



Back to School

— Page 5



Parks and Rec men's softball league champion and runner-up

— Page 6

**San Luis Valley**  
Colorado Genuine  
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VOLUME 98, NO. 119

# Valley Courier

FRIDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

July 26, 2024

\$1

## SLV Today

### Arts Walk and Hollyhock Festival is Saturday

**SAGUACHE** — The 2024 Saguache Arts Walk and Hollyhock Festival is on July 27 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

### County imposes moratorium on solar projects

**SAGUACHE** — Saguache County has imposed a temporary moratorium on solar projects for the purpose of establishing regulations intended to protect the citizens of Saguache County, wildlife and environmental effects, according to a press release from Saguache County.

Saguache County agrees and supports the renewable energy initiative and looks forward to working to provide renewable projects that serve this initiative. Renewable energy with the goal of minimizing carbon footprint is the policy and desire of Saguache County, the press release stated.

The moratorium is in no way designed to limit renewable energy projects that serve the goals of the county, reduce the carbon footprint, and serve the benefit of Saguache and Valley residents while considering effects on wildlife, environment, redundancy, and the interests of landowners, the press release stated.

### Mosca-Hooper VFD barbecue is Saturday

**MOSCA** — Mosca-Hooper Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual community barbecue at 6 p.m. on Saturday, July 27, at the Mosca-Hooper Fire Department. Plenty of seating, donations are appreciated.

### SLV WEATHER

Showers Likely, Breezy 83/49

**Sat:** Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 83/48

**Sun:** Sunny, Breezy 84/45

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## Alamosa County will receive \$1.7M from the U.S. Department of Energy

### Funding to study three potential electric transmission lines

**STAFF REPORT**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has granted Alamosa County

\$1,699,965 to study transmission lines in the Valley, according to Alamosa County Commissioner Lori Laske.

Alamosa County will conduct an analysis and extensive community engagement around three potential transmission corridors to identify the optimal route to increase electric transmission capacity to the Upper Rio Grande Valley in South-

ern Colorado and northern New Mexico.

According to the DOE, "In a continued effort to expedite the build out of a resilient and reliable electric grid, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today announced 20 projects across 16 states selected to receive up to \$371 million to accelerate the permitting of high-voltage, interstate transmission" ■ See **FUNDING** page 3



Courtesy photo  
The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has granted Alamosa County \$1,699,965 to study transmission lines in the Valley.

## Alamosa murals bring history to life

By **JOHN WATERS**  
*Courier News Editor*

**ALAMOSA** — Downtown Alamosa was busy on Thursday with a block party to celebrate three murals being painted. The event was sponsored by the Alamosa County Chamber of Commerce and Jade Communications.

The Alamosa Adventurer mural featured in the block party at 407 State Ave. is sponsored by Jade.

Alamosa Mayor Ty Coleman told the Valley Courier, "Murals are beautiful pieces of art that encourage people to stop and observe. Murals are captivating to me. I love observing murals and the stories they tell."

"We are fortunate to have talented artists using their creativity on mural projects. I encourage our residents and visitors to visit the murals. Our city is thankful for the beauty the artists are creating in our Alamosa community," Coleman said.

While working on the Alamosa Adventurer mural, Shaye Vanderbilt said, "This is an awesome opportunity to work on this art that shows so much of Alamosa and the Valley."

The murals are part of a 100-year mural project the chamber is sponsoring for 10 murals in Alamosa. Each mural represents a decade highlighting the



Courier photo by John Waters  
On scaffold, Cat Flaherty-Ng (lower left) and Shaye Vanderbilt are working on the Alamosa Adventurer mural in downtown Alamosa on July 25.

work of local artists. The murals are intended to create a collage that will enable people to learn about the history of Alamosa and the San Luis Valley.

According to Americans for the Arts, "Cities gain value through public art — cultural, social, and economic value. Public art is a distinguishing part of our public history and evolving culture. It reflects and reveals our society,

adds meaning to our cities, and uniqueness to our communities. Public art humanizes the built environment and invigorates public spaces. It provides an intersection between past, present and future, between disciplines, and between ideas. Public art is freely accessible."

The Alamosa murals will tell the story of the city in the last century, provide art and recreation to locals, and attract tourists. ■ See **MURALS** page 3

## Judge temporarily halts supermarket merger

By **JOHN WATERS**  
*Courier News Editor*

**DENVER** — Denver District Judge Andrew J. Luxen temporarily halted the proposed supermarket merger between Kroger and Albertsons, the parent company of Safeway on Thursday.

Two years ago, the two companies agreed to merge in a deal worth \$24 billion. As part of the merger, Kroger will divest and sell 579 stores, including the Alamosa Safeway store, to C&S Wholesale Foods, a major player in the grocery distribution industry.

Earlier this year, Colorado Attorney General

Phil Weiser filed a lawsuit against the merger due to concerns it would negatively impact jobs and food prices and eliminate competition.

AG Weiser released a statement in response to the court injunction Thursday. ■ See **MERGER** page 3

**City and County Denver District Judge Andrew J. Luxen put on hold the proposed merger between Kroger supermarkets and Albertsons, the owner of the Safeway brand. Shown is the Safeway store in Monte Vista.**

Courier photo



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# Record

## Stacy Kourlis Guillon named new president of CCALT

CONTRIBUTED

**LAKESWOOD** – The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust, a statewide non-profit, conservation service organization, has elected Stacy Kourlis Guillon to become its seventh president. Guillon started her term on July 1.

Her rural roots and lifelong love for production agriculture have shaped her personally and professionally. Guillon will help CCALT navigate a new chapter in working lands conservation as CCALT continues to expand its staff, services, and programs. CCALT opened a new regional office in Del Norte in November of 2023.

"We are thrilled to welcome Stacy Guillon as the new President of the CCALT Board of Directors. Her extensive experience and deep commitment to agricultural land conservation will be invaluable as we continue our mission to work with Colorado's farm and ranch families to conserve productive agricultural land," CCALT Executive Director Erik Glenn said. "Stacy's background, experience, and leadership will allow CCALT to further build upon the incredible foundation and accelerate our ability to serve the membership of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association and other agricultural families across Colorado."

Guillon becomes the first female president of CCALT since its founding in 1995. She replaces Koger Propst who helped guide CCALT through a period of unprecedented growth and success. Guillon joined CCALT's Board of Directors in 2017 and has served as a corporate officer since 2019. She has co-chaired the board's Relevance and Strategic Partnerships Committee and Governance Committee for the last two years.



Stacy Kourlis Guillon

She said she is excited to help CCALT advance to its next step as a conservation organization that not only serves agricultural producers, but also finds ways to include all Coloradans in its mission.

"I am honored and humbled to lead this innovative, influential organization. As Colorado grows and evolves, CCALT's mission to support Colorado's farm and ranch families in their stewardship of productive lands becomes even more urgent and important," Guillon said. "I look forward to building additional partnerships with agricultural families to conserve even more working lands for the benefit of all Coloradans."

Guillon is a well-known and respected arbitrator and mediator in the Denver area. Before co-founding Decisioncraft, an alternative dispute resolution firm, she was an attorney at Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP, litigating complex cases of all varieties, with a focus on agricultural disputes. Before entering private practice, Guillon clerked for Judge Timothy Tymkovich of the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. She was named one of Denver's Top Lawyers, agriculture section, by 5280 Magazine from 2020-2022, and included in the 2019 Who's Who in Agriculture from the Denver Business Journal.

Guillon grew up on a sheep and cattle ranch in Northwest Colorado.

She has worked and lived on both coasts but returned to her home state and has resided on the Front Range for the past decade. Guillon sees how Colorado has changed in the last few decades but believes the state and its people are still closely connected to its agricultural roots and western history, and that CCALT will play an integral role in connecting the agriculture and conservation industries.

"While there are many organizations out there working to help consumers make the connection between food and ranching, CCALT is uniquely positioned to connect ranching to classic Colorado vistas and to environmental conservation and stewardship," Guillon said. "Making that connection between agriculture and conservation is an important part of this organization's mission to benefit future generations."

CCALT's Board of Directors is made up of 20 dedicated individuals who share a deep commitment to agriculture and conservation. Notably, 60% of board members are agricultural producers, a unique aspect facilitated by appointments from the Colorado Cattlemen's Association. Directors with varied professional and personal backgrounds ensure CCALT prioritizes landowners in conservation strategies and that its efforts are tailored to the needs and values of Colorado's farm and ranch families.

## From the Librarian's Desk – New arrivals at the Alamosa Public Library

By MARIA KRAMER  
**ALAMOSA** — New books are always coming in at the Alamosa Public Library! Here are 10 of our most intriguing arrivals. For more information, or to have a book reserved for you, check [alamosalibrary.org](http://alamosalibrary.org) or call 719-589-6592.

**Fantasy**  
• The Spellshop by Sarah Beth Durst

Fleeing a revolution, librarian Kiela and her intelligent plant Caz return to Kiela's childhood home. There she starts a secret spellshop filled with the magical books she managed to save. Unfortunately, her nosy - and handsome - neighbor won't stop coming by. Will he discover she's peddling illegal magic?

• The Afterlife of Mal Caldera by Nadi Reed Perez

Mal Caldera is dead, but she's still got some things to do. Though her fellow ghosts tell her it's a bad idea, Mal is determined to contact the sister she left behind.

**Fiction**  
• The Sons of El Rey by Alex Espinoza

When Ernesto dons the mask of a luchador, he becomes El Rey Coyote, a técnico fighting the good fight in the ring. In his personal life, however, Ernesto finds himself falling for another man, jeopardizing his marriage.

• Fire Exit by Morgan Talty

Charles Lamosway has spent over two decades secretly watching his

daughter Elizabeth grow up across the river. Burdened by a sick mother, an alcoholic best friend, and his own troubled past, he grapples with the decision to keep the truth of his relationship with his daughter a secret, until she suddenly goes missing.

**Horror**  
• Cuckoo by Gretchen Felker-Martin

In the late '90's, five queer kids were sent to a "conversion camp" by their parents. In the harsh Utah desert, the five bonded while facing abuse. But there was something even worse in the desert, speaking into their dreams - the Cuckoo.

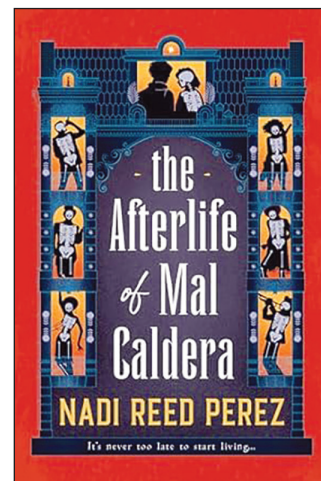
**Nonfiction**  
• Crypto Confidential by Nathaniel Eliason

Nat Eliason had six months to make as much money as possible before his first child was born. So, he turned to where countless others did in 2021: Crypto. Within a year, he'd made millions. But how much of this money was even real?

• Five Hours North Ty Kearns

The year is 2008, and the green rush is taking root in Humboldt County, California. Born and raised in this "Emerald Triangle" famous for its natural beauty and perfect cannabis-growing conditions, Ty Kearns wants no part of it. But as a college student with tuition to pay, Ty is willing to try almost anything.

• Creative Doing by Herbert Lui



Driven by a desire to uncover the mystery of the creative process, writer Herbert Lui spent a decade researching artists and creatives of all kinds. What emerged is this elegant collection of exercises, mental models, and true stories that help you develop your own creative process

• A Day in the Life of Abed Salama by Nathan Thrall

Five-year-old Milad Salama is excited for a school trip to a theme park on the outskirts of Jerusalem. On the way, his bus collides with a semitrailer. It is every parent's worst nightmare, but for Milad's father Abed it is compounded by the maze of obstacles he must navigate because he is Palestinian.

• American Grill by Tyler Florence

Tyler Florence's "American Grill" is a grilling cookbook for foodies, with techniques and recipes for upping your skillset and learning how to grill vegetables, fruit, fish, and more.

## Town of Center seeks developer interest in North 90 parcel

Phase 1 is construction of attainable-workforce housing

CONTRIBUTED  
**CENTER** — The Town of Center is inviting qualified developers to express interest in developing attainable-workforce housing on the town-owned North 90 parcel, according to a press release from Colorado Downtown Inc.

In Phase I, the town is seeking to explore the construction of roughly 20-40 homes, open to both rental and for-sale units. Respondents can propose larger or multi-phased projects using additional land in the North 90.

"We look forward to working collaboratively with developers that can assist our community in meeting our housing needs," Center stated in the release.

Over the past 5 years, the Town of Center has completed intensive community engagement, education, and awareness building with the community. The Town completed major improvement projects including undergrounding electric wires, re-paving half of the town, and installing water meters for the town water system.

Additionally, the town has been a leader in coalition building and helping coordinate a West San Luis Valley partnership that secured an Innovative Housing Opportunity Program (IHOP) grant from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for \$130,000 to review and recommend ways to remove barriers to investment in four west SLV communities.

Downtown Colorado has worked with the Town of Center for over five years and has been "inspired to witness and provide support for overcoming pre-existing challenges and building a plan to create stronger communities into the future."

The Town of Center was a key partner with the San Luis Valley Housing Authority in commissioning the San Luis Valley Housing Study, with the San Luis Valley Housing Coalition and other partners. The study provided insight into the overall housing needs of the San Luis Valley in addition to specifics for the town.

Center recently formed a redevelopment authority to assist with bringing housing and jobs to the North 90, an 87-acre parcel abutting downtown Center.

Building on the town's recent strides toward improvement and broad community engagement, this request for interest is the next step toward identifying and engaging developers that want to partner with the community.

The Town of Center is seeking to partner with the developer to begin defining a feasible project for this parcel which aligns with the community's housing needs, works within the opportunities and constraints of the site, and partners with local stakeholders to maximize the eligibility for state and federal financing as described above. The town anticipates that a variety of housing options may be developed on this parcel along with other complementary uses such as commercial, parks, trails, and other neighborhood amenities.

The location is within walking distance of downtown (0.3 miles), school district (0.5 miles), and major parks (0.5 and 0.8 miles). It has more than sufficient water rights to support a build out of the entire property, has previously been used for agricultural uses, and has been formally annexed into the town.

Letter of interest and qualifications should be submitted electronically by Aug. 22 to economic development advisors at Downtown Colorado – Kylie Brown, Rural Program Manager, [outreach@downtowncoloradoinc.org](mailto:outreach@downtowncoloradoinc.org).

## OBITUARY

### Genevieve Sanchez

Genevieve, "Jenny/Gen and Vevva", to her close family and friends, passed away on Thursday, March 28, 2024, in Lakewood, Colo., at St. Anthony's Hospital. She was surrounded by her most amazing family and friends. Jenny was born on Feb. 20, 1954, in La Jara, Colo., to Mabel Sanchez and Joe Sanchez.

Jenny always loved and cared for her friends and family deeply. This includes her son, Daniel Jose Sanchez whom she leaves behind with his puppy, Calvin; and her brothers Jim Sanchez, Sam Sanchez and his wife Rosemarie, and Tom Sanchez. Gen also leaves behind her cousins Sandy Martinez and her husband Mark, Dr. Debbie Martinez, Ph.D., and Linda Contreras with their mother and her Tia, Alice Martinez; as well as Judith Cruz, Kenny, Susan, Tia Lola, Ariana, and many more that are sure to unintentionally not be mentioned but are



so loved by her.

Further, Jenny leaves her best friends Carmen, Fran, Nancy, Susan, CeCe, Jaime, and many more (a name that are not unintentionally mentioned but are still loved) will be missed by Jenny.

Genevieve loved caring for her family by regularly bringing them gifts and homecooked food (her Green Chile was something she prided herself on), as well as calling and spending time with all.

Genevieve was the most incredible and caring woman, daughter, sister, aunt, cousin, friend

and mother. Born and raised in La Jara, Colo., she left the San Luis Valley at age 18 to Denver, Colo., to further pursue a career in healthcare with St. Anthony's Hospital and the Centura Healthcare system – a hospital in which she loved and adored. Not only was Genevieve able to make a difference in countless patients' lives, but she also made best friends along the way whom she considered family.

Memorial services were held Tuesday, July 23, 2024, 3 p.m. in the Hospitality Chapel at St. Anthony's North Hospital in Broomfield, Colo. where Jenny worked at the hospital for 45-plus years.

Service will be held Friday, July 26, 2024, with a Eulogy starting at 9:45 a.m. and the Mass at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of the Valley Church, La Jara, Colo., followed by her burial at the La Jara Cemetery. Both services will be followed with a small gathering and lite refreshments.

## BIRTH

### Finley Grace Marie Kanzler

On July 7, 2024, Finley Grace Marie Kanzler was born to Dominiquea and Cody Kanzler of Saguache and was 5 pounds 14

ounces at birth.

Maternal grandparents are Terry and Debbie Strain of Saguache. Paternal grandparents

are Dan Kanzler and Debra Trujillo of Colorado Springs and Georgia Kanzler of Colorado Springs.

<b>School Menu</b> <b>Friday</b> <b>July 26, 2024</b>
<b>BREAKFAST</b> Mini Cinnis Fruit & Milk
<b>ELEMENTARY</b> Ham & Cheese Sandwich Carrot Sticks Fruit & Milk
<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL</b> Ham & Cheese Sandwich Carrot Sticks Fruit & Milk
<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b> Ham & Cheese Sandwich Carrot Sticks Fruit & Milk
Breakfast & Lunch Free for all students Alamosa School District <b>To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553</b>

# Valley News

## Bolos and Boots raises over \$94K

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — San Luis Valley Health Foundation hosted a successful Bolos and Boots fundraiser, thanks to the generous people and businesses in the community who continually support SLVH's important work in providing excellent healthcare services and state-of-the-art equipment in the SLV.

On Friday, July 19, more than 200 people came together at the Outcalt Event and Conference at SLV Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista to raise over \$94,000 for a significant upgrade to SLV Health's MRI machine in the Regional Medical Center in Alamosa.

Each year, an individual is recognized with an appreciation award. This year, the recipient was Geraldine Trujillo, who currently works in the SLVH Business department and has been a dedicated employee since 1998. She was acknowledged for her initiative, enthusiasm, and support of the SLVH Foundation. In 2004, she answered the call for employees to volunteer as Foundation Ambassadors. The Foundation Director at that time, along with Marv Motz, PhD, Foundation Board member, reached out to Trujillo and asked her to help start this group of volunteers.

Over the past 20 years, she has helped with multiple events including the Sporting Clay Shoot, Bolos and Boots, and the SLM walk and run. She not only volunteers her time, but she has also supported the employee campaign with generous donations since 2005. She has done everything from serving food, folding t-shirts, creating balloon arches, and much more. Per her speech, she has also shared her foundation pas-



Alamosa State Bank president Chas Moeller, right, accepts the Adamson Award from San Luis Valley Health Foundation Director Kelly Gurule during the foundation's Bolos and Boots event on July 19 in Monte Vista.



Courtesy photos

San Luis Valley Health Foundation Director Kelly Gurule, left, gives the appreciation award to Geraldine Trujillo, who currently works in the SLVH Business department and has been a dedicated employee since 1998.

sion with her family.

SLVH Foundation board member, Amy McKinley, introduced Alamosa State Bank as the winner of the prestigious Adamson Award. For over 20 years, Alamosa State Bank has been an unwavering pillar of support for the San Luis Valley Health Foundation. Their commitment and generosity have played a pivotal role in advancing SLVH's mission to provide outstanding healthcare to the residents of the San Luis Valley.

"It is with great honor that we present Alamosa State Bank with the prestigious Adamson Award. This award recognizes individuals who exemplify unparalleled dedication and compassion towards their community. Through their steadfast sponsorship and active participation in numerous endeavors, Alamosa State Bank has demonstrated an enduring commitment to improving the lives of others. Their contributions have been instrumental in the success of critical projects such as the Stephanie L. Miner Women's Imaging Center and the Cancer Center at

San Luis Valley Health, among many others. Their philanthropy extends far beyond financial support; it embodies the essence of community stewardship," said McKinley.

With ASB's recent donation, they became a "Pillar of the Community," donating over \$110,000 to ensure that the Valley's patients' healthcare needs are met and exceeded.

Chas Moeller, ASB President, accepted the award on behalf of the members of the bank.

"Alamosa State Bank has always felt it is an easy decision to support SLV Health. The hospital is such a vital piece of our community, and we commend all who offer support to SLV Health and the Foundation. Alamosa State Bank is humbled and honored to receive the Adamson Award this year," Moeller said.

A "whiskey draw" brought a lot of laughs and bidding. Several winners donated their bottles back to start the auction all over again. Many thanks to RG Bank for sponsoring this fun event, along with the many other auction item donors.



Courier photos by John Waters

Artist Bianca Maestas is working on a nearby mural that features plants, wildlife and scenery in the Valley.

## Murals

Continued from Page 1  
ists to enjoy downtown.

The City of Amherst Massachusetts Public Arts Commission offers these compelling reasons art, such as murals benefit people and municipalities:

1. It's public. Everyone has access to public art. It's directly in the public sphere and not confined to galleries or museums.

2. It enriches our physical environments, bringing streetscapes, plazas, town buildings and schools to life.

3. It's an excellent tool for civic engagement, building social capital, and encouraging civil discourse.

4. It provides professional opportunities for artists and cultivates an environment where the creative class thrives.

5. It boosts local economies. Businesses supply materials and labor; restaurants, hotels and transportation companies benefit from a site that attracts visitors.

6. It's an investment



Artist Samantha Wisener is painting her J.C. Penney mural, which depicts the former retail store on Main Street that served consumers for over a century.

in place making—measured by livability and quality of life—that also engenders community pride.

7. It connects citizens to their neighbors and their shared history through documentation and celebration and makes cultural heritage a tangible community asset.

8. It enlivens places where people work, which can improve employee morale, productivity and respect.

9. It creates support-

ive learning environments. It opens eyes—and minds! It attracts students to environments conducive to both learning and fun.

10. It raises public awareness about important community issues, such as environmental stewardship and respect for diversity.

The Valley Courier will report on the other seven murals that are part of the 10 mural series depicting 100 years of Alamosa history when they begin.

## Bash

Continued from Page 1

Q'anjob'al will also be on hand to help with registering students for school, filling out forms for lunch programs, and registering students for activities every Friday at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley.

Backpacks with some of the basic school supplies listed for K-5 students and different supplies for middle and high school students will be provided if supplies last.

The next night, on Tuesday, July 30, the registration event will be held at the Century Mobile Home Park at 17th and State from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Just like the night before, trilingual volunteers will assist with registration for school, for lunch programs and for Fridays at the Boys and Girls Clubs. Backpacks and school supplies will also be provided to students as long as supplies last.

The registration tour will end with the big "Back to School Bash" on the third night, Wednesday, July 31, from 4:30 to 8 p.m., on the south side of Alamosa at the ASD Family Center in the Shooting Stars Cultural and Leadership Center, 807 Ross Ave., and Historic Zapata Park.



Photo courtesy of ASD Assistant Superintendent Luis Murillo

Hundreds of students and families registered during the 2023 Registration Road Tour/Back to School Bash.

Like the other nights, bi-lingual and tri-lingual volunteers will assist families register their students for school, for lunch programs and for Boys and Girls Club activities on Fridays plus students will get a free backpack with basic school supplies, again as long as supplies last.

Ten barbers will also give free haircuts, fun activities and games for the students, free hot dogs, chips and drinks, and local non-profits offering new information.

Last year, the bash made school registration easy and fun. Instead of requiring students and families to come to the district to complete the process, school district staff and volunteers went to the neighborhoods where students and families live. The result was the registration of literally hundreds of students before the first day, allowing them to start the school year with business taken care of and backpacks with the supplies they needed. "Last year was a huge

success, and this year will be even bigger and better," Alamosa School District Assistant Superintendent Luis Murillo says, adding that, staff and volunteers have been busy stuffing 1,000 backpacks in preparation for the event. "ASD Family Center staff Jamie Madigan and Courtney Vigil are already working hard on the event along with all of our community partners. This is just one more example of how we are always improving," says Murillo.

## Funding

Continued from Page 1

projects. "These projects will also support community infrastructure projects along major new and upgraded transmissions lines, including upgrading public school buildings and emergency response facilities. Administered by DOE's Grid Deployment Office, today's Transmission Siting and Economic Development (TSED) grants will help advance at least 16 high-impact transmission lines across the country sup-

porting the deployment of reliable and affordable energy for consumers and creating good-paying jobs."

"Today, every pocket of the country is experiencing the grueling impact of extreme weather and there's no doubt that we must expand our transmission grid to get more clean, resilient power to more people, in more places," said U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm.

## Merger

Continued from Page 1

day morning. "I am pleased that Kroger and Albertsons agreed to halt their plans to merge until the court rules on the state's lawsuit to permanently block the grocery merger. This is great news for shoppers, workers, farmers, and other suppliers, who can rest assured that this mega-merger will not go into effect during harvest season and while

kids are headed back to school.

"The trial is set to begin on September 30, and my office looks forward to making the case that this merger will eliminate competition and impact food prices, jobs, and consumer choice.

"As Colorado's attorney general, I take very seriously our department's responsibility to review mergers that threaten Colorado consumers. At a time of rising food prices, the possibility of undue consolidation in

the grocery business raises serious concerns, particularly since King Soopers and Safeway have a large footprint in Colorado.

"My department and I will closely monitor and review this proposed merger between Kroger and Albertsons to ensure it does not harm consumers or workers," Weiser said when he filed the lawsuit.

United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 7 President Kim Cordova issued the following statement in response to

the preliminary injunction to halt the proposed mega-merger between Kroger and Albertsons.

"We're pleased with the court's decision to temporarily halt the proposed mega-merger, which would have devastating impacts in communities here in Colorado and across the country. Our members and customers alike are concerned about potential job losses, food and pharmacy deserts, increased food prices, cost to families," Cordova stated.

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# Opinion

## Aged manure for sale

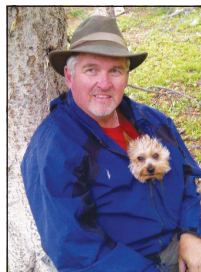
All during the time I was growing up and continuing into adulthood, I've enjoyed reading a newspaper. Even in High School I would spend my lunch hour reading two of the larger papers in the state instead of eating lunch.

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.

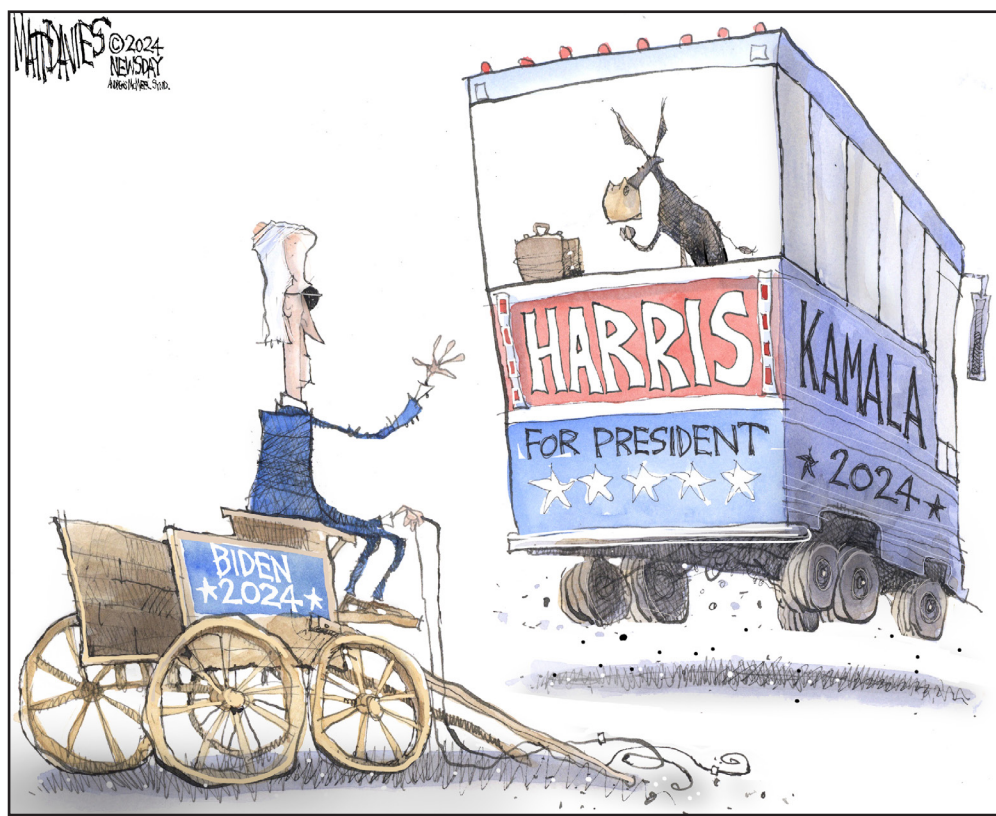
Regardless of my reasons for skipping lunch, I really loved getting the papers every day and reading about happenings both near and far. Of course, this was before Al Gore invented the Internet – Miss Trixie just rolled her eyes – and so any news we got was in print or on television or radio. And as 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.

### Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick



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.

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

To submit news, email:  
news@alamosanews.com

To submit sports, email:  
khamrick@alamosanews.com

### Letters policy

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

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

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. Additional news can be found at www.troutrepublic.com or on Twitter at TroutRepublic.

## Biden gone, Democrats rally around worst possible candidate

By BYRON YORK

It wasn't really a surprise that President Joe Biden announced Sunday that he will no longer be a candidate for a second term. After all, Biden was under crushing pressure from some of the most powerful forces in the Democratic Party -- congressional leaders, fundraisers, former President Barack Obama, and especially former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. In the time-honored Washington way, once Biden relented and stepped aside, people who just hours earlier had their boot on his neck raced to express their heartfelt respect and admiration for his judgment, selflessness, and patriotism.

What was a surprise was the speed with which the party apparatus ran to embrace Vice President Kamala Harris as the new Democratic nominee for president. Before Biden's decision, there was a lot of talk about possible replacements at the top of the ticket -- not just Harris but Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro and others. But once Biden withdrew, there was a stampede to Harris. By Monday, a majority of House Democrats, a majority of Senate Democrats, a majority of Democratic governors, all of the state party chairs and, most important, a majority of the nearly 4,000 delegates to the Democratic National Convention had committed to support Harris.

That is consistent with what this column has said all along -- that it would be very unlikely that Democrats, obsessed with identity, and especially with race and gender, would dump the first woman vice president of color in favor of someone else who polls better. So, in that way, the move to Harris makes perfect sense. But viewed another way, the race to crown Harris makes less sense, because she is a provably terrible candidate, possibly

the worst candidate Democrats could field in their current situation.

In case you've forgotten, Harris ran for president in the 2020 Democratic primaries. It started well and ended badly.

Harris chose Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 21, 2019, to make her announcement. By early March, she had climbed to third place in the 20-plus-candidate field, with 12% support, behind only Bernie Sanders and Joe Biden, according to a CNN poll. By late April -- using the CNN poll throughout -- she had slipped to sixth place, with 5% support, behind Biden, Sanders, Elizabeth Warren, Pete Buttigieg and Beto O'Rourke, according to the same poll.

By late June, though, she had shot up to 17% support, behind only Biden. But by mid-August, she crashed, from 17% down to 5%. By November, she slipped further to 3%, well behind where she started 10 months earlier. By the time the next poll was taken, in December, she was out of money, out of support and out of the race. She announced her withdrawal on Dec. 3, 2019, two months before the Iowa caucuses.

There's a reason Harris rose in the race and a reason she fell. The short version is that, for Democratic voters, Harris seemed appealing when she first started her campaign, and then they liked her less and less as they got to know her. Familiarity with the candidate killed her hopes.

Her high point led to her low point. In a June 27 debate, Harris attacked Biden for Biden's opposition of mandatory school busing nearly 50 years earlier, in the early 1970s. "There was a little girl in California who was part of the second class to integrate her public schools, and she was bused to school every day," Harris said to Biden. "That little girl was me."

Nationally, the debate shot Harris into the top ranks of the field in terms of the attention paid to her. What voters saw afterward, though, was a candidate who had few ideas, who rambled, sometimes semi-coherently, when speaking, and who was not the centrist many Democrats were seeking.

For example, at her peak, Harris, who was then a Democratic senator from California, and who earlier, as state attorney general, focused on "environmental justice," announced that she would file a bill expanding the progressive idea of "justice" to virtually every aspect of American life. "Environmental justice is interconnected with every aspect of our fight for justice," she said in a statement to the left-wing publication Grist. "From racial justice and economic justice, to housing justice and educational justice, we cannot disentangle the environment people live in from the lives they live." Referring to the riots taking place across the country, she added, "These crises we are experiencing have exposed injustices in our nation that many of us have known and fought our entire lives."

It's not entirely clear what that meant, but it is clear that to non-progressive ears, it didn't sound good. And on other issues, as an MSNBC commentator noted Monday, beyond attacking Donald Trump, Harris in 2020 "struggled to affirmatively say what she stood for." She was, in short, a terrible candidate who improbably ended up as Biden's running mate and then vice president of the United States.

Now that Biden's infirmities have finally caught up with him, Harris appears to have the inside track to the Democratic presidential nomination. The Trump campaign should take her seriously, not because she is a good candidate, but because she will au-

tomatically have the vote of the millions of Americans who would vote for anyone other than Trump. That alone means she could win. So her GOP rivals should see the Harris campaign as a formidable opponent. But at the same time, it should be noted -- and Harris herself will likely make it clear soon enough -- that she is perhaps the worst candidate Democrats could choose to run for president.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.

## Write them

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# Valley Courier

(ISSN 1047-1170)

The Valley Courier is published daily, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday by San Luis Valley Publishing, 2205 State Ave., Alamosa, Colo. 81101. Web site: www.alamosanews.com. Periodicals Postage: is paid at Alamosa, Colo., Monte Vista, Colo., La Jara, Colo., and Fort Garland, Colo. Phone (719) 589-2553. Postmaster send change of address to P.O. Box 1099.

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# Back to School

## Performance pointers that can help student athletes avoid injury

Professional sports teams often note that injuries are part of the game. That notion is never too far from professional athletes' minds, but it can be a harsh reality for student athletes to confront, especially if they have never before been sidelined by injury. Though there's no foolproof way for athletes to avoid injury, student athletes and their families can consider these preventive measures to reduce their risk of being

sidelined.

- Use diet to athletes' advantage. A healthy diet benefits people from all walks of life, and it can be especially beneficial for student athletes. Precisely what defines a healthy diet depends on variables specific to the athletes, such as age and gender, but Nemours Childrens Health notes that balance is vital for teenage athletes. Avoid cutting back on carbohydrates, which

provide fuel for young athletes. When choosing carbs, opt for fruits, vegetables and whole grains instead of sugar-laden options like candy bars. The latter can provide a quick energy burst but then cause an energy crash that makes athletes feel fatigued. In-game fatigue can increase risk of injury. In addition, calcium and iron can be vital to young athletes looking to avoid injury. Calcium helps strengthen bones while

iron carries much-needed oxygen to athletes' muscles. Protein is important for athletes, but Nemours notes that most teenage athletes who eat healthy diets already get ample protein. As a result, protein powders and shakes are not necessary for teenage muscle growth.

- Make a good night's rest part of athletes' routine. A good night's rest is vital for student athletes, as it ensures they aren't playing tired. Tired athletes have slower reaction times and that can increase injury risk. Adequate sleep also benefits athletes' performance. A 2015 study published in the journal *Physiology & Behavior* found that athletes who increased their nightly sleep from seven to nine hours experienced significantly improved performance after doing so.

- Emphasize the rules of the game. The rules of the game aren't in place solely to encourage fair play. Rules also are designed to keep athletes safe. For example, student athletes who play contact sports, including football and soccer, should be taught proper ways to tackle so they can avoid injuring themselves and others. Coaches can reinforce these lessons during practices and even games if the need arises.



- Prioritize offseason conditioning. Rest and recovery is vital for any athlete, but especially student athletes whose bodies are still growing and changing. Offseasons have largely fallen by the wayside, but parents can protect their student athletes by encouraging them to avoid year-round competition. During periods when student athletes aren't competing,

they can forgo in-season workout routines to reduce their risk for overuse injuries while also improving their conditioning through cardiovascular workouts. Running on a treadmill, using an elliptical machine and/or swimming are great activities that make it easy for student athletes to keep their bodies in shape as their muscles and joints recover from the season.

## Extracurricular activities for non-athletes

High school sports garner significant attention in communities that want to support their student-athletes. But what about students who aren't inclined to compete on the field or in the gym? There are many more non-athletes than athletes, and the following are some extracurricular activities that might appeal to students who aren't interested in sports.

that are not affiliated with a school. Such options are great opportunities for kids to engage in physical activity and meet fellow fitness enthusiasts. One option kids may want to consider is a local recreational pickleball league. Pickleball has exploded in popularity in recent years and many

communities now host competitive leagues for people of all ages.

Students who don't want to compete in scholastic sports can still find a wealth of extracurricular activities that align with their interests and even others that may stoke newfound passions.

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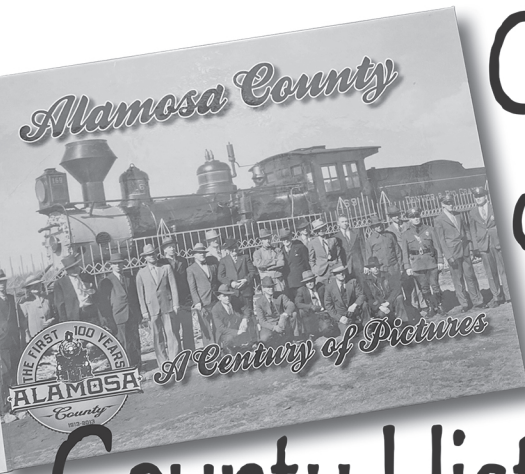
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# Sports

## Parks and Rec men's softball league champion and runner-up

### 2024 Alamosa Parks & Recreation Men's Softball Tournament Champion



### 2024 Alamosa Parks & Recreation Men's Softball Tournament Runner-Up



Courtesy photo by ASU sports information  
Former Adams State University track and field athlete Ian Kerr will represent The Bahamas at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

## Olympic Debut for Adams State Track & Field Athlete

**By MADYSON SCHLIEP**  
*ASU sports information*  
Former Adams State University Track & Field Sprinter Ian Kerr is set to compete in his first Olympic Games at the 2024 Paris Olympics, representing the Bahamas in athletics (track & field). Kerr is one of eight current or former RMAC student-athletes competing at the Olympics.

The Nassau, Bahamas, native graduated from Adams State in 2019 with a bachelor's degree in mass communications after earning his associates degree in general studies from Western Texas College. During his two year track & field career as a Grizzly, Kerr went to three NCAA National Championships and was a multi-event placer at three Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference championships.

Kerr stated, "There are so many positive things I can say about Adams, along with the people I've met there, and the experiences I've had. There is so much that I learned that will carry with me through life. The diverse opportunities that forced my professional development is something that I will carry with me into this Paris Olympiad. The track program at Adams starting with Coach Martin is where I learned to be the runner I am today. Through adversity and resilience I kept pushing to be the best Grizzly I could be everyday."

After running a personal best time of 20.33 seconds in the 200 meters at the Meeting de la Martinique at the Stade L. Achille in Fort-de-France, Martinique, in May,

Kerr was still shy of the 20.16-second time needed to automatically qualify for the Paris Olympics.

But automatically qualifying is not the only road to the Olympics; the World Athletics Rankings System also provided Ian with his opportunity to become a first-time Olympian. Cracking the Top 40 in the world came in June for Kerr. Competing at the 2024 New Life Invitational in Nassau, Bahamas, Kerr clocked a wind-aided time of 20.42 seconds, pushing him into the Top 40-33rd in the world, to be exact.

Kerr, in an interview with The Nassau Guardian, recalls the moment he received the call confirming his spot in the 200m at the Olympics, describing it as a validation of all the hard work he put in over the years. He will be a first-time Olympian in Paris. This achievement lifted a weight off his shoulders and reinforced his determination to succeed, he said.

"I am so proud of Ian Kerr and his dedication and perseverance, his path to having made the Olympic team is truly a remarkable story," said Head Coach Damon Martin. "For all the young kids out there that want to have a role model, Ian would be a particularly good one because it did not come easy to him and it truly shows the hard work needed to succeed. He is truly one of the most hard-working and humble student-athletes that we have had come out of the program and I am so proud of him."

Kerr will step onto the world's biggest stage Monday, August 5 at 11:55 a.m. MT. You can watch

the race on NBC Olympics.com or on Peacock.

"I am forever thankful to Adams State for giving me the opportunity to represent them in the past and now on the biggest stage in sports," said Kerr.

## Cattails Adult/Child tournament is Aug. 3

By **KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*  
**ALAMOSA** – Cattails Golf Course will host its Adult/Child Tournament on Aug. 3 beginning at 4 p.m.

This is a nine-hole event with teams comprised of one child younger than

18, and one adult older than 18.

The format is a two-player scramble where each team will have to use a minimum of four shots from each player.

Teams are given a handicap based on a blind draw of three holes which

are played.

The cost is \$75 per team and will include a cart, prizes and a kids putting contest after the round. Food will also be provided.

To register, go to the cattails web site at [alamosacattails.com](http://alamosacattails.com).



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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

# Lifestyle

## SFFF hosts successful Arts and Crafts Fair

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

**SOUTH FORK** — The parking lot and lawn outside of the South Fork Visitor Center was lined with vendor booths throughout the day on July 17 for the third annual South Fork Friends Foundation's Arts and Craft Fair.

This wonderful event began as a way to bring more local and visiting artists to the area to display their talents and to have the opportunity to bring their wares to the small mountain town during the busy summer.

About 40 vendors attracted a huge crowd of shoppers, all coming to find a unique and special gift either for themselves or for family and friends. There was everything from intricate wooden sculptures to fine jewelry.

Music combined with the delectable smell from Gosar Sausage and the Kettle Corn truck made for the perfect summer atmosphere and served as a precursor to the coming Logger Days Festival.

The South Fork Friends Foundation has been an integral part of the South Fork Community for several years, beginning as a community fund organization that helped

with community-based project like providing for the South Fork Fire Rescue, building and maintaining the community baseball fields, supplying and working to improve Rickel Park, and the ice-skating rink which now doubles as a basketball court.

Through the years the organization has raised funding to participate and plan events like the arts and craft festival to offer support to the visitors of the area during the summer and winter months and support the growing economy and surrounding community.

Now, with the arts and craft festival in the books, the organization will be setting their sights on the end of summer and their largest event to date, the Alder Ass race. This event is in its third year and brings hundreds of burro racers to the South Fork area.

This year, the event is set for Aug. 31 at Brown's Park north of South Fork along Highway 149. The event has grown over the last three years and typically sees 50 to 60 racers each year.

For more information or to see a full schedule of events, visit [www.southforkfriendsfoundation.org](http://www.southforkfriendsfoundation.org).



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

The parking lot and area outside of the South Fork Visitor Center was hopping with shoppers on July 17 for the South Fork Friends Foundation's third annual Arts and Crafts Fair.

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## Biden addresses nation on why he won't seek a second term

By **JENNIFER SHUTT**

*Colorado Newsline*  
**WASHINGTON** — President Joe Biden explained his decision not to seek reelection during a prime-time address from the Oval Office on Wednesday, saying now is the time to turn over power to the next generation.

"I've made it clear that I believe America is at an inflection point — one of those rare moments in history when the decisions we make now will determine the fate of our nation and the world for decades to come," Biden said. "America is going to have to choose between moving forward or backward, between hope and hate, between unity and division."

The 11-minute speech was the first time Biden spoke at length on camera since releasing a letter Sunday withdrawing as the Democratic Party's presumptive presidential nominee. He will continue to serve out his term.

Biden has endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris, who has received support from enough delegates to clinch the party's official nomination during a virtual roll call vote slated for early August.

Biden called into a campaign rally earlier this week, but had only given off-camera or brief remarks since announcing his decision to step aside while sidelined with COVID-19.

Calls for Biden to bow out began after his performance during the first presidential debate on June 27 raised significant concerns among Democrats and others about his age and cognitive abilities.

"Nothing can come in the way of saving our democracy"

Speaking directly to Americans in his address, Biden said he believed his record, leadership and vision for the country's future "all merited a second term."

"But nothing, nothing can come in the way of saving our democracy and that includes personal ambition," Biden said. "So I've decided the best way forward is to pass the torch to a new generation. That's the best way to unite our nation."

Biden said that while there is "a time and a place for long years of experience in public life," there is also a time for "younger voices."

"And that time and place is now," Biden said.

During his remaining six months in office, Biden said he planned to continue pressing for gun control, reproductive rights, voting rights and an end to all forms of violence, including political.

Biden said he wanted to secure an end to the war in Gaza and bring home the hostages that Hamas took when it attacked Israel on Oct. 7.

He said he planned to press for changes to the Supreme Court, calling it essential for democracy.

Biden also recounted the numerous laws enacted since he became president as well as his efforts to hold the NATO alliance together following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

He said he hoped Americans understood how "grateful" he was for his decades as an elected official.

"I ran for president four years ago because I believed, and I still do, that the soul of America was at stake, the very nature of who we are was at stake," Biden said.

Harris, he said, has the experience, strength and capability to lead the country following the November elections.

"The great thing about America is here, kings and dictators do not rule — the people do," Biden said. "History is in your hands, the power is in your hands, the idea of America lies in your hands. We just have to keep the faith and remember who we are."

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2:30 - 4:00 - Chris Collins  
4:30 - 6:30 - Sol Boyz

**JULY 27, 2024**

7:00 am - Community 5K run/walk \$5.00 entry fee, meet in front of La Jara Elementary School  
7:30 - 9:00 am - Community Breakfast - Jack's market parking lot.  
(Sponsored by Jack's Market, hosted by La Jara Rotary Club. Free of charge, but donations to La Jara Rotary accepted.)  
10:00 am - Parade - Lineup begins at 9am in the Family Dollar Parking Lot  
11:00am - 3:30 pm - Cars for a Cause Car Show  
11:30 am - Hamburger stand opens  
12:00 pm Beer Garden opens  
Food and vendors all day  
Paint ball tournament: contact Julian Espinoza 719 298 7328  
12:00 - 3:00 Kids activities (12:00pm, paint a piggy bank! 1:00 pm, paint suncatchers! 2:00pm, games!)  
4:00pm Parade and Car show awards announced  
For more information, contact Larry Zaragoza 719 580 2032, Margie Wagoner (parade) 719 580 5981, Sylvia Montano (vendors) 719 580 5828





# Classifieds

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**THE BOE OF CENTER SCHOOLS** is now accepting applications for **CHILDCARE** in the **INFANT ROOM** for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent, or such alternative to the above qualifications as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. All candidates must pass background checks and continuing education as needed. For information and application materials, please visit the District Website <https://www.center.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> or contact the District Office at (719) 754-3442. Application Deadline: Until Position is Filled. EOE. (8/3/24)

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

**I NEED HARVEST HELP & TRUCK DRIVERS** needed for **POTATO HARVEST** starting September 3. Please text me at 719-850-2137. (8/28/24)

**MOFFAT SCHOOLS** IS now hiring for: K-12 **SCHOOL COUNSELOR** and **SCHOOL SECRETARY**. Job descriptions and applications can be found on the District website, [www.moffatschools.org](http://www.moffatschools.org) or contact Kathy Garcia at 719-341-0128 for more information. Application deadline: Until filled. (8/13/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for a **ROUTE BUS DRIVER**. Preference will be given to applicants that hold a **CDL**, but the transportation department will work with the right candidate in obtaining the license. For additional information contact Mark Hotz, Maintenance/Transportation Director, at 719-852-2881. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Transportation Personnel Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities> by July 31, 2024 or until the position is filled. For questions regarding the application process contact the Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (8/6/24)

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**JOB OPENING: PART-TIME SECRETARY** at **SACRED HEART CHURCH**. Monday thru Friday - hours 9:00 am to 2:00 pm (25 hrs. a week). Should be bilingual and have experience with Microsoft programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher) and google email/calendar knowledge. Should be a practicing Roman Catholic in good standing with the Church. Must pass a criminal background investigation; must have a good driving record, current Colorado Driver's License, and automobile insurance. Please submit a resume to [admin@sacredheartalamosa.org](mailto:admin@sacredheartalamosa.org) or come to the office for an application. If you have any questions, please call the office at (719) 589-5829, ext. 11. (8/10/24)

**MONTE VISTA HEAD START** is accepting applications for a **LEAD TEACHER**. This position is full time 38 hours/ week. Must have an AA or BA in ECE or related field. Starting Pay is 17,00 to 22,00 Depending on education and experience. Applications are available at Monte Vista Head Start, 2863 Sherman Ave., MONTE VISTA Colorado. For more information, you may contact the Director by email, [Director@MVheadstart.org](mailto:Director@MVheadstart.org) or call 719-852-3215. An employment application must be complete. Position open until filled. (7/26/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

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

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

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# Classifieds

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

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

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

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

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

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

**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.com](mailto:ahardy@urtigers.com) or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at [www.urtigers.co](http://www.urtigers.co). (8/7/24)

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

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

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

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

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

**304 - LAWN & GARDEN**

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

**324 - SEED & FEED**

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

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

**341 - GARAGE SALE**

**MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE:** Saturday July 27th, 8am-2pm, 226 Shadow Wood Drive, ALAMOSA. Breakfast Burritos for sale! (7/27/24)

**GARAGE SALE: SATURDAY,** July 27, 8:00-1:00, 5889 Aspen Avenue, ALAMOSA. (7/27/24)

**YARD SALE: SATURDAY** 27, 718 Graf Drive, ALAMOSA. From 7:00am to 1:00pm. Furniture, clothes, toys, tools, electronics & more. (7/27/24)

**LARGE YARD SALE:** July 26+27, 8am-2pm. Stuff for horse lovers, thrift shoppers, boating enthusiasts, campers, and more. 192 White Pine Dr, ALAMOSA. (7/27/24)

**YARD SALE: SATURDAY** 7/27, Sunday 7/28. 12898 County Road T, BOUNTIFUL. 9am-3. Too many items!! Follow signs on 285. (7/27/24)

**MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE**— Saturday, July 27, 8-12? 1308 Sarah Lane, ALAMOSA, northwest of high school in new subdivision. Lots of clothes, including name brands; toys; shoes; backpacks; house items; bikes; TV; kayak; holiday decorations and much more! (7/27/24)

**HUGE YARD SALE:** Friday & Saturday July 26 & 27, from 7:00a.m. to 1:00. 714 Duke Drive, ALAMOSA. Many items! (7/27/24)

**HUGE GARAGE SALE II:** Great Deals, lots of Collectables and other Stuff! County Line & 8N - follow signs. (7/27/24)

**10+ FAMILY GARAGE SALE:** 931 US Hwy 285, MONTE VISTA. Large varieties of items, including furniture, household items, storage items, tools and clothing. 7:00-12:00 July 26 & 27. (7/27/24)

**350 - FARM EQUIPMENT**

**KRAMER SINGLE 8 row ROUND BALE RETRIEVER.** 719-589-6960. (9/21/24)

**NEW HOLLAND 688 ROUND BALER,** \$8,000. 719-589-6960. (9/21/24)

**360 - MISC. FOR SALE**

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

**368 - PETS & SUPPLIES**

**GREAT PYRENEES NEEDS A GOOD HOME.** Daisy is four years old, spayed, shots and needs a home. She is very shy. She is also a great watch dog. Please call if you can give her a good home. ALSO, NEED A HOME FOR: laying hens, a goose, two ducks, hedgehogs and tortoisoes. For any of the above, call 719-580-4014. (8/14/24)

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

**401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES**

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**415 - HOMES FOR SALE**

**4 SALE: 40 ACRES WITH HOUSE,** OFF GRID TYPE, in Mosca, Colo. Text 719-588-2288 after 3pm. (8/14/24)

**426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE**

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

**525 - GUNS**

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

**601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

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

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

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

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719-274-5826  
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**611 - HOMES FOR RENT**

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

**701 - AUTOS FOR SALE**

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# Comics

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### NEA Crossword Puzzle

#### ACROSS

- 1 Excavate
- 4 Rum-soaked cake
- 8 Brag
- 12 Old French money
- 13 Redact
- 14 Hoarfrost
- 15 Miss Piggy's pronoun
- 16 Portal
- 17 Playing cards
- 18 — ink
- 20 Coin
- 22 Down Under bird
- 23 Oklahoma city
- 24 Explain at length
- 28 Attorney—
- 32 Egyptian goddess
- 33 Feeble
- 35 Valuable rock
- 36 Club member
- 37 Gusted
- 38 Poker stake
- 39 Tierra del —

#### 41 Whipped

- 43 Tombstone inscription
- 45 Coach
- 46 "Casino —"
- 49 River in France
- 52 Actress — Rachel Wood
- 53 Solid figure
- 56 "— to mention ..."
- 57 Touched
- 58 Final-sale words (2 wds.)
- 59 Sick bay item
- 60 Angers
- 61 Earns as profit
- 62 Squeeze (out)

#### DOWN

- 1 Actress — Moore
- 2 Religious image
- 3 Thing to follow
- 4 Smear on
- 5 Fuss
- 6 Life story
- 7 Heart chambers

#### Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 8 Necktie
- 9 Paddy plant
- 10 Sign of things to come
- 11 "— Side Story"
- 19 "— corny as Kansas ..."
- 21 Mont. neighbor
- 24 Hit
- 25 Birthright seller
- 26 Night bird
- 27 Hazard to ships
- 29 In the past (2 wds.)
- 30 Commedia dell'—
- 31 Ugly plant
- 34 Hole-making tool
- 37 Seethe
- 38 Fever
- 40 Allows
- 42 Be preoccupied
- 44 Nut for pies
- 46 Mortgage do-over
- 47 Finished
- 48 Harvard rival
- 50 Niche
- 51 Diminutive suffix
- 54 Apply
- 55 Metal piece for a drill

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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57					58					59		
60					61					62		

## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING:☆☆☆☆

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

#### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

## HERMAN



"Your driver's license expired in 1934."

## Mother uses social media to disparage her children

DEAR ABBY: My mother is toxic. She had a terrible childhood, and she takes it out on me and my younger siblings. I live far away; they live in the same town as she does. If they don't drop everything for her and do what she wants, she calls them selfish.

Because I had to leave town to get my life together, I am accused of "abandoning" her. I am called selfish and also accused of not loving her. A couple of months ago, we all blocked her on social media because she berates us constantly. We told her to get a therapist.

Today, my sister sent me screenshots of Mom berating her again on Facebook. In the texts my sister sent, Mom said she got a psychotherapist who says we are all psychotic.

Abby, why wouldn't the therapist see how delusional and toxic my mother is? Why would a therapist feed her delusions? Where do we go from here? Must I block my mom forever and never talk to her again because her therapist won't help her? -- INCREDULOUS IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR INCREDULOUS: Your mother may have been less than truthful about seeing a therapist. I doubt she has found a licensed mental health professional who would diagnose you and your siblings as suffering from

psychosis without having met you. Perhaps the sister who shared the screenshots can tell you what that mental health professional's name is so you can check their credentials.

You left town because you wisely decided to improve your mental health. If you must block your mother and not communicate with her, do not feel guilty for protecting yourself.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 24 years. We make a good living. I earn considerably more than my husband. From the beginning, he has asked me to split everything with him. (He's not the "provider" type.) He views me as a roommate, financially speaking. He was used to having his parents bail him out of financial situations.

I am tired of being the provider. I pay half the mortgage and far more on other expenses. I also do all the cleaning, laundry, cooking and dishes, and I've been picking up after him for 24 years. I have a full-time, highly stressful job and come home from work with chores to do. He works from home and takes naps and siestas during the afternoon.

He brings nothing to the marriage beyond paying his half of the bills. I am no longer physically attracted to him. You can't blame me. Most women are not



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

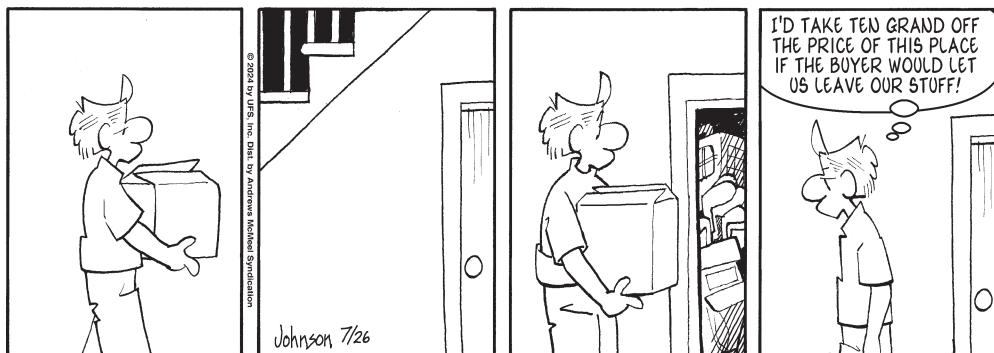
attracted to men who cannot provide. We have one child. I can't breathe and would rather die young than grow old in this hopeless, depressing arrangement. I just need validation that I shouldn't be putting up with this. -- PROVIDER IN THE WEST

DEAR PROVIDER: I don't know how many other women would tolerate the kind of marriage you have described, but many do. You are entitled to your feelings, but before doing anything rash, it's important that you discuss this with an attorney who specializes in family law. According to the law in the community property golden state of California, your husband could wind up with half of your hard-earned assets.

## ALLEY OOP



## ARLO & JANIS



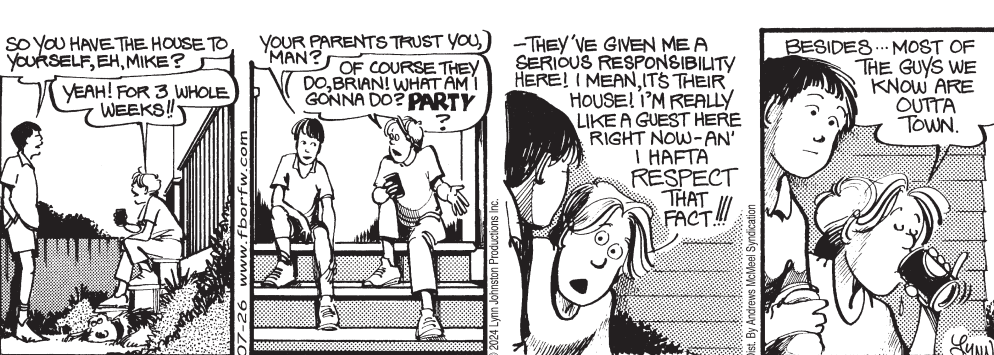
## BIG NATE



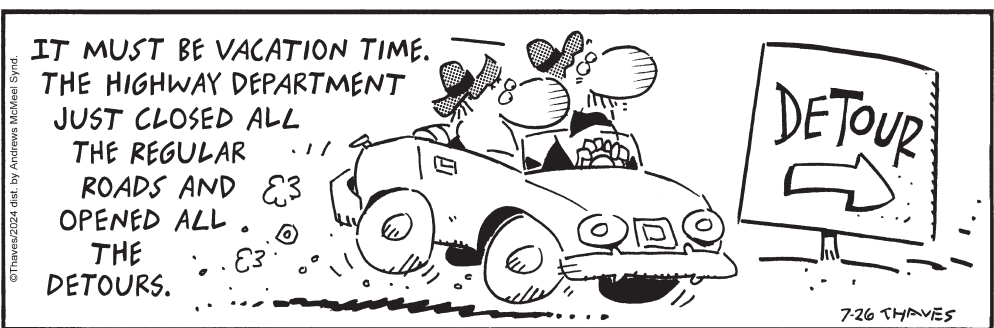
## THE BORN LOSER



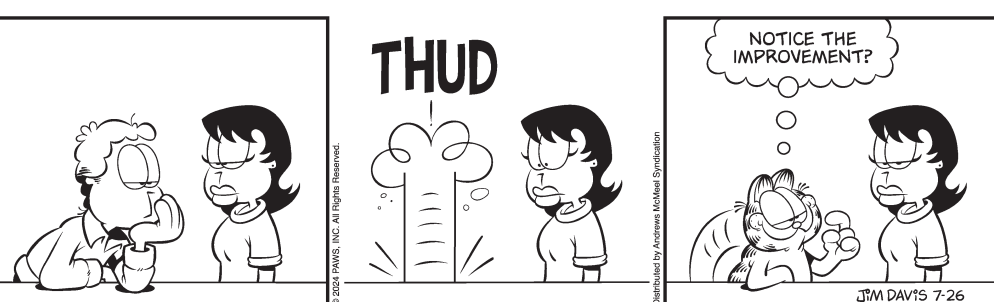
## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



## FRANK & ERNEST



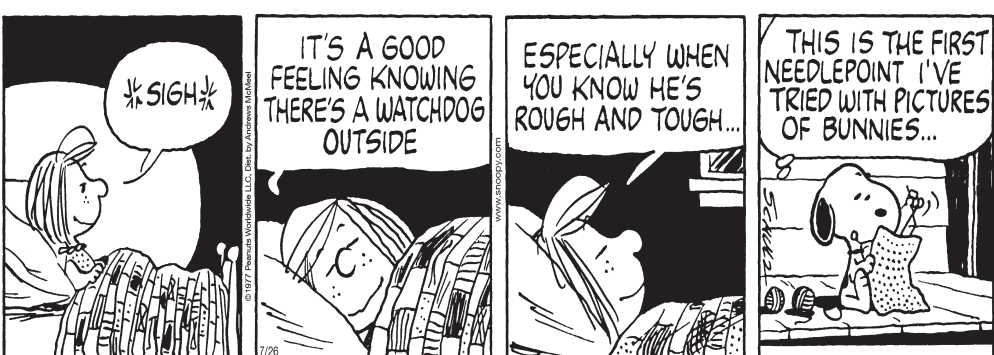
## GARFIELD



## THE GRIZZWELLS



## PEANUTS



# Lifestyle



Courtesy photo

On July 28, everyone is invited to participate in the free Up and Over Celebration in Creede. Following the race, a 'full day of fun' is planned, including a concert by country music artist Cody Webb. This photo is from the start of a race earlier this summer.

## Cody Webb performing in Creede for Up and Over Celebration

### CONTRIBUTED

CREEDE – San Juan Sports, Kip's Grill, Broken Arrow Ranch and Land, Vacation Rental Collective, and Creede Repertory Theatre are proud to continue the Creede Sunday Creek Series this summer with Cody Webb performing on July 28.

"We have already had great turnouts for our races at Deep Creek Trail, Middle Rat Creek Trail, and Miner's Creek Trail. On July 28, we invite everyone to come to Creede and participate in the Up and Over Celebration," organizers stated. "We will meet in front of San Juan Sports before 9 a.m., when the race starts. This race is free and only as competitive as you want to make it; walk, run, jog, skip, bring your dog, or just cheer everyone on."

The course will go from San Juan Sports to the Up and Over trailhead, through the Up and Over, then up East Willow Road till the turn around

point, and finally back to San Juan Sports – 6 miles total. There will be a shorter course for children under 12.

"After the race, we are having a full day of fun," organizers stated.

First there will be yoga in the park at 11:30 a.m. to help stretch those sore muscles. Bring your own mat. At 12 p.m., prizes will be awarded and a raffle. Prizes are for the top three finishers for men, women, and children under 12. All participants get a raffle ticket and can win an assortment of prizes from our various sponsors.

San Juan Sports is closing Main Street in front of the store to allow for Sunnyside Bar drinks to be consumed outside for an afternoon of live music.

Starting at 2 p.m. and going to 4 p.m., the Creede Musical Arts Collective will be having music in the park. This week's performers are "Santa Fe's acclaimed

Mariachi Diferencia, an eight-piece traditional ensemble; CMAC all-stars Duo Zuber, featuring the dynamic duo of Pat on flute and Greg on marimba; tenor Dan Suarez, known for his captivating performances; and pianist Alaina De Bellvue."

At 5 p.m., San Juan Sports and Sunnyside Bar are presenting country artist Webb. He grew up in the small town of Ridge Spring, S.C., and was a featured artist on the 2019 NFL Draft intro narrated by Dolly Parton. You may know him from his singles "Don't Grow Up Too Fast" and "Crazy On Me". He has opened for Morgan Wallen, Sam Hunt, Riley Green, and Charlie Daniels, has gotten over 19 million streams, and is on over 160,000 playlists.

There is no entry fee for any of the events of the day.

"Just come enjoy a day of racing, friendship, and lots of great music," organizers stated.

## CDOT data shows positive trends in traffic safety in 2024

### CONTRIBUTED

Halfway through 2024, the Colorado Department of Transportation is sharing preliminary data on the status of traffic fatalities on Colorado's roadways. The results show encouraging improvements and a decrease in risky driving behaviors among Coloradans compared to last year.

In the first six months of 2024, there were 294 fatalities on Colorado roads, down 9% from this time last year. The top crash factors in these crashes were impairment, speed and distracted driving. Overall, traffic deaths are down in many areas, especially among pedestrians and crashes involving an impaired driver.

Key year-to-date statistics from Jan. 1 to June 30, 2024:

- 47 pedestrian fatalities (down 24% from 2023).
- 91 impaired driving fatalities (down 16% from 2023).
- 90 unbuckled fatalities (down 6% from 2023).
- 52 motorcyclist fatalities (down 5% from 2023).
- 36 child and teen (19 years old and younger) fatalities (down 23% from 2023).



• 3 bicyclist fatalities (compared to 8 at this time in 2023).

"While these improvements are encouraging, even one death is too many, and we still have a lot of work to reach our ultimate goal of zero fatalities on Colorado roads," said CDOT's Office of Transportation Safety Director Darrell Lingk. "The data from the first half of 2024 shows our collective efforts are making a difference, but every driver and road user must continue to prioritize safety and make responsible choices behind the wheel every time."

Building on the positive trends observed in the first half of 2024 is a collaborative effort. CDOT will continue working with safety partners, law enforcement and the public to maintain these improvements. Ongoing infrastructure projects such as roundabouts, pe-

destrian improvements and the use of advanced traffic management technology also aim to increase roadway safety. Drivers are encouraged to remain vigilant, follow traffic laws and prioritize accountability to ensure everyone reaches their destinations safely.

"Unfortunately Colorado has experienced record-breaking traffic deaths on our roads in the last few years," said Lingk. "Responsible choices are essential to continue positive trends and make our roads safer for all. Many drivers understand that their behavior behind the wheel affects everyone's safety, but it's important to remember that no one is invincible — risky actions can cost lives in an instant."

For more information about CDOT's safety programs, data and resources, visit [codot.gov/safety](http://codot.gov/safety).

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