



Logger Days in South Fork hits the mark

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5 notable games on the 2024 National Football League schedule

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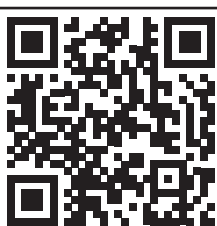
Valley Courier

TUESDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

July 30, 2024

\$1



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SLV Today

Road closure on County Road 11S today

ALAMOSA COUNTY — Alamosa County Road and Bridge will close County Road 11S today for paving operations. Traffic can detour using the 12S.

Silver Thread Studio Tour set for Aug. 17

The 2024 Silver Thread Studio Tour will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 17. The tour is a one-day event where 19 local artists will be opening their home galleries and studios to the public to answer questions about their work, perform demonstrations, and offer work for sale.

Studios and galleries are located on or near the Silver Thread Scenic Byway. Stop No. 1 is in the Indian Trails subdivision off Highway 160 in South Fork. The final stop, which includes 10 of the artists, is at the Studios at Bristol on Highway 149 southwest of Creede. The artists work in a wide variety of media including fiber arts-weaving, metal, quilting, clay, water media and oil painting, photography, jewelry making and woodworking.

The Creede Musical Arts Collective will bring pop-up concerts featuring Midnight Cricket Club to studios and scenic locations along the tour.

Brochures with addresses and maps will be available at the Creede and South Fork visitor centers or can be downloaded from the Creede Arts Council website creedeartscouncil.com.

For more information, contact Creede Arts Council by email at creedearts@outlook.com or by phone at 719-658-0312.

SLV WEATHER

Slight Chance of Afternoon Showers 87/49

Wed: Mostly Sunny, Breezy 87/49

Thurs: Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 87/50

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Brandt sentenced to 40 years in DOC

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — Seventeen-year-old Daniel Brandt was sentenced to spend 40 years in prison with five years mandatory parole. Judge Crista Newmyer-Olsen handed down the sentence on Friday, July 26. He was tried as an adult and convicted on charges of attempted murder and assault in May.

Following an incident on Oct. 27, 2022, Brandt — who was 15 years old at

the time — shot Alamosa Police Department Officer Mollee Heeny and resident Ricardo Rangel, causing significant, serious and potentially permanent injury to both.

After the May 15, jury deliberation that lasted three hours, Brandt was found guilty on two counts of criminal at-

■ See **BRANDT** page 3

Photo of the scene where the shooting took place on Oct. 27, 2022.

Photo by Keith R. Cerny, Courier publisher



Back to school is a bash



The Alamosa School District held the first of three student registration Back to School Bash events on Monday at the Tierra Nueva Apartments on Craft Drive. On Tuesday, the registration event continues at the Century Mobile Home Park at 17th and State Avenue in Alamosa at 4:30 p.m. On Wednesday, the registration continues at the Alamosa School District Family Center in the Shooting Stars Cultural and Leadership Center at 807 Ross Ave. and in Historic Zapata Park for a large community fiesta. Backpacks full of school supplies were given out to the students and will be available at the other registration events, while they last.

Courier photo by John Waters

Suspect in fatal Saguache County OIS identified

CONTRIBUTED
CRESTONE — The suspect killed in a fatal shooting by a Saguache County Sheriff Deputy last week has been identified as 40-year-old Jonathan Aaron Wood, the Colorado Bureau of Investigation reported on Monday.

On Thursday, July 25, at approximately 12 p.m., a Saguache County Sheriff's Office deputy was driving near the town of Crestone to serve papers when he observed Wood walking about a mile from the entrance of the Baca Grande Subdivision, CBI reported. The deputy recognized Wood as having active warrants

and offered his assessment of the findings. "The group conducted

and offered his assessment of the findings. "The group conducted

Mineral County for damaged property-criminal mischief, CBI reported.

The felony warrant was related to a series of events on Aug. 11, 2023. Neighbors had called 911 because they said Wood was acting erratically and in a threatening manner with a 4-foot wooden stick. Neighbors reported Wood was insisting he could hear voices screaming for help from inside the neighbor's home after neighbors opened the shed to show Wood no one was inside.

When deputies later attempted to speak to Wood, he threatened

deputies with the wooden stick and allegedly punched a deputy in the head, CBI reported. Wood's failure to later appear in court on that assault charge is what led to the outstanding warrant and his fatal confrontation with a deputy on July 25.

The Colorado Bureau of Investigation is assisting the Saguache County Sheriff's Office into the investigation of the fatal shooting. The deputy involved activated his body-cam and the footage is being reviewed by investigators. The deputy has been placed on administrative leave while the investigation continues.

Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado in archeological survey

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST — According to Katie Goodleaf, volunteer coordinator with the U.S. Forest Service, a group with Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC), which usually works on trail-related projects, assisted forest archeologist Price Heiner last month in conducting an archeological search.

After the fieldwork was complete, Heiner spoke with the Valley Courier

and offered his assessment of the findings.

"The group conducted

and offered his assessment of the findings. "The group conducted

Courier photo by John Waters



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Record

OBITUARY

Debra Ann Seefeld



and at the market in Creede, Colo. She loved smalltown living.

Deb moved to the San Luis Valley in 2003, to be closer to the outdoors. Her passions were hunting and fishing. She caught her personal best fish in the Elephant Butte Reservoir in New Mexico.

She is survived by her husband Kevin Seefeld of Alamosa; her children Kari L. Seefeld of Alamosa, Colo., and Bryan J. Seefeld of Carbondale, Ill.; her siblings: Sally (Mel) Myers of Phoe-

nix, Ariz., Cathy Geer of Phoenix, Ariz., Scott (Sherry) Geer of Ft. Myers, Fla., and John Roberts of Phoenix, Ariz.; her half-siblings Sean Geer, and David Geer, both of Omaha, Neb.; as well as numerous extended family and friends.

Deb was preceded in death by her parents.

Cremation was chosen and a Celebration of Life will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024, at 11 a.m. at the Rogers Family Mortuary in Alamosa. In lieu of flowers, contributions are suggested to the John Zay Guest Home in Colorado Springs, Colo.

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



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

The annual Creede Rock and Mineral Show is ready to rock Creede the first week in August. This show is expected to have more than 40 vendors.

Creede Rock and Mineral Show set for this weekend

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

CREEDE – Rockhounds from around the globe will be venturing to Creede this weekend for the annual Creede Rock and Mineral Show on Aug. 2-4.

The Creede and Mineral County Underground Community Center will be transformed into a geologists' dream for three full days beginning Friday, Aug. 2.

Well over 40 vendors will line the rock hewn halls of the community center offering tales of discovery, snippets of geological lore and of course, rock and mineral of all shapes and sizes.

Mineral County's geology has fueled a long legacy of interest and fascination from early day prospectors and surveyors to modern mining engineers and mineralogists and mining investors. One of the world's largest volcanic calderas created unusually rich ore deposits that eventually gave birth to the Creede mining district.

Millions of dollars' worth of silver, gold, lead, and zinc were extracted before the last mine closed in 1985.

Creede, which survived fires, floods, and mining depressions, became known as the "little town that would not die."

The spectacular Pillars of Hercules, remnants of an ancient rhyolite wall, frame Creede's bustling Main Street district. Victorian-era buildings today serve as gift shops, restaurants, galleries, and bed-and-breakfasts.

Proceeds from exhibitors' fees benefit the Creede Underground Community Center and the Creede-Mineral County Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center.

The tunnels and caverns of the Underground Mining Museum, Community Center, and Fire Station were blasted into the solid rock walls of Willow Creek Can-



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

The annual Creede Rock and Mineral Show will be on Aug. 2-4 at the Creede and Mineral County Underground Community Center.

yon by three miners and volunteer helpers. The community project was completed in 1992.

Creede is a geologic haven for amateurs and professionals. The 17-mile Bachelor Loop passes old town sites, mine buildings, and other relics of Mineral County's silver boom. The Last Chance Mine offers on-site tours and on-site rockhounding opportunities.

This event features many opportunities to learn about rocks and minerals, even beginner rockhounds will enjoy this show. Vendors bring specimens from all over the world to showcase during the event and are on hand to answer questions and tell tales of how the specimens were collected.

The event begins on Friday, Aug. 2, and

ALAMOSA POLICE REPORT

Alamosa Police Department report for week of July 19-26, 2024

Brandi Brown, 25, of Alamosa was cited for violation of restraining order, 2nd degree contributing to a minor, disorderly conduct.

Sarah Mozley, 33, of Manassa was cited for theft under \$300 and 2nd degree burglary.

Haley Carson, 19, of Alamosa was cited for 2nd degree burglary, theft under \$300, unlawful possession of a controlled substance.

Clayton Long, 19, of Winter Haven, Florida was cited for vehicular eluding, reckless endangerment, reckless driving, possession of illegal weapon, possession of weapon by previous offender and speeding 10-19 over.

Matthew Martin, 37, of Buford, Georgia, was cited for speeding 10-19 mph over driving a vehicle without a valid license.

Vernon Howey, 76,

of Center was cited for careless driving.

Jana Street, 58, of Alamosa was cited for limitations on unsafe backing.

Olivia Reed, 20, of Sanford was cited for careless driving causing bodily injury.

Carole Nano, 78, of Blanca was cited for careless driving.

Jose Aguilera, 32, of Alamosa was cited for uninsured vehicle.

Julio Avila, 31, of Alamosa was cited for uninsured vehicle.

Anthony Rarri, 23, of Plymouth, Massachusetts was cited for uninsured vehicle.

Priscilla Medina, 49, of Alamosa was cited for unauthorized camping.

Vanessa Guodace, 33, of Alamosa was cited for theft under \$300.

Orlando Medina, 33, of Alamosa was cited for theft under \$300 and trespassing.

Kevin Hogan, 62, of Alamosa was cited for possession of weapon

by previous offender, unlawful possession of controlled substance I and sch. II, resisting, obstruction, special offender, possessed defaced firearm, unlawful distribution.

Cally Summers, 32, of Alamosa was cited for harassment, child abuse and domestic violence.

Julia Quintana, 41, of Alamosa was cited for unregistered vehicle.

Peggy Martinez, 65, of Alamosa was cited for seatbelt required.

Nathaniel Samora, 41, of Colorado Springs was cited for trespassing.

Raul Fernandez, 24, of Alamosa was cited for unlawful possession of controlled substance.

Aurora Rydgreen, 23, of Alamosa was cited for 3rd degree assault, domestic violence, 2nd degree kidnapping, criminal mischief.

Marina Lluch Sofia, 28, of Mosca was cited for DUI per se, dui-alcohol, drove wrong way on one way street.

ALAMOSA SHERIFF'S REPORT

Alamosa County Sheriff's Office report week of July 24, 2024

Tasha Alexis-Soboleski, 40, of Alamosa was cited for limitations on backing – public, private.

Daniele Colbertaldo, 28, of Austin, Texas was cited for speeding 20-39 mph over the limit in the 12000 block of Highway 17N.

Rebekah Markowitz, 43,

of Nolensville, Tennessee was cited for speeding 10-19 mph over the limit in the 15000 block of Highway 160 East.

David Sherwood, 57, of La Jara was cited for failing to give information and/or aid after damaging another vehicle at 102 Highway 160 East.

Desideria Romero, 41, of Alamosa was cited for trespassing at (coordinates)

37.46785 – 105.85.399.

John Cordero, 34, of Alamosa was cited for trespassing at (coordinates) 37.46785 – 105.85.399.

James Reed, 22, of Sanford was cited for limitations on backing private property at 102 Highway 160 (Loaf n Jug).

Parker Brandt, 24, of Austin, Texas was cited for limitations on backing – public – private.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

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

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

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

School Menu
Tuesday
July 30, 2024

We hope you enjoyed your Meals! See you when school starts August 8th!

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Valley News

La Jara Car Show and Parade Winners

CONTRIBUTED

LA JARA — La Jara Glory Days was Saturday, July 27, and featured a parade and car show.

CAR SHOW WINNERS

- Best of show Sid and Charline Shepard
- Family Pick Salamon Archuleta
- Truck
 1. Eppie Martinez
 2. Julian Espinoza
 3. Ted Morrison
- Lowrider
 1. Jamie Dominquez
 2. Randall Romero
 3. Chris Quintana
- Hot Rod
 1. Julian Lopez
 2. Tommy Vigil
 3. Ben Martinez
- Daily Driver
 1. Ben Martinez
 2. Gutierrez
 3. Jimmy Duran
- Classic
 1. Ivam Wright
 2. Monica Luciano

3. Joe Maestas
- 2000's
 1. Christian Donaldson
 2. Larry Pacheco
 3. Lee Romero
- Motorcycle
 1. Joseph Vigil
 - Special Interest
 1. Zayah Pena (bike)
 2. Rocky Montoya (bike)

- ### PARADE WINNERS
- Category: Marching Band/Drill Team
 1. Monte Vista Drill Team
 2. Vecinos Bailadores
 3. Centauri HS/MS Marching Band
 - Floats
 1. Martin Cattle Company
 2. Buhr Trucking
 3. Big John/s Furniture/AJ Signs
 - Non-Float/Walking Groups
 1. Conejos County EMS
 2. Garden Club – Audra Rendon
 3. Isaiiah and Jolene Lobato



The Conejos County Library float participated in the La Jara Glory Days Parade on Saturday.

Courtesy photos



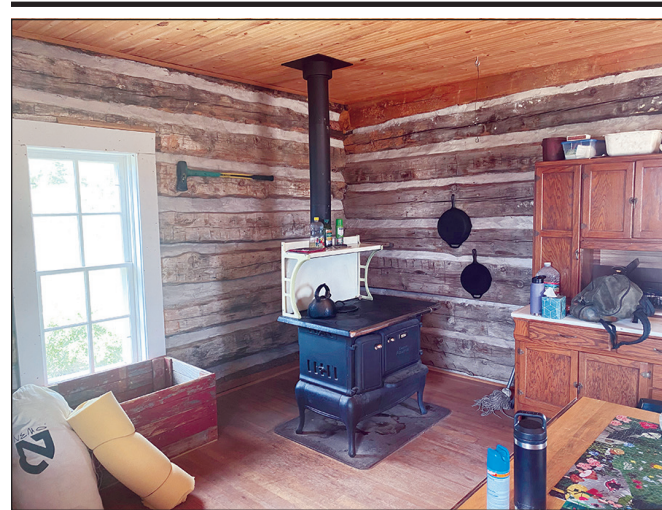
This classic BelAir was part of the car show on Saturday at La Jara Glory Days.



Monica Lucian's entry took second place in the Classic division of the car show on Saturday at La Jara Glory Days.



Chris Quintana's truck participated in the car show on Saturday at La Jara Glory Days.



Courier photo by John Waters

A Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado group stayed at the historic Duncan Cabin on the Rio Grande National Forest in Saguache County. The cabin dates to about 1880 and was built by gold miner John Duncan. The cabin underwent a significant restoration in 2011 and is now available to the public for overnight stays. The cabin is a four-mile hike, mountain bike, or horseback ride. For more information regarding renting the cabin, visit www.recreation.gov.

Traffic stop leads to arrest on weapon, distribution charges

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — A traffic stop in Alamosa on Friday night led to the arrest of two men, including the driver, who was taken into custody for illegal possession of weapons, narcotics and stimulants, and a second man, who had an active arrest warrant.

At about 10:20 p.m., on Friday night, Alamosa Police Department (APD) Officer Fabian Juarez and Cpl. Cody Van Ry stopped a vehicle in the 800 block of West Avenue. The driver, identified as Lee Medina, 28, of Alamosa, was found to have a canceled-denied driving license.

According to a press release from

the City of Alamosa, officers with APD conducted a search of the vehicle which led to the discovery of a rifle with a silencer, two high-capacity magazines, over 350 suspected fentanyl pills, and 1.80 grams of suspected methamphetamine. Additionally, over \$1,000 in U.S. currency was found, indicative of narcotics sales activity, according to the release.

Medina, who is a convicted felon, was taken into custody and transported to the Alamosa County Detention Center where he was charged with suspicion of possession of a dangerous weapon, possession of a weapon by a previous offender, unlawful possession and distribution of controlled substances,

and other related offenses.

During the stop, officers also identified multiple occupants in the vehicle, including Joseph Sandoval, who had an active arrest warrant. Sandoval was arrested on an active warrant and transported to the Alamosa County Detention Center. Other occupants were released, pending further investigation.

"This significant seizure underscores the Alamosa Police Department's commitment to removing illegal drugs and weapons from our community," the press release stated.

As of Monday morning, neither man was still in the custody of the Alamosa County Detention Center.

Brandt

Continued from Page 1

tempt to commit murder in the first degree (second degree felony) for the shooting of Rangel and Alamosa Police Officer Mollee Heeney plus three counts of first degree assault (third degree felony) — one count for assault on a peace officer, one count for assault of Heeney and one count for assault of Rangel.

The sentencing hearing began with statements from the two victims, both of whom attended via Webex and had asked District Attorney Anne Kelly to read them aloud. Rangel wrote about the losses he experienced from being shot.

"I can't sit through a movie with loud noises," he wrote, or "sleep all the way through the night" or tie his shoes. "Every day has been affected and will be affected for the rest of my life."

Heeney wrote about the length of her rehabilitation, the temporary loss of her independence, how hard she had been working to regain the strength and endurance that she had worked to achieve

prior to being shot. She also spoke about the PTSD she has from the shooting and the fear her family experiences every day that she might be shot again.

Former APD Chief Ken Anderson addressed the court, saying he was there to "be the voice of the community", describing it as a "sad, sad day to see a teenager who is capable of committing such a violent act." After explaining the impact of the shooting on APD officers and the community, Anderson advocated for Brandt to be incarcerated for as long as possible.

"You need God, son," he said after concluding his statement.

Kelly told the court, "This is a day I've been dreading and I'm sure everyone else feels the same. It's a sad day because we have to challenge ourselves to abandon the hope we have for teenagers 'to right the ship.'"

The juvenile justice system is set up because most kids can be rehabilitated, she said, but the evidence shows that this individual will not be rehabilitated.

In repeating points she made during Brandt's

trial, Kelly said she recognized the losses and trauma Brandt suffered as a child, but he also had many people and resources to help him, none of which he took advantage of.

Despite the court being told that Brandt was "doing well" in the Pueblo Youth Center (PYC) where he has been held since he was arrested, Kelly said, he has continued to engage in illegal and harmful behavior, such as assaulting a deputy — for which he was charged. Kelly said he also participated in a riot, although no charges were filed.

Kelly then reiterated to the court that, despite still being only 17 years old, "he cannot be rehabilitated" and, for that reason, was asking he be sentenced to the maximum sentence allowed of 96 years for the crimes of attempted murder and assault.

After a lengthy and contentious transfer hearing and an equally contentious trial, a tearful Brandt told the court he recognized his actions impacted the community.

"I did some pretty terrible things," he said. He then apologized for the

harm he had done.

In her ruling, Judge Newmyer-Olsen praised law enforcement for the way the case was handled. She also addressed Brandt, saying she did not think he was someone who is simply evil or without value as a human being. Citing her own child who had some difficulties prior to losing her life, she said, "My heart goes out to you, and I think you are valuable."

In a statement to the Valley Courier, Kelly said, "This was a tragic case for the San Luis Valley community. I appreciate the hard work and thoughtfulness of Judge Newmyer-Olsen in reaching a fair and just sentence. While the victims in this case may never completely heal from their wounds, both physical and mental, my hope is that this sentence gives them a sense of justice. I pray that our community can continue in the process of healing from this defendant's senseless and violent acts."

With credit for the time already served, Brandt may be eligible for parole in about 17 years. He will be in his mid-thirties at that time.

Survey

Continued from Page 1

preliminary reconnaissance in areas that never had any archeological surveys. This gave us a sense of what was out there. We did pedestrian transect surveys. This was a formal gridding of the landscape in a systematic way. This included marking and recording any archeological material and then recording it formally on state site forms. The idea was to get an idea of what was in that particular area. We picked a 200-acre area that had never been surveyed before and surveyed it. We actually surveyed 125 of the 200 acres.

"We found two archeological sites. One contained culturally scattered material that included ancestral Pueblo and late Archaic. We also found some ancestral black pottery, which is classic Ancestral Pueblo. This pottery dates from 1,200 BP. We also found a projectile point from the Late Archaic that dates from about 2,000 to 3,000 years ago.

"The other site was a late 1800s refuse dump with a small prehistoric component. It was probably a small prehistoric campsite that later became a dump for bottles and cans. The point we found is called a San Pedro. That is the style that dates from about 2,000 to 3,000 years ago. We also found a gray-on-

black piece of pottery on the same site from about 800 years ago. This was a site where people came back and visited again," he said.

Heiner spoke of the archeological richness of the Valley, "On the Rio Grande National Forest, we have over 10,000 documented archeological sites and they span from 14,000 years old to historic period sites about 50 years ago. We do have a relatively high percentage of early Paleo-Indian sites. That is one of the reasons that brought me here, I'm very interested in those first cultures that came to these landscapes and how they settled. We have a high density of these sites that date to 14,000 years ago."

The group was comprised of about a dozen VOC volunteers. Heiner said this about these and other volunteers value to the national forest, "They are great programs; we usually have partnership coordinators. I enjoy working with the groups because I like to expose different interested publics, people who are interested in archeology. I like people who are interested in archeology and have never experienced doing it or don't have any formal training or education. I like to expose those people to it. People get hooked and run with it. Sometimes, I correspond with them for years. I do a lot of volunteer projects on the forest."

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Lifestyles

Biden urges term limits for U.S. Supreme Court justices, new ethics rules

By **ASHLEY MURRAY**
Colorado Newswire

WASHINGTON — Before he leaves the Oval Office in January, President Joe Biden wants to see Congress take up a constitutional amendment restoring criminal liability for U.S. presidents in response to the recent Supreme Court decision granting the chief executive broad immunity.

Biden announced the “Not Above the Law Amendment” Monday along with endorsing other changes for the nation’s highest bench, potentially setting the tone and focus for the Democrat’s final months in office after he exited the 2024 race in favor of Vice President Kamala Harris.

The proposal, released by the White House without text and detailed by Biden in a Washington Post op-ed, comes as public trust in the high court flags after recent ethics scandals and the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* that bucked popular opinion on abortion.

Biden is urging Congress to pass 18-year term limits for justices, with a president appointing a new justice every two years, and to approve enforceable conduct and ethics rules that would require disclosure of gifts, bar public political activity and ensure recusal from cases where a justice or their spouse has a financial or political stake.

Biden’s plan to “restore faith” in the nation’s highest court will likely hit a roadblock

in the Republican-led U.S. House and in the Senate, where Democrats hold a slim edge and any reforms could struggle to gain the necessary 60 votes. A constitutional amendment would also require passage in three-fourths of the states.

U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson called Biden’s proposal “dead on arrival.”

Writing in the Washington Post op-ed, Biden said a lack of legal repercussions for former President Donald Trump’s role in the violent Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol, intended to stop the peaceful transfer of power from one elected administration to another, is “only the beginning.”

“The only limits will be those that are self-imposed by the person occupying the Oval Office,” he wrote.

He also referenced recent behavior from the court uncovered by ProPublica’s investigative journalists — including gifts and luxury travel given to the justices from political donors — as cause for alarm.

“What is happening now is not normal, and it undermines the public’s confidence in the court’s decisions, including those impacting personal freedoms. We now stand in a breach,” Biden wrote.

Biden is expected to speak on his plan Monday afternoon when he commemorates the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act at the Lyndon B. Johnson Library in Texas.

Public Citizen, a group that advocates for changes at the Supreme Court, issued a statement Monday praising Biden’s proposal.

“The dramatic drop in public confidence in the Supreme Court both undercuts the Court’s legitimacy and endangers the legitimacy of the judicial branch as a whole,” wrote Lisa Gilbert, the organization’s co-president. “It is also critical that we undo the damage caused by the overreaching SCOTUS decision in the presidential immunity case and ensure that no person — including the president — is above the law.”

Johnson panned Biden’s announcement as a “radical overhaul” and “logical conclusion to the Biden-Harris Administration and Congressional Democrats’ ongoing efforts to delegitimize the Supreme Court.”

“It is telling that Democrats want to change the system that has guided our nation since its founding simply because they disagree with some of the Court’s recent decisions,” the Louisiana Republican said in a statement Monday.

But various acts of Congress have changed the court since the nation’s founding, including the number of seats on the bench, which have ranged from five to 10. The number of seats on the court was fixed at nine shortly after the Civil War, according to the court’s historical information that details the changes. In 1925, an act granted the jus-

tics the power to decide whether to hear a case, also known as certiorari.

The Republican National Committee issued a statement accusing Biden’s plan of being “Kamala’s scheme to pack the Supreme Court with far-left, radical judges who will render decisions based on politics, not the law — and insulate her dangerously liberal policy positions from scrutiny if she’s elected.”

Efforts to pass an enforceable code of conduct at the Supreme Court are already underway among Democratic lawmakers.

Reps. Jamie Raskin of Maryland, the top Democrat on the GOP-led House Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, another Democratic committee member, introduced legislation last month that would prohibit justices from receiving gifts valued over \$50, according to their offices.

The two lawmakers hosted a roundtable in early June excoriating the court after Chief Justice John Roberts refused to take action when the New York Times revealed that an upside-down U.S.

flag — a sign of protest — flew outside Justice Samuel Alito’s Virginia home shortly after the Jan. 6 riot.

House progressives unsuccessfully urged Alito to recuse himself from two cases related to Jan. 6, including Trump’s appeal for immunity from federal election subversion charges.

A Supreme Court ethics bill sponsored by Rhode Island’s Democratic Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse advanced out of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary along party lines a year ago but has not received a floor vote.



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Rep. Crow to serve as top Democrat on task force investigating assassination attempt

By **LYNDSEY TOOMER**
Colorado Newswire

A Colorado Democrat will serve as ranking member of the bipartisan task force investigating the attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump.

U.S. Rep. Jason Crow of Centennial, an Army veteran, will serve as the highest-ranking Democrat on the bipartisan House task force.

“Political violence has no place in our democracy. Period. We must be united in the belief as Americans, not as Republicans or Democrats, that political disagreement is settled through rigorous discourse, not violence,” Crow said in a statement. “I am committed to working with my colleagues to conduct a thorough bipartisan investigation to collect the facts and recommend corrective security measures.”

On July 13, a 20-year-old shooter killed one rallygoer and injured two others with an AR-

15-style rifle at a Trump campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania. A slew of bipartisan investigations and actions have sprung up in response to the shooting that nearly killed the 2024 GOP presidential nominee. The gunman was killed at the scene.

Former U.S. Secret Service Director Kimberly Cheatle resigned after an intense congressional hearing where Democrats and Republicans demanded she step down after they grew dissatisfied with her answers about how a gunman was able to get within shooting range of the former president.

The House voted unanimously last week to establish the task force, with House Speaker Mike Johnson appointing seven Republicans and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries appointing six Democrats today.

U.S. Rep. Mike Kelly, a Pennsylvania Republican, will chair the task force, alongside Repub-

lican U.S. Reps. Mark Green of Tennessee, David Joyce of Ohio, Laurel Lee of Florida, Michael Waltz of Florida, Clay Higgins of Louisiana, and Pat Fallon of Texas. Democrats on the task force besides Crow include U.S. Reps. Lou Correa of California, Madeleine Dean of Pennsylvania, Chrissy Houlihan of Pennsylvania, Glenn Ivey of Maryland, and Jared Moskowitz of Florida.

“I will help lead this bipartisan task force with Chairman Kelly to investigate and fully examine the attempted assassination of former President Trump, and I will treat it like what it is: a solemn, urgent, and necessary responsibility,” Crow said. “The American people deserve clear answers and assurances that we will not let this happen again.”

The task force will issue a report by Dec. 13 detailing recommendations for legislative reforms needed to prevent future security lapses.

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Lifestyles



Photos by Lyndsie Ferrell

The 30th Annual Logger Days Festival in South Fork hit the mark this past weekend with a huge crowd of spectators and competitors from across the county.

Logger Days in South Fork hits the mark

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

SOUTH FORK — Cheers from spectators mingled with the rip-roaring sound of chain-saws on Saturday, July 20, as the 30th Annual Logger Days Festival kicked off in South Fork.

The scent of sawdust mixed with the aroma from several food trucks filled the air as people made their way either to the grandstands to watch the show or to the lot full of vendors.

Saturday morning started with the ax throwing event where competitors heaved long-handled axes toward their targets, competing like playing darts. From that point on, the day progressed with several logging-based events such as the two-man crosscut, choker races and much more.

South Fork Logger Days is one of many competitions held across the country, though numbers are dwindling every year, South Fork holds its place among the best logging competitions in the country and is well attended every year.

The community center was also packed with vendors from all over Southwestern Colorado. Logger Days marks mid-summer and is extremely popular among vendors in the area. This year also marked the 30th anniversary of the event and with that came even more enthusiasm from attendees, competitors, and vendors.

South Fork began as a stage stop for weary travelers in the mid-1870s for the Barlow and Sanderson Stage-

coach. The stage came to the area from Missouri and opened a stage route in 1874 in Del Norte. At that time, only a toll road ran from Del Norte up the Rio Grande to where South Fork is now, and the town was known to travelers as Baxterville.

Soon after the stage came to Del Norte, it was not long before the route stretched further west turning the toll road into a stage road and bringing travelers to areas located both west and north from the junction in South Fork. As mining encampments began to spring up in the Summitville area, South Fork turned into a lumber community and sawmills started up to process timber for the mines.

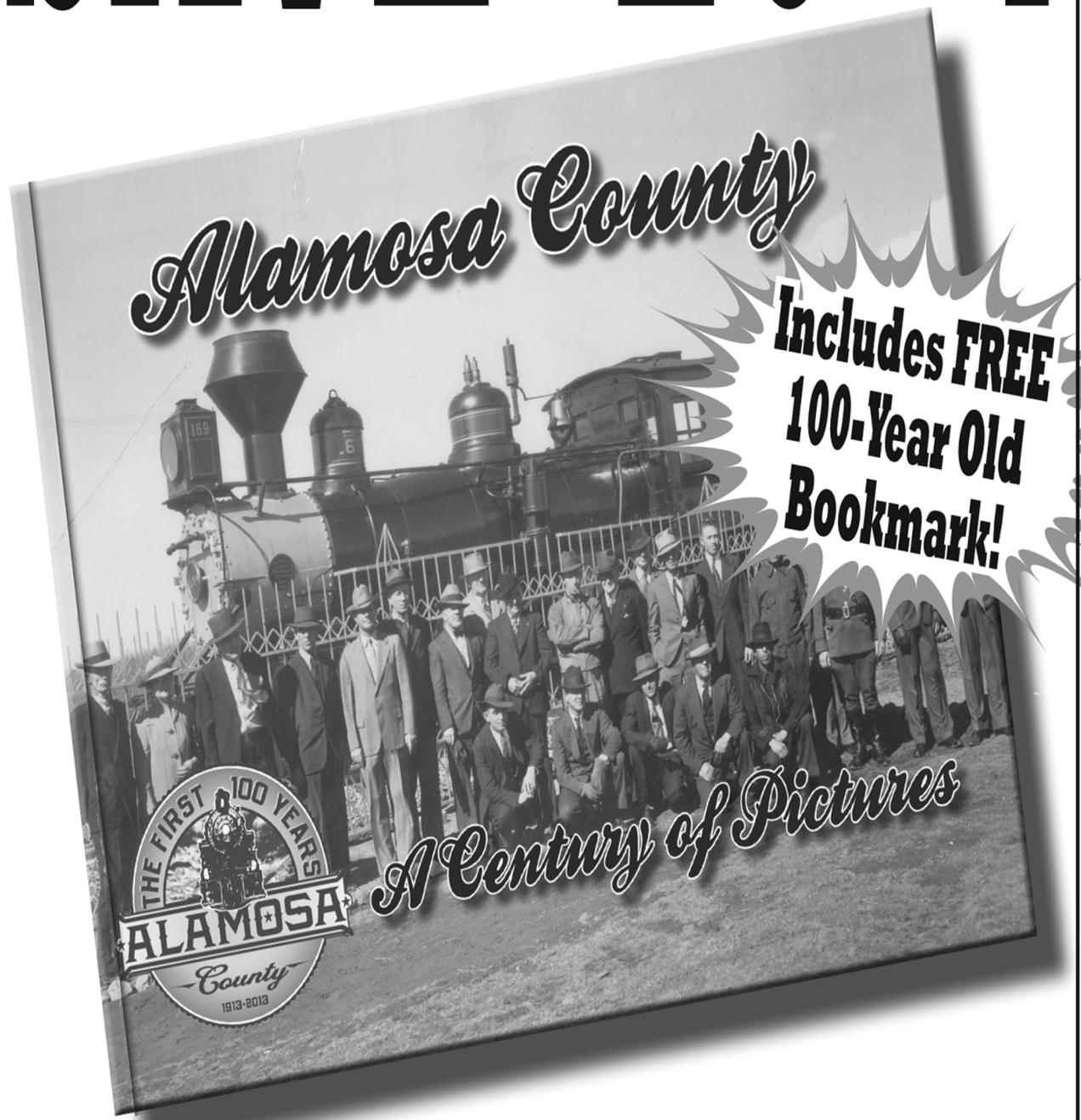
In 1882, the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad made its way from Alamosa, through what would become Monte Vista into Del Norte and pushed further west marking the end of the Barlow and Sanderson Stagecoach. Though stagecoaches lasted another several years, the rail became the main source of travel in the area and began what would become the area's Boom days.

The town survived the lumber industry for most of its history until the late 1980s when laws changed, making it harder to cut timber throughout the US. After the lumber industry basically shut down, the town, as many others in Colorado did at the time, turned to tourism for economic growth which is what the town relies on today.



South Fork Logger Days events like the adult ax throwing competition to the two-man crosscut brought people to the area for a weekend full of fun

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Sports



METRO photo

The NFL will return before fans know it, and these are just five of the many memorable matchups in the coming season.

5 notable games on the 2024 National Football League schedule

(METRO) – The National Football League is wildly popular. That popularity is evident not only during the season, but also throughout professional football's off-season, when events like the start of free agency, the NFL Draft and even the annual release of team schedules garner significant interest. As the NFL season draws closer, here are five notable games on the 2024 schedule.

1. Baltimore Ravens at Kansas City Chiefs, Thursday, Sept. 5: All eyes will be on GEHA Field at Arrowhead Stadium come the first Thursday in September, when the reigning Super Bowl champion Chiefs begin their quest to win a third straight championship. Reigning NFL Most Valuable Player Lamar Jackson and the Ravens, who fell to the Chiefs 17-10 in the AFC Championship Game a season ago, will be looking for revenge in this season-opening clash.

2. New York Jets at San Francisco 49ers, Monday, Sept. 9: The season ended in euphoria for the Chiefs a year ago, and it began in agony for the Jets, who lost their newly signed quarterback Aaron Rodgers to a ruptured Achilles tendon just four

snaps into his first game for Gang Green. Week 1 comes to a close on Monday Night Football with this battle that Jets fans hope will mark the return of Rodgers and Niners fans see as an opportunity to put the memories of a Super Bowl defeat behind them.

3. Chicago Bears at Washington Commanders, Sunday, Oct. 27: The top two picks in this year's NFL Draft, quarterback Caleb Williams of the Bears and his signal-calling counterpart Jayden Daniels of the Commanders, square off in this late-October matchup. Adding to the intrigue of this battle at Commanders Field in Landover, Maryland, is it marks a clash between the two most recent Heisman Trophy winners. Williams took home his statue as college football's best player two seasons ago, while Daniels earned his during his final season at Louisiana State University in 2023.

4. Detroit Lions at Houston Texans, Sunday, Nov. 10: Perhaps no teams did more in 2023 to renew confidence among their fans than the Lions and the Texans. Led by their beloved head coach Dan Campbell, the Lions had their most success-

ful campaign in decades, finishing 12-5 to win the NFC North before advancing all the way to the conference title game, where they lost a 34-31 heartbreaker to the Niners. The Texans also won their division a year ago, thanks in no small part to rookie sensation C.J. Stroud, who won Offensive Rookie of the Year after throwing 23 touchdowns and just five interceptions before leading his team to a blowout win over the Cleveland Browns in the opening round of the playoffs.

5. Miami Dolphins at Green Bay Packers, Thursday, Nov. 28: Once the turkey's been devoured and the pumpkin pie has become a distant memory, fans can find the nearest couch and settle in for this Thanksgiving night thriller. The Dolphins feature a high-powered offense centered around speedster Tyreek Hill. Across the field is Packers quarterback Jordan Love, who established himself as a legitimate star during his first full season under center, throwing for 32 touchdowns in the regular season before playing a near perfect playoff game in his postseason debut, a 48-32 victory over the Dallas Cowboys.

5 notable games on the 2024 college football schedule

(METRO) – College football fans spend a good portion, if not all, of the summer anticipating the return of their favorite sport. Each college football season is full of excitement, and the coming campaign is sure to provide its share of thrills. As summer winds down, fans anxious for the return of their favorite sport can look ahead to these five notable games on the 2024 college football schedule.

1. Western Kentucky at Alabama, Saturday, Aug. 31: Though this game may not rival other opening week contests in terms of competitiveness, it marks the dawn of a new era for the Crimson Tide. All eyes will be on the Tide's new head coach, Kalen DeBoer, who replaces recently retired legend Nick Saban. Saban coached at Alabama from 2007 to 2023, winning six national championships during his run in Tuscaloosa. Those are big shoes to fill, and DeBoer will undoubtedly be looking to make a statement in his debut.

2. Notre Dame at Texas A&M, Saturday, Aug. 31: For those who want something juicier during college football's first full weekend, this matchup between the Fighting

Irish and the Aggies is sure to please. Mike Elko makes his debut as head coach of the Aggies, who are looking to turn the page after the underwhelming Jimbo Fisher era. Elko comes from Duke, where last season he and Notre Dame coach Marcus Freeman locked horns in a memorable contest that saw the Fighting Irish score the game-winning touchdown with just 31 seconds remaining.

3. Texas vs. Oklahoma (in Dallas), Saturday, Oct. 12: College football is steeped in tradition, and the Red River Rivalry between these two programs that share a border is loaded with history. This particular installment of the rivalry is historic even before the opening kickoff, as it marks the first clash between the two schools in the newly expanded Southeastern Conference. Longhorns coach Steve Sarkisian is looking to build off his team's run to the College Football Playoff a year ago, while his counterpart Brent Venables is hoping to build upon his successful first year in Norman, during which the Sooners finished 10-3 in the program's final year in the Big 12 Conference.

4. Michigan at Ohio State, Saturday, Nov. 30: Rivalries have fueled the popularity of college football, and perhaps no such feud is more heated than this annual clash between the Wolverines and the Buckeyes. Ohio State has lost three straight to the Wolverines, but the architect of two of those victories, Jim Harbaugh, is now back coaching in the National Football League. Sherrone Moore, who coached the Wolverines to a memorable 30-24 victory over Ohio State in the suspended Harbaugh's place a season ago, takes over the program this season on the heels of the school's first national championship since 1997.

5. Ohio State at Oregon, Saturday, Oct. 12: Longtime college football fans will need some time to adjust to the sport's wildly different landscape in 2024, and perhaps no matchup underscores the new lay of the land better than this Big Ten clash between the Ducks and the Buckeyes. The Pac 12 is officially a thing of the past, and the Ducks will host their new conference rival Ohio State in Eugene in early October in what promises to be an exciting, contentious clash.



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/GENERAL MANAGER: The Baca Grande Property Owners Association, 68575 County Road T, CRESTONE, CO 81131 \$90,000 - \$130,000 a year - Full-time. <https://www.indeed.com/job/executive-director-general-manager-a959c-74f16ac2c01> . (8/28/24)

THE UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT is hiring a full time JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR. Applicants must have a Master's Degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain an appropriate Colorado school counselor license. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, DEL NORTE Jr./Sr. High Principal at ahardy@urtigers.co or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. Applications for certified staff positions can be picked up at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co. (8/28/24)

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

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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 or contact Kathy Garcia at 719-341-0128 for more information. Application deadline: Until filled. (8/13/24)

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 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)

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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)

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 261T 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)

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)

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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 anhardy@urtigers.co or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co. (8/7/24)

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

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

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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)

611 - HOMES FOR RENT

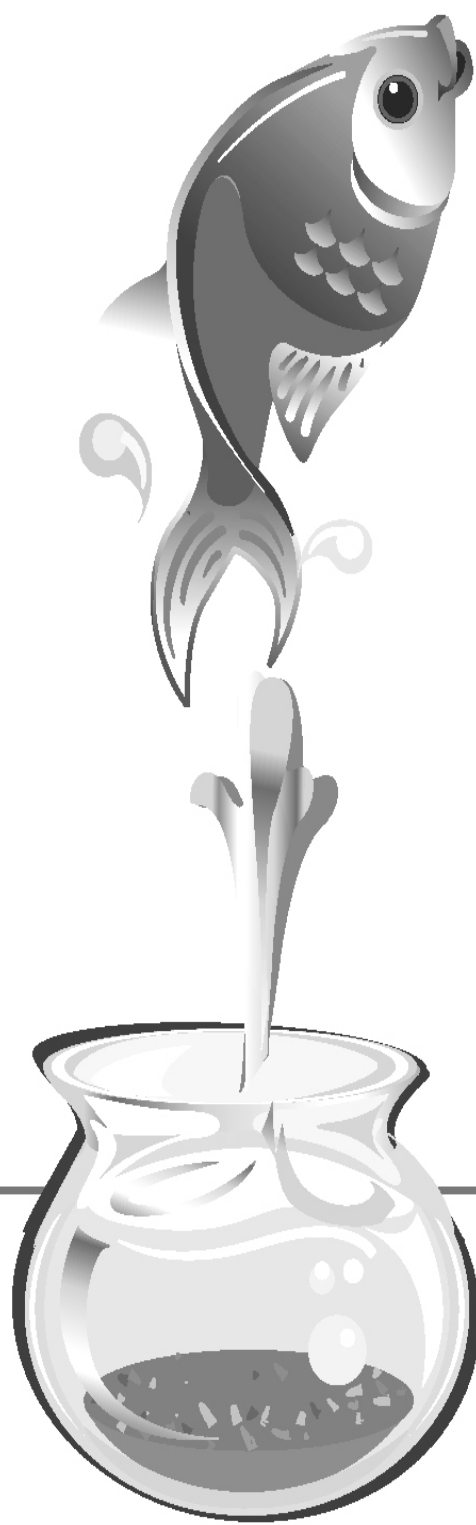
2 STORY HISTORIC RENOVATED 4 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH. Appliances furnished. Deck, shop, garage, large fenced in backyard. Excellent neighborhood; 416 2nd Ave., MONTE VISTA. \$2150/month, plus utilities. Yearly lease; available now. Contact 719-852-5101 or 719-852-5350. (8/17/24)

630 - ROOMS FOR RENT

NICE FURNISHED ROOM, with toilet & sink. In ALAMOSA on Main St. 720-436-5550. (8/6/24)

737 - RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

CAMPER TRAILER FOR Sale: 16ft, 1988 Komfort, excellent. Call 719-580-5745. (8/7/24)



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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- ACROSS**
- 1 Rug pile
 - 4 Serious
 - 9 Nonsense
 - 12 — Jordan shoes
 - 13 “Where’s —?”
 - 14 Zoo animal
 - 15 Altar affirmative (2 wds.)
 - 16 Shallot
 - 17 Mesh
 - 18 Pampered pet
 - 20 Rope for a cowboy
 - 22 Sea eagle
 - 23 Enjoying good fortune
 - 24 Nimble
 - 26 Prods
 - 29 Museum contents
 - 30 Frequently
 - 31 Ski lift (hyph.)
 - 35 Spanish painter
 - 37 Yoko —
 - 38 Card game
 - 39 Poison

- 41 “There ought to be —!”
 - 42 Part of Iberia
 - 45 Nothing
 - 46 Take care of
 - 48 Steal
 - 51 Floor mat
 - 52 Self-evident truth
 - 54 Regret
 - 55 “— your head!”
 - 56 Carved gem
 - 57 Mineral
 - 58 Switz. neighbor
 - 59 Drained
 - 60 “Children of a Lesser —”
- DOWN**
- 1 Fastener
 - 2 Opera by Verdi
 - 3 Stuff you own
 - 4 Faint
 - 5 Sharp
 - 6 Legendary boxer

- 7 “American —”
- 8 Actor — Sutherland
- 9 Freak out
- 10 Vertically, to a sailor
- 11 Small
- 19 Parched
- 21 Reddish-brown
- 24 Performers’ union
- 25 Quid — quo
- 26 Thug
- 27 Point — return
- 28 Corpuscule
- 32 Noisy amphibian
- 33 Literary collection
- 34 Tier
- 36 Eager
- 40 Intertwine
- 41 Cause to suffer
- 42 “I dunno” gesture
- 43 Stop
- 44 Fury
- 45 Actor Leonard —
- 47 School event
- 48 Bard
- 49 Money in Majorca
- 50 Marsh plant
- 53 Devilish tot

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12				13						14		
15				16						17		
18			19				20		21			
		22					23					
24	25				26	27	28					
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51					52		53			54		
55					56					57		
58					59					60		

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

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

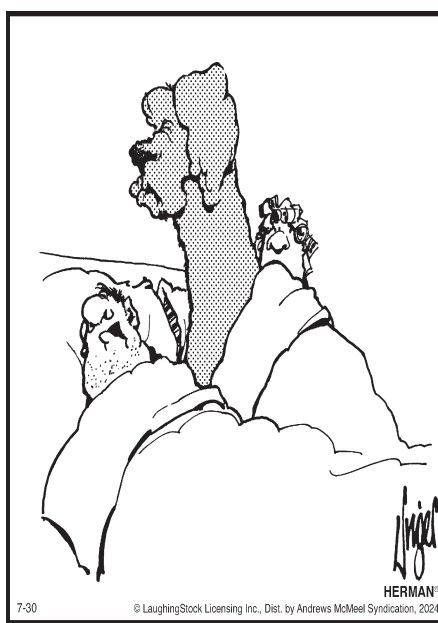
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HOW TO PLAY:
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

HERMAN



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Widow thinks invitation to livestream wedding is rude

DEAR ABBY: The daughter of a friend is getting married and sent an email announcement with a link to watch a livestream of the ceremony. I have never been invited to NOT attend an event before, and frankly, my feelings are hurt. (My husband was an incredible artist. Should I send a livestream of others enjoying his work in person?)

Does etiquette require I send a wedding gift? I would've understood not being invited if they were keeping it a small affair, but inviting a widow to witness a friend's emotional, romantic moment in the solitude of her home seems cruel. Am I out of touch with what is socially acceptable? -- NOT GOING IN TEXAS

DEAR NOT GOING: If the wedding is being held some distance from where you live, then the invitation to livestream was probably an attempt to be considerate. Today, many meaningful events are livestreamed, including funerals and memorials. If you would find watching the ceremony depressing and prefer not to "tune in," then don't do it. And, no, you are NOT REQUIRED to send a gift. (A sweet e-card congratulating the couple would be a nice gesture.)

DEAR ABBY: My brother is married to a very nice

woman. It's the second marriage for both, and they both work, although they do not handle money well. They have traveled to family events and ended up running out of money for meals, car rentals, etc.

My sister-in-law heard about a girls trip my daughters-in-law, a few close friends and I will be taking. She has invited herself along, and I don't know how to politely tell her she can't come unless she has the money up front to pay her share. It would kill me to hurt her feelings. Please advise. -- RESPONSIBLE LADY OUT WEST

DEAR LADY: Who has paid for the food and car rentals that this couple didn't have the money to cover? Were those relatives ever reimbursed? Unless you want to foot the bill for your SIL on this trip (to which she has invited herself), you'll have to summon up the courage to tell her you will under no circumstances be doing that. If her feelings are hurt when you state the obvious (that you are not a pushover), so be it.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 79-year-old woman. I have had a friend since high school who is five months younger than I am. A few weeks, sometimes months, before my birthday rolls around, she'll come out with comments about



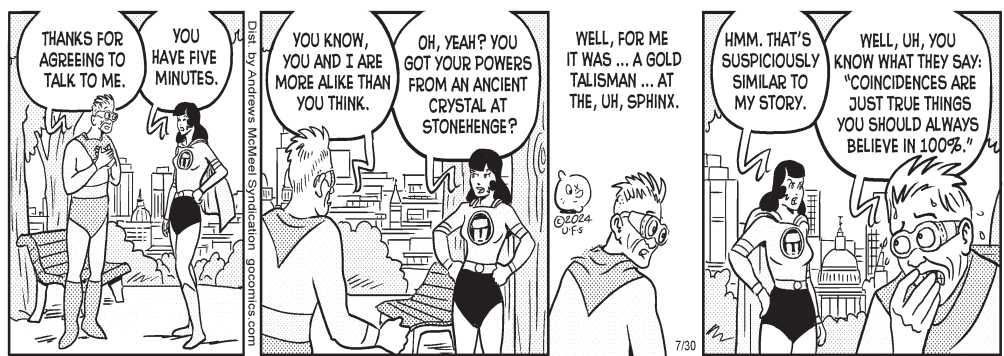
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

her being several months younger. These comments hover between sarcastic and just plain mean.

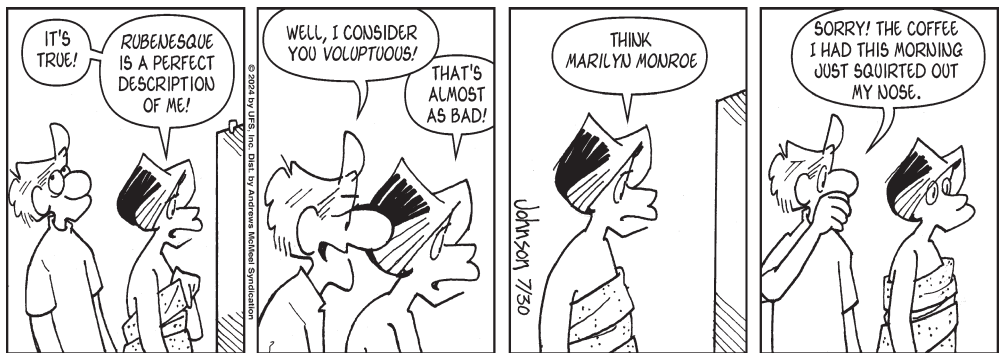
I think she thinks she's being clever, but after many years of this, it is no longer funny. When she makes a comment this year about my BIG birthday, what could my comeback be, in essence, telling her to knock it off? -- SAME AGE IN FLORIDA

DEAR SAME AGE: How about this, spoken with a smile of course: "Oh, Honey, age is only a number. My birthday may come before yours, but you are RIGHT behind me. I'm trying out the number before you get there. At this point, I consider each day a blessing and so should you."

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



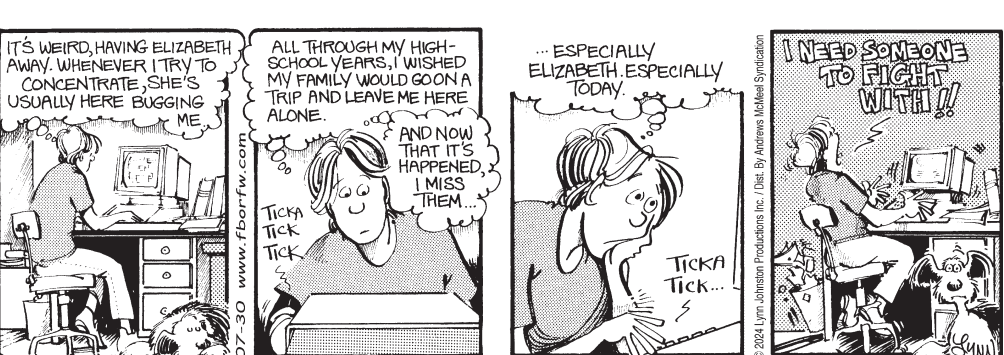
BIG NATE



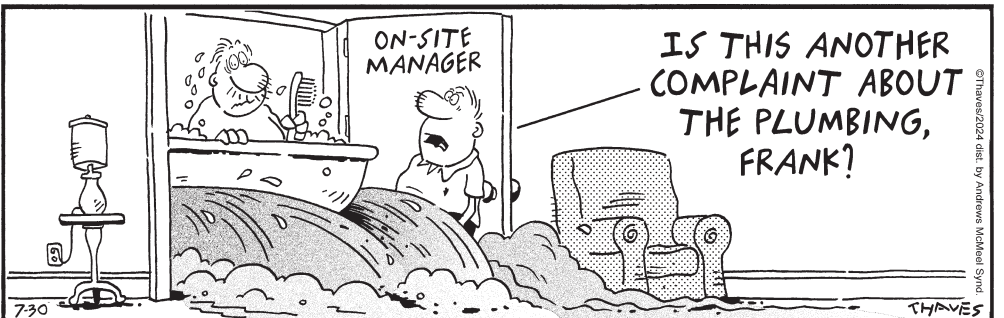
THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



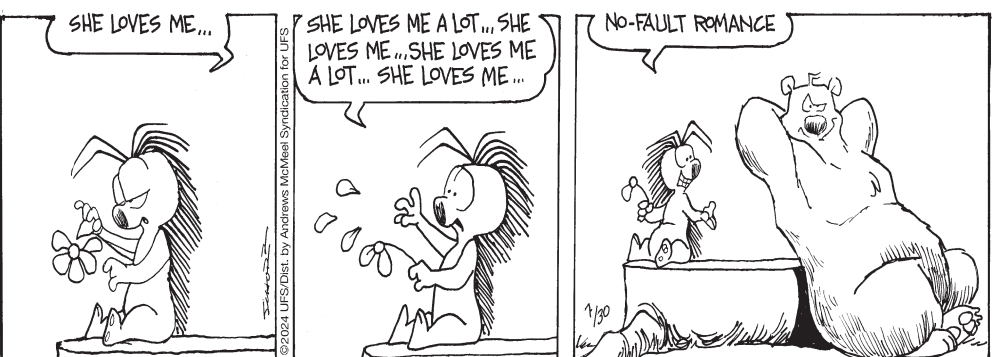
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS

