

Conservation districts hosting free events Aug. 23-24

STAFF REPORT

CENTER — San Luis Valley conservation districts will be hosting free events on Aug. 23 and 24.

The events are free and begin on Friday, Aug. 23, at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista. There will be a soil and water workshop held on Friday, with guest speaker Annie Overlin from the CSU Extension office.

Overlin will explain the connection between soil and water conservation and

ways to track and test soil health. She will also be explaining different ways to implement water conservation in daily planning. Attendees can also connect with other likeminded individuals, ask questions about water conservation and soil health, and take a deeper look at innovation and practices. The workshop will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Dinner will be provided by Gosar Sausage.

On Aug. 24, the public is invited to the USDA Office in Center for the San Luis

Valley Farmer to Famer Field Day Tours. The tour will make stops in Rio Grande, Saguache, and Alamosa counties. The tours are being provided to help residents of the San Luis Valley understand and see what local farmers and ranchers are doing to help with water conservation and overall soil health. Attendees will have the chance to ask farmers and ranchers questions.

After the tours, there will be a discussion held at the USDA Office. There will be

plenty of time for attendees to ask questions, and gain insight into anything they may have seen on the tours. The tours will run from 8:30 a.m. until about 3:30 p.m. Transportation is provided for people who attend, and lunch from the Ruby Rose Café will also be served.

There is no cost for the workshop or the tour event, to RSVP call or text Mattea Freely, the District Manager at 970-371-0687 or Seth Armentrout at 719-289-7332, or email centercd1@gmail.com.

Shorts

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 works to replace the damaged culvert that was temporarily repaired last year."

The closure will be in effect for approximately two weeks beginning on Aug. 5. For questions about the closure, contact the Saguache Ranger District at 719-655-2547.

Fletcher and Friends performing Aug. 18

CREEDE — Jeff Fletcher and Friends will be performing from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 18, at Basham Park, Creede, for Music in the Park. Fletcher, an amazing singer and guitar player, has had a residency at the Antlers Riverside Restaurant deck for several years. His music is the perfect blend of classic country, classic rock and the blues. He will be performing with some of his Creede musical friends including country singer Kerri Bohan and Debbie Whitmore on flute.

This concert is presented by the Creede Arts Council. If the weather is rainy, the concert will move into Sunnyside Bar across the street from Basham Park.

Loosbrock speaking about mining history

ALAMOSA — The San Luis Valley Museum will be hosting a lecture program-slide show presentation about the mining industry in the Valley and Southern Colorado at 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 16. The event will be given by Adams State University Professor of History Richard Loosbrock, who is a noted authority on the topic. The program is free. The museum is at 401 Hunt Ave., Alamosa.

Center's Crawley named Mardi Gras parade Grand Marshal

By MARIE MCCOLM

CENTER — The Town of Center recently announced it will have a parade in conjunction with its first-ever Mardi Gras celebration on Saturday, Aug. 24. The parade will begin at 10 a.m. with the lineup at 9:45 a.m. at the Center High School parking lot. Resident Judy Crawley will be this year's Grand Marshal for the parade.

Crawley is excited about being chosen and said, "I am going to have to do a lot of waving, but I am also going to have to be awful humble. I think that this is a very great honor. And I feel very humbled by it. I have mixed feelings about this, I feel like they could have picked someone else, but they asked me to do this, and I am going to do my best to honor myself and the whole community."

Crawley, who has been a resident of Center for about 60 years, said when she and her husband moved to Center they didn't know anyone.

"I was a stay-at-home mom, and I really didn't reach out in the community other than church, until my kids were in school," she said.

Crawley said that after her kids were in school, her husband

Please see PARADE on Page 2A



Courtesy photo

Town of Center Manager Cole Webb, left, poses for a photo with Judy Crawley, who was chosen to be Grand Marshal of the town's Mardi Gras parade on Aug. 24.

CPD hosting two events back-to-back on Aug. 16

STAFF REPORT

CENTER — On Friday, Aug. 16, people will have the chance to engage in conversation with the Center Police Department. CPD Chief Aaron Fresquez will be hosting a coffee and cookout with the chief beginning at 3:30 p.m. The event will go until 4:30 p.m.

The event is expected to be a casual gathering according to the Center Police Department's Facebook page. The police chief and other police officers will attend the event. The department will be providing free burgers and coffee.

After the coffee and cookout, CPD and Center Community Connections are hosting Flicks on the Bricks. The public is invited to attend this free movie event at 6 p.m. on Friday at Casa Blanca Park. The movie will be "Zootopia."

There will be a dunk tank featuring CPD Chief Fresquez.

This movie is rated PG, and is family friendly, and will be starting at sundown. The public is encouraged to bring their lawn chairs or something to sit on.

For more information on either of these events, visit the Center Police Department Facebook page or call Center Town Hall at 719-754-3497.

SLV Fair closes another successful run



Photo by Marie Mccolm

Kaysen Johnson's Grand Champion Market Beef was purchased by Monte Vista Coop at the San Luis Valley Fair Junior Livestock Sale on Aug. 9 at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista.



Photo by Brian Williams

Jocelyn Malouff, left, and Reese Anderson, right, pose for a photo after their goats were selected Reserve Grand Champion and Grand Champion, respectively, of the San Luis Valley Fair Market Goat Show on Tuesday, Aug. 6, at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista.

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — The San Luis Valley Fair kicked off on Aug. 1 and culminated on Aug. 9 with a Junior Livestock Sale and barbecue at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista.

This year's fair marked 122 years. Annually, about 350 youth participate in the event.

On Aug. 1 and 2, there was a horse show. On Aug. 3, breeding shows and hog showmanship shows took place. On Aug. 4, the Mike Kelley Memorial Barrow Show took place.

Kids and young adults could be seen all over the fairgrounds, tending to their animals, feeding them, brushing them,

Please see FAIR on Page 6A

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Dahlias in Del Norte

Bloomstead Farms' first festival is Aug. 23-24

CONTRIBUTED

DEL NORTE - In the rugged landscape of Del Norte, where the San Juan Mountain Range casts its majestic shadow, lies a remarkable testament to vision, perseverance, and community spirit - Bloomstead Farms.

What began as rocky pieces of land bought by Gary and Jody Seger and affectionately referred to as "Baltic Avenue" has transformed into a vibrant haven of beauty and joy under the stewardship of their son, Matt, and his wife, Wendi, along with their sons, Wes and Cole, and nephew, Henry.

A Legacy of Transformation

The story of Bloomstead Farms is one of transformation. In 1997, Matt and Wendi Seger purchased a piece of the family land that Gary and Jody had initially bought. With their family, they began the arduous task of transforming it. Over the years, they have unearthed an astonishing 39,000 tons of rocks, turning a once barren landscape into fertile ground. Initially, potatoes, barley and canola were their primary crops, but a chance encounter with dahlias sparked a new passion.

The Segers planted their first 400 dahlia tubers, and the results were nothing short of magical. The fields, once rocky and inhospitable, became a kaleidoscope of color and life. The farm is now focusing on cultivating unique and specialty varieties, adding even more charm and allure to their offerings.

Introducing the Dahlia Festival To celebrate this transformation and share the farm's beauty with the community, Bloomstead Farms is



Members of the Seger family of Del Norte are shown at Bloomstead Farms; front from left, Wendi and Jody; back, Henry, Wes, Matt and Cole.

hosting its first-ever Dahlia Festival on Aug. 23 and 24. This enchanting event promises to capture the whimsical, heartwarming essence of a Hallmark movie, offering a perfect setting for fun, friendship, and perhaps even a touch of romance.

- Aug. 23: A Night Under the Stars The festival kicks off with a catered dinner and dance under the stars. Enjoy a catered meal and dance the night away with a DJ, all set against the breathtaking backdrop of our blooming dahlia fields. The cost is \$30 per person.

- Aug. 24: Fields of Fun and Friendship The festivities continue with a day of farm games, designed to delight participants of all ages. Enjoy entertainment from Ms. Kai's Performance Academy, delicious food from onsite vendors, and the chance to win fantastic prizes. The entry fee is \$5 per person, which includes 10 tickets for the games.

For more details about the festival and to purchase tickets, visit bloomsteadfarms.com/pages/dahlia-festival.

Wendi's Good Things Market Adding to the charm of Bloomstead Farms is Wendi's Good Things Market, an elevated farm shoppe with a mission to

help women live more joyful and purposeful lives. Wendi Seger, the former owner of the beloved eatery Locavores in Alamosa, started the market in response to the challenges of COVID-19, aiming to keep her employees working.

What began as a small venture has now blossomed into a thriving business, shipping farm-inspired goods nationwide. The new farm location includes a retail section and expanded shipping and warehouse facilities. Wendi's Good Things Market stands as an inspiring testament to resilience and community spirit.

A Destination in the SLV Bloomstead Farms and Wendi's Good Things Market are more than just places; they are experiences. Visitors are welcome to explore the stunning dahlia fields, purchase bouquets, and capture unforgettable moments through photography. The San Luis Valley offers a picturesque destination, perfect for a day trip or a weekend getaway.

For more information on when the farm will be open for photography and bouquet purchases, visit bloomsteadfarms.com.

Courtesy photos



Beautiful Dahlias are shown blooming at Bloomstead Farms north of Del Norte.

PARADE

Continued from Page 1A

went into business by himself, and she remembers working at the cafeteria in the Sargent School District for about 8 or 9 years. She also remembers working for her husband for a while, too, as his bookkeeper. Crawley said she got a job as the Cafeteria Supervisor for the Center Consolidated School District and worked there for 15 years.

"I loved that job it was the best job I ever had. I like to cook, and I loved the kids. It was a very good job for me," she said.

Although the kids that Crawley grew to know and love are grown up now, she said the kids still like her and look out for her.

"They are all so respectful of me, I am very well accepted in the community. That is the thing about the Center community, we all look out for each other. We care about each other. I am very well cared for in this community," she said.

Center Mayor Archie Gallegos said that through Crawley's position at the school she became a mother to not only the children in Center, but basically everyone in Center.

"She was always good with the kids. Everyone got to know her through the school. She takes care of everyone. She's an angel here on Earth, who helps everybody out. She's really become like a mother to everyone in Center over the years," Gallegos said.

Gallegos said Crawley grows her own produce and enjoys cooking and sharing with everyone when she can, and she often makes "the best fried chicken" he's ever had and takes it to events at the park when they have them in Center.

"She is very giving," Gallegos said.

Crawley said that after working at the school she retired and took care of her husband until he passed away. She is an active member of the St. Francis of Jerome Catholic Church, and that at one time she used to take care of the yard at church, too.

"I really wish I could do all I used to do, but I am not able to do all of that anymore. I am still very active in the church though," she said.

Crawley said that she loves life, another thing she does is sew. She also provides alterations to anybody in the community that may need help with her sewing skills.

"I never think about how old I am, I just think about things that I love to do and hope that I can still do them next year," she said with a laugh.

Mayor Gallegos said that Crawley was also a part of Colorado Shares with him, which was a federally funded program that helped families and low-income individuals with food, according to careandshare.org.

"I have served the community in many different ways," said Crawley. "I was involved in Colorado Shares with Archie. I have served the community because I am able to, and because I enjoy helping people, that is what I like doing."

Crawley said that she has a great support system in her family with four daughters and her sons-in-laws.

"They all take great care of me, too, and I wouldn't be where I am without them," she said.

Town Manager Cole Webb is proud to have Crawley head up the parade as the Grand Marshall.

"She is well known and has made a lot of significant contributions to the Center Community," Webb said. "We are happy to have her."

OBITUARY

Vivian Gay Deitrich-MacLean

Vivian Gay Deitrich-MacLean died suddenly on July 10, 2024, while on vacation in Southern Colorado at the age of 69.

She was born to Richard and Margaret (Burkholder) Deitrich in Del Norte, Colo. She lived her childhood in Baltimore, Md., and Denver, Colo. She graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School and received a bachelor's degree in social work from Colorado State University in 1978. She worked as a program specialist at the C. Henry Kempe National Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver Colorado for four years before moving to Nashville, Tenn., to study at Vanderbilt University where she received master's and PhD degrees in clinical psychology. She completed an internship in clinical psychology at the Children's Hospital and Judge Baker Children's Center of Harvard University Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts.

She went on to develop independent practices in Nashville, Tenn., Laramie, Wyo. and Madison,

Wis., over the next three decades as she and her family moved around the country. As a clinical psychologist, she worked initially with children and youth but gradually transitioned to a practice focused on adults, families and couples. She was a gifted clinician who had the privilege of helping hundreds of clients achieve a more fulfilling life. Although skilled in psychological assessment and therapy, it was her boundless empathy that helped her clients overcome their issues.

She enjoyed the outdoors, particularly bicycling, hiking, camping and fishing. At home, she loved flower and vegetable gardening, feeding birds, reading books, and solving puzzles. She also enjoyed traveling and this became a major focus for her and her husband in retirement. But most of all, she loved her dogs.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Margaret and Dick, and her brother-in-law, Greg Hight.

She is survived by her husband of 39 years, William (Bill) MacLean; children Will MacLean and Michael (Courtney) MacLean;



granddaughter Sophronia, grandson Cassian, sisters Leslie (Tom) Shivers and Lori Hight, an uncle Craton (Mardell) Burkholder, nieces, nephews, cousins, and many loving friends.

A celebration of life will be held in the near future. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Cathedral Home in Laramie, Wyo., or the Laramie Animal Welfare Society (LAWS).

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GENERAC

OPINION & EDITORIAL

Is your cup half full

You don't have to have lived as long as Ol' Dutch to have heard the phrase "Is your cup half empty or half full?" It's a storied line used by psycho-babble people of every persuasion including pastors, shrinks, doctors, motivational speakers, teachers, and marriage counselors. The use of this phrase, of course, is that these well-meaning "helpers of humanity" want to get a person to look at their life in a positive manner instead of a negative one.

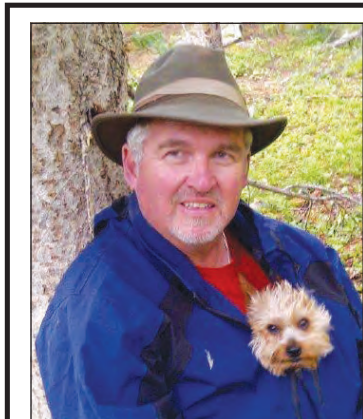
Now, I do know that it's way better for us to think about things in a positive manner and probably makes for a happier life but sometimes I wonder about such thinking. For instance, let's say you are headed on a trip in your car, and you glance down at the gas gauge to make sure you have sufficient fuel for the journey.

In this case, at least, I believe it is better to see the tanks as half empty so that some kind of urgency is placed on finding fuel for the trip. There are people, however, who drive around on fumes as they seem to see that they have "some gas" remaining in the tank hence no rush to replenish the same. They are what we call "walkers" as they soon find themselves without and then cannot believe it happened to them, of course.

Another place where seeing the lack in your situation may be helpful is with a person's bank account. It's a sad fact of reality that having a half full account really doesn't do much good when faced with a purchase. And yes, you can keep positive and say "well, at least I have some money" but that does not seem to help when you want to purchase anything of value. You are still half empty.

I have to say, Miss Trixie is a "half full" type of person and I do appreciate that as she always looks on the bright side of things which tends to pull Ol' Dutch along and out of the "half empty" mentality that he has. It's a good balance, I guess, for any relationship if one person can maintain positive vibes.

There is one area, though, that Ol' Dutch wishes she would come around to my way of thinking. That is with cups of beverages she leaves on the counter. She is her mother's daughter for sure as she is frugal to a fault but saving days old quarter cups of Chai Tea drives me



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

toward insanity.

And yes, I know some of you say well why can't I just dump them out and I do but mostly I hit them as they balance on the edge of the countertop and dump them on the floor. This elicits all kinds of loud exclamations and words not allowed in mixed company let alone here. And when Ol' Dutch lets loose, this causes Miss Trixie to launch off the bed where she is reclined like Cleopatra of old and come running to see what I did now.

I have tried to reassure her that we can afford the cheap Chai tea she buys and to simply dump it out when she thinks she is done but to no avail. So, it appears that while Ol' Dutch sees her cup as half empty, she will continue to see it as half full and keep it around until mold appears in the life-giving nectar of the elite.

And Ol' Dutch will continue to dump it down the drain at every opportunity which causes words of non-appreciation to spew forth from Miss Trixie's mouth. But Ol' Dutch is pretty hard of hearing now so what used to go in one ear and out the other simply does not even make it in the one hearing appendage.

Is your glass half full? Well then dump it out and save your marriage while you can.

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

Montana's politicians have lost their ties to land

Tim Sheehy, the Republican seeking to unseat Montana Democratic Senator Jon Tester, is a business executive born and raised out of state. That same description applies to Troy Downing, a Republican running for one of Montana's two Congressional seats. Same for Montana's Republican Governor Greg Gianforte and his challenger, Democrat Ryan Busse.

I have nothing against out-of-staters moving to Montana or working at a business. I fit both categories myself years ago. But I think this change in politicians' backgrounds reflects a change in how Montanans view their identity.

Previous Montana politicians who weren't government lawyers often came from farming and ranching or related businesses. Today's business backgrounds are less intimate with Montana's land. Gianforte started a software company. Sheehy founded imaging technology and aerial firefighting businesses. Downing, a real estate developer, has owned everything from self-storage units to vineyards.

Seeking business-friendly policies, Republicans have long favored candidates with business backgrounds. But today's desire for political outsiders includes Democrats like Busse, a former firearms executive without experience in elected office. And recent high-profile Democratic candidates have included educators, managers, and a musician—in other words, people who have not worked daily with nature and its resources.

Montanans used to mistrust government officials who lacked intimacy with the land. But today, both parties elevate politicians who lack that intimacy, probably because Montanans care more about ideological issues such as immigration, abortion, inflation or gender identity.

Political power used to flow from grazing stock and vast acreages. Now it flows from Wall Street stock and scenic mansions. For example,

Sheehy and Downing own homes in the chichi resort of Big Sky; Gianforte comes from the expensive Bozeman area; Busse comes from the scenic and pricey Flathead region.

Sure, those places are Montana. But Montana's politicians once came from less-glamorous places, including bare-knuckle Butte, the faded mining metropolis; remote Libby, with its logging and mining economy; and dusty Billings, an oil and cow town. In the 2000 and 2004 gubernatorial elections, Democrat Brian Schweitzer owned a Flathead mint farm but bragged that he was raised on an eastern Montana cattle ranch.

In other words, politicians once claimed Montanan identity through shared experience. That often included in-state birth and always included land-based pastimes like hunting. Today it's less "Are you a hunter?" than "Are you endorsed by the National Rifle Association?"

The shift makes it hard to interpret politicians' actions. For example, in 2021, Governor Gianforte killed a mountain lion and trapped and killed a wolf. Because he's not a rancher-politician, we can't understand, much less endorse, such acts in the context of a lifelong working relationship with land and livestock.

Similarly, Gianforte, Busse, and Downing have all been cited for various gradations of hunting violations. Should we judge them differently than we would a native-born hunter? And Sheehy's company is deeply in debt. For a ranch, that wouldn't be surprising. But for an aerospace company?

To the rest of the country, choosing leaders based on ideologies may sound familiar. But Montana, aka "Big Sky Country," used to pride itself on being different. More place-based, more rural, more centered on the individual.

Outsiders may have dismissed such philosophies as insular and backward—but that dismissal was what made them outsiders.



Writers on the Range
by JOHN CLAYTON

How should we react to this change? We might celebrate that Montana is leaving behind its tired frontier myths. Or we might mourn the shift, because Montana's extraordinary landscapes—and people's deep relationships to them—were what once made the state special. As Montana changes from bovines to business and from rural to resort, its politics can feel like yet another big-box store featuring all the latest national trends.

Then there's Senator Jon Tester, the lone elected Democrat who's running for re-election. The third-generation farmer from the wide-open plains of Big Sandy represents the land-based tradition that Montanans once cherished. But do Montana voters still want a senator like that?

Regardless of outcomes this November, the act of choosing by ideology rather than deep roots in the land marks a huge change.

John Clayton is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. The author of books including Stories from Montana's Enduring Frontier, his newsletter is naturalstories.substack.com.

LETTER

Vote yes for cats to uphold fair and ethical hunting in Colorado

Readers will remember Colorado Division of Wildlife's Tom Beck, our state bear biologist working at the time citizens voted to no longer send dog packs out to chase bears in spring, sparing cubs and Colorado from unfair, unethical practices.

"Most hunting can be ethically defended. Some cannot. Change, where necessary, is our only hope of survival," Beck was quoted in Colorado Outdoors.

The bear measure passed but didn't end all hunting; neither did the voter-approved ban on indiscriminate leghold traps. CATs also carves out

specific, unethical practices and in the widely marketed trophy lion hunting of Colorado, where outfitters charge upward of \$8,000 and a 100% guaranteed head, alongside commercialized fur trapping that lures bobcats with bait to skin them for fur coats on the Chinese market.

Lynx are included because as Colorado Parks and Wildlife reports, bobcats and lynx share habitat, are similar in appearance, and attracted to the same bait.

A vote "YES" in November will uphold those principles of the

North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, to not allow unfair chase and unsightly commercialization of wildlife.

CPW states on its website it will enforce the "will of the voters" as it always has done so well on moral issues for basic standards and ethics. Our trusted agency is here for the citizens as wildlife is a public trust, not private property of the fur trappers-and-lion-trophy-hunters-only club.

CATs held a press conference last weekend, where Erik Molvar, a published wildlife conservation

biologist who is also an avid hunter of deer and elk, had this to say:

"Hunting for big cats is trophy hunting, pure and simple. It's not to fill the freezer, it's to bring home a trophy...many hunters are like me, they subscribe to hunting ethics, like the fair-chase principle. Running mountain lions for miles with multiple dogs until they climb into a tree, and then shooting them out of the tree at point-blank range, that's not fair chase. The prey animal doesn't have a fair chance to escape, and hunters aren't taking the quarry using their own skill

and knowledge."

A yes vote on cats is a vote for the best of Colorado and to weed out what is nothing to be proud of. Visit www.catsarentrophies.org to learn more.

Julie Marshall is a former public information officer for Colorado Division of Wildlife working as Communications Director for the Cats Aren't Trophies campaign headquartered in Grand County, Colorado

*Julie Marshall
Communications Director for Cats Aren't Trophies*

CENTER POST-DISPATCH

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Creede Rock and Mineral Show draws treasure seekers

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

CREEDE—The Creede and Mineral County Underground Community Center was packed wall to wall with booths for the annual Creede Rock and Mineral Show this past weekend.

People from all over the country perused the many booths seeking out treasures and learned new and wonderful things about all the different rocks and minerals on display.

Rockhounds of all ages were there to enjoy three full days of homemade crafts, jewelry, handcrafted rock, mineral displays, and much more. One local Valley resident has been coming to the show for over 30 years and had this to say, "We come up every year and every year there is always something new to find or something great to learn from some of the vendors. These people are adventurers, and they have some amazing stories to tell."

From sourcing material above 12,000 feet to finding a rare mineral or gem in a desert plain, rockhounds seek their treasure anywhere. This combined with unmatched artistic talent, the vendors that grace the halls of the community center are unique in their own way.

The evening program for this year's event featured local geologist Rhonda Foale who spoke about the geology of Creede, specifically the ancient volcanos that formed the area and the rock and minerals that can be found there. Creede is best known for its silver and the famous Sowbelly Agate, comprised of amethyst and other minerals unique to the area.

Creede is the result of one of the largest volcanic eruptions in earth's history according to geological studies done by several experts. The La Garita Caldera was formed around the Creede area that happened an estimated between 40 and 18 million years ago.

Silver was discovered in Creede 135 years ago in 1889 and with the discovery, the story of the town was born. Like many communities throughout Colorado, Creede was one that depended solely

on the precious metal it was pulling out of the mountains surrounding the area and when the boom ended abruptly in the mid-1980s the town turned to tourism to support its continued growth and survival.

One story out of the past came from one man who ventured to the Creede area seeking fame and fortune. Ralph Granger In 1889, Granger headed out looking for his wealth stating that this was the last time he would go out to try and find gold or silver.

It was announced in the Jan. 5, 1889, San Juan Prospector that Granger and his partner had purchased and opened a grocery store and butcher shop along the main street of Del Norte, but it was his adventures in the spring of that year that would change the course of history for many and create the mine that has become a tourist hot spot today.

According to the newspaper of 1889, Granger sold his half of the business to his partner and began the rigorous process of searching for gold and striking it rich. During this time, Del Norte was booming, and the gold was coming from Summitville by the bucket loads. Everyone was seeking a piece of the rich ore that was just waiting to be found, and Granger was one that wanted a piece of that pie.

He looked for two years and after coming to the very last of his resources and funding, his family in near shambles, Granger struck it rich. He named the mine for exactly what it was, his last chance and to this day, the mine continues to produce treasures untold. For new owner Jack Morris, the Last Chance Mine has turned into a once in a lifetime opportunity and he is happy to share it with the public every day.

This is just one tale of many that surround the long history of Creede and only one of many that is shared among rockhounds that get their blood roaring to seek those treasures on their own.

For more information or a full schedule of coming events in Creede, visit www.creede.com.



Photos by Lyndsie Ferrell

Rockhounds from all over the country came to see the many specimens offered by these adventurous folks and to learn about geological formations from around the Creede area.



The annual Creede Rock and Mineral Show in Creede had more than 40 vendors packed into the halls of the Creede and Mineral County Underground Community Center.

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CENTER POST-DISPATCH

Celebrating 80 years of Smokey Bear

The air was heavy with a weak monsoon season moisture as I drove up the mountain on patrol, secretly hoping not to discover any illegal campfires - regardless of whether they were attended, unattended or abandoned.

The national forest was under fire restrictions at the time, so campfires weren't allowed where I was patrolling. Windows down, my senses were on high alert as I passed a popular dispersed camping area close to, but not immediately visible from the road. Near the upper part of that area, a light hint of smoke drifted

through the truck's cab and into my nostrils igniting a spark of anger within me. I felt violated. So many regular campers on that mountain knew me and I was disappointed that someone would dare have a fire, knowing I would be in the area and probably write them a ticket for it.

I stepped out of the truck and followed the smoke smell past an empty campsite with a cold fire pit. Continuing my investigation, I meandered deeper into the forest where I discovered a small wildfire burning - clearly the result of a recent lightning strike. Relieved that my forest visitors hadn't, in fact, let me down, I got right to work and called the fire engine for assistance. The crew helped me contain the fire that evening and went back the next day when it was hot and dry, which would have given that fire every opportunity to grow, possibly rapidly. I was truly glad it was NOT an abandoned campfire as I had initially thought.

During my 16 years as a Fire Prevention Patrol, I discovered

hundreds of abandoned campfires. Because of that, I never questioned the need for the longest running public service campaign in the U.S. - Smokey Bear. Millions of people know him and can relate to America's favorite bear. As I write this on Friday, August 9, Smokey's 80th birthday, around 28,000 firefighters are working to manage the several hundred active fires in the United States, primarily in the west. Nearly one hundred of those are considered large fires, accounting for over 95% of the firefighters committed. A large portion of those fires are human caused.

Portions of the west are critically parched by drought and when you combine carelessness with anything that can start a fire, you quickly see the often-tragic results of those circumstances.

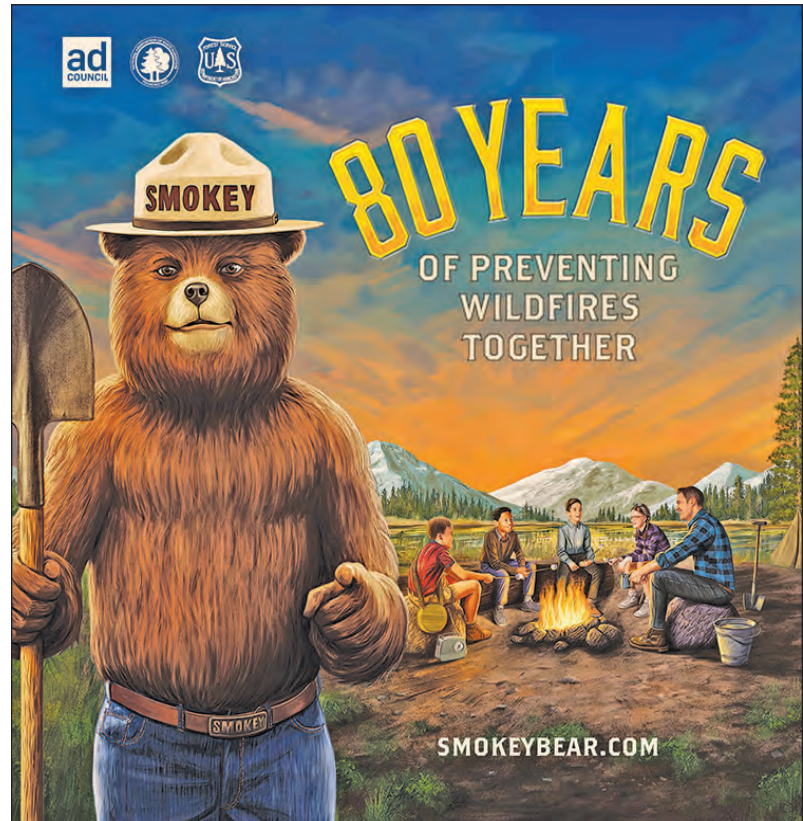
Eighty years ago, the US was deep into WWII and getting increasingly concerned about the use of young men fighting wildfires and not supporting the war effort. Not to mention the loss of the timber. As part of a greater effort to address the problem, on August 9, 1944, the creation of Smokey Bear was authorized by the Forest Service, and the first poster was delivered on October 10 by artist Albert Staehle. The poster depicted a bear pouring a bucket of water on a campfire.

The first live Smokey Bear was found in a wildfire in the Capitan Mountains on the Lincoln National Forest in New Mexico in 1950. As word of that bear got out, the campaign spread like wildfire! This is a great true story and I encourage everyone to read about

it on smokeybear.com.

The campaign evolved over the years and in 2001, the slogan was updated to its current version of "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires" to address the unplanned and unwanted brush and grassland fires. Wildfire prevention remains crucial, and Smokey still needs your help. His catchphrase reflects your responsibility: Only you can prevent wildfires. Remember that this phrase is so much more than just a slogan: it's an important way to care for the world around you.

These last words, found in "About the Campaign" on Smokey's website have always resonated with me. I chose this career because I love the public lands we have available for all to use. While not all of us want to, or can, work for the Forest Service, we CAN all choose to be good land stewards. One of the most common ways to do this is to practice campfire safety - every time. Keep your fires manageable and always put them out, cold to the touch, before you leave it. Even just to go to sleep. It's the repetition that will set the correct example for the next generation of forest users. I urge you to foster that ethic and promote it as much as



you can. And, above all, teach your children, and the adults that may not already know, about Smokey Bear. Because, after all, Only YOU Can Prevent Wildfires.

Gregg Goodland is the Public Affairs Officer for the Rio Grande National Forest. As an avid outdoor enthusiast, he encourages individual stewardship and responsible use of our public lands.



Land Water and People
By Gregg Goodland

SLV Potato Festival set for Sept. 7 in Monte Vista

CONTRIBUTED

MONTE VISTA — The San Luis Valley Potato Festival is set to return for its 17th edition on Saturday, Sept. 7. There will be plenty of opportunities for a day filled with fun at Chapman Park.

The day will begin with the Tater Trot 5K. Proceeds from the race will support pediatric diabetes patients throughout the Valley. The cost to participate is \$25 and early registrants get a free T-shirt.

There will also be an opportunity to join CPAC Executive Director Jim Ehrlich on a free Agricultural Tour. Those who would like to attend can sign up to ride a bus from the festival site to visit the SLV-Research Center and see a field being harvested. The tour is free and provides the chance

to learn about the breeding, seeding, growing and harvesting of Colorado's finest potatoes, right here in the San Luis Valley.

Festivities will continue throughout the day and will include free kid's games, the famous mashed potato dunk tank, and a professional chef competition between Chef Jason Morse of 5280 Culinary, Chefs RJ Harvey and Aurora Hollenbeck of Potatoes USA and Chef Tim Alfrey of the Windsor Hotel.

There will also be bouncy houses, and a trampoline quad jumper along with food and craft vendors, live animals and much more.

For more information or to sign up for any of these events, visit coloradopotato.org/potatofestival or call 719-852-3322.




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FAIR

Continued from Page 1A

and leading them into the arenas to show their animals during the shows.

Many people also entered other competitions, aside from the animals, throughout the week that were held, including baking, cake making, cake decorating, photography, science experiments, and much more. Each person was also interviewed regarding their project, and they were judged and received ribbons and placement holders in the fair.

In preparation for the fair, many raised their own animals, or purchased animals. They invest a lot of time in the animals. The return on time and money invested comes back to when the animal is sold at the livestock sale.

This year's fair also featured food trucks. Vendors were set up inside of the Outcalt Event and Conference at SLV Ski-Hi Complex.

There were some amazing cake entries this year, including a cake that was decorated to look like a skunk, a beautiful 3-tiered cake that had climbing vines all over it, a cake that was decorated to look like a happy bunny rabbit, a cake that looked like a beach, and a cake that was decorated to look

like a beehive. Grand Champion for the cakes was Liam Griffin with his cut up cake that looked just like a skunk, and the reserve Grand Champion was Joslyn Mix with her cake that was decorated like a bunny rabbit.

Winners of the shows included Grand Champion SLV Fair Market Beef shown by Kaysen Johnson and Reserve Champion SLV Fair Market Beef shown by Trace Johnson; Grand Champion Market Sheep shown by Lane Mattive and Reserve Champion Market Sheep shown by Macklie Sims; Grand Champion Market Goat shown by Reese Anderson and Reserve Champion Market Goat shown by Jocelynn Malouff; and Grand Champion Market Swine shown by Aubrey Naranjo and Reserve Champion Market Swine shown by Makenzie Consaul.

On Friday, Aug. 9, during the livestock sale and barbecue, about 350 people were there. The Grand Champion Market Beef was purchased by Monte Vista Coop for \$28,000.

For more information on the San Luis Valley Fair, visit their website at slvfair.com.



Photo by Brian Williams

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.



Photo by Brian Williams

Lane Mattive, left, shows the Grand Champion of the San Luis Valley Fair Market Sheep Show on Aug. 7, at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista. Mattive, 13, of Sargent Community 4-H Club, won his class with his 156-pound crossbred lamb before being selected Grand Champion. Macklie Sims, right, showed the Reserve Grand Champion of the fair.



Photo by Marie Mccolm

Liam Griffin made and decorated the Grand Champion skunk cake at the San Luis Valley Fair.



Left: Makenzie Consaul's medium weight dark cross was the Reserve Grand Champion Market Swine of the San Luis Valley Fair on Aug. 5. Photo by Brian Williams

PUBLIC NOTICES

Request For Proposal (RFP) Hangar Renovation Project

Saguache County is looking for a person or contractor for demolition and removal of hangars and rubbish on Leach Airport property.

There are several hangar structures at Leach Airport that need to be demolished. Saguache County seeks to have all non-viable hangars demolished and all associated rubbish on the property removed.

See attached map – T Hangar C to be torn down, T Hangar E to be torn down, T Hangar F to be torn down, Hangar F3 torn down. Total of Hangars to be torn down – 4.

A map will be available at www.saguachecounty.co.us to identify targeted structures for this demolition proposal. Saguache County reserves the right to start accepting proposals on Monday, August 12, 2024, with the understanding RFP process will remain open until September 6, 2024, at 3pm.

If you are interested in the removal of the items at Leach Airport please send a letter of interest to Wendi Maez, PO Box 100, Saguache, CO 81149 or you may email your letter of interest to wmaez@saguachecounty-co.gov.

For additional information please contact either Wendi Maez at 719-655-2231 or Jed El-lithorpe at 719-850-1928.

No. 1703 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, August 15, 22 and 29, 2024.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District Court	<input type="checkbox"/> Denver Probate Court
Saguache County, Colorado	
Court Address: 501 4th Street, Saguache, CO 81149	
In the Matter of the Estate of Albert A. Buytendorp	
Deceased	
Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address): C. Christopher Muth 8727 La Palma Lane, Naples, FL 34108	Case Number:
Phone Number: (513) 518-3704 E-mail: chris@cornuth.com FAX Number: Atty. Reg. #:	Division Courtroom
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Estate of Albert A. Buytendorp, Deceased	Case Number <u>2024 PR8</u>
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District Court of <u>Saguache</u> County, Colorado or	
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Why you need dental insurance in retirement.

Many Americans are fortunate to have dental coverage for their entire working life, through employer-provided benefits. When those benefits end with retirement, paying dental bills out-of-pocket can come as a shock, leading people to put off or even go without care.

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▶ Shop for coverage with no annual maximum on cash benefits. Some plans have annual maximums of \$1,000.

Medicare doesn't pay for dental care.!

That's right. As good as Medicare is, it was never meant to cover everything. That means if you want protection, you need to purchase individual insurance.

Early detection can prevent small problems from becoming expensive ones.

The best way to prevent large dental bills is preventive care. The American Dental Association recommends checkups twice a year.

Previous dental work can wear out.

Even if you've had quality dental work in the past, you shouldn't take your dental health for granted. In fact, your odds of having a dental problem only go up as you age.²

Treatment is expensive – especially the services people over 50 often need.

Consider these national average costs of treatment ... \$222 for a checkup ... \$190 for a filling ... \$1,213 for a crown.³ Unexpected bills like this can be a real burden, especially if you're on a fixed income.

1 "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2024. 2 "Aging changes in teeth and gums", medlineplus.gov, 4/17/2022. 3 American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute, 2020 Survey of Dental Fees, Copyright 2020, American Dental Association.

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Transmission line study to start later this year

By JOHN WATERS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Last month, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) granted Alamosa County \$1,699,965 to study transmission lines in the Valley. The grant is due to the efforts of Alamosa County Commissioner Lori Laske and others.

Laske gave the Valley Courier an overview of the project and said, “I became involved when I first became a County Commissioner in 2021, when there was the fire in Boulder [December 2021], and all of the gas and electricity was turned off in the Valley. This was at night and in winter.

“I started to receive calls from residents who were concerned about the outage. They had family members who were on oxygen and other medical issues. People asked when the power would be on and why something in Boulder was impacting the San Luis Valley and Alamosa County.”

Laske said that event initiated her interest in the issue of transmission lines and learned the lines come through “the same Poncha Pass corridor. We also had an outage in May related to a line down at Poncha Pass. That pass has been identified by emergency managers as a possible fire hazard.”

Laske said her interest in transmission lines increased when she was contacted by Erin Minks with Senator Michael Bennett’s office and asked to attend a meeting to have the issue be placed on a docket to look at providing transmission in and out of the San Luis Valley. This is something that has been considered for a long time, she said.

Xcel Energy operates a 115-kilovolt line over Poncha Pass, and Tri-State Generation and the Western Area Power Authority operate a 230-kilovolt line over the pass. According to Laske, a new line, such as one south to New Mexico, would reduce the risk of relying on power through the one route over Poncha.

“We will study a bigger line, a 345-kilowatt line, that might allow us to export solar energy out of the Valley. As solar is only produced during the day, if we have solar energy storage, that power could stay here.”

Laske added that she has attended many meetings with power experts and always asks why, despite increased solar production in the Valley, no rates have gone down in the region. To date, no one has answered that question.

The study will be an analysis and extensive community engagement around three potential transmission corridors to identify the optimal



Photo CSFS

Power lines over Poncha Pass serve the San Luis Valley. According to the Colorado State Forest Service, Western Spruce budworm and Douglas-fir beetle have decimated trees in the area. The dead and dry timber has increased fire risk in the area, which may imperil the power lines.

route to increase electric transmission capacity to the Upper Rio Grande Valley in southern Colorado and northern New Mexico.

According to the DOE, “In a continued effort to expedite the build-out of a resilient and reliable electric grid, the U.S. Department of Energy announced 20 projects across 16 states selected to receive up to \$371 million to accelerate the permitting of high-voltage, interstate transmission projects.

“These projects will also support community infrastructure projects along major new and upgraded transmissions lines, including upgrading public school buildings and emergency response facilities. Administered by DOE’s Grid Deployment Office, today’s Transmission Siting and Economic Development (TSED) grants will help advance at least 16 high-impact transmission lines across the country, supporting the deployment of reliable and affordable energy for consumers and creating good-paying jobs.

“Today, every pocket of the country is experiencing the grueling impact of extreme weather, and there’s no doubt

that we must expand our transmission grid to get more clean, resilient power to more people, in more places,” said U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm.

The study is moving forward. Laske said, “We have a conditional proposal; before we applied for this application, we did an RFP [request for proposal], and that really made us competitive for this grant; there are only 20 grants. We have a contract with a company to do a study.

“The first component is stakeholder engagement and outreach. Community meetings with the railroad, CDOT, and forest service will be held. The second component will be an analysis, not a complete engineering study; it will look at what the best route is, mapping, and routes. After that we will receive their recommendations.”

The Colorado Electric Transmission Authority has applied to construct the line, although Laske said they are a

last-resort option, and the line could be built by any entity.

The \$1.7 million grant study will begin later this year and take 18 months to complete. After this study is finished an engineering study must be completed.

Laske thanked Craig Bearclaw with the Council of Governments and Sarah Stoeber with the San Luis Valley Development Resources Group and the Colorado Energy Office for their assistance.

How to Make Fear Disappear

It has been said that F-E-A-R stands for “false evidence appearing real.”

Too many times the enemy tries to fill our minds with fear and make us feel trapped—backed into a corner with no way out. He makes what is false look so real!

It’s important to remember that fear comes from our enemy—Satan. Whatever good things God tries to give to us, the enemy tries to ruin it with some kind of poison. Satan uses fear to keep us from having everything God wants us to have.

However, for every poison the enemy tries to bring into our lives, God has the antidote—faith. Faith is the antidote for the poison of fear. We don’t have to stay stuck in a corner surrounded by fear (false evidence appearing real). We can break free, release our faith, and walk in victory.

Fear always makes everything seem worse than it really is and sometimes causes us to do unreasonable, even ridiculous, things.

When my husband, Dave, and I were first married and I was pregnant with one of our daughters, we lived in a place that had mice and we began to see them here and there. I can’t stand mice and would literally scream when I saw them.

Well, one day I went into the bathroom and there was a mouse in the bathtub. I just freaked out. I was petrified. My heart and mind were racing trying to figure out how I could contain this “monstrous” mouse and keep myself safe.

How ridiculous! I’m sure that mouse was more afraid of me than I was of it. The point is that fear can make us do things that are quite unreasonable...even foolish.

Before we react in situations, we need to remember that fear will push us to a level of emotion where we will do things that make absolutely no sense. Our human nature tends to react in fear because we think the situation is so much bigger than it really is.

Fear appears huge and overshadowing. However, when we shine the light of faith on it, fear begins to diminish. The minute fear comes into our lives, all we have to do is release our faith. When we do, the feeling of fear doesn’t always go away, but our faith will keep us going...even if we have to do it afraid.

You see, God wants us to keep going forward and do what we believe He wants us to do. He doesn’t want us to back off because we feel fear. As Psalm 34:4 says, “I sought the

Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears” (NKJV).

There’s no way to count all the people who totally lose their God-ordained destiny because of fear. When they try to step out in faith, fear comes to them, asking all the “what ifs.”

What if I fail? What if people don’t like me? What if I don’t have all of the answers?

Sadly, there are probably relatively few people who actually push past fear and end up boldly doing everything God has planned for them to do in life. Too many consider the fear instead of the evidence of God’s Word about overcoming fear.

Everything that God has for us is better and more powerful than anything Satan has to offer. No matter how powerful and overwhelming fear feels to us, we need to remember that faith is greater.

The Bible says that each one of us is given a measure of faith (Romans 12:3). What does this mean exactly? It means that God will give us the amount of faith we need to do what He has called us to do in life. The evidence is clear!

Whatever you’re going to face in life—whatever is coming in your future—God has already given you the faith for it. It may not look like it, and you may not feel like you have what it takes to overcome, but appearance isn’t everything!

God has given you His Holy Spirit, and He’s all you need to handle whatever life throws your way. The enemy would like for us to believe that we don’t have a chance in life, we’re too weak, too poor...too whatever. But God has a different view of us. God sees us through the eyes of love. He sees what we can be—not what we see or what others see.

But it takes faith to move forward and overcome the situations of life. And faith does you no good if you don’t know how to release it. You have to release it in order for it to work. We release faith through our words, actions, and, of course, through prayer.

Some people seem to go through harder times than others, but God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34) and will give each of us the faith we need for every part of our journey in life. However, it’s up to us to act.

You can’t sit around and think fearful thoughts and continue to walk in faith. What we think about and meditate on is very important. First John 4:4 is a scripture we quote a lot, and almost anytime I say this

Moving Up Higher

with
Joyce Meyer



verse in church or a meeting, everybody claps and cheers. But I wonder, how many people really believe it? It says: “...Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world” (KJV).

You and I don’t have to be fearful. I don’t mean that we won’t feel fear, but it does mean that appearance isn’t everything. It doesn’t matter what the enemy wants us to see or how things might look. Our faith overcomes through the One Who lives in us!

First John 5:4 says: “...This is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith” (NKJV). It’s so simple. What do you need so you can overcome the things that come against you? Childlike faith!

That means simply believing God more than you believe anything else. It means believing His promises. It means believing what you know in your heart more than how you feel, what you think, what your friends say, what your circumstances look like, or what the enemy tells you.

Fear doesn’t have to rule your life. Remember, it’s false evidence appearing real! And when you make a decision to stand in faith and consider the truth of God’s Word, fear will disappear...and you will win the battle.

For more on this topic, order Joyce’s four-part teaching resource *Overcoming Fear with Faith*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 140 books, including *BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND* and *OVERCOMING EVERY PROBLEM (FaithWords)*. She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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Photo by John Waters

The annual SLV Pridefest will include a parade in Alamosa on Aug. 24. In this file photo from last year, celebrants march on Main Street in Alamosa.

San Luis Valley Pride through Aug. 25

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — San Luis Valley Pride, a Non-profit organization dedicated to the ensuring the visibility and inclusion of individuals who identify as LGBTQ+ in the San Luis Valley is hosting the annual Pridefest celebration through Aug. 25 at various locations.

Pridefest brings awareness to queer individuals in the San Luis Valley. According to the group, "We strive that every individual who is LGBTQ+ feels safe to be themselves in the Valley while providing some education around queer issues."

Pride originally began as a protest in the late 60's due to police oppression that was occurring to the queer/LGBTQ+ community in New York. Thus began the famous Stonewall Riots which kick-started some of the most instrumental civil rights work. Pride then was about securing the rights to love people most genuinely, reduce discrimination, and build job protections for individuals who were being fired due to their sexuality. It still is about that, but much progress has been made and there is more to come. Pride now is a celebration of how far we have come as a marginalized group.

Pride is an important event for everyone, not just LGBTQ+ individuals, but allies alike. It's the time of the year to

show up and be there in support of our families and friends.

SLV Pridefest includes wonderful events. There will be a Brave Spaces Roller Skating event on Aug. 10 at the Alamosa Recreation Center from 4 to 8 p.m.

There is a Pride Gaming Night at Respawn Gameroom and VR Lounge in Del Norte from 5 to 8 p.m. on Aug. 14.

On Aug. 23, there will be pre-kickoff reading in Cole Park from 4 to 6 p.m. ADJ with some Drag Queen/King performers dropping in will be at the Rio Grande Farm Park from 6 to 10 p.m. The first 100 guests to the Kick-Off Party, will get free tacos from Taco Martinez.

On Aug. 24 at 10 a.m., folks will meet in the Alamosa Library parking lot to begin a human-led parade through town, whoever is Embracing their Rainbow the most enthusiastically dressed in their Pride will be rewarded on stage. After the parade, we kick-off Pridefest in Cole Park at 11 a.m. with live music, drag performers, and speakers.

The festivities will round out the weekend with a Drag Brunch on Sunday, Aug. 25, at the San Luis Valley Brewing Company at 9 a.m. for tickets, see our Instagram, Facebook or website slvpride.org.

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Center hosts community mural project

By MARIE MCCOLM

CENTER — On Aug. 4, the Town of Center and artist Bianca Maestas hosted a community mural paint by numbers event at the 300 block of Worth Street.

People of all ages were invited to participate in this beautiful mural project. The Town of Center hosted it as a way to help beautify the downtown area.

The San Luis Valley Agriculture Coalition was having an agriculture appreciation barbecue and encouraged people at their event to also participate in the mural project.

According to Lisa Lucero, a member of the San Luis Valley Agriculture Coalition, and the director of Community Engagement for the San Luis Valley Area Health Education Center, the origins of the paint by numbers mural was from a community survey. A mural was decided for Center. Part of the survey also asked community members what they thought of when they thought of Center. The community stated that they thought of family and community. The paint by numbers mural represents a community quilt.

Maestas was chosen by a committee to create and design the community quilt mural. Committee member Lares Feliciano talked about the selection process.

“It was an awesome opportunity,” Feliciano said. “We had a handful of submissions from all over the state, not just from the Valley. Bianca presented this beautiful proposal that was bright



Photo by Marie Mccolm

People help bring the paint by numbers community mural project to life in downtown Center on Aug. 4.

and joyful but also rooted in the earth and agriculture, and the joy and experience of production. We enjoyed her presentation and chose her. It’s been really cool to watch this all unfold.”

Maestas talked about the creation of the mural.

“If you look at the community quilt pattern there are a lot of different things here,” she said. “There is a community weaving through time, there are different flowers featured in the area. We have potato flowers, canola flowers, and alfalfa flowers. There’s a view of the fields representing agriculture.”

Maestas said the paint by numbers was put in the mural, on all the pictures, with the idea that people of any age

could help paint the mural. Maestas said that many people had been by to help paint, “mostly children.”

“I also wanted to make the mural easy and not too complicated, so that small children and anyone else that wanted to, could enjoy painting the mural,” she said.

Lucero said she enjoyed being a voice regarding the mural painting in Center.

“I had been wanting to do something like this forever. I cannot take any credit for this, except to be one of the biggest voices in the room. I maybe helped the process along by helping with the marketing and making sure it happened on the same day as the barbecue. I

Please see MURAL on Page 7



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

Please see TOUR on Page 7

Creede Community Church marks 130th anniversary

Dedicates community Meditation Garden Aug. 4

CONTRIBUTED

CREEDE — In honor of its 130th anniversary on Aug. 4, the Creede Community Church dedicated its new Meditation Garden.

During the ceremony, the Rev. Sarah B. Linn offered appreciation to the trustees and to church members Stan and Michael Tucker-McDermott of the Tucker-McDermott Foundation, who shepherded the project over the past five years.

Several members and friends of the congregation contributed hours of work to bring the vision to life.

The Meditation Garden is open to the public 24 hours a day and features picnic tables, park benches, lovely plant life, and “Spin/Monarch,” an inspiring work of art by public sculptor Joe Norman. The sculpture was a generous gift from

an anonymous donor and serves as the centerpiece of the garden.

Creede Community Church, UCC began as a series of house meetings in 1892. The original congregation was chartered as Creede Congregational Church on Aug. 4, 1894.

Five years later, CCC formed the Ladies Auxiliary to raise money to support the church. They eventually become what is now known as the “Ladies Aid Society” (LAS), which has expanded its mission to include supporting local non-profits and neighbors in need. LAS is celebrating its 125th anniversary this summer.

The Congregational Church became Creede Community Church, UCC when it was folded into the United Church of Christ when the denomination was founded in 1957.

The Meditation Garden at Creede Community Church welcomes anyone who could use a break, a sunny or shady place to rest, or a moment of quiet reflection.



Photos by Brooke Ashley Photography

Creede Community Church, UCC members Stan and Michael Tucker-McDermott of the Tucker-McDermott Foundation, shepherded the Medication Garden project.

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: South Fork Visitor Center • Creede Visitor Center
www.creedeartscouncil.com

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

48 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork

Mountain Charm - Where Dreams Blossom Nestled in the heart of South Fork, Colorado, this Mountain haven awaits where simplicity meets enchantment. Picture it: a 3-bedroom, 2-bath retreat, bathed in the golden light of the Mountains. With 1,440 square feet and attached large 2 car garage. This home will cradle your memories like a cherished heirloom. This lot steals your breath—a canvas of possibility stretching wide. Here, mule deer and wild turkeys play, visiting often as if drawn by whispers from the pines. No stern HOA rules here; just a neighborhood that nods in camaraderie. Large lot to grow your own garden and enjoy the existing rhubarb patch! Imagine stepping onto your covered front porch, the scent of freshly baked rhubarb pie dancing in the air. Yes, you'll bake your own—pluck ruby-red stalks from the earth, mix them with sugar and secrets, and let the mountains witness your culinary magic. Paved roads with city water and city water & sanitation. Modern comfort wrapped in rustic allure. All this and more, only a short walk takes you to the Rio Grande River, its waters a silver ribbon of promise. Gold medal fishing awaits, and the mountains echo your joy. And when winter blankets the land, Wolf Creek Ski area beckons. Adventure, your faithful companion, stands at your doorstep. Your Dream come true, pick up the phone. Schedule your showing, and step into the pages of Mountain Charm. Your Adventure starts here, give me a call today! MLS#815494 - \$367,900



JUST LISTED

222 La Lomita Circle • South Fork

Perfect 2.0-acre lot to build Your Dream Home. Luxurious Mountain Retreat Awaits: Build Your Dream Home! Nestled amidst the majestic peaks, this pristine lot awaits your architectural vision. Imagine waking up to panoramic vistas that stretch as far as the eye can see—each sunrise painting the sky in hues of amber and rose gold. Welcome to your own private haven, where nature's splendor meets refined living. Breathtaking Views. This parcel of land boasts captivating views in every direction. Gaze upon rolling hills, snow-capped summits, and the meandering Rio Grande River. Whether you're sipping morning coffee or stargazing at night, the scenery will leave you spellbound. Ready for Your Vision. The canvas is blank, awaiting your brushstrokes. With water and sewer readily available, however you will need to secure your water and sewer taps. Picture a modern retreat with floor-to-ceiling windows, seamlessly blending indoor and outdoor spaces. Paved Road Access No rugged trails here—just a smooth, paved road leading to your paradise. Arrive in style. Over Two Acres of Possibility Spread your wings across two gently sloping sprawling acres. Design your oasis—an infinity pool, terraced gardens, or perhaps a meditation pavilion. Outdoor Enthusiast's Paradise For the angler's heart, the Rio Grande River beckons. Cast your line, and reel in memories. Nearby, the National Forest is a playground for hikers, birdwatchers, and seekers of solitude. Your Winter Wonderland Awaits Just 20 miles away, the Wolf Creek Ski Resort cradles you in its snowy embrace. Glide down powdery slopes, cozy up by the fire, savoring the warmth of shared stories. Your Legacy Awaits This isn't just land; it's your legacy in the making. Generations will gather here, creating memories under star-studded skies. Build your dream home refuge—a testament to life well-lived. More pictures coming soon. MLS#812710 - \$79,900



JUST LISTED

120 Fairway Ridge Lane • South Fork

Serenity Await in Fairway Glen, South Fork Ranches! Nestled within the coveted Fairway Glen subdivision, this 0.61-acre gem awaits your vision. Perched near the Rio Grande Club and Resort, it boasts an unrivaled vantage point overlooking Hole #11—a golfer's dream come true. Imagine waking up to sun-kissed mornings, gazing across rolling hills and pristine fairways. Whether you're sipping coffee on your future deck or planning a cozy evening by the firepit, these views will steal your heart. All utilities stand ready at the lot line, eager to serve your dream home. South Fork, a haven for outdoor enthusiasts, beckons with adventure. Within minutes, you'll find: Tee off at the Rio Grande Club & Resort's 18-hole course, where fairways merge seamlessly with mountain vistas. Chase winter thrills at Wolf Creek Ski area—powder days and après-ski stories await. Lace up your hiking boots or hop on an ATV—the nearby trails lead to hidden lakes, wildflower meadows, and secret overlooks. Cast your line into the Rio Grande River, where trout dance and rafting adventures unfold. Don't miss out! Call today to schedule a private showing. Let's turn this canvas of land into your forever retreat. MLS#816135- \$64,000



NEW LISTING!

exp REALTY Bernadette Gingrass
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bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

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bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

0254 Timberline Trail • South Fork

Discover The Essence of Excellence Mountain Living in this custom-built Masterpiece! Situated on 1.84 sloping acres within the prestigious Rio Grande Club, this 4,466 sq ft home offers unparalleled vistas and modern elegance. Key Features: Inspiring Views: Unsurpassed panoramas stretch north, east, and south, capturing the rugged beauty of the San Juan Mountains. Architectural Marvel: A two-level design seamlessly blends contemporary finishes with a mountain aesthetic. Grand Entryway: Step into the vaulted ceiling living room adorned with Swedish Cope logs and a striking rock gas fireplace. Expansive Deck: Access the large stone rock deck from the living area, where you'll soak in views of the golf course, mountains, and valley below. Gourmet Kitchen: Culinary enthusiasts will appreciate custom cabinets, granite countertops, and top-of-the-line Wolf appliances. Master Suite: The upper-level primary suite boasts a spa-like bathroom and an adjacent study. Lower-Level Comfort: Three additional bedrooms with 9-foot ceilings offer Alderwood doorways and magnificent vistas. Entertainment Haven: The lower level features a spacious game room with a pool table, TV, and workout equipment. Year-Round Comfort: Radiant floor heat and an extra-large 1000-gallon propane tank ensure warmth during chilly days. Outdoor Delight: Enjoy ever-changing mountain views from the adjacent deck or cozy up by the stone mantel gas fireplace. Gas-Burning Fireplace: The lower level sitting area with a mini bar and stunning views is perfect for relaxation and entertaining family and friends. This home includes an adjacent parcel allowing direct access to the national forest from the front of the property so enjoying your favorite outdoor activities are just steps away. The 2-car garage has workshop hot & cold sink an extra - large 76-gallon water heater, water softener. Programmable hot water throughout the home, hot & cold water outside faucet and plenty of room for storage and a workbench. There is a security system monitored by Valley Lock and Security. Land lines in most every room. Century-Link phone highspeed internet and Direct TV. Managed lighting and surround sound throughout the home and the Smart Home allows you to control from anywhere. This home is a Hole in One! One of a kind, designed and built providing that sense of hospitality, openness, beauty, and tranquility. Location Highlights: Rio Grande Club: Overlooking the 11th hole, this exclusive community offers golf, recreation, and natural beauty. Outdoor Paradise: Explore nearby trails, fishing spots, the Rio Grande River, the South Fork River and Wolf Creek Ski area. Doesn't get any more epitome than this! Check out the Video. Call and schedule your private showing today! MLS#811509 - \$2,350,000



NEW PRICE

259 Orville Way • South Fork

Idyllic Mountain 4-Bedroom Retreat" Nestled within 1, 956 square feet of meticulously maintained living space, this tranquil home offers room for everyone. With 4 bedrooms and 3 baths, it's a haven of comfort. The attached 2-car garage ensures convenience, while the back deck, adorned with a charming gazebo, invites relaxation and al fresco dining. As you soak in the mountain vistas, enjoy the comforting shade of the ponderosa pines, listen to the babbling stream, and watch for glimpses of elk, deer, and other wildlife. The culinary kitchen is a chef's delight, ready for gourmet creations. Whether you seek a permanent residence or a vacation rental, create lasting memories in this idyllic setting. Start living your mountain dream—call and schedule your showing today! MLS#815727 - \$575,900



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bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

193 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork

Charming Mountain Retreat with Breathtaking Views Nestled in the picturesque town of South Fork, CO, this finely finished Ranch Style Mountain home is a delightful blend of rugged elegance. With 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, this home provides ample room for relaxation and rejuvenation. The open living area boasts a large Sunny Bay window, allowing natural light to flood the space and framing panoramic Mountain Views. The heart of this home is the well-appointed kitchen, abundance of cabinets, including convenient lazy Susan storage. You'll find all the essentials: a refrigerator, cookstove, dishwasher. Perfect kitchen for entertaining your friends and family. Gather around the wood-burning stove in the living room, where warmth and comfort await. The home's insulation ensures a snug retreat during chilly mountain evenings. Step onto the inviting front sitting porch, sip your morning coffee, and observe the local wildlife. Mule deer and wild turkeys frequently visit the serene Ponderosa Valley Estates. A large laundry room with abundant storage, a wash sink, and a washer and dryer adds convenience to daily living. Park your vehicles in the 2-car garage and utilize the detached cement floor garage/workshop with water supply and 110/220 power for all your mountain toys or hobbies. This home is ready for you to make it your own—whether it's your dream residence, a home away from home, or a vacation rental. Explore nearby activities such as skiing, four-wheeling, hiking, and gold medal fly fishing. The Rio Grande River is just moments away. Enjoy the convenience of paved roads, city water sewer system, and your very own well and large .83-acre lot. Priced at \$479,500 this property offers an exceptional opportunity to embrace mountain living. Schedule your private showing today and embark on Your Mountain Adventure in this beautiful, tranquil Ponderosa Valley Estates neighborhood! Don't wait, call and schedule today! MLS#810774 - \$479,500



SOLD

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bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

Thinking of Selling in 2024
Expect the Best,
Call Bernadette



exp REALTY

Bernadette Gingrass

719-850-1993

bmgingrass@gmail.com

License #100072622

328 Fir Drive • South Fork

Your Mountain Dream Awaits! Discover this splendid 3 bedroom home perfect for Vacations or Year-Round living, boasting an excellent rental history. Nestled in a hollow brimming with aspen trees, this 3-bedroom, 2-bath home is all on one level, ranch style and easily accessible. Two bedrooms feature walk-in closets. Enjoy an open floor plan with wood and laminate floors, aspen paneling, and abundant sunlight in the living areas. The large kitchen offers plenty of cabinets, an island for eating or work, a laundry closet, and a walk-in pantry. Stay cozy with a grand wood stove, solar heat, backup electric baseboard heat, and ceiling fans. This heavily treed lot provides privacy and tranquility, complemented by a large storage shed. There's ample parking for multiple vehicles, ATVs, or snowmobiles. The backyard, enclosed by an 8-foot privacy fence, is wired for a hot tub. High-speed internet is available, and the Town of South Fork maintains and plows the roads. Conveniently located within town limits, Moments from the Rio Grande Club and Wolf Creek Skiing. It's an easy walk to the Rio Grande River and town amenities. Bring your Fishing Pole and Live Your Dream! Don't let this One get away! Call me for more information and schedule your showing today! More pictures coming soon. MLS# 7894641 - \$350,000



UNDER CONTRACT

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Valley-Wide Classified **FREE!** ON LINE! MARKETPLACE

Sell your household items for FREE. Total value of items must be \$50 or less. See details below.



RATES

15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications
\$19.50 + 95¢ each additional word.
Garage Sale Ads: 15 Words or less for 1 week
\$12 + 35¢ each additional word.

Free ads: Lost & Found • Non Commercial items Sold for \$50 or less • Any Item or Animal being given away. (Limited to private party only, 2 ads per person, 4 weeks.)

Convenient ad placement:
 To place your ad in person come to the office at 835 First Ave. in Monte Vista, or call (719) 852-3531. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also fax your classified to (719) 852-3387 or email at montevistaclass@gmail.com

Check your ad the first day:
 To ensure your ad is correct, check it the first day it appears in the paper. If there is an error in your ad, call us right away so we can correct it. If an error appears in your ad, Valley Publishing will credit you with one additional day of advertising.

Our ad policy: Valley Publishing accepts all classified advertising except that which it deems objectionable to its readers. Credit or replacement ads will not be given for early ad cancellation.

DEADLINE

Thursday 5:00 pm
Call 719-852-3531
 or email: rbeutler@valleypublishinginc.com

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Consignment Auction - Small Animals

4:30 p.m. • Aug. 30
8037 S. County Road 2E
 Contact Eddie Miller 719-849-8063

05 Notices

For information on meetings for ALANON NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS AND ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Please visit slvaa.org or call 719-937-5083.

Alamosa. Pay range \$17-\$19/hour. Submit a cover letter and resume along with the application. Deadline to apply is August 20, 2024. View full job description at alamosacounty.org

07 Help Wanted

Treasurer/Accounting Tech position with Alamosa County Treasurer and Public Trustee Office. Duties include but are not limited to: Works with all functions of the Treasurer's Office in the collection, distribution, and reconciliation of taxes. Greets customers, answers the phone, uses tax collection software to collect property tax payments. Conducts daily balancing duties of all treasurer collections. Releases deeds of trust. Previous banking or title company experience is helpful. Attention to detail is a must. Knowledge should include basic office procedures, proficiency in Excel, Word, Gmail and 10-key. Ability to communicate verbally, in an email, in a letter with effective and concise wording. Bilingual is preferred. Pick up an application at 8999 Independence Way, Suite 104,

Join Our Team!

Hiring for management positions and other positions - full-time and part-time. Weekly pay, uniforms, and shift meal. Send resume to Angela@mountainpizzataproom.com

MOUNTAIN PIZZA & TAPROOM
 30483 Highway 160, South Fork
MountainPizzaTaproom.com

WINTER WORK!

Wolf Creek Ski Area is Hiring

Full & Part-Time/Holiday Positions:
 Winter Seasonal: November - April

- Lift Department
- Base Operations/Parking
- Ski School Instructors
- Ski School Reservationist
- Food & Beverage
- Baker
- Retail
- Ticket Office
- Ski & Snowboard Rental
- Snow Removal
- Grooming
- Custodial Bldg Maintenance
- Ski Patrol
- Guest Services/Snow Reporter
- Freelance Photographer

Applications at WolfCreekSki.com/employment
 ALL POSITIONS OFFER SKIING PRIVILEGES AND A STARTING WAGE OF \$18/HOUR
 Merit increases based on performance & experience

Send applications and resumes to:
WolfCreekSki@WolfCreekSki.com
 P.O. Box 2800
 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

NEED PROPANE?

AUGUST PROPANE SPECIAL IS EXPANDING!

JULY 1 - SEPT 30

CALL
719-852-5181
 FOR PRICING AND SET UP!

Valley Wide Classifieds

Power Zone Equipment is looking to hire a full-time Certified Electrician with a Master Electrician's license. Pay range of \$30-\$40/hr with benefits package. Deadline to apply 8/16/2024. Send resume to greg@powerzone.com or call 719-754-1981 to apply. (8-14)

Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorder is seeking a full-time Deputy Clerk. Benefits include FOUR DAY WORK WEEK, paid holidays, annual and sick leave, retirement, and insurance. Starting \$17.70 - \$18.40/hour DOE. HS diploma or GED required, three to six months related experience preferred. Must possess computer knowledge, customer service and general office skills. Background check and pre-employment drug testing, including testing for marijuana required. Application available on-line: riograndecounty.org or pick up from Human Resources, 925 6th Street, Room 200 in Del Norte. Return by 3:00pm Friday, August 30 in person or via email to humanresources@riograndecounty.org. (719) 657-2744. (8-28)

Del Norte High School is seeking a qualified Assistant Volleyball Coach for the 2024 volleyball season. The individual would be responsible for developing the junior varsity program and assisting the varsity coach in all aspects of the high school volleyball program. If interested, please email Gilbert (Gibbs) Sanchez, Del Norte Jr/Sr High School Athletic Director at gsanchez@urtigers.co or contact him at 719-657-4020. (9-4)

Full-time Maintenance and Grounds position open at the Upper Rio Grande School District. Applicant must pass a background check and be able to work independently, be a forward-thinking individual with an overall team approach to all tasks at hand. Applicant must also be able to work in all weather conditions (snow removal/general landscaping). If interested, please contact Demo Trujillo, 719-657-4040 x4007, dtrujillo@urtigers.co. Applications can be retrieved online at: www.urtigers.co. (9-4)

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. (9-4)

Substitutes needed at Upper Rio Grande School District in Del Norte! We need subs for teachers (must have a sub license), classified employees (must have sub license),

cafeteria workers, and bus drivers. Call or email: Sophia Cruz at 719-657-4040 x4000, scruc@urtigers.co. (9-4)

Cafeteria Staff needed at Upper Rio Grande School District. Must have a high school diploma and some knowledge of working in a kitchen or a willingness to be trained. Pay is dependent on prior experience. Please contact Leslie Martinez at 719-657-4040, x1100 or email her at lmartinez@urtigers.co. Applications can be retrieved online at: www.urtigers.co. (8-28)

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. (8-14)

Now hiring a full-time bookkeeper/estimator. Must have computer experience, be professional, reliable and organized. Hours M-F from 8:00 to 5:00. Please send resume to marcie@slvproperties.com. (8-14)

Help wanted part-time Deputy Coroner - Experienced individual needed for On Call Part time position assisting the Saguache County Coroner. The position will be an on call/as needed position. Coroner calls are paid at \$150.00 per call and Transports are \$150.00 per call, Weekday on call \$15.00 per day and Weekend on call \$30.00 per day. Please contact April Quintana with the Saguache County Administration office for an application or printable at www.saguachecounty.colorado.gov Call 719-655-2231 for more information. Applications will be accepted until the position

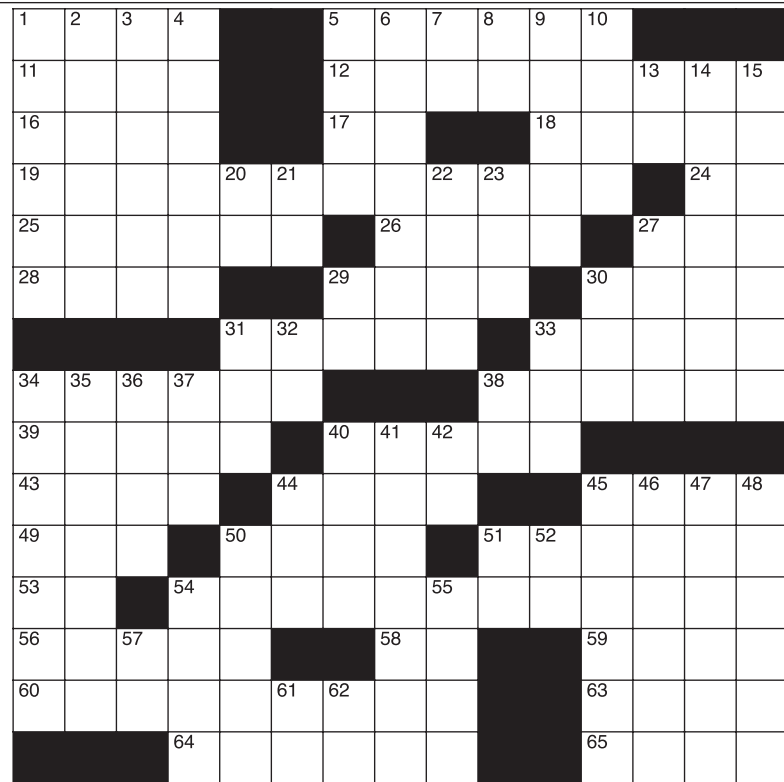
Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



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(719)658-3060 • www.MDSWasteAndRecycle.com**

CLUES ACROSS

1. Database management system
5. Medical procedures
11. __ Clapton, musician
12. Defender
16. Exert oneself
17. Indicates position
18. Prevents river overflow
19. Atrocities
24. Mister
25. Ends
26. Slope or tilt
27. Taxi
28. The very ends
29. Actor Sean
30. Japanese persimmon
31. Sours
33. Beneficiary
34. Baseball official
38. Muddy, boggy ground
39. Not worldly
40. Actress Lathan
43. Soil
44. __-Cola
45. Asleep
49. __ Angeles
50. Give birth to a child
51. Beach shelter
53. Commercial
54. Taste property
56. Local jurisdictions
58. It cools your home
59. Dismounted from a horse
60. Charge with a crime
63. Close in
64. Spoke
65. Famed garden



CLUES DOWN

1. Draw a scene
2. Its sultan is famous
3. Unlucky accident
4. A way to ski
5. Abba __, Israeli politician
6. Saw
7. "Westworld" actor Harris
8. Belonging to me
9. Shoelace tube
10. Takes to court
13. Early multimedia
14. In a way, produces
15. Bowlers
20. Of I
21. Equally
22. Gets some sun
23. A place to stay
27. Town in Galilee
29. Aronofsky film
30. Klingon character, "Star Trek"
31. Equal to 100 square meters
32. Atomic #58
33. Arrived extinct
34. Loosen grip
35. A distinctive odor that is unpleasant
36. Membranes
37. Some is poisonous
38. Partner to Pa
40. Small brown gray rail
41. A salt or ester of acetic acid
42. Sodium
44. Military official (abbr.)
45. Lighted
46. Took off
47. All
48. Ohio city
50. More abject
51. A radio band
52. Controversial tech product (abbr.)
54. Monetary unit
55. Passed with flying colors
57. A way to win a boxing match
61. The Golden State
62. Home of the Longhorns

Solution to last week's puzzle

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

Business Showcase

**Meet Petunia,
our favorite pig!**
Something for all pig collectors!

The Holy Moses
Open Daily
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**658-2848
121 N. Main
Creede**

This Week's Feature



THE HOLY MOSES

*An enchanting
Collection of Cabin
Decor, Colorado
Pottery, Quilts,
Linens & Specialty
Foods!*

**It's Worth
The Drive**

Open Daily 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nick & Vicki Kulyk
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DISCLAIMER

Please read your ad on the first day of publication. If there are mistakes notify us **IMMEDIATELY**. We will make changes for errors and adjust your credit **but only if we receive notice on the first day the ad is published**. We limit our liability to you in this way and we do not accept liability for any other damages which may result from an error or omission in an ad. All ad copy must be approved by the newspaper which reserves the right to request changes, reject or properly classify an ad. The advertiser and not the newspaper is responsible for the truthful content of the ad. All classified advertising must be pre-paid.

Valley Wide Classifieds

is filled. Saguache County is an EEO employer. Drug testing and a background check will be required for final applicants. (8-28)

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. (8-21)

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. (8-28)

ESTIMATED CROP WATER USE

Weather Data from SLV Research Center located on the 9N and Hwy 285

Crop	Date Planted	Daily Crop Water use for Dates Shown (in./day)				Accumulated Water Use (ET)				
		8/8	8/7	8/6	8/5	From 8/8 (inches)				
						2day	3day	4day	5day	7day
Moravian 69	04/05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.17
Moravian 69	05/05	0.17	0.15	0.13	0.20	0.33	0.46	0.66	0.89	1.33
Early Wheat	04/05	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.09	0.13	0.20	0.28	0.45
Early Wheat	05/05	0.20	0.18	0.15	0.23	0.38	0.53	0.77	1.03	1.54
White Wheat	04/05	0.12	0.10	0.09	0.14	0.22	0.31	0.45	0.60	0.91
White Wheat	05/05	0.24	0.20	0.17	0.25	0.43	0.60	0.85	1.12	1.63
WinterWheat	10/01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04
Potatoes										
Norkotah	05/05	0.22	0.19	0.16	0.25	0.40	0.56	0.81	1.08	1.61
Centennial	05/05	0.24	0.20	0.17	0.25	0.43	0.60	0.85	1.12	1.63
Nugget	05/05	0.23	0.19	0.16	0.24	0.41	0.57	0.81	1.07	1.55
Alfalfa	Est.	0.27	0.22	0.19	0.28	0.49	0.68	0.96	1.27	1.85
Lawnglass	Est.	0.23	0.19	0.16	0.24	0.41	0.57	0.81	1.07	1.55

For the latest ET information, call 719-754-3494 extension x40 for Center, x36 fro Center #2, and x38 for La Jara. Use the crop maturity and planting data and weather station closest to your own. Find this upJune 8d table each day at this web address: <http://aes-slvr.c.colostate.edu/daily-crop-water-use-report/>
 This information is provided by the SLV Research Center (Colorado State University) and the Colorado Potato Certification Service. For info, call 754-3494 x26 or e-mail: andrew.houser@colostate.edu

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

UNDER CONTRACT



Matthews 240 Acre Farm
 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, Approx. 1,197 Sq. Ft.
 \$1,800,000 | MLS #801112
 4953 E. CR 9, Monte Vista, CO
BRUCE STEFFENS
 OWNER | BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-0770

UNDER CONTRACT



Rio Grande Riverfront Home
 4 Bedroom, 4 Bath, Approx. 3,740 Sq. Ft. / and 0.630 Acres
 \$1,595,000 | MLS #815364
 11 Iron Bridge Place South Fork, CO
BRUCE STEFFENS
 OWNER | BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-0770

Under Contract



Sun House Farm Approx 1,910 Acres with Home
 \$12,900,000 | MLS #807640
 57075 County Rd C Center, CO
BRUCE STEFFENS
 OWNER | BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-0770

SOLD



Mountain Outlook /Approx. 69.750 Acres
 \$245,000 | MLS #806781
 000 County Road 13 Del Norte, CO
BRUCE STEFFENS
 OWNER | BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-0770



The Stunning Grande Ponderosa!
 Approx. 2.54 Acres
 \$2,250,000 | MLS #813982
 695 Escondida South Fork, CO
YVONNE HOFFMAN
 BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-1901

COMING SOON



Beautiful Home on the Rio Grande River
 Approx. 3500 sq ft.
 33 Doe Circle South Fork, CO
YVONNE HOFFMAN
 BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-1901

UNDER CONTRACT



Amazing Ranch Style House with Barn and 50 Acres!
 \$599,000 MLS #811695
 13725 Road 104 South Alamosa, CO
TATE HUFFAKER
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-298-6560



Lot 10 and 11 Conejos River Trails
 Mountain Property
 \$30,000 EACH MLS #814452 & 814450
 Antonito, CO
TATE HUFFAKER
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-298-6560

UNDER CONTRACT



Amazing View and Year-Round Creek Front!
 Approx. 7.520 Acres/\$172,500/MLS# 813894
 1416 Bear Creek Circle, South Fork, CO
YVONNE HOFFMAN
 BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-1901

UNDER CONTRACT



BEAUTIFUL RIVER LOT FOR SALE!
 APPROX. 0.500 ACRES
 \$174,900/MLS#812252
 63 Doe Circle South Fork, CO
AUNDREA LILLARD
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 706-622-0799



Perfect Live/Work Property
 APPROX. 3.47 ACRES
 \$799,000/MLS#813618
 4 El Dorado Lane South Fork, CO
BRUCE STEFFENS | **AUNDREA LILLARD**
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR® | ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-07709 | M: 706-622-0799

NEW!



Stunning Home on 137 Acres
 \$1,700,000 MLS #815725
 16996 CR 28, Sanford, CO
TATE HUFFAKER
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-298-6560

SOLD



Charming Lovely Home
 Approx. 1,544 Sq. Ft. /3 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom
 \$380,000/MLS#814904
 175 Orondoa Road South Fork, CO
BRUCE STEFFENS | **AUNDREA LILLARD**
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR® | ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 719-580-07709 | M: 706-622-0799

Under Contract



Cozy Remodeled Home
 \$275,000 | MLS#815078
 127 Blackhawk Rd, South Fork, CO
AUNDREA LILLARD
 ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
 M: 706-622-0799



Steffens & Co. Realty, Inc.
 0-719-873-1700
 SteffensRealty@GoJade.org
 30636 W. US HWY 160
 South Fork, Colorado

Valley Wide Classifieds

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 (8-28)

10 Apartments

Mountain View Apartments in South Fork has an apartment for rent, no pets 719-580-1510 (8-28)

12 Houses for Rent

For rent, 4-bed, 2-bath home with 2-car garage for \$1,400 a month just outside of La Jara. Call 719-852-0450 for more details. (8-21)

16 Vacation

Cabin for rent by the night only. Small bath, queen bed, microwave and refrigerator only. 469-446-2499

17 Real Estate

For Sale

Large lots over half-of-an-acre. Lots 11, 12, Block 15, Alpine Village No. 8. Great Views. \$18K. 719-250-2675 (9-4)

24 Garage/ Yard Sales

Downtown (MV) Yard sale, 124 Adams, between Nino's and Quiney's office and home stuff. Monday-Saturday, AM all of August. Business hours minus lunches. Sales prices. (8-28)

28 Household Goods

For sale handyman special, vintage smaller-scale Duncan Phyfe drop leaf table, two chairs. \$50. 719-256-4048 (8-28)

36 Miscellaneous

Wanted small animals and animal-related items for our public auction on Friday evening, Aug. 30, at 8037 South County Road 2 East, Monte Vista. Lunch stand opens at 4:30 p.m. Auction time 6 p.m. To consign contact Eddie Miller 719-849-8063 (8-28)

Cash for quality non-fiction books and LP records. Jeff 720-315-9145 (TFN)

Propane Refrigerators and Freezers. We also stock "Sunstar" refrigerators and freezers in DC/AC power. Bontrager's Variety Store, 9726 S. County Road 3E, Monte Vista. (719) 852-0500 (TFN)

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42 Feed & Seed

For Sale: Small Alfalfa bales \$10. Covered, No rain, and local. Call: 719-480-2089 (8-28)

64 Autos for Sale

For sale - 1990 Toyota 2-wheel drive super clean pickup; 2013 Toyota Corolla; Chevy car 4-speed transmission. 719-850-2027 (8-14)

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tending Services www.rio-grande-rentals.com. 303-946-7253 (9-25)

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MURAL

Continued from Page 1

did enjoy being a part of the process," Lucero said. Lucero said she enjoyed seeing a little girl painting at the site. "She is a little artist, and her mom is too," Lucero said. "It was so cute she texted all her little friends, to help her paint that night, and they all came down too. Another aspect of

the mural that I really liked was that agricultural workers were involved in the painting. I have a picture that I took, where there were a lot of H2H workers painting the mural. If you think about it, they may not come back next year, but their spirit, a piece of them, will always be in Center, because they painted there."

TOUR

Continued from Page 1

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 (handblown 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, e-mail creedearts@outlook.com or call the CAC at 719-658-0312. The entire Studio Tour map and artist lineup can be found at www.creedeartscollective.com/silver-thread-studio-tour.

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate



Secluded cabin on 20 acres - Gated Community
 \$975,000 | MLS #803394
 3023 Bear Creek Circle, South Fork, CO

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Approx. 0.280 Acres Near Rio Grande Club
 \$53,500 | MLS #794077
 23 Fairway Drive South Fork, CO

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Custom mtn cabin + adjacent full apartment
 \$575,000 | MLS # Borders Natl Forest
 595 Aspen Dr. South Fork, CO

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NEW PRICE!

1,270 Sq.Ft. Off-Grid Cabin on 5.24 Acres - Creek!
 \$272,500 | MLS #809447
 7541 Indian Creek Rd. Fort Garland, CO

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UNDER CONTRACT

Approximately 160 Acres Farmland
 \$400,000 | MLS #810432
 05299 County Rd. 12 S. Alamosa, CO

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NEW PRICE!


5 bedroom home - Borders Public Lands - RV STORAGE!!
 \$495,000 | MLS #
 95 Hubbard Trail, South Fork, CO

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53 acres with a home on the Alamosa River
 \$1,200,000 | MLS #815993
 20970 FDR 250, Jasper, CO - Water Rights

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SOLD!

3 bedroom cabin bordering National Forest
 \$397,500 | MLS # 812823
 99 Aspen Dr. South Fork, CO


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3 bedroom home on 5 acres near Alamosa
 \$369,500 | MLS #810965
 532 Lane 8 N. Monte Vista, CO

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 \$850,000 | MLS #815205
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Brian Williams — bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com

Alamosa County will receive \$1.7M from the U.S. Department of Energy

Funding to study three potential electric transmission lines

STAFF REPORT

WASHINGTON, D.C. —The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has granted Alamosa County \$1,699,965 to study transmission lines in the Valley, according to Alamosa County Commissioner Lori Laske.

Alamosa County will conduct an analysis and extensive community engagement around three potential transmission corridors to identify the optimal route to increase electric transmission capacity to the Upper Rio Grande Valley in Southern Colorado and northern New Mexico.

According to the DOE, "In a continued effort to expedite the build out of a resilient and reliable electric grid, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today announced 20 projects across 16 states selected to receive up to \$371 million to accelerate the permitting of high-voltage, interstate transmission projects.

"These projects will also support community infrastructure projects along major new and upgraded transmissions lines, including upgrading public school buildings and emergency response facilities. Administered by DOE's Grid Deployment Office, today's Transmission Siting and Economic Development (TSED) grants will help advance at least 16 high-

impact transmission lines across the country supporting the deployment of reliable and affordable energy for consumers and creating good-paying jobs."

"Today, every pocket of the country is experiencing the grueling impact of extreme weather and there's no doubt that we must expand our transmission grid to get more clean, resilient power to more people, in more places," said U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm.



The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has granted Alamosa County \$1,699,965 to study transmission lines in the Valley.

Courtesy photo

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San Luis Valley

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