position.

"When I first accepted the position, they had a day that I came and I met the staff," Lovato said. "Then the first week of June, I came for an admin retreat to close out the year and I met the administrative staff. The superintendent, the department heads, maintenance, transportation, and those folks. I've met just about everybody I'll work pretty closely with."



Courier file photo by Ken Hamrick

Saguache's Klayt Staudt (left) competes in team roping with his brother, Jace, in last month's Alamosa Round-Up.

NHSFR results as of Thursday morning

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – The National High School Finals Rodeo's seventh performance was completed on Thursday morning at the Sweetwater Events Center in Rock Springs, Wyo.

Klayt Staudt of Saguache finished his performances in boys cutting on Wednesday. In his first performance on Wednesday morning, he compiled a score of 137 points which was 45th in the first go-round. In his second run, he scored 130 points which was 24th in the go as of Thursday morning. His total score of 267 points is 20th overall as of Thursday morning. Staudt had his first run

in team roping along with Rett Coors of Loveland on Tuesday morning. However, they did not record a time.

They had their second run on Thursday evening. The results were not available as of press time on Thursday.

Another Saguache performer, Rivers Hill, has her two barrel racing runs on Wednesday. In the morning, she had a time of 17.938 seconds which placed her 47th in the first go. Her second run of 22.846 seconds on Wednesday evening was 55th as of Thursday morning. Her total time of 40.784 was 48th overall as of Thursday morning.

Sanford's Ben Sittler had his first bull ride

on Tuesday morning. However, he did not receive a score.

His second ride was on Thursday evening.

The shooting results were not available as of Thursday morning. Sanford's Alex Sittler is competing in both the trap shoot and the rifle shoot.

The rifle shoot first go was on Tuesday morning at the Green River Shooting range in Green River, Wyo., The trap shoot first go was on Thursday morning at the Sweetwater Trap Club in Rock Springs.

The NHSFR concludes with the shot go on Saturday night. The top 15 in each event will return for the short go.

Sports Bulletin

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

SCHEDULE FRIDAY Rodeo

Manassa Pioneer Days Rodeo, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY Rodeo

Manassa Pioneer Days Rodeo, 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Motorsports

Manassa Pioneer Days Demolition Derby, 6 p.m.

ALAMOSA PARKS AND RECREATION BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

7-8 coed machine pitch At Sunset Field

WEDNESDAY

Thunderdogs vs. Predators, 5:30 p.m.

(southwest) Bat Busters vs. Strikers, 5:30 p.m. (northeast) Longhorns vs. Little Rascals, 6:30 p.m. (northeast) **End of season**

Coed Leisure softball At Lee Field MONDAY

Steel Line vs. The Undertakers, 7 p.m. (Field 2) All Valley Towing vs. SOS Misfits, 8 p.m. (Field 2) **Regular season ends**

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DEL NORTE POLICE OFFICER. The TOWN of DEL NORTE is seeking qualified applicants for position of POLICE OFFICER. Applicants must be POST certified as a Colorado Police Officer. Selected applicants must be able to pass a physical, physiological evaluation, pre-employment drug test, and extensive background check. Must be able to work all shifts. Salary \$45k-\$48k DOE, plus excellent benefits and retirement. Must be at least 21 years of age. Send resume to Del Norte Police Department email: delnorte1860@outlook.com or apply at delnortecolorado.com or can be picked up at Del Norte Police Dept. 525 Grand Ave., Del Norte, Co 81132. Deadline until position filled. EEO/ADA. (8/23/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

DIRECTOR OF EMPLOYEE SUPPORT (DES). LA PUENTE is our community's response to address the effects of poverty by providing a safety net of services, where individuals and families get what they need to stabilize, heal, strengthen, and ultimately thrive. Seeking Director of Employee Support who will assist with hiring, onboarding, training facilitation, conflict management, and strengthening organizational culture. Seeking experienced independent professional with strong people skills and understanding of holistic staff support and development. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of helping others. Salary \$55k-60k DOE. Full benefit package. Send cover letter, resume, request job description: hr@lapuente.net La Puente: P.O. Box 1235, ALAMOSA, CO 81101; 719/589-5909 (Ext 238); www.lapuente.net. (8/17/24)

L&M BODY SHOP is now hiring a full time BOOKKEEPER/ESTIMATOR. Must have computer experience, be professional, reliable and organized. Hours M-F from 8:00 to 5:00. Please send resume to marcie@slvproperties.com. (8/7/24)

RANCH / FARM HELP; PART-TIME. 719-274-0380. (8/17/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

MONTE VISTA HEAD START is accepting applications for a LEADTEACHER. This position is full time 38 hours/ week. Must have an AA or BA in ECE or related field. Starting Pay is 17.00 to 22.00 Depending on education and experience. Applications are available at Monte Vista Head Start, 2863 Sherman Ave., MONTE VISTA Colorado. For more information, you may contact the Director by email, Director@MVheadstart.org or call 719-852-3215. An employment application must be complete. Position open until filled. (7/26/24)

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26JT is looking for a MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL COACH for the 2024-2025 season. Qualifications: Must be over 18, have a high school diploma/GED and be able to pass a background check, or such alternative qualifications as the Board may find appropriate and acceptable. Non-Certified Applications can be found on the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719)754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (8/2/24)

BUTCHER WANTED! PROCESSING wild game and domestic animals. For more info call 719-859-4198! (8/10/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

THE CITY OF MONTE VISTA has an immediate opening for WASTEWATER MAINTENANCE I. Full-time, +rotating weekends. The position is responsible for ensuring compliance with established regulations by monitoring wastewater treatment processes. Hourly range starts at \$17 - \$18.65. Benefits include health, dental, vision, life, 401(a) w/ match, paid holidays and vacation. Must pass a background and pre-employment drug test, including testing for marijuana. Application and job description are available at cityofmontevista.colorado.gov and submit applications to hmanager@ci.montevista.co.us or pickup and drop off at 95 W. 1st Ave., Monte Vista, CO 81144. (7/20/24)

SAN LUIS VALLEY HEALTH is hiring C.N.A's! Come work for a great organization with amazing benefits and make a difference in patients' lives. A C.N.A license is required but assistance is available for those that need to take the state test. To learn more about this incredible opportunity check out our careers page at www.slvh.org or call 719-587-1200. (7/31/24)

CENTER IN NEED OF WORKERS. There are SEVERAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE. Hours 8:00 am-???. Competitive wages. Please inquire at MOUNTAIN KING SPUD GROWERS, 1090 South Miles Street, Center, CO. (8/7/24)

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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

RIO GRANDE COUNTY is accepting applications for a **HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST**. Full-time, Monday - Friday. Salary starts at \$59,133 - \$65,248 annually DOE. Benefits include Health, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, Paid Holidays and a 401(a) at 4% match. Starting annual salary of \$57,408 - \$59,717 DOE. Must pass a background check and pre-employment drug test, including testing for marijuana. Application and job description are available at riograndecounty.org and submit applications to humanresources@riograndecounty.org or pick up and drop off at 925 6th Street, Room 200, DEL NORTE, CO 81132. (8/10/24)

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT (DCE). LA PUENTE is our community's response to address the effects of poverty by providing a safety net of services, where individuals and families get what they need to stabilize, heal, strengthen, and ultimately thrive. Seeking DCE who will lead/manage a team to engage the community through presentations, publications, special events, public relations, and social media communications. Seeking self-starter, with strong written oral skills and the ability to lead a team. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of helping others. Salary \$46-52k DOE. Full benefits package. Send resume/cover letter & request job description: hr@lapuente.net La Puente, P.O. Box 1235, ALAMOSA, CO 81101; 719 589-5909 (Ext 238) www.lapuente.net. (7/26/24)

THE CRESTONE CHARTER SCHOOL is attracting skilled educators for a **MS/HS SCIENCE TEACHER** position. Qualified applicants will have a breadth of knowledge in biology, physics, chemistry, and earth science as well as instructional practices for individualized, project-based, experiential learning; teacher's license is preferred but educational experience is required. Salaried with benefits ranging from \$40-60K. Full-time for the 2024/25 SY. CCS also seeks a **PART-TIME TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR & DRIVER** to start ASAP for the 24-25 school year. Wages range from \$16.50-20.00 per hour. The position includes coordination of van fleet, drivers, and sports and trip driving. Clean driving record (not CDL) required. Call 719-256-4907 or visit www.crestone-charter-school.org/employment. (8/9/24)

POTATO WAREHOUSE IN CENTER IN NEED OF WORKERS. There are SEVERAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE. Hours 8:00 am-???. Competitive wages. Please inquire at MOUNTAIN KING SPUD GROWERS, 1090 South Miles Street, Center, CO. (8/7/24)

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for a **MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEE**. This is a full-time position with benefits. Monte Vista School District offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, and life coverage. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Maintenance and Custodial Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities> by July 18, 2024 or until the position is filled. (7/24/24)

SANGRE DE CRISTO has openings for the following positions: **SCHOOL COUNSELOR**; K-12 **MUSIC TEACHER**; **MS FOOTBALL**; **HS BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL**; **NUTRITION STAFF**. Please contact Dave Crews for more information 719-420-1422 or Jenna Mondragon at 719-717-0871. (7/24/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED PART TIME - DEPUTY CORONER: Experienced individual needed for On Call Part time position assisting the Saguache County Coroner. The position will be an on call/as needed position. Coroner calls are paid at \$150.00 per call and Transports are \$150.00 per call. Weekday on call \$15.00 per day and Weekend on call \$30.00 per day. Please contact April Quintana with the Saguache County Administration office for an application or printable at www.saguachecounty.colorado.gov. Call 719-655-2231 for more information. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. SAGUACHE COUNTY is an EEO employer. Drug testing and a background check will be required for final applicants. (7/24/24)

JR/SR HIGH LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER needed at DEL NORTE JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess 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. (8/7/24)

DEL NORTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL is seeking an energetic, caring individual to serve as a **SPECIAL EDUCATION PARAEducator**. Applicants must have a high school diploma and prior experience working with students with special needs is preferred. Please submit your application to Amy Duda, DNES Principal at 950 French Street, DEL NORTE, CO 81132; aduda@urtigers.co; or call at 719-657-4050. The position will be open until filled. You can pick up an application at the District Office or on-line at www.urtigers.co. (8/6/24)

AT HOME CHILD CARE PROVIDER needed for the UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT in DEL NORTE. 150 days per year which includes all days that teachers are at school. Applicants must have a high school diploma and experience working with young children is a plus! Applications may be retrieved online at www.urtigers.co please email ahorrocks@urtigers.co or aduda@urtigers.co for more information or to send completed applications. (8/6/24)

DEL NORTE JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL is looking for an energetic and experienced candidate to serve as the district's **STRENGTH & 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. (8/6/24)

SANGRE DE CRISTO has openings for the following positions: **SCHOOL COUNSELOR**; K-12 **MUSIC TEACHER**; **MS FOOTBALL**; **HS BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL**; **NUTRITION STAFF**. Please contact Dave Crews for more information 719-420-1422 or Jenna Mondragon at 719-717-0871. (7/24/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF CENTER is excited to announce an opening in our **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**. We are seeking a motivated and skilled individual to join our team. This position offers the opportunity to directly serve the Center community, playing a vital role in Serving as the town's Enforcement agent in code, building and animal control. It is a full-time position. We are recruiting for one **ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**. Applicant must also have the ability to interact with customers and possess good communication skills. Applicant must also pass a background check and pre-employment drug testing. The candidate will also be subject to random drug testing. The job description and the application is on the Towns website, townofcenter.colorado.gov. Please submit your application to Town Hall or email to jhurtado@centerco.gov. The deadline is until positions are filled. (7/20/24)

THE TOWN OF LA JARA is accepting applications for **POLICE OFFICER**. Must be currently Colorado POST certified; willing to submit to background and criminal history checks as well as a psychological test. Salary starting at \$48,500.00 depending on experience. The Town of La Jara offers an excellent benefit package that includes vision, dental and medical insurance, PTO and paid holidays. Applications may be picked up at La Jara Town Hall, 221 Broadway; call 719-274-5363 for more information. (7/19/24)

EDUCATION MANAGER: CENTER HEAD START is searching for an **EDUCATION MANAGER**. Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or equivalent, experience working with diverse children and families, knowledge of Early Childhood development and ECE reports. Highly advised that applicants have good communication skills, leadership skills and ability to plan and problem solve. Applications can be picked up at the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions please call the office at 719-759-9259. (7/31/24)

FAMILY SERVICES MANAGER: CENTER HEAD START is looking for a highly motivated **FAMILY SERVICES MANAGER**. Applicants must have strong interpersonal and communication skills. Required to have a degree, certificate or credential in social work, human services, family services, or counseling related field at hire or within 18 months of hire. This position works closely with our families to help them reach their goals and create community partnerships. Highly preferable if bilingual (English/Spanish). Applications can be picked up at the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions, please call the office at 719-759-9259. (7/31/24)

RIO GRANDE COUNTY is hiring! Available full-time positions with competitive pay and benefits include: **ASSESSOR'S OFFICE APPRAISER TRAINEE**; **PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE**; **ROAD & BRIDGE EQUIPMENT OPERATOR**; **SHERIFF'S OFFICE DETENTION/DISPATCH DEPUTY**; Sheriff's Office **DETENTION/DISPATCH SERGEANT** and **CORPORAL**; Sheriff's Office **ROAD DEPUTY**; Sheriff's Office **JAIL COOK**; **SOCIAL SERVICES LEGAL TECHNICIAN MANAGER**. Benefits include medical, retirement, and paid time-off. Visit www.riograndecounty.org for details including applications and job descriptions or pickup at Human Resources: 925 6th St., Rm. 200, DEL NORTE, CO. (7/26/24)

304 - LAWN & GARDEN

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

324 - SEED & FEED

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HAY FOR SALE: \$7 bale. 719-274-0380. (8/6/24)

341 - GARAGE SALE

MULTIFAMILY GARAGE SALE: Friday, July 19th & Saturday, July 20th, 7:00am-1:00pm. 721 Diamond Drive, ALAMOSA. Kids toys and lots of misc. items. (7/20/24)

YARD SALE: SATURDAY, 7/20/24, 8AM, 4726 State Hwy. 17, ALAMOSA. Something for everyone! (7/20/24)

HUGE MULTI-FAMILY ESTATE SALE: Ammunition, tools, clothes, bedding, appliances, & much more. 20 Meadow Lane, MONTE VISTA. Friday 7/19 8am-4pm & Sat. 7/20 8am-noon. (7/20/24)

ESTATE, RETIREMENT & MOVING SALE - Thursday 7/18 - Sunday 7/21, 8:00 to 4:00 daily - Lots of collectables. If you can't find something here, you don't need anything else!!! **COUNTY LINE & LANE 8 NORTH** - watch for signs. (7/20/24)

GARAGE SALE: FRIDAY 7/19 & Saturday 7/20, 8AM-2PM, 307 14th, ALAMOSA. Lots of women's clothing! (7/20/24)

SECOND CHANCE INDOOR YARD SALE. Saturday, July 20th, 8am-2pm. **BREAKFAST BURGERS & GRANNIE'S BAKE SALE, & FREE COFFEE**. Sacred Heart Church, 709, 4th St., ALAMOSA. (7/20/24)

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

RIDING LAWN MOWER for sale; good condition. For more details, call 719-580-5745. (7/19/24)

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368 - PETS & SUPPLIES

AKC FRENCH BULLDOG Puppies. Ready to go Aug. 7, full DNA, chipped, wormed, shots, 30 days insurance, lifetime support \$3,500 719-640-6404 www.DuneView-Frenchies.com. (8/3/24)

401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES

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426 - MOBILE HOMES FORSALE

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

525 - GUNS

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

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

REDUCED: EAST ALAMOSA, 1 BEDROOM, \$645/monthly, \$700/ deposit, utilities included. Employment required. 719-580-3710. (7/27/24)

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

NICE 1 BEDROOM with W/D, across from ASU. Call 719-251-3597. (7/27/24)

2 BEDROOM NEAR ASU/ Hospital, 1204 Lincoln. No smokers/vapors. 1 year lease, references. 719-588-1422. (7/26/24)

611 - HOMES FOR RENT

2 STORY HISTORIC RENOVATED 4 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH. Appliances furnished. Deck, shop, garage, large fenced in backyard. Excellent neighborhood: 416 2nd Ave., MONTE VISTA. \$2150/month, plus utilities. Yearly lease; available now. Contact 719-852-5101 or 719-852-5350. (8/17/24)

701 - AUTOS FOR SALE

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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Hardens
 - 5 Blast from the —
 - 9 Play-ground game
 - 12 Fail to mention
 - 13 Bone
 - 14 "Give — go!"
 - 15 Helper
 - 16 Hit with open hand
 - 17 Healthy
 - 18 Deliver a sermon
 - 20 Nonsense
 - 22 Calendar box
 - 23 Kick out
 - 24 LP material
 - 27 Tempo
 - 29 Euro predecessor
 - 30 Likely winner
 - 34 Bicycle type (hyph.)
 - 37 Court
 - 38 Pay attention to

- 39 Ridiculous fellow**
- 41 — Minor
 - 43 Rival
 - 44 "Someday My — Will Come"
 - 46 Taylor Swift song, "So Long —"
 - 50 Assoc.
 - 51 Stew pot
 - 53 Melody
 - 54 Skillet
 - 55 Dismounted
 - 56 Brainwave
 - 57 Curve shape
 - 58 Bugle call
 - 59 For fear that
- DOWN**
- 1 Daytime drama
 - 2 Eastern potentate
 - 3 Neap —
 - 4 Regular
 - 5 Too assertive
 - 6 "— that glitters ..."
 - 7 Crisp cookie

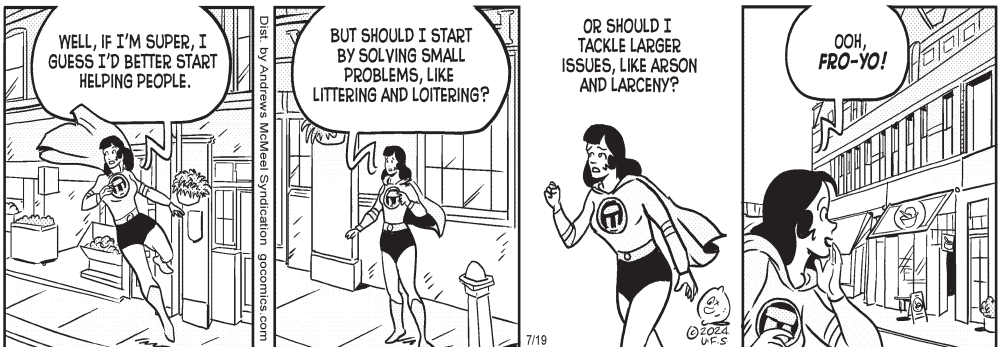
Answer to Previous Puzzle

M	E	A	T	R	I	M	M	I	T										
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R	I	B	E	Y	E	S	A	L	O	E									
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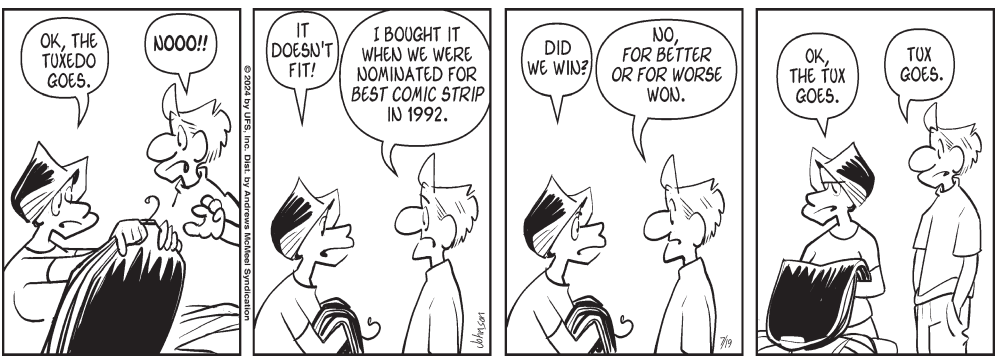
- 8 Pudding variety
- 9 Quarrels
- 10 Inclined
- 11 Turnstile
- 19 Baseball's — Ripken
- 21 Combustible stuff
- 24 Doggie doc
- 25 Frost
- 26 Convent dweller
- 27 Mottled
- 28 "— how!"
- 30 Charge
- 31 — Jima
- 32 Do a farm job
- 33 Like a — of bricks
- 35 Climb
- 36 Sailor's jacket (2 wds.)
- 39 Bill and —
- 40 Edible seed
- 41 Wall hanging
- 42 Endorses
- 43 No-heel shoes
- 44 Vatican head
- 45 "— Enchanted"
- 47 Guy
- 48 Singles
- 49 In good order
- 52 Cup edge

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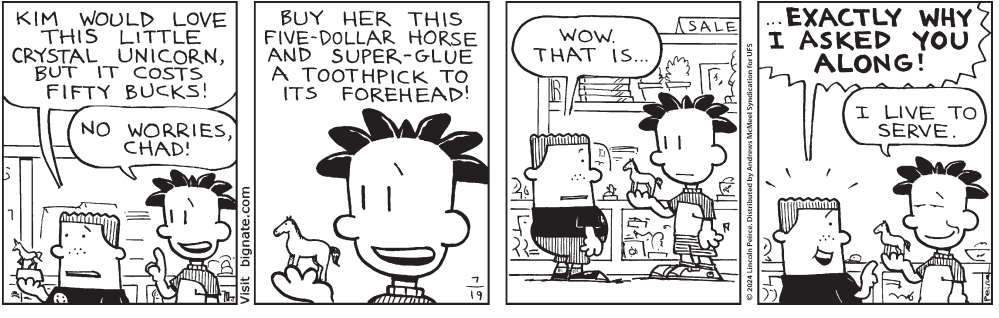
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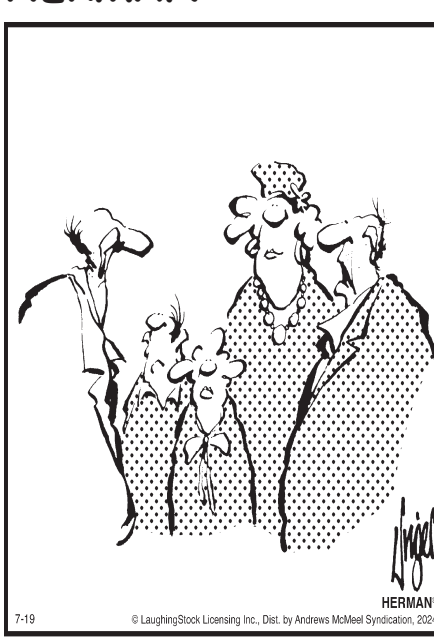


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6	7					3	1

HERMAN



Troubling memories about dad haunt his daughter

DEAR ABBY: When I was young and even as I grew older, my father touched me inappropriately. It made me uncomfortable even as an adult. I feel like when I was very small, something more may have happened. I may have been drugged to keep me from remembering. I know a few weird things that went on, and my mother knew about it. I always felt uncomfortable around him. Yet I loved my parents very much. I have the weirdest dreams about them doing things to me that I don't like.

I have been in therapy before but not necessarily about this issue. I know I was my father's favorite child because I was always pleasant, more than my sister. Our parents are both dead now and have been for many years. I don't want to think bad thoughts about them, but I wish I knew for sure what happened. Do you have any advice for me? I hate myself for thinking bad about the parents I loved so much. They were good to me and my sister growing up. -- NEEDING CLARITY IN ALABAMA

DEAR NEEDING CLARITY: The first person you should talk

to about this is your sister, who was always "less pleasant" to your father than you were. It might be enlightening. However, if it isn't, please talk with a licensed psychotherapist about your persistent bad dreams. It won't be the first time a therapist has heard a story like this, and you deserve to have peace of mind.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter-in-law has turned my son away from his sister. It has gotten so bad he no longer wants me to tell him anything about her or her family, and I am to tell my daughter nothing about his family. I am elderly and do not need this on my head. I love my son and I really liked my DIL, but she has changed. My son does nothing without first asking her.

I have only one son and one daughter, and it troubles me that when I pass, they won't have each other. My daughter recently had a kidney removed because of cancer, but my DIL insists she never had cancer. My DIL has MS and is very negative about life. She can still walk, drive and has been very lucky. Please help me. I love them all and I am so upset. What



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

can I do about this? --SAD MOM IN TEXAS

DEAR MOM: There is nothing you can do about this sorry situation. Your daughter-in-law's denial of your daughter's cancer surgery could easily be overcome if your daughter were to show her brother her medical records. For whatever reason, your daughter-in-law has decided that all of her husband's attention should be directed toward her (and her own illness) rather than toward his sister. All you can do at this point and beyond is see your children separately, as often as you can, and hope they both stay safe, healthy and close by as long as they have you.