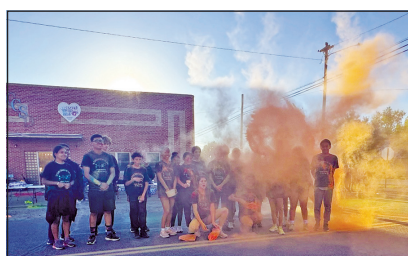




Farmers plow under Bobcats 64-6

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Center Viking Youth Club holds suicide awareness run

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

September 21, 2024

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SLV Today

County Road 12 S closure Sept. 23-27

ALAMOSA — Alamosa County Road and Bridge Department stated that County Road 12 S will be closed from County Road 103 to County Road 105 for the week of Sept. 23-27 for paving operations.

Re-opening of courthouse offices

CONEJOS COUNTY — Conejos County Courthouse offices are now open for business. Hours of operation are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday except for the Clerk and Recorders/DMV Office which will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Offices are in the west section of the Social Services Building, 12987 Veterans Blvd., Conejos.

For questions call the following:

- 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 & Bridge Admin: 719-376-5431
- Conejos County Treasurer: 719-376-5919
- Conejos County Combined Courts: 719-376-5465

SLV WEATHER



Chance of Showers, Breezy 66/36

Sun: Slight Chance of Morning Showers 61/34

Mon: Sunny, Breezy 66/38

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DA, ADA, top cops in SLV discuss trends in crime

Violent crimes are not increasing; drug felonies are up 20%

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter
ALAMOSA — When Anne Kelly was first appointed and then elected as the district attorney for the 12th Judicial District,

she made a promise to the public to be transparent. Kelly made good on that promise Thursday night, Sept. 19, with a forum on violence in Alamosa, organized in response to a spate of violent crimes this summer.

For close to two hours, Kelly, Assistant District Attorney Wes Stafford, Alamosa Police Department Chief George Dingfelder and Alamosa County Sheriff Robert



APD Chief George Dingfelder, ACSO Sheriff Robert Jackson and Assistant District Attorney Wes Stafford listen as DA Anne Kelly addresses the audience.

Velhagen clock to be installed

The 'heart of Alamosa' to start beating again

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter
ALAMOSA — The Velhagen clock has been restored to its original glory and is ready to be installed on Sept. 25 and 26 in downtown Alamosa. Such a simple sentence falls far short of capturing the devotion and determination it took to get the clock restored, starting with the efforts of John Davis who, years ago, saved the clock from being hauled away to the dump.

Davis, a master machinist, worked on the clock for years. When his health failed, he was joined by his good friend, J.R. Olson. When Davis died, a community effort was born with hundreds of hours logged by J.R. and other volunteers plus significant donations from individuals and businesses, all done in homage to Davis as much as commit-

ment to the clock. Although many said it couldn't be done, once assembled this extraordinary piece of Alamosa history was keeping perfect time with precise automation that removes the need for it to be wound by hand.

It has since been disassembled and readied for transport to downtown, which is no easy feat. The clock is not just a stunning piece of precision clockworks and graceful metal adornment, it's also massive. The installation will require a crew of six men work-

■ See **CLOCK** page 3



Velhagen clock assembled and keeping time.



The interior workings of a masterpiece reconfigured for automation. The Velhagen clock is one of only nine such clocks remaining in the world.



A closer look at the inner precision required to make the massive clock run on time all the time.



Adams State Alumnus Tom Bruscano, Ph.D., '99, will address students and the public on Sept. 27.

Linebacker and scholar to give public talk Homecoming weekend

By ED CROWTHER, PH.D.
ALAMOSA — Adams State University is proud to host Tom Bruscano, Ph.D., '99, a former football star and currently professor in the Department of Military Strategy, Planning, and Operations at the U. S. Army War College in Carlisle Barracks, Penn. His talk begins at 12 p.m., Friday, Sept. 27, in McDaniel Hall 101.

Targeting current students, but also the gen

■ See **TALK** page 8

Needham runs for county seat in 2024

By RICK NEEDHAM
Alamosa County Commissioner candidate

I have called the San Luis Valley home for nearly five decades. Married with four children and four grandchildren, I am deeply rooted in the community I serve. With over 30 years in law enforcement, including roles as a police chief and detective, I have dedicated my life to public safety and community well-being. With an MBA in Public Administration from Adams State, I'm ready to bring integrity, transparency, public safety, and fiscal responsibility to Alamosa County government.

My friends and family often



Rick Needham

ask why I decided to run for County Commissioner. The simple answer is that I am called to serve my community.

■ See **NEEDHAM** page 3

Laske runs for re-election in 2024

By LORI LASKE
Alamosa County Commissioner

I am excited to announce that I am running for re-election for Alamosa County Commissioner, District 1. I was born and raised in Alamosa County, I attended Alamosa High School, I have a bachelor's and master's degree from Adams State University, I am a small business owner with my husband, and we have a small ranch. I have been married to my husband for over 30 years and have four children and one grandson. My roots and passions are Alamosa County. It is more than a place; it is my



Lori Laske

home. I have done some good things in the last three years, but much more is needed. I want the honor of representing

■ See **LASKE** page 3

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OBITUARIES

Harold Hugh Hiatt



The Man, The Myth, The Legend
Harold Hugh Hiatt, affectionately known as "Hughie," passed away on Friday, Aug. 2, 2024, at the age of 82. He fought bravely in his last few years, continuing to embrace his bachelor days at his long-term residence in Alamosa.

Born on Nov. 15, 1941, in Alamosa to Mary Veretta Jackson and Harold Ray "Bill" Hiatt, Hughie was the eldest of three siblings.

He is survived by his sister, Judith "Sam" Morgan and Janet Griego Malouff. (Deceased)

Hugh attended Alamosa High School, where he excelled in football, basketball, and track.

Hugh married Cheryl Horn, and together they had three daughters: Rhonda Hiatt (Hellwig) Jones, spouse Nathan Jones, Son; Travis Otto Hellwig, Kimberly Hiatt and Tammy Hiatt Monaco, Sons; Luca Hiatt Monaco, Giovanni Hiatt Monaco. The family enjoyed their life in Alamosa, reminiscing about the days when Main Street ran both ways and was meant to be dragged.

Hiatt's athletic prowess and the legendary coaching of Coach Vigil

and health setbacks.

He felt most comfortable in Alamosa, surrounded by the majestic mountains of the San Luis Valley. Hugh was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying fishing, hunting, and horseback riding on numerous pack trips up the Conejos Canyon. His frequent use of the Continental Divide trail and his pasturing of horses below the Blue Lake trail earned him the moniker "Mayor of Blue Lake." Hugh loved sharing stories of his grand adventures with friends and family and anyone on the trail.

A Committal Service will be Friday, Sept. 27, 2024, at 10 a.m. at Fox Creek Cemetery with Military Honors. A celebration of Hugh's life will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024, at 11 a.m. at The Barn at La Manzanilla Farm, 6491 Colorado Highway 17, Alamosa. The service will be followed by a meal, potluck dessert. Please RSVP by text or phone call to Hughie's phone at 720-938-5739 for meal count purposes.

YOU MESS WITH THE BULL YOU GET THE HORNS -HHH

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

Herbert James Taylor III



Herbert James Taylor III, 89, known affectionately as Herb and professionally as Jim, passed away peacefully on Sept. 4, 2024, at the Evergreen Nursing Home in Alamosa, Colo. Born on Feb. 27, 1935, in a modest railroad house between the tracks on the south side of Alamosa, Herb's journey through life was as remarkable as the man himself.

Herb's early years were spent in the town of his birth, where he graduated from Alamosa High School. His thirst for knowledge and innate intelligence led him to earn a Bachelor's Degree from Adams State, laying the foundation for a career that would take him across the globe.

As Chief Hull Inspector for container ship builds, he exclusively consulted for Chevron, APL, and Mattson Navigation. Herb's work was his passport to the world, allowing him to live in diverse places such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Germany, Thailand, Sumatra, and Hawaii.

It was during his time in Japan that he met the love of his life, Suzuko, while vacationing in Enoshima,

ing on the 20 acre farm growing alfalfa and raised livestock to feed his family. Living in the home he built with his father and working the land brought him not just joy but a sense of accomplishment and peace.

Herb's family was the cornerstone of his world. He is survived by his devoted wife, Suzuko Taylor of Alamosa; his children Kristy (Charles) Stella of Santa Ana, Calif., and Herbie Taylor of Alamosa; his cherished granddaughter, Carmen Anjali Greer-Taylor; his sister Barbara Brinkerhoff of Alaska; and extended family.

Herb was preceded in death by both of his parents, Fannie Elizabeth and Herbert Henry Taylor II.

There will be a Celebration of Life Service held on Oct. 5, 2024, at 1 p.m. at Rogers Family Mortuary in Alamosa, followed by the interment of ashes in Alamosa Cemetery.

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

Sadie Elizabeth Martinez



Beloved Alamosa resident Sadie Elizabeth Martinez, 83, departed this life on Sept. 17, 2024. Born on Jan. 12, 1941, in Alamosa, Colo., to Scotty Garcia and Maria (Padilla) Garcia, Sadie was the twinkle in her parents' eyes.

After graduating high school, Sadie went to Adams State College, where she obtained her Doctorate Degree in Education. She worked as an educator and counselor for Sierra Grande for many years. She loved teaching and helping others and being able to pass on wisdom and advice to anyone who wanted it. She was very enlightened and had such a great outlook on life.

Sadie was a devoted wife, mother, sister, and friend to all. In her free time, she loved playing

P. Martinez of Alamosa, Colo.; special loved ones Lisa Muniz, Jason (Leslie) Faydor, Joann Garcia, Dennis (Cheryl) Garcia. She is also survived by many extended family members and friends.

Sadie was preceded in death by her parents Scotty and Maria Garcia and her husband Patricio L. Martinez.

Vigil Service with Recitation of the Rosary will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. and Mass of the Resurrection will follow at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Alamosa. Interment will follow at the Alamosa Cemetery.

To leave online condolences, please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. The care of arrangements has been entrusted to Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

Conejos County deputy injured in accident

By PRISCILLA WAGGONER
Courier Reporter
CONEJOS COUNTY

A collision between two cars on Wednesday afternoon led to a Conejos County deputy sustaining serious injuries and being transported to a local hospital. In the other vehicle, two young women from Alabama were injured, less seriously, and transported, as well.

According to Capt. Nathan Lyons with the Colorado State Patrol, Wednesday afternoon,

a Conejos County deputy was headed northbound on Highway 285 when a vehicle heading east on 142 turned southbound onto Highway 285, directly in front of the deputy.

The deputy sustained serious but not life-threatening injuries. The women in the eastbound vehicle sustained less serious injuries.

"The driver was a little banged up and the passenger was a little banged up more than the driver but nothing

of a serious nature," Lyons said.

All three individuals were transported to a local hospital.

"The damage to the two vehicles was very extensive. But because all three individuals were wearing seatbelts, it wasn't nearly as serious for the occupants as it would have been otherwise," Lyons said.

Lyons added that traffic was diverted for roughly an hour before resuming. No further information is expected at this time.

ated with any outside organizations, but in the spirit of cooperation, we list these meeting schedules for friends and family. For information, call 719-937-5083 or see our website: slvaa.org



Courtesy photo

The Adams State uSafeUS app is available for both iPhone and Android phones and already available for download.

Adams State encourages uSafeUS app to keep students safe

By ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY
ALAMOSA - Adams State University is dedicated to the safety and well-being of all students, faculty, and staff. The campus community now has an award-winning uSafeUS app, to improve safety and reinforce consent and how to report sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking.

According to Heidi Schneider, Ph.D., inclusive excellence liaison, encourages students to download the app as the fall semester gets underway.

"uSafeUS helps us meet students where they are on their phones- to communicate vital information about prevention and response. It supports our students throughout their time on campus in a safe, anonymous way, helping to ensure they have the resources they need, when they need them," she said.

The uSafeUS app is designed for colleges and universities as a plat-

form for preventing and responding to sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. uSafeUS provides interactive prevention features to help students leave risky or uncomfortable situations and to protect themselves or others when traveling alone. The research-informed, campus-customizable app provides help and guidance for victims or their supporters, with specially designed features.

uSafeUS was developed and enhanced using extensive input from more than 100 college administrators and 400 students. The uSafeUS prevention features include: Time to Leave lets students send themselves fake texts or calls, providing a reason to leave an uncomfortable social situation before it becomes dangerous; Expect Me lets students alert friends to follow them via GPS and to follow-up if they don't arrive when expected; Sound the Alarm triggers a loud alarm and flashing lights

from a cell phone if a student feels threatened; Angel Drink provides a way for students to discretely alert a bartender or server that help is needed.

The uSafeUS response features are based on more than 16 years of research into helping and supporting victims. Response features include Find Help provides fast access to medical help, public safety, counseling service, and more; Helpful Answers provides educational information in a question-and-answer format from the perspectives of victims, and their friends or supporters, including faculty and staff. What Next? Walks victims through options for care and reporting.

For more information, visit usafeus.org.

COURIER OBITUARY POLICY

The Courier charges \$75 for each obituary per day. Pending arrangements or death notices are free. This charge affects funeral homes, family or other representatives that place obituaries. All paid obituaries are published on www.alamosanews.com, for no additional fee.

Please email obituaries if possible to squintana@alamosanews.com If the newspaper errors in publishing an obit, corrections will be made and the obit rerun. If the errors are on the part of the submitting party, an additional fee will be assessed.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

A.A. and N.A members primary purpose is to

stay sober and help other alcoholics/addicts to achieve sobriety.

There are AA and NA 12-Step Meetings throughout the valley. The 6th Tradition states that we are not affili-

School Menu
Monday
September 23, 2024

BREAKFAST
Cereal
Fruit & Milk

ELEMENTARY
Beef Tacos
Cowboy Bread/Black Beans
Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

MIDDLE SCHOOL
Beef Tacos
Cowboy Bread/Black Beans
Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

HIGH SCHOOL
Beef Tacos
Cowboy Bread/Black Beans
Veggie Bar
Fruit & Milk

Breakfast & Lunch Free for all students
Alamosa School District
To sponsor the School Menu call 589-2553

Valley News

Clock

Continued from Page 1
ing for two days as the clock stands more than 16 feet tall and weighs more than two and a half tons.

And...following much emotion filled discussion and negotiations, the clock will not stand in its former site – directly in front of what is now the Lucky Bamboo – but in a spot where it will be seen by all coming into Alamosa, a place where many felt it should have stood all

along – in front of Kaval’s on Main Street, just west of State Avenue.

The clock was originally installed on March 6, 1912, when that day’s edition of the Valley Courier read, “Velhagen Bros., the enterprising jewelers, are installing the fine new electric street clock that was ordered from the East some months ago. It will be quite a novelty for Alamosa and an adornment for State Street.”

And so it was. For more than half a century, the street clock would do its duty from

where it stood in front of Velhagen Bros. Jewelry at 505 State Avenue. Provided it was wound every eight days, it kept precise time visible both day and night while advertising VELHAGEN BROS. JEWELRY on its hood. Although it could be counted on to show the precise time to every kid on his way to school or man and woman on their way to work, its image was captured only by chance in photographs. And even then, the image was blurred as the clock was never the subject of the photo.

That was especially surprising as the Velhagen clock was one of only 212 made in the world by the Seth Thomas Clock Company, considered to be the “Tiffany” of all clockmakers. Today, it’s suspected to be one of only nine of its kind still in existence.

More than 110 years have passed since that

first day it kept time for the people of Alamosa and an undetermined amount of time since it graced the city streets in town. But thanks to the unimaginable commitment shown by a group of people who toiled in honor and respect for John Davis as much as they did to see the clock restored, this “functional

piece of art”, as described by Richard Luckemeier, can be appreciated by all who take a moment to stop and listen to its steady “tick tock” and gaze at the two faces on either side that will be illuminated at night.

A formal ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at some point in the near future.

Laske

Continued from Page 1
our citizens for another four years.

In conjunction with my fellow commissioners, I feel that I have provided leadership and am an integral part of the Alamosa County team. I am a good candidate; I serve with integrity, a strong work ethic, and have experience in leading the county. For the past three years, I have worked especially hard on enhancing safety, increasing road maintenance, and have been fiscally responsible with county funds.

The commissioners have pushed to enhance safety for our community by working to increase the Sheriff’s Department’s budget. These additional funds, over 1 million dollars (from the 2021 to 2024 budget), have increased the number of deputies, added needed equipment, and provided competitive salaries. We have increased the Alamosa County’s portion of the District Attorney’s budget by (from

the 2021 to 2024 budget), which has increased the number of attorneys and allowed for swifter prosecution.

Based on citizens’ input, we have increased the Road & Bridge Department budget for new equipment and directed funds for road oil, all within an environment of increasing cost. For the first time in many years, we have also put funding towards blight mitigation and working to clean up dangerous properties.

As far as fiscal responsibility. The fund balance had an increase from 2020 to 2022. We planned and utilized the ARPA Funds responsibly, and strategically planned for future needs while securing our ability to provide services.

Supporting Commissioner Heersink, we implemented 1041 Regulations to protect water resources.

I have directly fought for Opioid Settlement funds coming to the SLV instead of the front range. I am working with the Colorado Department of Energy on a 1.7 million

Federal grant to study the feasibility of a regional transmission line for reliance/redundancy of electricity and the option to export solar energy. I am a current appointee to the Colorado Property Tax Task Force. I have taken on leadership roles, including the chair of the Alamosa County Commissioners in 2023 & 2024 and the chair of the 19-county Southern District of Colorado Counties Inc. I am a current appointee to the Colorado Child Fatality Protection committee, and I am a Rural Caucus member of the National Association of County Commissioners.

In all these groups, I am fighting for rural counties, safety, water, and our way of life while working to remind the state of the importance of rural Colorado.

I appreciate the confidence the citizens of Alamosa County have put in me. I will continue to work hard and would appreciate the honor to continue to fight for Alamosa County citizens. Please feel free to contact me at 719-850-1640.

Needham

Continued from Page 1
and I have been doing so since 1981. My career began as a police dispatcher, and since then, I’ve served as an EMT, a sheriff’s deputy, a detective with Alamosa PD, and eventually as a Chief of Police.

Earning an MBA in Public Administration from Adams State University has equipped me with the skills necessary to manage public agencies effectively. With both the experience and training to serve, I am confident I can move Alamosa County forward at this critical inflection point. As the economic hub of the San Luis Valley, our county has the potential to extend its influence across southern Colorado and into northern New Mexico.

The county’s current leadership is composed entirely of Republicans. While I respect their contributions, I believe a more balanced perspective would better serve our citizens. The county needs leadership that is grounded in fiscal responsibility, environmental stewardship, and a focus on community well-being rather than divisive, symbolic resolutions, such as the recent “non-sanctuary”

county debate. I will bring this balanced, service-driven approach to the Board of County Commissioners.

What matters most to me is serving the people of Alamosa County. County government exists to improve the lives of its citizens, and as commissioner, it would be my duty to ensure that every resident receives the best possible services. From basic infrastructure like road maintenance to more complex issues like economic development, I believe we can do better.

Employee retention is a priority for me. We must offer competitive compensation to retain skilled workers, ensuring the county benefits from their expertise long-term. By working collaboratively with other elected officials and department heads, I will ensure our services are not just adequate, but exemplary and each county employee is successful in their role.

The most important thing for voters to know is that I deeply care about this community, and I will bring diligence and integrity to this office. Throughout my career in law enforcement, I’ve always focused on preparedness without succumbing to hysteria. I have faced the complex decisions that

come with public safety, I’m confident I can fulfill and administrative role just as effectively.

Recently, we’ve seen an increase in violent crime, likely linked to the rise in drug availability. This is an area where I have significant experience. I served as the commander of the 12th Judicial District’s Drug Task Force for nearly a decade. If elected, I will work closely with law enforcement and behavioral health programs to address drug-related issues and enhance public safety.

I want to raise awareness about the importance of focusing on issues that directly affect the lives of Alamosa County residents, such as economic development and affordable housing. To accomplish that, we need long-term strategic planning to move the county forward. I have experience with this.

I believe in John Adams’ words: “Government is instituted for the common good: for the protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness of the people; and not for the profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men.” This is what I aim to bring to Alamosa County government — a focus on the common good.

Crime

Continued from Page 1

Jackson weighed in on the job of fighting crime and enforcing the law in the San Luis Valley and then took questions from the public.

“Even though cites show an increase in violence in Alamosa,” Kelly said, “I’m going to share with you some trends across the years that come from our office to give you a bigger and better picture of what’s happening.”

Kelly shared data about cases filed by her office since 2020, clarifying the data reflects cases that are filed and are not reflective of cases the sheriff’s office or police department have responded to.

In what may have come as a surprise to those who attended, Kelly painted a picture of crime rates that, with some exceptions, are not increasing.

She started off discussing homicides and murders, which includes first- and second-degree murder, first- and second-degree attempted murder, vehicular homicide, criminal negligence, and manslaughter.

Within that category, there were 14 homicides and murders in 2020, seven in 2021, 19 in 2022, 10 in 2023, and 15 in 2024.

“In 2024, five people were charged in the murder of one victim, so there have actually been 10 cases filed,” she said. She then added that, in 2024, they are projecting a total of 18 homicide and murder cases to be filed.

The question was asked about the numbers being presented in a “per 100,000” figure, and Kelly had the data to answer.

In Denver, the rate was 1: 5,200; in Arapahoe County, which includes Aurora, the rate was 1:7,200. In Alamosa, that ratio was 1:3,700, which Kelly described as high. But she also added that comparing those numbers was like apples to oranges as a ratio of 1:3,700 is felt much more deeply than in Denver or Arapahoe County because the community is smaller.

Steady crime rates cannot be said for felony drug cases, which are up by about 20% since last year, a fact she attributes to the prevalence of

fentanyl.

“It’s very cheap to make. It’s highly addictive and very easy to traffic and more fentanyl is being trafficked in the Valley. It just is,” she said.

In response, the DA’s office has spent “many more resources” to better investigate, build stronger cases and to get more cases filed against major traffickers. She also discussed the Drug Task Force, which includes seven agents from multiple law enforcement agencies who work collaboratively in identifying the major drug traffickers and devote more resources in going after them.

“Unlike my predecessor,” Kelly says, she prioritizes her cases with consideration toward prosecuting major drug traffickers.

In what may feel counter to public perception, property crimes have decreased by 13% in comparison to 2020. She attributes that to more pro-active policing.

Kelly also discussed a change she has made in policy. After two years in the Valley, she is more familiar with those individuals who are “the most dangerous offenders.” With that

in mind, the DA’s office is going to start charging more of those defendants with habitual criminal counts, which increases the maximum sentence by three or four times for each count a defendant is convicted of committing.

She emphasizes that the office is still committed to diversion and not prosecuting crimes that are committed because of addiction, with an emphasis on getting the person help.

In contrast, she cites an example of someone who is charged with assault with a deadly weapon and, in looking through his criminal history, sees numerous previous convictions for similar crimes.

“This guy is not getting the message. We have this tool to go after this guy and make sure he’s not a danger to the community anymore. Each case will be handled with discretion and all attorneys in the DA’s office will be involved,” she said.

When she asked for feedback from the audience, the response was largely positive. People looked at the approach as “pro-active,” “necessary,” and it sends a good message of what the community will toler-

ate.

ADA Wes Stafford gave a broad overview of how the bond system works, as the DA’s office is taking different action in that area, as well. One of the goals is to stop the revolving door that often happens when, while on bond, a person commits more crimes. Example, if a person commits a felony and, while out on bond, commits another felony, they’re asking the judge to take that into consideration in revoking bond or adding another condition to bond.

Chief Dingfelder and Sheriff Jackson addressed questions about morale among officers – both said the job is tough, but morale is pretty good. There were additional questions about what the community can do to help, and the response was unanimous.

“If you see something, say something.” They also spoke about the enormous value of having co-responders and victim advocates.

By the end of the evening, it was agreed that forums like what happened Thursday night hold value for keeping the public informed and will be held again in the future.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

SUNDAY • 22

MONDAY • 23

TUESDAY • 24

WEDNESDAY • 25

THURSDAY • 26

FRIDAY • 27

SATURDAY • 28

Homecoming Week:
Club Fair 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Japanese/American Memorial Garden

Homecoming Week:
Paint the Rock 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Volleyball vs
CSU Pueblo 6 p.m.
Plachy Hall

Wellness Wednesdays:
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Student Health & Wellness Resource Center

Homecoming Week:
Petting Zoo 12 p.m. until 3 p.m. The Rock

Planetarium Free Movies: 5:30 p.m. *Oasis in Space* and *To Space and Back*

Planetarium Free Movies: 5:30 p.m. *Solar Superstorms* and *Exoplanets*

Faculty Lecture: Film Music and Wormholes: Underscoring the Einstein-Rosen Bridge
Chelsea Oden, 6 p.m.
McDaniel 101 Free

Homecoming Week:
Bingo 7 p.m. The Grill

Concert: Celebration of Hispanic Heritage 7 p.m. Richardson Hall Auditorium Free

Homecoming Week: Alumni Reception & Banquet Reservations
adams.edu/alumni
Bonfire: 7 p.m. Gravel Lot West of Bubble

Volleyball vs
South Dakota Mines
6 p.m. Plachy Hall

M & W Swimming vs
Western Colo. Univ. 9 a.m. Plachy Hall Pool
Homecoming Parade:
10 a.m. Alamosa
Free Carnival: 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.
North Campus Green
Custom Car & Bike Show: 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. McDaniel Hall Parking Lot
Tailgate Party: 11 a.m. Library Parking Lot
Football vs CSU Pueblo
1 p.m. Rex Stadium
Volleyball vs Black Hills State University
6 p.m. Plachy Hall

September 30 Through November 1, 2024

Cloyde Snook Gallery: *Cleverly Laid Plans* by James Fuller

Hatfield Gallery: *Den Eye Photo* by Dennis Schoenfelder

Gallery Hours: 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

www.adams.edu

Opinion

Scrambling out the '55 Chevy

I was 4 years old that day watching you scramble out the green '55-Chevy door—pool hall, beer, not far away; I remember a freight train rumbling, chugging through Mercedes. At 10 a.m., you, an unemployed mailman, were already buzzed.

Movin' On with Nellie



Nelda Curtiss

I learned that my uncle fell in love a long time ago before serving our country in Hawaii. Besides falling in love with the honey from South Texas, he fell in love, not so specifically, with each Vodka bottle or Schlitz beer can he downed. Now, overused military dress shoes shuffle through that worn path to a sweaty, soil-infused twin-sized bed.

Another drunkard has fallen and refuses to wake to the vomit night after night; no named brother guzzled and couldn't bear to be parted from Bud, the imitation life.

Daylight breaks through the window; still, that uncle, brother, friend, father, or son sleeps, and keeps the



bottle surrounded and close. That trash bucket is within inches of 500 threads. Alone, he doesn't know those memories, and synapses evaporate long-ago recollections and his life of one-sided love.

Another young man listened in class some 20 years before he bought the six-pack and parked that rusty ole Ford truck on the Tioga wintery tracks; the long-time-ago student, divorced and without family, waited and waited until the locomotive plowed into that rust bucket.

I was 4 that day watching Uncle Arnold, dressed in stained khakis, stum-

ble out of the green '55-Chevy passenger door. The Mercedes Pool Hall, and an icy Bud, were 10 steps away; I still remember his face fixed, his eyes annoyed and his feet stumbling.

The news says men aren't consuming as much whiskey as they used to. Not as many highballs as two years ago. For women, numbers are also growing, journalists report.

Who understands the draw of losing minds, or egos into numbness and into nothing-at-all? It seems to me that drinking, drugging, and other mind-altering activities need solutions.

To submit news, email:
news@alamosanews.com

To submit sports, email:
khamrick@alamosanews.com

Letters policy

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

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

Historical records show that even a hundred years ago, people died from alcoholism manifested as cirrhosis of the liver. I've lost many family members to those alcoholic clutches, so bringing rehab programs to our communities with intense one-on-one therapies is so important. Let's not lose another loved one to a disease with so many hooks.

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

A Kamala Harris crowd: Big and happy

By BYRON YORK

In the days before Vice President Kamala Harris came here, on Friday the 13th, some Trump supporters in this northeastern Pennsylvania town speculated that she would have trouble attracting a big crowd to her rally. Even when attendees began to show up, the detractors said the number was small and perhaps they had been paid to attend.

Former President Donald Trump himself promoted the idea a few days earlier at his debate with Harris. "People don't go to her rallies," Trump said. "There's no reason to go. And the people that do go, she's busing them in and paying them to be there."

The idea of the Wilkes-Barre rally was for the Harris campaign to go into a Trump stronghold. The former president won surrounding Luzerne County by 14 points over Joe Biden in 2020 and by 19 points over Hillary Clinton in 2016. The point was not to win Luzerne County in November but to make progress there as part of winning Pennsylvania overall.

Trump has paid a lot of attention to the area. He has held rallies there several times, most recently on Aug. 17 at the Mohegan Arena, which can accommodate somewhere between 8,000 and 10,000 people, depending on how it is set up. Some accounts called Trump's August crowd "near capacity" -- the exact crowd size has gotten caught up in a lot of trolling from the Harris campaign and some media outlets. But Trump undoubt-

edly drew a lot of people.

Entering Republican territory, Harris set a lower bar for herself, holding the rally at the McHale Athletic Center at Wilkes University. It's a good deal smaller than Mohegan, and not designed to accommodate arena-size crowds. Harris filled it up; local news reports said officials let just over 4,100 people into the event.

The day before, Harris held two rallies in North Carolina. In Greensboro, located in heavily Democratic Guilford County, which Biden won by 23 points over Trump in 2020 and Clinton won by 20 points over Trump in 2016, Harris drew a crowd estimated at 17,000. In Charlotte, where in Mecklenburg County Biden won by 35 points over Trump in 2020 and Clinton won by 30 points over Trump in 2016, the Harris campaign said it drew 7,500 people at the Bojangles Coliseum.

Quibble with the numbers if you want; crowd size has long been a point of contention in political battles. But Harris has been drawing big crowds, and they aren't bused in and they aren't paid. Some of the Republican grumbling going on now is reminiscent of 2012, in the Barack Obama-Mitt Romney race, when a number of Republicans convinced themselves that the polls were "skewed" and Democrats were demoralized. A visit to an Obama rally or two would have proved otherwise, but those Republicans chose to ignore the Democratic enthusiasm in

front of their faces. Now, Republicans should be seeing a lot of Democratic enthusiasm in front of their faces. More than anything, the Wilkes-Barre crowd seemed happy. Really happy. Harris didn't have to do much to please them; at one point, she literally said, "We're all in this together," and they cheered wildly. They often broke into chants of KA-MA-LA! KA-MA-LA! KA-MA-LA! evoking memories of the Obama cult of personality in the 2008 campaign. Many members of the audience fit the Harris/Democratic profile -- they were social workers, teachers, students, school administrators, nurses, psychologists. In the course of several conversations, all described themselves as lifelong Democrats. Just one said he had feared the party had been heading toward defeat under Biden -- "He's old, man" -- while the rest said they fully supported Biden. Now, they're just as fully on board for Harris. All were ecstatic about Harris' performance against Trump in the debate a few days before. As far as issues are concerned, when asked their most important issue, every woman said abortion or "women's issues," by which they meant abortion. Some of the men said so, too, but several others said that preserving democracy was the most important issue to them. That was it. Certainly, they have other concerns, but when asked the simple question of what is most important to them, they listed Harris' strongest issue,

and the issue Biden sought to make the centerpiece of his campaign. Harris' rallies are real-life illustrations of the standard poll question about voter enthusiasm. For months, when Biden was their candidate, Democrats lagged in the question of which party was more enthusiastic about the race. Now Democrats are ahead. That's not the only measure of what is important in an election, and it doesn't mean things can't change in the next several weeks. But it's something Republicans need to realize about the other side.

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

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ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

A.A. and N.A members primary pur-

pose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics/addicts to achieve sobriety.

There are AA and NA 12-Step Meetings throughout the valley. The 6th Tradition states that we are not affiliat-

ed with any outside organizations, but in the spirit of cooperation, we list these meeting schedules for friends and family. For information, call 719-937-5083 or see our website:slvaa.org

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Your FIRST Source for Local News

Sports

Farmers plow under Bobcats 64-6

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

SARGENT SCHOOL – The Sargent High School football team returned home on Friday for a game against winless Custer County at the SHS field.

The visiting Bobcats proved to be no match for the Farmers. Sargent scored every time it had the ball, plus two defensive touchdowns for a 64-6 win.

“It was a good win,” said Sargent coach Jon Medina. “The boys came together and played well. Everybody did their jobs and it was a good overall effort.”

Custer County had the ball first but turned the ball over on downs on their own 36. The Farmers took advantage of the good field position on the very next play as Lucas Garcia ran 36 yards for a touchdown. Kade Temple ran in the two-point conversion and Sargent led 8-0 with 8:37 left in the first quarter.

The Bobcats turned the ball over on their next possession as the snap got past quarterback Masson Simmons. Garcia got to the end zone on the play as he scooped and scored on a 30-yard return. The two-point attempt failed and the Farmers led 14-0.

The Bobcats punted on their next possession and the Farmers took over at their own 45. It took four plays to get into the end zone as Garcia scored his third touchdown of the game, this time on a 10-yard run. The two-point conversion try was no good and the score stood at 20-0.

Custer County fumbled the ball away on its next drive with Jaycian Sierra recovering. Garcia then threw a 36-yard touchdown to Temple, but the two-point play again was no good and Sargent led 26-0 at the end of the first quarter.

The Bobcats scored their only touchdown early in the fourth quarter as Elijah Flynn tossed a 23-yard scoring strike to Agi Thomas. The two-point attempt came up short.

Their momentum was short lived as Garcia scored his fourth touchdown. He took the snap from center and raced 51 yards to the end zone. The two-point attempt was unsuccessful and the Farmers led 32-6.

Garcia found the end zone for the fifth time on a 47-yard run. Kenyon Knorr scored on the two-point conversion and the score stood at 40-6.

The Farmers scored one more time before halftime as Temple went into the end zone on a 1-yard quarterback sneak. The two-point play was no good and Sargent had a 46-6 advantage.

The rest of the game was played under a running clock, but the Farmers scored twice in the third quarter. First Kyler Jones scored on a 14-yards run, but the two-point attempt came up short. Then they got their second defensive touchdown on a 45-yard interception return by Temple. The two-point conversion attempt was unsuccessful.

Sargent got one touchdown in the fourth quarter with Jones going into the end zone on a 10-yard run.



Sargent High School's Lucas Garcia (4) runs for a touchdown behind Jaycian Sierra's block in Friday's game against Custer County at the SHS field. The Farmers defeated the Bobcats 64-6.

Courier photo by Ken Hamrick

The two-point conversion again was no good.

The Farmers had 331 yards of total offense on only 23 plays. They had 250 yards on the ground with Garcia running for 165 yards on seven carries. Jayce Capron had 25 yards on two carries, Jones had 24 yards on two carries, and Bryson Paulson had 22 yards on one carry.

Temple completed all three of his pass attempts for 45 yards, and Garcia completed his only attempt for 36 yards. Sierra had two receptions for 21 yards, Temple had one for 36 and Jones had one for 24.

“It was an awesome game,” Temple said. “I was glad to come back and make two interceptions. I had a rushing touchdown and everyone blocked well. I just played well for my team.”

Custer County had 167 yards of total offense – 117 rushing and 50 passing. Wyatt Grundy ran for 128 yards on 17 carries.

Sargent (2-2) will have a week off before resuming play against Dolores at home on Oct. 4.

“Dolores is a tough squad and they're coached well,” Medina said. “We're just going to come out and play our football game and hope to get a victory.”

Sargent 64, Custer County 6				
Team	Yards	Plays	Time	Score
Custer County	0	6	0	0-6
Sargent	26	20	12	6-64
First quarter				
S - Garcia 36 run (Temple run), 8:37				
S - Garcia 30 fumble return (run failed), 8:05				
S - Garcia 10 run (pass failed), 5:20				
S - Temple 36 pass from Garcia (run failed), 2:39				
Second quarter				
CC - Thomas 23 pass from Flynn (run failed), 9:49				
S - Garcia 51 run (run failed), 9:34				
S - Garcia 47 run (Knorr run), 7:30				
S - Temple 1 run (run failed), 4:10				
Third quarter				
S - Jones 14 run (run failed), 7:50				
S - Temple 45 interception return (run failed), 3:16				
Fourth quarter				
S - Jones 10 run (pass failed), 6:06				

Lady Farmers silence Lady Thunderbirds

By **KEN HAMRICK**
Courier sports editor

MOSCA – The 10th-ranked Sargent High School volleyball team had a tough task on Thursday as it traveled to face perennial power Sangre de Cristo.

The Lady Farmers got a tough contest early in their match against the Lady Thunderbirds but came up with a sweep by scores of 25-21, 25-12 and 25-14.

Sangre took a 4-2 lead to begin the first set, but Sargent came back to go in front at 6-5. The Lady T-Birds had a brief side out before the Lady Farmers went on a 6-1 run to take an 11-6 advantage.

Sangre closed the lead to 11-8, but Sargent scored three consecutive points for a 14-8 advantage. The teams then exchanged side outs until the Lady T-Birds narrowed the gap to 15-11.

After again trading side outs, the Lady Farmers went up 19-13 before Sangre scored four unanswered points to reduce its deficit to 19-17.

The teams again exchanged side outs before Sargent scored three of the final four points for a 25-21 win.

Sangre scored the first point of the second set, but Sargent scored the next four. After a brief Lady T-Birds side out, the Lady Farmers scored seven points in

a row to take an 11-2 advantage.

Sargent increased the lead to 15-4 before Sangre rallied to pull within 18-10. But the Lady Farmers finished with a 7-2 rally for a 25-12 win.

The Lady Farmers scored the first six points of the third set. After trading side outs, the Lady T-Birds scored four consecutive points to reduce the margin to 10-9.

Sargent answered with a 7-0 run for a 17-9 advantage. It then scored eight of the final 13 points to take a 25-14 victory.

Reese Anderson and Kandace Pargin led the Lady Farmers as Anderson had 13 assists and eight kills, while Pargin had nine assists and nine kills. Pargin's twin sister, Kimmy, had five kills. Bella Anderson, Reese Anderson and Kimmy Pargin each had two service aces.

Kylie Smit led the Lady Thunderbirds with eight assists. Belle Beiriger led in kills with four. Hallie Henry, Emma Jimenez and Taylor Freel each had two aces.

Sargent (9-0, 3-0) will play Primero on Saturday at 12:30 p.m.

Sangre de Cristo (6-6, 1-1) played La Veta and Center on Friday. Its next match is Thursday at home against Centennial.



Sargent High School's Reese Anderson (10) hits the ball as Sangre de Cristo's Belle Beiriger (14) goes up for the block. The 10th-ranked Lady Farmers defeated the Lady Thunderbirds in three sets.

Courier photo by Ken Hamrick

Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference standings

As of Thursday

FOOTBALL		
Team	Conf. W-L	Overall W-L
Colorado State Pueblo	1-0	2-1
Colorado School of Mines	0-0	2-0
Western Colorado	0-0	2-0
Black Hills State (S.D.)	0-0	1-1
Chadron State (Neb.)	0-0	1-1
Colorado Mesa	0-0	1-1
Fort Lewis	0-0	1-1
Adams State	0-0	0-2
New Mexico Highlands	0-0	0-2
South Dakota Mines	0-1	1-2

MEN'S SOCCER		
Team	Conf. W-L-T	Overall W-L-T
Colorado-Colorado Springs	0-0-0	4-0-1
Colorado State Pueblo	0-0-0	4-1-0

Fort Lewis	0-0-0	3-0-2
Westminster (Utah)	0-0-0	3-0-2
Colorado Mesa	0-0-0	2-1-1
Regis	0-0-0	0-1-4
Colorado Christian	0-0-0	0-1-4
Metropolitan State-Denver	0-0-0	1-2-1
Adams State	0-0-0	1-2-0
Colorado School of Mines	0-0-0	1-3-0
South Dakota Mines	0-0-0	0-4-0

WOMEN'S SOCCER		
Team	Conf. W-L-T	Overall W-L-T
Colorado School of Mines	0-0-0	4-0-0
Colorado Mesa	0-0-0	2-0-2
Fort Lewis	0-0-0	2-1-1
Colorado-Colorado Springs	0-0-0	2-1-2
Metropolitan State-Denver	0-0-0	1-0-4
New Mexico Highlands	0-0-0	2-2-1
Colorado Christian	0-0-0	1-1-1
Westminster (Utah)	0-0-0	1-1-1
Colorado State Pueblo	0-0-0	1-2-2
Adams State	0-0-0	1-2-1

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL		
Team	Conf. W-L	Overall W-L
Metropolitan State-Denver	0-0	7-1
Colorado Mesa	0-0	6-2
Colorado Christian	0-0	5-3
Colorado-Colorado Springs	0-0	5-3
Colorado State Pueblo	0-0	5-3
Westminster (Utah)	0-0	4-3
Black Hills State (S.D.)	0-0	4-4
South Dakota Mines	0-0	4-4
Colorado School of Mines	0-0	3-5
Western Colorado	0-0	3-7
Chadron State (Neb.)	0-0	2-6
Fort Lewis	0-0	2-6
Regis	0-0	2-6
Adams State	0-0	2-7
New Mexico Highlands	0-0	1-6

Sports Bulletin

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

SCOREBOARD THURSDAY

Prep girls softball
 La Junta 13, Alamosa 2, 5 inn.
Prep girls volleyball
 Questa (N.M.) def. Centennial 25-4, 25-14, 25-15

Sargent def. Sangre de Cristo 25-21, 25-12, 25-14

FRIDAY

Prep football
 Cedaredge 1, Del Norte 0, forfeit
 Center at Ellicott - no report
 Delta 41, Alamosa 12
 Fowler at Sanford - no report
 Monte Vista at Pagosa Springs - no report
 Sargent 64, Custer County 6
 Sierra Grande 58, Antonito 0
Prep girls volleyball
 Centervs. Sangre de Cristo

- no report
 Evangel Christian def. Center 25-19, 25-22
 Pueblo East def. Centauri in four sets - scores not reported
 Sangre de Cristo at La Veta - no report
 Sierra Grande at Antonito - no report
College women's volleyball
 New Mexico Highlands def. Adams State 16-25, 29-27, 25-23, 16-25, 15-11

SCHEDULE SATURDAY

Prep cross country
 Alamosa at Coronado

Invitational, 9 a.m.
Prep girls gymnastics
 Alamosa at Overland Invitational, TBA
Prep boys soccer
 Alamosa at Pagosa Springs, 10 a.m.
Prep girls softball
 Lamar at Alamosa, 11 a.m.
Prep girls volleyball
 Centauri at Pagosa Springs, 11 a.m.
 Monte Vista at Center, 11 a.m.
 Primero, Sargent at Centennial, 11 a.m.
 Sierra Grande at Creede, 11 a.m.
 Trinidad at Sanford, 11 a.m.

Mountain Valley at Crested Butte, noon
College football
 Adams State at Western Colorado, 6 p.m.
College cross country
 Adams State at Metropolitan State-Denver Invitational (at Washington Park), 8:30 a.m.
College men's soccer
 Sul Ross State (Texas) at Adams State, 10 a.m.
College women's soccer
 Sul Ross State (Texas) at Adams State, 1 p.m.

TUESDAY

Prep boys soccer
 Alamosa at Durango, 5

Prep girls softball
 Gunnison at Alamosa (at Adams State), 4 p.m.
Prep girls volleyball
 Center at Antonito, 4:30 p.m.
 Del Norte at Sargent, 5 p.m.
 Crested Butte at Monte Vista, 5:30 p.m.
College women's volleyball
 Colorado State Pueblo at Adams State, 6 p.m.

Lifestyle

Saguache first responders hold 9/11 remembrance event

By MARIE MCCOLM SAGUACHE — On Sept. 11, first responders participated in a parade held on 4th Street in Saguache. The street was lined with people happily watching as the local fire and rescue trucks, Saguache County Sheriff trucks, and a Saguache County ambulance, drove down the street with their lights and sirens on, in remembrance of the 9/11 tragedy.

Shortly after the parade, the groups gathered at the fire station, where a moment of silence and special prayer was said to honor the fallen heroes of 9/11.

Inside of the station, baked goodies were laid out for everyone to eat, including brownies, cookies, frosted cupcakes, cheesecake, and fruit. There were also light drinks served at the celebration.

Mackenzie Hammel, who is the director of the Northern Saguache County Ambulance District, spoke about the event, and why it was held.

"Tonight, we had a little parade and had a little get together in remembrance of 9/11. We do this every year, it's bigger this year than it has been the last couple of years,"



Following the 9/11 remembrance parade in Saguache, the public and first responders were treated to homemade desserts at the Saguache Volunteer Fire Department station.

Hammel said. Hammel, 26, has been a part of the ambulance district her entire life.

"My dad was the previous director, and I became the director in January. It's really been nice for all of us as a first responder family to get together tonight, and for us to also spend this time together, because we never know if we could end up in an emergency like that at some point," Hammel said.

Saguache Volunteer

Fire Department Chief Kendal Adolph spoke about the event, and about his crew being there.

"It's been a good turnout. Every year since 9/11 we have dedicated this time, and we all gather together and do a little parade around town with our sirens on. We read a couple of poems, we do a moment of silence, say the pledge of allegiance and we also just gather for fellowship. It's great," he said.



Photos by Marie Mccolm

In remembrance of 9/11, a parade was held in Saguache. The Northern Saguache County Ambulance District was one of the participants.



The Saguache Volunteer Fire Department participates in a 9/11 remembrance parade in Saguache.

Creede Salsa Fest winners



Courtesy photos

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Volunteers Needed for San Luis Valley Well Water Samples:

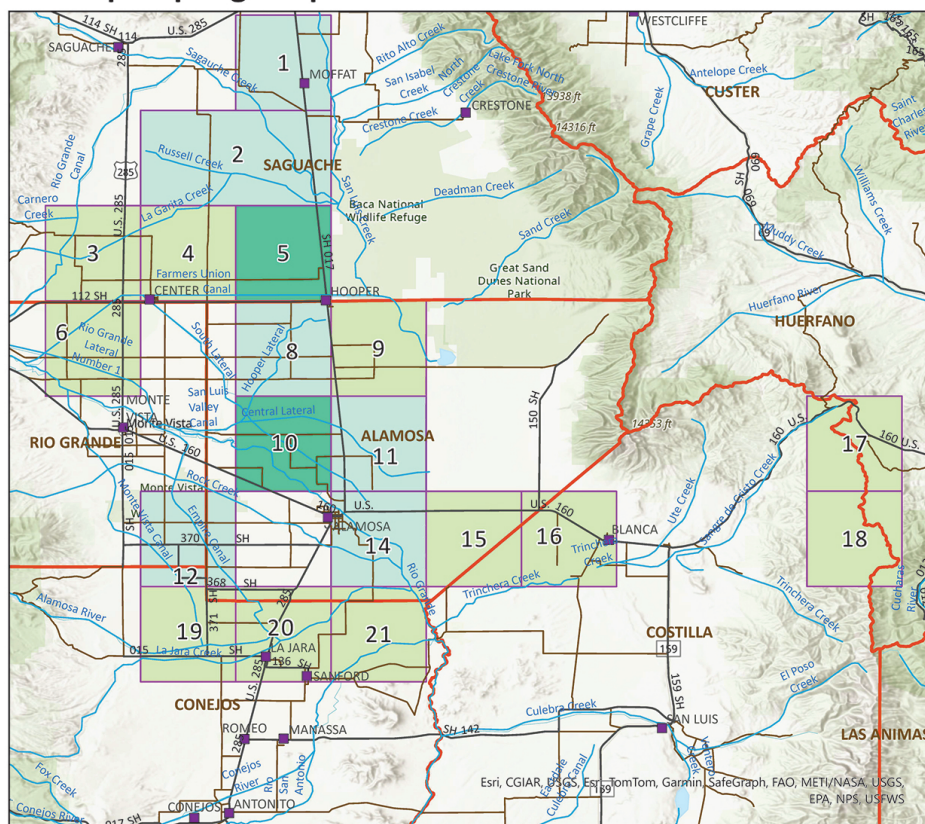
The Colorado Geological Survey (CGS), a department of the Colorado School of Mines, has been funded through a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) to conduct a 5-year study of baseline radionuclides and metals in groundwater obtained from privately owned residential water wells throughout Colorado. CDPHE's reason for this study is education focused for homeowners on wells. Note: CDPHE has no regulatory authority over private wells. The grant is covering the costs so is free to homeowners.

For this effort, 41 water samples are currently available for select areas of the San Luis Valley. These have been divided up in a grid, each containing 1, 2, or 3 samples. If the number of volunteers in a grid space exceeds the quota, the CGS will prioritize selection of participants by spatial distribution combined with geologic considerations.

For this effort we are seeking volunteers to whom we will ship, via FedEx Ground, a boxed sampling kit with a pre-paid FedEx Ground return shipping label. We will need filled water samples returned within about 2 weeks. Once we receive a water sample, we will assign a sample number to anonymize it. Thus, the owner's contact information will stay solely with CGS. We anticipate about a 2 month turn-around time before we can email lab results to the individual well owners.

Volunteers, please send an email to LSEBOL@mines.edu with your name, shipping address, (physical address of property if different), and phone number (FedEx requires phone numbers for shipping). A reply email will be sent with more detailed sampling information, asking for confirmation. If possible, please also identify which grid space the well is located within (available grids are shown in color on our grid map).

Residential water well sampling grid showing available number of samples per grid space



SLV Legend

- Number of samples per grid
 - 1 well sample/grid
 - 2 well sample/grid
 - 3 well sample/grid
- Cities
- Rivers and Streams
- Highways
- County border

0 5 10 Miles



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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

Lifestyle

Center Viking Youth Club holds suicide awareness run

By MARIE MCCOLM CENTER — A suicide awareness color run took place on Friday morning, Sept. 13. The race began at the Center Viking Youth Club, 386 S. Broadway, Center. The race involved students from the Center Consolidated School District, and all that attended either ran or walked back to the Center Viking Youth Club.

There were snacks and water provided for the children. There was also a coffee truck selling coffee and hot chocolate. Center Police Department Chief Aaron Fresquez helped with the race and could be seen in the middle of the road guiding both children and traffic. When the kids returned to the club, colored chalk was thrown at each other to celebrate the completion of the race.

Center Viking Youth Club Director Carmen Pavlovsky spoke about the race and the STARS program of Center.

"We did the race in collaboration with the STARS program, which stands for Students Teaching About Relationships and Success. The STARS program puts on this race every year for suicide awareness and prevention. The person in charge of STARS is Camille Villa. She is also the cross country coach, and her cross country kids are running, too. We all work together on this."

Pavlovsky explained that the students that were in the race got a t-shirt. Most of the kids in the race were wearing the t-shirts. Children were excited for the race and began lining up shortly after 7 a.m. The t-shirts were color-

ful and stated that they were for suicide awareness.

Pavlovsky stated, "Our goal is to bring suicide awareness and to help kids feel comfortable in talking about it. Students do think about this, more than anyone realizes. We want the word 'suicide' to be normal in conversation for students. We want them to hear it, know what it means, and if they are feeling a certain way they can go to a counselor and tell them I am having these thoughts."

Pavlovsky explained that the STARS program helps with this, too.

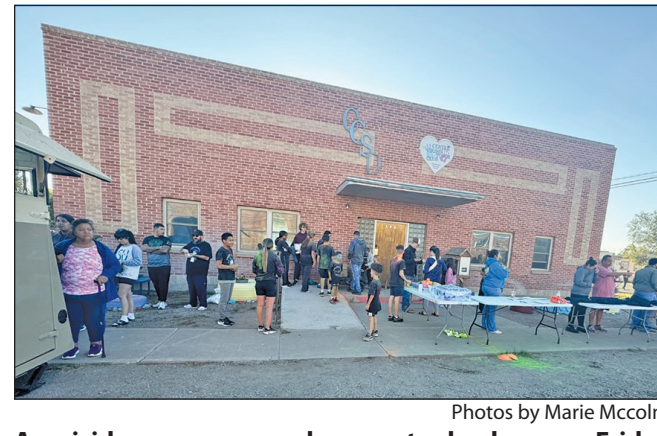
"So, we have students that are in STARS. We have high school students that are paired with middle school students, and we have mentors and mentees, so that they can look to them for advice. High school students can lean on each other. Everyone also has these adults that are there for them to go to. Our goal is for the students to know that they have trusted friends and people that they can go to for help. We have all these people together to help as a community to prevent suicide if anyone is having thoughts about it. Our main goal is to get these messages out there, with this run, too."

Pavlovsky spoke about the Center Viking Youth Club.

"We meet every day, Monday through Thursday after school, and we are here all day on Fridays. We provide time for students here. We provide snacks, and different activities. We provide social emotional learning, we ride bikes and skateboards, we learn about making



Participants of the suicide awareness color run pose for a photo on Sept. 13 at the Center Viking Youth Club.



A suicide awareness color run took place on Friday morning, Sept. 13. The race began at the Center Viking Youth Club.

Photos by Marie Mccolm

healthy choices. We have the kids help us make the snacks and make their own lunch. We do science projects and art projects. Also, depending on the time of year. A lot of the students that we have here, well their parents, might really need this space, because their parents might be working until five or six o'clock, and they need somewhere for their kids to go. We try to provide education and food, but our number one goal is building relationships. We try to provide a safe, educational space and there is a tuition fee, but we do not turn the kids away if they don't have the fee. We are also working on trying to provide transportation too. I feel the club and this run go hand in hand, because we are about building positivity and good relationships."

Pavlovsky stated that she felt the race really went well and had a good turnout.

IN MONTE VISTA

Orlando DeHerrera, DO
Monte Vista Medical Clinic
of Rio Grande Hospital
RioGrandeHospital.org

Welcome, Dr. Orlando DeHerrera, to our Monte Vista Medical Clinic. San Luis Valley native Orlando DeHerrera, DO, is accepting new patients at our Monte Vista Clinic. Born and raised in Antonito, he has been a local favorite with patients and is known for his down-to-earth charm.

Dr. DeHerrera is excited to be practicing with Rio Grande Hospital Clinic in Monte Vista, where he resides with his family. He is actively involved in the community and is happy to get back to his true calling as a primary care provider in the San Luis Valley!

To schedule your appointment with Dr. DeHerrera, call 719-852-8827

Talk

Continued from Page 1
 eral public, Dr. Brusino's presentation focuses on enlarging [a student's] perspective on what is available in the world for Adams State graduates. He will answer questions about history, graduate school, government service, professional military education, current projects, and other topics of interest. He is eager to hear what the current crop of students are studying and interested in pursuing.

After earning his Ph.D. from Ohio University in 2005, Dr. Brusino began teaching at United States Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Riley, Kansas, before assuming his duties at Carlisle Barracks in 2017.

A specialized institution, "The Army War College is the last major educational step in an officer's career," he said. "We educate senior leaders in all of the services, multiple civilian agencies, and international officers in national security and decision making, strategic leadership, military strategy and campaigning, and defense management, so they can go out and lead the armed forces in war and peace."

He published his first book, "A Nation Forged in War: How World War II Taught Americans to Get Along," with the University of Tennessee Press in 2010, and Oxford University Press will soon publish his latest work, "The Meuse Argonne Offensive and the Birth of the

American Century."

A football standout at Highlands Ranch High School, he was not widely recruited. His high school coach, Marty Heaton, '81 recommended him to Coach Jeff Geiser, Ph.D., at Adams State. Dr. Brusino played linebacker for Geiser and earned a reputation for tenacity and making big plays. He calls, Coach Geiser a lifelong mentor and "a great, inspirational, smart coach who truly cares about people."

Although Brusino came to Adams State to play football, he planned to become a high school social studies teacher and coach. He found his real passion in academic study.

"The general education courses introduced me to a broad variety of subjects taught by passionate professors. I had incredible mentors in my major area, led by Drs. McDaniel and Crowther, which led to me getting the McDaniel-Gallagher Scholarship." By the end of his junior year, Brusino had decided to pursue a doctorate in history.

Neither of his parents attended college but Adams State provided a supportive academic and athletic environment that launched him on his career path. He met his wife, Terrie, '99, at Adams State, and they are proud parents of three children. When his teammates decided to hold a reunion during the 2024 homecoming weekend, Brusino was determined to attend and is giving this talk "to share my ongoing love for Adams State."

Oktobrfest

and spirits

2024

Alamosa, Colorado

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COUNTY OF ALAMOSA**

NOTICE OF LOST STOCK CERTIFICATE

The San Luis Valley Canal Company, a Colorado Mutual Ditch Company, pursuant to C.R.S.A. §7-42-115 causes this NOTICE to be published on the 31st day of August, 2024 and once every week thereafter for five successive weeks the fifth publication being on the twenty-eighth day after the first publication." CRS 7-42-115, in the Valley Courier, a newspaper of general circulation in Alamosa County, in which the principal office of the San Luis Valley Canal Company is located.

In accordance with the terms of C.R.S.A. §7-42-114 to §7-42-117, Lloyd J. Simpson and Wilma H Simpson, joint tenants and The Federal Land Bank of Wichita, has filed a Notice with the San Luis Valley Canal Company making Demand for the issuance of duplicate certificates for stock certificates No. 765, for 100 shares each, respectively, of capital stock in the San Luis Valley Canal Company. The San Luis Valley Canal Company will issue, on or after the 31st day of October, 2024, thirty days after the last publication date, duplicate certificates to the registered owner, as above stated, unless a contrary claim is filed with the San Luis Valley Canal Company, Attn: Secretary, P O BOX 631, Monte Vista, Colorado 81144, prior to the date stated in this NOTICE.

The San Luis Valley Canal Company
Jess Frael, President Attest: Lyla Hathaway, Secretary
No. 4114.
Published in the Valley Courier on August 31, September 7, 14, 21, & 28, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PASSAGE
Ordinance No. 19-2024**

Notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at a regular meeting of the Alamosa City Council duly called, Council finally passed and adopted Ordinance No. 19-2024, an ordinance amending Sections 11-49; 11-53; and 11-99 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Alamosa to prohibit sitting and lying down on public rights of way; to amend details of the trespassing ordinance; and to remove the requirement that shelter or campground space be available before citing someone for unauthorized camping public property. Further notice is hereby given that the full text thereof is available for public inspection and acquisition on the City's website and in the Office of the City Clerk.

Alamosa City Council
Holly C. Martinez
City Clerk
No. 4146
Published in the Valley Courier on September 21, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
On Ordinance No. 21-2024**

NOTICE IS GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 21-2024, an ordinance amending the Unified Development Code to change the definitions of temporary signs; to modify the classification of real estate offices; and to add a table note requiring first floor businesses facing Main Street in the Central Business District to be open a minimum number of hours per month.

This ordinance was accepted on first reading on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, and a Public Hearing thereon set for Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. This hearing will be held in Alamosa Council Chambers, 300 Hunt Avenue, Alamosa, Colorado.

Further notice is given that any and all persons of interest may appear at said hearing and be heard in this matter, and that the full text of the ordinance is available for public inspection and acquisition on the City's website and in the office of the City Clerk.

Alamosa City Council
Holly C. Martinez,
City Clerk
No. 4147
Published in the Valley Courier on September 21, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
On Ordinance No. 22-2024**

NOTICE IS GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 22-2024, an ordinance establishing a vacant building registrations requirement in the Central Business District, setting forth maintenance requirements and penalties therewith.

This ordinance was accepted on first reading on September 18, 2024, and a Public Hearing thereon set for Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. This hearing will be held in Alamosa Council Chambers, 300 Hunt Avenue, Alamosa, Colorado.

Further notice is given that any and all persons of interest may appear at said hearing and be heard in this matter, and that the full text of the ordinance is available for public inspection and acquisition on the City's website and in the office of the City Clerk.

Alamosa City Council
Holly C. Martinez,
City Clerk
No. 4148
Published in the Valley Courier on September 21, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
On Ordinance No. 23-2024**

NOTICE IS GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 23-2024, an ordinance amending mobile food vending regulations. This ordinance was accepted on first reading on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, and a Public Hearing thereon set for Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. This hearing will be held in Alamosa Council Chambers, 300 Hunt Avenue, Alamosa, Colorado.

Further notice is given that any and all persons of interest may appear at said hearing and be heard in this matter, and that the full text of the ordinance is available for public inspection and acquisition on the City's website and in the office of the City Clerk.

Alamosa City Council
Holly C. Martinez,
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No. 4149
Published in the Valley Courier September 21, 2024.

**173 - PROFESSIONAL
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**221 -
HELP WANTED**

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY San Luis Valley Research Center in Center, CO, seeks Farm Manager, full-time salaried w/ benefits. Min. requirements include experience managing an entity involved in research, agricultural production or related commercial enterprise environment. Read full job description and apply online by 09/30/2024 for full consideration at: <https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/150505>. CSU is an EO/EA/AA employer and conducts background checks on all final candidates. (10/25/24)

SAN LUIS VALLEY Health is looking for an Emergency Preparedness Manager. This position is responsible for creating and overseeing emergency preparedness and response plans and involves assessing risks, coordinating training and drills, and ensuring compliance with relevant regulations to protect the organization's assets, personnel, and operations in the event of emergencies. To learn more about this opportunity check out our careers page at www.slvh.org or call 719-587-1200. (10/01/24)

**221 -
HELP WANTED**

RIO GRANDE COUNTY is seeking a Land Use Code Compliance Inspector w/ without Building Inspector Duties to join our team. The Land Use Code Compliance Inspector performs duties related to the enforcement of the Rio Grande County Land Use Development Code and Building Codes. Performs inspections of vacation rental properties and maintains records relating to vacation rentals. Performs field verification of building setbacks. Maintains address and zoning permit database and assigns new addresses and issues agricultural building permits. Assists with building construction inspections as assigned. This a Full Time, Non-Exempt Position, that will receive County benefits of Annual & Sick Leave, Retirement and Health Insurance. Wage/Salary Range is \$20.19 - \$29.26 per hour DOE. Check out the Employment section on <https://riograndecounty.colorado.gov/>. Submit applications to humanresources@riograndecounty.org or drop it off at 925 6th Street, Rm 200, Del Norte, CO 81132. Job will remain Open Until Filled. (10/9/24)

BUSY POTATO WAREHOUSE hiring full time PERMANENT BAGGERS/STACKERS. Apply at WORLEY & McCULLOUGH, 2471 East CR 7 North, MONTE VISTA, CO. 81144. (10/5/24)

**221 -
HELP WANTED**

SAN LUIS VALLEY Health is seeking a Director of Human Resources. Leading a team of six, this position is directly responsible for the management, administration, coordination, and evaluation of Human Resource services and functions for all departments and the 765 employees of San Luis Valley Health. To learn more about this incredible opportunity check out our careers page at www.slvh.org or call 719-587-1200. (10/9/24)

ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY is seeking applications for the Full-Time position of Content Strategist. Salary Range is \$42,252-\$48,060, commensurate with education and experience. Benefits include Health, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, Retirement, PTO, Paid Holidays. This position provides key decision support in developing and implementing a cohesive, integrated communication strategy across multiple platforms, including social media, web, print and digital, that tell Adams State's story in a compelling, visually engaging and consistent manner. Review of applications will remain open until position if filled. For more information and application please visit <https://www.adams.edu/hr/employment/>. (10/9/24)

SOUTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking a MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC DIRECTOR for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year. Please submit a district application, resume, and cover at <https://www.southconejos.com/page/how-to-apply>. (10/4/24)

**221 -
HELP WANTED**

RIO GRANDE COUNTY is seeking a Grant Specialist to join our team. The Grant Specialist will work with federal, state, and private grants to manage programs and secure funding. They often work with a variety of staff, including department heads, financial staff, and others. Grant specialists may also be responsible for special projects. The Grant Specialist will report to the Chief Financial Officer, is an Exempt Full-Time Position, will receive County benefits of Annual & Sick Leave, Retirement and Health Insurance. Wage/Salary Range is \$59,133.00 - \$65,248.00 per year DOE. Please submit your application to humanresources@riograndecounty.org or drop it off at 925 6th Street, Rm 200, Del Norte, CO 81132. Deadline to apply for the Grant Specialist position is 4PM on October 11, 2024. (10/9/24)

FACILITIES/MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR: SARGENT SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking a highly motivated Facilities/Maintenance Director for the 2024-2025 school year. If you have strong team management and interpersonal skills, knowledge of electrical, plumbing, and HVAC, we'd love to hear from you! Starting salary is between \$45,000 and \$53,800 BOE and qualifications. For more information and to apply, visit www.sargent.k12.co.us or call 719-852-4023. Application Deadline: 9/30/24 or until position is filled. EOE. (9/28/24)

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



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Comics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEA Crossword Puzzle

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

ACROSS

- 1 Simple shelter
- 4 Holds firmly
- 9 Pen tip
- 12 "All About ___"
- 13 Kingdom
- 14 Valuable rock
- 15 Grassy field
- 16 Boredom
- 17 "Two and a Half ___"
- 18 Reduced to pulp
- 20 Maroon
- 22 Pea holder
- 23 Underworld god
- 24 Excited
- 26 Creature in Greek myth
- 29 Shout derisively
- 30 Exist
- 31 Place of exile
- 35 Scoop holder
- 37 Word in wedding announcements

38 Melody

- 39 "Secretary"
- 41 "Non-sense!"
- 42 Savory jelly
- 45 Demand payment from
- 46 Pressure
- 48 Chopped
- 51 ___-a-tat-tat
- 52 Church instrument
- 54 Color
- 55 "___ Got a Secret"
- 56 ___
- 57 Time
- 58 ___ Moines
- 59 Stop from acting
- 60 Slip into

DOWN

- 1 Rudder lever
- 2 Eye part
- 3 Recipe amount
- 4 Cupidity
- 5 Tear
- 6 Bond creator
- 7 And
- 8 Forge
- 9 Itinerant one
- 10 Peace goddess
- 11 Stoops
- 19 Farm animal
- 21 Hard to get
- 24 The basics
- 25 Sticky stuff
- 26 Hourglass filler
- 27 Region
- 28 Be abundant
- 32 Sent off a rocket
- 33 Hopper
- 34 Clumsy boat
- 36 Arab ruler
- 40 Harmony
- 41 Hot dog holder
- 42 Bitter
- 43 White wine variety
- 44 "For ___ sake!"
- 45 Modest eatery
- 47 A Great Lake
- 48 Crafted
- 49 Money in Madrid
- 50 Campus VIP
- 53 "America's ___ Talent"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13					14			
15			16					17			
18			19			20		21			
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42	43	44					45				
46					47		48			49	50
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55					56					57	
58					59					60	

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

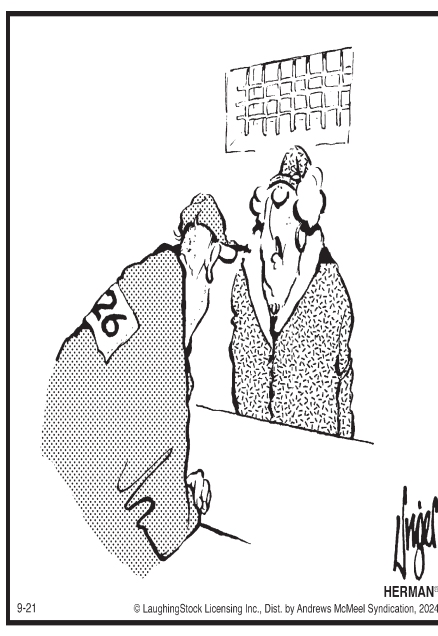
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	5	1		8			3	
			1					
	8	9	2			9		7
7	2		4		5	1		
			9					
	3	1	2				7	8
1		7		4				

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

HERMAN



"I didn't know how to tell you before. The dog ran off 14 years ago."

Grandmother showers only one child with affection

DEAR ABBY: I'm a single mother of two children, an 8-year-old daughter and a 9-year-old son. My daughter's father is involved; my son's father is not. I was diagnosed with pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) when my daughter was born and given two weeks to live. My condition has markedly improved, and I am on the best treatment there is for it.

To safeguard my son in case something happens to me, my parents and I did a third-parent adoption. With this new law, I was able to add my parents to my son's birth certificate without giving up my parental rights, and I remain the sole custodial parent. He stays with my parents three evenings a week.

The problem is, my mother blatantly favors my son over my daughter. Last year, she planned a Disney cruise for only herself, my son and me. I understand life is not 100% fair, but her favoritism goes beyond just tickets and trips. It's everything from gifts and attention to tone of voice and how many pictures are on the wall. Everyone around us sees it, especially my daughter. Please advise. -- UN-EQUAL IN OREGON

DEAR UNEQUAL: I'll BET your daughter notices it! The person who can put a stop to it is you. Consult the attorney who helped you with the custody arrangement and explain that what has been happening is not healthy for either of your children. After you find out what your options are, including possibly changing the custody agreement, confront your mother about her blatant favoritism. And be glad that your daughter's father is as responsible as he seems to be.

DEAR ABBY: I used to hang out with my friend "Brian" and his girlfriend, "Jenny." We all lived together and would spend almost every weekend together. They broke up and went their separate ways 14 years ago. Jenny is single, and Brian has a steady girlfriend now. I still talk to them both, but not often. Jenny messaged me recently on social media. We shared some photos and talked about the past and present. She said she has her own place and is doing well. I suggested that maybe I'd stop by one night after work. She said she'd like that and sent me her phone number to set up the date and time. My question is: Should



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

I visit her, and what if something sexual happens? (Trust me, I wouldn't rule it out.) Should I ask Brian for his permission? Are Jenny and I heartless for wanting to meet up? -- PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE FRIEND

DEAR FRIEND: Because you are uneasy about crossing some kind of boundary if you visit Jenny and there is chemistry, contact Brian and say, "Hey, guess what. I reconnected with Jenny and she invited me over. Do you have any objection to that?" I cannot see how, 14 years after their romance ended, he would have an objection. Then visit Jenny, and que sera, sera.

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



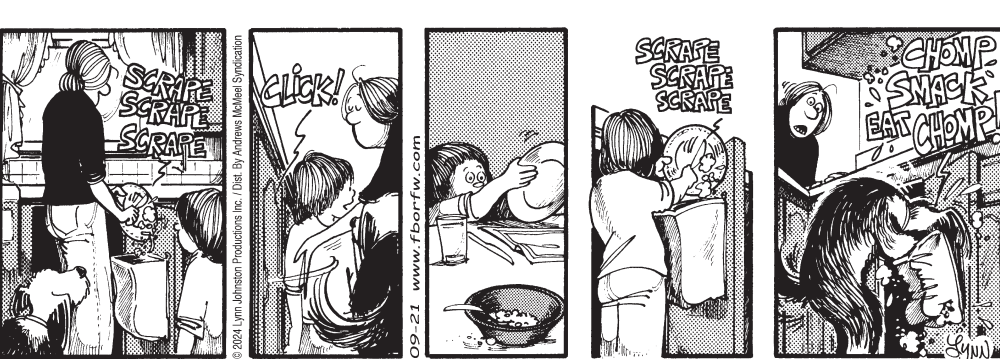
BIG NATE



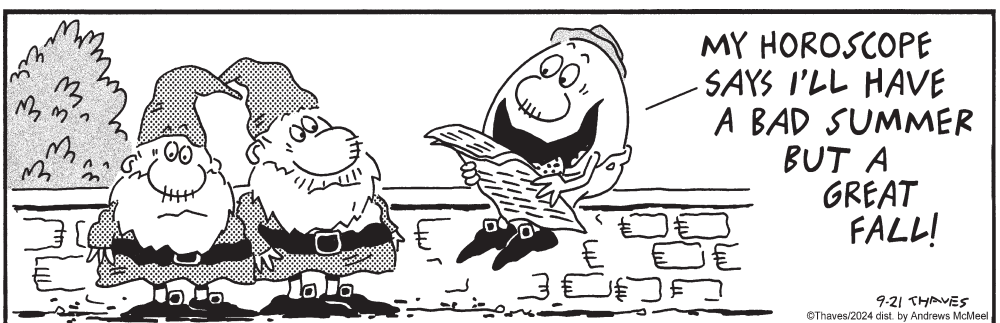
THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



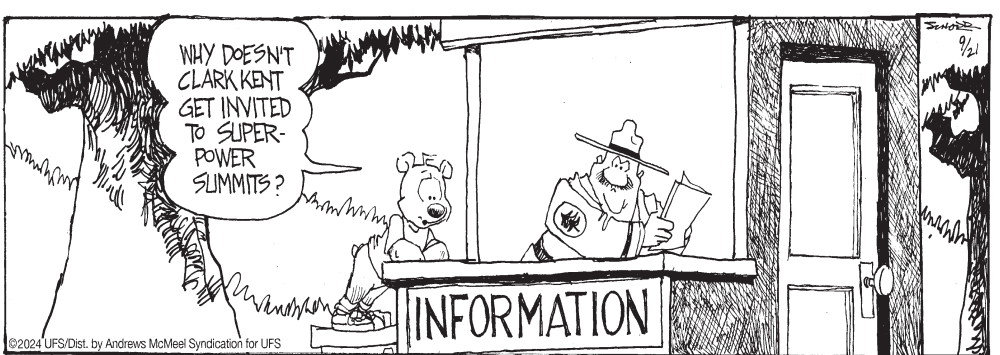
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Farm Safety

Is Everyone's Concern



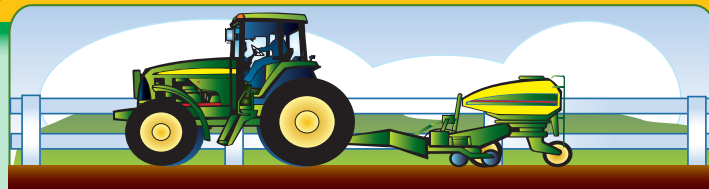
Agriculture continues to be one of the most dangerous job sectors in America, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, especially during the busy fall harvest season. **National Farm Safety and Health Week** in September reminds all of us to be aware and use caution on the farm and in surrounding areas this autumn and all year long.

- Drivers, reduce your speed when you see farm equipment, and slow down on gravel, hills, curves and turns when traveling on rural roads.
- Farmers, make sure safety features like lights and Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) signs on your tractor are visible and not obscured by dust or debris.

Top 10 Farm Safety Tips

1. Stay alert, and be aware of your surroundings.
2. Account for the mental and physical differences associated with age.
3. Be sure to include hazard and safety lessons when training workers.
4. No seat, no rider, no exceptions. Extra riders can cause distractions and block access to controls.
5. Use hydraulic equipment cautiously, and control operations from the tractor seat only.
6. Never attempt to unplug equipment while power is engaged.
7. Use safety identification markers, turn signals, flashing lights, and/or escort vehicles when driving farm equipment on public roads.
8. Carry a fire extinguisher on every piece of powered equipment.
9. Prepare a safe play area for children away from machinery.
10. Enforce basic safety rules for others, and follow them yourself.

Source: www.agriculture.state.pa.us/agriculture



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