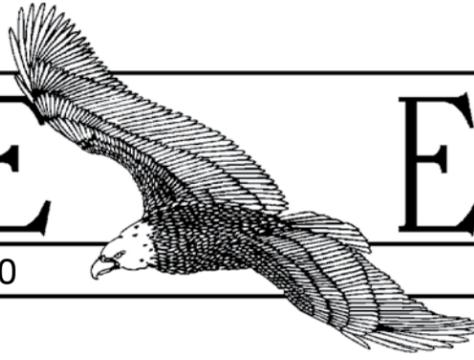


The CRESTONE EAGLE



Crestone, Colorado Volume 28, Number 10

October, 2017 \$1

28 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

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The fall roundup is dusty business. To this cowboy, doing it the traditional way on horseback is worth getting a little grit in the teeth. photo by Wendy Shattil/Bob Rozinski
To see this photo in color and more, visit our website at www.crestoneeagle.com

‘12 Hours of Penitence’ happening Oct. 14 Mountain bike endurance race in Penitente Canyon benefits SLV teens

Eric and Raleigh Burt of Kristi Mountain Sports announced that the 3rd year of the endurance race, “12 Hours of Penitence” (12 HOP), will take place the morning of October 14 in the beautiful Penitente Canyon in the San Luis Valley.

The race will have a LeMans start of solo, duo and three person teams in the 16.8-mile loop. Half of the \$100-per-racer registration fee will go to the local NICA (The National Interscholastic Cycling Association) high school mountain bike

team, the San Luis Valley Rattlers.

Penitente Canyon is a blast! On BLM land, it is a combination of wide-open meadow singletrack paths through vertical walled canyons, and challenging climbs and descents. This year there will be more great prizes such as Three Barrel’s prizes for anyone able to ride the short hike-a-bike section of the course, and they are making a special beer for the race called “12 HOP”.

The race has expanded from

previous years with food, beer sponsor/vendors, a stage and live music. Friends and families of cyclists are encouraged to bring shade tents and lawn chairs, enjoy the festivities and cheer on the mountain bikers.

“The 12 HOP is a vital event for the San Luis Valley. It can showcase our beautiful region and the incredible access for mountain bikers. As a grassroots organized event, this collaboration between public agents like the Alamosa

continued on page 11



An old log cabin in the “ghost town” of Liberty. See our feature history story on page B-1 photo by Brisa Storey

23,000 marijuana plants seized in big Bonanza bust

by Mary Lowers

On September 14 at two in the afternoon Saguache County Sheriff Office (SCSO) and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) along with members of the Colorado Drug Task Force conducted a raid on a suspected illegal marijuana growing operation five miles up County Road LL56 on the way to Bonanza. According to Deputy Wayne Clark, 23,043 mature marijuana plants growing outdoors were seized. The press at the scene watched in amazement as some fifteen long-

bed pickup trucks came down the steep driveway loaded with pot. The marijuana was loaded into a huge Saguache County Road and Bridge dump truck and was burned according to regulations at an undisclosed location.

Six men were arrested at the grow. The six include: Lik Chan, 24, and Lee Anton, 30, whose identification says they are residents of Quincy, MA; Mi Chen, 50, a resident of Thirteen, OH; Dallas TX is the home of Ming Deng, 44; Jiang Xui Hiang, 39 and Yat Chan, 50,

claim Villa Grove as their residence. All suspects were taken and booked into the Saguache County Jail on charges related to marijuana. Of the six suspects, one was a US citizen, one a naturalized citizen, two had green cards and two had no papers to be in this county. Neighbors only ever saw two of the six arrested. Deputy Clark told me one suspect tried to escape unsuccessfully. Clark said, “Running does not work at 8000 feet.” As we go to press four of the six suspects have

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The Crestone Eagle

Publisher & Editor: Kizzen N. Laki

Copy Editor: Janet G. Woodman

Advertising: Shoshannah Asha

Production: Carrie Caverly, Helena Wright

Photo Editor: Diane Bairstow

Contributing Writers:

David Nicholas	Matie Belle Lakish
Ammi Kohn	Kim Malville
Larry Calloway	Gussie Faunteroy
Ed Lyell	Earl W. Sutherland
Keno Menechino	Sandia Belgrade
Lisa Cyriacks	Paul Shippee
Lori Nagel	Dorje Root
Mary Lowers	John Rowe

All photos by Kizzen Laki, Janet Woodman or Eagle staff unless otherwise noted.

Contributing Photographers:

Lori A. Nagel, Matthew Crowley, Kate Steichen
Bill Ellzey, Wendi Shattil/Bob Rozinski

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Deadline for copy: 18th of the month.

Letters to the Editor must be 300 words or less.

We reserve the right to edit, or reject advertising, letters or articles. Letters may be sent to parties mentioned or referenced for response. All rights reserved.



Love letter

Dear Crestone Community,

I am so sorry that I left Crestone for Arizona without saying good bye. I would have cried.

Crestone will always be my "home town." I am missing all the hugs at the PO and grocery stores and restaurants. And the special and interesting people. Thank you all for the support during my (and Ken's) time at the Desert Sage and at His and Hers Hairstyle. It all started out in 1992.

To keep in touch I am adding my address so if you are ever in Green Valley or feel like dropping me a note sometime it would please me.

I want to thank all of you who helped me pack up and sell and store "stuff", I truly could not have done it without you. Big Tom, you got me organized when I was too tired to think.

With Love,

Lynda Kucin

(968 W. Camino Asturias,
Green Valley, AZ 85622. I will keep my cell # in the NHN phone book.)

Joyful thanks

Dear Editor,

Special thanks to the awesome folks at Joyful Journey Hot Springs! I somehow lost my wallet there last weekend and it just showed up at my doorstep with all of my money and everything! Thanks guys and gals! You are the best!

Sincerely,

Ron Bowman

Celebrating & supporting the library

Dear Neighbors,

We discovered Crestone's hidden treasure 17 years ago when we were welcomed into the Baca Grande library by Suzanne McGregor and Barry Monroe. Little did we know, that behind the library's unprepossessing exterior we would discover a wealth of resources: fiction, non-fiction, best-sellers, children's literature, Cre-

stone-specific books, computers, books on tape, and a superb DVD collection that would be the envy of any library we have ever visited. The best treasure contained in the library, however, is its wonderful staff. Suzanne, Barry and Sandia always greet everyone with a smile, are never too busy to answer/or research a question, solve a computer issue, or recommend a book or film that they think you might enjoy. Suzanne is truly exceptional; she manages to create "loaves and fishes" library feasts out of her very limited acquisitions budget.

If you haven't visited the library, please make it a point to do so, and consider becoming a "Friend of the Library". This group is dedicated to supporting our library and raising funds to create a library building that is worthy of the resources that it brings to our community. Our next meeting will be held at 1:30pm on October 6 at the Old Schoolhouse in downtown Crestone. Please join us and become a sustaining member of the library family. If you're already a member and want to renew, or if you want to give a gift membership in honor or remembrance of someone special, please contact the staff at the library. Annual memberships are only \$12 and funds go directly to support the cultural heart of Crestone.

In the meantime, our library is being refurbished, and you can help. Thanks to a grant application submitted by Library District Director Sarah Koehn Frey, we are getting a brand new circulation desk (courtesy of the carpentry crew at Fremont County Corrections). We are also getting new carpeting to be installed in the library foyer and fiction area. We need volunteers to help pack and move books prior to the installation on Monday and Tuesday October 9 and 10. We will reverse the process on October 13 and 14 (Fri. and Sat.) when we will unpack and reshelve the books. Please let the staff know if you can volunteer to be a "mover and shaker" on any of these dates, so that the Friends of the Library can provide sandwich fixings for our community volunteer crew. The library will be closed during its facelift (October 9-14) but will be reopening on Monday, October 16 and proudly displaying its "makeover".

We hope to see you there!

Terry and Trish Cole

Surgery recovery items for loan

To the Editor and our Moffat and Crestone communities:

I have inherited some of the temporary necessities one uses after hip or knee replacement surgery and offer them on loan to anyone in our area who needs them. Call me at 719-256-4989.

A walker, a raised toilet seat, hand rails that attach to the toilet to assist one in standing up, a "reacher" for picking up lightweight items, a stationary bicycle, the device for getting one's socks on, and encouragement, after two wildly successful hip replacement surgeries of my own.

Peggy Godfrey

Indivisible-sponsored climate presentation

To the Editor:

Approximately 50 community members attended the Climate Reality Project presentation sponsored by Indivisible Crestone/Baca Sunday, Sept. 25 at the old Crestone schoolhouse.

Owen Perkins of Denver, the presenter, was among the approximately 1,000 Coloradans that underwent a three-day training course and learned directly from Al Gore about how to translate Gore's film, An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power, into a concrete understanding and individual action within our own state.

Indivisible Crestone/Baca hopes and intends to work with the many regional Indivisible groups as well as with other SLV groups such as SLV Women ACT to host roundtable or townhall-type events with as many 2018 primary candidates for Colorado governor, attorney general, Congressional District 3 and other local/regional offices as possible.

Please contact me if you'd like to be notified of upcoming such special events. And don't forget that our "post card posse" meets regularly on Thursdays at 12:30 at the Desert Sage to write to our elected representatives and you are warmly invited to join them.

Susannah Ortego

Spay & neuter clinic thank you

Dear Editor,

We had another very successful spay neuter clinic in September! Heartfelt thanks to all of our sponsors: The Crestone Mercantile, The Crestone Brewery, The Baca POA, The Rainbow B&B, The Crestone Eagle, Gracies Farmstead, and Ramji's Indian Café.

A huge thank to all of the great volunteers: Lisa Haskins, Melinda Davis, Denise Peine, Mary Lowers, Jane Samson, Pam Gripp, Patti Leake, Jade Montoya Vigil, Seth Buchanan, Jennifer Thomas, Cathrin Joy and Rene Evenson. And last but certainly not least to Lisa Petri and Tiffany Bull with Colorado Animal Welfare League, this would all be impossible without you!

Linda M Behrns, DVM

Editor's Notes Equinox shift

This morning there is a light rain falling and the mountains are covered in heavy clouds that flow down the hillside. When the sun fully rises and the clouds lift we will see brilliant white peaks.

A light frost the other night has the garden looking a bit bedraggled. The tender plants have been harvested. Old blankets and sheets cover the corn which is nearing ripeness. Their blanketed stalks look like Halloween ghosts standing in rows. Plants are ripening their seed, looking to next year. Moving into quiet now.

The town is also quiet this morning as if the misty rain and clouds hanging low say "shusssh". How quickly the summer exuberance shifts when the cool air comes, when wet leaves pattern the streets and wood smoke drifts into the air.

Our contemplative nature returns. I like that.

Not much traffic this morning. Already people and tourists are leaving, and soon, when the snow flies, it will be "just us". Those who hunker down on the side of the mountain.

I put on a fleece vest, lined jacket, fall boots, warmer hat and walk the dogs. Not yet seeing my breath—or theirs.

Tomorrow will be warm and sunny with brilliant blue autumn skies while the grand colors of aspens, cottonwoods and red scrub oak shine. And we'll marvel at the beauty of white peaks. We'll get back to stacking firewood, cleaning chimneys, buttoning up and gleaning the gardens. Maybe waving again as we drive. Eating supper earlier. Harvest soup.

After today we will have shifted. Slower, taking deeper breaths, matching pace with the season. Feeling the sweet grace period between the autumn equinox and the coming winter.

From the top of the Rockies,
—Kizzen

Crestone Eagle to increase paper price to \$3 Renew your subscription now \$ save

Dear Readers & Subscribers,

The Crestone Eagle will be raising its purchase price to \$3 per newspaper starting November 1, 2017. This is still very inexpensive for all you get in this great monthly newspaper/magazine.

"Costs less than a latte and lasts a lot longer!"

All current subscriptions will be honored.

If you renew or subscribe for one year during October we will honor the old prices (only 1-year renewals).

New rates will be \$30 per year for the bulk mail rate and \$45 a year for the first class rate. We appreciate your support of the Eagle and our new prices. It has been over a decade since the price has been raised, while our costs continue to increase.

To subscribe or renew your subscription go to our website www.crestoneeagle.com or see page 24 for subscription information to pay by check via mail.

Thank you!



A shed quickly burns in the Baca Grants. Firefighters prevented the fire from spreading to the home or creating a grass fire. photo by Anna Louise Stewart

Fire in the Baca Grants

by Mary Lowers

On Tuesday evening September 12, firefighters responded to a shed on fire at Camino del Rey and Cottonwood in the Baca Grande. According to Baca Fire Chief Tad Crawford, neighbors called in the fire. The family that owned the property was not at home. The Baca and Crestone Fire Departments responded with the Northern Saguache Fire Protection District on call if needed. Crawford told me, “The crew was on it quickly” and had the fire out. The Chief said, “We are not sure what caused it but a lightning strike is a possibility.” Neighbors who were first on the scene also worked to help stop the fire from spreading.



The Saguache County Sheriff and the DEA joined forces to dismantle an illegal grow operation near the town of Bonanza. Officers loaded pickup truck beds full of nearly mature marijuana plants which they then transferred into a dump truck. photo by Lori Nagel

Pot growing bust

continued from page 1

bonded out of jail and two remain in custody on an immigration hold. The six will be tried in Saguache County. Clark said, “There may be federal charges” in the future.

The bust was the result of two months of investigation by the SCSO, particularly by County Code Enforcement Officer and Saguache County Deputy Wayne Clark, with consultation with Sheriff Dan Warwick, who is very motivated to empower the code enforcer. Neighbors on the road called Saguache County Land Use Administrator Wendi Maez to report large amounts of water being hauled up their driveway daily, and about the skunky aroma in the air. Maez became immediately suspicious that there was an illegal pot growing operation and called County Code Enforcer Deputy Wayne Clark and Sheriff Warwick with the information.

Clark said, “I made several attempts to contact residents of the house.” He hiked up the steep

hillside behind the residence to get photos of the plants. When the evidence to warrant the bust was in place, other agencies were called in for manpower and the operation went down. The warrant was issued based on the evidence collected over two months. The house had been owned for one year by the suspects and Clark did not know if marijuana was grown there last season.

A new District Attorney, Crista Newmyer Olsen, is willing to prosecute illegal marijuana growing operations in the valley. Growing pot is legal, but as Sheriff Warwick said, “play by the rules.” Clark made it clear to me that the County would love for people growing illegally to go into the Land Use Office in Saguache, talk to Wendy Maez and get into compliance with the law. Clark told me, “If people do stuff legally we are ok with that.” Clark indicated that the County is becoming proactive in prosecuting illegal marijuana growing operations. He told me “we are working on another couple” of suspected illegal grows.

Saguache County Crime report

by Mary Lowers

At the end of August the Saguache County Jail was filled to capacity. When there’s no room at the jail, prisoners are placed in other jails in the region. Many of the people booked into the county jail facing fugitive from justice charges are there on charges or convictions from other jurisdictions. The jail is compensated for the cost of housing prisoners for other counties. A Center man, 24, was booked into the jail in September on fugitive from justice charges with no bail listed. A Moffat woman, 30, was apprehended and jailed after an escape from custody. She was incarcerated in Saguache on hold for another law enforcement agency.

An Aurora man, 46, was jailed for driving under the influence (DUI) with a suspended driver’s license. His bail was listed at \$10,000. This arrest and the number of speeding tickets issued to folks with suspended drivers licenses make me wonder why you would speed or drink and drive or do anything else that would cause an exchange with law enforcement in these circumstances. Poor choices and the ability of alcohol to impair judgment are responsible I guess.

Failure to appear charges topped the bookings into the County jail in September. A Center man, 38, was held in jail on failure to appear charges with bail of \$2000 listed. An Alamosa man, 18, was jailed on two failure to appear charges with a \$350 bail listed.

Speeding and other vehicle violations were down substantially in September. Maybe the approach of winter with icy roads and blowing snow ahead are causing folks to be more careful on our roads.

Deputy Clark told me the investigation into Khristal Resinger’s disappearance is continuing and “the case is moving along.”

Pedestrian killed near Capulin

by Mary Lowers

On Friday September 23 shortly before midnight on Colorado Hwy. 15 north of Capulin, a pedestrian was struck and killed. A white Subaru Forester driven by DeShon Martinez, 20, of Capulin was northbound on Colorado Hwy. 15 and two pedestrians were walking on the left shoulder of the southbound lane. The Subaru travelled into the southbound lane, striking and killing Juanita Martinez, 45, of La Jara. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

The second pedestrian, Seantree Waldroup, 18, of Manassa was hit either by the Subaru as it continued to travel north on the southbound lane, or by debris from the collision with Juanita. Waldroup suffered minor injuries. The Subaru then left the road where it ran into a fence and then a utility pole coming to rest on its right side. The driver DeShon fled the scene with serious injuries but was apprehended quickly. It is believed that alcohol and excessive speed were factors in the crash which is under investigation.

Bat tested positive for rabies in Saguache County

A bat in Saguache County tested positive for rabies this week. Fortunately, the individual who found the bat was able to contact local public health and have the animal tested before any persons or pets were exposed to the deadly virus. “We want to remind the public to protect themselves and their animals. It is important to report animals that may have been exposed to a rabid animal or that may be showing signs of rabies, such as unusual behavior,” said Ginger Stringer, SLV Regional Epidemiologist.

Bats and skunks are the most common species carrying the rabies virus in Colorado. Rabies virus is found in the saliva of infected animals and can be passed to humans and other mammals. It infects the nervous system and

can cause difficulty breathing, paralysis, loss of consciousness and death.

Fortunately, rabies is preventable. Have your pets vaccinated for rabies, and if your pet comes in contact with a bat or a skunk, notify a veterinarian and/or public health department right away. Also remember not to feed, touch or adopt wild animals and be cautious around stray cats and dogs. Rabid animals do not always appear vicious. If you notice a wild animal exhibiting strange behavior, call your local animal control or law enforcement agency and do not touch the animal.

For more information about rabies please call your county health department or visit www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/rabies.

Fatal ATV crash south of Ft. Garland

by Mary Lowers

According to a Colorado State Patrol (CSP) press release Bobby Medina, 64, of Pueblo was killed when his 2002 Kawasaki Prairie All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) tipped up and ejected him as he attempted to climb a steep hill near the Battle Mountain Gold Mine in the Sangre de Cristo Ranges south of Fort Garland. A call about a possible ATV crash came into 911 dispatchers at 1pm on September 13. Deputies from the Costilla

County Sheriff’s Department, Colorado State Troopers and medical personnel from the Costilla County Fire Department searched for Medina for three hours. At around 4pm the site of the crash and Medina were discovered. Attempts to revive the victim with CPR were to no avail and Medina was pronounced dead at the scene by the Costilla County Coroner. Victim Advocates from Alamosa came to the scene to help members of Medina’s family.

Town of Crestone Tract 1 Master Plan being developed

by **Burt Wadman**

Immediately west of the Charter School is an 8 acre parcel of land owned by the Town that runs south from Lime Avenue a quarter mile to the Baca Open Space bordering Camino Baca Grande. It is referred to as Tract 1, and is zoned for Community Services and Recreational Uses.

Earlier this year, with a small Economic Development grant from the San Luis Valley Council of Governments, the Town commissioned architect Burt Wadman to prepare a Master Plan for the future development of this area.

A "Working Committee" was formed that includes representation from the Town, the Baca, the Spiritual Alliance, the Charter School, the Library, the Resiliency Community Center Action Group, and Living Wisdom. The goal was to create a Master Plan for Tract 1 that could become a bridge, connecting communities and grouping public facilities in a single, central location, accessible to all.

The Master Plan views a community center as more than a building. Taken as a whole, and inclusive of the neighboring Charter School, it is a vision for a comprehensive "Community Commons", and the plan allows for the development of public facilities



and services to be harmoniously added over time.

The Planning Committee began by identifying the specific public uses to be included on the site. A library, recreation center, performing arts and conference center were a few of those included. A nursery school, community kitchen, and gallery exhibit space were others. A universal spirit chapel was suggested, along with spaces for Neighbors Helping Neighbors and Crestone End of Life Project, to name only a few ideas.

Next, the beautiful 8-acre site was studied in terms of its features and carrying capacity. Native areas and trees are re-

tained, and existing low-slope meadows were identified as suitable areas for development. The existing park-like character of the site is protected, and development areas are interconnected by an inviting and fully accessible pathway system. Vehicular traffic is located at the perimeter and parking is dispersed into small parking pods. The centralized utilities infrastructure is organized for efficiency and economy.

Other aspects of the development strategy are being explored, and because of the benefits of combining forces, funding prospects are significantly improved. When we band together, much becomes

possible. Shared vision is the glue that holds us together and focuses our efforts on common goals. In a small community this is essential to success, and Tract 1 offers a coherent framework within which vital community services and facilities can be developed.

The Crestone Trustees will be presenting the Master Plan at two public meetings in October. The dates are: Sunday, October 8 at 3:30pm, at the Cloud Station; and Thursday, October 26 at 6pm, at the Charter School Rainbow Room. The public is cordially invited to attend, and all are welcome. We look forward to seeing you.



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*by Allyson Ransom,
Crestone Town Clerk*
September 11 Board of Trustees meeting

The meeting began at 9:32am and adjourned at 5:50pm. The Trustees passed several motions which approved the following:

- To hire Cooley and Sons to add road base to Lime Ave. and S. Alder and use road grading equipment to maintain the road with the remaining FEMA funds at a cost of \$3500.00.
- To authorize the formation of a 3-5 person Firewise board, which will enable the Town to apply for mitigation grants as a Firewise Community.
- To hire Allen Davey, the town engineer, for a one-hour review of the Tract 1 plan for property owned by the town off of Lime Ave.
- To accept a memorandum of understanding between the owners of the Sangre de Cristo Inn and the Town of Crestone to move part of their fence off the Town right of way along Alder St.
- To allow Burt Wadman to send a letter to the United States Forest Service on behalf of the Board of Trustees for discussing spillway options for flood prevention of North Crestone Creek.
- To accept a settlement plan option as presented by Katherine Ryan from the water attorney offices of Berg, Greenleaf, and Ruscitti and allow them to submit the plan to the State Water Court Authority on behalf of the Town of Crestone.
- To authorize a waiver for property owners in Block 30 to not hook up to municipal water and allow their submission of an application to the State for drilling a household use well due to extenuating circumstances.

Presentations

Daniel Johnson discussed the fire assessment form 2016 and explained what was still remaining for the Town to complete in order to get a Firewise Community rating. He stressed the importance of having a Firewise Board to meet a cou-

ple times a year, and the Board accepted four community volunteers.

Burt Wadman discussed the Tract 1 design with the Board and together they scheduled two open public meetings for community input. The dates are Sunday, October 8 at 3:30pm at the Cloud Station (222 S. Cottonwood St.), and a second open meeting will be held at the Crestone Charter School (330 E. Lime Ave.) on Thursday, October 26 at 6pm. The Board encourages community members and town residents to attend for Q&A and input on the design after a presentation by Mr. Wadman.

Katherine Ryan from the water attorney's office spoke to the Board in great detail about the complicated water augmentation process required by the State to protect senior water right users in the San Luis Valley and stated that the Board could choose to move from being in opposition to the State groundwater rules or propose a settlement plan based on the scientific data collected by Clear Water Engineering in 2016. She informed the Trustees that in the case of a settlement, it looked like there would be a positive outcome from the State Water Court, especially as the Town had a net gain with water going back into North Crestone Creek. A settlement could include a proposal to make an agreement and trade credits for effluent in Crestone Creek for replacement on San Luis Creek by working through the Rio Grande Water Conservation District. This option would not require the Town to pump any water from Town-owned wells to areas outside the Town limits, and these rules do not apply to private homeowners with household use well permits.

Other news

At the request of the Trustees, Town Attorney Gene Farish



*Just in time for the Autumn Equinox: First dusting of snow on Challenger this autumn!
photo by Kate Steichen*

is working on completing an inter-governmental agreement with the Saguache County Sheriff's Department for law enforcement assistance and back up for the code enforcement officer within the Town limits.

The State approved the Crestone Brewing Company's Oktoberfest license for a temporary modification of their serving area on September 30, 2017, while the Board had approved their use of the adjacent park at the August meeting.

There is still a garbage dumping problem in our town parks. Along with household trash filling up our park trash cans, recently, the dog clean up station's small receptacle was jammed with pizza boxes. A bear subsequently smelled these and broke in after tearing the unit off of the post. It is not repairable and will have to be replaced.

The Board has directed the Town Attorney to continue work on a legal solution for either the restoration or removal of an unsafe and unfinished building located at 253 W. Golden Ave. It was determined that an additional inspection had yet to be completed by the County Fire Marshal and once that was completed, the process could move forward.

Miscellaneous information

- Town Hall office hours are Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm. We are closed Fridays.
- Regular Board meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 1:30pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Contact the Town Clerk one week in advance to be placed on the agenda and/or submit any documentation. Presentations are kept to a maximum of ten minutes.
- The Planning Commission meetings are also held in the Town Hall Meeting Room the first Monday of each month at 6pm.
- To view agendas, check the locked bulletin boards at Town Hall and the US Post Office or check the Town of Crestone's website at townofcrestone.org and the *Eagle's* online calendar.
- If you wish to have agendas and approved minutes sent to you directly via email each month, please join our listserv by contacting Melinda at Town Hall with your name and email address.
- A Certified Notary Public is available during regular office hours for a \$5 fee to notarize each signature as per the Colorado Secretary of State guidelines. A current and valid photo ID with a legible signature must be presented.

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Saguache County News

If your taxes are currently due, please keep in mind the last day that a property owner can pay to avoid a tax lien on their property will be November 3, 2017.

The County Treasurer's Office will be hosting a training for bidders, an Online Tax Lien Seminar on October 5 at 1pm. The Treasurer's Office will be closed

at 11am so all staff may attend the training. The training seminar educates bidders on the process for registering and bidding on the online tax sale. A representative from SRI will be on hand to answer questions and demonstrate the process. All interested in participating in the online sale is encouraged to attend. The Tax Lien Sale will be November 6 through noon November 9, 2017.

County valuations

Peter Peterson, County Assessor in his quarterly update reported that the grand total valuation is 71 million plus. Last year it was 68 million which is an increase of roughly 3 million due to commercial interests including a dairy farm and commercial marijuana grow operations.

Public health nurse in schools

David Daboll, Public Health Director, announced that Lynette Grant is the new Public Health Nurse. In a phone interview Lynette said she hails from Nashville, Tennessee where she worked 10 years as a medical/ surgical nurse. Her background includes a business degree and she previously work as a home health nurse in Alamosa. She will be at the Crestone Charter School on Tuesdays and the Moffat school on Wednesdays. Lynette will be at Moffat. She will provide assessments, update the database for immunizations, check students' health status, and develop individual health care plans for students with special needs such as diabetes or asthma. On Mondays and Thursdays she will serve the County providing free vaccines for children and working on emergency preparedness.

Property owner seeking remedy for flooding

Crestone resident Elizabeth Marsh, representing Marsh trust, and Paul Koppana, a local general contractor who accompanied her, requested a variance for the only house on Crestone Overlook off of Panorama. It has been flooded twice due to several incidents of heavy rain. Several remedies for the situation have been offered. She would construct a 6' drainage wall built out to highest point and which would save several trees and also deter water. The POA gave permission and approved it, but the Planning Commission recommended denial and Road and Bridge said it would be too hard to maintain that cul de sac. There is also the question of liability for the County if a tile fell off the wall. It would also set a precedent for a permanent structure to be on a County right-of-way. The County could deed a small portion to the Trust with the restriction of a 3' wall. The dilemma of creating private land out of public land is involved as well as protecting a residence and its people. Marsh is seeking any possible solution as is the County. A resolution is still pending.

Solar bypassing Saguache County

According to Jason Anderson our county is seemingly low on the list for consideration for solar utility

installations. Oakleaf Solar is putting in solar stations in Alamosa and Chaffee counties but not in our county. Alamosa residents will soon be able to tap into solar energy to lower their utility bills. Oakleaf Energy Partners' 12-acre community-scale farm was approved and will break ground in 2018. The solar farm site will sit just south of County Road 8, south and west of Highway 285 and will generate two megawatts of power. Xcel hasn't upgraded sub stations here but in Alamosa and Chaffee. Jason has called Xcel and will have a conference call.

Seniors request improvements

Barbara Donahue, representing the county seniors who use the Social Service building, requested improvements, several of which involve safety issues. The carpet at the back door has been under water with the heavy rains and the wood underneath has the possibility for mold. The steps have been problematic and need adjusting so they are not short or slippery. Book shelves need to be anchored so they don't fall on people. The flat screen TV could be anchored to the wall. Heating in the recreation room could be improved. Attorney Gibbons noted that with the MOU permitting the group to use the building, no costs were previously discussed. However, it is the County's responsibility to assure safety. The seniors did not first notify Linda Warsh Director of Social Services of their concerns, which their MOU states.

Land Use

Wendi Maez, Land Use Administrator, will ask for an extension on the elevator grant.

During her time she presented a variety of requests.

A representative of Verizon Wireless requested a modification to their Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a change to the town of Saguache tower. The agent said the upgrade would mean faster data and better reception for locals within sight of the tower, first built in 2003. The request was approved. This reporter asked about Crestone's poor reception and she said she would forward the information.

David Poole appeared requesting a lot line adjustment with property owned by David Wendl. Poole requested adding 5 acres of property to give them access to the Bonanza Inn road. It was approved though there was a question of whether 5 acres is more than just a line adjustment. Commissioner Jason Anderson noted it is an exchange between two property owners will not adversely affect individuals or the County.

William J. Myers requested a CUP modification to add medical marijuana to his cultivation operation and a mobile transport to transport product for others. The County has no regulations regarding a marijuana transporting business. He can move his own product but not transport others. The County approved the modification to medical cultivation.

A Conditional Use Modification was approved for greenhouse construction which other growers can rentals, but it needs to have an additional storage structure. It will be set back 25 feet from the highway.

Ricardo Najera requested a Conditional Use permit for a parcel west of Hwy. 17 off County Road Q for a marijuana grow consisting of 2 greenhouses and two storage units. The Planning Commission recommended he have storage containers in color

and that he complete each phase before going on to next phase. He's the land owner and Claudia Ramos, who was present, is the business owner. They will convert the existing well from residential to commercial and contract with Fort Garland for water.

Dennis Neuhaus and Judy Rose of Baca Grande Chalet Unit I Lot 221 requested a Conditional Use Permit for an additional residence: a garage with a rental unit above. It has electricity and plumbing. There were 2 letters of objection, but it was noted that the community badly needs personal rental units. The Planning Commission, the POA and the County have now approved it.

Public lands monthly discussion

Kathy Faz, representing the Sand Dunes, announced they were hosting a nationalization ceremony in which people born in other countries will become citizens. Twenty-five individuals, coming from the Denver area, will be sworn in Oct. 4. Faz also reported an increase in entrance fees is scheduled (not campground fees). They are trying to get up to speed with other parks. The number who came to the park is over 388,000.

Fred Bunch, the Sand Dunes National Park Chief of Resource Management, explained the land acquisition happening with the purchase of the Baca Ranch which involved negotiating for a parcel where there is a herd of 2,000 bison held by the Nature Conservancy. Negotiations include usage, resources, cultural relics and a management plan for the elk. They will seek County input to disperse elk through legal and lethal reduction. Alternatives for bison will be determined differently since they're considered livestock. They want to reduce non-native fish in order to restore the native Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout. They are communicating with Native tribes, particularly the Tesuque Pueblo, about plants and history of the area, considered an important legacy

Sales Tax Grant awards announced

Lyn Lambert, County Co-Administrator, announced that \$40,850 was awarded for the Sales Tax Grants for Cycle #2, 2017. The decisions were determined by the Commissioners. Since the list runs over two pages, a shortened version highlighting Crestone is printed here. The full list of awards in available on the County web site.

Baca Grande W&S District \$3,300
Crestone Food Bank \$5,000
Crestone Creative District \$2,500
Living Wisdom \$5,000
Town of Crestone \$5,000
Crestone Performance \$7,000
Crestone Youth Plaza \$5,000
Friends of the Baca Library \$4,100

County still setting ambulance policy

All County ambulances have been officially licensed by the County. Attorney Ben Gibbons is working up an ambulance policy which will be effective in October. The BOCC accepted the resignation of Jim Felmlee as Director of Emergency Services Management for the County.

Festivals

Dan Warwick, Sheriff, announced that on Oct. 7 the victim advocate program, which supports victims of crimes, will hold a chocolate festival in Saguache. Commissioner Tim Lovato volunteered for the pie toss. The County's 150th anniversary will be celebrated September 30 on Fourth Street.

by Sandia Belgrade

County now recording meetings

The Board of County Commissioners began recording open meetings on September 19. Attorney Gibbons affirmed that the record of official meetings will still be the written ones and the recordings will be used for clarification.

Deputy Clark sheds light on Bonanza raid

Wayne Clark appeared before the Commissioners to clarify the details concerning the marijuana raid in Bonanza in September. This was a joint effort with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Colorado State Patrol and the Saguache Sheriff's Department. What aroused suspicion and led to a tip was that they were going for 15 pickups worth of water a day from an RV park. Wendi Maez of Land Use alerted the sheriff who obtained and executed search warrants and arrested 6 people, all but one from China. Two were citizens; one was nationalized. They had expired visas. Three were housed in Chaffee because of space limitations. Two are in our county's jail.

Approximately 2,330 plants were seized with a possible value of 5 million dollars. Clearly the County is no longer tolerating illegal grows.

A bust does not come cheap

The marijuana tonnage was incinerated. A chunk of the bill covered backhoe service and payment to the officers who were not code enforcement officers. There was the cost of 20 gallons of gas—it's hard to burn green wood. A bust is not cheap. Jason Anderson and the Commissioners offered kudos to the Sheriff's department for their work. Other growers also noted the good work because it takes away from them as legal growers and reduces their margin of profit from retail sales. While some residents have expressed dismay that so much had to be destroyed, Clark explained that they don't know what's been sprayed on it, and besides, the County can't go into the marijuana business.

More property on the tax rolls

The County Commissioners have been accepting written offers for County-owned property. Bids were made for several lots in the Baca, Moffat, and Casita Park. The lots available will be accepted on or until April 30, 2018. To submit a bid offer for any available properties a bid packet and a list of properties is available on the Saguache County website at www.saguachecounty.net or you can call the Land Use office at 719-655-2321 or by email request to landuse@saguachecounty-co.gov.

Online tax lien seminar and sale

What distinguishes these County-owned property bids from properties on lien? A Lien is property on current tax rolls that has not been paid. If not paid after five years, they are ceded to Land Use and can be open to bids. The list of properties is posted and updated on the County web site.

POA news: Board adopts strict new building restrictions

by John Rowe

September's regularly scheduled POA Board meeting was held on Thursday, September 21. Four of five Board members were present with Sugandha Brooks attending via speaker phone. About fifteen audience members were present.

A long agenda carried the meeting long into the night, lasting four full hours. While much was covered, most of the meeting centered on land use issues, beginning right away in the Member Forum (where any POA member in good standing may speak their mind briefly on any pertinent issue). A resident couple spoke of a close neighbor who has been living on his land well out of compliance with POA regulations in a small trailer surrounded by junk for at least fifteen or twenty years. The POA has lately been pressuring him to clean up his place and the man, who is not well, had friends come and clean up a lot of the mess. Somehow the man was given a six month extension to finish the cleanup and then was told he could then re-apply for a new eighteen month build-

ing permit. The concerned couple thought this was tantamount to giving him two more years' blessing to continue living as he has been for many years, as he has shown no inclination or resources to build anything, much less a house. After being shown photos of the mess, Board President Steve Dossenback assured the couple that the Board would look into the matter.

Other land use issues were the addition to POA resolutions, an insistence that a new builder in the Grants install a State-approved septic system before a building permit can be issued. A primary reason given for this are the several homes in the Grants that have no real waste disposal system in place and the current difficulty in making these homeowners install one. This measure passed unanimously. Also effective immediately is the resolution that a property owner may only live on his land in a trailer or RV for eighteen months while building and must then vacate, even if an extension is granted to continue building. This will apply in all of the Baca. This was passed

by a four to one vote with Matie Belle Lakish enthusiastically dissenting. Matie Belle stated that she is not in favor of making the Baca a place where only the well-to-do can afford to live. She thinks that eighteen months is not enough for someone to build their own home and it should be more like three years. The Board was careful to stress that neither of these measures are retroactive and will only apply to building permits applied for after September 21, 2018.

The Board also voted unanimously to raise POA dues in 2018 to \$380/year. Reasons for this, as have been reported here several times, are crumbling infrastructure and assets, and equipment that is just flat worn out. The rising population of the Baca and its attendant service demands also puts a strain on all resources. The need for a \$300,000 road grader to

be purchased very soon is an example given to stress the need for more money. And while POA income is on the rise, the reserve account is \$400,000 less than deemed prudent.

There has been a shakeup in Emergency Services as Chief Darriek Garcia resigned in August. Tad Crawford will remain head of the Fire Department, and there will be shared responsibility in the ambulance side of things with new hire Freddy Clark administering the department while others split other duties. A paramedic who also has a firefighting background is being interviewed and could be another valuable asset to Emergency Services.

Mark Talbot was hired at a nominal fee to help the Board to decide what kinds of website upgrades are necessary, and community feedback is welcomed.



"Beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art."
- Eleanor Roosevelt

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We're still deciding what to do with Bob's!!

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Shop Local! Driving to town hurts the environment & puts your tax dollars into another county.....

Court again denies Red McCombs' plea to approve Village at Wolf Creek

"The Forest Service cannot abdicate its responsibility to protect the forest . . ."

Yesterday, a Federal Court again rejected pleas by the Leavell-McCombs Joint Venture and the Forest Service to allow the controversial Village at Wolf Creek to go forward. The Village at Wolf Creek is a proposed development of more than 1,700 units housing approximately 8,000 people atop Wolf Creek Pass. The Honorable Judge Richard P. Matsch denied a Motion by the Leavell-McCombs Joint Venture to reconsider his earlier decision from May that overturned the Forest Service's approval of a land exchange to make possible the proposed development.

In this latest decision, the Court described the Forest Service's Wolf Creek Decision as "a patent effort to circumvent [the agencies] obligations to protect the natural environment of the Forest." Judge Matsch again reiterated that the Forest Service's decision was unlawful and an "attempt at an artful dodge of its responsibility."

Developers have attempted to gain approval for a large residential and commercial development on Wolf Creek Pass for over 30 years. This small city would be adjacent to the existing ski area but not part of it. The proposal has generated overwhelming public opposition from many concerned about the impacts to wildlife, the natural environment, and the unique character of the existing ski area.

On May 19, 2017, Judge Matsch previously found that the Forest Service "failed to consider important aspects of the issues before them, offered an explanation for their decision that runs counter to the evidence, failed to base their

decision on consideration of the relevant factors, and based their decision on an analysis that is contrary to law." Attorneys for the Leavell-McCombs Joint Venture a month later asked Judge Matsch to reconsider that decision, and alleged that Judge Matsch suffered from "a misapprehension of controlling law and facts." The Court thoroughly rejected those claims and denied this new bid by Red McCombs and his development team to gain approval for the project.

"It is clear that Leavell-McCombs Joint Venture is frustrated by the Court's insistence on following the rule of law," said Matt Sandler, Staff Attorney for Rocky Mountain Wild, "This is an example of the checks and balances in our system working. The honorable Judge Matsch reasonably and lawfully set aside the Wolf Creek Land Exchange decision in May and we are glad he is standing by that Order with his latest decision."

The Court again concluded that the Forest Service's land exchange decision violated the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act. The Court found that the Forest Service failed to exercise its legal authority and that the Forest Service had abdicated its responsibility to protect the forest. It further repeated that proposed conservation measures to protect lynx were deficient and could not be "cured by arguments and explanations of counsel after the fact."

"Wolf Creek Pass is one of the wildlife corridors most critical to the future success of lynx in the San Juan Mountains," said Jimbo Buickerood, lands program manager for San Juan Citizens Alliance. "Judge Matsch's order once again reiterates that it found plans by the developers

and the Forest Service insufficient to assure lynx will continue to thrive in this important corridor."

"We are grateful for the Court's careful consideration of the public's interest and the natural environment," said Christine Canaly, Director of the San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council. "NEPA is the law that creates a public nexus to our public lands, provides access to a transparent process that is crucial to evaluating a project's pros and cons, and identifies possible alternatives that reduce a project's impact. As the Court has repeatedly stated, the analysis around the proposed Village at Wolf Creek failed to consider reasonable protections of the environment and wildlife atop Wolf Creek Pass."

Travis Stills of Energy & Conservancy Law and Matt Sandler of Rocky Mountain Wild handled litigation for Friends of Wolf Creek—a coalition of organizations including Rocky Mountain Wild, San Luis Ecosystem Council, San Juan Citizens Alliance, and Wilderness Workshop.

Order denying motion to reconsider — <http://rockymountainwild.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Order-on-Motion-to-Reconsider.pdf>

Background on the "Village at Wolf Creek" — <http://friendsofwolfcreek.org/background>

- Friends of Wolf Creek:
- Friends of Wolf Creek: www.friendsofwolfcreek.org
 - Rocky Mountain Wild: www.rockymountainwild.org
 - San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council: www.slvec.org
 - San Juan Citizens Alliance: www.sanjuancitizens.org

Forest Service seeks public comment during 20-year revision of local Forest Plan

by Christine Canaly, Director San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council

One of the best ways to mitigate for climate change is to protect wildlife and watershed connectivity on federal public lands to maintain resilience. The Rio Grande National Forest, which manages the forests in the Sangre (surrounding Crestone/Baca) and San Juan mountains, is in the process of going through a Forest Plan revision that will determine how the surrounding landscape will be managed over the next 20-years. The Forest Service will be seeking public comment for their "Range of Alternatives" at the end of September (29th) that will last 90 days. Thanks to the National Environmental Policy Act for making this public process possible. (Go NEPA!)

The Forest Service will have public meetings in late October/early November and it is imperative that you attend one of these meetings and support the most conservation/ecosystem protective alternative that will be provided in their "range of alternatives." Look for upcoming meeting announcements.

Please be involved. You can sign up for e-mail alerts using our e-mail info@slvec.org, and also sign up with the Rio Grande National Forest directly, tell Mike Blakeman to include you on his public info Forest Planning list: Mike Blakeman US Forest Service (mblakeman@fs.fed.us)

For background and updated information, go to our website: <http://www.slvec.org/projects/rio-grande-national-forest-management-plan>

Please feel free to contact us if you would like to get more involved with public lands advocacy. These are our public lands, to be cherished and nurtured for present and future generations of earth's inhabitants.

San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council
P.O. Box 223
Alamosa, CO 81101
www.slvec.org
info@slvec.org



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PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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WWW.BACAPOA.ORG INFO@BACAPOA.ORG

Upcoming Annual Board of Directors Election & Candidate Forum

The Baca Grande POA Board will have one (1) Board of Directors position open and your vote counts!

This year, there are two (2) candidates running for one (1) open seat for the Board of Directors. The election will take place at the Annual Member's Meeting, which is set for October 19th 2017 at 7pm. We will also have a candidate's forum on October 19th 2017 at 6pm so community members can meet and speak with the candidates. These events will take place at the POA Hall which is located at 67585 County Rd T, Crestone, CO 81131.

Members will receive the election materials via United States Postal Service in September 2017. To be a member in good standing means as a property owner in the Baca Grande, all dues or fees are paid in full. If you do not receive a ballot and believe you should have, please feel free to contact the POA office at (719) 256-4171.

Two candidates are running for two open POA Director Seats. They are:

Joy Hill
Sugandha Brooks



Kai Beetch Design

~ Blinds
~ Shades
~ Drapes
~ Repairs

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Crestone Artists' Open Studio Tour October 14-15

Preview exhibit Friday evening Oct. 13

by SD Youngwolf

With the change of seasons, when Mother Earth once again dons her gorgeous coat of colors, Crestone Artists will have their annual open studio tour. Fifteen artists will open their places of work and creativity to the public, from 12 to 5pm each day. There will also be a preview showing of their works Friday, October 13 at the Desert Sage Restaurant, from 5 to 7 pm. Catalogs with a map of studio locations are available free to the public at various locations around Crestone and at www.crestoneartists.com.

Crestone is very blessed with the talent and passion of artists who express in their works the contemplative and visionary nature of this very special place. Visiting their studios is sure to be an inspiration. Dialogue with the artists about art and artistry is an opportunity not to be missed. Enjoy refreshments and peruse the prodigious creativity expressed in various media and techniques, in the studios where it is produced.

Fifteen artists working in many media

This year's artists are: Leigha Nicole, whose art is a blend of traditional Chinese painting, Japanese sumi-e, and western watercolor; Kim Roberts, who creates encaustic monotypes which evolve from her spiritual practice; Rose Burek, who works with scrap metal and beads to create unique pieces of "Wind Art"; Beatris Burgoin, who paints impasto oils in an orchestra of color; Meredith Rose,



Painting by Leigha Nicole, one of the 15 artists who will be opening their work spaces for the Crestone Artists Open Studio Tour.

whose paintings deal with identity and culture, portraying expressive human figures in the cosmos; Allison Wonderland, who uses fiber and clay in mythic explorations; Mae Green, whose paintings are visual declarations representing a journey into creative emptiness; Pat Tullos, who works with fabric and quilting in artful techniques and designs; Noah Baen, who creates expressive painterly paintings as well as environmental installations; Peter Ismert, whose photography captures candid moments in nature; Steven Futral, who works in various media



Fifteen artist studios will be open for the Crestone Artists' Open Studio Tour, Oct. 14-15. Pictured back row: Beatris Burgoin, painter; Stephen "Ish" Futral, encaustics; Allison Wonderland, mixed media; Winter Ross, prints and textiles; S.D. Youngwolf, painter. Front row: Jennifer Thomson, painter; Noah Baen, painter, installations; Bob Adler, woodworker; Pat Tullos, quilter; Peter Ismert, photography. Not present: Leigha Nicole, Chinese brush painting; Kim Roberts, encaustic monotype; Rose Burek, metal "wind art"; Meredith Rose, painter; Mae Green, painter.

such as encaustic and acrylic painting, jewelry, and calligraphy; Winter Ross, whose works are explorations in various materials through the medium of the imagination and healing; Jennifer Thomson, whose paintings explore the natural world through the living, musical, elements of light, darkness, and color; Bob Adler, who makes imaginative cabinetry and sculptural creations in wood; and SD Youngwolf, whose creations in mask making, painting, gourd art, and photography come out of an exploration of the creative imagination and immersion in Indigenous culture.

If you can't wait or won't be able to attend the tour, you can call and make a private appointment

with artists participating in the "On Call" program as listed on www.crestoneartists.com and shown in the catalog.

Crestone Artists is an organization dedicated to creative exploration in many areas. "We are sculptors, painters, photographers, craftspeople, installation and performance artists. Our goals are to facilitate mutual support, networking among local artists, making professional art works and art education experiences accessible to the community, and to build an awareness with the public at large of Crestone as a center of committed art activity that parallels and reinforces our town's concentration of spiritual centers and activities."

CrestoneArtists.com

2017 OPEN STUDIO TOUR

October 14th & 15th Saturday & Sunday 12~5pm

2017 STUDIO TOUR ARTISTS

- Leigha Nicole 1
- Kim Roberts 2
- Rose Burek 3
- Beatris Burgoin 4
- Meredith Rose 5
- Allison Wonderland 6
- Mae Green 7
- Pat Tullos 8
- Noah Baen 9
- Peter Ismert 10
- Stephen Futral 11
- Winter Ross 12
- Jennifer Thomson 13
- Bob Adler 14
- SD Youngwolf 15

Meet the artists & see samples of the work @ the **Collected works Show** Friday October 13 from 5 to 7pm @ the **Desert Sage Restaurant**

Map and tour information @ www.crestoneartists.com and/or look for the catalog throughout town!

This couldn't happen without our PATRONS OF THE ARTS, we thank you

VISIONARIES \$200+

MANIFESTERS \$100+

ANGELS \$50+

BELIEVERS \$25+



Jeffrey Noonan and Samuel Breene share an afternoon of Baroque music at Shumei in Crestone.

Matinee of baroque music at Shumei Oct. 1

Samuel Breene (baroque violin) and Jeffrey Noonan (theorbo, baroque guitar) make up Musicke's Cordes, who will join us in Crestone at Shumei International Institute on Sunday October 1 at 3pm. There is a \$10 suggested donation at the door. Musicke's Cordes presents an intimate concert of early Baroque music for violin by composer/performers working in Germany in the 17th century. Fascinated by the musical revolution taking place in Italy, German nobles and musicians imported books, instruments and players in an attempt to stay up-to-date. The program, "Looking South: Italian Music in the Chapels and Courts of Germany" features examples of Italian musical experiments including improvisatory sonatas and toe-tapping dances as well as German imitations of the Italian style. The duo performs on reproductions of historical instruments and the program will include solos for the baroque guitar and theorbo (a six-foot-long lute) as well as music for the baroque violin.

Violinist Samuel Breene and lutenist Jeffrey Noonan met in 2013 at the Newberry Library in Chicago as participants in a colloquium sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Samuel Breene (baroque violin) is a scholar and performer whose activities and interests span the range of his instrument's history and repertoire. Following his conservatory degree, Sam pursued advanced violin studies in Mainz, Germany. In graduate school at Duke University, he specialized in baroque violin and led the Duke Collegium Musicum. Since that time, Sam has maintained a performing career that balances work on both early and modern violins.

In addition to his performing work, Sam is a musicologist who specializes in Mozart's chamber music and performance practices of the Baroque and Classical eras. He has also researched and written about American fiddling.

Trained as a classical guitarist, Jeffrey Noonan (theorbo, baroque guitar) has played lute, theorbo and early guitars for

over thirty years across the Midwest. Based in St. Louis, he has performed throughout the region with various ensembles including Shakespear's Bande, Early Music St. Louis, Passione ed Armonia, Kansas City Baroque Consortium, Bourbon Baroque (Louisville), Ars Antigua (Chicago), and Musik Ekklesia (Indianapolis.) In addition, Jeff has created and directed a number of Early Music ensembles including The Ellenwood Consort and, most recently, Such Sweete Melodie. An in-demand accompanist and continuo player, Jeff performs a varied repertoire ranging from sixteenth-century chanson with solo voice to Handel's Messiah with the St. Louis Symphony. A recognized expert on the early guitar, Jeff has produced two books and several articles for Oxford Music Online on the subject as well as an edition of eighteenth-century Italian violin sonatas for A-R Editions. His current research project is an edition of two 17th-century Italian song manuscripts he uncovered at the Newberry Library. Jeff has received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and in 2015 the Newberry Library named him a Cullen Fellow to research and edit music manuscripts in its collection. In 2016, the St. Louis Regional Arts Commission awarded Jeff an Artist Fellowship recognizing his accomplishments in scholarship, pedagogy and performance.

Shumei International Institute is very pleased to host these talented musicians on Sunday October 1 at 3pm. Please contact Shumei for questions at 719-256-5284 or visit us at www.shumeicrestone.org.

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Sculptor Bob Long featured October artist at Shumei; Symposium Oct. 15

Local sculptor Bob Long's works will be on display at the Shumei Gallery in Crestone for the month of October. A symposium with Bob will be held on Sunday October 15 starting at 3pm. A reception will follow.

For over 20 years, Bob Long has specialized in discovering the beauty hidden within stone. Working with various materials such as alabaster, marble, jade, and petrified wood, Bob brings alive the latent personalities of these stones to create uniquely intricate sculptures.

"One of the more common responses to my work is wonder at the optical illusion it creates. Some sculptures appear as if several pieces have been spliced together when they are actually all one piece of stone. My abstracts are not designed beforehand. For instance, "Intimacy" was a concept where I wanted to tie three loops together, so when I began creating it, it was a challenge and joy to watch the intertwining of the loops as they revealed themselves. My biggest inspiration for this work is the sensuality of the natural world."

Come meet Bob and learn more about his work on Sunday Oct. 15 starting at 3pm to 5pm. This event is free to the public. Please visit www.shumeicrestone.org or call 256-5284 for more information. The Shumei gallery is open every day 9 to 5pm.



Local sculptor Bob Long is Shumei's featured artist for the month of October.



Come visit the open studio's tour
Oct 14-15 12-5pm

Encaustics Workshops

Hours and days are flexible
2 hrs / \$50 includes materials

At FIRSTTHOUGHT STUDIOS
117 Skyview Way (close to town)

Ish Futral 256.4848 for appointment
or further questions

Shumei International Institute Sharing Healing Jyorei, Natural Agriculture, art and beauty with the world.....



Art Symposia, Exhibitions, Concerts and Special Events

8:00AM and 6:00PM Sampai (prayer services) are always open to the public
art gallery and site tours available every day from 9 -5

See the community calendar or visit www.shumeicrestone.org
for an up to date schedule

Shumei International Institute - PO Box 998, Crestone, CO 81131 - 719-256-5284



Bikers will compete October 14 in the 3rd year of the endurance race, "12 Hours of Penitence" in Penitente Canyon in the San Luis Valley. photo by Ben Knight

12 Hours of Penitence

continued from page 1

School District and Del Norte Trails, and private agents like Kristi Mountain Sports, demonstrates the best aspect of our close knit community working together. Undoubtedly, there are other races and events in the region but none of them showcase the vistas found in the San Luis Valley and support a vital program like sustaining the next generation of mountain bikers." said Aaron Miltenberger, Director of Student Life and Recreation at Adams State University.

The race is locally sponsored by numerous organizations from throughout the region. Last year's event was a success benefitting Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado. New this year is a partnership with Adams State University and Tamera G. Rice, Race Director the Adventure Sports Coordinator at Adams State University.

You may register for the race at www.12hoursofpenitence.com. The race proceeds go to support the new composite high school NICA team in the San Luis Valley, the Rio Grande Composite Rattlers. The NICA-certified volunteer coaches are Brian Stevenson, a teacher from Monte Vista High School, and Larry Roberts, a local real estate agent. NICA is the governing body of the team along with hundreds of teams across the U.S. For more information on NICA, check out the video on YouTube, "More than a Sport", to see how mountain biking changes the lives of kids. Also, visit their website, www.nica.org. NICA also provides every child and coach insurance coverage during practice and races.

The new NICA mountain biking team is for beginners and advanced cyclists. A NICA-certified fitness professional teaches the basics of mountain biking safety and new skills. Some teens don't know how to ride mountain bikes so it was decided to start at the beginning, teaching safety along with riding well. The program took off from there with many teens spending their time mountain biking on Sunday afternoons this summer, riding at the Lime Kiln, Penitente Canyon and other trails in the SLV. NICA Coach Brian Stevenson said, "We are thrilled at the positive response the teens in the SLV have shown." The interest in mountain

biking was an unexpected surprise.

These are very exciting times for teens in the SLV. The question isn't "if" but "when" SLV could produce the next promising Olympic mountain biker.

Race attendees, sponsors and volunteers are excited to share the 12 HOP race proceeds to encourage and enable teen mountain bikers in the SLV. Details of future training, coaching staff opportunities, and athletic development will be offered at the race, or you can contact the coaches through the RGC Rattlers Facebook page.

International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) Executive Director and Founding Director of Mountain Sports at Western State Colorado University, Dave Wiens loves that NICA has arrived in SLV. He said: "NICA feeds most of the collegiate teams in the state and nationally. It's huge."

Tamera Rice, Race Director and Adventure Sports Coordinator at Adams State said: "The San Luis Valley is a breeding ground for success. We know this because many elite athletes come here to train. The sky's the limit for the talented and lucky teens living in SLV. Attracting teens of varied socio-economic lives may seem like a challenge but sports and recreation are the great equalizer: everyone likes to play and be cheered for and everyone likes to win. Helping teens discover they are good at something is part of the equation and affordability is key. Helmets and bikes are available, if you don't have one. There are no limitations. I am excited about this opportunity for teens in San Luis Valley. Our goals are to provide recreational and racing opportunities to all middle and high school kids in SLV schools. We are striving to ensure no child is without opportunities to mountain bike. Thanks to many volunteer, executive and academic staff, we have the opportunity to share excellent mountain bike trails and mountain bike coaching with a rare combination of talented, smart, competitive teens and competition breeds excellence."

Races need many volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions contact us at 12hoursofpenitence@gmail.com. Register here: www.12hoursofpenitence.com

Halloween event & featured artist Desi Faraci

On Saturday, October 28, from 4-6, the Crestone Artisans Gallery will hold an event called "Spellabration". This will include music, mulled wine, hot apple cider and a variety of apple snacks. We will also hold a free prize drawing from featured artist Desi Faraci. She will raffle a matted, signed print from her Native American-themed painting called "Wind Dancer".



Desi Faraci.

Painter Desi Faraci, is the featured "Artist of the Month". She has been a gallery member for over a year and an SLV resident for 3 years. Desi has been a professional artist for over 25 years, which she shares is an inherited trait from her father, Nick, who is also a creative spirit.

There have been many hats Desi has worn in the art industry as originally an airbrush mural artist, computer graphics designer, later becoming a gallery owner and corporate art consultant. Her art and style of creating has morphed along with her life. She currently paints with palette knife techniques in oils over an acrylic base on canvas or wood.

Relocating from the East Coast, Desi felt inspired to paint many of the local scenes of southern Colorado. Gallery visitors will find available a wide mix of landscapes from across the valley. Images of the Great Sand Dunes, the Rio Grande River, Mount Blanca, the range of the Sangre de Cristos and even as far as over Wolf Creek Pass have been captured in her works since moving to the valley. The local beauty of the Crestone peaks, spiritual centers and religious themes are also exhibited to share. Southwestern scenes of Native Americans and other indigenous portraits are subjects that Desi admires most. She considers her works to be impressionistic with enough realistic attributes rendered but with room to open the observer's imagination.

Desi shares an array of talents with the community, fit into a very active schedule. Not only is she a full time mom along with being a painter, art teacher, a freelance writer and world percussionist but

also is a business owner of a hand crafted clothing line called Hip-LineUSA. She enjoys every aspect of living in the remote Southwest which is influential in her daily life, from hiking to organic cooking and volunteering in the community.

Original paintings, prints and greeting cards are available at the gallery. Desi also accepts commission work and teaches workshops, privately and in group settings. Be sure to visit www.faracistudios.com to see past and current selections of works.

The gallery is putting out a call to artists. If you are a local resident and wish to join our fun and creative atmosphere, then be sure to drop by and apply to become a gallery member. We are looking for new jewelry artists and 2D painters or photographers who are willing to become a working member of the gallery which involves monthly volunteer time.

CRESTONE ARTISANS GALLERY

FINE ART & GIFTS

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Fall Hours
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We represent 24 local artists
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Please call 719-539-9493 to schedule your Tuesday appointment



Lunch Buffet 11am-2pm
Dinner-Cocktails-Take-Out
Now serving choice of brown rice with every meal.

New Sushi Bar @ Alamosa Location

Sushi Hour: Lunch 11:30am-2:30pm Dinner 5pm-9pm

Largest Vegetarian & Healthy Entrees

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Menu: www.ehunans.com • www.east-westgrill.com

HAPS

NHN & CCS Thanksgiving pot luck

Crestone Charter School and Neighbors Helping Neighbors will set the tables for the 18th annual Pre-Thanksgiving Community Pot Luck. The event will take place on Sunday, November 19 at the charter school from 12:30-4:30pm. Do you remember the wonderful, warm, community feeling of last year's pre-Thanksgiving pot luck? Let's do it again!

Volunteers are needed to buy and cook turkeys or you may buy a turkey for someone else to cook. Volunteers are also needed to help with setup, decorating, serving, and clean up. Please bring a pot luck dish to feed ten people. (This is a hungry crowd.) Some suggestions are: cranberry dishes, salads, vegetables, different potato dishes (especially mashed potatoes), family favorite side dishes, bread, desserts, pies, cakes, cookies, apple sauce, apple cider and other drinks. Coffee, teas, sugar and cream will be provided. You are asked to bring your own plates and eating utensils. Donations of cash to purchase supplies are needed.

We all are thankful to be here in this community. Call Judie Rose at 256-5110 or Mary Lowers at 256-4185 with questions or to volunteer.

Heads up: Community resources inventory for resiliency and survival is on the way!

by Swaha

After a month of fires, hurricanes, earthquakes and flooding—and a “7 times Hiroshima” nuclear bomb test thrown in for good measure—many of us are thinking about surviving an extended emergency event here in the Baca and Crestone. Folks involved with the resiliency initiative have been feeling the need for “on the ground data” to inform our planning/organizing for our collective well-being “in the event . . .” It's not a new idea, and we hope to get a wide participation in the coming weeks, not just in filling out our survey, but in coming together with your neighbors to really meet and assess the who, what, when, where, how of ensuring that we don't leave anyone out or behind because they weren't able to ask for the help that they so badly needed. The inventory will not be published, but will be used by the task force (just forming) to assess our collective capacities and identify critical gaps. Be in touch if you'd like to be part of that.

We will be asking energy, health, mobility, food, intention, communication, tools and skills-related questions. We want to know who may be especially vulnerable, what houses can and cannot stay warm, can and cannot cook, will and will not have water, etc. in the event of an extended power outage. We want to know how well you know the people living nearby. We are encouraging neighborhood self-organization (i.e. clusters of 25-40 people), but also want to ensure that everyone is covered, so please, if you organize your neighborhood, be very clear of the boundaries of your cluster—i.e. specifically which residences are included.

We strongly encourage everyone who can to create some water, food and fuel supply backup for your household, and will be organizing preparedness training for those interested. We will create a neighborhood communication or “buddy system”, so that we can assess quickly, community-wide, who may be stranded or in urgent need.

As much as possible, we'd like to conduct the survey face-to-face, so if you are willing to help with that (even a half dozen houses), let us know. Surveys will also be available online, and available at Saturday Market, Community Thanksgiving and other events. If you want one mailed to you, just say so. But please don't wait—if this summer has taught us one thing, it is that you just never know when a catastrophic event will take place. Let's be ready for it together.

For more info or to volunteer to help, contact Kathi @ 303-715-0356, azurelene@gmail.com. Blessings R us!

Halloween events: door-to-door and Trunk & Treat again!

Last year Halloween was super fun, wasn't it? Well if you love being creative, enjoy delight in a child's face or just like to play, please consider joining us on Tuesday, October 31 starting at 5:30pm downtown. This is how it works: as part of the usual trick-or-treat scene you can decorate your car, dress up, or just keep it simple. Park around town (spread out so the kids have to walk: by the *Eagle*, the Brewery, the Post Office, the school, the Merc—grab a few friends and make clusters around town, tailgate style) and as the kids go door-to-door they can also go car-to-car. Think outside the box. If you have young kids and you want to walk with them, offer a friend some treats to hand out on your behalf. Decorate your car for a neighbor, or just stand on the sidewalk with a bag of treats. Let's fill those sidewalks with kids and kids at heart! Fun, right? Let's get creative! Look up “trunk or treat” for ideas.

Do you live in the town of Crestone? Are you going to be accepting trick or treaters this year? Please consider accepting trick or treaters and letting parents know where you are! Stop in at the Crestone Merc and mark your house on the Crestone Halloween map that Elaine is so graciously maintaining. The map will be shared the weekend before Halloween.

And that's not all! Keep an eye out around town, as some local businesses are planning on adding to the Halloween festivities, and the Crestone Charter School will be hosting an event as well!



There were lots of creative trick-or-treaters at Crestone's Trunk-or-Treat last Halloween. photo by Lori Nagel



Cristina Cabeza-Kinney & Adam Kinney enjoy some pizza at Crestone's 28th annual Energy Fair, as they talk to Donovan Spitzman, the organizer of this year's event. photo by Lori Nagel



Matie Belle Lakish and Bill Rosen share a laugh by the solar oven display at the Energy Fair September 9. photo by Lori Nagel

Crestone Trustees present new Master Plan for Tract 1 October 8 & 26

The Crestone Trustees will be presenting the Master Plan at two public meetings in October. The dates are: Sunday, October 8 at 3:30pm, at the Cloud Station; and Thursday, October 26 at 6pm, at the Charter School Rainbow Room. The public is cordially invited to attend, and all are welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

“The best way to predict the future is to help create it.”
—Taos bumper sticker

CEOLP 10th Anniversary October events

Sunday, Oct. 1, 11am to 1pm: Cremation site tour. Meet at the Fellowship Hall of the Little Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church.

Saturday, Oct. 7, 11am to 1pm: Cemetery tour. Meet at the Fellowship Hall of the Little Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church.

Saturday, Oct. 21, 1:30-3:30pm: Death Café (beginning promptly at 1:30) at the Desert Sage Restaurant.

Saturday, Oct. 28, 10:30-4:30: Contemplative Arts workshop (location TBA).

Saturday, Nov. 4: Advance directives workshop and registration party (location TBA).

Community Calendar—October 2017

Get the details at www.crestoneeagle.com // NOW UPDATED DAILY ONLINE!!!

If you would like more information on any of the below events, please consult our online calendar at www.crestoneeagle.com/calendar.

It's free and easy to place an item on our online calendar any time of month. Just fill out the form at www.crestoneeagle.com/myevent.

The print calendar is free for non-profit events; for-profit classes/events are \$5 per

calendar listing, with a discount for *Eagle* display advertisers. For more information call us at 719-256-4956.

To list your event in the upcoming edition of the *Eagle*, please submit it by the 22nd of the month via our website, www.crestoneeagle.com/myevent (preferred) ~or~ e-mail to: events@crestoneeagle.com ~or~ submit in writing to PO Box 101, Crestone CO 81131.

Monthly Events

Saturday, September 30

- Yom Kippur Services, Little Shepherd Fellowship Hall 11am-12:30pm donations accepted 256-4890
- Annual Soak & Sew retreat – Joyful Journey Hot Springs noon-2:00 pm 719-256-4845
- Belonging Bandwagon, Old Schoolhouse 2-4pm www.usdac.us 719-480-2814
- Yom Kippur Afternoon, Memorial & Concluding Services, Little Shepherd in the Hills Fellowship Hall 4-5:30pm donations accepted 719-256-4890
- Guru Rinpoche Tsok – Choying Dzong 6-8pm 719-256-5224

Sunday, October 1

- CEOLP Cremation Site Tour – Little Shepherd in the Hills 11:00 am-1:00 pm Free 719-588-7415
- Annual Soak & Sew retreat – Joyful Journey Hot Springs noon-2:00 pm 719-256-4845
- Holy Eucharist, Little Shepherd in the Hills 2-3pm
- Musicke's Cordes plays baroque at Shumei 3pm www.shumeicrestone.org 719-256-5284

Monday, October 2

- Crestone Planning Commission Meeting, Crestone Town Hall 6-7:30 pm 719-256-4313

Wednesday, October 4

- BGPOA Covenant Violation meeting, BGPOA Meeting Room 10-am bacapoa.org 719-256-4171

Thursday, October 5

- Full Moon Riwo Sangchö (Outdoor Smoke Offering) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 10:00 am-11:00 am 719-256-5224
- Barry Monroe performs dinner music – Crestone Brewing Co. 5:00 pm
- Sufi Dhikr. All Welcome! – 7:00 pm-9:00 pm nurashkijerrahi.org

Friday, October 6

- Friends of the Library meeting – Crestone Old Schoolhouse 1:30 pm-3:00 pm 719-256-4045

Saturday, October 7

- CEOLP Cemetery Tour – Little Shepherd in the Hills 11:00 am-1:00 pm Free 719-588-8709

Sunday, October 8

- Monthly Sampai at Shumei 10:30 am-noon Free www.shumeicrestone.org 719-256-5284
- Public Meeting-Town of Crestone Tract 1 – Cloud Station 3:30 pm 719-256-4313

Monday, October 9

- BGPOA Meet the Candidates – BGPOA Meeting Room 6pm bacapoa.org 719-256-4171
- Crestone Board of Trustees Meeting – Crestone Town Hall 9:30 am-5:00 pm 719-256-4313
- Library moving party – Baca Grande Library 10:00 am 719-256-4100

Tuesday, October 10

- Library moving party – Baca Grande Library 10:00 am 719-256-4100

Wednesday, October 11

- Crestone End of Life Project Monthly Meeting, Little Shepherd in the Hills 7-9pm Free 719-588-8709

Friday, October 13

- PreviewExhibition&MeettheArtistsReception, Desert Sage 5-7pm free <http://bit.ly/2wTtKrS> 719-256-4182
- Library moving party – Baca Grande Library 10:00 am 719-256-4100

Saturday, October 14

- Library moving party – Baca Grande Library 10:00 am 719-256-4100
- Open studio tour, Desert Sage Restaurant noon-5pm www.crestoneartists.com 719-256-4182
- Dakini Tsok (Feast Offering Potluck) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 6:00 pm-8:00 pm 719-256-5224

Sunday, October 15

- Open studio tour, Desert Sage Restaurant noon-5pm www.crestoneartists.com 719-256-4182
- Art Symposium with Sculptor Bob Long, Shumei Gallery 3-5pm Free www.shumeicrestone.org 256-5284

Wednesday, October 18

- BGPOA EAC Meeting – BGPOA Meeting Room 10:00 am bacapoa.org 719-256-4171

Thursday, October 19

- New Moon Riwo Sangchö (Outdoor Smoke Offering) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 10:00 am-11:00 am
- KRZA's monthly Board meeting – KRZA radio station 5:30 pm krza.org 719-589-8844
- BGPOA Annual Members' Meeting & Election – BGPOA Meeting Room 6pm bacapoa.org 719-256-4313

Saturday, October 21

- Death Café, Desert Sage Restaurant 1:30-3:30pm Free www.deathcafe.com 719-256-4211, 256-5367

Sunday, October 22

- Qur'an Class. All Welcome! – 3:00 pm-5:00 pm nurashkijerrahi.org 719-588-8602

Thursday, October 26

- Andrew Harvey's SufiWay Class. All Welcome! – 3-5pm nurashkijerrahi.org 719-588-8602
- Public Meeting #2 - Town of Crestone Tract 1, Crestone Charter School 6-7:30pm 719-256-4313

Saturday, October 28

- Art & Dying workshop: Embracing Mortality Through Art, 10:30am-4:30pm \$35 sug. donation <http://bit.ly/2xDKjQd> 719-256-4182
- Spellabration – Crestone Artisans Gallery 4:00 pm-6:00 pm Free

Sunday, October 29

- Grange potluck followed by meeting – 12:30 pm-3:00 pm 719-256-4768

Monday, October 30

- Guru Rinpoche Tsok (Feast Offering Potluck) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 6:00 pm-8:00 pm 719-256-5224

Tuesday, October 31

- Halloween
- Trunk or Treat – Downtown Crestone 5:30 pm

Saturday, November 4

- CEOLP Advanced Directives Workshop & Registration Party, 11am-12:30pm Free 719-588-7415
- CEOLP Registration Party, 1-3pm Free 719-588-7415

Daily/Weekly Events

The Crestone Eagle does not carry events over to the following month automatically.

Daily

- Morning Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 7-8am, 256-4108, info@babajashram.org, www.babajashram.org
- Jyorei, Shumei Sanctuary, please be seated by 7:50am and 5:50pm, 256-5284
- Tours, gallery & Jyorei, Shumei, 9am-5pm, 256-5284
- Open meditation & prayers in Vajra Vidya Retreat Center Shrine Room, 9-10am daily; Traditional Buddhist Shrine Room available till dusk; All welcome to come and practice. 719-256-5539 vajraavidya.com
- Tours, Temple, & Gift Shop ~ Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 256-4108, info@babajashram.org, www.babajashram.org
- Evening Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 6-7pm. Chanting in Sanskrit and Hindi. All are welcome. 256-4108, info@babajashram.org, www.babajashram.org

Sunday

- Sunday mass at Nada Hermitage 9-10am 256-4778
- Drop-in Meditation (sitting & walking) Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 10:00 am-1:00 pm 719-256-5224
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm www.slvaa.org

Tuesday

- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, marijuana users welcome, Baca Grande Library back door 7:30-8:30pm 970-309-0710
- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- Functional Fitness Small Group Training Angela Anderson 9:30 am-10:30 am 5 & 10 class punch cards available/\$15 drop in 719-256-4040

Wednesday

- Yoga Fundamentals & Refinements Shakti Sharanam 8:30 am-10:00 am By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- Yoga & iRest Yoga Nidra Crestone 9:00 am-10:30 am www.igniteyourinnerflame.com
- Gentle Movement & Yoga for all Crestone 10-11am \$10 suggested donation www.igniteyourinnerflame.com 310-924-9223

Thursday

- Yoga & iRest Yoga Nidra Crestone 9-10:30am www.igniteyourinnerflame.com 310-924-9223
- Zumba Fitness Angela Anderson 9:30 am-10:30 am 5 & 10 class punch cards available/drop in \$15 719-256-4040
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Baptist Church noon-1:00 pm www.slvaa.org
- Postcard Posse to write elected reps, Desert Sage, 12:30pm
- Tai Chi Little Shepherd in the Hills 2-4pm Free 405-760-1892
- American Common Law for Crestone, Fellowship Hall Little Shepherd Church 4-6pm, \$1 <http://bit.ly/2iHezvb>, 303-715-0356
- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668

Saturday

- Narcotics Anonymous Open Step Study meeting Little Shepherd in the Hills 9:00 am-10:00 am 719-256-4931

Out & About with Lori Sunflower

What challenges have you faced living in Crestone?



Lynn Drake

One challenge was making a living. We've been here 23 years, and the first 10, we commuted back and forth to Santa Fe for work. Then I had the studio downtown which helped, and now we get Social Security and live very simply. We appreciate the outdoors and our entertainment is more like a bobcat walking past our window than watching TV. Isolation can be a challenge because a lot of us don't have family close, but if you volunteer and get to know the community, you realize we all help each other. Another adjustment was the colder climate. We have a passive solar house, have learned to dress in layers, heat with firewood, etc. There are challenges with wildlife, and we learn how to work with the environment as opposed to just doing what we want and to heck with the animals! An early challenge was when we started building, there was no hardware store. If you cut a board wrong, you had to go all the way to Alamosa to get another one. It's nice that we now have the hardware store, natural foods grocery and regular grocery. It's a lot easier living here now than it used to be!



Desi Faraci

When I first arrived here I thought, wow it will be hard to shed the commercialism of society. I found this was easier for me with our great, small stores and Amazon. Prior to moving here, I never

thought about the reality of the lack of services. Challenges here lie with the children, elderly, mentally ill, homeless and those with health issues. Finding work is challenging for most of us, too. My challenges are with my children: their education and the lack of services for one of my daughters, who is special needs with compounding health issues. Sometimes I wonder if Crestone is the right decision for our family. Schools in this valley aren't equipped to teach learning-challenged kids. They make efforts, but fall way short. Also, I contemplate if my kids will be able to function in bigger cities when they're older. Will this be their challenge, that by growing up in a sheltered, remote environment they'll learn less coping skills for the real world? I do hope they're influenced by the light workers here and repel the darkness of the drug and couch-hopper scene. We located here to remove our children from societal entrainment/commercialism and to enjoy what Crestone has to offer, raising my kids with people who are creative, spiritual and sustainably minded. It's up to us as individuals to ensure our needs are fulfilled. Hopefully, the benefits in Crestone will outweigh the challenges.

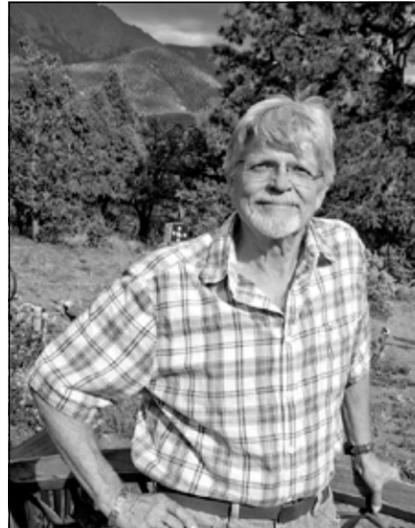


Nina Gonzalez

Our biggest challenge is that we are a community divided. As much as we get along, meditate, and are conscious human beings, we are divided in many ways. Moffat School vs. Crestone Charter School; people interested in property values vs. owner-builders; Crestone town vs. the Baca. I don't get a vote about what happens in town, and townspeople don't get a vote about what happens in the Baca. One neighbor says it's OK for you to have chickens, and another says you can't have chickens! It's a tough balance, it's a paradox. I lived here many years before I bought property, so I went into it with eyes wide open. The number one challenge is employment—not

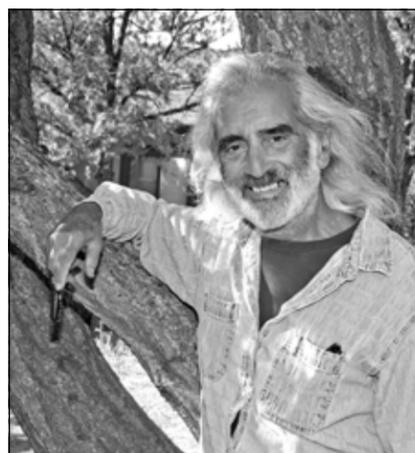
a lot of 9-5 jobs, yet we all moved here because we don't want 9-5 jobs! We moved here to get rid of mortgage payments, to homestead and find our souls. All things not really conducive to work! Yet we also need money to buy groceries, etc.

This is an amazing community, full of extremely worldly people who have travelled, seen, explored; highly intelligent people compassionately wanting to help you progress in your own self-discovery. That gives you strength to face and manage all the challenges we have in Crestone. Life is challenging. Crestone isn't any more challenging than anyplace else. The community support is really what helps you get through it.



Dan Frelka

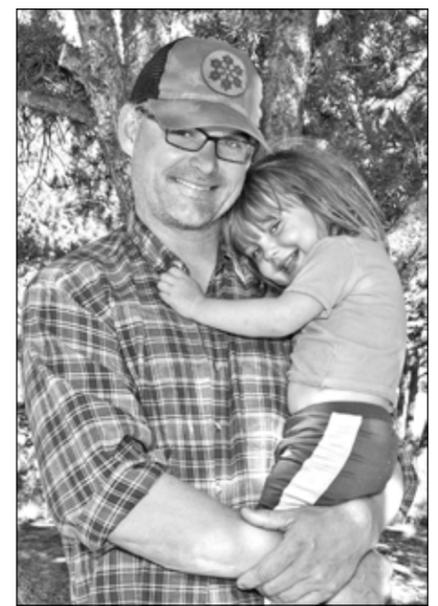
The biggest unexpected challenge I faced was the bugs. I lived in the mountains near Denver and we rarely had a mosquito. They're kind of constant through the summer here, but I've learned to deal with that. This summer, when I couldn't sit outside because of the bugs, I realized the reason we build houses is to keep us away from the elements, so I overcame that challenge, mentally. The biggest, most worthwhile challenge I found here was slowing down. I was working hard in sales and was extremely busy. I came here to be in a small town, way outta the way and quiet. I needed to slow my brain down, get on Crestone time. This year, I've been fixing up my house and gardening because I haven't been working, but I'm still doing. I get up in the morning and I'm *going, all day!* I need to stop, smell the roses and adjust to where I'm living, because this is where I've always wanted to be, exactly this place. I've lived in small mountain towns for 45 years, so I'm used to living remotely. It's been an adaptation being this remote, but that's why I'm here, because Conifer, Evergreen, etc. have gotten way too busy, so I'm getting into slowing down.



Ammi Kohn

When I first came to Crestone, I had been wandering around for quite a few years and I'd never been

in one place where I felt part of the community. So, the biggest challenge was rooting myself and learning to live in community, and it turns out Crestone is absolutely the best place for me. I've been able to make myself part of the community and I work with institutionalizing theatre here. The biggest challenge has been with the Living Wisdom project, and volunteerism in general. There are a limited number of people in Crestone who are really willing—and able!—to give time and effort, and those few are called upon a lot. This small town has a lot of creative people with ideas who need to find others who'll give the effort and time. I'm waiting for a subsidized unit in Boston to open up, so right now, personally, health problems and giving time and effort to a community that really needs it are my biggest challenges. And if you have health problems that require a lot of visits to the doctor, that's really a major challenge.



Tim Riley

A recent challenge has been in the area of communication. I've had problems where people take issue with something that I'm doing or not doing, and instead of knocking on my door for a conversation, they call the organizational body that governs my homestead or livelihood. I've heard that the Crestone of old was a very direct place, and I long for and encourage that type of approach. I think the biggest challenge so far has been isolation. Being in a place that is geographically isolated, along with other factors like the "intensity" of living here, seems to require a more tightly knit community. When we first moved to town some people were very welcoming while others were quite prickly. Thank goodness for the welcome that we experienced or we would not have made it through this far. The prickly side I think comes from the ideal of rugged individualism. I quickly learned you can't do it alone. Each person has a role that is complimentary to my own. Identifying the people that I can count on and the roles that we play has been important. I've been fortunate to make strong connections with amazing individuals; without them I could not live here. They are my support network and I am so grateful.

If you have feedback or suggestions for future topics, please email peacelove@gmail.com. In addition to being the Staff Photographer for The Crestone Eagle since 2012, Lori Nagel is a freelance photographer, graphic designer & web designer. www.sunflowerstudios.us.com.

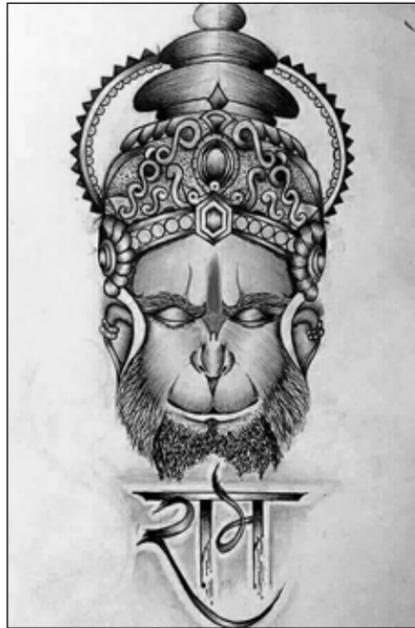
Ramji's Indian Café

by Mary Lowers

Ramji, who has lived in India, told me "a saint in Kainchi gave me the name." He learned much about the cuisines of north and south India while traveling there. When I sat down with him in his newly opened immaculately clean and orderly restaurant it was early on a Saturday morning and breakfast was the meal being served. "Indian breakfast is great," Ramji said with a warm smile as he described the Dosas thin pancakes served with sambar, a traditional spicy vegetable soup, and coriander chutney. Dosa batter is made of ground rice and daal. Ramji says, "It is spongy and sucks up the sambar." You could order the heavier Masala Dosa which is the same pancake stuffed with a potato mixture. Personally I am drawn to the Bread Pakoras, a sandwich of savory potato filling, battered and fried. It is served with chutney.

The coffee is good, and chai is made in house. Ramji told me he wants to get the highest quality ingredients and is working with the Valley Food Hub to use local sources for the restaurant. Lunch at the café features a variety of dishes. All come with rice and rotis, a flat bread. I love Spinach Paneer which is spinach and spices in a creamy sauce with Indian cheese called paneer. A bowl of daal is offered every day with a different flavor each day. Sweet offering includes Khir or Indian rice pudding. Ramji said, "Soon more Indian sweets will be offered."

Dinner choices include Vegetable Biryani which is "a south Indian staple" featuring basmati rice slow cooked in spices. You can order this dish with or without chicken. Dum Aloo, potatoes in a rich chili curry sounds great for fall. It should warm you right up. As with lunch all dinner entrees are served with a choice of rice and rotis. For something light the appetizer menu offers six choices including: Samosas, those yummy



crisp pastries filled with potato, peas and spices, and vadas, described as "Hanuman Ji's favorite snack", they are a savory donut served with coconut chutney. Prices for all three meals are very affordable.

Ramji's Indian Café is easy to find on the main crossroad in Crestone on the north east corner of Alder and Galena. The café is open from 7am to 9pm, seven days a week and serves breakfast until 11am. Ramji told me to-go ordering is popular and quick. "We will put it together in a box for you. Indian food is good now or later." The café's phone number is 719-256-6108, email is eatatramjis@gmail.com.

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Saz dance is coming to Saguache County schools.

Crestone Performances presents new acts for school shows

Crestone Performances is bringing three new presenters to Saguache County schools through its Youth Enrichment Program (YEP). This is our sixteenth season to provide free educational and cultural assemblies to Saguache County and San Luis Valley schools. Over those years we have had 199 total shows by 36 different presenters.

Our first presentation is from the Nature & Raptor Center of Pueblo. NRCP's programs are hands-on, science-based, and correlate to Colorado's Model Content Standards for science. Their programs stress the ecological concepts of interrelationships between animal, plant, and human communities. It is the goal of these programs to increase students' awareness and appreciation for natural resources and biodiversity, and to help them understand that humans are an integral part of the natural environment, and not apart from it. Students will learn about hawks, owls, eagles, falcons and vultures through a live bird of prey program.

Next we'll have the Alpine Backbeat Drum Line from Adams State University. This ensemble has eleven drummers playing

bass, snare, tenor drums plus cymbals. They have been together for 2 years and have performed over thirty shows. Delaney Armstrong manages the drum line and James Doyle is the professor. They march around the school like Pied Piper percussionists and really get the students going.

Our last performers are the Saz Dance Ensemble out of Salida. This is a mix of teen and adult performers. Their performances include a wide variety of traditional and non-traditional styles of dance. These include ballet, jazz and modern improvisational techniques. They combine this with visual art, video, music and theater. The "Art of Movement" would probably best describe this unique and talented group. They get the kids up and moving and, of course, laughing.

All of these shows are sponsored by Saguache County and Crestone Performances Inc. CPI is a non-profit community service organization. If you would like to contribute to our YEP program directly, please go to crestfest.org or call 719-256-4533. You can also send a donation to CPI, P.O. Box 6, Crestone CO 81131. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you!

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CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF SERVICE

The Crestone End of Life Project

Who We Are

The Crestone End Of Life Project (CEOLP) is a community-initiated, non-profit organization established to support area residents in end-of-life choices, including home funeral, burial, and open-air cremation.

In Appreciation

It's often said, "It takes a village to raise a child." The volunteers with the Crestone End of Life Project have found the same is true when fulfilling their vision and providing their services to the community. Without the support and commitment of those listed below, our vision of serving others at the time of death and bringing meaningful ceremony to bear witness would never have manifested.

To all the Crestone residents who signed our petitions and spoke up in support of establishing a legal open-air cremation site.

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies

Rio Grande County Clerk, Cindy Hill and Kathy Gonsales

Saguache County Commissioners, from 2006 onward

Saguache County Coroner, Tom Perrin

Saguache County Land Use

Crestone Baca Planning Commission 2006-7

Baca Grande POA

Baca Grande Volunteer Fire Department: Kimberly Bryant, Ben Brack, Chris Botz,

Tad Crawford and volunteer staff

Baca Grande Emergency Services, Pam Gripp and staff

Baca Grande Maintenance, Sean Hollmer: parking cones, snow removal, & good will

Hospice del Valle

Dr. Greg Rabold • Dr. Janet Bassinger • Dr. Phillip Incao • Dr. Bill Sutherland

Dragon Mountain Temple: Steve Allen and Angelique Farrow

Paul Kloppenburg, site design: construction and implementation

McGregor Gaines, site design: construction, financial support

Adam Kinney: site construction

Andy Pierce, ironmonger: for manufacturing grates and tools

Mark Potter and Ken Skoglund: site improvement

Steve Smilack: firebrick donation for pyre

Carol D'Antoni and Rose from Upaya Zen Center, Santa Fe

The Bardo Babes

KTTG board of directors and Mark Elliott

Sanctuary House: Barbara and William Howell

Vinette and Daniel Terres: sponsoring Eagle monthly ad

Savitri House and Sri Aurobindo: building use for meetings

Shumei Institute: use of van at cremations and use of campus for events

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Soaring Eagle Foundation

The Crestone Eagle and the amazing Eaglettes

KRZA, Alamosa

Santosh from Sri Aurobindo: website development

Mark Talbot: Xplore Design for website and logo

Rodney Volkmar: website development

Linde Waidhoffer, Bill Ellzey, Scott Swordy, Martin Macaulay, Sean Owen, Lori Nagel,

Adam Sekuler, Taylor McIntosh for allowing us to use their photographs and videos

Joanne Kiser for the beautiful plein air painting of the cremation site and permission to use the image

Martin Macaulay: layout for CEOLP notecards incorporating Jo Anne Kiser's painting

Zienna Stewart and Mae Greene: Death Café poster designs

Bruce Becker: flute

Elianna Krakauer: musical accompaniment

Barbara Dose: drumming circle

Leigh Ann Phillips: Tibetan Singing Bowls

Taiko Drummers

The Carmelites: donation of incensor

Shahna Lax, Studio Moresca: copper memorial plaques and 'Tree of Life' piece

in kiosk, donated by Karen Lovejoy

Lynn Drake: ceremonial urns and ceramic finials on site posts

Blue Earth Design, Bruce Nygren/Adam Kinney: stretchers

Maha Lakshmi Shop/Haidakhandi Universal Ashram: saris for shrouds

Jillian Klarl and Benjamin Byer for use of 'Jillian's Studio' to hold meetings and events

The Toppings for use of their home for meetings and equipment storage

Curt's Store: Bernadette and Curt, event hosts

Crestone Mercantile: Elaine Johnson and Steve McDowell

The Elephant Cloud: Michelle and Benjie, event hosts

Bob's Diner: Steve McDowell, event hosts

The Desert Sage: Ling and Tsering, event hosts

The Painted Skye Café space: McGregor Gaines and Dick Blumenhein, event hosts

Saguache County Credit Union

Aventa Credit Union

Marilyn Bunker, notary public

Founding Members and those whose participation has sustained the organization:

Rainbow and Bob Adler • Noah Baen • Tessa Bielecki • Lorraine Cazier • Matthew

Crowley • Greg Davis • Malina Feder • Susan Fey • Kathleen Haas • Wayne Halstrom

• Barbara and William Howell • Paul Kloppenburg • Jeanie Krogh • Lynda Kucin

• Naomi Mattis • Allison McClure • Michael Onewing • Thomas Ontko • Mary

and Vince Palermo • Marta Shoman • Annette Marie Guy Standing • Anna Louise

Stewart • Mark Talbot • Julia Voss • Kathleen Willow • Allison Wonderland

To those who have taken on the sometimes onerous task of serving as board members over the years; to those who have volunteered in any capacity; to those who have been financial donors and, especially, to those who chose to honor the Crestone End of Life Project by allowing us to serve them at the time of life's greatest transition.

We bow to you all in deep gratitude.

Did you know...?

- It takes a minimum of 12 to 20 CEOLP volunteers for each open-air cremation, whether for an intimate, family-only ceremony or one with dozens of people in attendance.
- CEOLP is permitted to serve any Saguache County resident who has lived in the county for more than three months. For those living west of County Road 65, certain requirements must be fulfilled by family or friends of the deceased in order for a cremation to take place.
- We offer open-air cremation services for adults or children, age 7 and older.
- CEOLP does not provide burial services but can assist with family-directed home funerals and arrangements with the Crestone town cemetery, either for conventional or green burial.
- Over the past ten years CEOLP has compiled a lending library of richly diverse, interesting, and helpful books, magazines, DVDs, tapes, and other materials. These cover issues related to mortality, caregiving, end-of-life matters, dying, and death—both from practical and spiritual perspectives. Email gussie7@fairpoint.net for more information.
- CEOLP works directly with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Saguache County Land Use officials, Saguache County Commissioners, the Rio Grande County Clerk, county coroners, Hospice del Valle in Alamosa, and area hospitals and nursing homes.
- Informed Final Choices (IFC), the educational outreach arm that serves as a sister organization to CEOLP, has received Saguache County Sales Tax grants and grant money from the Los Angeles-based Annenberg Foundation. These funds go toward public educational workshops on advance directives and other end-of-life issues.
- In the past ten years CEOLP and IFC have sponsored more than 20 public events, including Death Cafés, registration parties, workshops, and trainings around the Valley.
- CEOLP provides training to its volunteers at least once a year in areas of care of the body, cremation fire, documentation, site maintenance, hosting—vital to cremations.
- Both CEOLP and IFC maintain comprehensive implementation and operations manuals available to volunteers.
- IFC is working with groups around the United States interested in establishing natural green burial sites, end-of-life support groups, or open-air cremation organizations.
- CEOLP has been featured in articles in national publications including the *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, *New Yorker*, and the Cremation Association of North America.
- A new book by Los Angeles-based progressive mortician and best-selling author Caitlin Doughty includes an entire chapter on CEOLP. *From Here to Eternity: Traveling the World to Find the Good Death* is set for release Oct. 3.
- CEOLP has held open-to-the-public meetings every month without fail for the past ten years, with anywhere from seven to two dozen people attending each month—and will continue to do so. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the Little Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church in downtown Crestone. Everyone is welcome—come join this distinctly un-morbid group in meetings that combine heart and humor, always with complete dedication to service at a sacred moment in life. For information, call (719) 588-7415.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

The next CEOLP open meeting will be Wednesday, October 11 at 7 p.m.

in the fellowship hall of the Little Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church in downtown Crestone. Everyone welcome!

www.informedfinalchoices.org • ceolp.info@gmail.com • 719-588-7415

CEOLP, PO Box 1238, Crestone, CO 81131

Crestone End of Life Project's 10th anniversary—join us!

Celebrate the Crestone End of Life Project's ten years of service to the community by joining other community members in a series of special events this month sponsored by CEOLP and IFC (Informed Final Choices, CEOLP's educational outreach arm.) Learn about CEOLP, share experiences, thoughts, and feelings, explore your own relationship to death and dying, and gain valuable information on end-of-life issues.

Sunday, Oct. 1, 11am to 1pm: Cremation site tour. Meet at 11am at the Fellowship Hall of the Little Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church. We'll begin with refreshments and a screening of the 20-minute film, *Open Air*, by Adam Sekuler (about Crestone resident Robin Ross's 2015 cremation), followed by a guided tour of the cremation site. Free.

Saturday, Oct. 7, 11am to 1pm: Cemetery tour. Meet at the Fellowship Hall of the Little Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church. View the film, *A Family Undertaking*, with refreshments, followed by a guided tour of the Crestone Cemetery (Rain date: Oct. 8). Free.

Saturday, Oct. 21, 1:30-3:30pm: Death Café (beginning promptly at 1:30) at the Desert Sage Restaurant. Join us for tea, cookies, and conversation with friends, neighbors, and even strangers, to share your thoughts on that which is common to us all: mortality. This is an opportunity for intimate conversation in a warm and inviting setting—no agenda, no philosophy, and no pre-determined outcome. To register or for more information, call Malina Feder at 719-256-4211 or Gussie Fauntleroy at 719-256-5367. Visit www.deathcafe.com to learn about the Death Café movement, its origins and goals to support open conversation to address end-of-life concerns. Free.

Saturday, Oct. 28, 10:30-4:30: Contemplative Arts workshop (location TBA). A rare opportunity to explore in depth our experiences, feelings, beliefs, and attitudes toward dying and death, using simple art materials, imagination, and heart. Led by artist and art educator Noah Baen. "Art & Dying: Embracing Mortality through Art" is a hands-on and contemplative event. Periods of meditative quiet and reflection are interspersed with immersive, even playful forms of art expression. Life-cycle celebrant Patricia Eagle, former leader of the Alamosa Threshold Choir, will bring in a dimension of song. "We'll



A cremation at Crestone End of Life Project's Crestone cremation site.

use the senses to get beyond mental thoughts and concepts and engage heart and spirit in an exploration of personal questions as we sink deeply into the emotional and spiritual levels, and the unknown," Noah says. No art or music experience is required. The workshop provides a safe, open, supportive and non-judgmental environment that honors and shares the diversity of people's experiences and attitudes. \$35 includes all materials. Snacks and beverages provided; participants should bring a bag lunch. Pre-registration is required and space is limited to 12 participants. Scholarships are available. For more information and to register, contact Noah at 719-256-4182, 917-392-6962 or noahbaen@yahoo.com.

Saturday, Nov. 4: Advance directives workshop and registration party (location TBA). 11-12:30, free screening of the 30-minute documentary, *Speaking of Dying*, followed by an informational presentation on advance directives. CEOLP registration party, 1 to 3pm. Registration packets will be available and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions. Light refreshments. A copy machine and notary public will be available, allowing you to complete the CEOLP registration paperwork in one sitting. A \$10 donation is requested for printing/handling and a \$5 charge for notary services. Please bring with you the addresses and phone numbers for your physician or caregiver and next of kin or family members or legal guardians who will act as your representatives. For more information, contact Stephanie Gaines at 588-7415 or ceolp.info@gmail.com, or Denise Peine, 303-828-7041, 719-256-4644 or rabinalense@hotmail.com.



Informed Final Choices

by Mark Talbot

My inspiration for the Crestone End of Life Project logo (Now Informed Final Choices) came sometime back in 2011. I had taken my sketchbook to the park somewhere in late summer, early autumn. As I sat on the grass looking up into a tree I could see some leaves just beginning to yellow, and I imagined seeing the tree almost as in time-lapse; its leaves yellowed, browned, and then blown away in the wind to decompose. As I continued to sit, I imagined its roots in the ground, almost mirroring the structure above. The obviousness of the metaphor of above/below, life/death, light/shadow, yin/yang all seemed perfect. As I sketched, the final nuance came with the image of a bird flying from the tree—much as I imagine the soul departs when the winter winds of impermanence strip the last life from our form to liberate us from the bonds of the body, so we can take wing and join with whatever is next.

New book brings national awareness to CEOLP

Caitlin Doughty, Los Angeles-based progressive mortician, best-selling author, and friend of CEOLP, has a new book out Oct. 3 that includes an entire chapter on CEOLP. Doughty has visited Crestone and strongly endorses CEOLP's community and family-based approach to respectful, sacred disposition through open-air cremation.

Here's what has been said about her new book: "The best-selling author of *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes* expands our sense of what it means to treat the dead with "dignity." Fascinated by our pervasive fear of dead bodies, mortician Caitlin Doughty set out to discover how other cultures care for the dead. *From Here to Eternity: Traveling the World to Find the Good Death* is an immersive global journey that introduces compelling, powerful rituals almost entirely unknown in America."

Doughty will be at the Denver Public Library Sat., Oct. 21, 7-9pm for an author talk and book signing. Seating is limited; please register online (denverlibrary.org/communityevents) or call 720-865-1205. View Doughty's complete book tour schedule: caitlindoughty.com and click on Events.

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Haidakhandi Universal Ashram news

by Ramloti

September has been beautiful and full at the Ashram. Fall Navratri was busy and wonderful as always.

We are grateful to say that we raised a fair amount of money for our driveway upgrade that is way over due. We still have a ways to go so if you are able to contribute, to our GoFundMe campaign at www.gofundme.com/repair-ashram-driveway. Please do and remember even a little is a big help. Thank you.

Our big celebration this month is Diwali, the Festival of Lights. We will begin with our new-moon fire ceremony that morning and meal. After that we will spend the day setting up candles, luminaries, decorating the temple and earthship and preparing food for the evening. This year we will begin with aarati at 5pm and the sharing songs of peace and light will go from 6pm until 7:30. We hope you can join us for this special event.

Our full-moon fire ceremony this month is on Thursday, October 5 and the new-moon fire ceremony is on Thursday, October 19 (Diwali), both begin at 10am and are followed by a meal. Morning aarati is at 7am and evening aarati is at 6pm. At 8am there is generally a small fire ceremony when we do not have a large one. Call us at 719-256-4108 for proper protocol for attending fire ceremonies and any other questions.

The Maha Lakshmi Shop has just received lots of new items: brass statues, cloth items, earrings, bracelets, journals, purses,



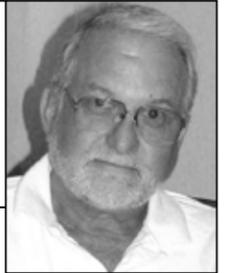
Diwali, Festival of Lights at the Ashram on Thursday, October 19. 5pm aarati, 6pm - 7:30pm sharing songs of peace and light.

Christmas ornaments, and much more. We also have an overflowing amount of gently used clothes which are 50% off this month. The shop is open every day from 10am until 5pm. We invite you to come in and look around. We deeply appreciate your support. If you mention this article you will receive 10% off your purchase, except for sale items. You may view some of what is in our shop on our website at <http://mahalakshishop.wazala.com>.

For more information about the Ashram, please visit our website at www.babajiashram.org. All are invited to our monthly Ashram Board of Directors' meeting, which is on Sunday, October 15 at 10am. Please call the Ashram for an agenda. We also invite you to visit the Ashram at any time. We love to share Shri Babaji's and Mother's home with others. Just drop by or give us a call at 719-256-4108.

Messages from the heart of God

Free Spirit Christian Church



Enter into My rest

by Earl LeRoy

When you go to sleep you fall into unconsciousness. In essence, you surrender yourself to a state of being that you do not control. You surrender to this state every day and yet you have trouble surrendering to My Holy Spirit to be led into My Kingdom on earth. "On earth as it is in heaven."

Your mind, will and emotions, which are your soul, are really in the middle of your being. If the soul leads you, you will find yourself in confusion and chaos. If your body leads you, you will find yourself in abominations of the flesh. If your spirit leads you by My Holy Spirit, you will enjoy My life and My abundance. I am calling you to enter into My rest which is a rest that brings peace that passes all understanding, and comfort to your soul and body.

Doctors can help the soul and the body by providing care that they have learned. There is a higher realm that is not limited by the wisdom of man. The realm of the spirit is unlimited, (unrestricted by time, space and strength) and it can manifest life in all three areas of man: body, soul and spirit. When you enter into My rest, it is a rest from your trials and anxieties. Part of the rest is the knowing that comes from faith that knows nothing is impossible with Me.

My rest is the rest of faith that is certain. When you are led by My Spirit, all things work for good. When you live My Word by faith, you know this and there is no worry, fear or anxiety.

My rest first came when I finished creation and I rested and enjoyed the majesty of the universe. My second rest is the rest I now enjoy when My children enter the kingdom I created for them, and do My works in My Kingdom on earth. Jesus is your example because He did the works I led Him by the Holy Spirit under the Old Covenant. Now you can enter My rest by doing the My works under the New Covenant. You don't need to labor in your strength to accomplish My will. Your rest comes by dying to the flesh and living in the spirit by the power of My Holy Spirit when you ask My Son Jesus in your heart.

I am calling all of you to come into the promised land that I have given you when you believe and receive what Jesus has already done for you. Your spirit becomes alive when you let My spirit touch yours. You become a new creation . . . old things are passed away, behold, all things become new! The Kingdom of heaven is yours and I invite you to enter in and enjoy My rest. Then you will learn to love others as yourself. You will walk in the same power and authority that Jesus walked in. This is My rest for you. Now enjoy it with Me.

Love,
Abba

"Messages from the heart of God" is sponsored by the Free Spirit Christian Church

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Prayer Breakfast every 2nd Saturday	8:00 am

* Please feel free to call Earl LeRoy at 719-650-9737 or Tim Brenner at 588-1857 if you have any questions.

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Diane is a children's book author, host of The Fairy Train radio hour and other fun stuff. Her books can be found at local stores. For more info go to her website below.

www.gypsypoetproductions.com

The Jokester

- Why did the witches cancel their baseball game?**
They couldn't find their bats.
- What do monsters turn on in the summer time?**
The scare conditioner.
- What is the best way to speak to a monster?**
From a long distance away!
- Where do baby ghosts go during the day?**
Day-scare centers.
- What is the most important subject a witch learns in school?**
Spelling.
- Why didn't the skeleton go to the ball?**
Because he had no BODY to go with.
- What do witches put on their hair?**
Scare spray.
- Why do witches ride on broomsticks?**

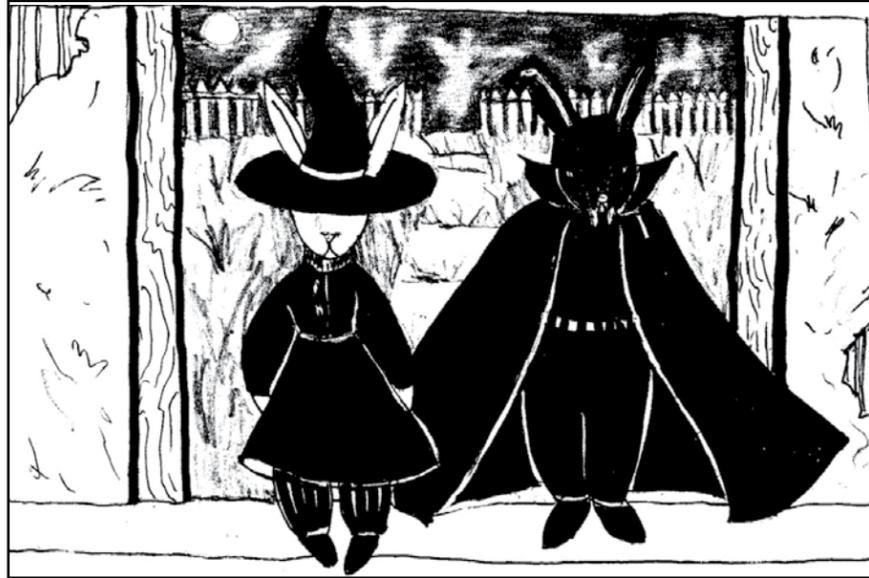


Because vacuum cleaners are too heavy

- Why didn't the skeleton want to go to school?**
His heart wasn't in it.
- What room does a ghost not need?**
A living room!
- What does a skeleton say before dinner?**
Bone appetit!
- What did the ghost say to the other ghost?**
Do you believe in humans?
- What do vampires take when they are sick?**
Coffin drops!
- Why didn't the mummy have any friends?**
Because he was wrapped up in himself!
- What did the skeleton order for dinner?**
Spara ribs!
- Where should a 500 pound monster go?**
On a diet!
- Why did the vampire flunk art class?**
Because he could only draw blood!
- What do you get when you cross a teacher and a vampire?**
A blood test!
- Which witch is good when it's dark?**
A lights-witch!
- What's the best way to talk to a monster?**
From afar!

The Haunted Manse

A Poppy & Pierre Adventure
Story by M. Diane Bairstow - Drawing by Ginny Ducale



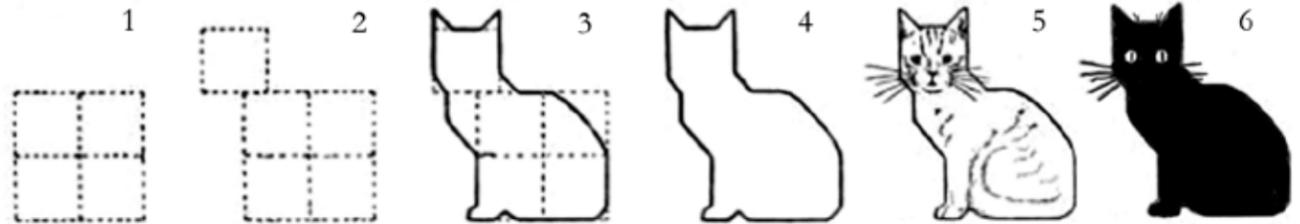
Poppy, the witch and Pierre, the vampire already had their sacks full of treats when a cold wind blew and a sudden rain soaked their costumes. Thunder rumbled. A bolt of lightning struck a tree and it fell right across their path.

"There's a house!" Poppy pointed and they ran for it.

A light shone in the window and when they stepped onto the porch, the door creaked open revealing a long hall with a spiral staircase.

"Hello!" they both called, "is anybody

Draw a cat for Halloween color it black!



home?" No answer came.

"Look a fireplace." Poppy pointed to a room off the hall, and the bunnies cautiously crept inside lured by warmth and shelter.

Portraits of stern faced men and women stared down at them. Cobwebs hung everywhere, but there was a couch and a warm fire, and soon the bunnies were warm and fast asleep.

"Dong ... dong ... dong ..." Poppy awoke as the clock chimed midnight and suddenly the door blew open. A beautiful girl carrying a candle stepped inside.

"Hello!" Poppy said.

The girl didn't speak, but proceeded

up the spiral staircase. Another girl followed, then another. Then a candle appeared in Poppy's paw, and she followed the procession up the stairs.

At the very top floor, the first girl climbed onto a chair, pushed open a window, and stepped out into the night. The second girl followed.

"Poppy!" She heard Pierre, but it didn't seem important now because it was her turn. She stepped onto the chair, and then she was falling backwards.

Pierre had grabbed the hem of her skirt and kept her from stepping out of the window.

"What happened?" Poppy sat up and looked around.

There was a full moon, and they were sitting in the middle of an empty lot. The ground was dry beneath them.

"Poppy! Pierre!" A carriage came into view and the bunnies ran to the sound of M. Colette and Mr. Jonathan's voices.

The bunnies took turns telling all about the storm and the haunted house, but now they were confused because there wasn't any house and everything was dry.

"There was an orphanage here once." Mr. Jonathan said, "It closed down a few years ago amidst a scandal. There had been some suicides. I don't think anyone was ever convicted."

"Why did they kill themselves?" Poppy exclaimed.

"I'll find out," Mr. Jonathan assured her, "and I'll see that whoever is to blame is brought to justice so those girl can finally be at peace."

At home, M. Colette put the bunnies to bed and sang sweetly to them until at last they drifted off to sleep.

Bat Facts



Bats are flying mammals. Humans are mammals too!
There are over 1000 different bat species. Bats are nocturnal (active at night). Bats 'see' in the dark by 'echolocation.' They make sounds their mouths or noses, and when the sound bounces off an object it returns to the bats' ears, and they can tell how close and where the object is by how quickly and from what direction the sound returns. If there is no echo, they can fly safely forward. Some bats live by themselves while others live in caves with thousands of other bats. Bats can live for over 20 years, and can be very beneficial in control of mosquitoes and crop destroying moths, beetles, flies and gnats. Most bats feed on insects. However, there are 3 species of vampire bats that feed solely on blood. The common vampire bat feeds mostly on the blood of mammals. They have small and extremely sharp teeth which are capable of piercing an animal's skin (humans included) without them even noticing. The hairy-legged vampire bat and white-winged vampire bat feed on the blood of birds. Vampire bats can carry rabies, making their bites potentially dangerous.

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Moffat School—Cowboy news

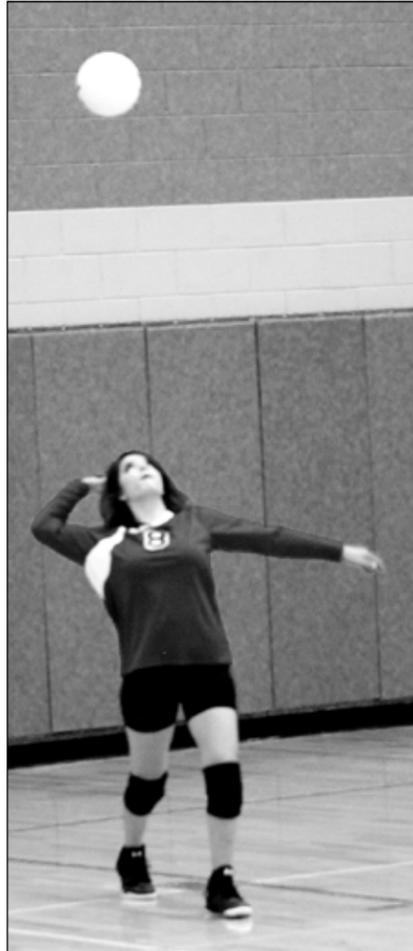
by **Jillian Sciacca,**
Principal

It is hard to believe that it is already October! Learning and growing are in full swing at the Moffat School. While our students have been growing academically, our school is growing in population. At the end of last year, we had around 100 students and this year, and we are at approximately 150 students. This is exciting for us and we are quickly making adjustments to ensure that we are meeting the needs of all students throughout our school.

During the last week of September, we celebrated Homecoming week. Some of our activities included a freshman welcome breakfast sponsored by the senior class and a spirit assembly. Our middle school and high school students elected student council officers and class representatives who will begin planning fun events throughout the school year. Our elementary students have been working hard to keep their classrooms clean to be awarded the coveted Golden Plunger Award and Cowboy Bucks. Our youngest friends have been exploring aerodynamics with the use of their classroom wind tunnel and learning about the letters of the alphabet.

I am excited to see what engaging learning opportunities Mof-

fat's incredible teachers provide for students throughout the fall. Enjoy the beautiful fall colors.



9th grader Malana Ramadei serves a ball at our first home volleyball game.



Sixth grade student Logan Gallegos eats his lunch, which was provided in part by Brightwater Farms and White Rock Specialties, part of the San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition.

Moffat School Counselor's corner

by **Elise Lavato,**
Moffat School Counselor

October is College Application Month (CAM) which is sponsored by College in Colorado. The goal of CAM is to encourage all seniors to apply for college through the tools offered on CollegeInColorado.org. The main objectives of CAM are to increase the number of Colorado Seniors who apply to college, encourage first-generation students to apply, provide students with timelines and information that helps them through the application process and provide resources to schools that create a "college-going culture." Seniors also have the opportunity to win scholarships, laptops and College Go Packs. For more information about College Application Month please visit CollegeInColorado.org.

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Crestone Charter School

Fresh eyes on the start of a new school year at CCS

by M. E. VanWalleghan

On the way home after picking up my tired and happy daughter from the Crestone Charter School Fall Camp Out for the middle schoolers, I ask what was the thing she enjoyed the most about the trip. The reply: "I sunk to my knees in mud and got to wade around. It was fun and kind of weird." She liked a few other things as well including the solo sit, but the mud was captivating. She continued on explaining that the kids called the mud squishy and when there was a lot of it "the squishy was serious . . ."

I get it. Starting the new school year in a new town and being a parent of a new middle schooler at a new school has me feeling like "the squishy is serious now," too.

The first day of school can be exciting and the excitement was there for me as the first day extended into the evening for families, when we gathered for the Back To School Night Potluck. It was a welcomed opportunity to see the Crestone Charter School (CCS) in all its vibrancy. I especially enjoyed the opportunity to connect names to faces of staff, faculty, board, and the superintendent. As the first week came to a close, I also appreciated the opportunity to connect with my daughter's teachers personally during the first teacher conferences of the year, which included my daughter. It was refreshing to have her there and also quite helpful to discuss goals—academic and beyond—which for me really set the tone for the semester and the year, and illustrated the quality of partnership between parents and CCS in giving students the best education possible. I definitely feel affirmed that I have made the best choice for my daughter to go to CCS as the next step in her educational journey.

The second week of school after Labor Day had for middle schoolers three components: a School Sleepover on Wednesday—a chance for the middle schoolers to bond before their Fall Camp Out—then they participated on Thursday and Friday in the All School Camp Out, which as Debra Morley, CCS Business Manager explained "creates a family so everyone moving forward knows each other." For a new student these moments really impact the quality of connection with new classmates. And having intimate experiences so close to the beginning of the school year is really making the transition into a new school



Primary students on Clancy Walsh's Friendship bench. All-school camp out.

feel much less worrisome for me as a parent.

I wanted to see what the All School Camp Out was all about and so made a visit to check out this annual tradition. This year the camp out was presented at Earth Knack, owned by Intermediate teacher Robin Blankenship, who encouraged everyone in the assembled group to turn the fire sticks to begin the evening's activities. Robin affirmed each class contribution to making the fire possible and added ashes from the last year's camp out creating a symbolic note of the invisible bonds being made through these out-of-school experiences.

That second week concluded with the middle schoolers going on their Fall Camp Out to Crawford State Park and Black Canyon in Gunnison National Park. But they weren't the only ones off on big adventures. The high schoolers are participating in a Wilderness First Responder and Wilderness First Aid course in Crested Butte presented by the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), which was made possible by the Saguache County Sales Tax Grants, written by Grace Anderson, a parent of a recent CCS graduate and a middle schooler. Grace explained that last year after "surveying parents and students there was a desire for students to gain hands-on practical experiences."

Learning about the high school trip I could really see the line of growth and development that extends from kindergarten through graduation. As Jane Elliott, the new Early Elementary teacher, who enjoyed the All School Camp Out with her students, ex-

plained, "It's the first time many students have ventured to sleep away from home without their parents and it was a real opportunity to stretch themselves and be a little more independent away from their families." And so it goes at every stage of development. The expansion and growth for the high school students to return to the Crestone community with life-saving skills again affirms my decision have my daughter at CCS.

With a child in middle school I definitely have my eyes on what lies ahead for her in high school. And it was wonderful to hear how freshman River McCord along with new high school math teacher Mary Lyn Dominguez made over 80 quesadillas, dinner for the entire school and all assembled at the All School Camp Out. The contribution to community begins in school and continues outward—truly highlighted by River's example, one of many made by students everyday.

As a new parent at CCS, navigating the process of developing new connections can definitely feel slow, like walking through mud. It's hard to be the new kid in school as a parent/care-giver or as a student, but the welcoming traditions have really made the process much easier than expected. Before everyone headed out to the All School Camp Out, I watched as students participated in the All School Virtues Art project. This year's art project had a somber note and was dedicated to former CCS teacher Clancy Walsh, who died of cancer this past March. Beyond the memorial hosted at CCS this past August, the school used the art project to make a peaceful



Early Elementary student proudly building a tower.

memorial for Clancy. Overseen by Ashlee Jernigan and Shauna Ianson, the project featured a friendship rainbow, which was made up of student-painted rocks representing the different virtues, which were then placed near the Buddy Bench. The school divided into groups across the grades for the painting and placing task. I was struck again by how participating in a tradition makes one feel a part of community and begins the marking of time for a child at CCS as they move through the grades.

The newly created Buddy Bench was painted by Kristy Knight, constructed by Adam Kinney and dedicated by Jennifer Bridgeman, Clancy's wife. Sitting out in front of the school, the bench is inviting and is a special place to sit for reflection or connection—a poignant reminder of the deep connections being made in the Crestone Charter School community, which as a new parent touches me deeply. Seeing how the CCS community models how to remember those who have passed from the community, I again feel like my daughter has landed in a loving place.

Navigating "the new" definitely feels squishy: fun and weird at the same time. As parents and care-givers, whether new or long-standing members of the CCS community, at each stage of a child's development "stretching oneself" and moving toward more independence is the goal. Stepping into the Crestone Charter School community during the first two weeks of school has really highlighted how committed CCS is to building community and how community can create a safe place for students to develop their full potential as they move more and more out into the larger world of Crestone and beyond.

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The Washington Beat

A month of storms: Ending the world as we know it



by David Nicholas

September! Fall! No sooner did it hit September 1 than DC got crazier. When the DPRK—North Korea—set off its first hydrogen bomb thus snubbing its nose at us, South Korea, the UN, and anybody else in the region who had drawn lines in the sand if the DPRK dared do another nuclear explosion, the DPRK went right ahead and did it.

But we couldn't get our fear and loathing worked up about it right then because Hurricane Harvey roared ashore on the Texas' gulf coast and laid Houston, our fourth largest city, to ruin jolting the national psyche more. Many of the nation's largest petroleum and petro-chemical industries located from Houston to Port Arthur on the Texas coast were completely shut down as the storm raged. Some of the damaged refining and chemical plants made floodwaters a toxic sludge that either exploded or leaked deadly fumes. This all added to the shock and awe of Mother Nature in all her fury. A sight to see, no matter where you were.

Then while we spent a week trying to assess and catch our breath, Mr. Trump found circumstances that made it convenient to screw the Republican leadership in Congress by going with Democrats' deal on the debt ceiling that included emergency funding for Hurricane Harvey, a deal which passed the Senate within hours of it being agreed to, 80-17. The House followed the day after with 90 Republicans voting no.

At the same time Mr. Trump launched a furor over 800,000 DACA kids who would be tossed out of the only country they have ever known and where he backtracked just as quickly. He generated a storm of protest that shut out the positive narrative of the Harvey cleanup.

Then Hurricane Irma made her presence known. NOAA provided breathtaking coverage as the storm built up to a category five. It hit the Caribbean island nations and headed towards Florida, resurrecting Hurricane Andrew images. You could not be faulted for speculating that Mother Nature was teaching a lesson to all of us by to cleansing Florida and other states in the southeast of climate change deniers.

So, when the brunt of Irma dissipated over the midwest and mid-Atlantic states, the Trump-Russia Investigation (it now has official initials, TRI) took up much of the rest of the news as GOP committee chairmen tried to stymie and deflect the progress of the Mueller investigation. Meanwhile Mr. Trump was shedding his closest comrade-in-arms, Steve Bannon.

Democrats in the driver's seat

The idea that the Democrats may be controlling Congress became a thing in September. While

it is to be savored, it won't last. One would be a fool to think that it was anything other than an opportunity to have chocolate crème pie and eat it too at the White House and make Republicans look like chastised clowns, which is what happened.

Where Democrats are concerned, every action should be viewed through the 2018 midterm elections. Cooperation with Mr. Trump in those "Chuck and Nancy" White House din-din/photo ops is to dispel the notion that Democrats are obstructionists. As the 2018 campaign starts gaining momentum, the appearance of cooperation isn't costing Democrats any political capital.

It's best to take this love fest as it comes, because it probably won't last. So, taking the long-term view is best in my view because the short-term is just, well, creepy, because an irrational outburst can occur at any moment and hostilities can resume.

Thus, increasing the debt ceiling keeps Democratic policies in place when Mr. Trump and the Republicans want cuts, savage cuts, in the budget. So, there is no skin off the nose for Dems right now. Support for Mr. Trump's DACA legislation, over which conservative Republicans in Congress want to burn him in effigy, is good for Democrats.

House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) was visibly angry at press conferences, having to negatively modify or correct the state of play on a popular issue—and DACA legislation has 75% popular support—has the Democrat leadership in charge of the issue.

It is likely that a House DACA bill will be watered down by the GOP if the party can agree on a version without Democratic support. If that happens Democrats get the high ground among Hispanics going forward because opposing this version as a travesty is morally right.

On the other hand, if Mr. Ryan actually goes to House Minority leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) to support a DACA bill then it will have to have the detail that President Obama signed off on in his executive order and Democrats get the credit.

Then any version that passes the House reaches the Senate; if there are enough GOP Senators to side with Democrats to either ensure or insert President Obama's conditions in the bill which then passes and goes to Mr. Trump for his signature.

If it all goes pear-shaped, GOP gets the blame. Democrats emerge smelling like a rose.

War drums on the peninsula

When Mr. Trump started trash-talking the DPRK's nuclear program policy from-the-hip—the "Fire and Fury" ultimatum—the

Democratic People's Republic of Korea wanted two, maybe three things; 1) to recognize the 49th parallel armistice line as a permanent border; 2) recognize the DPRK as a nuclear power; and 3) enter into negotiations as a nuclear power equal to the US and ease up on the existing sanctions.

We know that's all they have been asking for because they said as much again every time they have exploded a bomb or fired a missile since the beginning of the year.

But with the fool in the White House and Nikki Halley full of vim and vinegar, Madam Ambassador (who should never be allowed to set foot inside the UN building), with her usual jingoistic bellicosity amps up the tension by ordering up one emergency session after another. For her to show off her prowess is the last thing this crisis needs. But here we are, because it's not working.

So, this "Korea Thing" is out of control.

If this posturing on our part is intended to apply pressure to China and Russia to get more involved in applying sanctions, then it's certainly not working. Both China and Russia at present pay lip service by voting "Yes" to Nikki Halley's sanctions resolutions, but they are just doing what they always do, trade with DPRK. The PRC has increased its trade with North Korea over the last year by some 20%.

The Trump Administration knows this. The opening of the UN General Assembly and a week of meetings with other countries' leadership was a bust. The General Assembly always politely applauds US speeches and then diplomats head to the bar. The two people who matter in the dialogue, China's President Xi Jinping and Russia's Vladimir Putin, were absent.

But let me be clear. Any preemptive strike on the DPRK brings on a world of hurt the like of which has never been seen. A mistake by one, and the rest of us will pay for it.

Ryan's tax reform: Tariffs, tariffs, tariffs

Tax Reform is said now to be at the top of the GOP agenda for October. It's worth noting that the last time there was tax reform on such a grand scale was 1986 when Ronald Reagan was President.

Republicans want tax rates to be cut.

The president in his "Chuck and Nancy" dinner chats says corporate tax should be cut from 35% to 15%. But to make up revenue to replace money/offsets lost with the cuts, Speaker Paul Ryan was championing a novel policy known as a border-adjustment tax, which would equalize the tax treatment of domestically produced goods and imported goods—in short, tariffs. Tariffs were outlawed when countries established the World Trade Organization in 1992.

An example is that a Chinese-made shirt which sells at Walmart for \$14-\$18 would have a tariff placed on it to equal the price of one made in South Carolina for \$30.

In theory, this would raise about a trillion dollars over a decade and help offset the deep cuts to both personal and corporate tax rates that Republicans want. But

the plan was panned by business interests and never embraced by the White House.

A Congressional vote in the next 30 days that everyone can agree on is a long shot. The past two times tax reform was tried, it took years. The one thing to say that is certain: Winter is coming. Yes, it is.

Rex Tillerson out at State?

Apparently, a Texas oilman does not a Trump Secretary of State make. When Putin's servant made Rex Tillerson his Secretary of State we were told to expect great things.

The Iran deal was supposed to be scuttled; the sharp rhetoric on North Korea was supposed to back up his master; Qatar was supposed to be brought to heel to the new big dog in the Middle East, Saudi Arabia. Mr. Tillerson demurred on all three. Sensibly, I have to say, but it has cost him. Also, Mr. Tillerson might well be pro-Russian but normalizing diplomatic relations with Trump's master has not come to pass. A lot of strikes there in Trump world.

He made enemies from Congressional foreign policy mavens who want a dogmatic foreign policy on what they perceive as America's enemies, Iran in particular. When he made cuts of up to 30% to the State Department's budget he was blocked, and when he by-passed State in the decision-making, morale was said to be at all-time low.

It's no secret that Nikki Halley wants his job and he has pissed off his boss. But his boss won't fire him, so he's expected at some point to call it quits. We will see.

Pardoning a creep: Joe Arpaio

True to his vindictive self, this President pardoned this racist Arizona county sheriff. Mr. Trump argued that this racist anti-Hispanic was wrongly tried for breaking a new anti-discrimination law because he was "just doing his job".

The statement that accompanied Mr. Arpaio's pardon said, "Throughout his time as sheriff, Arpaio continued his life's work of protecting the public from the scourges of crime and illegal immigration . . . Sheriff Joe Arpaio is now 85 years old, and after more than 50 years of admirable service to our nation, he is a worthy candidate for a Presidential pardon."

In other words the usual b.s.

DACA: This President screws up yet again

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) was an executive order that President Barack Obama signed into policy in June 2012 because the GOP Congressional leadership, so intent on making President Obama fail, wouldn't even consider putting a bill forward. So, to undo this policy was an ugly promise Mr. Trump made on the campaign trail. On September 5, he made good his promise and was immediately, universally, denounced for it.

Two great things came out of the DACA furor that was denounced across the board by Republican and Democrat alike.

The first was that the outcry across the country was so immediate that promised to reverse the course of his vicious decision to sign any bill Congress sent to him about Obama's "Dreamers." Also, he

promised if Congress fails to pass legislation making the Dreamers legal, he would sign an executive order reinstating them.

Desperate to try and reverse his egregious act, Mr. Trump decided to do a second deal with the Democratic leadership by having “Chuck and Nancy” over for another White House dinner of Chinese and chocolate crème pie on September 13.

This “good news” was to control the narrative of the daily news cycle. The White House planned to announce it as soon as his guests left and make Mr. Trump look good, but minutes after the White House announcement, Senate Minority leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) put out a statement saying Mr. Trump had agreed to get a bill passed to legalize DACA with Democratic support. That did it. The right wing let loose an attack on Mr. Trump that has been relentless. No matter how Mr. Trump tried to spin when he made public appearances, the right-wing pundits went after him harder. By September 15, Mr. Bannon at Breitbart had Mr. Trump dubbed as “Amnesty Don.” Anne Coulter, right-wing commentator, and Laura Ingraham, conservative radio host, talk of impeaching their idol and yearning for “President Pence.” That’s where it is at time of writing.

The second thing was that former President Obama denounced Mr. Trump’s decision as soon as Trump made it. Mr. Obama issued an 800+ word statement denouncing the action.

Among his comments, President Obama said, “But that’s not what the action that the White House took today is about. This is about young people who grew up in America—kids who study in our schools, young adults who are starting careers, patriots who pledge allegiance to our flag. These Dreamers are Americans in their hearts, in their minds, in every single way but one: on paper. They were brought to this country by their parents, sometimes even as infants. They may not know a country besides ours. They may not even know a language besides English. They often have no idea they’re undocumented until they apply for a job, or college, or a driver’s license.

“Over the years, politicians of both parties have worked together to write legislation that would have told these young people—our young people—that if your parents brought you here as a child, if you’ve been here a certain number of years, and if you’re willing to go to college or serve in our military, then you’ll get a chance to stay and earn your citizenship. And for years while I was President, I asked Congress to send me such a bill.

“That bill never came. And because it made no sense to expel talented, driven, patriotic young people from the only country they know solely because of the actions of their parents, my administration acted to lift the shadow of deportation from these young people, so that they could continue to contribute to our communities and our country. We did so on the well-established legal principle of prosecutorial discretion, deployed by Dem-

ocratic and Republican presidents alike, because our immigration enforcement agencies have limited resources, and it makes sense to focus those resources on those who come illegally to this country to do us harm. Deportations of criminals went up. Some 800,000 young people stepped forward, met rigorous requirements, and went through background checks. And America grew stronger as a result.

“But today, that shadow has been cast over some of our best and brightest young people once again. To target these young people is wrong—because they have done nothing wrong. It is self-defeating—because they want to start new businesses, staff our labs, serve in our military, and otherwise contribute to the country we love. And it is cruel. What if our kid’s science teacher, or our friendly neighbor, turns out to be a Dreamer? Where are we supposed to send her? To a country she doesn’t know or remember, with a language she may not even speak?

“Let’s be clear: the action taken today isn’t required legally. It’s a political decision, and a moral question. Whatever concerns or complaints Americans may have about immigration in general, we shouldn’t threaten the future of this group of young people who are here through no fault of their own, who pose no threat, who are not taking away anything from the rest of us. They are that pitcher on our kid’s softball team, that first responder who helps out his community after a disaster, that cadet in ROTC who wants nothing more than to wear the uniform of the country that gave him a chance. Kicking them out won’t lower the unemployment rate, or lighten anyone’s taxes, or raise anybody’s wages.”

So, we will see how this plays out this month.

The politics of Irma

The problem is how much in emergency aid would Congress approve for Florida’s repair and recovery? No amount has been allocated at this point and any emergency funding needs a bill from Congress. It probably will take a lot of wheeling and dealing to get a second bill for hurricane damage because the GOP Congressional leadership is now pretty hostile, having been ambushed on the Harvey deal with the Democrats.

Whatever the amount, the billions allocated in the immediate rush to vote funds for Florida won’t be enough. Casting my eye at the destruction for a state that lies less than 30 feet above sea level, \$500 billion looks a mite conservative. Any amount of \$250 billion and above will likely see Congress—and the GOP conservative caucus in particular—balk at any large appropriation. So, south Florida will choke for a while as the GOP strings out making money available for relief.

The Trump-Russian investigation

All sources covering the Trump-Russia investigation say that the dots connecting the Russian government with the Trump campaign and Mr. Trump’s spawn are being connected. More stories appear by the day about the transgressions by ex-White House staff, former campaign employees, par-

ticularly former National Security Advisor Michael Flynn, his son Michael Jr., and Paul Manafort, were they in the pay of foreign governments, while serving on the campaign?

More, there are reports of dissonance among the White House lawyers on turning over material to the investigators. This story came from a *New York Times* reporter overhearing a heated conversation at a DC restaurant. The debate in Mr. Trump’s West Wing has pitted Donald F. McGahn II, the White House counsel, against Ty Cobb, brought in to manage a response to the investigation.

Briefly, Mr. Cobb argues for turning over as many of the emails and documents requested by the special counsel as possible in hopes of quickly ending the investigation—or at least its focus on Mr. Trump. Mr. McGahn supports cooperation, but has expressed worry about setting a precedent that would weaken the White House long after Mr. Trump’s tenure is over. We will see how this plays out.

Meanwhile the Trump-Russian dossier mentioned throughout the year still has currency in the investigation. The head of the private intelligence firm that Christopher Steele worked for was questioned in closed session for some ten hours by the Senate Judiciary Committee (Sen Chuck Grassley [R-IA], chair). A transcript at some point will be released.

More importantly, given that President Putin is getting pretty annoyed with his servant, it is not unexpected that at some point

a telling video that supports the dossier allegations will be made public.

The point is that a reckoning is coming. Yessir.

Trump at the UN: “Going to Hell”

It was an unfortunate speech on September 19 to the United Nations, but it was typical of Mr. Trump’s bellicosity. It was billed as being a “deeply philosophical speech.”

He bellowed as usual, lashing out at enemies near and far, citing DPRK (promising to “totally destroy” it), Iran (a “rogue nation”) and Venezuela (“preparing to take action”). Only a fool would say some nations were going to hell to a body of nations who in the main don’t recognize the concept, but Mr. Trump said it. Summing up, that is US foreign policy at this point.

It was telling that the Great Hall of the General Assembly was only half full to hear this immature rapture of ignorance compared to the standing-room-only speeches given by President Obama, calling for bipartisan efforts for peace and getting a consensus for climate change. The Trump speech was met with stony silence with only two smatterings of applause in the 41-minute speech, and at one point there was a general murmur of dissonance that halted Mr. Trump in mid-sentence.

An opportunity missed, in a speech casting darkness upon the world. The sooner Mr. Trump is removed, the safer we all will be.

And the beat goes on.

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Hacking the vote, cybersecurity and gerrymandering

Your vote is more valuable than ever!

by Lisa Cyriacks

Colorado is poised to implement post-election audits for the November 2017 election. Cybersecurity experts have long called for these audits as necessary to “test” the accuracy of vote counts. Colorado will be the first in the nation to implement “risk-limiting” audits of elections.

In August 2016 the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) began offering cybersecurity assistance to state and local officials, as part of preparation for the 2016 General Election. By the November election, 33 states and 36 cities and counties had either used tools or taken advice provided by DHS.

More recent events in August and September 2017 have revealed that millions of voters may have been subject to hacks of their personal and private information including names, addresses, dates of birth and social security numbers.

Many residents of Saguache County were recipients of letters from the State Court that their information may have been vulnerable to outside scrutiny since August 2016. It turns out that Colorado was not the only state affected. As many as 29 states have been identified as potentially having voter registration and election systems hacked in the 2016 election.

In May, President Trump created the Presidential Commission on Election Integrity to investigate electoral fraud in last November’s election, appointing Vice President Pence as its head. While the president has repeatedly argued that millions of unauthorized voters cast ballots, experts continue to debunk these claims.

Ostensibly the commission’s purpose is to evaluate the strengths and vulnerabilities of the voting process. In reality, its first task has been to investigate Trump’s contention that millions of votes were cast illegally in last November’s election—of which he was the winner.

Most election commissions and activists focus on solving problems that prevent citizens from voting or prevent their votes from being counted. Instead, the commission headed by Vice-President Pence has been focused on identifying inflated registration rolls in states like New Hampshire, trying to find voters who were fraudulently registered or were otherwise ineligible to vote rather than focusing on improving voting processes in future elections.

Despite claims otherwise, historians dispute that “election rigging” is something new. Instead they document a persistent culture of corruption that has long thrived in local, state, and national elections, beginning with the undemocratic practices of urban political machines during their heydays in the 19th and 20th centuries, forward to the controversial US 21st century elections. Nor, as evidenced by recent controversial elections from 2000 forward to 2016, does the problem seem to be resolved. The question remains what can be done to protect elections so vital to democracy.

Recently, the Kenyan Supreme Court annulled the country’s presidential election results, calling for a new election. The judges upheld the petition filed by the opposition candidate Raila Odinga, who claimed the electoral commission’s computer had been hacked to manipulate the outcome of the race. Without apportioning blame, the court ruled that the election was marred by irregularities and wasn’t conducted in accordance with the constitution.

This ruling is unprecedented on the African continent, and would never be considered in the United States.

In a recent interview with Rachel Maddow, former Secretary of State and presidential candidate Hillary Clinton opened the possibility that the legitimacy of the 2016 General Election could be questioned due to outside influence. At the same time, she acknowledged that there is no mechanism in place for challenging those results. Clinton’s comments are significant, since immediately after the election she urged her supporters to accept the results. She reminded her supporters that our democracy relies on “the peaceful transfer of power”.

Gerrymandering, as old as elections

The US Supreme Court in October will hear arguments in a landmark case pleaded by the Wisconsin legislature regarding gerrymandered district maps.

[Gerrymandering defined: to manipulate the boundaries of (an electoral constituency) so as to favor one party or class].

Last November, a panel of three federal judges declared that the state house plan adopted by Wisconsin’s Republican-controlled legislature in 2011 was an unconstitutional partisan gerrymander that violated both the Equal Protection Clause and the plaintiffs’ First Amendment freedom of association.

Highly partisan election maps have become a contentious issue in several states besides Wisconsin. Virginia and North Carolina have also redrawn their voting districts so as to strongly favor Republican candidates. These maps are being challenged in federal court. Texas has a case pending that challenges the state legislature’s district maps, claiming they have been drawn to disenfranchise voters of color.

At least two of these cases are to be heard by the US Supreme Court in October. Alabama, Georgia and Pennsylvania, among other states, also face court challenges to legislatively drawn maps, allegedly gerrymandered.

The result of the alleged gerrymandering is clear. *US News and World Report* reports that Republicans now hold a majority of state houses and state legislatures for the first time in American history. Republicans established a congressional majority of 241-194 over Democrats after the 2016 elections.

That majority represents a 10% margin in congressional seats, even though Republican candidates in the November election received just 1% more total votes nationwide.

Josef Stalin reportedly once said, “Those who vote decide nothing. Those who count the votes decide everything.”

The legendary quote’s meaning is relevant to election discussions today. Electronic voting machines and electronic vote counting systems are highly susceptible to outside interference.

It can be argued that people who believe the voting process is dishonest also tend not to vote, which is one possible explanation for the embarrassingly low voter turnout in recent elections.

An essential component to democracy is active participation by its citizens, especially by voting. Demanding that our leaders protect the rights of voters and the steps needed to ensure free and fair elections is just as essential.

COGCC drafts rules in response to fatal house explosion in Firestone

by Lisa Cyriacks

An April explosion in the town of Firestone that killed two people and injured a third is the impetus for new rules establishing standards for designing, testing and permanently shutting down flow lines attached to oil and gas wells.

Investigators into the explosion blamed odorless, unrefined natural gas leaking from a flow line that was thought to be out of service but was still attached to a well, with the valve turned to the open position. Gas had seeped from a severed line into the home’s basement.

Proximity of homes to wells and pipelines is a longstanding contentious issue in Colorado. In addition to explosions, like the one in Firestone, residents have worried about contaminated water, asthma and cancers.

The State’s Oil and Gas Commission published a rough outline for rules on September 8 with the goal of having draft rules ready by October 15. Public hearings on the rules will be held on December 11 and 12.

In 2016, members of the oil and gas industry dumped over \$15 million dollars into fighting a pair of ballot proposals that would limit oil and gas development in residential areas.

Those proposals—including one that would have increased the state setback to 2,500 feet—were defeated.

In 2013, after months of contentious debate, members of the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) voted to update the state’s setback regulations, increasing the existing distance of 150 feet in rural areas and 350 feet in urban areas to a uniform 500 feet statewide.

The setback from structures like above-ground utilities and public roads was bumped up to 200 feet, from 150 feet. The original safety setback of 150-feet was a calculation of 1.5 times the height of a drilling rig, meant to protect homes and buildings if a rig toppled over.

The new setback of 500 feet from homes was a compromise not necessarily based on scientific evidence but to satisfy the multitude of concerns from homeowners to members of the oil and gas industry. The setback addressed nuisances like noise and lighting issues. But, according to rule-making documents, there wasn’t enough data to address more serious problems like air emissions.

After the Firestone explosion, the new rules would require oil and gas operators to provide information about flow lines to the existing Call 8111 program, which marks the location of underground utilities at a property owner’s request.

More information available: <http://cogcc.state.co.us/#/home>



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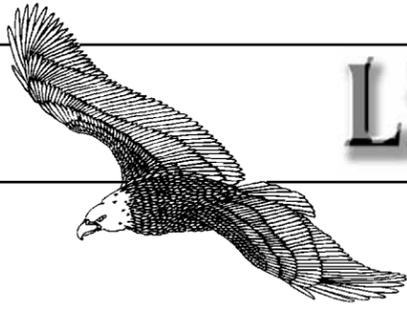
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Living on the Earth

The 'Ghost Town' of Liberty

by Mary Lowers

In late August I took a trip through the Liberty Gate at the southeast end of the Baca Grande and went back in time, to the day when miners and ranchers populated the area. I was fortunate along with my photographer friend Brisa Storey and old friend Patti Rodriguez in getting to tag along with multigenerational Crestonians: George Sherer, Anita Betts, and Shawn Hollmer on a trip to the privately owned ghost town of Liberty just across the old Baca Ranch boundary.

On the Liberty Road we drove through fields of brilliant yellow sunflowers, tall rich green grass, piñon and many tall pines towering over the smaller vegetation. The soil grew sandier and the air smelled more rarified. In 1904 Luther Gross, according to George Harlan's history of the area *Postmarks and Places*, commented, "my fondest memories of the trip to Liberty are the smell of piñon and yellow pine trees in the morning

after an evening rain and the sight of herds of antelope as they left the edge of the timber and raced to the open country where they would stop and watched the creaking mail buggy with its trotting span of horses pass out of sight."

Our first stop after crossing the wide, shallow, clear waters of Deadman Creek was the town site of Duncan. Of the some 1500 ghost towns in Colorado, Duncan and Liberty are among the most obscure. Duncan was founded by legendary miner and entrepreneur John Duncan, who found gold ore in a layer of quartz "float" near the town site. Duncan built his hand-hewed log cabin and began to sell town lots to miners looking for that big lode. When George Adams bought the Baca Ranch he contended that the residents of Duncan were "squatters" on his land because he thought he owned (or should own) not just grazing rights on the ranch but mineral and water rights as well. He took the case against the miners and their town



Our party of explorers (left to right) Shawn Hollmer, George Sherer, Mary Lowers, and Anita Betts in front of old schoolhouse in Liberty. The old town site of Liberty is privately owned property. Trespassing is prohibited and visitation is by permission only.

all photos by Brisa Storey



Stone foundations of miner's homes and businesses in Duncan.



George Sherer and Mary Lowers talking about the history of Liberty.



The old barber shop pictured here is now the caretaker's home in Liberty.

to the US Supreme Court. In 1893 Adams won the case and the eviction of the Duncan citizenry began.

US Marshalls tasked with clearing out the town took up residence in John Duncan's cabin, the only structure standing today in the former town. Residents were paid \$125 for each structure and were allowed to buy the buildings back for \$10 if they moved them. The ranch allowed Duncan's cabin to remain on site for the use of ranch employees while working this section, which was the most easterly part of the Baca Ranch back then. In 2011 the Forest Service, which managed the area, with a volunteer crew rebuilt the cabin log by log.

We stopped and wandered a bit around Duncan. While structures themselves are missing the stone foundations allowed those in the know like Sherer and Hollmer to describe the town. George says,

"We can only speculate what entire town looked like." As we walked we found treasures the rains had washed up, including stove parts, bottles, cans, china and glass from the mining days. It is important to remember to enjoy the artifacts but not take them with you. They tell more of history when in left in the context in which they were found. Shawn took us to see an apricot tree still flourishing in the ruins. He told me, "I found this tree in full flower when I came out here in the spring." Without another apricot tree close enough to pollinate it, the tree never bore fruit and was not torn up by bears and other critters after that fruit. Sherer and Hollmer had figured out where the old cemetery was west of the town site on a low hill.

According to *Postmarks and Places*, "Upon their eviction from the Grant, evacuees from Duncan

continued on page B-11



by Kim Malville

Jupiter will be visible for only a few days in the western twilight at the beginning of October. It will reach conjunction with the sun on October 26 and then it will reappear in the morning skies around November 7. Saturn will, however, will be visible low in the southwest twilight throughout October, dropping closer and closer to the sun each week.

The Death of Cassini

After 20 years in space and 13 years orbiting Saturn, Cassini, died at 7:55am EST on Friday, September 15. Before being torn apart by Saturn's atmosphere, Cassini sent back some phenomenal photographs, which we will see soon. Before its final plunge into Saturn's atmosphere, Cassini spent four months diving in the dangerous un-probed region between the planet and its rings, making detailed measurements of the rings in order to determine if they were primarily rock or ice.

NASA ended Cassini's mission by sending the probe into Saturn's atmosphere because there was the fear of contaminating the planet's moons. There was fear that microbes from Earth may have stowed away on board while Cassini was being built here on Earth. Because Cassini's radioisotope thermoelectric generator (RTG) was still functioning and still hot, it was possible that those microbes could still be alive and could taint worlds that may already have their own kind of life. Left to wander aimlessly without commands from the earth through the Saturn system, Cassini might have accidentally crashed onto the surface of a moon, such as Enceladus. The crash wouldn't necessarily have killed all the microbes, and the hot RTG could help the probe slowly to melt through the ice and contaminate its underground water ocean for eternity. These RTGs provide electrical power using heat from the natural radioactive decay of plutonium-238, in the form of plutonium dioxide. The large difference in temperature between this hot fuel and the cold environment of space is applied across thermocouples, which generates an electrical current using no moving parts.

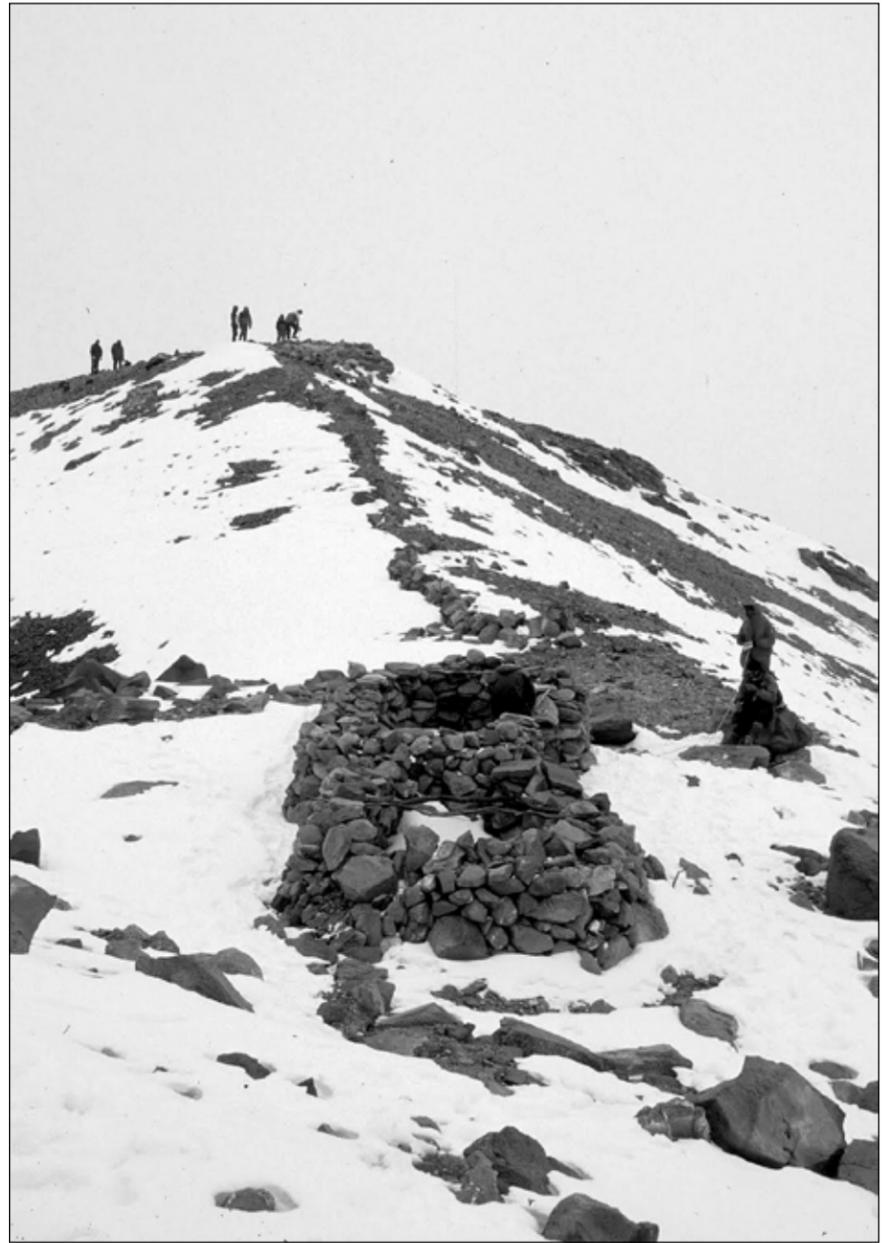
Kudos to Cassini.

Thanks to the 13 years of exploration, we know that Titan has oceans of liquid methane and Enceladus has an underground ocean of water beneath cracked shell of ice. In the bottom of that ocean there may be hot plumes of water, like those erupting from the rifts deep in the Earth's oceans, which serve as nurseries of life. Cassini was also responsible for discovering six named moons, and finally, Cassini, went where no one has gone before, making its deep dive into the thick atmosphere of Saturn, during which it was destroyed in an explosion, with a flash but no fire because there is no oxygen in Saturn's atmosphere. Not bad, Cassini; rest in peace.

Death & astronomy in the high Andes

The Incas are renowned for their architecture, skillful masonry, complex political organization and their knowledge of astronomy. Perhaps their most remarkable achievement was the ascent and the building of ceremonial structures on many of the highest peaks of the Andes, including the mountain Llullaillaco with an altitude of 22,110 feet, containing the world's highest archaeological site. The mountain is on the Chilean-Argentine border, east of Antofagasta, some 750 miles south of Cusco. It was climbed by the Inca sometime around 1500, probably close to December solstice—the start of the climbing season—and then not again until 1952 when two Chilean climbers, anticipating the glory of a first ascent, were disappointed to discover they were not the first.

Many of these mountaintop shrines, of which there may be over 100, were the sites of capacocha ceremonies. There are 16 shrines for which mummies have been documented and these almost entirely involved child sacrifice, boys of ages 4 to 10 and teenage girls chosen for their beauty and perfection, who were offered to the sun, and mountain deities. According to Spanish chroniclers, offerings on the summits were made after state-supported pilgrimages, which often involved weeks or months of



Rooms on the summit of Llullaillaco, 22,110 feet.

photo by Johan Reinhard

travel, covering distances of 1000 km or more. They included priests, officials, assistants, local inhabitants, the child to be sacrificed, and sometimes proud parents.

Once on the summit, the party would have spent the night either in the two rooms or behind a windbreak. Whether it was in the rooms or behind the windbreak, spending the night at such a high altitude would have been an excruciating test of endurance, as any climber who has bivouacked at high altitudes can attest. Clearly, they did not have down sleeping bags or down jackets, but some of the discomfort may have been alleviated by chewing coca leaves. When the first gleam of the sun appeared, its location would have been burned in the memories of those waiting for the dawn. Few sunrises could have been greeted more enthusiastically than by those who spent a frigid night on the summit of Llullaillaco.

The platform on top contained the bodies of three children, a 13-year-old girl and a boy and girl aged 4-5 years. The young boy may have been seated facing the rising sun on December solstice. The 13-year-old girl was facing northeast approximately in the direction of June solstice sunrise. This possibility would be truly extraordinary because the mountain cannot be climbed in June. How could they have oriented the body? June solstice sunrise is opposite December solstice sunset. To determine the location of June solstice sunrise, they only needed to mark the direction of sunset on December solstice and turn the opposite direction.

All children had been careful-

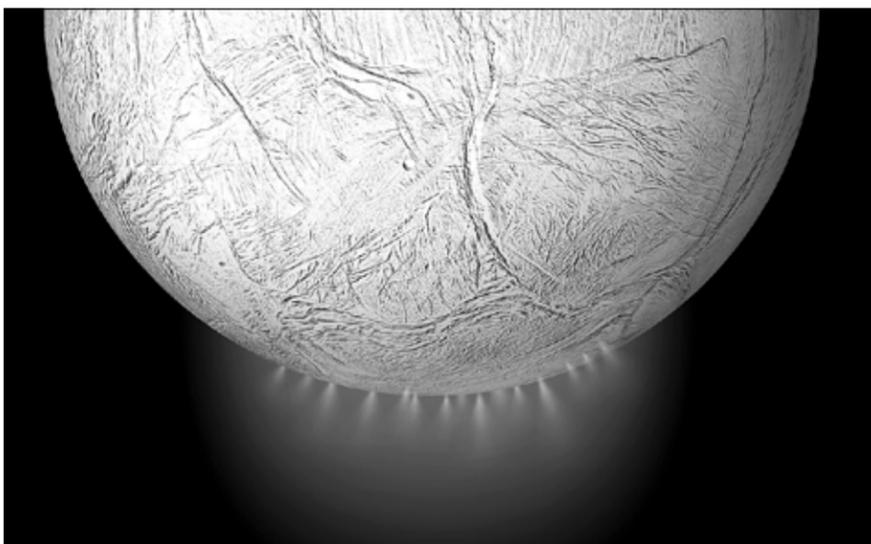
ly selected, well fed, and honored for a year before their deaths. The practice of burying children alive or of suffocating them prior to burial apparently was based on the belief that only "complete" offerings were acceptable to the sun or



Llullaillaco boy.

mountain deity. A victim who had shed blood would have been an "incomplete" offering. Sacrificial techniques employed in capacocha ceremonies seem to have been selected to avoid an overt display of cruelty. Two of the children on Llullaillaco had been anesthetized by combination of coca leaves and chicha (corn beer) when they were buried alive. The boy may have died from exhaustion before reaching the summit.

Climbing the mountain and spending the night on top must have been terribly frightening for these children. Perhaps a brilliant sunrise in the luminous atmosphere of the summit of the mountain was exciting. Perhaps being in the presence of gods of the sun and mountain was an epiphany for the children. We shall never know.



Plumes of water above Enceladus photographed by Cassini.

photo courtesy of NASA

Who We Are

Mary Lowers:

Eagle writer with a storied past

The story goes that 3-year-old Mary Lowers was sitting at the table with extended family for a special occasion, when someone bent toward the young child and asked if she would like another serving. “No, thank you,” Mary politely replied, “I’ve had a sufficiency.”

That’s what can happen when your father is a Shakespeare professor and you learn to read almost before you can walk. You may end up coming close to earning degrees in English, history, and political science before taking a break to help shut down the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant, returning to school for a journalism degree and then homesteading as a second-wave hippie in Taos.

Literacy & liberalism

It all makes sense when you consider the lineage of literacy and liberalism that fed into Mary’s DNA: her grandmother worked for woman’s suffrage in the early 20th century; her mother lobbied for campaign finance reform in the 1960s; and her father (James K. Lowers, PhD) authored many of the Shakespeare Cliff Notes. Oh, and when Mary’s little sister was in Brownies, she put on a play of the 10th-century English epic poem Beowulf.

“In retrospect, yeah, it was a little weird,” Mary says, grinning. She’s sitting on the wide back porch of her house in town, her boxer/mastiff/lab-mix Leroi nosing up to a plate of watermelon chunks. North Crestone Creek rolls past under cottonwoods at the edge of the yard, and the late summer sun warms a large patch of wildflowers that Mary insists her landlord, Jim Hollmer, always leave untouched in the middle of the yard when he mows.

It’s a rare morning for enjoying porch sitting when Mary isn’t busy milking Pam Gripp’s goats or reporting and writing for the *Eagle*, where her passion for history finds expression through in-depth, well written and researched articles about earlier times in Crestone and the San Luis Valley. She also covers the county crime beat and other local news, and multiple volunteer activities keep her deeply involved with the community: serving on the board of Neighbors Helping Neighbors, staffing the history museum, helping out at the food bank, or mentoring kids in history and civics at the Crestone Charter School.

From surf child to nuclear activist

Mary was born in Honolulu in 1956—“in the same hospital as Barack Obama, and Donald Trump never called me to see if I’m American,” she points out with feigned indignity. Growing up, she surfed and played with neighborhood kids virtually all of multiple mixed races, including large doses of Asian and Native Hawaiian. To fit in, she told her friends she was one-thirteenth Japanese, no matter that she looks pretty much her actual mix of Irish and Scots/Irish, with ancestors who came to North America just before the Revolutionary War.



Mary and her son Jesse when he was 9 or 10.



With her dog Dobe at CU Boulder.

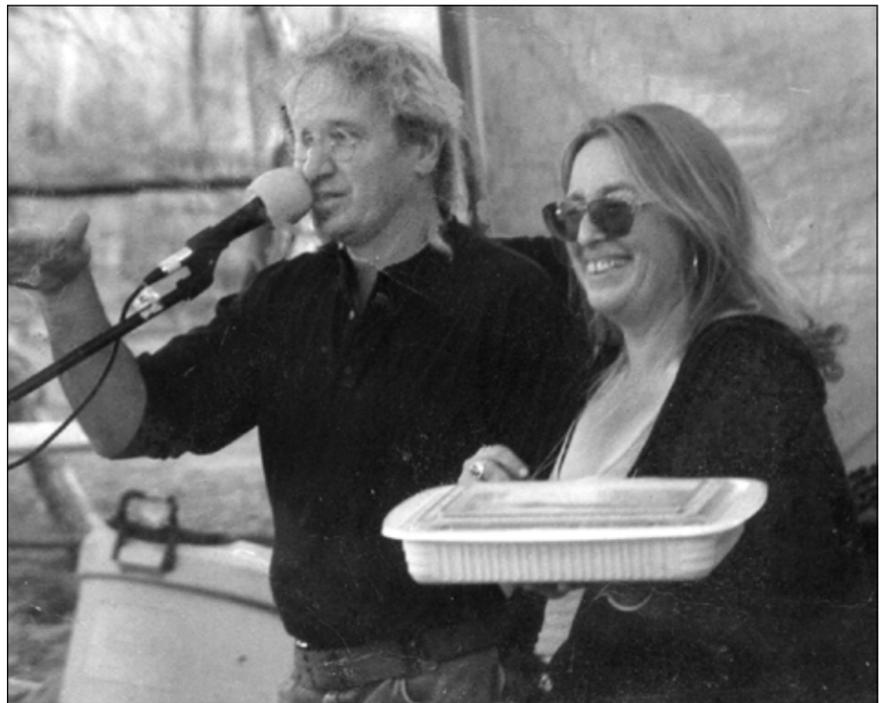
When Mary was 16 the family moved from Hawaii to Fort Collins. It was culture shock, but she was buoyed by a love of people and a natural ability to make friends. She attended Colorado State for two years, transferred to the University of Colorado in Boulder and spent her junior in England. Then her passionate environmentalist side kicked in and she left school for protests at Rocky Flats, where she gained the dubious distinction of being handed the largest fine (\$500) of any female activist arrested at the site. “Because the judge believed I would do it again,” she explains. “He was right; I would.”

Working hard & dancing

A pivotal event in Mary’s life was a serious fall at age 25. It left her with three herniated ruptured discs and an almost-severed sciatic nerve. After a month in traction and a long recuperation she was able to resume an active lifestyle, earning a journalism degree and moving to



In the late 1990s and early 2000s Mary raised goats in Crestone. She still milks Pam Gripp’s goats and makes amazing goat fudge.



Auctioning donated desserts with Mark Jacobi to raise funds to assist community members in need. This was before Mary helped found Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

Taos. She bought land, apprenticed with farmers, raised goats, raised her son Jesse, and combined a back-to-the-land lifestyle with working as a restaurant wine steward and other jobs in northern New Mexico. After visiting Crestone with a friend to celebrate their 40th birthdays in 1996, she decided to move here, in large part so her son could attend the Charter School.

In the years since then, Mary has worked at a number of jobs in Crestone, among them, part-time Charter School teacher and the school’s first mentorship coordinator. She was employed at now-defunct restaurants and shops, did catering, and ran a travel business, taking folks to the Yucatan. She also owned and sold several properties in town, including the West Silver Avenue building that later incarnated as the EarthStar Co-Evolutionary Café, the Black Bear, and the Creamery. Back then, full moon potluck parties at Mary’s place brought cowboys in from the Baca ranch to cavort with assorted locals and neo-hippie types. When the town’s sound ordinance kicked in and quiet hour struck, an early-to-bed town resident would blare a siren to shush the party, Mary says.

Resiliency & community

Over the years, the after-effects of Mary’s back injury have become increasingly disabling. She eventually was diagnosed with degenerative disc disease, reflex

sympathetic dystrophy, and nerve damage, and spent three years with her son in Albuquerque for surgeries and other healthcare. Then she lived in Taos for a couple of years before returning to Crestone to help care for her dear friend, Kalisama, who was battling melanoma. After Kalisama died in 2015, Mary moved into the house her friend had been renting.

Now 61, Mary paces herself, but her compassion, sense of humor, and dedication to community haven’t diminished. As a Neighbors Helping Neighbors co-founder and past recipient of its assistance, she is serving on NHN’s board for the first time after working with the organization for years. “When my health went south, this community was here for me, so I really do like helping Neighbors,” she says.

While much has changed in Crestone since Mary first settled here, recent events have given her cause for hope. Last spring’s resiliency conference, which spawned the Crestone Baca Resiliency movement, is one. “A lot of people here want to live sustainably, they want to have a good relationship with the earth,” she says. She hopes that spirit will translate into things like more community gardens, renewable energy initiatives, and a community center to serve Crestone and the Baca. And when we’re driving around, she adds, “I’d love to see people wave at each other again.”

CB Village is here to help when you can't do it by yourself

by Gussie Fauntleroy

What if you are fairly new to Crestone/Baca and don't know many people yet and have no family here, and you fall and break your wrist, or have a medical procedure, or your car is temporarily out of commission? Especially if you live alone and something unexpected happens, simple, everyday activities like cooking or watering plants or driving to pick up a prescription suddenly become very difficult, if not impossible.

The good news is there are quite a few people here who are willing and able to volunteer their time to help out in situations like these. And they don't need to already be your close friends—although they might become so in the process. Matching people who need assistance with those who can help is the mission of a local volunteer

organization called Crestone/Baca Village, or CB Village for short.

Started in 2011 by a group of local residents, CB Village was inspired by the Village to Village movement in urban centers, where members pay an annual fee and a paid coordinator matches needs with available services. In Crestone/Baca, however, a volunteer model makes more sense, notes CB Village board member and coordinator Bon Dellegar. To become a CB Village member, any local resident willing to offer assistance completes a simple, free registration process through the organization's website (cbvillage.net). Anyone requesting help signs up as a member as well. A list of the services that member volunteers can provide is available on the website for members to consult.

Along with things like meals, housecleaning, picking up prescriptions, and driving someone to a doctor's appointment, volunteers have signed up to offer more specialized types of assistance for members who are homebound, elderly, or otherwise in need of help. Among these: computer assistance, financial planning, gardening, counseling, lifting/moving things, home maintenance chores, shopping, and even having someone come to your house to read to you.

All assistance is on a volunteer basis. If a cost is involved, for example for gas or maintenance supplies, it is worked out between the volunteer and the person being helped. CB Village does not provide monetary assistance of any kind. The organi-

zation's mission is simple, Bon says: "We're a group of caring friends and neighbors volunteering our time to help one another. It's also a way to communicate with neighbors and form new friendships."

Barbara Hoepfner turned to CB Village when she was recuperating from back surgery and unable to cook. The 72-year-old Baca resident called the organization's volunteer coordinator and was quickly matched with seven or eight people who brought her home-cooked meals. On two other occasions she was unable to drive to Salida for a needed prescription. Through CB Village, someone going there picked up and delivered her prescription to her. "I really felt supported," Hoepfner says. "It wasn't all up to me—I didn't have to do everything."

CB Village currently has 185 members, including volunteers and those who've requested help in the past, notes Pat Tesauro-Jackson, CB Village board treasurer. The organization's new board—Pat, Bon, and Board Secretary Nikki Boysel Parker—encourage anyone whose circumstances have put them in need of help with everyday tasks or other chores to visit the website or call 480-8757 (a local number). CB Village also extends a warm welcome to anyone interested in joining the list of volunteers.

Especially appreciated are strong men who can pitch in with home maintenance, lifting, or handyman chores, and young people who can help with computer questions, provide transportation,

or would just like to make a friendship/connection with someone of an older generation while helping out. The benefits of serving others always extend in both directions, Bon notes. Another bonus: periodic potluck gatherings as a way to deepen friendships and celebrate community. A potluck for members will take place in October.

As coordinator, Bon checks for requests every day. When one comes in she sends out an email to the member volunteers to see who is available to respond. Even if the request is for something other than the area in which you've signed up, as a member volunteer you can respond to any request, large or small, where you think you can help. On the other side of the equation, Bon points out that most Crestone/Baca residents are likely not aware of the range of types of assistance that others are willing to provide. "We have a lot of really brilliant, talented people in this community," she says.

Add to that: compassionate, warm, friendly people, many with a personal understanding of what it means to need help at some point in our life—and what it's like to have to reach out. "Asking for help is not always easy," Bon says. "Many of us don't have family here, so this is our family, people who will assist us. We all need each other."

For more information or to register as a member, visit cbvillage.net or call 480-8757. CB Village is not a non-profit organization, but does accept donations for small administrative costs.



New Branch Hours

Beginning October 1, 2017, we will have new branch hours for our Crestone and Saguache Branches.

Crestone

110 East Silver

Mon & Fri: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Wed: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Closed For Lunch 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Saguache

311 4th Street

Tues & Thurs: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Closed For Lunch 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

For your convenience we also offer an ATM at the Crestone Branch available 24/7. Mobile and Online Banking are also available for your convenience. If you have any questions, please call us at 719.482.7600 or 800.555.6665.



Can we create governance from our shared values?

by John L. Wall

Residents of Crestone and The Baca frequently talk about foul winds blowing in our political climate—locally, nationally, and around the world. It is common to hear locals converse about unwelcome global changes, immanent or looming over the mountains. They are also talking about local political power, changes in their own lives and in their community. They are researching and experimenting with off-grid, sustainable solutions to meet their life-style as well as community needs. We are collectively realizing that our lo-

cal values, rooted in this ancient Bloodless Valley, are more in tune with how we want to live than that of our government at any level. Some are also thinking that a more autonomous governance is not only desirable, but achievable.

What if I told you about a government that conducts no business behind closed doors? What if I told you about a form of governance with no elected representatives or anyone else with more power than you or me? And, what if I told you that societies like these have been among us for thousands of years?

A government with no Repre-

sentatives or a Congress is hard for people to imagine today. A system of justice without judges or lawyers, and which is perceived as fair to everyone, would be considered a fantasy. A place where citizens live by no list of rights, and with no President or military to enforce his will, would be frightful for many people.

These elements of western democracies—judges, rights, representatives—have become cultural expectations for most citizens of the world. However, as small communities unite around a common culture or spirituality, life-style and/or geographic boundary, and they become more self-sufficient, they find they are less willing to sacrifice local control over their governance and local economies. This trend is global.

Outside of our cultural expectations for a systematic hierarchy of power removed from local citizens, Indigenous and so-called Aboriginal societies have existed peacefully for millennia. Our expectations include the view that these are “backward” societies, but they simply do not embrace technology or capitalism to the extremes that we do. Beginning with a core set of values, they share a mutual understanding and a common need to be together. The question isn’t whether or not people are “good enough” to engage in a particular governance form, but rather how social institutions can be developed in a way that is most conducive to bringing out human capacities for

intelligence, grace, sociality and freedom.

Instead of starting a community with a list of rules stemming from mutual mistrust, behaviour in primitive societies is guided by a small council made up of elders. These elders naturally arise and are sought for their wisdom and maturity, and because they embody the values of the community. The Algonquin Nation selects elders based on their experience as mediators, their spiritual and traditional knowledge and their capacity to pass on these experiences to others.

Indigenous people have successfully managed their societies without a formal civic or “state” apparatus. Two factors contributing to this success are their social cohesiveness and limited population. These egalitarian societies are based on order, autonomy of the individual and cooperation without rulers.

Anthropologists tell us primitive societies know that violence is the essence of power, and that speech is the opposite of violence. In the Lakota tradition, the chief primarily made speeches, while the leadership of hunting or agriculture was usually left to others. By restricting the chief to the area of speech, the tribe made certain that no displacement of bureaucratic forces would upset the social order. The chief could not use words for personal or political gain or he or she was abandoned. Primitive societies around the world demonstrate a place where separate power is refused, because the society itself, not the chief, is the real seat of power.

I want to live where individuals can pursue a vision stemming from the values by which we live in the heart of the Bloodless Valley. These values are evident in the way we live on and develop our properties, as well as in the manner in which we conduct ourselves with others. Our shared values—love of all people, respect for the Earth, and spirituality—are the common core of our community.

Unlike the written law of hierarchical society, imposed by the few on the many, the law of primitive societies says: “You are worth no more than anyone else, and you are worth no less than anyone else.” With this vision and these shared values, I look forward to the changes to come in The Baca and Crestone.

Uncertainty about the future is frightful, and it’s difficult to keep going when you see evil around you. But I do know that we will be OK if we hold onto just one thing: Each other.

This article about governance is sponsored by John Luke Wall, Brandon Bussard and nine donors who want to create a more informed conversation about governance.

The Crestone Baca Resiliency Governance group meets bi-monthly to explore options for more autonomous and responsive local government.

For more information contact John Luke Wall at 719-580-4094

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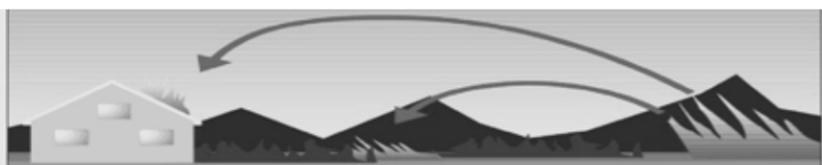
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Hiking Venable—notes from the trail

by *Emmy Savage*

September 6, 2017: Venable

In the following essay, I am indebted to James McCalpin's Crestone, Gateway to the Higher Realms and its description of the geology of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. I also reference an elegy by Rainer Maria Rilke that begins "Who, if I cried, would hear me among the angelic orders? And even if one of them suddenly pressed me against his heart, I should fade in the strength of his stronger existence."

"But when I look ahead up the white road

There is always another one walking beside you" —T.S. Eliot, The Waste Land

Every year I hike Venable; last year I hiked it twice. It is a long climb into the sky and back. Except for the first time I hiked with the Salida Skikers or last year when I hiked with my friend Jean from Evergreen, I do it with only my dog, Sarah. This year, because of Sarah's recent bout with heat exhaustion, I decide to do it alone and leave Sarah with my friend, Phil Madonna. I drop her off at Phil's the night before and am at the trailhead at six. It is still dark. Every year I am afraid to do this hike, of what might happen so high up and far away. Last month Larry Calloway wrote an article for *The Crestone Eagle* about mountain lions and their crepuscular habits. So, starting out this morning at dawn is like swimming in the ocean with the sound track of *Jaws* thrumming through my head. I keep a wary eye on the slope above me and periodically twirl around to check the trail behind: a neurotic at large without her service dog.

Pretty soon there is sunlight as the trail levels out and I can see up the valley to the mountains that surround North Crestone Lake. But at the fork, I will be taking the North Fork Trail and the mountains on the east side of the valley block the light and eclipse the sun as they, like a moon, move across it with each step I take. I must cross the North Fork Creek three times, the same crossings with the raging currents of last spring. But now the water is low and I can walk across rocks laid as stepping stone bridges. I was up here on Saturday with Sarah doing trail maintenance—mostly trimming aspens and willows that encroach into the trail. It was a trial run to see if the heat would get to Sarah again. And it did, even with an infusion of chicken soup. I had to dunk her every time we crossed a creek to keep her from overheating. I miss her. She's my constant companion and I don't like the feel of life without Sarah. As I cross the last big crossing and start a steep ascent, I suddenly feel chilled, my hands grow cold. I pull on my gloves and just then my shadow bursts upon the trail in front of me as the sun warms my neck and ears and my ears fill with the sound of birds, chipmunks and squirrels beeping, squeaking and chirping and greeting the day.

Then the sun disappears again as I move back into shadow. Up ahead, the high peaks are bright in the hazy sun, shimmering in the smoke from fires to the west. I can even smell the smoke as I climb. I come to patches of young Colorado Blue Spruce, a tree I seldom see in

the Sangres. But they seem to like it here and be more resistant to Bark Beetle if not the Budworm that has blighted some of their new growth. Up ahead is a grove of trees where I will cross a diminished version of the creek and a seep that never goes dry. The grove is lovely despite the fact that most of the big Engelmann Spruce are now dead; they've been dying over the years I've passed here. But higher up, younger healthy trees are thriving and I can only hope they'll make it. Winter temperatures in the San Luis Valley used to go down to the minus forties and fifties. The warming earth, coupled with years of implacable drought, have weakened the trees and left them vulnerable.

At the foot of the big trees someone has set up camp. Cooking implements surround a fire ring and it seems cozy. I wonder where the campers have gone on this smoky morning. Through the trees, the mountains appear blue and I climb the ascending trail as it takes me above tree line and into the Venable cirque. Twelve and thirteen thousand-foot peaks circle round a bowl of low willows turning ochre and rust and a tiny clear blue lake that feeds into North Crestone Creek below. Up ahead, I see two riders on horseback. A man and his son are bringing back a Mule Deer they've killed and butchered. The boy, maybe ten, looks so proud he could burst. They both, despite their sun- and soot-darkened faces, have a glow that being in mountains imparts. I congratulate the man on spending this time with his son and we wish each other well. Headed back to the camp I passed, they soon melt away into the vastness of the landscape and I am alone again.

On my way up the trail, I passed a group of Mountain or Alpine Thistles, plants that look like the vegetable kingdom's equivalent of the Lion Fish; backlit by the sun, their white hair on fire, they look like stationary comets that have parked themselves by the trail. These and Parry's Gentian are the only blooms this time of year. The gentian are such an exquisite celestial blue I wonder if I love them just as much as Blue Columbine.

The ascent to Venable Pass is a series of switchbacks that over the past three years have left me breathless and feeling like my heart is being painfully squeezed right out of my chest. I have started swimming for aerobic exercise, and who would think that my lackluster performance in a pool twice a week could make such a difference, but this year I walk up to the pass with nary a twinge. Ravens circle behind me in the wide sky over the valley. Vocalizing to one another, they sound like airborne bullfrogs croaking and gurgling, the didgeridoo players of the mountain sky. Their circles are so wide and the sky so vast that I lose track of them. I wonder if they are moving in on the Mule Deer carcass somewhere below, but I see no evidence that they are.

Overcoming my chest pain problem is huge. I feel elated and now only have to overcome my fear of heights as I pass across Phantom Terrace. I reach the top of Venable Pass at 11am. Hungry and tired, I decide that this year I will indulge in



The crest of Venable is as narrow as a human footstep.

photos by Emmy Savage

resting and eating part of my lunch before setting out across Phantom. There are no looming storms to beat and the sky is cloudless. I find a flat rock just off the narrow crest of the pass facing east, out of the wind and overlooking two glacial lakes tucked into the terrace of a hanging valley. Then the mountain drops down to the Wet Mountain Valley below and the Wet Mountains in the distance. A hawk wheels into view, rides the updrafts from the valley over the crest of the pass, pivots and air slides down the other side into the Ravens' territory. I think he is gone but think again: at bullet speed, in a rush of air and wings so close they almost touch my face, the hawk races down

at work, a rift mountain range forced up by the collision and separation of plates we can not see. The upward thrust of the Sangres exceeds even the forces of erosion, forces that are mitigated by layers of hard granite and gneiss that have been pushed upward over softer sedimentary layers. I am elated again as I reach the end of Phantom. The trail, like the hawk, seems to rise up and pivot on the crest of the mountain, the crest of the world, a crest so narrow as it recedes into space it can hardly contain the width of a footstep. I have finished the two most difficult passages of this hike: the ascent to Venable Pass and Phantom Terrace. Now I am ready to begin the long descent.



The Venable Phantom Terrace narrow trail.

the mountain only inches from the ground with a Raven almost on top of him in pursuit. They seem to collide at the bottom of the trail and then the hawk throttles up into the sky. Perhaps the Raven loses interest in his devilish stunts because next I see the hawk making lazy circles, unencumbered by the Raven bully, riding the up draft over the lake. But this time he's keeping to his side of the pass.

When I finish my meal, I set out on the trail to Phantom Terrace. The trail drops precipitously before it slowly begins a second ascent to a second pass at the end of Phantom. Perhaps because I've allowed myself to stop and rest and eat, and because there is no ferocious wind this year, and because I make frequent stops to take pictures, I don't feel my usual panic and vertigo as I cross the Terrace. The trail is narrow and at times it seems to disappear altogether with only the faces of flat vertical rocks to scramble up. But as it enters an inclining rift, it becomes more defined just at the moment when to my left there is only a slim margin between the trail and a vertical drop of a thousand feet. Across the way, rock layers that were once horizontal are now lifted to frightening angles. This is evidence of the forces of earth

I laugh to myself that it takes fifteen miles and a four-thousand-foot elevation gain to wash my brain cells free of Trump. But it is true that at this point in the hike I enjoy a clarity and joy I do not often feel. The trail stretches for a horizontal mile as it connects Phantom with Comanche and the range stretches out before me to the south. I am walking on top of the world. If I called out, there is no one to answer but I do not feel alone. If I am embraced by angels I do not fade away. I am my father's daughter, my mother's child, my child's mother. I am here walking in the earth and it is enough.

At the top of Comanche Trail the path begins its gentle descent, the grade so easy and the bed so smooth, I can watch the mountains instead of my feet. When I get down to tree line, I stop and eat a bunch of grapes I have saved.

Later, I pick up Sarah and head for home. Making dinner, I look out into the garden and see a Cooper's Hawk devouring a small brown bird. He tears and tears and gulps and gulps; he devours portions of red flesh and feathers alike until he eats the whole bird down to its last wing bone and then flies away. As I watch him go, somehow, I know what it is like to fly.

In Search of Economic Reality

What goes around comes back

by Ed Lyell

Back in the 1970s when I was teaching at University of Colorado in Boulder I wrote an academic paper, "Inter-generational Value Transfer", supporting the then-controversial argument about the 50-year long-term cycle called the Kondratiev wave. This Russian economist postulated that societies were influenced or controlled by a 50-year prosperity cycle. He went back several hundred years in both European and US history to show the up and downs of this long term economic cycle. My argument supporting his theory was that children are more like grandparents than parents. Almost all teens fight with and reject many of the values of their parents, which means that the teen was more like the grandparents than the parents. This is showing itself now on many dimensions. We can see it in attitudes toward saving versus borrowing, taking economic risk, later marriages, fashion, political involvement and in other ways.

Despite stagnant wages young adults now are saving much more for retirement than their peers were in 1989, saving \$14,596 and \$5,616, respectively. Among the college-educated, the difference is even starker. It's now much harder to own a home without having a college degree.

Overall, 46% of 25- to 34-year-olds owned homes in 1989. That number fell to 43% in 2013. Yet getting a college degree is harder now. Tuition in 1989 was \$3,454 in today's dollars and taxpayers paid over 80% of it. It is now over \$4,000 even at low-cost Adams State. But the bigger problem is the diminishing number and percentage of students who graduate from college. ASU's six-year graduation rate is only 25.7%. The graduation rates are highest at the more expensive selective universities like Harvard and Stanford, both above 95%. Schools like Adams are more accessible affordable but hurt as many students as they help. When state taxpayers paid over 75% of the tuition, such high failure rates hurt state residents in general. Now with college costs being the responsibility of individual students, this failure rate means that more and more are dropouts with no degree, no new job, but with tens of thousands of dollars in student debt. Thus we have misled the students and their families in letting them think that once admitted they will end up better off. One student quoted in a national newspaper said "I'm already panicking and having nightmares about the student loans that I'll never escape, and I'm worried that I'm going to end up homeless."

Both Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump inspired young people to make a difference in the last election. Trump's young, mostly white, working class voters rallied to Trump's promise to fix everything by getting rid of the political status quo Congress and other leaders. When Clinton won the Democratic nomination, many Sanders supporters went to Trump since he was to them more like Sanders than was Clinton. I am not smart enough to predict where politics go in the next few years, yet we can predict demographics and understand multi-generational value transfers.

Today's millennials and younger are saving and investing like their grandparents. Both followed major depressions and recessions and do not trust banks or government. The young are becoming more politically involved yet not sure where to go since the two-party systems is breaking down. We see these generational shifts also in clothing and other behaviors. My age group often wore hippy-type tie dyes. Today those fashions are back. Even more telling is watching the acceptance of male facial hair over the many generations. Beards are back like my grandparents in their pictures.

Today's young generation is even larger in number than the baby boomers. As those in their 60s are retiring and over ten thousand a day are signing up for Social Security and Medicare, those under 25 are a larger group looking for work. Those with skills can find work, and those who dropped out of high school are likely to never have a real job. Immigration is also a hot topic because of these large demographic trends. A new study shows that teenagers are increasingly delaying activities that had long been seen as rites of passage into adulthood. The percentage of adolescents in the U.S. who have a driver's license, who have tried alcohol, who date, and who work for pay has plummeted since 1976 at increasing rates. The declines appear across racial, geographic, and socioeconomic lines, and in rural, urban, and suburban areas. All in all the nation is at risk as much from internal intergenerational conflicts as from aggressive countries.

Ed Lyell PhD, Professor Emeritus, Adams State University, ehlyell@adams.edu, facebook dredlyell

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Awakening into Unity: Indigenous activism

by Lee Temple

This is another excerpt from Lee's new book, *Awakening into Unity*, a comprehensive, richly illustrated compendium of the entire *Global Awakening series*, and a powerful healing balm for these troubled, turbulent times:

Indigenous peoples the world over are the original keepers of Earth's precious wisdom. They have long cared for her well-being, and walked in beauty, balance, and beholding with her ways. From all over the world, Indigenous peoples are uniting and rising up on behalf of Mother Earth today. Their networks, aided by the internet, are now globally active and effective. Here are a few examples:

Perhaps the most visible and poignant Indigenous climate champion is Mohamed Nasheed, former president of the Maldives, and a determined advocate for all island nations that are most vulnerable to sea level rise. Since many islands and their inhabitants lie only a few feet above sea level, any rise is catastrophic, as was the case in Papua New Guinea's Carteret Islands, which commenced evacuation in 2003, gaining their inhabitants the ignominious moniker of the world's first climate-change refugees. Nasheed has good reason to be 150% engaged in the fight: Experts predict that his home islands will be 77% under water by 2100 (as will several East Coast U.S. cities). He rose to prominence as the formerly unknown figure who single-handedly saved the 2009 Copenhagen Cli-

mate Conference. When the talks and negotiations were faltering, Nasheed worked among the delegates and the international media, hoping particularly for some action from heavies Brazil, China, India and the U.S.

His comment to U.S. reporters "ultimately, we're talking about New York. . ." helped turn the tide.

"There are those who tell us that solving climate change is impossible. There are those who tell us taking radical action is too difficult. There are those who tell us to give up hope. Well, I am here to tell you that we refuse to give up hope. We refuse to be quiet, we refuse to believe that a better world isn't possible." Nasheed's determination yielded a "minor miracle," and helped move global climate progress forward in important ways. Though contentious and not legally binding, Copenhagen's agreement helped set the stage for future successes, notably, the unprecedented December 2015 Paris accord mentioned elsewhere herein. If he hadn't made the effort and succeeded as he did, it isn't likely that the Paris accord could have been accomplished.

. . . Meanwhile, at-risk nations in the global South cling to hope. Tokelau is a Pacific micro-state halfway between New Zealand and Hawaii, with only 1,400 people and three cars. In September 2012, it switched off its old diesel generators and a \$7.5 million solar PV system started generating 90% of its energy. Homemade coconut oil will provide the rest. Interestingly, since



President Nasheed of the Maldives briefs reporters during the Copenhagen climate change talks.

then, the three islands of Tokelau have secured a leadership position in percentage reduction of fossil fuel usage, leadership in carbon emissions savings per person and in conversion to renewable energy. Since 2013 it has been entirely dependent on solar energy for all but emergency power needs, and thus has emissions per capita one hundredth of the world's average. Tiny Tokelau is also unfortunately a primary victim of climate change, as rising sea levels threaten to cover their tiny land mass. They are already experiencing extreme weather, storm surges, droughts, coral bleaching, inundation of their land, and groundwater salination. In 2011, a seven-month drought and a series of cyclones, which contaminated the underground water supplies, meant that the islanders lost access to fresh wa-

ter for the first time and had to start importing it.

View/borrow Lee's book at the Cornell University and Baca Grande libraries. Buy it at Elephant Cloud Market at a generous locals' discount. Follow the source text for this article on pp 350-51 and 412, together with other Earth-healing indigenous efforts in Chapter Sixteen, "Next Steps for the Indigenous, Spiritual/Religious, Philosophic & Scientific Communities". Learn more about Lee Temple, *Awakening into Unity*, and the *Global Awakening series* at award-winning www.primamundi.com, including up-to-the-minute blog postings about Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, and many other important topics.

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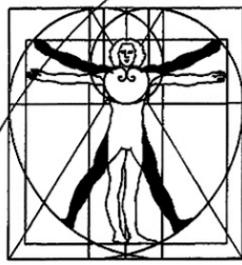
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Peaceful/Enchantment

380 N Alder St - \$425,000
SW Victorian 4940sf 5BD/3BA custom home. Lg master ste w/loft, prvt deck. Artistic stained glass windows, radiant heat, root cellar, prvt well. Gst house w/screen porch, storage, 2 car garage w/attchd 225sf wkshop. 7FT privacy fence.

Peaceful/Enchantment

4511C Ridgecrest Way - \$312,000
Stylish 2004sf Southwest 2-story straw bale home built by Paul Koppa is located on 1.59 acres next to greenbelt & Sand Dunes National Park. Majestic mountain/valley views. Includes 3 beds, 1.75 ba, office/den & bonus 2nd-story balcony.

Gracious Living

757 Rendezvous - \$239,000
Very lovely 1868sf 3-or-4BD/2BA + dining screen porch, sunroom w/fireplace, yoga/exercise room, deck w/amazing views & hot tub. Private, but close-in. Beautifully landscaped.

Creek Property

2715 Happy Hollow - \$185,000
1860sf 4BD/2BA/2 Living Area home is located on 1.54 acres and close to Spiritual Centers, but very secluded. Walk-out basement & loft. Huge wrap around deck for beautiful mtn views, loft balcony has vast valley views.

Creek Property

3901 Rarity Way - \$163,000
2BR/2BA 1650sf home backs to Cottonwood Creek. Upstairs viewing deck, custom interior, deluxe maple kitchen cabinets, walk-in pantry, Jacuzzi tub. Loft w/office. On demand HW. Fantastic sun-room.

Close to Town

REDUCED! Was \$153,000

34 Camino Baca Grande - \$149,000
1600sf 3BR 1.5 BA A-frame w/loft, remodeled in 2006 w/ETS heat, 5 window air conditioning units, appliances, laminate flooring, windows, roof & updated plumbing & wiring. T&G ceiling in great room. Upper & lower decks w/great views!

UNDER CONTRACT **New Listings** **Commercial**

Grants Included

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WAS - \$389,000

499C Willow Trail - \$350,000
A unique & rare find! ~3900sf with 4bd/3ba/office/sunroom + attached greenhouse. 20+ acres. Tall trees. Private, long cul de sac & backs to Conservation Easement, offering extreme privacy. Well water.

New Construction

UNDER CONTRACT

1212 Chaparral Way - \$175,000
New construction by Richard Laurie, Terrapin and Company. One story 3/1.75 on beautiful treed lot close to paved road. Lots of windows for great light and amazing views.

Spacious & near creek!

147 Moonlight Way - \$319,000
Spacious 2600sf 2 story 3/2.5/Office w/ garage backing to Crestone Creek greenbelt. Upstairs master suite w/soak tub & double vanities & separate wing w/2 BR's, BA and living area. Downstairs is living, dining, kitchen & office.

Lots of Space

359 Chaparral Way - \$269,000
4BD/2.75BA 3315sf home, remodeled in 2012. Amazing amt of space & close to town. Mstr BR has its own bathrm & opens to backyard. Lg laundry rm. Finished basement. Lg storage room. Attached 2-car garage & detached 1-car garage.

Fantastic Views

3762 Carefree Way - \$198,000
Lovely 2BD/1.75BA 1284sf 2-story wood-sided home w/mtn & valley views. Light-filled rooms w/lg windows. Master ste has built-in storage, soak tub w/views & balcony. Lg guest BR opens to outdoors via french doors. Xtra studio bldg on property.

Downtown Crestone

120 W. Silver, Town of Crestone - \$499,000
This large 4320sf commercial building is currently in residential use as 7 units. Can convert to full commercial use as professional offices, retail and much more. Includes Lots 1 & 2, Block 43. Call for details.

Baca Meadows **Grants** **Chalets**

Remodeled Luxury

Townhouse #10 - \$189,000
Exquisite town house completely remodeled in 2008. 1480sf 2-story 2BD/2BA features redesigned kitchen & bathrooms, updated heat & lighting systems, beautiful patio. Must see!

Off-Grid Acreage

1381 Saddle Rock Trail - \$280,000
Light-filled 1902 sf 2BR/1BA strawbale off-grid home w/stunning views. Radiant in-floor heat & heartstone woodstove. Open living space, private gardens, walled patio, greenhouse, shed & heated garage. 8+ acr incl. lots 1381, 1444 & 1445

Luxurious/Views

780 Palomino OL - \$585,000
Built by Lee Mitchell to capture mtn & valley views, elegant 3 BR/2.5BA home w/2-car garage on 2.787 acres. Fantastic landscaping & flowing water. In-floor radiant heat & Hearstone woodstove w/ stone surround. Expansive Master balcony.

Indoor Exercise Pool

1967 Rockyview Way - \$439,000
Luxurious 3BD/2.75BA/Office/3-car Garage 2953sf home sits on 2.374 acres & has a 2-room upstairs Master Suite. Beautifully landscaped courtyards & gardens with custom fence & deck, great views

Private Sanctuary

WAS \$449,000

4519C Grayline Ct - \$429,000
Elegant 2BR 2BA 1932 custom strawbale built in 2003 by Paul Koppa. A refined Asian/Southwest blend. On private cul-de-sac 5.35 acres backs to greenbelt. 30' yurt w/kitchenette & bathroom.

Private on the Creek

WAS \$429,000

3959 Cheerful Court - \$424,000
Custom Cathedral Style Mt Home. Approx 2700 sq/ft, located on 2.16 acres by Cottonwood Creek. Many architectural features incl Brazilian cherry hrdwd flrs, diamond plaster walls. Features 30x16' Art Studio.

Chalets

Exquisite Landscaping

Was \$459,000

786C Panorama Way - \$399,000
This Lee Mitchell custom 3bd/2ba/sunroom/library/balconies 2428sf home with fabulous gardens sits on 2.14 acres w 2-car garage/studio. Exquisite - Must See!

Magnificent Views

22 Alpine OL - \$295,000
CUSTOM 3bd/2.5ba/2 car garage 2232sf home close to town. Screened porch & wrap deck. Gracious Living with exceptional views!

Log Home

WAS \$249,000

3760 Jubilant Way - \$239,000
Beautiful 1,683sf 2 bd/1.5bath/loft/2 car attached garage octagonal log home with bamboo floors, in-floor radiant heat, wood vaulted ceilings. Bonus unfinished 1,200sf walkout basement.

Great Location!

415 Moonlight Way - \$199,000
This 1092sf SW-style 2-story, 2BD/1BA stucco home sits on 1.01ac. adjoining Crestone Creek greenbelt & close to town. New roof & solar-thermal collectors. 4 Lots included. Driveway access & bldg site prev cleared for larger home to be built.

Creekside!

Tract 2 Lindisfame - \$199,000
Creek-side 2 BR/1 BA 812sf home on 2.74 acres w/812 sf partially finished basement w/electric baseboard heat & concrete floors. New roof w/architectural shingles, new windows, new interior & exterior paint.

Private

257 Baca Grant Way - \$175,000
Ranch-style 3BD/2BA 1,400sf manufactured home on secluded 1.072ac., still close to all the conveniences of town. Lg wrap-around 288sf TREX deck, jetted soak tub, lg kitchen, 2 dining areas, propane forced air heat & wood stove.

2017 HOME SALES (* denotes listed & sold)

380 N Alder St	\$425,000	SOLD	2715 Happy Hollow	\$185,000	SOLD
1038 Beaver Trail	\$337,000	SOLD*	635C Panorama Way	\$179,000	SOLD*
4511C Ridgecrest Way	\$312,000	SOLD*	107 Pinewood OL	\$172,500	SOLD*
223 Moffat Way	\$289,000	SOLD*	200 Evergreen	\$169,000	SOLD
2145 Indian Well	\$266,500	SOLD*	3705 Carefree Way	\$165,000	SOLD
305 Palomino Way	\$252,000	SOLD	4275C Fallen Tree OL	\$164,000	SOLD*
4376 E. Twinview OL	\$245,000	SOLD	3901 Rarity Way	\$163,000	SOLD
3481 E. Graceful Ct.	\$239,000	SOLD*	35 Camino Baca Grande	\$155,000	SOLD*
757 Rendezvous	\$239,000	SOLD	3735C Jubilant Way	\$149,000	SOLD*
999C Badger Road	\$225,000	SOLD*	760 & 761 Panorama Way	\$149,000	SOLD*
983C Peaceful Way	\$224,500	SOLD	34 Camino Baca Grande	\$149,000	SOLD*
1867C Rockyview Way	\$219,000	SOLD	3708 Enchanted Way	\$142,500	SOLD*
1541C Camino Real	\$205,000	SOLD	354 Huerta Ct	\$89,000	SOLD*
661 Camino Del Rey	\$195,000	SOLD	4485 Ridgecrest Way	\$74,500	SOLD*
2035 Lost Cave Way	\$189,900	SOLD	499 Willow Trail	\$350,000	UNDER CONTRACT
333 Palomino Way	\$189,000	SOLD*	1212 Chaparral Way	\$175,000	UNDER CONTRACT*

Owner/builder conversations

by John Rowe

This month's conversations are with successful do-it-yourself home builder Chris Steen and newcomers Goldie Garriola-Gill and Matt Evers who are just beginning theirs.

Chris Steen has a cool-looking and highly efficient earthbag dome home in the northern Grants that he completed about three years ago. I believe he spent well under \$40,000 on it, including well, septic, and the price of his



Chris Steen.

land. He can often be seen tweaking and adding on to his place on evenings and weekends. Like so many successful owner/builders before him, Chris always seems to be busy building and creating. In addition to his home building, he got married this year and works full time as an apprentice electrician. He has also helped several other owner/builders in the Baca try to fulfill their dreams and remains very interested in natural building and independent, outdoor living.

Chris is so industrious that when I left him a message that I wanted to interview him for the paper, he showed up at my house the next day with a page of well-thought-out and well written thoughts about the whole home building process. I think it best to

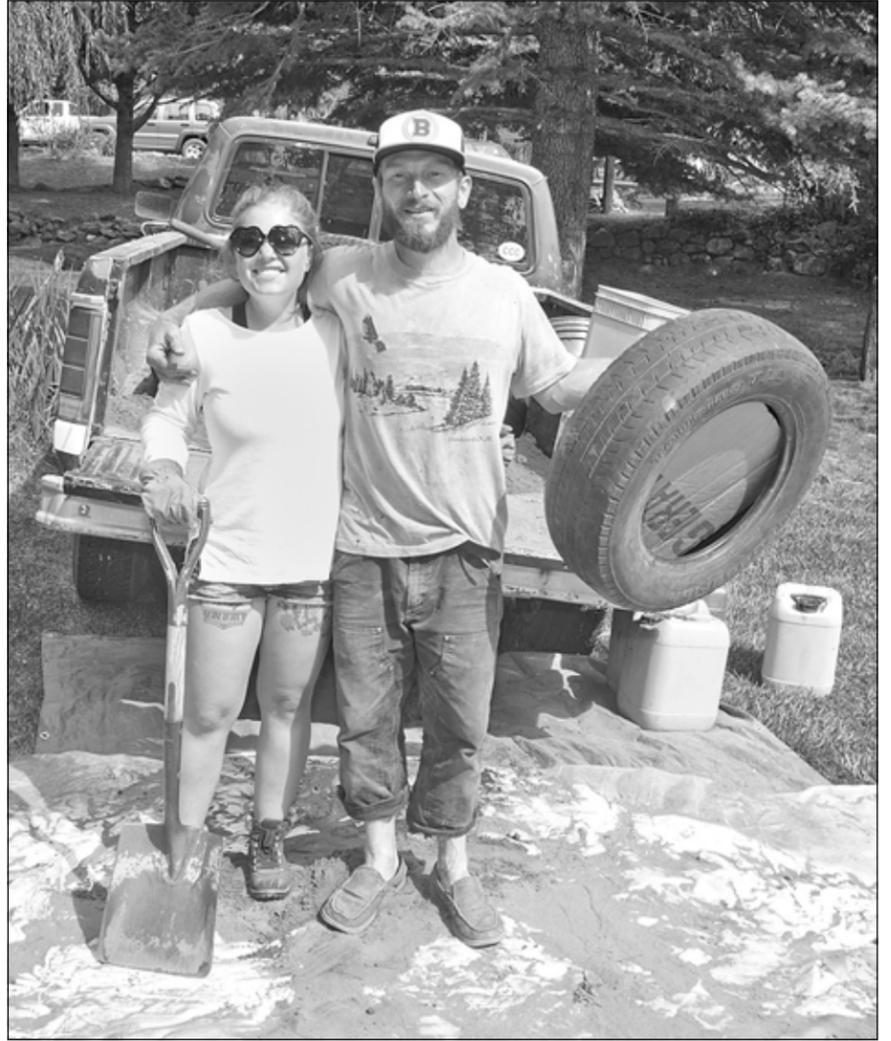
let him tell you about himself and so will print much of what he had to say instead of my usual question and answer process.

"I love construction, building science, hard work, and architecture so that's [owner/building] a broad topic for me. The owner/builder leads a tough existence. Scraping away the soft spots in their jeans, fingers, wallet, character. Working 9-5 and 5-9. Saturdays and Sundays. It's an awesome undertaking, commitment and gamble. Most here know and admire this, but being handed the podium, I unfortunately feel like I need to defend the hard work to some others that can't distinguish. That is unfortunate precisely because there is a rich tradition and awesome community of owner/builders here in Crestone.

"[My] experience with the POA is that they are very reasonable people. I have personally had no problems with the POA or EAC, and I'm very visible from the road, so I try to keep my materials organized and be a good neighbor. After all, this is an associated neighborhood (Duh!) but the POA is not nearly as restrictive or prescriptive as most associations. So own it for what it is, an association with a large percentage as owner/built.

"My advice to the owner/builders out there: the more visible you are, the more organized that you need to keep your ship. Help out others in need; it will come around when it counts. A custom alternative of love [a homemade natural house] is not as easy as a frame house, so work harder. Ease tensions in the community by showcasing the virtues of natural, sustainable, and creative architecture in this building mecca. Start small and then add on as time, money, energy, and need accumulates. Clean air quality, passive, solar, durable, beautiful, paid-for, hand crafted—yes, all great qualities in a house. But the best quality is a finished house, or at least one you can live in while you finish.

"And lastly, the \$6000 deposit would have prevented many long-standing, successful and respected residents, myself included, from



Matt Evers and Goldie Mariola-Gill demonstrated building with rammed earth tires and earth bags at the Crestone Energy Fair September 9. photo by Lori Nagel

building or living here. Out here, a spare \$6000 is not the measure of a person, their work ethic, construction skills, or the success rate for a quality build. I don't believe that deposit aligns with the many successful examples in our Crestone owner/builder tradition."

Chris will be moving on to North Carolina with his new bride soon, and our community will miss him. He is one of the most inspirational people I have met since moving here. The image of Chris hurling around earthbags at dusk in an unrelenting April wind all by himself is forever etched in my mind. It is just how I want to be. I think so much of Chris, I might actually tell him so some day.

Matt Evers and Goldie Mariola-Gill move here this year from California to build an earthship house out in the Grants. Goldie attended Earthship Academy in Taos with Mike Reynolds, and when she and Matt got together she convinced him in short order that this was the way to go. They both decided a couple of years ago that Crestone was the place for them.

They saved money for two years before coming here and were thus able to hit the ground running this summer. They resurrected a Crestone time-honored way for ordinary folks to build their own home: the vaunted work party. I took notice of them while driving by on Labor Day and saw about fifteen people pounding tires like nobody's business. I mean I saw nothing but asses and elbows and the place was taking shape right before my eyes. They even had Seth, the pizza guy, involved by lending them his portable adobe oven, and they fed every helper that showed up.

Matt, like so many before him, thinks that Crestone has the potential to really be something. He says, "I want to give earthships

and natural builders in Crestone a good name, to show that earthships make for wonderful homes and that owner/builders of natural homes make for good neighbors." He would like to be part of the process that brings back work parties as an everyday occurrence to the Baca and see it become a cultural norm here in Crestone. Describing another work party he was a part of, Matt says, "you would be amazed at what a work party can accomplish in one evening—six people laid up an entire course (a lot) in three hours."

Goldie says of her experience in Crestone so far: "I love stepping away from the hustle and bustle and get quiet enough to hear your heart. The deeper we move into the community the more we love it."

Matt and Goldie have closed their building down for the season as Matt is off to California for the fall and winter to work, and Goldie is off to Guatemala to teach yoga. Both hope to return next spring with savings for a well and septic and continued building. They expect to spend less than \$50,000 total on their house and look forward to meeting substantial completion guidelines within the eighteen-month time allocation.

What advice do they have for the POA? They don't want to criticize, and Goldie says with a smile, "I would like to see the EAC share their muffins." They echo others in hoping the POA is more a resource for the owner/builder and not get caught up too much in policing.

And advice to other owner/builders? Matt states, "Be prepared—period. Financially, physically, mentally, emotionally. Practice non-attachment—lots of things go wrong—let them go and keep moving."

Matt and Goldie strike me as good additions to Crestone and I know we all wish them all the best.



Chris Steen's earthbag dome home.

Liberty

continued from page B-1

went their separate ways. Some went to Crestone and took up residence there. Others left the mountains permanently. A few elected to cross the Grant's east boundary and start anew at Liberty. For the next two decades Liberty was to be their home." Many structures from Duncan moved to the new mining town built on the site of a mining camp known as Rocky Mtn. "Forty-six days after Duncan was closed," Harlan tells us, "John Norvil delivered the first sack of mail to the new Liberty Post Office." It is not a big mental jump to, as Paul Sherer does in his history *In the Shadow of the Mountain*, that "no doubt the name they chose for their settlement was rooted in their frustration at being thrown from the land that they believed they were entitled."

As we continued south on the road from Duncan to Liberty we discovered the same monsoon rains that had unearthed treasures for our perusal had washed out the road, rendering it impassable. So, having driven as far as we could, we left the vehicles and walked into Liberty up rocky, sandy roads until we came to a hunting camp lodge built by a Walsenberg family by the name of Lattimer. They once owned Liberty and tore down some buildings to build their lodge. In the late 1970s the late Maurice Strong purchased the town as a wedding gift for his wife Hanne. It is very rocky and steep, and the pines are tall as we proceed.

We crossed the rechanneled waters of Short Creek where in the mining days, we were told, Noah Mayer had built a water wheel, traces of which can still be seen. It was, Hollmer said, used for a laundry. This rerouted channel runs into and through a double cast iron white enamel sink perfect for washing dishes. A few feet from this spot is the old barber shop where Liberty's live-in caretaker resides. He knew we were coming, as we had permission to be there. Liberty is on private property and generally not open to the public. Hollmer and Sherer were on a mission to measure for a new roof for one of the town structures that may have been the school. The view from this part of the old town is breathtaking. You can almost touch the Great Sand Dunes to the south and just before them are massive rock cliffs dotted with trees.

As we walked up hill to explore more of the town, George pointed out, "town buildings and houses were close to mining claims so the miners could walk easily to work." As we walked down what must have been a main road, outcroppings of hard rock that miners love appear more often. After going round a switchback or two we saw the cabin Sherer and Hollmer want to roof. There are two rooms in the structure and plaster can still be seen on the walls. Windows in the cabin face south and east and the frames have traces of a light mossy green paint. Looking south the setting is beautiful, filled with the differing shades of the pines, aspen and what Sherer told me was buck bush.

After the measuring for the new roof was done, there was speculation whether this cabin had indeed been the old schoolhouse. The first record of the Liberty School District #29 was the 1906 eighth grade final exams found in the records of the Saguache Superintendent of Schools. The eighth grade exams were important because most people back then did not stay in school past eighth grade. Teachers were paid \$30 to \$35 a month. In *Postmarks and Places* George Harlan says, "As in many mining camps the schoolhouse was the nucleus of community activities." There activities included church, box socials, and dances. School was held in Liberty between 1906 and 1919.

In its heyday Liberty was a busy place. In *Crestone: Gateway to the Higher Realms*, James McCaillin tells readers "the Liberty Mining



Spectacular vista from the barber shop in Liberty.



Back room in the old schoolhouse.

and Milling Company owned mines including the April Lode, Mountain Deer, the Yellow Bird and the Yellow Metal. "These mines made up what's called the Liberty Lode. In 1902 a stamp mill was built along Short Creek. There were one or two newspapers. There was a hotel, barber shop, shoe repair, an emporium, a bar and a livery stable and feed store. According to *Postmarks and Places*, "It was said for the evening meal at the Liberty Hotel, Martha Ott served three kinds of meat, one of which was wild. Mrs. Ott's husband Wesley provided the wild meat which was usually deer, sometimes bear or mountain sheep. In the words of an old timer, Liberty was a hell raiser."

Violent death seemed to plague the little mining town. The first recorded murder in Liberty was the killing of local bully Jim Stewart by Charlie Thompson of Sand Creek, who worked as a mulcher at the Commodore Mine in Creede. The murder took place just a few days before Christmas on December 23, 1900. Jim Stewart had forced Thompson at gun point to humiliate himself by crawling down the main street in Crestone while barking like a dog. *Postmarks and Places* describes Jim Stewart as "Liberty's local bully, a large unkempt man with a foul disposition. Many considered Stewart an outlaw. Rumor had it that four men had died from his pistols."

A few days after the incident Thompson told a fellow miner in Creede he was leaving for Crestone to tend to "unfinished business." This business turned out to be shooting Jim Stewart who was near Liberty on upper Sand Creek. According to *Postmarks and Places*, Charlie Tompson lay in the shadow of the large Twin Pines, a local landmark. He ambushed Stewart on his way to get the mail in Liberty. After Stewart on horseback passed the Twin Pines, Thompson rose up and stepped into the middle of the road saying, "Jim I'm gonna kill you." His shot knocked Stewart off his mount. Thompson ran off west toward Hooper.

"Despite having half his body blown off, Stewart remounted his horse and travelled nearly a mile reaching Liberty Flats a sunny park east of Liberty." Noah Mayer, 13, looking for family cows, found Stewart who had fallen from his horse. The young man ran for help and Stewart was taken to Liberty. He died seventy-two hours later. Thompson was convinced to turn himself into authorities in Crestone. The records of the trial were lost. Locals claimed that Thompson was acquitted.

The senseless double murder of Mrs. Boyd and her unborn child by George Boggs occurred in Liberty late one night. Mr. Boyd was working the night shift when the killings occurred. Mrs. Boyd, who

was afraid of her unstable neighbor, had nailed her front door shut but Boggs broke through and shot the pregnant woman with a .44 Bulldog Revolver. Figuring he'd murdered her, Boggs returned to his cabin which was close to the Boyd house. There he put his pistol in his mouth and blew his brains out. *Postmarks and Places* says, "Talk in Liberty was that Boggs had become mentally unbalanced." Mrs. Boyd and her unborn child were buried in the Duncan Cemetery and Boggs was laid to rest along the Grant fence a half mile south of Liberty.

I could not help but think of these tales of Liberty as we wandered through mountain meadows to the ruins of the livery stable and bar. Hollmer told me two brothers owned the businesses. I could nearly smell the horses and mules as we explored the ruins of the stable studded with nails and hardened old leather scraps. We found what Sherer and Hollmer thought may have been part of a blacksmith's forge.

Wandering to the nearby bar building and looking into the large window frames I could see rectangular tables set around the floor littered with what look like barrel staves, possibly from beer or whiskey barrels. There were doors on both sides of the building. I could easily imagine the flow of traffic through the establishment: miners coming by after a long shift for a beer and the news. I can envision locals sitting around gossiping and strangers passing through, waiting for their horses to get new shoes next door at the livery stable, and someone playing a rousing song on a piano at one corner of the bar.

All too soon we were walking down the steep road from Liberty to where we had left the trucks and begin the trek back to Crestone. As we come up on Deadman's Creek Sherer pointed out the old road which ran to Hooper. Most of the supplies for Liberty came from Hooper on the road west from the creek. Brisa showed us the pictures she took on our trip back in time. The magic of this trip will stay with me.

The old town site of Liberty is privately owned property. Trespassing is prohibited and visitation is by permission only.

Get ready for winter: Five home maintenance projects to tackle this fall

(StatePoint) Fall is the perfect time to complete those pesky home maintenance projects left on your to-do list. If you've been putting off these chores, you're not alone, but it could cost you. In fact, a national survey from Erie Insurance shows many Americans are putting themselves and their homes at financial risk by delaying important home maintenance tasks.

Make sure you're protected by focusing on these five areas:

• **The Roof.** Twenty-three percent of homeowners admit they never inspect their roof or have it inspected unless there is a problem, according to the Erie Insurance survey. Unfortunately, replacing a roof is also one of the biggest expenses a homeowner may have if not maintained properly. Nationally, the average homeowner spends about \$6,600

to install a new roof, but prices can soar upwards of \$20,000.

Don't be stuck with a hefty roof repair bill. Have it inspected to see if any shingles are damaged and need to be replaced. The fall season is the optimal time to do so, since roofing is best installed when temperatures are cooler. Plus, you'll catch any problems before winter weather kicks in.

• **The Gutters.** Make sure downspouts drain away from the foundation and are clear of debris. Clogged gutters can lead to major issues like uneven floors, cracks in walls and interior water damage. This type of claim, also known as seepage, is a maintenance issue and often not covered under your home insurance policy. To prevent any major issues, clean gutters at least twice a year in fall and spring.

• **The Dryer Exhaust Duct.** Does it take you two to

three cycles to dry a load of laundry? If so, you may need to clean your dryer vent. One in five (21%) admit they never clean their clothes dryer ducts, unless they have a problem. But lint build-up can catch fire easily. Over 15,000 dryer fires occurred nationwide from 2010-2014, with the majority being ignited by dust, fiber and lint, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Avoid this disaster with a thorough cleaning at least once a year.

• **The Fireplace Chimney.** Erie Insurance found nearly half (46%) of people who own a home with a fireplace never have their chimneys cleaned. However, uncleaned chimneys are a leading cause of structure fires, reports the National Fire Protection Association. So, get the chimney cleaned before the cold weather hits and you find yourself tossing logs in the hearth to keep the

house toasty, and then have it cleaned annually.

• **The Sump Pump and Pit.** Sump pumps remove excess water from homes that would otherwise cause property damage. It's important to clean a sump pump and its pit annually to keep basements dry and help prevent mold growth and water damage. Do this maintenance project in fall to help protect against heavy rainfalls and accumulated melting snow and ice of winter.

For more information on how you can protect your home through the seasons, visit www.ErieInsurance.com.

Now that you have your checklist, it's time to roll up your sleeves while it's still nice outside. Whether you're a DIYer or prefer hiring a professional, crossing these projects off your to-do list will help ensure you're safe and secure before temperatures drop.



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380 N. Alder \$425,000
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668 Crocus Rd. \$420,000.
41 pristine acres with Creek running thru it. Home and meEting bldg total 3550 sq ft. Property is entirely off grid, and has new well pump and new batteries.



1474 Badger Rd. \$360,000
3BD 2BA premier custom built Lee Mitchell home. Exterior Cempo walls, indoor stucco, R32 insulation, very energy efficient, open floor plan.



302 Hemlock, \$299,500.
3BD 2 BA Rare opportunity for an income producing home in the Town of Crestone. No covenants, plenty of privacy, and space.



253 Golden Ave. \$299,000
Partially finished construction, this property is part of an estate. Taking offers-price reduced \$100,000 for quick sale! call Crestone Realty for details.



757 Rendezvous \$299,000
4BD 2 BA beautiful tri-level serene home is in immaculate condition and located in a quiet, private location but with easy access to town.



1564 Wagon Wheel \$239,000 4BD 2BA If you love SW style, this one will catch your eye. very family oriented or great home for entertaining.



1618 Willow Creek Way, \$215,000 2BD home, large garage with poss. apt. upstairs. 2 levels, living room, den, sep kitchen. Oversized garage for RV or boat. New screened porch, views, fenced yard, grow dome.



776 Table Rock Tr, \$195,000. Pristine 23 acres bordering 1/4 mile of Spanish Creek. 2300 sf. 2BD 1 BA. Expansive 360 views. Finish remodel and save. Great investment property.



3949 Cheerful Way \$187,500
Cheerful-Great builders home near Cottonwood creek, contemporary styled 2 story, oversized carport, mtn. views and balcony on 2nd story.



1327 Badger Rd, \$169,900
Expansive views of the mountains & valley! New floors in most of the home, wood stove, lots of windows, wrap porch, on 1.81 acres.



1590 Crown Point OI \$169,000 3BD 2BA large living room with wood stove. 2 car detached garage, grow dome & 1.5 acres on a quiet cul-de-sac.



300 Hemlock. \$165,000. Colorado log cabin located in the town limits of Crestone. Easy walking distance to all amenities. 2 Bedroom home with additional sleeping loft.



3901 Rarity Way \$163,000 2BD 1 1/2 BA. Backs to greenbelt & creek. Passive solar, year-round warm earth mass floor. Custom kitchen, screened-in porch.



980 Peaceful Way. \$158,000. Sweet and cozy home, nestled on half an acre backing to greenbelt. Large windows with panoramic views 1BD 1BA Large loft and separate utility shed.



250 S 2nd St. \$149,500 2BD 1BA Last century feel! Private, mountain views. Home sits on 1 acre, has a deep well, landscaped, with new roof, new paint. Wood shed, partial fencing, woodstove.



59565 HWY 17 \$94,500 3 bedroom 2 bath home with storage trailer, kennels, fenced pasture, and lean to. Property sold as-is, without repairs, warranties or representations. Seller will convey using a Quit claim deed.



279 Del Rio Court. \$69,500
This manufactured home purged with the land, on 4 lots in a private cul-de-sac. 2011 model, has a garage for the work at home mechanic, or self employed.



613 Cinnabar Trail \$20,000
Secluded cottage on 3.83. Acres. Root cellar, green house, utility shed. Amazing panoramic views.

We are low on inventory of homes in Crestone.

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Garden Guru

Piñons, Bears, & Kale



by Matie Belle Lakish

Warm weather in September! Harvest extended! Lucky us! Plus, it's been a nice wet year, so the soil is damp and all plants and trees will be going into winter with moisture reserves.

The Piñon Jays have been busy harvesting the Piñon nuts, not leaving a lot for the humans, but with all this moisture, 2019 may be a bumper crop. Piñons are bi-ennial, meaning they take two years to produce a crop. With a wet winter, and no late freezes next spring to kill the tiny ovaries and male pollen, the trees will set cones next spring, which will be about the size of a large marble by next fall. Then in 2018, if all goes well, they will mature and ripen a good crop of nuts. You can see why old-timers say that you only get a good Piñon crop every 7 years. Seven is not a magic number, but is sort of an average for how many years it takes for all the factors to come together well.

Warm weather returned in September to ripen tomatoes and cucumbers and squash. Our local bears, having to go into winter without the fine crop of chokecherries they usually find in the mountains, or the apples they like to find in town, are looking for anything that looks or smells like food. Several gardeners lost their beehives in September. Ours, enclosed in a metal cage, survived the assault when bear came through our fence. He was probably hoping for honey and fruit, but settled for

half-ripe tomatoes. He clearly preferred the large yellow ones and the Paul Robeson variety, but he ate everything with any color to it. Green ones, however, were not to his tastes, as he left them on the ground punctured by tooth and claw. I never suspected bears liked tomatoes.

Thankfully, bear left most of the green tomatoes untouched. I gathered up everything with any sign of color and brought it indoors to ripen. I really appreciate the way tomatoes ripen after you pick them. It makes it possible to have a sizable harvest in a cold climate like ours. While I won't do a lot of tomato canning this fall, we'll have plenty to eat fresh and share with friends. There's nothing quite like an heirloom tomato freshly sliced and sprinkled with your favorite condiment.

The great kale chip experiment

With all the rain, and the cooler weather through the summer, the Brassica family of plants, including kale, collards, cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower, have performed very well in most of the Crestone area gardens. Last month I mentioned my interest in kale chips, and September was a great opportunity to try them out. I was inspired by the efforts of three members of the Crestone Resiliency food committee, Jane Kuan, Ginny Ducale, and Nora Vivian, who made kale chips to serve to everyone who visited the Resiliency booth at the Crestone Energy Fair.



Janet Woodman and giant cauliflower.

photo by Matie Belle Lakish

Jane's recipe for kale chips is simple. Tear kale from the ribs, then wash the raw kale, spin or shake it to remove excess water, then break into bite-sized pieces. Using one or more of the following oils—olive, coconut or sesame—toss the cleaned kale until each piece is coated with oil. Then toss the leaves in seasoning, which can include any one or more of the following: salt, stevia or brown sugar, chili powder, rice or white vinegar, Bragg's or soy sauce, curry powder, and/or whatever your family likes. Place the coated leaves on cookie sheets in an oven at a very low temperature (about 250°). Stir occasionally to be sure all leaves are exposed to heat, and bake until crisp, about 30 to 50 minutes. The results were quite tasty and well received. Several people bought packages to take home.

As my oven is unreliable, I decided to try a few variations. I wanted to be mindful of the effect of temperature on some of the healing components in the Brassica family, as I mentioned in the December 2016 issue. Some of these important healing components are destroyed at fairly low

temperatures, so I decided to experiment with air drying the chips as well as using my food dryer. I also wanted to try cutting back on the oil a bit. I washed and broke the leaves as described above, then spun them as dry as I could. I prepared a mix of 1/3 each of olive oil, rice wine vinegar, and soy sauce. To this I added a little honey and a few cloves of garlic. I put it in a blender until the garlic cloves had disappeared and the solution was well mixed. I stirred some of the liquid into the bowl with the kale and tossed it until the leaves were well coated. Some of the coated leaves went into the food dryer, and some I put on a screen, covered it with a thin, clean cloth and placed it in the sun. I measured the temperature in the food dryer, which got up to 125 degrees and took about 2.5 hours to dry the leaves completely. The sun-dried leaves took all day. However, I was pleased to see that it is possible to make kale chips on a dry, sunny day with just sun-power. I tried the experiment again using cauliflower leaves, as I have a lot of those and they aren't much use as food. They were a little tougher, but still surprisingly good. While I still have some learning to do regarding the seasoning, I was pleased with the chips, and my family happily ate them. They store easily in canning jars or in plastic bags in the freezer.

I also dried some of the kale leaves, as I do parsley and other herbs, and crumbled them up for use in soups later in winter. If you still have kale and other brassica leaves in your garden, I recommend storing some of these nutritious leaves for those cold months ahead.

Pumpkins and squashes had a longer season than usual. After harvesting these generous fruits, I thoroughly wash them, dip them in a weak bleach solution to kill any soil organisms that can lead to premature spoilage, and let them dry in the sun. Umm! Winter squash soup is a favorite on cold days.

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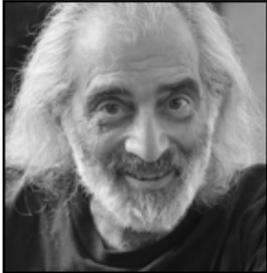
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Aging as an adventure

by Ammi Kohn

A bridge back

When sudden quick frost changes green to brittle gold, listen to the heart.

Art was my bridge in August, my segue from grayness to brightness, mourning to equilibrium, depression to balance, death and heart disease to color healing.

I was one of seven students in Jennifer Thomson's landscape workshop. Four days I happily sat immersed in a vortex of creativity, sunlight and joyful work. Away with sadness, comrades, the wise ones command us to be happy. There is difficulty in life, yes, but the sages tell us that to be joyful is a commandment.

As we age, and I must believe that others feel as I do. We have a responsibility to our inner self, our core, to look for new avenues of expression. Maslow writes of self-actualization, Jung writes of our final and greatest job, individuation in our older years when our last and greatest task is to develop the Shadow, the unawakened expression of our soul. For most Americans in our work-obsessed culture, art becomes ever more important as that part of our self that desperately needs expression in our later years. Whether it is acting, writing, painting, playing an instrument or singing, art is the bridge in later years to a dif-

ferent and fuller view of life, a new perspective on what is enjoyable and worth while.

To my immense benefit, I immersed myself in an August world of blues and greens, lavender yellows and orange. Jennifer roared at me in her quiet voice, "BE BOLD!", so I started using reds. When, for a landscape exercise, I settled myself in the shade of a tree by Crestone Creek on the edge of a bright green meadow, I followed her advice to "Look, take time to understand the scene you choose". Before I picked up the brush I took much care in looking at the ground and water close by and the lone single tree some distance away. That painting might be the best of my week.

The inner adventure in these last years is to explore and develop. If not now, when?!

Footnote: Several months ago I wrote an article "Compassion for the Fool". Jerry Lewis, a comedian who played the fool, died recently. Jim Carrey wrote these thoughts about that beloved fool. "People might dismiss Jerry as someone who acted the fool. The courage and freedom of the fool liberates us. The fool tells the truth while making fun of our arrogance and our conventional ideals. He shows us up for what we are, and that's what Jerry did. He was a blessing." Yes, may his memory be for a blessing.



DISPATCH

from the edge 

by Peter Anderson

It is the gleaning season. Somewhere in the Bible, he recalls, the farmers leave the remnants of their harvest for the hungry. It is still so for those who know where to look. As the high aspens begin to turn, the sandhill cranes circle above the valley before settling into some shallow wetlands down by the dunes. They will spend the night there, safe from predators. Early in the morning, they will fly west across the valley to glean the leftover grains from vacant farm fields. In a few days, he will rattle by that same field in a beat up Chevy with New Mexico plates, scanning a dusty county road for russets jostled loose from the big potato trucks as they ride the ruts and bumps toward a warehouse in Monte Vista.

He likes to come north as the cranes rest and feed here before flying south to winter in the warmer valleys of the Rio Grande. Like them, he knows he will find food. And as the first snow dusts the high peaks in the Sangres, he camps along the western edge of the range, and burns pinyon and juniper until he has a nice bed of coals. Then he wraps a few potatoes in tin foil and lays them down in his fire. And later he peels back their blackened silver jackets, and slits them open, and slathers them with butter and chives. And he gives thanks for the humble mountain tuber, first tasted high in the Andes, now harvested in this mountain valley—Colorado Rose, Purple Peruvian, Rio Grande Russet.

Tomorrow morning, he will drive home to Española. And in a couple of weeks the cranes will follow. And he will hear them before he sees them as they emerge from some low storm clouds over the river.

There are small graces that he counts on every year about this time.

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Technology Tipster

Back-to-school tips for upgrading students' devices

(StatePoint) Back-to-school season is a popular time to replace tablets, smartphones and other mobile devices. However, while you're busy paying for books, student fees and other education-related expenses, tech costs don't have to be a burden.

Today, refurbished devices and accessories can provide a quality, reliable alternative at often less than half of what it costs to buy a new device. Indeed, more consumers are coming to that conclusion. Demand for used smartphones is forecast to grow considerably, according to several industry analyst reports.

While there's a lingering belief among many consumers that refurbished devices are those that were broken or have had problems, the truth is that many refurbished devices come from trade-in and upgrade programs. Through these programs, owners trade in a perfectly good device so that they can

get a newer model.

Whether traded in or repaired, if you do consider purchasing a refurbished device, check out reliable sources such as MyWit.com, where all devices undergo an extensive 65-point inspection of cosmetics and performance to ensure full functionality. These tests verify that every possible function—camera, audio, SIM, WiFi, Bluetooth, etc.—is in excellent working order, and only devices that score 100% on these tests are made available to purchase.

What's more, purchasing refurbished devices is an eco-friendly alternative, keeping used devices from ending up in a landfill and reducing the demand for new devices.

Whether you are purchasing a device as a gift or for yourself this back-to-school season, consider upgrading devices in a smart way that's affordable and sustainable.

There's No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root, RH (AHG)
Herbs for smoky skies



We've been lucky here in Crestone this year. While Montana and the northwest were burning, we had an unusually wet monsoon season. We still had several days though, when the smoke from those fires filled our skies. I'd like to offer some remedies to soothe the lungs in times like these.

Smoke and the associated gases cause inflammation and irritation, which can lead to aggravation of existing respiratory issues, as well as damage to the tissues. Probably the most important thing to do is to stay hydrated. Drink at least 8 glasses of good water a day. Being hydrated thins the mucus, allowing it to move out of the lungs. Don't be surprised if this makes you cough more, and note that this is a good thing. Avoid the smoke as much as possible. Stay indoors with the windows closed, and if in a car, have the A/C on without bringing in outside air.

Eat well, avoiding sugar, dairy, and gluten. Why? These substances can increase mucus and combined with the irritating effects of the smoke can leave you susceptible to infection.

Mullein is the first go to for respiratory irritation and inflammation. Interestingly, it seems to be growing profusely along the roads of the Baca and in any disturbed ground. Mullein is a respiratory tonic, soothing, toning tissues, assisting the cilia in moving mucus up and out. The best time to gather the leaves is in spring when it appears in a rosette pattern. The next best time to harvest is whenever you need it. Make an infusion of the fresh or dried leaves, being sure to strain through a coffee filter to remove the fine hairs.

Marshmallow root is a superb demulcent (soothing to tissues) herb. Infuse in cold or hot water. Our local Scarlet Globe Mallow is related but doesn't grow in enough profusion to use on a regular basis. Marshmallow soothes every tissue it touches and by reflex soothes even the lung tissues. It hydrates

and therefore thins the mucus.

Licorice is both soothing and anti-inflammatory. We do have a local Licorice, *Glycyrrhiza lepidota*, which does not have the characteristic sweet taste of the Chinese variety. The root is used to make a tea.

Grindelia (which does grow locally) is very resinous and helps clear mucus from the lungs. Osha



Mullein.

grows locally but is very difficult to cultivate, therefore best to save this valuable herb for when it is absolutely necessary. It's antimicrobial and dilates the bronchial tubes to help breathing.

All of these herbs can be used as a tea (infusion or decoction), and all but Marshmallow can also be tinctured (alcohol extraction). In our part of the world, it's probably a good idea to keep these herbs on hand!

Dorje Root, RH (AHG) is an herbalist and natural healer, also working with *Plant Spirit Medicine, Intuitive Energy Healing and 'The Journey' cellular healing.* For an appointment call 719-937-7786 or visit www.rootsofhealing.com.

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Baca Grande Library News



by **Suzanne McGregor**

Calling on all library-lovers and friends! The library will be in temporary disarray this month due to our exciting renovation project in the front room.

We are getting new carpeting and vinyl installed, and a beautiful new circulation desk and cabinet. We will be closed the week of October 9-14 and need volunteers to help move books, bookcases, computers and other items (including our *huge* jade plant) on Monday and Tuesday (9 and 10) and move it all back on Friday and Saturday (13 and 14). We plan to start about 10am each day and work until we are worn out! Volunteers can come at any time and give as much time as they can. There will be treats in the morning and sandwiches and fixings for

lunch, courtesy of our Friends of the Library. Warning: We will be bugging you to come give us a hand!

We would like to thank Sarah Koehn-Frey, our District Director, for getting the grant and coordinating all the necessary details, and the District board members for making this improvement to our library possible. The furniture will be made by the crew of Fremont County Corrections in Cañon City, no charge for labor. We just pay for the materials. A huge thank-you to those folks as well!

When you come to the li-

brary, you will see a lovely new bench, an addition provided by our Friends of the Library (FOL). It was made by Blue Earth Designs and features an inscription by Mary Oliver, one of our favorite poets. It is dedicated to Thom Ontko who has worked tirelessly to help steer the FOL for many years. So come, have a seat, and enjoy the beautiful fall weather!

Notice: The library will be closed from October 9-14 for renovation.

Baca Grande Library, 256-4100. Hours: Mon.-Fri. 11:30am-5pm; Sat. 10am-2pm.

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THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

—MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



by Ish

1/ **Girl on a Bicycle:** (2013) ★★★

A very light rom-com involving an Italian Paris tour bus driver who just proposed to his true love, a German stewardess. And wouldn't you know it, a young French beauty pulls up on her bicycle beside his bus and via some bad advice from a friend, a rather predictable but enjoyable plot ensues. He winds up with a German fiancée, a French wife, 2 Australian children that call him papa and his life upside down.

2/ **Camille Claudel 1915:** (2013) ★★★★★

Camille Claudel, the sculptress, was the mistress of Auguste Rodin. This film follows her thoughts and moods over three days, while she is stuck in a psychiatric asylum where her family committed her after she had an emotional collapse. While there she is awaiting a visit from her brother. The film takes place over 3 days and the genius of Bruno Dumont, the director, was to use actual mentally ill patients and their nurses without exploiting them, to show the contrast between seriously mentally challenged people and Camille. Juliette Binoche is always at her best and it allows the intelligence and true stature as the artist, Camille, to shine through.

3/ **Reaching for the Moon:** (2013) ★★★★★

An incredible true story of a love affair between two iconic women, one more introverted and the other very extroverted. Award winning poet Elizabeth Bishop and Brazilian architect Lota de Macedo Soares. There is an artistry in the cinematography also and a quiet that helps to offset the (based on truth) melodrama that exists in this film. Though it is a love affair between two women the film doesn't dwell on that but rather displays the affair as a complex relationship between two highly creative and wounded souls, who both save and damage each other. It also conveys the struggle and loneliness of the act of writing.

4/ **Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close:** (2011) ★★★★★

From the director of *The Hours* and *Billy Elliot* is this wonderful film that is carried by the performance of a young Thomas Horn. Believing that his father left a message before dying in the 9/11 attacks, young Oskar embarks on an emotional odyssey through New York City to find the lock that matches the key he found among his father's belongings. Stars Thomas Horn, Tom Hanks, Sandra Bullock, John Goodman, Max von Sydow.

5/ **Paranoia:** (2013) ★★★★★

This high stakes thriller puts us behind the scenes of two powerful tech billionaires and their world of greed and deception. A young superstar seduced by unlimited wealth and power falls between them and their life-and-death game of corporate espionage. He is in far too deep and knows too much before he realizes his life is in danger. Stars Liam Hemsworth, Harrison Ford, Gary Oldman, Richard Dreyfuss and others.

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1. Dolphins' home
6. *Sports acronym
9. Deep wound
13. Spy's cover
14. 100 square meters
15. "Door," on #35 Across
16. Approximate date
17. Bygone bird
18. Letter-shaped girder
19. *Pastoral autumn trip
21. *Falling all around
23. Galley tool
24. Eight bits
25. Trigonometry abbr.
28. "Hey!"
30. ___weed
35. Faubourg Saint-HonorÉ and Rivoli, e.g.
37. Left after deductions
39. Hymn of praise
40. Hoosier State's capital, for short
41. Boiled or baked buckwheat
43. Actress ___-Jones
44. Hospital's CAT and PET
46. Smoke plus fog
47. Not counterfeit
48. Graphite writer
50. "___ Lang Syne"
52. Hasten
53. Like hard times
55. Scepter's partner
57. *Seasonal squash cultivar
61. *Fall's the time to pull it out of storage
65. Light-footed
66. Gastrointestinal tract
68. Blind alternative
69. "___ as a whistle"
70. Hog heaven
71. Come into
72. Windshield option
73. Golf peg
74. Not slouching

DOWN

1. ___ 1 jet speed
2. Pelvic parts
3. Well-ventilated
4. Introduction to economics?
5. Old Testament prophet
6. *Fall's the season that has more than one
7. "To" follower?
8. Like kale
9. Mongolian desert
10. Equals pi times square of the radius
11. Dateless male
12. Part of hemoglobin
15. Highway accident
20. *Hot apple cider, e.g.
22. Giant Hall-of-Famer
24. *World Series player
25. *Like fall air
26. Prevention measure
27. Four-door
29. Those not opposed
31. *Corn ___
32. Plywood raw material
33. Delhi policeman's club
34. Related on mother's side
36. Update an iPod
38. Biblical pronoun
42. Like a neon sign
45. Smooth and shiny
49. Circle of flowers
51. Search bottom of river, e.g.
54. Teen worry
56. More nude
57. Molotov-Ribbentrop agreement, e.g.
58. Tangerine and grapefruit hybrid
59. Dignified manner
60. Neighborhood map
61. Eye infection
62. UK art museum
63. Larger-than-life
64. Rock opera version of "La Bohème"
67. Beehive State native

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PC consultant/technician since 1985 with a full shop in the Baca. VIRUS fixes and prevention, hard drive data recovery, networking. Call Dennis 256-4110

RELIABLE CARPENTRY & HANDYMAN SERVICES
38 years experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-992-0093

Veterans' Benefits
County Veteran Service Officer does outreach in Crestone on the 3rd Friday at the Town Hall from 1pm to 3pm. Learn about your benefits.

Building or Designing a Home?
(also Renovations)? www.SunPeakBuilders.com Also, listen to my podcast on How2BuildGreen.com Adam Fries 970-426-9446

New Classifieds online daily. Check www.crestoneeagle.com!

Recycling

Bring your recyclables to the parking lot across the street from Aventa the first & third Saturdays of each month, 10am-2pm. Waste Free SLV will be asking \$10 for the average household, less for small amounts, more for larger. 719-588-2703.

Rent A Grandpa
*Caregiver Extraordinaire *Childcare Specialist *Animal Husbandry *Cook-Clean-Shop 707-357-7207

Construction Assistant
Experienced laborer available to assist on construction jobs. Call James Henwood @ 719-937-3547. \$15/hr. min.

Chimney Cleaning
by San Luis Super Sweep. Please call or text to set up an appointment. Jordan Gorhring. 720-979-7848.

Help Wanted

Saguache County Public Health, Prevention Coordinator
Prevention Coordinator will lead substance abuse prevention efforts by facilitating the implementation of the Communities that Care (CTC) model, Further details at Saguache County web site; Applications downloaded at www.saguachecounty.net or at the Saguache County Public Health, 719-655-2533.

Misc. for Sale

Firewood For Sale and Dumpster Rentals
Firewood For Sale and Dumpster Rentals. 303-588-6533.

Building Materials for Sale
Large lot of Spanish roof tile, Oak French doors- new \$200, Window assembly 7'-9" x 5'-2" white with grid- wood interior \$150, Weathered barn wood siding from 100 yr old Nebraska barn. Ken @ 303-443-7946 and 720-201-3857

Firewood for Sale
Firewood for Sale, Pine, Split, Delivered \$165/Cord. Ed Drake, 719-256-4589.

Public Notices

Veterans Assistance Grant
The Saguache County Veterans Service Office has limited grant funds to assist with rent, utilities, food and gas. Contact Jim Sheeran at 719-655-2680 or at jsheeran@saguachecounty-co.gov for more information.

NEW SAGUACHE COUNTY LANDFILL HOURS
Starting 9/12/2017, Sunday - Closed, Monday - Closed, Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri - 8 AM - 3 PM, Saturday - 8 AM - 1 PM

Free

Free Manure
Free horse manure. Call the Baca Grande Stables to arrange pick up. 256-6200.

ELECTION INFORMATION MOFFAT SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES ANNOUNCED

Candidates for the Moffat Consolidated School District #2 Board Election have been determined. Five candidates will be vying for four seats on the five member Board.

Position	Candidate
Director District #2 (Four year term)	Mary Elizabeth Benavidez
Director District #3 (Four year term)	Matthew P. Crowley
Director District At Large #1 (Two year term)	Ginger Ann Stringer
Director District At Large #1 (Two year term)	Write-in candidate Jessica Hawkins
Director District At Large #2 (Four year term)	Write-in candidate Jerry L. Berry

The 2017 Coordinated General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017. Ballots will be mailed to all active, registered voters beginning on October 16, 2017. The ballot packet will include: 1 Ballot, 1 Secrecy Sleeve, Instructions, and 1 Return Envelope. Voters will mark their ballot, insert it into the Secrecy Sleeve, insert this into the Return Envelope, sign the envelope where indicated and mail or return the voted ballot to the Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC) at the Clerk's office in the Saguache County Courthouse, 501 4th St., Saguache. The VSPC will be open from Monday, October 30th through Tuesday, November 7th. Hours for the VSPC are Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm; on Saturday, November 4th, from 7:00 am until 1:00 pm; and on Election Day, November 7th, from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm. Voted ballots may also be deposited into the Ballot Drop Box located in the south parking lot of the Saguache County Courthouse. Beginning October 16, the drop box will be available 24 hours each day until 7:00 pm on Election Day. Please keep in mind that ballots must be received by 7:00 pm on Election Day. Ballots received after 7:00 pm on Election Day will not be counted. Postmarks do not count.

Published October 1, 2017 The Crestone Eagle

CRAZY HEIFER RANCH



Healthy beef raised in a responsible organic pasture Available for sale Contact Amber Felmlee 303-886-9436

WHAT TO DO: IF YOUR CAR CRASHES INTO A UTILITY POLE

Accidents happen. Would you know what to do if your car crashed into an electric utility pole? Knowing what to do could be the difference between life and death.

Always consider power lines and other electrical equipment to be live and dangerous!

IF A POWER LINE FALLS ON YOUR VEHICLE AND THERE IS NO FIRE:
Your safest option is to stay inside your vehicle until help arrives. The vehicle acts as a path for the electrical current to travel to reach the ground. You are safe inside the vehicle, but if you get out, you could be electrocuted.
Call 911 or your local electric utility for help.

IF A POWER LINE FALLS ON YOUR VEHICLE AND THERE IS A FIRE:
Only attempt to leave your vehicle if it is on fire.
To exit safely:
• Jump out of the vehicle, making sure NO part of your body or clothing touches the ground and vehicle at the same time.
• Land with both feet together and in small, shuffling steps, move at least 40 ft. away from the vehicle.
• The ground could be energized. Shuffling away with both feet together decreases the risk of electrical shock.
Call 911 or your local electric utility for help.

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EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Climate geoengineering: Now more than ever?

Dear EarthTalk: Are there any realistic geoengineering solutions to our climate woes and why haven't we started employing them yet?
—Angel Monroe, Miami, FL

Geoengineering our way out of the climate crisis is something so drastic that no one really wants to admit it might be our only hope. But while cutting down on our air miles and switching over to a Prius can't hurt, at least a few green leaders are starting to get on board with the concept of geoengineering as one weapon in an arsenal including improved energy efficiency and transitioning to renewable energy sources.

In his 2016 book *A Farewell to Ice: A Report from the Arctic*, Peter Wadhams of the University of Cambridge's Polar Ocean Physics Group lays out several different scenarios where humanity could utilize different geo-engineering techniques to stave off cataclysmic climate change.

First and foremost on Wadhams's list is direct air capture of CO₂—"something the whole world should be putting its research money into"—where we literally vacuum the offending pollution out of the air. Wadhams thinks this is the most logical approach, and one we can get started on right away if there is enough political will to get it funded.

Another potential geo-engineering save involves unleashing a fleet of salt-spraying ships around



Peter Wadhams of the University of Cambridge's Polar Ocean Physics Group is one of an increasing number of climate experts who thinks we may need to employ geoengineering techniques if we are to stave off the worst effects of global climate change.

photo courtesy of Takver, FlickrCC.

the world's coastlines that would pipe ocean water hundreds of feet skyward, spraying clouds with salt crystals to reflect more sunlight upwards and away from the Earth's surface. University of Edinburgh engineers have already designed a prototype fleet of ships to serve as a model for larger efforts.

So-called sparkle blasting balloons represent another tack in the armed battle against global warming. Researchers are proposing sending hot air balloons (or airplanes or even artillery shells) into the sky to shoot or spray sulfuric acid or sulfur dioxide into the upper atmosphere where it would combine with pre-existing water vapor to form sparkly aerosols. When dispersed by the wind, these aerosols would surround the globe with haze that could reflect an estimated 1% of solar radiation back into space.

Yet another geo-engineering climate hack involves constructing a supersized space mirror (or reflective mesh) that could be launched into the Earth's orbit to protect the planet by reflecting some of the sun's rays skyward.

And no discussion of climate geoengineering would be complete

without mentioning carbon sinks. For instance, we could "fertilize" barren sections of open ocean with iron to stimulate the production of CO₂-sucking algal blooms and other photosynthesizing marine life. "When the algae die, they sink to the bottom of the sea, taking carbon with them," writes Jennifer Santisi in *E-The Environmental Magazine*.

Of course, each of these techniques has potential side effects and unintended consequences, not to mention extreme costs. Researchers are proceeding cautiously to try to work some of the kinks out before we actually need to implement them on a widespread scale.

Meanwhile, environmentalists worry that geoengineering remains a distraction and that we have to "keep our eye on the ball" regarding trimming our carbon footprints. That said, it's nice to know that scientists have a few Hail Mary plays up their sleeves if we ever do end up needing them.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of the non-profit Earth Action Network. To donate, visit www.earthtalk.org. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

Crestone-Baca Weather Report

by Keno
August 21 to September 20

Total precipitation for period:

Liquid precip: 1.79"
Snow: 0.0
Measurable precipitation fell on 13 days.
Measurable rain fell on 13 days.
A trace of rain fell on 6 days
5 Thunderstorms occurred
Hail fell on 3 days.
No snow was recorded

Total precipitation year to date:

Since Jan 1: 11.92 "
Total snow to date:
Since Jan 1: 52.1"
Snow Season*: 0.0"

*Snow season runs from July 1 to June 30

Temperatures for the period:

High temp: 86.0°F September 4
Low temp: 37.3°F September 18
Avg. high: 77.9°F
Avg. low: 46.2°F
Number of days with the high temperature at or above 80°: 12
Number of days with the low temperature at or below 40°: 2

Winds for the period:

Avg. speed: 2.0 mph
Highest gust: 41 mph Sept. 19
Main direction: Out of the east at night, out of the south southwest during the day.

Weather summary:

Both the temperatures and total rainfall that we saw during this 31 day period were right at normal. We saw 3 different days where the high temperatures just missed being a record by one degree on each day, but other than that, nothing really exciting to report.

Outlook for October:

For the first full month of fall, on average we should see 1.04" of precipitation fall in October, making it the fifth wettest month of the year. Snowfall averages 3.5", with the 17.5" that fell in 1984 the most ever seen in the month. Record liquid precipitation was 3.38", reached in 2006.

Temperatures in the first week of the month average 64° and 35° for highs and lows, and by the month's last week those readings fall off to around 54° and 25°. The warmest recorded temperature in October was 80°, set on October 1, 2010, and the coldest reading was 2°, reached on October 30, 1993.

The 30 day outlook for October is calling for temperatures being above average, with precipitation being around normal.

Note: For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno's web site: www.keno.org/vws.

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