



ADAMS STATE
Hannah Harbich-Kuster
WELCOME TO THE GRIZZ FAMILY

Adams State Soccer announces coaching hire

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LOR Foundation helps MVPD purchase safety items

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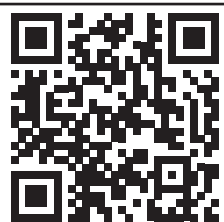
Valley Courier

WEDNESDAY EDITION | WWW.ALAMOSANEWS.COM

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

August 7, 2024

\$1



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SLV Today

Crestone Dark Sky Festival on Saturday

SAGUACHE COUNTY — The annual Crestone Dark SkyFest is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10. There will be great dark skies (weather permitting), a local astrophotographer, meteorologist and Taiko drummers. The fest is at the Crestone Charter School, 330 E. Lime Ave., and is free.

Short-term closure to replace damaged culvert

SAGUACHE — The Rio Grande National Forest's Saguache Ranger District announced Monday, Aug. 5, that a short-term closure was taking place on National Forest System Road (NFSR) No. 675 at John's Creek (a map is online).

"We recognize that this closure will be a slight inconvenience for some people," said Saguache District Ranger Tristram Post. "We appreciate the public's patience as our road crew work to replace the damaged culvert that was temporarily repaired last year."

The closure will be in effect for approximately two weeks beginning on Aug. The NFSR No. 675 closure can be found online at www.fs.usda.gov/detail/riogrande/notices/?cid=STELPRDB5143145.

For questions about the closure, contact the Saguache Ranger District at 719-655-2547.

SLV WEATHER



Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 87/48

Thurs: Afternoon Showers Possible, Breezy 82/50

Fri: Slight Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 80/48

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Businesses frustrated with repeat offenders

City council considers ordinance that criminalizes certain offenses

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier reporter
ALAMOSA — In response to what Ala-

mosa City Attorney Erich Schwiesow described as "frustration expressed by local business owners", Alamosa City Council will consider during Wednesday night's meeting an ordinance that amends a section of the city's Code of Ordinances specifically related to the criminalization of certain offenses. As part of that same discussion,

the council will also consider changing the punishment for theft to align with state statutes and adding a new ordinance concerning burglary.

"Council and staff have heard the frustration of local business owners seeing repeat offenders shoplifting, and of police on the street hearing that defendants



■ See REPEAT page 3

The look of grand champions



Sargent Junior High Schooler Aubrey Naranjo, 13, has the winning touch for Blue Spruce 4-H. She showed the Grand Champion Market Swine – a 271-pound heavyweight dark cross – at the San Luis Valley Fair on Monday night, Aug. 5, at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista. It was the second time in her four years of showing that she earned Grand Champion Market Swine at the SLV Fair; she did it as a fair rookie and last year she showed the Reserve Grand Champion Market Swine.

Photos by Brian Williams



Makenzie Consaul's medium weight dark cross was the Reserve Grand Champion Market Swine of the San Luis Valley Fair on Monday night.



Courier photo by John Waters

This old backpack now serves as a go-bag and resides in the back of a vehicle. Water and a sleeping bag are also ready.

Prepare for emergency evacuations

Pack a simple go-bag now

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

SAN LUIS VALLEY — As wildland fires rage in Colorado and throughout the West, the time to prepare for an evacuation is now, and a simple to-go bag is an excellent first step.

Wildfires can explode into deadly infernos in minutes, incinerating everything in their path.

A simple go-bag backed with essentials is a must in an emergency evacuation when you only have seconds to depart.

According to the Western Fire Chiefs Association, wildfires can spread quickly, leaving you needing to leave STAT.

In April 2011, the Rockhouse Fire near Marfa, Texas, raced 21 miles to the town of Fort Davis in 30 minutes. Winds of 65 mph and bone-dry grassland fueled the conflagration.

■ See PREPARE page 3

Beat the Heat BBQ and Brewfest in Alamosa

CONTRIBUTED
ALAMOSA — Beat the Heat BBQ and Brewfest returns Aug. 9 and 10 to Cole Park for another year of delicious food and fun for the entire family. Competition teams from Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Wyoming, Kansas, Arkansas, and Arizona will convene in Alamosa on Friday, Aug. 9, to compete in the Kansas City Barbeque Society Sanctioned BBQ contest.

The event kicks off Friday with the Beer Garden opening at 4 p.m., the Bloody Mary Showdown (followed by sampling for

those 21 years old and older) beginning at 5:30 p.m., and the Brewers Classic Cornhole Tournament starting at 6 p.m.

Friday evening vendors include Gosar Sausage, Mammoth Spud Cafe, Sno Shack, Bouncy Houses, Hallway Escape Room, Dumb Friends League and Alamosa Perk.

Saturday brings the heat kicking off at 10 a.m. with free yard games

■ See BBQ page 3

Beat the Heat BBQ and Brewfest returns Aug. 9 and 10 to Cole Park.

Courier file photo



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Record

OBITUARIES

Harold Hugh Hiatt

The Man, The Myth, The Legend

Harold Hugh Hiatt, affectionately known as "Hughie," passed away on Friday, Aug. 2, 2024, at the age of 82. He fought bravely in his last few years, continuing to embrace his bachelor days at his long-term residence in Alamosa.

Born on Nov. 15, 1941, in Alamosa to Mary Veretta Jackson and Harold Ray "Bill" Hiatt, Hughie was the eldest of three siblings. He is survived by his sister, Judith "Sam" Morgan and Janet Griego Malouff (Deceased).

Hugh attended Alamosa High School, where he excelled in football, basketball, and track.

Hugh married Cheryl Horn, and together they had three daughters: Rhonda Hiatt (Hellwig) Jones, spouse Nathan Jones, Son; Travis Otto Hellwig, Kimberly Hiatt and Tammy Hiatt Monaco, Sons; Luca Hiatt Monaco, Giovanni Hiatt Monaco.

The family enjoyed their life in Alamosa, reminiscing about the days when Main Street

ran both ways and was meant to be dragged.

Hiatt's athletic prowess and the legendary coaching of Coach Vigil made the 1960 Class reunions memorable. In 1961, Hugh attended Adams State College to play football, after which he enlisted in the Army. Stationed in Berlin, Germany, he traveled throughout Europe with the Berlin Bears Air Force football team.

"HHH" was fiercely independent, courageous, and a risk-taker, known for his adventurous spirit. Hiatt's anniversary of 41 years of sobriety was noted this March.

Hugh held various formative jobs in his early years before joining the D & RG Railroad. He found his calling working outdoors as a Lineman/Foreman with the Public Service Company of Colorado, retiring in 2001 after 37 years of service. Even in retirement, he cherished meeting with his line crew for coffee around town.

Hugh was dedicated to his daily routine of having breakfast at the Campus Cafe community table, he relished walking in the door after surgeries and health setbacks.

He felt most comfort-

able in Alamosa, surrounded by the majestic mountains of the San Luis Valley. Hugh was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying fishing, hunting, and horseback riding on numerous pack trips up the Conejos Canyon. His frequent use of the Continental Divide trail and his pasturing of horses below the Blue Lake trail earned him the moniker "Mayor of Blue Lake." Hugh loved sharing stories of his grand adventures with friends and family and anyone on the trail.

A celebration of Hugh's life will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024, at 11 a.m. at The Barn at La Manzanilla Farm, 6491 Colorado Highway 17, Alamosa. The service will include Military honors followed by a meal, potluck dessert, and burial at Fox Creek Cemetery. Please RSVP by text or phone call to Hughie's phone at 720-938-5739 for meal count purposes.

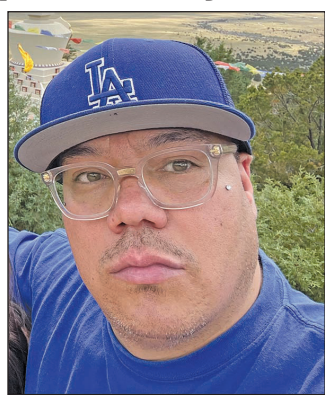
You mess with the bull you get the horns – HHH

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

Enrique 'Henry' Parra Jr.

Enrique "Henry" Parra Jr., a beacon of love and laughter, passed away on Aug. 1, 2024, in Alamosa, Colo., at the age of 44. Born on June 10, 1980, in Denver, Colo., to Enrique Parra Sr. and Sue Barrios, Henry was a man whose creative spirit and protective nature were always appreciated by his loving family.

Henry's life was marked by his dedication to his family and his craft. He was self-employed and had a generous heart, donating to Kid's Connection and the homeless. Henry was an artistic soul who found joy in making arts and crafts and bringing smiles to all with his



goofy sense of humor. His love for his family knew no bounds, especially for his son, nieces and nephews, with whom he cherished every moment.

He is survived by his loving family, who will forever remember him as the family's protector. Though preceded in death by his

father, Enrique Parra Sr., and his brother, Leonard Michael Salazar, Henry's legacy of love, creativity, and humor will live on in the hearts of those who knew him.

Cremation has been chosen and a Memorial Service will be held to honor his life on Friday, Aug. 9, at 10 a.m. at Rogers Family Mortuary in Monte Vista. Inurnment will follow at the Monte Vista Cemetery.

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

ALAMOSA POLICE REPORT

Alamosa Police Department report week of July 26 to Aug. 1, 2024

Rosemarie Cruz-Luce-ro, 58, of Antonito was cited for displaying expired plates.

Teresa Sanchez, 62, of Alamosa was cited for speeding 5-8 over.

Julia Hensley, 55, of Buckeye, Arizona was cited for seatbelts required.

Tiana Medina, 20, of Questa, New Mexico was cited for seatbelts required.

Bradley Bennett, 49, of Alamosa was cited for harassment.

Lee Medina, 28, of Alamosa was cited for P.O.W.P.O., possession of illegal weapon, possession of controlled substance, unlawful distribution, possession of large capacity magazines, special offender.

John Neal, 47, of La Jara was cited for seatbelt required, license suspended or revoked habitual offender.

Ricky Molder, 37, of Denver was cited for violation of restraining order.

Jackie Banderas, 32, of Denver was cited for 2nd degree burglary, theft under \$300.

Ezekial Naranjo, 21, of Alamosa was cited for 2nd assault, felony men-

acing.

Ashley Kline, 36, of Alamosa was cited for harassment, theft under \$300, obstruction.

Angelo Espinoza, 41, of Alamosa was cited for driving under restraint.

Nancy Bailey, 68, of Alamosa was cited for seatbelt required.

Lucas Archuleta, 23, of Alamosa was cited for seatbelt required.

Antonio Azuna, 35, of San Acacio was cited for driving under restraint.

Gloria Duarte, 55, of Antonito was cited for following too closely.

Stuart Clark, 63, of Olathe, Kansas was cited for unsafe lane change.

Erin Holloway, 49, of Alamosa was cited for seatbelt required.

Crystal Waldroupe, 44, of Alamosa was cited for speeding 10-19 over.

Marjorie Maestas, 62, of Monte Vista was cited for seatbelt required.

Paul McPherson, 50, of Farmington, New Mexico was cited for speeding 10-19 over.

Bryon Callado, 36, of Dulce, New Mexico was cited for seatbelt required.

Alejandro Lovato, 35, of Alamosa was cited for seatbelts required.

Delilah Chavez, 40 of Alamosa was cited for

speeding 5-9 over.

Amanda Langdon, 39, of Alamosa was cited for speeding 5-9 over.

Joshua Manzanares, 38, of Alamosa was cited for speeding 20-39 over.

Tammy Maadril, 48, of Alamosa was cited for speeding 10-19 over.

Minnie Duran, 61, of Alamosa was cited for speeding 5-9 over.

Evan Lecourts, 19, of Alamosa was cited for seatbelts required.

Kenneth Wilkerson, 33, of Mesa, Arizona was cited for seatbelt required.

Carl Gustafson, 44, of Clifton, Colorado was cited for failing to provide insurance, failing to use turn signals.

Kalista West, 21, of Alamosa was cited for disorderly conduct.

Jason Brewster, 44, of Alamosa was cited for disorderly conduct.

Shawntaya Corral, 32, of Alamosa was cited for theft under \$300.

Victor Spieker, 55, was cited for vicious animal.

Jordan Whitney, 23, of Alamosa was cited for seatbelts required.

Ronald Sater, 50, of Fort Collins was cited for seatbelts required.

Carlitos Juvera Rael, 29, of Alamosa was cited for violation of restraining order.



Courtesy photo

The artwork of painter David Montgomery will be part of the Silver Thread Studio Tour on Aug. 17.

Annual Silver Thread Studio Tour is Aug. 17

CONTRIBUTED

The Creede Arts Council is proud to be hosting the 20th annual Silver Thread Studio Tour from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 17.

Artist locations will be along the Silver Thread Scenic Byway, Highway 149, beginning in the Indian Trails neighborhood east of South Fork, up through Creede and ending at the Studios at Bristol.

Artists will share ideas, answer questions, and or perform demonstrations for the public. Artwork will be showcased and available for purchase.

This year, South Fork artists Amanda Charlton (acrylic painting), Hugh Letterly (watercolor), and

Darlene Danko (textile arts) will be showing out of their home studios.

In Creede, artists Jennifer Inge (jewelry) and David Montgomery (oil painting) will be stops 4 and 5 at Rare Things, Too gallery on Main Street. Textural acrylic painter Colleen DeSanto will be showing out of her home studio in Creede. Carol Jones (quilting), David Robinson (metalwork) and Jody Stroh (fused glass) are stops 7, 8 and 9.

Ten artists from the Studios at Bristol will be participating this year. Kathy Barnard (hand-blown glass), Mary Jo Depriest (handmade accessories), Joni Franks (children's books), Teri

Inman (clothing design), Kyle Inman (photography), Brielle Killip (western-inspired fashion), Kathy Killip (jewelry), Cathy Ledeker (watercolor), Ken Orr (ceramics), and Rocky Wilson (woodworking) will all be present at the Studios at Bristol to discuss their work.

This year, the Creede Musical Arts Collective will be performing concerts along the Studio Tour route, schedule TBA soon. For questions or more information, email creedearts@outlook.com or call the CAC at 719-658-0312. The entire Studio Tour map and artist lineup can be found at www.creedeartscouncil.com/silver-thread-studio-tour.

Little Library at Colorado Welcome Center

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — There will be a Little Library dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10, at the Colorado Welcome Center, 610 State St., Alamosa.

This Little Free Library is a partnership between the Friends of the Library and the GFWC Woman's Citizenship Club. Since the Little Free Library will be located at the Train Depot, it was made to represent the local train and is beautifully painted. The books are generously supplied by the Friends of the Alamosa Library.

The public is cordially invited to attend. To celebrate this momentous occasion, members of the Woman's Citizenship Club will be there to serve lemonade and cookies.

Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization that supports the worldwide movement to offer free books housed in small containers to members of the local community. The organization is based in Hudson, Wis. Little Free Libraries are also referred to as community book exchanges, neighborhood book ex-



Courtesy photo

The newest Little Free Library supported by the Friends of the Library and Woman's Citizenship Club.

changes, book trading posts, pop-up libraries, and micro-libraries, and have been likened to human bird feeders.

There is another Little Free Library at the Food Bank in Alamosa supported by the GFWC Woman's Citizenship Club members.

COURIER OBITUARY POLICY

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

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

School Menu
Wednesday
August 7, 2024

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

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

Valley News

AVSAR rescue on Ellingwood Aug. 4



Photo courtesy of AVSAR

Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue during an emergency situation on Ellingwood Peak.

Prepare

Continued from Page 1

In 2018, the Spring Creek Fire, which began on the Sangre de Cristo Ranges in Costilla County, raced eastward and consumed 140 structures and 108,045 acres.

The Fire Chiefs Association warns that most people need to be better judges of how far a fire is from them and how quickly it will reach their doorstep. In the case of the Rockhouse Fire, the blaze traveled five miles in only about seven minutes.

In California, the re-

cent Park Fire maelstrom consumed about 5,000 acres per hour and scorched 150,000 acres on the first day.

Think about how quickly a wildfire charging 5,000 acres in an hour can reach you, your family, home, and pets. If lucky, you can grab a go-bag, jump in a vehicle, and get to safety. Be prepared for a fast-moving, high-intensity fire.

Have your car and go-bag ready.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recommends keeping go-bag supplies to last at least 72 hours and half a

tank of fuel in your vehicle at all times. Also, keep one gallon of water per person for three days ready.

Keep an emergency bag in your car with essential items like water, food, first aid equipment, a flashlight, a portable radio, and a portable charger. Excellent chargers that can charge a cell phone five or six times, such as an Anker 325 Power Bank, Power Core 20K, retail for about \$45.

Pack clothing, socks, underwear, jackets, sweatshirts, extra shoes, etc. Include toiletry items such as toilet

paper, disposable shavers, extra toothbrushes, shampoo and shaving cream, toothpaste. Include additional regular medications, both prescription and over-the-counter meds, such as pain relievers, antacids, laxatives, and anti-diarrhea medications to last several days.

Including moist towels, garbage bags, matches in a waterproof container and a manual can opener are also recommended by FEMA. Keeping sleeping bags in your vehicle all year is also a good idea.

Be sure to have go-bags ready for everyone in the household, including pets.

Repeat

Continued from Page 1

are not deterred from shoplifting because there are essentially no consequences," Schwiesow told the Valley Courier when questioned about the motivation for the change.

"[This] addresses an issue that has been discussed by Council and by the Police Department and City Attorney's Office over the past few years concerning how the decriminalization of most municipal ordinances has played out in actual practice since Council instituted it in 2018," he wrote.

According to background information provided by city staff to council members, in 2018, city council passed an ordinance that removed jail as a potential sanction for violation of municipal ordinances. An exception was made for 18 specific ordinances that were viewed by council as serious enough to, should a defendant be convicted, merit a potential jail sentence.

Under the 2018 ordinance, if a person was found to have committed an offense not included among those 18 "serious" exceptions, that offense would not bring a jail sentence unless the person committed the same - or related - offense four times in two years.

"As Council discussed at its summer retreat," the cover sheet to council reads, "experience with that change has indicated a need to provide for greater sanctions, especially on

shoplifting, than currently allowed for under the decriminalization ordinance.

Also to be considered during Wednesday night's meeting, the City of Alamosa doesn't differentiate between the theft of property with different value or allow for clustering together multiple thefts of property in a short period of time into one single charge. If that combination of multiple theft charges were allowed, it would impact the value of the stolen property.

The City of Alamosa also does not have a provision for burglary which ties intent to commit a crime with unlawful entry. If passed, such a provision "can be used effectively to deter shoplifting where prior trespass notices have been issued to a defendant.

As was summarized by staff in the communication to council members, "The City of Alamosa is experiencing continued problems with repeat shoplifters and others who commit multiple violations of the City's theft ordinance and related trespass ordinance in short spans of time, and who seem undeterred by the City's current ordinance scheme from continuing to violate the City's theft ordinances."

In other words, the ordinance passed in 2018 that decriminalized certain violations of the law has adversely impacted businesses.

The new ordinance would change the repeated jailable offenses from four in two years to two years in one.

It criminalizes burglary and makes a jail sentence allowable even if it is a first offense.

It categorizes theft based on amounts and follows state statutes in allowed sentencing.

It allows for "adding together" multiple convictions for theft into a single larger figure that would, presumably, carry a potentially stiffer sentence.

It also allows for any theft over \$300 to bring a potential jail sentence, even on first offense.

When asked by the Valley Courier what impact this may have on people who do not have sufficient means to pay a fine or bond out of jail while waiting for trial, Schwiesow wrote, "The proposed ordinance does not dictate jail for shoplifting twice in two years, it allows for it in the exercise of the municipal court's discretion.

"A defendant's income or wealth has nothing to do with that discretion - people arrested for ordinance violations are not subject to pre-trial incarceration. They are given a citation and summons to appear in court.

"If they fail to appear, a warrant is issued for their arrest, but the maximum amount of the bond for warrants the Alamosa Municipal Court issues has traditionally been \$500, and the maximum duration of stay if a defendant does not bond out is 48 hours, pursuant to state law, unless a pre-trial detention order issues.

"Alamosa has not issued a pre-trial detention order under the current municipal judge."

When asked if the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office has been consulted on this ordinance - specifically in connection with their operation of the Alamosa County Detention Center that, historically, has faced challenges with being adequately staffed, Schwiesow responded, "There is likely to be an increase in the number of person-days at the jail for municipal defendants if this ordinance is passed, but given that the amount of person-days is still primarily dependent upon the exercise of judicial discretion in sentencing, and the criminal element in committing offenses in the first place, it is difficult to say with any certainty how large an increase that might be.

"You will note the meeting materials indicate that the estimate is that it will be no more than double. As far as impact on the jail, municipal defendants make up a small percentage of the inmate population at the jail at any given time, so whatever increase may be attributable to this ordinance would appear to be unlikely to cause any administrative changes at the jail."

The Alamosa City Council will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday night in council chambers, 300 Hunt Ave. To view the meeting via Zoom, go to the city's website, click on city council and click on the tab to join via zoom, which will take you directly to the site. Or, for people who prefer to join by phone dial 719-359-4580 and use Webinar ID: 857 5349 2744.

STAFF REPORTS
ALAMOSA COUNTY
— On August 4, Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) assisted an injured hiker on Ellingwood Peak in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

AVSAR was alerted via a Garmin SOS activation from a hiker that had fallen on the southwest approach to Ellingwood Point. The individual fell with his leg pinned by a large boulder. He also suffered a severely broken arm.

Canon Helitack transported AVSAR members to the injured who rendered medical attention. The hiker was then extracted from the scene via a hoist by a Colorado National Guard helicopter. He was later trans-

ferred to a Reach Air Medical 71 helicopter and taken to a Front Range hospital.

On July 27, AVSAR rescued a hiker from Ellingwood who was also transported by a Colorado National Guard helicopter and a Reach 29 aircraft.

AVSAR thanked the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office, Eagle Air Med, the Colorado National Guard, Colorado Search and Rescue Association and the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control-Canon Helitack.

Rescue units such as the one used by the injured hiker during this event are small and lightweight. The Garmin inReach Mini 2 Satellite Communicator retails for \$349.

BBQ

Continued from Page 1

and the Craft Beer Garden. At 11 a.m., People's Choice Sampling begins continuing until 3 p.m., or until the barbecue is gone. Sample barbecue professionally prepared by 13 award-winning pitmasters.

The Spare Keg Brewwerks Brewfest starts at 1 p.m. The cost is \$35 for unlimited samples of

craft beer from Riff Raff Brewing, Mountain Mermaid Brewing Company, Walter's Brewery & Taproom, 14er Brewing Company, Florence Brewing Company, The Colorado Farm Brewery, San Luis Valley Brewing Co., and Spare Keg Brewwerks.

SLV Transportation will be providing safe rides following the Brewfest on Saturday.

Tickets and more information, online at slvbeattheheat.com.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

A.A. and N.A members primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics/addicts to achieve sobriety.

There are AA and

NA 12-Step Meetings throughout the valley. The 6th Tradition states that we are not affiliated with any outside organizations, but in the spirit of cooperation, we list these meeting schedules for friends and family. For information, call 719-937-5083 or see our website:slvaa.org



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Silver Thread Studio Tour



Studio & Gallery Tours
Demonstrations • Q&A
Art for Purchase

Saturday • August 17 • 9am - 5pm
A self-guided scenic driving tour along the Silver Thread Byway: South Fork, Creede, Upper Rio Grande
Get a Map: creedeartscouncil.com, Creede Visitor Center, or the South Fork Visitor Center

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Opinion

Coal continues its precipitous decline

The coal mining industry reacted with outrage when the Bureau of Land Management recently announced plans to stop issuing new coal leases on the eastern plains of Wyoming and Montana.

From its headquarters in Washington, D.C., the National Mining Association predicted “a severe economic blow to mining states and communities,” while the industry’s political allies likened the move to declaring “war” on coal communities.

The truth is that coal has been steadily falling from its past dominance as energy king for nearly two decades. Domestic coal consumption dropped to 512 million tons in 2022, down 55 percent since its 2007 peak.

With the downward trajectory expected to continue, the Biden administration’s decision to end coal leasing in the Powder River Basin — the nation’s largest coal-producing region — reflects clear market trends. And far from killing coal, the administration’s plan allows mining to continue as the market transitions.

Billions of tons of previously leased federal coal remain available for mining from 270 tracts across the nation, which combined cover an area larger than Rocky Mountain National Park. One Montana mine has enough coal to keep operating until 2060. Taken together, economic effects related to ending new coal leasing in the Powder River Basin may not be felt until the 2040s and beyond.

Coal companies are well aware that U.S. energy markets have rapidly changed, a fact they soberly tell investors: “Over the last few years, customers have shifted to long-term supply agreements with shorter durations, driven by the reduced utilization of (coal) plants and plant retirements, fluidity of natural gas pricing and the increased use of renewable energy sources,” Wyoming’s largest coal producer, Peabody Energy, disclosed in its 2023 financial filing.

Even with declining markets, the Biden administration did not come to the decision on its own. Arguing that BLM’s past reviews of coal’s contributions to climate change were inadequate, a coalition of environmental



Writers On The Range



Peter Gartrell

groups sued the government and won. That forced the agency to revisit whether more coal leasing was warranted.

“For decades, mining has affected public health, our local land, air, and water, and the global climate,” said Lynne Huskinson, a retired coal miner. She’s a member of the Powder River Basin Resource Council, a Wyoming landowners’ group that was among the plaintiffs.

Now, she said, “we look forward to BLM working with state and local partners to ensure a just economic transition for the Powder River Basin as we move toward a clean energy future.”

Huskinson lives in Gillette, Wyo., where a dozen highly mechanized strip mines sprawl across the grasslands of the Powder River Basin. The Wyoming mines alone produce 40 percent of U.S. coal while employing less than 10 percent of the nation’s 44,000 coal workers.

The Basin’s mines have leased 8 billion tons of federal coal since the 1990s, a cheap and plentiful supply for the industry. The leasing process allows companies to nominate desired tracts, and then bid with little or no competition. Winning bidders often pay less than \$1 a ton for coal, plus a nominal annual rent and a royalty after final sale.

There is little question that leasing helped launch and sustain the region’s energy boom. But in his 2022 decision, Judge Brian Morris of the Federal District Court of Montana cast his eye toward the future. Morris wrote that federal law required BLM to consider “long-term needs of future generations” that included “recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed,



Photo courtesy of Powder River Basin Resource Council

Coal mining in Wyoming’s Powder River Basin.

wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historical values.” The judge also gave the federal agency an out: “Coal mining represents a potentially allowable use of public lands, but BLM is not required to lease public lands.”

Morris’ words cleared the way for BLM to stop leasing, a decision that dovetails with a Colorado College poll that found most residents in eight Rocky Mountain states — including Wyoming and Montana — want Congress to prioritize conservation over energy development on public lands.

The legal wrangling will likely con-

tinue, with the BLM reviewing protests from the coal industry and its political allies that lay the groundwork for more lawsuits. For now, though, it seems the Biden administration’s decision to keep coal in the ground not only follows the market and the law, but public opinion, too.

Peter Gartrell is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He is a consultant in Washington, D.C., and covered coal leasing issues as a journalist and congressional staffer.

J.D. Vance vs. The cat people

By GENE LYONS

Some of my best friends are cat people. I’m particularly indebted to our neighbor Laura, a self-described “crazy cat lady,” who took in Albert, the most unusual feline I’ve known.

One time, when we lived in the country, we walked through the fields to check on Albert, where he’d set up temporary headquarters hunting mice in the neighbor’s hay barn. He came sauntering out to greet us, walking straight through a flock of turkey vultures cleaning up carrion on the ground. The buzzards paid him no mind. My wife was flabbergasted.

Albert always had his own plan -- except for one time after I’d broken three ribs in a fall from a horse. He converted himself from a barn cat to a house pet, sitting on the arm of my chair, purring and helping me watch the Red Sox on TV until I healed up.

I was absurdly fond of that cat.

Altogether, Albert lived with us for 10 years before relocating to Laura’s front porch. After moving back to town, we’d adopted an energetic young dog -- a Great Pyrenees-husky mix who thinks

cat-pestering is great fun. I don’t believe he means to hurt them -- Aspen is a friendly, gentle animal in other respects -- but Albert wasn’t sticking around to find out. I figured he’d adapt, but he chose Laura’s front porch instead.

He’s always been a shrewd judge of character. Laura feeds him, pets him and takes him to the vet. We pay the vet bills and make occasional visits, where he’s somewhat aloof but friendly. So, it’s all worked out for the best.

Indeed, Laura has recently managed something I’d have thought impossible: She’s converted the now 15-year-old orange tabby to an indoor cat. He no longer prowls the neighborhood killing rats and getting into fights. He’s living as an older gentleman among Laura’s several cats.

In short, she’s a feline philanthropist and a wonderful neighbor. I know she has elderly parents nearby whom she cares for, but Laura’s intimate life isn’t something we talk about. Her immediate family consists of her and the cats.

In other words, J.D. Vance can kiss my grits, as we say in Arkansas when we’re being nice.

I don’t know if “weird” is the right

word, but he and Donald Trump are definitely soul brothers. Try to imagine why a politician would be fool enough to call Jennifer Aniston, the widely beloved actress -- she has a reported 45 million Instagram followers -- “disgusting.”

Aniston’s sin was objecting to the “childless” part of “childless cat ladies who are miserable in their own lives” and therefore “have no direct stake in America.”

On her Instagram account, the actress, who has made no secret of her struggles to become a mother, commented, “Mr. Vance, I pray that your daughter is fortunate enough to bear children of her own one day. I hope she will not have to turn to IVF as a second option. Because you are trying to take that away from her too.”

It’s true. A fierce anti-abortion activist, Vance voted against a Democratic bill to protect IVF rights. What he found “disgusting” was the actress’s mention of his 2-year-old daughter. Evidently, only he gets to use his children as political pawns.

Has any national politician ever had a more unfortunate coming-out? This guy

makes Alaska “hockey mom” Sarah Palin look like Abraham Lincoln. As blogger Charles Pierce puts it, “Vance may be the worst public politician I have ever seen. No kidding. This guy could screw up a two-car funeral if you spotted him the hearse.”

Vance’s liege and sovereign lord, meanwhile, has been going around the country promising his followers that if he’s elected in 2024, there won’t be any need for future elections. Or something.

“Christians, get out and vote! Just this time,” Donald Trump told an audience of evangelicals last week. “You won’t have to do it anymore. Four more years. You know what? It’ll be fixed! It’ll be fine! You won’t have to vote anymore, my beautiful Christians. I love you, Christians! I’m a Christian.”

Yeah, well, if he’s a Christian, I’m the pope.

On her Fox News program, Laura Ingraham all but begged Trump to clear up his ambiguous remarks. Surely, he didn’t mean to say he’d rule as a dictator?

Trump only repeated himself in one of his classic baffle-gab statements: “Don’t worry about the future,” he said. “You have to vote on Nov. 5. After that, you don’t have to worry about voting anymore. I don’t care, because we’re going to fix it. The country will be fixed, and we won’t even need your vote anymore because frankly, we will have such love if you don’t want to vote anymore, that’s OK.”

We’re all supposed to pretend that Trump’s engaging in strategic ambiguity, and not simply a cunning but confused old man slipping into senility.

Truth is, he’s halfway gone.

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

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Lifestyles

Sawmill Meadows offers unique homeowner opportunity in South Fork

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

SOUTH FORK — When it comes to workforce housing throughout Colorado, there are only a handful of communities like the one in South Fork that offer genuine workforce housing and according to co-developer Tammy Dorsett, this is a chance for people to own a home and be successful at it.

For the past year, South Fork has watched as the new Sawmill Meadows affordable housing project began to rise from the ground and now, thanks to a mild winter, a beautiful spring, the first phase of homes are looking for owners.

“When potential buyers go through this process, the first thing we like for them to understand is that the process is designed to make you a successful homeowner. We always try to tell people that want to apply that

these homes were made so that someone who never thought homeownership was a possibility could find that they are the perfect match,” said Dorsett.

The process for buying one of the homes in Sawmill Meadows is through the San Luis Valley Housing Authority which offers programs to employed residents of the Valley that fall within certain income guidelines. San Luis Valley Housing Authority Executive Director Dawn Melgares oversees the process and helps each applicant through it while ensuring that the home loan is within their income.

“The process takes work, but it is worth it in the end. Homeowners get the chance to lay down roots in the community and are able to afford something that can be passed on from generation to generation. It is a daunting process when you don’t know, but at the end of

the day, there is nothing like being a homeowner,” said Dorsett.

Sawmill Meadows Workforce Housing is now available for purchase in the San Luis Valley through a coordinated effort between Sawmill Meadow Development, the Town of South Fork, and the State of Colorado Dept. of Local Affairs. Each have partnered to construct Phase 1 of a two-phase workforce housing development.

According to developer Matt Dorsett, Tammy’s husband, the project is nearing the completion of Phase 1 and will be moving into Phase 2 by the end of the summer. Dorsett also plans to develop rental workforce housing in the future.

Through the many efforts of Dorsett in partnership with the South Fork Housing Task Force and the

South Fork Town Board of Trustees, the project got

off the ground in the fall of 2023 and will

provide 20 low-income workforce housing for the area which follows the housing study done a year prior by the San Luis valley Housing Coalition.

Dorsett has been working diligently to bring workforce housing to the area since he and his family

relocated to the area three years ago and after learning of the housing crisis, decided to use his experience to see that a project moved forward.

To make this opportunity a reality, Sawmill Meadow Development forged a business

relationship with Fading West in Buena Vista which has been a pioneer of workforce housing in Colorado with their innovative approach to modular home construction, utilizing high-quality materials with an efficient and standardized approach to construction.



Photo courtesy of Tammy Dorsett

Sawmill Meadows in South Fork offers a unique opportunity for San Luis Valley residents who want to become homeowners. These dedicated workforce housing units are available for people who meet income guidelines and want to be homeowners in South Fork.

Colorado AG weighs formal role as Supreme Court reviews oil-train case

By **DAVID O. WILLIAMS**

Colorado Newsline

Colorado’s attorney general recently left open the possibility he will take a formal role in a case before the U.S. Supreme Court to help block a proposal that would send a massive surge of oil trains along the Colorado River.

Attorney General Phil Weiser last week expressed disappointment that the court in June agreed to review Eagle County’s 2023 appellate court win, which derailed the proposed Uinta Basin Railway project in Utah. The project would likely result in a dramatic increase in hazardous oil shipments traveling through the Colorado mountains and Denver toward Gulf Coast refineries.

“The proposed plan to run two-mile-long trains filled with hundreds of thousands of barrels of waxy crude oil along the Colorado River daily poses an extreme risk to this critical water source and the communities, industries, and farmers that rely on it,” Weiser wrote in an email statement to Colorado Newsline. “This proposal was rightfully tossed out by an appellate court. I am presently considering all options to protect the Colorado River — that includes weighing in with the U.S. Supreme Court as it reviews the case.”

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit last year ruled the U.S. Surface Transportation Board, which is the primary federal regulatory agency overseeing U.S. rail projects, erred under the National Environmental Policy Act and ordered the agency to fix significant problems with the proposed 88-mile rail spur’s environmental impact statement.

The appeals court found the STB failed to properly weigh both the upstream and downstream impacts of oil production, including accident data, downline fire risks and the impact to endangered fish from predicted oil spills in the Colorado River.

The seven Utah counties surrounding the Uinta Basin oil fields, which formed the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition, petitioned the Supreme Court to hear the case in March. The Seven County Infrastructure Coalition v. Eagle County case will be heard during the high court’s next session, which begins in October.

Weiser — a former Su-

preme Court clerk to justices Byron White and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, former dean of the University of Colorado law school, and former U.S. Justice Department attorney in the anti-trust division — has been one of the top state officials critical of the Uinta Basin Railway project.

“I am disappointed the Supreme Court heard (the Uinta Basin) case. We won an important decision,” Weiser said in a phone interview last week. “I have been a vocal critic of the idea of taking what seems to me a high-risk move through a fragile ecosystem by allowing there to be the shipping of oil in railway cars that could lead to the sort of ecological harms we’ve seen happen elsewhere.”

Weiser points to the environmental devastation of Norfolk Southern railroad’s East Palestine, Ohio, chemical train derailment last year.

“It doesn’t take much for a single incident to create extraordinary and lasting damage, and that, too, is a good basis for prohibiting (the Uinta Basin) project for going forward, so we’ll continue to make that case,” Weiser said. “I worry that a Supreme Court that is not interested in protecting our land, air and water could be less sympathetic to this point. We did see that lack of sympathy in the case involving the Clean Water Act.”

In last year’s Sackett v. the Environmental Protection agency case, decades of federal wetlands protections under the Clean Water Act were stripped away by the court, forcing Colorado to stand up its own regulations after a compromise with Republicans in the state Legislature.

Weiser said the only silver lining in that case was that conservative Justice Brett Kavanaugh sided with the liberal minority, joining Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Ketanji Brown Jackson in dissenting against the ruling.

“We were successful in that case with Justice Kavanaugh, but obviously we were still a vote short,” Weiser said. “I’m worried about all of our environmental statutes if the mind-set is, ‘How do we gut any environmental protections?’ We as a society are going pay a price for that, whether that’s coming from the Supreme Court or a second Trump administration.”

From an antitrust standpoint, Weiser says consolidation in the railroad in-

dustry has opened up new risks of harm, because less competition leads companies to be less committed to reliable, safe service and adequate staffing. While federal legislation is stalled, Colorado lawmakers took up the issue last session and set up a new state rail safety office.

“Part of the challenge from a competition standpoint is the Surface Transportation Board I believe has had the sole authority to evaluate mergers in rail, and they’ve been willing to approve mergers in rail that really highly concentrated

that industry,” Weiser said, specifically referring to the U.S. Justice Department objecting to the Union Pacific merger with Southern Pacific in 1996.

“I think the system of oversight that does not allow the Justice Department to stop anti-competitive mergers is problematic, and it’s problematic that the Surface Transportation Board took action in this case and did not take the Department of Justice competition concerns more seriously,” Weiser added. Now Union Pacific controls most east-west freight

through Colorado and is currently negotiating with the state for a new lease at the state-owned Moffat Tunnel.

Eagle County officials have said they hope the state will take a more active role in the Uinta Basin Railway battle going forward, citing \$450,000 in legal fees.

Democratic Colorado Gov. Jared Polis, in a rare statement on the Utah oil-train project, which has united the state’s Democratic lawmakers in opposition, said that if the Supreme Court greenlights

the Uinta Basin Railway this fall, it will have “profound implications across the West.”

“It’s a legal case that we’re following, of course,” Polis said recently in Vail, as quoted in the Colorado Times Recorder. “We’re actively monitoring it. It would have a major impact on our state for sure, in terms of transportation. I don’t have any say over it. It’s not up to the governor. It’s a pending court case, so we’re aggressively monitoring it, and it would have profound implications across the West.”

BACK-TO-SCHOOL 2024

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- Make good friends
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Sports


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Adams State Soccer Announces Coaching Hire

By **MADYSON SCHLIEP**
ASU sports information

ALAMOSA— Adams State Men’s and Women’s Soccer announces that Hannah Harbich-Kuster has joined the coaching staff’s as a goalkeepers coach on Monday.

Kuster, a native of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, comes to Adams State after finishing her playing career at Lynn University, in Boca Raton, Florida. Before joining Lynn University, she played a year at ASA College Miami and a season at Polk State College.

Kuster’s primary roles will consist of training the goalkeepers and player development on the field.

“I am thrilled and honored to be joining Adams State soccer staff as one of the Assistant Coaches. Having the opportunity to contribute to the growth and success of such a respected program is incredibly exciting. I look forward to working alongside talented athletes and coaches, fostering a culture of dedication and teamwork,” said Kuster.

While playing at Lynn University, Hannah posted a .723 save percentage during her senior season, having a remarkable shutout victory against Palm Beach Atlantic. Hannah earned SSC Commissioner Honor Roll recognition during all four years at Lynn.

Head Coaches Alex Greco and Justin Gilfert released a joint statement: “We are excited to have Hannah working with both our teams. She has a great knowledge of the game and is an excellent student. Which will help our Student-Athletes on and off the field.”

In the Spring of 2024, Hannah joined the Lynn University Women’s Basketball team as a manager where she was able to extend her knowledge on leadership and managing statistics. Summer of 2024, Hannah helped coach the U-17 C.R. Flamengo Women’s Goalkeepers and Goleiro Academy for all age groups. Hannah was able to share her knowledge, honing abilities and nurturing confidence in players.

“Every session was an opportunity to foster a deep understanding of the game, focusing on discipline and preparing those young athletes for the challenges ahead,” said Kuster.

Hannah graduated with an Associates of Science in Sports and Fitness Management from ASA College Miami, a Bachelor’s Degree in Sports Management and a Graduate Certificate in Marketing from Lynn University. While at Adam’s State, Hannah will be getting her Master’s Degree in Leadership Management.

Splashland to host 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 ½-mile bike race, a 20-yard swim and a ¼-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 ½-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 ½-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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<h3>Sports Bulletin</h3>	<p>Follow sports editor Ken Hamrick on X. His handle is @KenHamrick1.</p>	<p>Prep boys golf Del Norte at Fowler Invitational (at Cottonwood Links), 9 a.m.</p>
	<p>TUESDAY</p>	

Lifestyle

15 wolves promised to Colorado by a Washington tribe aren't coming

By **TRACY ROSS**
Colorado Sun

A Native American tribe in Washington that promised 15 wolves to Colorado has rescinded its offer saying the state has not honored concerns of the Southern Ute Tribe involving wolf reintroduction.

Since soon after Colorado voters approved reintroducing wolves west of the Continental Divide, the Southern Ute Tribe has been trying to get Colorado Parks and Wildlife to acknowledge the tribe's sovereignty in managing wolves on its land under an agreement covering hunting and fishing in the southwestern corner of the state.

But the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Nation says a lack of agreement between the Southern Utes and the state is a deal-breaker. On June 6, Jarred-Michael Erickson, chairman of the Colville Business Council, wrote a letter to Colorado Parks and Wildlife Director Jeff Davis saying the Colville Tribes were withdrawing their resolution because "necessary and meaningful consultation was not completed with the potentially impacted tribes" when the state created and implemented its wolf reintroduction plan.

The Southern Ute Tribe's concerns date back to at least 2020, when the tribal council approved a resolution drafted by its wildlife advisory board to oppose reintroduction.

The resolution cited potential impacts on both the Southern Ute Reservation and in the Brunot Agreement Area, approximately 3.7 million acres of the San Juan Mountain region the confederated bands of Utes were forced to cede to the federal government in 1873.

Included in the 1873 Agreement was a provision reserving the right of Utes to "hunt upon said land so long as the game lasts and the Indians are at peace with the white people." In 2008, the Southern Ute Tribe entered a historic agreement with CPW that expressed the intent of both governments to work cooperatively toward long-term conservation of wildlife within the Brunot Area. The Brunot Area Hunting Proclamation, which includes bag limits and permit numbers, is updated yearly.

The 2020 resolution to oppose reintroduction cited the impact of wolves on tribe member livelihoods, livestock on the reservation and wildlife including elk, deer and Shiras moose. Steve Whiteman, a fish and wildlife biologist who was wildlife division head for the Southern Ute Tribe from 2002 to 2022, represented the tribe on the stakeholder advisory group that presented recommendations concerning reintroduction to CPW.

Among key recommendations were recognizing "the Brunot Agreement lands (i.e., consideration of management and Tribal consultation needs)" and developing "new intergovernmental agreements or memoranda of understanding with Tribes."

But the Colville Tribe's letter indicates CPW hasn't done enough. Early communications with CPW

As reintroduction efforts continued to move forward, the tribe in 2021 sent a letter to CPW communicat-

ing its concern that wolf restoration would "present an unacceptable risk to our hunting resources." The letter highlighted the problem of declining elk calf numbers in the San Juan Basin, attributed to drought, habitat loss and degradation, disease, recreation impacts and other predators.

"Additional pressure from an apex predator like the wolf would likely drive down the elk population further and reduce hunting opportunities," the letter said. "Any effort at wolf population management will only be possible many years into the future."

Tribal officials also were concerned big-game populations could be severely impacted by then, reducing hunting opportunities in the Brunot Area. They were critical of CPW's "arbitrary compensation cap" on livestock lost to depredation. They wanted assurance of critical funding for a restoration program, research and monitoring, education and outreach as well as a conflict mitigation and compensation program.

And they said that while the wolf management plan signaled "support of tribal self-determination and self-governance," they wanted CPW to recognize a "broader recognition of tribal sovereignty" through the adoption of a tribal management plan or memorandum of understanding that would govern the management of gray wolves on the reservation and Brunot Area.

The tribe sent another letter on Feb. 22, 2023, the last day for the public to submit comments on the proposed wolf management plan. By then the agency had held five public meetings about the proposal to hear community feedback, with a meeting Gunnison being the closest to the Southern Ute Reservation. That letter mentioned the June 4 letter as well as a request by Melvin J. Baker, chairman of the Southern Ute Tribe, asking CPW to limit releasing wolves to the Interstate 70 corridor north of the Brunot Area.

In fact, the first five wolves were released Dec. 18 north of I-70 on state land in Grand County. Another five were released Dec. 23 in Grand and Summit counties, also north of I-70.

As of July 23, some of the wolves had ranged north to the Colorado-Wyoming border, east into Larimer and Clear Creek counties, west into western Routt and Rio Blanco counties, but only as far south as the border of Eagle County and Lake County, according to on CPW's Collared Gray Wolf Activity Map.

However, CPW's planned release area includes Montrose and Gunnison counties south of I-70 to the northern border of the Brunot Area. That may be one reason the Colville Tribe decided to rescind its offer of Washington wolves to the agency. Representatives did not respond to requests for an interview.

In early May, Southern Ute Tribe council member Andrew Gallegos gave the CPW commission a presentation on the history and establishment of the Ute reservations, the Brunot Area, wildlife management and the Brunot hunting program.

Some key takeaways were the need for a strong government to government relationship and that the tribes know how to best manage their resources.

But the Colville Tribe in its June 6 letter wrote: "It is further recommended that all directives regarding the request from the State of Colorado that the Tribes provide wolves, that were passed up to the date of this recommendation be rescinded, including, but not limited to those passed on Sept. 19, 2023, and Oct. 3, 2023."

The Colville Tribe's natural resources and wildlife division indicated a letter would be coming June 11 and it was sent on June 18, Gonzales said in an email.

"Because the original agreement has only been rescinded at this time and does not close the door to future conversations or opportunities to work with the Tribe, CPW chose not to release this information," she added.

State statute doesn't require the agency to share communications with the public, but some ranchers are unhappy about CPW withholding this one.

"I guess it isn't part of their building back trust program," Grand County Commissioner Meritt Linke said, referring to promises Davis made during a commissioner's meeting Jan. 25. "Once again, I would question what would be the benefit of keeping this secret. It's really not about wolves anymore. It's about politics."

Davis said in a statement last week that while the Colville Business Council, tribal government and natural resources committee's decision is "disappointing," we have a "strong relationship" with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and "hope to continue these conversations in the future."

CPW will continue working with other potential sources for wolves and isn't "contemplating halting our implementation of the plan," he added.

Southern Ute Tribe's statement

On Friday, the Southern Ute Tribe released a statement on Colville's deci-

sion, saying that since the passage of gray wolf reintroduction, the tribe has been "actively engaged in collaborative efforts" with CPW and the attorney general's office to address its concerns "including potential impacts of wolves on livestock, deer and elk herds, and the exercise of Brunot Area hunting rights reserved for Tribal Members."

"The Southern Ute Indian Tribe deeply values its progressive and strong relationship with Colorado Parks and Wildlife," it continued, "and will continue to collaborate with them to establish a framework for working together that enables the state to implement its reintroduction program while simultaneously recognizing the sovereign authority of the

Tribe on tribal lands and the interest shared by the Tribe and the state in the Brunot Area."

In an email Friday, CPW said, "the nature of tribal governance and state/federal governance can present valuable learning opportunities. CPW is committed to working with our tribal partners to find solutions and move forward."

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- 1 Shopping Local Creates Jobs:** The jobs created allow spending in the local economy and helps create more jobs.
- 2 Local independent businesses invest more in our community:** They support local charities, schools and community events which financially impacts our community.
- 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.
- 7 Shopping Local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Alamosa's diversity, charm & appeal. Which in turn, attracts new community members.
- 8 Shopping Local invests in community services and city economy.** Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Alamosa.
- 9 Local shops value you more:** Local businesses survive by their reputation & repeat business which means you get a higher standard of service.

Your Future Begins Today!

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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

SAN LUIS VALLEY REC is seeking bids from a qualified INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM LAWN CARE AND HEDGE TRIMMING. The bid must include labor costs and expenses related to the use of equipment, tools and supplies, as these items will not be provided by San Luis Valley REC. The contractor must also carry insurance and provide a certificate of insurance as proof of coverage. Contractor must submit an invoice to San Luis Valley REC on a regular basis to receive payment. Bids can be returned in person, by mail or email and must be submitted by August 12, 2024 by 5:00 PM. The email address is mtrujillo@slvrec.com If you have questions, please call Shawn McKibbin at 719-852-6676. 3625 US 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)

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)

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)

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

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.wdl.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)

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

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)

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)

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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

ALAMOSA STATE BANK 719-589-2564
2225 Main St. Alamosa
A Real Community Bank. Local Ownership. Local Commitment.

Alamosa State Bank (ASB) is seeking a Full Time Operations Assistant to join our team in the Alamosa office. The position is responsible for a variety of administrative and clerical support duties including reconciliations, making routine calculations, making entries, and tracking various transactions. Assignments will be in operational areas including general ledger, bookkeeping, and auditing. The position requires critical thinking, organizational skills, and attention to detail. Qualified candidates will have demonstrated ability to work independently as well as cooperatively in a team environment. A bachelor's degree and/or experience in banking, accounting, or finance is preferred but not required.

Compensation for this position is commensurate with your qualifications and experience. ASB offers a comprehensive benefit program that includes a discretionary bonus, medical, dental and vision plans, 401(k) plan, life insurance, and paid leave benefits. Applications are available at ASB and should be submitted to Kate@alamosastatebank.com. This position will remain open until August 10, 2024.
Member FDIC - An Equal Opportunity Employer

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)

RAINBOW'S END THRIFT STORE

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

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 (8/31/24)

I NEED HARVEST HELP & TRUCK DRIVERS

needed for **POTATO HARVEST** starting September 3. Please text me at 719-850-2137. (8/28/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA is hiring 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)

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)

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)

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-a959c74f16ae2c0f>. (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)

MOFFAT SCHOOLS IS

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

JOB OPENING: PART-TIME SECRETARY

at **SACRED HEART CHURCH**. Monday thru Friday - hours 9:00 am to 2:00 pm (2 1/2 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)

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 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)

POTATO WAREHOUSE 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)

221 - HELP WANTED

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

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)

BUTCHER WANTED! PROCESSING

wild game and domestic animals. For more info call 719-859-4198! (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. (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)

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)

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)

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)

353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK

BUTCHER FAT LAMBS for sale. 719-588-8496. (8/16/24)

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)

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

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415 - HOMES FOR SALE

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

426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

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

525 - GUNS

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

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting applications for 1 bedroom apartments. Must be 62 or older or disabled
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2256 E. Drive Monte Vista, CO
852-4302

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Accepting Applications for waiting list for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family units available
West View Villas
510 Dunham Monte Vista, Colo
852-3949

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

Accepting applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Rent based on income for qualifying households.
Gomez Manor Apts.
804 State St. Antonito, Colo.
376-2388

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

Accepting applications for 2 bedroom apartments. Family living at an affordable price.
Guadalupe Hacienda Apts.
404 W. 8th Antonito, Colo.
376-2025

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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)

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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NEA Crossword Puzzle

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

ACROSS

- 1 "— Pinafore"
- 4 Cheery
- 8 Belgrade native
- 12 Hard wood
- 13 "I'm at the end of my —!"
- 14 Length times width
- 15 Mined material
- 16 Bovines
- 17 Rank
- 18 Storage facility
- 20 Protect
- 22 Youngster
- 23 "— and Loathing in Las Vegas"
- 24 Grand Canyon State
- 27 Repeat
- 31 Mug
- 32 Right-hand man
- 34 Sooner than
- 35 Actress — Gardner
- 36 Fit

DOWN

- 37 Flavoring plant
- 38 Holdover from the past
- 40 Gone by
- 42 Peel
- 44 Whopper
- 45 Mock harshly
- 48 Surmise
- 51 Burden of proof
- 52 Yearn
- 55 Make wrathful
- 56 Double agent
- 57 Related by blood
- 58 Estuary
- 59 Farm creatures
- 60 "— Call the Whole Thing Off"
- 61 Extremity

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				61		

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

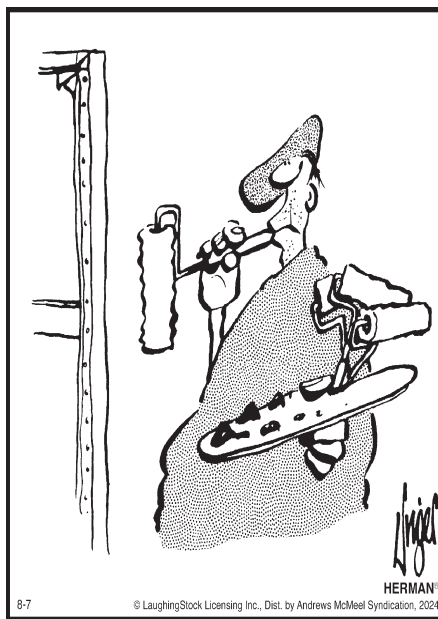
	3		9	5				
4			1	3	6			
6			7	4	3	5		
		5	3	2		1		
				1				
	2			8	9	7		
8	3		9	4			7	
		6		5	1			9
			6	3		8		

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

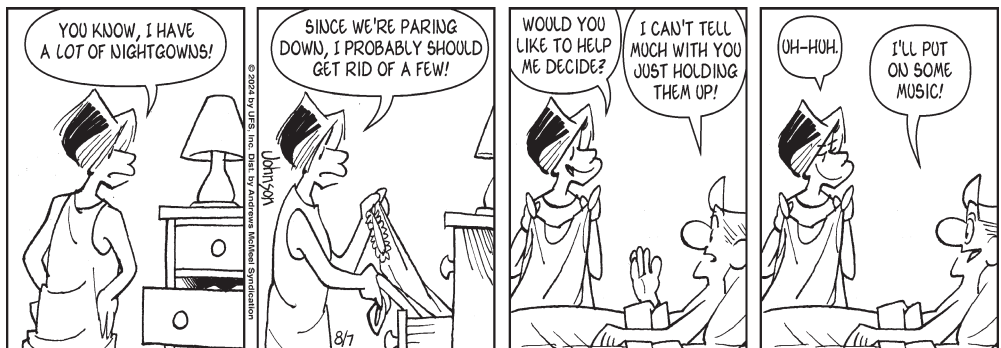
HERMAN



ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



BIG NATE



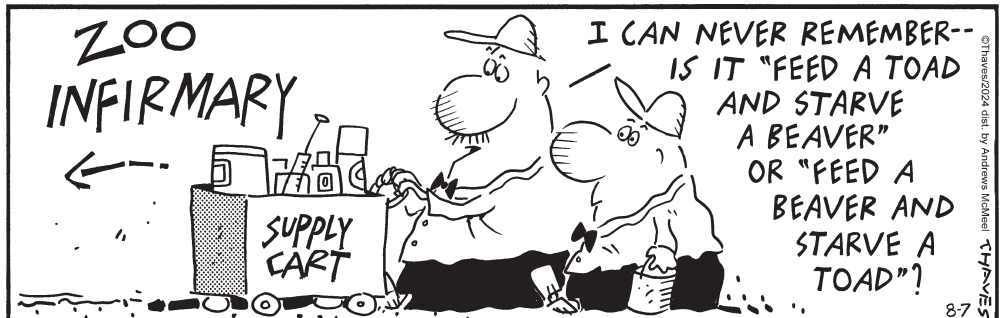
THE BORN LOSER



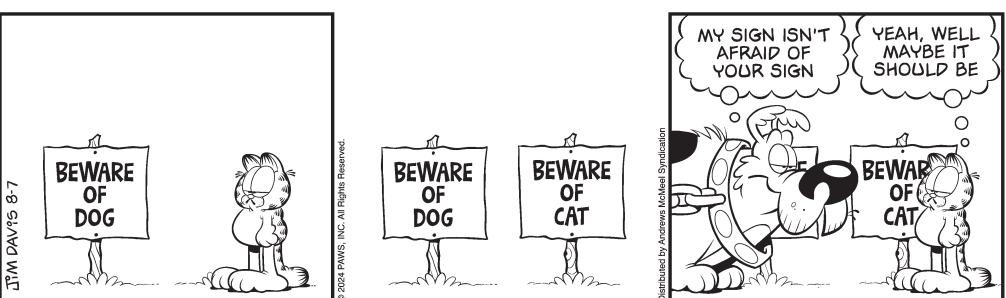
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



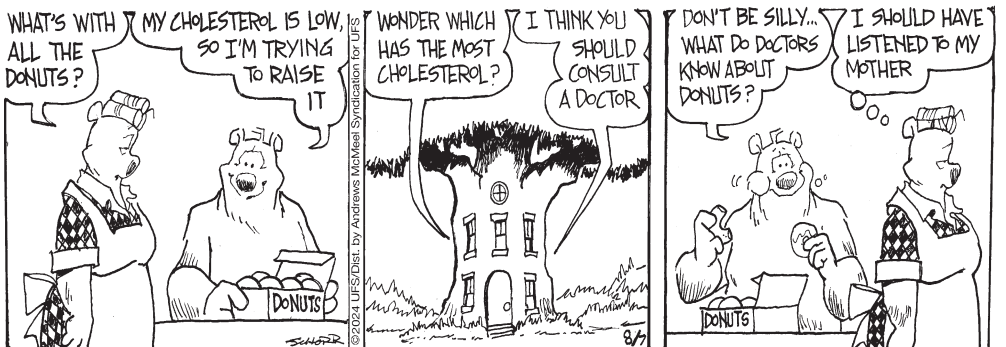
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



Father-figure boyfriend's addiction is a deal-breaker

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my live-in boyfriend, "Kyle," for four years. He has many great qualities, the most important of them being he fully accepts my daughter as his own. He doesn't see her as his "girlfriend's kid" or even a "stepchild." She has no contact with her biological father or any of his family and has blossomed as a person since Kyle has been in the picture.

The problem is, he likes to message women online through various dating and hook-up sites and share sexually explicit pictures and messages. He has never met any of them in person. I have confirmed this. He states he just likes the thrill and attention.

I have expressed multiple times that I consider this a betrayal. I honestly thought he had turned over a new leaf, but I have just discovered his behavior is continuing. I'm heartbroken, but I worry about what splitting up would do to my daughter.

When I left her biological father, she had some major behavioral and emotional issues. I can't bear the thought of putting her through that again. She would not only lose her father figure but also his extended family that has fully embraced her. Do I tough it out until she's 18, or do I leave now? -- HEARTBROKEN IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: I wish you had mentioned how old your daughter is. If she's in her mid-to-late-teens, she is old enough to understand

that you cannot let the romance continue as it is. If she's not yet in her teens, line up a licensed therapist to help you cope with the fallout that happened after your divorce.

Your partner may be a sex addict, which would account for his behavior and his inability to stop. What he has been doing IS a betrayal, and when to draw the line depends upon your tolerance for pain.

P.S. Are you staying with him only to avoid upheaval for your daughter? You must do what's best for her and YOU. There are resources that address sex addiction. Would he agree to try?

DEAR ABBY: My mother has been a drinker for many years, but the past few years it has escalated. She and her partner drink heavily during the day on a daily basis. They embarrass themselves at family gatherings and don't remember conversations.

I live out of state, and 90% of the time I talk with my mom, she is drunk. Family members are concerned, and it is affecting their relationships, but I don't think Mom and her partner recognize it. I have tried talking with her about it and so has my aunt. She avoids the conversation and pretends like it never happened.

She's now in her 70s and retired. I'm not sure there's anything we can do. I'm having a hard time talking with her when she's drunk, and we are drifting apart because of it. Do you have any advice? -- TIRED OF IT IN ILLINOIS

DEAR TIRED: It isn't



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

surprising that you and your mother are drifting apart. Dealing with an addict who is in denial is impossible. As much as you would like to, you can't "fix" your mother or her drinking buddy.

You can, however, save yourself tears and worry by finding a chapter of Al-Anon in your community and attending some meetings (al-anon.org/info). Once you start searching, you will find they are everywhere. Al-Anon, an offshoot of AA, was created for family members and others who are affected by an alcoholic's addiction.

It is important for your own well-being that you do not shoulder responsibility for what is happening with your mother. Once you meet other adults who are coping with the same problems you are, you will understand that.

Lifestyle



Courtesy photos

The LOR Foundation helped the Monte Vista Police Department purchase N-100 masks.



The Monte Vista Police Department recently purchased air purifiers with the help of the LOR Foundation.

LOR Foundation helps MVPD purchase safety items

By MARIE MCCOLM MONTE VISTA — Monte Vista Community LOR Officer Ivette Atencio said it was a privilege to help the Monte Vista Police Department with safety equipment.

“As a LOR officer, I enjoy hearing people’s stories and helping them as much as I can. When Lt. Michael Martinez reached out to the LOR Foundation with a project idea that focused on law enforcement officer’s health and safety, I understood where he was coming from, and really wanted to help. Hearing about the constant in-person contact that Monte Vista Police Department officers have with the community and how it increases the chance for officers to encounter many viruses and germs, I could see the need for officers to have certain safety items.”

Atencio explained that law enforcement is also at risk for dangerous substances and other contagions that could potentially be spread throughout their office.

“The LOR Foundation was happy to announce that we were able to help the Monte Vista Police Department obtain air purifiers and N-100 masks, to help keep the Monte Vista Police Department healthy and safe,” Atencio said. “Law enforcement officers respond to emergency calls all the time. When officers are responding to emergency calls, or police stops, officers currently use N-95 masks that are only good for one-time use. These types of masks are used as breathing protection for officers, where there is a potential for officers to encounter dangerous substances. N-95 masks are not reusable, but N-100 masks are reusable.”

Atencio stated that because the N-100 masks were reusable they would be an asset for law enforcement to have, rather than using the one-time N-95 masks.

Atencio said that another aspect in Lt. Martinez’s plan was his consideration of air purifiers for substances and other contagions that could be spread through a law enforcement office.

“Law enforcement officers sometimes transport chemical substances that are turned into an evidence department. Due

to the transportation of these substances, health risks are higher, as contagions can be spread. Air purifiers would help to mitigate the risk of these contagions inside of a law enforcement building,” she said.

With the help of the LOR Foundation, the Monte Vista Police Department purchased 12 air purifiers and 18 N-100 masks for the department. Atencio said that the LOR Foundation recognizes and understands the impor-

ance of keeping people in the community safe and healthy.

“When law enforcement officers are short staffed due to illness, that in turn can have an impact on the community as well,” she said.

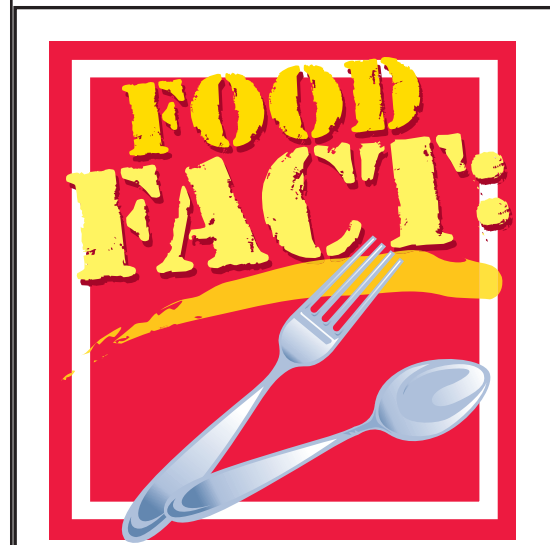
Atencio said that it

was a pleasure to work with Martinez to help the police department with this safety project.

“We appreciate our law enforcement officers. The LOR Foundation is community driven. We want to help make life in Monte Vista

even better, in any way we can,” she said.

The Monte Vista Police Department on its social media page thanked the LOR Foundation for their great donations of air purifiers and fentanyl masks for the department.



IT IS BELIEVED THE GREEKS OR ROMANS WERE THE FIRST TO CRAFT THIS IMPORTANT UTENSIL THAT MAKES ENJOYING FOOD EASIER.

ANSWER: FORK

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Invent

SPANISH: Inventar

ITALIAN: Inventare

FRENCH: Inventer

GERMAN: Erfinden

Crossword Puzzle

1		2		3		4
5						6
7					8	
9						

ACROSS

- Makes up an idea
- Measured worth
- Southeastern state (abbr.)
- Little samples
- Fixed

DOWN

- A person who creates a product or idea
- Enables
- Concept or vision
- Figures out the answer
- Neither _____

Answers: Across 1. Imagines 5. Value 6. AL 7. Testings 9. Repaired Down 1. Inventor 2. Allows 3. Idea 4. Solves 8. Nor

THIS DAY IN...



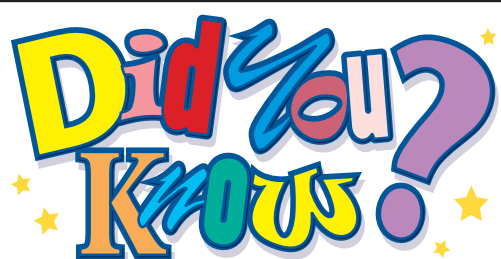
HISTORY

- 1839: THE UNITED KINGDOM CAPTURES HONG KONG AS A BASE AS IT PREPARES FOR THE FIRST OPIUM WAR WITH QUING CHINA.
- 1904: THE AUTOMOBILE TIRE CHAIN IS PATENTED.
- 1966: LUNAR ORBITER 1 TAKES THE FIRST PHOTOGRAPH OF EARTH FROM ORBIT AROUND THE MOON.

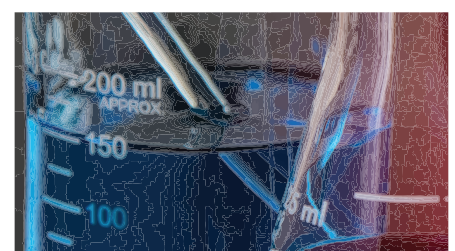
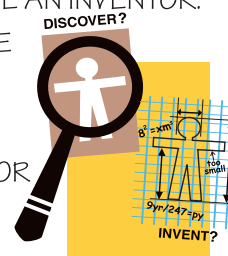


PATENT

exclusive right granted for an invention



ANYONE CAN BECOME AN INVENTOR. THE INVENTOR OF THE “GAME BOY,” GUNPEI YOKOI, ORIGINALLY WORKED AS A JANITOR AT NINTENDO.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: LAB BEAKERS



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