



Groups gearing up for music, car show Aug. 17

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Two fighters from SLV Boxing Club to compete in Denver

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

August 6, 2024

\$1

## SLV Today

### Public meeting on future of St. Benedict

**ALAMOSA** — The recent Supreme Court decision on City of Grants Pass, Oregon v. Johnson overturned previous legal precedent guiding local government enforcement of no-camping ordinances set by the Ninth Circuit in Martin v. Boise in 2018. It was this 2018 decision that partially led the City of Alamosa to create St. Benedict in 2020.

With the recent decision, the City of Alamosa no longer needs St. Benedict to enforce the no-camping ordinances on public property – sidewalks, parks, trails, alleys, etc. Given this significant shift, the Alamosa City Council will be hosting a public meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 14 at City Hall to receive input from the public and to discuss the future of St. Benedict.

City council encourages everyone who has an opinion to attend the meeting. Anyone not able to attend, can share their thoughts with Alamosa City Council members through their contact forms found on the City website <https://cityofalamosa.org/departments/city-council/>.

The public meeting will also utilize zoom, which allows for public comment as well at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85753492744>.

### 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 Afternoon Showers 83/50

**Wed:** Chance of Afternoon Showers 87/50

**Thurs:** Afternoon Showers Possible 81/50

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## Statewide COVID cases shot up in July

### Similar trend in Alamosa County

By **PRISCILLA WAGGONER**  
*Courier Reporter*  
**ALAMOSA** — Just when the topic of COVID seemed like a thing of the past, recent numbers reported by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) show that it is still with us.

The year 2024 began with a sobering 3,306 cases reported statewide. But then numbers start-

ed decreasing and kept on a downward trend through the first half of the year, reaching a low of less than 500 cases by the end of April.

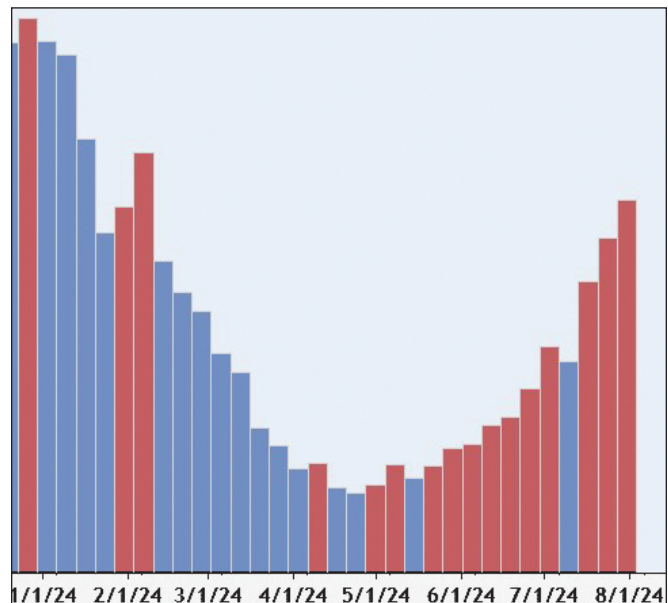
That trend has now reversed, starting slowly at first and then picking up steam with cases increasingly on the rise. July showed the sharpest increase all year as numbers soared from 1,407 statewide in the last week of June to 2,319 in the last week of July.

Beverly Strnad, R.N. and interim director of Alamosa County Public Health, confirmed with the Valley Courier that

the same trend has been happening in Alamosa but was quick to add that the first week of August showed numbers dropping again.

When asked if she could provide a specific number about how many positive cases have been confirmed in Alamosa County, Strnad was reluctant, and her reasoning made sense.

“We have seen the numbers of COVID-19 cases in Alamosa County increase since July 1, which is quite similar to state data but any specific number I could give you has no



Graph from CDPHE showing trends in the numbers of cases since the first week of 2024.

■ See COVID page 3

## Hope and recovery festival in Cole Park

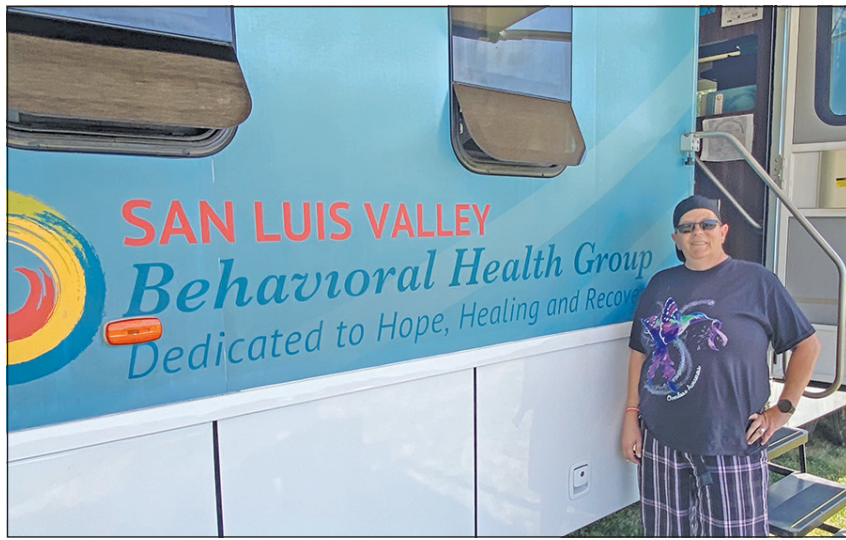
### ‘Dedicated to Hope Healing and Recovery’

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

**ALAMOSA** — For over the last 50 plus years, San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group (SLVBHG) has provided essential mental health services in the Valley. On August 3, the group sponsored its third annual Hope and Recovery Festival here in Cole Park.

The event showcased addiction services in the Valley with SLV Behavioral Health, SLV Health, Hope in the Valley, Valley-Wide Health, and Tu Casa attending. Other groups present were the Children’s Advocacy Center of the San Luis Valley (part of Tu Casa) and the San Luis Valley Health Education Center, commonly known as SLV AHEC.

One attendee at the recovery festival who wished to remain anonymous said he was glad to see many of the recovery services in the Valley at the festival. He said he is an active member of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) and Narcotics Anonymous (N.A.), and through their twelve-step approach to recovery, “Has saved my life.” He offered that A.A. and N.A. programs were not present at the festival as part of the anonymous traditions of the groups.



Courier photo by John Waters

**Jennifer Brooks with the Mobile Unit of San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group. The vehicle travels weekly throughout the Valley and provides services in Del Norte, Center, Moffat, La Jara, Antonito, San Luis, and Fort Garland.**

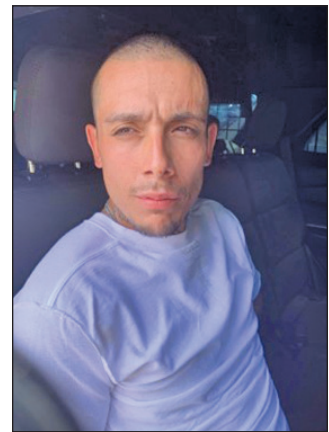
“Recovery is possible; we have meetings throughout the valley; the first step in recovery is to admit that we are powerless over alcohol and drugs — that our lives have become unmanageable,” said the individual in recovery.

SLVBHG is A Community Mental Health Center, according to its website, and is defined by the American Psychological Association (APA) as a place where community-based activities are used to meet the behavioral health needs of individuals instead of institutional settings to promote mental well-being.

In the 1960s, President John F. Kennedy presented a new approach to how society treated mental illness and individuals with behavioral health needs. The Community Mental Health Act of 1963 shifted the focus of mental health treatment from institutionalization to treatment where individuals lived. As a result, community-based mental health centers have been established throughout the country.

In an interview with the Valley Courier, Kate Jack with SLVBHG said, “We are committed to offering a comprehensive array

■ See HOPE page 3



Courtesy photo

**Larry Chavez of Alamosa was arrested in Santa Fe, N.M., on suspicion of second-degree murder, robbery and theft.**

### Victim identified in Thursday fatal shooting Suspect Chavez is in custody

By **PRISCILLA WAGGONER**  
*Courier Reporter*

**ALAMOSA** — The man who died of fatal gunshot wounds sustained on Thursday evening in the area of 17<sup>th</sup> and State Avenue in Alamosa has been identified as 44-year-old Enrique Parra of Alamosa.

The identification was made and released to the public by Alamosa County Coroner Joe Dzuris. Dzuris

■ See VICTIM page 3

## Masters, Swing Riders bring southwestern swing to Society Hall

By **SOCIETY HALL**  
**ALAMOSA** — Society Hall is excited to welcome award-winning western artist Syd Masters and his band the Swing Riders for a performance at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 9.

His superb accompanists in the Swing Riders are multi-instrumentalist Bob Goldstein and bassist Gary Roller.

Tickets are \$20 and are available at the Green Spot at 711 State Ave. in Alamosa, or online at [www.societyhall.org](http://www.societyhall.org). The concert will also stream live on the

Society Hall Facebook page and You-Tube channel.

Masters is an American singer and songwriter of traditional western music. Born and raised in the woods and water country of rural Wisconsin he now makes his home of many years in the Rocky Mountains of Northern New Mexico. He is the author and recording artist of the Official State Cowboy Song of New Mexico and was recognized by The Academy of Western Artists as Male Vocalist of the Year — twice.

His recent CD “Sunset on the Rio Grande Revisited” won the Wrangler Award from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum for “Outstanding Traditional Western Music CD”. Later in the same year, Masters was the recipient of the prestigious Presidents Award from The International Western Music Association for his contribution to Western music, and he also took home his 10th New Mexico Music Industry Award.

■ See SWING page 3



Courtesy photo

**Syd Masters, center, and his bandmates from the Swing Riders — Bob Goldstein, left, and Gary Roller, right, — will be performing on Aug. 9 at Society Hall in Alamosa.**

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# Record

## Newcomer's Guide to Gardening in the San Luis Valley

Perennial flowers for the Valley

By EMILY FOLZ  
CSU Extension  
Colorado Master Gardener



Blue flax (*Linum lewisii*) nestled between small boulders in mid-June.



Beautiful columbine (*Aquilegia*) with golden yellow petals and coral-colored sepals blooming in mid-June.

SAN LUIS VALLEY — Driving along Highway 160 and looking across the arid landscape of the Valley, with its sagebrush and salt-bush, tumbleweeds and dust devils, one might think growing colorful gardens full of perennial flowers was nearly impossible. But I keep stumbling across Valley gardens, which I would have thought were too delicate to grow here. We have harsh wind — yes, and bitterly cold winters — yes, and hungry deer — yes, but Valley gardeners have found ways to grow gorgeous flower gardens anyway.

An avid Valley gardener shared her list of no-fail plants. Lists like these are indispensable to newcomers like myself. They come with years of trial and error, 50 years in her case. I was surprised by some of the perennial flowers that made her list — Asiatic lilies, bearded iris, Siberian iris, and peonies — all plants I would have thought too fragile for our conditions. I'm delighted to say I was completely wrong.

The list also included other colorful perennials such as columbines, yarrow, salvia, bleeding heart, spiderwort, mint, and hollyhocks. Hollyhocks are the official flower of Saguache, which just held its annual hollyhock festival. Who would have thought hollyhocks, with their tall, stately stalks covered with seemingly delicate blossoms, would thrive here? But they do!

Early in the summer, I saw several beautiful perennial gardens all planted in full sun with no protection from wind or critters. Blooming during the first few weeks of June were deep purple woodland sage (*Salvia nemorosa*), red and yellow blanket flower (*Gaillardia aristata*), blue flax (*Linum lewisii*), purple Rocky Mountain penstemon (*Penstemon strictus*), creamy white and soft yellow yarrow (*Achillea*), white Snow-in summer (*Cerastium tomentosum*), soft white Apache plume (*Fallugia paradoxa*), golden columbine (*Aquilegia chrysantha*), and light violet catmint (*Nepeta*). Several gardens contained

irises in deep purple, bright orange, golden yellow, and soft lavender and cream. One garden had a flower bed completely filled with brilliant red-orange oriental poppies. Another garden had bright yellow-orange California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*) which, although a hardy annual in our area, looked beautiful planted alongside perennial deep purple woodland sage.

In July, I visited a gardener south of Monte Vista, who had several flower beds awash with colorful blooming perennials. She had strategically placed her flower beds in areas protected from the wind. My favorite was a flower bed filled with blooming lilies in a multitude of colors - bright fuchsia, butter yellow, bright orange, deep red, pale pink and white. Another flower bed had gorgeous blooming delphiniums in deep purple-blue reaching 4 feet tall, also protected from the wind.

These gardeners, like many others in the Valley, are great teachers, having learned to create beautiful flower gardens despite our tricky growing conditions. They address the issue of wind by planting next to buildings, berms, windbreaks, and shrubs, or by choosing plants that don't seem to mind it. They address the need

to conserve water by using drip irrigation or by choosing plants that prefer more arid conditions.

CSU Extension has some great online resources about growing perennials in Colorado. Although not specific to the Valley, the fact sheets below include perennials that grow well at high altitude.

• Flowers for Mountain Communities - 7.406: <https://extension.colostate.edu/docs/pubs/garden/07406.pdf>

• Native Herbaceous Perennials for Colorado Landscapes - 7.242: <https://extension.colostate.edu/docs/pubs/garden/07242.pdf>

Another great resource is the CSU Extension office in Monte Vista. San Luis Valley master gardeners staff the help desk at the CSU Extension office each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and are happy to answer your gardening questions. You can reach them at 719-852-7381 or by visiting the office. If you don't have access to a computer, you can obtain printed copies of the above fact sheets from them as well.

Do you have garden favorites not listed above? I'd love to hear about them! Please share your experiences and your photos! Email me at [SLVgardening@gmail.com](mailto:SLVgardening@gmail.com)



File photo

People take photos of classic cars during the Poor Boy Car Club car show in 2023 during the SoCo Suds and Sounds event at Chapman Park in Monte Vista. Car show organizers are expecting nearly 100 vehicles at this year's event on Aug. 17 at Chapman Park.

## Groups gearing up for music, car show Aug. 17

By MARIE MCCOLM CENTER — One of the biggest car shows of the year will be cruising into Chapman Park on Saturday, Aug. 17.

This year's car show, the 13th annual, is being organized by the Poor Boy Car Club. It will be part of the fourth annual SoCo Suds and Sounds in Monte Vista and will feature an exciting demonstration from Ms. KAIS Academy of Performing Arts, a live deejay, and live music from Absolution beginning at 4 p.m. Absolution will play until the show ends at 6 p.m.

"We're pleased to be hosting the 4th annual SoCo Suds and Sounds event in conjunction with the Poor Boy Car Clubs 13th annual car show," said OptiMystics Citizen Action Network President Adam Lock. "Additionally, we brought Valley Veterans Recreation on board this year as co-hosts. DJ Salazar and crew have been great to work with and we expect this event to continue to draw large crowds into Chapman Park."

The OptiMystics have announced that this will be their final year hosting the event, and they will be passing the reins for the event exclusively to Valley Veterans Recreation.

"We really didn't intend to be event organizers," Lock said. "However, that's what happened, and the Suds and Sounds event just took off, pulling an estimated 4,000 people last year. We don't want to see the event just die off, so handing it off to VVR is a great thing. That way the OptiMystics can refocus more on the downtown revitalization side of our mission."

The Monte Vista Parks and Recreation Department will also be holding a Cornhole Tournament. There will also be various vendors onsite and many food trucks.

Registration for the car show is from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and show and shine is from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.,

with awards being given at 4 p.m. Early registration before the show is \$25, gate entry fee is \$30, additional car entry fee is \$5, motorcycles are \$15, and bicycles are \$10.

Richard Garcia, of Center, who is president of the Poor Boy Car Club, is looking forward to the event.

"This all started when we met the OptiMystics, and we realized that all of us had something in common. This year we are also collaborating with Valley Veterans Recreation to bring an even bigger and better event. We love hosting these events. We love to see the community engagement and involvement," Garcia said.

The Poor Boy Car Club has hosted many car shows and attends many car events to show off their spectacular cars. Garcia said that they try not to miss a chance to enter a car show.

"It's always something amazing to be a part of these car shows, and I love these events," he said.

The Poor Boy Car Club also raises money to help people who are sick or fighting illness. Garcia said that the idea for raising money began when his nephew was diagnosed with cancer at a young age. The club raised some money to help his sister and nephew.

"We ended up having a car show in Sargent that year and raised quite a bit of money to give to my sister and to St. Jude. We did lose my nephew to cancer which left a big hole in our hearts. That is what made us realize we wanted to do raise money and give it to people in need. So, after that we just have always tried to do that. We have raised money and given it to people who have had illness due to cancer, or other sickness," he said.

This year, Garcia would like to break his record and have more than 100 entries for the car show. Garcia said they have been close to the centu-

ry mark but have yet to reach it.

"I would really like to bring in 100 entries, cars, bicycles, trucks, all types of vehicles. We will be giving away more awards this year too. We want to make sure we come close to sending everyone who enters something to go home with," Garcia said with a smile.

DJ Salazar of Valley Veterans Recreation is excited to collaborate with So Co Suds and Sounds and Garcia on the car show.

"When I was asked, I answered by saying I definitely want to do this. This is a great opportunity to bring people together. I want to make sure as many cars, trucks, bicycles, and all types of vehicles, come to the park and join in," Salazar said.

Salazar said he is hoping to bring gearheads from everywhere to enjoy and participate in the show.

"I want to help make this show bigger and better than ever before," he said.

For car show information or to register, contact Garcia at 719-580-2673.

There are still spaces open for vendors. Vendor registration deadline is Aug. 9. Visit [optimystics.org](http://optimystics.org), for a vendor application, or call 719-239-1811, for more information.

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# Valley News

## New law impacts processes for Concealed Weapons Permit

**STAFF REPORT**  
**ALAMOSA**—The office of Alamosa County Sheriff Robert Jackson (ACSO) released a notice that the Colorado House of Representatives passed new legislation, HB 24-1174, which will impact individuals seeking a new Concealed Weapons Permit (CCW). It will also impact people looking to renew their current CCW permit and certified firearms instructors providing training to CCW applicants.

According to information in the notice from ACSO, this new legislation introduces stricter guidelines for first-time applicants, detailing the required type of training, who can provide it, and where it must be completed. For those renewing their CCW

permit, a mandatory refresher course is now part of the application process. Certified instructors must follow new guidelines, including verification of their credentials by the sheriff of the county where they provide instruction.

Additional parts of this bill affect the process, so it is essential for all involved to read HB 24-1174 as soon as possible.

Due to some confusion regarding the language and initiation timeline of various parts of the bill, the County Sheriffs of Colorado is working on creating specific guidelines for all sheriffs across Colorado to follow. This information will be distributed to residents as soon as it is available. In the meantime, please fa-

miliarize yourself with this new legislation.

Additionally, HB 24-1348, which addresses unattended firearms in unoccupied vehicles, has been passed and will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2025.

This legislation requires handguns in unattended vehicles to be stored in hard-sided, locked storage that is permanently mounted in the vehicle. It also mandates locking devices for any other unoccupied weapons, such as rifles, stored in a soft case in the vehicle. There are exceptions to some of these requirements, so it is crucial to familiarize yourself with HB 24-1348.

HB24-1174 can be read in its entirety by going to <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb24-1174>.

## Data shows first-time voter registrations surged in Colorado in July

By CHASE WOODRUFF  
*Colorado Newsline*

Last month's shakeup of the 2024 presidential race appears to have fueled a surge in Coloradans registering to vote, according to data released by the secretary of state's office.

A total of 26,621 people across Colorado's 64 counties registered as new voters in July, the highest monthly figure the state has recorded since November 2022, when races for governor and a U.S. Senate seat headlined the midterm elections. It's an unusually high total for the month of July, when new voter registrations in Colorado typically ebb following the June primary.

Driving the overall surge was a sharp increase in the number of new voters registering online, in-person, through the mail or by other means, excluding automatic voter registrations through the Colorado Department of Revenue, which have remained relatively steady throughout the year, according to the data, which was released Aug. 1. Colorado's automatic registra-

tion system, implemented in 2020, enrolls voters when they apply for or renew their driver's license at the Division of Motor Vehicles, unless they opt out.

The Colorado data follows reports of surging voter registrations across the country following President Joe Biden's July 21 announcement that he would withdraw from the 2024 presidential race. Vote.org, a nonpartisan voter registration website, said that it signed up more than 100,000 new voters, 84% of whom were under age 35, in the five days following Biden's exit, as Democrats across the country quickly lined up behind Vice President Kamala Harris to replace him at the top of the ticket.

Harris' campaign reported raising an unprecedented \$200 million in the six days following Biden's withdrawal, bringing the campaign's total haul to over \$310 million, two-thirds of which it says came from first-time donors. National polling averages show Harris surging to a nearly 2 point lead in the race against former President Donald Trump, reversing Biden's disadvantage, though she still trails Trump in several key swing states.

In a series of near-unanimous votes, members of the Colorado Democratic Party and the state's delegates to the Democratic National Convention endorsed Harris' candidacy last month, and on Friday party officials announced she had received the support of a majority of DNC delegates in online voting, making her the presumptive Democratic nominee. The DNC is scheduled to begin in Chicago on Aug. 19.

The Harris campaign

has hired strategist Serena Woods as a senior adviser to its Colorado team and signed up nearly 6,000 volunteers in the state as of last week, Axios reported.

"Colorado delegates are thrilled to join their colleagues across the country in nominating Vice President Kamala Harris as our nominee for president, a candidate perfectly suited to prosecute the case against Donald Trump and his dangerous Project 2025 agenda," Shad Murib, chair of the Colorado Democratic Party, said in a statement last week. "We know that Colorado has a friend in Kamala Harris — we're going to do everything we can to elect her this fall."

Project 2025 is a sweeping conservative plan from The Heritage Foundation for a second Trump administration.

Camila Navarrette, communications director for youth voter group New Era Colorado, said that while the June primary and a long list of potential 2024 ballot measures may partly explain the registration surge, the presidential shakeup is the "elephant (and donkey) in the room."

"We heard a lot of apathy, frustration, and hopelessness from young voters around a second Trump and Biden showdown," Navarrette wrote in an email. "VP Harris' nomination may be the shift that some young voters need to feel heard and excited about casting their ballot this November."

But, she said, young people are "issue-motivated voters" who want to see action taken on policies that matter to them, like those outlined in New Era's "Youth Agenda."

## Hope

Continued from Page 1

of services that include prevention programs for mental health, outpatient, and emergency services. We are committed to providing the residents of San Luis Valley services where they are. We have 11 brick-and-mortar locations throughout the San Luis Valley.

"We also have a mobile unit that is basically a tricked-out R.V. On board the unit is a nurse and a peer specialist, and anyone can walk on the unit and get services for substance use disorder. We have Vivatrol and Suboxone [substance abuse medications] to

help assist with withdrawal symptoms and help make recovery easier and more attainable. We combine this with therapy; we have a therapist via telehealth out of Denver. Our therapist does a great job helping people with other issues that might be involved with their substance use. Our peer onboard provides coordination to other services."

Jennifer Brooks, who is with SLVBHG and is certified in Peer Recovery and a Colorado Peer & Family Specialist, said, "We have a nurse on board who takes vitals and does a U.V. (urinalysis) to get a baseline of what is in their system. What I do on board is con-

nect clients with resources. I get them food boxes, and set up with therapy. We have job and housing resources. If we don't have a resource readily available, I will research it, find it and make it available."

According to the website of SLVBHG, "Consider the countless lives touched by SLVBHG — the children and adults who find a safe haven amidst the storm, the chronically mentally ill individuals who discover a path to stability, and the ones transitioning from inpatient facilities who receive continuous care. These transformed lives don't just stay within the walls of SLVBHG; they walk back into the

world with newfound purpose, contributing to the local workforce, engaging in community activities, and igniting the flames of progress."

The sober recovering alcoholic and addict who attended the recovery festival summed up the purpose of A.A. and N.A., citing one of the groups traditions, "The only requirement for A.A./N.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking/using."

The San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group is at 719-589-3671 or [www.slvbhg.org](http://www.slvbhg.org).

For a listing of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) and Narcotics Anonymous (N.A.) meetings in the Valley visit, [www.slvaa.org](http://www.slvaa.org).

Victim

Continued from Page 1

further stated the manner in which Parra died was homicide.

As has been reported in the Valley Courier, shortly after 6 p.m. on Thursday, officers with the Alamosa Police Department (APD) were dispatched to a report of shots being fired. Upon arrival at the scene, officers found Parra who had been shot and immediately started life-saving measures. Upon being transported to the San Luis Valley Health Regional Medical Center, Parra was pronounced deceased.

On Friday, the suspect Larry Chavez, 33, of Alamosa, was taken into custody in Santa Fe, N.M., and charged with second-degree murder, theft. APD Chief George Dingfelder credited the U.S. Marshals and the Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office with the arrest.

Earlier on Thursday, deputies from the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office responded to a shooting north of Alamosa where a suspect fired a shot, but no one was injured. APD had considered Chavez a person of interest in that shooting, but no further information on that incident is known at this time.

## COVID

Continued from Page 1

context," she said. "The only numbers we can track are those where someone has been hospitalized or has been to a doctor and their tests have been sent off to a lab.

"Now that home tests are so readily available, people are testing at home. Sometimes they can get false negatives. Sometimes, they'll test positive, but they don't feel sick enough to go to the doctor. Or sometimes, people feel sick but assume it's a cold or allergies and don't test, at all. So, quoting any number would just be the cases we know about, not how many cases there actually are."

At the moment, there is no indication that any efforts to address increasing numbers of COVID cases will be made on a Valley-wide basis, although it appears that other counties are seeing an increase, as well.

During an All Hazards meeting on Monday, Paul Wertz, R.N., M.S.N. and director of Costilla County Public Health echoed what Strnad told the Courier.

"There has been a small uptick in the number of cases in Costilla County," he told the Courier, "but not much serious illness."

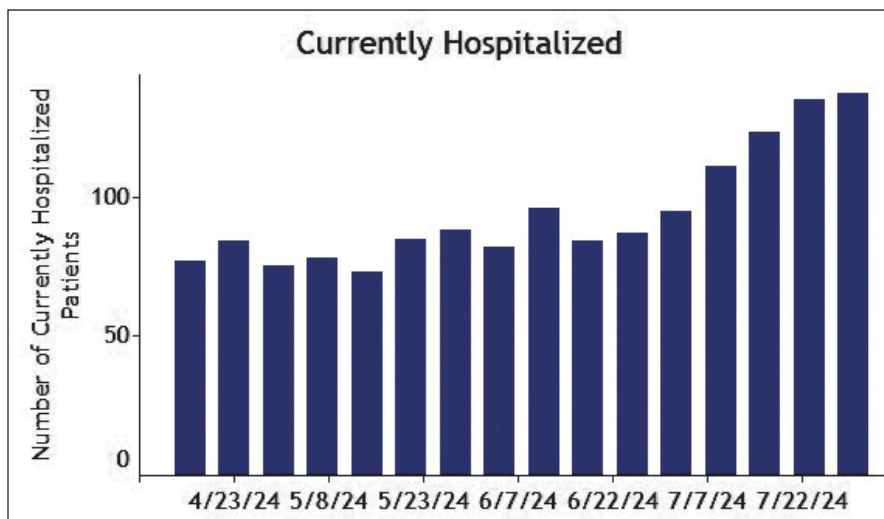
Strnad also said those familiar with the virus are not surprised by the increase, as the same trend was observed in July of last year. That trend showed significantly fewer numbers than what current graphs show.

With students returning to school, Strnad mentioned safeguards that people should consider taking to minimize their risk of catching the virus and answered a few questions put to her by the Valley Courier.

What are everyday actions to prevent COVID-19?

Stay up to date with vaccines. The next vaccine is scheduled to be released to the public sometime in the fall.

Practice good hygiene such as covering your coughs and sneezes, washing or sanitizing hands often



Graph from CDPHE showing more recent data on hospitalizations in Colorado.

and cleaning frequently touched surfaces. Take steps for cleaner air, such as bringing in fresh outside air, purifying indoor air, or gathering outdoors. When you may have a respiratory virus use precautions to prevent spread and seek health care evaluation and treatment as appropriate

She also added that, since March 2024, COVID-19 guidance aligns with guidance for other respiratory viruses, such as flu and RSV.

When asked what should a person do if they test positive for COVID-19, Strnad said steps to prevent spreading the virus include staying at home and away from others, covering coughs and sneezes and washing hands frequently.

People are advised to ask their health care provider about medicine as soon as possible.

"Medicine for COVID-19 works best if it's taken within a few days of when you first felt symptoms or tested positive. It's important to get medicine fast to lower your risk of serious illness," she says.

She also advised people with risk factors to seek health care for treatment. Generally, people at higher risk of severe illness from respiratory viruses are older adults, young children, people with compromised immune systems, people with disabilities, and pregnant people.

Finally, if someone has the virus, it is imperative that they tell those they live with or have spent time with in the past five days. This is especially important if they are at high risk of severe illness.

"You can go back to your normal activities when your symptoms have gotten better overall and you have not had a fever without taking fever-reducing medication for at least 24 hours," she says. "Take precautions over the following five days, such as limiting contact with others and wearing a mask over your nose and mouth when around others and when in public. If you develop a fever or start to feel worse, again stay home and away from others and follow the above guidelines."

Finally, what should a person do if they test negative for COVID-19?

"The rapid at-home tests you can buy at a pharmacy or grocery store are usually accurate, but it's possible for an antigen test to give you a negative result when you actually do have COVID-19.

A negative COVID-19 test means the test did not detect the virus, but this doesn't rule out that you could have an infection. You may want to repeat the test in 48 hours. If you have symptoms, you may want to see a provider for testing. You should also take action to help protect others from health risks caused by respiratory viruses."

Strnad wrapped up the conversation by repeating what many have said, as well. COVID likely isn't going anywhere and will eventually be viewed as a sickness to guard against, much like the flu.

## Victim

Continued from Page 1

further stated the manner in which Parra died was homicide.

As has been reported in the Valley Courier, shortly after 6 p.m. on Thursday, officers with the Alamosa Police Department (APD) were dispatched to a report of shots being fired. Upon arrival at the scene, officers found Parra who had been shot and immediately started life-saving measures. Upon being transported to the San Luis Valley Health Regional Medical Center, Parra was pronounced deceased.

Swing

Continued from Page 1

Says Society Hall board member and Alamosa musician and record producer Don Richmond, "Syd's won just about every award there is out there, but you need to see him live to really appreciate what he does — this guy is an entertainer! He's a hoot and puts on a great show, and his Swing Rider pals Bob Goldstein and Gary Roller are as good as it gets. Don't miss them."

Syd's newest CD, "Cabin Songs" hit No. 8 on the Western Music Charts its first week out, while the first single, "High Country Trail" entered at No. 5 on the singles chart. This tune also won "Best Original Western Song" from both The Western Writers of America and The New Mexico Music Awards in 2024.

The Western Music Association, Academy of Western Artists and The New Mexico Music Industry have combined to nominate him for more than 40 awards over the past 20 years. "Vocalist of the Year," "Country Song of the Year," "Best Album," "Best Band," "Best Humorous Song," "Best Remake," and "Best Song" are some

## Swing

of the categories in which he was awarded.

Earlier this century the US Department of State named him Cultural Ambassador for his work entertaining the secret service departments of 26 foreign countries in the Diplomatic Security Antiterrorism Assistance Program. In 2020, Masters was named official ambassador to Guitars for Vets, an organization that provides therapy by giving acoustic guitars and lessons to returning veterans suffering from PTSD. Syd has been seen on television commercials and billboards throughout the west as spokesman for the Powerball Lottery Campaign.

His original compositions have been used in numerous film productions ranging from documentaries and television broadcasts to the Universal Studios motion picture "Paul" where he can also be seen as an actor in the film. Whether solo or with his Swing Rider trio Masters provides a highly talented, thoroughly entertaining, good time cowboy show!

Tickets are available at the Green Spot or online at [www.societyhall.org](http://www.societyhall.org), and the concert will also stream live on the Society Hall Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Swing

Continued from Page 1

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# Lifestyles

## Colorado once again breaks tourism records with 31% increase in travelers in the last decade

By JASON BLEVINS  
*Colorado Sun*

The Colorado tourism industry is still on a tear. Since 2010 — minus the global meltdown in travel during the pandemic years — Colorado has hosted record numbers of visitors leaving record-setting amounts of cash in their wake.

A total of 93.3 million travelers in Colorado spent \$28.3 billion in 2023. Both those numbers are all-time highs. For reference, that compares with what was then a record in 2014, when 71.3 million visitors spent \$18.6 billion in Colorado.

There are more travelers spending more in Colorado than ever before, according to Longwoods International, a visitor research firm that began tallying the impacts of U.S. tourism in the 1980s. Colorado was the first state to engage Longwoods to survey visitors in 1986.

"It's great to keep it moving in the right direction," said Tim Wolfe, the head of the Colorado Tourism Office.

Longwoods' 82-page 2023 report identifies travelers who came to Colorado after seeing an ad campaign or promotional materials promoting the state as a vacation destination. The Colorado Tourism Office spends \$12.7 million a year on media advertising, with \$11 million of that directed toward the state's 12-year-old "Come To Life" campaign and the remaining spent on the office's "Do Colorado Right" ads, which this year, for example, focused on how to stay safe in Colorado with messages that promote life vests around the state's lakes and fire safety when camping.

In 2023, travelers responding to marketing booked an estimated 21.6 million overnight trips in Colorado, down 4% from the previous year, while travelers staying with friends and family stayed 14.8 million nights in 2023, a new high, up 14% from 2022.

Overnight visitors spent \$22.9 billion, while an estimated 53.8 day-tripping visitors in 2023 — a record number of people taking day trips to or within the state — spent \$5.5 billion, which was nearly evenly split between in-state residents and out-of-state visitors.

About 5 million of those overnight trips were booked by vacationers coming to Colorado to explore the outdoors. About 2.7 million

overnight trips were from people in Colorado for special events and 1.1 million visited resorts. The 2023 Longwood reports show about 2 million overnight trips involved people staying in cities and 1.3 million overnight trips were for people visiting Colorado's casinos.

An economic review of tourism in Colorado by Dean Runyan and Associates, which also has been studying the state's tourism travelers for decades, showed visitor spending of more than \$28 billion employed 188,000 workers in 2023, up 5% — or 9,450 jobs — from 2022. And those workers earned \$9.9 billion in 2023, up 13% from the previous year.

State and local tax revenue paid by tourists grew to \$1.8 billion in 2023, generating the equivalent of \$800 for every Colorado household.

About half of that traveler spending was in Denver, with visitors to the Mile High City leaving \$13.9 billion in their wake. Visitors to nine Colorado high country counties — Clear Creek, Eagle, Garfield, Gilpin, Gunnison, Lake, Park, Pitkin and Summit — spent \$4.3 billion in 2023, followed by visitors to the Pikes Peak region who spent \$3 billion, and Boulder, Larimer and Weld county visitors who spent \$2.5 billion.

Business travel has yet to rebound following the pandemic, with Colorado logging 3 million overnight trips from those travelers. That's up slightly from 2022, but well below more than 25 years of annual business traffic to the state reaching more than 4 million overnight trips.

The Colorado Tourism Office recently distributed \$4.8 million in Tourism Recovery Marketing Grants to seven regions of the state through the federal Economic Development Administration. About half of that went to Front Range communities that have been slow to rebound from the pandemic declines, especially with business travelers.

But the grants to com-

munities in metro Denver, the northern Front Range and around Colorado Springs were not necessarily focused on rebuilding business traffic, which has seen a decline as part of an overall business shift toward remote work and online meetings.

"I wonder if there would be a huge return on investment trying to bring business travel back," Wolfe said. "So now we are seeing people thinking about how they can replace that business traveler, maybe by boosting leisure travel."

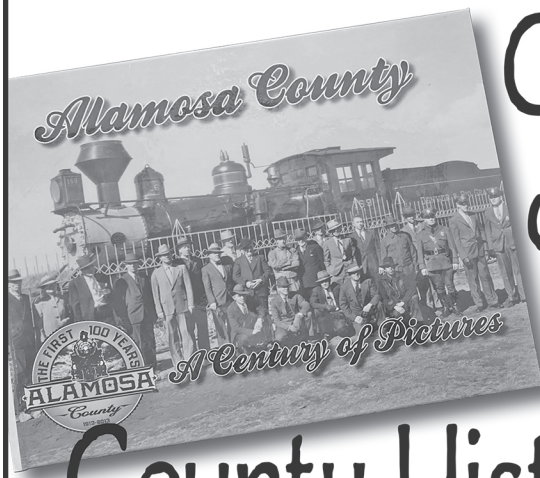
The largest expenditure for visitors to Colorado is lodging, accounting for \$6.2 billion in spending, followed by transportation, dining, recreation and retail. Spending in those four categories climbed in 2023. The average cost per person for an overnight trip to Colorado was \$580, up from \$550 in 2022. Daytrippers spend about \$101 per person.

About 85% of overnight visitors to Colorado have been here before and 62% have traveled to the state in the past year. About 29% of the travelers driving the Colorado tourism industry are Colorado residents — and most of them are from the Front Range — followed by visitors from California, Texas, New York and Florida.

The U.S. tourism industry is strong, with travelers spending \$1.3 trillion in 2023, an all-time high. The travel industry employed 254 million workers in 2023, up 5% from 2022, but below record levels. U.S. visits from international tourists are up as well, climbing 25% in 2023, but international tourism to the U.S. has not rebounded to pre-pandemic levels.

The largest draw for Colorado visitors is visiting friends and family, followed by people who are touring, playing in the outdoors, attending a special event or visiting a city. About 4% of the state's overnight trips were for skiing or snowboarding, which amounts to about 864,000 overnight trips in the 2023 calendar year.

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**Valley Courier**

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# Lifestyles

## Families can make the most of summer's end

(METRO) — It seems like just yesterday people were heralding the arrival of summer. After many months of fickle weather, summer's warm temperatures and ample sunshine can be that hug from Mother Nature people need. But soon summer will be coming to an end, making room for apples, corn and pumpkin spice.

Even though summer will soon be singing its swan song, there is still plenty of time for families to enjoy the waning days of surf and sunshine. Here are some family-friendly options to consider.

- Catch a concert

Summer is a time of year when many artists go on tour and sell out everything from arenas to amphitheaters to more intimate venues. Find a singer the entire family enjoys and grab some tickets.

- Pick fruit

Peach season varies depending on where you live, but May through September is a prime time for pick-your-own farms to open their orchards to the peach-picking public. Turn those peaches into pies for Labor Day festivities.

- Watch some fireworks

Those who didn't have an opportunity to catch a fireworks display already this summer, or who enjoyed it so much that they want more, can find out when the next big display will take place. Some beachside towns and even amusement parks regularly host fireworks

### Hickenlooper, Bennet herald Senate passage of bipartisan water infrastructure bill

*Includes Colorado priorities to manage flood risk, promote healthy waterways*

**CONTRIBUTED WASHINGTON** — Today, U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper and Michael Bennet celebrated the unanimous Senate passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (WRDA 2024), including Colorado priorities they fought to include. WRDA is passed every two years to authorize projects that address water management, flood control, ecosystem restoration, and long-term clean water priorities.

"Water is always on our mind in Colorado. More erratic weather that brings both longer droughts and stronger floods is taxing our infrastructure," said Hickenlooper. "These new investments will help communities' future-proof." "As Colorado faces a hotter and drier future, we must ensure our water infrastructure can meet our state's changing needs," said Bennet. "I'm grateful for the Senate passage of this important package, which will help protect Colorado's vital waterways and resources for the next generation."

The final legislation includes the following new authorities for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

- \$20 million authorized for El Paso County: Authorizes funds to help address a variety of water supply and stormwater management needs
- Templeton Gap Levee, Mountain and Foun-

tain Creeks Study: Authorizes a feasibility study on the ecosystem restoration of a 7-mile stretch of Monument and Fountain Creeks and the rehabilitation of the 2-mile-long Templeton Gap levee in Colorado Springs, which will promote water quality and mitigate flood risk

- Climb a lighthouse

National Lighthouse Day occurs on Aug. 7. Locate a lighthouse within driving distance and visit one of the beautiful and historic structures that commemorate maritime history. For example, Sandy Hook Lighthouse in New Jersey, which was lit for the first time in 1764, is the oldest operating lighthouse in the United States.

- Pick a day to re-do

Ask all members of the family what sticks out in their minds as the best summer day so far. It may have been paddleboarding in a lake or taking a scenic drive. Compile the answers and then pick one activity to enjoy all over again.

- Head to a state fair

State fairs fill calendars this time of year. They're perfect ways to enjoy carnival rides, fair foods, live entertainment, and even livestock.

- Watch balloons rise

Check to see if there is a hot-air balloon festival taking place nearby. Watch these huge items become lighter than air and get lifted off the ground.

- Enjoy an outdoor movie

Purchase or borrow a movie projector and set up a screen outdoors. That screen can be an actual outdoor screen or a white sheet stretched between two poles. Invite the neighborhood to come over, set up picnic blankets and enjoy a family flick.

- Camp out

Pitch a tent at a campground or even in your own backyard and spend an evening sleeping under the stars.

- Visit a garden or arboretum

Plan a day trip to a botanical garden or arboretum to view the various trees, flowers and shrubs in bloom. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy a day in nature.

**Families can wind down from summer by engaging in various enjoyable activities before a new school year begins.**

METRO photo



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# Sports



Alejandro Heredia



Adam Valdez

## Two fighters from SLV Boxing Club to compete in Denver

By **KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*

**ALAMOSA** – Two competitors from the San Luis Valley Boxing Club will participate in the YVP Fight Night on Aug. 31 at the Life-Line Colorado Youth Empowerment Building at 1240 W. Bayaud Ave., in Denver.

The event is presented by House of Pain Boxing and it will begin at noon.

The fighters include Alejandro Heredia who will compete in the 135-pound division, and Adam Valdez who will be in the 11-13-year-old 78-83-pound division. Heredia will box Anthony Muniz of House of Pain Boxing.

Valdez's opponent will be Rico Martinez of Gloves Up Boxing Club from Pueblo.



## Alex P. Kahler Golf Tournament is this weekend

Deadline to register is today

By **KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*

**ALAMOSA** – The annual Alex P. Kahler Golf Tournament will take place on Saturday and Sunday at Cattails Golf Course.

The tournament is a 36-hole stroke play event over the two days. There will be a practice round, horse race, dinner and Calcutta on Friday.

The first round will be played on Saturday, and the second round on Sunday.

Players will be flighted by handicap.

The championship flight will shoot from the black tees, the first flight from the red tees, which is a combo of the black and blue tees, the second through fifth flight from the blue tees, and the senior flight from the green tees. Senior flight players must be 62 or older.

The entry fee is \$200 which will include the practice round, tournament rounds, range balls, tee gift, Calcutta and dinner. The add-ons are \$30 per guest on extra guest tickets, \$15 per day for golf carts and there will be no single rider carts, and \$20 for skins/day money. The \$20 must be paid in cash before the first round.

Gross payments in each flight will be paid in shop credit.

Calcutta cash payouts will be determined by net scores in each flight. The Top 4 players in each flight will be paid out. For the Calcutta, payouts will be 90% of the pot. First place gets 40%, second place gets 30%, third place gets 20%, and fourth place gets 10%.

Skins are for round one and day money is for round two and are collected separately and not included in the entry fee.

Entries are due today. To register, go to the Cattails Golf Course web site at [alamosacattails.com](https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/9442323422257396063). Go to events and scroll on Alex P. Kahler Tournament and click on that. Click on <https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/9442323422257396063> to go to the Alex P. Kahler 2024 information sheet and click on register now for Alex P. Kahler 2024.

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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**

Alamosa County, Colorado  
Court Address:  
8955 Independence Way  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
In the Matter of the Petition of:  
X Adult  
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 R8/2016  
No. 4055.  
Published in the Valley Courier on August 2, 3, & 6, 2024.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID  
SALE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY**

The Centennial School District R-1 is seeking sealed bids for the sale of the following property:  
Property Description:  
\* Location: W2 OF LT 16 BLK 4 SAN LUIS  
\* Size: 293.7 x 27.7  
\* Current Use: Vacant lot  
Bid Submission:  
\* Submission Deadline: Bid Deadline Date August 12, 2024  
\* Submission Address: Centennial School District Administration Office, 14644 Hwy 159 PO Box 350 San Luis, CO 81152  
\* Joe Garcia@centennial.k12.co.us  
\* Starting bid: \$7,000.00  
Additional Information:  
\* Bidders are encouraged to inspect the property prior to submission.  
\* The Centennial School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.  
For further details, contact Joe Garcia at 719-672-3322 or at joe.garcia@centennial.k12.co.us.  
No. 4058.  
Published in the Valley Courier on August 6, 7, 9, & 10, 2024.

**ALAMOSA COUNTY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held before the Alamosa Planning Commission on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM and again before the Alamosa Board of County Commissioners on Wednesday, August 9, 2024 at 8:30 AM, in the Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, Colorado for the purpose of considering an application for a Major Site Plan submitted by Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc. on property currently addressed as 138 Broadway, Parcels 541311204003, 541311211004, 541311212001, and 541311211003. The applicant is proposing to develop and operate a gas station with convenience retail pursuant to §3.4.5 of the LUOD. This property is in the Commercial zone district.  
The legal description of the property is: All of blocks 1 & 3, and Lots 1, 2, 3, a portion of Lots 4 and 5, a portion of Lot 15, all of Lots 16 through 20, in Block 2, and the vacated portion of San Luis Ave west of 1st St, and vacated Park Place in Godfrey & Boyd's First Addition County of Alamosa, State of Colorado.  
Details regarding this application are available for public inspection in the Alamosa County Land Use Office at 8999 Independence Way Suite 100 during regular office hours or at (719) 589-3812.  
Richard Hubler  
Land Use Administrator  
Alamosa County  
No. 4060.  
Published in the Valley Courier August 6, 2024.

**ALAMOSA COUNTY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held before the Alamosa Planning Commission on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM and again before the Alamosa Board of County Commissioners on Wednesday, August 9, 2024 at 8:30 AM, in the Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, Colorado for the purpose of considering an application for a Minor Subdivision submitted by Wesley Seger on property currently identified as Parcel 528718100180.  
The applicant is proposing to divide the existing ~272 acre tract into Tract 1A-1 of 252.38 acres and Tract 1A-2 of 7.78 acres. This property is in the Rural (RU) zone district.  
The legal description of the property is: Tract 1A of the Seger Division of Land #2, according to the plat recorded August 25, 1988 at Reception No. 246300, County of Alamosa, State of Colorado.  
Details regarding this application are available for public inspection in the Alamosa County Land Use Office at 8999 Independence Way Suite 100 during regular office hours or at (719) 589-3812.  
Richard Hubler  
Land Use Administrator  
Alamosa County  
No. 4061.  
Published in the Valley Courier August 6, 2024.

**ALAMOSA COUNTY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held before the Alamosa Planning Commission on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM and again before the Alamosa Board of County Commissioners on Wednesday, August 9, 2024 at 8:30 AM, in the Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, Colorado for the purpose of considering an application for a Minor Subdivision submitted by Wesley Seger on property currently identified as Parcel 528718100180.  
The applicant is proposing to divide the existing ~20 acre tract into Parcel 1 of 12.69 acres, and parcel 2 of 7.33 acres. This property is in the Industrial (I) zone district.  
The legal description of the property is: Tract 5, Barrier Division of Land, according to the plat recorded May 6, 1999 at Reception No. 292842, County of Alamosa, State of Colorado.  
Details regarding this application are available for public inspection in the Alamosa County Land Use Office at 8999 Independence Way Suite 100 during regular office hours or at (719) 589-3812.  
Richard Hubler  
Land Use Administrator  
Alamosa County  
No. 4062.  
Published in the Valley Courier August 6, 2024.

**101 -  
MEMORIALS**



*In Loving Memory of  
Dora Elena Martinez Soto  
July 9, 1948 to August 5, 2018*  
  
Today is the 6th anniversary of the day that we lost you, and although it feels like it was just yesterday, you are forever in our hearts. We love you and miss you always. God bless you! Love the Morales, Soto and Gutierrez family.



Cheyenne, my oldest daughter, was a beacon of light in our lives. From the moment she was born, I was overwhelmed with emotions, tears streaming down my face as I held her for the first time, marveling at the miracle of her existence. Her life was filled with joy, love, and countless cherished memories. Tragically, the day she passed away, those tears returned, this time soaked in a profound sorrow that words cannot capture. Cheyenne's absence leaves an unfillable void, but her memory will forever remain etched in my heart, a testament to the deep love I will always have for her.  
*Love, mom*

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**221 -  
HELP WANTED**

**JUSTICE AND HERITAGE ACADEMY** in ANTONITO, CO is seeking a dedicated SECONDARY MATH TEACHER and K-12 SUBSTITUTES for the 2024-2025 academic year. If you have a passion for math and education, we would love to hear from you. Please submit your letter of intent and resume to [mike@cccwater.org](mailto:mike@cccwater.org). Competitive pay at \$15 per hour and part-time positions available. (8/24/24)

**WOLF CREEK SKI AREA** is accepting applications for ALL DEPARTMENTS: lifts, ski school, base operations, food & beverage/bakers & baristas, rental, retail, ticket office, snow reporting/guest services, ski patrol, grooming, snow removal, custodial building maintenance, and a freelance photographer. To download an application and see job descriptions please visit the employment page of [WolfCreekSki.com](http://WolfCreekSki.com). Send resumes and applications to [wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com](mailto:wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com) or P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. All jobs are winter seasonal (November - April) with skiing privileges. Starting wage of \$18/hour with merit increases based on performance and experience. (10/30/24)

**CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 26**It is now accepting applications for the position of 6-12 IN SCHOOL SUSPENSION INTERVENTIONIST, for the 2024-2025 School Year. Qualifications; HS Diploma, with Bachelor's degree in related field preferred, or related experience. Requires flexible working hours, Bilingual/English preferred, or such alternative as the Board of Education may find appropriate and acceptable. All candidates must pass a background check. 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. (8/13/24)

**HARVEST TRUCK DRIVERS**, Class A CDL required, seasonal, full time, must pass drug and alcohol test. Call 719-588-3516. (8/24/24)

**MONTE VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for full-time CUSTODIAN. This is a full-time position with benefits. Preference will be given to applicants with maintenance experience. A complete list of desired qualifications and experience can be viewed on the district website. Monte Vista School 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 Maintenance and Custodial 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 15, 2024 or until the position is filled. For application questions, contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (8/13/24)

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

**163 - LOST & FOUND**

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

**FOUND: WALKING CANE AT ALAMOSA RECYCLING CENTER.** Call 719-589-3813 to ID & claim. (8/13/24)

**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. (9/6/24-monthly)

**221 -  
HELP WANTED**

**COME BE A** part of the growing CENTENNIAL R-1 TEAM! We are seeking applications for a TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR, will remain open until August 14, 2024. Please submit a resume, three letters of recommendation, pertinent transcripts, and a background check/valid CDE license with an application. Submit application through <https://www.applitrack.com/centennialschool/onlineapp> or email [kimba.rael@centennial.k12.co.us](mailto:kimba.rael@centennial.k12.co.us). This full-time position qualifies for a competitive benefits package and salary as outlined through our Master Agreement, which is available at [centennial.k12.co.us](http://centennial.k12.co.us). The starting pay range for transportation director is \$35,000-\$43,000. We are doing great things in SAN LUIS; it's the perfect time to join our team. (8/14/24)

**HELP WANTED: SHORT-TERM,** person to do HEAVY-DUTY HOUSE CLEANING; ceiling, walls, windows. Please call 719-589-3788, 2-4pm. (8/13/24)

**L & M SALVAGE YARD** is looking for a PARTS SPECIALIST & WRECKER DRIVER, Hiring full time position. Valid driver's license. Knowledge of vehicles preferred. Apply in person. (8/10/24)

## 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

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FUEL  
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# Classifieds

### 221 - HELP WANTED

**NOTICE OF JOB OPENING FOR SYSTEM OPERATOR:** SAN LUIS VALLEY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, Inc., located at 3625 US Hwy 160 W. MONTE VISTA, Colorado, currently has an open position for a SYSTEM OPERATOR. Work hours are Monday - Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., forty hours/week plus additional time as duties require. Duties are primarily performed indoors and rotational standby coverage is required. Responsible for two-way radio communications with field personnel, prepares and executes electric system switching orders, extensive use of SCADA, real time meter data, vehicle tracking, outage management software and mapping system. Education Requirements: Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math (STEM) associate's degree, or journeyman lineman certification, or additional testing will be required as well as pre-employment drug screening and background check. Visit our website at [www.slvrec.com](http://www.slvrec.com) to complete the job application. Applications will not be accepted after close of business on Tuesday, August 13. EOE. (8/10/24)

**BUTCHER WANTED! PROCESSING** wild game and domestic animals. For more info call 719-859-4198! (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 application questions contact the District Administration Office at 719-852-5996. (8/10/24)

**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-c201b-92d488ea125> . (8/28/24)

### 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](http://TrueLocalBank.com/careers) or inquire at 117 N. Main St, CREEDE or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Dawn. EOE. (8/16/24)

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

### 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)

**CAFETERIA STAFF NEEDED** at UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. Must have a high school diploma and some knowledge of working in a kitchen or a willingness to be trained. Pay is dependent on prior experience. Please contact Leslie Martinez at 719-657-4040, x1100 or email her at [lmartinez@urtigers.co](mailto:lmartinez@urtigers.co). Applications can be retrieved online at: [www.urtigers.co](http://www.urtigers.co). (9/6/24)

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# 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/nw-hiring](http://www.slvbhg.org/nw-hiring). Position closes August 12, 2024. (8/10/24)

**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](mailto:ssalinas@alamosacounty.org). (8/20/24)

**COLORADO ROCK & DIRT EXCAVATION,** based in PAGOSA SPRINGS, is expanding our team. We are looking for experienced CDL Drivers-local driving only. This is a full time position, offering competitive pay, health insurance, 401K and PTO. Please email resume to [coloradorock08@gmail.com](mailto: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)

**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](mailto: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](mailto:Payroll@WolfCreekSki.com) (8/31/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**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](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)

**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)

**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)

**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](mailto: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](http://www.urtigers.co). (8/28/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

**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)

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

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

**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 [delnorte1860@outlook.com](mailto:delnorte1860@outlook.com) or apply at [delnortecolorado.com](http://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, management, and strengthening organizational culture. Seeking experienced independent professional with strong people skills and understanding of holistic staff support and development. Join our staff of dedicated professionals and learn the joys and satisfaction of helping others. Salary \$55k-60k DOE. Full benefit package. Send cover letter, resume, request job description: [hr@lapuente.net](mailto:hr@lapuente.net) La Puente: P.O. Box 1235, ALAMOSA, CO 81101; 719/589-5909 (Ext 238); [www.lapuente.net](http://www.lapuente.net). (8/17/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

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

**SAN LUIS VALLEY REC** is seeking bids from a qualified INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM LAWN CARE AND HEDGE TRIMMING. The bid must include labor costs and expenses related to the use of equipment, tools and supplies, as these items will not be provided by San Luis Valley REC. The contractor must also carry insurance and provide a certificate of insurance as proof of coverage. Contractor must submit an invoice to San Luis Valley REC on a regular basis to receive payment. Bids can be returned in person, by mail or email and must be submitted by August 12, 2024 by 5:00 PM. The email address is [mtrujillo@slvrec.com](mailto:mtrujillo@slvrec.com) If you have questions, please call Shawn McKibbin 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)

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

**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](mailto: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](http://www.urtigers.co). (8/7/24)

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**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](mailto:urtigers.co) please email [ahorlocks@urtigers.co](mailto:ahorlocks@urtigers.co) or [aduda@urtigers.co](mailto: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. (9/6/24-monthly)

**324 - SEED & FEED**

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

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

**341 - GARAGE SALE**

**HUGE GARAGE SALE** by Alcon Construction. August 8-10, 8am-5pm, closing at 3pm on Saturday. 12137 Cnty Rd 5 S. Sprinter Van, tools, AC, new band saw, HP 500 plotter, big tool boxes, new bricks, scuba gear, antique dishes, bifold doors, laser heater, luggage, giant bird cage, large exercise bike, new pipe bender, and so much more! (8/10/24)

**347 - HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

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

**350 - FARM EQUIPMENT**

**JOHN DEERE BLADE,** 71" wide, 15" tall, \$800. Also, a Rhino BUSH-HOG, Model SE-5, 48w, 40 long, \$800. Call 719-937-1383. (8/14/24)

**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)

**401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES**

**Century Property Management & Sales, LLC** Alamosa • 589-5744  
**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICE**  
For all your rental needs please call 719-589-5744 or stop by 823 Main St. Alamosa, CO 81101  
[www.alamosarentals.com](http://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)

**611 - HOMES FOR RENT**

**HOUSE FOR RENT:** 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 CAR GARAGE, 224 Cale Buena. 719-936-1940. (8/14/24)

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

**630 - ROOMS FOR RENT**

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

**737 - RECREATIONAL VEHICLES**

**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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**Valley Courier**  
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# Comics

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### NEA Crossword Puzzle

#### Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

#### ACROSS

- 1 "The — Lebowski"
- 4 Larceny
- 9 "Green Eggs and —"
- 12 "Patience — — virtue"
- 13 Strictness
- 14 Fuss
- 15 Every
- 16 Where Greeks once met
- 17 Calendar abbr.
- 18 Police action
- 20 Slowpoke in a shell
- 22 Pool stick
- 23 Substantive
- 24 Money for the pot
- 26 Golden touch king
- 29 Garland
- 30 Rime
- 31 Lights-out signal
- 35 Draw a certain way
- 37 Great weight

#### DOWN

- 38 Bill and —
- 39 Spy
- 41 Cultivated
- 42 Layered rock
- 45 Spring month
- 46 Convincing
- 48 — diplomacy
- 51 "Days of — Lives"
- 52 Canvas support
- 54 Wrath
- 55 Employ
- 56 Stringed instrument
- 57 So-so grade
- 58 Golf peg
- 59 Tree with catkins
- 60 Blue

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			
					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: ☆☆☆☆☆

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

#### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

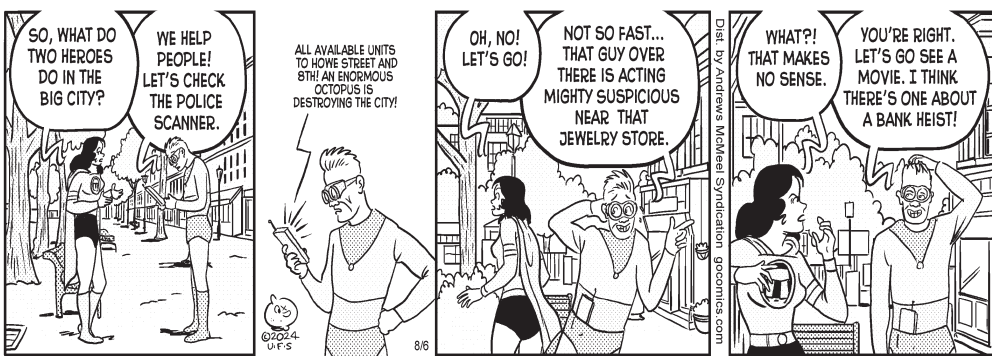
**HOW TO PLAY:**  
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

## HERMAN



"Listen, kid, if I sold you a pair of roller skates, I'd lie awake nights worrying."

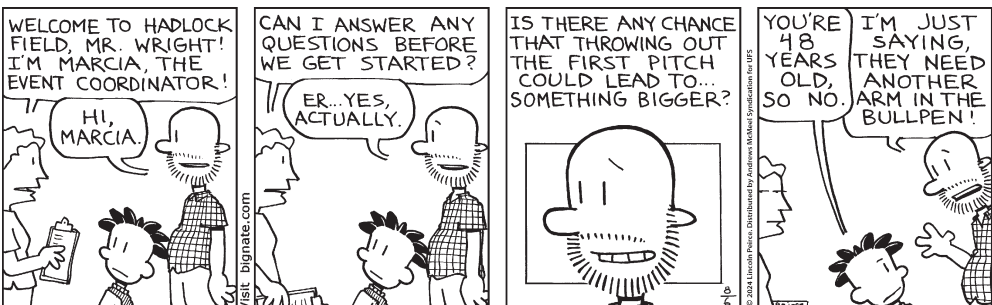
## ALLEY OOP



## ARLO & JANIS



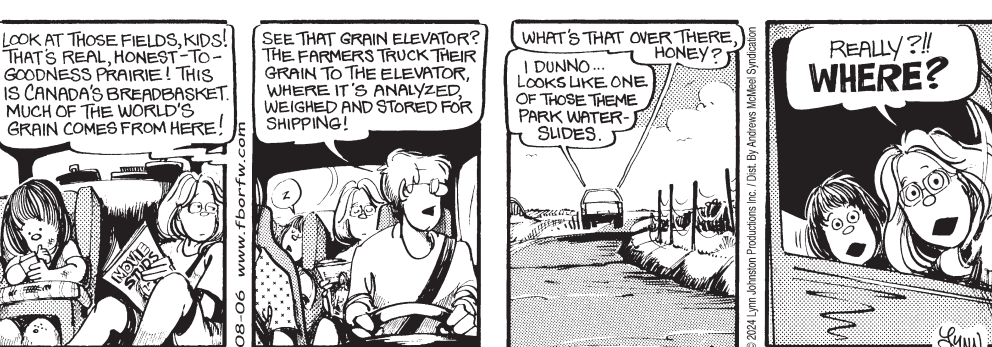
## BIG NATE



## THE BORN LOSER



## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



## FRANK & ERNEST



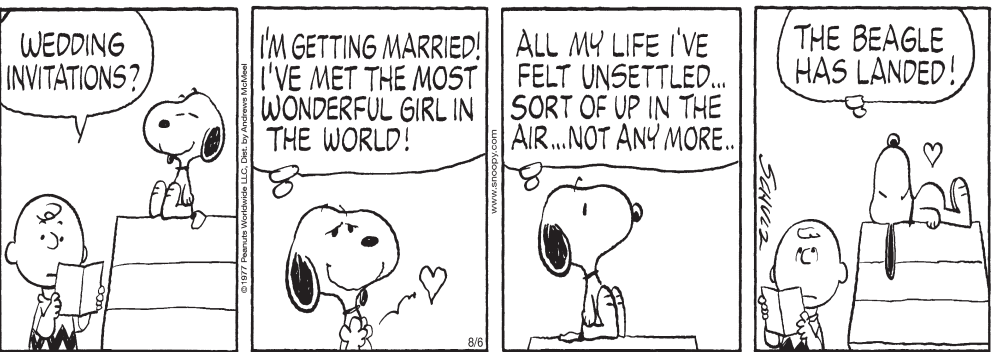
## GARFIELD



## THE GRIZZWELLS



## PEANUTS



# Online romance prompts existential questions

DEAR ABBY: I met a man from another country through the internet last year. In the beginning, we talked every day via video chat. We share much in common. We never have a problem keeping our conversations going, and we pick up on each other's emotions and needs without even trying.

Our communication is less frequent now that our relationship is maturing. With this newfound freedom from the phone, I'm starting to question how wise it is to continue pursuing a future together. Although we have never met in person, I feel he is trustworthy and absolutely wonderful, and I would even go so far as to say he's my soulmate.

The questions that are always in the back of my mind, though, are: Am I crazy for thinking this is the real deal? Is it too good to be true? And if I don't pursue this further, am I missing my only opportunity for a lasting love? -- MATCHED IN MICHIGAN

DEAR MATCHED: This is not your "only" opportunity for lasting love. Whether this is the real deal or too good to be true remains to be seen. Because you found this match online, you need to be cautious. If it's possible, arrange to visit him

in his country, which will give you the opportunity to meet his family and friends and observe his living situation. If he is genuine, he should welcome it. If he is hesitant, however, regard it as a significant red flag.

DEAR ABBY: My older sister and I are educated professionals in our late 40s. We reside in different states. Our father's cognitive function and mobility are deteriorating, so my parents sold their large home in another state to downsize and move to a senior community near me. The area in which I live is affordable. Living near me is a logical choice, since I am attentive and reliable, and I have often assisted them and my in-laws in the past.

My sister has chosen to view my parents' move as their choosing me over her. Initially, she stopped speaking to me. When I texted and asked why I hadn't heard from her, she said my texts "weren't high on her list of priorities." In another exchange, she told me she hoped my husband, who is being treated for a heart condition, dies before he can vote. Then, she stopped speaking to our parents. During their last email exchange, she told my mother to cry on the shoulder of the "daughter she chose."

My sister has treated



### ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

me similarly in the past, but she has never before shut out our parents. She used to call them often, and they miss talking to her. I'm not sure reconciling is an option, but it is difficult to witness her being so cruel during this time of extreme stress. What are your thoughts? -- SIBLING DRAMA IN GEORGIA

DEAR DRAMA: Your sister's attempts to punish you and your parents for the decision they made has only reinforced that they made the correct one. I am sorry she has been so successful in inflicting pain on all of you because none of you deserve her over-the-top reaction. By shunning you, she has succeeded only in isolating herself from those who care for her.