



Staudt wins Colorado boys all-around title, will compete in two events at NHSFR

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Monsoon season in the Valley

— Page 12

San Luis Valley
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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

July 10, 2024

\$1

San Luis Valley Ski-Hi Stampede
Official Program
Published Wednesday, July 10, 2024

San Luis Valley Ski-Hi Stampede
— Inside today's Valley Courier

SLV Today

CPAC electing Potatoes USA representative

MONTE VISTA — The Colorado Potato Administrative Committee (CPAC) can elect one Potatoes USA representative this year. Anyone interested in this board member position, must contact Jessica Bradshaw at CPAC before Aug. 1 to be placed on the ballot, by calling 719-852-3322.

Sangre de Cristo School BOE Meeting

MOSCA — The Sangre de Cristo School Board of Education regular monthly meeting has been moved to Tuesday, July 16, in the school Library at 8751 Lane 7 North, Mosca, at 6 p.m.

Copies of agendas are posted at school site, website, the Hooper and Mosca Post Offices, and the Mosca Pit Stop. Meetings are open to the public.

Emmanuel Chapel VBS is July 22-26

SOUTH FORK — Standing Strong in Today's Battle for Truth is the theme of Vacation Bible School, July 22-26, at Emmanuel Chapel in South Fork. It goes from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily for ages 5 to 13. For more information or to pre-register, call 719-850-2634.

SLV WEATHER
Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 82/45

Thurs: Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 84/47

Fri: Slight Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 88/49

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Giving back to those who give so much

ACSO deputies issued life-saving vests

By **PRISCILLA WAGGONER**
Courier Reporter
ALAMOSA — Deputies at the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) gathered in the board room of the Alamosa County com-
■ See **VESSTS** page 3



Shield616 presents ACSO deputies with 'angel armor' bulletproof vests capable of providing top of the line protection. Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Alamosa celebrates 1878 founding



These actors celebrated the founding of Alamosa during the First Friday festivities on July 5. In 1878, the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad line was extended from Garland City to Alamosa and a city was born. At least four buildings were transported by rail to the new city including the Gem Saloon. Courtesy photo



SLV 911 Emergency Telephone Authority offers reverse 911

By **JOHN WATERS**
Courier News Editor
SAN LUIS VALLEY — Residents throughout the Valley can receive emergency reverse 911 messages through the San Luis Valley Emergency Telephone Authority by visiting the website www.slve911.org. In 2009, Connecticut became the first state in the nation to utilize a reverse 911 system and they are deployed across the U.S. and Canada. In 2004, reverse 911 was used in Granby, Colorado to notify residents of a bulldozer rampage. Reverse 911 was used during the 2012 Sandy Hook — Newtown Connecticut school shooting. To receive the emergency messages, visit the website, www.slve911.org and next to the text, "If we can't REACH you, we can't ALERT you. Register for FREE emergency alerts,"
■ See **REVERSE** page 3

Ski-Hi Stampede is back, just a little earlier

STAFF REPORT
MONTE VISTA — The annual Ski-Hi Stampede is a little sooner than usual. Everything kicks off on July 11 and runs through July 14. That's right, what usually takes place at the end of July is this week at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista. The Stampede Committee made the announcement to have the Stampede sooner following last year's event, with the goal of drawing more professionals to the PRCA rodeo. Wright's Amusements will be here beginning on Wednesday, July 10.

The carnival will be in town for five days, complete with adventure-filled rides, tasty treats, fun-filled games, and more. On Thursday, July 11, the annual Rotary Chuck Wagon Dinner will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. right before the big kickoff concert. This year Country Music Hall of Fame member Wynonna Judd is headlining the concert on July 11 at 7:30 p.m. Wynonna is world renowned and known both as a solo artist and duet artist with her beautiful voice.

■ See **STAMPEDE** page 3



The annual Ski-Hi Stampede will be in Monte Vista on July 11-14 at the Ski-Hi Complex. File photo

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Record

OBITUARIES

Larry Eugene Carpenter



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.Rogers-Funerals.com.

Nadine Dieckman



from the flower shop, she took a summer, stipend-pay, work experience at a Yellowstone gift shop. She worked there for 3 years and came to love her coworkers. She loved exploring Yellowstone's beauty and spoke of that adventure for the rest of her life.

Nadine was the mother of Troy and Renee, who she enjoyed immensely and who supported her emotionally. Renee married Perry Hazard, a rancher from Saguache. Nadine loved and respected her son-in-law as well as her four grandchildren. Megan, Will, Ben and Kait were the joy of her life.

She could be seen wrestling, reading, painting, hiking, having picnics, and so much more with all of them. She and several other grandparents made up the cheering section at school sports and activities. Nadine could be seen smiling, laughing, and cheering on both sides, as everyone needs some encouragement. She rarely missed anything the grandkids were doing. When Kait was in high school, she coached youth basketball. When asked why Nadine went to all of her games even though Kait didn't play, Nadine said, "if I don't go, then it's over."

She never wanted any of her time with her grandkids to be over. She followed their lives on a huge map on her dining room table. She would say, "it's like I can be with them along their way." She helped to shape each of them into the people they are today.

Nadine had hidden plans we just recently found. They included, running with the bulls at Paloma, climbing breathlessly up a beautiful mountain, though I think she did this throughout her life, and walking the Appalachia Trail. She may not have accomplished all of those plans but there were so many she did.

Nadine could, among other things, paint a house inside and out, dry-wall, tape, and texture, letter truck emblems, operate an orchard, embroider, make beautiful quilts, ride a horse, make blankets, sing solo at a wedding, sing lead in a barber shop chorus, play the piano and pump organ for church and plea-

sure, sing in the church choir, scrapbook, run a tractor, rake hay, play cards, do paper quilling, make miniature houses. Everything she pursued. She did so with excellence.

Nadine was a sign painter, the owner of 18 horses, a trail boss, pilot and navigator, a delivery person, a volunteer, a good cook and baker, a florist and an excellent gift buyer, an executive secretary, and a business owner.

She spent her first 18 years on the plains of eastern Nebraska where she lived and grew. She realized how beautiful that country is — so good, so lovely, sometimes so lush. But, oh the mountains, her heart was there. She lived the rest of her life surrounded by the Rocky Mountains. She was sure anywhere she was; she'd find the beauty.

More than anything, Nadine loved her family.

Nadine Florence Clausen Dieckman died on Friday, June 20, 2024, at the age of 90.

Nadine is survived by her brother Lavern Clausen, sister Bonnie Converse, sister-in-law Pat Clausen, son Troy Dieckman, daughter and son-in-law Renee and Perry Hazard, and her beloved grandchildren Megan and Matt Varoz, Senior Master Sergeant Will and Dr. Linh Hazard, Ben and Dr. Kaeli Hazard, Professor Kait and Zach Cureton-Hazard.

She was preceded in death by her parents Olie and Florence (Glandt) Clausen, her brother Duane Clausen, sister-in-law Alma Clausen, brother-in-law Robert Converse, and great-nephew Robert Clausen.

The older Nadine became the more she realized trying to grow old gracefully was harder than she thought it could be and the more she realized she had no desire for drama or conflict. She just wanted a cozy home, good food, and to be surrounded by lovely people who made her happy.

Her wish was for us to be giddy, silly, and to have fun.

There will be a celebration of life on Monday, July 22, at 10 a.m. at Living Water Bible Fellowship, 2910 Clark St., Alamosa, Colo.

In lieu of any gift, please consider donating to the Mosca-Hooper Volunteer Fire Department at 5235 N Hwy 17, Mosca, CO 81146

Arrangements have been made through Rogers Family Mortuary. To leave online remarks, condolence, and words of comfort for Nadine's family, please visit www.RogersFunerals.com.

Richard 'Dick' Darrell Johnston



Alamosa School District in Colorado came up in 1979, Richard and Mona moved their family closer to the Rocky Mountains, where Richard enjoyed the rest of his career before retiring in 1987.

Richard and Mona had three daughters Renee, Lisa, and Becky, and three sons, Scott, Rick, and Mike. He had a strong work ethic and adhered to his moral values, yet was sociable, an eloquent leader, and kept a good-natured sense of humor. He and Mona traveled widely and lived in many places, including North Dakota, Kansas, Minnesota, Colorado, and New Mexico.

He enjoyed racing cars and motorcycles. Richard helped to establish the Nodak racing club as the club's first Treasurer and Secretary, while also participating in the first organized season of racing at the legendary Nodak Speedway in 1953.

Richard's love for airplanes and flying started

before even he could remember, owning a plane before he owned a car and taking his first official flying lesson at the age of 16.

He was an expert in woodworking and created cherished wooden crafts for his loved ones, which will continue to be passed down to future generations as cherished family heirlooms.

Richard enjoyed reading, family history, eating ice cream, and playing board games with his grandchildren. He loved animals and was rarely seen without one of his dogs by his side.

He was preceded in death by Leon, Etta, Bunny, Jerry, and Mona.

Richard is survived by his sisters, Kathy and Jill; children, Renee and Jim Loehr, Scott and Melissa Johnston, Rick Johnston, Lisa and Ron Weber, Mike Johnston, and Becky and Andy Pierce; 10 grandchildren (Emily, Brandy, Paul, Katie, Zachary, Ronnie, Rachel, Mary, Forest, and AJ) and nine great-grandchildren (Fisher, Trent, Violet, Maggie, Russel, Lacey, Ruth, Noelle, and Ruby).

Richard passed away peacefully in his home in Rio Rancho, N.M., on Sunday, May 12, 2024. His ashes, together with Mona Johnston's ashes, will be returned to the earth in a family plot in North Dakota.

BIRTHS

Zarielle Collen Sanchez

Zarielle Collen Sanchez was born July 1, 2024, to parents Amber and Michael Sanchez of Alamosa. Zarielle weighed 7 pounds and 5 ounces and

was 18.75 inches.

Maternal grandparents are Colleen Tabeling and John Dominguez of Alamosa, and Johnny Jacques of Alamosa.

Paternal grandparents are Michael and Darlene Sanchez of Monte Vista

Great-grandparent is Connie Tabeling of Alamosa.

Kai Daniel Ortega

Kai Daniel Ortega was born July 8, 2024, to parents Amanda Romer and Gene Ortega of Monte Vista. Kai weighed 6

pounds and 3 ounces and was 17.5 inches.

Maternal grandparents are Vickie Romer of Monte Vista and the late

Daniel Romer.

Paternal grandparents are Juan Medina of Alamosa and Eugene Ortega of Monte Vista.

PENDING OBITUARY

Cheryl Geraci

Alamosa resident Cheryl Geraci took her eternal rest on July 6, 2024. Her arrangements are currently pending, and full obituary will be announced soon through Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

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 If the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed.

School Menu Wednesday July 10, 2024

BREAKFAST

Mini Waffles

Fruit & Milk

ELEMENTARY

Macaroni & Cheese

Broccoli

Roll

Fruit & Milk

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Macaroni & Cheese

Broccoli

Roll

Fruit & Milk

HIGH SCHOOL

Macaroni & Cheese

Broccoli

Roll

Fruit & Milk

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Valley News

Colorado awards \$17.4M to combat youth vaping crisis

Three SLV entities receiving funding

CONTRIBUTED
DENVER — Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser announced Tuesday the distribution of \$17.4 million to 42

schools, governmental entities, and non-profit organizations to combat the youth vaping crisis, including three in the San Luis Valley. These funds come from the attorney general's multimillion-dollar settlement with e-cigarette manufacturer Juul Labs, Inc., and will support programs focused on education, pre-

vention, and treatment of youth vaping, which may include mental and behavioral health services. "By investing in these organizations, we are taking a critical step toward protecting our youth from the dangers of vaping. This funding will empower communities to educate our young people about the

risks, implement preventive measures, and provide essential treatment for those affected," explained Weiser. "Together, we can create a healthier future for our children and help them not turn to vaping in the first place." The grants were awarded through two programs: one for non-profits and government

entities, and another for local education providers in partnership with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). Six million dollars was made available to non-profits and government entities through the Colorado Department of Law's Combating Youth Vaping in Colorado Grant. The department received 31 grant applications requesting more than \$18 million, with awards going to the following programs in the San Luis Valley.

- Alamosa RE 11J, \$244,968
 - Center, \$198,098
 - San Luis Valley BO-CES, \$273,870
- "We are pleased to award this grant funding to fight the youth vaping crisis by providing resources for education, prevention and treatment in our Colorado schools," said Colorado Education Commissioner Susana Córdova.

"Our goal is to give local educators the tools they need to address the health impacts of vaping on our youth." The Juul Labs, Inc. settlement was reached in 2023, resolving a lawsuit against the company for targeting young people in its marketing and misrepresenting the health risks of its products. Colorado received \$31.7 million from the nationwide settlement. Both grants are part of the attorney general's comprehensive, multifaceted approach to address the immediate and long-lasting health implications of youth vaping. Last month, Weiser also announced a \$20 million initiative to boost school-community partnerships and promote youth mental health and wellness statewide. Applications for this granting opportunity will open in fall 2024 and close in early 2025.

Hope in the Valley rehab facility grand opening



Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Although it has been open since May 22, Hope in the Valley rehab facility in Alamosa is having a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony from 1 to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11. It is open to the public. Located at 1317 17th St., Hope in the Valley describes itself as a 'state-of-the-art-of-the- new rehab facility in Alamosa.' The journey of creating and opening Hope in the Valley has taken place over the past two years, culminating in a first-of-its-kind rehab facility opening in the San Luis Valley designed to meet a longtime need.

Stampede

Continued from Page 1
ful late mother, Naomi Judd. They were known on stage as The Judds. According to the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame, Naomi and Wynonna formed one of the most successful duos in country music history, recording 14 number one singles between 1984 to 1989. The Judds recorded many memorable songs such

as, "Momma He's Crazy," "Rockin' with the Rhythm of the Rain," "Give a Little Love," and "Grandpa," along with one of their most notable song's, "Love Can Build a Bridge." Due to unexpected illness, Naomi retired in 1991, and in 1992, Wynonna made her debut as a solo artist and released many more successful albums. Max McNown, a singer and songwriter from Bend, Ore., is the opener for Wynonna.

Stick around for the after-concert dance featuring the Justin Kemp Band, who will also perform nightly following the rodeo action on July 12 and 13 beginning at 9 p.m. Friday night Colorado's oldest PRCA rodeo returns to town, and brings all the thunder with it, including broncos, roping riders, the ever-popular barrel racers, kids' mutton busting, and bull riding. There will be rodeo ac-

tion on July 12 and 13 in the evenings and July 14 in the afternoon. Downtown parades will take place July 12 and 13, beginning at 10 a.m. each day. The parades are always filled with colorful floats from local businesses, and plenty of candy and treats are always thrown for all the kids and crowds to enjoy. For more information on specific times and where to get tickets, visit skihistampede.com.

Vests

Continued from Page 1
missioners on Monday afternoon where they were presented with, perhaps, one of the most important pieces of equipment in their profession. When deputies started filing into the room, their attention was immediately drawn to a long table holding 19 of the best state-of-the-art bulletproof vests, each vest with a deputy's name already on it. The vests were made possible by the work of Jake Skifstad, founder and president of Shield616, a Colorado Springs based, nationwide non-profit dedicated to providing first responders with top-of-the-line bulletproof vests capable of stopping a bullet fired from a rifle. Skifstad's organization is invited to law enforcement agencies where he familiarizes them with the kind of protection they will be

wearing and then helps them in raising the funds necessary to make the purchase. In the case of ACSO, the total tab for the vests was \$42,000, a fundraising goal that was met by a large donation from an anonymous donor plus, Skifstad says, "a lot of \$5, \$10 and \$20 donations that really added up." The vests currently worn by ACSO deputies are constructed of ceramic and, according to ACSO Sheriff Robert Jackson, are only capable of stopping a bullet from a handgun — once. "After one bullet," Jackson told the Valley Courier, "the ceramics shatter." The Alamosa County commissioners were on hand for the presentation, with Commissioner Arlan Van Ry saying that, after seeing Alamosa Police Department receive the vests, "it was really on [his] heart to get those for the county deputies. They're out in the country where more people have guns.

And they may not know what is waiting for them at the end of a hundred-yard driveway." Van Ry also added that the latest spike in violence had him "scared" the deputies wouldn't get the vests in time. Before asking the deputies to come stand behind the vest with their name on it, Skifstad told a riveting story of the day he was a responder on-site of the Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs where a lone gunman carried out a mass shooting over a four-to-five-hour period. At that time, he did not have a vest like the ones he was presenting to the ACSO deputies, but it was clear that experience motivated him to make it his mission that other officers would not find themselves so vulnerable. Skifstad, who is a man of faith, also spent some time talking to the deputies about what thoughts and prayers went through his mind during the shooting,

further underlining how crucial the right protection is in a job like law enforcement. The vests the deputies were issued are known as "angel armor" and "provide all-day rifle protection for first responders who sacrificially serve our communities." When asked to comment, Commissioner Van Ry said, "It was something that was laid on my heart that our deputies to make sure our deputies were protected and God works in mysterious ways with anonymous donors contributing and the community doing their part. It's one more layer of protection that just might save a life." When asked what the vests meant to him, Sheriff Jackson got "choked up." "This is amazing that, in a small community like this, people can come together. I'm just so glad that it came together, and we could make it happen for these guys. They'll be a lot safer now."

Reverse

Continued from Page 1
and click on "sign up here." After clicking on the above, you will be directed to the signup questions. After creating a profile and submitting information you will have created an account and be ready to receive emergency messages. "For many years, the emergency planners and SLV 911 Board have been using Everbridge [slve911.org] to alert citizens to emergencies that may affect them," said Donna Wehe, Director of Communications and Public Information Officer, San Luis Valley Health. "At SLV Health, we promote the slve911.org website in our newsletter to encourage all staff, their families, and neighbors to sign up. Once per year, all users should login and update their account information.

"On a personal note, there was a fire in my former neighborhood that could have escalated, and many of us were put on 'pre-evacuation' notice. I was not registered at the time and would have been unaware of the dangerous situation had it not been for a concerned neighbor who was going door to door alerting us. Ever since then, I have been promoting the use of this tool." As previously reported in the Valley Courier, Alamosa County residents can also visit the county website at www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov and sign up for a separate reverse 911 system. Residents can sign up for both systems. The slve911.org system can send messages to cell phones, land lines, text, email and work phones. Visit www.slve911.org and the Alamosa County website at www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov, to receive notices.

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Opinion

Rescue on the Rio

As most of you know, Miss Trixie and I have been driving for Narrow Ridge Outdoors/ Mountain Man Rafting for several years now. It's a fun endeavor, we get to meet all kinds of great people, and we work with a bunch of stellar youngsters, which is always invigorating.

Just this past week we were busy shuttling vans down to pick up rafters who were enjoying a great day on the river when someone flagged us down on the highway. She had seen our logo on the van and said, "I am so glad to see you as there are some people who have fallen in the river and need help badly."

Disclaimer: what follows may or may not be an accurate reflection of events.

So, we kicked into our rescue training mode and quickly found these poor folk clinging to rocks in the raging rapids, all life about to ebb from their cold bodies. Trixie remarked that they were a lot "older" people and I think she said that since she herself is starting to add on years like a runaway abacus.

But anyway, Ole Dutch and Miss Trixie assessed the situation and realized that the kayakers were close to unconsciousness so we both dove into the torrent disregarding the threat to life and limb of our own bodies. All I could think about as I swam out to them was poor little Cooper being an orphan if I did not live through the ordeal.

A few quick powerful strokes brought us to them and while Ol' Dutch secured a firm grip on the gentleman and began an exit to the shore, Miss Trixie had quite another predicament to face. For you see the poor woman lost her grip just as Miss Trixie got to her and slipped away into the raging torrent. She made one last grab for the drowning woman and miraculously came up with a handful of pigtailed with which she was able to tow her to shore.

As I write this, Miss Trixie's eyes have gone to rolling around in her head like marbles. I have offered her mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, but she has refused to be rescued thus far.

Back to my story, even though we were now safe and sound on the bank, the poor kayakers were in miserable condition having been subjected to the icy water of the river for many hours. Fighting near hypothermia ourselves we nonetheless were able to carry these folks to the warm van and get them inside. We then began rubbing their extremities trying to keep them from going into shock or having a heart attack and certain death.

Miss Trixie saw that the woman was in really bad shape and given her history of survival on Mt. Everest, she grabbed Cooper and like a mini hot water bottle, thrust him down against the woman's ample bosom.

Gathering every ounce of reserve strength ourselves, we were finally able to drive back down the valley and deliver them into safe hands for further treatment and we counted our lucky stars that it was not worse than it had been.

Both Miss Trixie and I were exhausted beyond description, but we had rafters and fishermen depending on our delivery of vehicles, so we just changed clothes and hit the road. Ol' Dutch had to "man up" and Miss Trixie put on "her big girl panties" in order to complete our jobs and not disappoint those depending on us that day.

You never know each day when you begin how the Lord will use you to help others I guess, and this day was no different in that regard. Being in the right place at the right time is sometimes all it takes to be a blessing to someone else.

Miss Trixie is now full-on frowning at me over the description of the rescue and wants me to clarify some parts of it before I submit it for publication.

Well, in fact a woman did flag us down and knew that Mountain Man has a reputation of rescuing folks in dire straits, that's true. And two people did fall out of their kayak and in fact, they were very cold and in danger of hypothermia when we found them. Another truth. And we did take them back to town to safety and warm clothes.

But the rest of the story is what they call Literary License and makes it a lot more interesting at least. (Plus, do not fear, Cooper was not harmed in any way.)

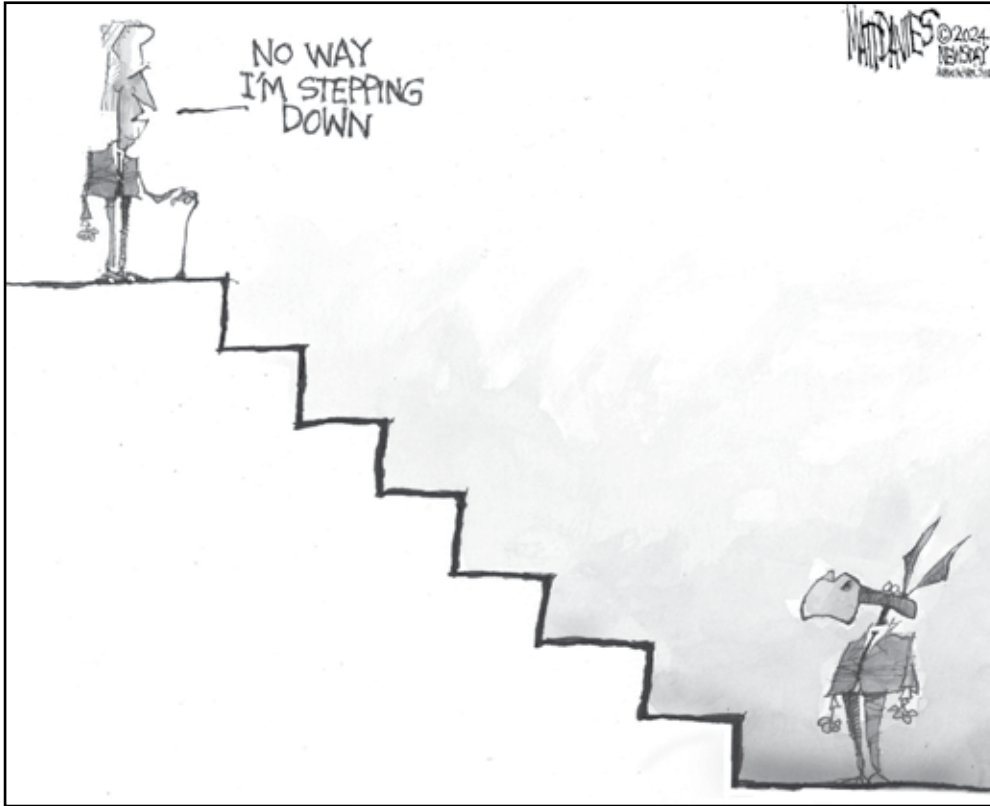
And if you enjoyed that one you should hear the one about Little Sarah and the grave up on Del Norte Peak. It's a dandy. As Miss Trixie always says, Ol' Dutch never lets the truth get in the way of a good story.

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.

Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick



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."

Houston has been hurricane-ready for 4 years

HOLLYWOOD — God bless America, and how's everybody?

Hurricane Beryl slammed into the Gulf Coast Monday, pummeling Houston residents with winds over 80 miles per hour and 13 inches of rain. The city was well-prepared for the pummeling. Thanks to all the retail businesses boarded up since the Pandemic, Houston has been hurricane-ready for 4 years.

The National Rifle Association announced it will hold its 2025 Annual Meetings and Exhibits at the Atlanta Convention Center. The South is the perfect place to host this convention. Alabama now has vending machines that distribute ammunition, so Chicago can now go south for the winter to reload.

Fox Nation released a biographical movie on the Fourth of July about George Washington that is narrated by Kelsey Grammar. The families of history's heroes always get short shrift. George Washington's brother Lawrence Washington never gets any credit for being the Uncle of Our Country.

Palm Springs, California reported breaking its all-time high temperature mark Saturday at 125 degrees. The desert southwest is brutal. This week it's so hot in Las Vegas that people are playing roulette for the breeze, and David Copperfield just changed his name to David Coppertone.

The U.S. hosted the annual meeting of NATO nations, otherwise known as the defense industry's Customer Appreciation Day. Having already

put missiles in Poland and Ukraine, why don't we just invite Russia to join NATO? That'll give us missiles in Moscow that could hit Moscow even sooner.

President Biden hosted a White House meeting Tuesday with Great Britain's new Prime Minister Keir Starmer, just elected Friday. Starmer said Biden was very happy about the Labor Party victory. Not only did Joe call to congratulate him on Friday, he called him 3 times Saturday and 5 times Sunday.

Labor Party's victorious leader Keir Starmer received the Seals of Office as Prime Minister from King Charles Friday and addressed the nation, vowing change. The regime's proposed health care program really sounds over-ambitious. The Labor Government is promising to fix British teeth by 2025.

MSNBC's Morning Joe host Joe Scarborough lashed out at Donald Trump Monday for taking the last week off from campaigning and golfing down at Mar-a-Lago. His golf course is undergoing upgrades. He's going through all the catalogues shopping for ball washers that won't testify against him.

President Biden shrewdly played his comedy card while he was seated onstage at a black church in Philly during the closing hymn Sunday. The congregation and ministers stood and clapped but Joe remained seated appearing frozen and alarmed. He

looked like he wanted to call the police on everybody.

David Axelrod told ABC News Sunday President Biden needs to exit the ticket or he will lose in a landslide to Donald Trump. But having won all the primaries, it would break party rules to unseat Joe. The Democrats may have to destroy our democracy to keep Trump from destroying our democracy.

White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre held a press conference Monday where furious reporters questioned her about the president's mental health. It sounded like Trump was back in office. It wasn't a good idea for Karine to show up for work that day in a white coat looking like a Visiting Angel.

The BBC said it'll hire a racially mixed cast in a movie about the Norman conquest of England in 1066. We were the original flash mob. My Hamilton line were Normans and we stole England from the Saxons then stole Southern Scotland from the Celts, then we stole Ulster from the Irish then stole America from the Indians, and I was the kind of guy who'd steal your cocaine then help you look for it.

Argus Hamilton is the host comedian at The Comedy Store in Hollywood and entertains groups and organizations around the country. E-mail him at ArgusJokes@yahoo.com.



By Argus Hamilton

LETTER

Is President Biden making a mistake by staying in the race?

Editor,

Is Biden going to make the same mistake that Ruth Bader Ginsberg made when she didn't admit her age and health condition? Her delay in leaving the Supreme Court allowed Donald Trump to make one of the three appointments he did to the court. The overturning of Roe v. Wade is just one of the return to the 1950's coming from the right-wing court that he put in office. Will Biden's failure to face reality put a

dictator in the Oval Office?

Biden's unwillingness to admit that there are others who stand a better chance of keeping Donald Trump out of the White House could easily also mean the loss of the Senate and House. According to recent polls, there is a high percentage of "double haters" who currently say they will not vote for either major party candidate.

Replacing Biden with Harris or someone else would give these "dou-

ble haters," a reason to vote this fall.

A new face at the head of the Democratic ticket could make the case that changes will be made. Biden only offers more of the same which much of the public finds distasteful. Yes, he did beat Donald Trump in 2020, but his poll numbers show that the voters want change and that they don't believe that change will come from him.

Don Thompson
Alamosa

Keith R Cerny
Publisher

Brian Williams
Managing Editor

Valley Courier

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Your FIRST Source for Local News

Lifestyles

Woodcarver's Rendezvous to mark 33 years in Creede

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

CREEDE — The annual Woodcarver's Rendezvous in Creede is celebrating 33 years of artistic talent in the small mountain town and though the event has been dwindling in numbers over the past several years, it plans to mark the occasion and have a fun and interactive time as always.

The event began 33 years ago when founders Fran and Ivan Vanaken, who after years of teach-

ing the art of woodcarving in schools to students, thought Creede would be the perfect place to start a woodcarving club. According to the history, Fran invited members of another club based out of the Front Range to the area to see if they were interested in hosting an event in Creede. It didn't take long for word to spread about the unique venue and beautiful location before the Woodcarver's Rendezvous took hold.

This year's event will feature over 15 instructors that come from all walks of life to teach the art of woodcarving to participants. The event takes place in the underground community center located north of town where instructors and vendors will pack the long corridors with a wide variety of wooden homemade gifts and classes for participants.

The event begins on Saturday, July 13, and continues all week long with live and silent auctions, classes, lectures from several instructors, daily drawings and ends with a banquet to close

out the week. The event is made possible through the auction items that are donated by participating artists that come to not only share their expertise in the art of woodcarving but to share their personal works of art as well.

Students that register for the event can learn everything from carving walking sticks to mastering the art of creating wood figures with a chisel. Participants learn how to make Christmas ornaments, wooden drums, wood burning techniques and so much more. There are even classes that teach the art of stone carving, making jewelry,

watercolor painting, and bead crocheting.

Though the event has slowed over the last few years, with fewer and fewer participants, event coordinators are preparing for a much more successful year this year and ask that anyone wishing to participate in any of the classes, can preregister online or do walk-in registration during the week. Registration for any left-over openings in the many classes being offered will be available on the first day of the event.

Not only do visitors come to learn new art forms, but they also stay to enjoy the many shops

in and around Creede, take time to enjoy the outdoor recreation opportunities and visit the Creede Repertory Theatre. The Ladies Aid Bazaar will be taking place at the old gym on July 17 and 18. The Bazaar is a wonderful place to go in between woodcarving classes to find a special gift or something needed around the home. Participants of all ages are sure to find something to do for the entire week, so don't miss out and register now!

For a full class schedule or to pre-register for the event, visit www.creede-woodcarvers.com.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife seeks public feedback on the draft

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

CONTRIBUTED

DENVER — Colorado's iconic outdoor recreation is vital to its identity, economy, and quality of life. The public now has a chance to provide feedback on the future of outdoor recreation in Colorado with the release of the draft 2024 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

Developed with broad input from public and outdoor recreation and conservation interests, including The Colorado Outdoor Partnership (CO-OP), the draft SCORP lays out a five-year strategy to ensure that Colorado's outdoor recreation opportunities remain outstanding into the future while addressing challenges, including population growth, climate change, and habitat loss.

"With this statewide plan, Colorado Parks and Wildlife conducted extensive research and stakeholder engagement in order to better understand how recreation resources meet the needs of Coloradans, as well as the challenges and opportunities faced by land managers, and the economic implications of outdoor recreation on the state's economy," said Colorado Parks and Wildlife Director Jeff Davis.

According to a new CPW public survey, 72% of Coloradans engage in weekly outdoor recreation, with 81% citing it as vital for their well-being and 90% feeling more positive after participating. Most activities occur at local parks and trails, with walking, hiking, and picnicking being the most popular. Motivations include enjoyment, mental health benefits, and spending time with loved ones, while barriers include lack of time and crowded areas. Public survey results indicate a desire to prioritize future investments on wildlife viewing areas and maintaining existing facilities, while also focusing on long-term planning.

A survey of land managers echoed the need to prioritize maintaining existing infrastructure and ensuring visitor safety. Top management priorities also include improving ADA accessibility, connecting regional trail systems, addressing increased use, and adapting to emerging recreation trends such as e-bikes, pickleball, and stand-up paddleboarding.

Tribal land managers highlighted the importance of cultural resource management, incorporating traditional ecological knowledge, expanding

youth recreation opportunities, and consulting Tribes on projects impacting historic trails or sites.

"The draft Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan presents a path forward that aligns conservation efforts with public interests and resource management needs, ensuring a balanced approach to maintaining Colorado's natural areas amidst growing population and pressures on public lands," said CPW Director Davis.

Between 2022 and 2023, Colorado's population grew by 36,500, reaching 5.8 million people, with the Front Range accounting for 90% of this growth. Colorado's population demographics are also shifting with an aging population and increased racial diversity, especially among younger residents.

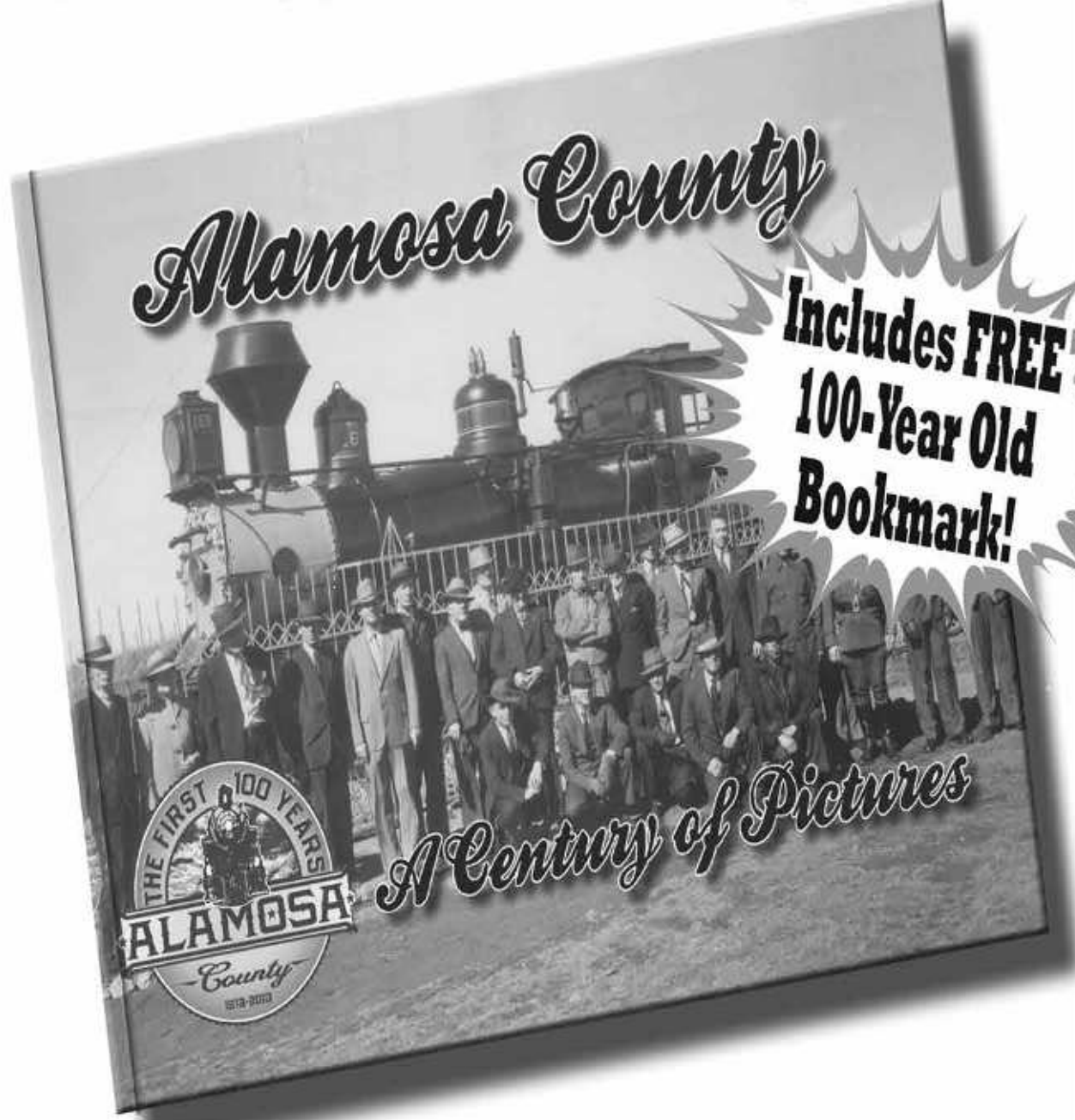
One of the challenges highlighted in the draft plan is climate change. Rising temperatures and changing precipitation patterns are already impacting outdoor activities. To adapt, the 2024 draft SCORP proposes advancing climate-resilient recreation and conservation through an improved understanding of climate impacts, collaboration with land managers, integrating natural hazard response plans, and implementing climate-resilient conservation projects.

The draft SCORP identifies four overarching priorities: 1) Access and Opportunity for Sustainable Recreation, 2) Natural and Cultural Resource Stewardship, 3) Land, Water, and Wildlife Conservation, and 4) Sustainable Funding for Colorado's Outdoors. Objectives and strategies outlined present a path forward for key agencies and partners to advance these goals.

"The collaboration and partnerships between outdoor recreation groups, conservation interests, sportspeople, environmental educators, government, and many others in developing the draft Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan is only the beginning for the success of this plan," said Dan Gibbs, Executive Director for the Department of Natural Resources. "To achieve our shared recreation and conservation goals for Colorado, we need to continue to work together to put this plan into action."

The public has until Aug. 6 to review the draft 2024 SCORP and provide feedback to Colorado Parks and Wildlife. For more information, visit EngageCPW.org.

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Sports



Courier photo by Ken Hamrick

Klayt Staudt (left) of Saguache and his brother, Jase, compete in team roping at last month's Alamosa Round-Up. Klayt will compete in the same event with Rett Coors of Loveland at the National High School Finals Rodeo in Rock Springs, Wyo. He will also compete in boys cutting at the NHSFR.

Staudt wins Colorado boys all-around title, will compete in two events at NHSFR

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – A recent Mountain Valley High School graduate, Klayt Staudt of Saguache, will head to the National High School Finals Rodeo with some momentum after winning the Colorado High School Rodeo Association boys all-around championship.

The NHSFR will take place next week at the Sweetwater Events Center in Rock Springs, Wyo., beginning on Sunday. It will conclude on July 20.

Staudt won the title after scoring 426 total points.

"It was a pretty good season," Staudt said. "I had some ups and downs."

Staudt qualified for the nationals in three events, two of which he will compete at the big event.

He will compete in team roping and boys cutting.

He will be the heeler on his team in which he will pair up with Rett Coors of Loveland. They finished fourth in the event with 81 points.

"The team roping season was pretty good," Staudt said. "I made a few mistakes I shouldn't have, but it was pretty good."

The unofficial draw for the NHSFR was released earlier this week. Staudt and Coors will have two runs, with the first taking place on July 16 in the morning session, and the second occurring on July 18 in the evening.

Staudt was third in the state in boys cutting with 126 points. Both of his runs will be on July 17 with the first being in the morning and the second in the afternoon.

"The season was good," Staudt said. "I did my job and the horse was good."

Staudt also qualified for the NHSFR in the reined cow horse after finishing fourth in the state with 102 1/2 points.

However, he decided not to compete in the event.

"I decided not to go in that one," Staudt said. "I just didn't feel like I was better in that event compared to the national level. My horse wasn't quite able to do it."

Staudt has a family history in rodeo. His older brother, Jase, competes in the PRCA's Mountain States Circuit and is having a successful season.

The Stoudts occasionally compete together in team roping on the PRCA level. Last month, they were at the Alamosa Round-Up.

"Sometimes I compete in a few rodeos," Staudt said. "I didn't have time because I had high school rodeo."

Staudt's plans for the future is to continue to work on his family's ranch and to continue to compete in rodeo.

Three more locals advance to NHSFR

In addition to Staudt, three more local competitors have qualified for the nationals.

The list includes another performer from Saguache in Rivers Hill. She will compete in barrel racing after placing second in the state with 84 points.

Both of her runs will be on July 17. The first will be in the morning and the second in the evening.

She also finished high in the girls all-around standings placing seventh with 241 1/2 points.

Two members of Sanford's Sittler family also qualified.

Ben Sittler qualified in bull riding. He placed third in the state with 47 points. His runs will occur on July 16 in the morning and on July 18 in the evening.

Alex Sittler qualified in the two shooting events. He finished third in the state in the trap shoot with 48 points, and he was fourth in the rifle shoot with 93 points.

The rifle shoot will take place on the morning of July 16 at the Green River Shooting Range. The finals will be the following morning.

The trap shoot occurs on the morning of July 18 at the Sweetwater Trap Club. The championship round is the morning of July 19.

The Top 15 after two runs in each rodeo event will return for the short go in the evening of July 20.

Sports Bulletin

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

SCHEDULE FRIDAY

PRCA Rodeo
 Ski-Hi Stampede local rodeo, 1 p.m.
 Ski-Hi Stampede, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

PRCA Rodeo
 Ski-Hi Stampede, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

PRCA Rodeo
 Ski-Hi Stampede, 2 p.m.

ALAMOSA PARKS AND RECREATION BASEBALL/ SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

9-11 baseball
 At Cole Park
TUESDAY

Red Sox vs. Rockies, 5 p.m.

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

Cubs vs. Angels, 7:30 p.m.

End of season

9-11 girls softball

At Lee Field #3

TUESDAY

Ace of Bases vs. Battitudes, 6 p.m.

End of season

7-8 coed machine pitch

At Sunset Field

WEDNESDAY

Longhorns vs. Predators, 5:30 p.m. (southwest)

Strikers vs. Little Rascals, 5:30 p.m. (northeast)

Sliders vs. Thunderdogs, 6:30 p.m. (northeast)

Co-ed Tee-ball

At Tee-ball field

MONDAY

Rug Rats vs. Wolfpack, 5:30 p.m. (north field)

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

Little Giants vs. Outlaws, 6:30 p.m. (south field)

End of season

Coed Leisure softball

At Lee Field

WEDNESDAY

Livingstone Trucking vs. Bros Before Throws, 7 p.m. (Field 1)

SOS Misfits vs. Tandberg's Angels, 7 p.m. (Field 2)

Cutthroats vs. La Puente Homers, 7 p.m. (Field 4)

War Turtles vs. Where My Pitches At, 8 p.m. (Field 1)

The Undertakers vs. The Misfits, 8 p.m. (Field 2)

All Valley Towing vs. Bomb Squad, 8 p.m. (Field 4)

CRP Dust Devils vs. Top Notch, 9 p.m. (Field 1)

The Dirty Dozen vs. WOLO, 9 p.m. (Field 2)

The Misfits vs. La Puente Homers, 9 p.m. (Field 4)

MONDAY

Bomb Squad vs. Livingstone Trucking, 7 p.m. (Field 1)

Where My Pitches at vs. Cutthroats, 7 p.m. (Field 2)

Bros Before Throws vs. Top Notch, 7 p.m. (Field 4)

WOLO vs. All Valley Towing, 8 p.m. (Field 1)


La Puente Homers vs. CRP Dust Devils, 8 p.m. (Field 2)

The Misfits vs. War Turtles, 8 p.m. (Field 4)

Battitudes vs. The Undertakers, 9 p.m. (Field 1)

SOS Misfits vs. Steel Line, 9 p.m. (Field 2)

Tandberg's Angels vs. War turtles, 9 p.m. (Field 4)




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Lifestyle

Center hires Webb to be Town Manager

He talks about his vision for Center and what he hopes to accomplish

By **MARIE MCCOLM**
CENTER — Cole Webb sat in his office on Friday morning, June 28, with a huge welcoming smile. Webb is rightfully smiling, as he has plenty to be excited about. Webb was hired as the new City Manager of Center.

Originally from Ohio, Webb moved to Center with aspirations of helping Center keep its steady focus, and helping the town with growth, and with their economy.

Webb is no stranger to what he calls "public service," stating that the first time he ran for a position in "public service," was when he was a teenager.

"When I was 17 years old, I ran for a local public office in my area, as a trustee," Webb said. "I was elected when I was 18, because legally you have to be 18 to be elected for a public office position in the state of Ohio. I was also fortunate enough to be elected as the youngest state official in the state of Ohio, too."

Webb was trustee for eight years. Webb didn't stop there.

"I went on to run for the State Township Association, which is a state organization that is basically over all townships in the state of Ohio. The county had a vote, and I was lucky enough to be elected to that, and I held that position until I came here," he said.

Webb's inspiration for wanting to be involved in public service came from someone very special in his life.

"I credit my want to be involved in public service, to my grandpa. He was a justice of the peace and county sheriff, in a neighboring state in West Virginia. I very much looked up to him, and what he did for his town," Webb said.

Webb said that he has a cousin who was a county commissioner, and he has a cousin who is currently the Speaker of the House in Ohio. Webb feels like he comes from a long line of family members who strongly believe in civil service.

"My family really believes in this and trying to help different communities," he said.

Webb said that his reason for moving from Ohio

was for the job in Center, but he also moved because he loves Colorado.

"Growing up we did vacation at the beach, but we also went to the mountains in Colorado. I always knew that this was the place that I wanted to end up. When the Town Manager job came up, I took the chance and applied for it. I was selected, and now I am just so happy to be here," he said.

Webb said while it is a big change to move from Ohio to Colorado, he does love Colorado.

"I had the Appalachian Mountains where I was from, but here, I have rolling hills," he said with a chuckle. "It is very different, this is honestly a very beautiful place though, and I am really excited to live and start my life here."

Now that he is here, one of Webb's central focus items for the Town of Center is to work on keeping people in the town.

"I come from a big economic development background. A really big project that is being worked on currently, here in Center, is the North 90 Project. A big focus of mine is really trying to establish this thing."

Webb said that the project is an important part of keeping people in Center.

"We want to be able to keep our youth here. We don't want our youth to move to Denver, or anywhere else. A lot of that depends on this project. I want to make it a big focus of what I am doing here," Webb said.

The North 90 Project began a few years ago, as a patch of raw land, about 90 acres worth, just north of the Town of Center. There is a plan to expand Center's infrastructure with this project, creating more affordable housing, and helping with the rehabilitation and reconstruction of current unoccupied homes.

Webb said that the ground has been laid to start on the project, by the current economic development coordinator.

"Today is unfortunately his last day here, but he has done a great job on starting the development process on this, so very soon we will see where it goes," Webb said.

Another thing Webb is looking at for the town, is a senior center. Webb said that the previous Town Manager did a study and found that a lot of people in Center were interested in a senior center.

Webb said that his overall vision for the Town of Center is to help everyone

stay rich in their culture and stay strong in their sense of community and beliefs.

"Center is unique. It a very close-knit community. I think that it's important that we keep that feeling in the town. I work for everybody; I work for the whole community. My overall vision for the community is to keep that hometown feel. We have people in the community who have small local businesses, we have artists. I want people who are coming in to Center to see how great the community is, and what they can offer the Valley. We have some of the friendliest people in the Valley here. I want to keep the culture alive in the Town of Center and help people to embrace their agricultural and cultural beliefs. We need to keep that hometown feel here, that is my



Photo by Marie Mccolm

The Town of Center recently hired Cole Webb to be its next Town Manager.

vision for Center." Webb is excited about his new position and extended his thanks to the community for being so accepting and welcoming to him. He said he would

like everyone to know that his door is always open, and he is happy to extend a helping hand to anyone who would like to speak to him about anything.

"I am excited to be here, and help the community grow. I am all about inclusiveness too. Let's embrace our differences and enjoy our beautiful community together," Webb said.

17TH ANNUAL

LA JARA AMISH SCHOOL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2024 • 9 A.M.

LOCATION: Quality Timbers & Wood Products
10725 St. Hwy. 285 • Antonito, CO 81120

Directions: From Alamosa, CO - Go south on Hwy. 285 23 miles to sale site on the right.
From Antonito, CO - Go north on 285 5 miles to sale site on the left. Consignments accepted through Friday, July 12.

<p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">QUILTS</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Approximately 20 handmade quilts will be available sale day</p>		<p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">FARM - RANCH - TOOLS</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">12 - 10"x40' PVC 50 psi pipe Pull behind ditcher 10 - 5x10 chain link gates 3 point hay fork Ground driver hay rake Large drill press • 12" wood planer New ox yokes • New rabbit hutch Multiple plastic gas cans Platform floor scales, digital Large drill press/motor Large planner/motor Small bench top drill press Handy man jacks • Electric miter saw</p>
<p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">ANTIQUES</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Antique sewing machine</p>		<p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">HORSES</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">5 yr old paint pony mare w/ colt, kid broke 4 yr old Morgan/stb Mare green broke 1 yr old Morgan filly 4 yr old trotting bred 90 days training TSS 9 yr old Standard bred gelding 16 HH kid broke TSS 4 yr old trotting mare JND Dominator/sd get it right w/ free breeding to JP Dewycheatumhowe 4 yr old Friesian/paint gelding broke to ride 4 yr old trotting bred mare broke to drive</p>
<p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">BOAT, CAMPER, VEHICLE</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">89 Ford F700 cab-n-chassis propane runs excellent Four Winds Camper 14' Lund boat</p>		<p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">MORE CONSIGNMENTS WANTED</p>
<p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">HOUSEHOLD</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">1 set poly glider rockers 1 octagon picnic table Sofa NEW in box Multiple chairs - various kinds Miscellaneous furniture • Multiple dressers Dishwasher • Electric stove Potbelly stove • Wood burning stove Glass top coffee table Wooden end table 3 book shelves wooden • 5 lamps Pendleton trade blanket Western art frames Multiple plastic totes</p>		<p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">FOR MORE SALE INFO:</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Mose 719-982-8900 Edward 719-992-8334 Freeman 719-580-7121 All items sold as is where is. Not responsible for items not showing up or being in quality as listed. Not responsible for accidents, lost or stolen items. No merchandise removed until settled for. All announcements on day of sale take precedence over printed matter. Selling with 2 & 3 rings throughout the day.</p>

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Also, baked goods, doughnuts, fry pies & other refreshments will be available.
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Saturday Night PRCA Rodeo
July 13, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Matinee PRCA Rodeo
July 14, 2:00 p.m.

Rodeo performances sponsored by Pepper Equipment Company

Public Notices

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION

CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE No. 960-24
 To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
 On April 17, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.
 Original Grantor(s)
 George Ann Kane
 Original Beneficiary(ies)
 MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR ALL REVERSE MORTGAGE, INC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS
 Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
 LONGBRIDGE FINANCIAL, LLC
 Date of Deed of Trust
 April 20, 2018
 County of Recording
 Alamosa
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust
 April 23, 2018
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
 369708
 Original Principal Amount
 \$269,625.00
 Outstanding Principal Balance
 \$84,482.40

Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
 THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
 THE WEST 100 FEET OF THE EAST 165 FEET OF LOT 1, AND THE EAST 100 FEET OF THE WEST 200 FEET OF LOT 2, IN BLOCK 2, MC KINNEY ADDITION, IN ALAMOSA COUNTY, COLORADO.
 Also known by street and number as: 220 Curtis Lane, Alamosa, CO 81101.

THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
 NOTICE OF SALE
 The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
 THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 08/14/2024, at County Office Building, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
 First Publication 6/19/2024
 Last Publication 7/17/2024
 Name of Publication Valley Courier

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
 DATE: 04/17/2024
 Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado
 By: Amy McKinley, Public Trustee
 The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
 Alison L. Berry #34531
 Lynn M. Janeway #15592
 Janeway Law Firm, P.C. 9540 Maroon Circle, Suite 320, Englewood, CO 80112 (303) 706-9990
 Attorney File # 24-032132
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
 No. 3996.
 Published in the Valley Courier on June 19, 26, July 3, 10, & 17, 2024.

COMBINED NOTICE OF SALE - PUBLICATION

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

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION

CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE No. 961-24
 To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
 On April 26, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.
 Original Grantor(s)
 Ashanti L Montoya AND Johnathan A Rangel
 Original Beneficiary(ies)
 MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR ADVANCE MORTGAGE & INVESTMENT COMPANY, LLC, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS
 Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
 PLAINS COMMERCE BANK
 Date of Deed of Trust
 May 03, 2023
 County of Recording
 Alamosa
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust
 May 03, 2023
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
 388625
 Original Principal Amount
 \$212,121.00
 Outstanding Principal Balance
 \$211,499.33

Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
 THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
 LOT 10, MCCLAIN-FINK SUBDIVISION, COUNTY OF ALAMOSA, STATE OF COLORADO
 APN #: 541315202002
 Also known by street and number as: 1408 Edison Ave, Alamosa, CO 81101.

THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
 NOTICE OF SALE
 The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
 THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 08/28/2024, at County Office Building, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
 First Publication 7/3/2024
 Last Publication 7/31/2024
 Name of Publication Valley Courier

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
 DATE: 04/26/2024
 Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado
 By: Amy McKinley, Public Trustee
 The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
 Alison L. Berry #34531
 Lynn M. Janeway #15592
 Janeway Law Firm, P.C. 9540 Maroon Circle, Suite 320, Englewood, CO 80112 (303) 706-9990
 Attorney File # 24-032056
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
 ©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
 No. 4013.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31, 2024.

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION

CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE No. 962-24
 To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
 On May 1, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.
 Original Grantor(s)
 BillieJo Cooper and Curtis B Cooper
 Original Beneficiary(ies)
 Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as beneficiary, as nominee for AmCap Mortgage, Ltd. DBA Major Mortgage
 Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
 PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
 Date of Deed of Trust
 May 03, 2019
 County of Recording
 Alamosa
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust
 May 06, 2019
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
 373104 Book: N/A Page:
 Original Principal Amount
 \$221,212.00
 Outstanding Principal Balance
 \$204,851.58
 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
 THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
 LOT 12, IN BLOCK 5, CARROLL SUBDIVISION TO THE CITY OF ALAMOSA, IN ALAMOSA COUNTY, COLORADO.
 Also known by street and number as: 2209 Clark Street, Alamosa, CO 81101.
 THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
 NOTICE OF SALE
 The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
 THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 08/28/2024, at County Office Building, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
 First Publication 7/3/2024
 Last Publication 7/31/2024
 Name of Publication Valley Courier
 IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
 DATE: 05/01/2024
 Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado
 By: Amy McKinley, Public Trustee
 The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
 Scott Toebben #19011
 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. 216 16th Street, Suite 1210, Denver, CO 80202 (720) 259-6710
 Attorney File # 24C000177-1
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
 ©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
 No. 4014.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31, 2024.

LEGAL NOTICE

District Court
 County of Alamosa, Colorado
 Civil Action No. 2265
 Court Computer Reference: 49CV2265
 IN THE MATTER OF THE SAN LUIS VALLEY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the terms of four (4) Directors to the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District expire on September 6, 2024. The vacancies are for two (2) Directors from Saguache County, Colorado and two (2) Directors from Rio Grande County, Colorado. The terms of each of the Directors will be for four (4) years, until September 6, 2028.
 Any qualified person interested in seeking appointment to the Board of Directors shall file a written request for appointment and a resume referencing Civil Action No. 2265 (49CV2265) with the Clerk of the District Court for Alamosa County, at the Alamosa County Courthouse located at 8955 Independence Way, Alamosa, Colorado, 81101. The request for appointment and resume must be filed no later than August 6, 2024.
 To be qualified for the appointment from Saguache County, an applicant must be the owner of real property within Saguache County and have resided in Saguache County for no less than one (1) year. To be qualified for the appointment from Rio Grande County, an applicant must be the owner of real property within Rio Grande County and have resided in Rio Grande County for no less than one (1) year. A legal description of the boundaries of the District may be reviewed by appointment during normal business hours at the office of the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, 623 Fourth Street, Alamosa, Colorado, 81101, telephone (719) 589-2230.
 Heather Dutton – Manager
 July 5, 2024
 No. 4017.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 10 & 16, 2024.

NOTICE

DISTRICT COURT, ALAMOSA COUNTY, COLORADO Court Address: 8955 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101
 Phone: (719) 589-4996
 Petitioner: THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO IN THE INTEREST OF: A.P., CHILD
 AND CONCERNING:
 Respondents: Nubia Paredes and John Doe
 ALIAS SUMMONS
 DATE FILED: June 25, 2024 8N.0L7YAM CASE NUMBER: 2024JV30012
 Case Number: 2024JV30012
 Div.: 7. Ctrm: C
 TO: THE PARENTS, GUARDIANS, LEGAL CUSTODIANS, OR OTHER RESPONDENTS ABOVE NAMED, GREETINGS:
 You are hereby notified that a Verified Petition for Adjudication of Dependency and Neglect of the above-named child has been filed in the above-named Court in which it is represented to the Court that the child, A.P., is dependent or neglected for the reasons set forth more fully in said Petition, the original of which is on file in the above Court and copies of which will be made available to you upon request during normal business hours at the office of the Clerk of the District Court in Alamosa County.
 You are further notified that TERMINATION OF THE PARENT-CHILD LEGAL RELATIONSHIP IS A POSSIBLE REMEDY AVAILABLE IF THIS PETITION ALLEGING THAT THE CHILD IS DEPENDENT OR NEGLECTED IS SUSTAINED. A SEPARATE HEARING MUST BE HELD BEFORE SUCH TERMINATION IS ORDERED. TERMINATION OF THE PARENT-CHILD LEGAL RELATIONSHIP MEANS THAT THE CHILD WHO IS SUBJECT TO THIS PETITION WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION.
 You are further notified that the Court has set said Matter for hearing on the 18th day of July, 2024, at the hour of 1:40 p.m., in the Alamosa District Court, in Alamosa, Colorado.
 Parties may appear in-person at the Alamosa Courthouse at the following address:
 8955 Independence Way
 Alamosa, CO 81101
 Pursuant to Rule 4.1 of the Colorado Rules of Juvenile Procedure, a responsive pleading is not required, although you may file one, if you so desire, nor is it necessary for you to deny any allegations of the Petition, except jurisdictional matters of age and residence of the child/ren which shall be deemed admitted unless specifically denied. You are further informed that if you choose to appear at the hearing at the time and place hereinabove stated, you shall be fully advised by the Court of your constitutional and legal rights pursuant to C.R.S. 19-3-202, as amended. You may demand a trial by jury of not more than six.
 Unless a jury is demanded, it shall be deemed to be waived. You have the right to be represented by counsel at every stage of the proceedings. If you request representation by an attorney and you are found to be without financial means to afford an attorney, an attorney will be appointed for you by the Court.
 You are further advised that, if the court finds that the allegations in the Petition are supported by the necessary standards of proof, the Court shall hold a dispositional hearing, but that in a proper case, providing prior notice thereof is given to you, and, you are now so advised, the dispositional hearing may be had co-extensively with the adjudicatory hearing.
 If you fail to enter your appearance, or if you fail to deny jurisdictional matters, if any, as permitted by law, the above matter, and any other related matters that may come before the Court will be decided without further notice to you.
 Furthermore, you have the following additional rights:
 1) The right to subpoena witnesses;
 2) The right to know the nature of the allegations contained in the Petition;
 3) Any admission on your part must be voluntary;
 4) If you admit the allegations of the Petition, the Court is not bound by any promises or representations made by anyone about the dispositional alternatives by the Court;
 5) The Court may appoint an attorney as a Guardian ad Litem to represent the interest of the child/ren.
 6) The right to present evidence;
 7) The right to cross examine witnesses;
 8) The right to appeal;
 9) In order for the Court to find the child/ren to be neglected or dependent, it must be proven to a judge or jury by the preponderance of evidence;
 10) In order to terminate the parent-child legal relationship, the Court would have to find at a separate hearing by clear and convincing evidence either of the following:
 a) That the child/ren has/have been adjudicated dependent and neglected and has/have been abandoned by his/her/their parent or parents.
 b) That the child/ren is/are adjudicated dependent or neglected, and the Court has found by clear and convincing evidence that no appropriate treatment plan can be devised to address the unfitness of the parent or parents.
 c) That the child/ren is/are adjudicated dependent or neglected and all of the following exist:
 (I) That an appropriate treatment plan approved by the Court has not been reasonably complied with by the parent or parents or has not been successful;
 (II) That the parent is unfit;
 (III) That the conduct or condition of the parent or parents is unlikely to change within a reasonable amount of time;
 WITNESS my hand and official seal of said Court this 25TH day of JUNE, 2024.
 JENNIFER PACHECO CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
 Angel Sanchez
 By: Clerk/Deputy
 No. 4025.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 10, 2024.

NOTICE

DISTRICT COURT, ALAMOSA COUNTY, COLORADO Court Address: 8955 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101
 Phone: (719) 589-4996
 Petitioner: THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO IN THE INTEREST OF: A.D., CHILD
 AND CONCERNING:
 Respondents: Kyahana Deherrera and John Doe
 ALIAS SUMMONS
 DATE FILED: June 25, 2024 8N.0L6YA7M CASE NUMBER: 2023JV30008
 Case Number: 2023JV30008
 Div.: 7. Ctrm: C
 TO: THE PARENTS, GUARDIANS, LEGAL CUSTODIANS, OR OTHER RESPONDENTS ABOVE NAMED, GREETINGS:
 You are hereby notified that a Verified Petition for Adjudication of Dependency and Neglect of the above-named child has been filed in the above-named Court in which it is represented to the Court that the child, A.D., is dependent or neglected for the reasons set forth more fully in said Petition, the original of which is on file in the above Court and copies of which will be made available to you upon request during normal business hours at the office of the Clerk of the District Court in Alamosa County.
 You are further notified that TERMINATION OF THE PARENT-CHILD LEGAL RELATIONSHIP IS A POSSIBLE REMEDY AVAILABLE IF THIS PETITION ALLEGING THAT THE CHILD IS DEPENDENT OR NEGLECTED IS SUSTAINED. A SEPARATE HEARING MUST BE HELD BEFORE SUCH TERMINATION IS ORDERED. TERMINATION OF THE PARENT-CHILD LEGAL RELATIONSHIP MEANS THAT THE CHILD WHO IS SUBJECT TO THIS PETITION WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION.
 You are further notified that the Court has set said Matter for hearing on the 8th day of August, 2024, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., in the Alamosa District Court, in Alamosa, Colorado.
 Parties may appear in-person at the Alamosa Courthouse at the following address:
 8955 Independence Way
 Alamosa, CO 81101
 Pursuant to Rule 4.1 of the Colorado Rules of Juvenile Procedure, a responsive pleading is not required, although you may file one, if you so desire, nor is it necessary for you to deny any allegations of the Petition, except jurisdictional matters of age and residence of the child/ren which shall be deemed admitted unless specifically denied. You are further informed that if you choose to appear at the hearing at the time and place hereinabove stated, you shall be fully advised by the Court of your constitutional and legal rights pursuant to C.R.S. 19-3-202, as amended. You may demand a trial by jury of not more than six.
 Unless a jury is demanded, it shall be deemed to be waived. You have the right to be represented by counsel at every stage of the proceedings. If you request representation by an attorney and you are found to be without financial means to afford an attorney, an attorney will be appointed for you by the Court.
 You are further advised that, if the court finds that the allegations in the Petition are supported by the necessary standards of proof, the Court shall hold a dispositional hearing, but that in a proper case, providing prior notice thereof is given to you, and, you are now so advised, the dispositional hearing may be had co-extensively with the adjudicatory hearing.
 If you fail to enter your appearance, or if you fail to deny jurisdictional matters, if any, as permitted by law, the above matter, and any other related matters that may come before the Court will be decided without further notice to you.
 Furthermore, you have the following additional rights:
 1) The right to subpoena witnesses;
 2) The right to know the nature of the allegations contained in the Petition;
 3) Any admission on your part must be voluntary;
 4) If you admit the allegations of the Petition, the Court is not bound by any promises or representations made by anyone about the dispositional alternatives by the Court;
 5) The Court may appoint an attorney as a Guardian ad Litem to represent the interest of the child/ren.
 6) The right to present evidence;
 7) The right to cross examine witnesses;
 8) The right to appeal;
 9) In order for the Court to find the child/ren to be neglected or dependent, it must be proven to a judge or jury by the preponderance of evidence;
 10) In order to terminate the parent-child legal relationship, the Court would have to find at a separate hearing by clear and convincing evidence either of the following:
 a) That the child/ren has/have been adjudicated dependent and neglected and has/have been abandoned by his/her/their parent or parents.
 b) That the child/ren is/are adjudicated dependent or neglected, and the Court has found by clear and convincing evidence that no appropriate treatment plan can be devised to address the unfitness of the parent or parents.
 c) That the child/ren is/are adjudicated dependent or neglected and all of the following exist:
 (I) That an appropriate treatment plan approved by the Court has not been reasonably complied with by the parent or parents or has not been successful;
 (II) That the parent is unfit;
 (III) That the conduct or condition of the parent or parents is unlikely to change within a reasonable amount of time;
 WITNESS my hand and official seal of said Court this 25TH day of JUNE, 2024.
 JENNIFER PACHECO CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
 Angel Sanchez
 By: Clerk/Deputy
 No. 4026.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 10, 2024.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Conejos County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 14, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Conejos County Courthouse, 6683 County Road 13, Conejos CO 81129, in the Board of County Commissioner's Room, for the adoption of guidelines regarding the designation of activities or areas of state interest for the following:
 A. Site selection and construction of major facilities of a public utility, as an activity of state interest.
 In particular, the County is considering adopting guidelines and regulations regarding REGULATIONS FOR SITE SELECTION AND CONSTRUCTION OF MAJOR FACILITIES OF A PUBLIC UTILITY in Conejos County.
 The County will then hold a public meeting on August 15, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. to adopt the regulations at the Conejos County Courthouse, 6683 County Road 13, Conejos CO 81129, in the Board of County Commissioner's Room.
 For inquiries or to examine or review these guidelines and regulations, and designations, please contact or visit the Conejos County Land Use Office at 6683 County Road 13, Conejos CO 81129 or call 719-376-2014. Interested persons may also submit public comments to landuse@co.conejos.co.us.
 No. 4027.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 10, 16, & 31, 2024.

099 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

221 - HELP WANTED

ATTENTION AHS "CLASS of 75". 50th reunion scheduled for June 6th & 7th, 2025. Contact Pam Eden Scott @ Facebook or email alamosahighschoolclassof1975@yahoo.com. (7/10/24)

SAN LUIS VALLEY LOCAL FOODS COALITION seeks an HR & EQUITY COORDINATOR to provide human resources functions and equity best practices for our local nonprofit. Submit your resume and cover letter to opportunity.slvlocalfoods@gmail.com. Additional requirements can be found at www.slvlocalfoods.org/jobs/. (7/13/24)

173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

PRIVATE HOME HEALTH; I can help keep your loved one at home. CNA 20+ years experience, excellent references, reasonable rates. 512-293-1448. (7/24/24)

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

221 - HELP WANTED

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

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)

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)

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)

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)

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 \$150.00 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)

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. Fulltime 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)

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)

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 719-657-2020. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co. (8/7/24)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Rio Grande Water Conservation District is seeking proposals from qualified contractors to construct a surface water recharge station consisting of several measurement structures, a settling pond, and an additive alternate overflow area. Contact Taylor Chink at (719) 589-6301 for a bid packet. Information can be accessed online at www.rgwcd.org. Please include relevant qualifications and timeline for completing the project. Proposals must be received by 3:30 p.m. July 19, 2024 and may be submitted in person or by mail to 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO, 81101, or by e-mail to Taylor@rgwcd.org.
 No. 4015.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, & 12, 2024.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Rio Grande Water Conservation District is seeking proposals from qualified contractors to construct a surface water recharge station consisting of several measurement structures, a settling pond, and an additive alternate overflow area. Contact Taylor Chink at (719) 589-6301 for a bid packet. Information can be accessed online at www.rgwcd.org. Please include relevant qualifications and timeline for completing the project. Proposals must be received by 3:30 p.m. July 19, 2024 and may be submitted in person or by mail to 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO, 81101, or by e-mail to Taylor@rgwcd.org.
 No. 4015.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, & 12, 2024.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Rio Grande Water Conservation District is seeking proposals from qualified contractors to construct a surface water recharge station consisting of several measurement structures, a settling pond, and an additive alternate overflow area. Contact Taylor Chink at (719) 589-6301 for a bid packet. Information can be accessed online at www.rgwcd.org. Please include relevant qualifications and timeline for completing the project. Proposals must be received by 3:30 p.m. July 19, 2024 and may be submitted in person or by mail to 8805 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO, 81101, or by e-mail to Taylor@rgwcd.org.

Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

SANFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT IS accepting applications for a Full-Time CUSTODIAN. All candidates must pass background checks. Applications can be downloaded at www.sanfordschools.org. Sanford School is an EOE&E. (7/10/24)

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

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)

MECHANIC: JT TIMBER FALLING is hiring a full-time HEAVY EQUIPMENT and TRUCK MECHANIC in BLANCA, CO. \$25-\$45/hr depending on experience. Monday - Friday schedule. Benefits are available. Call 719-379-4066 or visit jtimber.com to apply. (7/17/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

LAPUENTE STREET OUTREACH is looking for an OUTREACH COORDINATOR who is passionate about working with homeless and vulnerable people in the San Luis Valley. The Outreach Coordinator will be involved in supplies management, community engagement, contact with community partners, and on the ground support for people who are experiencing the effects of poverty. This position will also require creation and maintenance of Street Outreach data tracking, analysis, and reporting. \$38-\$42, DOE. Full benefits package. Please send resume and cover letter to hr@lapuente.net. (7/10/24)

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)

221 - HELP WANTED

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)

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)

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601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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1 BEDROOM: UTILITIES included. Deposit, employment, references required. \$665 rent, \$750 deposit. 719-580-3710. (7/17/24)
2 BEDROOM NEAR ASU/ Hospital, 1204 Lincoln. No smokers/vapors. 1 year lease, references. 719-588-1422. (7/26/24)
1 BEDROOM APARTMENTS with WASHER/DRYER for rent. Across from ASU. Call 719-251-3597. (7/13/24)

630 - ROOMS FOR RENT

VERY NICE FURNISHED ROOM, ALAMOSA. 720-436-5550. (7/17/24)

701 - AUTOS FOR SALE

1993 BUS, PARTLY CONVERTED. Located at M&M storage on 17 behind Loaf&jug. Call for details. 815-546-2734 Mark. (7/17/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

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

HORSE & COW HAY: GRASS, GRASS/ALFALFA, ALFALFA. 3x3 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917. (8/7/24-monthly)

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

341 - GARAGE SALE

HUGE YARD SALE/BAKE SALE: Sat. July 13th, 8am-2pm, 709 4th St., ALAMOSA. Furniture, household items, kitchen wares, jewelry, sporting good, art, patio furniture, holiday decor + more. Home baked goodies of all kinds. Free coffee & lemonade. (7/13/24)

350 - FARM EQUIPMENT

2005 HESSTON 4910 BALER New Monitor, Preservative Applicator, moisture sensor, accumulator. Field ready. \$22,500 OBO 719-850-1143. (7/13/24)

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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426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

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

520 - CAMPING

26' JAYCO CAMPER: WELL maintained, clean, 14' slideout, awning, new tires & battery, solar AC/heater, propane tanks, FULL kitchen, bath, & more. Reasonable. 719-852-3735. (7/17/24)

525 - GUNS

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221 - HELP WANTED

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)

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for a HS ASST. VOLLEYBALL COACH. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Extra Duty 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 9, 2024, or until the position is filled. For questions contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (7/17/24)

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)

MOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT has the following openings for the 24-25 school year: K-12 PE; HS SCIENCE; K-12 PRINCIPAL. Send inquiries/resumes to Mr. Stagner @ Stagnerb@valley.k12.co.us or call 719-655-2578. (7/10/24)

SIERRA GRANDE SCHOOL is seeking DIRECTOR OF STUDENT BEHAVIOR, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, and SCHOOL SAFETY MANAGEMENT for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. Submit completed application to Mr. Kevin Jones, Superintendent by email to: kjones@sierragrandeschool.net. Applications are available at the District office, 17523 Hwy. 160, Blanca, CO 81123 or online at www.sierragrandeschool.net. Effective managerial, supervisory, and human relations skills, and computer skills. For more information, please contact Mr. Kevin Jones at 719-379-3259. Position open until filled. EOE. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. (7/17/24)

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

Lifestyle

Monsoon season in the Valley

By NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE — Our high alpine desert does get water, our yearly amount is 11.2 inches. Most of the water happens during our monsoon season in July, August, and September. After a storm you may see some unusual geological features called sand strips which are an initial stage of dune development.

At Great Sand Dunes, sand strips can develop after it rains, when the dune surface is wet. Wet sand is cohesive and is not moved by moderate winds, but the wind does dry the sand one sand grain at a time. The dry grains are movable, and they often blown along the moist surface coming to rest against other dry grains, and patches of dry sand start to grow. As it gets bigger, it then starts to absorb bouncing sand grain leading to more accumulation of dry sand and the sand strip pattern develops. It's a good example of a natural, self-organizing system as it produces a somewhat regular pattern. If the process continues, the strips can develop wind ripples that migrate and help the strip get thicker. If the strip persists long enough, it will continue to thicken and begin to migrate leading to its transition into a protodune. If the protodune continues to grow to the point where it creates a turbulent zone, then it becomes a dune. The turbulent zone is very effective at trapping sand making the dune a true sand trap. On sand strips and protodunes, most of the moving sand blows over the feature. Dunes trap most of the sand.

Sand strips are temporary features as the entire dune surface will soon be dry and they are incorporated into the preexisting dune form. The small slipfaces at the top of the ridge are also mostly dry. Slipfaces have high porosity allowing air to move through them and that promotes driving. Also, the coarse sand in the troughs also dries quickly as it has less surface area per volume than the fine sand and that also leads to faster drying. Great Sand Dunes is a natural physics laboratory.



Sand strips are seen at the Great Sand Dunes.

Photo by NPS/Zack Brown

Crossword Puzzle

1		2		3			
							4
		5					
				6			
7							
8							

ACROSS
 1. Creates an idea or product
 5. Feline
 6. Destroy
 7. Go bad
 8. Large marine mammals

DOWN
 1. Frozen treat
 2. Trip or travel
 3. Vitamin or mineral
 4. Ice cream creations

Answers:
 Across
 1. Invent 5. Cat 6. Rot 8. Manatees
 Down
 1. Ice cream 2. Vacation 3. Nutrient 4. Sundaes

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

- **1723:** JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH LEADS THE FIRST PERFORMANCE OF HIS CANTATA ERFORSCHEN MICH, GOTT, UND ERFAHRE MEIN HERZ, BWV 136.
- **1870:** THE FIRST VATICAN COUNCIL DECREES THE DOGMA OF PAPAL INFALLIBILITY.
- **1968:** INTEL IS FOUNDED IN MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA.

New Word

BLEND
 mix and combine

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Freezer
SPANISH: Congelador
ITALIAN: Freezer
FRENCH: Congélateur
GERMAN: Gefriertruhe

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OFFICIAL PROGRAM

San Luis Valley Ski-Hi Stampede

Thursday, Friday,
Saturday & Sunday
July 11 - 14, 2024



Published Wednesday, July 10, 2024



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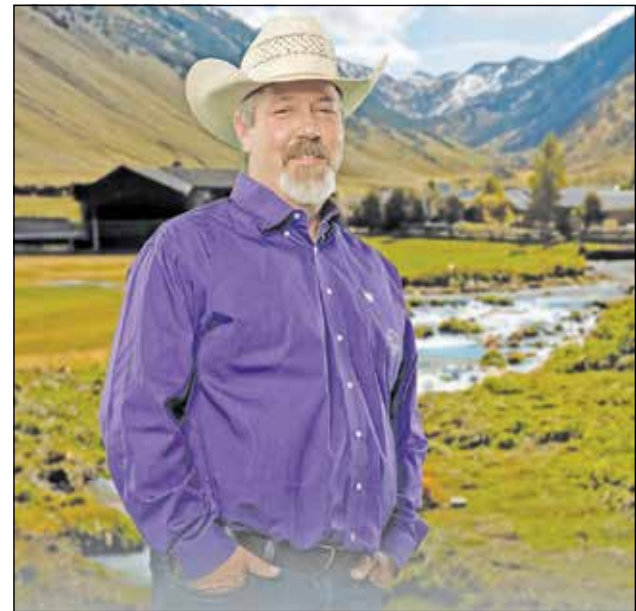
Welcome to the 102nd Ski-Hi Stampede

We are so excited to celebrate our 102nd anniversary this year! On Thursday, July 11, the Monte Vista Rotary Club will be doing dinner

serving roast beef, baked potatoes, beans, with cookies and a drink. After supper, we are pleased to announce another spectac-

ular concert featuring Wynonna Judd with special guest Max McNow. Immediately after the concert, join us for the first dance of the week-

end featuring Justin Kemp. On Friday, July 12, the first rodeo of the event will kick off at 7 p.m. with the world class stock contractor Stace Smith and rodeo an-



nouncer Andy Seiler. Friday night is Family Night at the rodeo.

Rodeos will also take place on Saturday the 13th at 7 p.m., and Sunday the 14th at 2 p.m. Saturday's Rodeo theme is "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" - so make sure to wear your pink that day.

There will be parades on Friday, July 12, and Saturday, July 13, at 10 a.m. This year's parade theme is "Heroes Among Us."

Don't forget to take your family to Wright's Amusement Carnival as they exceed our expectations every year. We hope you don't miss this

opportunity to get out and spend time with friends and family and enjoy what the San Luis Valley community has to offer.

For more information, check out our website at skihistampede.com, like us on Facebook and Instagram, or add us on Snapchat!

Have a great time at the 102nd Anniversary of the Ski-Hi Stampede!

Greg Metz, Stampede Committee President

Stampede Committee



Greg Metz- President • Brandon Rogers- Vice President • Eric Kimberling- Secretary • Nick Malone- Treasurer • Charlie Burd- Director • Karla Willschau- Director • Derek Cooper- Director • John Willschau- Director • Kelsey Kimberling- Director • Ryan Rumley- Director • Mark Deacon- Director • Dave Cooper- Director • Jason Tillman- Director • Helen Smith- Director • CE Glunz- Director • Rocky Southway- Director • Keith Rogers- Director

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Photo courtesy of www.riderandbethany.com



Photo by Brian Williams

During the 2023 Stampede, rodeo scholarships were awarded to Blake Denton, left, and Sommer Amos, middle, by the Adams State University Foundation and the Stampede Committee. Applications are available at www.skihistampede.com.

Stampede, ASU partner on annual scholarships

MONTE VISTA — San Luis Valley Ski-Hi Stampede, Inc. and Adams State University Foundation both know the importance of being involved in local communities and supporting local youth.

The San Luis Valley Ski-Hi Stampede and Adams State University Foundation have teamed up to provide three \$3,500 scholarships to any male or female San Luis Valley resident. The scholarships will be awarded to qualifying

applicants during the 2023 Stampede rodeo. Qualifications include in the year of scholarship application, the applicant must have or will be participating either in the San Luis Valley Ski-Hi Stampede Rodeo, San Luis Valley High School Rodeo, San Luis Valley Little Britches Rodeo, or the San Luis Valley Fair as a 4-H or FFA participant; or be a stockholder or child of a San Luis Valley Ski-Hi Stampede shareholder or be a volunteer during the Stampede.



Bring canned food to carnival on Wednesday

MONTE VISTA — Wright's Amusements is again having its annual food drive.

Come down to the carnival on Wednesday, July 10, for opening night – 5 p.m. to midnight. Those who bring two canned food items can purchase an all-day carnival pass for \$25.

This offer will only be available Wednesday, July 10.

Please make sure any food you bring is unopened and unexpired.

Wright's Amusements will be open during the Stampede from 11 a.m. to midnight on July 11, 12 and 13; and from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on July 14.



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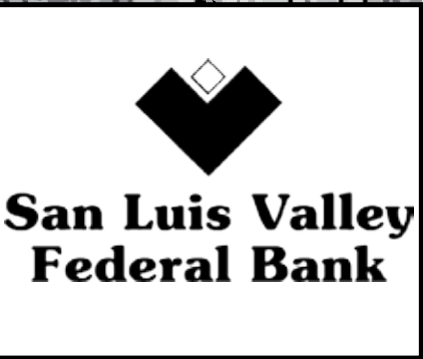


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Contractor Smith Pro Rodeos provides quality stock

MONTE VISTA — If the bulls look meaner, the horses rougher and the calves and steers more agile, thank perennial Stampede favorite stock contractor Stace Smith Pro Rodeos.

At end of 2023, the torch was passed from father to son as Riggin Smith began running the show for his father, Stace Smith.

Stace Smith PR produces more PRCA rodeos than any other PRCA stock contractor. In addition to PRCA rodeos, Smith Pro Rodeos produces PBR and Bronc Match events throughout the year. It is in large part to his experience that Stace Smith has been named PRCA Stock Contractor of the Year in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014. Smith and Harry Vold are tied for the most all-time PRCA Stock Contractor of the Year awards at 11.

Stace has worked at every level of rodeo, beginning as a contestant, then spending time as chute boss, and pickup man. Smith was chosen as pickup man for the Texas Circuit finals in both 2005 and 2007 and continues to pick up at several events.

In 2009, Stace Smith became a shareholder in

Mesquite Championship Rodeo, and in 2014, Smith Pro Rodeos has served as the committee or partners with the committee at 26 of the 39 events produced. This one-of-a-kind experience gives them an inside edge on what it takes to help the committees achieve one of the ultimate goals of spectator sports, putting spectators in seats.

In 2014, Smith Pro Rodeos had seven PRCA rodeos nominated in the four "Rodeo of the Year" categories. Smith Pro Rodeos produces rodeos across nine different states from Mississippi through Texas, Colorado, North Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

Each performance is carefully planned, from building equal, exciting pens of livestock, to planning the order they will be presented according to the stock and rider's attributes. All timed event livestock come directly from the Smith ranch, so there are no mismatched pens or delivery issues. Because of these efforts, turnouts are at a minimum, so each rodeo is a balanced representation of the sport.

For more information, go online to www.smithprorodeos.com.



Andy Seiler to announce Ski-Hi Stampede

MONTE VISTA — The oldest rodeo in Colorado will be welcoming a familiar voice to announce the goings-on in the arena, this year. Andy Seiler is back handling the announcing duties for Ski-Hi Stampede.

Seiler has been in the business for over a decade and his career has followed an ascendant path being branded "an up-and-coming voice for professional rodeo," by Boyd Polhamus and according to former NIRA Commissioner John Smith. "I honestly believe Andy will be one of the best-recognized announcers in the sport of rodeo."

Rodeo is a family affair for Seiler as he and both parents competed in rodeo. In his high school competition days, he was a three-time champion team roper in the National High School Finals Rodeo. From there he qualified three times for the College National Finals Rodeo during his time at Troy College in Alabama.

To earn some extra money for college expenses, Seiler used his first-hand experience to take up gigs announcing at amateur rodeos. After winning the Walt Garrison Award of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA), Seiler's

first big break came in the form of an invitation from announcer Boyd Polhamus for Seiler to be his co-announcer at the National College Rodeo Finals in 2008.

After three years of working various rodeos including Rodeo Houston, Cervi Championship Rodeo and Harry Vold, he stepped away from the scene to get a "real" job, working for a feed supply company in Florida. During that time, he married his childhood sweetheart. Bringing about his next big break, in the form of another phone call from Polhamus asking Seiler to fill in as the announcer at Rodeo Houston.

From there, his announcing career took off as he was in demand at rodeos across the nation. All this eventually led to a prestigious spot at-mic for the National Finals Rodeo.

Seiler is well suited for his profession as he has plenty of experience with rodeo as well as a broadcast journalism degree. He also knows a thing or two about making the event fun for all ages as Seiler is a husband and a father.

He has announced all over the country in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA).

Tentative schedule of events

Thursday, July 11

Wright's Amusement Carnival, 11 a.m. to midnight

5-7 p.m.: Rotary Chuck Wagon Dinner at Ski-Hi Park

7:30 p.m.: Concert (gates open at 6:30 p.m.): Wynonna and special guest Max McNown

9 p.m.-1 a.m.: (begins after the concert) Dance: Justin Kemp Band

Friday, July 12

Family Day at the Rodeo

Wright's Amusement Carnival, 11 a.m. to midnight

10 a.m.: Parade

1 p.m.: Local Rodeo, amateur events and professional slack

7 p.m.: PRCA Rodeo

9 p.m.-1 a.m.: Dance: Justin Kemp Band.

Saturday, July 13

Tough Enough to Wear Pink

Wright's Amusement Carnival, 11 a.m. to midnight

10 a.m.: Parade

7 p.m.: PRCA Rodeo

9 p.m.-1 a.m.: Dance: Justin Kemp Band.

Sunday, July 14

Wright's Amusement Carnival, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

2 p.m.: PRCA Rodeo

Saddle Awards

For more information, visit www.ski-histampede.com

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Rodeo couple exhibits trick riding and roping, gun spinning

CONTRIBUTED

A pair of western entertainers will hit the "stage" at the Ski-Hi Stampede on July 12-14. In the tradition of Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, Rider Kiesner and his partner Bethany Iles entertain with trick riding, trick roping, and gun slinging!

It's an exhibition of the Western arts, heralding back to the old west days of Annie Oakley, the Will Rogers Follies, and the glory days of TV, when westerns were king.

Kiesner and Iles are well-known for their work. Kiesner has performed at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo, pro rodeo's world championship, seven times, and has done his act in all 50 states and 15 countries.

Their act is all western: Kiesner trick ropes and does gun spinning tricks, standing on a specially designed platform on his truck, doing such rope tricks as the butterfly, the wedding ring (with 70 feet of rope) and the Texas skip. Iles rides around the arena, doing dangerous yet beautiful trick riding stunts like the suicide drag, the shoulder stand, the liberty stand, the full fender drag, the stroud layout, and one of her newest, the cartwheel vault.

He's no stranger to the art of western talent. When he was nine years old, he got a Will Rogers trick roping kit for Christmas and taught himself to rope. His entire family, including younger brother Roper and parents Philip and Julie, took their show on the road. When Rider turned 18, he got his PRCA card and began his solo career.

Iles grew up with a mother who was



Courtesy photos
Bethany Iles will trick ride at the Ski-Hi Stampede on July 12-14. The talented cowgirl will be alongside trick roper and gunslinger Rider Kiesner.

terrified of horses, but when Iles saw trick riding, she and her twin sister knew that's what they wanted to do.

"My mom, being a good mom, signed us up to take riding lessons, and within a month, we had three head of horses," Iles said. The sisters made their own trick riding equipment and hung off horses, "which is totally not safe," she laughed. Their riding instructor hosted a trick riding clinic, which the girls attended, "and a year later, we had learned enough to do local shows," Iles said.

The two of them paired up in 2018 and have performed at rodeos across the nation.

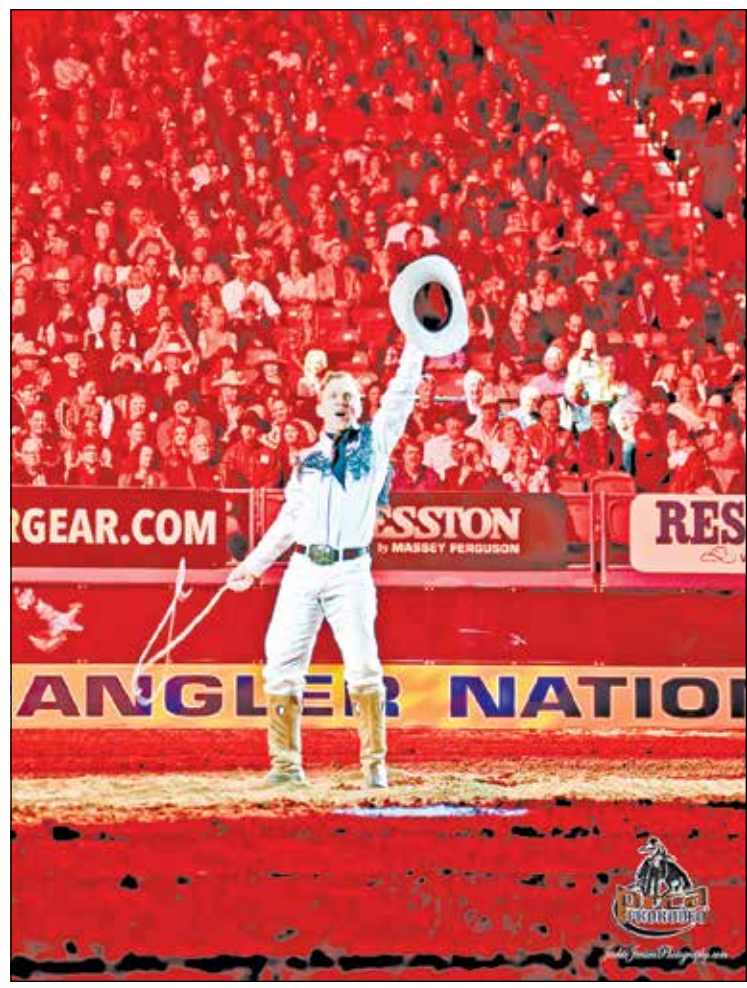
World champion trick roper Rider Kiesner will entertain with his brand of fancy trick roping and fire. The Oklahoma cowboy has been a showman and entertainer for more than 20 years.

Kiesner is a four-time world champion trick roper and a two-time world champion gun spinner, and the couple is the 2020 PRCA Specialty Act of the Year.

They will entertain during each night of

the Ski-Hi Stampede July 12-14. Performances begin at 7 p.m. on July 12 and 13, with a 2 p.m. matinee on July 14.

To purchase tickets and for more information, visit the website at skihistampede.com.




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Miss Ski-Hi Stampede Queens

1919 Kitty Halferty
 1928 Esther Godfrey
 1933 Agnes Aust
 1934 Dorothy Dorris
 1935 Mickey Gross
 1936 Vivian Goff
 1937 Marian Fennell
 1938 Betty Trueblood
 1939 Bonnie Hocker
 1940 Louise Johnston
 1941 Dorothy Haigler
 1942 Catherine Lague
 1943-45 (no queen)
 1946 Elinor Linger
 1947 Virginia Whitten
 1948 Lucille Ryan
 1949 Donna Glee McOllough
 1950 Marianne Finley
 1951 Betty Jane Johnson
 1952 Loretta Wiescamp
 1953 Charlene Wright
 1954 Ella Mae Noffsinger
 1955 Beverly Mann
 1956 Sue Schroeder
 1957 Gretchen Shellabarger
 1958 Kathleen Grimwood
 1959 Sylvia Claunch
 1960 Diane Selters
 1961 Ann Ulstrom
 1962 Barbie Roberson
 1963 Janice Haws

1964 Donna Selters
 1965 Jody Phillips
 1966 Loretta Morgan
 1967 Clarine Claunch
 1968 Nancy Rhodus
 1969 Marcia Wright
 1970 Cheryl Wright
 1971 Cindy Kane
 1972 Rita Curtis
 1973 Debbie Beiriger
 1974 Jackie Pavlovsky
 1975 Renee Smith
 1976 Cindy Wallace
 1977 Tammy Wiescamp
 1978 Anita Hunter
 1979 Carol Carter
 1980 Laura Wiescamp
 1981 Taina Andre
 1982 Darius DeHerrera
 1983 Sandy Hodgell
 1984 Betty Claunch
 1985 Brenda Rippe
 1986 Frances Slane
 1987 Janell Booth
 1988 Verla Rutgers
 1989 Christy Wintz
 1990 Isabel Jaramillo
 1991 Robin Stagner
 1992 Esther Sanchez
 1993 Michelle Claunch
 1994 Misty Brook Stagner



Past Miss Ski-Hi Stampede Queens and Royalty pose for a photo during the parade.

Courtesy photo

1995 (no queen)
 1996 Tammy Aldridge
 1997 Jennifer Edwards
 1998 Marcia Berggren
 1999 Holly Binnian
 2000 Jeanie Andreatta
 2001 Corin Crowther
 2002 Jaelyn Gabbel
 2003 Kristen Prator
 2004 Johanna Steffens

— List provided by Gretchen Haller

Stampede amateur events announced

MONTE VISTA — The Ski-Hi Stampede Committee announces the 2024 amateur events and rules.

All amateur contestants will participate in the slack-qualifying round of the Ski-Hi Stampede rodeo on Friday, July 12, at 1 p.m.

All participants must be residents of the San Luis Valley — no exceptions.

• Entry fees will be \$100 per person per event.
 Calf Roping - \$100
 Barrel Racing - \$100
 Team Roping - \$200

An individual may enter only once per event.

• Event will be a one go round timed trials.

• The 8 (eight) fastest times, who were successful in the qualifying round, will advance to the Ski-Hi Pro Rodeo performances on Saturday and Sunday, bottom four Saturday and top four Sunday.

• Amateur monies will be paid to the fastest four contestants during Friday's qualifier.

Stock, secretary and judges fees will be

deducted.

Pay off will be as follows:

1st-40 percent; 2nd-30 percent; 3rd-20 percent and 4th-10 percent

• There will be no additional entry fee for participation in the Stampede Pro Rodeo. The fastest time in each event will be the winner of the amateur saddle for the event. The amateur saddle will be presented to the winner at the Sunday performance of the San Luis Valley Ski Hi Rodeo. In the event of a tie for the saddle, tie-breaker will be the best time from the qualifying round.

Individuals and teams will be scheduled in the Ski-Hi Pro Rodeo as follows:

• Number of individuals and teams will be divided equally for each of the two days (Saturday and Sunday) of the Ski-Hi Pro Rodeo.

• Competition order will be from slowest times from qualifier at the Saturday performance to the fastest times at the Sunday performance.

• Example (with eight maximum qualifiers with performance date and running order): Saturday, July 23 – Qualifiers 8,7,6,5; Sunday, July 24 - Qualifiers 4,3,2,1

• Once individuals and teams have qualified, and performance times have been set, there will be no changes or additions even if a qualifier must draw out for any reason.

• All communications about complaints or grievances shall be directed to the Ski-Hi Stampede Board of Directors at a monthly meeting by asking for a spot on the agenda to express the concerns. At no time will sponsors or other individuals be approached about grievances. Any violations of this clause may result in disqualification in this year's eligibility as well as all future year's eligibility in Ski Hi Stampede Rodeo events.

• Registration will be from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday, July 8, at the Ski-Hi Stampede Committee Building, 2330 Sherman Ave., Monte Vista. Contestants must have the following

for registration: Entry fee (cash or check; if a participant's check bounces, they will not be allowed to compete for the saddle in the pro rodeo); proof of health insurance; proof of residency (driver's license of 90 days in the Valley)

• Anyone under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a legal guardian or have a notarized release from your legal guardians.

• Team Roping – Must be the complete team!

• All participants must enter in person!

Mutton busting

Participants must be between ages of 5 and 7 years old and less than 50 pounds. They must be a San Luis Valley resident and show proof of age and insurance. Child must be present at entry office to weigh in. There will be a limit of 10 mutton busters per day. All mutton busters must report to the west end of the grandstand before the saddle bronc riding begins. Contestants not reporting on time will not be allowed to compete.

See website for more information and all the rules, www.skihistampede.com.

Welcome to Stampede!



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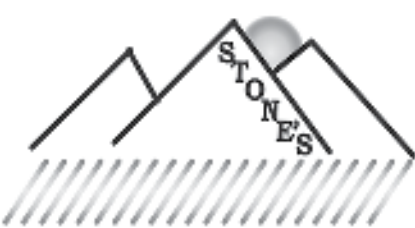
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Wynonna to headline Stampede concert

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — Longtime country artist and multiple award winner Wynonna Judd will be the featured act for Ski-Hi Stampede concert on Thursday, July 11, as the 100-year plus event moves up two weeks earlier than normal.

Up and coming artist Max McNown will be the guest artist. Tickets are available at skihistampede.com.

Wynonna is one of the most widely recognized and awarded female country musicians in history. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wynonna_Judd In all, she has had 19 No. 1 singles, including those with The Judds. Her solo albums and singles are all credited to—and performed under—the singular stage name, Wynonna.

She first rose to fame in the 1980s alongside her mother, Naomi, in their mother-daughter country music duo, The Judds. They released seven albums on Curb Records, in addition to 26 singles, of which 14 were No. 1 hits. In 2023 Wynonna was named the best country music artist picking up the “country champion” award at the “People’s Choice Country Awards.”

McNown is a singer-songwriter from Bend, Oregon. His soulful music attracted international attention on TikTok and other social media platforms, which built an engaging and



committed fanbase.

His powerful lyrics and resonant vocals led to collaborations with renowned producers and songwriters and the opportunity to audition in front of Katy Perry, Lionel Ritchie, and Luke Bryan during the 2023 season of “American Idol.”



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Stampede Parade Grand Marshals



Ronnie and Carolyn David

Ronnie and Carolyn David were high school sweethearts and have been married for 60 years. Ronnie graduated from Sargent High School and Colorado State University with a degree in science and physical education.

Carolyn graduated from Monte Vista High School and St. Joseph Hospital School of Radiological Technology in Denver.

They returned to the Sargent area following graduation and Ronnie taught and coached at Sargent schools. Carolyn worked at Monte Vista Hospital, and they also farmed.

They raised three children, Kirk of Monte Vista, Stan of Pagosa Springs, and Marcia Schneider of Abilene, Kan., and have one

grandson, Brody of Colorado Springs.

Their greatest joy was supporting their children and grandson in their various activities and sporting events. There were many hours spent on bleachers and traveling but "what fun it was."

Ronnie served on the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, the Sargent Steering Committee and two terms on the Sargent School Board. He coached grade school, junior high and high school basketball for more than 20 years, most of that was as a volunteer. For 35 years, he refereed football and basketball both locally and on the state level. "Being around young people adds a lot of joy to your life."

Carolyn volunteered on the Stampede Parade Committee, 9 Health Fair and has been a member of Bethlehem Chapter #56 Order of Eastern Star for 50 years and has enjoyed helping with all their philanthropic work. Carolyn was director at Legacy Assisted Living for 24 years and gained so much enjoyment from serving the seniors of the community.

The David's enjoy spending as much time as possible with family and at Santa Maria Reservoir. Carolyn still enjoys playing bridge, volunteers at the Rio Grande Hospital and serves as a member of the Monte Vista Community Ambulance Board of Directors.

Rodney and Domey Salazar

Domey and Rodney Salazar were born in the little community of Lariat. Growing up they were neighbors, Domey went to Catholic school, and Rodney went to public school.

They met in high school and were high

school sweethearts.

Rodney graduated high school and Domey later got her GED.

They have five wonderful children, who are doing well; nine grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

After the kids got older, Domey went to work at HeadStart and then with Dr. Hilmes. She also worked at McDonalds Clothing Store. Then later, she worked at Polston Elementary School as a teacher's aide before retiring.

Rodney's first job here in Monte was for Boy's Market, then for John Rogers Motors, who sold to Steinert Motors. Then he went to work for Phillips 66. He was offered a job with the Department of Agriculture (US Forest Service) as seasonal labor. After 32 years of service, he was promoted from labor to mechanic helper, to heavy equipment operator before retiring as supervisor of the forest road maintenance crew.

Rodney served on the board of directors for HeadStart, Colorado Migrant Council and the 12th Judicial Court in Alamosa. He has been a lifetime member of the Monte Vista Elks Lodge,



where he served in various offices with 39 years of service to date.

When they were younger, Domey and Rodney bowled in leagues and hunted. Rodney loved to golf. They also loved to dance.

Nowadays, they enjoy going to casinos and working on their condominium. Rodney just celebrated his 90th birthday with family and friends.

"Life is pretty sweet," they said.

Dance the nights away with the Justin Kemp Band

MONTE VISTA — Thursday, Friday and Saturday night's dances will feature the Justin Kemp Band.

Justin Kemp was born and raised in Hobbs, N.M., on the Texas Border. Growing up in a musical family he was heavily influenced by the great Merle Haggard, George Jones, Keith Whitley, and all of the legends going back to the 1970's.

Once he picked up the guitar at the age of 11 there was no turning back. He began songwriting in high school and pursued music at South Plains College in Levelland, Texas. With the support of his father, David Kemp, who also plays bass and keyboard with the band, the Justin Kemp Band was born.

Justin co-writes many of the original songs the band records along with his father and bandmate David Kemp. Their recent releases include "Borrow A Kiss," "Money In My Pocket," "Better Man," "Heart's Desire" and "Legends Never Die."

Justin and the band tour nationally and he also performs as a duo with David. They have opened for many major acts including Joe Nichols, Chase Rice, Dylan Scott, Travis Tritt, Tanya Tucker, Josh Abbott Band, Kevin Fowler, and Wade Bowen to



name a few.

He likes and covers the music of Luke Combs, Brett Young, Jon Pardi, Midland & Cole Swindell. Justin and the band have toured primarily in the South West.

In 2018 he signed a management deal with Heart Songs Records and he has spent the last year writing, recording in Nashville and continuing to tour with his five-piece band.

Justin Kemp Band was on multiple 2019 Country Artists to Watch lists. His successful single "Better Man" garnered him a place on Apple Music's hot tracks for 9 weeks.

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Still tough enough to wear pink on Saturday

SAN LUIS VALLEY — For more than 100 years, the Ski-Hi Stampede has entertained crowds from all over the country and provided one of the best pro-rodeo events in the state. Not only has the Ski-Hi Stampede brought joy to the Valley, guests to the area and fun for all who attend, they have also provided donations to a local cause and have helped save the lives of many through their generosity.

The Stephanie L. Miner Women's Imaging Center at San Luis Valley Health in Alamosa was created when Miner, a local teacher, was diagnosed with breast cancer after her fourth child was born. When Miner lost her fight with cancer, her family approached SLV Health with the idea and starting funds for a center where women could go for early detection, prevention and all the state-of-the-art equipment needed to fight the disease.

It was in 2006 that the members of Ski-Hi Stampede board of directors approached the hospital and asked if they could help by becoming a part of a nation-wide program known as "Tough Enough to Wear Pink." The Saturday, July 23, program is an initiative supported by Wrangler and has participants from around the country.

"The Ski-Hi Stampede Committee's commitment to the TETWP campaign has raised more than \$100,000 to directly benefit the Stephanie L. Miner

Women's Imaging Center," stated Kelly Gurule, SLV Health Foundation director.

The Stampede committee, in conjunction with the San Luis Valley Health Foundation, is encouraging everyone to participate. All staff and volunteers for the event will be wearing pink throughout the festivities. "We know everyone is proud to be "Tough Enough to Wear Pink," said Gurule.

Tough Enough to Wear Pink was created by project founder Terry Wheatley in 2004. Wrangler presented the pink western shirts during the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo that same year and has continued as the head sponsor for events nationwide. The program has raised cancer awareness as well as raised funds for research, equipment and to help families with financial assistance. The amount of money raised has been staggering in the 18 years since the program's inception.

Wrangler donates all funds raised that come through their program to the national Breast Cancer Research Foundation that has been dubbed one of the best charitable programs in the nation. According to the website, "The Breast Cancer Research Foundation" (BCRF) was founded in 1993 by Evelyn H. Lauder as an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated



Courtesy photo

SLV Health Foundation picture for the Tough Enough to Wear Pink and making the pillar for \$100,000 of donations — pictured are Brandon Rogers, Rocky Southway, Charlie Burd, CE Glunz, Cliff Edwards, Greg Metz, Amy McKinley, Bob Carlucci, Rosalee Martinez, Jason Tilman, Kelly Gurule, Keith Rogers, Sheila Hicks, Derek Cooper, Roxanne Sittler, Duane Bussey, Karla Willschau, Kelsey Kimberling, Helen Smith, Nick Malone, Eric Kimberling, Mark Deacon. Missing David Cooper and John Willschau.

to funding innovative clinical and translational research. In 2010, BCRF awarded \$33 million to 172 scientists across the United States, Canada, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, and Australia. Currently, more than 90 cents of every dollar donated is directed to breast cancer research and awareness programs."

Gurule was pleased to talk about the things the donations have done for the

center to date. Funds from previous years have been used to purchase equipment and maintain the center so the services provided there can be available to those that need them.

"There is one thing that people really need to understand," said Gurule. "The money that is raised here stays here in the Valley to help local residents and provide local services."

The women's imaging center in

Alamosa directly benefits from the funds raised during Ski-Hi Stampede, so keeping the money local is of the utmost importance. Breast cancer awareness, prevention and early detection is paramount in the fight against this disease.

Through these efforts, women from all over the world have the tools and support necessary to overcome the disease and find new hope in life.

Mutton Busting, an unforgettable experience



Photo from 2021

MONTE VISTA — Nobody expects to break or ride a sheep, but it has a benefit. It's a chance for little kids to get a taste of adventure, a feel for what it's like to be a cowboy. They might get bruised and they'll definitely get dirty, but it's an experience they will never forget. Mutton busting is the sport of bareback sheep riding. Kiddie competitors challenge themselves and the sheep to see who can hold on the longest as they try for a qualifying time in the rodeo arena.

Mutton busting is similar to bull riding, except that the contestants wear more protective gear and are closer to the ground. A sheep is held still, either

in a small chute or by an adult handler, while a child is placed on top in a riding position. Once the child is seated, the sheep is released and usually starts to run in an attempt to get the child off. Often small prizes or ribbons are given out to the children who can stay on the longest.

There are no set rules for mutton busting, no national organization, and most events are organized at the local level. However, children who begin as mutton busters could go on to be top Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) money winners or, at least, tops on the hometown rodeo circuit.

The vast majority of children participating in the event fall off in less than 8 seconds. Age, height and weight restrictions on participants generally prevent injuries to the sheep and implements such as spurs are banned from use. In most cases, children are required to wear helmets and parents are often asked to sign waivers to protect the rodeo from legal action.

The practice has been documented as having been introduced to the National Western Stock Show in Denver, at least by the 1980s when an event was sponsored by Nancy Stockdale Cervi, a former rodeo queen. At that event, children

ages five to seven who weighed less than 55 pounds could apply, and ultimately seven contestants were selected to each ride a sheep for six seconds.

There are no statistics about the popularity of the sport, but anecdotal reports suggest thousands of children participate in such events every year in the U.S. Supporters consider the event both entertaining and a way to introduce young children to the adult rodeo "rough stock" riding events of bull riding, saddle bronc, and bareback riding, and they may liken its rough-and-tumble nature to the way youth sports such as football are played.

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Parade route

Stampede parade basic info
Friday and Saturday, July 12 and 13
Lineup will begin at 8:30 a.m.
 Highway 160 closes at 9 a.m. and the line moves forward. The parade starts at 10 a.m. Be prepared to line up early and wait.
 The parade route travels west on 1st Avenue (Highway 160), turns south on Davis Street, then turns east on 2nd Avenue and returns to Safeway.



Parade entry numbers will be issued when the entry form is returned to the Colorado Potato Administration Office, 1305 Park Ave., Monte Vista. FAX 719-852-4684. Place the number on the left front (driver side) of your entry. Horse entry numbers are to be placed on the left side of your horse. Please secure all four corners so judges can identify your entry quickly. Entry numbers are not required for bands, entries not wanting to be judged. Award winners will be announced Saturday.

from your entry. Nothing can be shot from an entry. If you wish to hand out items, you must have walkers that walk along the edge of the street and distribute them. These rules are in place for the safety of children who may run into the street.

During the parades: no group or individual may stop to perform or hold up the parade. All performances must be done while moving forward. Groups with small children must be able to keep up with the parade pace to avoid gaps. No candy or trinkets may be thrown

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Barrel racing is an exciting sport

Sports fans and athletes have a plethora of sports to enjoy in this country and around the world, and those options include equestrian events. Equestrian sports have a deep-rooted history and have inspired some avid fans, including those enamored with the sport of barrel racing.

Barrel racing originally was established as an event for women on the rodeo circuit. While men rode bucking broncos and bulls and competed in roping events, women displayed horse speed and stamina in barrel racing competitions. Today, barrel racing primarily is a female sport at both the collegiate and professional levels.

Barrel racing can be an entertaining experience for spectators and a rewarding one for riders. The goal of the barrel race is to complete a perfect pattern in the least amount of time, so the rider who completes the pattern the fastest wins the competition.

The pattern riders face is a complicated cloverleaf design. Riders can choose to enter the first barrel to the left or the right. They circle the barrel and proceed across to barrel number two, then finish out at the third barrel, where they will complete the pattern and exit the course. The approach to the first barrel should be carefully timed and executed to set the stage for the rest of the course.

An official distance between barrels exists for professional races. Riders cover 90 feet between barrel one and two. There is 105 feet between barrels one and three and between barrels two and three. Finally, 60 feet marks the distance between barrels one and two and the entry/exit "score" line.

According to Michigan State University Extension, barrel racing requires a mild-tempered horse with natural

athletic ability. Horses need to be fast, agile and intelligent. A hot-headed horse is not a good choice because he may fight the rider and cause injury. Riders also must be in tune with their horses' movements and sit correctly in the saddle to allow the horse to hug the sides of each barrel. Riders need to be both physically fit and capable of planning ahead to accommodate their horses' speed.

Experts advise riders to run horses through repetitive drills to improve their performance. A horse learns by release and will think he's done a good job if a rider moves on to a new task. If riders are unhappy with a turn, they should return to the same barrel over and over until it is mastered, as riders need their horses to remember the good techniques. Horses can do drills running straight lines as well as circles. Soon both horse and rider should develop a feel for each other and move more intuitively together.

Although barrel racing has been around for a long time, one of the premier governing bodies of the sport was only established 66 years ago. The Girl's Rodeo Association was formed when 38 cowgirls came together in San Angelo, Texas, to create an organization dedicated to the promotion and advancement of women in the sport of rodeo. In 1981, the association changed its name to the Women's Professional Rodeo Association, and it remains one of the most influential sanctioning bodies in the sport. It also is the oldest women's sports association in the United States and the only one governed entirely by women.

In 2007, the WPROA instituted the My Horse's Choice Junior Division for girls ages 17 and under. The junior division introduces a whole new group



Photos from 2021

of members to the ranks of professional competition and allows mothers and daughters to compete for world points at some of the same events.

Barrel racing is most popular in the western and southern areas of the United States and some parts of Canada. To learn more about a particular racing circuit or the sport of barrel racing, visit www.wproa.com.



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Renowned rodeo champions

The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association has produced its fair share of memorable performers over the years. One



of the more prestigious honors a rodeo rider can earn is the PRCA All-Around Cowboy Champion, which is given to the rodeo competitors who are most successful in two or more events. The following are a handful of rodeo competitors to win multiple All-Around PRCA All-Around championships.

- Trevor Brazile: The record holder for most all-around titles, Brazile eclipsed former record holder Ty Murray in 2010 when he won his eighth all-around championship. The 2014 season marked the ninth straight year the Texas-born Brazile was named the PRCA All-Around Cowboy Champion.

- Ty Murray: Though Murray's record for most all-around championships has been eclipsed, he remains one of professional bull riding's most recognizable faces, having crossed over into popular culture with appearances on television shows such as "Walker, Texas Ranger," "WWE Raw" and "Dancing With the Stars."

- Lewis Feild: A member of the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, Feild is a three-time winner of the PRCA All-Around Cowboy Championship, with three consecutive wins from 1985 to 1987. Feild's son, Kaycee, is an accomplished rider as well.

- Tom R. Ferguson: The Oklahoma-born Ferguson is another legend of rodeo, having won six all-around championships during the 1970s. Ferguson was also something of a trailblazer in rodeo, as he was the first rodeo competitor to earn more than \$100,000 in the arena in a single year, a feat he accomplished in 1978.

- Larry Mahan: Upon winning the PRCA All-Around Cowboy Championship in 1970, Mahan became the first rodeo competitor to win five such championships in a row. Mahan's 1973 comeback even garnered him some acclaim and attention in an unlikely place: Hollywood. "The Great American Cowboy," a documentary film from Kieth Merrill, focused on Mahan's comeback and battle with Phil Lyne for the world championship. The film would win the 1973 Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature.

- Jim Shoulders: The first competitor to ever win the bareback, bull riding and all-around events at the PRCA Championships, Shoulders also had a successful career outside of the rodeo arena, where he was a notable presence in print and television advertisements for jeans, boots and beer.

Bull riders' gear protective as well as functional

Many fans of sports like baseball, basketball and football enjoy wearing jerseys of their favorite players when attending a game, watching at home or gathering with fellow fans to watch somewhere in public. While it's nearly impossible to attend a professional sporting event today without seeing someone decked out in the same attire as their favorite player, such sightings are less likely to occur within the sport of rodeo.

Unlike baseball and basketball uniforms, the gear worn by many professional bull riders has more practical applications, namely to protect riders as much as possible. The following is a rundown of the gear professional bull riders wear during competition.

- * Headgear: While many professional bull riders are allowed to wear cowboy hats during competitions, the Professional Bull Riders, Inc., mandates that all new members who turned 18 years of age on or after Oct. 15, 2012, wear helmets. Those born before that date do not have to wear helmets, but some choose to do so to protect their heads from potentially threatening blows. In addition, bull riders can wear face masks to shield their faces and jaws from injury.

- * Vest: A protective vest is worn by bull riders to absorb shock and dissipate any blows to the body. The vest also was designed to protect riders' torsos from punctures caused by direct contact with the bulls' hooves and horns during competition.

- * Glove: Bull riders only wear one glove, which is on the hand they use to grip the bull



Photos from 2021

rope. This leather glove makes it easier to grip the rope and offers some measure of protection to riders' hands and fingers.

- * Chaps: Riders wear chaps on their legs, and

professionals often wear chaps emblazoned with logos of sponsors. Chaps offer extra protection for a rider's legs against the hooves and horns of the bull.

- * Bull rope: The bull rope, which is equipped with a handle braided into the rope, is a rider's only anchor during a ride. The rope is flat and braided from nylon or grass and goes around the bull's girth area behind the animal's front legs.

- * Boots: Bull riders' boots include a special spur ridge on the heel, and this helps their spurs to remain in place. Some riders wear pull-on boots, while others prefer boots that lace up.

- * Spurs: Spurs help bull riders stay in position once the ride begins. These spurs come equipped with dull rowels, which are the revolving disks at the end of spurs. The rowels are dull so they do not injure or cut the skin of the bull.

More information about bull riding is available at www.pbr.com.



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2023 Stampede Concert was a hit



Photo from 2023

Stampede carnival offers fun for all

MONTE VISTA — The Wright's Amusements Carnival is expected to be at full capacity for 2024.

Based out of Elbert, Colo., Wright's Amusements has been in operation for over 50 years. The carnival is a part of Stampede tradition and features a variety of attractions from children's rides to newer varieties of thrill rides.

In 1962, Floyd Wright and his two brothers, Frank and Charles, launched a traveling carnival that put family fun first. A half century later, Floyd Wright's nephew, John Ring, runs the show in the same treasured tradition. "My life — my heritage — is all about making sure people have a great time," says Ring. "What better

'job' is there?"

There are several options that are available for purchasing carnival tickets. Pre-order armbands are available at the Ski-Hi Stampede Office. On Wednesday, July 10, the carnival will hold a canned food drive. Those who bring two canned food items can purchase an all-day carnival pass for \$25.

There will be fun for all ages at the 102nd Ski-Hi Stampede and the attractions that Wright's Amusements provides will be no exception.

Wright's Amusements will be open from 5 p.m. to midnight on July 10, and during the Stampede from 11 a.m. to midnight on July 11, 12 and 13; and from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on July 14.

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