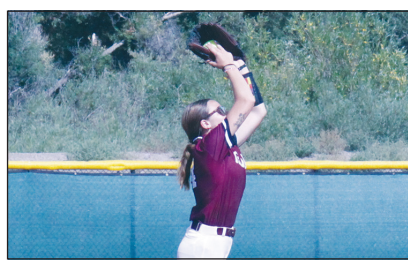




Discover the essence of the West at Gallerio Grande in South Fork

— Page 5



Lady Moose hold off Durango in season opener

— Page 6



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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

August 23, 2024

\$1

SLV Today

SLV Pride this weekend

ALAMOSA — SLV Pride celebrates LGBTQA positivity with a kickoff party on Aug. 23 in Cole Park with a reading party at 4 p.m. At the Rio Grande Farm Park in Alamosa, dancing and pride celebrations begin at 6 p.m.

On Saturday, Aug. 24, at 10 a.m., participants will gather at the Alamosa Public Library parking lot for a parade through downtown. At 11 a.m. in Cole Park, the festivities continue with music, speakers, and a drag performer or two. For more information, see www.slvpride.org.

SLV 4-H sale on Sunday

MONTE VISTA — SLV 4-H will be holding a fundraising sale of household items and more this weekend. There is an early bird special on Saturday evening, Aug. 24. A donation of \$10 will get you in the door, at 6 p.m. Items may be purchased, and larger items may be bid by silent auction.

The actual sale will be Sunday, starting at 11 a.m. and ending at 3 p.m. If you have any questions, call Ruthie Brown at 719-580-7838. The sale will be located at 227 Bronk in Monte Vista.

Paving operations on SLV highways

ALAMOSA AND COSTILLA COUNTIES — On Monday, Aug. 26, the Colorado Department of Transportation will begin two-day paving operations along a two-mile segment of Colorado Highway 159 between San Luis and the New Mexico state line (Mile Points 0 to 2). Paving operations will move to Colorado Highway 370, south of Alamosa, on Wednesday and continue through Thursday afternoon. Motorists should plan for 10-to-15-minute delays, full stops and one-lane alternating traffic guided by flaggers between 6:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

SLV WEATHER

Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 80/50

Sat: Chance of Afternoon Showers, Gusty Winds 79/48

Sun: Chance of Afternoon Showers, Breezy 77/46

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Rural Philanthropy Days coming to SLV

A crucial conference for nonprofits in the valley

STAFF REPORT

MONTE VISTA — Once every four years, a stunning event takes place where Colorado funders and grantmakers trek to the San Luis Valley for the Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD) conference, a three-day event

that creates the opportunity for rural nonprofits to connect with foundations and funding sources in order to build nonprofit capacity, foster and grow relationships and fuel regional collaboration that leads to increased grant dollars being awarded to rural communities like those found in the San Luis Valley.

This year, the Community Resource Center, who organizes and oversees the RPD events, anticipates more than 75 funders and grantmakers will come to the Valley. The confer-

ence, which runs from Sept. 11 to Sept. 13, will be held at the Ski-Hi Complex in Monte Vista with evening receptions in downtown Alamosa.

It's difficult to overestimate how valuable this event is for those in the nonprofit sector, not only because of the extraordinary opportunity to connect with new and different funding resources but also for nonprofit professionals, grantmakers, community leaders, distinguished speakers, and

■ See **DAYS** page 3



Courtesy photo

The Cruces Basin wetlands area will be discussed at a public meeting in Antonito on Tuesday, Aug. 27, at 6 p.m. at the Chavez Southwest Market, 611 Main St.

Cruces Basin wetlands meeting in Antonito

'We fight for clean, drinkable, fishable, swimmable waters'

By **JOHN WATERS**
Courier News Editor

ANTONITO — The Amigos Bravos watershed group is holding a wetlands action meeting from 6 to 7 p.m. on Aug. 27 at the Chavez Southwest Market in Antonito.

Come learn about a plan to improve the wetlands for recreation, wildlife,

and fishing in the Cruces Basin Wilderness Area. According to Amigos Bravos, "We fight for clean drinkable, fishable, swimmable waters."

Shannon Romeling, the group's representative said the meeting will include a discussion of a Wetlands Action Plan (WAP), which is a guide for the planning and implementation of projects and activities essential to the understanding, conservation, protection, restoration, and management of wetlands in the area.

The Cruces Basin is in the Carson National Forest in New Mexico, southwest of Antonito. The land is characterized by large meadows and wetlands cut by clear streams. In 1980, the U.S. Congress designated the Cruces Basin Wilderness Area, which is 18,881 acres. The group Wilderness Connect, describes the area as one of the most pristine in New Mexico. The lack of designated trails adds to the area's solitude.

The Wetland Action Plan for the Cruces Basin proj-

ect was granted to Amigos Bravos in September 2023 by the New Mexico Environment Department. The goal is to create a Cruces Basin Wetland Jewel Assessment and Restoration Action Plan that provides a roadmap for restoring the Cruces Basin Wilderness wetlands. As part of this project, a section of the plan will summarize the challenges, opportunities, and steps for conducting restoration in wilderness areas that may be used for future wetland restoration elsewhere.

Saguache County Tourism Council unveils new brand identity

CONTRIBUTED
SAGUACHE COUNTY — The Saguache County Tourism Council (SCTC) recently presented its new brand identity, marking a significant step in its ongoing efforts to enhance and promote the unique attractions of Saguache County. This new identity is a crucial part of the organization's strategy to position the county as a premier destination within Colorado. "Our new brand is more than just a logo; it's a reflection of Saguache

County's vibrant spirit and natural beauty," said Theo Boudreaux, board chair of the SCTC. "We believe this identity will help us stand out and connect more deeply with visitors from across the state and beyond."

The brand draws inspiration from the breathtaking San Luis Valley, incorporating the rich hues of our pristine night skies, towering mountains, and sunlit days. The palette of blue, purple, orange, and yellow echoes the natural splen-

dor of Saguache County, creating a visual identity that is both recognizable and deeply connected to the area's landscape.

Developed as part of the Colorado Tourism Office's Reimagine Destinations Program, this brand revamp was made possible through 100 hours of dedicated administrative support, aiming to enhance SCTC's engagement with local tourism activities and promote responsible visitation. The program includes the new brand identity, the



Mystic Saguache County

"Do SLV Right" campaign promoting visitor responsibility, strengthened community involvement through collaborative workshops, and improved organizational efficiency. In addition to the re-

branding efforts, the tourism council is advancing various initiatives, including the creation of a new TravelStories series, support for Dark Skies, support for the Historic

■ See **BRAND** page 3

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Record

From the Librarian's Desk – New arrivals at the Alamosa Public Library

By MARIA KRAMER ALAMOSA — New books are always coming in at the Alamosa Public Library! Here are 10 of our most intriguing arrivals. For more information, or to have a book reserved for you, check alamosalibrary.org or call 719-589-6592.

Fiction
• A Cage Went in Search of a Bird

What happens when some of the most original literary minds of today take an idea from the work of Franz Kafka and use it to spark something new?

• What We'll Burn Last by Heather Chavez

Sixteen years ago, Grace and her boyfriend Adam disappeared. Leyna, her sister, has never given up hope that Grace is alive. When a wildfire sparks near Leyna's neighborhood, tempers flare. Someone knows what really happened to Grace, and those secrets will turn deadly.

• Blood in the Cut by Alejandro Nodarse

Iggy just got out of prison, to find that his mother has died and his father's business is going under due to some shady dealings. Can Iggy save his family without losing himself forever?

• Inspirational
Her Pretend Amish Beau by Patricia Johns

With four sons and a flower farm, widow Delia Swarey has little time for courtship, though that doesn't stop her boys from rejecting every potential suitor. Elias Lehman is in the same boat with his daughter. Delia and Elias hope that pretending to court each other will teach their children

about opening their hearts. But they could soon learn their own lessons about love.

Mystery
• Good Girl, Bad Girl by Michael Robotham

Evie was found as a child, next to the dead body of the man who had kidnapped her. Starved and abused, she could say nothing about what had happened to her or her life before her captivity. Cyrus Haven is a psychologist helping investigate the murder of a teenage figure skater. When a friend asks him to interview Evie, Cyrus decides to foster her. Can joining forces help them both?

Nonfiction
• Guilty Creatures by Mikita Brottman

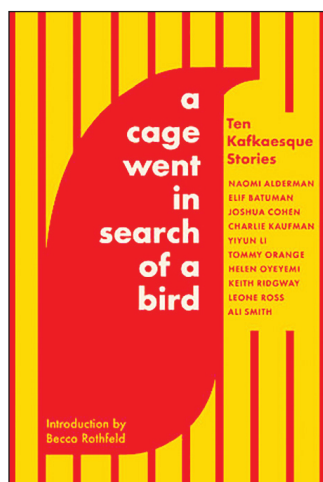
Denise and Brian were hardworking devout Southern Baptists, who, along with their respective spouses, formed a friendship that seemed unbreakable - until December 2000, when Denise's husband disappeared while duck hunting. The death was ruled an accident. Then, in 2018, Brian confessed to murdering Denise's husband.

• My Beloved Monster by Calen Carr

Caleb Carr, author of "The Alienist", tells the extraordinary story of Masha, a half-wild rescue cat who fought off a bear, tackled Caleb like a linebacker - and bonded with him as tightly as any cat and human possibly can.

• Smoke and Ashes by Amitav Ghosh

While conducting research for his fiction, Amitav Ghosh was startled to realize just how much the lives of his nineteenth-



century characters were dictated by one commodity - opium. Ghosh found opium at the origins of some of the world's biggest corporations, several of America's most powerful families and institutions, and contemporary globalism itself.

• Daughter of the Korean Freud by Heawon Hake

When Haewon Hake left South Korea as a young adult, she dedicated herself to helping people through psychotherapy. But one client's story would cause the successful counselor to relive the years of abuse she suffered as a child.

• American Anarchy by Michael Willrich

In the early twentieth century, anarchists championed a radical vision of a world without states, laws, or private property. Militant and sometimes violent, anarchists were heroes to many working-class immigrants. Determined to crush it, government officials launched a decades-long "war on anarchy," a brutal program of spying, censorship, and deportation that set the foundations of the modern surveillance state.



Photo by Marie Mccolm

People getting dinner from Center Consolidated School District staff during the community open house on Aug. 15.

Center Consolidated School District hosts community open house

By MARIE MCCOLM

CENTER – More than 200 people attended the community open house on Thursday, Aug. 15, at the Center Consolidated School District.

The school district hosted the open house with the hope that students would encourage their parents to attend and meet their teachers, and the staff at the school.

The open house had teachers and staff spread out all along the outside of the main buildings, sitting in chairs, with long tables. Dinner was provided for anyone that attended at no charge, featuring hamburgers, chips, water, and cookies.

Students walked all over, socializing with their friends and teachers. There were kids playing football out on the football field. There were kids chasing each other, talking and laughing.

Many parents attended and spoke with teachers and different staff members.

School board president Kimberley Duran said, "This is wonderful,

I mean this is just great.

I like seeing the football players out there, seeing the parents come in. I know tonight they are giving some prizes; they are giving away T-shirts. Everyone has gotten together tonight to meet the faculty and mingle with parents and students, too. I can't remember having anything like this when I was younger. I have been here my whole life, and we have never had anything like this. This is really something great for the kids and the faculty and parents. There's great food here, you can come sit down, talk to everybody at the school, about school. It's just a really great event that we put on here. The cooks have done a great job with the food for everyone tonight, too."

Jasmine Pena, a mother with children enrolled in the Center schools, also said the event was great.

"My kids are having a lot of fun. As a mother, it's nice to see parents coming out, and wanting to meet their kids' teachers and to talk about the upcoming school year. Education is

so important to me. I want to make sure that my children get a good education when they go to school. I think this is an important night for first impressions, for parents to really see where the child is going to go to school and get a feel for their teachers. We are having fun and eating dinner and just enjoying the atmosphere tonight. As a parent, it's nice to see us all here, you can tell so many other parents really care about their children too. This is just wonderful," she said.

Christine Mikeljack, a teacher in the district, said, "We do this every year, and every year it seems to just grow. There are a lot of parents who come out and meet us all, and I think it just gives them an overall calm outlook for the year ahead for their children. We really enjoy meeting the parents as well. I think this is an important night, and we are very happy with the turnout this evening. We want to thank everyone for coming. We are all happy to participate. Here's to another great school year."

OBITUARY

Chris Bybee



accomplished rodeo photographer.

Chris was proficient on the piano, flute, and piccolo. She graduated from Alamosa High School in 1968, and attended Brigham Young University. She was a regular at the western dances there.

Chris married Joe Bybee and they raised their three sons in Spanish Fork, Utah. They bred and trained registered Quarter Horses, and owned and operated a custom log furniture business and dog grooming service. They were a western family with a country way of life on the outskirts of town. Joe and Chris had a close and personal relationship with the Savior.

Chris was known for her common sense. She always had a simple answer for a problem to be solved, a situation to be

helped, a need to be filled. And Mexican food was the solution to just about anything.

They retired to a mountain setting in Birdseye, Utah, just up the road from Fairview and Manti where her Berthelson and Christensen forebears once lived. Joe passed away unexpectedly in 2012. Chris moved to Lehi, Utah, and worked in telecommunications, retiring in 2024 after eleven years with DirecTV and Comcast Corporation.

Living in her memory are their sons and grandchildren (all in Utah): Aren (Jenny) Bybee with children Kellen, Carson, and Taylor of Elk Ridge; Bron (Leona) Bybee with children Stetson and Lily of Saratoga Springs; and Cale (Nikki) Bybee with children Melia, Jax, and Alex, of Draper. Chris is also survived by her brother, Eric (Judi) Smith.

A small graveside service will convene at the city cemetery in Annabella, Utah, on August 24, 2024.

The Bybee families give their abundant gratitude to the Suncrest Hospice caregivers in Lehi and the staff at Covington Senior Living.

SLVH RN Archuleta receives DAISY

By SLV HEALTH

ALAMOSA – Rikki Archuleta, a registered nurse in the ICU at SLV Health's Regional Medical Center, is a deserving winner of the DAISY nomination for this quarter for nursing excellence. She exemplifies the DAISY criteria, especially in this submission from a patient's family member.

"Rikki was my brother's nurse when he was hospitalized. Working in healthcare and being the person that was by his side the whole time you can tell who cares and takes pride in their work and who is there basically to collect a check. Rikki was attentive, caring, and thorough. Of all the nurses he had in his long stay also including a trip to Penrose. Rikki was hands down the most amazing nurse he/we were blessed with. She would get on to her shift and be sure he was given a bed bath or when able was able to shower. My brother was in a poor state of mind, she did not treat him any less of a human being. At one point he kept making messes of himself, which Rikki told him I am sorry I know you're in pain but it's important to keep you clean there as you have an open wound and infection there. The fact she took the time to ensure he was clean was huge to me. She remained diligent and kind his whole stay. When they flew him out to Penrose we missed her as she had become a part



Courtesy photo

Rikki Archuleta, a registered nurse in the ICU at SLV Health's Regional Medical Center, adds her name to the wall of DAISY winners at SLVH.

of almost every night and her level of care remained unmatched."

The DAISY Award is an international recognition program started in memory of J. Patrick Barnes. Pat's family experienced first-hand the difference his nurses made in his care through clinical excellence and outstanding compassionate care. The family created The DAISY Award to express gratitude to nurses and to enable other patients, families, and staff to thank and honor their special nurses.

At the celebration event, Archuleta was joined by her husband and daughter, friends, family, and co-workers.

Archuleta is the fifth DAISY recipient at SLV Health.

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School

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BIRTH

Bryan Travis Garcia

Bryan Travis Garcia was born on Aug. 6, 2024, to Brittany Lobato and Leonard Garcia of San Luis. At birth, Bri-

an weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces and was 18 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Jessica Lobato and

Bonifacio Lobato of San Luis. Paternal grandparents are Leonard Garcia of San Luis and Pauline Escareno of Phoenix.

Valley News

Headwaters Music Festival takes stage in Creede

By **LYNDSIE FERRELL**

CREEDE – Creede's annual Headwaters Music Festival is set for this weekend, Aug. 24-25, so it is time to pull out the dancing shoes and catch a tune at Hargraves Park. This music festival features both visiting and local musical talent.

Festival coordinator Bob Holt always has one thing to say when asked about the Headwaters Music Festival and that is that Creede is the music capital of Colorado.

This year's lineup includes Rally Round, Lesli Wood and The Spiceboys, Anthony Garcia and Los Diablos Tejanos, Dan West Band, Beat Root Revival, 2nd Chance, Caldera, Bo Depena Band, Rivertown Folk and The Riffers. This family friendly event is a great way to get out and enjoy some of Creede's epic views, delicious food, and music.

• Rally Round

Hailing from many different places and musical stylings, Rally Round comes together to produce

a fun, danceable mix of reggae covers. They infuse their own style to classic roots reggae like Toots and the Maytals to more modern offerings like Sublime and Slightly Stoopid. Rally Round hopes their cool island rhythms will bring warm vibes to this high mountain town. Featuring the musical stylings of Joe Baker, Malcolm Sneed, John Goss, Steve Baxter, and Steve Reynolds.

• Lesli Wood and the Spiceboys

Leslie Wood and the Spiceboys have been playing around the Austin area and other parts of the country for years. Wood also spends a considerable part of her time studying geology. "When Wood isn't researching shale tectonics and mud volcanoes, she is practicing with her band, The Spice Boys, or creating her own music. Her move to Golden coincided with the band's fourth appearance at the American Association of Petroleum Geologists Annual Convention and Exhibition meeting last summer. It was during those

acoustic folk performances that she began to make connections with other Mines professors. When she saw the job posting for the Robert Weimer Distinguished Professor of Sedimentology and Petroleum Geology at Mines, applying for it was a no-brainer."

• Anthony Garcia and Los Diablos Tejanos

Located in the Austin and greater Austin area, the group first performed together in April 2021. Since then, the band has performed in various venues and festivals in and around the Austin and Hill Country area and Europe. The group just completed a tour through Germany and Switzerland in August. Past festivals and shows have included Old Settlers Music Festival, and the Luckenbach Main Stage.

• Dan West

Music at its best is an outpouring of emotion. Dan West is exceptional at capturing the emotion of a song and sharing it with the audience. Dan West is a singer that has been per-

forming for over 30 years. Focusing on older classic country and his own original songs. Often compared to Don Williams, Dan West presents a variety of original and cover tunes. His soothing voice is easy to listen to and brings joy to your soul. Come out to Dan and his band and you will leave with a smile on your face.

• Beat Root Revival

It is a multi-instrumentalist roots duo, combining elements of Folk, Blues, Country, and Rock n Roll to create a melodic sound, made up of powerhouse harmonic vocalists Andrea Magee and Ben Jones. Originally from England and Ireland, Ben Jones and Andrea Magee came to the USA 4 years ago like their ancestors before them, looking for a new life and to share their music far and wide. With just a guitar, a Bodhran and a hunger in their harmonies and songs, Austin, Texas became their adopted home, and they have developed an ever-growing fan base gigging regularly while writing prolifically.



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

The annual Headwaters Music Festival will kick off this Saturday in Creede, bringing musical talents to the stage for another year.

The band's CD sales are higher than any other support act we've had at our label in years, and they just recorded three brand new songs with legendary producer Paul Leary (Sublime, Slightly Stoopid, Ballyhoo!, Meat Puppets, Butthole Surfers), which includes a great rendition of Thunderclap Neman's, "Something In The Air."

• Bo DePeña Band

Somewhere between the concrete jungle of New York City and the dirt road expanse of the West, re-

sides the "American Roots" music of Bo DePeña. With a blended sound of blues, country, folk, and hints of rock 'n roll, the singer, songwriter, and performer is a troubadour, telling the tales of America's backbone.

2nd Chance, Caldera, Rivertown folk and The Riffers are all sure to keep the rhythm moving throughout the entire weekend.

For more information or a full line-up and schedule of events, visit www.headwatersmusicfestival.com.

Colorado River 'positive' for invasive zebra mussels as wildlife officials hunt for source

By **CHASE WOODRUFF**

Colorado Newsline

Colorado Parks and Wildlife officials have launched an extensive monitoring and public outreach plan following the detection of invasive zebra mussel larvae in several locations along the Colorado River near Grand Junction last month. But their next steps will depend on what they learn about the extent and the source of the invasive population, which could pose an "extreme risk" to local ecosystems and water utilities.

"If they are in a small pond, as an example, there is a completely different arsenal of tools that we may

have in our tool belt to try to address that situation than if they are in an open water system like the Colorado River," Robert Walters, CPW's invasive species program manager, told a committee of state lawmakers on Wednesday. "Until we identify the source of the population, it's really difficult to say what those control options might be."

Zebra mussels are dangerous to water ecosystems because they strip plankton, an essential food source, from the water. Additionally, they can threaten water supplies and irrigation systems by impeding or stopping water flows and attaching to infrastructure,

causing millions of dollars in damages and increased maintenance costs.

The fingernail-sized mussels, which are native to the Black and Caspian seas, are "almost impossible to eradicate" once a population is established, CPW officials say. The species has impacted ecosystems in the Great Lakes region since the late 1980s, and has subsequently spread throughout many parts of the United States by attaching to boats and other aquatic equipment.

Walters said that after additional sampling in the last few weeks, the agency now considers the Colorado River to be "positive" for

zebra mussels. CPW previously deemed the river and the Government Highline Canal, a 55-mile-long irrigation project that diverts some of the river's water to farms in the Grand Valley, "suspect" after initial testing detected zebra mussel DNA in early July. The total number of locations where the species has been detected is now seven.

"Our focus now is really on the monitoring," Walters said. "We want to know where these are coming from and how far they have spread here in the state, as that is going to influence our long-term planning."

The agency is coordinating its response with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which owns the Highline Canal, along with the Army Corps of Engineers, which is conducting a "west-wide boater movement study" to identify how and where contaminated boats may have entered Colorado waterways. Public awareness campaigns and a network of inspection and decontamination stations at popular boating sites are key prevention strategies, Walters said. A 10-second high-pressure spray of hot water is enough to kill and remove zebra mussels that have attached to a boat.

CPW urges anyone using the Colorado River to clean, drain, and dry their vessels and equipment — includ-

ing boats, rafts, kayaks, paddle boards and fishing equipment — after they leave the water.

So far, no adult zebra mussels have been found in the Colorado River, Walters said — only so-called veligers, the species' larval form. Public education and awareness will be critical to minimizing the impacts of what for now is a "very low density of veligers that we are detecting," he said.

"We have had zero positive detection since those last ones in the middle of July," Walters added. "That doesn't mean we aren't continuing to look. We are out there every single week collecting additional samples, trying to identify where these are coming from."

Farmer

■ Continued from Page 1

The SLV Farmer-to-Farmer Field Day begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 24. Group transportation is also provided, with attendees taking off and returning from the USDA Service Center, located on the southwest corner of County Road 10 North and Highway 285 near the town of Center.

To RSVP, contact Mattea Freel at 970-371-0687 or Seth Armentrout at 719-289-7322.

This educational experience is being offered at no charge.



Days

■ Continued from Page 1

elected officials to exchange knowledge and establish meaningful relationships across their professional networks in the region.

The conference also offers professional development, educational opportunities, and relevant panel discussions pertaining to the promises and obstacles of operating a nonprofit in the San Luis Valley region.

Featured events include facilitated tours in the San Luis Valley, a regional town hall, a panel discussion highlighting actionable change told through lived experiences, networking receptions, and capacity building sessions on the economic impact of nonprofits, building effective coalitions, and intersectionality in the nonprofit sector.

During the San Luis Valley Nonprofit Community Fair on September

11, regional nonprofits and local governments will have the opportunity to host a table where their peers, statewide leaders, and funders can approach them to connect and learn more about their work. Through this session, funders and nonprofit organizations have the opportunity to develop a mutual understanding of one another in a relaxed environment.

"Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD) conferences stand as flagship events in rural Colorado", says CRC Co-Board Chair, Leslie Baldwin. "These conferences are born out of collaboration with community leaders, fostering dialogue and tackling key topics shaped by their firsthand experiences. This platform allows nonprofit professionals to engage directly with statewide funders, partake in professional development opportunities, and connect with fellow community leaders from across the region. Whether aiming to lay

the groundwork for new initiatives or amplify existing efforts, RPD offers a vital space for networking and growth."

Jason Medina, Executive Director of the Community Foundation of the San Luis Valley notes that "Rural Philanthropy Days are the perfect opportunity for urban nonprofit funders to gain a deeper understanding of rural challenges and opportunities, build relationships with local leaders and communities, and address the unique needs of rural nonprofits. This allows funders to build more inclusive and effective funding strategies, to make more sustainable and meaningful impact, and to promote greater equity in their investments in rural work."

"This conference is so important because of its lasting impact," said event Co-Chair, Karla Shriver. "Participants learn new skills, network with other non-profit leaders, governmental

staff, business leaders and potential funders from all over the state. You can draw a direct line from the impact of this conference to increased support for non-profits and individuals living in the San Luis Valley."

Registration is currently open and those who are interested should go to <https://crcamerica.org/programs/rural-engagement/regional-websites/san-luis-valley/2024-slv-rpd-workshops-and-speakers/>.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

Trinity Lutheran School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Brand

■ Continued from Page 1

Hot Springs Loop, active participation in the San Luis Valley Tourism Association, and the "Care for Colorado" program. Moreover, the council is excited to announce a \$20,000 grant from the CTO to enhance trail signage across the county and install visitor kiosks in partnership with the BLM and US Forest Service.

The tourism council has grant funding available to individuals and organi-

zations for marketing and promoting public-facing events that are held within the county.

To view the new brand in action, learn about the "Do SLV Right" principles, apply for a tourism grant, or learn more about our ongoing efforts, visit Mystic-Colorado.com. We encourage those interested in joining our efforts to connect with us at info@mystic-colorado.com.

The SCTC is an all-volunteer board of community members dedicated to promoting and supporting tourism in

Saguache County. Current board members are Theo Boudreaux (Chair), Christine Gydesen (Vice Chair), Andy Hackbarth, Faith O'Reilly, and Kairina Danforth. The SCTC wished to extend its deep appreciation to Vivia Lawson and Ed Sparbaro, who recently retired from the board after many years of dedicated service. Ameille Warner serves as marketing and administrative consultant. Anyone who has an interest in joining the board can reach out at info@mystic-colorado.com.

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Opinion

Bear-ly made it

This past weekend Ol' Dutch got a coveted invitation for a bear hunting trip down into the storied State of New Mexico around Cimarron, which in name alone has always been connected to stories about the Old West.

This was not the normal type of hunt for Ol' Dutch because these young hunters use dogs to chase the bears. Before you get your panties in a bunch and say "poor old bears" let me tell you something. These bears are street smart and as hard to find as a wife in a department store with a new credit card.

Let me start at the beginning. Somewhere up on a mesa south of Cimarron, we set up camp after I, with my ATV on the truck, made the drive up an impassable road. All I can say is if the road to Hell was that bad, very few would ever enter into that dreaded place.

I finally arrived and joined in the camaraderie of a typical hunting camp. This was my first time being around bear hounds and so I was looking forward to hearing them bay and maybe even tree a poor old bear. Little did I know that I would become the "designated driver" of the two young girls that came with their daddies to hunting camp. One, my 12-year-old granddaughter and the second, the daughter of the lead "bear man."

When Ol' Dutch decided to get an ATV years ago, I was single at the time so getting a two-seater seemed like the best way to get a woman to ride along on trips in the mountains – and maybe, even the trip through life. And that's how I found

Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick



myself hauling around two giggle boxes all over hell's half acre being their babysitter while their dads hunted.

Typically, the day started at first light when we all loaded up and drove the roads looking for bear tracks. The idea is that the dogs would bark and bay should we find a fresh track deposited during the night. Then, they would be turned loose, and the chase would begin.

I have alluded to the horrible road to get to camp but let me tell you something, the roads we took every day looking for tracks would make the camp road embarrassed in comparison. I am used to rocky roads here in Colorado, but these were a jumbled-up mess of lava-created-disaster. We did find some bears eventually after miles of butt-jarring and back-wrenching riding around, but those bears must have taken lessons from Harry Houdini himself as they slipped by those hounds as easily as he did from handcuffs.

While the bear hunt disappointed, one thing that didn't was sleeping under the stars without a tent for the first time in memory. Son #1, Bub's, brought along an inflatable bed and put that in the back of his truck. And we climbed up there and took out our sleeping bags and suddenly were rewarded with the most wondrous view of the heavens I have ever seen.

Being far from any outside light sources, the view was amazing, and the clear nights gave us an unparalleled view of God's handwork. I can honestly say I have never slept that good in probably all my life and Miss Trixie may start having to sleep alone as I am a new fan of outdoor living.

All that fun time at my age comes at a price and I am as sore as a bull that has been bit by a herd of bumble bees and about as grouchy, too. I have places hurting on my body I didn't know existed, but it is a good sign that I am still alive and kicking, I suppose. The fun

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."

times came to an end soon enough and we all returned to our abodes safe and sound but with tags unfilled.

Ol' Dutch felt thankful to have been able to keep up with the youngsters for two days and was really feeling pretty good about myself. That is until they all said they would be back next weekend for more of the same and wanted me to be sure and come along.

So at least I fooled all of them and will have to beg off on the next bear chase. Maybe. Because by next weekend my weak memory will have forgotten the pains and the roads will have gotten less bad, and it will be off to the races again. Maybe.

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

Kamala Harris, Joe Biden and the border

By BYRON YORK

If the Trump campaign has any say in it, Americans should learn the name of Gianfranco Torres-Navarro. According to U.S. authorities, Torres-Navarro is the leader of a Peruvian crime gang and is thought to be personally responsible for 23 murders. He is a notorious figure in Peru, where he is known as "Gianfranco 23," clearly "a reference to the number of people he is alleged to have killed," according to the Associated Press. He has a girlfriend who, also according to AP, "has a sizable following on the social media platform TikTok where she showed off their lavish lifestyle, including designer clothes, resort vacations and shooting targets at a gun range." Not to put too fine a point on it, but Torres-Navarro's gang is known as "Los Killers."

Here's why Americans should know who he is. Recently Torres-Navarro was arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Endicott, New York, a village with a population of 13,667 about 190 miles north of New York City. Given that he is a wanted man, wanted for very serious crimes in Peru, one might ask how he made it to the United States.

The answer is: He just walked in. In May, Torres-Navarro crossed illegally into the United States near Roma, Texas, in the Rio Grande border sector. He was arrested by U.S. authorities who then ... let him go. Like millions of other illegal crossers, he was given a "notice to appear" before an immigration judge at some point far in the future, and then

sent on his way.

The presence of Torres-Navarro in the United States, free to go as he pleases, was a direct result of the border policies of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris. You've heard about their policy of allowing millions into the U.S. unvetted. This is that policy in action. Torres-Navarro is the face of that policy. He is a one-man, walking illustration of the dangerous nature of the Biden-Harris border.

Wait a minute, some Democrats might say. Are you arguing that every person who crosses the border illegally is a murderer? Of course not. What the Torres-Navarro case shows is that U.S. authorities, under Biden and Harris, are not really checking anybody. If they let a man wanted for 23 murders through, they'll let anybody through. And indeed, they do.

We've all seen the examples of horrendous crimes committed by people who crossed illegally into the U.S. during the Biden-Harris years. "In three and a half years, the Biden-Harris administration has released more than 5.4 million illegal aliens into the United States, with an additional at least 1.9 million known 'gotaways' escaping into the country," says a newly released report from the House Judiciary Committee. That's 7.3 million people so far in this administration.

As this newsletter noted just a few days ago: "The migrants have spread into cities and towns across the country, burdening municipalities struggling to house and feed them. Some have commit-

ted horrendous crimes. Culturally, on top of the nation's existing immigration process, it is a bad idea to let in so many unassimilated migrants so quickly, since it overwhelms the country's ability to turn them into Americans. And most fundamentally, the border rush represents an offense against the nation's sovereignty and the rule of law." Entirely apart from the basic principle that we shouldn't let mass murderers in, those are all serious considerations.

We've also seen that Biden and Harris have changed the face of illegal immigration. Where at various times in the past the dominant countries of origin were Mexico or the Northern Triangle, now authorities are seeing more and more illegal crossers from China, Turkey, and a number of countries in Africa, South America and beyond. When they are admitted into the United States, like Torres-Navarro, it's safe to say U.S. authorities don't know who they are. Among the 7.3 million illegal crossers Biden and Harris have released into the United States "are 375 illegal aliens on the U.S. government's terrorist watchlist," according to the Judiciary Committee. "That is a more than 3,000% increase of watch-listed alien encounters compared to all four years of the Trump administration."

Torres-Navarro was presumably not on the terrorist watch list. He is just a cold-blooded mass killer involved in standard gang crimes. One might think that would be plenty of reason to keep him out of the United States, but he was ushered right in.

And that is why Americans should know about Torres-Navarro. He is in the United States because of the way Biden and Harris chose to run the U.S.-Mexico border. And he is in custody through the work of an agency, ICE, that Harris wanted to "re-examine" and profoundly change, "starting from scratch," in light of her goal of decriminalizing illegal crossings into the United States. The border should be a major issue in this presidential campaign, and the story of Gianfranco Torres-Navarro is part of it.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.

Write them

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LETTER

Is it time for Veterans to march on Denver?

Editor,

Lots of talk about Veterans these days, both on the National and Local level. Since the San Luis Valley's Senator Cleave Simpson and Representative Matthew Martinez are both Veterans, what have they done for

lately?

The VA Office of Inspector General (OIG) reports Eastern Colorado Health Care has been killing Veterans. Colorado Division of Veterans Affairs has been disrespecting and under serving Veterans. When is enough enough?

In 1932, Veterans marched on Washington DC. Is it time for Veterans to march on Denver?

Richard Nagley
President Veterans Coalition of the San Luis Valley

Keith R Cerny
Publisher

Brian Williams
Managing Editor

Valley Courier

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Lifestyles



Courtesy photos

Gallerio Grande of South Fork is an art gallery dedicated to showcasing the bronze sculptures of R. Clay Booth.

Discover the essence of the West at Gallerio Grande in South Fork

CONTRIBUTED SOUTH FORK — South Fork has a new destination for art enthusiasts and lovers of the American West. Gallerio Grande, 30635 Highway 160, is a premier art gallery dedicated to showcasing the fine bronze sculptures of R. Clay Booth that capture the spirit and traditions of the western frontier.

Gallerio Grande is an extension of Booth Sculpture, known for its exceptional bronze sculptures and large monuments. The new gallery is not just a place to view art; it's an immersive experience into the rich history and culture that shaped the American West.

With a focus on western traditions, the new gallery features work that tell stories of rugged landscapes, iconic figures, and the untamed wilderness.

The gallery is complemented by an active online presence through its website, boothsculpture.com, where visitors can explore the collection and learn more about the artists and their creations. Additionally, its social media platforms on Facebook and Instagram are updated daily, providing followers with the latest photos, updates, and information about upcoming exhibits and events.

"We invite the community and visitors alike to explore Gallerio Grande, where art meets history at the headwaters of



the Rio Grande. Join us in celebrating the timeless beauty of the West through the eyes of artist R. Clay Booth," organizers stated.

The gallery also houses Steffens and Company Realty, Helmstetter Architecture, and Zorro Construction, making it a one-stop destination for anyone looking to settle in South Fork.

"Whether you're searching for land, planning a dream home, or looking to fill your space with stunning art, Gallerio Grande has it all," organizers stated.

For more information, visit boothsculpture.com and follow them on Facebook and Instagram.



Keep Colorado Wild Pass raises \$39.7M for Colorado state parks, search and rescue teams, and avalanche safety

CONTRIBUTED DENVER — More than 1.5 million Coloradans opted to buy a Keep Colorado Wild Pass during its first full year of being on sale, which generated \$39.7 million to support Colorado state parks and outdoor first responders.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) set a goal to raise at least \$36 million annually from pass sales. The first \$32.5 million will go toward state park maintenance and development; the next \$2.5 million will go toward search and rescue teams, and \$1 million will go to the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC). Any revenue beyond that will go to wildlife projects and outdoor educational programs.

CPW and the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) launched the new \$29 Keep Colorado Wild Pass in Jan. 2023. The first fiscal year of Keep Colorado Wild Pass sales ended on June 30, 2024, with revenue reaching \$39.7 million.

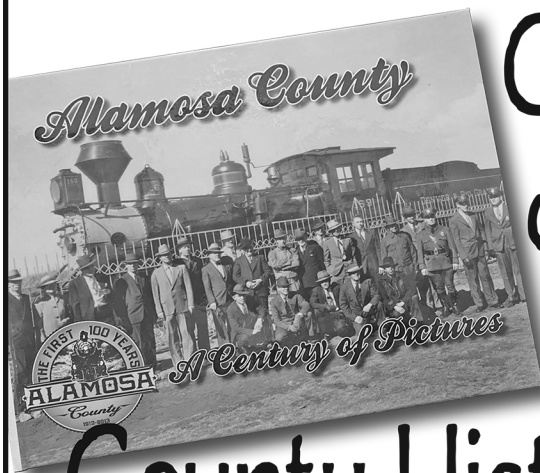
CPW presented the final revenue numbers for fiscal year 2023 at the Aug. 24 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting held in Colorado Springs. "We're excited to report on the Keep Colorado Wild Pass's success during its first year of operations," said CPW Chief Financial Officer Justin Rutter. "This is a substantial increase in revenue for our agency compared to previous years, which means our state parks, wildlife, search and rescue volun-

teers, and avalanche forecasters will get a boost in funding in the coming year too."

The Keep Colorado Wild Pass offers a 60 percent savings compared to a traditional \$80 annual state park pass and provides car, bike, and foot entry into all Colorado state parks.

Residents can get or opt out of the pass annually when registering a passenger vehicle, light truck, motorcycle, or recreational vehicle with the DMV. When a resident buys a Keep Colorado Wild Pass, the DMV prints a Colorado Parks and Wildlife logo on your vehicle registration card, which serves as the park pass to present at entrance stations to enter a state park.

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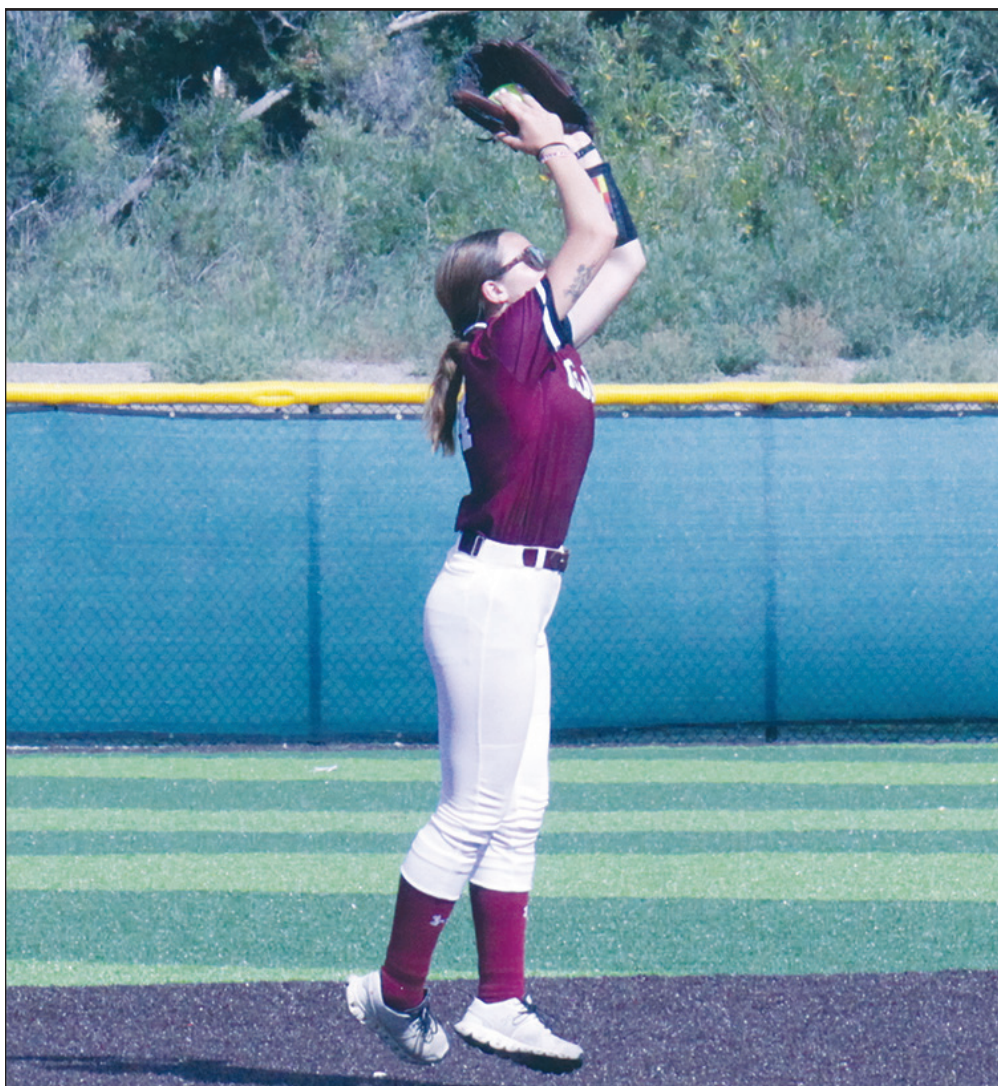
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Sports



Courier photo by Ken Hamrick

Alamosa High School second baseman Taryn Kreps-Smith catches a pop fly in Tuesday's game against Durango. The Lady Mean Moose defeated the Lady Demons 17-11.

Lady Moose hold off Durango in season opener

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

ALAMOSA – The Alamosa High School softball team took a big lead early in its season opener against Durango Tuesday at the Adams State University softball field.

The Lady Demons came back to tie the score, but the Lady Mean Moose struck late and came away with a 17-11 win.

Durango took the early lead with a run in the top of the first inning. However, Alamosa scored 10 times in its half of the frame.

After a 90-minute weather delay, the Lady Demons scored four runs in the second. They scored five more in the third to tie the score at 10-10.

The Lady Mean Moose regained the lead with a run in the bottom of the third. They scored three runs in both the fifth and sixth innings.

Durango scored once in the top of the seventh.

Shea Jordan started the game as the Lady Mena Moose's pitcher. She gave up 10 runs, with five of them earned, and eight hits. She struck out one, walked four and hit two batters.

Olivia Castillo finished the game and took the win. She allowed one run and eight hits and struck out two and walked none.



The Mean Moose had 16 hits. Taryn Kreps-Smith went 3-3 with a double and one RBI, Hallie Dupont went 3-4 with a triple and three RBIs, Kennedy Hillis went 3-4 with one RBI, Shaya Martin went 2-3 with one RBI, and Araceli Molina went 2-4 with a triple and four RBIs.

Myissa Duran hit a home run for the Lady Moose.

Alamosa (1-0) will play at the Platte Valley Invitational in Kersey this weekend. On Friday, the Lady Mean Moose will play Greeley Central at 1 p.m. and Yuma at 5 p.m. On Saturday, they will face Platte Valley at 9 a.m. and The Academy at 1 p.m.

Alamosa 17, Durango 11
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Glueck (W) and K. Trujillo. Jordan, Castillo (3, W) and Quinlan. HR - A: Duran.

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Sports Bulletin

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

SCOREBOARD

TUESDAY
Prep girls softball
Alamosa 17, Durango 11

THURSDAY
Prep girls volleyball
Primero at Sangre de Cristo - late
Salida at Center - late

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY
Prep cross country
Alamosa, Centauri at Cheyenne Mountain Stampede (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.

SATURDAY
Prep girls softball
Alamosa at Platte Valley (Platte Valley Invitational), 9 a.m.
Alamosa vs. The Academy (Platte Valley Invitational), 1 p.m.
Prep girls volleyball
Creede, Mountain Valley at Crested Butte Invitational, 9 a.m.
La Veta, Rocky Ford at Del Norte, 9 a.m.
Hoehne, La Junta, Monte Vista, Pueblo Central, Sargent at Monte Vista tri-meet, 9 a.m.
Center, La Veta, Mitchell, Nucla, Sierra Grande at Sangre de Cristo, 10 a.m.
Centauri at Lamar, 11 a.m.
Gunnison at Sanford, noon
Antonito at Hanover Invitational, TBA

MONDAY
Prep boys golf
Alamosa at Pueblo South Invitational (at Elmwood Golf Course), 8:30 a.m.
Alamosa at Durango Invitational, TBA
Prep boys soccer
Salida at Alamosa, 6 p.m.
College men's soccer

TUESDAY
Prep boys golf
Alamosa, Monte Vista at Montezuma-Cortez Invitational (at Conquistador Golf Course), 9 a.m.
Prep girls softball
Alamosa at Pueblo Centennial (at Runyon Sports Complex, Pueblo), 5 p.m.
Prep girls volleyball
Manitou Springs at Alamosa, 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
Prep boys golf
Alamosa, Del Norte, Monte Vista at Pagosa Springs Invitational, 9 a.m.

THURSDAY
Prep boys golf
Monte Vista at Canon City Invitational (at Four Mile Ranch Golf Club), 9 a.m.
Prep girls softball
Alamosa at Sierra, 4 p.m.
Prep girls volleyball
Crested Butte at Center, 4 p.m.
Del Norte at Ignacio, 4:30 p.m.
Sanford at Monte Vista, 5 p.m.

Eastern Arizona at Adams State (exhibition), 2 p.m.

Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF LA JARA is accepting applications for **POLICE CHIEF**. The successful candidate shall plan and administer the law enforcement program and activities of the town and do related work as required. Minimum qualifications include a degree in law enforcement, Colorado POST Certification, and extensive and increasingly responsible experience in law enforcement work including supervisory experience. Thorough knowledge of the principles, problems and techniques of municipal police administration; thorough knowledge of the technical and operating practices and methods of law enforcement and crime prevention. Must have ability to handle firearms and maintain certification and firearms proficiency in accordance with Colorado POST regulations. Applicants must complete a background check, drug screening and have a current psychological evaluation. The Town of La Jara offers a competitive compensation package that includes health, dental and vision insurance; retirement through FPPA; and paid time off. Salary range from \$55,000 to \$65,000. Applications may be picked up at La Jara Town Hall, 221 Broadway. Applications accepted until filled. (9/4/24)

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THE COLORADO DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES is now taking applications for the position of **WELL COMMISSIONER** in **ALAMOSA**. This position works in the Alamosa DWR Office and evaluates well permit applications, conditions new permits based upon state statutes and rules, provides the public and other entities with information regarding wells and groundwater, and investigates and reports on groundwater use in the San Luis Valley. The ideal candidate will have previous permitting and water administration related experience, knowledge and understanding of groundwater in the Rio Grande Basin, and have excellent written and oral communication skills. Please see the full position announcement at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/colorado> for benefits, salary, minimum qualifications, and to apply. (8/24/24)

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THE CITY OF ALAMOSA is seeking an **EQUIPMENT OPERATOR** dedicated to maintaining and improving our community's infrastructure. This position is in the **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**. The ideal candidate is a skilled heavy equipment operator who will help keep our streets safe and functional for all residents. As a Streets Equipment Operator, you will be responsible for operating and maintaining a variety of heavy machinery used in road construction, repair, and maintenance. You will work on tasks such as paving, grading, and excavation, ensuring that all work is performed to the highest standards of quality and safety. 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 \$25.41 - \$26.68** 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. (8/28/24)

221 - HELP WANTED

THE CITY OF ALAMOSA POLICE DEPARTMENT is seeking a full-time dedicated and experienced **PROGRAM MANAGER** to oversee our **CO-RESPONDER & 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)

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Classifieds

221 - HELP WANTED

OPTIMAL HOME HEALTH CARE is seeking a **PHYSICAL THERAPIST** who will be responsible for providing comprehensive physical therapy services to patients in their place of residence. We provide exceptional, individualized home healthcare to improve their overall wellness in the comfort of their homes. This position offers complete flexibility and upward mobility. Our work environment includes: Open supportive culture with a vision to provide transformative care to those we serve; Professional level care in a fun environment; Collaborative; Culture of openness and safety. Requirements: To be successful in this role, you should possess the following qualifications: Valid license or certification as a Physical Therapist; Previous experience working in a hospital or healthcare setting preferred; Strong knowledge of medical terminology, anatomy, and physiology; Familiarity with pediatric physical therapy and acute care is a plus; Excellent communication and interpersonal skills to effectively interact with patients and healthcare team members; Ability to work independently as well as collaboratively in a team environment; Strong problem-solving skills and ability to adapt treatment plans based on patient progress. If you are passionate about helping patients regain their mobility and improve their quality of life, we encourage you to apply for this position. We offer competitive pay rates and medical benefits such as medical insurance and paid time off. Join our team of dedicated healthcare professionals. Please contact Audrea Gallegos at 719-580-3226 with any questions or fax resumes to 719-206-3226. Thank You. Job Types: Part-time, PRN. (8/23/24)

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)

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)

GUNBARREL STATION TIRE 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

SLV FEDERAL BANK is now accepting applications for a **TELLER** in our **MONTE VISTA OFFICE**. Applications and position descriptions are available at www.slvfed.bank or at each branch location. Equal opportunity Employer, including considering individuals with Disabilities and Veterans/Affirmative Action Employer. (8/30/24)

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, dtrujiillo@urtigers.co. Applications can be retrieved online at: www.urtigers.co. (9/13/24)

JR/SR HIGH LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER needed at **DEL NORTE JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL**. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License with a secondary Language Arts endorsement. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Annie Hardy, DNHS Principal at ahardy@urtigers.co or contact Mrs. Hardy at 719-657-4020. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online. (9/13/24)

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)

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)

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)

221 - HELP WANTED

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)

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

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

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

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

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)

221 - HELP WANTED

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)

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)

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

SPRINKLER REPAIR & INSTALLATION. Quick Service! Call evenings and 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)

ALFALFA HAY \$7.50 per bale. Call 719-274-0380. (9/13/24)

YARD SALE TO benefit SLV 4H Foundation: Sunday 8/25, 11am-3pm, 247 Bronk, MONTE VISTA! Call 719-580-7838 with questions. (8/24/24)

YARD SALE: SATURDAY, August 24, 8am-1pm, 1730 San Juan, ALAMOSA. (8/24/24)

YARD SALE: LOTS of items, too much to mention. 8/24-25, 8:00am-?, 6 Bell Court, ALAMOSA. (8/24/24)

INSIDE ALL CHURCH Garage Sale: **FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**, 518 First Street, ALAMOSA, August 24, 8-4. Household items, art supplies, clothing, & much more. (8/24/24)

MULT-FAMILY YARD SALE: Saturday, August 24th, 8:00-4:00, 4773 County Road 103 South, ALAMOSA. Adult & kid's clothes, furniture, household items, tools & more. **FRESH BAKED COCONUT CAKE** & cookies for sale! (8/24/24)

ESTATE SALE IN ALAMOSA: Sat/Sun, 8/24 & 8/25, 8am-1pm, household, kitchen items, décor items, clothes, and lots more! East on Hwy. 160, left Pike Ave., left on 1st St., right on Murphy Dr., #712. Rain or shine! (8/24/24)

350 - FARM EQUIPMENT

KRAMER SINGLE 8 row ROUND BALE RETRIEVER. 719-588-0168. (9/21/24)

NEW HOLLAND 688 ROUND BALER. \$8,000. 719-588-0168. (9/21/24)

353 - FARM & LIVESTOCK

NUBIAN BUCKS; IMPROVE your genetics in udder attachment, quality. Born 2023, Tricolored, dehorned, gentle. 719-588-6621, text. (9/25/24)

360 - MISC. FOR SALE

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

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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)

525 - GUNS

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

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

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. \$1975/month, plus utilities. Yearly lease; available now. Contact 719-852-5101 or 719-852-5350. (9/24/24)

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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Kid
 - 4 Most favored
 - 7 Take shape
 - 11 — Lovelace
 - 12 Beehive State
 - 13 Actress — Sedgwick
 - 14 EU nation
 - 15 Wrap-around garment
 - 16 Force
 - 17 Mars neighbor
 - 19 “— of the Fall”
 - 21 Exist
 - 22 Distress
 - 23 Genus of maples
 - 24 Jacuzzi feature
 - 25 — Lanka
 - 28 Musical work
 - 29 Roman household god
 - 30 Highlander
 - 31 Crazes
 - 32 Climbing plant

- 33 Robbers' foes
 - 34 Title for monks
 - 35 Ode title
 - 36 Lesion
 - 37 Container
 - 38 Lid
 - 39 Things held to be true
 - 43 Narcotic drug
 - 46 Winglike
 - 47 — facto
 - 49 Lennon's widow
 - 50 Lean
 - 51 Jib
 - 52 Pen point
 - 53 Mascara target
 - 54 Meas. of time
 - 55 Piggery
- DOWN**
- 1 Storm
 - 2 Concept
 - 3 Fish with fang-shaped teeth
 - 4 School grp.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 5 Actor James — Jones
- 6 Pilfering
- 7 Shipping giant
- 8 Norse god
- 9 Peel
- 10 Citi Field team
- 12 Opera house worker
- 18 Hair lock
- 20 Understand
- 23 On — with
- 24 Island near Bali
- 25 Venomous arachnids
- 26 Lariat
- 27 “— about time!”
- 28 Not right
- 29 Spiny sea creature
- 30 Ladle
- 35 Cravat
- 36 Ottoman
- 37 Maternity ward event
- 39 Sphere
- 40 Lamb's pen name
- 41 Girl
- 42 Box a little
- 44 Military group
- 45 “— -Dick”
- 48 Family mem.

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	

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

HERMAN



“Let’s see. How much rent do you owe me with 17 hotels on Boardwalk?”

Sister’s bird gets the royal treatment

DEAR ABBY: My sister has a squawky bird she insists on keeping alongside the dinner table when she invites guests for dinner. Its ear-piercing screeching inhibits guests’ ability to carry on normal conversation, so I asked her if, in the future, she could please put the bird in another room during dinner. She responded that the bird is a family member. I said, “So are children, but they aren’t permitted to run around the dining table screeching when there is company over.”

This year, when we returned for another dinner, she pulled the bird and its cage even closer to the table and the person sitting next to her than last time. She apparently decided the comfort of her guests is not as important as her closeness to the bird.

I don’t know how to address this in the future when she disregards my feedback. Aside from the squawking, it’s not appealing to have a birdcage pulled up alongside a dinner table, or to have the host constantly distracted and conversation interrupted. What is your advice? -- NERVE-WRACKED IN NEW JERSEY

WRACKED: Because it’s clear your advice wasn’t appreciated, the next time you are invited to a dinner party at your sister’s home, feel free to say you are busy. The only bird at the table should be a nice roasted chicken or a stuffed turkey.

DEAR ABBY: I have my car detailed at a car wash near the beach. When I took my car there, I forgot to remove the spare change I keep for parking meters and laundry machines. When I got my car back, about eight dollars in quarters and dollar coins were missing. Dimes, nickels and pennies were left behind. I emailed the owner the next day.

The owner called me, apologized and refunded the full price of my car detail. I told him the refund wasn’t necessary and that I only wanted him to know what had happened. Because I used the word “steal” in my email, he took offense. I replied on the phone that the money was gone after I got my car back. He said he wished me well, and I replied, “Are you saying you no longer want to do business with me?”

Now I feel bad. I did nothing wrong and only tried to alert him to a problem with his workers. As the saying goes,



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

“No good deed goes unpunished.” What do I do now, or should have I done differently? -- SUFFERING FOR TRYING TO HELP

DEAR SUFFERING: Do not let one bad apple spoil the barrel. Of course you should have informed the owner of the business about what happened. By comping the price of the car wash for your \$8 loss, he did his best to make things right.

If the conversation you had with him was civil, he likely wants you to continue doing business with him. The next time you go in, make a point of smoothing things over. In the future, remember to remove your valuables from the car when you go.

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



BIG NATE



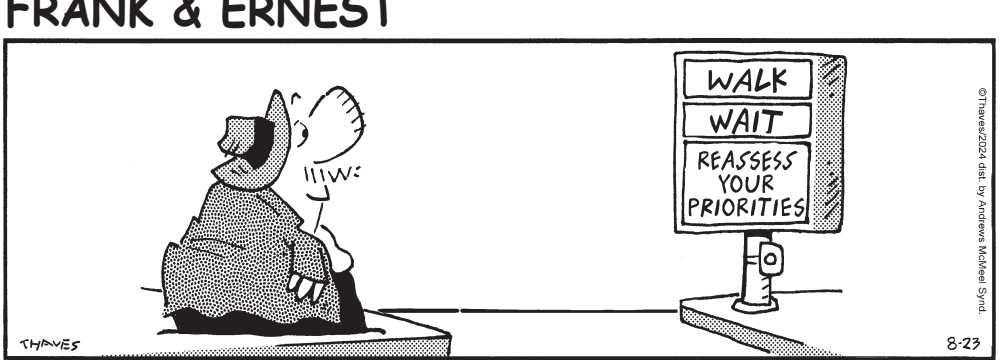
THE BORN LOSER



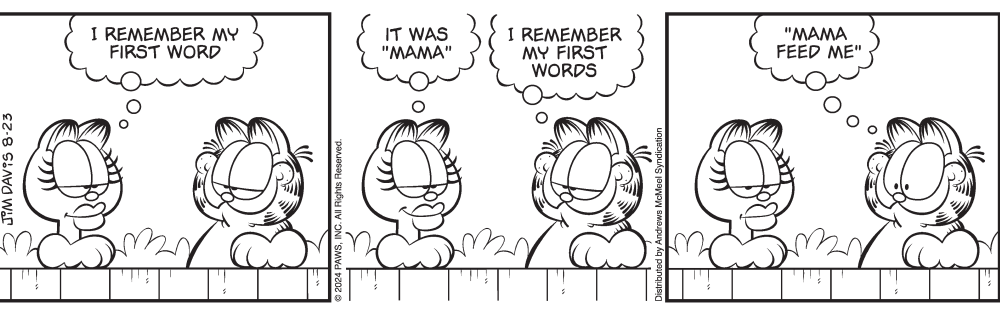
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



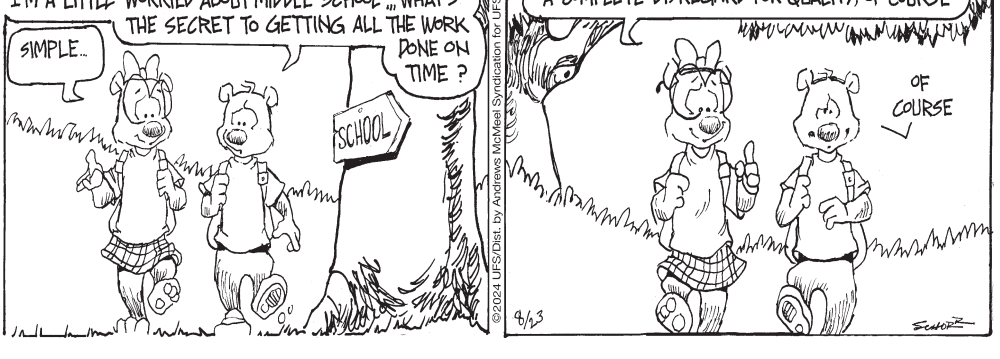
FRANK & ERNEST



GARFIELD



THE GRIZZWELLS



PEANUTS

