



March 17, 2022

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RE-1 staff pickets school board meeting

■ Board member Rodriguez-Lopez resigns with a two-word letter, see page 7



Huerfano RE-1 staff and teachers protest what they see as a bullying attitude by the new school board, and flagrant overspending on legal advice from a new attorney. *Photos by Mark Craddock*

by Mark Craddock
WALSENBURG — More than a dozen picketers, at least half of whom were staff members of the Huerfano RE-1 School District, demonstrated in front of Washington School Monday afternoon, in advance of the scheduled 5:30 p.m. school board meeting.

No spokesperson emerged from the group, but with signs, chants and offhand conversation the picketers made clear they were calling for the ouster of controversial board member Jenna Fox and newly hired attorney Brad Miller of the Colorado Springs-based firm Miller Farmer Law.

Fox's critics point to many examples of "bullying" she has displayed toward district staff during her short tenure on the board. That animosity reached a flashpoint two weeks ago when two staff members attempted to organize a protest against the board generally and Fox specifically.

And picketers question the speed and general lack of transparency in the hiring of Miller — punctuated by invoices totaling \$5,436 for services rendered between Jan. 5 and Feb. 28, 2022.

Several members of the Huerfano County Sheriff's Office arrived on scene, having been notified of the event earlier in the day.

"We're here just to make sure everyone's rights are respected," Captain Craig Lessar said.

One by one, school board members arrived and entered the administration building at Washington School without incident or comment.

Notably, board member Marcy Freeburg stopped to shake the hands of each picketer as she made her way to the building.

"I'm 100% in favor of this," Freeburg, an Army veteran, later said. "Good God, that's what I got hurt for. Go earn my service. Go be a good American. I don't want anyone to ever feel like I'm going to retaliate against them for speaking their minds, for getting involved."

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

As the picket wound down and the board meeting started, four community members rose to comment on the board's current situation.

"The children in our schools and our communities need a functioning school board working together for the good of everyone," Virginia Vigil said. "We are concerned because egos seem to be taking center stage right now when there is absolutely no place for that. This is about working as a team, not with individual agendas. It has been disappointing to say the least."

There has been a lack of respect, bullying and multiple interruptions when a person is speaking. Policy has been violated in not following agendas on a weekly basis. Discussing personnel issues during workshops and meeting outside of executive sessions, to include a parent letter read aloud by a board director with identifying information not redacted. Items being tabled each week because perhaps people were not prepared. Not acknowledging concerns voiced from the community. Questioning other people expecting answers and getting defensive in return.

"We want to see that all board and all staff and all students should abide by the same policies like decency and non-bullying and professional, civil behavior."

Vigil expressed "some immediate concern" over the quick hiring of new attorney Miller who has invoiced the district \$5,436 for services provided in less than two months.

"His track record is taking districts and turning them into charter schools," Vigil said, "which means the boards are appointed and have no term limits, taking away the community's ability to vote on board members and have a say-so in school districts. I am extremely concerned about the amount of money being spent on him."

"Our schools and our students deserve better."

Huerfano RE-1 Bookkeeper/Secretary Julie Valdez spoke up for the district's staff members, whom she believes are being treated poorly by recent board members' actions.

"I've been watching as certain members of this board have tried to destroy this district, even taking the act of a protest and trying to turn it into a discipline issue. I find it hard to believe that the directors would behave in such a reprehensible manner," Valdez said. "When I came on board here the integrity of the staff was overwhelming. It was such a breath of fresh air to work in this cohesive environment. Mr. Moore is the type of leader that makes you want to come to work. He doesn't micromanage but he respects an individual for their knowledge and their ability to get the job done."

"There are people working here that truly care about the children of this district. There are people here that will have an impact on another person's life. There are people here that work endless hours. They make sure students are taken to events, that make sure students have the supplies they need, to make sure they have meals even when the classes are being taken remotely. "The past few months have been

nothing but endless abusive e-mails, texts, accusation, blatant disrespect and disregard for members of this staff. That happens at all hours of the days nights and weekends. On people's days off. It's outright harassment and borderline illegal."

Newly elected Walsenburg City Council member Carmen J. Lara rose to Fox's defense, but did not mention her by name.

"Sometimes people are not open to a new way of doing things that might be better in the long run," Lara said. "I hope that you will allow everyone on the board to have the opportunity to do their very best... It's a daunting task, especially when you're new and trying to learn."

Carol Belt, who introduced herself as a former school board member in the Denver area, said she was appalled by much of what she had read on Facebook regarding the RE-1 school board.

"I feel for the school board member. I feel for the school board members that run and they do want to make a difference," Belt said. "I asked a lot of questions and, you know what? I got treated about the same way (as Fox)."

REGARDING MILLER FARMER LAW

On Nov. 30, 2021, the district's new board members were sworn into office in a brief meeting punctuated with a large sheet cake and well wishes all around.

The next morning, Dec. 1, newly appointed board president Sporleder sent the following e-mail to Finance Director Erica Mason: "Would you please tell me what our attorney(s) charge per hour?" She replied "\$195/hour." Later that day, Fox asked for a breakdown of attorney's fees paid out between September and November of 2021.

At 8:46 p.m. Dec. 1, Sporleder sent an e-mail to Brad Miller, asking him "Would you please send us information about how you could best represent us and what your rates would be? And if it's necessary, maybe we could meet in person." Miller sent a lengthy response, listing the firm's bona fides and listing his rates as \$225 per hour for a partner (such as Miller); \$200 for a senior associate; and \$180 per hour for an associate.

That same day, Sporleder sent an e-mail requesting the following be added to the agenda for the board's Dec. 6 meeting: "Action item: Hire the attorney firm, starting immediately."

On Dec. 6, the board unanimously

CONTENTS:

SECTION 1:	
REGIONAL NEWS	1,
Upcoming Events	2 - 3
Obituaries, Memoriam, Senior Menu	4
Legals	5 - 6
I'm done - RE-1 board member resigns with two word email	7
Letters to the Editor	7
NRCS funding available to mitigate wildfire risks	8
Classifieds	8 - 9
Crossword	9
Astronomy	10
What do you know about that?	10
SECTION 2:	
HUERFANO	
HC Commissioners ask Army for flight training details	11
City council hires new accountant	11
My O'Piñon, Quotes, Weather	12
La Veta has a trash problem	12
History -	
Were Irish eyes smiling?	13
History Detective -	
By the light of the Silver(y) Moon	13
This week in History	14
HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS	
Jonathan Andreatta: National Wrestling Champion	16
LAS ANIMAS	
County on abortion-rights bill	17
city commits \$3M in reserve funds, includes \$ for covered pool	18
NEW BUSINESS - Marriage & Family Treatment Center	19
ADVERTORIAL - Wilklow & Assoc. go the extra mile	19
COLFAX	
County Commission opposes executive conservation order	17
El Raton Media Works receives \$1.1M	17
Colfax primary candidates declare	18
Bugsey Malone Jr. in Raton	19

David High, former publisher of the Signature newspaper, sports writer and humorous columnist, passes away



LA VETA- David High, long-time resident of La Veta, one-time publisher of the *Signature* newspaper, and later a sports writer and columnist with the *World Journal*, passed away on March 5, 2022 after a brief illness.

See full obituary on page 12

WORLD JOURNAL NEWSPAPER \$1.00



RE-1 PICKET continued on page 10

Shamelessly snagged memes from the internet

believe in myself?? the same person who got me into this mess?

is there anything more capitalist than a peanut with a top hat, cane, and monocle selling you other peanuts to eat

Winter
False Spring **<--YOU ARE HERE**
Second Winter
Mud & Allergies
Hope
Summer
False Fall
Second Summer
Fall
Hello Darkness My Old Friend

i've started investing in stocks... first chicken, then beef, and now vegetable. i know it's risky, but i know one day it'll pay off & i'll be a boullonaire

Not to brag, but I was social distancing before it was cool.

Upcoming events

OUR WORLD

American Red Cross Disaster Action Team Training

OUR WORLD — Your American Red Cross of Southeastern Colorado is hosting a series of Disaster Action Team Training Academies throughout the area. We are looking to build our teams throughout the Southeastern portion of the state, specifically in and around Pueblo. This training is designed to help build volunteer capacity to respond to local individual disasters like home fires, providing Comfort Kits and Financial Assistance to displaced families in every community.

The 1st Academy will be held **Tuesday, March 22, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.** in Pueblo - Location TBD
The 3rd Academy will be held **Thursday, March 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.** This academy will be a virtual session for anyone interested and who could not attend one of the in-person sessions.

New Volunteers please RSVP to Joshua.Stewart@Redcross.org. Current volunteers RSVP to Beatriz.Portillo@Redcross.org.

HUERFANO

Mobile vaccine clinic: Walsenburg

WALSENBURG — The mobile vaccine bus will be in town on **March 26 and 31 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.** at the Safeway parking lot. For more info visit www.comassvax.org.

Youth Baseball Signups

HUERFANO—Signup for Two Peaks Fitness Youth Sports Leagues Baseball! Ages 4-15. Walsenburg and La Veta leagues. Sign up **Monday through Friday, now through March 24 from 3-6 p.m.** at Two Peaks Fitness, 216 S Main St. Scholarships are available! Or signup online through March 27 at www.twopeaksfitness.org/youth-sports-leagues. Practice starts in April;

games May-June. All funds collected are used for youth sports in Huerfano County.

Questions regarding youth sports? Call Two Peaks Fitness at 719-742-3555. Let's play ball!

Two Peaks-One Book - Walsenburg

WALSENBURG— Please join us for a community book read, Two Peaks-One Book Walsenburg. The mission of this program is to foster community dialog & interaction by the reading & discussion of a common book. Our selection is "Bless Me, Ultima" by Rudolfo Anaya, which is a coming-of-age novel centering on Antonio Márez y Luna and his mentorship under his curandera and protector, Ultima. It has become the most widely read and critically acclaimed novel in the Chicano literary canon since its first publication in 1972

We will have free copies available of this novel for you to pick up at SPLD (Walsenburg). A Colorado Humanities grant to Huajatolla Heritage Foundation has made this program possible. The dates for our discussion sessions are **Thursdays, March 17, 24 & 31 at 2 p.m.** Stop in and get your copy and let's make this a great community event!

Roger Greene's "4,284 Miles"

LA VETA—The author of this year's "Two Peaks/One Book" selection, Roger Greene, will join us at the LaVeta Library on **Thursday, March 17 at 2 p.m.** (Please note the new date!). Mr. Greene will discuss his process and motivation in creating his latest novel chronicling the amazing 1916 bicycle journey of Joe Bruce and Lester Atkinson, two young boys from Colorado. We will then have a spirited round table discussion of the book. Be sure and bring your copy to be signed by the author. Refreshments provided.

Open Mic, St Patrick's Day at the Merc

LA VETA— Celebrate St. Patrick's Day and show off your talents, whether music, poems or short stories

on Thursday, March 17, 7 p.m. at La Veta Mercantile, 300 S Main St, La Veta. Free!

The Vile Veterinarian Melodrama

LA VETA— Enjoy the return of the sing-along melodrama at the Francisco Center of the Performing arts Thursday, Friday and Saturday **March 17-19 at 7 p.m.** and **Sunday March 20** at 2 p.m.! Tickets are \$15 at the door and \$16 online. Visit www.lavetatheatreweb.org for more details. Also available at the La Veta Mercantile. Doors will open 30 minutes before the show.

Mobile vaccine clinic: La Veta

LA VETA — The mobile vaccine bus will be in town on **Friday, March 18, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** at the La Veta School on 126 E. Garland St. La Veta. Pfizer, Moderna, J&J and the flu vaccine will be available. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit <https://www.comassvax.org>

Mobile vaccine clinic: Gardner

GARDNER — The mobile vaccine bus will be in town on **Friday, March 18, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.** at the community center in Gardner, 28 Co Rd 632, Gardner. For more info visit www.comassvax.org

Spanish Peaks Library Storytime

WALSENBURG— Yes, we are still having storytime every Friday! This **Friday, March 18, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** we will be reading about caterpillars and butterflies. Then we will make a cute craft with a pom pom caterpillar and a flying butterfly. The fun will be at 415 Walsen Ave. at the Spanish Peaks Library in Walsenburg. If you have any questions you may contact Ms. Sherry at 738-2774 or sherry@spld.org.

Also, I am happy to report that our library has expanded its hours! We are now open M - W from 10 am to 6 pm, Th - F from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. We hope to see you soon.

United Church final service and dinner

WALSENBURG — With numerous persons interested in the final service and final dinner at the United Church **Sunday, March 20**, the caterer is asking for a dinner count. Those expecting to attend the dinner following the 1 pm service are asked to make a reservation with Faye Stroh jfstroh@msn or 719-989-8151. Last

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minute attendees will not be turned away if the food holds out. Special touches from the past at the final service and at the dinner - such as old-time hymns, attendance of previous pastors and members - perhaps even opening a 1904 cornerstone from the First Presbyterian Church, will be included.

JMHS meet and greet

WALSENBURG — The JMHS administration wants to meet with the upcoming 7th and 8th grade parents and/or community members (this will be current 6th and 7th grade) on **Tuesday, March 22 from 6-8 p.m.** in the JMHS cafeteria. Any parent or community member having any questions about the possible transition for next year is encouraged to attend.

Two Spirits movie at LVPL

LA VETA—On **Thursday, March 24th at 2 p.m.** the La Veta Library patron Alex Lukens will share the movie "Two Spirits" and then facilitate a discussion of this moving and heart wrenching true story that interweaves the tragic tale of a mother's loss with a revealing look at a time when the world wasn't simply divided into male and female and many Native American cultures held places of honor for people of integrated genders. Adult themes but guaranteed to be thought provoking and enlightening.

Gardening 101 - Cold frames, greenhouses and root cellars

WALSENBURG—The Spanish Peaks Library will again be having their monthly introduction to gardening class on **Sunday, March 27 at 1p.m.** at the Library, 415 Walsen Ave. This month's topics will be Cold Frames, Greenhouses and Root Cellars. We'll discuss how and where to build these structures, the benefits and the problems. Please join us for a fun and educational discussion!

Pleas and Petitions' Author discussion

WALSENBURG—On **Saturday, March 26 at 2p.m.** the Museum of Friends, 600 Main Street, in Walsenburg will introduce Virginia Sánchez to discuss her most recent book *Pleas and Petitions* Hispano Culture and Legislative Conflict in Territorial Colorado that sheds new light on the political obstacles, cultural conflicts, and institutional racism experienced by Hispano legislators in the wake of the legal establishment of the Territory of Colorado. The book reexamines the transformation of some 7,000 Hispano settlers from citizens of New Mexico territory to citizens of the newly formed Colorado territory, as well as the effects of territorial legislation on the lives of those residing in the region as a whole.

Community conversation about tourism

WALSENBURG—The Tourism Board invites you to an informative community conversation about tourism in our county on **Monday, March 28 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.** We will be hosting a series of community meetings to provide an overview of the work the tourism board is engaged in to bring visitors and tourism dollars to the county. We will discuss the ways we work to promote all the activities, attractions, and events that Spanish Peaks Country offers visitors. A light dinner will be provided. Huerfano County Tourism Board Conversation will be held at the community center in Walsenburg. A zoom link will be available for this meeting!

An "Afternoon of Poetry,"

LA VETA—In honor of National Poetry Month, "An Afternoon of Poetry" will be held **Saturday, April 2nd, 3-5p.m.** at La Veta Public Library (please bring a mask). Bring poems to read (your own or other favorites!). For more information: Tom (742-3776) or Robin (742-3398).

Village Super Powers: Strategies for Expressing Strongly-Held Opinions

LA VETA—On **Saturday, April 9th 2-4 p.m.** join us for a village gathering to apply healthy communication skills and explore strategies for expressing strongly-held opinions in ways that result in positive change - even if that change represents compromise.

This is the second part of this two part series. Using the action plans and information from part

one, we will identify common complications that could arise through collaborative efforts. Through exploring our differences, our community can better implement best practices to work through conflicts for the sustainability of our community.

Hosted by La Veta Public Library at the La Veta Mercantile, 300 S. Main Street. Refreshments will be provided. Thank you to the American Library Association for their support through the Library Transforming Communities grants.

LAS ANIMAS

Mobile vaccine clinic

AGUILAR — On **Thursday, March 17, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.**, the mobile vaccine clinic will be offering all Covid vaccines and the flu vaccine at Aguilar School 420 Balsam Ave, Aguilar. For more info visit www.comassvax.org

Little Artist Pain Session

TRINIDAD—Mt. Carmel Wellness & Community Center presents St. Paddy's Day themed paint session for the kiddos! Join us on Thursday, March 17 from 5p.m.-6p.m. all ages are welcome! \$25 per painter and adults are welcome to register with their children! Fun for the whole family! Water and will be cookies included.

Please pre-register and prepay with Darci at The Art Cottage. For more info, please call 719-859-3123.

Mobile vaccine clinic

TRINIDAD — **March 19,24,30 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.**, the mobile vaccine clinic will be offering all Covid vaccines and the flu vaccine at City Hall in Trinidad. For more info visit www.comassvax.org

Spring break youth club

TRINIDAD—The Trinidad Youth Club will be offering an opportunity for Trinidad and local area youth age 5 and under 17 during the spring break time period when local schools are on break.

Starting **Monday, March 21**, the students will learn how to start an indoor garden and grow the food they can eat within a week with information education from Fungi Family Farm LLC.

They will also learn about indoor and outdoor greenhouse lighting, worms, composting, watering, seed preparation, spouting, harvesting and eating.

Tuesday it's off to the Raton Regional Aquatic Center for some fun indoor swimming.

Wednesday we are off to Longs Canyon for a walk along the stream among the trees and discover some interesting information about our local pinyon-juniper forest, to learn about the value of trees.

Thursday we travel to Capulin National Volcano Monument and walk on top of a volcano.

Finally, Friday we end the week at Art-o-Cade and discover just how fun it can be to decorate a car and transform it into an art piece!

If you are not a club member, you can fill out a membership packet and still attend. Forms and more information can be found at www.youthcluboftrinidad.com or you can pick up a membership packet at the club at 204 E. Kansas Street in Trinidad.

Art with Heart

TRINIDAD—This month's Art with Heart is hosted by Alexandra Stefanec in the Garden Room at Mt. Carmel. This class will be on **Friday, March 25** from 5:30p.m.-7p.m. Refreshments will be provided. Please call (719)845-4894 for more information. No registration required.

4th Annual Crawfish Boil Fundraiser

TRINIDAD—Once again it is time for Authentic Cajun Cooking for a good cause. Join us at Bomb Pizza on **Saturday, March 26 at 12 p.m.** All proceeds

from the crawfish boil will go to supporting the intellectually and developmentally disabled in our community. Please come on out and enjoy good food, and community! Special to this year's boil is the popular smoked and fried gator. We will also have whole live oysters as well!

Art Cartopia Museum re-opening

TRINIDAD—Come enjoy the fun at our re-opening party. Join us at 2702 Freedom Rd, Trinidad on **Saturday, April 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** You will be able to get a tintype photo done, have a Three Sisters Fry Bread taco, listen to music by Robbie and the Reckless, enjoy art cars and maybe win prizes. We can't wait to celebrate with you all.

COLFAX

Colfax County Assessor's Office veterans outreach

COLFAX — The veterans outreach will be held on **Tuesday, March 22 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.** Join us at the Colfax County Assessor's office at 230 N. 3rd St Raton for assistance. For more information please contact Joseph Dorn at Josephm.dorn@state.nm.us or call 505-861-9117.

Spring youth football camp

RATON — Bring your 2nd through 7th graders for some football and fun. Football camp will be held on Saturday and Sunday, **March 26 and 27th from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.** We ask that you be at Tiger Stadium by 8:30a.m. for check-in and camp will cost \$20 per athlete. This camp will be non-padded and will focus on individual and position specific drills. Any question, please contact Dustin Walton at (505) 918-3878.

Democrats' March meeting

RATON — The March Meeting of the Democratic Party of Colfax County will be on **Tuesday, March 29 at 5:15 p.m.** at Casa Lemus Restaurant at 350 Clayton Road in Raton NM. This month's topic is Women's History Month -How to support and follow the lead of women and minority led organizations.

We will learn about our regional crisis of property valuation and learn how to confront the challenges of achieving housing and resources for those who have been left out of the economy.

Speakers will be from the Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico, the Alliance for Local Economic Prosperity, the Environmental Justice Caucus of the Democratic Party of New Mexico, and the New Mexico Veterans and Military Families Caucus of the Democratic Party of New Mexico.


We are marking National Vietnam War Veterans Day, Muslim Women's Day, and the Transgender Day of Visibility, all happening within a few days of our meeting, and all very important to our thinking when we seriously consider our beautiful and hard-fought American ideals.

Zackary Quintero, who is a candidate for New Mexico State Auditor (<https://www.zqform.com/>), and New Mexico State Representative Roger Montoya (who represents Raton: <https://www.rogerform.com/>), are among our confirmed guests.

For more information email colfaxcountydemocrats@gmail.com

Family Literacy Academy

COLFAX—The PED is offering a three-part series of workshops called the Family Literacy Academy to equip pre-K through fifth grade families and caretakers with knowledge and strategies to support their children's literacy development at home. The workshops will be offered in both English and Spanish once a month in February, March and April. These workshops will help families bring to life many of the strategies in PED's Early Literacy Guide. **Tuesday, March 29 and Tuesday, April 26 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.** To register for English workshops visit <https://bit.ly/NMFLA22> Register for Spanish workshops at <https://bit.ly/NMAcademia>.



**THIS WEEKEND:
THE BATMAN(PG-13)**
When the Riddler, a sadistic serial killer, begins murdering key political figures in Gotham, Batman is forced to investigate the city's hidden corruption and question his family's involvement.

Movie showtimes
Friday – 7:30 PM Saturday – 7:30 PM
and Sunday – 3:00 PM

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Obituary



Linda Sue Treiber
12/14/1959 ~ 2/27/2022

Linda was born to the late Priscilla Ortibez on Monday, December 14, 1959.

She is preceded in death by her daughter Loree Ann Treiber, brother Carl Ortibez, niece Brandy Sierra and nephew James Ortibez.

She leaves behind a son, Michael Neil, his wife Destiny Montez, and his son Michael Joseph Montez. She leaves behind her grandchildren

Andrew Anthony Quintana, and Audianna Garcia. She also loved her fur baby Chico.

She is survived by her sister Theresa Sierra; brother Manuel Sierra; and brother Junior Garcia.

She had many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews that loved her dearly. She had amazing friends that she cherished as family.

Anyone who knew Linda knew she was the most giving person. She genuinely loved visiting with people and having conversations and telling stories.

She had the greatest sense of humor and a contagious laugh. She was unapologetically herself.

She would have wanted us to remember her, but not with tears or sadness in our hearts. She would want us to think of her and smile. She will be greatly missed.



Obituary



Sharon Lynn Daher
3/7/1952 ~ 3/2/2022

Sharon Lynn Daher, 69, of Walsenburg, ended her hard-fought battle with pancreatic cancer and ascended to heaven to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on March 2, 2022.

Sharon was born on March 7, 1952, in Pueblo and spent nearly her entire life in "The Burg" and was an incredibly active member of both her school, church and general community.

She taught day care, loved aerobics (and possibly Jazzercise, although not confirmed), bowling, and spent her life dedicated to worship in Bible study and other involvements at Children's Church.

She was a ray of light to everyone she met, and her love was deep and unconditional.

She blessed her friends and family with a nurturing, supportive, creative, funny, and loyal spirit.

She will be deeply missed and celebrated daily. Her dearest loved

ones left behind include husband Bob Daher; mother Floy Hudson; mother-in-law Fran Montoya; sisters Sandy Dissler (Dick) and Sheila Macchietto (Chuck); and brother Butch Hudson (Evie); brother-in-law Jim (Jan) Daher and sister-in-law Lou Ann (Chuck) Wolny.

Her children, the loves of her life, include Charly (Ralph) Romero, Kari (Chad) Hribar, Travis (Rachel) Daher and Trista (Andrew) Meeks as well as her nine grandchildren: Theo and Hayven Romero; Grant and Hudson Hribar; Charly Ray, Trey and Tripp Daher; and Wren and Vivien Meeks, as well as numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and very dear friends.

She was preceded in death by her father Charles Hudson; sister Susie Ariano; and niece Lennie Malarsie.

Services will be held on Saturday, March 19th at the John Mall High School gymnasium at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations on behalf of Sharon Daher be made to the Walsenburg branch of Sangre de Cristo Hospice (www.sangre.org/donate-now2), the Colorado Springs Down Syndrome Association (csdsa.org/donate) and the Cure GRIN Foundation (curegrin.org).

Arrangements made by Boies-Ortega Funeral Home.



Education Programs with the Colorado Department of Corrections

has multiple job openings around the state. Jobs are available in Buena Vista, Canon City, Pueblo, and Ordway. Open positions in Education are Vocational CTE Teacher, SPED Instructor, Culinary Arts Teacher, Welding Instructor, and GED Teachers. Closing dates and Salary vary by position. For information on a specific position please visit the state job website <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/Colorado?keywords=cdoc>

In Memoriam

In loving memory of our dad
Manuel E. Ortiz
on his birthday, March 12, 1929



For Your Birthday in Heaven

*Birthdays in Heaven
decorations of gold
Where the years come and go
and you never grow old.
Where you celebrate with Angels
and past family there
With no illness in sight
just love everywhere.
So I don't need to worry
how your Birthday was spent
"Cause you're safe in Heaven
and my wishes are sent.
Though I know you are safe
even though you're away
I love and miss you
A little more today.*

*Happy 93rd birthday, Dad.
We love and miss you,
and you're in our hearts forever.
Your loving children, grandchildren,
great-grandchildren and
great, great-grandchildren.*



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Huerfano / Las Animas South Central Council of Governments Senior Lunch Menu

Mon. 3/21 Mexican casserole (Frito pie) Spanish rice, lettuce, tomato and peaches.

Tue. 3/22 Vegetable beef soup, egg salad sandwich, orange and whole wheat crackers.

Wed. 3/23 Stuffed bell peppers, scalloped potatoes, California blend vegetables, and mixed fruit.

Thu. 3/24 Chicken fillet, rice pilaf, steamed broccoli, pineapple and whole wheat bread.

Fri. 3/25 (Lent) Fish sandwich, lettuce tomato, tartar sauce, tater tots, an apple and string cheese.

All meals served with 1% milk and margarine.

Walsenburg: Grab & Go only, Trinidad: In-person and Grab & Go.

Meals are packed to go giving the option to "grab & stay" or "grab & go". Meals are served from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm. Dining area opens at 10:45 am serving coffee. Closes at 12:45 pm.

Walsenburg 738-1182 Trinidad 846-4515

Please make reservations or cancellations one day in advance.

"If you really want to make a friend, go to someone's house and eat with him...the people who give you their food give you their heart."
~Cesar Chavez

Obituary



Rufina Frances "Finí/Bon/Scoco" Sandoval
7/10/1954 ~ 2/17/2022

Rufina Frances "Finí/Bon/Scoco" Sandoval passed away unexpectedly in Denver, CO on Thursday, February 17, 2022, at the age of 67.

Rufina was born on July 10th, 1954 in Walsenburg, CO, where she lived her life.

Rufina loved her hometown of Walsenburg. She was a loving, caring, witty, neighbor and friend. She was always willing to help everyone that she could.

Her children were the light in her eyes. She relished all the time spent with them, whether celebrating their academic, athletic, and professional successes, attending and supporting Colorado professional sporting compe-

titions or playing dice/cards and board games. She loved talking and teasing with her grandson about any and everything. She spent endless hours talking and watching sports with her son-in-law.

Rufina is survived by the loves of her life, her children Gabriella Sandoval of Thornton; Adelita (Rymond) Shepherd of Aurora; Joshua Sandoval of Thornton; and her grandson Nicolas (Gabriella).

She is preceded in death by her parents Scholastica and J. Gabriel Sandoval; her sister Theresa Sandoval; many relatives, and friends.

Rufina is also survived by her brother Joseph G. (Linda) Sandoval; and sisters Lillian (John) Kandybowicz; Anita (Julian) Cisneros; and Judy (David Tibbitts) Sandoval; several nieces and nephews, three great-nieces, cousins, friends and one aunt.

Rufina's children scheduled funeral services for Friday, June 24th in Walsenburg, CO, at 11 a.m. at St. Mary Catholic Church with a Rosary at 10:30 a.m. prior to Mass. Interment to follow at North St. Mary Cemetery. Reception to follow interment.

World Journal

Publisher/ Editor in Chief- Gretchen Sporleder-Orr
Publisher and Art Director- Brian Orr
Sales Manager- Debi Sporleder
Sales Associate, Trinidad, Raton: now hiring!
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The World Journal's goal is to promote a sense of community, unity and cooperation among the citizens of the Rocky Mountain Southwest. Together we can accomplish great things, and make our "World" a better place for all.

Colorado Legals

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF HUERFANO
STATE OF
COLORADO
EDWARD MATTHES, Plaintiff
v.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED DEFENDANTS:
IMOGENE S. TILLER, IF LIVING, OR THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, SUCCESSORS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DE-
VISEES, AND ASSIGNS OF IMOGENE S. TILLER, IF DECEASED, AND ANY AND ALL OTHER PARTIES WHO MAY HAVE AN INTEREST
IN THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants
Case No.: 2021CV30045
Judge: John "Clay" McKisson

NOTICE OF SUIT

TO THE FOLLOWING NAME DEFENDANTS: IMOGENE S. TILLER, IF LIVING, OR THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, SUCCE-
SORS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, AND ASSIGNS OF IMOGENE S. TILLER, IF DECEASED, AND ANY AND ALL OTHER
PARTIES WHO MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants

GREETINGS:
You are hereby notified that a quiet title action has been instituted and is now pending in the District Court of Huerfano County, Colorado, said
cause being numbered Case No. 2021CV30045 on the civil docket of said Court, wherein you are named or designated as Defendants and
wherein the Plaintiff seeks to obtain constructive service of process upon you.
The object of said action is to quiet the Plaintiff's title in and to the real property described below and as set forth in the Complaint to Quiet Title
within the County of Huerfano, Colorado, more particularly described as follows:
All of Lot 589 Rio Cucharas Phase #2, County of Huerfano, Colorado

You are further notified that unless you enter or cause to be entered your appearance in said cause on or before the thirty-fifth (35th) day from
the date of the last publication of this Notice, Judgment by Default will be rendered against you and the relief prayed for by the Plaintiffs will
be granted.
WILLIAM PATRIGO, whose address is 7955 E. Arapahoe Ct., Suite 1200, Centennial, CO 80112 and whose telephone number is (720) 474-
0309, is the attorney for the Plaintiff.

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the
Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record
in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:

GEORGE, RICHARD I
C/O D GREG GEORGE
303 W 7TH
WALSENBURG, CO 81089

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 15th day of November 2018, the then County Treasurer of Huerfano
County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to the following described property situate in the County of
Huerfano, State of Colorado, to-wit:

SEE ATTACHED LEGAL DESCRIPTION

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to:

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said
property for the year 2017:

That said property was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of GEORGE, RICHARD I for said year 2017;

That on the 15th day of October 2019, said assigned said certificate of purchase to MCCONNELL, PATRICK & HONEY
LOU;

That said MCCONNELL, PATRICK & HONEY LOU on the 17th day of August 2021, the present holder of said certificate
(who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to MCCONNELL, PATRICK & HONEY LOU on the 18th day of
July 2022 at 4:00 P.M., unless the same has been redeemed;

Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.

This Notice of Purchase has also been published in World Journal on March 3, 2022, March 10, 2022 and March 17,
2022.



Witness my hand this 28th day of February 2022

Debra J. Reynolds

Debra J. Reynolds, Treasurer of Huerfano County, Colorado
TD#3038 SCH#15830

EXHIBIT A

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

TWP 28 RNG 67 SEC 23: PART OF NW4 DESC AS FOLL: BEGINNING AT THE NW CORNER OF SAID TRACT, FROM WHENCE THE NW CORNER OF SAID SEC 23, BEARS N32 DEG 54'W 2198.9 FT AND RUNNING TH S 0 DEG 33'E 701.04 FT TO INTERSECTION WITH THE N'RLY ROW LINE OF US HWY #160, TH N 44 DEG 50'E ALONG N'RLY ROW LINE OF US HWY #160, 47.95 FT, TH ALONG SAID N'RLY ROW LINE OF US HWY #160, ON A CURVE TO THE RIGHT, HAVING A RADIUS OF 2010 FT, A DISTANCE OF 458.54 FT, THE CHORT OF WHICH ARC BEARS N56 DEG 20'E A DISTANCE OF 457.6 FT, TO THE SE CORNER OF SAID TR WHICH IS THE SW CORNER OF A TRACT HERE DESIGNATED AS THE THEATER TRACT, TH N 0 DEG 33'W ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY OF SAID THEATER TRACT A DISTANCE OF 417.4 FT TO THE NE CORNER OF THE TRACT HERE DESCRIBED, TH S89 DEG 27'W 417.40 FT TO THE POB CONT 5.2AC M/O/L 285-192

Colorado Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of BERNICE BARBARA SHARITS a/k/a BERNICE SHARITS, Deceased
Case Number 2022PR30008

All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to District
Court of Huerfano, County, Colorado 200 W. 5th St., Suite 141, Walsenburg, CO 81089, (719) 793-7100 on or before June 30, 2022,
or the claims may be forever barred.

GARRETT SHELDON, Esq
Attorney for Personal Representative
517 Main St., P.O. Box 808
Walsenburg, CO 81089
(719) 738-3535
garrett.sheldon@hotmail.com

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the
Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record
in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:

ACKERMAN, JANE LAMME
2117 W PLATTE AVE
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80904-3449

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 9th day of November 2012, the then County Treasurer of Huerfano
County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to KURTH, ROLAND the following described property situate
in the County of Huerfano, State of Colorado, to-wit:

SEE LEGAL DESCRIPTION

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to KURTH, ROLAND.

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said
property for the year 2011;

That said property was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of ACKERMAN, JANE LAMME for said year 2011;

That on the 19th day of November 2021, said KURTH, ROLAND assigned said certificate of purchase to PROVERBS
REAL ESTATE LLC;

That said PROVERBS REAL ESTATE LLC on the 19th day of November 2021, the present holder of said certificate (who
has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to PROVERBS REAL ESTATE LLC on the 18th day of July 2022
at 4:00 P.M., unless the same has been redeemed;

Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.

This Notice of Purchase has also been published in World Journal on March 3, 2022, March 10, 2022 and March 17,
2022.



Witness my hand this 28th day of February 2022

Debra J. Reynolds

Debra J. Reynolds, Treasurer of Huerfano County, Colorado
TD#3103 SCH#27288

EXHIBIT A

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

LOTS 13-14-15 & FRAC LOTS 9-12 INCL & FRAC LOTS 16-24 INCL LESS A TR DESC AS FOL: BEG AT A PT ON WRLY ROW LN OF HARRISON AVE PT BEING SERLY CORN OF LOT 7 BLK 10 ESPE ADD & THE NERLY CORN OF LOT 24 BLK 67 TOURIST CITY ADD & ALSO BEING ON SEC LN BETWEEN SECS 4 & 9 TH N89-43W ALNG SAID SEC LN 379.90' TO PT ON ERLY ROW LN OF TYLER AVE TH S33-26E ALNG ERLY ROW LN 41.69' TH N84-43-53E 358.44' TO POB & CONT .15 A MOL. BLOCK 67 TOURIST CITY ADD.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Southern Colorado Developmental Disabilities Services will be hosting a public meeting to gather information from the public that will be used
in updating our annual plan for services to the Developmentally Disabled in Las Animas and Huerfano County. **The meeting will be held vir-
tually for Walsenburg on March 23rd at 4:00 PM and Trinidad, March 24th at 4:00 PM.**
The zoom link is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5929005463?pwd=NONOTGp1R3pFNGlCTFdqRkEx4U2Y1dz09>
For any assistance with joining the meeting virtually, please contact Carolyn Andreatta at 719-846-3388 or 719-680-9888.
Written Comments can be sent to SCDDS 1205 Congress Drive, Trinidad, Colorado 81082.

New Mexico Legals

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
COLFAX COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
No. D-809-PB-2022-00004
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MICHAEL JOSEPH ARKO, deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the estate of the decedent. All
persons having claims against the estate of the decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first
publication of any published notice to creditors or sixty (60) days after the date of mailing or other delivery of this notice, whichever is later, or
the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the undersigned personal representative at the address listed below, or
filed with the District Court of Colfax County, New Mexico, located at the following address:

Eighth Judicial District
Leon Karelitz Judicial Center
1413 S. 2nd Street
Raton, NM 87740

Dated: February 28, 2022

/s/ Rosemary Arko
ROSEMARY ARKO,
Personal Representative
105 Meadow Lark Dr.
Raton, NM 87740

/s/ Steven L. McConnell
Steven L. McConnell, Esq.,
McCONNELL LAW OFFICE, LLC
P.O. Box 1148, 300 Cook Avenue
Raton, New Mexico 87740
Telephone: (575) 445-5575
E-mail: smcconnell@bacavalley.com
(Attorney for Personal Representative
of the Estate of Michael Joseph Arko)

Invitation to Bid

The City of Raton
West Colfax Avenue Resurfacing Project
Project No. 2022-03-17

Notice is hereby given that competitive sealed bids will be accepted by the City of Raton for the West Colfax Avenue Resurfacing Project -
Project No. 2022-03-17. The work shall generally consist of construction of a hot-mix asphalt resurfacing course on an 1850 linear foot section
of West Colfax Avenue.

Sealed bids shall be received until Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 2:00 PM at the office of the City Clerk/Chief Procurement Officer as follows:

The City of Raton
224 Savage Avenue
Post Office Box 910
Raton, New Mexico 87740
(575) 445-9551

Sealed Bids received after this date and time will be returned unopened. Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud immediately after the
specified closing time. Bid security in the amount of 5% of the amount bid must accompany each Bid in accordance with the Instructions to
Bidders. Complete sets of bidding documents are available for download on the City's website www.ratonnm.gov or by contacting City
Clerk/Chief Procurement Officer Michael Anne Antonucci at 575-445-9451 or by email at mantonucci@cityofraton.com.

Posted by: Michael Anne Antonucci
City Clerk/Chief Procurement Officer
March 17, 2022

Transportation is key for age-friendly communities

part of an ongoing series

by Annie Toro Lopez
and Ken Chapin

OUR WORLD — The most important things in life depend on reliable transportation. In the modern world, our most basic needs, food, clothing, and shelter, are all dependent upon having goods shipped from one location to another. Recently, we've experienced firsthand what it looks like when transportation is interrupted or becomes unreliable with empty store shelves and delays in deliveries.

Transportation is an important consideration when community leaders choose to design age-friendly. Citizens of all ages need access to reliable and accessible transportation. Colorado's aging population presents a new set of considerations to transportation designers as they prepare for a future that is not far away.

The population of Colorado is projected to see more people over the age of 65 than under the age of 18 by the year 2025. Communities across Colorado are taking this inevitability seriously, and facing the challenges that accompany this shift in demographics by becoming designated Age-Friendly Communities, a step that allows for eligibility for grants and funding. Municipalities across our region could be next.

The majority of trips taken by older adults are made by automobile. Behind the private automobile, walking is the second most common form of transportation among older adults. However, walking is not always an

easy task in many communities. Nationwide studies show that older adults report having trouble walking in their community due to lack of sidewalks, unsafe intersections and crosswalks, and broken or uneven pavement, among other issues.

Ideally, older people should be able to easily navigate their community's transportation system. It is also essential to consider the affordability of transport services. Safety is an important consideration because how residents perceive the safety of public transportation affects their willingness to use it. Accessibility for a wide range of mobility needs as well as helping drivers and station staff sensitive to elderly needs are important to better assist older commuters. Information on safe, age-friendly, and affordable transport services must be made available to older people to facilitate their usage.

Driving is often an important transportation option for older community members, especially in rural or suburban areas. Maintaining confidence as drivers age is important for maintaining safe driving conditions for all. Poor road conditions, heavy traffic, and street lighting that is inadequate, and poorly positioned signage are a few of the barriers to city driving, particularly as older people frequently face vision difficulties. Specifically designated parking bays close to buildings and drop-off and pick-up bays are also appreciated by seniors.

'I'm done!' — RE-1 board member resigns with two-word e-mail

by Mark Craddock

WALSENBURG — "I'm done!"

With those two words — the entirety of an e-mail sent March 3 to Huerfano RE-1 board president Debi Sporleder and board member Marcy Freeburg — newcomer Raquel Lopez-Rodriguez resigned from the school board.

The board accepted her resignation at its March 14 meeting. The item was placed in the consent agenda, where it was voted on without fanfare or discussion, along with several other items of routine board business.

The *World Journal* made several unsuccessful attempts to reach Lopez-Rodriguez this week. She responded to a text from board president Debi Sporleder sent at the request of the *World Journal* March 15 with a simple "no comment."

Lopez-Rodriguez was elected to the RE-1 board in November of 2021, one of five new members sworn in on Nov. 30.

The new guard, which included Lopez-Rodriguez, Sporleder, Freeburg, Jenna Fox and Hillary Andreatta, campaigned on a common agenda of change and, according to Sporleder, met together frequently during the campaign and before being seated on the board, to establish their goals for the district and map out a strategy for getting there.

But a review of Huerfano RE-1 e-mail communications, obtained via a Colorado Open Records Act request, shows quickly escalating tensions between board members and staff, and among board members themselves, almost from the start.

The new guard did manage to appoint their preferred counsel, Brad Miller of the Colorado Springs-based firm Miller Farmer Law, within seven days of being sworn in. But the board has largely been mired by in-fighting and a steep learning curve regarding district policies and procedures.

On Feb. 18, when Lopez-Rodriguez learned that two staff members had instigated an e-mail suggesting a picket against the board generally, and Fox specifically, she typed a lengthy message to Miller which, in



Raquel Lopez-Rodriguez's chair was empty during the March 14 meeting of the Huerfano RE-1 Board of Education. Photo by Mark Craddock

retrospect, may provide some insight into her resignation:

"I don't fully understand what has happened or where this is coming from or what would have caused this but I feel like this is a total insubordination. And I think we NEED an emergency executive session to include you Brad and school board members only.

"If I'm not mistaken, can't Erica and or Heidi or anyone from the school involved get fired for this? This email was sent by Heidi Dasko who is the high school Principal and seems to me like this 'picket' is being organized by Erica, possibly Mason, if so, she is the Finance Director.

"I can only assume that the administration are not used to being asked questions. I feel like Jenna has been doing a good job at asking questions and requesting info as she is the SB Treasurer and trying to get an understanding of our district finances.

"We constantly get lash back during our meetings and the school admin and staff seem to be on defensive mode at all times. It's a huge mess and we desperately need help.

"This has been a rough experience since the campaign but I feel like it's gotten worse since we started. I feel like we all aren't on the same page and that is why I have previously asked you to come to our meetings to just sit back and observe to better get knowledge of what we need help with.

"I did email you and didn't get a response. I am also sharing a couple emails with you just so you can see what I have sent out to Debi on my feeling and also one that Jenna had sent voicing her concerns. I'm not sure about Jenna but I have not received anything back from it. I just want you Brad to see a little of what is happening so you can hopefully help.

"Jenna asked for info of her email to not be shared with anyone outside of the email and I can only hope that it has not happened but I feel you should see some of the issues we are having. There has been a lot of tension on our board and it's not been pleasant. I feel like there is so much we need to work on to bring us together. And most concerning is the email with the school admin and staff planning to get us out."

That incident proved to be something of a tempest in a teapot, with Dasko receiving a reprimand for unauthorized use of RE-1 technology, and the board receiving something of a lesson in its employees' First Amendment rights.

The matter was resolved at the board's Feb. 28 meeting. Three days later, Lopez-Rodriguez resigned.

During a work session following their March 14 meeting, board members discussed the procedures for soliciting candidates to fill the vacant seat.

The board will hold a special meeting via Zoom teleconference today, 5:30 p.m., to consider a resolution declaring the board vacancy. The meeting will be live-streamed on the district Facebook page.

Prospective candidates should send a statement of interest and qualifications to the board by April 14. The board will interview candidates in a public meeting April 25. The selected board member will serve until the November, 2023 election.

A candidate must be a registered elector in the school district for the previous 12 months.

Letters

THANK YOU RE-1 STAFF, AND MR. MOORE

Twenty-nine years ago, I returned to Walsenburg, and got involved with the community. I ran for school board, and over four terms, served sixteen years. I spent three years on the Colorado School Board Association's board of directors. I've worked with rural and urban boards. While they have things in common, they are two very different 'creatures'. Rural school boards are an integral part of the community. Board members know each other, the schools, staff, and students. In many ways, it is an extended family. When not on the board, I was the reporter for the local newspaper.

Our local board has had its quirks. During my time as a board member, we tragically lost a superintendent, had good superintendents, and a couple of bad ones. We've had good staff, and some I'd be glad never to meet again. We've been on the bottom of the State Board of Education's shit list, and risen above that to do almost the impossible. We passed a bond and got a BEST grant. You don't do that with-

out the support of a good superintendent, and district staff.

We have also survived two years of Plague, which has broken many school districts. However, RE-1 and Mr. Moore have done their best to keep the district functional. It isn't an easy job. I commend them for all they have done. They have kept our community, our students and the staff utmost in their thoughts. Thank you.

As for the new board. You are in need of training. You have a perfect resource, CASB. Use it. They align with State, Federal, and Board of Education regulations. Don't destroy all of the systems that were in place when you took office. When in doubt, ASK. Don't assume.

~Jaye Sudar
Walsenburg, CO

THANKS TO SUPPORTERS OF GREAT CHILI

Thanks to everyone who made our 2022 Chili Cook-off fundraiser a big success! We especially want to thank Monique Flores for allowing us to use her wonderful restaurant, Mis-

sion Deli in La Veta, to hold our event. We also wish to thank our fantastic chili chefs for preparing and sharing their fantastic chilies with us, those who donated items for the silent auction and all of you who came out to join the fun! So many great choices this year but our top prizes went to Cody Weller (red), Brett Ullom (green) and Mitzi Keairns (mystery). Congratulations!

~Mitzi Keairns
La Veta Public Library

SIT DOWN

Sit Down?
I read the two letters to the editor in last week's edition suggesting that Lauren Boebert sit down and do her job. First of all she is doing her job and doing it well. Second it amazes me the hypocrisy displayed by liberals who love to say, "Well-behaved women seldom make history." So I take this to mean liberals can say and do anything they want especially if they are women, but conservatives, especially if they are women, need to sit down and shut up. Again I say Hippocrates [sic]! From the very beginning our politics has been boisterous and loud. History is replete with politicians that did not sit down.

One in particular, a politician that talked about his kingdom quite a bit, went so far as to Chase his opponents with a whip! Jesus Christ was no Mr. Milquetoast! I see no reason for Lauren Boebert to be milquetoast either! Frankly I'm proud of her!

~Mark Arends
Gardner

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?

I was immensely impressed with Ruth's article in the paper on language and alphabet origins. I have been an amateur student of ancient history my whole adult life and enjoy it immensely. Currently I am reading about Philip and Alexander and just finished works on Mycenaean Greece. I've read about Linear A and B and language is a particular favorite for me.

Please thank Ruth for her very cogent, well written article. This quality of journalism is rarely found in small, regional newspapers.

What a privilege to have access to Ruth's scholarly writing!

~Regards,
Janice Walters
Walsenburg

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For more information to help you quit, call your Regional Tobacco Program Director at (719) 383-3055.

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Be Tobacco Free!

NRCS funding available for southern Front Range communities to mitigate wildfire risk

NRCS Press Release
DENVER (Feb. 28, 2022) — The Colorado's Southern Front Range Watershed project was recently selected for funding as USDA invests more than \$48 million into Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership projects.
 Landowners in **Huerfano, Las Animas, Custer, Pueblo, and Fremont Counties** are encouraged to contact their local NRCS field office

for more information and sign up before the April 1, 2022 cut-off date.
 The Southern Front Range (SFR-JCLRP) project will treat vegetation in the project area within Pueblo, Custer, Huerfano, and Las Animas counties. Treatments would be near the towns of Fremont, Cuchara, Aguilar, Stonewall, Wetmore, Westcliffe, Beulah, and Rye, Colorado.
 There are approximately 12,600 structures within the project area and a collective population of about 12,000 full-time residents, with an-

other 1,000 part-time residents. The Colorado State Forest Service Wildfire Risk map shows wildfire risk in the project area as moderate to high, with some areas of very high risk spread throughout, while fire intensity is shown as moderate to highest across most of the project area.
 This project would address these priorities by decreasing vegetation densities and fuel loading on public and private lands, thereby reducing the potential for large,

crowns dominated fire and improving forest health.
 The NRCS began accepting applications Feb. 28, 2022 and will continue to do so until April 1, 2022. Colorado landowners in Huerfano, Las Animas, Custer, Pueblo, and Fremont Counties should contact either the Walsenburg, Trinidad, Silver Cliff, Pueblo, or Cañon City NRCS field offices today, to help determine their eligibility for this round of wildfire mitigation funding.

Classifieds

World Journal classifieds can be seen updated every Thursday on WorldJournalNewspaper.com

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We charge \$10 for the first 35 words, plus 30 cents per word after that. All classifieds ad copy and payments are due by noon Tuesday. Call us at 719-738-1415. Email your classified to classifieds.hwj@gmail.com. Right now, every classified ad in the World Journal is listed for free on our website www.worldjournal-newspaper.com/

BUSINESS

REPAIRS & REMODEL
 Exterior & interior drywall; plaster and paint; repairs welcome. Remodel specialist; bath & kitchen; electrical; upgraded tile. Just call High Plains General Contractors LLC / Jim Sharpe, Walsenburg at 719-989-7853. 41-TFN

AFFORDABLE CARPET cleaning and upholstery. Southern Colorado from Pueblo to Trinidad. Residential/commercial. 30 years experience. Now sanitizing for COVID. Free quotes. Call Sam or Sylvia at (719) 890-1079 or (719) 989-7824. 25-TFN

HAVE YOU BEEN EXPERIENCING BACKACHES, HEADACHES OR NUMEROUS OTHER CHRONIC PAIN? CranioSacral Therapy might be the answer. CranioSacral is a light-touch approach that can make dramatic improvements in your life. Or call for just a relaxing deep tissue massage. Gift Certificates available. For more information call Healing Arts Therapeutics 719-989-8747 today for an appointment. 38-TFN

PIANO TUNING: Keep your piano in tune and in tip-top shape. Request an appointment online at www.SpanishPeaksPiano.com or call 720-363-0052. Located in Huerfano County. 19-TFN

HELP WANTED

WE ARE SEEKING AN energetic, motivated individual to join our company as a Tow Truck Operator. As part of our roadside assistance team, you respond to calls from our dispatch, meet with customers to provide services such as refuel, tire change, lock-outs, or tow their disabled vehicle, and provide on-the-

spot customer service to otherwise distressed motorists. This position requires automotive knowledge and experience, and our ideal candidate has strong mechanical skills in addition to a pleasant, helpful demeanor that conveys to customers our dedication to their safety and satisfaction.

- Tow Truck Operator Requirements and Qualifications
- Automotive skills and knowledge
- Customer service experience and skills
- Prior experience with tow trucks and roadside assistance is preferred.
- The ability to crouch, perform automotive repairs in potentially inclement environments, and lift objects up to 50 pounds

Salary will be discussed at time of interview. Stop by our office, pick up an application and set up a job interview from Edgar, 928 Main St. Walsenburg CO 81089 02-TFN

SOUTHEAST MENTAL WELLNESS Coordinator- Mental Wellness Program. LOCATION: Trinidad, Colorado. DESCRIPTION: Spark the Change Colorado's Mental Wellness Program (MWP) engages professional mental health volunteers to serve low-income and disadvantaged Coloradan's who lack adequate access to Mental Health Services. This position is responsible for coordinating the Mental Wellness Program in the SE Colorado region, including cultivating and inviting mental health volunteers and host sites to participate in the program. To view the full job description, please visit <https://www.sparkthechangecolorado.org/getinvolved> 11-1XU

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that Huerfano County Sheriff Department is accepting applications for the position of Detention Officer for the Huerfano County Jail. This is a full-time position eligible for County benefit plans. The starting salary is \$30,000. Qualified candidates must be 21 years of age, have a High School Diploma or GED. A mandatory background check and pre-employment drug screen will be required. Shift work, holidays and weekends may be part of your regular schedule. A copy of the Job Description and Application are available by contacting Human Resources at 719-738-3000 Ext. 205 or email jobs@huerfano.us Application will be accepted until position is filled. Huerfano County is an equal opportunity employer. 14-TFN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT HUERFANO COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT is accepting applications for **THE POSITION OF DEPUTY**. Qualified candidates must be P.O.S.T. certified within 30 days of hire; 21 years of age or older; have a High School Diploma or GED; must adhere to policy, procedures and post orders. Drug testing, criminal background and mental evaluation will be required. Shift work is mandatory and may include weekends and holidays. This is a full time position, eligible for County Benefits with a starting base wage of \$34,928.80. A copy of the Job Description and Application are available by contacting Human Resources at 719-738-3000 Ext. 205 or email jobs@huerfano.us. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled. Huerfano County is an equal opportunity employer. 37-TFN

SAN ISABEL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, located in Pueblo West, Colorado has an opening for a Member Services Representative I. The successful candidate will be responsible for providing prompt, courteous, and reliable member service. A copy of the complete job description with minimum job specifications can be found at www.siea.com/careers. Email resume and cover letter in pdf format to jobs@siea.com or mail resume to Attn: Human Resources, 781 E. Industrial Blvd, Pueblo West, CO 81007. Material must be received by March 25, 2022. 11-2XU

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that; Huerfano County is accepting applications for a Dispatcher in the Emergency Service Department. This is a full-time position; the position is benefit eligible with a salary of \$33,971.00. non-exempt position. Under the supervision of the Communications Manager and Shift Supervisor, receives calls to the 24-Hour Communications Center, analyzes the calls, and determines the appropriate need for a response. Notifies law enforcement, fire, and ambulance personnel of service requests and follows through on all responses. Provide a "lifeline" to law enforcement officers and other emergency responders. The information that is provided by them to field personnel is necessary for appropriate enforcement actions and is often vital to the responder's safety. High School Diploma or GED. Any acceptable combination of educa-

tion, training, and experience that provides the above knowledge, abilities, and skills that the County deems appropriate. Please see the job description for all qualifications. A pre-employment Drug Test and a Background Investigation will be required. Job descriptions and applications are available by contacting Human Resources at 719-738-3000 Ext 205 or emailing jobs@huerfano.us Applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on March 28, 2022.

For all Huerfano County, job openings go to governmentjobs.com. Huerfano County is an equal opportunity employer. 11-2XU

Notice is hereby given that; Huerfano County is accepting applications for a Huerfano County Youth Conservation Corps Director in the Parks and Recreation Department. This is a full-time position; the position is benefit eligible with a salary range of \$30,000. to \$35,000. non-exempt position. Supervise and direct the creation and development of the Huerfano County Youth Conservation Corps to

consist of a group of local youth chosen to receive training in fire mitigation, trail building, park maintenance, and environment education at the Cuchara Mountain Park. HYCC Director will spend most of their time in direct contact with students, either providing direct student instruction in small groups in a classroom setting, providing environmental education in the field, or facilitating conservation-based service-learning projects. HYCC Director will coordinate with other organizations or agencies such as CMPAC, Cuchara Mountain Park Advisory Committee. CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program manager. Develop education programs. Assist with mitigation projects. High school diploma or equivalent. Experience teaching and/or leading youth, conservation, reforestation and/or outdoor recreation skills. Desire for personal challenge and to help youth develop leadership and job skills. Strong communication skills and a vested interest in community service. Ability to participate in physical labor. A pre-employment Drug Test and a Background Investigation will

be required. Job descriptions and applications are available by contacting Human Resources at 719-738-3000 Ext 205 or email jobs@huerfano.us Applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on March 21, 2022. For all Huerfano County, job openings go to governmentjobs.com Huerfano County is an equal opportunity employer. 10-2XU

THE HUERFANO COUNTY Department of Human Services has a full time position opening in the Assistance payments unit. This position determines eligibility for all categories of public assistance. Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, two years of full time clerical or extensive public contact experience, excellent customer service skills, advanced computer skills and the ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing. A complete job description and applications are available by calling 719-738-2810 ext. 110 or e-mail dhsjobs@huerfano.us. Salary \$30,000 yearly, negotiable D.O.E. Excellent benefit package: health,



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vision, dental and life insurance as well as retirement. Drug testing and background checks are required. HCDHS is an equal opportunity employer. Completed applications or resumes must be received by March 21, 2022 by 4:00 p.m. **10-2XU**

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE Specialist. Will train right person. Three day work week, wage based on experience. Send resume to: Legendswest1018@gmail.com **36-TFN**

COLFAX HELP WANTED

COLFAX COUNTY Job Posting. Job title-Colfax DWI Compliance Officer. Pay Status-Contract, exempt. Reports to DWI Coordinator Salary: \$30,000-\$33,000. Open until filled. Position Summary: Under general direction of the DWI Coordinator, the prevention specialist will organize and participate in DWI public relations. Please visit our website for more information. You can submit resume or application to county human resources dept. if you are interested applying for the position, PO Box 1498, Raton, NM 87740, or email svaldez@co.colfax.nm.us or mgore@co.colfax.nm.us Deadline is February 10, 2022 by 4p.m. Colfax County is an equal opportunity employer **27-TFN**

THE BOARD OF COUNTY Commissioners for Colfax County New Mexico is seeking an energetic person with strong leadership skills for the position of County Manager. Minimum qualifications include a Bachelor's degree in public administration, finance, accounting, business, or closely related field; three years of progressive supervision and management in a similar government organization. A Master's Degree is preferred. A combination of education and experience may be substituted. Salary is \$75,762 to \$94,703 per annum, DOQ. Please submit a current resume, including salary history, salary requirements, and five professional references to Colfax County c/o Suzanne Valdez, Human Resource Department, P.O. Box 1498, Raton, NM 87740 or email svaldez@co.colfax.nm.us. Deadline 5 p.m. March 31, 2022. **COLFAX COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER 10-2XU**

COLFAX COUNTY Job Posting. Job title- Full-Time Deputy Clerk – Permanent. Pay Status-FLSA Non-Exempt. Reports to County Clerk. Salary-\$23,920 - \$32,257. Date Close-until filled. **Position Summary:** Performs a variety of clerical functions in support of records and filings, including assisting customers, record keeping, and collecting cash; to maintain official County records and perform other duties as assigned. Maintains confidentiality of all privileged information. **Minimum qualifications:**

- A high school diploma or GED.
- Combination of clerical training or progressively responsible experience in an office environment totaling three (3) years.
- Ability to communicate effectively in both oral and written in English.
- Knowledge of standard office procedures and practices.
- Ability to operate standard office machines including but limited to word, processor, computer, and multi-line phone system.
- Ability to interact effectively and professionally

with the public, supervisors, and co-workers.

- Ability to work alone and set priorities.
- Ability to perform transcription duties

Working conditions:

- All essential duties are performed indoors within a temperature-controlled environment.
- Worker often works alone both with and without directions from supervisor
- Office setting with desk and cubical environment.
- Essential and marginal functions may require physical condition necessary for sitting or standing for prolonged periods of time.

Screening and compliance: The offer of this Colfax County Position requires compliance with the following:

- Employee must successfully complete employment drug screen and background check.
- Employee must comply with personnel ordinance and guidelines of the County.
- Employee must possess a valid New Mexico driver's license by employment date and retain a valid license while employed in this position. Please submit resume to Colfax County Human Resources Department, PO Box 1498, Raton, NM 87740, or email svaldez@co.colfax.nm.us or mgore@co.colfax.nm.us Deadline is February 10, 2022 by 4p.m. Colfax County is an equal opportunity employer **10-TFN**

COLFAX COUNTY YOUTH Empowerment Services. Colfax County Youth Empowerment Services has two positions open for full-time Family Support Practitioner/Pre-Natal and Early Childhood Home Visitor(s) to provide family support services for both Colfax and Union Counties. Position Specifications: Education: Bachelor's or AA degree, from an accredited College or University, in human services or education field preferred. Will consider non-degreed with years of experience equaling college accreditation. A degree outside human services may substitute with an additional 1½ years of direct home-based services such as Family Preservation, MST, FFT, etc. working with children and families. Experience: Child welfare experience working with families in complex situations preferred. Knowledge of child welfare policies and programs and strategies of home-based services. Field experience working with children and families and overall ability to relate to and engage with these families. Skills: Requires working knowledge of child welfare in-home services. Excellent verbal and written communication skills; effective interpersonal skills, ability to relate to wide diversity of people and situations, both internal and external, demonstrated good judgment. Demonstrated skills in family engagement strategies, facilitating science-based curriculum, conducting assessments on both adults and children, recruitment and community outreach, organizational and time management skills. Willingness and ability to participate in initial and ongoing training, including overnight, provided through our funding sources. Other: Must meet state criminal background check requirements and pass a drug test. Ability to maintain a flexible work schedule. Travel: Must have a reliable vehicle, appropriate and valid state driver's license and registration. Must have liability auto insurance and be able to

transport clients if needed. Must be capable of travel and driving within coverage area, often multiple hours per day. Download application form at www.co.colfax.nm.us, send completed application along with resume to dortiz@co.colfax.nm.us. Job posting will be open until position is filled. For more information call Debbie at (575) 707-0483 **38-TFN**

JOB TITLE: ROAD and Bridge Maintenance Operator – Raton, NM. Pay Status: Non-Exempt. Reports to Road Department Superintendent. Salary: \$13.84 Hrly. Open until filled. Position Summary: Under supervision of the County Road Superintendent, performs maintenance on County roads and bridges and other County property and other duties as assigned. Work involves performing semi-skilled tasks to maintain roads and bridges, culverts and cattle guards. Please visit our website for a full job description. **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

- A high school diploma or GED.
- Must have Class A CDL.
- Must have three (3) years of road experience or relevant.
- Must pass road equipment test at time of interview.
- Knowledge of the methods, materials and road equipment operation, as well as care and basic maintenance.

Please submit application and resume to Colfax County Manager's office if you are interested in applying for the POSITION, open until filled. Mail to Colfax County HR Department, RE: Road Dept. Job Posting, PO Box 1498, Raton, NM 87740 or email to SVALDEZ@CO.COLFAX.NM.US or visit our website www.co.colfax.nm.us. Colfax County is an Equal Opportunity employer. **32-TFN**

COLFAX COUNTY Job Posting. Job title-Information Technology Support Specialist- Full Time. Pay Status-Non-Exempt. Reports to IT Director Salary: Depends on experience. Open until filled. Position Summary: Under general supervision of the IT Director, provides a wide range of support line-of-business applications, systems, and software. Employee must comply with policies and guidelines of the County. Please submit resume or application to county manager's office, if you are interested applying for the position. PO Box 1498, Raton, NM 87740, or email svaldez@co.colfax.nm.us or visit www.co.colfax.nm.us and find detailed job description and benefits package. Colfax County is an equal opportunity employer **27-TFN**

PETS

FREE TO CARING, responsible homes. Adult Cats and Kittens. Affectionate, Social, Healthy, House trained, neutered. If interested, call: 719-766-6184. Please leave a message. **12-TFN**

LA VETA PASS KENNELS. Has spacious outdoor kennels covered. Includes out side play area. Including inside kennels for small dogs. Day boarding available. Call 719-470-9079. 8156 US Hwy 160. **19-TFN**

DOG & CAT GROOMING - 49 years of dog grooming experience. Call or text Lisa at 719-989-3300 for an appointment. La Veta. **36-TFN**

FOR RENT

2 & 3 BEDROOM Apartments Available- Spanish Peaks Apartments. 900 E. Indiana Ave. Walsenburg. (719) 888-5120. On-site laundry facilities. HUD vouchers accepted. Total Concept is an equal opportunity employer and provider. **09-4XP**

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT IN LA VETA 3 BR, 2BA, \$925 per month. Also 1BR, 1BA for \$675 per month. 2BR, 1BA for \$775 per month. First, last and deposit required. Washer, dryer, water and trash included. No pets. Call 1-719-742-3863 **51-TFN**

GARAGE FOR RENT in Walsenburg, 19' x 26'. Great for seasonal and/or long term storage. Not suitable for frequent in/out. \$200 per month. Call 719-859-2701. **11-2XP**

OFFICE SPACE FOR rent. Private office space for rent (112 square feet). Includes use of break room and conference table in public area. \$300 monthly with yearly lease. Semi-private co-share space also available, one to three days a week for part-time working space. Both spaces include high speed internet and utilities. Private space is one block off Main Street; co-share space is available in two locations. Co-share space cost varies by location, from \$6 hour to \$50 per day. Call 719-738-6830 or 719 989-0969. **34-TFN**

RESIDENTIAL properties for rent starting at \$600 per month. Studio apartments, 1-bedroom apartments, 2-bedroom apartments, 1- and 2-bed-

ACROSS

1. Pungent edible leaves
6. Actor Clark _____
11. Eagle's home
12. Appearance
15. Afire
16. Ingenious
17. Fish eggs
18. Captivate
20. Lair
21. Anthracite
23. Indian music
24. Manage
25. Being
26. Your majesty
27. Chinese dynasty
28. D D D
29. A spider's home
30. Specialty
31. Makers of spurs
34. Stableboy
36. Flowery verse
37. Combines
41. Let out
42. Threshold
43. Eager
44. Supervisor
45. Lacquered metalware
46. Otherwise
47. Chop off
48. First book of the Bible
51. Frozen water
52. Travelling on land
54. Cunning
56. Since
57. Consumed
58. Bird sound
59. Brainy

DOWN

1. Last car of a train
2. Let go
3. Chapter in history
4. Extent
5. Observed
6. Parking structure
7. Sporting venue
8. Spoiled child
9. Ignited
10. Apparent
13. Seek revenge
14. Extend credit
15. Curved
16. Cooked over charcoal fire
19. Colonial reporter
22. Units of instruction
24. Abandon

room houses. Some pets accepted at some locations. Please call and let us know what you need. 719-738-3827 - Bill 5-TFN

COMMUNITY

WANTED TO BUY - Elk and deer antlers. Any amount. All grades. Top prices. Also, bear traps. Powell's Antler Shop. Trinidad, CO. 719-859-3587. **08-27XP**

PRAISE CHURCH at Walsenburg, formerly Lighthouse Worship Center. We would love to have you join us Sunday at 10:30 am, 311 W 4th St, Walsenburg. Lead Pastor Steve Chavez. Contact phone 719-544-9486, walsenburg@pueblo-praise.org, mailing address 2000 Troy Ave. Pueblo CO 81001. **46-26XU**

FOR SALE

MOVING SALE- GE Chest freezer, 7 cu ft, \$200. 60 gal. MIG welder Century 160, 230 v, gas bottle, mask, extras, \$300. Charcoal grill, old but functional, \$10 with cover. Cabelas adult PFD life jacket, S/M/L, never used, \$20. Cabelas adult PFD life jacket, XL to XXXL, never used, \$20. Tool tables on wheels, 3x3x4H with shelf, used to mount tools like a vise or sander, doesn't tie up space on workbench, \$30 each. Four left-handed archery compound bow, \$50 each. Approx. 130 arrow shafts, 10 for \$10. Fletching tools, \$40. 1993 DR Powerwagon, still good for hauling heavy stuff; \$75. Two small work tables on wheels for shop, \$10 each. Call 719-989-7056. **09-4XU**

LOCALLY GROWN BEEF for your freezer. Sold in whole, half, or quarters. Processed in Raton, NM at High Country Meats. Call for availability and pricing: 575-202-4893. **08-4XP**

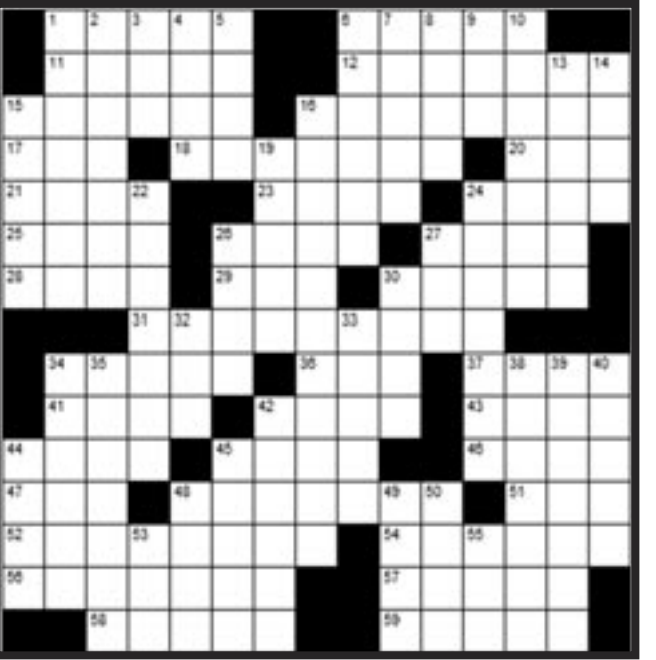
GUN SAFETY CLASSES

COLORADO CONCEALED carry permit class. March 20th, 1:00pm at Rollin' Smoke Garage BBQ, 110 E. 5th Street in Walsenburg. \$55/Person, Includes Lunch. This course meets or exceeds all of Colorado's state requirements to apply for your Concealed Carry Permit. Southern Colorado Firearms Training, LLC is veteran-owned and operated. Register online at socofirearmstraining.com or email socofirearms@gmail.com. Call/text 443-987-1203 for more information. **09-3XP**

FORCLOSURE

PUBLIC FORECLOSURE SALE/DISPOSAL ITEMS Closet's Full Storage, 212 Adam Road, Trinidad, Colorado 81082. Managed by: TLC Real Estate Services, Inc, 404 E Main, Trinidad, CO 81082. **SALE /DISPOSAL ITEMS:** All personal property located in the following storage facility space will be sold or otherwise disposed of in a manner consistent with Colorado Law (CRS 38-21.5-103c.IV). Unit G112 Frances De La Cruz Trinidad, CO 81082 **11-2XU**

Crossword



Last week's key



26. Done by backstroke?
27. Craggy peak
30. Sense
32. Cooking container
33. Runs in neutral
34. Furrow
35. Hold in esteem
38. Bring
39. A movement downward
40. Contemptuous look
42. Shakespearean verse
44. Amorphous mass
45. Josh
48. Adhesive
49. Frosts, as a cake
50. Criticize severely
53. Uncooked
55. Greek letter



What do you know about that?

St. Patrick's Day

by Ruth Orr

EARTH — Top o' the mornin' to ya, readers of the column, and Happy St. Paddy's Day! Unless you've been living under a rock for the last thousand years, odds are you're aware of this holiday, and are quite possibly an enthusiastic celebrant.

St. Patrick's Day, celebrated annually on March 17, has been a day to dye everything (including rivers) green and drink heavily in the U.S. since 1600, when the first recorded celebration was held in St. Augustine, Florida. While the day is designated in honor of a saint, and there are religious services honoring St. Patrick for those who wish to attend, the holiday is primarily a celebration of Irish and Irish American culture.

The first St. Patrick's Day parade was held in 1601, also in St. Augustine, and was organized by the Spanish Colony's Irish vicar Ricardo Artur. Because oh yea, Florida was actually still Spain at this point. It took more than a century for the holiday to catch on in the Thirteen Colonies, when the first observance was held in Boston in 1737. The goal of that celebration was just to remember and honor the homeland of the Irish immigrants, many of whom at that point were Protestant, not Catholic. It was a laid back affair, with a service of worship and a special dinner. New York caught on next, in 1762, with the first parade being held in New York by Irish soldiers in the British Army in 1766. Because oh yea, we were still England at that point.

In fact, the father of the American Revolution, George Washington, was a member of Philadelphia's Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, and he actively encouraged Irish American patriots to join up in the Continental Army. He also allowed his troops March 17 off as a holiday in 1780 in "solidarity with the Irish in their fight for independence."

Through the years, Irish patriotism skyrocketed in New York City, especially as more and more immigrants arrived during the Irish Potato Famine crisis, which forced more than 1.5 million Irish to flee their country and head for America in order to avoid starvation. The celebration had morphed from a solemn religious event into a much more nationalist, anti-English, heroic-struggle type affair by the 1870s.

Today, St. Patrick's Day is widely celebrated in the U.S. by Irish and non-Irish alike. For many, it is still a religious day as well, taking place during the month of Lent. For those more interested in green beer, there is plenty of that too.

But that's just in this country. When we look deeper at the roots of the holiday, we find less corned beef (which is actually not Irish at all, but was adopted by new immigrants) and much less alcohol, because pubs were closed on the day all the way up until the 1970s. It's only more recently that Ireland has begun to celebrate in more rowdy manners, and most of that has been to appeal to American tourists wanting to visit the 'homeland'.

THE MAN, THE MYTH, THE LEGEND

In order to have St. Patrick's Day, you first have to have a man named Patrick. Interestingly, for being Ireland's patron saint, Patrick, or *Pádraig* in Irish Gaelic (hence the *Paddy*, not *Patty* in the shortform version), was not Irish. Rather, he was born into an aristocratic family in Roman Britain towards the end of the fourth century. His father was a Christian deacon, though evidence suggests he did so for the tax benefits, not because they were a particularly religious family.

When Patrick was 16, he was taken prisoner by a group of Irish raiders and sent back to Ireland to be sold into slavery. During the six years he spent doing forced labor as a herdsman, he found solace in his faith, viewing his imprisonment as a test from God. He escaped after dreaming that a ship was ready to take him, walked close to 200 miles to a port, got on said ship, and ended up back in Britain.

That first prophetic dream was not his last. After he returned to Britain, he dreamed that he was handed a letter by a martyr saint, and as he read, he seemed to hear the Irish people begging him to walk once more among them. Despite being moved by the dream, he was reluctant to answer the call, nervous that he was unqualified for the task. But a letter from God, is a letter from God, and you don't just ignore that, so he set sail once more to Ireland.

Once there, he proved himself quite capable, and journey far and wide baptizing and confirming as many people as he could. He was particularly effective at reaching out to marginalized groups including the poor, slaves, and women. Patrick did also manage to convert sons of kings and chiefs and a handful of aristocratic women, who defied their families to become nuns. He was careful not to accept gifts or bribes, and to treat non-Christian Irish fairly, in order to try to prevent being martyred himself. He incorporated existing spiritual practices and nature-oriented rituals into his church practices. It is believed that Patrick was the one who first introduced the Celtic cross to the island, combining native pagan mythol-



ogy and symbols with the cross to make the conversion easier.

That helped a lot, but it didn't necessarily make him popular. He refused to accept gifts from kings and wealthy women, which was outside the norm and left him outside the normal ties of kinship and affinity. He was without legal protection, and was beaten, robbed, and put in chains more than once.

Patrick himself wrote of his life in a tome he called the *Confessio*. The details in it are at points scant, his dates are iffy or non-existent, and his records weren't exactly precise. He claimed to have baptized "thousands of people" but that is just as vague as many other parts of it. He claimed that he was writing for a local audience of Christians who already knew all that, so there wasn't much point writing it down. Patrick died around March 17, 461 in Saul, Ireland.

Patrick lived and died before the church came up with the canonization process, so he was never formally declared a saint by the church in Rome. At that time, saints were declared by popular acclamation.

Some of the legends around St. Patrick include the ever-famous 'banishing all snakes from Ireland'. It was already noted in the third century that the island did not have snakes, and fossil evidence shows that there have been no snakes in Ireland since the end of the last ice age. Whether the story is just giving Patrick credit for the lack of snakes, or whether it is more metaphorical and the snakes are meant to be pagans is up for debate. Another legend states that Patrick's walking stick grew into a living tree, while others claim that he was able to raise the dead.

As with all historical figures with uncertain facts about their life, all this should be taken with a grain of salt. But it certainly adds a bit of depth to the day. Until next week, may the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, and may the sun shine warm upon your face.



ASTRONOMY

Inner worlds make their moves

by William J. Bechaver

EARTH — This week, the two nearest planets to the Sun are making their most drastic moves.

Venus has continued to climb higher into our morning sky. It rises more than two hours before the Sun. This week, it will reach its highest point as it rounds the outermost edge of its orbit, pulling further away from Earth as it goes.

On the morning of Sunday, March 20, Venus will be in its most advanced position from the Sun, climbing to its highest position in the morning sky before sunrise.

That same morning, the largest planet and the smallest will appear in conjunction with each other.

Tiny Mercury is making its descent from the morning sky, speeding around the far side of its orbit. On Sunday morning, it will encounter giant Jupiter, which is slowly making its rise into our morning sky as we draw closer to it.

On Sunday morning, the pair will appear just over two degrees apart as they rise. But catching them in their low positions will require a certain amount of luck. The pair will rise only twenty minutes before the Sun, so catching them in the glare of the early morning twilight will be almost impossible.

Dread not, for there will be plenty of opportunities to catch Jupiter in the

coming months, as it slowly climbs, making it easier to see away from the Sun's glare.

Mercury, too, will be easier to view, but its time in the morning sky is at an end. It will pass around the far side of the Sun, and reemerge in the evening sky for more favorable views as we enter springtime.

So the conjunction marks the coming together of our largest and smallest planets, but the entire event will be made difficult to view by the proximity to the largest and brightest object in the solar system, our radiant Sun!

With our dark skies here, they only need to be clear, so keep your eyes on the skies from sunset to sunrise.

Thanks for the positive feedback about our featured columns, and your continued interest in astronomy. If you have any questions or article requests, contact us at spacescape@rocketmail.com, or follow us on Twitter @ColoSpacE for updates and additional viewing opportunities.

Astronomical times and distances of naked-eye objects for this weekend:

Sun Set = 7:10 p.m.
1 hour 7 minutes later than last week
92,551 million miles from Earth
177,022 miles further than last week
Moon Rise = 8:56 p.m.
68 minutes later than last night
232,159 miles from Earth
17,345 miles nearer than last week



The planets and their relative positions in the solar system for this weekend. Planet sizes and distances are obviously not to scale.

1,728 miles nearer than last night
Jupiter Rise = 6:40 a.m.
23 minutes earlier than last week
553,102 million miles from Earth
1,476,374 miles nearer than last week
Jupiter rises 22 minutes before the Sun
Sun Rise = 7:02 a.m.
10 minutes earlier than last week
92,564 million miles from Earth
1,476,593 miles further than last week
12,962 miles further than last night
Third quarter moon occurs on Thursday, March 24th, at 11:37 p.m.
We've gained 17 minutes of daylight since last week, and a full 67 minutes since last month.

Our nearest planetary neighbor currently is Venus.

No planet in the dark sky for 9 hours 42 minutes. This is the duration between sun set in the evening and Venus rise in the morning. No planets are visible during this period.

Note: Evening set and rise times differ by an hour this week, due to Daylight Savings Time last weekend. Times are local mountain time. Actual "sundown" is about a dozen minutes earlier than calculated "sunset". Along the front range, differing times vary depending on your distance from the mountains.

PICKET continued from page 1

approved contracting with Miller Farmer Law, with assurances that the board was not replacing Huerfano RE-1's long-time counsel, John Keilbach, of the Pueblo firm Altman, Keilbach, Lydle, Parlipiano and Ware.

Superintendent Michael Moore said Keilbach, who charges \$170-\$175 per hour, has been representing the Huerfano RE-1 school district for about 25 years.

"The first I heard about it was at the (Dec. 6) board meeting," Moore said. "I was pretty shocked as far as having worked with an attorney for eight years, developing a good relationship and trust factor and knowing that I respected his opinion. I was actually shocked to hear that the board was considering a new attorney."

Moore said Keilbach's legal work now revolves primarily around new-school construction, "but other than that, I contact Brad Miller."

According to reporting by the *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, Miller's firm was almost hired in similar fashion by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education, during a December, 2021, meeting of the newly appointed board and with no prior pub-

lic discussion. The move would have replaced the district's long-time in-house counsel with Miller's firm.

"It caught two of the five board members — and much of the community that's invested in the school district — off guard," the *Sentinel* wrote. Colorado Freedom of Information Act Coalition President Steve Zansberg told the paper that the move may well have violated open meetings law, "given the likelihood that at least one of the three new board members acted unilaterally in arranging the contract."

The board ultimately tabled approval of a contract with Miller's firm to a later date.

Contacted by the *World Journal* Tuesday, District 51 spokesperson Emily Shockley said the board has still not voted on the proposal and is conducting a district-wide survey on "in-house counsel versus out-of-house counsel."

This isn't the first time the hiring of a law firm operated by Miller has raised questions about transparency. Miller's firm was hired in December of 2013 to represent the Jefferson County Board of Education.

Similar to what transpired in December 2021 for the District 51 board, two Jefferson County board members were not made aware about the contract until two days before the vote, both the

Colorado Independent and *Arvada Press* reported at the time.

The first reporting of Jefferson County's intentions came when Thompson District Board of Education President Bob Kerrigan was also set to hire Miller.

Kerrigan justified the move by saying Miller was the board attorney for Jefferson County — days before Jefferson County made its move to hire Miller's firm known to the public or to the whole board, according to the *Colorado Independent*.

The apparent lack of transparency eventually prompted the recall of all three board members involved in the hiring, the *Colorado Independent* reported.

Among the issues raised in the recall was the cost of legal services. Before Miller, the Jefferson County board contracted legal help as needed, averaging \$41,241 a year on legal fees. In 2014 and 2015, after Miller was hired, the average more than doubled to \$95,756, according to *Chalkbeat*, an education industry newsletter.

Also in November of 2015, Miller resigned as counsel for another district — the Thompson School District — the day after its new school board was seated.

BOARD PRESIDENT RESPONDS

Board president Sporleder said Tuesday she does not believe she violated any laws in fast-tracking Miller's hire. She said that, prior to the November, 2021 election — and certainly before the board's Nov. 30 swearing in, the bloc of new board members met frequently to discuss their goals and strategies for the district, "because we knew we couldn't meet like this after we were sworn in."

Among the top items was hiring Miller, whom they had met while attending several education-related seminars in advance of the election.

"I talked to (Miller) and I talked to Jody at Gardner Schools," Sporleder said, "because I wanted to see what they thought of the law firm and they loved the firm. They've done very well by them."

Freeburg, one of the bloc of board newcomers, told a similar story. She said she had met Miller many times, largely through education-related seminars hosted by the Denver-based Independence Institute, a free-market, libertarian think tank.

Freeburg said she was not surprised that the hiring of Miller's firm came up in the Dec. 6 meeting, because the not-yet-seated board members had frequently discussed the move.

Huerfano County



Commissioners ask Army for details on flight training routes

Four appointments approved by commissioners to Gardner Main Street Advisory Board

by E.E. Mullens
WALSENBURG — During its regular session this week the county board of commissioners approved a letter to the chief of the environmental division of the U.S. Army Garrison at Fort Carson after citizens raised some concerns about the military's plans to establish low-level helicopter training flight corridors over portions of Huerfano County.

"We write to convey our concerns and questions that have been raised by Huerfano County residents, particularly the Gambler Route, which will impact citizens of Huerfano County," the letter, signed March 15, 2022, said. The board's letter asked for the army's long term plans for the routes and asked to get detailed on the plans to establish the routes.

The letter also said, "We would like to better understand the impacts of these routes on our residents and agricultural operations."

The board asked for additional detailed maps containing mile markers, landmarks and structures. The board said, if the army had GIS map information, they would appreciate that as well so residents and property owners would better know how they might be affected by the low-level training flights.

The four flight training corridors are identified as Gambler, Comanche, Mustang and Saber and will see helicopter training in both daylight and nighttime hours. The day and night vision device training low-level flights will occur between 100 and 300 feet ABG (above ground level) with aircraft traveling in excess of

100 knots (115-mph). The army information said low-speed flying and hovering are not conducted during low-level aviation training. The Gambler route specifically is proposed to cross the northern section of the county, and is the most westernly of the four training routes.

The letter concluded, "We are grateful for the work of the USAG/Fort Carson and our armed services. We hope that these inquiries can help build stronger ties between Huerfano County and the USAG Fort Carson in furtherance of our shared duty to protect the public good."

The board of commissioners received an initial letter and material regarding the training routes in early February 2022.

In other business this week, the board approved the initial membership of the Gardner Main Street Advisory Board. Board members will add to discussions regarding the mixed-development project in that community.

The board unanimously appointed John White and Bonnie Rinker to the group with terms expiring Dec. 31, 2023. Corey Gomez was appointed as an alternate to the advisory board and Joshua Jones as an advisory board member, both with terms expiring Dec. 31, 2022.

County administrator Carl Young told the board the county's creation of the advisory board, and state statutes allows for a variety of options to end the board following the grant stage, or after the project-development stage and could allow the advisory board to grow into a community steering committee if town or metro

district designation is ever sought for Gardner.

ACTION ITEMS:

- The board approved a professional service agreement with SAFEBuilt whose representatives will assist the county planning/permit department. Building inspection service will continue to be handled by county staff. Young told the board the planning office is caught up on its backlog after weeks of hard work.

- The board accepted the \$3,202.05 low bid and staff recommendation to use Keystone Pest Solutions as the chemical supplier for the county's 2022 noxious weed program.

- The board approved a software quote and addendum for the county dispatch center at \$45,117.72. Research found some items requested were not necessary and others were, thus approval of the addendum. This is the software program that will allow deputies to write reports and access secure information from the field, keeping deputies on the road more of the time by lessening the need for law enforcers to write reports from the sheriff's office. Funding for the upgrade is made from the county's emergency services fund.

- In the arena of snow removal, the county purchased a snow plow attachment for its recently purchased zero-turn Cub-Cadet mower at \$924.99 and a snow blower from Home Depot at \$1,049.93. The board also approved the purchase of an available 16 foot trailer with gate to haul the mower at \$2,090 from JP Trailer Sales in Albuquerque.

- The board also ap-



The Huerfano County Board of Commissioners this week approved a letter to the U.S. Army Garrison at Fort Carson seeking additional information about low level flight training routes that would overfly portions of the county . World Journal file photo by E.E. Mullens

proved an upgrade to the county fueling system with the purchase of a fuel card system for "up to" \$7,659.76 which will include 100 magnetic strip and 100 DuraKey cards from Eaton Sales.

- The board also authorized a \$2,067.24 contract with DocuSign, as part of the county's participation in the state Internet portal.

- The board approved a construction right-of-way easement, #22-02 with Pauley Construction who is contracting with Century Link for installation of fiber optic cable at the intersection of county roads 359 and 358. Approval was contingent on payment of permit, ensuring the firm is a licensed contractor with the county and a \$5,000 damage bond.

- The board approved a \$1,316.50 expenditure for two fire door frames for the tower buildings at Sheep Mountain and Capitol Hill.



The 4th Infantry Division Combat Aviation Brigade is proposing to establish a one-mile-wide (0.5 mile wide on either side of the centerline) low-level training routes between Fort Carson and PCMS from south to north for all four identified routes. US Army graphic

Walsenburg hires new municipal accountant

City receives official certification as AARP "Age Friendly Community"

by E.E. Mullens
WALSENBURG — Walsenburg administration reported Tuesday night that citizens' utility bills for the December/January billing cycle will be going out in the mail this week, and the hiring of a familiar face as the new city accountant will help in cleaning up the utility bill issue residents have faced for months.

Administrator Dustin Stambaugh announced former city council member, city treasurer and former fiancée employee at the Huerfano RE-2 school district, Jim Moore, has been hired as city accountant.

That department, along with help from a contract IT firm, continue to work on the Caselle government accounting system Walsenburg uses for billing its water/wastewater and gas utility enterprises.

The January billing audit was completed by Dan Harper of Ashcatek and city staff member Stephanie Barr on Thursday, March 10, 2022 and the bills are being printed and sent off this week, Stambaugh said in the written administrator's report to council. Stambaugh also said, "We have been replacing a lot of ERTs, so we have more ERTs on order as well as back stock of meters for future replacements." ERTs are the remote reader device attached to utility meters allowing city employees to take meter readings from vehicles.

A positive highlight of the meeting involved the presentation of an AARP certificate recognizing Walsenburg as the 632nd such designation in the nation and the 20th here in Colorado. Local age friendly community advocate, Ken Chapin presented the AARP certificate to Mayor Charles Bryant. Bob Murphy, AARP Colorado State Director and Roberto Rey,

Associate Colorado State Director appeared on-line to congratulate the city on its new membership. The certification is valid until Jan. 24, 2024.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- The city council voted 7-0 to reject a motion to approve either option to replace the grinder pump or repair the current unit at the Northland's lift/pump station. Council sent the item back to administration for further research.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Council voted 7-0 to accept federal grant funds for the Train B reconstruction project at the city's wastewater treatment facility and the accompanying GMS contract for engineering. If all goes as planned, work should begin on the project in March 2023.

- Council voted unanimously to appoint Robert Ellsworth to the city's Board of Appeals. Administration noted there is one remaining board member seat, and two alternate positions on that board still available.

- Council also voted unanimously to approve a license agreement with the Southern Colorado Hunting Retriever Club for a two day event that will be held on a portion of ground at City Lake Dam.

- Council voted 6-1 to begin recording only major actions/votes in future city council minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

- City council met in two separate executive sessions, one to obtain specific legal advice on the issue

of the high pressure gas line project. There was vote on this item following the closed door session.

The other executive session dealt with the draft of a lease agreement for the city-owned mobile home located at 880 Hwy 10. After the closed door session, council voted not to renew the lease. Another vote was made that will mandate the city pay 51% of the propane bill paid by the current tenant and pay for a two week motel stay while the tenant, a city employee, finds a new place to live.

WORK SESSION:

- Mayor Bryant dedicated the work session to discussion regarding potential use of the Lathrop property. He said the discussion was necessary due to a number of citizen and organizational requests to buy or have donated equipment from that location.

Ideas discussed included making an inventory of potential items the city could sell as surplus and how best to use the facility in the future.

UPCOMING:

- Council will meet in a work session at 6 p.m. March 22 to discuss budget and financial issues.

The next regular meeting work session, April 5 will be dedicated to issues pertaining to the golf course.

- Council member Carmen J. Lara will host a Ward meeting with constituents at 8 p.m. March 24 at the Walsenburg Housing Authority meeting room, 220 Russell St. in Walsenburg.



David High 1/5/48 ~ 3/5/22

David High was born Jan. 5, 1948, in Pueblo, Colo., to Edna (nee Pickens) High and Dale High. He died unexpectedly on March 5, 2022, following a brief illness. Julie Fairman, Dave's companion of nearly 40 years, was by his side when Dave traveled on to the next world.

When he was just a few years old, Dale and Edna moved Dave and his two brothers to Denver's south side, where Dave grew up riding his bicycle, shooting hoops, playing open-field touch football, and generally enjoying the freedom and joys of youth with his best friends.

Dave attended South High School, where he excelled in sports. He won all-state and all-star honors in baseball and basketball, despite being blind in one eye due to a childhood accident. He shared his passion and knowledge of sports by coaching summer league teams.

Dave went on to attend Colorado State Teachers College in Greeley, where he earned a BA in History. He worked in many different positions - including running the liquor store his father bought after retiring from the Colorado State Patrol (he served as the body-guard/driver for two of Colorado's governors) and as an owner/driver at Denver's Yellow Cab.

Art was one of Dave's passions. His pen-and-ink drawings with Native American themes reflecting Dave's heritage hang on the walls of many local homes.

In the 1990s, Dave earned a certificate in Graphic Design from Denver Technical Institute. After working in the art field in Denver for a couple of years, Dave and Julie left the big city and moved to Trinidad, Colo. Shortly thereafter, Dave and Julie were approached about purchasing *The La Veta Signature Newspaper*, and thus began their careers as journalists.

Dave and Julie received numerous awards and accolades during the eight years they owned and operated *The Signature*.



Dave continued to use his writing talents following the sale of the paper to the Rineharts and then to the *World Journal*. His weekly coverage of the local high schools' sports action was anxiously awaited by athletes, their friends and families.

About 12 years ago, Dave began to pen a weekly humor column, an endeavor that brought smiles and laughter to many and resulted in even more awards hanging on the wall above Dave's desk. Dave's final column appeared just last week.

Dave also had a love of books (he was a voracious reader) and of music (his favorite songwriter and performer was John Prine).

Dave is survived by Julie and his best friend Ralph Westbay (they attended school together from kindergarten through college and remained "brothers" until Dave's passing), and by numerous nieces and nephews.

Farewell, Dave. We miss you dearly!

"What we once enjoyed and deeply loved we can never lose, for all that we love deeply becomes part of us."
~Helen Keller

Quotes

Happy St. Patrick's Day

March 17

"Every St. Patrick's Day every Irishman goes out to find another Irishman to make a speech to."
~ Shane Leslie

"The Irish celebrate St. Patrick's Day in gratitude for the service which he did them in bringing to the Irish their most priceless possession—the gift of faith."
~ Therese Duffy

"I will tell you, my body immediately responds to being in Ireland because every single cell in my body says yes."
~ Conan O'Brien

"If you work, if you wait, you will find the place where the four-leaf clovers grow."
~ Ella Higginson

"May the Irish hills caress you. May her lakes and rivers bless you. May the luck of the Irish enfold you. May the blessings of St. Patrick behold you."
~ Irish blessing

"For you can't hear Irish tunes without knowing you're Irish, and wanting to pound that fact into the floor."
~ Jennifer Armstrong

"St. Paddy's Day is our celebration day for Ireland's favorite saint who both saved us from the snakes, and gave us our own day to celebrate our Irish heritage."
~ Paddy O'Furniture

"St. Patrick's Day is an enchanted time — a day to begin transforming winter's dreams into summer's magic."
~ Adrienne Cook

"For the whole world is Irish on the Seventeenth o' March!"
~ Thomas Augustine Daly

"Ireland is a land of poets and legends, of dreamers and rebels."
~ Nora Roberts

"The list of Irish saints is past counting; but in it all no other figure is so human, friendly, and lovable as St. Patrick."
~ Stephen Gwynn

Area Weather Forecast

La Veta

Date	High	Low	Prec.
03/17	31°	20°	98%
03/18	42°	27°	5%
03/19	49°	35°	2%
03/20	52°	33°	17%
03/21	35°	26°	84%
03/22	35°	25°	71%
03/23	45°	33°	4%
03/24	50°	52°	2%

Walsenburg

Date	High	Low	Prec.
03/17	33°	20°	99%
03/18	48°	28°	5%
03/19	54°	33°	2%
03/20	60°	34°	11%
03/21	37°	27°	84%
03/22	38°	25°	75%
03/23	46°	33°	3%
03/24	54°	29°	4%

Weather Report

Cuchara

Date	High	Low	Conditions
03/09	34°	5°	mostly cloudy
03/10	25°	3°	16" snow, cloudy
03/11	28°	14°	sunny
03/12	48°	18°	sunny
03/13	50°	23°	sunny
03/14	42°	24°	5" am snow, sunny
03/15	55°	22°	sunny

Thanks to Dakota Duke's!

Cuchara Snow Report 2021-2022 Season

173.5" Snowfall

2020-2021 Season Total Snow 262"
2019-2020 Season Total Snow 155.5"
2018-2019 Season Total Snow 228"
2017-2018 Season Total Snow 62"
2016-2017 Season Total Snow 217"
2015-2016 Season Total Snow 212"
2014-2015 Season Total Snow 204"
2013-2014 Season Total Snow 162"
2012-2013 Season Total Snow 163"
2011-2012 Season Total Snow 291"
10 Year Avg. Annual Snowfall 191"

There's a problem with La Veta's bear-proof trash cans — and it isn't the bears

Town warns residents not to dump household trash

by Mark Craddock

LA VETA — The Town of La Veta is having problems with the bear-proof trash cans it has placed along Main Street — heavily reinforced structures meant to make it difficult for the furry foragers to grab a quick snack while in town.

But the problem isn't the bears — it is inconsiderate people who are using the cans to dump their residential trash.

On March 1, a two-sentence release was posted to the town's website:

"Residential trash in not to be dumped in the bear proof trash cans on Main Street," the message reads. "This is ongoing and if this continues the trash cans will be locked or removed completely."

The town purchased four of the bear-proof cans last year at a cost of \$635 each, and installed them strategically along Main Street. The containers have slam latches and snap locks, and are bolted and locked to the ground, making them all-but impossible for a bear to open.

Town Clerk Laurie Erwin said the most flagrant offenders seem to be out-of-state visitors to the area, but the town wanted to put residents on alert, too.

She said the town is getting vinyl signs forbidding household trash in the cans, but in the meantime, she hopes responsibility will win the day, and the brief message to locals will help.

"We have a lot of people from out of town that use any dumpster they can find," Erwin said.

"These are basically for people to throw their ice cream cones, soda pop cans, diapers and the like," she said. "but it's the household trash that takes up all the room for everybody else."

"We don't want to remove (the cans)," she said. "Are we going to continue to dump them? Yes. But this is getting kind of ridiculous. Much like the recycling bins, some people take advantage of the services we provide."

Also on March 1, the La Veta Town Board sailed through a light agenda, starting with a pre-meeting public hearing on a tavern liquor license application for Fatt Wellers LLC. There were no public or written comments for or against the application. Later in the meeting, the board unanimously voted to approve the application.

The board also unanimously approved a beer and wine liquor license renewal for Emile Dubia and Free the Monkey LLC, doing business as the La Veta Mercantile, 300 S. Main Street.

And the board unanimously approved a request from Keith Hauber of the town park and tree board to purchase some \$238 in tree-planting supplies to replace Huber's personal equipment, which he said he has been using for the past two years. Among the items to be purchased are a watering wand, a 10-tine pitchfork, a five-tine refuse hook, and a water hose.

The board voted unanimously to table a decision on the EQR rate assessed to Mountain Merman, a brew pub hoping to open this year at 220 S. Main, until its April 6 meeting.

Erwin said that, as part of the town's annual review of EQR rates, she noticed the planned seating capacity at the brew pub and adjacent restaurant would raise the EQR from 2.2 EQR to 6.55 EQR.

EQR means an "equivalent residential unit," a number upon which water tap fees, water service charges, sewer tap fees and sewer service charges are based.

Erwin said the town calculates EQRs for a business like Mountain Merman at 0.06 EQR per seat times the number of seats. That, she reported, would put the charge at 6.55 EQRs, as opposed to the 2.2 EQRs presently assessed.

Mayor Doug Brgoch suggested tabling the decision to allow the new owners the opportunity to respond.

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History

Were Irish eyes smiling?

by Nancy Christofferson

HUERFANO — Today is the day the old saying about everyone being Irish on St. Patrick's Day could possibly be true. The fact is that historically, Huerfano County didn't have enough Irish natives to rub together to make fire. In fact, by the time the 1885 census was taken, there were only 14 natives of Ireland listed and most of those were employed by the railroad.

In the very early days St. Patrick's Day was observed locally with one of the popular social activities of the day – dances, or even masquerade dances. There were no parades, no Irish ditties being sung in harmony, no corned beef and cabbage – nothing.

But there were potatoes.

La Veta had one Irishman in the early 1880s who no doubt kept a wide smile on his face. His name was R.P. McAuliffe, and his nickname was the "Potato King of Southern Colorado" in June 1881. R.P. had a ranch in some mountain valley where in 1882 he harvested enough potatoes to sell 10,000 pounds to Fred Walsen. In 1883 he had a crew of 23 pickers!

He was also a tavern keeper in town who was so enterprising he further opened a "ten-pin alley, a beer garden and his very own large, two-story ice house. These were profitable enterprises right up until one night in January 1889 when his and many other buildings along Ryus Avenue went up in a huge conflagration.

While he was still in the saloon business he took on a fellow Irishman as a partner to expand the saloon and add billiards. This fellow was named Harry Gordon, and he was the son of Henry Gordon of Walsenburg.

Henry Gordon was born in Ireland in, probably, 1842, but went to Scotland in 1856 and became a coal miner. When he returned to the old sod, he was married, had one son, Harry, in Ireland, then resettled in Pennsylvania. A few years later he went to Denver, where in 1874 he met Fred Walsen and his business partner, former territorial governor Alex Hunt. These men were preparing to open a coal mine and sought experienced help.

Gordon was hired and moved to Walsenburg to complete the opening of the mine. Alas, in 1874 there were no rail facilities in the town, so any coal being shipped had to be hauled by wagon to the railroad at Cucharas, about six miles east of Walsenburg. The situation galled Gordon so badly he quit as superintendent of the Walsen mine. When in 1876 the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad built facilities in the camp, Gordon returned and worked there six years. He was also

credited with pulling the first coal from the Pictou mine. Hunt and Walsen sold their mine to the Colorado Coal and Iron Company and Gordon moved to Gallup for three years.

Once back in Walsenburg, he opened a saloon on Seventh Street and bought a large home. His partner in the saloon was Jim Firm and it was one of the first business houses in town to connect to the water system in 1905. He served as town marshal, street commissioner and justice of the peace. Later he bought the Charles Mazzone saloon. His wife ran the Central Hotel and also cafes.

Henry was well known and apparently well liked, especially for his efforts as street commissioner who built bridges, filled the potholes, impounded loose livestock, installed a public watering trough, put in board street crossings and cobblestone sidewalks and, one week in 1897, planted 123 trees. He opened a store of some kind on Russell Avenue. He died in 1906, leaving his wife Catherine, son Harry, a daughter who married Max Klein and another, Minnie, who married James Firm whose sister Jessie married Harry Gordon.

Harry and Jessie moved to Rouse in 1889 to operate a boardinghouse but didn't last long. He took over his father's store in town, and with various partners, such as more Firms, ran saloons. In 1902 he built an impressive brick house at the southeast corner of Ninth and Main.

Harry and Jessie had a son named, yes, Harry, who became a dentist and practiced in Walsenburg and sometimes in La Veta. Harry Sr. died in 1922 and Dr. Harry in 1963.

The Gordons were well situated in Walsenburg business and social life, but some fellow Irish were stiff competition.

These were the Furphys. The patriarch, John, like Henry Gordon, wandered around a bit before landing in Walsenburg. Born in Ireland, he was then taken by his parents to Scotland, before moving to Pennsylvania and marrying, settling in Wisconsin, then arriving in Huerfano County in 1881. He too became superintendent of the Walsen mine. He and wife Margaret had 13 children, of whom all but 11 were girls.

After mining for three years, John took up a homestead of 160 acres just north of Walsenburg city limits. He stayed there three years then moved to Apache for 15 years. In 1903 John bought the already historic Walsenburg Presbyterian church along with a mortuary and went into the livery business next door.

In a 1910 business directory, the entry for Furphy, John was "proprietor of The Palace Livery and Feed Stable, undertaker and embalmer, agent for monument work."

By 1921 this had become the Furphy Auto Garage and then simply Furphy Garage. It was the agency for Durant and Star automobiles.

The building was almost directly beside the railroad tracks at Fourth and Main streets.

The Furphys added onto the retired church, leaving it intact inside the finished building, dug a basement and made other improvements. For a while in

the 1940s, they also ran an ambulance service from here. The livery was on the corner and the undertaking parlor one door north.

Perhaps it was in 1917 when the Furphy Livery was selling horses, mules, wagons and harness that the livery was transformed into a garage. The family sold out the mortuary to Van Lawson in the 1960s who in turn sold it to Mike Antle in 1984.

The garage was sold in 1928 to George McNally and Herman Veltman who combined it with another repair garage next door and took its name, Palace Garage.

Five of John's sons had died before 1915, when he passed away. Remaining were J.W., Tom, Gabe, Vincent, Herbert, all still in Walsenburg, and Charles in California. A daughter Margaret also remained. In fact, she remained another 67 years until she died in 1982 at age 97.

One of his sons, Frank, was a victim in the horrendous 1905 explosion in the Dawson coal mine in Colfax County. Formerly he had been a retail clerk for Colorado Supply Company. Another, Peter, had been run over by a train.

The brothers pursued various careers. Herbert took over the mortuary and served as county coroner from 1932-37 and 1956-64. He married several times but left only one child, J. Thomas. Charles was elected county commissioner in 1918.

Herbert was assisted in the mortuary by his brother Gabe. Gabe was born Gabriel Ussel Furphy in Walsen Camp and reared on the Apache farm. He was obviously named for Father Gabriel Ussel whose will made possible the establishment of St. Mary High School. In fact, Thelma Katherine Kerr Furphy, Herbert's wife, claimed to be the first graduate of that high school in 1919. Two months later she was married.

Miss Margaret was employed as the office manager of the mortuary and became a partner in 1948. She was the church organist and belonged to several women's organizations at St. Mary. All the Furphys were staunch church members and supporters, and their children attended St. Mary School from kindergarten to graduation.

Gabe may have had hobbies, but was mostly busy being a dad. He married school teacher Dorothy A. Nickolds in 1916. They had 10 children, nine of whom survived their father who died in 1969. The family should have been the honored guests at the popular Father-Son banquets of the day, and perhaps were.

After the removal of these families, one way or another, the Irish population in Huerfano County was negligible. It's a fact that on one St. Patrick's Day the celebration was a bocce tournament with Walsenburg's Italian mayor throwing out the first pitch, and on another, the "Talent Quest for the Stars of the Future" in St. Mary Auditorium. It was won by the DeHerrera brothers and Pete Visich, Jr. In 1956 there was an actual event called the St. Patrick's Day dance, sponsored by Los Huerfanos in the Pavilion owned by a Slovenian lodge.

So it is, you see, that St Patrick's Day has been Americanized so anyone can be Irish if they want to be.

HISTORY DETECTIVE



by
Carolyn
Newman

Living and gassing by the light of the Silver(y) Moon

WALSENBURG — Back in the day when nearly every street corner on the main streets had a gas station, one station in Walsenburg was unique.

The Texaco station at 825 Main had a house built on top of the station. Today that red brick building, with its additions, is still there.

The city had more than 20 filling stations, but because of those nasty leaking underground gas tanks, the only evidence of most of them today is an empty lot or a parking lot.

The present angled 1915 building did not start life as a service station. It began as a freight and transfer warehouse; freight was brought there and distributed to the local businesses. F. E. Hendren owned it in those days.

By the 1940s, maybe earlier, it became a service station. Lyle's Texaco State 1948 to 1950. Later the Lynn Boyds from La Veta moved into the house por-



825 Main in Walsenburg features a house built atop a gas station.

tion 1951 to 1961 and ran the station. People may remember the Geno Sarti family operating Sarti's Bar (once named the Silver Moon) next door and the Sarti family living in the old service station with the three tiny bedrooms upstairs. Notice too that each of the four sides has a dormer window.

Contrary to the myth, there was no passage way from the Sarti Bar to the Sarti house.

Today the bar is closed and the new owners from

Texas will not reopen it. The house's future? Uncertain. Even with a search through old newspapers, this writer could find no reference to the building being involved in the early strikes on Main, or any robberies, or excitement of any kind.

But something must have happened!

Can anyone add to this story? Contact the writer at carlynewmwn@aol.com.

Information was gathered from many persons, thank you.

The History Detective is a service of the Huerfano County Historical Society. The archives with old photos and newspapers are at 214 W. Sixth, Walsenburg, CO 81089. PO Box 3, Walsenburg 81089-0003. huerfanoheritagecenter@outlook.com 719-738-2346. Open 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays, 2 to 5 p.m. Fridays.

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THIS WEEK in History

by
Nancy
Christofferson

Walsenburg

1895: The Italian consul is coming from Denver to investigate the murders of the five Italians from Rouse last week in Walsenburg. Two more of them are still missing and possibly were killed.

1900: Poles are being set out along west Seventh Street in preparation of the extension of the electric light service and up at the north end of town a force of men is at work on the ditch under the instruction of the "paradonna". (?)

1905: The City of Walsenburg passed an ordinance to vacate Albert Street between Fourth and Fifth.

1910: An exciting runaway occurred on Main Street when Aaron Anderson's delivery horse bolted near the Wayt Lumber Yard and ended up in a somersault on the cement walk in front of the court house.

1915: Fred Klein installed a new ice cream making machine which enables him to reduce the prices to \$1.25 a gallon or 35 cents for a quart.

1920: Mose Daher is excavating for a new business building next to the Star Theater to be occupied by a tire shop.

1925: Six counties of Colorado produced 88 percent of the state's coal, with Las Animas producing 32 percent in 1924 with its 3,157,988 short tons. Huerfano produced 2,005,223 tons, making it second largest producer and Weld had 1,651,506 for the year to be third.

1930: Father Liciotti, who will accompany the winning Crusader basketball squad to Chicago, formally thanks Walsenburg for its support in sending the team to the national parochial tournament.

1935: Coal production in Huerfano County during February was 41,262 tons with 1,075 men employed.

1940: Comedy honors go to Siegfried Sporleder and George Summers who starred in "The Travelers", a one act play put on by the Huerfano County High School senior class.

1945: Mr. and Mrs. Marcial Martinez received word that their son Pfc. Jose V. Martinez had been killed in action in France. It was also revealed that Pfc. John N. Maestas of Walsenburg, listed as missing in action, is now reported killed in Germany January 11.

1950: The Very Reverend John B. Liciotti, almost 73 and pastor of St. Mary Church for 28 years to retire in 1941, has died. He leaves a brother Joseph in Canada. There will be no classes at St. Mary schools tomorrow so the sisters, students and parents can attend the funeral in Pueblo.

1955: Washington grade school students having the featured roles in tonight's cantata "Rip Van Winkle" are Andy Williams, Roger Bobian, Joe Tafoya, Leroy Gomez and Floyd West.

1960: Snow during the past week in Walsenburg hiked the total for the current season beginning September 29 to 112 inches, or nine and a half feet.

1965: Retail trade in Walsenburg during 1964 was \$8,288,000 compared to \$8,392,000 in the previous year.

1970: Abel Gomez Jr. has been hired to supervise a recreation program for 12 to 15 year olds at the Community Center for the city and county.

1975: Sheriff Jerry Conder says that three of his deputies qualify for and receive food stamps because they earn about \$90 per week after deductions.

1980: Zorc Home Improvement Center at Seventh and Main has purchased the 9,500 square foot Joseph Hall from the Bellotti family for storage. The building was erected in 1923 by Norman Joseph and the upstairs was once a popular dance hall, while the downstairs was the Dick Brothers Garage selling Hupmobiles.

1985: Walsenburg High School students placed fourth in a Santa Fe League competition of Knowledge Bowl in Lamar.

1990: Jennifer Dimond and David Martinez will represent John Mall High School in the annual Colorado High

School Science Fair next month in Fort Collins.

1995: Ed and Gudrun Johnson, owners of the new Subway Shop now under construction have purchased the Hillcrest apartment house at Main and Indiana.

La Veta

1876: A letter from S.S. Calub, postmarked in March in Spanish Peaks, Colorado, mentions the community having two attorneys, L.A. Drum and Mosley Hampton.

1881: The new bell weighing 254 pounds was delivered for the Baptist Church and it was hung last week.

1896: F.M. Eggleston is busy getting out ties for the Denver and Rio Grande and already has quite a camp established.

1901: D.D. Ryus writes us he is installing "Solar Heaters" in his new home in California.

1906: The anti-liquor or People's Party met last night to select candidates for the upcoming town election. They are E.L. Smith for mayor, W.T. Holmes, clerk and recorder, E.V. Gibbons, treasurer and L.A. Drum, A.N. Erwin and George Hansen for trustees. The clerk notes there are 224 people registered to vote this time.

1911: Street Commissioner Estes made a new railroad crossing at the west end of town since the cars were constantly blocking the street when they were using the new water tank.

1916: T.P. Steele has purchased a lot and a half from Mrs. Gallante two doors south of the Baptist Church and will put up a house on the property.

1921: The state plumbing inspector was here Wednesday and investigated the need for a sewer system for town. He stated he would report to the state health department the immediate necessity of such a system.

1926: There is a new summer resort growing in Wahatoya Canon on land leased from Mr. Young. Walsenburg people plan to build 18 cottages and stock the creek with fish.

1931: Mrs. Mary Katherine Martin, nee Shearer, is celebrating her 95th birthday at the home of her son Luther where she has lived for 21 years. Five of her children, Meredith, Mrs. Zeb Moore, Tom and Sumpter also survive, as well as her nephew J.S. Shearer. She and her husband came to La Veta 48 years ago and settled on the old Walsen place on the Abeyta.

1936: Three shiny new 1936 Fords have been purchased by members of the Goemmer family.

1941: Huerfano County has been cut off from participating in state relief allocations for the failure of the county commissioners to obey regulations of the state welfare board.

1946: A vote among the students for the "best" attending resulted in Billy Max Frost being named smallest and Jack Coleman, tallest, Don Wagner noisiest and Jewel Parker smartest.

1951: The fifth and sixth grade operetta "Tom Sawyer" was a pleasing attraction. Jimmy Geiser played the title role and Lowell Goemmer was Huck Finn.

1956: Some people not only keep you from being lonely - they make you wish you were.

1961: The Cuchara ski course was closed last weekend because of the heavy drifts on the roads but will resume operations this weekend.

1966: Cheerleaders DeEtta Brgoch, Linda Nauwerth, Judy Bauer and Christine Aguirre won the cheering trophy for the second year in a row at Adams State College.

1971: Included on the honor roll this term from the eighth grade are Bill Duzenack, Geneva Smith, Mike Gray, Dan Baldwin, Helen Schmidt, Nancie Aguirre, Debbie Houchin and Jane Sanchez. From the seventh grade are Paul Neldner, Derek Bailey, Crystal Leap, Malcolm Riggins and Tammy Smith.

1976: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Vail of La Veta announce the engagement of their daughter, Juanita, to John Gary Bailey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Bailey. Both of the young people are graduates of La Veta High School.

1981: Almost 30 members and guests attended the March 11 meeting of the Cuchara Valley Chamber of Commerce held in the Covered Wagon Steak House. The organization now has 22 paid members from La Veta and Cuchara.

1986: Representing La Veta School in the county spelling bee will be Alleghany Meadows, Eva Rutgers and Kevin Pockmark for the eighth grade; Amy Steen, Amy Meketi and Mark Morey, seventh grade; and Jason Willcox, Keri Kence and Curtis Rohr, sixth grade.

1991: Following the resignation of Linda Dykes as of March 22 after serving as Town Clerk the past eight years, Gail Elliott, 36, was appointed to succeed her. Elliott, who has a daughter Leslie in school here and has lived in town three and a half years, is a former business office manager of the Huerfano County Medical Center. There were eight applicants for the position.

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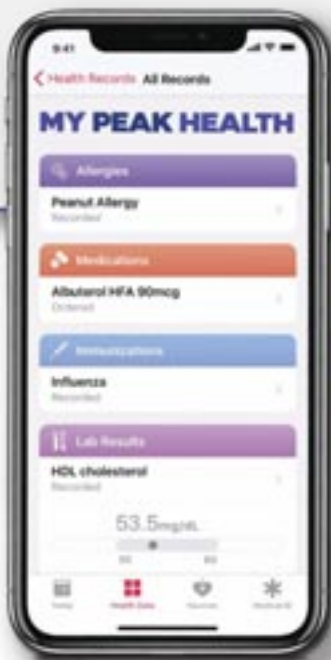
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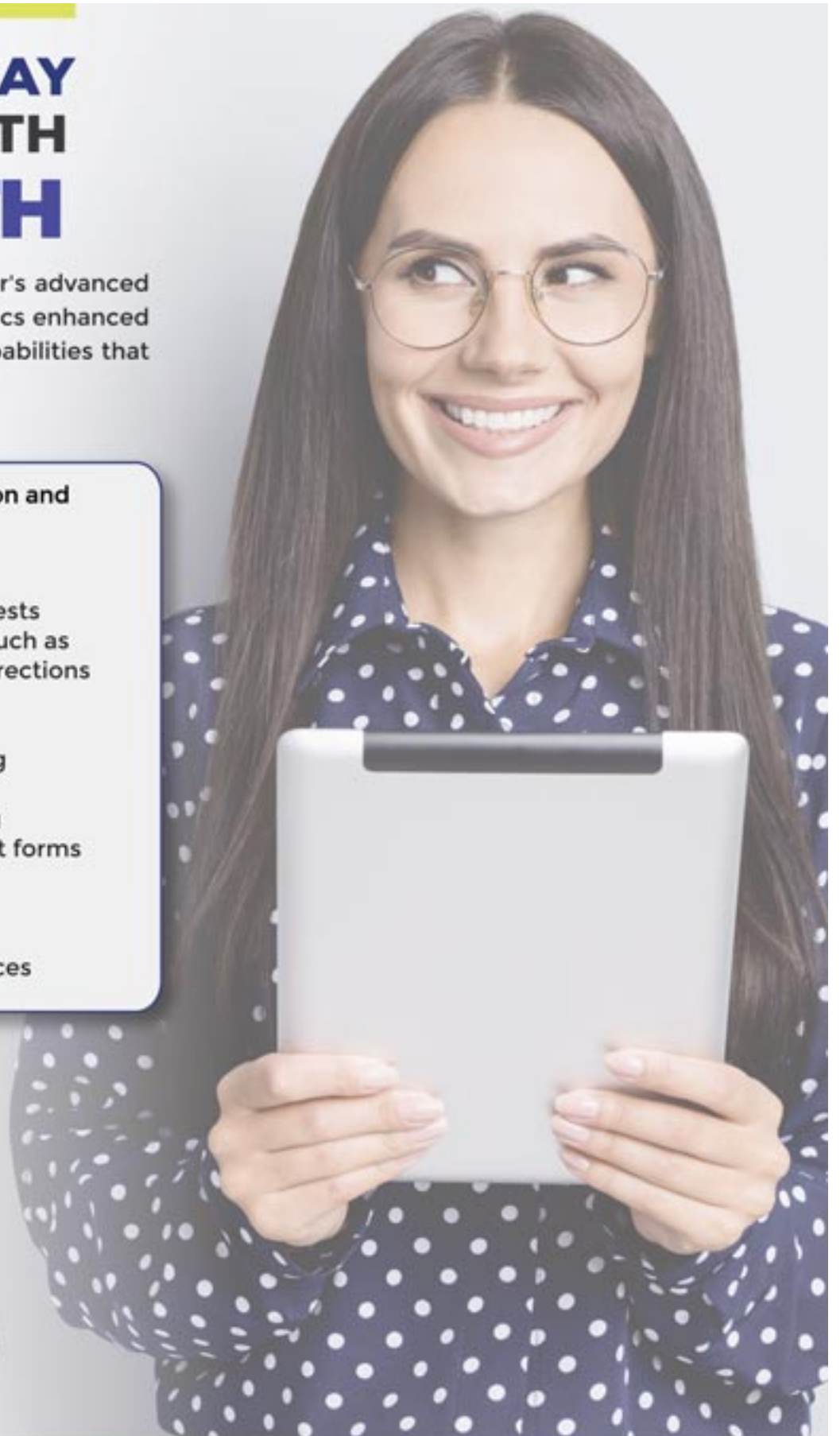
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SPORTS



Jacob Mattorano stretches it out to make the catch well ahead of the base runner early in the second game of the double header with Portales at Gabrielle Field Monday afternoon. See story below. Photo by Marty Mayfield.

RATON BASEBALL CRUISES TO WIN OVER TUCUMCARI

by Billy Donati
KRTN Multi-Media
RATON —The Raton Tiger baseball team was looking sharp for the second game of the season as the offense hit and the pitching combined for a shutout win, 17-0 in five innings over Tucumcari.

The game originally was set for Friday, but two inches of snow postponed the game to Saturday. The Tiger team worked hard to clear the field and get it in shape, but even with the effort, ground rules before the game specified what to do if a ball got stuck in a snow-bank. But the weather on Saturday was kind, as the game was played in the late winter sun and temps in the upper 50s.

The Tigers batted through the order in both the first and second innings, staking the home team to a

15-0 lead. Five different Raton pitchers each had two strikeouts in their inning of work, including starter **Chance Middlebrook** along with **GB Oliver**, **Matt Quartieri**, **Dylan Quartieri** and **Trea Ortega**.

Tucumcari pitching walked six Raton batters, including Matt Quartieri three times, and hit two Raton batters with pitches. The defense committed several errors that Raton baserunners took advantage of, to even up their season at 1-1.

Next up for Raton, Portales will come to Gabriele Field for a varsity doubleheader on Monday, March 14.

The following weekend, Raton will be competing at the St. Mike's Tournament on March 17 through 19.



Chance Middlebrook adds another run on the scoreboard as he slides home Saturday afternoon at Gabriele Field in Raton. Photo by Marty Mayfield.

LADY TIGERS TAKE SECOND INNING LEAD AND HOLD ON FOR WIN



Lady Rattler Harley McKinney makes third base as Kira Medina makes the catch and starts her turn for the tag Saturday afternoon at Jim Wade Field in Raton. Photo by Marty Mayfield

by Martyt Mayfield
KRTN Multi-Media
RATON —The Lady Tigers hosted the Tucumcari Lady Rattlers for Raton's season opener after the first scheduled game with McCurdy on March 4th was cancelled.

The Lady Tigers started the game with young and inexperienced girls at key positions with lefty sophomore **Samantha Phillips** at pitcher and eighth grader **Addison Medina** at catcher. The team is waiting on older

players to get enough practice in to play, as basketball was late and some girls went on to an FCCLA function.

Tucumcari took the lead 4-0 in the first as the girls struggled on defense and then went five and out

with one run to finish off the inning.

Raton managed to hold Tucumcari scoreless until the fourth inning, while rounding seven players in the second for an 8-4 lead.

In the fourth Tucumcari had three players round the bases, making it a 8-7 ball game.

The sixth inning was a barn burner as both teams racked up the points.

Tucumcari loaded the bases on balls and brought two players on in for scores with bases on balls. By the end of the top of the inning, Tucumcari led 12-8.

Yet another Raton seven run rally took the lead back and gave Raton an 15-12 lead.

Tucumcari added one more run to the scoreboard as the Raton defense stiffened and held on to a 15-13 lead to end the game.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	F
Tucum.	4	0	0	3	0	5	1	13
Raton	1	7	0	0	0	7	0	15



Brianna Martinez reaches for the ball as Kylee Carmichael slides for second during the exciting game at Jim Wade Field Saturday afternoon. Photo by Marty Mayfield

RATON TIGERS SPLIT HOME DOUBLE HEADER WITH PORTALES

by Billy Donati
KRTN Multi-Media
RATON —The Raton Tiger baseball team was at home for a double header against the Portales Rams on Monday, March 14 and split the pair taking the first game 13-9 and dropping the nightcap 15-3.

Raton took the lead in the first game with two in the first and three in the second. Portales came to within one run if Raton, getting a run across in the top of the fifth to trail 5-4.

Then the Raton floodgates opened as the Tigers scored six in the bottom of the fifth, before the first out was recorded. The team would go on to score a total of eight. Portales tried to

make a game of it by scoring five in the seventh, but Raton's lead was insurmountable.

With the split, Raton's season record is 2-2.

The Tigers compete in the Santa Fe St. Mike's Tournament this weekend beginning on Thursday, March 17 by taking on Bernalillo.

Game 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R
Portales	0	0	2	1	1	0	5	9
Raton	2	3	0	0	8	0	-	13

Game 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R
Portales	4	0	0	4	7	-	-	15

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JONATHAN ANDREATTA – NATIONAL CHAMPION



by David Tesitor
ST LOUIS, MO —Former John Mall High School wrestling standout, **Jonathan Andreatta**, a three time state champion, has reached another pinnacle of success by adding another national champion to his resume when he completed a successful tournament in St. Louis MO this past weekend.

He defeated four competitors to become the 2022 NCAA- Division II champion. Three of his matches were won by decision. The first win came in the

opening round against Breyden Bailey (Indianapolis) in a 7-6 decision. The quarterfinal pitted the Walsenburg native against Reece Barnhardt (Mary) in a 7-3 decision, sending him to the semifinals where he faced Corey Gamet (Lake Erie), who record was 22-3 and was the number two seed in the tournament and a national All-American. Andreatta won in a 7-5 decision which went to the final seconds of the third period.

Wrestling for the National Championship, Andreatta pinned the 4-time All

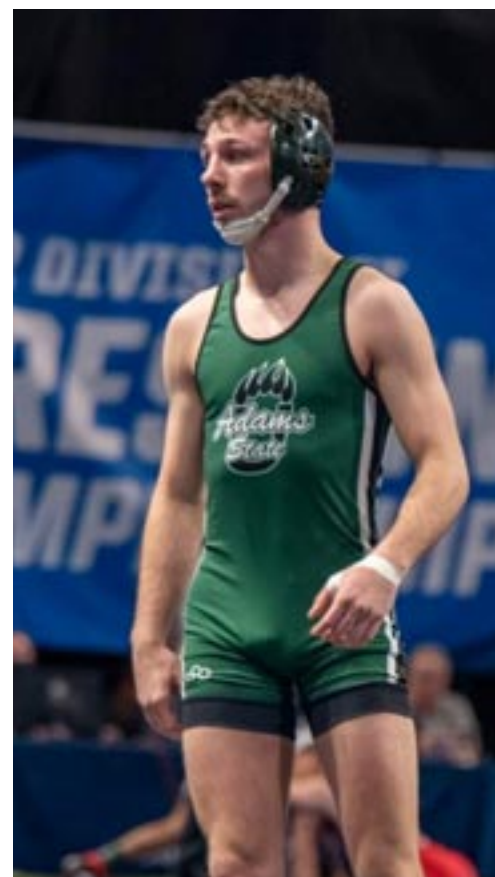
American and number seven tournament seed, Garrett Vos (St. Cloud State) 25-3 in 2:25 minutes. In 2021, Voss finished second at the national tournament and was looking to cap off his career with a National Championship.

From the onset of the match, both wrestlers wrestled a defensive match. After the first period, the pair remained scoreless.

Entering into the second, Andreatta opened with a quick onslot to take Vos down then executed a move called the suicide cradle, which was a risky move. The move is rare in a match of this level of competition. Andreatta scored the pin 35 seconds into the second period.

Andreatta is a four year senior at Adams State University and has one more year of college eligibility. His plans are undecided, but his goal is to coach college wrestling.

Two of Andreatta's teammates were also crowned National Champions. They were Noah Hermsillo and Josiah Rider. With only those three competing, Adams State placed fifth in the nation with 67 points, only 21 points from placing second. The Adams state team had a chance to place in the top four, but teams in the higher weights won the matches to help them stay slightly ahead of ASU.



2022 ALL DISTRICT IA BASKETBALL HONORS

by Lillian Eva Lieske
OUR WORLD —District 5 1A just announced their All District Honors this week.

Congratulations to the student athlete's named to the list.

Starting with the Springer Red Devils and Lady Red Devils, seniors **Jeremiah Apodoca**, **Wade Burton**, **Elijah Garcia** and **Kirsten Gurule**, and junior **Valeria Balderama**, were named to the All District Team, with 8th grader **Brenna Duran** given an honorable mention.

For the Maxwell Bears boys varsity, junior **Tristan Pierce** was named, and Junior **Orren Floyd** got the honorable mention.

The Lady Bears are coming off just

making their very first appearance in school history to the state championships a few weeks ago. The Lady Bears advanced, beating Magdalena but fell to Ft. Sumner/ House. Seniors **Audriana Apodoca**, **Alexis Hoy** and **Shiann Weisdorfer** were named to the All District team. Senior **Destiny Gallegos** and junior **D'Laney Petrini** took honorable mentions for the Lady Bears.

For the Cimarron Rams varsity, honors went to freshmen **John Grasswick**, and senior **Lee Kenneke**. Junior **Cameron O'Neil** got the honorable mention.

Congratulations to these student athletes on this honor.

See team photos below.

MAXWELL SENIOR RECEIVES THE MARIO MARTINEZ ATHLETIC ASSN. SCHOLARSHIP

Audriana Apodoca of Maxwell High School, the NMAA Foundation's Mario Martinez Memorial NMAA Extraordinary Participation Scholarship. *Courtesy photo.*



Springer Red Devils. *Courtesy photo .*



Maxwell Bears. *Courtesy photo .*



Cimarron Rams. *Courtesy photo .*



Springer Lady Red Devils. *Courtesy photo .*



Maxwell Lady Bears. *Courtesy photo.*



Cimarron Lady Rams. *Courtesy photo .*

Las Animas and Colfax Counties

County Chair Lopez comments on state abortion-rights bill

by Bill Knowles
TRINIDAD — During the regular county commission meeting last Tuesday, the commission chairman Felix Lopez commented on House Bill 1279 which had steadily advanced through the Capitol despite fierce Republican opposition. After 24 continuous hours of debate on the House floor late last week, it passed Monday by a 40-24 vote.

The Senate could start considering the bill as soon as this week.

Commissioner Lopez said he hopes Governor Polis will veto the bill when it reaches his desk, even though the governor has already said he will sign it into law, according to a report filed by the *Colorado Sun*.

The bill affirms the individual's fundamental right to determine if they will or will not use contraception and if the individual becomes pregnant that individual has the right to either abort the pregnancy or continue the pregnancy and give birth.

Colorado House Bill 1279 is in response to challenges to Roe v. Wade, a 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision codifying the right to access abortion without excessive government restrictions.

Currently the court has a majority of conservative justices who could overturn the precedent in the coming months in a ruling in a Mississippi case.

If overturned, access to abortions in Colorado would not immediately change. The concern among abortion rights advocates is that conservative counties and municipalities might enact local bans that wouldn't be challengeable in court without the protections in Roe v. Wade.

So far 19 states have enacted 106 abortion restrictions to include 12 abortion bans. The most controversial is the Texas ban on abortion with the Texas Supreme Court upholding Senate Bill 8. The bill places a near total ban on abortion and it also deputizes private citizens to sue anyone who helps a person access the procedure.

House Majority Leader Daneya Esgar, D-Pueblo, told the *Colorado Sun* that she sees the bill as an effort to prevent a future where Roe v. Wade is overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court and municipalities are empowered to create their own ideas of what the right to choose looks like, which could result in a patchwork of access across the state.

Many Republicans feel that the legislation expands the right to abortion by taking the body of law and imposing it on every public entity in every way possible.

The legislation can't stop Republicans from trying to restrict abortion access in Colorado through either the

legislature or a statutory change through a ballot measure. And Democrats and abortion rights advocates would have to alter the state's constitution through the ballot, which is slow and expensive.

Commissioner Lopez, with obvious frustration during his report, said that a fetus or an embryo has no voice in Colorado.

ACTIONS TAKEN

The county commission voted 2-0, with Commissioner Tony Hass absent from this part of the meeting, to accept a bid of \$137,475, or 94-cents a gallon from GMCO to spray county roads 20.8, 24.6, 40.0, 42.0, 67.7, 69.8, and 67.4 with magnesium chloride to suppress dust.

In their bid, GMCO stated that if fuel costs rose above \$4.65 per gallon that they will add a surcharge. This is a pattern that county administrator Phil Dorenkamp expects to see as fuel prices become more volatile in the international market.

The commission also voted 2-0 to table a consideration of a memorandum of understanding with Mt. San

Rafael Hospital. The MOU deals with the way the hospital delivers services to the indigent and how the program is administered.

The commissioners tabled the discussion for two reasons: The subject was a discussion item in a scheduled executive session following the regular meeting. Commissioner Tony Hass wasn't present and wouldn't be able to take part in any consideration of the MOU.

The program deals mainly with types of mental health medications given to indigent patients more than a rehabilitative program.

Calvin Carrie, a spokesperson for Mt. San Rafael, told the commission that some of the information would be protected by HIPAA, such as mental health rehabilitation programs. He also noted that a 990-tax form for 501(c) tax exempt organizations would show how funds were spent.

The commission voted 2-0 to suspend the regular meeting, in order to meet as the board of directors for the department of human services at 10:17 a.m.

Colfax County Commission opposes executive order to conserve 30% of U.S. land and water by 2030

by Sharon Niederman
COLFAX — At the March 14, 2022 meeting of the Colfax County Commission, commissioners unanimously passed an ordinance stating its opposition to the "30 x 30" presidential executive order issued Jan. 27, 2021 calling for 30% of U.S. land and water to be "conserved" by 2030. Titled "Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad," this executive order has generated not only controversy but opposition from private land owners, notably ranchers, oil and gas concerns, and others who make their living on the land.

Supporting and echoing this federal order, on Aug. 25, 2021, the governor of New Mexico, Michelle Lujan Grisham, issued an executive order titled "Protecting New Mexico Lands, Watersheds, Wildlife and Natural Heritage" with the goal of having "at least 30% of all lands in New Mexico conserved by 2030, with an additional 20% designated as climate stabilization areas."

OBJECTIONS TO 30 X 30

The County Commission objects to the governor's order because it does not spell out how it would be carried out or applied. In addition, and of special concern to Colfax County, is the question of how the millions of acres of surface and subsurface land now managed by New Mexico's State Land Office would be affected. Currently, and historically, revenue generated by the state's public lands is essential to finance educational institutions, county, state and municipal governments, infrastructure, and health facilities including Miners Colfax Medical Center.

BUT THE BENEFICIARIES

Forty-seven percent of New Mexico's land is already designated as public lands, and the beneficiaries dependent on the revenue from that land were designated in the original constitution, written before statehood in 1912. In fact, those designations were one of the qualifications necessary to attain statehood, as Congress required assurance New Mexico Territory could support itself as a state and contribute to the country, as, aside from mining and railroads, it lacked an industrial base.

The county commission's resolution goes on to state willing landowners ought to be receive "full and fair market value" for any private land acquired for the plan.

The commission also states that it "supports reasonable national, regional, and global greenhouse gas emissions policies and goals that are comprehensive, practical, cost effective and do not unnecessarily single out specific industries or activities by opposing the use of global climate change as an excuse to set aside large tracts of land as preserves or open space to fulfill the 30 x 30 program's activities."

In other business, the commission heard an optimistic report from Monte Gore, warden of the Vigil-Maldonado Justice Center that the center is on a path toward accreditation.

The commission also voted to move its meetings from Monday to the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, starting in April.

Following the resignation of county manager Mary Lou Kern, county commission chairman Roy Fernandez will serve as interim county manager until a new manager is found.

El Raton Media Works receives \$1.1M

by Sharon Niederman
RATON — Thanks to \$1.1 million in legislative capital outlay money, the repurposing of Raton's WPA-era Kearney School will soon be underway. In addition to the preservation of another of Raton's historic buildings, Kearney School will house El Raton Media Works/El Raton Studios, a combination production studio and school teaching film trades.

City manager Scott Berry said, "The City of Raton is very optimistic about the development of the Kearney project. It has been proposed to provide commercially available studio space eligible for NM film tax credits, as well as provide training opportunities to residents looking for employment in the industry."

"The funds may be utilized for building restoration and equipment related to these goals," said Berry. "We will continue to request additional funding for the project, but the first phase will start in 2022 when funding related to the capital outlay process is

available to the city.

"New Mexico typically schedules a sale of state bonds financed with severance distributions (STB) prior to the funds becoming available to us. The bond sale can occur several times during the year," Berry said.

FILM BUG BITES

El Raton Media Works principal Ann Theis said, "Our team is working with two high school students in Raton who have entered into the first annual Film Prize Jr New Mexico contest. They have both submitted scripts and are currently shooting and editing their films; one is a short narrative about a young man and his potential, and the other is a short documentary about the history of the Shuler Theatre. The films need to be completed by April 6th, and if completed (which we are sure they will be) will be screened in Santa Fe the weekend of April 22nd. We are planning a hometown screening as well, but the details of that have not yet been determined."



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Trinidad City Council commits \$3 million in reserve funds

Capital funding to include streets and a covered swimming pool

by Bill Knowles
TRINIDAD — The Trinidad city council, with a 7-0 vote, increased the amount of revenue from the general fund reserves from \$2 million to \$3 million to meet the community's needs and wants. The nine projects that will be impacted by the increase will total \$9.8 million under current estimates. The \$3 million will go towards the projects.

The transfer of the funds into the capital funds projects and will increase funding for the streets project along with \$1 million being added for the Trinidad Fire Department.

Funds will be committed to river walk improvements, exit 14 improvements at Colorado and Commercial Street, a covered swimming pool, improvements at First, Chestnut, and Maple streets, economic development land acquisition, uncompensated absences, the Eaglerock subdivision, and fleet purchases for the fire department. The city has to commit the funds

that have accumulated in the reserve funds along with general fund revenues that have exceeded what was required to meet the annual expenditures of the city in 2021 and past years.

The city council passed the second reading of an ordinance that will authorize the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act funds, with a 7-0 vote. These federal funds are related to the COVID-19 pandemic and require no matching funds from the city.

ARPA funding for the City of Trinidad amounts to just over \$2 million, and the city has so far received just over \$1 million of the total. They have been waiting on the rules needed to determine how the funds will be used.

The rules support the payment of premium pay to its essential workers who had to report to work to maintain the ongoing operation of vital facilities and services to the residents of the City of Trinidad. The funds will be disbursed to city employees who were working in 2020 and 2021 during the

initial surges of the pandemic.

BREAKER, BREAKER

After hearing about the condition of the city's electrical system during a city council retreat in July of 2021, the city began work in October 2021 on the 4160 breaker and controls and synchronization project, putting out a bid to include the procurement and installation of the breakers, with the final synchronization to be done after installation.

Three bids were submitted, and the council voted 7-0 to award the bid for the 15kV vacuum circuit breaker project to Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc., in the amount of \$108,750, based on the recommendation of Cross Canyon Engineering.

The original amount budgeted for the project was \$331,000, but due to a sustained breaker failure, the cost grew by another \$288,605 to a total of \$540,000.

The funds for the breaker project will be allocated from the marijuana cultivation funds collected by the city.

IN OTHER "BID"NESS

The city council also authorized the expenditure of \$267,800 for the purchase of a 2022 model year Komatsu WA 320-8 loader for the land fill. The funds are coming from marijuana sales tax. The authorization passed with a 7-0 vote of the council.

The other two bids received by the city came from Titan Machinery bidding \$286,798.29 for a Case 721G Loader and 4 Rivers Equipment with a bid of \$291,500 for a John Deere 624 P Loader.

The loader will be used by the landfill to place the required daily cover of soil, mulch, and tire shreds over the accumulated debris and to pick up wind-blown trash throughout the landfill. An issue that the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment cited the city for last year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



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Colfax primary candidates declare

by Sharon Niederman

COLFAX — Candidates for the June 7, 2022 primary election declared their intention to run, meeting the March 8 deadline, known formally as the NM Declaration of Candidacy Day.

Of note, County Commissioner Bobby Ledoux (D) is running for another term to keep his District 2 seat; former county manager Mary Lou Kern (R) is running for county commission, District 2; and Colfax

County Sheriff Leonard M. Baca is unopposed for the position he currently occupies.

The candidates are as follows:

- State Representative District 40, Jerald Steve McFall (R).

- Magistrate Judge Division 1: Amy A. Hronich, (R); Henry E. Trujillo (R)

- Magistrate Judge Division 2: Leonard R. Arias (D); Felix Pena (D)

- County Commission Dist. 1: Kerry D. Medina (D); Patrick R. Berry (D); Si S. Trujillo (R)

- County Commission Dist. 2: Bobby Ledoux (D) (incumbent); Mary Lou Kern (R); Jared C. Chatterly (R)

- Colfax County Sheriff (unopposed): Leonard M. Baca, Jr (D)

- Colfax County Assessor: Kristi E. Graham (D); Suzanne Marie Valdez (D)

- Probate Judge: Royal A. Quint (R)



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NEW BUSINESS

Marriage and Family Treatment at the Champions Center



Trinidad native Diane Buscarello sits in her cozy office on the second floor of the restored Champions Center, 127 N. Commercial St. in Trinidad. Photo by Helena Cappon

by Helena Cappon
TRINIDAD — The Champions Center located at 127 N. Commercial Street has a plethora of businesses operating out of its beautifully renovated commercial units. One in particular is The Marriage and Family Treatment Center located on the second floor, and owned and operated by Diane Buscarello, MA and licensed professional counselor.

Buscarello is one of the more recent businesses to open in the Champions Center, but has owned her practice for over 30 years. During the COVID-19 pandemic and the years before, Buscarello also worked in the ER as a mental health evaluator. Coming from Colorado Springs and still maintaining a practice there, Buscarello actually grew up in Trinidad, and is now happy to be back with her experience and service, ready to provide more counseling options to the Trinidad community.

With The Marriage and Family Treatment Center, Buscarello's primary focuses include all types of couples counseling, as well as work with divorced couples, and children.

Buscarello explains that she is available to work with any type of couple in any stage of their relationship. Through her work with divorced folks, Buscarello offers assistance in parenting conflicts, responsibility, and planning.

She specializes in PTSD and trauma work, and uses various types of treatment, including but not limited to eye movement desensitization and reprocessing.

Buscarello also has the ability to offer psychiatric referrals to those who need further assistance.

She additionally has a variety of options for clients to meet with her, and can work on all comfort and availability levels through Telehealth, a secure platform offering conferencing with health professionals through remote digital devices such as a computer or cell phone.

The Marriage and Family Treatment Center is part of the larger renaissance Trinidad is seeing by way of becoming another resource and option for the Trinidad community to receive healthcare services essential for personal growth and thriving.

For more information on The Marriage and Family Treatment Center, call Diane Buscarello at (719) 661-3619. Buscarello offers a variety of options to her clients, and takes insurance, Medicaid, private pay, and Cigna EAP. There are currently openings for counseling.

To have your business featured in the World Journal, contact Debi at 719-738-1415 or 729-989-1501, or email her at debi.worldjournal@gmail.com

Cast and crew gear up for stage performances of Bugsey Malone Jr.



Members of the cast of Bugsey Malone Jr. rehearsed choreography this last weekend with Beki Larid at the Shuler. Photo by Lillian Eva Lieske

by Lillian Eva Lieske
RATON — Lights, Camera, Action! Rehearsals are underway for the upcoming performance of the play Bugsey Malone Jr. at the Shuler Theater

in Raton. This is community theater at its finest, and is open to all who audition, including area students.

Since many of the school districts in Colfax

County don't offer drama or arts programs, auditioning for the play is a fun and exciting opportunity for the youth of northern New Mexico.

Actors have been chosen for over 30 parts, and now the fun starts with rehearsals and costume making. Choreography, directed by Beki Larid, was also rehearsed, to get the cast prepared for performance, and let them know what they need to practice.

Music rehearsals have begun as well, so rest assured, the performance is well on the way to being a good one. Stay tuned to the *World Journal* for more rehearsal photos and update on performance times.

ADVERTORIAL

Wilklow and Associates goes the extra mile for clients



(Left to Right) Nancy Palmer, Meghan Looye, Josh Hoffpauir, and Susan Wilklow stand at the entrance of their offices on the second floor of the Champions Center. Photo by Helena Cappon.

by Helena Cappon
TRINIDAD — Susan Wilklow, owner and operator of Wilklow and Associates started up her Trinidad branch in 2012, but has recently moved into the newly renovated Champions Center building on North Commercial Street. Like other tenants, Wilklow and her team are excited to take up shop in such a historic and beautiful space, and enjoy working with their clients both online, and in the beautiful offices they keep, decorated with original crown molding, large windows and original accents.

After experiencing a fire in their previous building, Wilklow and Associates was grateful to receive a call from the Downtown Trinidad Development Company, which restored and manage the Champions Center, offering to help any way they could. Wilklow took them up on the offer, touched to have folks care that they stay in the area, and has been calling the Champions Center home for a little over a year.

For those unfamiliar, Wilklow and Associates offers tax and accounting services from personal, to business, to non-profit organizations. Susan Wilklow started the company in 2003 in Colorado Springs, and has worked to offer not only tax and accounting services, but education as well, so that Wilklow and Associates' clients may understand their returns, how to grow their businesses, and much more. Wilklow explained that

this holistic approach to help folks achieve their goals and aspirations is essential to her team. As Wilklow puts it, "our niche is not being transactional, meaning we don't just process, but we educate." She continued, explaining that for some folks, transactional is all they need, but Wilklow and her team are willing to go that extra step for those interested in learning more.

Due to the ever-growing availability that technology offers, Wilklow and Associates has clients in Trinidad, Colorado Springs, and places in between. Wilklow explained that, especially since the pandemic, she and her team have been able to meet clients where they are, whether that be more comfortable on paper, electronic, in person, or over the internet.

Despite having all these options, Wilklow also ensures that there is always someone there to answer the phone. Considering that Wilklow operates from Trinidad to Colorado Springs, Nancy Palmer handles the majority of operations at the Trinidad location, even though Wilklow works to be in the area at least once a week during tax season.

For those interested in the services offered by Wilklow and Associates, one may contact them at 719-846-3365, or go to their website wilklowassociates.com.

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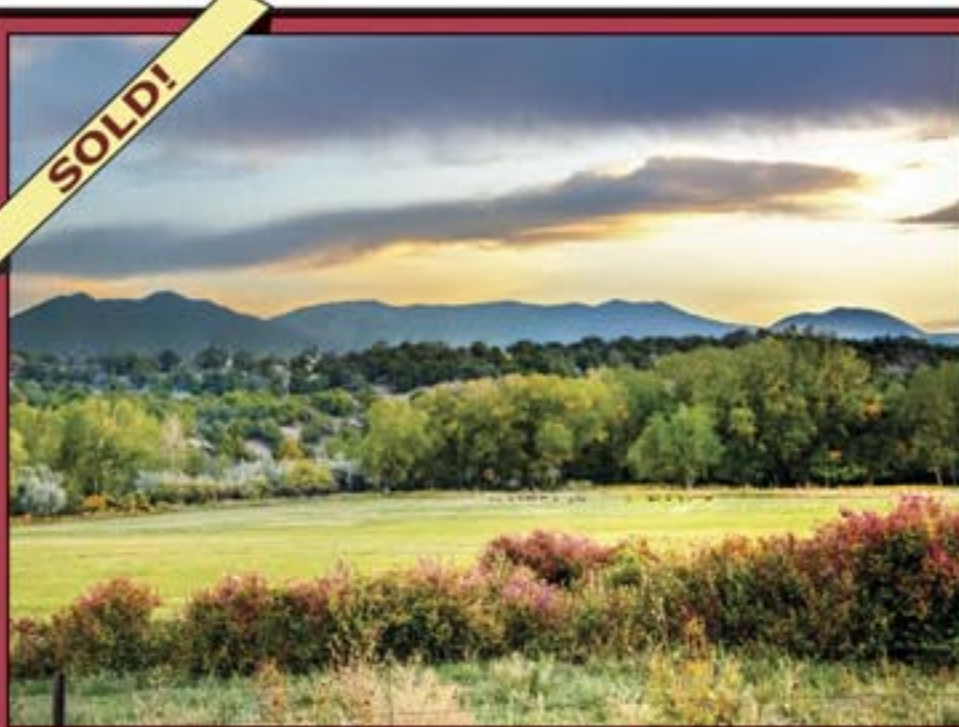
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