

## Adams State Salazar Center to host Jason Ullmann

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

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

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

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

As State Engineer, Ullmann directs the Division of Water Resources in the performance of its responsibilities, which include administration of water rights in Colorado, issuing well permits, performing administrative approvals for water use, administering programs that ensure the safety of dams and the safe construction of water wells, and providing information and education resources to the public. He has worked for the Division of Water Resources since 2010, first as the assistant division engineer in Division 4 (Gunnison and San Miguel Basins) for 11 years followed by three years as a

deputy state engineer.

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

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



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### News in Brief

#### Adams State hosts free movie night

ALAMOSA — Bring your blankets and camping chairs and join the Adams State University community for a free movie night. The fun begins at 7:30 p.m. and the show, “Encanto,” will start at dusk, about 8 p.m., Friday, July 26, on the front lawn of Richardson Hall.

#### Joint service at Little Shepherd in the Hills

The congregants of St. Stephen the Martyr Episcopal Church, Monte Vista, will join those of Little Shepherd in the Hills, Crestone, for an outdoor service of Holy Eucharist at 11 a.m. on Sunday, July 28. A potluck lunch will follow the service.

All are welcome to enjoy the fellowship of community and the sacredness of the Holy Eucharist in a beautiful outdoor setting. Note that there will be no service at St. Stephen's on that day. Services resume the following Sunday at 10 a.m. at 3rd and Washington streets in Monte Vista.

#### MV celebrates its newest Little Free Library

MONTE VISTA — Monte Vista will be installing a new Little Free Library (LFL) at 10 a.m. on Aug. 5 in the Terra Del Sol Subdivision. Come celebrate with books and ice cream. Sponsored by LOR Foundation and local citizens.

## City hires McDonagh as new MVPD police chief

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — Sean McDonagh is excited to be Monte Vista's new police chief. McDonagh and his family moved to Monte Vista from Rocky Ford.

“The former police chief did such a wonderful job here,” McDonagh said. “I feel good here. It's such a professionally run city. I feel very welcomed here. I look forward to trying to maintain what the chief has done, and safety is my number one concern always.”

McDonagh was born and raised in Australia where he became a law enforcement officer. McDonagh held several different positions in law enforcement in Australia, including being part of an intelligence response team, he was highway patrolman, and a commander and a supervisor. McDonagh moved to the United States in 2016. He has traveled all over the 50 states with his family since moving to the U.S. McDonagh moved to Colorado in 2022.

McDonagh was most recently the chief of police in Rocky Ford, where



Courtesy photo

**New Monte Vista Police Department Chief Sean McDonagh, left, takes a photo with MV City Manager Gigi Douglas, right, during the Stampede Parade. McDonagh was recently hired to be the new chief in Monte Vista.**

he helped rebuild a police force that only had three officers on staff when he started.

“I had taken that department from being nothing short of a mess, to being fully staffed with a wait-

ing list, when I decided to leave,” he said.

When McDonagh heard of the vacancy in the Monte Vista Police Department, due to Chief George

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## Council hears update on RERC action plan

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — New Monte Vista Police Department Police Chief Sean McDonagh was sworn in during a city council meeting on Thursday, July 18, and the council received an update on the Recreational Economy for Rural Communities (RERC) action plan.

McDonagh took his oath in front of City Clerk Unita Vance. Afterward, the city council members congratulated McDonagh.

Community Coordinator Xavier Campos gave an update on RERC, specifically talking about signage and how it affects the plan.

Campos, who is originally from Florida, came to Monte Vista, to work on the RERC plan for the town.

“One of the goals for RERC is signage, and downtown amenities and vibrancy in the downtown area,” he said.

Campos explained that City Plan-  
**Please see COUNCIL on Page 6A**

## Explorer Program opens a new world

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

ALAMOSA — There have always been kids who wanted to be a “fireman,” at some point in their lives, and Aiden Clark was no different. Clark, who just graduated from the eighth grade at Ortega Middle School, has always wanted to be a firefighter. But, for a lot of students at Ortega Middle School and other schools where students may come from homes with economic challenges, learning what's involved in being a firefighter while still at a young age is pretty much out of reach.

**Please see WORLD on Page 2A**

**Students in the Explorer Program are learning how to use the tools necessary to cut the roof from a car, all part of their extrication training they received in the program started by the Alamosa Fire Department this year. Eight students were selected, and all completed the program.**

Photo courtesy of Adam Lopez, engineer AFD and coordinator of Explorer Program



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# WORLD

Continued from Page 1A

That's where the Explorer Program comes in, a 75-hour training program that exposes kids ages 14 to 18 to what it's like to be a firefighter. This week, Alamosa Fire Chief Bill Stone gave the Rotary Club an overview of the program as it concludes its first year. He opened by introducing Aiden, a recent graduate from the group of eight who participated.

"I love the program," Aiden said. "I love everything you learn. I've always wanted to do it. I grew up

watching my uncle do it every year in Pueblo. He's an engineer [with a fire department], and I saw how it works. And when Adam (Lopez) went to my dad and said they were going to do the program, I was excited. I've been waiting for a long time to be in the program and I finally got to do it."

Stone then provided a little background.

"My wife teaches at Ortega Middle School, and she said that she sees so many kids who have no

hope. Economically, a lot of the kids are at a major disadvantage, have no support at home and they just need...something. A lot of people were trying to think of what could be done to support our youth, so the wheels were already turning."

Stone saw the Explorer Program as an immediate fit for those teenagers – boys and girls – who need something to look forward to in life that would also hold such interest that the experience could possibly prevent them from getting into bad

habits.

"I've been a part of fire departments where they had Explorer Programs, but those were affluent areas. It seemed like it could make an even greater impact to initiate something like that here."

So, I spoke with some of our fire guys. I spoke with (Alamosa City Manager) Heather Sanchez and a lot of different people."

Stone admits that "there was pushback, as always happens with new programs." But he kept at it. "I saw the bigger picture as being more important than the pushback. I told them this is bigger than you or me or all of us, and, eventually, this is going to come back around and affect us all in a positive way."

As is also true with any new program, funding was needed to get it off the ground. Stone singles out two people who were invaluable.

Adam Lopez, an engineer with the Alamosa Fire Department, works with the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley and was able to obtain grant funding to make the program a reality. Reyna Martinez, who works with RETAC [Regional Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Advisory Council], garnered even more support for the effort. And Stone "rearranged some things" in his budget to make it work.

"We just wanted to get the program rolling and expose [the students] to what it could be like. We invited them to weekend duties and various trainings. They went through CPR, and we got many of them red cards, a qualification needed to fight wildland fires."

To be successful, the program also had to be led by the right person. Chief Stone does not hold back in praising AFD Engineer Adam Lopez for organizing the program and heading up much of the training.

"Adam Lopez did an incredible

job in training this first class of explorers," Stone said.

At the end of the program, some of the 18-year-old students wanted to pursue a career in firefighting or volunteer at a fire department. One student is going to Leadville Junior College to pursue an Associates in Fire Science. Others just wanted to test it out and see if it was right for them.

But even those students gained from the experience. "Those students said, 'I may not want to do this, but I learned a lot about teamwork and physical fitness. I got a lot of positive out of this and I spent my time in a positive way.' That's what we wanted to accomplish."

Aiden is the youngest in the group at 14 years old. Stone said they weren't certain about reaching out to students still in middle school. But he's such a "stand-out kid", they now know that they can reach out to students who are that young and still have it be a successful experience.

Some of the other training they were exposed to was automobile extrication. "They went through the same training all of basic firefighters go through, so they got to learn how to utilize the jaws of life and all the cutting tools."

Stone also brought in firefighters from Milwaukee, Wis., and South Carolina that he had known for years who provided training on ladder work, hose, forceful entry. "That was a very taxing weekend. They worked their butts off, but they got a lot out of it."

When asked about his favorite part, Aiden said "the rescue part." He's also more interested in structure fires than wildland fires.

"It's been a lot of fun. They learned a lot from us, but we learned a lot from them, too," Stone said. He also added that the students put in 75 hours of training and, in exchange, received a \$700 stipend.

# OBITUARIES

## Shirley Ricketts

April 12, 1932–June 7, 2024

Shirley Ann Shuler was born to Mabel Clare McKinley Shuler and Covert Preston Shuler in Springfield Colo., baby sister to Betty Jayne and Patricia Louise. In 1935, the family settled in Del Norte, Colo., where Covert co-owned and operated Underwood Chevrolet and later Shuler John Deere Implement Company east of Del Norte.

Shirley graduated from Del Norte High School in 1950 and married her high school sweetheart Richard Christian Paulson. Shirley and Richard made their home on the Meadow View Ranch 2 miles west of Del Norte. Their love affair would include the birth of four children, Richard

(Rick), Audrey, Laurie and Mark. In 1963, the family struck out for California where Shirley and Richard established a family business, Yucaipa Screen and Awning, in Yucaipa, Calif. They led a busy, active life involved in the United Methodist Church, community organizations, Saturday night Square Dancing, and flying trips with Richard as pilot. Tragically Richard died in a boating accident in 1974.

In 1977, Shirley married Robert Ricketts. They moved to Washington, Calif., to become proprietors of the River Rest RV Park on the Yuba River. In 1989, they retired and built their dream home in Graeagle, Calif., which became the hub of family holidays and events. They enjoyed RV traveling and



toured the US from coast to coast.

At home in Graeagle, Shirley was seldom idle as an active member of the Graeagle Community Church, Plumas County Republican Women's Association, Graeagle Art Guild, and president of the Cal Pine Lady Elks in 1992 and again in 1997. Bob passed in 2000 and Shirley returned to work to become Coordinator of Mohawk Community Resource Center until her retirement in 2013.

Shirley was matriarch to a loving and active family. She was a devout Christian, an enthusiastic party giver, golfer, hiker and traveler.

She is survived by her children Rick Paulson (Sherry), Audrey Paulson (Marty), Laurie Humphries



(Travis), and Mark Paulson (Jill); grandchildren Alicia Kimsey, Fairrah Flood, Shoanna Humphries, Aristia Domaille, Richard (Rich) Paulson, Jaime Casey, Lindsey Paulson, Anthony Paulson, Julianne McDaniel, and Jennifer Mackey; 19 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Covert, mother, Mabel, husbands Richard and Robert, and her sisters, BJ and Pat.

Our world is a better place for those who knew her, and her legacy lives on in the lives of her family and friends. A celebration of Shirley's life is planned for a future date. Details will be provided to friends and family.

## Lonnie Torrez

The effervescent spirit of Lonnie Torrez, a man whose laughter echoed louder than any karaoke track, has taken his final bow on the stage of life, leaving behind a legacy of joy and selflessness. Lonnie, born under the Colorado skies of Monte Vista on Dec. 29, 1963, closed his eyes in the comforting embrace of his hometown, Center, Colo., on his 60th birthday, Dec. 29, 2023.

Lonnie's life was a vibrant mosaic of cherished moments, woven together with the threads of love, laughter, and the occasional off-key note that only made his performances more endearing. His journey began at Fruita High School, where he graduated with a flair that foreshadowed his future as the life of every party and the heart of every gathering.

He sashayed through life with a serving tray in one hand and a microphone in the other, turning the hospitality world into his personal stage. Lonnie wasn't just a waiter; he was a maestro of mirth, a purveyor of happiness, whose service came with a side of stand-up comedy and a generous helping of heart.

As an avid Denver Broncos fan, Lonnie's cheers could be heard from miles away, his loyalty as steadfast as his ability to remember your favorite



dish. His love for travel was only matched by his passion for singing, a combination that often led to impromptu karaoke sessions in far-flung locales, with Lonnie invariably stealing the show.

Not one to shy away from the spotlight, Lonnie was a proud member of The Gay Cycle Sluts, leaving a trail of glitter and giggles as he paraded through the streets on rollerblades

or a motorcycle, his infectious energy drawing smiles from even the most stoic onlookers. His voice, a blend of gusto and gaiety, was a staple in

the GBTL Gay Chorus, where he harmonized with his chosen family and spread a message of love and acceptance.

Lonnie's heart was as open as his songbook, with a capacity for love that extended to his cherished family.

He is survived by Merlee Montoya, Ronnie Torrez, Mary Ann Martinez, Larry Torrez, and Debbie Torrez, along with a chorus of nephews, nieces, uncles, and aunts who sang along with him in the symphony of life.

Preceding him in death was his father, Joe Torrez, who undoubtedly greeted him with a standing ovation as he took his place among the stars.

A memorial mass of Christian burial will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 27, 2024, at Saint Agnes Catholic Church Mission, 505 Gunnison St., Saguache, Colo. Father Eric Haarer will be conducting the mass. Per the families wishes, all are invited to attend a meal and fellowship following the memorial mass at the Saguache Community Building located at 525 7th St. in Saguache, Colo.

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



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# OPINION & EDITORIAL



Photo courtesy of Wilderness Watch

## Aged manure for sale

All during the time I was growing up and continuing into adulthood, I've enjoyed reading a newspaper. Even in High School I would spend my lunch hour reading two of the larger papers in the state instead of eating lunch.

One reason was that I truly enjoyed reading the news and especially the classified ads. The other reason was the school cafeteria food was akin to Gainsburger dog food at best and avoidance of that ptomaine poisoning lunch line was paramount to survival.

Regardless of my reasons for skipping lunch, I really loved getting the papers every day and reading about happenings both near and far. Of course, this was before Al Gore invented the Internet – Miss Trixie just rolled her eyes – and so any news we got was in print or on television or radio. And as much as I loved all the news that was news, I really loved the classified ads section of the papers. I could peruse those fine printed sections and dream of purchasing all the things I saw listed on there daily.

Fast forward to today and Ol' Dutch is inundated with a new-fangled type of advertising that is seemingly endless in supply. Not only do we have Craigslist where you can literally find anything from soup to nuts, but Facebook also has a Marketplace where items can be listed from local to afar.

Ol' Dutch spends a lot of time looking and scheming about buying things cheap and, actually, I have been pretty successful in finding some great deals. Why, just this last winter I found some water pipe and electrical wire for the new house for one tenth of the cost at the local gyp joint. And there is nothing like a good deal to get this old Scotchman fired up let me tell you what.

Like anything left to the untrained and somewhat illiterate Americans, there are mistakes on the listings that border on hilarity if nothing else.

Just yesterday I was browsing our local market online and I saw an advertisement for an "Aged Man." Now immediately I began to suspect Miss Trixie of finally getting tired of my nonsense and putting me on the market. So curious as a cat looking in a mouse hole, I opened up the ad expecting to catch her at some game of good riddance of Ol' Dutch.



Bob Marshall Wilderness in Montana.

### Trout Republic by Kevin Kirkpatrick

The screen populated and suddenly I saw that in their hurry to post the ad, the author had forgotten a few letters. Those few forgotten letters made all the difference in the world. For instead of advertising an "aged man" they really were trying to get rid of "aged manure." Well let me tell you Ol' Dutch breathed a sigh of relief that Miss Trixie was not going to farm him out for sure. But now I am beginning to wonder if in reality the "aged man" and "aged manure" are not too far apart in reality. I mean they both begin to carry around a certain aroma as they age, and their usefulness does become more and more limited as time goes by. So maybe, just maybe the ad was more correct than I wanted to believe.

I did go one step further and called the number listed just to make sure Miss Trixie was not slipping Ol' Dutch a Mickie and putting him out to pasture. Finally satisfied, at least for now that I am safe in my own paddock, I settled into my chair and let go an odoriferous emanation of my own.

Which resulted in a frown and gasp of disgust from Miss Trixie. That will teach her to select the local Mexican Eatery for our next date night. Here's to "aged manure."

Kevin Kirkpatrick and his Yorkie, Cooper, fish, hunt, ATV or hike daily. His email is [Kevin@TroutRepublic.com](mailto:Kevin@TroutRepublic.com). Additional news can be found at [www.troutrepublic.com](http://www.troutrepublic.com) or on Twitter at TroutRepublic.

## Mountain bikers push to ride through wilderness

"Something will have gone out of us as a people if we ever let the remaining wilderness be destroyed..." said Wallace Stegner.

The goal of the Wilderness Act, now celebrating its 60th birthday, was to set aside a small proportion of public land in America from human intrusion. Some places, the founders said, deserved to be free from motorized, mechanized and other intrusions to protect wildlife and wild lands.

But now, a handful of mountain bikers have partnered with a senator from Utah to gut the Wilderness Act.

This June, the Sustainable Trails Coalition, a mountain biking organization, cheered as Utah Republican Senator Mike Lee introduced a bill (S. 4561) to amend the Wilderness Act and allow mountain bikes, strollers, and game carts on every piece of land protected by the National Wilderness Preservation System. Stopping these intrusions would take each local wilderness manager undertaking a cumbersome process to say "no."

The U.S. Congress passed the Wilderness Act, and President Lyndon B. Johnson signed it into law on September 3, 1964, to "preserve the wilderness character" of 54 wilderness areas totaling 9.1 million acres. Today, this effort has become a true conservation success story.

The National Wilderness Preservation System now protects over 800 wilderness areas totaling over 111 million acres in 44 states and Puerto Rico, making it America's most critical law for preserving wild places and the genetic diversity of thousands of plant and animal species. Yet designated wilderness is only 2.7% of the Lower 48, and still just about 5% if Alaska is included.

The protections of the Wilderness Act include a ban on logging, mining, roads, buildings, structures and installations, mechanized and motorized equipment

and more. Its authors sought to secure for the American people "an enduring resource of wilderness" to protect places not manipulated by modern society, where the ecological and evolutionary forces of nature could continue to play out mostly unimpeded.

Grandfathered in, however, were some grazing allotments, while mining claims were also allowed to be patented until 1983. Many private mining claims still exist inside designated wildernesses.

Senator Lee's bill is premised on the false claim that the Wilderness Act never banned bikes, and that supposedly, the U.S. Forest Service changed its regulations in 1984 to ban bikes. But bicycles, an obvious kind of mechanized equipment, have always been prohibited in wilderness by the plain language of the law. ("There shall be...no other form of mechanical transport...") The Forest Service merely clarified its regulations on this point in 1984 as mountain bikes gained popularity.

Unfortunately, bikers in the Sustainable Trails Coalition are not the only recreational interest group that wants to weaken the Wilderness Act to. Some rock climbers, for example, are pushing Congress to allow climbers to damage wilderness rock faces by pounding in permanent bolts and pitons rather than using only removable climbing aids. In addition, trail runners want exemptions from the ban in wilderness on commercial trail racing. Drone pilots and paragliders want their aircraft exempted from Wilderness Act protections, and recreational pilots want to "bag" challenging landing sites in wilderness.

The list of those seeking to water down the Wilderness Act is growing.

Most of these recreational groups say they support wilderness, understanding how important it is when most landscapes and wildlife habitats have been radically altered by people. At the same time, they want to slice out their own piece of the wilderness pie.

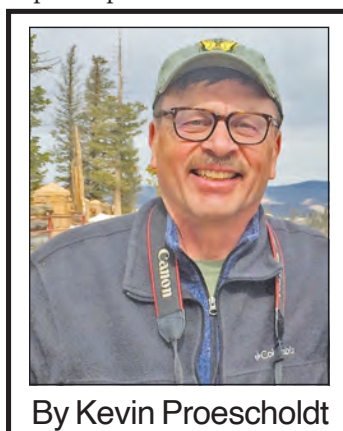
Must we get everything we want in the outdoors? Rather than weakening the protections that the Wilderness Act provides, we could try to reinvigorate a spirit of humility toward wilderness. We could practice restraint, understanding that designated wildernesses have deep values beyond our human uses of them.

Meanwhile, in response to growing demand for mountain biking trails, the Bureau of Land Management invites over a million mountain bikers each year to ride its thousands of miles of trails. And the U.S. Forest Service already has a staggering 130,000 miles of motorized and nonmotorized trails available to mountain bikers.

Do mountain bikers and others pushing for access really need to domesticate wilderness, too?

Let's cherish our wilderness heritage, whole and intact. We owe it to the farseeing founders of the Wilderness Act, and we owe it to future generations.

Kevin Proescholdt is a contributor to *Writers on the Range*, [writersontherange.org](http://writersontherange.org), an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He is conservation director for Wilderness Watch, a national wilderness conservation organization headquartered in Missoula, Montana.



By Kevin Proescholdt

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# Hope in the Valley has a grand opening

By JOHN WATERS

ALAMOSA — “The opposite of addiction is not sobriety, it is connection,” invoked Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser before a crowd of about 100 people gathered to celebrate the opening of Hope in the Valley rehab center in Alamosa on Thursday.

“The facility has been a long time coming. Seven years ago, we talked with the attorney general and he asked, ‘What do you need here in the Valley? I said, ‘We need in-Valley treatment — and now we have it. Hallelujah! We have good people. This is going to be good,’” said Alamosa County Sheriff Robert Jackson.

Alamosa County Commissioner Lori Laske who has been an advocate of the facility said this in her closing remarks, “This shows the power of partnership, the power of believing in people, and the power of community.”

According to Kim Reed, a Hope in the Valley co-founder, the treatment center has just received a temporary license to accommodate 15 residential clients who need residential addiction treatment. Before Hope in the Valley, no residential treatment was available in the area.

Commenting on the facility, co-founder Paul Reed said, “It is surreal to be back here in the Valley, I grew up in Sanford. I’ve been in long-term sobriety, I’ve got 17 years sober, since then it

has been my dream and passion to give back to people here in the Valley who are suffering from drug or alcohol addiction. This gives people somewhere to go. When I got sober, I tried to do that here in the Valley and I had to go to Denver for treatment.”

Hope in the Valley can be reached at [www.hopealamosa.org](http://www.hopealamosa.org) or by calling 719-206-4673. To find a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous in the Valley, visit [www.slvaa.org](http://www.slvaa.org) or call 719-937-5083.

At the grand opening of the Hope in the Valley treatment center in Alamosa on July 11 from left to right are Paul Reed with Hope in the Valley, Alamosa County Commissioner Lori Laske, Kim Reed, and Dr. Ely Walker, with Hope in the Valley, Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser, and Justin Riley with Hope in the Valley.

Photos by John Waters



Kim and Paul Reed, co-founders of the Hope in the Valley addiction rehabilitation facility in Alamosa.



Courtesy photo

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

## CARNEGIE CORNER

MONTE VISTA — The Carnegie Library, South Fork Branch is having their Summer Book Sale! Monte Vista Carnegie Library is accepting donations as of now. We can only accept books that are in good condition and have been stored well, away from moisture, dirt, and animals-rodents. Please drop donations off inside the library during regular business hours and not outside at the door. Thank you!

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Bird Oracle by Deborah Harkness; Shades of Mercy by Bruce Borgos; Bright Objects by Ruby Todd; Grillo's Presents Pickled Fresh by Raphael Khotorsky; Desperation Reef by T. Jefferson Parker; The Conditions of Unconditional Love by Alexander McCall Smith.

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## Local fire departments respond to hay trailer ablaze

STAFF REPORT

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

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

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

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

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

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# Safeway stores may have new owners

*'No stores will close as a result of the merger,' says the company*

By JOHN WATERS

ALAMOSA — In October 2022, the Kroger Company, owner of a stable of supermarket chains including City Market announced plans to merge with rival Albertsons Companies Inc., owner of Safeway Stores for \$24.6 billion. The proposed merger would create a conglomerate with 5,000 stores, over 4,000 pharmacies, and 700,000 employees.

To satisfy antitrust issues by fostering competition, Kroger has proposed divesting 579 of its supermarkets nationwide, including the Safeway store in Alamosa. Kroger owns the nearby City Market supermarket.

Under that proposal, Kroger has agreed to sell stores to C & S Wholesale Foods based in Keene, New Hampshire.

Rodney McMullen, Kroger's Chairman and CEO stated in a press release, "Importantly, the updated divestiture plan continues to ensure no stores will close as a result of the merger and that all frontline associates will remain employed, all existing collective bargaining agreements will continue, and associates will continue to receive industry-leading health care and pension benefits alongside bargained-for wages. Our proposed merger with Albertsons will bring lower prices and more choices to more customers and secure the long-term future of unionized grocery jobs."

In 2023, the Federal Trade Commission sued to block the merger stating it would result in higher food prices and hurt employee bargaining power.

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

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

"Rising grocery prices lead to food insecurity and hunger, strain the resources of local governments and non-profits, and harm every Coloradan. Now, in an already concentrated

Supermarket industry, two of the largest supermarket companies in Colorado—and in the U.S.—seek to merge. Kroger, which operates King Soopers and City Market, intends to buy its chief competitor, ACI, which operates Safeway and Albertsons."

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

Most of the Piggly Wiggly stores are independently owned. If the merger is approved, C&S will dramatically increase the number of stores it operates. C&S owns a vast network of food distribution companies.

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

Rick Cohen, a descendant of C&S founders, owns the company indi-

vidually and through a family trust. According to Forbes, the privately held company had revenue of \$34.7 billion in 2023 and has about 15,000 employees.

Cohen is also the CEO of Symbotic Inc., an artificial intelligence (AI) en-

abled robotic technology platform that according to the company, "Is changing the way consumer goods move through the supply chain. Intelligent software orchestrates advanced robots in a high-density, end-to-end system — reinventing warehouse automation

for increased efficiency, speed, and flexibility."

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



Photo by John Waters

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

## SLV 911 Emergency Telephone Authority offers reverse 911

By JOHN WATERS

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](http://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](http://www.slve911.org) and next to the text, "If we can't REACH you, we can't ALERT you. Register for FREE emergency alerts," 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov) and sign up for a separate reverse 911 system. Residents can sign up for both systems.

The [slve911.org](http://slve911.org) system can send messages to cell phones, land lines, text, email and work phones.

Visit [www.slve911.org](http://www.slve911.org) and the Alamosa County website at [www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov](http://www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov), to receive notices.

# FAITH HINKLEY VETERAN MEMORIAL PARK FUNDRAISER

## July 27, 2024 Chapman Park 10 a.m. To 6 p.m.

Come join us for a fun filled day at Chapman Park on July 27, 2024 in order to raise money to complete the Faith Hinkley Veterans Memorial Park.

A Poker Run will kick off the event starting at 9am from Chapman Park and then returning for a Car & Bike Show from 2pm to 6pm

We will have lots of food, live music, a corn hole tournament sponsored by Hez & Korrin Salisbury, and vendors so you can shop till you drop. Special appearance by the Youth Cheerleaders and Ms. Kais Academy of Performing Arts. But wait there is more! Horse rides and pictures with Lucky Shoe Riding Club. Then head to the end of the park where the Monte Vista Fire Department will be there ready to COOL you off with fun and water games.



### EVENTS SCHEDULE

Time	Activity	Time	Activity
7:30-10AM	Vendor Set Up	11:30AM-12PM	Youth Cheerleaders Performance
8-9AM	Poke Run Registration	12-1:30PM	Live Music – Marc Albion
9AM-2PM	Poker Run	1:30-2:00PM	Ms. Kais Academy of Performing Arts
10AM-6PM	Park Activities Open	2:00PM-TBD	Poker Run Returns/Car Show Begins
10-11AM	Cornhole Tournament Registration	2-3:30PM	Live Music – OL Scratch
11AM-TBD	Cornhole Tournament Starts	4-5PM	Live Music –SLV Big Band
11-11:30AM	Rooster/Mikey Dynamic Drum Duo	5PM-TBD	Car Show Awards
		6PM	Event Ends

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# 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, prevention, 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 BOCES, \$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.

# Colorado elk, mule deer migration corridor habitat conserved

CONTRIBUTED

MISSOULA, Mont. — A vital migration corridor for both elk and mule deer in west-central Colorado remains intact and is now protected thanks to a collaborative effort by a conservation-minded landowner and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

A voluntary conservation agreement between the two sides conserves 1,049 acres northeast of Montrose near Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park (BCGNP) and Curecanti National Recreation Area (CNRA).

"We're grateful for a landowner who not only recognizes and understands the wildlife values of the property but translated that knowledge into action by conserving it," said Kyle Weaver, RMEF president and CEO.

The acreage supplies transition and critical winter range for approximately 7,700 elk as well as mule deer. Combined with adjacent public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and BCGNP, the immediate area serves as a migratory

corridor for both species, as noted by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. It also offers habitat for black bears, wild turkey, raptors and other wildlife.

In addition to woodlands, meadows, grasslands and sagebrush steppe habitat, it also features important riparian habitat since more than two and a half miles of the Pinon Springs Draw flows through the property.

Protection of the migration corridor is in line with RMEF's migration initiative work, Secretarial Order 3362 and important Colorado priorities.

When combined with other projects in the BCGNP and CNRA vicinity, RMEF collaborated with landowners to conserve more than 13,000 acres of habitat for elk and other wildlife.

Founded in 1984 and fueled by hunters, RMEF has conserved more than 8.9 million acres for elk and other wildlife. RMEF also works to open and improve public access, fund and advocate for science-based resource management, and ensure the future of America's hunting heritage.

# COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

ner DJ Enderle had him go through town and outside of town to examine signs in and around the town, as an outsider, to see if there were things that could be improved.

Campos said that one thing he noticed was that Monte Vista has signs when people are coming into town but not leaving town.

"The signage that we do have for Monte Vista, is also far out and not close to the downtown part of the city," he said.

Campos said that new signs could help make things more vibrant for the big events that come to town, and attract more traffic for these events, including the Crane Festival, as well as Stampede.

Another thing Campos noticed is that many signs have not been updated with the new city logo either.

"We have signs here for the golf course, the driving range. These signs have the old logo from 2016 on them,"

he said.

He said there is a need for signs that direct people to City Hall, to the post office, or the library, or other things that people should be directed toward with signage, especially for people who are coming in from out of town.

Campos spoke about the signs for the wildlife refuge too, stating that although they are nice, they do not reference the annual Crane Festival or what to do at the refuge.

Campos said there is a "Welcome to Monte Vista" sign that is not derived from the city but derived from Waste Management. He said that it mentions historic downtown Monte Vista, but "I have been downtown, and I haven't seen signage downtown, that indicates 'historic downtown,' or even what parts are historic; so that's interesting to me."

Campos said the post office is clearly a building from the 1920's, but there is no sign that indicates it

being historical.

"We don't really leverage the architectural beauty that we have here, just a sign that says where it is," he said.

Campos said a better sign could be put up for the local museum. He said that because it is on the main highway and people look that way as they are driving through, a more attractive sign for the museum, may help traffic numbers for the museum.

Campos also spoke about the signage for the Monte Vista Chamber

of Commerce and the information center.

"It may be unclear whether you should stop here, to get everything you need information wise, if you are staying in Monte Vista for an extended amount of time," he said, adding that a better sign could make this a lot clearer for people coming in from out of town.

Campos again referenced the library.

"The library is a historic site. We

don't have any historic signs at all in the city. Historic Signs give something to people to look at, to read about, learn something new about in the city," he said.

Campos said updating a lot of the signs would help and that updating signage is part of the restoration project that RERC is working on. The council thanked Campos for the update.

The next council meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Aug. 1 at City Hall.

# Laughter Is the Best Medicine

As a young woman, I was extremely serious. Because of the years of sexual abuse I endured growing up, I really never knew what it was like to have a childhood—to live care-free and just laugh and play.

I'll never forget the time I went to see a doctor several years back. As he examined me, he remarked, "You're an intense person, aren't you?" He was right. My personality is by nature a little more serious, but I had to learn how to enjoy my life.

Joy is a major part of God's plan for us. Romans 14:17 tells us that the kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. It's part of His will for our everyday lives!

What is joy? It's not just about entertaining ourselves all of the time or doing something fun. As I mentioned, joy has been defined as everything from "extreme hilarity" to "a calm delight." Since I'm a more serious person by nature, the "calm delight" definition is usually my state of joy. But a good belly laugh is sometimes just what we need!

Joy is also a spiritual weapon. For instance, Nehemiah 8:10 (AMPC) says, "...the joy of the Lord is your strength..." And Psalm 16:11 (AMPC) tells us where to find joy. It says, "...in Your presence is fullness of joy, at Your right hand there are pleasures forevermore."

Like peace, God is our Source of joy, but we also have a choice. Life will never be perfect—we will always have circumstances to deal with. But it's how we respond to those circumstances that makes all of the difference.

Proverbs 17:22 (AMPC) contains some great advice if we will heed it. I know it's simple, but it's more powerful than we think. It says, "A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing..."

Take a moment and think about how you've been approaching life. Do you find yourself just trying to make it through the day? If you're honest with yourself, can you even remember the last time you had a good laugh? Well, I want you to know that the joy of the Lord can ease anxiety, depression, and emotional and physical pain...it can bring you a new level of satisfaction in life.

Laughter is the outward evidence of inward joy, and it is proven to make you feel better. I once heard someone say that laughter is like

internal jogging, and I think that is so true. Laughter improves emotional and mental health, it lifts our spirits, and it dispels worry.

It's almost impossible to laugh and be sad at the same time. This is why we would be wise to express our joy and take time to laugh every chance we get. God has given us the ability to laugh for a reason. It may seem like a little thing, but laughter is vitally important in the battle against discouragement, stress, anxiety, fear, and worry. It's a tool from God that benefits us in so many ways.

Interestingly, there have been studies done that show laughter has some exciting benefits:

Laughter causes the release of endorphins, a chemical in the body that relieves pain and creates a sense of well-being.

It can raise your energy level, relieve tension and change your attitude.

It increases antibodies and strengthens your immune system.

A good belly laugh causes you to inhale more oxygen and stimulates your heart and blood circulation. It's like internal aerobic exercise!

Laughter lifts our spirit, improves our mental, emotional, and physical health, and de-stresses our mind. And (here is the best part)...it costs nothing.

**We have a proven, God-given weapon against stress that is free of charge and that we can use at any time, day or night.**

Maybe you haven't laughed—I mean really laughed—in a very long time. If that's the case, it's probably adding to the discouragement or depression you may be experiencing today. You'll find that you will feel better after a hearty laugh.

Sometimes I feel clean and refreshed after a good laugh. If I am tired and weary from dealing with life's issues, I often feel like my soul is a dusty closet—stale and in need of fresh air. But when I take the opportunity to have a really good laugh, it seems to "air my soul out," refreshing me and lifting the load off my tired mind.

You may be thinking, "Well, Joyce, I don't have anything to laugh about!" Many times, I don't either, but when you do make the time, you'll be amazed at how different you will begin to view your job, your family, your relationships, yourself, and even your walk with God. You'll become a person whose first response to stressful situations is faith instead



of fear—joy instead of sorrow.

Philippians 4:4 (AMPC) says, "Rejoice in the Lord always [delight, gladden yourselves in Him]; again I say, Rejoice!"

As you go about your day, **make this your goal: Rejoice in the Lord!** As the joy of the Lord gives you strength, you'll be able to face any problems you have to deal with, and you'll enjoy your life while you're doing it.

If you're like I was—if you're too serious about life—it's time to lighten up! Learn to laugh at yourself and the things that normally frustrate you. You don't have to laugh about your problems, but thankfully, you can laugh as you trust God to take care of them.

No matter what you're going through today—no matter how intimidating your situation feels, no matter how stressful things are, and regardless of how discouraging life may seem—always remember that God loves you.

You are special to Him, and He sees what you're going through. He cares about every detail of your life, and He is already working on a solution for the things that threaten to overwhelm you.

So, when things get tough and you feel like giving up, make a decision to run to God and place your trust in Him—decide to rejoice right in the middle of what you're going through. Because He's the One Who can take away all of your worries, cares and anxieties... and fill you with joy.

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

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

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

DISTRICT COURT, RIO GRANDE COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO

Civil Action No. 2024 CV 030010, Division No. 2

SUMMONS (BY PUBLICATION)

RANDALL M. SMITH and HELEN L. SMITH,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

ALVIN D. BRIGGS, MABEL M. BRIGGS,

and all other persons who claim as heirs, devisees, creditors or otherwise under said

defendants, and all unknown persons who claim any interest in the subject matter of this

action, Defendants.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO TO THE ABOVE-NAMED

DEFENDANTS:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the Complaint filed with the Court in this action, by filing with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within thirty days after the service of this Summons upon you. Service of this Summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the Complaint may be obtained from the Clerk of the Court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within thirty days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice to you.

This is an action to quiet title to the following described property situate in the County of Rio Grande and State of Colorado, to-wit:

**Lots 9 and 10, Block 4, Alpine Village No. 6, according to the Plat thereof recorded on October 2, 1962, at Reception No. 211136, and amended on May 27, 1966, at Reception No. 227238, County of Rio Grande, State of Colorado,**

(the "Property"), free and clear of all liens and encumbrances.

DATED: June 21, 2024

MOTZ LAW FIRM, LLC  
By /s/ Jeffrey E. Motz  
Paul E. Motz, Reg. No. 7740  
Jeffrey E. Motz, Reg. No. 35972  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
410 San Juan Avenue  
P. O. Box 779  
Alamosa, Colorado 81101  
Telephone: (719) 589-6676

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# What's the buzz?

*Honeybee swarm collected for new hive*

By KEITH R. CERNY

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

Beekeeper Devin Haynie said the bees likely came from a natural hive in the downtown area and were first seen on a chimney at The Hub operated by the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley at Sixth and San Juan. He would not disclose the location of the natural hive.

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

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

Before forming a swarm, bees "gorge themselves on resources to produce honey," he explained, thereby limiting the distance they and the queen bee can fly. Honey-engorged bees weigh in at about 10,000 bees per pound, Haynie said, and he estimates he collected about two and one-half pounds of bees, therefore netting around 25,000 bees.

The swarm is carefully collected into a transfer box and doesn't typically



Photo by Keith R. Cerny

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

have as much protective instinct while forming a new colony, he said. He recalls collecting bee swarms in that general vicinity at least three times in recent years. Bees are then transferred to a new hive.

Haynie said this swarm was adopted by fellow Alamosa beekeeper Aaron Miltenberger, executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs, who lost his hive over this past winter. Both Haynie and Miltenberger are contacts for the bee swarm hotline operated by the Colorado State Beekeepers Association (CSBA), primarily taking calls in Alamosa, Conejos and Costilla counties.

Haynie had a similar call earlier

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

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

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

## CHIEF Continued from Page 1A

Dingfelder being hired in the same role in neighboring Alamosa, McDonagh decided to apply for the position and got it.

"I decided to rejoin law enforcement because of the recruitment and retention issues that are so prevalent throughout the country at police departments. I was retired from Australia, but I am not a citizen here, so there are only certain places in the country that I can work legally, Colorado is one of those places that's why I landed here," he said.

McDonagh's introduction to the community was during the Ski-Hi Stampede. He talked to a lot of people during the event.

"I made a full effort for Stampede," McDonagh said with a chuckle. "What I understand from speaking with members of the public is that drugs are a real issue. The police department is really focused on that issue. I want to work on that."

McDonagh said that he is involved in working on bills that are going through legislation, mentioning that many police chiefs network in Colorado, once a week, to talk about the bills, and how they can support them.

"I think it's important for us in these rural areas to represent ourselves in this legislative stage, otherwise the big cities dictate what happens otherwise. It's important to work with other chiefs on any laws

that could benefit Monte Vista," he said.

McDonagh said that he is also big on networking because he has seen a lot of positive changes come from it.

"One thing I did in Rocky Ford was repair a lot of relationships that were severed with issues at the department. I rectified those relationships for them with the FBI, local agencies, and CBI. These are very important relationships to have. I am big on networking," he said.

McDonagh said community involvement is important for him.

"We need the community as much as the community needs the police department. That is how we achieve common goals and optimum public safety, is by working together," he said. "I know that it is such a broad term (public safety), but we need to use the powers that we are vested with to improve public safety."

McDonagh also spoke of the importance of having good interactions with adults in the community and with children.

"Children really need that good interaction, as sometimes their first interaction with law enforcement can dictate their overall perception and can be negative. I want to improve that overall perception by interacting with kids in a positive way at an early age," he said.

McDonagh said that the previous chief left the agency in a great place, and he is looking forward to building on that.

"It's a very friendly place and I am enjoying it. I enjoy the community a lot. Community engagement balances out the negative sides of the job that we all experience. It makes you realize that there are still good people in the world. I am happy to be here," he said.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District Court <input type="checkbox"/> Denver Probate Court Rio Grande County, Colorado Court Address: 925 6 <sup>th</sup> Street, Del Norte, CO 81132	
In the Matter of the Estate of:  <b>George William Blake, Jr., a/k/a George W. Blake, a/k/a George Blake</b>	
▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲	
Deceased Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address): Donald F. Cutler, IV Cutler Law Office, LLC PO Box 743, Salida, CO 81201 Phone Number: (719) 539-5017    E-mail: <a href="mailto:office@cutlerlaw.org">office@cutlerlaw.org</a> FAX Number: (719) 539-5018    Atty. Reg. # 32739	
Case Number: 24PR30013	Division    Courtroom
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Estate of George William Blake, Jr., a/k/a George W. Blake, a/k/a George Blake, Deceased  
 Case Number 24PR30013  
 All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to

District Court of Rio Grande, County, Colorado or  
 Denver Probate Court of the City and County of Denver, Colorado  
 on or before November 14, 2024 (date)\*, or the claims may be forever barred.

Colleen Trinka  
 Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice  
 c/o Cutler Law Office, LLC PO Box 743  
 Address  
Salida, Colorado 81201  
 City, State, Zip Code

No. 4842 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, July 17, 24 and 31, 2024.

Notice: All contents of storage unit rented by Mark Wright at 1458 S County Rd 4 E, Monte Vista CO 81144, shall be disposed of two weeks from this publishing date. Gunbarrel Storage LLC, 1748 Hwy 285 N, Monte Vista, CO 81144.  
**No. 4848 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, July 24, 2024.**

Notice: All contents of storage unit rented by Elizabeth Conner, at 3335 State Hwy 15 S, Monte Vista CO 81144, shall be disposed of two weeks from this publishing date. Gunbarrel Storage LLC, 1748 Hwy 285 N, Monte Vista, CO 81144.  
**No. 4849 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, July 24, 2024.**

**COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION**  
**CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 24-1122**

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:  
 On April 25, 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 Rio Grande records.

Original Grantor(s)	Wendy Montoya
Original Beneficiary(ies)	Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. As Nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC

Current Holder of Evidence of Debt    County of Recording Rio Grande  
 Date of Deed of Trust April 27, 2023    May 04, 2023  
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust  
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)    202300449787  
 Original Principal Amount    \$72,050.00  
 Outstanding Principal Balance    \$71,707.63

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.**  
**Lots 7 & 8, and the South 20 feet of Lot 9, All in Block 85, The Town of Del Norte, Rio Grande County, Colorado.**  
**Commonly known as : 385 Pine St, Del Norte, CO 81132-2372**  
**Purported common address: 385 Pine St, Del Norte, CO 81132.**  
**THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.**

**NOTICE OF SALE**


The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 08/28/2024, at Public Trustee Office, 925 6th St.Rm.103, Del Norte, CO 81132, 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 Monte Vista Journal

**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: 04/25/2024  
 Rhonda Richardson, Public Trustee in and for the County of Rio Grande, State of Colorado

*Rhonda Richardson*  
 By: Rhonda Richardson Public Trustee



The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:  
 Joseph D. DeGiorgio #45557    Monica Kadmas #34904    Nichole Williams #49611  
 Randall M. Chin #31149  
 Barrett Frappier & Weisserman, LLP 1391 Speer Boulevard, Suite 700, Denver, CO 80204 (303) 350-3711  
 Attorney File # 000000010121382

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. 4840 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, July 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2024.**

**COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION**  
**CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 24-1123**

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:  
 On May 15, 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 Rio Grande records.

Original Grantor(s)	Valerie J Hagedorn
Original Beneficiary(ies)	Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as beneficiary, as nominee for Academy Mortgage Corporation, a Utah Corporation

Current Holder of Evidence of Debt    Nationstar Mortgage LLC  
 Date of Deed of Trust    May 27, 2011  
 County of Recording    Rio Grande  
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust    May 31, 2011  
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)  
 201100411749 Book: 554 Page: 830-844

Original Principal Amount    \$189,195.00  
 Outstanding Principal Balance    \$162,264.61

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 16, HANSEN SUBDIVISION NO. 3, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JULY 7, 1975 IN MAP DRAWER 10, MAP NO. 56, RIO GRANDE COUNTY, COLORADO**  
**Which has the address of: 583 Pine St, Monte Vista, CO 81144**  
**Purported common address: 583 Pine St, Monte Vista, CO 81144.**  
**THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.**

**NOTICE OF SALE**


The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 09/11/2024, at Public Trustee Office, 925 6th St.Rm.103, Del Norte, CO 81132, 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    7/17/2024  
 Last Publication    8/14/2024  
 Name of Publication    Monte Vista Journal

**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: 05/15/2024  
 Rhonda Richardson, Public Trustee in and for the County of Rio Grande, State of Colorado

*Rhonda Richardson*  
 By: Rhonda Richardson 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 PC 216 16th Street, Suite 1210, Denver, CO 80202  
 Attorney File # 23CO00345-1

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.

**No. 4845 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, July 17, 24 and 31 and August 7 and 14, 2024.**



# Stunner Bridge replacement to begin

*Minimal traffic delays expected*

**CONTRIBUTED**

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

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

“We are pleased to be working with Robins Construction from Antonito, CO on this project,” said Judi Perez, acting Conejos Peak district ranger. “Having a local contractor implement this fourth and final planned Alamosa Canyon bridge construction project benefits our communities by creating jobs and providing a safe and sustainable transportation route. We thank the public, in advance, for their patience with slight travel delays that may be caused by heavy equipment activity in the area.”

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

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

**The Stunner Bridge in the Alamosa Canyon.**

Courtesy photo



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



Courtesy photo

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

**CONTRIBUTED**

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

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

She has spent years now in the thick of things in Nashville, Tenn., playing her fiddle with many different bands and performers, often working eight shows a week. Now, she has joined forces with

three other Nashville star performers in a new western group and is bringing it the Valley.

What do you get when you combine award-winning singer/songwriters, four-part harmony, a fiddle, keys, two guitars and lyrical imagery drawn from the West? You get taken on a musical journey out West...cowboy and cowgirl life (and love), campfires, horses, music and the beauty of the landscape.

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

And here’s a quote from a fellow that

knows a bit about western music.

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

Doors at 400 Ross Ave., Alamosa, will open at 6:30. Tickets are \$20 in advance, or \$25 at the door, and are available online at [www.societyhall.org](http://www.societyhall.org), or in Alamosa at the Green Spot, 711 State Ave. The concert will also stream live on the Society Hall Facebook page and You-Tube channel.

# SAGUACHE

Arts Walk & Hollyhock Festival

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





# Lifestyles

Serving the entire San Luis Valley

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

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## Faith Hinkley Veterans Memorial Park Fundraiser July 27

By MARIE MCCOLM

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

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

heroes and all the brave women and men who have served.

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

The Faith Hinkley Memorial Park Project began March 10, 2011. The City of Monte Vista, partnered with the Monte Vista School District to create the beloved park to celebrate and remember the lives of fallen U.S. Army Sgt. Faith Hinkley, and U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Glen E. Martinez. There have been many donations over the years from local businesses, and residents to help finish the park. This year, a stone will also be added by local

businessman Bob Richards, and James Pacheco of the Polished Bean, for World War II Veteran George Blake, a Homelake Veterans community resident who passed away recently.

The fundraiser will help complete the Memorial Park project. Everything kicks off at 9 a.m. at Chapman Park with a poker run hosted by Larry Garner. Registration for this event opens at 8 a.m.

*Please see PARK on Page 3*



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Two pieces of Del Norte's history were brought to the Rio Grande County Museum from the Del Norte Public Library for preservation. The Fremont Monument and the 150-year-old Del Norte Flouring Company original grist wheels are now on display.

## Local monuments from Del Norte Public Library find new home at museum

STAFF REPORT

DEL NORTE — With the Downtown Revitalization Project getting underway in Del Norte, the Rio Grande County Museum and Del Norte Public Library partnered on another project and saved two cherished monuments that would have been without a home.

While planning for the new sidewalk installation, engineers noted that both the Fremont and Del Norte Flouring Mill wheels in front of the library would need to be moved. Both monuments have been in front of the library for well over 70 years and

were placed in front of the library by the local Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) sometime in the 1950s.

The wheels were made with local quarry stone sourced from the original stone quarry outside of Del Norte. The grist wheels were used to make the first white flour in Del Norte in 1876. The land which the flouring mill was on was owned by J. Cary French but after an extended visit to Kansas for the birth of his daughter, Salome French, his claim on the land was jumped by Paul Steele.

*Please see MUSEUM on Page 3*

## Rhythms on Rio lineup has 'something for everyone'

Long running music festival set for Aug. 2-4

By R. SCOTT RAPPOLD

DEL NORTE — Rhythms on the Rio, the San Luis Valley's largest and longest-running music festival, will return to Del Norte on Aug. 2-4.

Organized by the South Fork Music Association, it has been held annually since 2006, except 2020 and 2021, to raise money to put musical instruments in the hands of San Luis Valley kids. Last year the event raised \$15,000 for local school music programs.

This will be the third year it has been held in Del Norte, after the festival grounds in South Fork were sold for an RV park. It attracts music lovers from across Colorado, the region, and national visitors for the family-friendly atmosphere, affordable prices and idyllic mountain setting.

Organization president Scott Stecken said they are capping 3-day passes, which include camping, at 500 fewer than last year. *Please see RGYTHMS on Page 3*

Daniel Donato's Cosmic Country will be performing on Saturday, Aug. 3, at Rhythms on the Rio. He will be performing to sets, including a recreation of Bob Dylan's 'Nashville Skyline.'

Courtesy photo



## Covered Wagon Days just weeks away

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

DEL NORTE — As this busy summer begins to slide toward fall in the Valley, Del Norte is gearing up for its annual Covered Wagon Days and the four-day event is set to be a grand time for all.

Beginning on Thursday, Aug. 1, the town will be a great place to come for an afternoon of fun, farmers markets and music in the park. Kathy's Fabric Trunk will be hosting the annual quilt show and the Rio Grande County Museum has opened an antique quilt and clothing show for all to enjoy. The San Luis Valley quilt Guild will be selling their \$10 items to raise money for several charity projects for the coming year.

The Town of Del Norte will be hosting its Thursday night Music in the Park and Mercado Del Norte will be set up in the Del Norte Town Park for an evening of live entertainment and fun for the entire family.

Friday will feature the annual Veteran's

Dinner at the High Valley Community Center with proceeds going toward Veteran services and places like the Homelake Veteran's center in Monte Vista. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased at the door.

Saturday will be a day packed full of fun beginning early in the morning with the Val Alto Pancake breakfast and followed by the Bees Knees 5K walk and run that takes participants along trails in some of Del Norte's beautiful back country. Whether looking to fill up on pancakes or participate in the 5K, both are at the High Valley Community Center.

By 7:30 a.m., people can also wander to the Del Norte Public Library's annual Booksale. This event is a great place to come and stock up on books for the coming winter or even as a gift for the bookworms out there! All proceeds from this event go towards the library.

The annual Covered Wagon Days parade kicks

*Please see DAYS on Page 3*



Covered Wagon Days in Del Norte are only a few weeks away.

File photo



# Saguache County celebrates school trail

By JOHN WATERS

**BACA GRANDE** — Saguache County officials including Commissioner Lynn Thompson, Commissioner Tom McCracken and County Administrator Wendi Maez were joined by other local officials including Crestone Mayor Benjamin Byer and former Mayor Kairina Danforth on July 1 for a new trail ribbon cutting.

Formally known as the Saguache County-Crestone Safe Routes to School Trail (SRTS) it will link the Baca Grande area to the Crestone Charter School.

The trail is part of a Trails Master Plan developed by the Eastern San Luis Trails Coalition with the Support of San Luis Valley Great Outdoors.

Commissioner McCracken said, "This was conceived seven years ago and is a collaboration between the Town of Crestone, Saguache County, the Crestone Charter School, the Baca Grande Property Owners Association, and SLV GO."

Funding comes from the Gates Family

Foundation, Colorado Safe Routes to School, Saguache County, Colorado Health Foundation, U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and the Colorado Department of Transportation.

Phase 1 funding is \$1,434,084, and phase 2 is \$508,000.

The project manager is Maez, and the trails coalition project coordinator is Burt Wadman.

When completed, the paved trail will extend over a mile and connect Palomino Way and the Crestone Charter School.

**Local officials and community leaders gathered on Camino Baca Grande in the Baca Grande area of Saguache County to celebrate progress on a Safe Routes to School Trail that will soon have a groundbreaking. The trail will allow school students a safe path to walk to the Crestone Charter School.**

Photo by John Waters



## Round 2 of the summer is here

By HIGH VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

**DEL NORTE** — High Valley Community Center is so glad to have everyone back after our break! July has already been a whirlwind of fun, and we cannot wait to see what other excitement is in store.

There are some super exciting field trips coming up! We are going to Pagosa Springs for a movie and park day on July 17, the Rio Grande Farm Park on July 24, and Lathrop State Park on Aug. 1 to end the summer on a high note. Please keep an eye out for our field trip cards with all the details online and on the front desk each week.

This past week, we learned the sport of fishing with Colorado Parks and Wildlife! We all ventured out to Beaver Creek Reservoir with fishing poles in hand to catch as many fish as possible. The kids had so much fun learning about how to hook their bait on and techniques to give them the best chance at reeling in a big one. They even got to take a fishing pole home!

We are so excited for another week of fun. Find updates online at theHVCC.org. HVCC would not be possible without the support of our community! Please consider donating to help us continue to build and implement excellent programming to teach our youth how to have a positive impact on the world around them.

# San Luis Valley Area

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# MUSEUM

Continued from Page 1



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Over the years, the land exchanged hands and in October of 1876 the mill was erected after \$16,000 was raised by the Town of Del Norte. The Oct. 6, 1876, Del Norte Prospector reads, "Del Norte is going to get its flouring mill. Outside the town a \$16,000 fund was raised to build the mill and Sam Kaucher, from Denver, was here to find a site and build the mill. Farmers are being urged to plant more wheat."

The Del Norte Flouring Mill was born but it didn't last long. Over the next 10 years, the mill fell into disrepair and was forgotten in the boom days of Summitville and the following silver boom in Creede. The wheels were moved at one point and were later found behind the library when the DAR organization came to install the Fremont Monument,

according to sources.

The Fremont Monument is a Colorado Historic marker, marking the area in which Fremont and his doomed men camped as they wandered into the La Garita Mountains in search of the fastest and easiest route to reach California in 1848. The monument is on the state's historic register as monument No. 152 and represents a significant part of the Valley's unique history.

Both monuments have found a new home at the museum and are on display for people to see thanks to the many efforts of the Town of Del Norte Public Works Director Kevin Larimore, Del Norte Public Library Board President Glynnis Williams and the Rio Grande County Museum.

# RHYTHMS

Continued from Page 1

year, to reduce overcrowding in the campground. He said these passes will likely sell out.

"The lineup is good. It has something for everybody. If you like rhythm and blues done the right way, you can't miss (Friday headliner) The California Honeydrops, with some funk mixed in there," he said.

"We've got some of the best up-and-coming acts in the jamgrass scene on Saturday, culminating with Daniel Donato's Cosmic Country, who is creating his own genre of music."

"And you can't go wrong with (Sunday headliner) Keller Williams. So, this is going to be a nationally recognized lineup that has something for everybody to enjoy."

Three-day passes are \$190, with a \$25 option for early entry Thursday. Campers and trailers require an RV pass. All can be purchased at [RhythmsOnTheRio.com](http://RhythmsOnTheRio.com).

Single-day tickets (which don't

include camping) are \$60 Friday, \$70 Saturday and \$50 Sunday. Youth tickets (ages 13-15) are \$25. Children 12 and under are free. They can be purchased online or at the festival gate. Camping passes are \$30 more each night.

On Aug. 1, the Thursday before the festival, the festival is co-sponsoring, along with the Town of Del Norte, free live music in the town park, featuring Grateful Dead cover band Easy Jim.

The festival is held the same weekend as Del Norte's Covered Wagon Days, and Stecken said there have been noticeably more festival-goers at the parade and other events. With hot weather, last year also saw hundreds of people swimming in the Rio Grande.

The lineup is as follows:

- Friday: Alysha Brilla, Clay Street Unit, Alo and The California Honeydrops.

- Saturday: Armchair Boogie, The Fretliners, Shadowgrass, The Lil Smokies and Daniel Donato's Cosmic

Country, which will do two sets, including a full cover of the Bob Dylan album "Nashville Skyline."

- Sunday: Cousin Curtiss, The Runaway Grooms, Magic Beans, Digging Dirt and Keller Williams' Grateful Grass featuring the Hillbenders

# DAYS

Continued from Page 1

off at 10 a.m. along Grande Avenue which will be closed this year from 10 a.m. until noon. This year's theme is "The good, the bad and the ugly" which should bring out the true old west side of Del Norte.

Following the parade is the annual Ice Cream Social at the Rio Grande County Museum and the barbecue lunch fundraiser at the Del Norte Fire Department.

Saturday afternoon brings people to the Del Norte Town Park where there will be vendors, a car show and something for everyone to enjoy. Sunday morning is the annual fly-in breakfast at the Kent Rominger Airport and church in the Town Park followed by a barbecue lunch.

For a full schedule of events, visit [www.coveredwagondays.com](http://www.coveredwagondays.com).



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# SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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Level: Advanced

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

### Solution to last week's puzzle

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

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



\*Terms and Conditions apply.



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

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



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## RATES

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

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

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

### Convenient ad placement:

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

### Check your ad the first day:

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

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

## DEADLINE

**Thursday 5:00 pm**

**Call 719-852-3531**

or email: rbeutler@valleypublishinginc.com

## Easy Payment Options

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



## 05 Notices

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

## 07 Help Wanted

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

Jr/Sr High Language Arts Teacher needed at Del Norte Jr/Sr High School. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License with a secondary Language Arts endorsement. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, DNHS Principal at ahardy@urtigers.co or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. Ap-

plications can be picked up at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co.

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

## 12 Houses for Rent

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

## 16 Vacation

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

## 24 Garage/Yard Sales

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

**Moving Sale!** 7/28 11a-3p No early birds! Furniture, household goods, decor, clothing. 16179 Hwy 160 Del Norte

## 36 Miscellaneous

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

Cash for quality non-fiction books

and LP records. Jeff 720-315-9145.

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

## STEEL STORAGE CONTAINERS

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

# FULL-TIME SALES

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



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

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



# RESCUE PETS HAVE BIG PERSONALITY

Hundreds of loving pets lose their homes every day through no fault of their own. Stop in & visit us today to meet the incredible dogs and cats looking for immediate adoption, and forever change the life of a pet in need.



## Cremation Service: Cats, Dogs, Ferrets, Birds...

Animal Weight	Semi-Private/Group Fee	Private Fee	Vessel Size needed
Small/ Pocket Pet	\$40.00		Mini - Small vessel needed
Cats	\$80.00		Petite - Small vessel needed
0 - 25 lbs.	\$80.00		Petite - Small vessel needed
26 - 50 lbs	\$140.00		Small-Medium Vessel needed
51 - 75 lbs.	\$175.00	\$200.00	Medium-Large Vessel needed
76 - 100 lbs.	\$200.00	\$275.00	Large Vessel needed
101 lbs. & up	Animals over 101 lbs. are ineligible for Group fee	\$300.00	Extra Large Vessel Needed

Payment is required at time the animal is dropped off.

Animal may be dropped off during business hours only.

Please allow 7 working days from drop off date for animal's return.

Ashes not picked up after 60 days will respectfully be spread over our Conour Garden.



It is important that all pet owners have their dogs & cats spayed or neutered to control the pet overpopulation and vaccinate to prevent the spread of disease.



# VALLEY PUBLISHING SEEKS REPORTER IMMEDIATELY

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

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



# Valley Wide Classifieds

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

ing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-496-7630. (TFN)  
**LICENSED PLUMBER** does all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodels at reasonable rates. Quick service. Call anytime, available weekends and evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593.

the best prices? Call THE BLIND GUY at 970-799-0388 for a free estimate. (TFN)  
**Sprinkler repair and winterizations.** Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (TFN)

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

**42 Feed & Seed**  
**For Sale:** Small Alfalfa bales \$10. Covered, No rain, and local. Call: 719-480-2089 (8-28)

**64 Autos for Sale**  
**For sale -** 1990 Toyota 2-wheel drive super clean pickup; 2005 Toyota Tacoma long-bed camper shell; Chevy car 4-speed transmission. 719-850-2027

**65 Professional Services**  
**Need Storage,** We Build New Storage Sheds, HY Country Sheds Call 719-849-8106 (9-4)

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

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

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

**RELIABLE CARPENTRY** 40-plus years-experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roof-

Need beautiful window blinds at

**Christmas In July Sale!**

**Get the Latest Smartphones On Us!**

**Includes A Free Charging Block!**

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

**VIAERO WIRELESS**

# SAGUACHE

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

Arts Walk & Hollyhock Festival

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

Come enjoy galleries, restaurants, shops and booths.

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

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

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

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





# Open Quilt Show returning to SLV Fair

MONTE VISTA — The SLV Fair is bringing back the Open Quilt Show. This is a show only; entries will not be judged. The goal is to showcase the wonderful talent in the San Luis Valley. It is open to all ages, and there is no entry fee.

People can also submit the quilt's story, if there is one.

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

# PARK

Continued from Page 1

The \$20 fee for the run also gets you into the car show; any licensed vehicle, cars, trucks, and motorcycles are welcome to attend the run. At 9 a.m., everyone will follow Garner from Chapman Park, and the poker run will visit five historic sites. According to Garner, everyone from the run should be back by around 12:30 p.m. At 10 a.m., the park activities will open for everyone to enjoy. Registration for a cornhole tournament will take place at 10 a.m., with the tournament starting at 11.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Skeff had this to say of the donation that she made, "These funds are in memory of Ray Skeff, Colette Skeff, and Margaret Skeff Family Funds. We

are proud and honored to make this \$30,000 donation to the Faith Hinkley Memorial Park. The park provides a beautiful memorial to honor the veterans who have passed as well as celebrate those with us today who have served our country. The fundraiser by the City of Monte Vista inspired the Skeff families to make the donation to help the city with the funds to complete the park."

# ESTIMATED CROP WATER USE

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

Crop	Date Planted	Daily Crop Water use for Dates Shown (in./day)				Accumulated Water Use (ET) (inches)				
		7/18	7/17	7/16	7/15	2day	3day	4day	5day	7day
		<b>Moravian 69</b>	<b>04/05</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>0.51</b>
Moravian 69	05/05	0.19	0.21	0.18	0.18	0.40	0.58	0.76	0.98	1.45
<b>Early Wheat</b>	<b>04/05</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>0.46</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>1.22</b>
Early Wheat	05/05	0.19	0.21	0.18	0.18	0.40	0.58	0.76	0.98	1.45
<b>White Wheat</b>	<b>04/05</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.37</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>0.72</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>1.41</b>
White Wheat	05/05	0.19	0.21	0.18	0.18	0.40	0.58	0.76	0.98	1.45
<b>WinterWheat</b>	<b>10/01</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>0.11</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>0.81</b>
<b>Potatoes</b>										
Norkotah	05/05	0.20	0.22	0.19	0.19	0.42	0.61	0.80	1.03	1.52
<b>Centennial</b>	<b>05/05</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>1.43</b>
Nugget	05/05	0.18	0.20	0.17	0.17	0.38	0.55	0.72	0.93	1.36
<b>Alfalfa</b>	<b>Est.</b>	<b>0.22</b>	<b>0.24</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.46</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>1.66</b>
<b>Lawnglass</b>	<b>Est.</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>0.72</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>1.38</b>

For the latest ET information, call 719-754-3494 extension x40 for Center, x36 for Center #2, and x38 for La Jara. Use the crop maturity and planting data and weather station closest to your own. Find this up June 8 table each day at this web address: <http://aes-slvr.c.colostate.edu/daily-crop-water-use-report/>  
 This information is provided by the SLV Research Center (Colorado State University) and the Colorado Potato Certification Service. For info, call 754-3494 x26 or e-mail: [andrew.houser@colostate.edu](mailto:andrew.houser@colostate.edu)

# CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

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

**Friday**  
Tack 3:00 PM  
Horses 4:00 PM

**Saturday - 9 AM**  
Tack, Machinery  
Antiques, etc

Directions: From Monte Vista, CO take Hwy 15 (Gun Barrel) South 13½ miles to 26503 County Road 6, LaJara, CO 81140



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

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

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

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

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

**QUILTS:** lots of the good woven rugs and runners, green "Irish Chain" queen size quilt, purple, gray & black, "Trip Around the Wolves" 59½"x59½" wall hanger, green purple & blue "Trip Around the Wolves" 110"x100" quilt, "Old Fashioned Double Wedding Ring 102"x116" quilt, green, yellow & brown Old Fashioned Double Wedding Ring twin size quilt, 94"x114" red & white pieced top, Black, gray & red "Star Medallion" queen size top, 100"x110" green white and brown log cabin at attic windows with deer .

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

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

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



Vendor Booths are welcome

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

No Buyers Premium

RV's Are Welcome

Auctioneers include

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

Lunch & Bake Sale by Amish School

Bring A Friend

Multiple Rings All Day



# Rainbow trout added to Blanca Vista Pond

**CONTRIBUTED**

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

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

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

The City of Alamosa contributed \$4,000 toward 620 pounds of rainbow trout. A special thank you to Crowther’s Fish

Farm for providing the fish and throwing in a few extra “big ones” for the kids.

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

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

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

Courtesy photo



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# Adams State hires VP of Advancement

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALAMOSA — Jacob Rissler accepted the position as Adams State University Vice President of Advancement. He will begin his duties on Aug. 1.

Rissler most recently served as the Director of Institutional Advancement at Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte, Neb. In his role at Adams State, Rissler will oversee Public Relations and Marketing, Alumni Relations, Development, and the Adams State Foundation.

“Mr. Rissler has contagious enthusiasm and I believe he will make a positive impact at Adams

State,” noted President David Tandberg, Ph.D. “He will make a great addition to our executive team. Mr. Rissler has the skills and vision to move Adams State forward. Through his guidance the University will strengthen marketing efforts, maintain key relationships, bring in new resources, and build new partnerships.”

In his role at Mid-Plains Community College, Rissler served as the executive director for the North Platte Community College Foundation, acted as college liaison for the McCook College Foundation, built and maintained strong relationships with individuals and industries with

vested interests in the institution, developed alumni relations, and engaged in community activities/service throughout the college’s 18 county service area. He served as director of development for the Chadron State Foundation prior to the community college position.

“As a premiere Hispanic Serving Institution, Adams State does incredible work supporting all students,” Rissler said. “I look forward to working closely with President Tandberg, and the entire Adams State community, as we raise awareness of the University and strengthen our connections across the beautiful San Luis Valley and beyond.”

Rissler received his bachelor’s

and master’s from Chadron State College, in Chadron, Neb. He is active in Rotary International and looks forward to continuing his membership in the Alamosa club. He is a firm believer in community involvement and was a member of the North Platte Community Playhouse Board of Directors; co-chair of the McCook Communities of Excellence, and a member of the North Platte Area Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals.

“I have already started exploring the San Luis Valley and am eager to engage with Adams State alumni and friends and learn more about the rich culture and history of the area,” Rissler added.



Courtesy photo

Adams State VP of Advancement Jacob Rissler arrives on campus August 1, 2024.

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# Fire departments respond to hay trailer ablaze

## STAFF REPORT

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

Alamosa Fire Department Capt. Zach Cerny said the trailer and load of hay were a total loss. The truck towing the trailer was unhitched and unharmed. Firefighters were on scene for about three hours, but the cause of the fire is unknown.

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

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



Courtesy photo

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

# SLV 911 Emergency Telephone Authority offers reverse 911

## By JOHN WATERS

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](http://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](http://www.slve911.org) and next to the text, “If we can’t REACH you, we can’t ALERT you. Register for FREE emergency alerts,” 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](http://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](http://www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov) and sign up for a separate reverse 911 system. Residents can sign up for both systems.

The [slve911.org](http://slve911.org) system can send messages to cell phones, land lines, text, email and work phones.

Visit [www.slve911.org](http://www.slve911.org) and the Alamosa County website at [www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov](http://www.alamosacounty.colorado.gov), to receive notices.

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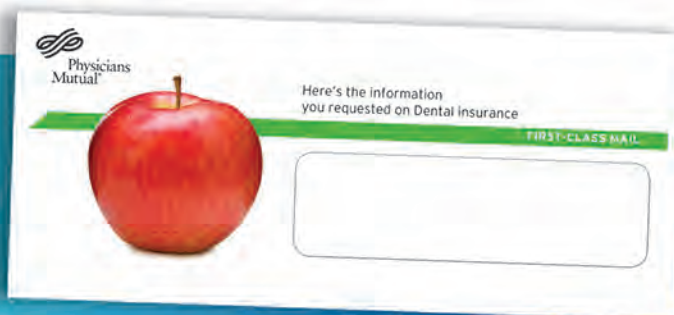
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# 'Breaking the Silence of Slavery'

*A convening of Hispano and Native American heirs of Indigenous enslavement*

**CONTRIBUTED**

**SANTA FE, N.M.** — Do you have stories of Native American captivity and slavery that have been passed down in your family? Have you thought about what this legacy means to your family and community? The team at Native Bound Unbound invites you to participate in a series of conversations and story gathering events titled Breaking the Silence of Slavery.

This initiative is led by former state historian of New Mexico, Dr. Estevan Rael-Gálvez, whose professional efforts to recover the histories of Indigenous slavery as ethnographer and historian began decades ago. According to Dr. Rael-Gálvez, executive director of Native Bound Unbound, "the story of Indigenous slavery has been quieted over the years by whispers as much as by silence, even by those who have inherited it. If there is any hope for transcendence and healing, we must first break this silence. This is the goal of these gatherings."

These landmark gatherings are aimed towards convening Hispano and Native American heirs of Indigenous enslavement. "Recovering these stories is critical for both tribal communities, who were impacted by these tremendous losses, as well as for the descendants of those taken, who became their ancestors — and Breaking the Silence of Slavery begins to bring together both of these communities," said Rael-Gálvez.

"Some people grew up with these histories, holding onto photos, documents, stories, and even traditions. Others have spent years engaged in genealogical and historical research revealing the names of their ancestors. Yet, many are just beginning to explore the records and the meaning in this legacy. We invite members of these communities to join us this summer during one of the three gatherings," said project coordinator, Weston Archuleta.

The gatherings will take place at the following locations on the dates and times listed:

- Los Luceros Historic Site, Alcalde, N.M. — July 20, 2-4 p.m.
- New Mexico History Museum/Palace of the Governors, Santa Fe, N.M., Aug. 4, 2-4 p.m.
- Hacienda de los Martinez, Taos,

N.M., Aug. 17, 2-4 p.m.

These gatherings have been made possible thanks to funding from the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Although "Breaking the Silence" gatherings are local, they are set within a hemispheric project, Native Bound Unbound — Archive of Indigenous Slavery (NBU). NBU was launched in 2022 with the support of the Mellon Foundation. The objective is to create a digital

repository centered on the lives of the enslaved Indigenous people across the Americas, "name by name and story by story."

Individuals interested in participating in any of these gatherings are asked to bring stories, photographs, documents, and artifacts that may have been made or held by an ancestor.

Anyone with questions or interested in attending is asked to RSVP by writing to info@nativeboundunbound.org.

## La Garita Arena Project meeting

**CENTER** — An informational meeting on the Saguache County La Garita Arena Project will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 28, at the Corzine Indoor Arena, 8101 County Road 45, Center. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be available.

## Community Open Classes at SLV Fair

**MONTE VISTA** — Community members can exhibit their items and gardening. There is no fee, no pre-registration. Check-in is available on Sunday, Aug. 4, from 4- 6 p.m. or Monday, Aug. 5, from 9-11 a.m. For more information, contact Brandy Meyers at 719-849-1522 or Janae Naranjo at 719-480-4212.

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# Giving back to those who give so much

ACSO deputies issued life-saving vests

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

ALAMOSA — Deputies at the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) gathered in the board room of the Alamosa County commissioners 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



Photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Shield616 presents ACSO deputies with 'angel armor' bulletproof vests capable of providing top of the line protection.

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."



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# Aug. 1-10, 2024

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# San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

## 0254 Timberline Trail • South Fork

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



## 328 Fir Drive • South Fork

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



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## 222 La Lomita Circle • South Fork

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



## 193 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork

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



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## 1408 Bear Creek Circle • South Fork

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



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## 120 Fairway Ridge Lane • South Fork

Serenity Await in Fairway Glen, South Fork Ranches! Nestled within the coveted Fairway Glen subdivision, this 0.61-acre gem awaits your vision. Perched near the Rio Grande Club and Resort, it boasts an unrivaled vantage point overlooking Hole #11—a golfer's dream come true. Imagine waking up to sun-kissed mornings, gazing across rolling hills and pristine fairways. Whether you're sipping coffee on your future deck or planning a cozy evening by the firepit, these views will steal your heart. All utilities stand ready at the lot line, eager to serve your dream home. South Fork, a haven for outdoor enthusiasts, beckons with adventure. Within minutes, you'll find: Tee off at the Rio Grande Club & Resort's 18-hole course, where fairways merge seamlessly with mountain vistas. Chase winter thrills at Wolf Creek Ski area—powder days and après-ski stories await. Lace up your hiking boots or hop on an ATV—the nearby trails lead to hidden lakes, wildflower meadows, and secret overlooks. Cast your line into the Rio Grande River, where trout dance and rafting adventures unfold. Don't miss out! Call today to schedule a private showing. Let's turn this canvas of land into your forever retreat. **MLS#816135 - \$64,000**



## 259 Orville Way • South Fork

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



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## 48 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork

Mountain Charm - Where Dreams Blossom Nestled in the heart of South Fork, Colorado, this Mountain haven awaits where simplicity meets enchantment. Picture it: a 3-bedroom, 2-bath retreat, bathed in the golden light of the Mountains. With 1,440 square feet and attached large 2 car garage. This home will cradle your memories like a cherished heirloom. This lot steals your breath—a canvas of possibility stretching wide. Here, mule deer and wild turkeys play, visiting often as if drawn by whispers from the pines. No stern HOA rules here; just a neighborhood that nods in camaraderie. Large lot to grow your own garden and enjoy the existing rhubarb patch! Imagine stepping onto your covered front porch, the scent of freshly baked rhubarb pie dancing in the air. Yes, you'll bake your own—pluck ruby-red stalks from the earth, mix them with sugar and secrets, and let the mountains witness your culinary magic. Paved roads with city water and city water & sanitation. Modern comfort wrapped in rustic allure. All this and more, only a short walk takes you to the Rio Grande River, its waters a silver ribbon of promise. Gold medal fishing awaits, and the mountains echo your joy. And when winter blankets the land, Wolf Creek Ski area beckons. Adventure, your faithful companion, stands at your doorstep. Your Dream come true, pick up the phone. Schedule your showing, and step into the pages of Mountain Charm. Your Adventure starts here, give me a call today! **MLS#815494 - \$367,900**



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