



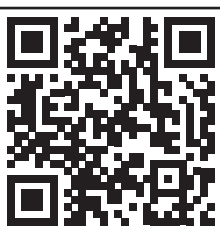
Valley Courier

WEDNESDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

July 31, 2024

\$1



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SLV Today

Yard sale in Alamosa this weekend

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Senior Citizens Center, located at 92 Colorado Ave., is having an annual yard sale on Friday, Aug. 2, beginning at 1 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 3, beginning at 8 a.m. All proceeds will benefit the center.

Shepherd performing Aug. 10 in Creede

CREEDE — Darrell Shepherd, Americana solo artist, to play from 2 to 4 p.m. on Aug. 10 at Basham Park in Creede as part of the Creede Arts Council's summer concert series.

Shepherd is an Americana singer-songwriter who was born and raised in Alaska. Currently residing in the mountains of Colorado, he wants nothing more than to write and perform songs that tell stories and make you want to sing along.

Shepherd also owns and operates the "Shepherd Music Experience," a music school centered on the innate creative abilities that exist within all his students — children and adults alike. He hopes you enjoy his music.

For more information, contact Creede Arts Council at creedearts@outlook.com. To view their entire summer lineup, visit online www.creedeartscouncil.com/music-in-the-park.

CORRECTION

A story in Tuesday's Valley Courier listing the winners of the La Jara Glory Days parade and car show should have read, the car show Family Pick winner was Solomon Archuleta. The Courier apologizes for the error.

SLV WEATHER

Mostly Sunny, Breezy
87/49

Thurs: Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 87/50

Fri: Chance of Afternoon Showers 87/49

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Hiker rescued from Ellingwood Point by AVSAR

By **JOHN WATERS**
Courier News Editor
ALAMOSA COUNTY

— On July 26, Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) received a call from a hiker on Ellingwood Point who had fallen on his descent from the 14,057-foot mountain and needed to be rescued.

Due to threatening thunderstorms, his rescue was delayed until the following morning when he was extracted by a Colorado National Guard helicopter.

Ellingwood is part of the Blanca Massif and is an 18.4-mile out-and-back hike that usually takes about 11 hours by experienced hikers. This strenuous day hike

turned into an unexpected overnight experience.

On the first day of the rescue, an AVSAR 4x4 team traveled up Lake Como Road and within 300 vertical feet of the injured hiker. The rescue team bedded down at nightfall and resumed operating at first light.

On the following morning of Saturday, July 27, AVSAR contacted the Colorado National Guard, which dispatched a helicopter. ■ See **RESCUE** page 3

Rescue volunteers from Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) near a Colorado National Guard rescue helicopter on Ellingwood Point on Jul. 27.

Photo courtesy AVSAR



Paul Formisano, Nathan Coombs, and Jason Ullmann in McDaniel Hall on ASU campus discussing water issues in the SLV and elsewhere.

A conversation with State Engineer Jason Ullmann

By **PRISCILLA WAGGONER**
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — In the San Luis Valley, where the economy is largely driven by agriculture and the region only receives a limited amount of moisture each year, the phrase "agua es vida" (water is life) is more than just something to put on a bumper sticker. It's a fact of life.

So, when Jason Ullmann, the state's top water guy,

comes to the Adams State University (ASU) campus for a conversation with the public, it's a big deal.

Thanks to sponsorship from the Salazar Rio Grande Del Norte Center at ASU, Ullmann spent about two hours answering questions first posed by moderator Paul Formisano, recently named as the new director of the Salazar Rio Grande Del Norte Center, and then, later, the audience. Ullmann was also joined by

Nathan Coombs, multi-generational farmer and rancher in the San Luis Valley and newly elected Chairperson of the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

Monday night's conversation with the public was of special interest to many people as Ullman is relatively new as Colorado State Engineer and Director of the Division of Water Resources (DWR). He was appointed to the position. ■ See **ULLMANN** page 3

ALMA thanks Comfort Inn for support of live music

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Live Music Association (ALMA) is grateful for the ongoing and long-term sponsorship from the Comfort Inn and Suites of Alamosa, owned by Manish Patel.

The association recently sat down with the General Manager of the Comfort Inn, George Lopez, to discuss the history of this fruitful partnership and his current role with the hotel.

The Comfort Inn has supported ALMA as a corporate sponsor for most of 25 years the association has brought live music to

the Valley.

The Comfort Inn has played a key role in ALMA's Sundays at Six concerts by providing in- ■ See **ALMA** page 3

The Alamosa Live Music Association (ALMA) is grateful for the ongoing and long-term sponsorship from the Comfort Inn and Suites of Alamosa, owned by Manish Patel. General Manager George Lopez, middle, accepts a plaque from ALMA Board Member Angela Myers with Comfort Inn and Suites staff also pictured.

Courtesy photo



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Record

OBITUARIES

Isaiah Matthew Chacon

Isaiah Matthew Chacon, 44, passed away on July 17, 2024.

Isaiah is survived by his daughter Saleen Chacon, Colorado Springs, his partner Renee Salas, Colorado Springs, his mother Bennie Chacon, Monte Vista, his father Troy Chacon, Monte Vista, Godmother Maria (John Trujillo) Trujillo, Monte Vista, his brothers Zach Chacon, Monte Vista and Marteen (Alejandra Avila) Montano, Alamosa and special nephew Mason Santistevan, Colorado Springs.



Isaiah was very fortunate to have many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews who loved him.

Isaiah graduated from Adams State University with a degree in Business

and Marketing, but his passion was working on cars.

Isaiah loved the time spent with his family, especially the time he spent with his daughter Saleen, his "little sweet pea". He also loved the Denver Broncos.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024, at 10 a.m. at the Church of the Nazarene in Monte Vista (228 Madison St.) with interment at the San Luis Valley Cemetery. Family and friends are invited to wear their Bronco gear.

Jose Louis Tarin

Our Sweet baby boy, Jose Louis Tarin, was born on July 11, 2024, at Parkview Hospital in Pueblo, Colo., where he soon passed away on July 12, 2024, and went to be with our Heavenly father. For the little time we got to hold you in our arms, you will forever be loved and missed in our hearts. Our Sweet baby boy will be with us always, and loved by many friends and family.

Jose Louis Tarin is survived by his loving parents Louis Tarin and Stephanie Cisneros, his sibling Amelie Tarin, aunts and uncles, Matt and Brooke Vigil, Cody Gonzales, Erin Medina, Alexa Robles, as well as grandparents Jose



Tarin, Belen Robles, Arlene and Brandon Woodman, great-grandparents Elaine and Charlie Skidmore, William and Maria (Piñon) Cisneros, Arlene Chacon-Rivera, Antonio Gonzalez, Dana Meyers, Ramon Grajeda.

He was preceded in death by his grandpa Bil-

ly Cisneros, grandmother Ruth Medina, grandparents Jon Woodman, Flaminio and Stella Cisneros, Levinia and Manuel Martinez, Emmuel and Helen Skidmore, Eloisa Tarin-Rivas, Joe Lentz, and Sarah Manzanares, along with many other family and friends.

A private family and friends Celebration of Life will be done when the family is ready.

To leave online condolences, please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. The care of Funeral arrangements was provided by Romer Funeral Home, as well as a huge thank you to Romero Valley Funeral Home of Alamosa.



Photo by Marie Mccolm

The Faith Hinkley Veterans Memorial Park Fundraiser was busy Saturday at Chapman Park.



Photo by Marie Mccolm

The Faith Hinkley Veterans Memorial Park Fundraiser had many events on Saturday for people, including a car and bike show on the grass at Chapman Park.

Memorial Park fundraiser a huge success

By MARIE MCCOLM MONTE VISTA – On Saturday, July 27, the Faith Hinkley Veterans Memorial Park Fundraiser lit up the community and yielded a huge crowd, all supporting the City of Monte Vista finishing the Faith Hinkley Veterans Memorial Park.

The day began with a poker run that visited many historical sites throughout the Valley.

All through Chapman Park there were vendor booths with many people selling paintings, jewelry, handmade tumblers, and t-shirts. There were delicious food trucks set up, with two trucks selling out completely during the event. There was a bouncy house for the kids to enjoy.

At one end of the park, Monte Vista City Manager Gigi Dennis and City Clerk Unita Vance smiled as children sprayed water on a wooden house that had holes in it for the water to go through.

Mayor Dale Becker and his wife, Jennifer, played cornhole at the opposite end of the park.

There was live music, and various demonstrations by community organizations. There was also a car and bike show.

Some students from the Byron Syring DELTA Center created some t-shirts that were available for purchase at the event.

The Faith Hinkley Memorial Park Project began March 10, 2011. The City of Monte Vista, partnered with the Monte Vista School District to create the beloved park next to Bill Metz Elementary to celebrate and remember the lives of local fallen service members – U.S. Army Sgt. Faith Hinkley, and U.S. Marine Sgt. Glen E. Martinez, as well as Veterans from around the world. There have been many donations over the years from local businesses, and residents to help finish the park. Saturday's event that was held to allow for the completion of the memorial paver installation

project, at the park.

As part of the paver project people could purchase a brick at polarengaving.com/cityofmontevista, to honor members of their families, or friends who they would like to pay tribute to.

Larry Garner, who led the poker run, was ecstatic about the turnout for the event. All proceeds from the run benefited the completion of the memorial park. Garner spoke about the route they took on the poker run and spoke about the event.

"We left the park and Monte Vista PD blocked the roads for us and were a lot of help all day long. We took the backroads to the Band of Brothers Veterans Memorial by the 7 Mile Plaza. We were provided with drinks and doughnuts by the Martinez family out there and they also gave us some information about the site and their church out there," he said.

Garner stated that the Rio Grande County Museum was also visited and mentioned that the museum had also printed all the brochures for the run, with pictures, and history about all the places that they would visit, at no charge for the event.

"We also went to Hooper and visited the Travis Anderson memorial out there. We also went down to the Pitstop in Mosca, there is a lot of history there about the Buffalo Soldiers out there, and a place for people to get gas and stuff like that," Garner said.

Garner stated they went from there to the Homelake Veterans Center before going back to Chapman Park.

"I like that people said that it was not like a normal Poker Run, running from bar to bar at 90 miles an hour. We are out there going to historical sites and fun places, and learning about historical things, it was really nice," he said.

Garner stated that

overall, the car show went well, and some fun nontraditional awards were given out, including "person with the best attitude" and other fun awards.

The City of Monte Vista thanked everyone who donated to the event, including the following sponsors, Valley Tractor Repair LLC, the Nazarene Thrift Store, RG Bank, the LOR Foundation Inc, Poole Agribusiness, H&R Block, Mackey Construction, the Roberts Team, Proud Military Parents and Supporters, O&V Printing Inc, Troy Plane Insurance Agency, David Hinkley, Rocky Mountain Memorabilia, and Brown's Septic. A large monetary donation was made by the Margaret Skeff Family Funds.

"We are very pleased with the outreach and support of those who sponsored, donated, volunteered, and attended the Memorial Park celebration. We will have the bricks laid and cement poured by Veterans Day of this year and can celebrate our military and their families. This has always been about the brave, the courageous, and the love for our great country," said MV City Manager Dennis.

People have until Aug. 29 to order a brick paver.

BIRTHS

Dean Charles Barbosa

Dean Charles Barbosa was born on July 22, 2024, to Jordan and Jaclyn Barbosa of Monte Vista and has siblings Cliff and Trey. At birth, Dean Charles

was 6 pounds 12 ounces and 15.5 inches.

Maternal grandparents are Kathy West, of Alamosa, and Karry Shreeve, of Denver.

Paternal grandparents are Cliff and Terri Barbosa, of Monte Vista.

Great-grandparents are Phil and Gaynell West and Ernest and Jenny Samora.

RiverJo Nikole Espinola Burt

RiverJo Nikole Espinola Burt was born on July 27, 2024, to parents Ayanna Espinola of Alamosa and Taryn Burt of Alamosa, and weighed

6 pounds and 10 ounces and was 18 inches.

Maternal grandparents are Sabrina and Timothy Biggs of Alamosa.

Paternal grandparents are Rachel Jones and Chris Shaw of Alamosa.

Great-grandparents are Evelyn and Helder Espinola of Alamosa.

Town of Center organizing a Mardi Gras Festival

By MARIE MCCOLM CENTER – Center Mayor Archie Gallegos is excited about the town's Mardi Gras Festival on Aug. 24.

Gallegos said that the name for the event is just for fun, and he hopes that everyone will attend the event.

"We got together and decided to do this event. We wanted to bring farmers and ranchers together and show our appreciation for them. Farmers and ranchers do a lot, and we hope they come out to the event. We want to bring the community together for this. This will be the first Mardi Gras Festival in Center. We are hoping for a good turnout," he said.

Gallegos said they would love to make it an "annual event," but that will depend on the turnout this year.

The Mardi Gras Festival is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 24, at Casa Blanca Park in Center. There are many vendor spaces available for the event.

Gallegos spoke about what will be at the event.

"It's going to be a good one. We are planning on having an electronic bull at the event," he said. "There will be kids games and some rides for the kids too. This festival is taking place to gather everyone from the community and from around the community."

Gallegos said they are planning to have live deejay throughout the day, and they already have two bands scheduled to perform.

Gallegos said there will be food trucks and food vendors, and the splash pad will be available for

people to cool off in at the park.

"It should be a good festival with plenty of good things for the community," he said.

The Town of Center is trying to have more local events and festivals. Most recently the town held an event called the San Juan Festival, which proved to be successful and helped raise money to help with roof repairs at the Catholic church in Center.

According to Town Manager Cole Webb, the events held in Center strive to preserve the Center culture and bring unity and harmony to the small community.

To apply to be a vendor for the event, or for more information about the event, visit the Center Town Hall or call the Town Hall for a vendor permit at 719-754-3497.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

A.A. and N.A members primary purpose is to

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

COURIER OBITUARY POLICY

The Courier charges \$75 for each obituary per day. Pending arrangements or death notices are free. This charge affects funeral homes, family or other representatives that place obituaries. All paid obituaries are published on www.alamosanews.com, for no additional fee.

Please email obituaries if possible to squintana@alamosanews.com If the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed.

School Menu
Wednesday
July 31, 2024

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

Breakfast & Lunch Free for all students
Alamosa School District
To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

Valley News

Summer in the San Juans



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

The San Juan Mountains are alive with late summer wildflowers and a surprise around every corner. From bighorn sheep to treasures like an albino chipmunk, there is always a site to be seen around the San Luis Valley.

Program

Continued from Page 1
has been accepted, is you will be sent a link to register and pay.

You have the option of two different program tracks. The first is the volunteer track. If a person has time and interest to volunteer to teach horticulture and gardening to others in our community, and to develop an ongoing relationship with other Master Gardeners, they can take the class for a reduced fee of \$200.

With the lower fee, the volunteer agrees to provide 50 hours of volunteer time back to Colorado State University, in the San Luis Valley community, through the local Extension office after they have completed the classes.

As is required of all Colorado State University volunteers, a background check and reference checks are required. After the background check is completed, you can register and pay for the course.

Not interested in volunteering? The second track is the non-volunteer track, called the Colorado Gardener Certificate. This is more for the person who just wants to increase their knowledge for themselves.

Those who choose this program are not required to volunteer and will not join in with the ongoing Master Gardener group.

Registration for this track opens Aug. 19, and the fee is \$545. There is a savings for early bird registration completed by Sept. 30.

For the volunteer track, the application period opens Aug. 1 and closes Aug. 30, and the first step is to apply right now. There are a limited number of scholarships available which cover part of the fee.

You can learn more and apply online at ColoradoMasterGardener.org. You can also learn more from the SLV Area Extension Office by calling, emailing, or stopping in at 1899 East Hwy. 160, Monte Vista; phone 719-852-7381; email Larry Brown at L.Brown@colostate.edu or Jennifer Vandiver at Jennifer.Norris@colostate.edu.

Ullmann

Continued from Page 1
tion in March and brings with him 14 years of experience at DWR, the last half of which were as the Deputy State Engineer.

When asked to describe the role of state engineer, Ullmann says, "My job is to steward a system of appropriations (of water rights) to make sure people are complying. The job isn't prescribed but we have laws that the legislature passes that our office enforces."

The job is enormous with responsibility in a number of areas, including administering the state's water rights, representing Colorado in interstate compacts — like the Rio Grande Compact, monitoring stream flow and water use plus a myriad of other responsibilities.

The office of state engineer also carries significant power as he has the authority to shut off people's wells. That authority has been exercised in the past.

"It's a complicated job," he says. "In the 1800s, the courts only adjudicated water rights for agriculture and irrigation. Then laws were passed so that the court could adjudicate

water for municipal and industrial purposes and, as we've grown, we've gotten recreational and channel diversions. And it's only going to get more complicated."

The idea that "water touches everything" was on display as topics in the conversation ranged from what is the purpose of the Rio Grande Roundtable to what is the role of the federal government in litigating the Rio Grande Compact.

When asked about the relationship between the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the DWR, both agreed the relationship was collaborative with many of the same priorities.

"The CWCB is, of course, the most popular water board," Coombs said to laughter from the audience.

"They get the money, and we get to shut off people's wells," Ullmann joked to even louder laughter.

When asked about what things Ullmann sees for the Rio Grande Basin down the road, Ullmann discussed how management of groundwater relies on modeling that calculates depletions to the stream.

Currently, the model relies on estimates to

measure those depletions but a new model being developed includes 12 years of actual pumping so that measurements should be more accurate going forward.

"You can't manage what you can't measure," Coombs said.

When asked about which factors Ullmann sees in the Rio Grande Basin that are unique and others that are challenging, Ullmann discussed the combination of surface water and groundwater, which is unique compared to other basins in the state.

"The local solution that the Valley has chosen to move forward is creation of the subdistricts to manage sustainability. It's also the only basin with a legislative mandate for creating a sustainable system and sustainable aquifer."

"It's fairly rare across the West to have that kind of a mandate for sustainability," Ullmann says. "And this is a very large basin with the economy of the Valley dependent upon the aquifer. It's very encouraging to see that local solution. Hopefully, that continues to be the case."

Ullmann also said that Colorado is ahead of all the western states be-

cause the state recognized the connection between groundwater and surface water with passage of laws 50 years ago.

"We've managed those things together for many years. Not to say it's easy. But we're ahead of everyone because we have a fully developed water court system, and other states are just now beginning to do that," he said.

Ullmann and Coombs were also asked about the export of water.

"I understand the concern," Ullmann said. "Our role in the Division of Water Resources is prescribed and involves managing water appropriations. We don't have any applications for the current version of this project [to export water] so there's nothing to really comment on as if that project is viable or not or how they would push forward with it. But, in Colorado, there is a private property right that you can convey, and you can change. And that's the case in all basins in the state. I can't comment. But if there is an application, we would evaluate it for injury to other water rights and to comment to the court. We would also have a role as experts who consult to the court with the water referee,

just like we would with any other case. I know that's not what you want to hear but that is our role and where our authority is."

"I know it's emotional to think about this," Coombs said. "But to have confidence in your own water rights, you have to respect that the law is the law, love it or hate it. Our job here is to evaluate the reality of the threat. The Rio Grande Water Conservation District has people who watch that really closely."

"I'll tell you right now, it's not dead. The people who are in charge of that are trying to insert their people into different water boards and into different advisory roles that have more impact on the water plan. But there are very large hurdles."

"Until they file an ap-

plication, there isn't much the state can do. But we, as a community, we can look at where are the appropriate places to look at conservation easements. Where can we legitimately and ethically protect our water."

"The threat isn't quite as imminent as you think. The Front Range — they don't want to take our water. It's just some bad actors trying to make a whole lot of money off of middle-manning some water," Coombs said.

In a final comment about the larger picture, Ullmann added that pressures are going to increase.

"This year, we had 105% of snowpack but only 75% of runoff. Less run off from the same amount of snowfall will create more tension," he said.

ALMA

Continued from Page 1
kind hotel rooms for the traveling musicians who perform during the summer months. This service allows ALMA to have more funds to put toward performance fees, allowing them to book bigger and more well-known acts.

Comfort Inn has expanded its sponsorship to include in-kind rooms for other concerts throughout the year.

For example, when The Glenn Miller Orchestra played last October, the

Comfort Inn provided all 13 rooms free-of-charge. This strong partnership with the hotel helps ALMA to achieve its mission of making quality, live music accessible to folks in the San Luis Valley. The relationship is reciprocal; ALMA regularly recommends the hotel to friends and visitors to the Valley, lists Comfort Inn as its Title Sponsor.

Lopez was born and raised in the San Luis Valley and his family is also from the Valley.

His care for the people, places, and organizations in the SLV is at the fore-

front of his work.

Lopez says, "It's not just about making money and just owning the business and making money for us. It's good that we're giving back. I feel like it helps everybody in the long run."

He values the ways that partnerships brings people together now they benefit the community overall, "...it's nice to see our community thrive," he says.

Lopez has worked for the Comfort Inn for over eight years, starting at entry level. Since then, he has been in almost every role, moving

to general manager two years ago. In his role as general manager, he supports other partnerships in the community as well, including sponsorships of Beat the Heat, Summer Fest on the Rio, Early Iron, and the annual Demolition Derby.

Comfort Inn also sponsors Adams State University, working with them year-round.

ALMA is grateful for its partnership with Comfort Inn, which allows it to accommodate the amazing musicians who travel from various locations in the state and region to play at their events. \

Rescue

Continued from Page 1
copter and, upon arrival with the injured and rescuers, hoisted him out at 6 a.m. He was flown down to the nearby rescue helipad and, transferred to a REACH29 helicopter, which transported him to a local hospital at 6:45 a.m. The injured was treated and released.

AVSAR's statement included, "Unfortunately, the climber was highly unprepared for overnight conditions and was out of water-food."

The Alpine Rescue Team from Evergreen,

Colorado, assisted with the State SAR Coordinator during this mission.

The Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue is a non-profit, all-volunteer group that partners with the Alamosa Sheriff's Office to assist mountaineers in need.

"AVSAR encourages you to avoid needing SAR in the first place" and offers the following, "Don't rely on anyone else's opinion about the difficulty of a route — bring your common sense instead. Don't try a new route alone. Pay attention to the weather. Set a turnaround time and stick to it. Tell someone responsible where

you are going, what time you will be back, and who to call if you don't make it back as planned."

The word "volunteer" in the group name, Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue, is the operative here. Volunteer, "A person who does something, especially helping other people, willingly and without being forced or paid to do it," is a description of what the members of AVSAR do; it is also the definition of the word from the Cambridge Dictionary.

A way to support the group is to attend the annual SUDS 4 SAR block party on Saturday, Aug. 17, from 4 to 10 p.m.

at the San Luis Valley Brewing in downtown Alamosa. The event will include live music, AVSAR merchandise, a silent auction, and more.

The motto of AVSAR says, "An all-volunteer, non-profit organization providing search and rescue services and education in Alamosa, Colorado, so that others may live."

Colorado Parks and Wildlife offers the COR-SAR card for sale that helps fund volunteer search and rescue teams throughout the state.

To learn more or donate, visit www.avsar.us and www.cpw.state.co.us.

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Opinion

One person who cares can change a student's life

By the time she took the dais at the Arapaho Charter High School graduation this spring, Principal Katie Law was beyond tired. She'd spent the last two days coaching students at the state track meet, and they made the drive back to Wyoming's Wind River Indian Reservation just in time for the ceremony.

Writers On The Range



Katie Klingsporn

Maybe it was the fatigue of the trip. Maybe it was the years she spent herding this class to the finish line. The hours answering their phone calls, figuring out plan Bs, worrying about them at every setback.

As she addressed the crowd, Law was nearly overcome with emotion. She paused before regaining control. There was so much to celebrate.

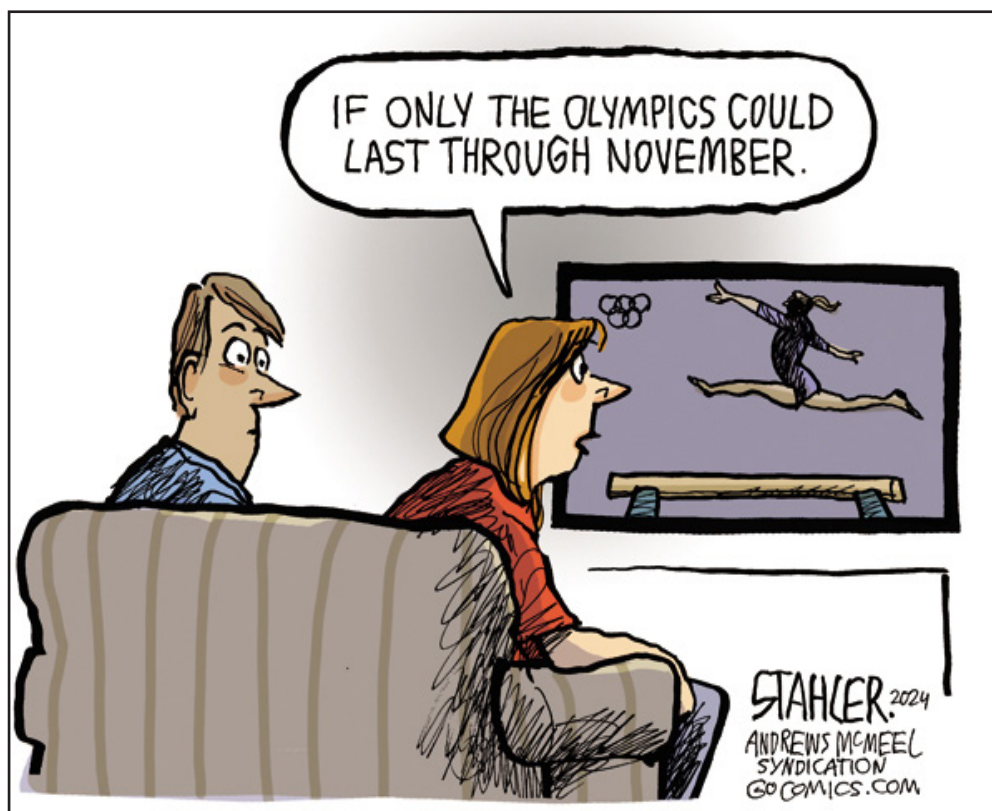
On this day, 14 students donned caps and gowns, the largest graduating class in the school's history. Among them were a record four students who graduated at least a semester early and three who were dual enrolled in a community college. Eight were headed to college or Job Corps.

For a tiny school that lags far behind conventional performance measures, these were significant wins.

The school, which serves majority Native American students, reports higher-than-average rates of foster care, homelessness and involvement in the criminal justice system. Some 70% of students live in single-parent households or have a deceased parent. In 2018, the on-time graduation rate was 0%.

I spent four months visiting the school during the semester before graduation this year. Data points can't capture the hurdles they faced — lost loved ones and an education system that's historically failed Indigenous students.

But what the seniors had to their advantage was an advocate and a reliable source of support: Principal Katie Law. An athletic white woman, Law often engaged in tasks that went beyond traditional principal duties. She made sure to



learn the personal lives, history and family dynamics of all her students.

Well before Law was recently awarded Principal of the Year by the Wyoming Association of Secondary Schools in a surprise ceremony, it was clear she had a rare level of commitment.

"You're not going to find another principal or educator that puts as much time in as she does in the evenings, on the weekends," District Superintendent Curt Mayer said.

Law helps students get their driver's licenses, chaperones college visits and makes calls when kids get arrested. Students have gone to Law with news that they are pregnant, and she has later cared for their infants in her office while they attend class.

The motivation is simple. "I want to see these students succeed, and I'm going to do what it takes," she said.

Law grew up in Colstrip, Mont., — 30 miles from the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation. She was the daughter of educators, and never thought she would enter that world.

But she wanted to help people, and education ultimately became the vehicle for that. During her first year of teaching in Nebraska, she found a distraught student crying in the bathroom one day and sat comforting her for an hour. When Law saw her years later, the student told her she was a pivotal teacher. It dawned on Law then that she's different.

"I get a lot of, 'That's not your job,'" she says. "I'm like, 'I know, but whose job is it?'"

She was hired to teach in the Arapa-



Photo by Katie Klingsporn

Arapaho Charter High School Principal Katie Law hands out a diploma. This year, writer Katie Klingsporn spent four months regularly visiting Arapaho Charter High School on the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming. She wanted to know how Law had turned the school around, from zero graduates in 2018, to 14 graduates this spring, with eight going on to college or Job Corps.

ho school's district 18 years ago, at age 23. The school was rough. Drug use and gang violence were common. She kept her head down, helped where she could. Slowly, she started building relationships.

The work can be devastating, and many fixes don't last. Law is stubborn. "I think my biggest asset is, I won't give up."

Law doesn't pretend to share a background with her reservation students, but she uses her own experiences to build empathy. School didn't come easily to her. Her brother died young from diabetes. And she witnessed a murder at age 14. These are experiences her students can relate to.

It seems to work. At graduation, the

seniors handed out roses to people who were meaningful. Law received six roses, and six heartfelt hugs.

It's not realistic to expect all struggling schools to find administrators like Law, who live and breathe their jobs and don't burn out. Still, parents and educators can take this to heart: One caring adult can make an enormous difference in a student's life.

Katie Klingsporn is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring conversation about Western issues. She lives in central Wyoming, where she reports on education and outdoor recreation for WyoFile.com.

There's only one delusional old guy in the race now

By GENE LYONS

You do know that Donald Trump has never won a majority of the votes in any election, right? Hillary Clinton got 3.5 million more votes than Trump in 2016; Joe Biden beat him by 7 million in 2020.

So, the idea that he's a political superstar is nonsense. Even polls showing Trump leading in the 2024 presidential contest have him topping out at 46% -- about what he got in 2016.

Yeah, yeah, the United States is a republic, not a democracy. Republicans say that a lot. In this country, we privilege cows and square acres over American voters. But even so, to be confident of winning, a presidential candidate needs to do better.

Clearly, the MAGA faithful will believe anything, but millions of American voters view Trump with mistrust and fear. Nothing about the turbulent events of last week -- Joe Biden's dropping out of the 2024 race and Trump's accepting the Republican nomination -- changed the odds appreciably. He and presumptive Democratic nominee Kamala Harris remain in a statistical tie. Some polls even show her with a modest advantage.

That's why Trump's bizarre GOP convention speech promising unity but delivering anger, self-pity and delusion

was such a shocker. It was also as boring as one of those hours-long rants Fidel Castro used to deliver. TV ratings dropped steadily the longer it went on. By the time it ended, hardly anybody was watching.

So, here's my question: With one geriatric candidate having left the race, is there any chance that the national news media -- normally capable of focusing on only one bouncing ball at a time, like a golden retriever -- will notice that the remaining aged individual in the contest is faltering before our eyes?

Remember when Trump confused Nikki Haley with Nancy Pelosi? Tell me how a neurologically healthy person does that. He didn't merely stumble over a name. He did a whole routine about it.

Reporters largely pretended not to notice.

Trump began his big convention speech in his mincing baby talk voice -- always a sign of total insincerity -- talking about national unity and "God Almighty" saving him from an assassin's bullet. Then he put aside the teleprompter (my theory being he can barely read it, which would explain a lot) and started in with the traditional thunderous lies and false accusations against "Crooked Joe Biden" and "communist"

Democrats generally.

Before Trump took the stage, House Speaker Mike Johnson declared that "the radical woke progressive left" is trying to build a "borderless, lawless, Marxist, socialist utopia."

Ho-hum. People in Louisiana actually vote for this guy.

But the real fabulist was Trump. MVP blogger Kevin Drum dissected his speech's more bizarre lies. The candidate claimed that Afghanistan has turned over Bagram Airfield to China, which is simply and totally make-believe. Did not happen. He neglected to mention that the chaotic U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan was caused by his own surrender to the Taliban, negotiated without Afghan government participation.

It's also false that "many, many American citizens" were left behind in Afghanistan. Thousands were evacuated from Kabul, and the handful who remain clearly want to stay. The only military equipment abandoned belonged to the Afghan army. Bringing it out would have required reinvasion and months of bloody combat. And for what?

Trump complained that Russian warships and nuclear submarines are operating "60 miles" offshore and that

the news media refused to cover it. In reality, a ceremonial visit by a Russian nuclear-powered (not nuclear-armed) sub to Havana was well-publicized on all major U.S. TV networks, as Russia and Cuba clearly intended.

(It's actually a bit more than 100 miles from Havana to Key West.)

Pretty much everything Trump said about foreign policy was pie-in-the-sky fantasy. If he were president, there would be instant peace in the Middle East, and Russia would never have dared to invade Ukraine. Biden's fault, not Vladimir Putin's.

But it was Trump's lies about "Crooked Joe Biden" and Democratic domestic policies that were most egregious. No, crime hasn't risen sharply under Biden. It's declined every year since Trump left office. Partly that's because millions more have jobs. Trump also keeps saying that foreign governments are emptying their prisons and "insane asylums" and shipping them across the Mexican border.

There is zero evidence that's happening.

Trump claims that Democrats are scheming to cut Social Security and Medicare. How out of it would you have to be to believe that? Maybe far enough to believe that "this is the only administration that said we're going to raise your taxes by four times what you're paying now."

As Drum notes, this "bears no relation to reality."

Hardly anything in Trump's speech did. Even at his most confused, Joe Biden never came anywhere close to this delusional rant. The man is clearly losing it. Now that they haven't got Biden to kick around anymore, you'd think maybe the national media would take notice.

Arkansas Times columnist Gene Lyons is a National Magazine Award winner and co-author of "The Hunting of the President" (St. Martin's Press, 2000). You can email Lyons at eugenelyons2@yahoo.com.

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Lifestyles

Alarming reports about PERA's finances spark questions about future of the state's pension

By **BRIAN EASON**
Colorado Sun

The state's public pension could be underestimating the scope of its financial problems by billions of dollars, an independent review found, raising fresh concerns about the Colorado Public Employees' Retirement Association and its tenuous finances.

As a result, for the first time since a state pension overhaul in 2018, a legislative oversight panel is considering whether to recommend further reforms to the system, which manages the retirement benefits of more than 700,000 current and former public sector workers.

The concerns stem from a steady drip of bad news this summer — an annual financial report in June showing that the pension's finances deteriorated last year and an independent review released last week that concluded PERA is in far greater danger of becoming insolvent than its own financial advisors expect.

A draft of the independent review, provided earlier this month to the legislature's Pension Review Subcommittee, found problems with a number of the assumptions PERA uses to calculate its unfunded debt to retirees, saying the pension's \$27.5 billion funding gap could be as much as 10% higher than PERA believes.

The report, by the Switzerland-based PNYX Group, recommended the state provide a cash

infusion of \$2 billion to prevent what it said was a "material risk of reaching a point of no return" where it would be unable to make its payments to retirees.

Lawmakers, however, balked at the \$2 billion price tag, calling it a political nonstarter.

"I don't think it's ever going to happen," said Sen. Chris Kolker, D-Centennial, who chairs the subcommittee.

PERA's advisors on Friday pushed back against the report's findings, saying PNYX did not provide enough data to substantiate its claims. But PERA's own analyses say there's as much as a 30% chance of a financial setback in 2025 triggering another round of benefit cuts and contribution hikes.

And things could look even worse this time next year. PERA is scheduled to update its demographic assumptions in early 2025, a once-every-four-years exercise that triggered major financial course corrections each of the last two times it occurred.

That has led members of the oversight panel to ask what — if anything — the legislature should do to prevent more automatic cuts from kicking in.

"We're in a risky situation right now," said former Sen. Jack Tate, a Republican panel member who co-sponsored the 2018 pension reforms. "So I think some recommendations — no matter how poorly received by the legislature — for the finan-

cial security of the plan would be welcome."

Nonetheless, wholesale legislative changes remain unlikely, lawmakers said, barring a financial crisis too large to ignore.

The state faces tight finances of its own in the coming years, and the 2018 pension reforms were designed to keep the pension on financial track without political intervention. Out of four potential rounds of automatic benefit cuts and contribution increases, Colorado has

two remaining if PERA's board and the state legislature don't step in.

"I don't see any glaring legislative changes, personally," Kolker said. But, he added, the panel would draft a letter at its next meeting this week to send to the Pension Review Commission, which has the power to propose legislation.

The independent review cited two significant issues:

First, it argues PERA is banking on unrealistic

investment returns, re-litigating a long-running debate in Colorado. PERA needs its portfolio to grow 7.25% a year to meet its funding targets, which is higher than the national median of 7% for other public pensions. PERA has largely exceeded its investment targets in recent years, averaging 7.8% growth over the past decade and 8.3% over the last 30 years.

PERA is reviewing its investment portfolio this year, and some on its

board are pushing to invest more in higher risk assets like private equity in pursuit of higher returns in the long-term.

The more pressing issue highlighted by the report is that PERA's demographic assumptions have been consistently off since the pandemic, adding \$2 billion to the pension's unfunded debt. Public sector workers have received larger pay raises in recent years than PERA expected, which translate to larger pension payments when they retire.

It's important to follow an immunization schedule

(METRO) — Doctors are in the business of keeping people healthy, and one of the best ways to do so is to help individuals avoid illnesses and diseases that can make them sick. Although few people relish the idea of needle jabs, immunizations (vaccines) remain an effective way to stay in good health.

The American Academy of Pediatrics says top disease experts work together throughout the year to update the recommended immunization schedules for children, adolescents and adults. Schedules are approved by the AAP, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other health care organizations. Any recommended vaccines are based on ongoing reviews of the most recent scientific data for each immunization.

An immunization schedule offers a series of vaccinations, including the timing of all doses, as recommended or required depending on one's home country. Vaccines go through multiple phases of trials to ensure safety and efficacy. Following an immunization schedule is ideal for optimal health. Here are a few facts to consider, courtesy of HealthyChildren.org, a website managed by the AAP and the CDC.

• The timing of vaccines is carefully studied and recommended to work with the body's immune system.

• People with chronic conditions or individuals on medications that weaken the immune system may need a different type of vaccine or a booster. A doctor

can discuss the best approach in such situations.

• Many vaccines are administered in early childhood during infancy. Getting a child vaccinated on time is the best way to protect him or her.

• There is no research to show that a child would be equally protected against diseases if shots are spread out differently or if a varied schedule is followed. Parents and caregivers often must trust that the professionals know best with these schedules.

• If a dose is missed or a child is behind schedule, that does not require starting all over. A doctor can be consulted and the next shot in a series can be scheduled as soon as possible.

• Adults receive far fewer vaccines than their younger counterparts. According to the CDC's most recent vaccine schedule, these are some of the shots adults should discuss with their doctors.

- COVID-19 (one or more doses of updated 2023-2024 formula)

- Influenza (one dose annually)

- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (seasonal administration during pregnancy)

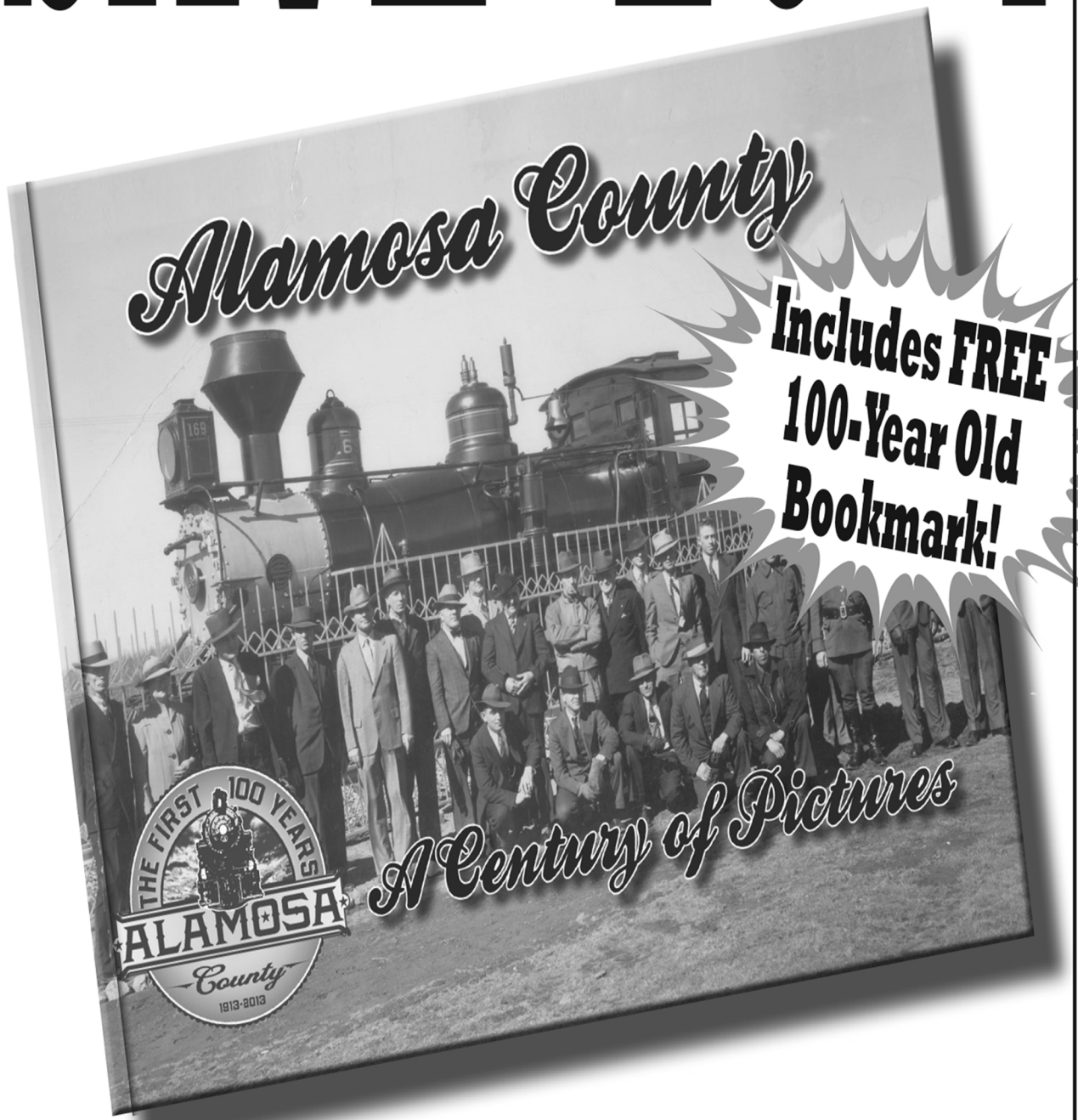
- Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Td or Tdap booster every 10 years, unless pregnant, then one dose Tdap each pregnancy)

- Measles, mumps, rubella (one or two doses depending on indication if born in 1957 or later)

- Varicella (two doses if born in 1980 or later)

- Zoster recombinant (two doses at age 50)

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Lifestyles



METRO photo

Vision issues can present themselves in children and not be as readily apparent to the adults in their lives. Familiarizing oneself with certain symptoms is a way to diagnose vision trouble earlier.

Recognizing vision problems in kids

(METRO) – Although vision loss is typically associated with aging, people of all ages can experience issues that contribute to diminished vision. Sometimes parents may be unaware that their children have low vision or other issues compromising their sight, particularly when children are too young to verbalize their impairments. The Mayo Clinic notes additional symptoms, such as squinting while reading or holding reading material closely may be more apparent.

Parents, caregivers and even teachers can keep an eye out for these symptoms to determine if kids are having vision problems.

- Blurriness: A child may complain of things being blurry, whether

that means words in a book or on a smart screen in the classroom.

- Headaches: Straining to see better can cause headaches. If a child starts complaining of frequent headaches, an eye exam may be in order.

- Attention span: If your child quickly loses interest in games or other lengthy activities, it may be that poor vision is making it more difficult to fully participate.

- Losing place: Someone with vision issues may experience difficulty keeping track of words while reading.

- Eye rubbing: Prevent Blindness says rubbing tired eyes can be an indicator of a vision problem, as can tilting one's head or thrusting the head forward.

- Feeling dizzy: Some

people with vision problems feel dizzy or out of sorts at times.

- Physical symptoms: Sometimes vision problems may be apparent because you can see there is something amiss. Eyes that don't line up, eyes that appear crossed, redness in the eyes or rims, or red, inflamed eyes can be symptomatic of a vision problem.

- Eye exam results: Eye doctors conduct a series of tests during an eye exam. During an automatic refraction test, visual acuity can be measured when an autorefractor shines light into the eye and measures the eye's response. It's commonly used with children who cannot communicate what they're seeing and can help diagnose vision trouble.

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San Luis Valley Fair Schedule

Thursday August 1

8:00-8:30 a.m. Horse Check-in
 9:00 a.m. Horse Showmanship and Equitation (Following Show Will Be Awards)
 10:00 a.m. Horse Test



Friday August 2

8:00-8:30 a.m. Horse Check-in
 9:00 a.m. 4 - H Working Ranch Horse
 1:00 p.m. 4 - H Gymkhana
 4:00 p.m. Fair Set-up (Clubs Split)

Saturday August 3

9:00 a.m. Mandatory Livestock Exhibitors' Meeting **Breeding Animals Must Come Show Ready**
 8:00-9:00 a.m.



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SLV Fair

San Luis Valley Fair Schedule Continued

Breeding Sheep/
Goat/swine
check
11:00 a.m. F r e e
BBQ from Rio
Grande County
Farm Bureau
10:30 a.m.
Breeding Sheep
Show
12:00 p.m.
Production Meat
Goat Show
2:30-4:30 p.m.
Market Swine
Check in/
Weigh-in
6:00 p.m.
Market Swine
Showmanship



**Sunday
August 4**
8:00-9:00 a.m.
4-H Dog Check-
in
9:00 a.m. 4 - H
Dog Show
9:00 a.m. M i k e
Kelley Memorial
Barrow Show



10:30 a.m.
Breeding swine
Show
1:00-2:00 p.m.
Dairy Goat
Check-in
2:00 p.m. Dairy
Goat Judging
Followed
By Milking
Competition/
Fiber Goat
Exhibition to
follow
4:00-6:00 p.m.
Poultry Check
In
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Open Class
Check in



Breeding Stock
Check out by
9:00 p.m.
Monday

August 5
8:00-9:30 a.m.
Market Goat
Check-in
9:30-11:00 a.m.
Market Sheep
Check in
9:00 a.m. Poultry
Show
9:00-11:00 a.m.
Open Class
Check In
12:00 p.m. O p e n
Class Judging
9:00 a.m.-11:00
a.m. 4 - H /
FFA Project
Check In
11:00 a.m.-2:00
p.m. 4 - H /



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SLV Fair

San Luis Valley Fair Schedule Continued

FFA Project Judging
 5:00 p.m. Poultry Showmanship
 12:30 Goat Showmanship
 5:30 p.m. Market Swine Show

Tuesday August 6

8:00-11:00 a.m. Market / Breeding Beef Check-in
 2:00 p.m. Sheep Showmanship
 10:00-12:00 p.m. 4-H Fashion Revue & Show
 5:00 p.m. Rabbit Check-in
 4:00 p.m. Poultry Check out
 5:00 p.m. Market Goat Show

Wednesday August 7

1:00 p.m. Rabbit Show/Rabbit Showmanship to Rabbit Show
 11:00 a.m. Beef Showmanship
 5:00 p.m. Market Sheep Show

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Thursday August 8

9:00 a.m. Creative Cooks Contest
 9:00 a.m. Breeding Beef Show
 9:00 Dairy Calf Show to Follow Breeding Beef Show
 12:00 p.m. Cake Decorating Contest
 5:00 p.m. Market Beef Show

Friday August 9

8:30 a.m. Round Robin
 4:00 p.m. Sale birds back in pens
 6:00 p.m. S L V Fair Junior Livestock Auction - BBQ Presented by Rocky Mountain Farmers Union
 6:00 p.m. Indoor Projects that did not make



State Fair Check-Out

6:00 p.m. AllState Fair Projects to Extension Office (Extension Staff)

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Saturday August 10

8:00 a.m. Tear Down/ Clean-up (Clubs Split)



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 On April 26, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.
 Original Grantor(s)
 Ashanti L Montoya AND Johnathan A Rangel
 Original Beneficiary(ies)
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 Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
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 May 03, 2023
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 Alamosa
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 May 03, 2023
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 \$211,499.33
 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(f), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
 THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
 LOT 10, MCCLAIN-FINK SUBDIVISION, COUNTY OF ALAMOSA, STATE OF COLORADO
 APN #: 541315202002
 Also known by street and number as: 1408 Edison Ave, Alamosa, CO 81101.
 THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
 NOTICE OF SALE
 The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
 THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 08/28/2024, at County Office Building, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
 First Publication. 7/3/2024
 Last Publication. 7/31/2024
 Name of Publication Valley Courier
 IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
 DATE: 04/26/2024
 Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado
 By: Amy McKinley, Public Trustee
 The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
 Alison L. Berry #34531
 Lynn M. Janeway #15592
 Janeway Law Firm, P.C. 9540 Maroon Circle, Suite 320, Englewood, CO 80112 (303) 706-9990
 Attorney File # 24-032056
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
 ©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
 No. 4013.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31, 2024.

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION

CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 962-24
 To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
 On May 1, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.
 Original Grantor(s)
 BillieJo Cooper and Curtis B Cooper
 Original Beneficiary(ies)
 Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as beneficiary, as nominee for AmCap Mortgage, Ltd. DBA Major Mortgage
 Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
 PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
 Date of Deed of Trust
 May 03, 2019
 County of Recording
 Alamosa
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust
 May 06, 2019
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
 373104 Book: N/A Page:
 Original Principal Amount
 \$221,212.00
 Outstanding Principal Balance
 \$204,851.58
 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(f), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
 THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
 LOT 12, IN BLOCK 5, CARROLL SUBDIVISION TO THE CITY OF ALAMOSA, IN ALAMOSA COUNTY, COLORADO.
 Also known by street and number as: 2209 Clark Street, Alamosa, CO 81101.
 THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
 NOTICE OF SALE
 The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
 THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 08/28/2024, at County Office Building, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
 First Publication 7/3/2024
 Last Publication 7/31/2024
 Name of Publication Valley Courier
 IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
 DATE: 05/01/2024
 Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado
 By: Amy McKinley, Public Trustee
 The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
 Scott Toebben #19011
 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. 216 16th Street, Suite 1210, Denver, CO 80202 (720) 259-6710
 Attorney File # 24CO00177-1
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
 ©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
 No. 4014.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31, 2024.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

NOTICE

The Centennial School in San Luis, CO is currently taking bids to replace the padding, carpet, and vinyl flooring in a house that the school district owns. For more information, any questions, or to submit a bid, please contact Ernie Rael at 719-672-3322 or 719-672-3406.
 No. 4043.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, August 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, & 13, 2024.

NOTICE

The Centennial School in San Luis, CO is now taking silent bids for a 2007 Dodge Caravan. It has 307,000 miles, 3.3L V6. Please turn in your bid in a sealed envelope at 14644 Hwy 159 in San Luis, Colorado. Or, email it to P.O. Box 350, San Luis, Colorado 81152 by August 15th, 2024.
 No. 4044.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, August 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, & 13, 2024.

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION

CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 963-24
 To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
 On May 20, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Alamosa records.
 Original Grantor(s)
 Jess Medina
 Original Beneficiary(ies)
 VECTRA BANK COLORADO, N.A.
 Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
 COLORADO HOUSING AND FINANCE AUTHORITY
 Date of Deed of Trust
 September 30, 2002
 County of Recording
 Alamosa
 Recording Date of Deed of Trust
 October 01, 2002
 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
 308518
 Original Principal Amount
 \$52,067.00
 Outstanding Principal Balance
 \$25,437.11
 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(f), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
 THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
 A tract of land in the E 1/2 SE 1/4 of Section 12, Township 37 North, Range 10 East of the N.M.P.M., more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point on the East line of the E 1/2 SE 1/4 of said Section 12, where such East line intersects the Northerly right of way line of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad (which point is 100 feet from, when measured at right angles to, the center line of said Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad right of way); thence North 83° 10' 07" West, 416 feet; thence North 0°27' 23" East, 209 feet; thence South 83° 10' 07" East, 416 feet to a point on the East line of the E 1/2 SE 1/4 of said Section 12; thence South 0° 27' 27" West along said East line 209 feet to the point of beginning, Alamosa County, Colorado LOAN MODIFICATION RECORDED ON 5/12/2003 AT RECEPTION NO. 311836 TO ATTACH THE CHFA RIDER.
 *PURSUANT TO AFFIDAVIT OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR RECORDED ON MAY 7, 2024 AT RECEPTION NO. 391704 TO CORRECT LEGAL DESCRIPTION.
 Also known by street and number as: 7935 S HARMONY RD, ALAMOSA, CO 81101.
 THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
 NOTICE OF SALE
 The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
 THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 09/18/2024, at County Office Building, 8999 Independence Way, Alamosa Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
 First Publication 7/24/2024
 Last Publication 8/21/2024
 Name of Publication Valley Courier
 IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
 DATE: 05/20/2024
 Amy McKinley, Public Trustee in and for the County of Alamosa, State of Colorado
 By: Amy McKinley, Public Trustee
 The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
 Alison L. Berry #34531
 Lynn M. Janeway #15592
 Janeway Law Firm, P.C. 9540 Maroon Circle, Suite 320, Englewood, CO 80112 (303) 706-9990
 Attorney File # 23-030500
 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
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 No. 4041.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 21, 2024.

District Court Alamosa County, Colorado

Court Address: 8955 Independence Way
 Alamosa, CO 81101
 In the Matter of the Estate of: VIRGINIA MARTIN, a/k/a VIRGINIA L. MARTIN, a/k/a VIRGINIA LOIS MARTIN, a/k/a VIRGINIA McCARTY MARTIN, a/k/a LOIS VIRGINIA MARTIN
 Deceased
 COURT USE ONLY
 Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address):
 Helen Sigmond, P.C.
 P.O. Box 1270
 Alamosa, CO 81101
 Phone Number: (719)589-6626 E-mail: helen@helensigmondpc.com
 FAX Number: N/A Atty. Reg. #: 13019
 Case Number: 2024 PR 30023
 Division Courtroom
 NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.
 NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Estate of Virginia Martin, Deceased Case Number 2024 PR 30023

All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to X District Court of Alamosa, County, Colorado or X Denver Probate Court of the City and County of Denver, Colorado on or before December 2, 2024 (date)*, or the claims may be forever barred.
 Teresa M. Durham
 Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice
 901 Celestial Lane, P.O. box 697
 Address
 Edna, TX 77957
 City, State, Zip Code
 No. 4049.
 Published in the Valley Courier July 31, August 7, & 14, 2024.

County Court District Court Denver Juvenile Court

Rio Grande County, Colorado
 Court Address: 825 Sixth Street
 Del Norte, CO 81132
 In the Matter of the Petition of:
 _ Adult:
 or
 X Parent/Petitioner: Jody Sanchez I/k/a Jody Gonzales and Don A. Martinez
 for Minor Child: Caleb Cruz Martinez-Gonzales
 For a Change of Name to: Caleb Cruz Martinez
 DATE FILED: July 29, 2024 12:51 PM CASE NUMBER: 2014DR66
 COURT USE ONLY
 Case Number: 2014 DR 66
 Division Courtroom
 ORDER FOR PUBLICATION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
 The Court orders the following publication for a change of name:
 1. Name of Caleb Cruz Martinez-Gonzales
 First Name Middle Name Last Name is requested to be changed to
 Caleb Cruz Martinez
 First Name Middle Name Last Name
 Date: July 29, 2024
 Tamara Sullivan /s/
 Judge Magistrate
 JDF 426 RB/2016 ORDER FOR PUBLICATION FOR CHANGE OF NAME © 2016 Colorado Judicial Department for use in the Courts of Colorado
 No. 4050.
 Published in the Valley Courier on July 31, August 2, & 3, 2024.

163 - LOST & FOUND

LOST: YOUNG FEMALE TORTOISE-SHELL CAT. Fixed, no chip or collar. Lost from NAVAJO TRAIL ANTIQUES, ABOUT 3 MILES EAST OF ALAMOSA ON HIGHWAY 160. REWARD for safe return! Linda, 719-580-4463. (8/13/24)

LOST: BLACK CAT, named BLACKIE. Lost at 8735 INDEPENDENCE DR., ALAMOSA, BY FOOD BANK, June 27. If found alive or dead, please call. There is a REWARD! 719-649-0911. (8/3/24)

173 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

PRIVATE HOME HEALTH: I can help keep your loved one at home. CNA 20+ years experience, excellent references, reasonable rates. 512-293-1448. (8/28/24)

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

221 - HELP WANTED

SAN LUIS VALLEY REC is seeking bids from a qualified independent contractor to perform lawn care and hedge trimming. The bid must include labor costs and expenses related to the use of equipment, tools and supplies, as these items will not be provided by San Luis Valley REC. The contractor must also carry insurance and provide a certificate of insurance as proof of coverage. Contractor must submit an invoice to San Luis Valley REC on a regular basis to receive payment. Bids can be returned in person, by mail or email and must be submitted by August 12, 2024 by 5:00 PM. The email address is mtrujillo@slvrec.com If you have questions, please call Shawn McKibbin at 719-852-6676. 3625 US Highway 160 W - Monte Vista, CO 81144. Weekly Expectations 1. Seasonal raking of leaves and general yard clean-up as necessary. 2. Must mow and take care of weeds on a weekly basis. 3. Trim hedges as needed. If interested, a tour of the grounds can be scheduled prior to submitting your bid for a better idea of the requirements.

PART TIME JOB FOR A VETERAN: ALAMOSA COUNTY is seeking a HALF-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT to assist the Veteran's Services Officer. The State of Colorado requires the PERSON BE AN HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERAN who will provide administrative assistance and can become a certified Veteran Service Officer after completing training. Applications can be found at <https://alamosacounty.colorado.gov/category/press-release>. For questions, please contact Sonia Salinas at 719-587-5314 or ssalinas@alamosacounty.org. (8/20/24)

COLORADO ROCK & DIRT EXCAVATION, based in PAGOSA SPRINGS, is expanding our team. We are looking for experienced CDL Drivers-local driving only. This is a full time position, offering competitive pay, health insurance, 401K and PTO. Please email resume to coloradorock08@gmail.com or contact the office at 970-264-3478. (8/20/24)

RAINBOW'S END THRIFT STORE seeking MANAGER in ALAMOSA. Position works closely with the Director of Enterprises, store staff, volunteers, and La Puente programs to run daily thrift store operations with the goal of maximizing proceeds, communicating the mission and impact of La Puente, building donor and community relations, and reducing waste. Salary \$35-\$40k. 15% net profit bonus. Full benefits package. Send resume/cover letter & request job description: hr@lapuente.net. La Puente, P.O. Box 1235, Alamosa, CO 81101; 719 589-5909 (Ext 238); www.lapuente.net. (8/9/24)



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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

TERRACE IRRIGATION COMPANY is seeking an individual for the position of **DITCH RIDER / RESERVOIR SUPERINTENDENT**. The position includes monitoring reservoir levels, adjusting and maintaining head-gates and ditches, and daily recordkeeping of water deliveries, in order to ensure accurate delivery of water to users. Farm or water delivery background helpful but not required. There will be on the job training. Mileage reimbursement will be provided. Pre-employment drug test/random drug tests and background check are required. Salary dependent on experience. Contact the Ditch Secretary at 719-852-2144 for an application. (8/20/24)

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)

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

221 - HELP WANTED

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA is hiring a Full Time **STAFF ACCOUNTANT**. Those with Bookkeeping, Payroll, Accounts Payable or public accounting experience are encouraged to apply. Familiarity with Microsoft Excel is preferred. Attention to detail, and organizational skills are required. The office is located at the Ski Area located on top of Wolf Creek Pass and requires commuting throughout the year. This is a year-round position, with longer hours during the winter operating months, and a shorter work week in the summer months. This position offers skiing privileges and the compensation starts at \$34 per hour depending on experience. Full slate of insurance benefits and PTO available after a probationary period. Please email resume to: Payroll@WolfCreekSki.com (8/31/24)

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA is hiring an **ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT**. Those with Bookkeeping, Accounting, Clerical or Human Resources experience are encouraged to apply. The office is located at the Ski Area located on top of Wolf Creek Pass and requires commuting throughout the winter months. This position offers skiing privileges and the compensation starts at \$24 per hour depending on experience. Please email resume to: Payroll@WolfCreekSki.com (8/31/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

EDUCATION MANAGER: CENTER HEAD START is searching for an **EDUCATION MANAGER**. Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or equivalent, experience working with diverse children and families, knowledge of Early Childhood development and ECE reports. Highly advised that applicants have good communication skills, leadership skills and ability to plan and problem solve. Applications can be picked up the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions please call the office at 719-759-9259. (8/30/24)

FAMILY SERVICES MANAGER: CENTER HEAD START is searching for a highly motivated **FAMILY SERVICES MANAGER**. Applicants must have strong interpersonal and communication skills. Required to have a Bachelor's 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 the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions please call the office at 719-759-9259. (8/30/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

DIRECTOR: CENTER HEAD START is searching for a highly motivated **DIRECTOR**. Required to have a Bachelor's degree. The Head Start director takes total responsibility for administration of the program, including the planning, implementation, and evaluation. He/she will supervise all Head Start staff and is responsible for community involvement in the program. He/she maintains a good working relationship with the Regional Office. Ensures that the Head Start program is in compliance with Performance Standards and all policies of the National Head Start Program. Applications can be picked up the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions, please call the office at 719-759-9259. (8/30/24)

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-a959c74f16ae2c01>. (8/28/24)

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

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

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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

221 - HELP WANTED

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

611 - HOMES FOR RENT

ALAMOSA STATE BANK

ALAMOSA STATE BANK 719-589-2564 2225 Main St. Alamosa. Alamosa State Bank (ASB) is seeking a Full Time Operations Assistant to join our team in the Alamosa office. The position is responsible for a variety of administrative and clerical support duties including reconciliations, making routine calculations, making entries, and tracking various transactions.

Compensation for this position is commensurate with your qualifications and experience. ASB offers a comprehensive benefit program that includes a discretionary bonus, medical, dental and vision plans, 401(k) plan, life insurance, and paid leave benefits. Applications are available at ASB and should be submitted to Kate@alamosastatebank.com.

BUS DRIVER/ CUSTODIAN: CENTER HEAD START is in search of a BUS DRIVER/ CUSTODIAN. Must have a Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with P25 endorsement. A good driving record. Able to do a pre-trip inspection to ensure functioning maintenance of bus.

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.

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26It is paying years of service and single health insurance benefits. Apply now to become part of our dynamic district as we are now accepting applications for the positions of ELEMENTARY TEACHER PRIMARY GRADE, for the 2024-2025 School Year.

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.

LAND USE & PERMITTING ADMINISTRATOR: The Baca Grande Property Owners Association, 68575 County Road T, CRESTONE, CO 81131 \$50,000 - \$60,000 a year - Full-time.

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.

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.

POTATO WAREHOUSE IN CENTER IN NEED OF WORKERS. There are SEVERAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE. Hours 8:00 am-???

MOFFAT SCHOOLS IS now hiring for: K-12 SCHOOL COUNSELOR and SCHOOL SECRETARY. Job descriptions and applications can be found on the District website.

CENTER IN NEED OF WORKERS. There are SEVERAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE. Hours 8:00 am-???

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.

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.

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.

RIO GRANDE COUNTY is accepting applications for a HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST. Full-time, Monday - Friday. Salary starts at \$59,133 - \$65,248 annually DOE.

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.

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.

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.

EDUCATION MANAGER: CENTER HEAD START is searching for an EDUCATION MANAGER. Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or equivalent.

FAMILY SERVICES MANAGER: CENTER HEAD START is looking for a highly motivated FAMILY SERVICES MANAGER. Applicants must have strong interpersonal and communication skills.

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

YARD SALE: SATURDAY, 8/3 & 8/4, 1810 San Juan, ALAMOSA, 8am-1pm. Wii, hunting gear, clothes. (8/3/24)

ESTATE SALE: SATURDAY /Sunday, 8/3-8/4, 8am sharp. Furniture, households, antiques, kitchen items, décor items, and lots more.

347 - HOUSEHOLD GOODS

NEW KITCHEN AID BLACK kitchen UTENSILS set, \$10. 719-852-8879.

350 - FARM EQUIPMENT

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

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

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

MUST SELL: 5'X10' low UTILITY TAILOR, wheel burrow, custom garden cart, small chain saw. 719-850-1032. (8/20/24)

PU CAMPER SHELL \$125. Wood Stove \$90. Portable Air Compressor \$80. Call 719-480-1609. (8/6/24)

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.

A K C FRENCH BULLDOG Puppies. Ready to go Aug. 7, full DNA, chipped, wormed, shots, 30 days insurance.

401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES

Century Property Management & Sales, LLC Alamosa • 589-5744 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICE For all your rental needs please call 719-589-5744 or stop by 823 Main St. Alamosa, CO 81101

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

Accepting applications for 1 bedroom apartments. Must be 62 or older or disabled Cielo Vista

Apartments 166 S. Wills Center, Colo 754-3664

TTY 1-800-659-2656 This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting Applications for 2 & 3 bedroom family units Valley Grande Apts. 2256 E. Drive Monte Vista, CO 852-4302

TTY 1-800-659-2656 This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting Applications for waiting list for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family units available

West View Villas 510 Dunham Monte Vista, Colo 852-3949

TTY 1-800-659-2656 This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Rent based on income for qualifying households.

Gomez Manor Apts. 804 State St. Antonito, Colo. 376-2388

TTY 1-800-659-2656 This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Accepting applications for 2 bedroom apartments. Family living at an affordable price.

Guadalupe Hacienda Apts. 404 W. 8th Antonito, Colo. 376-2025

TTY 1-800-659-2656 This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
 1 WWII female enlistee
 4 "— Don't Preach"
 8 Casual eatery
 12 Wall St. offering
 13 Like a missing GI
 14 Old Roman poet
 15 Chemin de —
 16 Libertine
 17 Master
 18 Investigate
 20 "It's Always — in Philadelphia"
 21 Append
 22 Not talking
 23 London policeman
 26 Prohibited
 30 In the past
 31 Element No. 50
 32 Old Greek coin
 33 Dos minus dos
 35 Type
 36 Texter's "haha!"

37 Nightshade relative
39 — de cacao
41 "A Boy Named —"
42 Signal
43 Inventory
46 Fish in a can
50 Broad
51 Ali —
52 Comedian — Rickles
53 Related
54 Settled after flight
55 Conducted
56 Muse number
57 Dancer — Kelly
58 Railways on trestles

DOWN
 1 Married woman
 2 Top
 3 Abbr. in business
 4 Lampoon
 5 Prize
 6 Jab
 7 Beer
 8 '70s TV detective

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

9 Stratford-upon-
10 Granular snow
11 Whirlpool
19 Research site
20 California's Big —
22 Cloistered man
23 Composer Johann Sebastian —
24 Pointed arch
25 "— in the USA"
26 Rasp
27 Ready, willing and —
28 Condemn

29 Actress —
31 Prong
34 Indecent
38 Arctic bird
39 Parish priest
40 Wine type
42 Rustic home
43 Cygnet
44 Polynesian idol
45 Norse god
46 Post-fire event
47 Unemployed
48 Holiday song
49 Tips
51 Capture

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

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

HERMAN

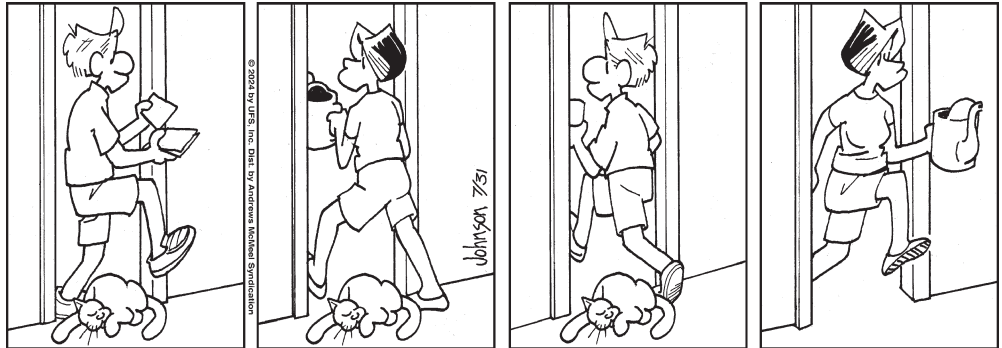


"It's in the kitchen as usual."

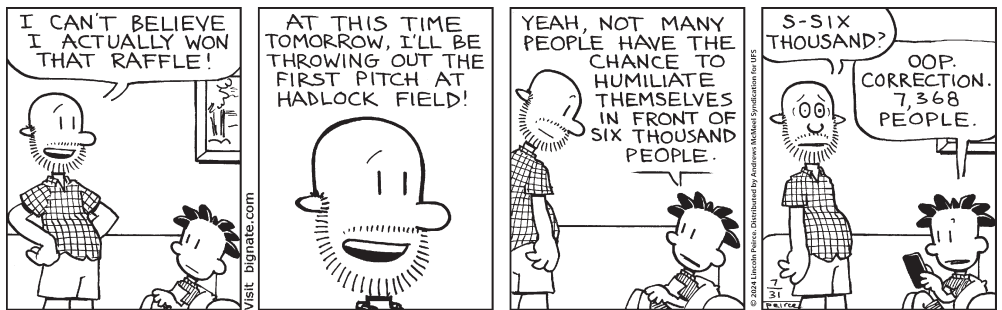
ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



BIG NATE



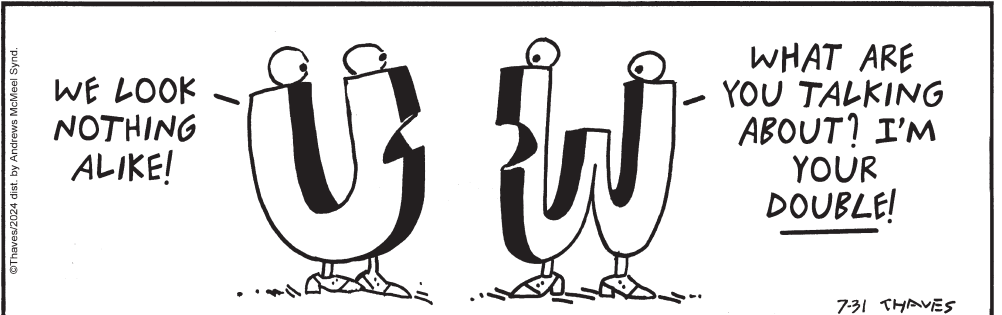
THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



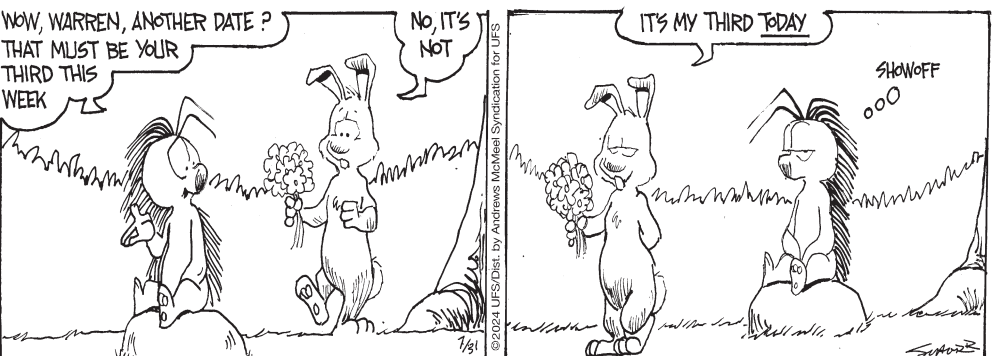
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



Secrets still held as union approaches end

DEAR ABBY: After many years of trying to keep our family together, divorce is our final option. My husband has had two affairs that I know of during our 30-year marriage. They hurt me deeply. We've had lots of counseling, but we can't get past the damage and breakdown in communication.

Should I tell our university-age children about the affairs? I kept them secret for years because he was a good father, and I didn't want to ruin their kids' relationship with their dad. But now that we are breaking up, I'm afraid I may be blamed when our situation is entirely his fault.

I did everything I could to save our marriage, including forgiving the first affair, which happened before our kids were born, and raising what I thought were happy and successful children with him. Now he has blown this up again, and I'm angry he gets to continue having a good relationship with our children.

At the same time, I have a good relationship with my elderly father, although I suspect he may have cheated on my mother. After all these years, I don't know for sure and I'm grateful I don't. What do you think? Should my children know the real reason why we split? -- **RESENTFUL IN CANADA**

DEAR RESENTFUL: If your husband is true to form, your children will probably figure out for themselves that their dad has a character flaw. You stated that you are grateful you don't know the intimate details about your father. That's why I'm recommending you take a page out of your own book and refrain from the temptation to sling mud at your almost-ex.

DEAR ABBY: My best friend and I both have children in their mid-20s. I don't understand why she coddles her son to the point that he is just now learning to do laundry, clean his own bathroom, pay bills, grocery shop or even attend doctor's appointments on his own. She always has some excuse as to why he wasn't taught life skills when he was younger.

When it came time for her son to move out, she bought herself a new home instead. She stated it would be easier for him and that he shouldn't have to pay the price of a house with interest rates where they are. She then spent an insane amount on a home and moved, buying new furniture for herself and leaving her old stuff for him.

How can she not see she's doing more harm than good when it comes to teaching him independence? Both parents do this to him. My daughter, age 18, has been



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

doing these things since she was 12, and that includes cooking, yard work, laundry and housework besides just vacuuming. Doesn't my friend realize it's harmful to not have her son do things on his own? Am I wrong for thinking this way? -- **GOOD PARENT IN MICHIGAN**

DEAR PARENT: You are not wrong. By not teaching her son survival skills he will need on his own (if he ever gets there), she has slowed his ability to fend for himself. This may have been an attempt to make his life easier. It could also have been an attempt to keep her beloved son dependent upon her as long as possible. Be thankful the young man is getting the lessons he IS being taught, even if they are a little late.

