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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

August 17, 2024

\$1

SLV Today

DN Food Bank distribution is on Aug. 17

DEL NORTE — The Del Norte Food Bank will be open for its August distribution from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Aug. 17. Anyone in need of food assistance is welcome. If you are unable to attend during distribution hours and need food assistance, call 719-850-2643.

Fundraiser for search and rescue is today

ALAMOSA — The SUDS 4 SAR is from 4 to 10 p.m. today at the San Luis Valley Brewing Company in Alamosa. The festivities will help Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) raise money for regional rescue missions.

The annual SUDS 4 SAR block party from 4 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 17, on San Juan Avenue next to San Luis Valley Brewing in downtown Alamosa. The event will include live music, AVSAR merchandise, a silent auction, and more.

Chamber training on building company culture

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Chamber of Commerce is holding a training on understanding the fundamental components that comprise an organization's "culture," on Aug. 27.

Attendees can then learn strategies to achieve desired workforce environments and behaviors to support core values, mission and the vision of the organization.

The training workshop is from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Aug. 27, and costs \$150 for non-members and \$112.50 for chamber members.

To register, email ceo@alamosachamber.com or call 719-589-3681.

SLV WEATHER

Sunny, Light Winds 85/51

Sun: Slight Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 85/50

Mon: Slight Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 84/49

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ASU gears up for the Fall semester



Courier photos by John Waters Margaret Doell with ASU.



ASU Custodian Clayton Davis.



Becky Meidinger with ASU gave out stress-reduction toys to faculty, staff, and students.

By JOHN WATERS
Courier News Editor

ALAMOSA — The Adams State University community enjoyed an all-campus breakfast on the lawn in front of Richardson Hall on the stunningly beautiful Friday morning of Aug. 16. The breakfast event welcomed faculty, staff, and students back to the Alamosa campus.

Vice President of Academic Affairs Margaret

Doell said, "This is one of the busiest days of the year when we welcome students, faculty, and staff. We are welcoming a new batch of faculty; we have upwards of 15 new undergraduate faculty and about ten new clinical faculty."

"I am so excited to see new students from the region, elsewhere in Colorado and across the country. We really have

■ See ASU page 3



Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Alamosa Police Department Capt. Joey Spangler, APD Chief George Dingfelder, Patrol Officer Damin Martinez and Sgt. William Squires stand ready to welcome community members to the City Services Fair and National Night Out at Cole Park on Friday afternoon.

City Services Fair and National Night Out

Celebrating camaraderie and communities

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter

ALAMOSA — Police officers, sheriff's deputies, firefighters, paramedics plus helicopters, SWAT rescue vehicles, ambulances, heavy trucks, tractors

and more are just some of the things that make the City Services Fair and National Night Out a cool family event in Alamosa. But the philosophy and history behind National Night Out also make it important.

Its origin goes back more than 50 years to the western suburbs of Philadelphia, Pa. A community minded volunteer named Matt was part of a neighborhood watch program where

he patrolled streets on a regular basis, helped in dispatch and, before long, started a newsletter that demonstrated what could happen when a group of volunteers worked in collaboration with local law enforcement for the general good of a community.

When Matt went looking for more information to put in his newsletter, he discovered an amazing surprise. There were

hundreds of local groups consisting of small neighborhoods all over, much like his and all doing much of the same thing but without connection to each other.

So, in 1981, Matt created the National Association of Town Watch, which provided community watch groups with the support and information they needed to stay motivated, informed, and involved in

■ See FAIR page 3

Colorado GOP sends transphobic email attacking Democrat running to unseat Republican

Simpson said it was sent without his knowledge and that he has apologized to Smotherman

By JESSE PAUL
Colorado Sun

The Colorado GOP this week sent out a transphobic email attacking the Democratic opponent of state Sen. Cleave Simpson, R-Alamosa, who is running for reelection in the toss-up Sen-

ate District 6 — a race that could have big implications on the trajectory of policy at the Capitol.

The email Thursday repeatedly used male pronouns to refer to Vivian Smotherman, a transgender Durango farmer and Navy veteran. It also included a screenshot of a social media post from the far-right "Libs of TikTok" account saying Smotherman is "a man pretending to be a woman" and that "in Peru he would be considered mentally ill."

"Given Senator Simpson's commitment to improving prosperity in rural areas and his wide-ranging support across SD-

6, there is not one good reason to vote for Smotherman," the Colorado GOP email said. "However, we have seen several Colorado elections in which gender identity garners votes from people wanting to be progressive and fearing they'll be labeled as 'anti-trans' for not supporting the media's DEI candidate."

The party said Democratic state Reps. Stephanie Vigil and Brianna Titone — referring to Titone by her dead name — benefited from diversity, equity and inclusion pushes to win their elections. Vigil identifies as gender fluid while Titone is the

■ See EMAIL page 3



Cleave Simpson



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Record

MVPD arrests two men on drug charges

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — At approximately 12:17 p.m. on Aug. 12, Monte Vista Police Department officers performed a traffic stop on a vehicle. During the stop, blue pills were observed next to the 53-year-old male passenger, in plain view, and not in an original dispensary container.

The passenger threw the packaging containing the pills, after being identified by police, to prevent detection of the drugs. After resisting arrest, he was transported to the Monte Vista Police Department and processed without further incident.

The 29-year-old male driver was also arrested and in possession of a controlled substance. He was also transported to the Monte Vista Police Department.

The 53-year-old male passenger is being charged with suspicion of felony possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute, resisting arrest and obstructing a peace officer.

The 29-year-old passenger is being charged with suspicion of misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance.

The Monte Vista Police Department applied for a search warrant to thoroughly search the

impounded vehicle and its contents.

This warrant was issued by the 12th Judicial District Judge and a gun, and drugs were seized during the search of that vehicle.

The weight of the suspected drugs found in the vehicle was over 5 ounces of methamphetamine, over 2 ounces of fentanyl and over 280 grams of marijuana, and the suspect has now been charged with additional criminal charges, to include:

- “Special Offender,” which, by the enormity of the drugs seized, projects the possession into a drug felony 1.

- Possession of weapon by previous offender, which is a class 5 felony.

This was the second vehicle stopped by MVPD on Aug. 12 with controlled substances located.

A traffic stop by the Monte Vista Police Department on Aug. 12 led to the arrest of two men on drug charges. After obtaining a search warrant, MVPD officers found drugs – methamphetamine, fentanyl and marijuana – and a gun with ammo and clips in the vehicle.

Courtesy photo



Cost of living, housing top list of Coloradans' concerns in new poll

By CHASE WOODRUFF

Colorado Newsline

There's near-universal agreement among Coloradans that the rising cost of living, and housing costs in particular, are among the most serious challenges facing the state.

Nearly two-thirds of Colorado residents say that housing and living costs are both “extremely serious” problems, according to the 2024 Pulse poll, a yearly survey conducted by the Colorado Health Foundation. About a quarter say they're “very serious” problems, and only 2% told pollsters they're “not

too serious.” Homelessness ranked just behind them as Coloradans' No. 3 concern, with 79% saying it's an extremely or very serious problem.

Concern over these top issues is “broadly shared across racial and ethnic subgroups,” as well as across income levels, said Dave Metz, a pollster with FM3 Research who helped conduct the survey, during a briefing Wednesday.

“This anxiety about inflation, about the cost of living, really does cut across the entire socioeconomic spectrum in Colorado,” Metz said. “Obviously it may affect different households in

different ways, but it's very much a present concern across the board.”

The Colorado Health Foundation bills the Pulse poll, conducted annually by a bipartisan team of pollsters, as one of the state's most comprehensive opinion surveys, with a special focus on collecting responses from a representative sample of communities of color and rural communities. The 2024 results are based on surveys of 2,404 Coloradans between May 20 and June 24, and have a margin of error of 2.9%.

While most of Coloradans' top concerns are shared across the political spectrum, two hot-

button issues broke down sharply along partisan lines, the poll found.

Among Colorado Democrats, 4 in 5 said climate change is an extremely or very serious problem, compared to fewer than 1 in 10 Republicans. Conversely, while 85% of Republicans said that unauthorized immigration is a serious problem, just 27% of Democrats said the same.

A dramatic year-over-year rise in the number of Republicans calling unauthorized immigration an extremely serious problem — from 44% in 2023 to 64% this year — vaulted the issue to No. 8 on the list of Coloradans' top concerns in 2024. It ranked last among 17 problems polled by the Pulse survey last year.

Concern about most other issues is relatively unchanged since last year, the poll found. The share of Coloradans who said “crime in general” was a serious problem ticked down slightly from 62% to 59%. After rising during the COVID-19 pandemic, crime rates in Colorado have been on the decline since mid-2022, according to Colorado Bureau of Investigations data.

For the first time, pollsters asked respondents

a separate question about “crime in your neighborhood,” and found a stark difference in results; just 26% identified that as a serious concern, the lowest rank of any of the 18 issues polled. It's another result that is consistent across demographics, Metz said.

“It does seem to be something that's just sort of part of the mental framework with which Coloradans, in general, view these issues,” he said. “Even if you are not seeing evidence of crime in your own community, you read about it in the news, you see posts on social media. There are things other than direct personal experience that may provoke concern.”

A “sense of belonging?”

Another new set of questions asked in the Pulse survey this year related to what, if anything, made respondents feel like they “did not belong somewhere.”

“We believe that a sense of belonging — being connected to community and feeling that our contributions are valued in the places we call home — is essential to people's health and well-being,” said Kyle Rojas Legleiter, the Colorado Health Foundation's senior director of policy. “With a large

sample size, we're able to analyze and compare across key demographics, the relationship between respondents' sense of belonging and the other challenges confronting them, such as high costs of living and housing.”

Nearly half of LGBTQ Coloradans report feeling like they don't belong somewhere because of their sexuality, the poll found, and 51% of Black Coloradans said the same about their race. Others cited age, disabilities, religion and other factors as a cause for similar feelings. But across the population as a whole, far and away the top reason cited for a lack of belonging was a respondent's political beliefs.

The feeling was most pronounced among Colorado Republicans, 54% of whom reported a lack of belonging because of their beliefs, compared to 40% of unaffiliated voters and 31% of Democrats.

“We've heard people, again, in focus groups, tell us that they've lost friends, they've gotten disconnected, even from family, because of political beliefs,” said Lori Weigel, a principal at New Bridge Strategy and one of the Pulse survey's pollsters. “And that really dominated here.”

OBITUARY

Dan Garrett

Dan Garrett, 90, passed away peacefully on May 23, 2024, at his home in Elephant Butte, surrounded by his wife of almost 70 years, Darlene Garrett, and friends. Dan was born in Rocky Ford, Colo., on Sept. 17, 1933, to Samuel George Garrett and Ada Kathleen Hanway the youngest of seven kids.

Dan married his Mosca, Colo., high school sweetheart, Darlene, on June 1, 1954. They married on leave from the Marine Corps in Gallup, N.M. They returned to Camp Pendleton near San Diego, Calif., immediately after the ceremony. They remained in California until Dan was discharged in January 1956. They then returned to Cortez, Colo., where they had three children, Debbie, Jack and Kerry. They later moved to Winston, N.M., where Dan became the manager of the Double Arrow Ranch in 1971. Dan and Darlene lived on the ranch for 27 years, raising kids, cattle, horses, and many dogs and cats.

Dan was an active member of the community. He was a Sierra County Commissioner for two terms and served as chairman for 2 years. He was Chamisa Cowbells Father of the Year in 1988. He also served on the Hot Springs School Board for 2 years. He helped with many 4-H and FFA projects and activities, including the livestock sale for many years. He would buy raffle tickets from any kid that was trying to raise money for any project and bought many animals from 4-H kids at the livestock sale.

Dan helped build, maintain and improve the Winston Community Center. The community center is still used by the Winston community. Dan liked to do the Cow Chip Poker at the Winston Fiesta. Dan loved playing cards with his group of friends. Many an afternoon was spent laughing and playing Hearts and Hand and Foot. He also loved to play poker. He loved to cook for his poker buddies. Always showing up to poker with a pot of chile or a pie. Even after he couldn't drive, someone would come pick him up to go play poker. He also taught his children and grandchildren to play poker. The grandkids would accuse him of cheating because no one can win that much with-



out cheating.

Dan came from a proud military family. His father Samuel George Garrett was in the Army and served in World War I. His brother Don (Marine) was killed in World War II. His brothers George, Dean, and Johnny were all Army, and all were wounded during World War II. His brother Pat (Army) and Dan (Marine) were in the Korean War. Once a Marine, always a Marine. Semper Fi.

Dan is survived by his wife of 70 years, Darlene Garrett; children: Debbie Menicucci and husband Mike, Jack Garrett and wife Debbie, and Kerry Garrett and wife DaRonda; grandchildren: Bryan Garrett (Sarah), Kegan Garrett (Amanda), Steven Menicucci (Kristin), Shawn Menicucci (Brittany), Sarah Menicucci (Evan Fritsche) Justin Garrett, Taylor Chapin (Christian) and Briana Garrett; great-grandchildren: Kayde Garrett, Bryce Menicucci, Kasen Menicucci, Colton Menicucci, and Kreece Garrett.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers — Don, George, Dean, John and Pat; and sister, Julia.

A Graveside Service will be held at the Alamosa Cemetery on Saturday, Aug. 24, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Dan's name to a Veteran's organization of your choice, St. Jude's Hospital or Fellowship Alliance Church.

Arrangements are by Kirikos Family Funeral Home, Inc. and Sierra Crematory, LLC, 303 N. Cedar St., T. or C., NM 87901, 575/894-2574.

For online memorial messages, please visit www.kirikosfamilyfuneralhome.com.

Woman found by MVPD with knife wounds

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — The Monte Vista Police Department is investigating an incident on Aug. 15 when a woman was found with injuries consistent with knife wounds.

Just after 4 p.m., on Thursday, MVPD responded to Rickey Place after someone called in reporting a person was attacked by a dog in the area.

After arriving, officers determined that at least one female had injuries consistent with knife wounds and she was transported to a nearby hospital by attending EMS.

MVPD detectives are investigating and liaising with the 12th Judicial District Attorney's Office regarding the incident.

The investigation is on-

going and further details will be released when deemed appropriate by investigating agencies and the 12th Judicial District Attorney's Office.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

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

There are AA and

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

School Menu Monday August 19, 2024

BREAKFAST

Cereal/Graham Crackers
Fruit & Milk

ELEMENTARY

Hot Wings
Waffle Fries/Roll
Veggie Cup
Fruit & Milk

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Hot Wings
Waffle Fries/Roll
Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

HIGH SCHOOL

Hot Wings
Waffle Fries/Roll
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Menu call 589-2553

Valley News

Colorado lawmakers again urge IRS not to tax TABOR refunds

By CHASE WOODRUFF
Colorado Newswire

For the third consecutive tax year, Colorado members of Congress on both sides of the aisle are urging the Internal Revenue Service not to tax the state's flat refund payments to residents under the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights.

Colorado's congressional delegation wrote in a letter to IRS Commissioner Danny Werfel this week that the issue of whether TABOR refunds are treated by the agency as taxable income should "be resolved in a timely manner to avoid further confusion for taxpayers in our state."

"As you are well aware,

the IRS has never considered TABOR refund payments as taxable income since the state constitutional amendment was ratified by Colorado voters in 1992 — over thirty years ago," said the letter. "A change this significant would take considerable time and resources from the state to ensure regulatory stability and to appropriately inform the public of how these changes may affect them. It would also have a significant impact on taxpayers — especially low-income taxpayers — who may have new unanticipated tax obligations as a result of this policy

interpretation." Democratic U.S. Sens. Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper, Democratic U.S. Reps. Yadira Caraveo, Jason Crow, Diana DeGette, Joe Neguse and Brittany Pettersen, as well as Republican U.S. Reps. Lauren Boebert, Greg Lopez and Doug Lamborn, all signed the letter.

Uncertainty over the issue began with the 2022 tax year, when the IRS, responding to a wave of special tax refunds issued by states in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, raised the possibility of treating such payments as taxable income. Colorado

issued \$750 flat refunds to all individual tax filers in 2022, and \$1,500 payments to all joint filers, rather than use a tiered system based on income levels, as the state had done in the past.

The IRS has twice previously backed off its plans and announced it would not tax TABOR refunds in tax years 2022 and 2023. Guidance released by the agency last year revived the possibility of taxing the payments in the future, but a new state law enacted in the 2024 legislative session should resolve the issue going forward, lawmakers say.

"I appreciate ... the Colorado delegation for their support in ensuring that Coloradans' TABOR refunds are not taxed and keeping more money in the pocket of hardworking Coloradans," Gov. Jared Polis said in a statement. "I urge the federal government to maintain the decades of precedence that tax refunds are not taxed."

TABOR limits the amount of revenue the state can retain and spend. The limit rises based on inflation and population growth, and revenue collected in excess of the limit must be refunded to taxpayers.

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month 2024

SAN LUIS VALLEY'S GOT TALENT

Saturday, October 12
Richardson Hall Auditorium • 6p.m.

We are seeking community members of the San Luis Valley who are interested in showcasing their talent.

CONTEST CATEGORIES*:

- Singing
- Music (band performance or playing an instrument)
- Dance
- Poetry
- Theater sketch
- Monologue
- Stand-up comedy
- Magic
- Acrobatics
- Clown/Mime
- Puppetry
- Ventriloquism

Got a talent? We want to see it!

Register at:



Deadline: August 29
(Minimum age required: 14 years old)

Our judges will review the registrations and notify the participants who will audition on September 6.

* Performances must be either in Spanish or showcase a theme from the Hispanic/Latinx cultures.

The San Luis Valley's Got Talent's terms and conditions can be found in the online registration form.



Talent

Continued from Page 1
ley's Got Talent contest, original pieces should be presented in Spanish or showcase a theme from Hispano/Latinx cultures. Potential performance categories are: singing, music (band performance or playing an instrument), dance, poetry, theater sketch, monologue, stand-up comedy, acrobatics, circus skills, clown, magic, mime, puppetry, and ventriloquism. Anyone interested must register by Aug. 29. The minimum age required to enter this competition is 14 years old. Judges will review registrations and notify the selected candidates about auditioning on September 6, where they will receive support through constructive feedback. Participants will have a month to re-

fine their performance. There will be a dress rehearsal on Oct. 11, where participants will receive guidance. The San Luis Valley's Got Talent final performance begins at 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, in the Adams State Richardson Hall Auditorium. Entrance to the show is free to the public and tickets will be available for pick up at designated places throughout the San Luis Valley, which will be announced soon.

Everyone is welcome to participate in The San Luis Valley's Got Talent contest. The San Luis Valley's Got Talent Terms and Conditions can be found in the online registration form. To register or for more information, send an email to: slvsgottalent@gmail.com or visit SLV's Got Talent's facebook page: SanLuisvalleyGottalent.

ASU

Continued from Page 1
a mix of students. We're in a great place regarding leadership and positivity on campus." Doell added that after breakfast, an all-staff meeting was scheduled, followed by a convocation for new students. Custodian Clayton Davis, who has been at the university for the past 11 years, said that

he enjoys his work, and the laid-back pace of the Valley is an excellent place for students to get a great education, and ASU is the perfect place to do so.

At the breakfast, Senior Institutional Researcher at ASU, Becky Meidinger, who is on the Employee Appreciation Committee, was handing out small stress-reducing toys in the shape of the university mascot, the grizzly bear.

Fair

Continued from Page 1
their communities.

Exactly 40 years ago, Matt — the guy who had begun the movement — organized the first National Night Out that started it all, involving 2.5 million neighbors across 400 communities in 23 states thanks to a network of law enforcement agencies, neighborhood watch groups, civic groups, state and regional crime prevention associations and volunteers.

"National Night Out grew to become a celebration beyond just front porch vigils and symbolic efforts amongst neighbors to send a message of neighborhood camaraderie," reads the National Night Out website. "Neighborhoods across the nation began



Courier photo by Priscilla Waggoner

Tyler Cerny with Colorado Parks and Wildlife teaches a young archer the basics at City Services Fair and National Night Out at Cole Park on Friday afternoon.

to host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and

more." It still continues today as, in Cole Park on Friday afternoon, Alamosa joined the ranks of 17,000 neighborhoods and 38 million people celebrating healthy, strong relationships with each other

and support for the local agencies that are a part of their community. And it's hoped that camaraderie continues long after this National Night Out is over.

Email

Continued from Page 1
first transgender person elected to the legislature in Colorado.

Smotherman called the email a fear-mongering distraction.

Republican campaigns have been privately complaining about the emails the Colorado GOP has sent out recently in support of the party's candidates running in toss-up districts. The missives have included offensive remarks and unsubstantiated allegations about their Democratic opponents.

The emails come as Colorado GOP Chairman Dave Williams has come under fire for not doing enough to support Republican campaigns across the state. But now some are wishing the party would just stay away altogether.

"I already called Vivian to let her know I did not have advance knowledge of this and the attacks do not align with my value system," Simpson told The Colorado Sun, adding that he plans to voice his frustration to the party, too. He pointed out that he

has sponsored a bill with Titone.

"I've been a Republican my entire life and largely a part of the calculus to run for reelection was to demonstrate you can be a conservative Republican under the gold dome and still be effective," he said. "If you treat people with dignity and respect you can still build some small wins."

Simpson called the state party's email a "step backward" in his cause. Williams or Colorado GOP Vice Chair Hope Schepelman didn't respond to a request for comment from The Sun on Friday. Neither did Darcy Schoening, the director of special initiatives at the Colorado GOP, who sent out the email.

In Senate District 6, the Colorado GOP's decision to wade into the contest could be particularly damaging.

A nonpartisan analysis of election results in the district between 2016 and 2020, completed as part of the state's redistricting process, estimated it leans 1 percentage point in Democrats' favor. But the 2022 election results tell another story.

Gov. Jared Polis won the district by 11 points, while U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet won it by 8 points and Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser won it by 5. Polis, Bennet and Weiser are Democrats.

Democrats hold a 23-12 majority in the Colorado Senate, one seat shy of a supermajority. That makes Simpson's race critical. Democrats will be defending two competitive Senate seats in November and trying to pick up three others.

The state Senate districts with races this year will be up for grabs for the first time since their boundaries were redrawn in 2021 as part of the state's once-a-decade redistricting process. When Simpson was first elected in 2020, his constituency was more conservative and his district included counties in southeastern Colorado. Now, the district has shifted westward and the electorate is more favorable to Democrats.

Senate District 6 includes all or parts of Alamosa, Archuleta, Conejos, Costilla, Dolores, La Plata, Mineral, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray,

Rio Grande, Saguache, San Juan and San Miguel Counties. Major cities and towns in the district include Durango, Pagosa Springs, Cortez, Telluride and Alamosa.

Still, Simpson is known as a low-key moderate Republican who works across the aisle. He's won the endorsement, for instance, of Democrat John Salazar, a former congressman who lives in District 6. His reputation means he is expected to have a solid chance of winning reelection.

Smotherman, in an interview with The Sun, said Simpson offered "a very sincere and genuine apology" when they talked. She said the Colorado GOP's claims that she is focusing her campaign on her identity are false.

"It's something we're not surprised at," she said of the email. "We were hoping we could avoid it and stick to the issues."

Smotherman said she and Simpson have agreed to keep their campaigns focused on the debate over how to improve the lives of people in Senate District 6.

Election Day is Nov. 5. Voters will begin receiving ballots in October.

ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY COLORADO				CALENDAR OF EVENTS			August
SUNDAY • 18	MONDAY • 19	TUESDAY • 20	WEDNESDAY • 21	THURSDAY • 22	FRIDAY • 23	SATURDAY • 24	
www.adams.edu	2024 Fall Semester Begins First Day of School Pics: 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. SUB Solarium		Campus Involvement Fair: 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. North Campus Green	M Soccer vs Trinidad State College 12p.m. Soccer Field	Welcome Week Bingo Night: 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. Student Union Building Mall Court		
August 19 Through September 20, 2024 Cloyde Snook Gallery: <i>Floor Saga: Photographic documentation of a 350-hour performance</i> The Church Project Community Art Center Hatfield Gallery: New Works by Matt Capell and Nora McBride Gallery Hours: 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday							

Opinion

How much is that ThunderShirt in the window?

Remember the tune? How much is that doggie in the window/ the one with the wag-gilly tail?

Now it's, "How much is that ThunderShirt in the Window? The one of the trembling huuuumahns?"

Yes. I'm looking for anti-anxiety tools, for sure. I just saw the ad for this wrap-around for canines and buyers can purchase it at PetSmart or online. I looked up the ThunderShirt (TM) and found it comes in all kinds of colors; very much like that Rhonda Shear's AHH Bra, razor back in tan, lime green, black, red and so forth. These, the shirt not the bra, come in all sizes for dogs and now for cats too?

I had a couple of cats that could have used a ThunderShirt to calm their high anxieties. If I had tried to get one around Punkie or Tortie, I would have been scratched up like a live tuna twisting against fishhooks. They don't extend their claws out except when the bird squawks, the doorbell rings, or a soda can pops.

I could have used a Cockatiel size ThunderShirt to calm the bird from Australia a few years ago. I reached for Tally, when he started dancing in his cage and pecked at me. He drew blood. I cried. Come to think of it; I needed the ThurnderShirt that time. He settled down with nighttime covers. In the morning, he talked as pretty as Cockatiels can sing and hopped up on my index finger. Gone was the drama from the night before; but my thumb was still throbbing. I think the reader is wondering why in heck didn't I stop with Tally's first poke. Well, I've learned from bird experts, you do not retreat otherwise the bird learns to dominate. I wasn't going to let him dominate; and I was gentle the whole time, I was crying and just trying to calm him. The sure-fire result came with the night-night cover. Thank you very much!

I could have used that calming ThunderShirt when I dog-sat my cousin's border collie, Champ. It was four long nights for him. At his place, the 80-acre ranch in the Southern Valley, Champ never made a peep. He is a silent companion and helper for my cousin tending to sheep or goats and, most recently, sabotaging a fox and her pups lodging under her railroad car. She attended a family reunion in South Texas. Champ sat in the passenger seat like an old Scottish gent — upright and tight — the 42 miles to my place, in my two-seater.

Within an hour, Champ was hollering and howling like I've never seen a big colie do. I petted him; gave him huge hugs like Bernie Sanders might do: I mean it was HUUUUUGE! I gave him food, water, and free range of the back yard; even my service dog tried to treat him by running beside him, licking and nudging him. All my creatures were watching him intently. I called Champ to the bedroom to calm down for the night. But he whimpered and yowled like someone died on his watch. Of course, he was missing his mom, my cousin.

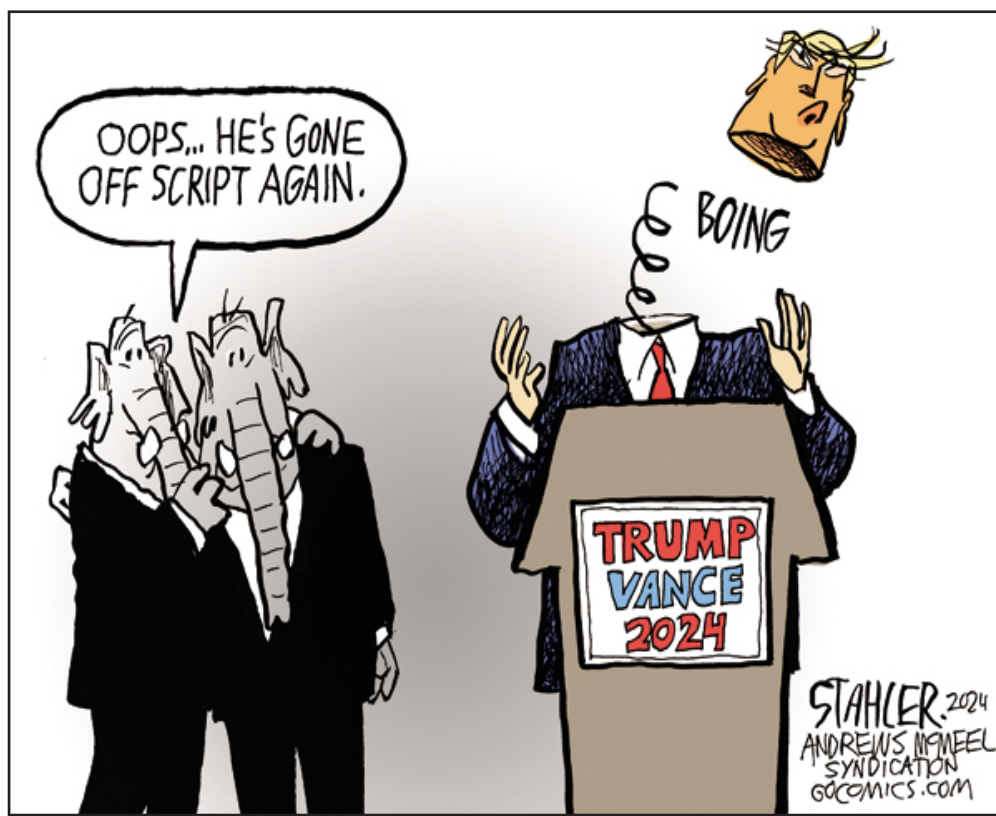
When snackies wouldn't even ease his soulful sounds, I was really wishing I had a ThunderShirt handy for him; it might have saved countless sleepless nights and escapes from my yard! Do they make them for "humans," too?

Nelda Curtiss is a retired college educator and long-time local columnist. Reach her at columsbynellie.com or email her at columsbynellie@gmail.com.

Movin' On with Nellie



Nelda Curtiss



To submit news, email: news@alamosanews.com

To submit sports, email: khamrick@alamosanews.com

Letters policy

Letters are welcome and encouraged. All letters submitted for publication in the Valley Courier must be typewritten, signed by the author, and must include a phone number and address where the author can be reached. Letters must not be libelous. The Courier will not run letters that are negative to specific businesses. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, civility and accuracy. Please limit letters to 500 words or less.

The Courier's editorial board reserves the right to reject a letter for reasons it believes are appropriate. Letters may be subject to editing to fit available space, or exclusion from the Opinion Page. Please, no poetry. Please send signed letters to P.O. Box 1099, Alamosa, CO 81101 or email them to news@alamosanews.com. Letters to staff, not for publication, should be marked "personal."

My proposed deal with the MAGA base

By ANN COULTER

In the past few days, The New York Times has run the following headlines:
Aug. 10, 2024: New Battleground Polls Show Harris Has Fundamentally Changed the Race

Aug. 10, 2024: Inside the Worst Three Weeks of Donald Trump's 2024 Campaign

Aug. 10, 2024: Harris Leads Trump in Three Key States, Times/Siena Polls Find

Aug. 13, 2024: Nate Silver on How Kamala Harris Changed the Odds

Aug. 13, 2024: What the Polls Say About Harris Erasing Trump's Lead on the Economy

Apparently, the media's plan to prevent Kamala Harris from answering any questions before Election Day is working! As long as the election is about Trump or Not-Trump, it's Advantage Democrats.

Instead of "Kamala Harris, the former California attorney general who unleashed violent criminals on the public"; or "Kamala Harris, who enthusiastically contributed to a bail fund for BLM/antifa rioters"; or "Kamala Harris, the woman in charge of our border for the past four years," Donald Trump is running against "Kamala: The Ray of Sunshine Whose Record You Won't See Until After Nov. 5."

This, from the same people who brought you: "Biden: Sharp as a Tack."

(I'm beginning to suspect the media aren't even going to follow up on Doug Emhoff's knocking up his kids' nanny while married to his first wife -- at least nothing beyond that well-timed Vanity Fair article swooning over Emhoff as the "cuddlebug-in-chief.")

Still, I can't help remembering the Times' similar triumphalism in 2016:

Oct. 10, 2016: Donald Trump Prob-

ably Stanching His Losses, but Didn't Seem to Gain

Oct. 11, 2016: Donald Trump Faltering? Die-Hard Fans Refuse to Buy It

Oct. 13, 2016: As Donald Trump Stumbles, Hillary Clinton Watches Her Step

Oct. 14, 2016: Is G.O.P. Dodging a Landslide [Defeat]? Trump's Polling Hasn't Collapsed (Yet)

Oct. 15, 2016: Hillary Clinton Builds \$150 Million War Chest, Doubling Donald Trump

Nov. 9, 2017: Entire World Media: "OOPS."

But who can remember something that happened eight years ago?

In other big news for the 100% monomaniacally pro-Harris media, this past Tuesday night, a group called Republicans for Harris held an online rally. It sounded fantastic. Their big "get" was former Illinois Rep. Adam Kinzinger, and it's believed that as many as 10 Republicans participated in the Zoom call.

I described this in my 2016 book, "In Trump We Trust":

"THE BUSH FAMILY COLLAPSES; A NATION REJOICES

"To stop Trump, Republican apparatchiks will form 'Republicans for Integrity,' with Christie Todd Whitman, Colin Powell, and the great-nephew of some Republican like Dwight Eisenhower. ... The ad will show members of Republicans for Integrity, looking directly into the camera and finishing one another's sentences ... The New York Times will hail their courage. MSNBC will proclaim the ad a game-changer. ...

"[O]nce Trump had sewn up the Republican nomination, Jeb!, his ex-president father and brother refused to support the party's nominee."

LETTER

The inglorious demise of '2000 Mules'

Editor,

After Donald Trump's 2020 election loss and the failed legal challenges, persistent claims of election fraud were made by Trump and others. Many were clamoring for evidence to be "uncovered".

True the Vote, an organization that describes itself as promoting election integrity, claimed to have cell phone data indicating massive ballot harvesting occurred, enabling the Biden win. The cell phone data, not surprisingly, indicated that some cell phone users had regular travel patterns that brought them near ballot drop offs. Trump's Attorney General, Bill Barr, was among the many who described the purported cell phone data as meaningless. True the Vote stated that a whistleblower alerted them to voter fraud, but later, under court order, was unable to identify or

produce any evidence from a whistleblower.

Nevertheless, Dinesh D'Souza (a Trump pardon recipient) in association with the conservative Salem Media Group and True the Vote produced a film, "2000 Mules", purportedly revealing massive voter fraud. The film often used video monitoring of ballot drop-off facilities with a somber voice over suggesting that the images being witnessed were a depiction massive voter fraud. The film was lauded in some circles as proof of voter fraud.

Interestingly, even in states with Republican Attorneys General no charges were filed based upon the film's accusations. "2000 Mules" had an extended run in various public venues and many private showings. The film had several showings in the San Luis Valley at private gatherings.

Mark Andrews from Georgia was identified in the film as one of the individuals committing voter fraud. A Georgia Bureau of Investigation inquiry cleared him of any wrongdoing and confirmed that he was legally dropping off ballots for his family. Mr. Andrews filed a defamation suit against Salem, D'Souza and True the Vote, citing multiple threats to himself and family.

Salem settled the lawsuit for an undisclosed but a reportedly significant amount. In addition, Salem apologized publicly through their website stating, in part "It was never our intent that the publication of the "2000 Mules" film and book would harm Mr. Andrews.... We apologize for the hurt the inclusion of Mr. Andrews' image in the movie, book and promotional materials have caused Mr. Andrews and his family."

Salem further stated that it "relied on representations made to us by Dinesh D'Souza and True the Vote". Salem halted distribution of "2000 Mules" in May of 2024, although previously distributed copies are still available.

D'Souza then published, through Salem, a book, also titled "2000 Mules", with accusations of ballot trafficking directed toward specific non-profit groups. Salem abruptly recalled the book from stores shortly after it was published and replaced it with a version that omitted specific allegations. True the Vote offered a statement that they "had no participation in this book, and has no knowledge of its contents... This includes any allegations of activities of any specific organizations made in the book. We made no such allegations."

Robert N Rice
Alamosa

Keith R Cerny
Publisher

Brian Williams
Managing Editor

Valley Courier

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Your FIRST Source for Local News

Religion

A baby boomer priest meets millennials searching for roots

As a Pittsburgh Pirates fan, Father Stephen Noll felt a sense of loss when he learned he would need

a smartphone app to attend baseball games.

Noll calls himself a “digital dinosaur, perhaps from the Jurassic period.” What he didn’t expect, after 50 years of priesthood, was for this digital divide to affect his ministry.

“I am fundamentally app-horror,” he wrote in “Millennial People, Boomer Priest,” a book of lessons from his year as a young parish’s interim pastor. The big problem was staying in contact with members of Redeemer Anglican Church, in north Pittsburgh. It was even harder to reach potential converts who kept walking through the doors.

“Caving to the need to reach my Millennial parishioners,” he wrote, “I learned to text with the help of the voice input mic, which is a good thing since it seems no one answers voice messages -- or even answers the phone at all!”

Noll was 74 when he became interim pastor on May 1, 2021, after the

traumas -- in pews and pulpits -- of the coronavirus pandemic. He decided that many young adults

were wrestling with anxiety, loneliness and other painful realities that were both modern and ancient.

According to the 2022 American Religious Benchmark Survey, many people stopped attending worship during the pandemic. Surveys before 2020 found that 25% of Americans never attend services. It was 33% in 2022.

But something else was happening during those years. Surveys found that 19% of Americans changed from one religious affiliation to another, including 6% of those who were religiously unaffiliated before COVID-19.

Noll said some of the young adults in his pews were asking hard questions about the brokenness around them, including in their own lives and the homes in which they were raised. Others were fervent, conservative believers who were homeschooled as children. Some had attended “classical” schools and ex-

PLICITLY Christian colleges that stressed centuries of doctrine, history, philosophy and the arts.

Charged with discovering if his fledgling flock could become an independent parish, he asked newcomers if they had considered local evangelical churches. Most told him: “No, we want to become Anglicans.”

Noll discovered that many of these young adults had, one way or the other, been exposed to liturgical worship, traditional prayers and sacraments.

“They liked what they had seen and heard. They wanted more,” he said, reached by telephone. “Some more than others, perhaps. A few did leave. Maybe they felt that things were getting too formal, too ‘Catholic’ or whatever. But most of them wanted to keep going deeper.”

These young believers were not interested in ongoing divisions between Anglicans in the Global South and progressives in the Church of England, the U.S. Episcopal Church and elsewhere. The Episcopal Church had 3.4 million members early in the 1960s, but only 1.58 million in 2022. Noll is part of the small, alternative Anglican Church in North Amer-

ica, which -- between 2020 and 2022 -- grew from 124,999 members to 128,114.

Truth is, the newcomers in Noll’s parish were not interested in wars between “Anglicans” and “Episcopalians.”

“I don’t think most of these young people even know what an Episcopalian IS these days. That’s probably more of a problem for those of us who left the Episcopal Church,” said Noll, an evangelical who for years taught at an Episcopalian seminary that recently changed its name to Trinity Anglican Seminary.

The question, he said, is

whether young people will join America’s most rapidly growing faith group -- nondenominational evangelicalism -- worshipping in churches with no ties to formal traditions or ecclesiastical bodies.

Facing that reality, Noll advised liturgical church leaders to “stress the basics” in terms of the doctrines, prayers and rites of their traditions.

Some liturgical congregations are growing, right now, while others are declining. The question is who will find ways to teach traditional faith to the converts who truly want to hear it.

“Most of our congrega-

tions are using the Prayer Book liturgy,” said Noll. “They may have stopped using the Book of Common Prayer in pews -- they may project it up on a screen. But, nevertheless, there is a sense that this is our identity marker, all the way from the Anglo-Catholics to our more charismatic and free-form churches.”

Terry Mattingly is Senior Fellow on Communications and Culture at Saint Constantine College in Houston. He lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and writes Rational Sheep, a Substack newsletter on faith and mass media.



Terry Mattingly

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

<p>All-Denominational Emmanuel Chapel - Independent Bible Church 0432 Hwy 149, South Fork 719-873-5411 Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Service, 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Church of the Living God 11611 2nd Avenue, Hooper 719-378-2080 Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship Sunday, 6 p.m. - Book of Acts Study Monday, 7 p.m. - Youth Thursday, 7 p.m. - Bible Study</p> <p>San Luis Valley Christian Center 305 S. Broadway (3rd & Broadway), Monte Vista 719-852-6168 Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. - Bible Study</p> <p>Prayer House Church 410 Main Street, La Jara Pastor Jaime Flores - 719-298-0007 Sunday Morning Service, 10:30 am Wednesday Family Ministry, 6:30 pm Friday Night Bible Study, 7:00 pm</p> <p>Sargent Community Church 6967 N. County Rd. 2 E., Monte Vista (across from Sargent School) Pastor Stephen Burns - 719-852-2980 Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Back Row Church - Church Community In the Alamosa Presbyterian Church Building Alamosa www.backrowchurch.com Kim Nipple • 303-532-9342 Worship Service - Wednesday Evening at 5:00 pm</p> <p>Apostolic Alamosa Apostolic Church 510 First St., Alamosa Meets Sundays 1-2 p.m. 2-3 p.m. - Lunch 3-5 p.m. - Worship Service</p> <p>Antonio Apostolic Church 710 Main St., Antonio Meets Sundays 11-12 p.m. - Sunday School 12-1 p.m. - Worship service</p> <p>Apostolic Pentecostal Church of Champions, Acts 2:38 9056 Hwy 285 South, Alamosa - 719-587-3351 Dan Dawning Pastor, 719-588-7307 Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - Service</p> <p>Assembly of God River of Life Church 2802 Clark Avenue, Alamosa Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Service</p> <p>Center Assembly of God 7th & Miles • P.O. Box 507, Center, CO 81125 Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Assembly of God Sons and Daughters of God Ministry 677 Madison Street, Monte Vista Pastor Leonard Sandoval, 719-849-0212 Sunday 10:00 a.m Service Wednesday 7:00 p.m Prayer</p> <p>New Life Fellowship 520 7th St., Del Norte, 81132 719-657-3360 Adult Sunday School - 9:00 Services - 10:00</p> <p>Baha'i Faith meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m on Zoom. Email: harline@gojade.org for a Zoom invite</p> <p>Baptist Grace Community Baptist Church 431 Lincoln Ave., Monte Vista Rev. Bill Walstrom, 719-937-1451 Worship: 9:30; Sunday School: 11:00 am Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 pm</p> <p>Living Water Bible Fellowship 2910 Clark Street, Alamosa 719-589-6351 Sunday, 9:00 & 10:45 am Worship Services** Sunday, 10:45 am Children's Ministry (PreK-5th grade) Sunday, 10:45 am Teen Bible Study (6th-12th grade) Tuesday 7:00 pm Young Adults College Group Wednesday 6:30 pm Bible Quizzing (1st-6th grade) Wednesday 6:30 pm Foreign Youth Group (6th-12th grade) Wednesday 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study** Saturday 5:00 pm Worship Service** Small Groups meets throughout week, please call for info **Nursery is available (twice-prek)</p> <p>College Heights Baptist Church 2045 Church Avenue, Alamosa 719-589-6814 Pastor Jesse Ciccone Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.</p> <p>San Luis Valley Baptist Church 930 State Avenue, Alamosa 719-589-5938 Pastor R.L. McDonald Wednesday 7 p.m. - Worship Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 11 a.m. - Worship Sunday, 6 p.m. - Evening Worship Spanish Ministry- Iglesia Bautista Rehobot Pastor Sal Garcia, 589-3020</p> <p>Calvary Bible Chapel 7160 Brush Lane, Alamosa Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Worship Sunday, 10:20 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 11 a.m. - Ministry of the Word Small group studies meet during the week.</p> <p>Calvary Blanca Pastor Matthew Leonard - 719-379-3317 Sunday, 9:30 am - Bible Study Sunday, 11:00 am - Service Wednesday, 6:00pm - Community Get to Know You</p> <p>Calvary Baptist Church 2160 Sherman Ave., Monte Vista Sunday, 9:45 a.m. - Bible Study Sunday, 11 a.m. - Worship Tuesday, 6 p.m. - C.L.A.Y. Youth Thursday, 6:30 p.m. - Ladies Bible Study</p> <p>South Fork Baptist Church 0130 Four Seasons Dr.(Old Chizum Bldg), South Fork (East side near laundromat & car wash) Sunday School, 9:30am Sunday, 10:30am - Worship For more information - Pastor Paul Moon - 719-496-7702</p>	<p>United Presbyterian Church of Antonito P.O. Box 665, Antonito Office Hrs. Tues, 9:00am -12:00 Sunday 9:45am - Sunday School 10:45am - Service</p> <p>Catholic Sacred Heart Church 715 4th Street, Alamosa Saturday, 4:00 p.m. - Mass Saturday, 6:00 p.m. - Spanish Mass Sunday, 8 a.m. - Mass Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Mass</p> <p>Hooper Church 3rd and Adams, Hooper Sunday, 9 a.m. - Morning Worship</p> <p>Meditation, Kriya Mountain Institute Alamosa - (575)758-5876</p> <p>United Church of La Jara 522 Walnut, La Jara 719-274-5250 Terry Buckman, Pastor Cell Phone: 339-8444 Office Hours: Mon, 9:00 am - 12:00 Sunday 9:00 am - Contemporary Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am</p> <p>Christian Science Services 400 Ross Avenue, Society Hall, Alamosa Services - Sundays at 10:00 p.m. The Second Wednesday of each 4 p.m. Thanksgiving Day 10 a.m.</p> <p>Pioneer United Church in Del Norte, Colorado A Congregation of Evangelical Covenant Order Presbyterians 630 Spruce St. (1.5 blocks south of Hwy. 160) Adult Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Sunday Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Sunday</p> <p>Church of the South Fork 0116 Landen Dr., South Fork, Co, 81154 Sunday are at 9 am - Services School Room. Choir is held on Wednesday at 6pm during the summer months with a final practice at 8:15am on Sunday</p> <p>Christian Bethel Christian Church Pastor Erik Lira Worship Service Sunday 3:00 p.m. Bible Study Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Bilingual Services Monday Free Music Classes Instrumental Classes 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Voice & Bass Guitar 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Word of Faith Christian Center 401 Sante Fe, Alamosa Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Friday, 6:00 p.m. M.O.S.H. Youth Night</p> <p>The Peak Community Church 510 San Juan, Alamosa Sundays, 6 p.m. - Fellowship Sundays, 7 p.m. - Worship & More</p> <p>Pentecostal Alamosa Pentecostal Church 184 East 2nd St., Alamosa - 719-589-0475 Pastor Carl Sutter Bible Study Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Sunday School Sunday 1:00-1:45 Worship 2:00-3:00</p> <p>Christian Fellowship Church The Door 1300 West 12th St., Alamosa Pastor Martin Montoya • 719-587-6197 Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - Worship Sunday, 6:30 p.m. - Victory Service Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. - Revival</p> <p>Christian Independent Alamosa Christian Church 410 McQuerry, Alamosa Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. - Family Night & Youth</p> <p>Christian Reformed Alamosa Christian Reformed, 719-589-3493 1861 Rd 10 S., Alamosa Pastor Philip VanderWindt Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 10:15 a.m. - Worship</p> <p>Churches of Christ Alamosa Church of Christ 408 Victoria Avenue, Alamosa Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Bible Classes Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Bible Study Healing Hearts, a Bible-based 12 step group meets, every Friday at 7 p.m.</p> <p>South Fork Church of Christ 205 Birch St., South Fork, 719-873-1259 Nathan Wheeler Pastor Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship, 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Central Church of Christ 200 Franklin Street, Monte Vista, 719-852-3811 David L. Baker Preacher Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Bible Class Sunday, 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m. - Worship Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Bible Study</p> <p>San Luis Valley Church of Christ 704 Del Sol, Alamosa, 719-589-2114 Sunday Bible Study 9 am Sunday Worship 10 am Wednesday Bible Study 6 pm</p> <p>Cornestone Community Church Hwy. 160 Del Norte next to Rio Grande Medical Clinic Pastor Mark 719-657-9107 Sunday 9:50 a.m. free breakfast Sunday 10:20 a.m. Contemporary Worship & Children Sunday School Wednesday 5:15 p.m. Dinner, music, fellowship, teachings</p> <p>Episcopal Saint Thomas Episcopal Church 607 4th Street, Alamosa Sunday, 9 a.m. - Service Stephen the Martyr 729 3rd Avenue, Monte Vista Sunday, 10 am Service First Christian Church 518 First St. (First & State) Alamosa 589-6805 Sunday, 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - Church Service Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - Bible Study</p>	<p>Valley Fellowship 240 East 5th Street, Center - 719-754-3904 Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship, Prayer and Bible Study *Bible Studies during the week, call for information.</p> <p>First United Methodist First United Methodist Church 2005 Mullins Ave., Alamosa - 719-589-2243 *Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors* Morning Worship - Sunday, 11:00 am Children's Church - Sunday, 10:30 am</p> <p>Community Churches United for Christ Community Church (SBC) *Community Centered Around Love* 7th & Broadway in Blanca - 719-379-3317 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 Worship Service 11am</p> <p>Bible Believer's Community Church 11762 E US HWY 160, Alamosa, Co 81101 719) 206-3239 Sunday worship 10:30 Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm www.bbchurch.co</p> <p>Presbyterian Alamosa Presbyterian Church 330 San Juan Avenue, Alamosa Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship</p> <p>Hispanic Pentecostal Iglesia Pentecostal Unida L.A. 907 Tenth St. Alamosa - 719-587-3546 Guadalupe Zalazar Pastor Wed. 7:00 p.m. Service Sat. 7:00 p.m. Youth Service Sun. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School Sun. 5:00 p.m. Worship</p> <p>New Hope Church *The Church on the Hill* 25258 Hwy 160, South Fork, Co. 81154 Pastor John Jayne • 719-873-1202 www.newhopesf.com Morning Worship -10:00 am Sunday School for all ages -9:00 -9:45</p> <p>Anabaptist Fellowship of Alamosa 330 San Juan Ave., Alamosa, CO 81101 alamosafellowship@gmail.com Sunday 4:30 PM Worship in the north wing of the Alamosa Presbyterian Church</p> <p>DEAF MINISTRY FOR ALL SERVICES Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Alamosa Y S A Ward 300 Richardson Avenue, Alamosa Sunday, 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Alamosa Second Ward 927 Weber Drive, Alamosa Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Alamosa Third Ward 300 Richardson Avenue, Alamosa Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Alamosa Fourth Ward 927 Weber Drive, Alamosa Sunday, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Sierra Vista Branch (Spanish Language) 300 Richardson Avenue, Alamosa Sunday, 10:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.</p> <p>Lutheran St. Peters Lutheran Church & School Church: 1821 Grande Avenue, Monte Vista School: 330 Faraday Street, Monte Vista Sunday, 10:15 a.m. - Services School: K-8, Monday-Thursday</p> <p>Trinity Lutheran Church & School 52 El Rio Drive, Alamosa Sunday, 8:45 a.m. - Bible Study Sunday, 10 a.m. - Worship *Small Bible Study Groups Throughout the Week* -Pre-School through 5th grade Church: 589-4611, School: 589-3271</p> <p>Conjoes Canyon Community Chapel 20062 State Hwy. 17 (between mile posts 21 and 20) Fellowship Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - Worship Service</p> <p>Mountain Valley Church 408 State St. 17, Alamosa Pastor: Richard Pinkerton 589-2899 or 588-7662 Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Worship Service</p> <p>Presbyterian Church of Monte Vista 702 Second Avenue, Monte Vista (719) 852-2555 Sunday, 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School Sunday, 11 a.m. - Sunday Worship</p> <p>Seventh-day Adventist Seventh-day Adventist Church 315 Craft Drive, Alamosa Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study Saturday, 11:00 a.m. - Worship</p> <p>United Methodist Mosca United Methodist Church 538 Barker Street, Mosca 970-270-3078 Pastor Steve Dunkel Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>Unitarian Universalist Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 330 San Juan Ave., Alamosa *North Wing of Alamosa Presbyterian Church 719-587-5529 Sunday & Youth Programs at 10:30 am Service</p> <p>Valley Church of the Nazarene Pastor: Chris Yocum 228 Madison, Monte Vista - (719) 852-5858 churchoffice@valleynaz.com Sunday Morning Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School Classes 9 a.m. Wednesday Dinner at 6 p.m. Small Group Classes at 7 p.m.</p> <p>Thursday Teen Activities (beginning at 6:30 p.m.) *Nursery is available during all services Visit website at www.valleynaz.com for online bulletins and service information or call the number above.</p> <p>Church of Scientology 511 Main Street, Suite #12, Alamosa 719-587-5554 Monday and Wednesday, 7-10p.m. - Services</p> <p>Grace Assurance Ministry Church without Religion 9851 CR 4 S, Alamosa, CO Sunday Mornings - 10:30 Randy Brown - 719-588-7004 Eric Wolf - 719-480-3977</p>
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Bible Digest

Saturday, August 17, 2024

“But if you will not do so, behold, you have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.” (Numbers 32:23 AKJV)

We are all accountable to God. He sees and He knows.

Sunday, August 18, 2024

“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.” (Psalms 66:18 AKJV)

Our hearts need to be right with God when we pray.

Monday, August 19, 2024

“The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that waters shall be watered also himself.” (Proverbs 11:25 AKJV)

We can’t out give God. Be generous as God leads.

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

“And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.” (Luke 5:16 AKJV)

If Jesus prayed so should we. Get alone with God and pray.

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

“O you that hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come. Iniquities prevail against me: as for our transgressions, you shall purge them away.” (Psalms 65:2-3 AKJV)

Thank the Lord that He will forgive us and cleanse us as we confess our sins to Him. Amen!

Thursday, August 22, 2024

“You shall have none other gods before me.” (Deuteronomy 5:7 AKJV)

There is only one true God and that is the God of the Bible.

Friday, August 23, 2024

“Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you; that your days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with you, in the land which the LORD your God gives you.” (Deuteronomy 5:16 AKJV)

Oh how we need to return to respect for God and family. Lord, help us.



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.

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 of 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 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. Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.

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Sports

Monte Vista second at Alamosa Invitational

By KEN HAMRICK
Courier sports editor
ALAMOSA – A total of 14 boys golf teams and 62 individuals competed at the Alamosa Invitational Friday at Cattails Golf Course.

Monte Vista took second place with a score of 233. The Pirates finished five strokes behind Montezuma-Cortez.

Leading Monte Vista was Liam Ellithorpe who finished tied for fourth with a one-over-par 73. Kaden Mellott finished sixth with a 77, Connor Mellott tied for 14th with an 83, Jakoby Ross was 17th with an 84, and

Aiden Ford tied for 20th with an 88.

Alamosa placed seventh with 260. Leading the Mean Moose was Kobe Mizokami who tied for 10th with an 81. Serjio Najera was 18th with an 85, Josh Cline tied for 31st with a 94, Clayton Treinen also tied for 31st with a 94, and Carsten Kirkland tied for 50th with a 109.

Del Norte finished 13th with 328. Leading the Tigers was Tytus Atencio who placed 48th with a 105. Landan Velasquez tied for 50th with a 109, Trenton Woolf was 56th with a 114, and Noah Bailey was 61st with a

126.

Johnathon Smith of Pagosa Springs was the medalist with a two-under-par 69. Montezuma-Cortez's Vince Lopez was second with a one-under-par 70.

Alamosa and Monte Vista will next compete at the Pueblo County Invitational this coming Friday at Hollydot Golf Course in Colorado City. Del Norte's next action is at the Pagosa Springs Invitational on Aug. 28.

ALAMOSA INVITATIONAL
At Cattails Golf Course
Par 71
Team scores
Montezuma-Cortez 228, Monte Vista 233, Gunnison 242, Salida 247, Pagosa

Springs 256, Swink 259, Alamosa 260, Las Animas 271, Fowler 277, La Veta 277, Rye 278, Swallows Charter Academy 326, Del Norte 328, Buena Vista 343.

Individual scores

Johnathon Smith (PS)	69
Vince Lopez (MC)	70
Damien Baca (LA)	72
Liam Ellithorpe (MV)	73
Preston Pike (G)	73
Kaden Mellott (MV)	77
Avery Duquette (Sa.)	78
Gavin Frost (MC)	79
Zye Kuenzler (MC)	79
Henry Sisneros (Sa.)	81
Noah Pearson (Sw.)	81
Kobe Mizokami (A)	81
Carson Zummach (G)	81
Lukas Ozzello (LV)	83
Hagen McCuiston (F)	83
Connor Mellott (MV)	83
Jakoby Ross (MV)	84

Serjio Najera (A)	85	Nicolas Goldberg (R)	98
Branson Burbridge (R)	87	Eli Stokes (Sw.)	99
Mason Weitman (G)	88	Kree Wallace (LA)	99
Joseph Noble (G)	88	Isaac Pineda (R)	99
Aiden Ford (MV)	88	Eli Weir (F)	100
Vincent Mazzeo (Sa.)	88	Cody Netherton (LA)	100
Nick Paolucci (Sw.)	88	Braxton Dutton (SCA)	104
Boz Zavala (Sw.)	90	Tytus Atencio (DN)	105
Ethan Fast (Sw.)	90	Matthew Dowell (LA)	107
Franky Montoya (MC)	91	Landan Velasquez (DN)	109
Tyler Dimond (PS)	92	Carsten Kirkland (A)	109
Nate Cabrera (Sw.)	93	Will Gust (SCA)	110
Collin Stribling (R)	93	Isabel Galloway (PS)	110
Josh Cline (A)	94	Karson Kleven (SCA)	112
Clayton Treinen (A)	94	Orlando Gallegos (LV)	113
Cedar Liverett (PS)	95	Trenton Woolf (DN)	114
Tristan Musgrave (LV)	96	Mevi Hill (SCA)	117
Zachary Knoll (G)	96	Licah Wheller (BV)	121
Blake Kinkaid (BV)	97	Creede Phillips (Sa.)	125
Jedediah Ballard (F)	97	Maddox Kinkaid (BV)	125
Robert Smith (MC)	97	Noah Bailey (DN)	126
Bruley McCuiston (F)	97	Ryan Groy (BV)	127
Miguel Rivera (LV)	98		



Courier photos by Ken Hamrick

Liam Ellithorpe of the Monte Vista High School boys golf team finished in a tie for fourth place at the Alamosa Invitational Friday at Cattails Golf Course with a one-over-par 72. The Pirates finished second as a team with a score of 233.



Alamosa's Serjio Najera recorded an 85 for the Mean Moose's second-best score. Alamosa finished seventh as a team.

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Sports Bulletin

Follow sports editor Ken Hamrick on X. His handle is @KenHamrick1.

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY
College men's soccer
Otero at Adams State (exhibition), 1 p.m.

TUESDAY
Prep girls softball
Durango at Alamosa (at Adams State), 4 p.m.

THURSDAY
Prep girls volleyball
Primero at Sangre de Cristo, 4:30 p.m.
Salida at Center, 5 p.m.
College men's soccer
Trinidad State at Adams State (exhibition), noon

FRIDAY
Prep cross country
Alamosa at Cheyenne

Mountain Invitational (at Norris Penrose Event Center), 2 p.m.

Prep boys golf
Alamosa, Monte Vista at Pueblo County Invitational (at Hollydot), 9 a.m.

Prep girls softball
Alamosa vs. Greeley Central (Platte Valley Invitational), 1 p.m.
Alamosa vs. Yuma (Platte Valley Invitational), 5 p.m.

Prep girls volleyball
Sanford at La Veta, 2 p.m.

College Prep

How students can better manage their time

Many people have a lot of demands on their time. There are only so many hours in a day, which means that the sooner a person can develop strategies for managing his or her time efficiently and effectively, the more successful that person can be.

It can be especially important for students to explore ways to improve their time management skills early in their academic careers. Time management involves planning, and that includes allotting time for specific tasks. The following strategies can be useful for anyone looking to manage their time more

effectively.

Establish a daily schedule

Staying the course may require a guideline detailing how you will spend your time. A good part of the day may be taken up by classes and assignments, but focusing on the other parts of the day also is key. Set up a plan for how you will treat each day. Block off specific times for exercise, meals, school, study, and any other responsibilities you have. Time blocking is a format by which you go through the moments of the day. You can block out by the hour or any amount of time you need.

Figure out where

you're losing time

You need to know how you're currently spending your time before you can improve on time management strategies. Spend a few days jotting down a time log. This will help you determine if you're working efficiently or where you are losing time.

Make time for breaks

Burnout can occur when you work yourself too hard. That makes breaks an important part of time management. Breaks allow for time to call loved ones, text with friends, meditate, or engage in other activities unrelated to school. According to sleep researcher Nathaniel Kleitman,

people's minds naturally crave breaks after 90 minutes of intense work. You may need breaks at different intervals. Learn to read your body's cues.

Break projects down

Many students avoid projects they feel are huge tasks. Breaking down the larger job into smaller ones can help students stay focused and reward progress. For example, if you need to write a 50-page research paper, make the first task finding source material, the next citing quotes and studies, and then resolve to write a set number of pages per day.

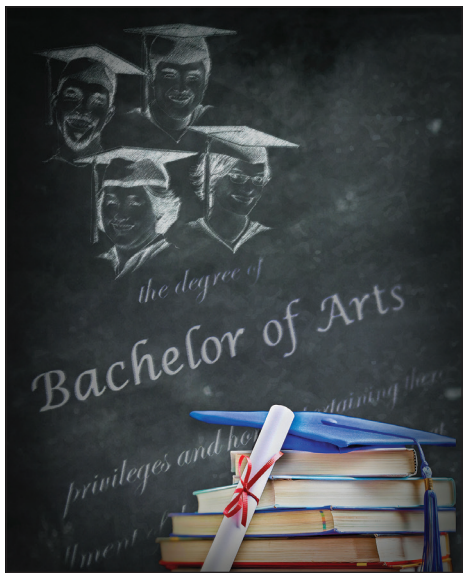
Schedule classes wisely



Some people are night school students, but colleges allow for more flexibility in scheduling. Time management is an important skill for students to develop. It will help in the classroom and later on when entering the workforce.

Did you know?

The number of bachelor's degrees awarded by colleges and universities has increased considerably in the twenty-first century. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, roughly 1.238 million bachelor's degrees were awarded by colleges and universities in 2000. By 2021, that figure had nearly doubled, reaching 2.066 million. The number of students who earned associate's and master's degrees also grew by considerable margins between 2000 and 2021, with each nearly doubling. Doctorate and professional degrees remained a little more steady, though the number of students who earned each increased from just under 119 million in 2000 to 194.1 million in 2021.



Popular majors among modern college students

College students' choice of majors can set them on a path toward rewarding and lucrative careers. Though a career may not be foremost on the minds of students as they graduate high school and inch closer to the start of college, choice of major merits consideration, even among students who have yet to receive their high school diplomas.

Many college students enroll in school as undeclared, while others may pick a major without realizing what it requires and which career path it might set them on. That might explain why it's so common for college students to switch majors. Though data indicating how many students switch majors is somewhat dated, one study from the U.S. Department of Education indicated about one in five students changed their majors at least once while pursuing a bachelor's degree. With that in mind, students may want to consider some popular majors as they try to determine which path to take in college. According to the National Center for Educa-

tion Statistics, more than half of the 2.1 million bachelor's degrees awarded at United States colleges and universities in the 2020-21 school year were concentrated in six fields of study. In addition, the NCES reports that the following are the six most popular degrees from that academic year.

1. Business: Almost one in five bachelor's degrees awarded in 2020-21 were in the field of business.
2. Health professions: This field accounted for 13 percent of all bachelor's degrees awarded in 2020-21. Common specializations include health sciences, health care administration, nursing, and sports medicine.
3. Social sciences and history: NCES data indicates nearly one in 10 students majored in a social science in 2020-21. This includes specializations such as history, political science and sociology.
4. Engineering: Demand for engineers is expected to rise in the coming decades, and that should bode



well for the 126,000 students who earned bachelor's degrees in engineering in 2020-21.

5. Biological and biomedical sciences: Bachelor's degrees awarded in biological and biomedical sciences increased by 46 percent between the 2010-11 and 2020-21 school years.

6. Psychology: NCES data indicates degrees in psychology accounted for 6 percent of all bachelor's degrees awarded in 2020-21.

Choice of major is a significant decision for college students. Students are urged to discuss potential majors with their parents as they seek to lay the foundation for their professional futures.

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Classifieds

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THE ALAMOSA POLICE DEPARTMENT is seeking a full-time **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINICIAN** to join their team as a **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CO-RESPONDER**. This position offers a unique opportunity to intervene and de-escalate crisis situations while providing essential mental health services to individuals in need. The successful candidate will work closely with law enforcement and community partners to assess, diagnose, and develop treatment plans for clients experiencing behavioral health crises. Interested candidates can submit their application at cityofalamosa.org and attach their resume and a cover letter detailing their qualifications and experience. Starting pay FLSA Exempt DOQ, non-certified \$64,750 - \$67,987, certified \$76,211 - \$80,021. Fringe benefits include CO PERA Retirement employer contribution 14.73% & employee contribution is 9.00%, 11.5 holidays per year, 2 personal days, 80 hours of sick leave and 80 hours of vacation leave per year. Employer paid life insurance, STD, LTD & AD&D, 75% of medical, vision, and dental premiums paid by the employer, Wellness Program, and discounted recreational memberships. Open until filled, with a first review on August 26th. (8/28/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

CENTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS located in CENTER, CO seeks a **PART-TIME PARKS & REC COORDINATOR** for the 2024-2025 school year. Candidates should have a high school diploma and excellent organizational and communication skills. Ability to speak Spanish is preferred, but not required. The positions will involve promoting youth and community engagement through physical activity. This part-time position will begin August 20 or when filled. Center Consolidated Schools is an equal-opportunity employer. To apply, send a Cover Letter, Resume, Letters of Recommendation, Transcript, and a completed non-Certified Application found at <https://5il.co/qdtr> to Carrie Zimmerman, Superintendent of Schools, Center School District 26JT, 550 S. Sylvester Avenue, Center, CO 81125. For more information, please contact Katrina Ruggles at kruggles@center.k12.co.us. (8/17/24)

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, scruz@urtigers.co (9/13/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

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. (9/13/24)

FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE & 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 (9/13/24)

GUNBARREL STATION is hiring a full-time **TIRE TECHNICIAN**, 40-44 hours/week. Starting pay is \$15/hour. Must be 18. Gunbarrel Station is also hiring part/full-time **STORE CLERK**, 20-30 hours/week. Must be 18. Starting pay is \$14.50/hour. Call 719-754-3543 or stop in for an application. (8/28/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

ACTIVELY HIRING: DIRECTOR - ALAMOSA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER, competitive pay. Accounting experience, QuickBooks experience preferred, leadership role, decision making abilities, multi-tasking, event planning, speaking experience preferred, grant writing experience preferred but not necessary, fundraising. Deadline for applicants is Saturday, August 17, 2024. Mail resume to: PO Box 1276, ALAMOSA, Colorado 81101. (8/17/24)

ADELANTE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - La Puente is seeking a **MASTER'S LEVEL PERSON (LICENSE ELIGIBLE) TO PROVIDE OVERSIGHT OF THE PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAM** under the guidance of the Adelante Director. This position will provide direct supervision of case management staff to ensure completion of assessments, strength-based service plans, and case notes. Experience working with people who have serious mental health issues, and/or substance use disorders as well as chronic homelessness is extremely helpful. Crisis management skills, cultural responsiveness and organization skills are needed. Position will also provide oversight and supervision to non-housing Adelante staff in the absence of the Director as needed. Salary \$58,000 to \$60,000 plus benefits, send cover letter and resume to: hr@lapuente.net. (8/28/24)

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

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

THE CITY OF ALAMOSA POLICE DEPARTMENT is seeking a full-time dedicated and experienced **PROGRAM MANAGER** to oversee our **CORE-SPONDER & LEAD PROGRAMS**. This vital position plays a key role in supporting the goals of improving public safety, reducing criminal behavior, and enhancing the quality of life for individuals participating in the program. Interested candidates can submit their application at cityofalamosa.org and attach their resume and a cover letter detailing their qualifications and experience. Starting pay FLSA Non-Exempt DOQ \$23.75 - \$24.94 per hour. Fringe benefits include CO PERA Retirement employer contribution 14.73% & employee contribution is 9.00%. 11.5 holidays per year, 2 personal days, 80 hours of sick leave and 80 hours of vacation leave per year. Employer paid life insurance, STD, LTD & AD&D, 75% of medical, vision, and dental premiums paid by the employer, Wellness Program, and discounted recreational memberships. Open until filled, with a first review on August 26th. (8/28/24)

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

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

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

221 - HELP WANTED

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

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

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

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

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

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

221 - HELP WANTED

FAMILY SERVICES MANAGER: CENTER HEAD START is searching for a highly motivated **FAMILY SERVICES MANAGER**. Applicants must have strong interpersonal and communication skills. Required to have a Bachelor's degree, certificate or credential in social work, human services, family services, or counseling related field at hire or within 18 months of hire. This position works closely with our families to help them reach their goals and create community partnerships. Highly preferable if bilingual (English/Spanish). Applications can be picked up at the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions please call the office at 719-759-9259. (8/30/24)

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

BUS DRIVER/ CUSTODIAN: CENTER HEAD START is in search of a **BUS DRIVER/ CUSTODIAN**. Must have a Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with P25 endorsement. A good driving record. Able to do a pre-trip inspection to ensure functioning maintenance of bus. Ability to work with children, parents, other staff, and community people. Custodian must take responsibility for the overall maintenance of the Head Start facility. Knowledge and understanding of safety and sanitation regulations and perform routine repairs as needed throughout the building. Applications can be picked up at the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions, please call the office at 719-759-9259. (8/30/24)

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

LAND USE & PERMITTING ADMINISTRATOR: The Baca Grande Property Owners Association, 68575 County Road T, CRESTONE, CO 81131 \$50,000 - \$60,000 a year - Full-time. <https://www.indeed.com/job/land-use-permitting-administrator-c201b92d488ea125>. (8/28/24)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/GENERAL MANAGER: The Baca Grande Property Owners Association, 68575 County Road T, CRESTONE, CO 81131 \$90,000 - \$130,000 a year - Full-time. <https://www.indeed.com/job/executive-director-general-manager-a959c74f16ae2c01>. (8/28/24)

THE UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT is hiring a full time **JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR**. Applicants must have a Master's Degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain an appropriate Colorado school counselor license. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, DEL NORTE Jr./Sr. High Principal at ahardy@urtigers.co or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. Applications for certified staff positions can be picked up at the District Office or online at www.urtigers.co. (8/28/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

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

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

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

304 - LAWN & GARDEN

SPRINKLER REPAIR & INSTALLATION. Quick Service!! Call evenings & weekends: 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (9/6/24-monthly)

324 - SEED & FEED

NATIVE GRASS HAY for sale. HORSE HAY in SMALL BALES and COW HAY available in 3x3 BALES. Contact Ed, if interested, leave a message (719) 852-3069. (9/18/24)

HORSE & COW HAY: GRASS, GRASS/ALFALFA, ALFALFA. 3x3 bales, various quality and pricing. 719-850-8917. (9/13/24-monthly)

341 - GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY, 8/17, 8:00AM-12:00 at 115 Alamosa Ave., ALAMOSA. Huge sale with collectables & many nice items. Hosted by the GFWC Woman's Citizenship Club. Proceeds to fund our community projects. (8/17/24)

341 - GARAGE SALE

YARD SALE: BEHIND GREEN SPOT, back door, up the ramp. 10am-2pm, Saturday, 8/17, 711 State Ave., ALAMOSA. (8/17/24)

GARAGE SALE: SATURDAY, 8/17, 8:00-2:00, in back of house; 1417 Ross Ave., ALAMOSA. (8/17/24)

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE: Saturday, August 17 at house next to the Firehouse in MOSCA. 8:00 to 3:00. Some ANTIQUES. (8/17/24)

MOVING SALE: SATURDAY 8/17, 8-12noon, 2917 Mimi Lane, ALAMOSA. (8/17/24)

347 - HOUSEHOLD GOODS

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

350 - FARM EQUIPMENT

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

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

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

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

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

368 - PETS & SUPPLIES

8 FEMALE CHOCOLATE LABS, ready 8/19, \$300/obo. Call 719-937-9718. (8/30/24)

401 - BUSINESS PROPERTIES

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

426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

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

524 - FISHING & HUNTING

2 NEW FISHING Rods; \$25. 719-298-2175. (8/17/24)

525 - GUNS

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

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Accepting applications for 1 bedroom apartments. Must be 62 or older or disabled
Cielo Vista Apartments
166 S. Wills Center, Colo
754-3664

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

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

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

601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Accepting applications for 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Family living at an affordable price. Disabled Unit Available.
Casita del Sol
1405 West 11th St. Alamosa, Colo.
589-8663

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

606 - BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT: at 1016 West Ave., ALAMOSA. Call Mike (719)850-1961. (9/6/24)

611 - HOMES FOR RENT

IN ALAMOSA: 1 BEDROOM; \$900, first last deposit. 2 BEDROOM; \$1,200, first last deposit. 719-588-5303. (8/17/24)

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

737 - RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

FOR SALE: WINNEBAGO ADVENTURER WORK HORSE. M/H chase, Class A, in Alamosa, 32,000 miles, \$28,500. 928-920-5095/ 719-937-2487 (8/20/24)



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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Break down in tears
- 4 Collar insert
- 8 Bridge
- 12 Ripken of baseball
- 13 "10 Things I — About You"
- 14 Apple remnant
- 15 "Eureka!"
- 16 Like a missing GI
- 17 Actress — Russo
- 18 Underground stem
- 20 Braided
- 22 Likely
- 24 Slippery —
- 25 "From — With Love"
- 28 Go
- 32 Out like a light
- 33 Company VIP
- 34 CIA relative
- 35 Role in "Friends"

DOWN

- 38 Difficult
- 42 Out of the way
- 43 Damage
- 44 Newt
- 45 Bit of fabric
- 49 Does a farm job
- 53 Predatory bird
- 54 Jalopy
- 56 Nest egg letters
- 57 Frosted
- 58 Comic book writer — Lee
- 59 Excavate
- 60 Internet sensation
- 61 Round tent
- 62 Earlier
- 1 Jazz singing
- 2 Hawaiian island
- 3 Tattle
- 4 Felt-tip pen
- 5 Playing marble

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 6 Surmounting
- 7 Shouted
- 8 Be frugal
- 9 Writer of verse
- 10 "Rule, Britannia!" composer
- 11 Require
- 19 Facilitate
- 21 Cakes and —
- 23 Spigot
- 25 Rave's partner
- 26 Defunct acronym
- 27 Do in
- 29 Hurt
- 30 Film spool
- 31 Informed
- 35 "Norma —"
- 36 Insult
- 37 Refer to
- 39 Get in the way of
- 40 Snooze
- 41 Like some fried food
- 45 Read hastily
- 46 Agreeable
- 47 Particular
- 48 Dancer's skirt
- 50 Opera by Verdi
- 52 Palm variety
- 55 Roofing material

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18				19		20		21				
				22		23		24				
25	26	27						28		29	30	31
32										33		
34								35	36	37		
38				39	40	41		42				
				43				44				
45	46	47					48		49	50	51	52
53							54		55			
57							58				59	
60							61					

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

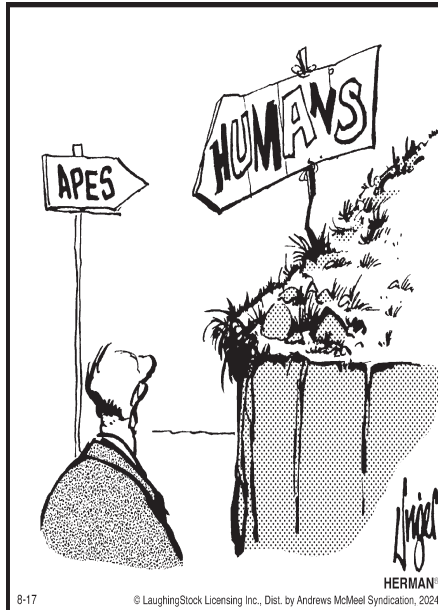
			3	2		5	1					
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4			5				2					
		8	3	4		2						
		9		5								
9				5			4					
7	1		8									
2	6		7	9								

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

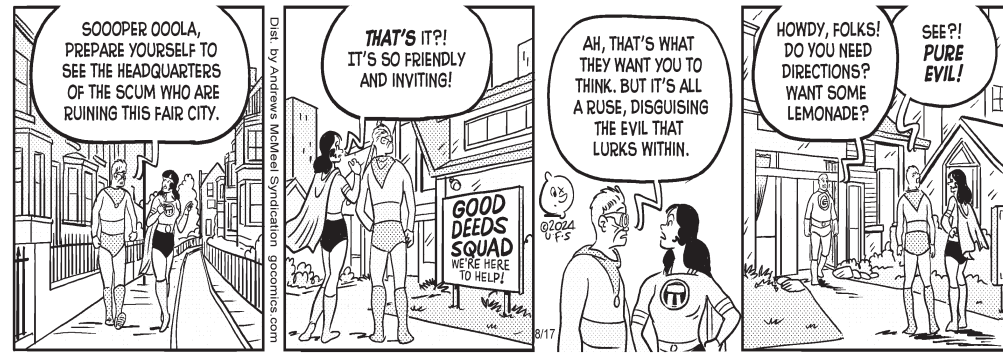
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2	1	5	6	3	7	4	8	9
8	6	4	1	5	9	2	3	7
3	7	6	2	8	5	1	9	4
4	5	8	9	7	1	3	2	6
1	9	2	3	4	6	5	7	8
5	8	9	4	6	2	7	1	3
7	4	3	5	1	8	9	6	2
6	2	1	7	9	3	8	4	5

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

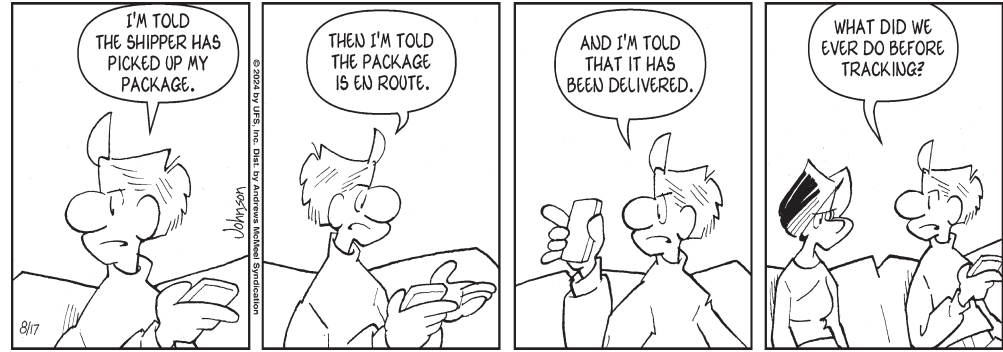
HERMAN



ALLEY OOP



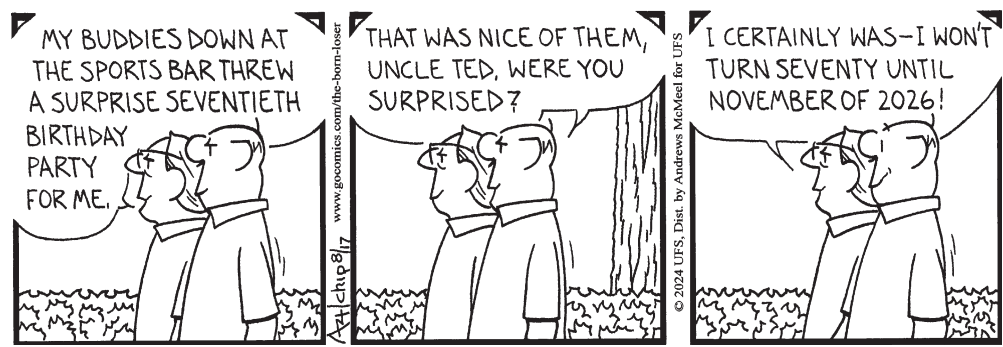
ARLO & JANIS



BIG NATE



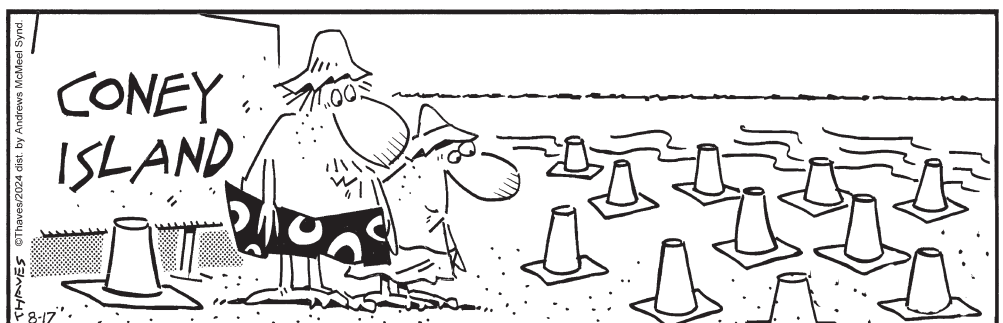
THE BORN LOSER



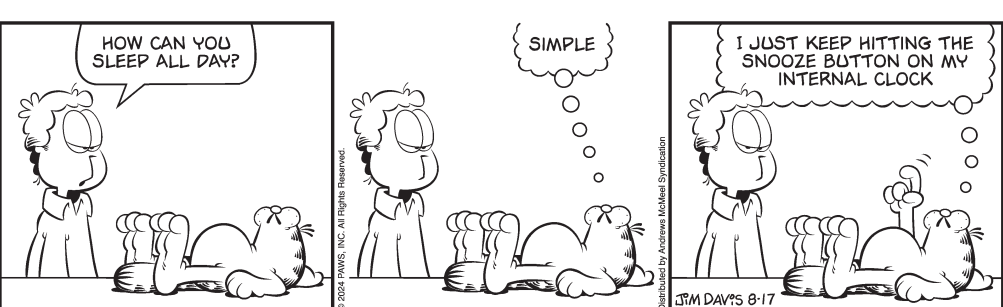
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



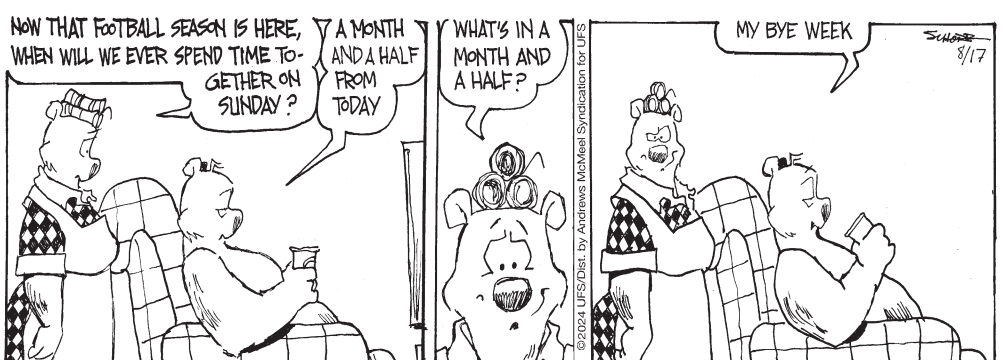
FRANK & ERNEST



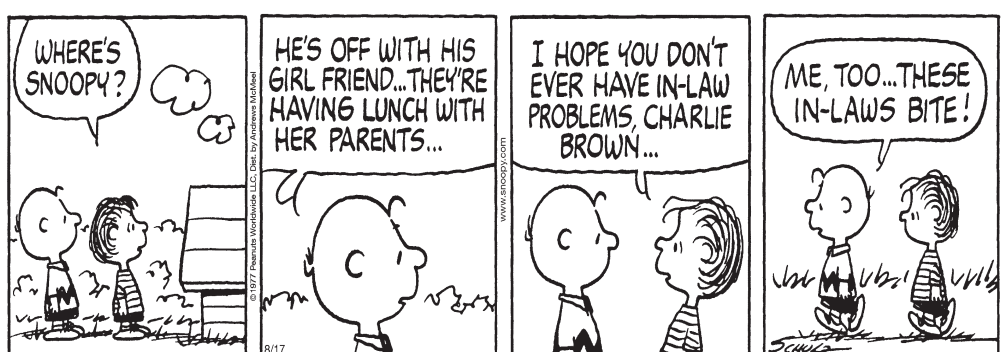
GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS



Friendship with boss came with steep emotional toll

DEAR ABBY: Fifteen years ago, my partner and I moved to a new community, befriendng a neighbor whose initial kindness and generosity impressed us greatly. When the neighbor learned I was unemployed, his influence enabled me to secure a position with his company.

In a professional setting, however, the neighbor revealed a personality that was manipulative, condescending, backstabbing and mean-spirited, often reducing colleagues to tears with his profanity-laced tirades. His was literally a Jekyll and Hyde transformation.

After a decade of his tyranny and the suicide attempt of a colleague he had mercilessly badgered, I accepted a position with another company, and later retired to another state. Since then, he has contacted me at regular intervals to say he misses us as neighbors and friends and would like to visit.

While working for his company financially empowered us to make future plans previously beyond our means, I lack the ability to prioritize gratitude over the memories of the emotional abuse to which he subjected my co-workers and me. My tenure there had

a negative impact on my health, and I have no desire to relive the experience merely to nourish his ego. My partner suggests I can tolerate anything for a few days. Am I wrong to feel otherwise? -- HESITANT IN ARIZONA

DEAR HESITANT: When your former boss asks to visit, politely decline. If he continues to pursue it, that will be the time for a frank conversation with him. When (and if) it comes to that, express that, although he was kind to you personally, his tirades and the fact that he nearly drove a co-worker to suicide were the reasons you left the company, which is why you prefer he not visit.

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 25 years and I have become political opposites over the past several years. We watch different news networks and media. It has grown increasingly difficult to have any conversation with him without politics entering the discussion.

As a result, I avoid talking to him about anything, and it is straining our marriage. I also prefer to go to social events alone, because he brings his political views into even the most casual conversations with people we are meeting for the first time.



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

Have you any advice on how to address this problem? I don't see it getting any better after the elections, regardless of the outcome. -- OPPOSITE IN HOUSTON, TEXAS

DEAR OPPOSITE: Marriages can fail because a couple's divergent beliefs about what is important have driven a wedge between them that can't be bridged. In most marriages, a degree of compromise can be reached. If you and your husband are having trouble doing that, marriage counseling may help you figure out how to navigate your political differences. If you cannot do that, then you and your husband have some tough decisions to make.

Lifestyle



Photo by Adam Gray/Getty Images

The Republican presidential nominee, former President Donald Trump, holds a news conference outside the Trump National Golf Club Bedminster on Aug. 15, in Bedminster, N.J. The food items were props to illustrate his criticisms about the effects of inflation.

'I'm entitled to personal attacks' against Harris, Trump asserts

By JENNIFER SHUTT
Colorado Newsline

Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump said Thursday he sees no need to switch the tactics or tone of his bid for the White House now that Vice President Kamala Harris is the Democratic nominee instead of President Joe Biden.

Speaking during a press conference at his golf club in New Jersey, the former president began with 45 minutes of comments on a myriad of issues before he took more than a dozen questions from reporters.

Trump argued that there was no need to limit his personal criticism of Harris since there are several criminal trials ongoing against him and because she has called him "weird" several times.

"I think I'm entitled to personal attacks," Trump said. "I don't have a lot of respect for her. I don't have a lot of respect for her intelligence. And I think she'll be a terrible president."

Numerous Republicans, including former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who challenged Trump for the nomination though she now says she will vote for him, have called for Trump to focus more on the policy differences between the two political parties, and less on his personal grievances with Harris.

Trump, for example, sought to question Harris' racial identity during his panel interview at the National Association of Black Journalists late last month.

Trump gave Thursday's press conference outside and spoke while standing in between two tables of groceries and what appeared to be a large, blue doll house.

He used the props to make a case that prices are too high for American families, laying the blame for inflation at the feet of the Biden-Harris administration and insisting he's the only person able to get prices back down.

Trump brushed aside his polling numbers in swing states, some of which have him trailing or inside the margin of error, in the match-up with Harris.

"I tend to poll low," Trump said. "In some cases, really low."

He also said that if reelected in November he hoped to develop a "friendly" relationship with Iran and to "get along" with China. The GOP has repeatedly criticized Democrats for be-

ing too lenient with both countries.

'Another public meltdown'

The Harris-Walz campaign released a mock advisory for the press conference before it began Thursday, writing in an email that Trump was preparing to "hold another public meltdown in Bedminster, New Jersey."

"Not so fresh off NABJ, Florida, and Twitter glitches, Donald Trump intends to deliver another self-obsessed rant full of his own personal grievances to distract from his toxic Project 2025 agenda, unpopular running mate, and increasing detachment from the reality of the voters who will decide this election," the campaign wrote. "These remarks will not be artificial intelligence, but they certainly will lack intelligence."

Spokesperson James Singer released a written statement afterward that Trump "huffed and puffed his opposition to lowering food costs for middle and working class Americans and prescription drug costs for seniors before pivoting back to his usual lies and delusions."

Race remains in flux

Despite the new momentum at the top of the Democratic presidential ticket and Trump insisting he's on track to win, neither candidate yet has a clear path to victory this November, experts say.

The Cook Political Report with Amy Walter, a nonpartisan publication that analyzes campaigns and rates whether races are leaning toward one political party or the other, has placed six states in its "toss-up" category for the Electoral College.

Arizona's 11, Georgia's 16, Michigan's 15, Nevada's six, Pennsylvania's 19 and Wisconsin's 10 Electoral College votes could go to either Harris or Trump when voting wraps up, according to the political publication's reporting.

Minnesota, Nebraska's 2nd Congressional District and New Hampshire are all rated as leaning toward Harris with a total of 15 votes, while North Carolina and its 16 votes are leaning toward Trump.

All the other states are categorized as "solid" or "likely" going to either Trump or Harris, underlining the close nature of the campaign.

Walter told reporters on a call Thursday that Harris has a chance to sway swing voters during her

speech to the Democratic National Convention next week.

"She has an opportunity here in that people are going to be more interested in watching this convention, certainly, than they were a month ago when Biden was on the top of the ticket," she said. "And it's an opportunity to speak beyond the Democratic base."

The prime-time speech will give Harris a forum to address the major criticisms of her presidential run, including that she's too liberal, isn't the best person to handle the economy and that she's weak on immigration policy, Walter said.

Trump and his temperament

Greg Strimple, president of GS Strategy Group, which is partnering with the Cook Political Report on a swing state project looking at voters' views toward the candidates, said one of the bigger challenges for Trump's campaign is getting the candidate to stay on message.

"This race has shifted from being a referendum on Biden's age and economy to being a referendum on Trump and his temperament," Strimple said on the call. "And despite the fact that Donald Trump is unable to get out of his way at the moment, his campaign is running ads that are right on message."

If Trump and his campaign aligned to push their belief that Harris is "too liberal, too inexperienced and a continuation of Biden on the economy," that could help them to regain ground in polling and with voters ahead of Election Day, he said.

"There's a lot of talk right now about the race being over, and I just kind of caution everyone that there is a path for Trump — it's just whether he can take it," Strimple said.

Patrick Toomey, a partner at BSG, which is also part of the swing state project, said on the call that voters shouldn't rule out ups and downs in support for the candidates in the months ahead, citing potential upheaval from hurricane season or the ongoing wars in the Middle East.

"It's just worth keeping in mind how many dramatic twists and turns there have been in this race so far," Toomey said. "And the idea that because we've had this reset now things are set and nothing is going to change going forward, would be a mistake."



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