



Several locals on 2A SPL baseball team

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4th of July fun and events

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

July 5, 2024

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Second victim dies in Sunset Inn shooting

Corral now facing charges of 2 counts of first-degree murder

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — A second victim has died from his wounds that were a result of the June 23 shooting that took place at the Sunset Inn on West 8th Avenue in Alamosa. Although the victim's name is circulating throughout the community, his identity is not expected to be officially released by the Alamosa County Coroner until Friday, July 5.

Henry Corral, 44, was originally charged with one count of suspicion of first-degree murder and two counts of attempted murder along with other felonies for his alleged involvement in the shooting.

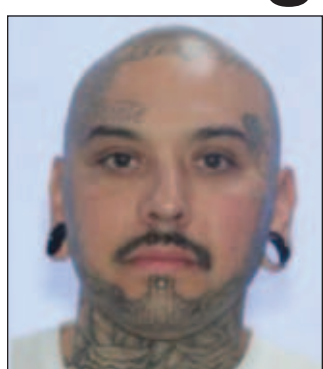
Twelfth Judicial District Attorney Anne Kelly confirmed with the Valley Courier that the death of a second man will change those charges to two counts of suspicion of first-degree murder and one

count of attempted first-degree murder in addition to tampering with physical evidence, possession of a weapon by a previous offender and criminal attempt of aggravated robbery.

An updated report on the status of the third victim of the shooting, who has been identified as Manuel Flores, 43, is not available at this time, but the latest from the Alamosa Police Department is that Flores was in serious but stable condition.

The first victim who died from

■ See VICTIM page 3



Henry Corral, 44, accused of shooting three men, two of whom have died from their wounds.

SLV celebrates Independence Day



Photo courtesy of Linette Nye-Schmidt

The Third of July celebrations in South Fork came to a sparkling close as fireworks by South Fork Fire Rescue lit up the night sky.



Courier photos by Priscilla Waggoner

Big John's Furniture Warehouse, 'superhero themed' was awarded first place in the Alamosa Fourth of July Parade.

Balloons, candy and horses. It's 4th of July!

'Biggest parade so far'

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter
ALAMOSA — Parents,

kids and dogs were lined up along both sides of Main Street on Thursday morning, scooping up the candy (not the dogs) and cheering as they watched Alamosa's annual Fourth

■ See PARADE page 3



What parade is complete without a gorgeous team of Clydesdales, courtesy of Horning Insurance.

Uncle Sam and friend delight parade goers in Creede



Courier photo by Keith R. Cerny

These blow-up figures delighted Fourth of July parade fans in Creede on Thursday marching down Main Street and winding up in Basham Park to dance to live music.

— See more photos on page 3

Pancakes, patriotism at July 4th breakfast

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

ALAMOSA — The 50th Annual Alamosa Kiwanis Club 4th of July Pancake Breakfast brought food, fun and music to attendees. The breakfast was at the San Luis Valley Federal Bank parking lot in Alamosa. Members of the Adams State University football team were on hand to help with the festivities.

The patriotic atmosphere was heightened with music performed by the SLV Community Band.

■ See PANCAKES page 3



Courier photo by John Waters

Adams State University (ASU) President David Tandberg (center) is joined by Linda Relyea with ASU (left) and Amanda Wilkinson Kiwanis Club member (right) at the 4th of July breakfast. Tandberg said of the breakfast, 'I look forward to this every year, it is one of the fun things we do, and I appreciate the Kiwanis Club for putting it on and allowing us to help out.'

SLV Today

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.

Monday Night Jam Band performing in Creede

CREEDE — Mark your calendars for Creede Arts Council's upcoming Music in the Park concert from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 7, in Creede's Basham Park.

The Monday Night Jam Band, an eclectic group of Creede musicians, will be performing a range of rock, blues, folk and funk.

This is part of the Creede Arts Council's Music in the Park series of free public concerts. For more information, contact the Creede Arts Council at creedearts@outlook.com or check out the entire summer Music in the Park lineup at www.creedeartscouncil.com.

Del Norte Rotary Golf Tournament

DELNORTE — The Del Norte Rotary Golf Tournament is scheduled for July 19 at the Rio Grande Club and Resort in South Fork.

Pre-registration only. Deadline to register is July 12. The cost is \$130 per person; lunch is provided. Format is four-person scramble with 9 a.m. shotgun start. For more information or to register, email mike@truelocalbank.com.

SLV WEATHER

Sunny, Breezy 80/42
Sat: Sunny, Breezy 81/44

Sun: Slight Chance of Afternoon Showers, Windy 82/45

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Record

Cake decorating class offered in San Luis

Program shows that 4-H is more than just livestock

By **MARIE MCCOLM**
SAN LUIS – On Friday, Juntos 4-H and the 4-H Team held a cake decorating class open to the public at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints San Luis branch.

The programs are run out the Colorado State University San Luis Valley Extension office in Monte Vista.

The class had about 25 participants, with excited children and family members including moms and dads. Dinner was provided.

The attendees of the class decorated three different types of cupcakes. One Cupcake was decorated to look like a Minion, another was decorated to look like a campfire, and another was decorated to look like a flower. Everyone that attended seemed to really enjoy the class.

The class is part of a focus that 4-H Juntos and regular 4-H provides to children, to help them acquire life skills and gain confidence which is part of what 4-H Juntos and regular 4-H is all about, according to organizers.

Instructors for the class were Juntos 4-H Specialist Carole Gurule, and 4-H instructor Mollie Wells.

Wells spoke to the class and instructed them on how to decorate each cupcake, using decorating cake tips, along with colored frostings, and a variety of candy.

The participants worked together and shared ideas and materials during the class.

Children used the cake tips, and learned how to maneuver the tips, to make assorted designs.

Gurule spoke to the class, about the cake decorating and about the 4-H program.

"I think everyone is having a good time tonight, and all of you are doing excellent with following directions and making your cupcakes, according to the exam-

ples we have shown you," she said. "The program that Mollie runs, is traditional 4-H. That's the membership where you join 4-H with a leader. Part of what I do for the Juntos 4-H is trying to get Latino families more involved with 4-H. There is a stigma behind 4-H that it's just livestock but there is a lot of things you can do and get involved in besides livestock."

Gurule explained that you can also learn skills while being in 4-H.

"There are so many different things and classes, like robotics, there's Legos, there's leadership, there's metal working, small engines, leatherworking, wildlife, sports fishing. There's fashion design, and clothing. We even have shooting sports," she said.

Wells then explained that with the shooting sports kids learn how to shoot properly and even obtain their hunter's safety license.

"We take you from beginning to end on the shooting skills. Aside from this, there are so many other programs



Approximately 25 people of all ages took part in a cake decorating class on Friday in San Luis. Participants learned how to decorate cupcakes and were given information on 4-H clubs in the Valley.



Photos by Marie Mccolm

Cake decorating instructor Mollie Wells shows off her flower cupcake as an example.

within 4-H, as well, and classes that you can take. We really want to get the word out there that all of this is available for our youth to help them succeed," Wells said.

Gurule said that 4-H Juntos is trying to make all kids feel welcome.

"We want to be inclusive, and we want to in-

vite all children to participate. We have a fair that happens in the first week of August and we want to get everyone involved in that, too. We travel to different counties. We are here today, but we have families that we work with and kids in Conejos County, and just all over the Valley.

There are projects we can help kids work on, there are skills we want to help teach, and we really want children to succeed in the program and in life, that's why we do this," she said.

Gurule and Wells ended the class by telling everyone to eat their cupcakes and enjoy what they created.

OBITUARIES

Jose Alonzo Cisneros 1939-2024

Our pool shark has pocketed his last bank shot...

Jose Alonzo Cisneros died at home surrounded by loved ones. Though medical issues associated to partial paralysis ultimately overcame Jose, he bravely and valiantly fought all that life had thrown at him for over 34 years, never losing his strong zest for life. Jose left us joking and never losing his strong spirit.

Jose was born Dec. 1, 1939, to Candido Armenio Sisneros and Lucia Maria Archuleta in San Antonio, Colo. He was the 3rd of 14 children. Jose graduated from Antonito High School in 1957. Shortly after graduation, he moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, where he worked for the Union Pacific Railroad for 4 years. In 1962, Jose joined the United States Army, and received his basic training at Fort Carson, Colo. He was then stationed in Pirmasens, Germany at Husterhoeh Kaserne Military Base during the Vietnam Conflict. He was honorably discharged from the Army in 1965. Jose then worked at the Tooele Army Depot in Tooele, Utah, for 5 years. Jose went on to work for the Federal Aviation Administration for 35 years until his retirement in 2005.

Jose met his true love of his life, Cora Helen Ruybal and eventually married on Dec. 31, 1965. They've shared over 58 years of marriage together. Where one went, they both went.

Together, they've had 4 children; Janice (Mike) Dotson, Joseph (Lisa) Cisneros, Denise (Sammy) Montoya, and

Amanda Cisneros. Jose was the proud grandfather of 11, and great-grandfather of nine. He loved being surrounded by all his grandchildren and was usually seen giving them rides on his wheelchair. They especially liked his tires that would light up when in motion. He made sure to always tell each and every one of them that he "Loved Them" before they departed.

On Nov. 6, 1989, Jose's (and his entire family's) world changed when he was involved in an auto accident at Cerro Summit, Colo. As a result of the accident, Jose was partially paralyzed, and would spend the rest of his life in a wheelchair. He endured over a month in the ICU at St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Junction, Colo., then was medically flown to the University of Utah Hospital where he was in various stages of Rehab for over 3 months. He ultimately returned to work for another 15 years. Jose never let his confinement in a wheelchair limit his life. He was always there for weddings, family reunions, parties, traveling, Disneyworld, holiday events, his grandchildren's games, and recitals, etc.

Jose is survived by his loving wife Cora, his four children, son in laws, daughter in law, grandchildren, great grandchildren: siblings Lorraine Casias, Aggie Ypina, Adrian Sisneros, Joseph Sisneros, and many sisters in laws, brother in laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, and many friends. Preceded in death by his parents; Candido Armenio and Lucia Marie, brothers; Rubel, Enrique, Gildo, Lawrence, Larry, Mar-



vin, sisters; Donilia, Placidita, Filadelfa, as well as Cora's parents, Jose Hilario Ruybal and Eloisa V. Ruybal.

Please join us on (date) at McDougal Funeral Home in the chapel (4330 S. Redwood Rd.) from (time) for Jose's viewing followed by a Rosary Service at (time). Mass will be on (date) at (time) at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church (4914 S. 2200 West, Taylorsville, UT) on (date) at (time) followed by burial at the Utah Veterans Cemetery and Memorial Park located at Camp Williams, (17111 1700 West, Bluffdale, UT). Luncheon will follow at St. Martin de Porres Church.

The family would like to thank the staff at the VA Hospital, who took care of Jose for many years, his children, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, and his grandchildren that were there to help Grandma and Grandpa. We'd especially like to thank Cora Cisneros, who dedicated her life to being Jose's wife, best friend, travel buddy, partner in mischief, and his primary caretaker. Without her loving and attentive care, Jose's quality and longevity of life would most definitely have been greatly reduced.

Jose was a truly amazing man that was loved and respected by many and will be greatly missed.

We love you Dad...

Samuel 'Sumida' Gallegos

Our beloved Samuel "Sumida" Gallegos, 81, was called home to rest on June 17, 2024. He passed away at the San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center with his loving family by his side. Sumida made his grand entrance into the world on April 1, 1943. He was the beloved son of Daniel and Beatrice Gallegos.

Sumida was united in marriage to the love of his life Kate Pacheco on April 17, 1965. They shared a happy and loving union. Sumida was a self-taught mechanic who ran his business from his residence for over 60 years.

He was a car lover and loved building custom cars. His greatest joy was being able to build these custom cars with his family and loved ones for them, as well as other people in the community.

Everyone in the community can recall Sumida always helped anyone he could with fixing their car or any other problems they



were having. He was selfless and a friend to all.

His kind and compassionate nature will forever be missed and cherished. In his free time,

Sumida also enjoyed going to bingo, gambling at the casinos, hauling wood and spending time with his family. The joy of riding in the '56 Chevy Bel Air meant the world to Sumida.

Sumida was preceded in death by his parents, two children Sammy Gallegos Jr., Kay Kayla Gallegos, three grandchildren, siblings Sofie Martinez,

Connie Vaughn, Nicky Gallegos, Alonzo Gallegos, Tony Gallegos, Bernice Young, Irene Meas.

His memory will live on through his wife Kate Gallegos, daughters Debbie (Frank) Martinez of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Kimberly Gallegos of Alamosa, Colo.; son Joey Duran of San Luis, Colo.; 11 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, special niece Charlene Gallegos, brother Arthur Gallegos. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Cremation was chosen and Rosary will be held on July 12, 2024, at Sangre de Cristo Catholic Church at 7 p.m. Memorial Mass will be held July 13, 2024, at 10 a.m. Centennial High School. Inurnment will follow at the San Luis Cemetery.

To leave online condolences, please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. The care of arrangements has been entrusted to Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

Donald F. Berryman

Donald F. Berryman was born March 24, 1942, to Revere and Wilma Berryman in Alamosa, Colo. He passed on March 27, 2024. He was one of five children. His siblings were Linda, Larry, Gene, and Wyllie.

He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings. He grew up on a ranch near Mosca, Colo. He enjoyed ranch life despite the hard work and cold temperatures.

While growing up in Alamosa he and his brothers were involved in many athletic endeavors, including track and field, football, and basketball. The Berryman home was filled with many ribbons and accolades from sporting events. He enjoyed music and he learned to play the guitar.

He served in the Air Force from Feb. 4, 1963, and was honorably discharged as an Airman First Class on Feb. 3, 1969. He received three medals for his service.

He was skilled at working on machinery and

automobiles. He had a car collection including a 1942 Ford Hot Rod, which he painted himself. He loved and attended many car shows, even traveling out of state.

He was employed for 30 years at Hill Air Force Base after his discharge from the Air Force. There he did what he loved doing best; fixing all kinds of machines from fire engines to automobiles and anything else that broke.

Donnie was the last of his siblings to pass. He will be missed by his many cousins, nieces, nephews, neighbors, and friends, as well as many other people around town he knew, especially members of the retired group of former coworkers that he would frequently gather with for breakfast.

Services will be held on Monday, July 29, 2024, at Leavitt's Mortuary, 836 36th St., Ogden, UT, 84403. Visitation will begin at 10 a.m. followed by graveside service at 11 a.m.

The family request no flowers be sent.

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School Menu
Friday
July 5, 2024

BREAKFAST

Yogurt/Granola
 Fruit & Milk

ELEMENTARY

Hot Dogs
 Broccoli
 Fruit
 & Milk

MIDDLE SCHOOL

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 Broccoli
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 & Milk

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Valley News

Dingfelder gives update on unusual spike in violent incidents

Four violent crimes within a 3-week span

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — During Wednesday night's meeting of city council, Alamosa Police Chief George Dingfelder addressed council regarding the unusual spate in the number of incidents involving violent crime recently.

"I think it's important to give you an update on some of the serious crime we've had happen in the last few weeks," Dingfelder said, focusing on four separate incidents.

"Concerning the State Street shooting where a house was shot up, we're comfortable saying that house was not the intended target."

Dingfelder was referencing an incident that occurred on the night of June 5 where an unidentified individual fired multiple shots into a home on State Avenue before leaving the scene. Although one of the homeowners was home, no one was injured.

"We're still working on that case, and we have a lot of evidence we've collected that we're waiting to be processed by CBI (Colorado Bureau of Investigation). As you know, CBI is the only lab that does that in the state."

Chief Dingfelder then brought up a stabbing involving three young men — two juveniles and a 22-year-old — that happened in Cole Park after the carnival being held had shut down for the evening.

"In the Cole Park stabbing that happened outside of the carnival and after hours," Dingfelder said, "we've identified everybody in that and have

sent charges to the district attorney for her to file in the case."

Dingfelder then brought up an additional incident that took place late in the evening on June 26 when, in the 1100 block of Denver Avenue, a 25-year-old victim was shot by an unidentified individual.

"The Denver Avenue shooting," Dingfelder began, "we're still working on that. We don't have a lot of information on that. We have received some video that the detectives are going through to try and identify the suspect. The victim is still in a hospital on the Front Range but is expected to survive, so that's good."

Last, Dingfelder brought up the incident that garnered national attention because it involved multiple shootings followed by a long manhunt. It also happened just two days before the shooting on Denver Avenue.

"And then there's the Sunset Inn shooting," Dingfelder said. "There's a lot going on there. We pretty much had to pull every detective for all of these, and I actually pulled Officer Mollee Heeney out of patrol and put her in investigations to give them some relief and help them work through some of these cases. We're just going to have to suck it up on the patrol side because the investigations side needs a lot of help with everything going on, plus working drugs."

"On the Sunset Inn shooting, we were able to get a lot of resources in here pretty quickly. CBI and the U.S. Marshals plus all the agencies in the Valley. Kudos to all the agencies. They always just show up to help whether they were asked or not."

"Thank goodness we got the suspect arrested and

where he needs to be but there's a lot of evidence to work through. I can't give you too much information but I'm happy to answer whatever questions you have."

Councilor Jamie Dominguez thanked Dingfelder for his hard work and praised the collaboration among the agencies. Councilor Michael Carson echoed Dominguez's comment. "It's been a helluva month," Carson said.

After expressing gratitude, Councilor Jan Vigil asked if Dingfelder could comment on the situation. "This is kind of unusual, isn't it? Is there something we can do to help?"

Dingfelder agreed that it was unusual to have so much significant violence in such a short period of time.

"This doesn't make a big difference, but the stabbing at Cole [Cole Park] and the shooting at Sunset Inn involved people from other places. They may have some connection to Alamosa, but they're not from here. But next week, I'm going to get the captains, the detectives and the sergeants together to target some of these hard-core criminals and some of this violent crime."

Before closing the meeting, Mayor Ty Coleman echoed the same sentiments expressed by other members of council concerning APD's work on the various cases.

Within that same meeting, Dingfelder was empowered by council to sign an MOU [memorandum of understanding] that allows the Alamosa Police Department to participate in the San Luis Valley Drug Task Force, a group created for law enforcement agencies in the Valley to work together in investigation of criminal activity involving drugs.

Celebrating 50 years in Creede



Courier photos by Keith R. Cerny

Thousands of parade fans lined both sides of Creede's Main Street Thursday for the annual Independence Day parade, some taking to the roofs of downtown businesses. Among the entries was this float celebrating 50 years of adventure there for San Juan Sports.

Surfing Santa visits Creede



Even though his 'reindeer' need to gain some weight, Santa made the pilgrimage to Creede for the annual 4th of July parade attended by an estimated 10,000 people lining both sides of the six blocks of Main Street sometimes three to five people deep.

Elvis appears for Creede parade

Even Elvis, or a whole gang of his impersonators, made an appearance for the annual 4th of July parade in Creede.



Courier photo by John Waters

Kerry Hart directs the SLV Community Band in a rendition of the national anthem at the Kiwanis Club 4th of July Pancake Breakfast in Alamosa. The band also played several patriotic pieces by John Phillip Sousa and George M. Cohan.

Pancakes

Continued from Page 1

"Outdoor band concerts are part of the Americana landscape in small-

town America on the Fourth of July; and the San Luis Valley Community Band plays a significant role in keeping that Americana culture alive. A tradition of musical ex-

cellence, coupled with an unwavering spirit of giving back to the community is the hallmark of the SLV Community Band," said band director Kerry Hart.

Victim

Continued from Page 1

his wounds on the way to the hospital was identified as Aurelio Piña, 61, of Texas.

Shortly after 2 a.m. on Sunday morning, June 23, officers with the Alamosa Police Department were dispatched to the Sunset Inn, 1310 W. 8th St., on a report of shots fired. When they arrived on scene, they found three people who had been shot.

Corral, named as the suspect by one of the victims, fled the scene in a Chevrolet Avalanche, heading south-southwest out of Alamosa to County Road 106 and the 12 South. Corral, who was driving at a high rate of speed, crashed the vehicle and then allegedly attempted to hijack the car of a person who had stopped to help.

When that effort was unsuccessful, Corral is believed to have set fire to the vehicle he was driving after which he

fled on foot, resulting in a 14-hour manhunt. At the height of the search, up to 80 law enforcement officers were involved from agencies across the Valley and beyond, including Alamosa Police Department, Alamosa County Sheriff's Office, Alamosa Fire Department, Monte Vista Police Department, Adams State Police Department, Conejos County Sheriff, Chaffee County Sheriff SWAT, Colorado State Patrol, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Colorado



Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Alamosa Commissioner Lori Laske greeted the Alamosa Fourth of July Parade crowd from horseback. Laske is running for re-election in November.

Parade

Continued from Page 1

of July parade. Adams State University President David Tandberg and Alamosa Mayor Ty Coleman judged the 29 entries that walked, rolled or trotted past, ultimately awarding Big John's Furniture Warehouse first place and SLV Health second place with third place going to Evergreen Nursing Home.

Bureau of Investigation Fugitive Task Force, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, BLM Rangers, US Forest Service Rangers, and the US Marshals.

Corral was taken into custody after an alert citizen reported the presence of a man who fit Corral's description in the area.

The cause of the altercation is still under investigation. Meanwhile, Corral is being held in the Alamosa County Detention Center on a \$5 million bond.

Overseen by Young Professionals of America, President Meredith McCarn said Thursday's parade was the biggest one for the group so far. But Thursday's festivities were just the beginning. Starting at 6 p.m. on Friday night, July 5, there will be a "Block Party for America" with live music, brews, games and more on San Juan Avenue.

"The Young Professionals of America proudly oversee the annual Fourth of July parade and block party to foster community spirit, celebrate our nation's independence and showcase local businesses and organizations," McCarn says. "YPA is dedicated

to engaging the community through vibrant events that unite residents, promote local businesses and highlight Alamosa's unique culture."

She also gave a big shout out to the event sponsors, including the City of Alamosa, San Luis Valley Pet Care, High Peak Event Company, Big John's Furniture Warehouse, SLV REC, 1st Southwest Bank, Horning Insurance Agency, Garcia Auto, O&V Printing, Alamosa Home, SLV Health, SLV Federal Bank, Alamosa Home, Square Peg, Sand Dunes Recreation, Wall, Smith, Bateman, CHFA, The Rolling Blue Chip and Maya S. Events.



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Opinion

Dems must take action to nominate a new candidate

By GENE LYONS

Toward the end of last week's Biden vs. Trump debate on CNN, I got up from the TV and posted this message on Facebook: "It's a catastrophe. The Democratic Party has to do something. Biden is coming across as weak, indecisive and even older than he is. Trump's a madman and a world-class liar. But it's a TV show, and he's in charge of the screen. God help us all."

I haven't changed my mind. If anything, my conviction has grown stronger after reading the transcript, as much of it as I could stand. True, Trump emitted a veritable avalanche of lies. And granted, it's hard to debate somebody so compulsively dishonest. Correcting lies takes far more time than telling them.

Trump lied when he said undocumented immigrants are collecting Social Security. Totally illegal and simply not happening. He lied when he said Nancy Pelosi admitted turning down his offer of 10,000 soldiers to guard the Capitol on Jan. 6. He made no such offer. In reality, he never spoke with her at all. Also, he was president. Why didn't he send troops if he thought they were needed? Instead, he did nothing.

It's absolutely false that "everybody" wanted Roe vs. Wade overturned. Pretty much everybody knows better. It's also not true that his planned tariffs would be paid by China. Tariffs are paid by importers, not exporters; U.S. consumers would foot the entire bill. The economy would crater.

But why go on? A couple of my Facebook friends made half-hearted excuses for Biden, but none dissented from my bleak assessment. A couple wondered what drug Trump was on. Aderrall was suspected. In spite of his own manic delivery, the Republican nominee had accused Biden of taking "uppers" -- projection often being a reliable guide to a psychopath's intentions.

But so what? The president was terrible. Let me put it this way: The Democratic Party is put in the position of a baseball manager whose ace pitcher has walked the bases loaded in the seventh inning of a scoreless playoff game. Regardless of how shaky his bullpen has been, he has no choice but to trudge to the mound and put his hand out for the ball. Conversation is unnecessary. Somebody else has to take over.

Saying so doesn't make me a "bed-wetter," nor have I succumbed to panic. I'm simply trying to deal with the real-world situation. As a personal matter, I've long been a fan of Joe Biden. He's always reminded me of my late father. There's some physical resemblance, and his accent and demeanor were similar, although a prep school punk like Trump would never have challenged him. So, I hate seeing Biden

like this.

But like the great majority of voters who think he's too old for the presidency, I can't deny the evidence of my senses. Maybe he struck out the side in the sixth, but he hasn't thrown a strike in the seventh.

OK, enough baseball. Here's the thing: It's likely to happen again. Whatever laid Biden low on debate night, whether it was a cold or simple fatigue (his recent travel schedule would have exhausted a man half his age), the only way through the political crisis his awful performance has created is for Biden to appear unscripted in public with no teleprompter as often as possible in the coming days.

He needs to do live TV interviews with challenging interlocutors, take questions from the astonishingly rude White House press corps, exhibit vigor and strong-mindedness, and show everybody who's in charge. And if he can't do that -- if White House staffers need to hide him away -- then he should do himself and everybody else a favor and withdraw his candidacy.

He doesn't need to resign the presidency and hand it over to Vice President Kamala Harris, but continue to serve and ask the Democratic Party to nominate a successor at its upcoming convention in Chicago. Let Harris contest the nomination -- assuming she'd want it -- of such prominent Democrats as Gov. Gretchen Whitmer of Michigan, Gov. Gavin Newsom of California, Gov. Josh Shapiro of Pennsylvania, Gov. Andy Beshear of Kentucky, Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, Sen. Cory Booker of New Jersey or some other ambitious dark horse candidate.

I agree with my former colleague and friend Jonathan Alter that "rather than a chaotic mess, an open convention would create enormous excitement that would propel the nominee into the fall campaign. And without Biden to trash, Trump would try to slam a new nominee. But after chasing a moving target of possible rivals over the summer, he would have only a short time to make anything stick."

To me, Joe Biden has been the best and most consequential president of my adult life -- I'm just a year younger than he is -- and deserves immense gratitude for bringing the country home safe from COVID and Trump.

So, I take no pleasure in saying that it's time for him to go.

Arkansas Times columnist Gene Lyons is a National Magazine Award winner and co-author of "The Hunting of the President" (St. Martin's Press, 2000). You can email Lyons at eugene Lyons2@yahoo.com.



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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."

Michigan takes the keys for drive to November

By DAVID SHRIBMAN
SAGINAW, Mich. -- Move over, Pennsylvania. This is a keystone state, too.

Pennsylvania lays its claim for Keystone State status for purely geographical reasons. Sitting there virtually in the middle of the 13 Colonies, Pennsylvania earned its name because it, like the keystone in an arch, held the whole structure together as the United States itself came together in the mid-1770s.

But historically, Michigan has been a keystone state as well and has just as realistic a claim to the title. It was at the center of the iron, copper and timber trades that led America into its industrial transformation. Its position on the Great Lakes transport corridor made it a cog in the great movement of resources across the continent. For decades, its motor-car industry was the engine of the country's economy.

Then there is the political profile of Michigan. In Pennsylvania's more than 2 1/3 centuries of its political existence, all its lawmakers combined haven't had the impact of a single Michigan lawmaker, Sen. Arthur Vandenberg. When the Republican from Grand Rapids delivered his landmark 1945 speech announcing his conversion from isolationism to internationalism, the country swung decisively with him. That debate was over -- until Donald Trump rekindled it.

Plus this: When Michigan's economy slumped in the 1970s, the United States slumped with it.

So there is a certain poetry -- a word seldom associated with either state, Edgar A. Guest excepted -- to the fact that Michigan, for the duration of this column anyway, has joined Pennsylvania as a keystone state -- or, as political professionals call them, swing states. It isn't too much to say that the 2024 election could be determined in the two states.

Michigan, which joined the Union 61 years after the Declaration of Indepen-

dence, voted Republican for the four elections beginning in 1972 and then Democratic for the six beginning in 1992. Trump eked out a slender victory in 2016, but Joe Biden captured it four years later. A swing state, indeed.

"Michigan has been a toss-up state for many years, and Democrats need to work hard to win here," former Democratic Gov. James Blanchard said the other day as he was preparing to dip into a Detroit television station to speak for the Biden campaign. "We'll be seeing these candidates once a week."

More than Pennsylvania, Michigan is a microcosm of contemporary American politics.

Blanchard, the first Democratic governor in 20 years and a four-term member of the House of Representatives who was preceded and succeeded by Republican lawmakers, explained that commentators often oversimplify Michigan's political profile. "It's not just one group, but every group that's important in this state, and especially in this election," he said. "Yes, Michigan is a labor state, and it's a Black state, and an Arab state, and it has a large Jewish community. Don't rule out the suburbs as important here. They will be the key, along with the west side of the state, which seems to be trending toward Democrats. But we have to put in the work."

The Democrats are divided between progressives and moderates, a chasm widened by the disaffection of Arab Americans over Biden's policies in the Israel-Hamas war. In the spring Democratic presidential primary, he faced a rebellion in the cities of Dearborn, Dearborn eights and Hamtramck, all with heavily Arab American populations. Indeed, the 100,000 Democratic primary voters who cast ballots for "uncommitted" -- an action urged by Rep. Rashida Tlaib, who represents Dearborn and is the first Palestinian American woman

to serve in Congress -- tarnished Biden's victory here.

Not that the Republicans are unified. While the Gerald Ford style of Republicanism -- quiet and respectable rather than noisy and rebellious, a formula that worked for him for the quarter-century from 1949 until 1973, when he became vice president -- is in eclipse, Michigan's Republicans haven't fully embraced the Trump insurgency. The state GOP is a mess, reflecting conflicting views of Trump and his MAGA movement. A long struggle to remove state chair Kristina Karamo, a Trump ally, from office finally succeeded; Pete Hoekstra, who served in Congress and was a Trump-appointed ambassador to the Netherlands, emerged as new chair and has begun to right the ship.

"The Republicans were getting killed, so that will help Trump in November," said Bill Ballenger, a former Republican member of the state House and Senate before becoming a top political analyst in Michigan. "But it remains a very tight race here. It is going to go back and forth every day from now until the day of the election."

The distance between Tlaib and Karamo -- from the far left to the far right -- speaks volumes about how contemporary America is divided politically. It also speaks to the changes in political life in this swing state, which within living memory had important governors from the mainstream of the Democratic Party, like G. Mennen Williams (1949-1961) and Blanchard (1983-1991), and from the mainstream of the Republican Party, like George Romney (1963-1969) and William Milliken (1969-1983). Could any of them be lected today?

David M. Shribman is the former executive editor of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

Write them

GOVERNOR

Governor Jared Polis (D), State Capitol Building Room 136, 200 East Colfax, Denver CO 80203; (303) 866-2471; Fax (303) 866-2003.

STATE HOUSE

Matthew Martinez (D), Colorado State Representative, District 62, 200 E Colfax, Room 307, Denver, CO 80203; phone: 303-866-2916; email: matthew.martinez.house@coleg.gov

STATE SENATE

Cleave Simpson (R), Colorado State Senator, District 35, 200 E Colfax RM 346 Denver, CO 80203

Phone: 303-866-4875

cleave.simpson.senate@coleg.gov

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Lauren Boebert (R)

Pueblo Office: 503 N. Main, Suite 426, Pueblo, CO 81003 (719) 696-6970;

Washington Office: 1609 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515

Phone: (202) 225-4761

Fax: (202) 226-9669;

Contact: https://boebert.house.gov/

U.S. SENATE

Michael Bennet (D)

SLV Regional Office: 609 Main Street, Suite 110, Alamosa 81101; Phone: 587-0096; Fax: 587-0098;

Washington office: 458 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; DC Phone: 202-224-5852;

Contact: bennet.senate.gov

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Contact: www.hickenlooper.senate.gov

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Your FIRST Source for Local News

Editor's Note: The views expressed in individual columns on this page do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Valley Courier.

Sports



Monte Vista's Kaden Mellott was the Class 2A Southern Peaks League Player of the Year.

Courier file photos by Ken Hamrick

Several locals on 2A SPL baseball team

By KEN HAMRICK

Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – The Class 2A All-Southern Peaks League baseball team was released in June with 14 players from the San Luis Valley being honored.

League champion Monte Vista had the most selections with five. Three of them were first team players including Player of the Year Kaden Mellott, Azariaiah Hurtado and Kobe Jiron. Jeremiah Baumgardner and Kaden Madrid were both second team selections.

Mellott led the Pirates in batting with a .387 average. He had six doubles, two triples and 15 RBIs. He was also the top pitcher with an 8-2 record and a 2.01 earned run average. He struck out 101 and walked 16 batters.

Hurtado batted .329 with nine doubles, three triples, two home runs and 31 RBIs. As a pitcher, he had a 1-0 record with a 4.00 ERA, 10 strikeouts and seven walks.

Jiron had a .262 average with five doubles, three triples and 13 RBIs. He had a 5-3 pitching record with a 2.01 ERA, 55 strikeouts and 32 walks.

Baumgardner batted .276 with one double and 21 RBIs. Pitching-wise, he had a 2-0 record with a 2.27 ERA, 31 strikeouts and 17 walks.

Madrid batted .290 with eight doubles, one triple and 17 RBIs.

Monte Vista coach Luke Bradshaw was the Coach of the Year.

The Pirates went 19-5 overall and 11-0 in league play. They not only won the league, but a regional championship and advanced to the state tournament.

Del Norte had four selections. Nicolas Atencio and Gage Trujillo were both first team, and Tytus Atencio and Kelby Mondragon were second team.

Nicolas Atencio led the Tigers in batting with a .532 average with nine doubles, a triple and 20 RBIs. As a pitcher, he had a 2-4 record with a 1.52 ERA, 87 strikeouts and 18 walks.

Trujillo batted .352 with four doubles, a triple and 13 RBIs. His pitching record was 0-1 with a 5.73 ERA, nine strikeouts and six walks.

Tytus Atencio batted .520 with six doubles, two triples and 20 RBIs. He had a 2-0 record with a 2.47 ERA, 31 strikeouts and 18 walks.

Mondragon had a .460 batting average with five doubles, three triples and 21 RBIs. His pitching record was 1-1 with a 10.04 ERA, 18 strikeouts and 10 walks.

Del Norte had an 11-10 overall record and it was 10-4 in league play. The Tigers advanced to a regional tournament.

Sanford had two selections. Cash Caldon was first team and Trason Gartrell was second team.

Caldon batted .553 with five doubles, two triples and 25 RBIs. As a pitcher, he had a 2-3 record with a 11.09 ERA, 23 strikeouts and 17 walks.

Gartrell had a .500 batting average with nine doubles, three triples, one home run and 18 RBIs. Pitching-wise, we went 3-1 with an 11.05 ERA, 23 strikeouts and 29 walks.

The Mustangs were 12-8 overall and 6-5 in league play. They advanced to a regional tournament.

Center also had two All-League players. Nicholas Palma was first team and Riley Heater was second team.

Statistics were unavailable.

The Vikings had a 5-15 overall record and were 4-7 in league play.

Sargent had one All-League selection in Liam Ellithorpe who was second team. His statistics were unavailable.

The Farmers had a 5-9 in league play.



Monte Vista's Azariaiah Hurtado.



Monte Vista's Kobe Jiron.



Del Norte's Nicolas Atencio.



Sanford's Cash Caldon.

Del Norte Rotary tourney is July 19

ALAMOSA – The Del Norte Rotary Golf Tournament will take place on July 19 at the Rio Grande Club and Resort in South Fork.

The entry fee is \$130 per person and a lunch will be provided.

It is a four-person scramble with a 9 a.m. shotgun start.

Registrations are preregistration only. The deadline to register is July 12.

To register or for more information, go to mike@truelocalbank.com.

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Pre-Register via Website:

<http://runsignup.com/Race/CO/Manassa/PioneerDays5K>

Last Day to Pre-Register on site is Friday - 7/18/24

Registration - Fri., July 19 from 12:30 - 4 pm at Jack Dempsey Park

SATURDAY, JULY 20th

Registration at 7 am - Jack Dempsey Park Race Starts Promptly at 8 am

3 Trophies and 2 Medals in Men's and Women's 5-year Divisions

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Entry Fee- \$20⁰⁰ (Includes T-shirt) for pre-registration

For more information, Contact Ed Creery, 719-480-2884

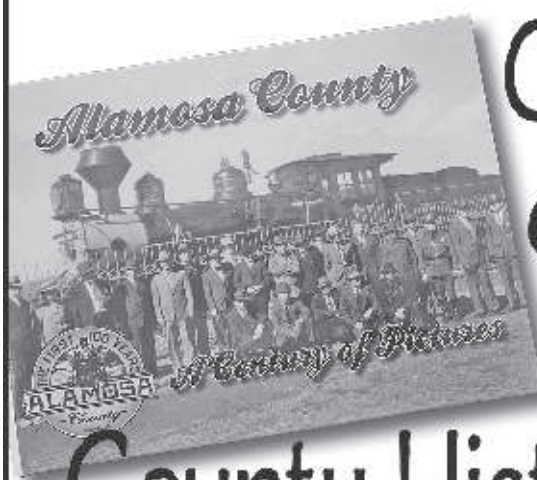
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Lifestyles



Photos by Lyndsie Ferrell

South Fork Fire Rescue sold out for the first time ever during their catfish fry and the parade was packed with fun and laughter during South Fork's Third of July celebrations.

South Fork celebrates



Photo by Nye-Schmidt

South Fork celebrates Independence Day.



Crestone shows pride at 4th of July parade



Courier photos by John Waters

In the 4th of July parade in Crestone, Veterans with the American Legion Post Garcia Post 110 from Saguache proudly showed colors and a quote from President John F. Kennedy, 'Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.'

Members of the Baca Grande Emergency Services participated along with the Baca Grande Volunteer Fire Department, and the Northern Saguache County Fire Department in the annual July 4th parade through downtown Crestone.



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Public Notices

NOTICE OF NON-SIMULTANEOUS EXCHANGE

NOTICE is hereby provided that the State Board of Land Commissioners ("Board") has authorized a non-simultaneous exchange ("Exchange") pursuant to Article IX, § 9 of the Colorado Constitution and § 36-1-124.5, CRS for the following irrigation groundwater rights located on state trust land:

- Groundwater and groundwater rights from seven (7) irrigation wells (the "Wells") serving the surface estate of the trust property located in the N/2 and SW/4 of Section 36, Township 39N, Range 9E (the "Surface Property"), specifically described below.
- WDID 2014060 and Permit Number 21407-F
- WDID 2014116 and Permit Number 26335-F
- WDID 2014117 and Permit Number 26336-F
- WDID 2014121 and Permit Number 21406-F
- WDID 2014120 and Permit Number 24780-F
- WDID 2014118 and Permit Number 21408-F
- WDID 2014119 and Permit Number 24781-F

(collectively, the "Groundwater Rights")
SUBJECT TO any and all covenants, restrictions, easements and rights-of-way, whether or not of record. Only the Groundwater Rights are authorized to be conveyed by quit claim deed, and the Board will cooperate with the purchaser in facilitating transfer of ownership of such Groundwater Rights. The Exchange shall provide the purchaser the right, at closing of the sale of the Groundwater Rights, to require that the Board place a restrictive covenant on the Surface Property, providing for the permanent cessation of groundwater withdrawal and groundwater use on the Surface Property for irrigation purposes, except as may be needed for revegetation of the Surface Property, and provided that groundwater may continue to be used by the Board or any successor-in-interest for exempt purposes as provided in statute and that the Wells may be converted and used for such exempt purposes (the "Covenant"). After closing and effect of the Covenant, the Board shall grant purchaser a non-exclusive and limited perpetual easement for purchaser and the State Engineer of the State of Colorado, and either of their respective agents, to access the Surface Property to inspect the Wells and to monitor compliance with and enforce the Covenant, on such reasonable terms and conditions as may be agreed by the parties. Any other use of or access to Board property (including the Surface Property), fixtures, or equipment associated with the Groundwater Rights after closing must be separately approved by the Board on terms and conditions set by the Board. The closing of the Exchange may be conditioned on availability of funds from the purchaser to complete the Exchange. All other water and water rights, all surface rights and estate (including pore space and sequestration estate) and mineral rights and estate, including sand and gravel, all subsurface rights, all archaeological resources, all equipment and fixtures associated with the Surface Property and the Wells, and all geothermal rights, if any, and access thereto, shall be reserved and retained by the Board. All-cash bids and alternative bids of real property or a combination of real property and cash will be considered provided the combined value of the bid achieves the minimum bid set by the Board. The legal description for the Surface Property or identification of the Groundwater Rights may be modified by subsequent survey or title review.
THE MINIMUM BID FOR THE GROUNDWATER RIGHTS AND RIGHT TO SUBJECT THE SURFACE PROPERTY TO THE COVENANT IS \$2,418,381.75 (calculated at \$4,250.00 per acre foot of the highest 5-year average historic pumping of the Wells from 2013 to 2022)

Sealed bids and written comments may be submitted to the Board. Submissions must be in writing, enclosed in an envelope clearly marked "TRXN 24-007 COMMENTS" or "TRXN 24-007 BID", as applicable, mailed to Matthew LaFontaine, Acquisition and Disposition Manager at 1127 Sherman Street, Suite 300, Denver, Colorado 80203 ("Main Offices"), and received by the Board no later than 1 P.M. ON JULY 12, 2024 ("Bid Deadline"). Written comments and bids received after the Bid Deadline will not be considered. Bids must be tendered on the Board's Application for Acquisition of State Trust Land ("Application") and include payment of a \$100 non-refundable fee.

Board staff will open the sealed bids, if any, after the Bid Deadline at the Main Offices. If multiple or alternative bids are received, all bids meeting the minimum requirements specified herein will be presented to the Board in open session at a future Board meeting. The Board will review all bids presented and determine, in its sole discretion, which bid best meets the needs of the trusts.

The Board reserves the right to reject all bids for the Groundwater Rights and Covenant, and the right to withdraw the Groundwater Rights from availability from this exchange at any time. The Board reserves the right to require a best and final bid. Participation in the bidding process does not create any rights in the successful bidder until a contract has been fully signed by all parties.

Additional information and the Application can be obtained online at: colorado.gov/state/land/boards/proposals-bids
The State Land Board has not made, does not make, and specifically negates and disclaims any representations, warranties, promises, covenants, agreements, or guaranties of any kind or character whatsoever, whether express or implied, verbal or written, past, present, or future, of, as to, concerning or with respect to the Groundwater Rights, the Wells, or the Surface Property.
The successful bidder will be required to cooperate with the Board in complying with the mandates of § 36-1-118(4)(a) and (b) and § 36-1-119, CRS.
Newspaper: "The Valley Courier"
Publication Dates: 6/14/2024, 6/21/2024, 6/28/2024, 7/5/2024
No. 3993.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 14, 21, 28, & July 5, 2024.

District Court Denver Probate Court

Rio Grande County, Colorado
Court Address: 925 Sixth Street, Del Norte, Colorado 81132
In the Matter of the Estate of:
JAMES HAROLD FREEMAN, also formerly known as
JAMES H. FREEMAN,

Deceased
COURT USE ONLY
Attorney: William F. Dunn; Atty. Reg. No. 1036
Office Address: 585 Columbia Avenue, Del Norte, CO 81132
Mailing Address: 9136 County Road 14, Del Norte, CO 81132
Telephone: (719) 657-3323; E-mail: Bill@Dunn-Law.com
Case Number: 2024PR030011

Division Courtroom
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of James Harold Freeman, Deceased Case Number 2024PR030011
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to X District Court of Rio Grande County, Colorado or Denver Probate Court of the City and County of Denver, Colorado on or before November 1, 2024 or the claims may be forever barred.
William F. Dunn
Attorney for the Co-Personal Representatives
585 Columbia Avenue, Del Norte, CO 81132
No. 4001.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 21, 28, & July 5, 2024.

District Court Costilla County, Colorado

Court Address:
304 Main St., San Luis, CO 81152
In the Matter of the Estate of
Deceased: Santiago Isidoro Velasquez
Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address):

Lynn Sanchez
3125 S Fraser St.
Aurora, CO 80014
Phone Number: 720-352-4782
E-mail: LynnSanchez08@outlook.com
FAX Number: Atty. Reg. #: COURT USE ONLY
Case Number: 2024PR17
Division C. Courtroom
NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO 15-12-801, C.R.S.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO 15-12-801, C.R.S.
Estate of Santiago I Velasquez, Deceased
Case Number 2024PR17
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to X District Court of Costilla, County, Colorado or Denver Probate Court of the City and County of Denver, Colorado on or before 7/18/24 (date)", or the claims may be forever barred.
Lynn Sanchez
Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice
3125 S. Fraser St.
Address
Aurora, CO 80014
City, State, Zip Code
No. 4010.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 28, July 5, & 12, 2024.

District Court Denver Probate Court

Alamosa County Probate Court, Colorado
Court Address: 8955 Independence Way
Alamosa, CO 81101
719.589.4996

In the Matter of the Estate of
EUGENE WILLARD ADAMS
AKA EUGENE ADAMS AKA EUGENE W. ADAMS
Deceased
COURT USE ONLY
Attorney or Party Without Attorney
(Name and Address):
Jenna L. Mazzucca, Esq.
Law Office of Jenna L. Mazzucca, Esq. P.C.
1604 H Street, Suite 600
Salida, CO 81201
Phone Number: 719.207.4279 E-mail: Jenna@mazzuccalaw.com
FAX Number: 719.539.6679
Atty. Reg. #: 40027
Case Number:
2024 PR 30020
Division Courtroom

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of EUGENE WILLARD ADAMS, Deceased
Case Number 2024 PR 30020
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to X District Court of Alamosa, County, Colorado or Denver Probate Court of the City and County of Denver, Colorado on or before NOVEMBER 15, 2024 (date)", or the claims may be forever barred.

Judith L. Bullen, Personal Representative
Estate of Eugene W. Adams
Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice
PO Box 1415
Address
Salida, CO 81201
City, State, Zip Code
No. 4011.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 28, July 5, & 12, 2024.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Costilla County Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. 400 Gasper St. San Luis CO.
The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider the following: Limited Impact Review Application for a baseball field fencing project by Blanca/Fort Garland Metropolitan District in Fort Garland, on Highway 159, Costilla County, Colorado.
No. 4009.
Published in the Valley Courier on June 28, 29, July 2, 3, & 5, 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, recharge pond, and an additive alternate overflow area. Contact Taylor Chick at (719) 589-6301 for a bid packet. Information can be accessed online at www.rgwdc.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@rgwdc.org.
No. 4015.
Published in the Valley Courier on July 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, & 12, 2024.

099 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

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)

221 - HELP WANTED

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 MVSJ 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)

165 - PERSONALS

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

173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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)

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

221 - HELP WANTED

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)

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)

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

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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

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)

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@centercogov. The deadline is until positions are filled. (7/20/24)

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)

RANCH / FARM HELP; PART-TIME. 719-274-0380, (8/2/24)

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

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

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

221 - HELP WANTED

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)

THE NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for the 2024-25 school year for (1) **LA JARA ELEMENTARY TEACHER**. Applicants must hold a current Colorado Teaching License or be able to obtain proper endorsement. For information on how to apply visit www.northconejos.com employment center or you may pick up an application at the District Administration Office, 17887 US Hwy 285, LA JARA, CO 81140. Submit application to central office or email to rmc-carroll@northconejos.com. EOE. (7/5/24)

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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)

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)

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

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)

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

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 & COWHAY: 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. (7/9/24)

341 - GARAGE SALE

BIG ESTATE SALE: July 5-6 in ALAMOSA, 10:00am-4:00pm. Located at end of East 11th Street (7510 S. 110 Rd.). Truck, antique tractors, TOOLS, Home items of all kinds, Kitchen, freezer, and bed linens. EVERYTHING MUST GO! (7/6/24)

GARAGE SALE: 3571 CR 103S, Norton on 103. Saturday July 6TH, 9AM to 4PM. (7/6/24)

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

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368 - PETS & SUPPLIES

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401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES

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420 - LOTS & ACREAGES

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

426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

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

520 - CAMPING

26' JAYCO CAMPER: WELL maintained, clean, 14' slide-out, 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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601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

1 BEDROOM APARTMENTS with WASHER/DRYER for rent. Across from ASU. Call 719-251-3597. (7/13/24)

611 - HOMES FOR RENT

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

614 - MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM 1 BATH, nice extended unattached garage. Sits on FENCED 2 ACRES, non-smoking. Close to west side of ALAMOSA. \$850.00 a month with \$850 deposit, all due signing. Available July 1st. Call 719-589-9485. (7/19/24)

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)



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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Turf
 - 4 Barber service
 - 8 Church service
 - 12 Actress — Gabor
 - 13 — avis
 - 14 Italian city
 - 15 Chess pieces
 - 16 Minced oath
 - 17 Unmixed, said of liquor
 - 18 Pakistan neighbor
 - 20 Revolve
 - 22 Newt
 - 23 Lend an —
 - 24 Put off
 - 28 Cork board pins
 - 32 Mine entrance
 - 33 Jacob's wife
 - 35 Trouble
 - 36 — de Janeiro
 - 37 Off-key
 - 38 Not talking
- 39 Male voice**
- 41 Showed to be false
 - 43 Actor — Reiner
 - 45 Football's — Manning
 - 46 Anger
 - 49 " — Lucy"
 - 52 Traffic sound
 - 53 "Oh, woe!"
 - 56 Nothing at all
 - 57 Director — Preminger
 - 58 Ancient Brit
 - 59 Curve shape
 - 60 — do-well
 - 61 Sanctified
 - 62 Passing grade, just
- DOWN**
- 1 Big rig
 - 2 Kiln
 - 3 Common weed
 - 4 Pact
 - 5 Disreputable paper

Answer to Previous Puzzle

H	O	P	M	O	M	V	A	S	T		
U	K	E	G	O	B	I	O	L	I	O	
E	R	R	U	P	O	N	D	I	N	T	
S	A	F	E	S	L	I	N	K	A	G	E
O	A	T	M	E	A						
E	R	G	O	L	A	W	N	A	Y		
S	A	M	E	F	A	R	R	A	C	E	
U	S	E	R	A	C	T	R	E	V	E	N
P	E	R	D	I	E	A	V	I	S		
	C	U	R	L	E	G					
T	O	R	R	E	N	T	L	L	A	M	A
A	G	U	E	U	R	O	T	O	P		
S	L	I	P	S	T	O	W	O	D	E	
K	E	N	T	S	U	B	R	E	D		

- 6 Writer — Levin
- 7 Sierra —
- 8 Chanted word
- 9 On the Atlantic
- 10 "Right now!"
- 11 Venue
- 19 " — first you don't succeed ..."
- 21 Swearword
- 24 Flit
- 25 Actress — Adams
- 26 Annex
- 27 Letter start
- 29 Warned
- 30 Airborne toy
- 31 Winter fun item
- 34 Dined
- 37 Amphibian
- 38 Ponder
- 40 Formal speaker
- 42 Full of spunk
- 44 Seashore
- 46 School in England
- 47 Observe
- 48 Memory alone
- 50 Clamping device
- 51 Otherwise
- 54 Star sign
- 55 " — aboard!"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
15			16				17			
18			19				20	21		
		22					23			
24	25			26	27		28	29	30	31
32				33	34			35		
36				37				38		
39			40			41	42			
			43		44		45			
46	47	48					49		50	51
52				53	54	55		56		
57				58				59		
60				61				62		

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

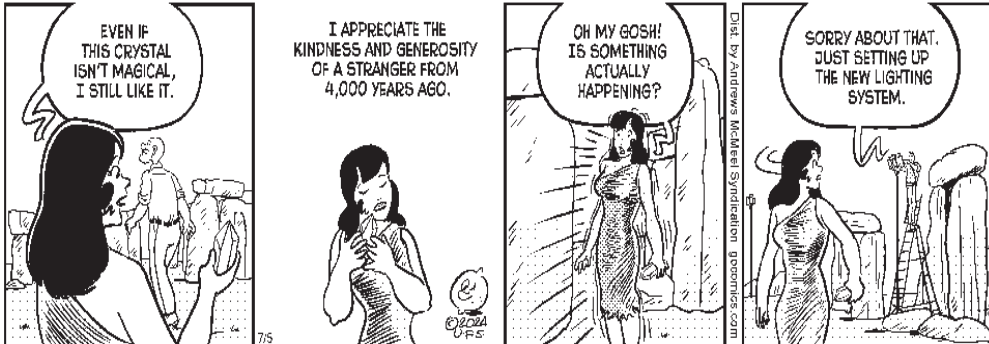
HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

HERMAN

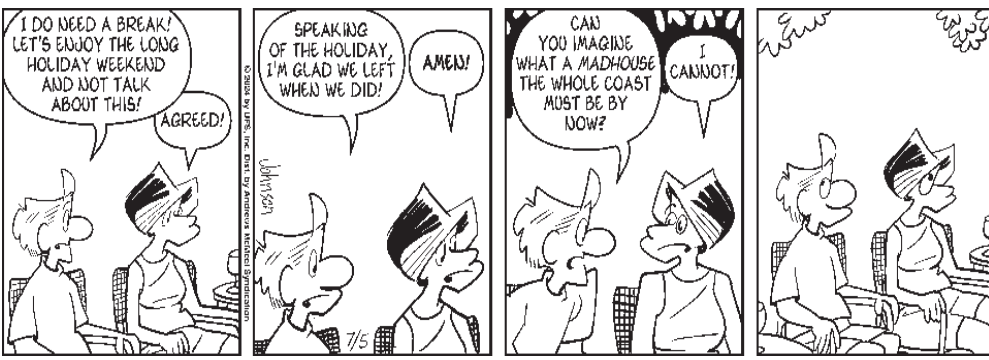


"I asked you a year ago to get me some help pulling up that drawbridge."

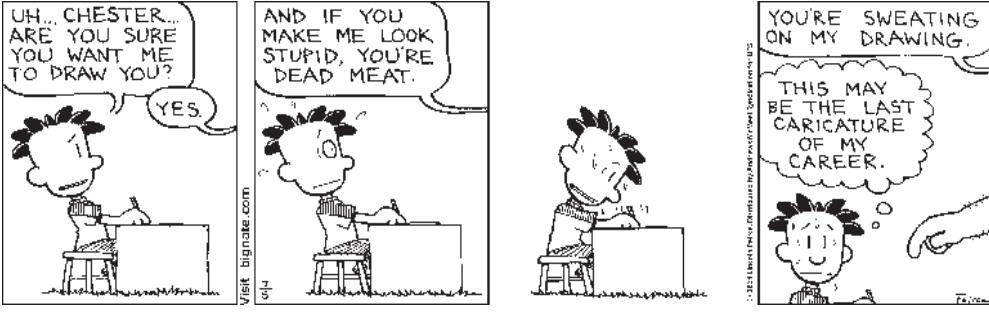
ALLEY OOP



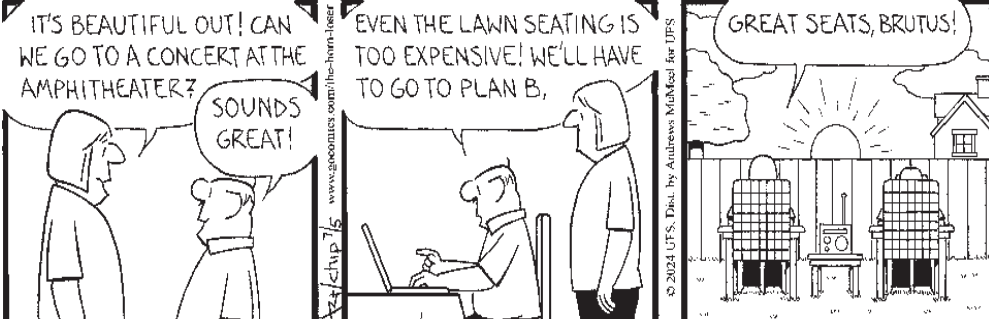
ARLO & JANIS



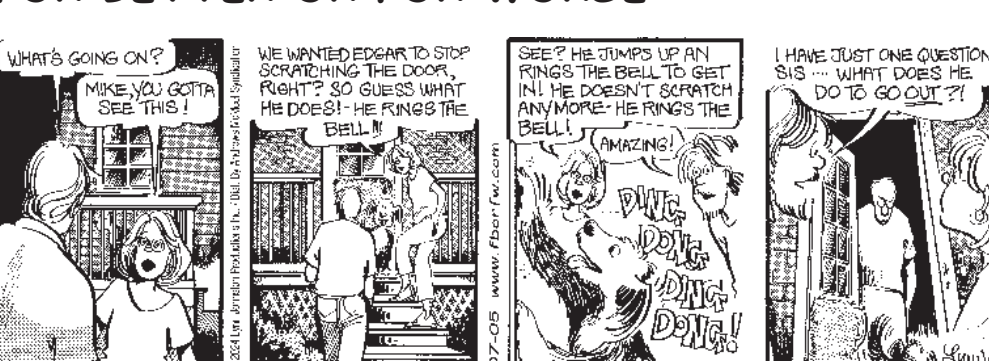
BIG NATE



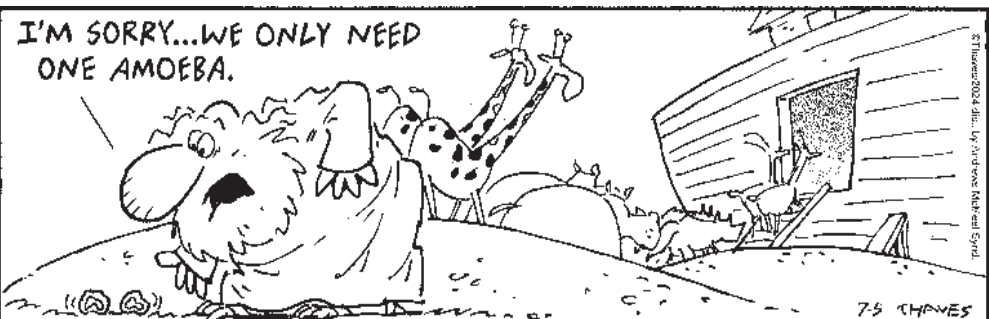
THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



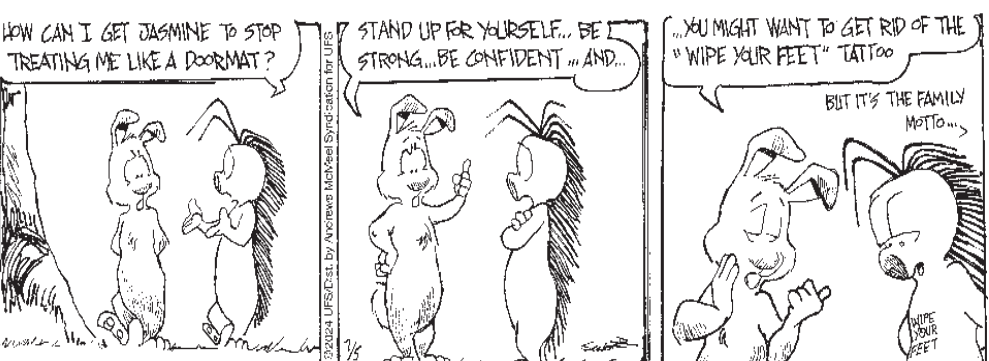
FRANK & ERNEST



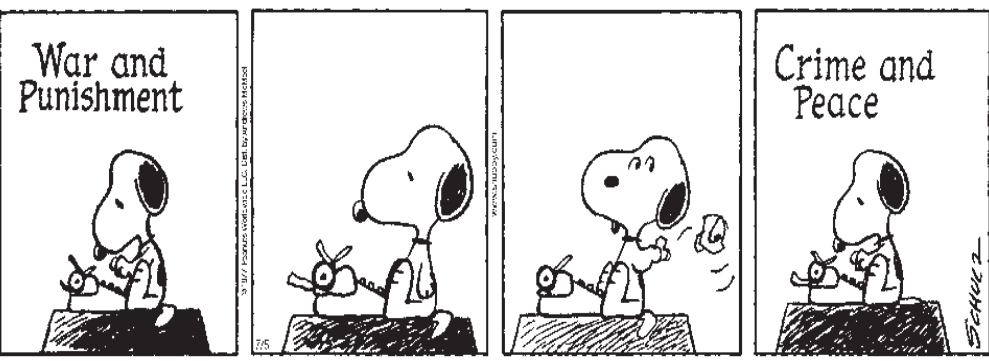
GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



Online acquaintance asks for a closer relationship

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 70-year-old Black woman who looks about 45 or 50. I recently met a man online while playing dominoes. We have been chatting back and forth for about two weeks now. He is 44, is of German descent and has a 9-year-old son. The problem is, he wants to have a relationship with me.

I have told him I'm 26 years older than he is, my children are older than him and I have grandchildren his son's age. He says none of this matters to him. We have never met in person, but he has invited me to come to Texas. What else can I say to persuade him that this cannot work? -- OUT OF THE QUESTION IN VIRGINIA

DEAR OUT: My goodness, you certainly are getting the bum's rush. Please take some time and get to know this person better. If you are still corresponding in, say, six months, a way to demonstrate the difference in your ages would be to accept his gracious invitation to visit, and bring along one of your children.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are retired and have recently joined a Harley Davidson motorcycle club. We both love to ride and are looking forward to many events in the coming months. At the first

meeting we attended, an ex-lover of mine was seated at the same table near my husband. They seemed to enjoy conversing back and forth. I kept a low profile and tried to ignore the situation.

I know that at the meetings and upcoming events, we are sure to see each other. Should I tell my husband who this person is? I am concerned it will spoil those events for us and cause issues if I reveal it. My husband has, for years, taken meds for anxiety and depression. We are very happy together, and I love him very much. -- LET'S RIDE IN THE SOUTH

DEAR LET'S RIDE: Very few people today don't have some kind of history. Tell your husband the truth. Believe me, he is sure to be even more anxious and depressed if the situation is revealed before you can tell him.

DEAR ABBY: An old hat style that created problems years ago has returned. The brim is so large that a person sitting behind them in church can see nothing but the back of that hat. It's aggravating to think I had a good place to sit and then have to spend an hour seeing only that big hat.

To blocked the view of those seated behind you is inconsiderate. I hope you will mention this in your



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

column so women will be reminded how those large brims present a problem in any gathering where people are expected to sit quietly and listen to a speech or sermon.

I move when I can, but that isn't always possible, especially when the hat suddenly "appears" right before the service starts and finding another place to sit isn't feasible. -- BLOCKED IN ALABAMA

DEAR BLOCKED: Your point is well taken. I'm pleased to pass your reminder along to those who need to see it, but since we cannot control the behavior of others, you would be well advised to run for the first row when you have a chance.