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News in Brief

SLV Veterans plan annual parade

ALAMOSA — American Legion, Post 113, and Veterans' organizations of the San Luis Valley are planning the annual Veteran's Day Parade to be held on Monday, Nov. 11, beginning at 10:45 a.m.

The parade will stop in front of the reviewing stand at State and Main streets, at 11 a.m. to hold a solemn tribute to "our fallen comrades."

Everyone is welcome to participate — groups, schools and or organizations. Parade lineup will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Main and La Due Avenue and the vacant lot on 6th and La Due. Those wanting to participate in the patriotic parade or for more information, should contact the parade chairman, Charlie Griego at 719-588-0324, Karilyn Espinosa, Adjutant of the American Legion at 719-379-3540 or Jack Rudder at 719-588-9838.

Registration open for Miner Walk/Run

ALAMOSA — The 2024 Stephanie L Miner 5K Walk/Run will be on Saturday, Sept. 21, at Cole Park in Alamosa. The event begins at 9:45 a.m. with announcements to help fight cancer. All proceeds benefit the local cancer center.

Registration closes on Sept. 18. Cost is \$30 per person. Teams of 10 or more are \$25 per person. Registration is \$35 on the day of the event. T-Shirts are included in the price for the first 700 participants.

Run-Walk options are 1-mile healthy walk, 2.5-mile walk, or a 5k walk.

People can register online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/CO/Alamosa/StephanieLMiner5kWalkandRun>.

To register offline see the SLVH Foundation at 1921 Main St. or contact Arieen Khoketkham, Foundation Assistant, at 719-587-6359.

Retirement salute planned for Cerny

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — Longtime San Luis Valley newspaper publisher Keith Cerny will be honored with a retirement party Friday, Sept. 20 from 4-6 p.m. on the patio of Knee Knockers restaurant at Cattails Golf Course.

Cerny had been publisher of eight publications in the Valley since 1992, retiring in August 2024. He cut his journalistic teeth as a sophomore in high school in 1972, writing sports for his hometown newspaper, the Schuyler (Neb) Sun.

He later served as a writer, photographer and newspaper manager in

Ogallala, Neb., Wisner, Neb., Lusk, Wyo., and Evanston, Wyo., winning dozens of awards for his writing and photography in Nebraska, Wyoming and Colorado, including a first-place national award for coverage of agriculture while in Wisner.

Cerny was also a division manager for News Media Corporation for 30 years, overseeing newspapers in Colorado, Wyoming, Arizona, and Oregon.

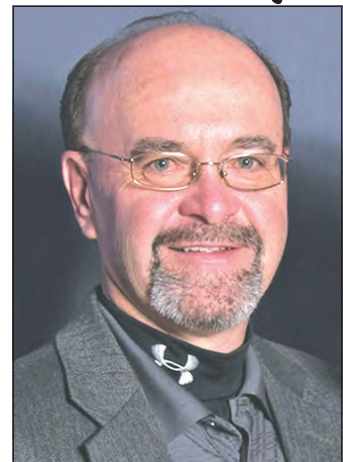
Over the years, he also served as a volunteer firefighter in Wisner and Lusk, for a combined 10 years.

After coming to Alamosa in 1992, Keith was named Alamosa Citizen

of the Year by the Alamosa County Chamber of Commerce in 1996, a board he served as chairman of for 1 ½ years and served on for 13 years. The Alamosa Masonic Lodge also named him "outstanding citizen" in 1993.

He was awarded the prestigious Adams State Billy Adams Award in 2000. A 20-plus-year member of the Adams State Grizzly Club board, he and his wife Debbie were named Grizzly Club Members of the Year in 2011. He was also a member of the Adams State Foundation Board for 20 years.

Cerny has served on the ASU Ath-



Keith R. Cerny

Please see CERNY on Page 2A



Photo by Marie Mccolm

Bouncy houses were popular at the Monte Vista High School Back to School Bash on Sept. 13 at MVHS.

MVHS Back to School Bash brings community together

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — On Sept. 13, Monte Vista High School held a Back to School Bash. The bash was organized by the Monte Vista School Parent-Teacher Organization with sponsorship from the LOR Foundation. The Back to School Bash was held at the high school baseball field, and everyone was welcome to attend.

Approximately 450 people, including students, teachers, and parents, attended the event, that took place before Monte Vista's

home football game. The event was decorated with lots of green and gold decor, there were multiple booths all over the event, with free hot dogs, chips, and water being given out to all attendees.

There were at least three bouncy houses for the kids across the field. Monte Vista FFA, along with Monte Vista High School cheerleaders had a booth at the event. There was a splash tower set up for anyone who wanted to try to throw a splash bucket on whoever might have been sitting under it at the bash.

Kids who attended had large smiles as they climbed up, jumping, and sliding down the giant bouncy houses all over the park.

There was a booth set up specifically with Monte Vista Pirates hoodies for sale. The Sno Shack with snow cones was also on site, with the first 300 snow cones free that night. Students at the high school walked all over the field, smiling on their cell phones or near their parents, as they checked out all the events at the bash.

Please see BASH on Page 2A

Farm Fresh Direct makes \$5,000 donation to 4-H Juntos

Group attends two-day trip to Pueblo

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — The Colorado State University San Luis Valley Extension Office's 4-H Juntos group recently made an overnight trip to Pueblo, for an exciting Discovery Day adventure Aug. 23 to 24. It would not have been possible without a generous \$5,000 donation from Farm Fresh Direct.

Local 4-H Juntos Director Carol

Gurule was excited about the trip and grateful to Farm Fresh Direct and Mayra McKibbon, the Director of Workforce and Community Programs, for the donation.

"With heartfelt gratitude, I want

Please see DONATION on Page 4A

From left to right, Farm Fresh Direct CEO Mike Hulett and Mayra McKibbon, Director of Workforce and Community Programs, present a check to CSU SLV Area Extension Director Larry Brown, for the SLV Extension Juntos 4-H program.

Courtesy photo



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APD seeking public's help in identifying suspect

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Police Department has released an enhanced photo of a person-of-interest in an armed robbery from March of 2023.

On March 31, 2023, at approximately 9 p.m., APD officers were notified of an armed robbery that occurred at the Alta Station at 3213 Main St. in Alamosa. The suspect, who is described as Hispanic, 5-foot-8 to 6-foot, and light skinned, presented a knife and took an undisclosed amount of cash.

At the time of the robbery, detectives obtained video evidence, but the video's quality was not discernable enough to provide details on the suspect. Detectives sent the video to an outside agency that enhanced it with advanced technology and provided this photograph.

If you have information on this robbery or can identify the suspect in the photograph, contact APD Detective Brandon Bertsch at 719-589-2548.

The Alamosa Police Department released this enhanced photo of a person-of-interest in an armed robbery from March of 2023. Courtesy photo



Retirement party for Lynette Cotton

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Senior Citizens Center Board of Directors cordially invites the public to a retirement party for Lynette Cotton

on Friday, Sept. 20, from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Alamosa Senior Citizens Center, 92 Colorado Ave. Cake, cupcakes, and punch will be served.

OBITUARIES

Richard Earl Baker

Richard Earl Baker, a cherished husband, brother, and friend, passed away on September 6, 2024, at the age of 80, at the Rio Grande Hospital, in the peaceful town of Del Norte, Colo. Born on May 4, 1944, in Muscatine, Iowa, Richard grew up with a spirit of adventure and a heart full of kindness that would define his entire life.

Richard, known affectionately as Rich by his loved ones, shared a beautiful life with his devoted wife, Alice Baker, of South Fork, Colo. Their partnership was a testament to love and mutual respect, and together they built a life filled with joy and laughter.

He was a beloved brother to Pamela (David) Gornanson of Lyons, Colo., half-sister Nelore (Randy) Collins of Athol, Idaho, and held a special bond with his brother-in-law, Aaron R. (Caleen) Hall, Jr., of Palisade, Colo., whom he considered a brother. His nieces, nephews, extended family, and a host of friends will fondly remember Richard's selfless nature and his ability to fix anything that came his way.

Richard's career with the Colorado State Patrol as a Patrolman spanned over a decade, where his dedication to service and community protection was evident to all who worked alongside him. Following his tenure with the State Patrol, he channeled his passion for craftsmanship into his own business, Rich's Building and Repair

in South Fork, CO. His work not only showcased his handiness but also his desire to improve the lives of those around him.

An avid outdoorsman, Richard found solace and excitement in the beauty of nature. He spent countless hours hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, and backpacking through the Colorado wilderness. His love for the outdoors extended to his involvement with the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the National Rifle Association, he served two tours as a Naval Seabee in Vietnam, where he advocated for the preservation of the natural world he so deeply cherished. Trap shooting and sporting clays were more than hobbies for Richard; they were activities that brought him closer to his community and friends.

Those who knew Richard would describe him as the epitome of kindness and selflessness. His hands were rarely still, always working on a project or lending aid to a neighbor in need. His legacy is one of unwavering generosity and the countless lives he touched with his warm spirit and willingness to help others.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents, stepmother, and his sister Norma.

Cremation was chosen there will not be a service. Contributions in his memory are suggested to the Rio Grande Hospital, 310 County Road 14, Del Norte, CO 81132.

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



BASH Continued from Page 1A

Officer of the LOR Foundation Ivette Atencio attended the event and stated, "it was great to see so many people there. LOR did sponsor the event. The kids and parents all looked like they were having so much fun. It was really great to see other organizations come out and support the event as well. I think community engagement is very important, and LOR is always happy to support such efforts."

Mother of a high school student,

Christina Lopez, said the Bash was a great way to meet school staff.

"The teachers looked really happy to be here. The bash has been fun, lots of cool games, and some good organizations here showing spirit for the Pirates. One thing I appreciate is if you haven't met all your kids' teachers, the bash is a great place to do it, I met a lot of them here, it's been nice. They even give out dinner and a free entrance to the game, very cool."

Grandmother of a high school student, Rose Salazar, also attended the event and said, "It's nice of the teachers to organize this, looks like a lot to put together. I saw a lot of kids and parents that are here, wearing Monte Pirate shirts, everybody looks like they are excited about this game. I want to thank everyone for doing this for the kids. I'm here with my daughter and grandkids and I'm a proud grandma of a football player, too."

DAYS Continued from Page 1A

at the Public Works Yard at 384 Ski Hi Trail in Monte Vista. This opportunity is for Monte Vista residents only.

The SLV Regional Landfill is not sponsoring this, and it is not a free dump day at the landfill. If you go to the landfill, you will be expected to pay the current rates for the debris you bring.

Prohibited wastes are:

- Hazardous waste--includes any item that would be classified as hazardous including fuel.
- Radioactive waste
- Toxic, corrosive, reactive and

Ignitable waste — includes batteries and all electronics. Automobile batteries will be accepted.

• Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) waste - Polychlorinated biphenyls were widely used as dielectric and coolant fluids in electrical apparatus, cutting fluids for machining operations, carbonless copy paper and in heat transfer fluids.

- Cathode ray tubes (CRTs), central processing units, computer keyboards, VCRs from non-residential sources cannot be accepted at the

land fill. Includes TVs, computers, cell phones.

Effective July 1, no electronic item of any kind will be accepted at the landfill as determined by Senate bill 12-133 and defined by Regulation pursuant to Sections 1.2 and 16.5 of 6 CCR 1007-2, Part 1.

- Waste containing free liquids – includes paint, oil, or other liquids
- Appliances that contain refrigerant—includes Refrigerators
- Tires

CERNY Continued from Page 1A

letics Hall of Fame board for several years and was master of ceremonies for their annual awards ceremony numerous times.

Cerny was a six-year member of the Colorado Press Association Board of Directors and served as president of that board in 2015-16.

He also received the Honorary Chapter of Farmer Award by the Alamosa High School FFA chapter twice and was awarded the Sportsman of the Year by the San Luis Valley Chapter of Ducks Unlimited in 2005. In addition, he was awarded the Earl Steers Outstanding Service Award by the Alamosa High School Maroon Pride booster club in 2013.

A longtime supporter of economic development in the SLV, Cerny

served as president of the local Alamosa economic board three times. He also served on several other local committees and boards, including as a longtime member of the Rotary Club. He also served as a 17-year member of the SLV counsel representing the El Pomar Foundation

and was a member of the Creede Repertory Theatre board for a total of 12 years.

Cerny is the father of six and has 11 grandchildren. He said he doesn't have any future plans other than staying involved in the SLV community and spending more time in Creede.

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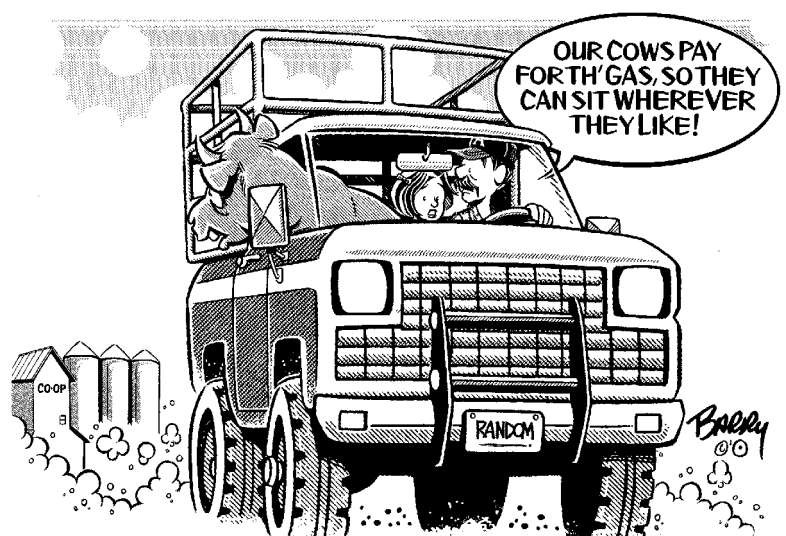


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OPINION & EDITORIAL



I love a good story

Because I spent a week in Kansas helping to take care of my Dad, I missed out on the first week of archery elk season. Before he passed away, one of the last things he said was, "Go home so you can hunt."

Hunting runs deep in this Kirkpatrick clan.

Now back in Colorado, my alarm goes off at 4 a.m., I have a quick coffee to go, followed by a nice uphill hike to my elk blind.

The first morning back I could really tell I had spent nine days at flatlanders' altitude with little sleep, as I had lost some of my lung capacity. But with practice and repetition, it is better now. This morning, I actually made it all the way with just a few breathers. I probably resemble an old horse wheezing and blowing at the stops. May smell like a horse, too. You'll have to ask Miss Trixie.

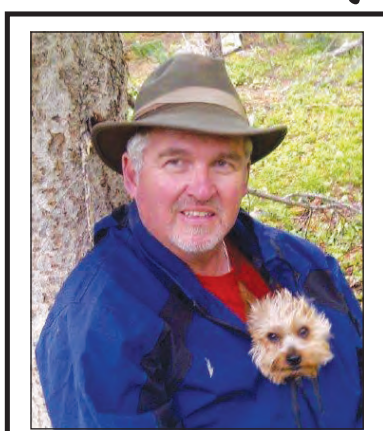
While I'm on the mountain slaving away chasing elusive elk and bear for our freezer fodder, this is Miss Trixie's time to do whatever she wants — like she doesn't do that anyway. Just yesterday she felt compelled to send me her schedule which looks like it's been shot with a shotgun. Every day and evening seems to have something planned. I had to remind her that all of those social butterfly events were way down on the totem pole for Ol' Dutch. Somehow being up in the aspens hunting beats out a pig roast any day for me.

There are quite a few hunters up where I go and yesterday I was fortunate enough to meet a couple on the road. Now when I saw "couple" I mean as in a young man and his main squeeze. I got a good giggle at her stretchy legging and crop top for hunting apparel. They were from far away and asked if I knew where there were any deer.

Of course, I showed them a picture of a big one hanging out in the front yard, in town. He is no dummy.

After giving them some pointers on where to find the dumb deer, I suggested that they find a gun to carry as there are a lot of mountain lions in that area. And then I had to tell them about my Disney moment with a cougar.

This happened a few seasons ago. It was a moonlit night after a week of rain. I had been up on the mountain hunting elk when darkness overtook



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

me. It took a while for me to find the road where the truck was parked but because the moon was so bright, I didn't even have my flashlight out. I was just a-singing as I trod down the road nary a care in the world. Well, except keeping an eye out for Bigfoot.

I finally found the truck where I left it of course, and took my own sweet time getting in. As soon as I turned on the lights of the truck, though, there was the biggest mountain lion I have ever seen. Not ten feet in front of my headlights. Tongue hanging out, drool dripping, certain that his next meal or ten was close at hand. Judging by his paw prints on the wet road, Unbeknownst to me, that lion had followed me the whole mile down the road.

Now I know they say music calms the savage beast and I don't know if that helped my cause due to the sweet melodious tunes I was singing or if my caterwauling made him think I would be one sour chunk of meat. But most likely the good Lord spared me an attack that night and I now carry a gun in case the Lord is busy if there is a next time.

This story had the desired effect on the hunters and the girl's eyes got as big as saucers and I could tell the poor man was in for it now. He will have to hold her hand every step or maybe even take her home.

Man, I love a good story.

Kevin Kirkpatrick spends his days fishing, hunting, ATVing, hiking or making people laugh. His email is Kevin@TroutRepublic.com. Additional news can be found at www.troutrepublic.com.



Abandoned Ranch buildings above a meadow of Deer Creek south of Anaconda, Mont. Picture taken in late July.

Hikers in a wilderness turn into firefighters

More frequent wildfires in the West can turn hiking through beautiful, high-elevation country into a dangerous game for hikers. In July, seven friends from Idaho, Colorado, Washington and Montana took off for a week of backpacking in southwestern Montana. Everything went off without a hitch their first night. A rainstorm passed through but it wasn't a big deal.

But when they woke up, they saw a plume of smoke rising into the sky. Darren Wilson had anticipated something like this, even before their trip began.

"It was in the back of my mind — I hope we don't hike into somewhere and get trapped by a fire," recalled Wilson, a Hamilton, Montana, resident.

They were hiking through the Anaconda Pintler Wilderness and knew it was under strict restrictions: No building campfires, no fire allowed anywhere, no exceptions. The summer had been dry and hot, and wildfires had been erupting throughout Montana.

But as the group continued hiking toward Hidden Lake, they realized the trail of smoke ahead might be the early stage of a wildfire.

The hikers weren't trapped, but 200 yards from Hidden Lake they came upon scorched earth surrounding a tree split down the middle, most likely from a lightning strike. Its bark was blackened and glowing, and beneath the tree the charred ground smoldered. The smoke they'd seen was seeping from beneath hot charcoal and dry wood.

"You could tell the tree torched and burned while it was standing and then cracked and fell on the ground," said Darren's wife, Chelsie, an x-ray technologist with previous experience in wildland firefighting.

"I think everyone had different feelings," she said. "Those who had never seen forest fires before were panicking."

The group put Chelsie Wilson in charge, and she laid out a two-step process: Some people would run to Hidden Lake to fill every water bottle and hydration pack. Everyone else would use the water to turn the smoldering dirt into mud.

Chelsie Wilson and Brittney Erickson, one of her fellow hikers, poured water on dirt, using the wet earth to put out the fire bit by bit. Chelsie kicked a burning stump into the ground. The team smothered it. She instructed and delegated jobs, describing the team as willing, communicative and diligent.

"It was really scary at first," Chelsie said, "and then it became fun." After two hours, she gave her team the all-clear. They had transformed the patch of smoldering char into a wet pile of dirt and debris.

On a hike later the same day, the group climbed West Pintler Peak only to spot another fire, this one on the horizon some 10 miles away. They called in the sighting from a ridge with cell service and heard a plane fly low overhead the next day. Weeks later, they said they think that was the first alert to the Johnson Fire, a 270-acre blaze southwest of West Pintler Peak.

If there was a theme to the hikers' trip it was definitely fire, because while camping near the bank of Oreamnos Lake, they spotted wispy smoke billowing from the opposite shoreline.

"We start yelling across the lake, top of our lungs," Darren Wilson said. "Is there anybody there? Do you have a fire?" Hearing no response, they initiated a then-familiar course of action.



Writers on the Range
by Zeke Lloyd

Gathering every container of water they possessed, the group rushed toward the smoke's source. "Like children of the corn, we come out of the trees," Wilson said, only to find three men huddled around a prohibited campfire. The hikers explained that they'd put out a smoldering wildfire, spotted another and were worried about a third—the campfire they were now looking at.

"The guys were not very impressed with us, though," Chelsie Wilson said, as the men reluctantly extinguished their fire. "They didn't like our story at all." Still, they'd agreed to douse the fire and the hikers withdrew, hoping this was the end of fires popping up on their trek.

"It's a real possibility," Darren Wilson said. "You could be caught behind the wrong side of a fire."

Zeke Lloyd is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He lives in Helena, Montana and writes for the Montana Free Press.

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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 leadership 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



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.

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 psychologi-

cal 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.

DONATION

Continued from Page 1A

to say thank you and share the success of this trip with everyone. This trip would not have been possible without Farm Fresh Direct led by Mayra McKibbon. This trip was a truly transformative experience for our 25 participants, including both youth and parents. I just want to say thank you for helping the 4-H Juntos program, take these children, and show them how valuable they are, and how valuable they can be in their future lives, too. Educating children is so important to me. Thank you so much. I truly appreciate what you have done.”

Gurule described how the trip was an extraordinary adventure for everyone who attended.

“It all began with a journey to Pueblo. Our group stayed at a Holiday Inn. We took the kids on an inspiring tour of Colorado State University, Pueblo. The tour offered a glimpse into college life for the kids, and really ignited excitement in them about future educational possibilities,” she said.

Gurule said the staff that gave the tour was enthusiastic with the kids, and the tour was memorable from start to finish.

“Following the tour, we enjoyed lunch at Pack Café, located on the university grounds,” she said.

Gurule said lunch was a wonderful way for families and children to get together and reflect on their tour and on the beginning of the day's events.

Gurule then described a boat tour that was taken of the historic Arkansas River Walk in Pueblo.

“It was a relaxing way to take in all the scenic beauty and rich history of the area,” she said.

Gurule said that dinner was then held for the kids with their choice of either Angelo's Pizza Pie or Old Chicago Pizza.

“Dinner offered the families a chance to unwind and discuss their experiences for the day, too,” she said.

Gurule said that the next day the kids were all taken to the Colorado State Fair, where they looked at 4-H projects that were showcased from all around Colorado, including the San Luis Valley counties. Gurule said that the kids had fun exploring all the project areas, including the Creative Cooks Contest, Public Presentations Contests, and several pavilions, including the Agricultural Pavilion, East Horse Area, and Small Animal Pavilion.

“Each exhibit offered a window into the skills and hard work of 4-H members, reinforcing the value of their dedication,” said Gurule.

Gurule said that the trip was a success for the 4-H Juntos group.

“The success of this trip would not have been possible without the astounding support from Farm Fresh Direct and the leadership of Mayra McKibbon. The positive feedback from families underscores the impact of this opportunity, highlighting the invaluable experiences gained by our Juntos 4-H youth. Throughout the trip, we ensured that all logistical needs were meticulously handled, including transportation, meals, and accommodations, allowing our participants to fully engage in these enriching experiences, all due to this wonderful donation,” she said.

Gurule said she was grateful to McKibbon and Farm Fresh Direct for their commitment and support for local initiatives.

“Thank you for making this trip a memorable and educational experience for all involved,” she said.

For more information about Juntos 4-H, contact Gurule at the CSU Extension Office at 719-852-7381.

Don't Miss

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Kent Rominger Airport fuel sales up

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

DEL NORTE — The Kent Rominger Airport in Del Norte has had a successful year, first rolling out the red carpet for their new fueling system and then launching a new program that helps track airport traffic 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Rio Grande County Airport Manager Brian Burrell stated that the Colorado State Aeronautics Division is looking to install this new tracking system in airports around the state and Burrell was the first to volunteer to try the system. “When we heard about the new tracking system called Runaway Stats, I volunteered to allow the system to be installed here.”

It wasn't long before data began pouring in from the system, showing Burrell and Rio Grande County Commissioners that the airport was seeing a higher volume of flights per day than they originally believed. “This system captures flights in the area within a 15-mile radius and that fly lower than 4,000 feet above ground level. After the data was collected, we found that we were averaging about 15 flight per 24-hour period, which was exceptionally higher than what we originally anticipated.”

Burrell stated that based on the data from the tracking system they estimate that each plane that lands carry about two to three people per plane. “Once you crunch the numbers, that means that we are bringing in roughly 30-40 people per day. Most of those people go into town to utilize services in Del Norte and the surrounding Rio Grande County. That is a huge success for us.”

Other data collected by the system also breaks down transient vs local traffic. “We were also surprised to learn that most of the traffic coming into the airport is coming from out of town. We see more transient flights than we do locals, and that is really great for an airport this size.”

Burrell also reported that many of the planes flying into Del Norte are Air Taxi's. Companies like Flex Jet, Net Jet, and Jet Pro are bringing people to the area either as a layover to fuel or to summer homes in the area. “Basically, people buy blocks of flight time and these companies chauffeur them to different locations throughout the world. Having the fuel available has brought more of these companies here.”



Photos courtesy of Kent Rominger Airport **With a new fuel system installed and a new tracking system, the Kent Rominger Airport in Del Norte has been busy. Data collected over the past few weeks has shown the airport has seen an increase in flights and fuel sales.**

With the new fuel systems in place, flights that would have had to fuel in Pueblo or other surrounding airports are now coming to Del Norte and the increase in traffic is a welcome sight. “Bringing the fuel in has been a huge benefit to the economy. One thing I think most people don't understand is the medical benefits this also brings. Medical helicopters, Flight for Life and other medical flights are cutting response times down by at least 30-minutes. That is huge when you're in a medical emergency and are needing special care.”

In addition to the fuel and tracking systems, Burrell has also increased marketing at the airport utilizing social media to spread the word and share how wonderful this little mountain airport really is. “We are very fortunate to have the support of not only the community but the Rio Grande County Commissioners as well. We have a great resource here and we are starting to see its potential.”

For more information or to stay up to date on the Kent Rominger Airport, please follow them on Instagram at KRCV_airport or on Facebook under Astronaut Kent Rominger Airport.



How to Be the Bigger Person

Moving Up Higher
with
Joyce Meyer



God puts us in relationships with all kinds of people. We think differently, and we have different personalities, interests, and ideas. God made us that way on purpose. And although everyone is not like us, He still wants us all to get along.

I love what the apostle Paul says in Philipians 2:2 (AMPC): “Fill up and complete my joy by living in harmony and being of the same mind and one in purpose, having the same love, being in full accord and of one harmonious mind and intention.”

To put this verse in perspective, Paul was dealing with people who seemed to be in continual disagreement. If you've raised two or more children, I'm sure you know exactly what he's talking about. Sometimes you'd give anything for a little peace and quiet!

Oddly, the people we usually disagree with the most are the ones we care the most about our spouses, family members, close friends, and coworkers. And if we're asking God to bring healing into any of those relationships or make them better, we need to partner with Him to make it happen.

We need to learn how to control our emotions and stay out of strife. Strife is an old-fashioned word for bickering, arguing, or a heated disagreement, and it carries an angry undercurrent.

Have you ever been around someone who's pretending everything's okay, but you can tell that on the inside they're seething with anger? Have you ever been that person?

Think about it. How long do you stay mad when someone mistreats you? How easy is it for you to get frustrated with someone? When you have a disagreement, do you have the

need to always be right?

Strife is extremely dangerous. It can destroy marriages, families, relationships, and even churches. If it isn't stopped, it will continue to go from person to person, causing all kinds of problems and unnecessary pain.

It's not easy to hear, but the Bible says we are still under the control of the flesh as long as we are envious and jealous of others and there is arguing among us (1 Corinthians 3:3).

When the Bible talks about “the flesh,” it is referring to the parts of our souls and bodies that we have not yet surrendered to God...things like bad attitudes, selfishness, strife, anger, fear, unforgiveness, lust, addictions, and anything else that leads to sin.

The minute we begin to sense envy or jealousy within us or an urge to be offended, we need to make a decision to put our feelings aside and say, “I am not offended.”

If we don't do this—and instead just stuff it down inside of us—little things become giants in our lives. Then before we know it, we're angry, bitter, resentful people...going to church every week but not acting any different than the rest of the world.

God wants us to care more about maintaining peace in our relationships than we care about being right. And He wants us to have a good attitude even when we don't get our way.

Acts 13:22 says God is looking for those who will “carry out My program fully” (AMPC), and part of that is learning to forgive quickly, frequently, and thoroughly.

When you have a conflict, you need to do your part to resolve it no matter what the other person chooses to do. Someone has to choose to be

humble and apologize first—and as a Christian, that very often means you.

If you've been through some tough times in your relationships, you probably know that being right is highly overrated. We're not likely to agree with each other by accident because we're all different, so we need to put a real effort into creating an atmosphere of unity.

And where there's unity, there is blessing (Psalm 133). When people are unified and agree, it brings peace and power.

I can promise you there will be opportunities to be offended. You may even be tempted to have an all-out fit. But before that even happens, I encourage you to set your mind to be the “bigger” person. Why? Because when we do, we can have the healthy relationships God wants us to have.

We're not ever going to be perfect like Jesus, but we can get better at loving imperfect people.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-part teaching resource *Do Unto Others*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org

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

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

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Adelante distributes school supplies to over 1,300 students

Seven different sites were located across the valley

By LA PUENTE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE

ALAMOSA — In preparation for the school year, Adelante Family Resource Center, a program of La Puente, organized a School Supply Distribution where they distributed over 15,000 school items (not including pens and pencils) to 1,356 preK-12th grade students across seven school districts in the Valley.

To pull off this huge endeavor, Adelante partnered with American Legion 142, Bill Metz Elementary Monte Vista, City of Monte Vista, South Conejos School District, Moffat School District, Blanca Ft. Garland Rec Center, Sangre de Cristo School District, and Crestone Charter School.

“My goal for this event was not only to distribute school supplies but to provide students with the tools they need to succeed,” said Tara Bay, Director of Adelante Family Resource Center.

While La Puente has hosted successful backpack drives in previous years, it became apparent that the number of items students truly needed to thrive in the classroom exceeded what was provided. There were also issues with accessibility given the geographic size of the Valley is so large.

In revamping the event, Adelante — with the help of SLV Community Solutions — contacted local schools, identified which districts had families with the most need, consulted schools’ supplies lists, and ordered supplies that specifically met grade requirements.

Going one step further, providing several distribution sites across the Valley enabled more families to take advantage of this opportunity. People traveled to Antonito, San Luis, Mosca, Fort Garland, Monte Vista, Crestone, and Moffat to participate. Students chose their own grade-specific supplies, resulting in some students who left with a backpack full of everything pink, from pencil sharpeners to scissors to notebooks.

A family with 6 school-aged children praised the event saying, “This is a great program that’s supporting the community. We really appreciate it!”

According to a May CBS poll of 1,200 U.S. based parents of school-aged children, parents planned to spend an average of \$586 per child on school items in 2024. According to data from the University of Colorado-Denver School of Public Affairs, the San Luis Valley is one of the poorest rural areas in the state, with a poverty rate estimated at around 21.4%. Adelante saw the need of the community and felt they had the resources to meet that need. Based on the reviews from attendees, Adelante got an A plus.

Adelante Family Resource Center is a program of La Puente that promotes the empowerment and stabilization of families. Adelante-supported families are offered individualized assistance to navigate resources and reach their goals. Services include assistance with housing, case management, referrals, improved access to counseling, and family advocacy.

Through supporting families as they seek to improve their quality of life and achieve healthy interdependence, Adelante seeks to be a resource center for all families who wish to flourish, especially those who need a bit of extra support to make their dreams a reality.

To learn more about Adelante Family Resource, visit lapuentehome.org/adelante or call 719-587-0538.



Caroline Burkhardt, an employee of La Puente, helps a young student select items at Adelante's School Supply Distribution.



Line outside of Bill Metz Elementary School for the local School Supplies Distribution. Monte Vista was one of seven districts served.

Photos courtesy of La Puente

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 3, STATE OF COLORADO TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS FILED IN WATER DIVISION 3.

Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302(3), you are notified that the following is a resume in Water Division 3, containing notice of applications and certain amendments filed in the office of the Water Clerk during the month of August 2024 for each county affected.

24CW3008 San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, acting by and through its Augmentation Program Enterprise (“Conservancy District” or “Co-Applicant”), c/o Heather Dutton, Manager, 623 Fourth Ave., Alamosa, Colorado 81101, (719) 589-2230, and the Beaver Mountain Estates Property Owners Association, Inc. (“Beaver Mountain” or “Co-Applicant”), c/o Matt Dorsett, Chairperson, Water Committee, PO Box 713, South Fork, Colorado 81154, (972) 467-6725, APPLICATION OF THE SAN LUIS VALLEY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT AND BEAVER MOUNTAIN ESTATES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION FOR CHANGE OF WATER RIGHTS AND PLAN FOR AUGMENTATION IN ALAMOSA, CONEJOS, HINSDALE, MINERAL, RIO GRANDE AND SAGUACHE COUNTIES. Please mail copies of all pleadings in this case to: Tod J. Smith, The Law Office of Tod J. Smith, LLC, 5777 Central Ave., Suite 228, Boulder, CO 80301 (Attorney for the Conservancy District) and Mirko L. Kruse, Kruse Law PLLC, 134 F Street, Suite 203, Salida, CO 81201

(Attorney for Beaver Mountain). 2. Introduction and General Background. By this Application for Change of Water Right, 6.349 acre-feet of the original 7.0 acre-feet of Church Ditch water decreed as fully consumable water for the Association's augmentation use in Case No. 01CW24 will be incorporated into the District's Augmentation Program and used to replace out of priority depletions by the Conservancy District's Participating Structures on the South Fork of the Rio Grande and the Rio Grande (The remaining 0.651 acre-feet will continue to be used by the Association to augment well depletions as originally decreed in Case No. 01CW24). In exchange, the Conservancy District will provide the Association with an Augmentation Certificate which will include 6.349 acre-feet for the replacement of out of priority depletions caused by the Association's wells as described in more detail in this Application. The Conservancy District is a water conservancy district created and existing pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 37-45-101 to 153. The Conservancy District, through its Augmentation Program Enterprise, operates several decreed plans for augmentation which provide water to augment out-of-priority depletions resulting from the exercise of junior water rights owned by Augmentation Program Participants (“Participants”) located within the Conservancy District's boundaries. A map of the Conservancy District's current boundaries is attached to this Application as Exhibit 1. Those boundaries encompass all of the land that will be included in the Augmentation Certificate issued by the Conservancy District to the Association. The Conservancy District's boundaries may change from time to time in accordance with Colorado law. The Conservancy District's existing decreed plans for augmentation, which it operates through its Augmentation Program, have been decreed in Case Nos. 84CW16, 93CW43, 94CW62, 03CW41, 05CW13, 07CW63, 09CW34, 14CW3011, and 21CW3004 all in Water Division No. 3. The source of augmentation water for operation of the District's Augmentation Program is derived from changes of several water rights including Case Nos. 84CW16, 94CW62, 03CW41, 05CW13, 07CW63, 09CW34, 14CW3011, and subsequent diligence cases. Each of those cases decreed the use of the Conservancy District's changed water rights in its Augmentation Program, including exchanges. Additionally, the Conservancy District has decreed exchanges on Pinos Creek, Case No. 93CW43, and on various sections of the Rio Grande and the South Fork of the Rio Grande in Case No. 21CW3004. The decree in Case No. 21CW3004 includes the exchange of the Church Ditch water rights being changed in this case for inclusion in the Conservancy District's Augmentation Program. The Association represents home and property owners within the Beaver Mountain Estates Phases I, II, and III and Crow's Nest Subdivisions located on the South Fork of the Rio Grande. The Association holds title to 7.0 acre-feet of the Church Ditch water right which was changed for fully consumable use in a plan for augmentation in Case No. 01CW24, Water Division No. 3, following prior changes in Case Nos. 82CW177 and 99CW33. The decree in Case No. 01CW24, decreed the use of the 7.0 acre-feet for the augmentation of wells for domestic, commercial, and municipal use on 50 lots located on 100 acres in Phase III of the Beaver Mountain Estates Subdivision, generally located in Section 3, Township 39 North, Range 3 East, N.M.P.M., Rio Grande County, Colorado. The Conservancy District and the Association have agreed that, following entry of a final decree in this case changing the use of 6.349 of the 7.0 acre-feet originally decreed in Case No. 01CW24 for incorporation into the Conservancy District's Augmentation Program, the Association will convey that changed water to the Conservancy District and the Conservancy District will issue an augmentation certificate to the Association which will include 6.349 acre-feet (with additional water totaling 7.714 acre-feet) for the augmentation of the wells serving the land located in Phases I, II, and III of the Beaver Mountain Estates Subdivision and the Crow's Nest Subdivision, which include the wells and lots originally decreed in Case No. 01CW24. A map depicting these lands is attached to the Application as Exhibit 2. The Augmentation Certificate will be issued in accordance with the terms of the Agreement to Convey Water Rights in Exchange for Augmentation between the Conservancy District and Association, which was executed on April 18, 2024 (“Agreement to Convey Water”). The Association will retain the remaining 0.651 acre-feet for augmentation uses under the decree in Case No. 01CW24. Paragraph 14 of the Decree in Case No. 01CW24 required that the Association construct an augmentation pond to store 8 - 10 acre-feet of augmentation water. The Conservancy District, in this case, seeks to change the place of storage for the 6.349 acre-feet to Beaver Park Reservoir, in which the Conservancy District holds a storage account with a firm capacity of 400 acre-feet, or Shaw Reservoir, which the Conservancy District owns and can store up to 348 acre-feet. Water can be delivered from either reservoir to augment depletions to the South Fork of the Rio Grande and the Rio Grande caused by the wells used to supply water to the lands depicted on Exhibit 2. The Conservancy District has previously obtained a decree in Case No. 21CW3004 confirming the right to exchange the water that is the subject of this change case from the original Church Ditch headgate to both reservoirs. 3. Previous Decree Information for Water Right to be Changed. 3.1. Water Right: Upon entry of a final decree in this case, the Association will convey to the Conservancy District the 6.349 acre-feet for which the Co-Applicants seek a change in use and a change in location of storage. 3.2. Prior Decrees: The water rights for the Church Ditch were originally awarded by the Rio Grande County District Court, General Stream Adjudication, May 1, 1896. 3.2.1. Decreed Point of Diversion: SW1/4, NW1/4 of Section 4, Township 39 North, Range 3 East, N.M.P.M., Rio Grande County, Colorado at a point N 78°35'E 17.45 chains from the 1/4 section Corner between sections 4 and 5, Township 39 North, Range 3 East, N.M.P.M., Rio Grande County, Colorado. 3.2.2. Appropriation Dates and Amounts: May 31, 1881, 1.0 cfs (Priority No. 216); July 31, 1889, 0.02 cfs (Priority No. 360). 3.2.3. Decreed Use: Irrigation. 3.3. Case No. 82CW177:

3.3.1. Amount Changed in Use: 0.57 cfs. 3.3.2. Total consumptive use available for augmentation: 27.73 acre-feet. 3.3.3. Use: Augmentation of wells for commercial, domestic, and municipal uses. 3.3.4. Amount of fully consumable water dedicated to plan for augmentation in Case No. 82CW177: 11.49 acre-feet. 3.3.5. Remaining amount of fully consumable water available for future augmentation: 16.24 acre-feet. 3.4. Case No. 99CW33: 3.4.1. Use: Additional 2.62 acre-feet dedicated to uses decreed in Case No. 82CW177. 3.4.2. Total used in Case Nos. 82CW177 and 99CW33: 14.11 acre-feet. 3.4.3. Amount of fully consumable water remaining for future augmentation: 13.62 acre-feet. 3.5. Case No. 01CW24

3.5.1. Use: 7.0 acre-feet of the remaining 13.62 acre feet of fully consumable water dedicated to augment out of priority depletions by wells used for domestic, commercial, and municipal purposes on 50 lots located on 100 acres. 3.5.2. Location of Use: 100 acres of land located generally in Section 3, Township 39 North, Range 3 East, N.M.P.M., Rio Grande County, Colorado. 3.5.3. Language from Decree:

(Paragraph 9) “Matters previously determined in Case No. 82CW177 are considered res judicata, including the amount of water historically used by the Applicant's share of the Church Ditch water right, and Applicant's right to change water to domestic, commercial, and municipal use.” (Paragraph 10) “As previously determined in Case Nos. 82CW177 and 99CW33, 13.62 acre feet [of] Applicant's Church Ditch water right is available, on an annual basis, to provide augmentation water for the uses applicant has proposed.” (Paragraph 11) “Applicant shall dedicate 7 acre-feet, out of the 13.62 acre feet to augment depletions to the Rio Grande River and South Fork of the Rio Grande River caused by wells used for domestic, commercial, and municipal purposes on 50 lots owned by

Applicant and located on the 100 acres described on Exhibit B . . .” 4. Change of Use. 4.1. The Co-Applicants seek in this Application to change 6.349 acre-feet of the 7.0 acre feet previously dedicated to augment out of priority depletions to the Rio Grande and the South Fork of the Rio Grande caused by wells used for domestic, commercial, and municipal purposes on 50 lots owned by Applicant and located on 100 acres described on Exhibit B to the decree in Case No. 01CW24, which is Phase III of the Beaver Mountain Estates Subdivision. The Co-Applicants by this change seek to incorporate the 6.349 acre-feet of the 7.0 acre-feet of Church Ditch water into the Conservancy District's augmentation water portfolio for use in its Augmentation Program to replace out-of-priority depletions caused by Participating Structures on the South Fork of the Rio Grande and the Rio Grande. Upon approval of the change, the Conservancy District will dedicate 6.349 acre-feet of its augmentation water to be used to replace depletions from the Association's wells used for domestic, commercial, and municipal purposes in Phases I, II, and III of the Beaver Mountain Estates Subdivision, which includes the 50 lots comprising 100 acres originally decreed in Case No. 01CW24, and the Crow's Nest Subdivision, all of which is located within the land identified in the Case No. 01CW24 decree. The Conservancy District will issue an Augmentation Certificate to the Association providing for the delivery of up to 6.349 acre-feet for the purposes set forth above and in accordance with the terms of the Agreement to Convey Water. 4.2. Decreed Point of Diversion: The 6.349 acre-feet of water being changed in this case may be accounted for as augmentation replacement water and left in the stream to replace out of priority depletions accruing on the South Fork of the Rio Grande or the Rio Grande, or exchanged from that point to either Beaver Park Reservoir or Shaw Reservoir pursuant to the terms and conditions of the exchange decreed in Case No. 21CW3004. 4.3. Place of Delivery: The 6.349 acre-feet of Church Ditch water being changed in this case will be delivered to the South Fork of the Rio Grande to replace out-of-priority depletions or exchanged into Beaver Park or Shaw Reservoirs. Once exchanged the water will become part of the Conservancy District's Augmentation Program portfolio of water rights and the subsequent delivery from that portfolio will be made to replace depletions to the Rio Grande and South Fork of Rio Grande caused by Participating Structures, including the Association's wells. Deliveries of the augmentation water to replace out of priority depletions caused by the Association's wells will be made pursuant to an Augmentation Certificate that will be issued by the Conservancy District to the Association following entry of a final decree in this case. 4.4. Place of Use: The use of up to 6.349 acre-feet of water from the Conservancy District's water rights portfolio will be delivered to replace depletions on the South Fork of the Rio Grande and the Rio Grande caused by Participating Structure's out-of-priority depletions, which structures may include, but will not be limited to those wells used to supply water to Phases I, II, and III of the Beaver Mountain Estates Subdivision and the Crow's Nest Subdivision which include the 50 lots originally decreed in Case No. 01CW24 for Phase III of the Beaver Mountain Estates Subdivision. 4.5. Type of Use: The changed water rights will be used for augmentation purposes to replace out-of-priority depletions to the Rio Grande and the South Fork of the Rio Grande Basin caused by Participating Structures. 4.6. Structures to be Augmented: The structures for which the changed 6.349 acre-feet of Church Ditch water rights may be used include existing wells, ponds, or other structures currently included in and augmented through the Conservancy District's Augmentation Program, and new wells, ponds, or other structures which will divert surface water or groundwater within the Conservancy District (as its boundaries currently exist and may change from time to time hereafter) for in-house domestic, domestic, including lawn and landscape irrigation, agricultural irrigation, commercial, industrial, municipal, pool evaporation, and stockwatering. To be eligible to receive augmentation water, a structure owner must contract for augmentation water from the Conservancy District, which issues an Agreement and Augmentation Certificate to each Participant. The structures for which the Conservancy District provides augmentation water are referred to in this Application as “Participating Structures.” Once the changed 6.349 acre-feet of Church Ditch water is incorporated into the District's Augmentation Program water portfolio, the District will issue an Augmentation Certificate to the Association providing, in part, 6.349 acre-feet of the District's augmentation water to replace out-of-priority depletions for wells used for domestic, commercial, and municipal uses within Phases I, II, and III of the Beaver Mountain Estates Subdivision, which includes the 50 lots comprising 100 acres originally decreed in Case No. 01CW24 for Phase III of the Beaver Mountain Estates Subdivision, and the Crow's Nest Subdivision, all of which is located within the land identified in the 01CW24 decree. The Association's wells covered by the Augmentation Certificate will become Participating Structures. 5. Plan for Augmentation. 5.1. The amount and timing of out-of-priority depletions by Participating Structures will be determined in accordance with the Depletion Schedules adopted and applied by the Water Court in each of the Conservancy District's decreed plans for augmentation. The Depletion Schedules are attached to this Application as Exhibit 3, and were used in Case No. 01CW24 to establish the depletions attributable to the 50 lots that were identified in that case. The place of use of water used by Participants must be within the Conservancy District's boundaries, as those boundaries may change from time to time. 5.2. The Participants in the Conservancy District's Augmentation Program will install measuring devices on all Participating Structures for the administration of this plan for augmentation and operation of the Conservancy District's Augmentation Program as may be reasonably required by the State or Division Engineer. The Conservancy District will submit periodic water use and depletion accounting forms sufficient to meet the reasonable accounting needs of the State or Division Engineers. 5.3. The 6.349 acre-feet of fully consumable Church Ditch water rights may be stored in the District's storage account in Beaver Park Reservoir, pursuant to its storage agreement with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, or in Shaw Reservoir, which the Conservancy District owns. The two reservoirs are located as follows: Beaver Park Reservoir: Beaver Reservoir located on Beaver Creek, a tributary of the South Fork of the Rio Grande, located generally in the S1/2 of Section 28, SW1/4 of Section 27, NE1/4 of Section 33, and W1/2 of Section 34, all in Township 39 North, Range 3 East of the N.M.P.M., Rio Grande County, Colorado. Shaw Reservoir: Shaw Reservoir, an off-channel reservoir located on unsurveyed land generally in portions of Sections 5, 6, 7, and 8 of Township 38 North, Range 2 East, N.M.P.M., Mineral County, Colorado. Water is diverted into Shaw Reservoir from Kitty Creek. The point of diversion through which exchanged water will be diverted into Shaw Reservoir is located on the east bank of Kitty Creek [formerly known as Little Trout Creek], North 87 degrees, 50 minutes West 1,841 feet from contour post No. 13 of Shaw Reservoir located in the Northeast Quarter of Sec. 6, Twp. 38 North, Range 2 East, N.M.P.M., Mineral County, Colorado. The Northwest corner of Section 6 bears North 46 degrees West 2,702 feet. 5.4. The 6.349 acre-feet of fully consumable Church Ditch water rights may be exchanged from the Church Ditch decreed point of diversion to both Beaver Park and Shaw Reservoirs pursuant to the terms and conditions of the exchange decreed in Case No. 21CW3004. 6. Names and Addresses of Owners, Structures and of Land on which Structures Are Located. 6.1. The Participating Structures are and will be located within the boundaries of the Conservancy District as those boundaries may change from time to time. Generally, Participating Structures are located on the lands of the Participants owning such structure, but Participating Structures may also be located on the lands of other parties pursuant to permission, license, easement, right of way, or other authorization obtained by the Participant. 6.2. To the best of the Co-Applicant's knowledge, the owners of the land on which the reservoirs are located are: Beaver Park Reservoir is owned by Colorado Parks and Wildlife and is located on land owned by the: United States of America, Rio Grande National Forest, 13308 W. Highway 160, Del Norte, Colorado 81132. Shaw Reservoir is owned by the Co-Applicant San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District and is located on land owned by the: United States of America, Rio Grande National Forest, 13308 W. Highway 160, Del Norte, Colorado 81132. (The application is 9 pages with 3 exhibits)

You are notified that you have until the last day of October 2024, to file with the Water Clerk a verified statement of opposition setting forth facts as to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions or a protest to the requested correction. A copy of such a statement of opposition or protest must also be served upon the Applicant or the Applicant's attorney and an affidavit or certificate of such service must be filed with the Water Clerk. The filing fee for the Statement of Opposition is \$192.00. Forms may be obtained from the Water Clerk's Office or our website at www.courts.state.co.us. Jennifer Pacheco, Water Clerk, Water Division 3, 8955 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.



A celebration of the life of Kathy Park Woolbert

Set for 1 to 3 p.m. on Sept. 21

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER

ALAMOSA — A celebration of life will be held on Sept. 21 for Kathy Park Woolbert, a woman well known and much beloved in the Alamosa community.

Kathy passed away at 5:30 p.m. on April 8, 2024, at home in her own bed with her best friend, partner, collaborator, soulmate and husband, Henry, at her side. It was the day of the solar eclipse, which somehow seems so fitting.

“Kathy Park has gone over to the other side to join the herd,” says Henry. “Horses were such a part of her life — this is how Kathy saw her passing.”

As he describes the celebration of her life, “We will be gathering to share some of our favorite memories, our stories, to laugh, to cry and remember a wonderful person who will be greatly missed.”

To those who knew her, Kathy was truly an extraordinary human being. And “those who knew her,” included a far reaching, diverse circle of friends, colleagues and students as Kathy was imbued with an inordinate number of talents, skills, accomplishments and interests.

To those who knew her as an artist, Kathy was gifted with a truly remarkable ability to reveal the most powerful figures, shapes, animals and people hidden deep within a raw block of stone or wood. Her paintings were so astonishingly original that her work was immediately recognized as hers because of the way the world was portrayed.

As a writer, she could make people think, laugh, feel and ponder the mysteries of life within one piece of work.

As a teacher, she both motivated and guided people incarcerated in prisons around the country to explore their own thoughts and experiences and revelations and discover their own voices in storytelling.

As an Aikido instructor, she taught principles both philosophical and physical, applying what she had learned

to even the most difficult situations once she was discovered to have cancer. And to those horses who were such a fundamentally important part of her life, she was, as Henry says, truly “one of the herd.”

Even with all of this said, there is still so much to remember and to celebrate and to honor about Kathy Park Wool-

bert, which Henry warmly invites all who knew her to do.

The celebration of life will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Woolbert Home and Dreamworks Studio, 13201 Charisma Trail, Alamosa. Live music and refreshments will be provided.

Henry is requesting people to RSVP by Sept. 15 by calling 719-589-2897.

HEARING NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given for a Hearing scheduled September 23rd 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at 95 West 1st, Monte Vista CO. 81144 before the City of Monte Vista Planning Commission for the following:
 Applicant(s): The Rio Grande Farm Bureau
 Request: Special Use Review to open a medical clinic
 Location: 247 Adams St., Monte Vista CO
 You can get more information by contacting the City Planners Office at 719-852-8288
 ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING
 No. 4863 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, September 11 and 18, 2024.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District Court <input type="checkbox"/> Denver Probate Court Rio Grande County, Colorado Court Address: 925 6 th Street Del Norte, CO 81132 719-657-3394	
In the Matter of the Estate of Nadine Dieckman	
Deceased	
Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address): John M. Montgomery, Attorney 660 Grande Avenue Del Norte, CO 81132 Phone Number: 719-657-3333 E-mail: john@montgomery-law.net FAX Number: 719-657-9999 Atty. Reg. #: 19385	Case Number: 2024PR30015 Division: Courtroom

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Estate of Nadine Dieckman, Deceased Case Number 2024PR30015
 All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to

District Court of Rio Grande, County, Colorado or
 Denver Probate Court of the City and County of Denver, Colorado on or before January 17, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred.

John M. Montgomery
 Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice
 660 Grande Avenue
 Address
 Del Norte, CO 81132
 City, State, Zip Code

No. 4864 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, September 18 and 25 and October 2, 2024.

District Rio Grande Combined Court, State of Colorado COURT ADDRESS: 925 6TH STREET, ROOM 204, DEL NORTE, CO 81132 PHONE NUMBER: 719-657-3394	
Plaintiff: JONATHON JAMES TRACY	▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲
v.	Case Number:
Defendants: CHRISTOPHER DANIEL SCOTT, STEWART TITLE GUARANTY COMPANY, and ALLPINE TITLE, INC	Division: Courtroom:

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: Christopher Daniel Scott, Stewart Title Guaranty, Company, and Allpine Title, Inc.
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the attached Complaint. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you within the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 21 days after such service upon you. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you outside of the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after such service upon you. Your answer or counterclaim must be accompanied with the applicable filing fee. If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within the applicable time period, the Court may enter judgment by default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice.

Dated: 5-31-24

Clerk of Court/Clerk:
Joy Pacheco
 Signature of Attorney for Plaintiff
 12712 W. Ken Caryl Ave., Littleton, CO 80127
 Address of Attorney for Plaintiff
 303-989-6655
 Plaintiff's Attorney's Phone Number

This Summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4, C.R.C.P., as amended. A copy of the Complaint must be served with this Summons. This form should not be used where service by publication is desired.
WARNING: A valid summons may be issued by a lawyer and it need not contain a court case number, the signature of a court officer, or a court seal. The plaintiff has 14 days from the date this summons was served on you to file the case with the court. You are responsible for contacting the court to find out whether the case has been filed and obtain the case number. If the plaintiff files the case within this time, then you must respond as explained in this summons. If the plaintiff files more than 14 days after the date the summons was served on you, the case may be dismissed upon motion and you may be entitled to seek attorney's fees from the plaintiff.
TO THE CLERK: If the summons is issued by the clerk of the court, the signature block for the clerk or deputy should be provided by stamp, or typewriter, in the space to the left of the attorney's name.

No. 4856 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, August 21 and 28 and September 4, 11 and 18, 2024.

PUBLIC NOTICES

DISTRICT COURT, RIO GRANDE COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO
 CIVIL ACTION NO. 2024CV3000
COMBINED NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL PROPERTY
 SOUTH FORK RANCHES MASTER HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Colorado nonprofit corporation, and RIO GRANDE WATER COMPANY
 Plaintiffs
 v.
 DOUGLAS WIBBENMEYER, CLYDE H. JONES AND RHONDA RICHARDSON, as Rio Grande County Public Trustee
 Defendants
 Lot 31, South Fork Ranches, River Greens Filing No. 1, recorded July 9, 2004 as Reception No. 383488, Drawer 11 Map 210-211, in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Rio Grande County, Colorado,
 Also known as: Lot 31, South Fork, CO 81154
 TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS or JUDGMENT DEBTORS, Please take notice:
 You and each of you are hereby notified that a Sheriff's Sale of the referenced property is to be conducted by the Sheriff's Department of County of Rio Grande, State of Colorado at 10:00 am, on the 7th day of November, 2024 at the Office of the Rio Grande Sheriff located at 640 Cherry Street, Del Norte, CO 81132, phone number (719) 657-4000, at which sale, the above described real property and improvements thereon will be sold to the highest bidder. Plaintiff makes no warranty relating to title, possession, or quiet enjoyment in and to said real property in connection with this sale.
 For the purposes of paying off, curing the default, or redemption as provided by statute, intent must be directed to or conducted at the RIO GRANDE SHERIFF, for the County of Rio Grande, State of Colorado.
PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY.
Judgment is in the amount of \$25,744.44
 This is to advise you that a Sheriff sale proceeding has been commenced through the office of the undersigned Sheriff pursuant to Court Order dated July 11, 2024, and C.R.S. 38-38-101 et seq. by South Forks Ranches Master Homeowners Association, Inc., a Colorado nonprofit corporation, the holder and current owner of a lien recorded on April 18, 2022 at Reception No. 202200446520 in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Rio Grande, State of Colorado. The foreclosure is based on a default under the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions of South Fork Ranches Master Homeowners, Inc. recorded November 28, 2000, at Reception Number 366491 of the Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorders office, and all supplements thereto (hereinafter referred to as the "Declaration"). The Declaration and notices, as recorded, establish a lien for the benefit of Country Hills Community Association, Inc., **WHICH LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS.**
 Bidders are required to have cash or certified funds to cover their highest bid at the time of sale.
 First Publication: September 4, 2024
 Last Publication: October 2, 2024
 Published In: The Monte Vista Journal
 All telephone inquiries for information should be directed to the office of the undersigned Sheriff at (719) 657-4000. The name, address and telephone number of the attorney representing the legal owner of the above-described lien is *Gabriel Stefu, WesternLaw Group LLC, 9351 Grant Street #120, Thornton, CO 80229, 720-542-8724.*
 DATED: August 27th, 2024
 ANNE ROBINSON, SHERIFF,
 COUNTY OF RIO GRANDE,
 STATE OF COLORADO
 By: Civil Process Specialist Christopher Otwell

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 3, STATE OF COLORADO
TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS FILED IN WATER DIVISION 3.
Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302(3), you are notified that the following is a resume in Water Division 3, containing notice of applications and certain amendments filed in the office of the Water Clerk during the month of August 2024 for each county affected.
 2024CW11 BEN COBLENTZ AND MELVIN COBLENTZ: Ben Coblentz 0495 East County Road 11 South Monte Vista, CO 81144 (719)852-6989 Melvin Coblentz 0104 East County Road 11 South Monte Vista, CO 81144 (719) 849-3292 Concerning the Application Change of Water Right. In the Rio Grande Basin or its Tributaries, in Rio Grande County.
 Decreed water right for which change is sought: Name of structure: Well No. 2, Case No. W-2544, Permit No. 473-R, WDID 2005110 (Well No. 2) Date of original and all relevant subsequent decrees: April 14, 1977. Court: District Court, Water Division No. 3 Legal description of structure: SW 1/4 NW 1/4 Section 31, Township 37 North, Range 8 East, NMPM at a point 2590 feet from the North section line and 55 feet from the West section line in Rio Grande County, Colorado. Decreed source of water: Confined Aquifer (well is 240 feet deep with perforated casing from 160 feet to 240 feet. Appropriation Date: July 31, 1949, for 775 gpm (being 1.72 cfs) and February 27, 1964, for 345 gpm (being 0.768 cfs). Total amount decreed to structure: 1120 gpm = 2.50 cfs Decreed use or uses: Irrigation. Amount of water that applicant intends to change: 20 gpm (being 0.045 cfs) Detailed description of proposed change: This 1120 gpm irrigation well (Well No. 2) will be lowered to 1100 gpm. The 20 gpm to be changed will be pumped from existing well Permit No. 5270, Well No. 1, Case No. W-2544, WDID 2012555 (Well No. 1). The existing well is decreed for domestic and stockwater use at 40 gpm. Commercial use is needed within the northwest sprinkler corner of the NW 1/4 Section 31, Township 37 North, Range 8 East, NMPM. Well No. 1 is the best water source, and it also produces from the confined aquifer with a total depth of 227 feet and a perforated interval of 167 feet to 227 feet. This well is located at approximately 200 feet from the North Section Line and 600 feet from the West Section Line, a distance of only 2200 feet north of Well No. 2 and located on the same quarter section. Future use of Well No. 1 will be for commercial chicken and egg production in a year-round facility as well as an office to manage the commercial activities while retaining the exempt-type domestic and stockwater uses. A portion of the land historically irrigated by Well No. 2 will be retired from future irrigation. The historic consumptive use of water from Well No. 2 on the dry-up area will be moved to Well No. 1. The dry-up area can generally be described as the sprinkler corners of the sprinkler located within the NW1/4 Section 31, Township 37 North, Range 8 East, NMPM. Well No. 2 historically combined with Applicants' Terrace Irrigation Company shares to irrigate nearly the entire quarter section less the homesite. The sprinkler was installed to provide a more reliable and even water supply to the majority of the quarter section. The sprinkler corners were irrigated with a combination of surface and ground water for a number of years before it became impractical to irrigate with well water. The initial sprinkler size was approximately 123 acres. The current sprinkler size is approximately 120 acres. Applicants wish to retire irrigation of the corners from irrigation with Well No. 2. Applicants wish to retain the ability to use Well No. 2 on the original sprinkler area of 123 acres. The estimated annual withdrawal of water from Well No. 1 for commercial use is 1.00 acre foot (325,851 gallons). Of that amount, approximately 0.90 acre-feet will be consumed. The commercial processes will require an annual diversion of approximately 1.0 acre-foot with 0.9 acre-foot consumed. The domestic use will continue based on the exempt well permit.

In order to offset this withdrawal and consumptive use, Well No. 2 will not be used on the dry-up area - the sprinkler corners, resulting in an annual reduction of approximately 5.0 acre-feet of historically pro-rated withdrawal and 2.5 acre-feet of consumption. These amounts will be adequate to cover the transfer to Well No. 1. All wells will be metered as required by the Division of Water Resources. Accounting of water use from the wells shall be kept and provided as required by the Division of Water Resources subdivision. Attach copies of well permits:

N/A. A portion of the water right decreed to Well No. 2, Case No. W-2544 will be moved to the well currently permitted as no. 5270 (Well No. 1). The location of Well No. 1 will not be changed. Well No. 1: NW1/4 NW1/4 Section 31, Township 37 North, Range 8 East, NMPM. See Attachment A - MAP. Name(s) and address(es) of owner(s) or reputed owners of the land upon which any new diversion or storage structure, or modification to any existing diversion or storage structure is or will be constructed or upon which water is or will be stored, including any modification to the existing storage pool. Ben Coblentz 0495 East County Road 11 South Monte Vista, CO 81144 (719)852-6989 Melvin Coblentz 0104 East County Road 11 South Monte Vista, CO 81144 (719) 849-3292.

You are notified that you have until the last day of October 2024, to file with the Water Clerk a verified statement of opposition setting forth facts as to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions or a protest to the requested correction. A copy of such a statement of opposition or protest must also be served upon the Applicant or the Applicant's attorney and an affidavit or certificate of such service must be filed with the Water Clerk. The filing fee for the Statement of Opposition is \$192.00. Forms may be obtained from the Water Clerk's Office or our website at www.courts.state.co.us. Jennifer Pacheco, Water Clerk, Water Division 3, 8955 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

No. 4865 published in the Monte Vista Journal, Wednesday, September 18, 2024.

FALL Harvest



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Explore a career in ag

The agricultural industry provides a variety of opportunities to professionals interested in this often misunderstood field.

According to the employment resource AGCareers.com, more than 250 career profiles are available to people interested in a career in agriculture. And while jobs in agriculture may not be as prevalent as they were a few centuries ago, when 72 percent of the workforce was employed in farm occupations in the United States, agriculture remains a booming industry that greatly affects the nation's economy. Today, one in 12 American jobs depends on agriculture, according to the career resource Payscale.

The following are some potential professions for those considering careers in agriculture.

• **Agricultural business manager:** This person oversees the business

operations of a farm by providing organization and leadership during the production process. He or she contacts creditors, selects seeds, buys new equipment, and ensures the distribution of product.

• **Agricultural lawyer:** Attorneys who specialize in agriculture deal with water and environmental issues, represent agricultural labor in disputes, ensure proper marketing techniques are followed, handle real estate and land use issues, and much more.

• **Animal control officer:** These officers enforce local and regional laws that pertain to the treatment and care of animals. They patrol for distressed animals and ensure cruelty-free practices are adhered to.

• **Grain buyer:** Grain buyers build relationships with producers so they can purchase grain for their particular companies. They negotiate purchase agreements, source grain supplies

and issue purchase orders.

• **Poultry hatchery manager:** Hatchery managers oversee all of the aspects involved in poultry hatching. These can include management of personnel, handling and sorting of eggs, maintenance of equipment, coordination of pick-ups and deliveries, and overseeing quality control.

• **Soil scientist:** Among the many tasks they might perform, scientists in the field of agriculture test soil samples for minerals and contaminants. By studying the soil, scientists can recommend which crops the land can support, how much livestock can feed in an area and the implications of agriculture on the area as it pertains to managing natural resources.

A career in agriculture presents many exciting opportunities in a number of different applications. It's a vast industry that utilizes professionals with an array of skillsets.

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Facts and figures on farm safety

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, agriculture is among the most hazardous industries. Fatal and nonfatal injuries pose a significant threat to farmers, including the many young people who work on farms. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, in an effort to promote productive and safe workplaces, supports programs that conduct research on injuries associated with agriculture as well as pesticide exposure, pulmonary disease, musculoskeletal disorders, hearing loss, and stress. Studying the results of such research, compiled by NIOSH, may compel veteran and novice farmers to further emphasize safety measures and promote practices that can reduce risk for accidents on the farm.

• Estimates indicate that there were roughly 2.1 million full-time workers employed in production agriculture in 2017 and between 1.4 and 2.1 million hired crop workers employed annually on crop farms in the United States.

• An estimated 893,000 young people under 20 years of age resided

on farms in 2014. More than half of those young people performed farm work, and an additional 266,000 youth were hired to work on farms in 2014.

• Each day, roughly 100 agricultural workers suffer injuries that cause them to miss time at work.

• In 2014, 12,000 youth were injured on farms, and 4,000 of those youths could trace their injuries to farm work.

• In 2016, 417 farmers and farm workers died from work-related injuries. Tractor overturns and other transportation incidents were the leading cause of death for these farmers and farm workers.

• A rollover protection system, or ROPS, is a structure, similar to roll-cages and rollbars in cars and trucks, intended to protect farm equipment operators from injuries caused by overturns or rollovers.

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Hunting seasons start in Colorado

How hunters and outdoor recreationists can prepare

CONTRIBUTED

COLORADO — The 2024 hunting seasons have begun, and hunters are gearing up for exciting adventures. However, hunters aren't the only ones rushing to the outdoors this fall to enjoy everything Colorado has to offer.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) wants to remind hunters, hikers, bikers, leaf peepers, wildlife

viewers, and OHV users that most of Colorado's outdoors is multi-use and intended to be shared. Hunters and nonhunters should show respect and courtesy to all users engaged in outdoor recreation.

• Plan your hunt

Read the "What's New" page in the Big Game Hunting Brochure or watch the 'What's New' 2024 Colorado Big Game video to get a complete list of game management unit-specific changes for 2024.

Find locations to hunt using the Colorado Hunting Atlas. This resource allows you to find public land, save topographic maps, view

big game migration corridors and concentration areas, and view OHV trails.

Additional licenses are still available. Licenses leftover from the draw are available for deer, elk, pronghorn, and bear, and you can purchase over-the-counter licenses for bear, elk, pronghorn, and whitetail deer. Licenses returned by other hunters (reissue licenses) are available every Wednesday morning. Check the CPW

Please see HUNTING on Page 10

The 2024 hunting seasons have started in Colorado.

Courtesy photo from CPW



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Colorado is getting ready to change seasons and will be a canvass of sharp golds, orange, and reds as aspen trees show their colors this fall.

Dive into autumn with several fall drives through the San Juans

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

SAN LUIS VALLEY — With temperatures cooling and the feel of autumn in the air, now is the time to plan for outings in the beautiful San Juan Mountains to capture the amazing fall colors that are set to peak by the end of September, beginning of October.

The San Luis Valley is the perfect place to be when Colorado changes into its fall attire in the next several weeks. Whether out hiking, fishing, or taking a leisurely drive, these are some of the best places to see the Aspen trees change from brilliant

green to glorious shades of gold, orange, and red.

Platoro Lake is a gorgeous high mountain lake nestled in the San Juan Mountains just a short walk from the main trailhead. Take Park Creek Road (Forest Service Road 380) toward Summitville. Take the turn to Ellwood Pass which will take you into Platoro. On the way down the pass, you will drive through canopies of Aspen and have incredible views in all directions. There is a Lodge in Platoro that serves delicious

Please see SUTUMN on Page 6

New art gallery graces Grande Avenue in Del Norte

By LYNDISIE FERRELL

DEL NORTE — Hidden among the many businesses lining Grande Avenue, a new gallery of fine art has opened its doors and is welcoming people to experience the colorful, eccentric life of Joan "Blake" Higgins-Cellura captured in mixed media with a talented hand.

The gallery, 728 Grande Ave., is a sight to behold with the front room lined with memories and cherished treasures collected throughout Higgins-Cellura's life. Everything she held dear lines the shelves from Shirley Temple porcelain dolls to a wide collection of Robert Raikes Bears, the shop is a welcoming array into the life of a prolific artist.

"My mom was a presence. She turned heads when she walked into a room and loved every minute of it. It was who she was that drew people to her," said daughter Kim Anna Cellura-Shields. "She has been an artist her entire life. Everything here was a part of her life."

With the help of several family members and friends, Higgins-Cellura's life was packed up from her home in Tucson, Ariz., and brought to its new home in Del Norte.

"We couldn't have gotten this done without all of our family and friends. My mom was so worried about what was going to happen with her belongings, so we were able to surprise her by opening this gallery. It has been cathartic for all of us to go through this process," said Cellura-Shields.

At the beautiful age of 85, Higgins-Cellura was diagnosed with the early stages of dementia and though she is dealing with some memory loss, she was beyond elated and excited to find a home away from home once she knew the gallery housed her most precious possessions.

According to Higgins-Cellura's bio, she was born in Long Island, N.Y., and has been painting since she was able to hold a brush in her hand. Higgins-Cellura



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

A new art gallery, 728 Grande Ave., is a sight to behold with the front room lined with memories and cherished treasures collected throughout Higgins-Cellura's life.

began showing her artwork at an early age and over the years her pieces won several prestigious awards.

In 1955, Higgins-Cellura married and moved to Rochester, N.Y., where she pursued a career in graphic art and worked for many years as a designer, illustrator, art director and ads manager, for companies like the

Please see GALLERY on Page 7

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500 organizations call on Congress to pass 2024 Farm Bill

CCALT throws support behind the call

STAFF REPORT

LAKEWOOD — Along with 500 organizations representing a diverse range of stakeholders in conservation, agriculture, nutrition and other related sectors, the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) is strongly urging Congress to pass the 2024 Farm Bill before the end of the year.

In late July, 500 organizations signed a letter sent to both the Senate and House of Representatives not only calling for action on the Farm Bill but also outlining the risks to farmers and ranchers across America in failing to do so. CCALT, a member of the Partnership of Rangeland Trusts (PORT) was a signatory to the letter.

"Congress must act decisively to pass a new Farm Bill in 2024, ensuring that essential conservation programs continue to be a tool available to farm and ranch families across our nation," said CCALT Executive Director Erik Glenn.

"These programs are vital for ensuring we continue to have land available for the production of the food, fiber, and fuel that is needed to support our growing population.

"Farm Bill conservation programs empower landowners to maintain productive use of their land while contributing to the conservation of our natural resources for future generations," added Glenn.

"Moreover, these programs provide significant economic benefits to rural communities, generating substantial economic activity and creating jobs in areas where opportunities are often limited. By investing in these programs, we are not only strengthening the backbone of rural America but also ensuring the continued resilience and productivity



Photo courtesy of Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust

Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) is strongly urging Congress to pass the 2024 Farm Bill before the end of the year

of our nation's agricultural sector." According to a recent report by the Colorado Department of Agriculture, the agriculture industry contributes \$47 billion annually to the state's economy and employs more than 195,000 people across 36,000 farm operations.

The letter was sent to House Speaker Mike Johnson, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, House Agriculture Chair GT Thompson, House Agriculture Ranking Member David Scott, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, Senate Agriculture Chair Debbie Stabenow and Senate Agriculture Ranking Member John Boozman.

CCALT also encourages its landowner-partners to express their support for Farm Bill action by contacting their Colorado federal representatives.

The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) is a nonprofit land conservation organization whose mission is to "... conserve Colorado's western heritage and working landscapes for the benefit

of future generations." CCALT has partnered with more than 400 farm and ranch families in protection of more than 806,000 acres statewide to date.

31st Annual Fall Festival and Quilt Show is Sept. 21

CONTRIBUTED

SAGUACHE — As the leaves begin to change color and the mornings greet us with cooler temperatures, we are reminded of the annual event which occurs on the third Saturday in September. That would be the Fall Festival and Quilt Show held in Saguache on Sept. 21.

Originally entitled Handmade in Saguache Festival, it was meant to celebrate the harvest and the labors of those who had created homemade items during the year. Over the years, instead of visitors traveling to find the treasures, it was brought to the park in Saguache for ease of shopping. Although fresh vegetables and some homemade items have found other locations, you can find vendors with arts and crafts and creations available to enhance your home.

The Saguache Chamber of Commerce will host this event on Saturday, Sept. 21, in Otto Mears Park from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. You will find the Saguache Sagebrush Quilters inside the Community Building.

Be sure to purchase your ticket for the door prize of a handmade quilt which will be presented at the end of the day. Tickets can be purchased on the day of the event. The cost is \$1 for 1 ticket or 6 tickets for \$5.

Inside the Community Building you will also find a couple of other vendors along with the Silent Auction. The Silent Auction is the one fundraiser held by the Chamber annually. Items will be donated by local supporters and vendors at the event. You can "Buy it Now" or place a bid and take your chances at the end of the event. Winners will be announced at 3:30 p.m.

Our Vendor Coordinator, Bonnie Salzman, has been busy sending out invitations to potential vendors. It is not too late to sign up for a 10-by-10 space. The vendor form is available on the Chamber website www.saguachechamber.org. Select the Fall Festival on the Home Page and you will locate the form, be sure to complete pages 1 and 2. If you need additional assistance, call Salzman at 715-699-3679.



PUBLIC AUCTION
Sept. 21, 2024
Saturday 9:30 am

Location: 10738 County Road 4 South, Alamosa, CO. Auction site is east of Highway 17 on the 4S. Watch for signs.

Auctioneer's Note: This is a multi-family dispersal auction with many useful household items, equipment and tack. Check our FB page for more pictures and last minute additions.

- Vehicles & Trailers**
- Tonneau Cover for Ford Long Bed
- 2006 WW Enclosed Trailer
- 1976 Dodge Dump Truck
- 1995 Chev 3/4 ton w/ Service Bed
- 2000 GMC 4X4 3/4 ton "bad clutch"
- Equipment**
- Seed Auger
- 2-Kuhn Rakes
- Small Bale Grapple Fork
- 3 Bottom JD Plow
- IHC side delivery Rake
- Ferguson 3pt side del Rake
- JD 3pt Flail Mower 5'
- 8ft 3pt Blade
- 5500 Hesston Round Baler
- Crisafulli Water Pump
- Tack**
- New Kid's Saddle
- New Barrel Saddle
- New Breast Collars
- New Bridles & Tie Downs
- New Saddle Pads
- Saddle Stands
- Vintage Exotic Leather Boots
- Lots of Western Boots size 6 & 7
- Leather Hand Bags
- Lawn & Garden**
- Chain Link Gates
- 2-Push Mowers
- 1-Snow Blower
- Rakes & Shovels
- Antique 2 Bottom Plow
- Massey-Harris side del. Rake
- Lg lot of T-Posts



- Household**
- Roasters - 18 quart
- Cream & Sugar Wessex Collect.
- Several Small Appliances
- Lamps
- Desk
- File Cabinet
- Jocelyn Lillpop Prints
- East Lake Table
- Throw Pillows
- Oak Table w/ 4 Chairs
- Coffee Table
- Glass Display Case
- Dresser
- Bed Frames
- Lots of Glassware & Crystalware
- Montana Silversmith Soup Tureen
- Dishes
- Sorelle China
- Lots of Silverplated Silverware
- Lowery Organ
- Couch
- Crafting & Quilting**
- Quilting Books & Patterns
- Lots of Fabric Cottons & Blends
- Zippers, Buttons & Elastic
- Knitting Needles
- Crochet Hooks
- Lots of Craft Items
- Shop**
- 3- Generators
- 3- Elec. Air Compressors
- Tire Cage
- Toys**
- 6- JD Tractors (New in Box)
- Sev. Toy Cars (New in Box)

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Auctioneers: Dale Adams & David Brown

Registration open for Miner Walk/Run

ALAMOSA — The 2024 Stephanie L Miner 5K Walk/Run will be on Saturday, Sept. 21, at Cole Park in Alamosa. The event begins at 9:45 a.m. with announcements to help fight cancer. All proceeds benefit the local cancer center.

Registration opens on Aug. 28 and closes on Sept. 18. Cost is \$30 per person. Teams of 10 or more are \$25 per person. Registration is \$35 on the day of the event. T-Shirts are included in the price for the first 700

participants. Run-Walk options are 1-mile healthy walk, 2.5-mile walk, or a 5k walk.

People can register online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/CO/Alamosa/StephanieLMiner5kWalkandRun>. Shirts will be ready on Aug 30.

To register offline see the SLVH Foundation at 1921 Main St. or contact Arieen Khoketkham, Foundation Assistant, at 719-587-6359

Talk About **LOCAL!** **In Print & Online**

THE SOUTH FORK TINES
Gateway to the Silver Thread

THE MONTE VISTA JOURNAL
The Mineral County Miner
1892 - 2019 "...there is no night in Creede."

The Del Norte Prospector
"Gateway to the San Juans"

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



CLASSIFIED INDEX

ANNOUNCEMENTS
01 TICKETS
02 CARD OF THANKS
03 MEMORIALS
04 LOST & FOUND
05 NOTICES/BAZAARS
06 PERSONALS
EMPLOYMENT
07 HELP WANTED
08 WORK WANTED
09 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
FOR RENT
10 APARTMENTS
11 ROOMS
12 HOUSES
13 MOBILE HOMES
14 BUSINESS PROPERTY
15 WANTED TO RENT
16 VACATION
REAL ESTATE
17 REAL ESTATE
18 LOTS & ACREAGE
19 FARM & FARMLAND
20 BUSINESS PROPERTY
21 MOBILE HOMES
22 PROPERTY WANTED

MERCHANDISE
23 LAWN & GARDEN
24 GARAGE SALES
25 AUCTIONS
26 ANTIQUES
27 APPLIANCES
28 HOUSEHOLD GOODS
29 MUSICAL ITEMS
30 ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS
31 HEALTH
32 FUEL & HEATING
33 BUILDING MATERIALS
34 OFFICE EQUIPMENT
35 HEAVY EQUIPMENT
36 MISCELLANEOUS
37 WANTED
38 MACHINERY, TOOLS & EQUIPMENT
39 SPORTING GOODS
40 AUTO PARTS
FARMER MARKET
41 FARM EQUIPMENT
42 FEED & SEED
43 FARM PRODUCTS
44 FARM SERVICES

ANIMALS
45 ANIMAL BREEDING
46 PASTURE FOR RENT
47 HORSES & CATTLE
48 PETS & SUPPLIES
49 ANIMAL CARE
50 LIVESTOCK
RECREATIONAL
51 BOATS & EQUIPMENT
52 CAMPING EQUIPMENT
53 TRAILERS
54 SNOWMOBILES/ATV'S
55 R.V.'S/CAMPERS
FINANCIAL
56 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
57 INVESTMENTS
TRANSPORTATION
58 MOTORCYCLES
59 VEHICLES WANTED
60 CLASSIC CARS
61 4X4'S
62 VANS
63 TRUCKS
64 AUTOS FOR SALE
SERVICES
65 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
66 CHILD CARE

RATES

15 Words or less for 4 weeks - 4 publications
\$19.50 + 95¢ each additional word.

Garage Sale Ads: 15 Words or less for 1 week
\$12 + 35¢ each additional word.

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

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

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

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

DEADLINE

Thursday 5:00 pm

Call 719-852-3531
or email: rbeutler@valleypublishinginc.com

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We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover, Checks, Money Orders & Cash



05 Notices

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

07 Help Wanted

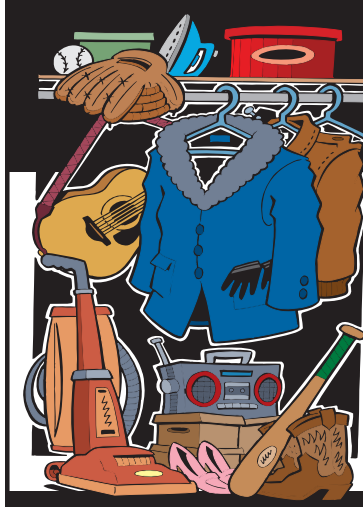
CDL Driver: JT Timber Falling is hiring a full-time log truck driver. Class A CDL. Based out of Blanca, CO. Local destinations and home every night. A Comprehensive benefits package is available. \$23-\$30/hr depending on experience. Call 719-379-4066 or visit jttimber.com for more information. (10-9)

Saguache County is seeking an On-Site Wastewater Treatment System Inspector - The On-Site Wastewater Treatment System Inspector for Saguache County is responsible for maintaining and enforcing public health regulations relating to the community's environmental health. Through investigation, inspection, education and enforcement, the On-Site Wastewater Treatment System Inspector takes action to mitigate or eliminate public health hazards. Inspections and investigations occur

indoors and outdoors facilities such as residential homes, restaurants, swimming pools, public schools, penal institutions, childcare facilities, nursing homes, body art facilities, cannabis/hemp facilities, campgrounds, mobile home parks, public accommodations, bars/lounges, etc. On-Site Wastewater Treatment System Inspectors are assigned primary responsibilities in specific environmental programs but are required to possess knowledge of all programs in order to respond to public health emergencies. Starting salary of \$25/hour depending on experience and qualifications. Saguache County offers an exceptional benefits package including health, dental, vision insurance with an option for a Health Savings Account. Employees enjoy paid vacation, sick leave, 11 holidays. Saguache County is an equal opportunity employer. Saguache County is an EEO employer. Valid Driver's License, Drug testing which includes marijuana, and a background check will be required also a physical exam may be required for final applicants. To view the job description and an application they are available at Saguache County Administration office 505 3rd Street, Saguache or printable at www.

saguachecounty.colorado.gov. Call 719-655-2231 for more information. Position opened until filled. (10-9)

Del Norte Elementary School Teacher needed at the URGSD. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professionals 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 or contact Amy at 719-657-4050. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at: urtigers.co. (10-2)



GOT CLUTTER? CLEAN UP WITH THE CLASSIFIEDS.

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Advertise in our **SPECIAL GARAGE SALE SECTION** of SLV Lifestyles for **ONLY \$12 per week** (15 words or less - 35¢ per word over 15)

Call Today! 719-852-3531

Conour *Managed by Upper Rio Grande Animal Society*
www.urgasconouranimalshelter.org
If you are interested in adopting, call 852-3366
Open Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Sat. & Sun. 1:30 - 5 p.m.
Monday & non-business hours by appointment only
2825 Sherman Ave. • Monte Vista

We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who have contributed to the success of the Upper Rio Grande Animal Society by contributions, donations, volunteering and general support at Conour Animal Shelter.

Visit Our Facebook Page

WINTER WORK!

Wolf Creek Ski Area is Hiring
Full & Part-Time/Holiday Positions:
Winter Seasonal: November - April

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

Applications at WolfCreekSki.com/employment

ALL POSITIONS OFFER SKIING PRIVILEGES AND A STARTING WAGE OF \$19/HOUR

Merit increases based on performance & experience



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

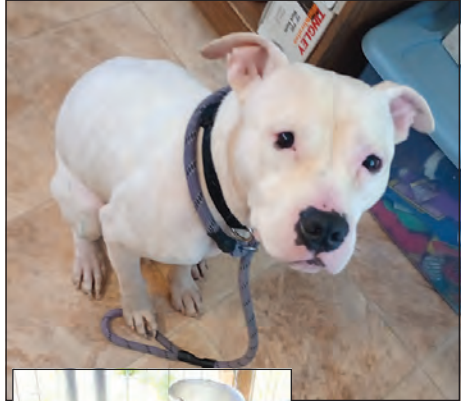


Found together on 9/6 on Hwy 15 south of the Wildlife Refuge in Monte Vista

LOST & FOUND



Found on 9/8 on Jefferson St in Monte Vista



Gus and Desmond are still looking for their forever homes! We're keeping their adoption fees half off, which is \$75. These boys are super sweet and playful, and just need the right home! Come meet them today!

Please note adoptions go in order of contact made.

All breeds & ages of animals are a "best guess" and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping. This ad space donated by Valley Publishing Inc.

Valley Wide Classifieds

The City of Creede is accepting applications for a Public Works Part Time Parks/Building Maintenance position. A self motivated candidate is being sought that possesses a valid driver's license and is able to perform general cleaning maintenance at various city owned buildings, along with performing simple water sampling duties. The position offers flexible working hours on the weekends with competitive pay based on experience and/or background. Candidates are asked to complete an application online at the City's website: <https://cityofcreede.colorado.gov/i-want-to/apply-for>, or stop into town hall for a hard copy submitted to: Scott Johnson, Public Works Director, City of Creede, 2223 N. Main Street, Creede, CO 81130, publicworks@creedetownhall.com, 719-658-2276 x 4 (9-18)

Human Resources and Equity Coordinator - San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition seeks an Human Resources and Equity Coordinator. Related college degree and/or 4 years experience with HR, preferably in a non-profit. Submit your resume and cover letter to opportunity.slvlocalfoods@gmail.com. Additional requirements can be found at www.slvlocalfoods.org/jobs/. Applications close August 31, 2024 (9-18)

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 719-657-4020; or Annie Hardy, Principal, at: ahardy@urtigers.co, 719-657-4020. (9-18)

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 or at the District Office.

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



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

14 Business Properties For Rent

For rent beautiful 840 square foot storefront center of Del-Norte 730-Grande-Ave. Available now! \$995. per-month-plus-last-and-security. KimAnna and Mike 719-588-1892, 719-588-3433 (10-2)

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

17 Real Estate For Sale
House for sale Antonito - 5-bedroom home sits on four lots. 719-298-6110 (9-18)
Creede Heaven #1 Lot 22 Block "G" Last Chance Drive \$32,500 970-779-8204 (10-9)

36 Miscellaneous
Whole and half steers available. High quality, grass-finished on river meadows with average live weight of 1200lbs. Cost \$2500/whole or \$1250/half. Processing has been arranged, cuts made to your preference, processing cost is not included in steer cost. Call Goose Meadows Ranch 253-219-8427 to reserve or for more info. (10-2)

Let me haul off your, old appliances and a recyclable metals for you call



WOLF CREEK
THE MOST SNOW IN COLORADO

PRE-SEASON PRICES END OCTOBER 6, 2024

2024-2025 Pre-Season Pass Sale
SAT, SEPT. 28 - SUN, OCT. 6, 2024
SHOP.WOLFCREEKSKI.COM

PEAK ADVANTAGE PASSES -NO Blackout Dates-		SUPERSAVER PASSES -43 Blackout Dates-	
	Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate		Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate
Adult (19-64)	\$1062 / \$1326	Adult (19-64)	\$797 / \$996
Senior (65 & older)	\$466 / \$582	Senior (65 & older)	\$350 / \$437
Student (13-18 in school)	\$819 / \$1023	Student (13-18 in school)	\$615 / \$768
Child (6-12)	\$418 / \$521	Child (6-12)	\$314 / \$392
Tot (5 & under)	\$58 / \$72	Tot (5 & under)	\$44 / \$55

Family Passes - All passes must be same type
** Families consist of father, mother, or partners in civil unions and their single, dependent children, 22 years old or younger, living together supported by the same income



PEAK ADVANTAGE FAMILY PASSES		SUPERSAVER FAMILY PASSES	
	Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate		Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate
1st in Family	\$1062 / \$1326	1st in Family	\$797 / \$996
2nd in Family	\$819 / \$1023	2nd in Family	\$615 / \$768
3rd in Family	\$466 / \$582	3rd in Family	\$350 / \$437
4th in Family	\$383 / \$478	4th in Family	\$288 / \$359
5th in Family	\$383 / \$478	5th in Family	\$288 / \$359

SuperSaver Blackout Dates
Nov. 29-30; Dec. 21-31;
Jan. 1-4, 11, 18-19, 25;
Feb. 1-2, 8-9, 14-16, 22; Mar. 1, 8-20

WolfCreekSki.com - 970-264-5639

Puzzle Sponsored by MDS Waste & Recycle



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RECYCLING • DUMPSTERS • ROLL-OFFS**

CREEDE • SOUTH FORK • DEL NORTE • MONTE VISTA
(719)658-3060 • www.MDSWasteAndRecycle.com

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Solution to last week's puzzle

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



Join Our Team!
Hiring for management positions and other positions - full-time and part-time. Weekly pay, uniforms, and shift meal.



Google
Customer Reviews ★★★★★
"What an amazing pizza! Holy Moly. The crust, the sauce... yum!! Stopped in for a short rain delay over the pass on our motorcycle. So happy we found this place. We might just have to travel 2+ hours every couple weeks just for a great pizza. Must try! You won't be disappointed."
- Heather P.

Law Enforcement, Firefighters, EMTs and our Veterans always receive 20% off!
30483 Highway 160, South Fork
Winter Hours — 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Easy Online To-Go Orders:
MountainPizzaTapRoom.com

Valley Wide Classifieds

Chris for prices and to set up a removal 719-395-2071 (10-30)

New in Del Norte Peace-of-Art-Gallery-Pop-Up Honoring the-life-and-lore-of Blake Higgins 728-Grande-Ave 85 years of fine art-collectibles-dolls-bears even rubber-stamps Opens September-8th-2024 719-588-1892 (10-2)

Need Storage, We Build New Storage Sheds, HY Country Sheds Call 719-849-8106 (10-30)

1930s Autocrat stove, wood burning and propane, \$100. 114 Fifth St. Creede. 409-370-1815 (9-25)

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

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

STEEL STORAGE CONTAINERS - Sales, Rentals & Modifications! Containers are water & rodent proof. 8' wide, 8'-53" in length. Call for more information and pricing. Healdworks, Inc. - Your Total Storage Solution! 719-657-2712 (TFN)

SOLAR PANELS! Large and small. Inverters, charge controllers, lead acid and lithium batteries. Brand names include Outback, Magnum, AIMS, EG4, Sol-Ark, and Rolls. Custom cables and PV wire. Bontrager's Variety Store. 9726 S. CR 3E Monte Vista. 719-852-0500. (TFN)

37 Wanted

In search of stackable-washer/dryer, refrigerator/freezer, electric-stove, must be in excellent condition. Call KimAnna and Mike 719-588-1892, 719-588-3433 (10-2)

47 Horses & Cattle

For sale 2 Gilding horses, experienced trail-pleasure riding bomb proof. Just in time for hunting season, call for details 719-580-8291

55 RVs & Campers

For sale 2012 Airstream Classic Coach F 30 foot. All set for off grid living. \$75,000, OBO. 719-404-4633.

64 Autos for Sale

Rio Grande County is holding a silent auction for the sale of a 2008 Chrysler Town and Country van. Vehicle starts and runs. Check Engine light is on but has not been diagnosed. Vehicle was removed from service as a Law Enforcement vehicle, due to purchase of replacement vehicle. Silent Auction will start September 2, 2024, and will end close of business day (4:00 P M October 2, 2024. Vehicle can be viewed at the Rio Grande County Sheriff's Office 640 Cherry St. Del Norte, CO 81132. Bids can be placed by writing your bid, name, and

contact information, and enclosing in a sealed envelope. Winning bidder will be contacted by October 7, 2024. Rio Grande County does not provide guarantees and/or warranties relative to the sold item (s). Thus, the items are offered on an "AS IS-WHERE IS" basis and on the timeline assigned thru the auction. The vehicle was removed from service for replacement. This was previously a Police Vehicle. The vehicle is not inspected. Must be picked up. (10-2)

For sale - 1990 Toyota 2-wheel drive super clean pickup; 2013 Toyota Corolla. 719-850-2027 (10-2)

65 Professional Services

4-Ever-Cleaning Air B&B, deep cleans, commercial, carpet shampooing call Rene 719-480-4273 for more info. (10-2)

Need a helping hand? SLV Concierge LLC - Errands, shopping, household management, wellbeing checks, supervision for construction, maintenance and repairs, setting up appointments, ect. Call Angel 719-480-1903 slvtaskmanager@gmail.com (11-27)

Fencing - Insured quality fencing installation, offering quotes for wire and post-and-rail. 719-371-7932

Rio Grande Rentals. Everything for Event/Party/Weddings including unique Mobile Bars and Bartending Services www.rio-grandere rentals.com. 303-946-7253 (9-25)

RELIABLE CARPENTRY 40-plus years-experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-496-7630. (TFN)

LICENSED PLUMBER does all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodels at reasonable rates. Quick service. Call anytime, available weekends and evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593.

Need beautiful window blinds at the best prices? Call THE BLIND GUY at 970-799-0388 for a free estimate. (TFN)

Sprinkler repair and winterizations. Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (TFN)

Business Showcase

Cruisin' the Canyon Car Show
Saturday, Sept. 21.
Be there or be square!

The Holy Moses
Mon.-Sat.
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

658-2848
121 N. Main
Creede

This Week's Feature



THE HOLY MOSES

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

It's Worth The Drive

Open Daily 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. & on Theatre Nights
Nick & Vicki Kulyk
121 N. Main • 658-2848 • Creede

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DEADLINE TO ENTER SEPTEMBER 20



EMAIL ENTRIES TO MVCADS@MVCOOP.COM
LIMIT 5 ENTRIES PER PERSON
TOP 5 WINNERS RECEIVE \$50 MVC GIFT CERTIFICATE
GRAND PRIZE WINNER RECEIVES \$100 MVC GIFT CERTIFICATE AND WINNING PHOTO WILL BE FEATURED IN MVC MARKETING MATERIAL, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH POSTER!

DISCLAIMER

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

AUTUMN Continued from Page 1

burgers, among other things. The trip is around 40 miles one way and should take around two hours.

Travelers can also head toward the historic town of Lake City to experience the Silver Thread Historic Scenic Byway. Take the Silver Thread Highway (149) from South Fork to Lake City for spectacular views of mountains and a patchwork of color. Be sure to stop at North Clear Creek Falls. Look for bear prints in the mud of North Clear Creek.

Pool Table and Wheeler Geologic Area is a beautiful drive in the La Garita Mountains just before Creede. Take the Silver Thread Highway (149) toward Creede. Just past Cottonwood Cove, there will be a sign that says, "Pool Table". It is Forest Service Road 600 and is 14 miles. Travelers may drive a two-wheel drive vehicle to Hanson's Mill then take the hiking trail up 6.5 miles to the geologic area. After the mill you will need a four-wheel drive vehicle. Drive on top of the mesa to be surrounded by golden Aspen.

Beaver Creek Road is a short distance from South Fork and a great place to view fall colors.

Take Highway 160 west 3 miles to Beaver Creek Reservoir Road. This is Forest Service Road 360. The first 5-7 miles are through aspen forest. You will pass through the pines then the spruce and fir for great views of the surrounding mountains.

Willow Creek and Del Norte Peak are 17 miles south of South Fork near the town of Del Norte. Head two miles east of town on Highway 160 to Gerrard Road. This is Forest Service Road 350 also known as Willow Creek Road. You can follow it south up to the junction of road 345 where you will turn back to the northeast then meander back to the northwest around Del Norte Peak for beautiful views of the mountain.

Carnero Creek Road is a great place to see the changing of the seasons while enjoying a slice of history just north of Del Norte and Monte Vista. This area is known for its off-grid fishing along Carnero Creek so grab those fishing poles and head out to enjoy a day of fall fishing and changing colors. From U.S. Highway 285, take the La Garita



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

turnoff (County Road G) and follow the paved road 6.0 miles west where the road forks. Take the right fork, the gravel surface Carnero Creek Road (Forest Road 690/County Road 41G) 10.0 miles northwest to Forest Road 675.

No matter which way travelers head, always prepare for adverse weather, plan for a day in the mountains and share travel plans with family and friends. Come on out and enjoy the beautiful backcountry and all it has to offer!

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

UNDER CONTRACT

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

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

SOLD!

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

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

28 Acres on the Rio Grande River in South Fork
\$1,550,000 | MLS #807305
27000 US HWY 160 South Fork, CO

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

NEW PRICE!

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

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

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

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

DOMESTIC WELL
SEPTIC
SOLAR

SOLD!

Hunting Cabin on 40 Acres - Bordering National Forest
\$220,000 | MLS #812863
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath Del Norte, CO

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

NEW PRICE!

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

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

SOLD!

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

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

Dee Plucinski
Luxury Home Broker
Licensed in 2011
I know mountain land
719-873-5605
Dee@SLVluxuryproperties.com

Luxury Mountain home on 15 acres in Bear Creek
\$1,399,000 | MLS #813316
682 Bear Creek Circle, South Fork, CO

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

NEW PRICE!

Luxury Home on 42 Acres - Borders Natl. Forest
\$850,000 | MLS #815205
4100 Wilderness Canyon Rd. La Garita, CO

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

3D VIRTUAL TOURS
PROMPT, EASY COMMUNICATION
VIDEO WALKTHROUGHS
RESIDENTIAL PHOTOGRAPHER
LICENSED & INSURED **DRONE PILOT**

All of my properties are detailed in my BLOG
Please scan -->

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

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

Rito Hondo Estates- 18 Rural Mtn Lots Avail
17.5 & 35 Acre Lots
Owner Financing Available
West of Antonito in the Conejos Canyon CO

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

NEW LISTING!

3 bed 2 bath home in South Fork - HUGE garage/shop
\$275,000 MLS # TBD Easy Access to Hwy
37 Shoshone Trail South Fork, CO

DEE PLUCINSKI
LUXURY HOME BROKER
M: 719-873-5605

GALLERY

Continued from Page 1

infamous Lisa Frank.

Walking through the gallery is like stepping through time as patrons wander through the different phases of Higgins-Cellura's life. From becoming a doting parent, to her love of fashion, Higgins-Cellura dabbled in every form of media art has to offer. Some of her most intricate work was done with marker, watercolor, paint, and pencil.

One thing that is most notable in her artwork is how Higgins-Cellura captures portraits, specifically the eyes. Human emotion is one of the hardest things to recreate, but Higgins-Cellura could create an emotion just by painting a person's eyes.

"My mother said she always started with the eyes when she would do portraits. They were the windows to



Daughter KimAnna Cellura-Shields has opened an art gallery on Grande Avenue in Del Norte dedicated to her mother's life works.

the soul," Cellura-Shields said.

"Her imagination never stopped. She had a wealth of ideas, and she loved the bazaar, strange and beautiful. She was a fan of horror movies and everything that caught someone's

attention," said her daughter Donna Hoefer.

The gallery will be open by appointment for the time being until a regular artist's schedule can be set. Appointments can be made by calling 719-588-1892.



Photos by Lyndsie Ferrell

A new art gallery has opened in Del Norte and showcases a life of passion by artist Joan 'Blake' Higgins-Cellura. The gallery is a snapshot of a lifetime dedicated to art.

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

UNDER CONTRACT

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

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

UNDER CONTRACT

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

SOLD

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

UNDER CONTRACT

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

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

SOLD

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

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

AUNDREA LILLARD
ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
M: 706-622-0799

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

Great home located in Antonito CO!
\$160,000 MLS #812813
112 W. 12th Ave, Antonito, CO 81120
TATE HUFFAKER
ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
M: 719-298-6560

Opportunity awaits at Highland Meadows
\$857,000/MLS#817468
30 Highland Ct, South Fork, CO. 81154
AUNDREA LILLARD
ASSOC. BROKER | REALTOR®
M: 706-622-0799

SOLD

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

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

Incredible Multi-Use Property in South Fork - A Unique Investment Opportunity and PRICED TO SELL!
\$522,000/MLS# 816693
278 Shirley Drive, South Fork, CO
YVONNE HOFFMAN
BROKER | REALTOR®
M: 719-580-1901

SOLD

Remarkable Estate Nestled in Monte Vista
Approx. 198.07 Acres
\$2,777,700 | MLS #812760
5295 County Road 28, Monte Vista, CO
BRUCE STEFFENS
OWNER | BROKER | REALTOR®
M: 719-580-0770

San Luis Valley Area Real Estate

222 La Lomita Circle • South Fork

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



JUST LISTED

exp REALTY Bernadette Gingrass
719-850-1993
bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

Thinking of Selling in 2024 Expect the Best, Call Bernadette



exp REALTY
Bernadette Gingrass
719-850-1993
bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

0254 Timberline Trail • South Fork

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



NEW PRICE

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

1408 Bear Creek Circle • South Fork

Exceptional Mountain Retreat nestled within the prestigious gated community of Bear Creek, this Exquisite home at 1408 Bear Creek Circle offers an unparalleled blend of Elegance, Tranquility, and Natural beauty. With 3,882 square feet of meticulously designed living space, this property is a sanctuary for those seeking rest from the everyday hustle. Interior Features: Entryway with Stained Glass Doors: The grand entrance sets the tone, welcoming you into a large, elegant living room complete with a corner fireplace and an adjacent wet bar—perfect for entertaining guests. Large Custom Kitchen: The heart of this home boasts custom alder wood cabinets, beautiful quartz countertops, and a butler pantry with built-in custom shelving and storage cabinets. The kitchen seamlessly leads to a spacious laundry area flooded with natural light, making laundry a pleasant task. Beautiful Dining Room: Accessible from the kitchen, the dining room opens to a spacious awe-inspiring back deck. Perfect place to enjoy that first cup of morning coffee. Stairway to Loft: Ascend the large staircase to the open loft—an ideal space for a game area and home office. 3 Bedrooms: Master Bedroom (Main Floor): Flooded with ample natural light, the master bedroom provides a cozy ambiance. It features a spacious retreat with a jumbo-sized walk-in closet complete with custom shelving and cabinets. The master bath includes a walk-in shower and spa tub for your in-home spa experience. Additional 1 and a 1/2 Bath are Well-appointed and elegantly designed, the bathrooms provide comfort and convenience. Lower-Level Stairwell: Leads to an intimate family room and two spacious downstairs guest bedrooms. Immaculate 3-Car Garage and 1-Car Workshop: With custom cabinets and work benches a dream come true, providing plenty of room for all your tools and outdoor adventure toys. Outdoor Delights: Bear Creek runs through this property, nature's music to your ears. Mountain Views: Wake up to awe-inspiring vistas of the surrounding peaks. The ever-changing canvas of sunrises and sunsets will leave you breathless. Wildlife Haven: Immerse yourself in the enchanting wilderness. Mule deer, elk, and even the elusive black bear occasionally grace the property. Year-Round Adventure: Explore hundreds of miles of ATV trails right outside your door. In winter, hit the slopes at Wolf Creek Ski Area, just 30 minutes away. Tranquil Creekside Strolls: Meander along the community walking trails that follow the gentle curves of Bear Creek. Listen to the soothing sounds of water as you unwind. This is more than a home; it's an invitation to embrace the rugged elegance of Colorado's high country. Escape to 1408 Bear Creek Circle and discover a lifestyle where luxury meets wilderness. **MLS# 813472 - \$1,420,000**



SOLD

exp REALTY Bernadette Gingrass
719-850-1993
bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

259 Orville Way • South Fork

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



UNDER CONTRACT

exp REALTY Bernadette Gingrass
719-850-1993
bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

328 Fir Drive • South Fork

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



UNDER CONTRACT

exp REALTY Bernadette Gingrass
719-850-1993
bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

222 Bristlecone Drive • South Fork

Nestled among the pines in Dakota Park, South Fork, Colorado. This immaculate home offers mountain views and abundant common areas. The neighborhood is a haven for deer, adding to its charm. Large windows flood the home with natural light, while the landscaped property enhances curb appeal. The expansive decks, including a hot tub on the back deck, is perfect for outdoor entertaining. Inside, you'll find 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, all appliances, including washer and dryer, a new evaporative cooler for extra cooling during the summer, propane stove to keep you cozy in winter. With high-speed fiber optic internet and ample storage in the home and one-car garage, this home is ideal for those who love outdoor activities. Enjoy hiking in the Weminuche Wilderness, fishing in the Rio Grande River, skiing at Wolf Creek Ski Area, and much more. Whether hiking, fishing, skiing, or just enjoying the great outdoors, this home has something for everyone! Call me for more information and to schedule your showing today! **MLS# 816979 • \$489,500**



NEW LISTING

exp REALTY Bernadette Gingrass
719-850-1993
bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

193 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork

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



SOLD

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

461 Vista De Verde Circle • South Fork

Deluxe 1, 688 sq ft Mountain Retreat two master bedrooms. Custom Kitchen and Scenic Views! Welcome to 461 Vista De Verde Circle, where luxury living meets the rugged beauty of the Colorado mountains. This custom-built home offers an exceptional blend of comfort, style, and natural splendor. Custom Kitchen Step into culinary bliss—a kitchen designed for both functionality and aesthetics. Imagine sleek custom cabinets, their rich wood grain complemented by the gleam of granite countertops. The heart of this home invites you to create gourmet meals while soaking in the surrounding beauty. And don't miss the porcelain wood-look tile flooring—it's as durable as it is stunning. Grand Entry Your first impression matters, and the custom entry door sets the tone. Crafted with care, it welcomes you and your guests with elegance. Step inside, and you'll feel the warmth and craftsmanship that define this retreat. Light-Filled Living Spaces Vaulted ceilings soar overhead, creating an airy atmosphere. Sunlight spills through insulated honeycomb blinds, casting a soft glow on the wood-burning fireplace. Cozy up here during chilly evenings, surrounded by the scent of pine and the crackle of logs. Outdoor Living at Its Finest Step onto the outdoor deck—a true masterpiece that wraps around three sides of the home. Sip your morning coffee while taking in the sunrise or unwind with a glass of wine as the sun sets behind distant peaks. This deck is your private stage for nature's grand performance. Your Canvas Awaits With over two acres of gently sloping land, you have room to dream. Picture terraced gardens, a fire pit with 360 mountain views. The paved road ensures easy access, so arrive in style and let your imagination run wild. Adventure Beckons For outdoor enthusiasts, this locale is paradise. Cast your fishing line into the nearby Rio Grande River, hike through the National Forest, or simply breathe in the crisp mountain air. And when winter arrives, the Wolf Creek Ski Resort awaits—just a short drive away. Create Your Legacy This isn't just a house; it's a legacy waiting to unfold. Generations will gather here, sharing stories under the golden sunsets. "Craft Your Legacy: Gather, Share, and Begin Your Mountain Journey!" Call me for more information and to schedule your showing today! More pictures coming soon! **MLS#817608 - \$875,000**



NEW LISTING

exp REALTY Bernadette Gingrass
719-850-1993
bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

48 Whispering Pines Drive • South Fork

Mountain Charm Where Dreams Blossom Nestled in the heart of South Fork, Colorado, this Mountain haven awaits where simplicity meets enchantment. Picture it: a 3-bedroom, 2-bath retreat, bathed in the golden light of the Mountains. With 1,440 square feet and attached large 2 car garage. This home will cradle your memories like a cherished heirloom. This lot steals your breath—a canvas of possibility stretching wide. Here, mule deer and wild turkeys play, visiting often as if drawn by whispers from the pines. No stern HOA rules here; just a neighborhood that nods in camaraderie. Large lot to grow your own garden and enjoy the existing rhubarb patch! Imagine stepping onto your covered front porch, the scent of freshly baked rhubarb pie dancing in the air. Yes, you'll bake your own—pluck ruby-red stalks from the earth, mix them with sugar and secrets, and let the mountains witness your culinary magic. Paved roads with city water and city water & sanitation. Modern comfort wrapped in rustic allure. All this and more, only a short walk takes you to the Rio Grande River, its waters a silver ribbon of promise. Gold medal fishing awaits, and the mountains echo your joy. And when winter blankets the land, Wolf Creek Ski area beckons. Adventure, your faithful companion, stands at your doorstep. Your Dream come true, pick up the phone. Schedule your showing, and step into the pages of Mountain Charm. Your Adventure starts here, give me a call today! **MLS#814960 - \$367,900**



UNDER CONTRACT

exp REALTY Bernadette Gingrass
719-850-1993
bmgingrass@gmail.com
License #100072622

120 Fairway Ridge Lane • South Fork

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



NEW LISTING!

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Valley Publishing CALL TODAY!
719-852-3531
Brian Williams — bwilliams@valleypublishinginc.com
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Outdoor Fitness Court Studio coming to DN's Centennial Park

CONTRIBUTED

DEL NORTE — Rio Grande County Public Health in partnership with UHealth, and National Fitness Campaign (NFC) recently announced the grand opening of a new outdoor Fitness Court Studio in Del Norte.

The Fitness Court will be at Centennial Park, 140 Spruce St., Del Norte, and will open on Sept. 18, from noon to 2 p.m. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

This Fitness Court Studio is the result of a partnership between Rio Grande County Public Health with the Town of Del Norte and Rio Grande Hospital as partners, UHealth and NFC to expand free access to high-quality workouts, creating equitable access to exercise

for communities around the state.

The Fitness Court Studio delivers the powerful seven minutes full body workout on one side and a versatile outdoor class area for enjoying yoga, Zumba, pilates and other popular group wellness activities on the opposite side.

“Investing in an outdoor Fitness Court Studio is more than just adding new equipment to our community; it’s about creating accessible opportunities for everyone in Rio Grande County to prioritize their health and well-being. By encouraging physical activity in a natural setting, we are fostering a healthier, more connected community that can thrive together. We are incredibly proud and excited to bring this outdoor

fitness center to the Rio Grande County community. This initiative represents our commitment to enhancing the health and well-being of our residents. We highly appreciate the great partnership of the Town of Del Norte and Rio Grande Hospital, and other agencies that provided enormous support and collaboration to make this dream a reality for our community,” said Dr. Kolawole Bankole, Director, Rio Grande County Public Health Agency.

Created with people aged 14 years and older and with all abilities in mind, the workouts are adaptable for all fitness levels, allowing participants to move at their own pace. Users also may download the free Fitness Court app which acts as a coach-in-your-pocket and enhances the outdoor

gym into a digitally supported wellness experience.

“Everyone can benefit from living an active lifestyle, both physically and mentally,” said Manny Rodriguez, UHealth’s chief marketing, experience and innovation officer. “It is well documented that regular exercise can prevent illness, improve our mental health and help manage chronic health conditions. We are excited to partner with the National Fitness Campaign as part of UHealth’s ‘Ready. Set. CO’ challenge to improve the health of all Coloradans and restore our place as one of the healthiest states in the nation.”

The public is invited to attend the launch event on Wednesday, Sept. 18, from noon to 2 p.m. to try the Fitness

CourtStudio. For more information, contact the Rio Grande County Public Health Agency at 719-657-3352 or email kbankole@riograndecounty.org. For more information on UHealth’s support of NFC, please visit nationalfitnesscampaign.com/colorado.

“National Fitness Campaign is proud to welcome the Rio Grande County Public Health Agency to the campaign as a leader in Colorado, championing health and wellness for their residents,” said Mitch Menaged, founder of National Fitness Campaign. “The addition of the Fitness Court Studio, along with digital wellness programming, demonstrates a tremendous commitment to the health and wellbeing within the community.”



Photo by John Waters

The new Alamosa Food Bank on State Avenue will open on Sept. 30 and needs volunteers to help move into the new facility. If interested, contact David Schneider at 719-587-3499, ext. 301, or email director.volcoor@lapuente.net.

Alamosa Food Bank needs volunteers

CONTRIBUTED

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa Food Bank will be opening at a new location on Monday, Sept. 30. Currently, this food bank is at 513 6th St., Alamosa, and will be moving to the old Atencio’s Market, 802 State Ave., Alamosa.

Together the food bank up and running there will be two moving days, Tuesday, Sept. 24, and Wednesday, Sept. 25. Moving times each day will be from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Volunteers will be asked to lift cases of canned, bagged, and boxed products, and will be helping transfer shelving and other food bank items from the old food bank to the new food bank. If volunteers have a

vehicle that can haul stuff, feel free to bring it. As long as there are slots open, 15 per shift, we will be glad to have you come and help us!

The new food bank will provide better storage, better services, and easier access to the individuals who utilize this building. For those who can, the Food Bank Network of the SLV and the Alamosa Food Bank will always accept donations of products and cash. Consider bringing your food gifts after the new food bank opens; they will be a little bit busy from Sept. 23 to 27.

To help with the move and sign up for a shift, contact David Schneider at 719-587-3499, ext. 301, or email director.volcoor@lapuente.net.

PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday September 28, 2024 • 10:00 AM

Georgia White Owner

DIRECTIONS: From Del Norte Colorado, North on HWY 112, approx. 5.2 miles, 7842 HWY 112 • Del Norte CO. • Watch for signs.

ANTIQUES

Horse drawn cultivator
Horse drawn plow
Horse drawn harrow
Fresno
Barb wire pieces
Dollie
Foot powered grinder
Old dutch oven
Antique Irons
Wood and coal cook stove
Vintage Cabinet Radio

TOOLS

Wrenches
Sockets
Hammers
Come-a-long ladders
Block-n-tackle
Rope
Extension cords
Plus the contents of a tool shed that was locked on the day of listing
Craftsman riding lawn mower (not running)
Other lawn mowers

MISCELLANEOUS

Gold diffuser
5XS two wheel trailer (title)
Steel wheeled horse cart
Small welding table with vice
42 in. ATV snow plow
½ in. sewer snake
6ft. x 6ft. set of lockers
Small roll of chain-link fence
2 Galvanized stock tanks (3X2X2 and 6X2X2)
Firewood
Buckets of old pop bottles, scrap tin, and lumber
Dog house
Steel tractor seats
Scrap iron
Small Kiln
Used horseshoes
Steel wheels
RR spikes
Tubs and piles of rock collected over several years

YARD & PATIO

Homemade 2 seat tractor seat patio set
Homemade Horse shoe and wagon wheel bench
Homemade log chair
Wagon wheel patio table

HOUSEHOLD

2 dressers with mirror
TV stand with mirror
2 level coffee table
Comfortable leather office chair
6 pc dining room set
Horseshoe bed frame
Basic brown dresser bed frame with mattress
2 baby dolls with a crib
Lamps
Rocking chair
Collection of Avon bottles
Walker
Gun Cabinet

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HUNTING

Continued from Page 1 —

website every Tuesday for a preview list of reissue licenses before they go on sale at cpwshop.com.

If you have questions about setting up your accounts, planning your hunts, or purchasing licenses, customer service representatives and hunt planners are available Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. MT at 303-297-1192. Hunting resources are available at cpw.state.co.us/hunting.

CPW also encourages hunters and outdoor recreationists to download the free Colorado Trail Explorer (COTREX) mobile app to check active fire alerts before heading out on trails.

- Hunters' role in wildlife conservation

Colorado manages its wildlife using the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, the cornerstone of modern wildlife conservation across the United States. This revolutionary model uses hunting and fishing fees to fund conservation efforts and protects wildlife from exploitation, habitat destruction, or extinction.

For almost two centuries, this model has been a large part of the reason why Colorado's wildlife is so healthy and abundant. This model is still the most successful wildlife management model in the world.

Hunters also play an essential role in CPW's chronic wasting disease (CWD) management. Their participation in mandatory CWD testing initiatives is vital to wildlife managers' ability to assess the disease's prevalence and make data-driven management decisions.

"One of the only CWD management tools we currently have at our disposal is the hunting community itself," said CPW Big Game Manager Andy Holland. "Hunters play a vital role in controlling CWD by harvesting select deer and other cervids more likely to carry the disease and submitting samples for analysis. This helps CPW understand the disease's prevalence and distribution in the state and evaluate if management strategies are working."

- Gray wolves and coyotes: how to spot the differences

Coyotes and gray wolves can look similar from a distance. CPW created a Coyote or Gray Wolf - How to Spot the Differences Handout to help you spot the differences.

The federal Endangered Species Act and state law protect gray wolves in Colorado. Penalties for illegally killing a gray wolf can vary and can include fines up to \$100,000, jail time, and loss of hunting privileges. Find more wolf educational resources at cpw.state.co.us/living-wolves.

How can nonhunters prepare for hunting season?

The majority of public lands in Colorado are open to multiple types of recreational use. There is no need to limit your outdoor activities in the fall; however, nonhunters should recognize that hunters are on the landscape and take additional precautions.

A general knowledge of hunting season dates and safety tips can help keep you safe.

- Big game season dates
- Rifle bear season - Sept. 2-30
- Archery season - Sept. 2-30
- Muzzleloader season - Sept. 14-22
- Rifle seasons
- 1st season - Oct. 12-16
- 2nd season - Oct. 26 to Nov. 3
- 3rd season - Nov. 9-15
- 4th season - Nov. 20-24

For safety reasons, big game hunters using a firearm must wear fluorescent orange or pink when in the field

(camouflage orange or pink is not allowed). While not required, it is recommended that other recreation users wear bright colors as well, especially during the muzzleloader and rifle seasons.

It is illegal to intentionally interfere with hunters, including causing animals to flee, denying access to public areas, or injecting yourself into the line of fire.

Learn more about outdoor recreation opportunities in Colorado at cpw.state.co.us.

Conejos County Courthouse remains closed

CONTRIBUTED

CONEJOS —Due to a fire in the Conejos County Courthouse on Aug. 29, the courthouse offices will be closed until further notice. In the meantime, the county is diligently working on getting temporary offices set up.

There may be county services available online. Many questions can be answered at www.conejoscounty.colorado.gov

If your license plates have not expired, you can renew your plates online.

Courthouse offices will still be responding to emails and phone calls. Below is a list of phone numbers for

County Courthouse offices.

- Conejos County Administration - 719-376-5772
 - Conejos County Assessor - 719-376-5585
 - Conejos County Clerk and Recorder - 719-376-5422
 - Conejos County Land Use - 719-376-2014
 - Conejos County Road and Bridge Admin - 719-376-5431
 - Conejos County Treasurer - 719-376-5919
- Conejos Combined Courts proceedings will be held virtually until

temporary offices are established.

The WebEx information for Conejos County Court Proceedings can be accessed at the following link www.coloradojudicial.gov/livestream-and-virtual-courtrooms?topic=19

- Conejos County Courts phone - 719-376-5465

The Department of Social Services, Sheriff's Office, Ambulance Service, Road and Bridge and Public Health will remain open for regular business.

All County Commissioners meetings have been cancelled until further notice and will be posted on our web site.

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Photos by Marie Mccolm

Chapman Park in Monte Vista was filled with people for the annual San Luis Valley Potato Festival on Saturday, Sept. 7. The festival is organized by the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee.

Area celebrates harvest at SLV Potato Festival

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — On Saturday morning, Chapman Park was already filling up with people, for the annual San Luis Valley Potato Festival, that marks the harvest of the Valley's signature crop — potatoes.

By 7:30 a.m., just before the Tater Trot 5K was about to start on Sept. 7, hundreds of people, including farmers, vendors, and businesses with booths were gearing up for the celebration.

The event was as exciting as it has been in past years with the fun-filled Tater Trot race and the first of two of the ever-popular agricultural tours bound for the CSU Research Center, and then on to two Valley farms. The ag tours allow people to gain insight and receive information about what goes into the planting, growing, and harvesting of the Valley's potato crop.

Many festivities were held at the Potato Festival this year, including corn hole, and many vendors were set up selling their wares — paintings, jewelry, tumblers and T-shirts, baked goods and more. There were also multiple food and drink trucks at the park and many businesses had booths and were giving out information.

Larry Brown of the CSU Extension Office in Monte Vista handed out information about the office.

The San Luis Valley Antique Car Club brought their colorful kids train ride to the festival. The children were laughing and smiling on the popular train ride. There were large bouncy houses at the park for kids, including a giant green bounce house. There was a giant monster truck bouncy house, and children could be seen going up and down the truck, bouncing and laughing as they slid down the main part of the truck. There was a zipline at the festival this year that both children and adults slid down.

The Colorado Potato Administrative Committee (CPAC) organizes the event. There was a free baked potato lunch with the Monte Vista High School boys varsity basketball team collecting donations for the lunch. The team members served the loaded potatoes.

The San Luis Valley Community Band played many lively tunes for the crowd. The Professional Chef Cooking Competition was held. The Swoop of the Cranes live auction also took place.

The Potato Festival brought hundreds of people to Chapman

Park this year, and was a huge success, according to Jessica Bradshaw of the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee.

"It was great. We had a lot of people here. We had a great turn out. It was a great festival. We want to thank our sponsors; without them we couldn't do this, and we want to thank the community for coming out," she said.

Creede resident Katey Kuhnel said that her family came for the day and enjoyed the Potato Festival.

"This is our first year living here. It's so cool that all the things are free for the kids. We are really enjoying this, and we will definitely come next year," Kuhnel said.

For more information on CPAC, visit their website at coloradopotato.org.

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Homelake Veteran Gottlieb celebrates 99th birthday

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTEVISTA — 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. According to the center, he is the oldest living Veteran at Homelake.

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. "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



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.

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.

Public forum on violence in Alamosa

ALAMOSA — This community has witnessed an increase in violent criminal episodes over the summer months in the City and County of Alamosa. While these incidents do not signal any discernable trend, the District Attorney's Office, the Alamosa Police Department and the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office are responsible for ensuring that the community is well informed about

how our agencies are responding to community

Concerns. Transparency is a top priority for the District Attorney's Office.

"For that reason, we invite you to meet with us to talk about your concerns and hear directly from us about what we are doing in response," organizers stated.

Sheriff Robert Jackson, APD Chief George Dingfelder, District Attorney

Anne Kelly and Assistant District Attorney Wesley Stafford will be presenting information and responding to community questions at a public forum to be held on Thursday, Sept. 19, from 6 to 8 p.m. in Society Hall, 400 Ross Ave., Alamosa. Doors will open at 5:15 p.m.

Submit questions and or concerns that you would like addressed to district.attorney@da12.state.co.us.

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