



Homelake Veteran Gottlieb celebrates 99th birthday

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Sangre uses balanced attack to sweep Antonito

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# Valley Courier

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

September 13, 2024

\$1

## SLV Today

### SLV Spay and Neuter services available

**ALAMOSA** — Affordable spay and neuter for feral and street cats is available in Alamosa on Sept. 19. On Sept. 20 and 21, affordable spay and neuter for cats and dogs is available.

The services are provided by SLV Spay and Neuter mobile unit and appointments are required, call 719-657-7076 for the location and appointment.

### Steamroller Printmaking Event Sept. 21

**CREEDE** — The Creede Arts Council is hosting its 5th annual Steamroller Printmaking Event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sept. 21. This is an outdoor printmaking event held in Creede.

Artists will have created and carved wooden boards with their own original designs. The day of the event, the boards are inked by hand and placed on the street with paper placed over the boards. Then, a Steamroller (roadbed compactor) will roll over them, pressing the paper onto the board. The resulting outcome is an original fine art print!

Each artist's print will be available for purchase during and after the event, with 50% of profits returning to nonprofit missions of the Creede Arts Council. Local artists participating will include Colleen DeSanto, Jody Stroh, and Amanda Charlton Hurley.

### SLV WEATHER



Wide spread haze, Sunny, Breezy 79/39

Sat: Sunny, Breezy 78/39

Sun: Mostly Sunny, Breezy 76/43

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## Alamosa ARTs Festival starts Friday

### Celebrating art - Alamosa style

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER  
Courier Reporter

**ALAMOSA** — Dynamic. Inspiring. Immersive. Engaging. And, yes, way cool. All words that barely scratch the surface when describing the experience of the Alamosa ARTs Festival, happening this weekend in downtown Alamosa.

Now in its 8th year, the ARTs-Festival starts on Friday with

the ARTScape rotation of sculptures.

The work of 15 chosen artists coming from the San Luis Valley and across the country will be installed in selected locations in downtown Alamosa, replacing sculptures that are currently on display.

Observers are welcome to follow behind and watch the installations, getting a first-hand look at some of the truly stunning art of these extraordinarily talented artists. ARTScape, the traditional (and, in a way, almost cer-

emonial) rotation of the sculptures, starts Friday morning at the corner of State and Main at 7:30 a.m. and goes throughout the day until 4 p.m. (Of course, there's a break for lunch from 12 to 1 p.m. Installing artistic sculptures isn't exactly easy work.)

Then, Friday night, there's the Celebration of Arts Reception

■ See **FESTIVAL** page 3

'Creed de Avanzar' by Samantha Wisener will be on display in front of the Narrow Gauge bookstore.

Courtesy photo



Partners and supporters pose with golden shovels, ready to break ground for the new early childhood learning center to be built by the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley.

## A 'momentous' day

### SLV B&G Clubs breaks ground for early childhood learning center

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER  
Courier Reporter

**ALAMOSA** — After years of gathering data, planning, networking, pitching, applying for grants, and building a strong foundation of community support, a major milestone was celebrated Tuesday evening with

a groundbreaking ceremony for a new early childhood learning center on the property of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley (BGCSLV).

Aaron Miltenberger, BGCSLV president and CEO, and Shirley Valdez, CEO of the Early Childhood Council of the San Luis Valley, largely spearheaded the project alongside, as described by Miltenberger, "a collaborative effort of 19 different prospective partners, including employers, childcare providers, school districts, higher education,

junior colleges, and government partners", forming a coalition of supporters from across the Valley.

"That's one of the things that makes this project so cool," he told the large crowd of local officials, civic leaders and public supporters.

"We knew there was a need, but we didn't understand how significant it was," he said. "Right now, there are 4,000 early childhood eligible children ages zero to six. If afford-

■ See **CENTER** page 3

## Congressional candidate forum with Frisch and Hurd

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER  
Courier Reporter

**ALAMOSA** — The two candidates running to fill the congressional seat vacated by Rep. Lauren Boebert — Democratic nominee Adam Frisch and Republican nominee Jeff Hurd — will be on the same stage on Sept. 18, and voters can hear directly from the candidates themselves about their views on a number

of topics. Thanks to the Colorado's League of Women Voters (LWV), a Congressional District 3 candidate forum is scheduled to take place online where anyone with access to the internet can watch the event.

This is not a debate; candidates will not be taking turns answering the same question but, instead, a forum where a moderator will ask each

candidate a question and the candidate will have a certain amount of time to reply.

If the candidate wants to comment on something his opponent said, that is allowed but that time is deducted from the time he's been allotted to answer.

The Colorado League of Women Voters, a non-partisan, grassroots organization working to pro-



Adam Frisch, Western Slope businessman and Democratic candidate for CD3.



Jeff Hurd, an attorney from Grand Junction and Republican candidate for CD3.

■ See **FORUM** page 3

## Crestone stage pavilion set to shine this weekend

By JOHN WATERS  
Courier News Editor

**SAGUACHE COUNTY** — The 35th Crestone Energy Fair will be held in Crestone this weekend. It will showcase innovative, sustainable, and regenerative ideas in construction, lifestyle, and community.

The event is free and run by volunteers. Most panels and presentations will occur on the Main Stage in the downtown park, the stage is the brainchild of local resident Nick Navares. The fair will also offer home tours, an artisan marketplace, kids' events, and a Wellness Village.

In early 2022, Crestone resident Nick Navares announced

that he had raised an initial \$10,000 needed to begin constructing a new and permanent stage in the town park in the small village's center.

In late June of that year, the

■ See **PAVILION** page 3

**The 35th annual Crestone Energy Fair will take place this weekend. Many of the presentations and panels will be held on the pavilion stage in the town park. The stage has been under construction for over two years and needs donations for competition. Students from the Crestone Charter School painted the pavilion mural several months ago.**

Courier photo by John Waters



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# Record



Photo courtesy of SLVH

Sen. Bennet with CEO Konnie Martin on a recent tour of SLVH's workforce housing project and the Regional Medical Center.

## Senator Bennet Visits SLV Health

By DONNA WEHE  
Director of  
Communication SLV  
Health

ALAMOSA — SLVH hosted Senator Michael Bennet on a tour of the workforce housing project along with a brief tour of the Regional Medical Center in Alamosa on Sept. 3. SLVH received funding to remodel the "Pike Apartments" on the RMC campus from Congressional Directed Spending appropriation.

"Workforce housing has become part of delivering quality health-care in our region," commented CEO Konnie Martin. "With this generous funding, we can create safe, comfortable, affordable housing for our workforce who need to travel here."

When SLVH leader-

ship decided to purchase the 11 apartments on Pike Avenue, they also knew they would be freeing up access to other rental properties in the area. "We know there is a housing shortage in the region, and we wanted to be part of the solution," added COO Christine Hettinger-Hunt.

Traveling providers and nurses have used this space along with new hires who are still looking for a property to rent or purchase. "The units are in high demand. This funding will help us with needed infrastructure needs. We plan to modernize the space and update the HVAC systems along with upgrading the furnishings."

During his visit, Senator Bennet listened to Monica Hinds, SLVH

Director of Emergency Department and OB/Labor and Delivery. They discussed the challenges facing rural emergency departments, the safety of staff, challenges with drugs and treating victims involved in violent events. "We see about 50 patients in our ED every day. We are never closed and do not refuse treatment to anyone. Patients with Behavioral Health issues, whether from addiction, dementia, or other psychological diagnoses, continue to challenge our resources. Our staff is resilient, and we have awesome community partners."

The team at SLV Health appreciated his visit and his interest in the team and in the community.

## OBITUARIES

### Monica Kim Ketcham

Monica Kim Ketcham (Lee), 64, of Los Lunas, New Mexico, former long-time resident of Colorado, passed into eternal rest on September 6th, 2024 after a courageous battle with long-term medical conditions. Born on the 1st of November 1959, Monica — known to most as Kim — was a steadfast beacon of love in the lives of her devoted family as a Wife, Mother, Daughter, Sister, and Mimi.

Kim is lovingly remembered by her husband, Barry Ketcham, with whom she shared a blessed 44 year union filled with unwavering companionship and support. She leaves behind her beloved daughters Jessica Ketcham and Brittany Goering, a cherished granddaughter



Ashlynn Goering who were the light of her life. She is also survived by her father, Dick Lee; her sisters, Cathy Simpson (Cleave) and Denise Lee Marquez, and a host of loving relatives and dear friends. Kim now rejoins in peace with her mother Katie Lou Lee and her brother Steven Lee who preceded her in passage.

A woman of many passions, Kim enjoyed trav-

eling, exploring various food cuisines, reading a wide range of literature, crafting, and gardening, of which many of these were also passed on to her daughters.

The Ketcham family expresses their gratitude for the heartfelt condolences received. Services will be held privately, managed with dignity and care by Noblin Funeral Home, Los Lunas, NM. Internment will be announced at a later date to be held in Alamosa, CO.

Kim's memory will live on in the many lives she touched with her vivaciousness and her enduring love. May she rest in peace.

Flowers or donations in Kim's name can be made to American Heart Association.

### Michael Phillip Lopez

Fort Garland resident Michael Phillip Lopez, 61 was welcomed to his eternal home on Sept. 9, 2024, surrounded by his loving mother.

Michael was welcomed into the world on Feb. 9, 1963, to the late Andrew Lopez and Veronica Poin-dexter in Oakland, Calif. Michael was a very loving and caring son, nephew, cousin, and friend. Michael had many hobbies in his life that he enjoyed in his spare time, surfing, golfing, fishing, riding motorcycles, and the greatest of all was collecting rocks.

He was a family man and enjoyed the time he

was able to spend with each of them. He loved his friends as if they were his own family and would lend the shirt off his back to help anyone in need. Michael will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

His legacy will live on through his beautiful mother Veronica Poin-dexter, granddaughter Andrea Katz, Lifelong friend Greg (Terry) Daniles, Chris Madres, aunt May (Tony) Barbuscia, aunt Liz (Don) Cook, uncle Ben (Ann) Gallegos, uncle Gene Medina, cousin Ken Gallegos, many other cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father Andrew Lopez, two brothers John and Mark Lopez, Son Christopher Fitzgerald, grandparents Joe and Celia Gallegos, aunt Maria Medina, and uncle Eloy Gallegos.

Services for Michael will be held on Sept. 16, 2024, at Church of God Cristo Salva in Alamosa at 1 p.m. Inurnment will follow at the Blanca/Ft. Garland Cemetery.

To leave online condolences, please visit [romerofuneralhomes.com](http://romerofuneralhomes.com). The care of arrangements has been entrusted to Romero Valley Funeral Home of Alamosa.



Photo by Marie Mccolm

Colorado Veterans Community Living Center at Homelake resident Richard Gottlieb celebrated his 99th birthday on Saturday, Sept. 7, at the center.

## Homelake Veteran Gottlieb celebrates 99th birthday

By MARIE MCCOLM  
MONTE VISTA — Richard Gottlieb was all smiles, wearing a golden crown, as he posed for a picture on Sept. 7 next to his chocolate dipped birthday cake, adorned with candles that held the numbers 99.

Gottlieb celebrated his birthday amongst family and friends at the Colorado Veterans Community Living Center at Homelake, where he lives, under a pavilion behind the center. At least 30 people attended the celebration for Gottlieb, including other residents of the center. Live piano music was part of the celebration.

Gottlieb was happy at his party and stated, "I have had a good life. This is the best facility I have ever lived at."

When asked how it feels to be 99, Gottlieb stated with a chuckle, "I am 99, and I feel 99. I never thought I would be this old, but I feel 99."

Gottlieb, who is originally from New York, spoke about his life, and how he came to live in Colorado.

"I am originally from New York, and I went to a very fine school in New York for boys. At that time, it was for boys, but now it's co-ed. It was a six-year school, and when I graduated, I enlisted like I was supposed to. I was in the Air Corps. At the time the Air Force hadn't been established yet, it was the Air

Corps. I went through basic training and all that stuff, and I became a Gunnery Instructor. When it was decided that I was ready for active duty well I requested overseas duty, and I was sent over to Italy," he said.

Gottlieb said that he was stationed in Italy and stayed close to the base there.

"I enjoyed my time in Italy. I flew out of Italy, for my missions. When the war ended in 1946, I didn't have enough points to come home, so I stayed for a while until I had all my points and was able to leave," he said.

When asked what his favorite part of being a part of the Air Corps was, Gottlieb said, "I don't know that I had a favorite part, it was more about the service that I could provide for my country. It was something that I wanted to do. We were living more patriotic in those days, not so much today anymore, a lot of patriotism has gone out the window, but in those days, we did live a lot more patriotic."

Gottlieb served a total of 3 years in the Air Corps, and then returned to New York where he lived with his parents for a year, and then got an apartment, and followed in the footsteps of his father and became an insurance salesman.

"My dad had an insurance business, and I went into his business, and ran it after he passed away, so I

was an Insurance Broker," he said.

Gottlieb said that part of his decision to move to Colorado was because he was divorced at the time, and he had visited Colorado once or twice, and he enjoyed it.

"I enjoyed the weather here. I made a great choice in coming down to the Valley. Not too many people knew about the Valley then, but it was a great decision for me. I have met so many nice people down here. I am very happy that I made this choice," he said.

Gottlieb thanked everyone who attended his party, especially Mary Hoffman.

"She is the one who has given me this party. She is the one who brought me over here," he said. "She has taken me to New Orleans, to a museum over there. She also took me to New York, and that was the last time I saw my kids, too. She has a sister, who has some apartments down there, and we stayed there. I want to thank her, and everyone here."

Gottlieb smiled and said that when he thinks about his life and his 99 years it has been good.

"I have had a good life. No complaints," he said, as he took his place by his cake to pose for his picture.

For more information on the Colorado Veterans Community Living Center at Homelake, call 719-852-5118.

## SCSO Donuts with Dan will be at Baca Grande POA

By MARIE MCCOLM  
CRESTONE — The Saguache County Sheriff's Office will be holding an event called Donuts with Dan on Sept. 18 at the Crestone

This is your opportunity to voice your concerns, share your opinions, and get to know your Sheriff Dan Warwick, and other law enforcement in your community.

Donuts with Dan will be held on Sept. 18 at 10 a.m., at the Baca Grande POA (Property Owners Association) Office at 68575 County Road T.

Sherriff Dan Warwick spoke about the upcoming event and what it entails.

"Well, we have Donuts with Dan. Everyone is invited from the Crestone community to attend. The way that it all started was, some of the staff in my office brought up 'Coffee with the Chief' they have that out there. We really don't have anything like that. So, some of my staff members thought it would be a good idea and something fun. I am not sure which one of them thought of the name, but they came up with Donuts with Dan. It was catchy, so we decided to do it," Sherriff Warwick said with a chuckle.

Warwick said the meeting's idea is to give Saguache communities the chance to speak with law enforcement officers and their lo-

cal sheriff in a casual atmosphere.

"Anybody that wants to come, is welcome to come and ask questions. We will answer these questions the best way that we can. Sometimes questions are asked about ongoing investigations, where we can't disclose that information, but people are welcome to come and let us know about problems that they are having in their community. We want them to come out so we can address those problems. We want to get community involvement and help people engage with these meetings in what we do," he said.

Sherriff Warwick explained that the plan is to visit the different communities in Saguache County each month. The sheriff's office will have donuts and coffee for attendees.

Last month, Sherriff Warwick held a meeting in Saguache, and this month it will be in Crestone.

"For the meeting it's myself who attends, my under-sheriff, and I try to get my lieutenant to come to these," Warwick said. "We have had a couple of the deputies who have been on shift that have been at the meetings also."

Although Sheriff Warwick said that he would like to keep it centered to the Saguache County com-

munity where he holds the meeting, he also stated that anybody that is interested is invited to attend.

"We prefer that it stays within the community that we are in, at the time, so that the community can be brought forward, and be heard, but anyone is welcome to attend though. For instance, if someone from Alamosa would like to attend because they wanted to see what law enforcement is like in our community, they are certainly welcome to attend also," he said.

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# Valley News

## Rural Philanthropy Days meets in the SLV

San Luis Valley Rural Philanthropy Days participants enjoyed a block party on San Juan Avenue in Alamosa on Wednesday, Sept. 11. From left to right are John Kelly with Serve Colorado, Jacob Rissler, Adams State University, and Lance Cheslock, La Puente. Serve Colorado is housed in Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera's office and oversees community-based organizations, including AmeriCorps Colorado. Kelly said, "We love Rural Philanthropy Days because it is centered on community priorities. With such a strong presence of AmeriCorps in this region, it is important for us to be at this. We hear about the positive impact AmeriCorps has, and it is also important for us to hear about what we should be doing, investing AmeriCorps members and placing them to help the community." Rural Philanthropy Days is a statewide program that brings skill-building, collaborative, and funding opportunities to nonprofits and community organizations through regional conferences. The gathering runs through Friday.

Courier photo by John Waters



## Festival

Continued from Page 1  
held at the SLV Museum, 401 Hunt Ave.

Scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m., the reception is a meet and greet with both local and traveling artists while all are enjoying food, drinks and entertainment. For those who are curious about where artists get their inspiration or would like to know the background of a specific sculpture that has captured someone's imagination, this is an opportunity to speak to the genius behind the work.

At the reception, there will also be a presentation of "Patron of the Arts" awards honoring those who have been most notably supportive.

On Saturday, starting at 10 a.m. and going until 4 p.m., there's even more art to appreciate and absorb with the ArtWalk.

Twenty-five different highly talented local artists will have their work on display – and, in some cases, for sale along with other items – in locations running along Main Street and around the corner on Hunt Avenue.

There's truly nothing quite like browsing from one artist to another while becoming immersed in the amazing things that spring forth from the creative spirit of people.

In some cases, it just might inspire a person to get in touch with their own inner artist, at which point, they need to go to the "Wet Paintbrush" painting class that starts at 1 p.m. and goes until 3 p.m. The session will be held on San Juan Avenue off Main Street for a cost of \$20. All who attend are guaranteed to leave with their own extraordinary version of an aspen changing colors in the fall.

And, yes, there's still more. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, the Salida Circus will be performing on San Juan Avenue when some of them are



Courtesy photos

'Dream Catcher' by Kasia Polkowska of Pagosa Springs will be installed at the corner of Edison and Main at 3:45 p.m. on Friday.



This is the painting that those who attend the 'Wet Paintbrush' class will paint, held on Saturday afternoon from 1 to 3 p.m. on San Juan Avenue. No registration required; cost is \$20.

not mingling (or juggling) among the crowd. They won't be hard to find. Just follow the gasps as people watch the stunts the performs can do or keep an eye out for a brightly dressed person walking about who stands about...

oh...ten feet tall.

In a Valley that is already beautiful, Alamosa ARTsFestival manages to make it even more so for the two days of Sept. 13 and 14. It is an experience not to be missed.

## 'All Things Sandhill Crane' in next Forest Series

DEL NORTE — Join the Rio Grande National Forest for this month's Forest Specialist Series presentation. We'll be hearing about "All Things Sandhill Crane" with Suzanne Beauchaine, Refuge Manager for the Monte Vista and Alamosa National Wild-



Talented interns from Texas working for Spencer Architects created a model of the facility, allowing members of the public to envision the early childhood center.

## Center

Continued from Page 1  
ability and transportation were not an issue, there'd only be room for three out of ten. Seven out of ten kids don't have a quality place to be. That is not okay. Those numbers get worse when we talk about infants to toddlers. That number is nine out of ten."

Once completed, the center will have capacity for 160 children, ages 0 – 6. "We know that won't fill the need but it's a significant step toward a valley wide solution."

The project's cost is \$9 million with \$6.4 million already raised.

"It's going to take indi-

vidual contributions. It's going to take local corporations. It's going to take businesses to get us over that last hump," Miltenberger told the crowd. "It's going to take every nickel, dime and penny to get to that place."

And there is every confidence that the goal will be met. "I just wrote a one million dollar check for a steel building."

When later asked for a date when ground will be broken for the facility, Miltenberger told the Valley Courier, "We have to complete a phase one environmental assessment that we must complete prior to beginning construction. The steel building will sit off-site until the requirements

are cleared, which will be as early as mid-October."

The early childhood center will be "best in class," as evidenced by a description of the facility that includes four infant/toddler classrooms, three pre-k classrooms, three mixed aged classrooms, ten classroom outside areas, six observation rooms, a kitchen, two playgrounds, a child sick room, a parent resource room, pollinator garden, atrium/common area, a vestibule, a director's office and other amenities.

Benefits of the facility also extend past high-quality childcare in a high-quality center as it will create 40 jobs that pay "livable wages."

## Pavilion

Continued from Page 1  
project began to take shape as the wooden logs and other pieces of the stage were delivered, and an eager team of workers began assembling the stage.

Navares said that in 2022, the "\$10,000 needed to begin construction on the new Crestone Town Stage has been raised. Navares expressed his gratitude to the donors, Saguache County and to the Town of Crestone for agreeing to the stage's construction.

"The stage canopy is a parametric design based on sacred geometric Fibonacci triangles on both sides, providing extraordinary strength and stability. Resident art-

ist Tom Lyle originally designed it for a rooftop stage on a Denver skyscraper. It was created with high altitude mountains in mind," according to Navares.

The Crestone Energy Exchange will facilitate this project, which needs a few finishing touches.

This is not the end of the fundraising campaign, however. To ultimately build out the stage cover — a fully functional stage platform with drawers, drapes, and overhead truss — Navares will continue raising funds until it is complete. The stage has come a long way and will host numerous events this weekend.

The stage project received a Saguache County Sales Tax Grant, a donation from Joyful Journey Hot Springs Spa, and

several community donations, which raised the first \$10,000 needed to purchase the wood from Mountain Valley Lumber in Saguache. The lumber has been curing for several months and has already been skinned and treated to ensure that the wood lasts for decades or longer. The structure has largely been built, and additional donations are needed to finish the project.

The project still needs financing, checks can be made payable and mailed to Crestone Energy Exchange at P.O. Box 83, Crestone, CO, 81131. Donors who give \$250, \$500, \$1,000, and \$2,500 will be honored with an acrylic plaque upon completion of the stage. Several of the plaques have been added to the structure.

## Forum

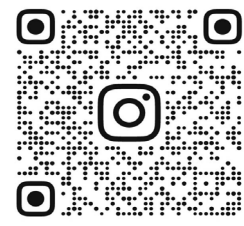
Continued from Page 1  
tect and expand voting rights and ensure that everyone is represented in our democracy, has a history of holding candidate forums.

Ballots will be mailed out to Colorado voters on Oct. 11 and the general election is 25 days

later.

The event takes place on Wednesday, Sept. 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. and can be watched at <https://lwvcolorado-org.zoom.us/j/83313808020>. Registration is not required.

Anyone seeking to learn more information should go to the Colorado League of Women Voters website at <https://lwvcolorado.org/>.



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# Opinion

## Fast Freddy's last ride

It seems of late that I have not had the best of news to write what with losing my faithful companion Cooper The Dog.

And this week is no exception to that kind of news. With your permission, though, I will take this time to write something about my Dad who is soon going onto his heavenly reward.

He led quite a storied life beginning with fairly humble beginnings in Dodge City, Kan., where as a young boy he felt called of God to the ministry. Even then he would go to the famous bars along Front Street and witness to the destitute and drunken men there hoping to lead them to a loving redeemer in Jesus.

At a young 17 years old he went off to Bible school in Indiana and after graduation began his ministry spanning 70 years. He preached his last sermon behind a pulpit at 93 years old. He had a fire inside him that could not be extinguished. His life was not always easy as he worked full-time during the day and then also pastored a growing church, so he was called upon to carry a lot of burdens.

Every night of the week found him in a different town holding home meetings and we traveled all the time during my childhood that I can recall to meetings across Kansas and beyond. He was a good father and my two sisters and I both learned to love people first and it has carried through to now.

Fast Freddy inherited the love of the mountains from his parents, and we spent a lot of time there on vacations fly-fishing and seeing the beautiful sights. After he retired, he was able to have a summer home in South Fork, Colorado and so enjoyed that time especially.

Retirement to him was not like it is for most people as he continued to preach at every given opportunity and wrote some great papers on Christian subjects. Of course, having a church for so many decades, there were funny things happening all the time and we still get to laugh about those events every time we get together.

There were scary times as well and I recall one night during a driving rain the front door of the church swung open. This was in a little church and had no foyer so the rain and lightning were crashing inside, too. A man walked in, somewhat unsteadily, and went to the front facing my Dad and said, "I am going to kill you." All of us kids who were sitting on the back row ran out into the rain.

Needless to say, the man didn't succeed and in fact gave his life to Christ and became a Christian. I was impressed at how cool my Dad was in the face of harm, but he told me he had given up his life long ago to Jesus and so no one could really harm him. What a life lesson for us all.

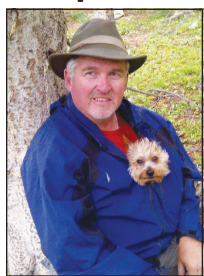
I have been going through the things he wants me to have like his bamboo flyrods, the pistol I bought him when I tagged him Fast Freddy, and other things and of course the memories flood back to me like a slow-motion picture. We fished and hunted and shared the best of times and I owe him so much for all he taught me.

As most of you know, I am building a house in Texas on the ranch and all the things I am doing from wiring to plumbing to HVAC etc., I owe to him teaching me down through the years. We never relied on anyone to do these jobs, so we became quite a team working on the church and other projects. I didn't like it at the time as a young boy, but it sure has come in handy all of my life.

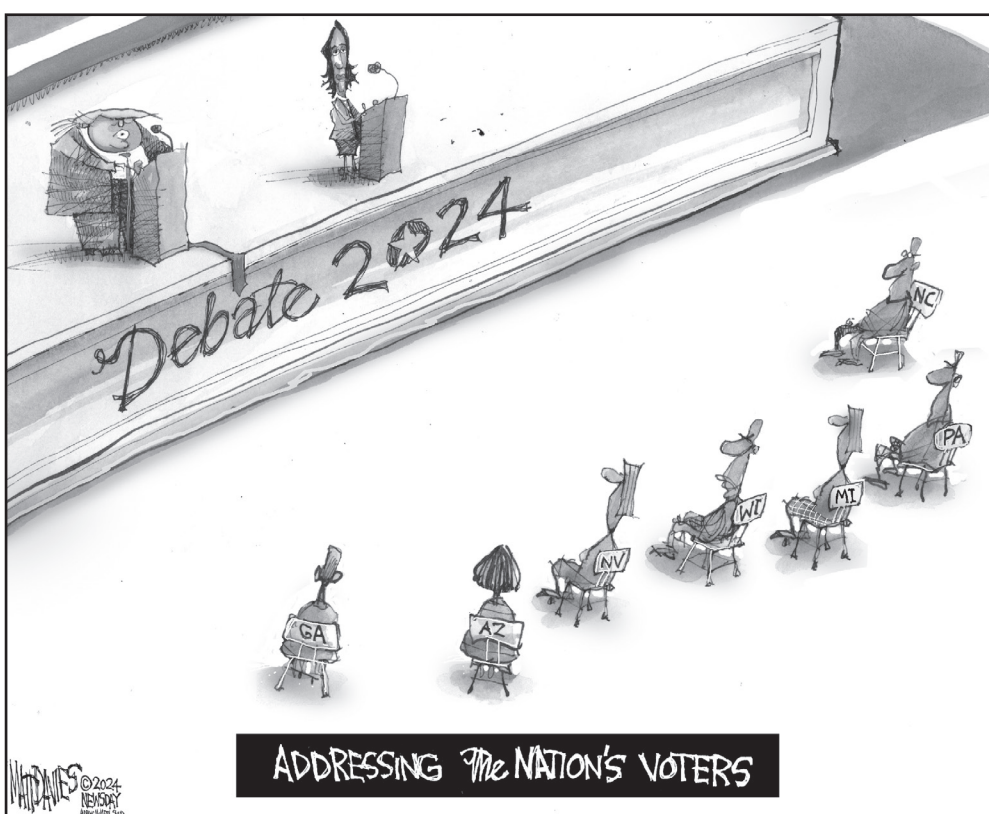
So, join me as I pause today with the regular drivel that I write and honor a great man who gave all he had to God first, then to others and finally himself always last. He may not be the greatest man that ever lived, but he gave unselfishly more than anyone else I ever knew.

*Kevin Kirkpatrick spends his days fishing, hunting, ATVing or hiking. His email is kirkpatrick@TroutRepublic.com. Additional news can be found at www.troutrepublic.com or on Twitter at TroutRepublic.*

### Trout Republic



by Kevin Kirkpatrick



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."

## Key state polls: Another mess in the making?

Who is leading the presidential race in the seven states considered most critical to victory in 2024: Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Georgia, Arizona and Nevada?

The answer is we don't really know.

If you look at the RealClearPolitics average of state polls, you'll see that Pennsylvania is exactly tied between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump; in Michigan, Harris is up by 1.2 points; in Wisconsin, Harris is up 1.5 points; in North Carolina, Trump is up by 0.1 points; in Georgia, Trump is up by 0.3 points; in Arizona, Trump is up by 1.6 points; and in Nevada, Harris is up by 0.6 points.

Obviously, all those numbers are within the polls' margins of error. So anyone who cites them is advised to be cautious. But even more caution is called for when you look at the performance of state polls in the 2020 presidential election.

The purpose of a polling average is to avoid some of the errors of individual polls by grouping a bunch of them together. So instead of looking at one or two particularly accurate or terrible polls, look at how the group performed. But some averages are better than others, and all can be wrong if the underlying polls they include are wrong. The following numbers from the 2020 race were compiled in a new article from the liberal Brookings Institution and apply to two of the averages, RealClearPolitics and FiveThirtyEight.

In Pennsylvania in 2020, the final RealClearPolitics average had Joe Biden up by 1.2 points. The FiveThirtyEight average had Biden up by 4.7 points. The final result was Biden winning by 1.2 points -- exactly what the RealClearPolitics average said.



By Byron York

You can't get better than that. On the other hand, FiveThirtyEight was pretty far off.

In Michigan, the final RealClearPolitics average had Biden leading by 1.5 points, while the FiveThirtyEight average had Biden up by 7.9 points. The final result was Biden winning by 2.7 points -- OK for RealClearPolitics but again way off for FiveThirtyEight.

In Wisconsin, the final RealClearPolitics average had Biden up by 6 points, while FiveThirtyEight had Biden up by 8.4 points. The final result? Biden won by 0.7 points. Both averages were terribly wrong, although FiveThirtyEight was more terribly wrong than RealClearPolitics. Both averages were polluted by a late-in-the-race Washington Post-ABC News poll that showed Biden leading by 17 points. It was the kind of error that should make pollsters retire in embarrassment. In any event, it contributed to a really inaccurate average of a critical state's polls before the election.

In North Carolina, the final RealClearPolitics average had Trump leading by 0.2 points, while the FiveThirtyEight average had Biden up by 1.8 points. The final result was Trump winning by 1.4 points. Neither average was miles off, except the FiveThirtyEight average got the winning candidate wrong.

In Georgia, the final RealClearPolitics average had Trump leading by 1.0 points, while the FiveThirtyEight average had Biden up by 1.2 points. The final result was Biden winning by 0.9 points -- quite close for FiveThirtyEight, while the RealClearPolitics average got the winner wrong.

In Arizona, the final RealClearPolitics average had Biden up by 0.9 points, while the final FiveThirtyEight average had Biden leading by 2.6 points. The final result was Biden winning by 0.6 points.

Finally, in Nevada, the final RealClearPolitics average had Biden

leading by 2.4 points, while the final FiveThirtyEight average had Biden up by 5.3 points. The final result was Biden winning by 2.4 points -- another exact hit for RealClearPolitics but significantly off for FiveThirtyEight.

In the end, according to the Brookings calculation, the combined RealClearPolitics average missed a state's final result by an average of 1.1 points, while the combined FiveThirtyEight average missed the final result by 2.1 points. (After all this, you can see why my column relies on the RealClearPolitics average, and not others, in analyzing various races.)

Now look at those numbers and apply them to today's Harris-Trump race in the same seven states. Almost all of the poll averages are closer than the average error, even in the more accurate RealClearPolitics average and certainly in the less accurate FiveThirtyEight average. There's just no safe way to say who is leading right now, much less who will win in November.

*Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner. Email him at byork@washingtonexaminer.com.*

## Write them

### GOVERNOR

**Governor Jared Polis (D)**, State Capitol Building Room 136, 200 East Colfax, Denver CO 80203; (303) 866-2471; Fax (303) 866-2003.

### STATE HOUSE

**Matthew Martinez (D)**, Colorado State Representative, District 62, 200 E Colfax, Room 307, Denver, CO 80203; phone: 303-866-2916; email: matthew.martinez.house@coleg.gov

### STATE SENATE

**Cleave Simpson (R)**, Colorado State Senator, District 35, 200 E Colfax RM 346 Denver, CO 80203 Phone: 303-866-4875  
cleave.simpson.senate@coleg.gov

### U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Lauren Boebert (R)**  
Pueblo Office: 503 N. Main, Suite 426, Pueblo, CO 81003 (719) 696-6970;

Washington Office: 1609 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-4761

Fax: (202) 226-9669;

Contact: <https://boebert.house.gov/>

### U.S. SENATE

#### Michael Bennet (D)

SLV Regional Office: 609 Main Street, Suite 110, Alamosa 81101; Phone: 587-0096; Fax: 587-0098;

Washington office: 458 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; DC Phone: 202-224-5852;

Contact: [bennet.senate.gov](mailto:bennet.senate.gov)

#### John Hickenlooper (D)

Washington office: B85 Russell Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510  
(202) 224-5941

Contact: [www.hickenlooper.senate.gov](http://www.hickenlooper.senate.gov)

## 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](http://slvaa.org)

# Valley Courier

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## Your FIRST Source for Local News



# Lifestyles

## CCSD celebrates new football field

*Hundreds of people attend kickoff ceremony*

**By MARIE MCCOLM CENTER** — The town of Center was rocked with music, a tailgate party, and a ribbon cutting ceremony for their new football field. The excitement all took place on Friday, Sept. 6, beginning at Center Town Park.

The event was a collaboration between the Center Consolidated School District (CCSD), the Town of Center, and the Civic Health Club called "Warm Cookies of the Revolution." The theme for the tailgate party was Viking Vision/Game Time.

Approximately 300 people attended the event. The event kicked off with a live band that brought everyone together under the Center Park Pavilion. There were people dancing and smiling, along with delicious food that was served to everyone. The food was free to the public and included tasty hot wings, with sides of pasta salad, and corn on the cob, with many different toppings to choose from for the corn. Drinks were punch and water.

There were games, such as cornhole being played by kids and adults, and in the middle of it all there were a few circus performers, including two women swinging from high tight ropes, on a silver bar set, along with a juggler and other entertainment. There were also free Viking T-shirts given out to everyone until they were gone.

Around 5:30 p.m. everyone who attended the event headed from the pavilion to the entrance area to the new football field. The Town of Center board members, Mayor Archie Gallegos, CCSD Superintendent Carrie Zimmerman, and CCSD's Katrina Caldon-Ruggles, all came together to take a picture in front of the new field.

The football team then marched in, and held the line in front of the field, while the ribbon was cut. Everyone cheered excitedly as the players walked onto their new field for their homecoming game.

Superintendent Zimmerman spoke about the ribbon cutting and the new field.

"We are super excited. Everything has really gone very smoothly. We started working on this a year ago. We got a GOCO (Great Outdoors Colorado) Grant. That's how this all started. We asked the town commissioner if we could just get going on this football field and track, and they gave us permission. We just rocked and rolled with it. So, the fact that it's already come this far is really exciting. We have a scoreboard coming in the next couple of weeks. The school board has been super supportive, too," she said.

Zimmerman explained that all thought the field is almost complete, the track around the field still needs to be finished, but she stated that the company working on everything has been to work with and she sees everything running smoothly for the track, too.

"The company has really followed through, and we are super excited about it," she said.



Hundreds of people attended the tailgate party for the Center High School football game on Sept. 6. The event was a collaboration between the Center Consolidated School District (CCSD), the Town of Center, and Warm Cookies of the Revolution Civic Health Club.



Photos by Marie Mccolm

Center board members and Center Consolidated School District Superintendent Carrie Zimmerman pose for the picture in front of the new field during the ribbon cutting ceremony on Sept. 6.

Zimmerman stated that when the track is done and officially ready, they will do a ribbon cutting for that too.

Zimmerman also explained that she felt everyone seemed to be having a good time, and she was glad that the school could partner with Future Town to make it all possible.

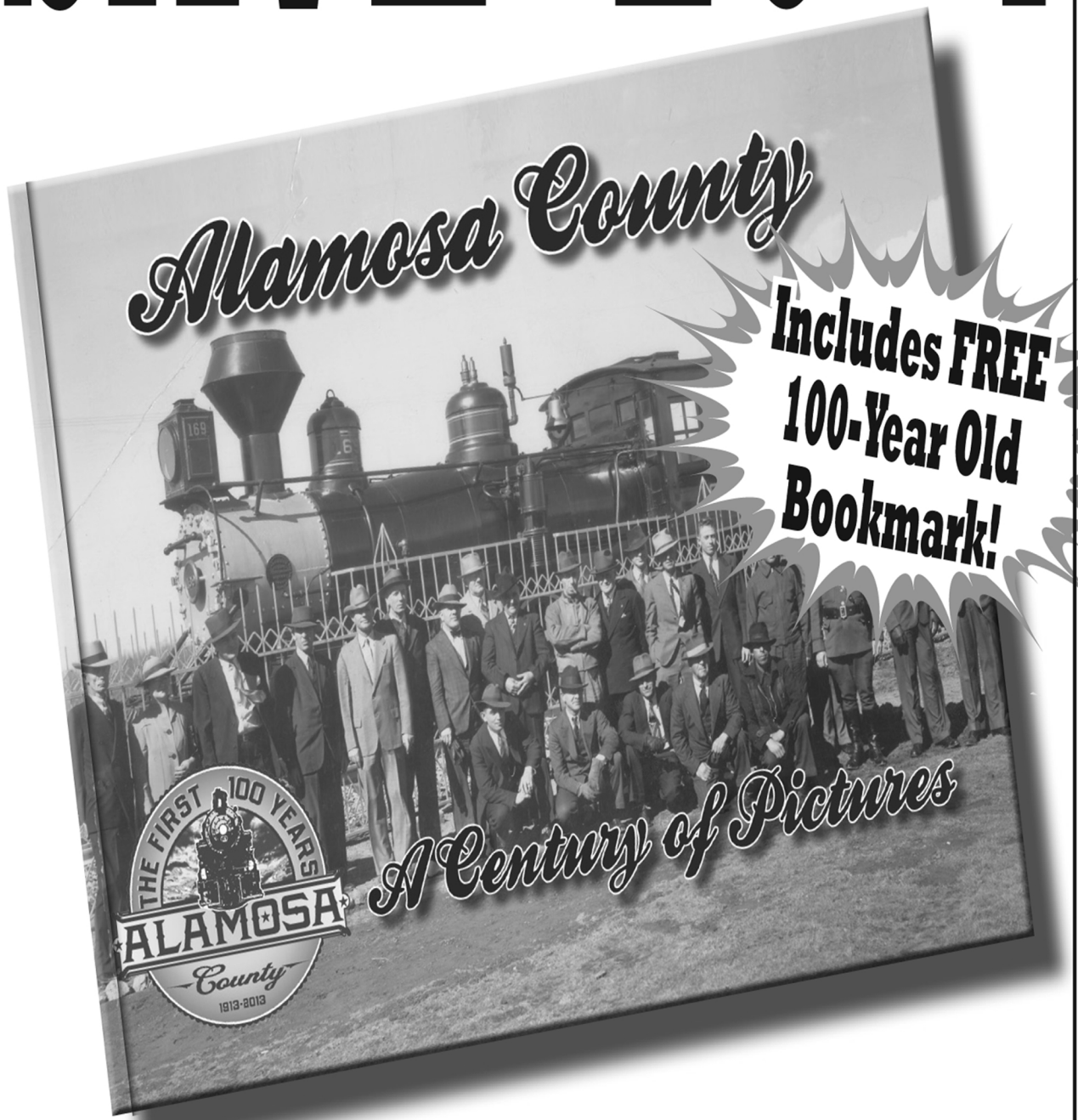
"Katrina Ruggles did a lot of the leg work with them; she has worked with them in the past too. We partnered with them on our tailgate party, and they brought in all the food and everything. It's just been great," she said.

Caldon-Ruggles of Center Consolidated School District talked about the success of the event.

"The Future Town tailgate party was a huge success. We are so thankful to all the community and students for showing up to celebrate. We had so much fun! What a great way to celebrate the inauguration of the new football field and to come together to support our youth. A special thanks to our PICS (Parents Involved for Center Students) program for putting together all the food. They worked so hard! They fed all the football, volleyball, and cross-country teams and a bunch of the cheerleaders at the school before the game and fed our pregame party. Also, thanks to Adrian Molina and Warm Cookies of the Revolution, a Denver-based civic organization, for their support in making this happen. We had a live band, the Salida circus, and a DJ. The Center Viking Youth Club provided games and helped set up tables and chairs. As always, our community came together to make this happen! Several hundred people came to enjoy the festivities and the game. We are super proud of the effort our young men gave. Viking Pride is always strong, and the community support is a big part of this! Finally, thanks so much to Carrie Zimmerman for all her work to make the new field come to fruition," she said.

Warm Cookies of the Revolution are a Civic Health Club that hosts Future Town Tours. According to their website, the group is trying to center rural Colorado into smaller towns in the future rather than the past. In the past, rural areas were not really thought of. The group is currently working with local organizations in different towns and visiting different towns with this tour. The group wants to focus on increasing social cohesion, across race, language, culture, and geography. One of the biggest focuses of the group is to bring positive change to rural areas and small towns.

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# Sports

## Sangre uses balanced attack to sweep Antonito

**By KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*  
**ANTONITO** – The Sangre de Cristo High School volleyball team traveled to Antonito on Tuesday.

The Lady Thunderbirds had a tough time with the scrappy Lady Trojans, but Sangre prevailed in a sweep by scores of 25-16, 25-17 and 25-22.

Antonito scored the first point of the first set, but Sangre took a 2-1 lead. The Lady Trojans tied the score, but the

Lady T-Birds scored five straight points for a 7-2 advantage.

Antonito came back to close its deficit to 9-7, but Sangre had a 4-1 run for a 13-8 lead. The Lady Trojans had a brief side out before the Lady T-Birds scored four consecutive points to increase their lead to 17-9.

After another Antonito side out, Sangre had a 5-1 run for a 22-11 advantage. The Lady Trojans came back to within 24-16, but the Lady T-Birds scored

the final point for a 25-16 win.

Antonito took a 2-1 lead to open the second set, however, Sangre scored four unanswered points to take a 5-2 advantage.

The Lady Trojans regained the lead at 6-5, but the Lady Thunderbirds rallied for a 9-6 edge.

Antonito then went on an 8-4 run for a 14-13 lead. But Sangre scored five consecutive points to take an 18-14 advantage.

The Lady Trojans battled to within an 18-17 deficit, but the Lady T-Birds scored the final seven points to take a 25-17 victory.

Sangre took a 2-1 lead to begin the third set, but Antonito had a 4-1 run for a 5-3 edge. The Lady T-Birds tied the score at 5-5, and after exchanging side outs with the Lady Trojans, took an 8-7 lead.

Antonito took a 9-8 edge, but Sangre rallied for a 13-11 lead. The Lady Trojans went back in front at 15-14, but the Lady Thunderbirds regained the lead at 16-15.

Antonito took an 18-17 edge before Sangre took the lead back at 19-18.

The Lady Trojans scored three straight points for a 21-19 advantage, but the Lady T-Birds scored four in a row for a 23-21 edge. Antonito closed to within 23-22, but Sangre scored the final two points to win 25-22.

Kylie Smit led the Lady Thunderbirds with 23 assists. Smit and Jezabelle Bieriger both had nine kills, followed by Phoenix Marshall with seven and Haylee Freel and Emma Jimenez both had five. Jimenez and Bieriger both

had two service aces.

The Lady Trojans were led by Destanaya Quintana with eight assists. Leanna Navaras led in kills with nine, and Quintana and Shyanne Martinez both one one avce.

Sangre de Cristo (5-4, 1-0) will host Cotopaxi on Thursday beginning at 6 p.m.

Antonito (2-5, 0-2) will travel to Saguache to face Mountain Valley on Saturday beginning at 11 a.m.



Courier photo by Ken Hamrick  
**Sangre de Cristo High School's Jezabelle Bieriger (14) hits the ball over the net as Antonito's Nakayla Navaras goes up for the block in Tuesday's game at Antonito. The Lady Thunderbirds defeated the Lady Trojans in three sets.**

## 41 athletes, three teams compete at Splashland's sprint triathlon

**By KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*  
**ALAMOSA** – The Splashland Hot Springs Pool hosted its 10th Annual Sprint Triathlon last Saturday with 41 individuals and three teams coming as far as Colorado, California, Kansas, New Mexico and Texas participating. There were 24 different age groups.

The event raised more than \$1,000 to purchase veteran and disabled patron equipment at the pool for access to all swimmers using Splashland for fitness,

rehabilitation and rejuvenation/relaxation.

The triathlon consisted of a 3.5-mile run, a 10-mile bike race and a 400-yard swim.

Todd McKusker of Larkspur recorded the fastest time of 1:00:32 in the men's 55-59 age division. Torin Kolke of Colorado Springs was second in 1:01:18 in the men's 30-34 division. Mike Trujillo of Antonito was third in 1:04:19 in the men's 50-54 division.

Vanessa Zwegers of Alamosa had the fastest women's time of 1:10:38 in the women's 35-39

division. Marta Pap of Denver was second in 1:11:02 in the women's 50-54 division. Elissa Regan of Salida was third in 1:13:07 in the women's 35-39 age group.

The fastest time for a two-person team was Team Plain of Gunnison with a combined time of 1:04:33.

The fastest time for a three-person team and the fastest team time was Team Jade of Alamosa in 0:56:21. Team Polkowske of Alamosa was second in 1:17:11.

## SLV Rattlers post respectable results in Eagle

**By KEN HAMRICK**  
*Courier sports editor*  
**MONTE VISTA** – The San Luis Valley Rattlers mountain biking team posted great results in the second race of the season Sunday at the Haymaker Classic in Eagle on Sunday. This race is famous for its "corkscrew" downhill feature.

Monte Vista sophomore Will Walker participated in the sophomore boys race and posted the team's fastest course time and maintained 11th place. Fellow Monte Vista sophomore Owen Barr passed three riders and improved his ranking to

24th.

Senior Summit Mashburn and juniors Chevy Kincannon and Aiden Mashburn competed in the boys JV race. The brothers started one row apart in the 44th and 45th positions, respectively, with Kincannon in 58th place. Team co-captain Summit logged a course time of 38 seconds more than an hour to gain one position to 43rd, Aiden slipped back one place. Kincannon much improved his position to 48th. The boys JV division is one of the largest field of racers with 108 riders.

In the girls JV race, co-captain Sydney Woodke

missed competing because of an injury, but her younger sister, Jayda, started in 10th place in her second girls freshman race. However, suffered a season-ending injury.

Because of safety concerns with approaching lightning, race officials reduced the boys freshman division to just one lap. Freshman Cooper Webb and Kife Mashburn started the race with Webb gaining 11 places. Mashburn stayed with the main group and finished in 26th place.

The third race of the season will be in Fountain on Sept. 21.

<b>HE'S RETIRED!</b>	<b>BREAKING NEWS!</b>	<b>SPECIAL EDITION</b>
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### Sports Bulletin

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

**SCOREBOARD TUESDAY**  
Prep boys soccer Taos (N.M.) 2, Alamosa 0  
Prep girls softball Rocky Ford 10, Alamosa 0  
Prep girls volleyball Sangre de Cristo def. Antonito 25-16, 25-17, 25-22

**WEDNESDAY College women's volleyball**  
Adams State def. Texas A&M-Kingsville, 25-16, 17-25, 25-20, 25-21

**THURSDAY Prep football**  
Alamosa at Pueblo Central – late  
Prep girls softball Southeast Colorado at Alamosa – late  
Prep girls volleyball Bayfield at Alamosa – late  
Center at Buena Vista – late  
Cotopaxi at Sangre de

Cristo – late  
Del Norte at Pagosa Springs – late

**SCHEDULE FRIDAY Prep football**  
Cedarerge at Center, 1 p.m.  
North Fork at Monte Vista, 6 p.m.  
Centauri at Buena Vista, 7 p.m.  
Del Norte at Roaring Fork, 7 p.m.  
Haxtun at Sanford, 7 p.m.  
Sargent at Hoehne, 7 p.m.  
Sierra Grande at Kiowa, 7 p.m.

**Prep boys soccer**  
Montezuma-Cortez at Alamosa, 3 p.m.

**Prep girls volleyball**  
Center at Cotopaxi, 2 p.m.  
North Fork at Monte Vista, 2 p.m.  
Sanford at Swink, 4 p.m.  
Sierra Grande at Kiowa, 4:30 p.m.

**College women's soccer**  
West Texas A&M at Adams State, 3 p.m.

**College women's volleyball**  
Adams State vs. Angelo State (Texas) (At Colorado Mesa Fall Classic), 9:30 a.m.  
Adams State vs. California State-Dominguez Hills (Colorado Mesa Fall Classic), 2:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY Prep cross country**  
Antonito, Center, Monte Vista, Sierra Grande at Bayfield Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Centauri, Del Norte at Gunnison Invitational, 9 a.m.

**Prep girls gymnastics**  
Alamosa at Cherry Creek Invitational, TBA

**Prep girls volleyball**  
Gunnison, Hoehne at Alamosa, 9 a.m.  
Antonito at Mountain Valley, 11 a.m.  
Centennial at Cripple Creek-Victor, 1 p.m.  
Rocky Ford at Center, 1 p.m.  
Cheraw at Sangre de Cristo, 2 p.m.  
Sanford at Del Norte, 4 p.m.  
Monte Vista at Eaglecrest Invitational, TBA  
Sierra Grande at Bethune Invitational, TBA

**College football**  
Adams State at Texas-Permian Basin, 6 p.m.

**College women's volleyball**  
Adams State vs. Minnesota State-Moorhead (Colorado Mesa Fall Classic), 11 a.m.  
Adams State vs. Cal Poly-Humboldt (Colorado Mesa Fall Classic), 4 p.m.

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# Classifieds

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**HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS ALAMOSA** is now hiring for **BREAKFAST ATTENDANT, FRONT DESK and MAINTENANCE.** Apply in Person. (9/14/24)

**DEL NORTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER** needed at the **URGSD.** We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team for the 2024-2025 school year. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Principal at [aduda@urtigers.co](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co) or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: [urtigers.co](http://urtigers.co). (10/4/24)

**BARTENDER WANTED IN QUESTA, NM** at El Monte Carlo Lounge. Thursday - Sunday, 3pm-11pm, hours may vary. \$13/hr with tips, housing can be available if needed. Call Mark 575-779-0653. (9/20/24)

**DEL NORTE BANK** is seeking to fill a full-time position for a **TELLER** in the **CREEDE BRANCH.** Duties will be to accept deposits, loan payments and process withdrawals while maintaining a balanced cash drawer. Must be personable and pleasant answering the phone and greeting customers. Many other duties will be assigned as needed. The position is permanent, full-time, M - F, 8am - 4:30pm, an hourly rate range of \$14.42 to \$17.00, with a robust benefits package. Application available at [TrueLocalBank.com/careers](http://TrueLocalBank.com/careers) or inquire at 117 N. Main St, Creede or call 719-657-3376 and ask for Dawn. EOE. (10/2/24)

### 221 - HELP WANTED

**THE CITY OF ALAMOSA POLICE DEPARTMENT** is seeking a highly motivated and experienced law enforcement professional to join our team as a **POLICE SERGEANT.** The ideal candidate will have a proven track record of leadership, strong communication skills, and a commitment to community policing. To be eligible for the position of Patrol Sergeant, in addition to general eligibility requirements, an applicant must be Colorado POST certified in good standing, have served a minimum of five years as a Corporal or equivalent, or of higher rank with a similar-sized agency, and have documented a minimum of 40 hours of leadership/supervision training. A similar-sized agency is defined as an agency having 15 or more officers. Compensation and benefits include a hiring pay range of \$33.31-\$34.98 per hour depending on qualifications. FLSA non-exempt; a 10% employer and employee match to retirement; paid time off includes 80 hours of vacation leave annually, 80 hours of sick leave annually, two personal days per year, and 11.5 paid holidays; medical, dental, and vision benefits with 75% paid by the employer; employer paid short & long-term disability; group life insurance up to \$100,000 in coverage for employee and \$5,000 for dependents; a free recreation membership & discounted golf membership. To apply, complete the Law Enforcement application at [cityofalamosa.org](http://cityofalamosa.org), and attach your resume, POST certification, and proof of 40 hours of leadership/supervision training. For questions, contact Jolene Webb, HR & Risk Manager at 719-587-2029 or [jwebb@ci.alamosa.co.us](mailto:jwebb@ci.alamosa.co.us). The deadline to apply is September 13, 2024, by 5:00 pm. (9/13/24)

### 221 - HELP WANTED

**MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE PERSON,** or team, wanted for a 12-unit apartment complex in DEL NORTE, CO. Duties include but not limited to: office paperwork, cleaning, minor plumbing, minor electrical, drywall repair, painting, and grounds keeping. Fax or email a letter of interest and/or resume to 712-274-1230 or [nrieman@landmark-management.com](mailto:nrieman@landmark-management.com). Equal Employment Opportunity. (9/28/24)

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1** is accepting applications for **HS ASST. VOLLEYBALL COACH.** Applications can be submitted through online app <https://www.applitrack.com/centennialsschool/onlineapp/> or [www.centennial.k12.co.us](http://www.centennial.k12.co.us). Open until filled. For questions, please contact District Administrative Office at 719-672-3322. (9/14/24)

**COME BE A part of the CENTENNIAL R-1 TEAM!** We are seeking applications for a **FRONT OFFICE CLERK / SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** and a **VARIETY of SUBSTITUTES.** Positions will remain open until filled. Please submit a resume, three letters of recommendation, pertinent transcripts, and a background check/valid CDE license with an application. Submit applications through <https://www.applitrack.com/centennialsschool/onlineapp/> or email [kimba.rael@centennial.k12.co.us](mailto:kimba.rael@centennial.k12.co.us). All full-time positions qualify for a competitive benefits package and salary as outlined through our Master Agreement, which is available at [centennial.k12.co.us](http://centennial.k12.co.us). The starting pay range for classified 12-month staff is \$30,915-\$37,919 and substitute pay is \$120/day. We are doing great things in San Luis; it's the perfect time to join our team. (9/14/24)

### 221 - HELP WANTED

**LEAD TEACHER FOR INFANT CARE CENTER NEEDED** at the UPPER RIO GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT. 150 days per year which includes all days that teachers are at school. Please submit your application and resume to: Aaron Horrocks, Superintendent, at 950 French Street, DEL NORTE, CO, 81132, or call at 719-657-4040, x4000. Applications may be retrieved on-line at [urtigers.co](http://urtigers.co) or at the District Office. (9/24/24)

**SALAZAR MEATS NEAR MANASSA** interviewing for **PRODUCTION ASSISTANT** position. \$17-24/hr depending on experience. Please call 347-407-1622. (9/17/24)

**HEAD JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL COACH** needed at DEL NORTE JR. HIGH SCHOOL. Experience as a coach or assistant coach at the middle school and/or high school level is preferred. Must possess: effective coaching techniques and a thorough knowledge of the rules of the sport; and have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with school administrators, parents, and students. Please contact Gibbs Sanchez, Athletic Director, at: [gsanchez@urtigers.co](mailto:gsanchez@urtigers.co) 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at: [ahardy@urtigers.co](mailto:ahardy@urtigers.co), 719-657-4020. (9/24/24)

**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](mailto:gsanchez@urtigers.co) or contact him at 719-657-4020. (9/13/24)

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Last Saturday of the month from April 27 until November 30. At the Community Building next to Quality Timbers on Hwy. 285. Taking consignments on Fridays. Sale starts at 10:00 am. Lunch available.

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719-588-7485

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Master Plumber, Plumbing Contractor  
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[dereksplumbing@outlook.com](mailto:dereksplumbing@outlook.com)  
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# Classifieds

**221 - HELP WANTED**

**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)

**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), CATERIA WORKERS, and BUS DRIVERS. Call or email: Sophia Cruz at 719-657-4040 x4000, scruz@urtigers.co (9/13/24)

**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 \$19/hour with merit increases based on performance and experience. (10/30/24)

**304 - LAWN & GARDEN**

**TROY - BUILT CHIPPER SHREDDER** CS4265, \$450. Max 719-379-3123. (10/19/24)

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**324 - SEED & FEED**

**NATIVE GRASS HAY** for sale. HORSE 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. (10/18/24-monthly)

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

**341 - GARAGE SALE**

**YARD SALE: 508 13TH St., ALAMOSA.** Saturday, 9/14, 8am-? (9/14/24)

**8:30AM SATURDAY. TOOLS,** outdoor furniture, grill, fire-pit. NO EARLY BIRDS. 10690 Highway 160 East, ALAMOSA. (9/14/24)

**347 - HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

**LARGE CERAMIC & GLASS BOWLS,** \$15 takes all. 719-852-8879. (9/21/24)

**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**

**FOR SALE: 2 gelded HORSES.** Experienced trail/ pleasure riding, BOMB PROOF. Just in time for hunting season. Call for details, 719-580-8291. (9/18/24)

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**360 - MISC. FOR SALE**

**WELL - BUILT WOOD PICNIC TABLE:** with side benches, metal frame legs, seats 6 people. \$50 719-588-3988. (9/14/24)

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

**362 - HOME FURNISHINGS**

**LAZY BOY RUST** red reclining loveseat. \$400/obo. Call 719-298-1009 or 719-937-2487. (9/13/24)

**368 - PETS & SUPPLIES**

**MINIATURE SCHNAUZER PUPPIES. READY.** Vaccinations, wormed, groomed. M/F, Liver/tan(chocolate). Sweet/ Playful/Smart. \$500-\$1000, CKC registration available. 719-256-4598, pattispuppies@gmail.com, Patti Shella-barger, http://ritoalto-kennels.com, 719-256-4598. (9/17/24)

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**415 - HOMES FOR SALE**

**FOR SALE BY Owner. HOMESTEADER'S CABIN:** 3 out buildings, 16.85 acres, SAN LUIS VALLEY, COLORADO. \$45,000. 720-483-2725. (9/20/24)

**426 - MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE**

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

**525 - GUNS**

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

**601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

**2 BEDROOM DUPLEX** available for rent. W 7th St. ALAMOSA. \$1,200/month; \$1,200 security deposit. Water, trash and sewer are included. Tenant is responsible for gas, electric, internet. 719-587-6960 or email manuelm@sלבhbg.org. (10/9/24)

**601 - APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

**3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH duplex** in BLANCA. Call 719-588-5900. (10/9/24)

**EAST ALAMOSA: 1 BEDROOM,** utilities included, \$635 monthly, \$700 deposit, income qualification. 719-580-3710. (9/24/24)

**611 - HOMES FOR RENT**

**TWO BEDROOM, TWO BATH** in ALAMOSA. Available Now. Off street parking. 588-5303. (9/14/24)

**2 STORY HISTORIC RENOVATED 4 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH.** Appliances furnished. Deck, shop, garage, large fenced in backyard. Excellent neighborhood; 416 2nd Ave., MONTE VISTA. \$1975/month, plus utilities. Yearly lease; available now. Contact 719-852-5101 or 719-852-5350. (9/24/24)

**630 - ROOMS FOR RENT**

**NICE FURNISHED ROOM** in ALAMOSA. 720-436-5550. (9/14/24)



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# Comics

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 — and flow
  - 4 Gloomy
  - 8 Rainbow shape
  - 11 Greek letter
  - 12 "Murder, She —"
  - 13 Snake
  - 14 Decorative vase
  - 15 Canvas support
  - 16 Paddle
  - 17 Entryway
  - 19 Mistreat
  - 21 Lend a hand
  - 22 Difficult
  - 23 Thin layer
  - 25 Mournful poem
  - 27 Hustle and bustle
  - 28 Spy
  - 29 Aviate
  - 32 Unrefined
  - 33 Standing water
  - 34 Actor —
  - 35 Clever

- 36 Galileo's birthplace
- 37 Words of wisdom
- 40 Drinking vessel
- 41 Aim
- 42 Paper covering
- 46 Shack
- 47 Inuit boat
- 49 "Who do you think you —?"
- 50 "Patience — virtue"
- 51 Gamut
- 52 Pen point
- 53 State near Penn.
- 54 Inch
- 55 Oolong, e.g.

- DOWN**
- 1 Needlecase
  - 2 Big building
  - 3 House type
  - 4 Mardi —
  - 5 Tax write-off

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 6 Sporty truck
- 7 Mixture
- 8 "All — Eve"
- 9 Sunday dinner item
- 10 Singer Mariah —
- 12 Ugly plant
- 18 Lip
- 20 Lad
- 22 Dancer Gene —
- 23 Distant
- 24 Actress — Lupino
- 25 Act like a ham
- 26 Plunder
- 29 Frivolous
- 30 French article
- 31 Certain vote
- 33 Painting
- 35 Triumph
- 36 Young canine
- 37 Plant louse
- 38 Extinguish
- 39 Of utmost importance
- 40 Torte
- 42 Flapping appendage
- 43 Fury
- 44 Ohio's lake
- 45 Singer — McEntire
- 48 Angry

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: ★★★★★

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

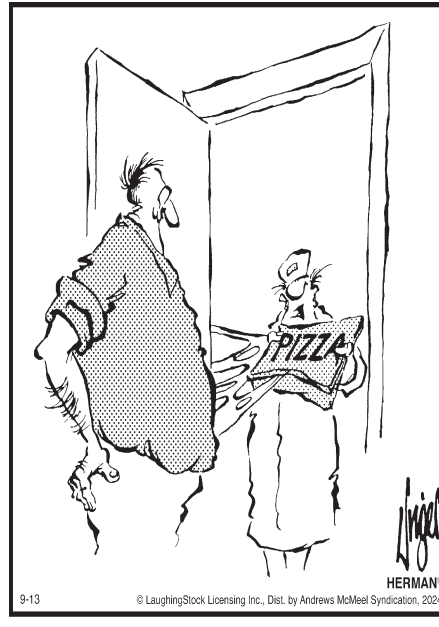
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### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

## HERMAN



"I dropped it in the elevator."

## Couple stunned by discovery of friends' declared beliefs

DEAR ABBY: We are a male couple celebrating 34 years of partnership. We recently took a cruise, during which we met four straight couples traveling together who welcomed us into their group. It was a pleasant experience, and we were delighted to make friends with whom we anticipated sailing again. In fact, the group booked a future cruise onboard and insisted we join them.

Upon returning home and making the obligatory social media connections, we were stunned to discover extremist views propagated by multiple members of the group, including, but not limited to, dangerous falsehoods about and disparagement of gays. One of them said gays should be banished from society. Our reaction was one of disbelief, given the warmth with which we were treated during the cruise.

With true colors now revealed, we intend to cancel the booking made onboard, but we are at odds as to how or whether to explain the decision. I am angry and ready to rumble, while my pacifist husband says we should let it go. Any insights you can offer will be appreciated. -- CONFLICTED AT SEA

ED: Hang onto your temper. You would be within your rights (as well as the parameters of etiquette) to contact the people and ask if they still feel this way about gay people after the cruise. If the answer is yes, ask why they would invite you and your partner to travel with them again. While you're at it, express that the comments they posted were untrue, uncalled-for and hurtful, and that you will not travel anywhere with them again.

DEAR ABBY: My next-door neighbor "Hank's" wife died 2 1/2 years ago. My husband passed away 18 months ago. I would see Hank at church and would always ask how he was doing. I'd also see him sitting outside in his backyard crying and talking to his dogs. So, I decided to occasionally take him whatever I had cooked -- pot roast, meatloaf, etc. His grown kids would come on Saturday to take him out to eat and maybe spend a couple of hours with him. They all work and have their own families.

Hank eventually invited me out to dinner, and we became friends. As soon as his daughter found out we were dating, she put a stop to it. She controls her daddy. Hank and I see each other less

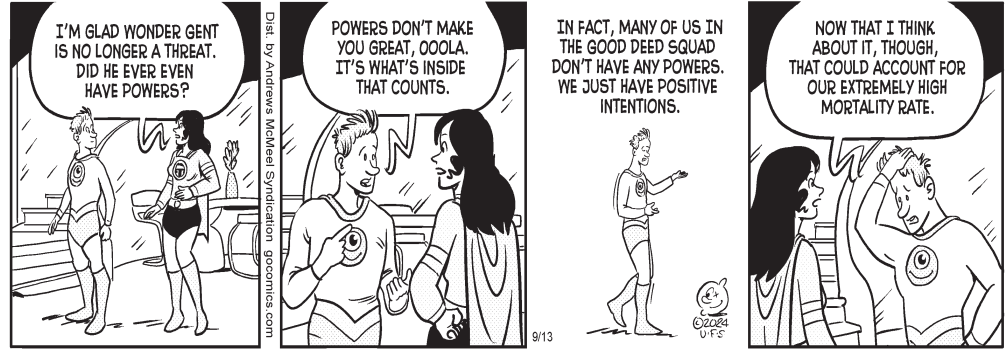


### ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

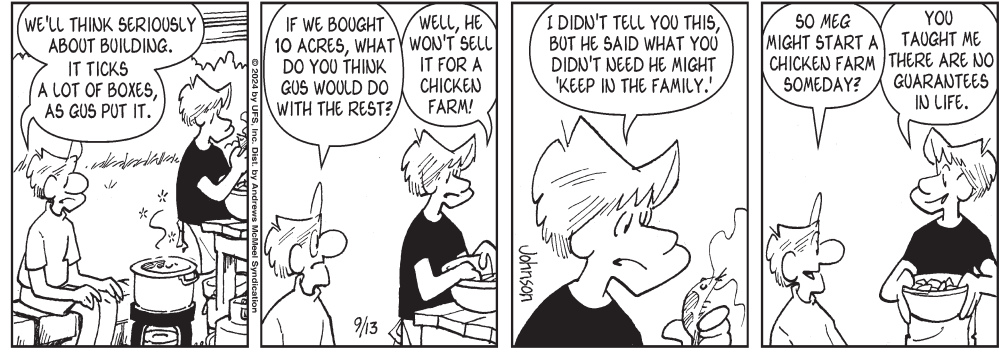
and less often now, and she has even found him another woman friend. Hank calls and tells me he misses me and our conversations. Part of me feels like moving on. The other part wants to continue our friendship. Any advice will be appreciated. -- THWARTED IN TEXAS

DEAR THWARTED: I don't know what it is about you that Hank's daughter doesn't like or finds threatening. You won't know unless you ask Hank. While you are at it, tell him you miss him, too, and would like to continue seeing him. You and Hank are both adults and should be able to see each other if you both wish.

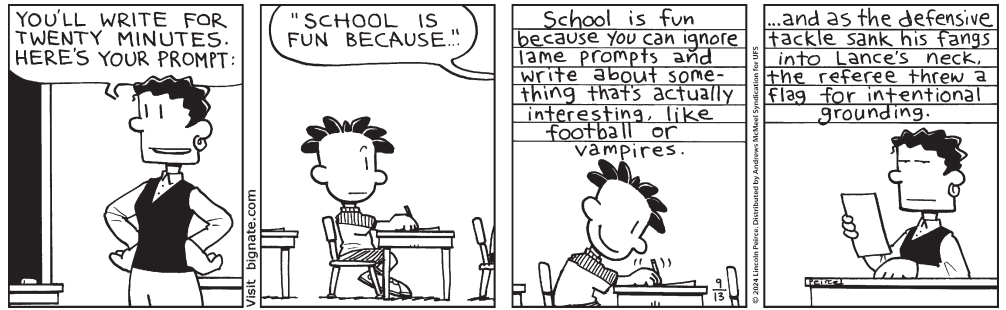
## ALLEY OOP



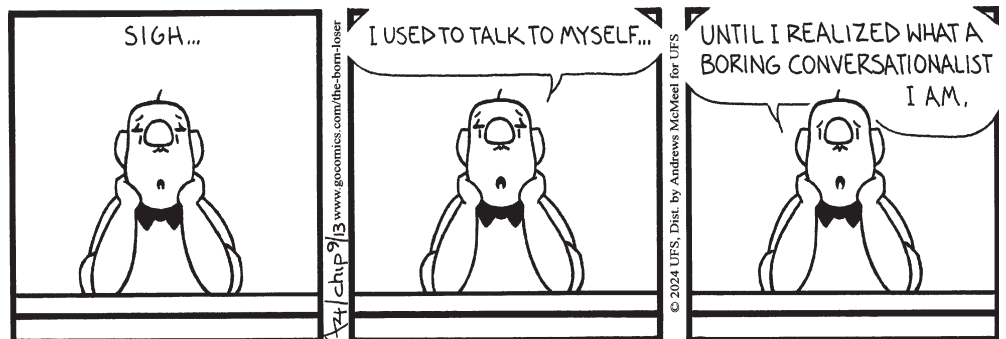
## ARLO & JANIS



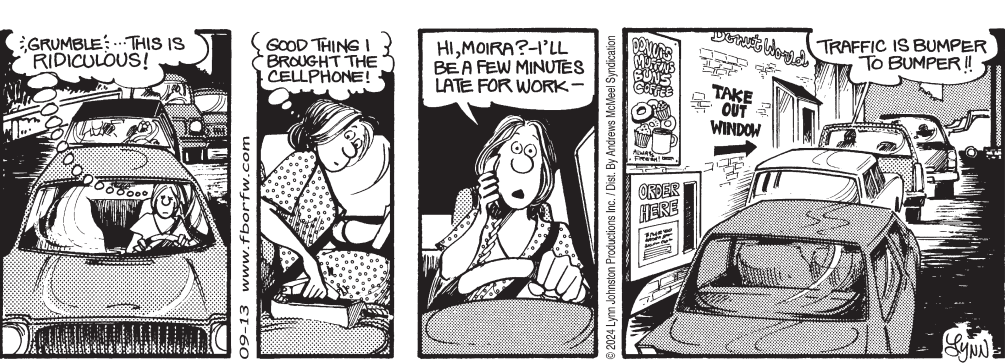
## BIG NATE



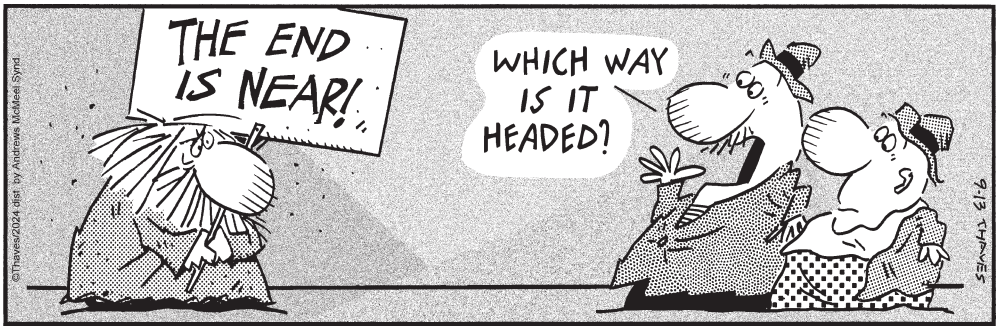
## THE BORN LOSER



## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



## FRANK & ERNEST



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