



Splashland to host its triathlons

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Mosca VFD holds its annual appreciation barbecue

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San Luis Valley
Colorado Genuine

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

August 2, 2024

\$1

SLV Today



Courtesy photo

The Alamosa Farmers' Market is in full swing on Saturday. Peaches, roasted chiles and more at Alamosa Farmers' Market

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Farmers' Market welcomes locals and visitors to downtown Alamosa, Saturdays at the corner of Ross Avenue and 6th Street (Highway 160) for the 2024 market season.

Vendors will be selling regional farm fresh food products, various foodstuffs, and hand-crafted goods this season. Peaches and on-site roasted chiles are back for 2024. Jenni Mansfield Peal will be the live musician performing with the help of sponsorships from the City of Alamosa and the Alamosa Live Music Association (ALMA).

Free kids activities with staff will be going on from 10 a.m. until noon or for as long as supplies last.

The market accepts debit and credit cards, SNAP, Double Up Food Bucks, WIC vouchers, and cash. Organizers ask people to bring bills smaller than \$20 for the convenience of the vendors. For more information, visit www.alamosafarmersmarket.org or the Farmers' Market tent on Saturdays. If you are interested in being a vendor, contact the market at alamosafarmersmarket@gmail.com or 719-849-1083. Vendors must register a week ahead of time. No drop in vendors accepted.

New Student Orientation for Mechanical Engineers

ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY — From Aug. 12-15 an orientation to introduce Mechanical Engineering students to the Adams State campus, participate in hands-on activities with a little friendly competition, get to know the engineering/STEM faculty and students, familiarize students with college expectations is scheduled. Contact Sarah Noller at ASU for more information, 719-587-7076.

SLV WEATHER

Chance of Showers, Breezy 87/49
Sat: Slight Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 88/50
Sun: Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 88/51

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Horizon Heights prepares for renters

Effort between the city, SLVHC and SLV Behavioral Health

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — Less than one year after receiving a grant to provide housing for individuals who, for a variety of reasons, have difficulty finding or qualifying for housing elsewhere, the project known

■ See HORIZON page 3

A one-bedroom cottage is about ready to rent at Horizon Heights community.

Photo by Priscilla Waggoner



San Luis Valley Fair opens in Monte Vista

The San Luis Valley Fair kicked off Thursday morning, Aug. 1, with the two-day Horse Show at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista. The first day of the show is Western-English, followed at 9 a.m. on Friday with Ranch Horse and Gymkhana. Tucker Canty of the Blue Crew in Conejos County competes in the Senior Reining event. For a complete fair schedule, visit online.slvfair.com.



Photos by Brian Williams



Macklie Sims of Blue Spruce in Rio Grande County rides in the Junior Reining event of the San Luis Valley Fair Horse Show on Thursday at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista.



Avery Beckner of Lucky Shoe in Rio Grande County closes the gate after going through it during the Junior Trail event of the San Luis Valley Fair Horse Show on Thursday at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista.



A judge walks the Junior Trail event riders through the course on Thursday during the San Luis Valley Fair Horse Show at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista.

ASU and TSC sign 10 transfer agreements



Strengthens ties to better serve students in the San Luis Valley

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY
On Wednesday, afternoon, July 31, President David Tandberg of Adams

On Wednesday, July 31, President David Tandberg, third from left, of Adams State University and President Rhonda Epper, second from left, of Trinidad State College signed 10 new transfer agreements.

Courtesy photo

State University and President Rhonda Epper of Trinidad State College took a bold step in solidifying 10 new transfer agreements that will allow students to seamlessly transfer from Trinidad State into bachelor's degree programs at Adams State.

These agreements have been over a year in the making. Tandberg and Epper noted that Adams State University and Trinidad State College are committed to improving transfer for students.

Trinidad State is a two-year institution with campuses in Trinidad and Alamosa. ■ See TIES page 3

Colorado Day past and present

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

COLORADO — On Aug. 1, 1876, Colorado became known as the Centennial State because it was admitted to the Union one hundred years after the United States became a nation.

In 2026, Colorado will celebrate its sesquicentennial, commemorating 150 years of statehood and 250 years of the United States of America. Colorado celebrates this momentous occasion every Aug. 1 as Colorado Day.

On Thursday, Colorado Gov. Jared Polis said, "Today, on Colorado's 148th birthday, we celebrate the continued legacy and resilience of our great Centennial State. We have come together and grown stronger in these past few days as we support our fellow Coloradans and first responders who are fighting to protect our families, friends, and communities from fires across the front range and western slope. "This past year we have taken strides to make

Colorado an ever better place where everyone can thrive. We are quickly moving toward a future where we create more housing Coloradans can afford, address climate change head-on, expand transit that's reliable and affordable, foster lower-cost clean energy technologies, solidify Colorado as the best state for businesses and families, and make life more affordable for everyone. Today, I am more confident than ever that on Colorado's 150th,

■ See DAY page 3



Photo by History Colorado

The Fort Garland Museum and Cultural Center will hold Colorado Day events on Aug. 3. Admission is free.

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Record

Ag worker appreciation barbecue is Aug. 4

By MARIE MCCOLM CENTER — Attention anyone in the agriculture industry, the San Luis Valley Agricultural Coalition is having its annual appreciation barbecue and resource fair from 2 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 4, at Center's Casa Blanca Park.

This will be the eighth year of the event and as always it is free.

The event is child friendly and will feature splash pads for the kids. There will also be many fun activities for the children, including face painting and other activities.

Members of the SLV Ag Coalition will be serving food throughout the day.

Agencies will be on site, offering information and assistance to people in the ag indus-

try. Some of the subjects that will be covered by these partnering agencies will be healthcare, education, safety, food security, immigration, and agricultural rights.

Edgar Martinez, of the SLV Agricultural Coalition, stated that they are looking forward to holding the event.

"We really hope the attendees enjoy an afternoon 'off' and come on down. We hope that they can relax and enjoy a meal prepared in their honor," Martinez said.

The San Luis Valley Agricultural Coalition is a group of individuals, agencies and organizations, that strive to improve, assist, and interpret difficulties and obstacles that agricultural workers may face in the San Luis Valley.

The coalition offers information on resources and education for ag workers.

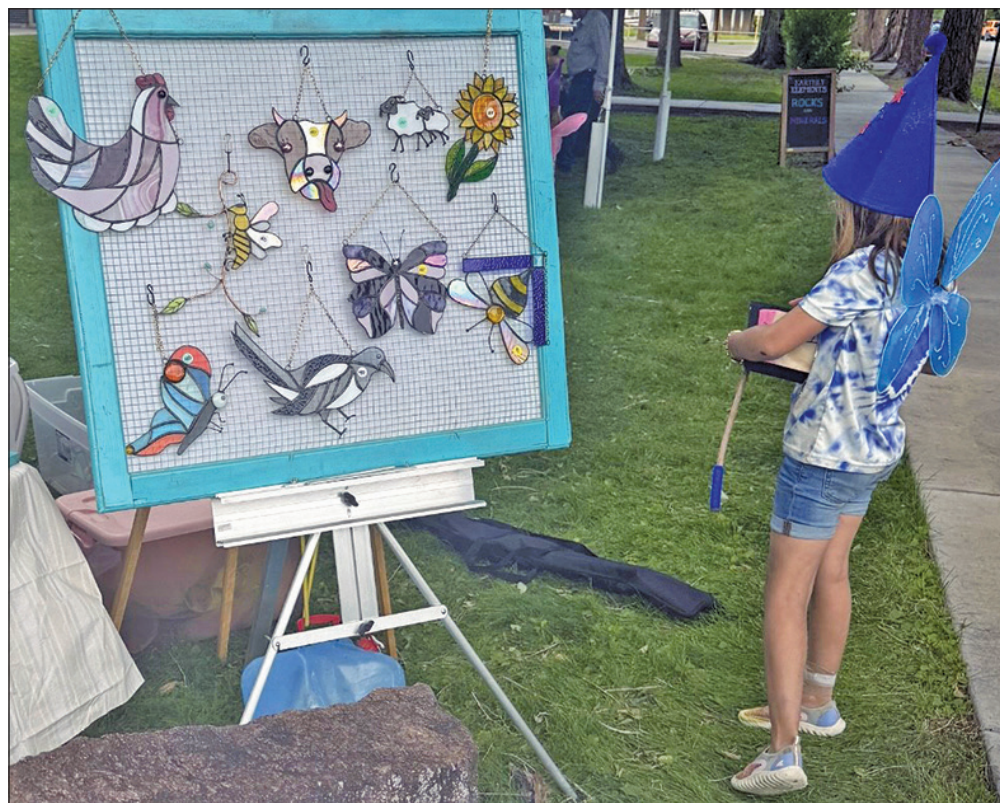
Many agricultural workers travel from town to town, switching jobs with the seasons. The need for adequate food, healthcare, and general knowledge of where to go as they travel is key to helping agricultural workers be successful in their work and their travels.

Martinez stated, "This barbecue is being held to offer the agricultural community a respite from the hustle and bustle of the work they do, and to give them the opportunity to break bread with others with whom they work, and those who dearly appreciate their dedication to the toilsome work they encounter daily."



Photos by Marie McColm

The annual Arts Walk and Hollyhock Festival was on Saturday, July 27, in Saguache.



Many people were wearing wings at the Saguache Arts Walk and Hollyhock Festival on July 27 looking for the fairy houses that have become a staple of the event.

Juveniles accused of graffiti tagging, vandalism taken into custody

STAFF REPORT ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Police Department (APD) has identified and taken into custody two juveniles they believe are responsible for numerous incidents of graffiti tagging and vandalism across the city.

The arrests followed a month of investigations into numerous tagging incidents, many

of which had a unique moniker of "Froggy," and other identifying similarities. The juveniles' actions have resulted in several thousand dollars worth of damage to local parks, buildings and signs.

APD Code Enforcement worked diligently to identify the individuals responsible and took two juveniles into custody who were charged

with suspicion of criminal mischief.

"We are dedicated to keeping our community parks clean and safe," said APD Chief George Dingfelder. "Vandalism like this damages public property and affects everyone's enjoyment of our parks. We will continue to actively pursue those responsible and hold them accountable for their actions."

OBITUARIES

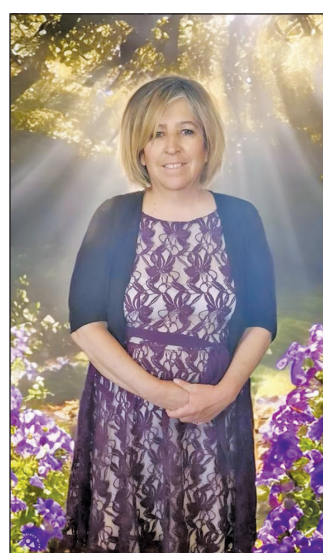
Ramona Raya (Vialpando)

Ramona Raya (Vialpando), 63, Alamosa, born in Cañones, N.M., on April 11, 1961. She passed away on July 24, 2024, peacefully at home surrounded by her loved ones.

She had a beautiful soul and spirit about her. Her smile brightened the entire world and left an impression on everyone's heart she met. Ramona brought pure joy to many. She was a blessing, and you could feel her love.

Ramona was an avid Broncos fan. She enjoyed bingo, gambling, shopping, and being fashionable. She loved spoiling her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, Jose Luis Raya; her children, Christina (Miguel) Guerrero, Luisa (Luis) Lemus, Adrian (Amy) Raya, Manuel (Desarae) Raya, and Denise



(Cristian) Velarde; 16 grandchildren-Mirella, Miguel, Yadira, Jonathan, Yalib, Adrian, Mica, Emily, Nevaeh, Adelia, Anastacia, Audysse, Miranda, Josue, Yareli and Jaziel, three great-grandchildren-Camila, Mayeli, and Yulianna; four siblings-Lori, Becky, Ricar-

do, and Lonicio; and numerous other close family members.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jose Vialpando and Viviana Jaramillo; her siblings, Virginia, Adela and Ramon.

The family will be hosting a Celebration of Life at Cristo Salva, Alamosa, on Friday, Aug. 2, 2024. Viewing for the public from 5-6 p.m. and service at 6 p.m. On Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024, Rosary, 9:30 a.m., Mass at 10 a.m., at Sacred Heart Church, Alamosa, and burial to proceed at Alamosa Cemetery.

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

By MARIE MCCOLM SAGUACHE — The annual Arts Walk and Hollyhock Festival was on Saturday, July 27. The festival began at 10 a.m. with many art vendors and residents in attendance. The sun was high in the sky, but there was also a light breeze that drifted in, as people walked up and down the streets, visiting art booths, making purchases, smiling, and socializing at the beautiful festival.

Many people were wearing wings, and walking around town with wings, for the festival looking for the fairy houses that have become a staple of the event.

Each booth that housed an artist was decorated. There was a booth with large wind chimes that were made of beautiful stained glass with rainbows of colors, that sparkled as the sun hit them. There was a booth with nothing but beautifully handstitched quilts for sale, made of all kinds of different fabrics.

There was a booth of hand-painted wooden signs for sale, with all kinds of fun sayings. There was also a booth of woodworks for children, ranging from a park bench made of wood that was just the right height for a child of about the age of 3, to

large wooden blocks that were made and personalized with children's names on them.

A large food truck was also set up in the middle of the festival where residents and artists could be seen purchasing different types of food, including funnel cakes, and munching on them while they walked around the festival.

One of the artists at the festival, Molly McDonald, said she enjoyed being there and felt people were having a fun time.

"It's been a really nice day, and the weather is holding up too," she said.

Saguache residents Tom and Adele Lucero stated that they enjoy the festival every year, and they feel it is something meaningful for the town of Saguache.

"This festival is really a beautiful thing," stated Adele. "There are many people who live here that attend, they do window shopping right outside in the streets. There are so many artists showing off their talents. Even if you don't come to purchase art, you should come out and look at all the beautiful art that these artists have handmade, it's just exceptional."

Shoni Kelly, an artist that was selling her paintings, stated she was happy about every-

one that purchased from her at the festival.

"This is my first year attending the festival. We just moved here in 2020, and I didn't know about this last year. I have had an excellent day and sold so much. I will definitely be here next year, it's a very nice little festival that seems to draw people in," Kelly said.

Kelly also mentioned that it was nice that Saguache showcased the artists and did not charge them a booth fee to sell the day of the festival.

Initially, the Hollyhock Festival and Arts Walk were separate events. The town's flower is the hollyhock. The Saguache Chamber of Commerce organizes the combined events each year.

For more information on the Saguache Chamber of Commerce, visit online www.saguachamber.org.

PENDING OBITUARY

Johnny Eli Rivera

Monte Vista resident Johnny Eli Rivera, 81, passed away July 30, 2024. Arrangements are pending and will be announced through Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

BIRTH

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 and Glenn Biggs.

COURIER OBITUARY POLICY

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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.



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School Menu

Friday

August 2, 2024

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Valley News

Colorado Supreme Court denies Town of Del Norte's appeal attempt

Lower court ruling voiding trustee Anzalone censure stands

STAFF REPORT
DEL NORTE — The Colorado Supreme Court in July denied the “petition for writ of certiorari” by the Town of Del Norte,

which was attempting to have a lower-court’s ruling overturned in the lawsuit by former trustee Laura Anzalone that claimed the town violated Colorado’s open meetings law when it censured her in 2021.

Certiorari is a court process to seek judicial review of a decision of a

lower court or government agency. The denial of a petition for a writ of certiorari signifies only that the court has chosen not to accept the case for review and does not express the court’s view of the merits of the case. The odds were not in the Town of Del Norte’s favor as a petition for a writ of certiorari is

rarely granted.

Anzalone, who was a trustee from 2018-2022, was censured by the town board in a special meeting in October of 2021. Four trustees and the mayor went into closed-door, executive session for the stated purposes of receiving legal advice “concerning Trustee removal” and “Action by Town Board ... relating to Trustee removal,” according to town records.

After the board exited executive session, Mayor Chris Trujillo announced there would be a “motion for censure” rather than a removal of Anzalone from office.

Trustee Shelly Burnett then read from a document censuring Anzalone for allegedly “encouraging citizens to file complaints” about an ordinance, being “deceptive” when requesting a special meeting, and “creating unnecessary tension in the work environment” for town staff. The board members present approved the censure.

Anzalone then filed suit in 2022 against the board. Attorney Katayoun Donnelly argued it had violated Colorado’s open meetings law by going behind closed doors to discuss whether to censure her, only coming back out to “rubberstamp” the decision.

Trial judge Crista Newmyer-Olsen initially ruled in favor of the town in October of 2022.

Newmyer-Olsen dismissed Anzalone’s open-meetings lawsuit, concluding that the board’s opinion of her “performance as a trustee, which took the form of a censure,” was not subject to the law because a censure does not concern the “formation of public policy.”

Anzalone appealed to the Colorado Court of

Appeals. A three-judge panel for the Court of Appeals in February ruled in her favor and voided the censure.

The panel of the state’s second-highest court wrote that Newmyer-Olsen “failed to recognize that the censure was a formal action and therefore ... involved the Town’s policy-making powers.”

Shortly after the Court of Appeals ruled, Del Norte trustees voted 4-3 to send the decision to the Colorado Supreme Court. The public was divided on the issue.

Some said pursuing the case was not in the best interest of the community and that the money going toward the supreme court appeal would be better used elsewhere in the town. Other community members spoke for the decision, stating that the case needed to be resolved one way or the other because the money used to fight the case had already been spent.

In the months since the decision, the town has undergone several changes including voting in a new mayor, Burnett, in the spring and electing new trustees. Mayor Burnett and Anzalone were advised by their legal counsel to not comment on the verdict from the state supreme court at this time.

Ties

■ Continued from Page 1
amosa (Valley Campus), that offers general arts and science associate’s degrees, applied career and technical degrees and select applied bachelor’s degrees.

The Valley Campus offers primarily career and technical programs.

Adams State holds both a two-year and four-year mission, and also offers graduate programs in select disciplines.

Both institutions are vital resources for the citizens of the San Luis Valley. The two institutions, together, provide an avenue to social mobility, better paying jobs, and educational opportunities.

The agreements signed July 31 were initiated through a year-long series of workshops sponsored by the Aspen Insti-

tute’s Community College Excellence Program and the American Association of State College and Universities. Trinidad State and Adams State staff attended these workshops together, which culminated in a Strategic Transfer Excellence Plan, and ultimately, these ten agreements.

Said President Epper, “Many of our students are first-generation students whose families have no knowledge or understanding of how higher education works. These new transfer pathways make it possible for students to get a solid footing at Trinidad State, then reach higher to earn a bachelor’s degree at Adams State.”

President Tandberg added, “These transfer degree plans allow us to guide students through their higher education journey and into meaningful careers.”

Both institutions will provide supportive “wrap-around” services, both academic and financial, to ensure students are able to successfully transfer and complete their programs. The 10 agreements signed include:

- Trinidad State Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assisting to Adams State Bachelor of Arts in Public Health
- Trinidad State Associate of Arts in Communications to Adams State Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Media Studies
- Trinidad State Associate of Arts in Exercise Science to Adams State Kinesiology: Sport and Exercise Studies
- Trinidad State Associate of Arts in Exercise Science to Adams State Kinesiology: Sport and Recreation Management
- Trinidad State Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement to

Adams State Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration: General Business

- Trinidad State Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement to Adams State Bachelor of Arts in Sociology: Criminology
- Trinidad State Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assisting to Adams State Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration: General Business
- Trinidad State Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assisting to Adams State Bachelor of Science in Business Administration: Healthcare Administration
- Trinidad State Associate of Arts in Theatre to Adams State Bachelor of Arts in Theatre
- Trinidad State Associate of Applied Science in Technical Theater to Adams State Bachelor of Arts in Theatre

Day

■ Continued from Page 1
sesquicentennial, birthday, that future will be a reality.”

According to History Colorado, before statehood, laws were established in 1859 during the Wild West days when Colorado was called Jefferson Territory — enforcing them was another matter. When a poll tax was proposed, 600 miners signed a pledge to resist; a move historian LeRoy Hafen noted would result in the tax collectors receiving bullets instead of dollars

The United States ac-

quired the eastern part of Colorado through the Louisiana Purchase and the western portion in 1848 through the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In 1850, the federal government purchased a Texas claim in Colorado. This combined property became the Colorado Territory.

On Aug. 1, 1876, President Ulysses S. Grant signed Proclamation 230 into law, admitting Colorado into the Union as the 38th state.

Back east, support for statehood was not overwhelming. A newspaper in New York at the time had this, “There is not a single good reason for the admission of Colorado.

Indeed, if it were not for the mines in that mountainous and forbidding region, there would be no population there at all. The population, such as it is, is made up of a roving and unsettled horde of adventures who have no settled homes there or elsewhere and are there solely because the state of semi-barbarism prevalent in that wild country suits their vagrant habits.”

In 1876, population estimates for the territory varied widely between 30,000 and 100,000.

When the territory became a state, the Colorado Constitution was written in English, Spanish,

and German to reflect the immigrant population. The early inhabitants were the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute.

The “mountainous and forbidding” region that is Colorado, has beckoned outdoor enthusiasts and others, and it now ranks as the 21st most populated state with over 5.8 million residents.

The state motto is “Nil Sine Numine: Nothing Without Divine Will or Providence.”

The Colorado State Archives states the name “Colorado originates in Spanish as the word for “colored red.” Congress chose the name Colorado as a territory in 1861.”

Regional Colorado Day activities

On Monday, Aug. 5, free admission into all Colorado State Parks, courtesy of Colorado Parks and Wildlife. CPW celebrates Colorado Day on the first Monday in August.

On Saturday, Aug. 3, a Colorado Day Tailgate Party on the grounds of the Fort Garland Museum and Cultural Center is scheduled. Activities will include free admission, games for all ages, music, food trucks, and appearances by special guests.

Everyone is encouraged to wear his or her favorite Colorado team gear. This family-friendly event is a

great way to enjoy summer and showcase your Colorado pride. No advanced reservations are required.

Eric Carpio with the museum said, “Colorado is a great place to live and we invite residents to help us celebrate the state’s 148th birthday at the Fort Garland Museum for birthday cake, games, free admission.”

Enjoy Colorado

Colorado has many attributes, including the tallest sand dunes in North America at our local Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve. The highest suspension bridge in the world is over Royal Gorge. The highest paved road in North America is Mount Blue Sky (formerly known as Mount Evans), at 14,258 feet above sea level. At 10,152 feet in elevation, Leadville is the highest incorporated city in the United States.

Colorado is well known as home to 53 mountain peaks exceeding 14,000 feet in elevation. The state is also home to a staggering 600-plus peaks over 13,000 feet.

Horizon

■ Continued from Page 1
as “Horizon Heights,” is just a few days away from first renters moving in.

Although the city was listed as the organization applying for the Community Investment grant of \$2,338,914, which was awarded by Colorado Behavioral Health Administration, completing the grant was a joint effort between the city, SLV Housing Coalition and SLV Behavioral Health.

Going forward, Horizon Heights will be managed by staff with San Luis Valley Housing Coalition while wraparound services will be provided by staff with SLV Behavioral Health.

In a nod to those doing the work, the project came in ahead of schedule and, as of August 1, 2024, \$188,738 under budget.

Located off Airport Road, Horizon Heights is a residential community comprised of 18 one- or two-bedroom cottages plus one building devoted to laundry facilities and another that serves a dual purpose of providing space for an on-site manager and services from SLV Behavioral Health.

Of the 18 residential cottages built on site, 15 are one-bedroom homes

and 3 are two-bedroom. All cottages are ADA accessible with rent for the one-bedroom cottages slated at \$336 per month and the two-bedrooms at \$554.

Water, trash, and sewer are provided with renters responsible for heat and electricity.

“The cottages are very similar to a hotel,” says Dawn Melgares, executive director of the Housing Coalition. Melgares reports that all cottages are currently rented with renters ranging from single parent families to couples. One cottage will be rented to a mother and son. “Almost all renters were referrals from nonprofits,” she says. “And people are coming from a variety of situations. Some are currently homeless, some are couch surfing and others are living in housing that is unsafe.”

Melgares went on to say that, after background checks were completed and applicants were told they would be able to rent a cottage, several people began to cry.

She is also clear that Horizon Heights is not transitional housing. Tenants must meet certain criteria to be eligible to rent. It is, instead, more similar to “gap” housing for those people who have some type of



Photo by Priscilla Waggoner

An interior photo of a two-bedroom cottage.

barrier to renting more traditional places to live.

With the eventual goal of renters moving into more permanent housing, renting a cottage at Horizon Heights is temporary, designed for renters to live there no longer than two years. Renewals and inspections will happen every six months while tenants work on circumstances in their lives that will allow them to be successful in more traditional, long-term housing.

Melgares adds that there is the possibility that some renters may stay slightly longer than two years if circumstances require that but renting at Horizon Heights is not meant to be viewed as a permanent, long-term situation.

There are also rules in place that renters will be

expected to observe, including quiet hours from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. and abiding by housekeeping standards. Pets are allowed, but tenants are expected to keep their cottage clean, and a renter can have a guest stay with them but only for a limited amount of time.

With an eye toward people transitioning to more permanent living situations, wrap around services provided by SLV Behavioral Health will be available to renters as people work on circumstances in their lives that may have proven to be barriers to renting in the past. Services include case management, transportation, workforce training, support in addressing medical issues and behavioral health services.

But, in describing the situation, Melgares is also clear. Horizon Heights is not transitional housing. Renters had to meet certain criteria to be eligible for a cottage.

She also said there is a waiting list of people hoping to move in in the future.

As of Aug. 1, people were expected to move in between Aug. 10 and 15 while final projects are completed in the community.



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FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
02	03	04

Opinion

Rocks on the brain

Ol' Dutch comes from a long line of rock collectors so it only stands to reason that he would also find pleasure in studying and finding rocks of different kinds. Rockhounding started way back in my roots – and on both sides of the family tree – so the old blood shines through, I guess.

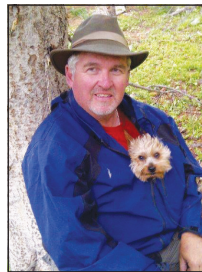
I am not sure how that all works as it can skip a generation or two but then suddenly show back up down the proverbial blood line for no apparent reason. Grand #2 somehow caught that gene and since her toddler days has loved to look for and collect rocks.

Just yesterday Ol' Dutch's nephew came to visit for a vacation, and it appears that he is now going to be hauling rocks home by the truckload, too. His 9-year-old son has also inherited that rock-loving mania and is on his way to collecting pounds and pounds of rocks.

What is amazing is this "disease" can also appear suddenly in a person whose family never really had much interest in collecting pretty rocks. And that is what happened with Miss Trixie. She is also enamored not only with the rock collecting but with identifying just how they were formed.

She has really studied this area and the La Garita Supervolcano that occurred here from which many of the collectable rocks and gemstones originated. We spend time every summer looking for new places to find them. It was a huge volcano and, by some mea-

Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick



surements, the largest explosion originating on planet Earth, so we are lucky to have such a place literally in our backyard.

Now Ol' Dutch has been accused more than once of having "rocks for brains" or some such thing but now I tend to have rocks in the truck for our return to our winter abode as Miss Trixie picks them up with raw abandon.

This week we will show my nephew's family some of our favorite spots – and collect more specimens, I'm sure.

And fun it will be as we have some great sites to revisit with Colorado Opal, geodes, amethyst, silver, quartz, thunder eggs, jasper, petrified wood, and innumerable other kinds of rocks.

As you all know, Miss Trixie is generous to a fault and will give away about anything she can lay her hands on. This became apparent to Ol' Dutch when I found a nice piece of amber some 55 million years old.

Miss Trixie asked to see it and Ol'

Dutch expected to get it back, but she passed it on to Grand #2 who was with us that day. And poor Ol' Dutch, who had never found a piece of that in his long lifetime, still doesn't have one in my collection as that kid won't give it back. And not to be outdone, Grand #1 found some real gold standing right next to me on the same day so I guess maybe it was just not my day.

This week marks the start of the Gem and Mineral show in Creede, Colorado and vendors and collectors come in from all over the country to hawk their wares to people of like mind. They not only have raw minerals and stones but lots of finished products that they have produced such as jewelry and decorative display pieces.

It is open this week Friday-Sunday, August 2-4, 10 am-5pm and I encourage you to pay them a visit at the Creede Community Center if you want to see some great finds from local to around the world collections. Entrance is free,

and the inside temps are cool.

We will have to go as I have created a rock collecting monster by exposing Miss Trixie to the hobby of rock hoarding and I am sure she will come away with some new finds there, too. That is if I can get her away from the show as she finds new "best friends" at every booth there and long conversations ensue with Ol' Dutch standing around on one foot and the other while she finds out that she and her new friends are related, something like ninth cousins, removed.

If you are interested in knowing more about the area and where to look, she is willing to share that with you and will give away my prime area locations to all that ask. Thanks again, Miss Trixie.

Kevin Kirkpatrick and his Yorkie, Cooper, fish, hunt, ATV, or hike daily. His email is Kevin@TroutRepublic.com. Additional news can be found at www.troutrepublic.com.

Kamala Harris and DEI

By BYRON YORK

A handful of Republicans have referred to Vice President Kamala Harris, now the presumptive Democratic nominee for president, as a "DEI hire." They were essentially saying that President Joe Biden picked Harris to be his running mate in 2020 because she was a person of color. Democrats have, of course, pushed back, calling the phrase "extremely offensive and dehumanizing," in the words of former U.N. Ambassador and Obama and Biden White House insider Susan Rice. Some Republicans, like former House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, pushed back, too, calling the accusation "totally stupid and dumb."

The issue goes back to the 2020 Democratic presidential primary. In March of that year, when he had all but wrapped up the nomination, Biden explicitly promised to choose a woman as his running mate. "I commit that I will, in fact, appoint a, pick a woman to be vice president," Biden said in a debate with Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Biden's promise came in the same answer in which he promised to appoint "the first black woman" to the Supreme Court if he had the opportunity to nominate a justice. So, in that moment, Biden made a specific promise of race and gender for the court while promising only to pick a woman for vice president.

Later, during a July 20 appearance on MSNBC, Biden was asked, "Are you committed to naming a black woman as your vice presidential running mate?" Biden declined to say but said that among those under consideration at that moment, "there are four black women." He then offered a few hints. Black women have long supported his career, he said, "and so they're the ones, as that old saying goes, that

brought me to the dance. I have been loyal. They have been loyal to me. ... My administration, I promise you, will look like America, from vice president to Supreme Court, to cabinet positions, to every major position in the White House. It's going to look like America. It's critically important that that be the case. I can guarantee you that."

It's fair to say that Biden strongly suggested the pick would be a black woman. And three weeks later, Biden picked Harris. According to an Associated Press report, Biden was initially quite interested in Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. But after the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, and the national nervous breakdown that followed, Whitmer withdrew from consideration and recommended that Biden choose a black woman.

"Forces in the country, and within the Democratic Party, were indeed pushing Biden toward a history-making pick," the AP reported. "As protests over the death of Floyd and other black Americans filled the streets across the country, an array of Democrats urged Biden to put a black woman on the ticket -- a nod to this moment in the nation's history, to the critical role black voters played in Biden's ascent to the Democratic nomination, and to their vital importance in his general election campaign against President Donald Trump." So Harris got the nod. In the end, Biden kept his woman-only promise for the vice presidency, and also made good on the strong hints he had given out that it would be a woman of color. And then he and Harris won the election. (In time, Biden also kept his promise to nominate a black woman to the Supreme Court.) Now, the issue is less how Harris got the job of vice presidential nominee -- it's not hard to understand the dynamics inside the Democratic Party

-- but what she would do on the DEI front were she to step up to the presidency. The short version is that she would be the president for DEI. Immediately upon taking office, Biden issued proclamations and executive orders concerning equity, the "E" in DEI. It began on inauguration day, Jan. 20, 2021, with his "Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government." The order said, "Our nation deserves an ambitious whole-of-government equity agenda." On June 25, 2021, Biden issued another executive order, "Executive Order on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce," building on the earlier order. When the 81-year-old president talked about "equity," it seemed clear he meant something along the lines of the old idea of "equality of opportunity," as opposed to "equality of outcome." The former is universally accepted; the latter is the opposite of the American way of life. Kamala Harris is different. When she talks about "equity," she means "equality of outcome." In February 2021, when Harris had been vice president a little more than a month, she took part in a virtual celebration of Black History Month. She took the occasion to say this: "We have always fought for equality. But now we are also talking much more rightly about equity, understanding that we must be clear-eyed about the fact that, yes, we want everyone to get an equal amount -- that sounds right -- but not everyone starts out from the same place. Some people start out on first base; some people start out on third base. And if the goal is truly about equality, it has to be about a goal of saying everybody should end up in the same place. And since we didn't start in the same place, some folks might

need more equitable distribution." It is hard to imagine a major-party nominee for president of the United States saying that. But that is what Vice President Harris said. That is what she believes. Should she become president, she would, of course, have much more power to pursue her goal of equity across the country -- a president for DEI.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.

Write them

GOVERNOR

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

STATE HOUSE

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

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Back to School

How students can avoid 'senioritis'

Senior year of high school can be a whirlwind of activity. The early months are spent wrapping up standardized testing and applying to college. Since many colleges and universities ask for mid-year transcripts for students to aid with class placement and/or make final admissions decisions, students also need to maintain their studies and grades throughout the fall and winter.

Come the spring, when graduating seniors have already picked a college, students with their eyes on the finish line may feel like pulling back a bit. According to Southern New Hampshire University, the term "senioritis" refers to a common condition reflecting a lack of motivation by students who are

reaching the end of their coursework. While it occurs in high school seniors and college seniors, those in trade schools or other programs also can experience senioritis. Students hope that they can simply coast until the end of school. It's important not to let senioritis set in to the point that students' academic futures are suddenly compromised.

• Consider the repercussions. According to the University of the People, many colleges have a policy that incoming freshmen must maintain a certain GPA to become students at their institutions. Letting grades slip can ruin chances of attending the school you worked hard to get into, even if you've already been accepted. Dartmouth College, for exam-

ple, notes that they reserve the right to rescind an offer if "the student's final academic record has lowered significantly." A similar policy is enforced by Stanford University.

• Schedule breaks. Take advantage of time off from school and on the weekends to engage in fun activities. Respite from school work can help you return to studies fresh and ready to engage anew.

• Plan your senior courses wisely. Work with your guidance counselor to schedule courses throughout your time at school so your senior year schedule features few rigorous classes and includes more enjoyable electives.

• Hold each other accountable. Get together with a close group of classmates to inspire one



another to continue to study and maintain good grades. Accountability to another person can serve as motivation.

• Ask for help and support. It's common for seniors to want to slack

off if they're feeling overwhelmed and stressed. If various factors in your life are causing you anxiety, reach out to your parents and friends for help.

• Establish strong habits. Learning to stay focused even throughout the spring of senior year

can help set the course for good habits that spill over into college, like time management and focus.

Avoiding a case of senioritis can be challenging, but it is in students' best interests to stay focused on their work until they don their caps and gowns.

Start preparing for school now

After a summer of relaxation, the start of a new school year generates mixed emotions among students. Many children look forward to being back on campus with their friends but may not revel in the idea of waking up early or doing homework each night.

While summer break is a much needed-respite from the rigors of school, it doesn't mean school should be forgotten entirely. In fact, doing some preparatory steps before a new school year begins can make the year go much more smoothly. Here's how students and parents can direct their focus during the final countdown.

Keep reading

According to Scholastic, summer slide is a concept that was first acknowledged by researchers in 1996. Many comprehensive studies have come out since then and indicated that kids lose significant knowledge in reading and math over summer break, which can have a cumulative effect and lead to skill loss each year. Some research says up to 20 percent of school year gains in reading and 27 percent in math are lost during summer break. Children should be encouraged to read as much as possible during summer break, particularly since many schools require summer reading and subsequent essays or book reports upon returning to the classroom. Let kids read what they want, whether it's comics, magazines, the newspa-

per, or even books they've read before.

Accumulate supplies

School may not be on the radar early in summer, but it's wise to purchase supplies early. Right before school starts there is a mad dash to grab notebooks, pens, clothing, and more, which can make for a stressful shopping experience for all involved. Shopping early helps families avoid that outcome.

Brush up on math skills

It can't hurt for students to do a few math problems over the summer. Practice keeps skills fresh and any mathematical formulas prominent in their minds. All it takes is one or two problems per day to stay on top of math skills.

Visit educational attractions

Families can include museums, art exhibits, animal sanctuaries, libraries, science centers, and similar attractions in the list of places they visit over the summer. This way students can learn and be entertained simultaneously.

Start enforcing bedtimes

School-aged children (six to 13 years) need nine to 12 hours of sleep every night, according to KidsHealth.org. During the summer, late nights can easily be rectified by sleeping in the next day. But when school resumes, the alarm clock will be ringing earlier



than expected. Parents can gradually implement earlier bedtimes as summer winds down so that kids are getting the rest they will need.

Get in the know

Parents can begin to pay closer attention to emails and social media posts from schools as they'll likely contain in-

formation about upcoming school calendars, bus routes (or transportation registration), changes in personnel, or any additional updates. This will help alleviate any surprises on the first day of school.

Families can take several steps to get ready for school as the first day draws near.

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Sports

Grizzlies picked eighth in Preseason Poll ahead of RMAC Football Media Kickoff

By MADYSON SCHLIEP

ASU sports information
COLORADO SPRINGS – The Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference has announced Adams State Football is expected to finish eighth in the 2024 Preseason Coaches Poll ahead of the 2024 RMAC Football Media Days scheduled for Friday, August 2, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in the Denver Tech Center in Denver, Colo. The Grizzlies, who finished the 2023 season ranked at eight in the RMAC with a record of 2-7 received 21 points from the ten head coaches. Points are accumulated by



the coaches ranking their opponents on a scale of 1-9 without voting for their own team.

Last year's national runner-up Colorado School of Mines is picked to finish first with a total of 79 total points. Western Colorado

and CSU Pueblo came in second and third respectively with 74 and 66 points.

Behind Thunderwolves, in order, were Colorado Mesa, Black Hills, and South Dakota Mines in the sixth position. Chadron State holds the

seventh spot, followed by New Mexico Highlands in ninth place and Fort Lewis in the tenth and final position.

During the RMAC Media Days Kickoff Event, Adams State will go live at 10 a.m. with fourth-year head coach Jarrell Harrison, along with senior Alex Reid (Pueblo, Colo. / Pueblo West HS) and graduate

student Christian Toelein (Pago Pago, American Samoa / Fa'asao Marist HS).

"I'm excited to take Christian and Alex to Media day to represent Adams State Football & our great university. Both of these young men embody, through their hard work, dedication, and commitment to teammates, what it is to be

an Adams State Grizzly," said Head Coach Jarrell Harrison.

The entire event starting with the number 10 team will be broadcast on the RMAC Network starting at 9 a.m. and concluding around 2 p.m.

The Grizzlies will open their season at home on Saturday, September 7, at 6 p.m. against Western New Mexico University.



Courier file photos by Ken Hamrick

Above: The top finishers in the oldest boys competition at last year's Splashland Kids Only Triathlon. Left: The top oldest girls finishers.

Splashland to host its triathlons

By KEN HAMRICK
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – The Splashland Hot Springs Swimming Pool will host a kids only triathlon on Aug. 10 and the 10th Annual Sprint Triathlon on Sept. 7.

Kids Only Triathlon

The Kids Only triathlon will take place at 9 a.m. There are six age groups – 4-and-younger, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14. There will be boys and girls divisions in each age group.

There will be three different courses. The wee folk is for children ages 6-and-younger and it will consist of a 1/4-mile bike race, a 10-yard swim and a 1/8-mile run. The pathfinders is for ages 7-10 and it includes a 1/2-mile bike race, a 20-yard swim and a 1/4-mile run. The trail blazers is for ages 11-and-older and it has a 1-mile bike race, a 40-yard swim and a 1/2-mile run.

There will be awards given to the top overall boy and girl in each age group.

Splashland is looking for support from sponsors for this event. A \$300 sponsorship will help offset expenses. Sponsors can remit their payments to

Splashland Kids' Only Tri, 5975 Griego Road, Alamosa, Colo., 81101.

It is also recruiting volunteers to help at various stages in the event.

For further information, contact Splashland Hot Springs Swimming Pool/race director Michael Bush at (719) 298-0662 or email at splashlandllc@hotmail.com.

Splashland Sprint Triathlon

The Splashland 10th Annual Benefit Triathlon will have 13 age groups for male, female and team divisions. The purpose is to raise funds to purchase disabled equipment, non-slip flooring, pool veranda to raise awareness of healthy lifestyles and habits.

The course will consist of a 3 1/2-mile run, a 10-mile bike race and a 400-yard swim.

The sponsorship level is \$500 for a gold sponsor, \$300 for silver and \$150 for bronze. Sponsors can remit their check to Splashland Sprint Triathlon, 5975 Griego Road, Alamosa, Colo.

For further information, contact Michael at (719) 298-0662.

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Lifestyle

1 killed, nearly 10K acres burned in three wildfires along Colorado's Front Range

By CHASE WOODRUFF
Colorado Newswire
Thousands of Coloradans remain evacuated from their homes as three major wildfires burn along the Front Range, and authorities say at least one person has been killed.
Human remains were found Wednesday in a home north of Lyons in the burn area of the 1,500-acre Stone Canyon Fire, the Boulder County Sheriff's Office said. Five

structures have been destroyed in the blaze, whose cause is unknown and which was first reported midday Tuesday.
Fire officials said early Thursday morning that the Stone Canyon Fire is now 20% contained. Areas under mandatory evacuation orders include parts of Lyons north of U.S. 36 and extend into the foothills west of Carter Lake Reservoir.
That area overlaps with the evacuation zone for the Alexander Mountain

Fire, which has burned since Monday north of the Big Thompson River west of Loveland. Officials said Thursday that the fire had grown to over 7,600 acres and is just 1% contained.
A federal incident management team dispatched by the National Inter-agency Fire Center assumed command of the fire as of 6 a.m. Thursday after response had previously been handled by the U.S. Forest Service and the Larimer County

Sheriff's Office. An estimated 450 personnel are assigned to the fire.
Evacuation centers for those displaced by the fire are open in Loveland and Estes Park, along with a large animal evacuation center in Island Grove Regional Park in Greeley.
Quarry Fire
A third fire burning in Jefferson County on the southwest edge of the Denver metro area has prompted the evacuations of nearly 600 homes nearby. The Quarry Fire

was first reported late Tuesday night and was last estimated at 341 acres in size.
No injuries or lost or damaged structures have been reported. But Mark Techmeyer, public affairs director for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, said in a press conference Thursday morning that crews have prioritized containing the blaze along Deer Creek Canyon Road to prevent what he called the "nightmare" scenario of the fire spreading fur-

ther to the north.
"Deer Creek Canyon Road is the key for us," he said. "This fire cannot jump over to the north side of Deer Creek Canyon Road. We have a whole other situation on our hands, if that happens."
Five firefighters assigned to the fire were injured on Wednesday, Techmeyer said. Four suffered heat exhaustion and one had a seizure, but none was hospital
■ See **FIRES** page 12

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Public Notices

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.

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 1/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.

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF DISTRICT COURT CASE
DISTRICT COURT, COSTILLA COUNTY, COLORADO
304 Main Street, San Luis, CO 81152
Case No.: 2024CV30012 Division: C
Plaintiff: CIELO VISTA RANCH II, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company,
v.
Defendants: JOSHUA SISNEROS, a Colorado resident; MARIAH MEDINA, a Colorado resident; DEVIN VIGIL, a Colorado resident; DIEGO ROMERO, a Colorado resident.
Attorneys for Plaintiff:
Jose A. Castro #57027 and Jamie N. Cotter, #40309
Spencer Fane, LLP, 1700 Lincoln Street, Suite 2000, Denver, CO 80203
Telephone: (303) 839-3800 | FAX: (303) 839-3838
Email: jcastro@spencerfane.com | jcotter@spencerfane.com
SUMMONS AND NOTICE
To the Above-Named Defendant: JOSHUA SISNEROS.
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the Complaint filed in the above captioned matter. Plaintiff, CVR II, alleges that you intentionally entered the CVR II Property to hunt, did not have permission to enter CVR II Property, and did shoot and kill a bull elk. CVR II alleges that due to your trespass, it has suffered damages due to lost time and productivity of its employees in having to respond to your trespass, and it is seeking a declaration that you improperly trespassed on CVR II Property and damages to be proven, including lost time and other costs allowed by law. Per Court order, this notice shall constitute service on you once it has been published for five consecutive weeks. No. 4054.
Published in the Valley Courier on August 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, 2024.

County Court District Court Denver Juvenile Court
Alamosa County, Colorado
Court Address:
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In the Matter of the Petition of:
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or
_Parent/Petitioner:
for Minor Child:
For a Change of Name to:
Carye Ann Applewhite
COURT USE ONLY
Date Filed: July 29, 2024
Case Number: 2024C110
Division: B Courtroom: B
The Court orders the following publication for a change of name:
1. Name of Emma Carye Ann Shrum
First Middle Last
Is requested to be changed to:
Carye Ann Applewhite
First Middle Last
Date: July 29, 2024. Judge: Walz
JDF 426 RB/2016
No. 4055.
Published in the Valley Courier on August 2, 3, & 6, 2024.

163 - LOST & FOUND

221 - HELP WANTED

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)

ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY is looking for candidates to fill the position of BUDGET ANALYST within the Business and Finance department. You can apply https://adams.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/ASU/details/Budget-Analyst_R188. We look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions please reach out to our Human Resources department 719-587-7990. (9/4/24)

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)

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 mtrujiillo@slvrec.com. If you have questions, please call Shawn McKibbon at 719-852-6676. 3625 US Hwy. 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. (8/10/24)

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

DEL NORTE BANK is seeking to fill a full-time position for a TELLER in the CREEDE BRANCH. Duties will be to accept deposits, loan payments and process withdrawals while maintaining a balanced cash drawer. Must be personable and pleasant answering the phone and greeting customers. Many other duties will be assigned as needed. The position is permanent, full-time, M-F, 8am - 4:30pm, an hourly rate range of \$14.42 to \$17.00, with a robust benefits package. Application available at TrueLocalBank.com/careers or inquire at 117 N. Main St, CREEDE or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Dawn. EOE. (8/16/24)

3

Ways To Advertise

Valley Classifieds

589-2553

Plan ONE

Guaranteed Ad - \$24.00

Ads must be prepaid, private parties only. One item only, no real estate (rentals, sales, apts. etc...), and no professional services. If item does not sell within 14 days, you must call to renew before the expiration date at NO CHARGE up to 20 more days. No refunds or copy changes except price reductions. Up to 20 words, additional charge for extra words.

Plan TWO

Multiple Location - \$5.00

Any regular or guaranteed ad can be picked up into another classified category for the entire length of the running time. Must be same ad, no copy changes. Ads run multiple locations in same issues.

Plan THREE

Free Ad

As a thank you to our readers, any item placed in the Courier with an advertised price of \$25 or less will be published FREE for 1 week (4 issues). Here's how it works:

1. Private parties only.
2. Ad must be 20 words or less.
3. Price must be listed.
4. No yard or garage sales run free.
5. Multiple items in 1 ad may not equal more than \$25 (Limit one per customer per week)

CLIP OUT AND MAIL

VALLEY COURIER Please Check One
P.O. Box 1099, PLAN 1 __ PLAN 2 __ PLAN 3 __
Alamosa, CO 81101
SKIP A SPACE BETWEEN WORDS

AD COPY

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

ARE YOU A motivated individual with a passion for accuracy and efficiency? SLV BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GROUP is seeking a highly organized and detail-oriented PAYROLL SPECIALIST to join our staff. The ideal candidate will have experience in processing payroll for a medium-sized organization and be able to process payroll on a bi-weekly basis. We offer a competitive salary and great benefits package. Position starts at \$22.00 per hour. For more information and to apply, visit our website at: www.slvbhg.org/now-hiring. Position closes August 12, 2024. (8/10/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for an INFANT or TODDLER TEACHER at the MVSD EARLY LEARNING CENTER. A complete list of qualifications can be viewed on the district website. The district offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefit package including employee health, dental, vision, HSA match, and life coverage. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Paraprofessional Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by education and experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities> by August 12, 2024, or until the position is filled. For questions contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (8/10/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for a PART-TIME FOOD SERVICE EMPLOYEE for the 2024-25 school year. The position is for 2.5 hours per day (11:30 am - 2:00 pm), Monday - Thursday, at MONTE VISTA MIDDLE SCHOOL. The salary for this position will be paid from the current MVSD Food Service Salary Schedule, which can be viewed on the district website - Employment Opportunities page. Placement on the salary schedule will be determined by experience at time of hire. Applications may be submitted through our online employment application <https://www.pirates.monte.k12.co.us/employmentopportunities> by August 12, 2024, or until the position is filled. For questions contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (8/10/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

RAINBOW'S END THRIFT STORE is accepting applications for a 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)

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)

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. <https://www.indeed.com/job/land-use-permitting-administrator-c201b92d488ea125>. (8/28/24)

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)

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)

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Classifieds

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)

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. (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 at the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions please call the office at 719-759-9259. (8/30/24)

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 at the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions, please call the office at 719-759-9259. (8/30/24)

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)

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

221 - HELP WANTED

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. Ability to work with children, parents, other staff, and community people. Custodian must take responsibility for the overall maintenance of the Head Start facility. Knowledge and understanding of safety and sanitation regulations and perform routine repairs as needed throughout the building. Applications can be picked up at the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions, please call the office at 719-759-9259. (8/30/24)

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26 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. Qualifications: Must hold a valid State of Colorado Teacher's License or such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. 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. (8/3/24)

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-a959c-74f16ae2c01. (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)

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)

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

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/employment-opportunities 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)

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

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

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26 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)

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

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

221 - HELP WANTED

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

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

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

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

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

JR/SR HIGH LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER needed at **DEL NORTE JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL**. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License with a secondary Language Arts endorsement. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, DNHS Principal at ahardy@urtigers.co or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co. (8/7/24)

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)

304 - LAWN & GARDEN

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

324 - SEED & FEED

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

341 - GARAGE SALE

YARD SALE: SATURDAY, 3 August '24, 7am to 11pm: 1108 Edison Ave., ALAMOSA. Something for everyone! (8/3/24)

341 - GARAGE SALE

YARD SALE: SATURDAY, August 3 & Sunday, August 4, 8am-5pm, 5915 Aspen Avenue, 1.4 miles West of WalMart. Watch for signs. (8/3/24)

EVERY SATURDAY THRU THE END OF AUGUST. Antiques, furniture, lawn decors, collectibles, tools. 97 Sierra Ave., one block from ASU @ 1st & Sierra. (8/3/24)

PRE-ESTATE SALE: SATURDAY, 8/3, 9am-2pm, 181 Tinkham, ALAMOSA. Too many items to mention. (8/3/24)

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. East Hwy. 160, left on Craft Dr., left on Clark St., right at round-about, (no street signs), left on Mimi Lane, house # 2913. Rain or shine! (8/3/24)

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)

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

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

COMPUTER CHAIR- ERGONOMIC Design: \$275 new/slightly used \$50. 2 Jacuzzi pumps; Hayward Power-Flo, 115 volts: \$350 new/slightly used \$50 each. 719/852-2698. (8/10/24)

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. Please call if you can give her a good home. ALSO, NEED A HOME FOR: laying hens, a goose, two ducks, hedgehogs and tortoises. For any of the above, call 719-580-4014. (8/14/24)

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

401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES

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www.alamosarentals.com

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

Applications Now Being Accepted For 1 Bedroom Apartments For Seniors & Disabled
Plaza Del Sol Manor
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La Jara, CO
274-5826
TTY
1-800-659-2656

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611 - HOMES FOR RENT

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630 - ROOMS FOR RENT

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

737 - RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2006 DODGE SPRINTER VAN 2500. Very good condition, new tires, new battery, high ceiling, maintenance records, report from Roger's Automotive, 197,399 k miles. Asking \$16,000. 719-580-7355. (8/10/24)
CAMPER TRAILER FOR Sale: 16ft, 1988 Komfort, excellent. Call 719-580-5745. (8/7/24)



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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Business enterprise
 - 5 Hastened
 - 9 In the past
 - 12 On an ocean liner
 - 13 River in Ireland
 - 14 Annoy
 - 15 Dross
 - 16 Secular
 - 17 Black gold
 - 18 Place of worship
 - 20 Linger
 - 22 Actor — McKellen
 - 23 Follows a food regimen
 - 24 Lopsided
 - 27 "You said it!"
 - 29 Farm tool
 - 30 Something discharged
 - 34 Anomalous
 - 37 Move to and —
 - 38 Too hasty
 - 39 "Mr. — Goes to Washington"

- 41 Fall guy**
44 Mole
45 Figures of speech
47 Price-fixing group
51 Seed case
52 Sgt. Snorkel's dog
54 "Dies —"
55 Before
56 Hardware item
57 Put on —
58 Matter, in law
59 Like colored hair
60 "— I know it!"
- DOWN**
- 1 Eat nothing
 - 2 — of Ely
 - 3 500 sheets
 - 4 Black-and-white bird
 - 5 Actress — Mirren
 - 6 Writer — Levin
 - 7 Oklahoma town

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

8 Many years
9 Home
10 Culpability
11 Looks lewdly
19 Ordinance
21 Takes the gold
24 "Eureka!"
25 Weep
26 Barbie's boyfriend
27 Eastern nurse
28 Thousand thou
30 Letters
31 "— Can't Have You"
32 Scrap

33 Japanese drama
35 Thereabouts (2 wds.)
36 "Everybody Loves —"
39 Hydro
40 Innumerable
41 Pied — of Hamelin
42 Love
43 Ocean motions
44 Censure
46 Remain
48 Threesome
49 Merit
50 For fear that
53 Deadlock

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

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

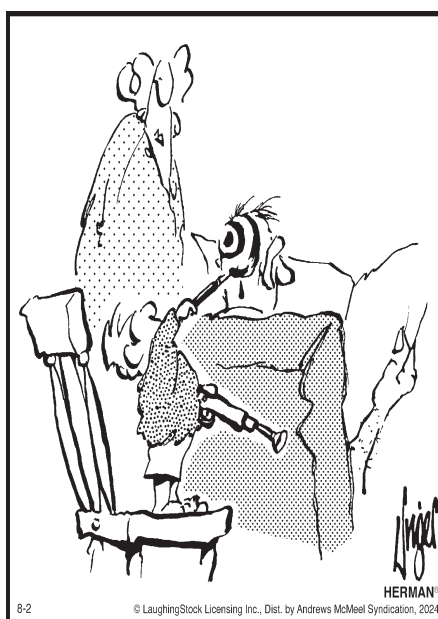
	9		6	1						
	3	7	9	1					5	
8	4		2							
3	2		5						4	
4								7		
9			4	3	2					
			1	2	3					
4	6		7	2	8					
			9	8				4		

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

HERMAN

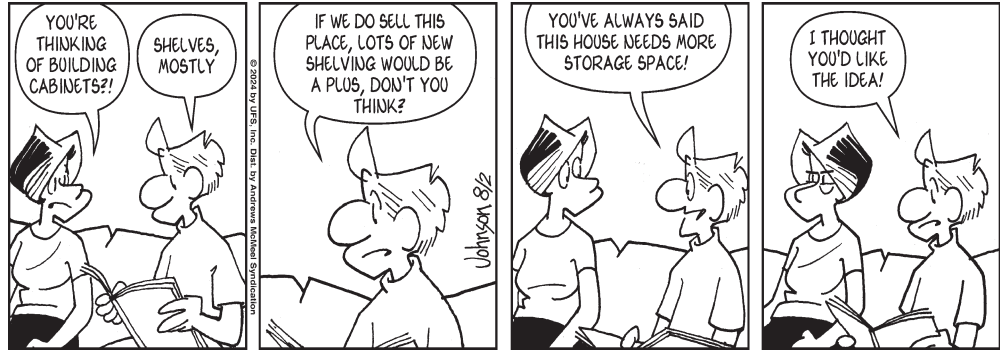


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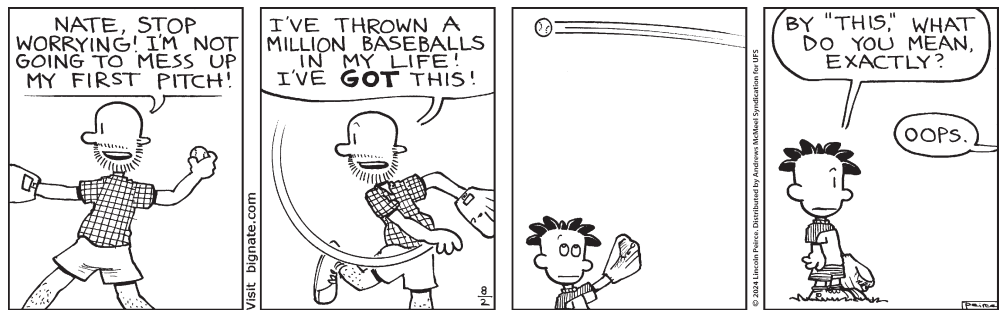
ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



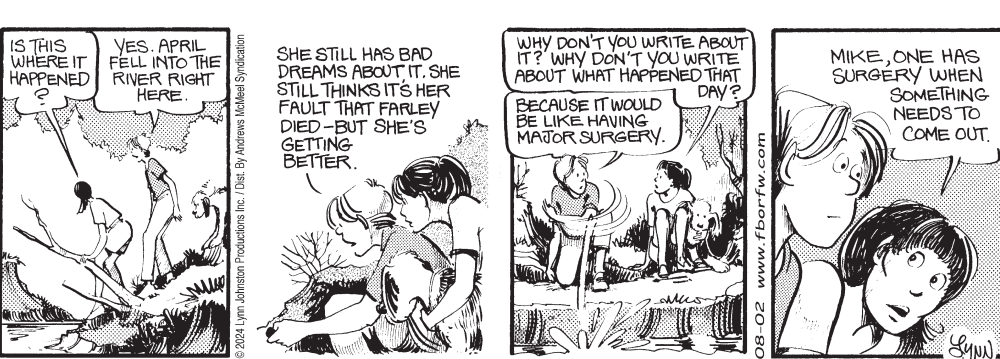
BIG NATE



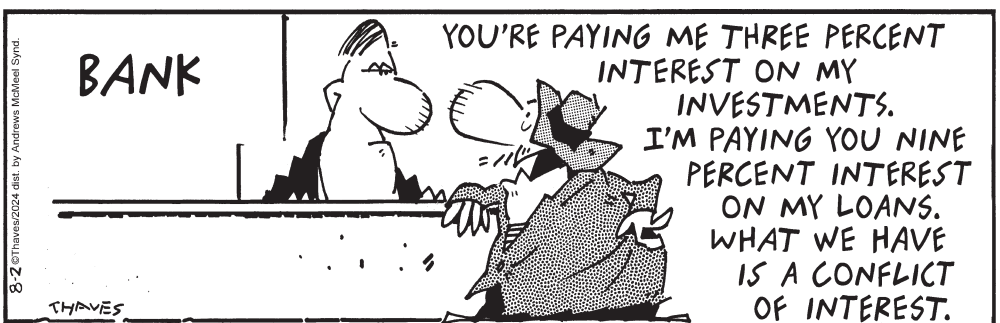
THE BORN LOSER



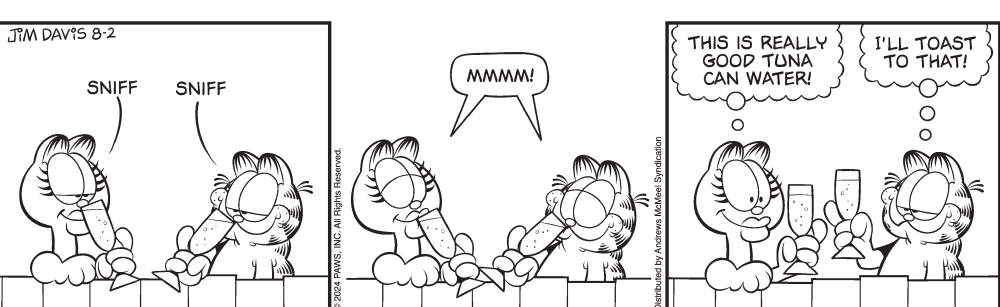
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



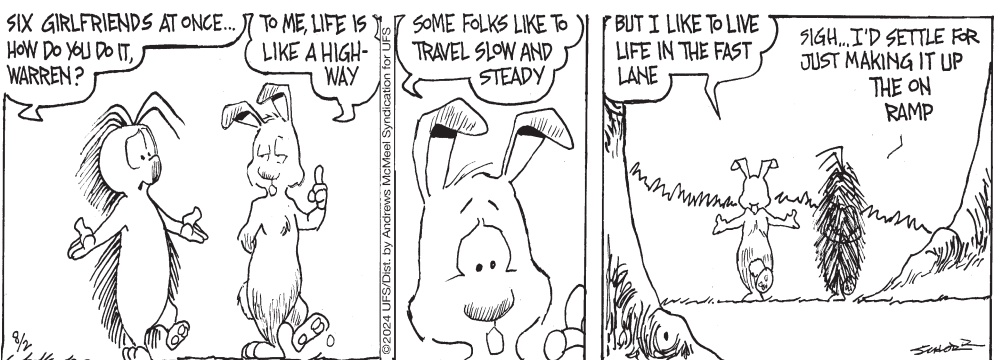
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



Disagreement with father progresses to estrangement

DEARABBY: After several years of worsening arguments, I told my father I was tired of fighting with him, and we needed family counseling. He was deeply, explosively offended and not only refused to talk about counseling, but also ceased all contact with me. He called my siblings and told them I was disowned and then changed his will. This was surely an overreaction, but it might be generational. When I said we needed to see a therapist, I think he heard me calling him (or us?) mentally ill, which he found unacceptable.

The relationship with my dad is probably not repairable, but he has told all of our extended family that I'm the one who cut off contact with him and that I started it. I guess that's sort of true because I said we needed to be in counseling before we visited each other again, but the way he tells the story made me look like a villain, and my aunts and cousins stopped inviting me to family events. No one will pick up the phone or answer emails.

I have a good job and live on my own, so it's not that I need their support, but I miss them and hate them thinking so poorly of me. Besides going to counseling myself, which I'm doing, what can I do?

-- MISSING IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MISSING: There is little more you can do besides what you have already tried. You might send out one more mass email blast explaining in detail what happened with your father, tell them you love and miss them and that you are sorry that your suggestion that you and Dad have family counseling resulted in your being shunned (which is what is happening). Then get on with your life and gather a "chosen family" of friends who are supportive in good times and bad.

DEAR ABBY: I am a retired nurse on a limited income. Shortly after retiring, I used a large part of my retirement money to pay off the house, put on a much-needed new roof and purchase a car and various household necessities so I could at least come close to living on my Social Security income.

For the last seven years, my daughter has lived with me along with her children, who have grown in number from one to three in that short time. She's unable to keep a job because she has a variety of mental and medical issues, so I have gladly helped with co-parenting the children.

I pay the bills, run errands and provide the



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

transportation for our household while she does most of the food procurement. Some of the disputes we wind up having are about the food -- eating and wasting, etc. Because I have allowed her to live here and already pay almost all the bills, am I wrong for wanting a say in matters of menu and grocery lists? She gets very possessive about the shopping choices. -- FUSSING OVER FOOD IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR FUSSING: You are a loving, caring and generous mother. I assume you are also paying for the food your daughter is buying. If that's the case, then your wishes should prevail when it comes to what's on the menu.

Lifestyle



Photos by Marie Mccolm

Children rode on a fire engine at the Mosca Volunteer Fire Department's annual community barbecue on July 27.

Mosca VFD holds its annual appreciation barbecue

By MARIE MCCOLM
MOSCA — On Saturday, July 27, the Mosca Volunteer Fire Department held its annual community barbecue.

There was a slight breeze in the air, and approximately 100 people were standing in line outside the firehouse, awaiting their turn for some delicious barbecue, served by the firefighters. The department served beans, roasted pork, coleslaw, mashed potatoes, and a slice of bread with the dinner. There were also several beverages available, including ice water and lemonade.

Just inside the fire department were long benches and tables set up for the people who attended, to eat comfortably and socialize with their family and friends. Volunteer firefighters could be seen serving plates of food to the public and smiling.

Many of the children who attended the barbecue could be seen jumping on the back of a fire truck and taking a ride with a gentleman who was all smiles, driving up and down the road, honking and flashing the lights.

Volunteer fire department chief Blaine Witherspoon spoke about the barbecue and the department.

"We have 24 firefighters including myself, that's about all we have room for right now. We have had two guys on the waiting list for a little over a year now, and we appreciate that. We started this hamburger fry about 25 years ago, to get the community here to show them our appreciation and that we are here to protect them. We switched over to barbecue about 15 years ago, and it's been a big hit ever since. We have always just made enough at the barbecue to do it again next year. We were able to also buy new tables and chairs, and seat more people here," he said.

Chief Witherspoon explained that it is not really a fundraising event, as



On Saturday, July 27, the Mosca Volunteer Fire Department held its annual community barbecue. The dinner was served by the firefighters.



The Mosca Volunteer Fire Department held its annual community barbecue and was happy with the turnout.

they only take a donation for the food, but the event has helped the department buy some new equipment.

"It's just a nice way to bring the community together and show the community that the fire department appreciates them too," he said.

Chief Witherspoon stated that he was excited to see a big turnout at the event this year.

"This is the first time we have had to lay tables on the other side of the building. It was a good turnout last year too, but about 10 of us weren't able to attend because we were out on a call, and by the time we got back, well it was all over," he stated with a chuckle.

Chief Witherspoon stated that he wants the pub-

lic to know that they are there to serve if they are needed.

"We hope that they don't need us, but if they do, we are coming," he said.

Alamosa resident, Jose Rodriguez was at the barbecue and stated that he has attended for about the past five years.

"I like to come and show my support and donate to the department. My sister lives here in Mosca, and she had to call the fire department a few years back, and they saved her house before anything bad happened to it. Firefighters are important, this is a nice barbecue that they put on every year, hopefully people come out, and donate and show their support to such a worthy cause," he said.

Fires

Continued from Page 7

ized. A so-called "hot-shot" crew of 20 experienced wildland firefighters from Durango joined crews responding to the fire on Thursday.

Call for federal resources

Fire officials have said that aerial firefighting resources and personnel are stretched thin by the outbreak of fires in Colorado and in many other Western states amid the most active summer wildfire season in several years. More than 750,000 acres have burned in California already this year, nearly 30 times the total acreage burned at this point in 2023. At least 31 large fires are burning

in Oregon, and once-in-a-century fires are also impacting Canada.

Colorado this summer recorded the third-hottest June in state history, according to the Colorado Climate Center, and multiple record high temperatures were set during a mid-July heat wave. The U.S. Drought Monitor shows that much of the northern Front Range is experiencing moderate drought conditions, and an area spanning from Jefferson County to northern Larimer County is in severe drought.

In a letter to NIFC chief Mark Hilton on Wednesday, four Colorado Democratic members of Congress said that the state has "activated all available resources" and

pleaded for more crews, incident management teams and aerial support as soon as possible.

"With existing wildfires and the continued high wildfire risk, the State expects to need additional resources in the coming days and weeks," said the letter, signed by U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper and Reps. Joe Neguse and Brittany Pettersen, who represent areas where the fires are burning. "We understand the pressures facing our wildland firefighting workforce, as wildfires rage all across the western United States and continue to threaten many of our communities. Existing resources are stretched thin to meet those demands."



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- 3 Local businesses sell a wide range of great products at affordable prices and cater to the needs and wants of the community.**
- 4 Shopping Local saves you money and time!** Travel expenses and personal time make the overall cost of items higher.
- 5 Shopping Local retains our community:** Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.
- 6 Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness:** Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community's needs.
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