

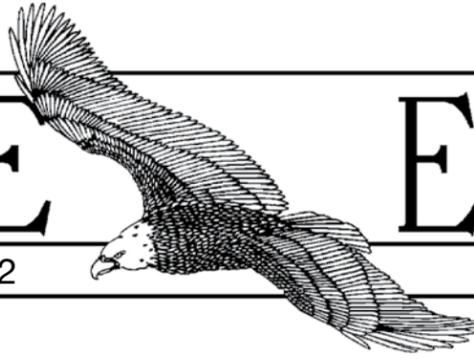
# The CRESTONE EAGLE

Crestone, Colorado Volume 29, Number 12

December, 2018 \$2

29 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

PRESORT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
CRESTONE, CO  
PERMIT #8  
81131  
Change Service  
Requested



Snow plumes fly from Challenger, Kit Carson, Crestone Peak and Crestone Needle—known as the Crestone Group of peaks. photo by Bill Ellzey who will be holding his fabulous Annual Art Show December 8 & 9. See our special holiday section for more info. To see this photo in color and more, visit our website at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)

## Town of Moffat approves commercial cannabis park Area 420 subdivision updates plans

by Lisa Cyriacks

Earlier in 2018 the Town of Moffat annexed 99.68 acres owned by Potch LLC. The land annexed is for development of residential and commercial marijuana businesses.

Since the annexation, Colorado Area 420 LLC has begun promoting the development as “prime Colorado Cannabis cultivation land in a designated Commercial Cannabis Park.” (See [www.coloradoarea420.com](http://www.coloradoarea420.com))

Colorado Area 420 advertis-

es, “a unique no risk opportunity to get into the 100% legal commercial marijuana industry”.

Whitney Justice, Manager for Potch LLC: “Several lots have been earmarked for residential use. In addition, grow owners are incorporating residential plans into their development proposals. When owners live on site, security and sustainability improve.”

A key sales pitch on the website is the access to commercial wa-

ter. Potch, LLC, the property owner, owns a water source just north of the annexed parcel and has a SWSP (substitute water supply plan) that allows for 44 acre feet of fully consumptive, year-around water for commercial use (as opposed to irrigation use).

Also advertised is 400 amp electrical service, cannabis-friendly local authorities, and low local renewal fees and excise

*continued on page 5*



Santa returns to Crestone Winterfest Saturday December 2 at 2pm.

photo by Lori Nagel

## Problems at the county landfill, Colo. Dept. of Health & Environment issues two compliance orders

by Lisa Cyriacks

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) conducted a Compliance Conference with the Saguache County Commissioners regarding two compliance orders that had been issued subsequent to inspections conducted on May 30, 2018 and October 16, 2018.

David Kreutzer, Esq., Hazardous & Solid Waste & CERCLA Litigation Unit leader from the Colorado Attorney General’s Office con-

ducted the Administrative Hearing in order to get the County’s point of view on the record. The May 2018 order dealt with historic problems: primarily contaminants leaking into the groundwater and trash blowing due to the landfill not being covered daily.

The landfill was closed from June to October 2013 in order to complete the engineering and installation of groundwater-monitoring wells. At the time, Landfill

Manager, Randall Arredondo, reported that the County had tried to work with CDPHE. Arredondo requested waivers to the requirements for liners due to dry conditions and other problems that plague the landfill. For prior installations, CDPHE required Saguache County to construct double-lined cells that, according to Arredondo, cost about \$70,000 apiece.

The February 2016 Ground-

*continued on page 24*

### Inside:

#### Special Holiday Event & Shopping Guide

Community Calendar .....	13
The Washington Beat Quarterly .....	22, 23
Bringing Back the Light.....	B-1
Who We Are: Matt & Meghan Stalzar .....	B-4
Mountain Mamas Tell Tall Tales .....	B-14
Kidz Page .....	B-16

## The Crestone Eagle

**Publisher & Editor:** Kizzen N. Laki  
**Copy Editor:** Janet G. Woodman  
**Advertising:** Nick Nevares, Jennifer Eytcheson  
**Production:** Carrie Caverly  
**Accounts:** Shoshannah Asha  
**Photo Editor:** Diane Bairstow  
**Contributing Writers:**

Mary Lowers	John Rowe
Lori Nagel	Kim Malville
Matie Belle Lakish	Gussie Fauntleroy
Ed Lyell	Earl W. Sutherland
Keno Menechino	Sandia Belgrade
Lisa Cyriacks	Suzanne McGregor
Peter Anderson	Dorje Root
Larry Calloway	David Nicholas
Stephen Futral	Tomas DeMers

**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  
**Digital Subscription Rate:** 12 issues \$15 digital.pdf  
 Paper Subscription Rates: 12 issues \$30 Bulk mail.  
 For 1st class postage \$45.

Back issues \$4.50 each by mail.

The Crestone Eagle is an independent monthly publication. POB 101, Crestone, CO 81131.  
 (719) 256-4956 Email: info@crestoneeagle.com  
 www.crestoneeagle.com

No junk mail or solicitations please!

**Comments or opinions expressed in The Crestone Eagle are not necessarily those of the publisher, but are solely those of the writer.**

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.



## Thanks for blessings

Dear Community,  
 The Neighbors Helping Neighbors Board would like to give thanks for the blessings you have given us over the course of this year. Your donations have been put to good use helping people out of crisis and back on their feet.

We want to give special thanks to Michelle and Benjamin and family of the Cloud Station and Elephant Cloud Market for generously donating their facility and expertise to NHN which helped bring the Annual Yard Sale, the Intuit show and the Halloween Extravaganza to you this year.

Thanks to Mandala Pizza, Crestone Mercantile, and the Crestone Brewery for always being willing to help NHN on everything from gift certificates, to food, and turkeys for the community Thanksgiving dinner, which NHN sponsors along with the Charter School. Our amazingly talented local performers, from musicians to fire spinners, thank you for making our events special occasions. Thanks to The Crestone Eagle and the Crestone Town Board for their support. Many thanks to Curt Goodnight for the storage space we so badly needed.

And saving perhaps the most important until last our gratitude goes out to our volunteers who go above and beyond to help NHN help this amazing community.

Many thanks and blessings in the coming year!  
 The Neighbors Helping Neighbors Board

## Thank you

To all,  
 I appreciate the opportunity of having worked with so many wonderful people on the campaign trail. For your encouragement, support and contributions . . . also for those who let me hang my shingle. I know there were many demands on everyone's time. Thank you for making the time to vote—I needed your vote, every single one of them.

In this past year, the Saguache County Clerk's Office has grown beyond all recognition—computerization of all departments, financial growth beyond our wildest expectations—and wherever there has been innovation, development, progress, our team has been in the front ranks. We wouldn't be where we are today without the team. Our goal was to effect change—things changed; then changed again.

The-Awe-Some-Four continue to respect and support each other through all the struggles and successes. They are all well trained, good workers. I love being part of such a creative and enthusiastic team.

Now it is time to get back to work for you, the citizens of Sa-

guache County. Thank you for giving me that chance. I endeavor to put citizens and services first, during my term as County Clerk. To all I say, I am proud and pleased . . . and ready.

Trish Gilbert  
 Saguache County Clerk & Recorder

## Thanks from the Baca Stables

Dear Editor,  
 The Baca Grande Stables wants to take this opportunity to say thank you to the POA maintenance team for all their support in repairs and upkeep at the stables property. Both their hands-on help and their advice have always been invaluable to the owners and horses at the stables.

We also want to thank the hard working men and women from the Baca Fire Department for their efforts at the stables this year. Their removal of dead trees and slash piles from previous years will reduce the fire danger and the danger of property damage and injury to the horses.

All these individuals work around the horses with care for the horses' mental and physical well-being. We appreciate them. It is a pleasure to live and work in this community with them.

Happy and Peaceful Holidays to all,  
 Joanna and Eli Dokson

## We are a microcosm

To the editor and our community,

A few weeks ago Paul Kloppenburg went to work at the Crestone End of Life (CEOLP) community cremation site and discovered that someone had taken over a ¼ cord of wood. A cord of the wood

had just been donated, driven over to the site from Nederland by a friend of CEOLP.

As board member Gussie Fauntleroy said when she'd heard about the incident, "I actually hope the person was desperate for wood, rather than just taking it because they could, completely without respect or thought for the sacredness and service of the wood's intended purpose."

Over the past year there have been occasions where money left as donations has been taken at the KTTG Stupa; a shrine vandalized and other signs of disregard for what others hold sacred.

I think that I can speak for CEOLP and many other organizations: if you need help, simply ask. We do not want to take a protective or fearful stance but rather focus on building a supportive and inclusive community.

Crestone is unique in many ways but especially in the number of community organizations that are available to those in need.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Lili Zohar 303-941-4342; CB Village, Marge Hoglin and Judy Rose 719-256-4110; Feel Free Ministry and the Church of Little Shepherd, Vivia Lawson 719-480-9384; Crestone Food Bank, Wendy Chandan 719-539-7740; Pet Partners, Patrick 719-588-6431 and others. All are paths for support in time of crisis and offer an opportunity for reciprocal service.

We are a microcosm of the world, the challenges "out there" are here as well. Let's address them and help one another through generosity and loving kindness—for that's what we hope to have reflected back to us by the mirror of our community.

Stephanie Gaines for the  
 Crestone End of Life Project  
 & Informed Final Choices

## Editor's Notes

### Thank you for believing

The Crestone Eagle started this year in rough shape. After 29 years we were at the edge of closing our doors. Income was low, technology was old and bills were piling up. I don't easily ask for help. But three people told me over three days that I should do a "Go Fund Me"; that the Eagle was too valuable to let it just go.

Okay, I finally yielded and asked for help. I was immediately overwhelmed by a huge show of support for the Eagle. Donations large and small came in with wonderful notes attached. Thank you.

This is what we accomplished this year:

Upgraded our ancient data base. This was a huge job and we're still working the kinks out.

Paid off some outstanding bills that were pulling us down.

Bought three new used computers. Our youngest had been a 2009 model. None could be updated any further.

Bought new hardware and software and updated all the computers. Paid for tech help and training to make it all work.

Accomplished a big step in first stabilizing and now creating a new website. The new website should launch by the end of the year. Whew!

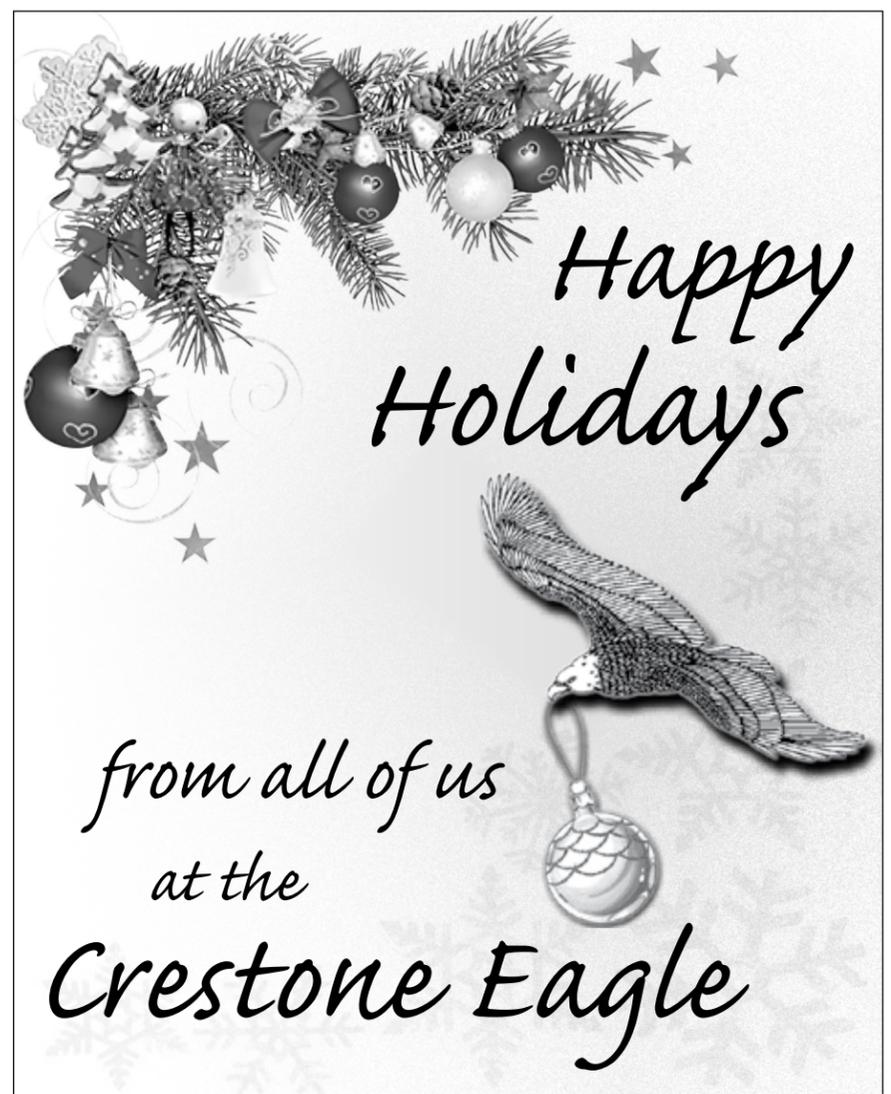
The new data base allowed us to raise our advertising rates by 20%. Not a single advertiser dropped out because of the rate hike. The increase in advertising has put us nicely in the black.

A board of directors has created the non-profit Crestone Eagle Community Media and is awaiting tax exempt status. A fundraising effort is happening to purchase the Eagle from me and have it become a truly community-owned media resource—like public or community radio. That will ensure that the Eagle keeps flying and serving the community that it loves.

Wishing you all very happy and snowy holidays.

With deep gratitude for your help and your trust,

—Kizzen



## Firewood from the mitigation work

To Baca Grande Property owners:

I'm not sure how many of you are aware that the Baca Grande Emergency Services are currently doing fire mitigation work along the South Crestone Creek drainage above the park, and along the Willow Creek drainage next to the Stables. These projects are done for forest health, fire mitigation, the maintenance required by the association and, first and foremost, public safety.

In the past few weeks we have had multiple parties accessing these areas by motorized vehicle to gather the wood cut to firewood lengths. Access to these areas is restricted to Emergency Services' motorized vehicles. A board vote allowed the Department special access for the sole purpose of these projects. I ask that you please respect the rules of the association by not driving onto the greenbelt areas.

The Emergency Services Department will move all of the wood processed into firewood to a designated area and will grant access to these gathering locations on specific dates (not yet determined). There will be a fee of \$30 per load (of any size). Once these dates are determined, propertyowners will be notified.

If you see anyone not following these rules, please inform them of them.

Thanks!  
Tad Crawford,  
Chief Administrator,  
Baca Grande Emergency Services

## Let's keep the trails natural

Mountain bikers on local trails:

Hello mountain bike enthusiasts. As a reminder, the trails in the Baca, including South Crestone, are there for your enjoyment, but regulations are that you must stay on the trail. Going off trail or breaking new trails damages the natural character of the area, including plants and young trees, and enhances soil erosion. Please avoid going off trail, skidding, taking corners too wide, etc. Natural

barricades have been put up to prevent further damage to areas surrounding the designated trails. Please respect their intention and let's keep the trail natural for all users. Thanks!

Best regards,  
Wade Lockhart

## Landfill violations

Dear Editor,

In March of this year I wrote a letter to the editor which was sent to the BOCC and published in newspapers in the north valley concerning recycling issues. After reading the article in the *Center Dispatch* this week about violations of Colorado law at the landfill, I was filled with a renewed sense of revulsion at the lack of attention to this matter by the BOCC.

My main concern is the lack of any commitment to the recycling program and the level of misrepresentation involved. Citizens have been paying for recycling services that never occurred. Just as I predicted, much of this material will end up in the landfill. Other issues such as the monitoring wells and windblown trash are also very valid concerns that should have been addressed long ago. Where is the accountability of those in charge? Why did the BOCC not oversee R&B and make sure they were compliant?

I agree with Mr. Lovato that landfill services are a necessary

part of County services. Transfer stations could substitute as long as recycling is part of the program, but whether you do one or the other it must be done professionally and to code.

Every department of the County should be subject to regular accountability audits and each employee should be reviewed periodically for performance. Department heads that feel tenured are unlikely to perform up to standards that any business would require of its employees.

Thomas D. McCracken



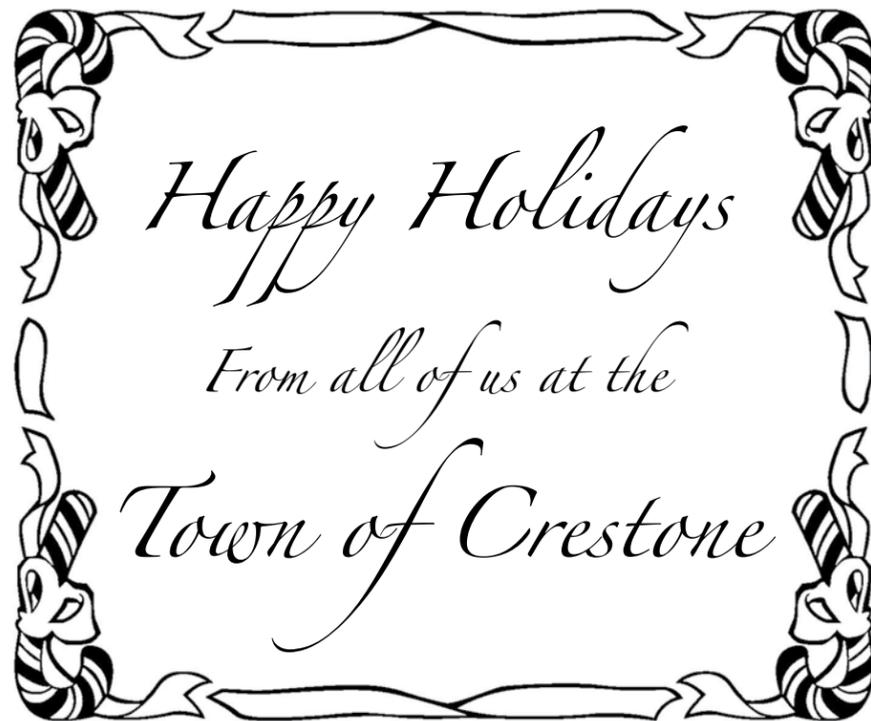
**Charles Thomas Sommers**

(March 7, 1942 - April 19, 2018)

Charlie passed away on April 19, 2018 after a short battle with lung cancer. He was born on March 7, 1942 in Walnut Creek, California to Cloyce and Georgia Ann Sommers. After many years in the contracting business, he "retired" to Crestone where he worked on various projects for the POA, Town of Crestone and Saguache County. He spent his free time hiking, travelling, fishing and woodworking.

Charlie was a good guy. He had a great sense of humor and was always there for anyone who needed a hand. He will be missed.

Charlie is survived by his children, Jeneen Sommers of Loma Mar, CA; Cheryl Sommers of Placerville, CA; Jeff Sommers of Antioch, CA; and Pamela Sommers of Thornton, CO as well as four grandchildren, a dog and a cat. He was preceded in death by his parents and three older brothers.



**First Annual End-Of-Year**

# OPEN GALLERY ART SALE

**10% to 50% off Original Art**

**One Day Only**

**Saturday, December 15, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**At CRESTONE ARTISANS GALLERY in Downtown Crestone**

**Original works of art by local artists for your home and gifts at great prices.**

**Cash or checks only. All sales final.**

## Sheriff Dan Warwick wins by landslide

by Mary Lowers

The election in November showed high voter turnout in the San Luis Valley (SLV) with 62% of registered voters in Saguache County voting. Sheriff Dan Warwick held his office with a whopping 72% of the vote going his way. This voter mandate for changes and improvements in the Saguache County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) was backed up with extra funding when voters approved Proposition 2018-5, or as it is known, the 1.5% Public Safety Sales Tax. Sheriff Dan Warwick thanks the county's voters for coming out and participating in the election. He told the *Eagle*, "I don't care if you are a Democrat or a Republican, whether you voted for me or not I am glad you voted. If you voted for me you voted in a common sense approach" to law enforcement in Saguache County.

The Sheriff told me that approval of the 2019 SCSO budget by the County, along with the tax boost, will evolve into a well staffed department with enough well trained and equipped deputies to meet the law enforcement needs of county residents. The inadequate jail facilities will be brought into legal compliance.

The tax money will not be enough to empower the SCSO. "Needs cannot be met without the budget," Sheriff Warwick commented. The Sheriff made it clear to me in our conversation that the tax boost will not result in the improvements voters mandated unless the SCSO's "normal budget for 2019 is funded by the County. If I get the budget we are asking for and the tax funds, it is possible that we can have more coverage." That means more deputies out on the road in the county. The SCSO will use tax funds to

get and keep equipment "up to par." The facility upgrades at the jail, the Sheriff told me, will begin with a "recreation yard for the prisoners. The prisoners need to be outside. It is not healthy or good for anyone not to be outside."

The wage and benefits gap is an important area to be looked at and made competitive if we want to attract and keep good deputies, jailers, and other SCSO personnel. Saguache County is the largest-area county in the SLV, with among the lowest budget for county law enforcement. The SCSO hopes to cover the wage and benefit gap with other comparable counties. "Funding needs to increase to keep good staff," the Sheriff said, "I don't want to see Saguache County as a revolving door for training." In other words, a place to train deputies who will have to leave after they get experience for their resume, due to lack of benefits and low, low wages. Increased funding means that we can hire and keep good people.

When I asked the Sheriff about recent thefts of firewood in the Crestone/Baca area, he said no one had filed a report about these ripoffs. He wants to hear about these incidents and mentioned, "I am ok if you don't want to file an official report or if you do not want the person to get prosecuted," just let them know what happened. Increased staffing and funding for the SCSO means more of these incidents can be addressed.

Meeting the SCSO's facility's needs will be a process, not a quick fix, with the exercise yard as a priority, followed by an updated kitchen, urgently needed repairs to the jail, and increased space. Sheriff Warwick told me, "we can't please everybody" but improvements are on the way for the SCSO.

## Saguache County crime report

by Mary Lowers

As is often the case in poor rural counties nationwide, domestic violence and its related charges of assault, harassment and violation of a restraining order were the most prevalent charges this past month for the Saguache County Sheriff's Office (SCSO).

A bail amount of \$100,000 was listed for a Saguache County man, 68, on charges including sexual assault on a child by a person of trust, sexual assault and incest. A Center man, 36, was booked into jail with no bail amount listed, on charges of third degree assault, child abuse and domestic violence. No bail was listed for a Moffat man, 30, jailed on charges of third degree assault, domestic violence, and violation of a restraining order. A Center man, 45, went to jail for charges of sexual assault and domestic violence with no bail amount listed. A Crestone man, 27, was jailed twice last month for violation of a restraining order and once for contempt of court. His bail was \$500 for the first incident and \$2000 for the second incident. A Casita Park man, 51, was jailed on third degree assault charges with \$1000 bail listed. A Center man, 36, was jailed for violation of a restraining order with no bail amount listed. Five hundred dollars bail was set for a Salida man, 33, on third degree assault charges.

Another warrant sweep by SCSO netted a Crestone man, 25, in jail on failure to appear charges with \$2000 bail listed. A Saguache man, 54, was jailed on four fugitive from justice charges with \$4000 bail listed. A Salida man, 51, was held on \$200 bail for failure to appear charges. A Taos, NM man, 54, was jailed on driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol with \$500 bail listed.

A summons to appear in court was given to a Casita Park man, 33, for knowingly and recklessly causing bodily injury. A Cincinnati, OH man, 50, received a summons for driving with a suspended license and disregard of a traffic control device.



**Do you know the best way to protect your family's future?**

Schedule your free, no obligation, Estate Planning Consultation today.

719-207-4279

jenna@mazzuccalaw.com  
www.mazzuccalaw.com

Jenna L. Mazzucca, Esq., PC

1604 H Street, Suite 600, Salida, CO 81201

Probate Administration • Business Formation • Real Estate • Personal Injury • Civil Litigation

Traveling this Holiday? Protect yourself from harmful radiation!

Discounts Available

Dorje Root  
719-937-7786  
303-748-3091

Pendant

Car Harmonizer

Home Harmonizer

**CRESTONE BREWING CO.**

Solstice Dance Party w/GODLAZER  
Friday, December 21

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019  
Live Music New Year's Eve: The Audience  
Complimentary Champagne Toast & Shuttle Service w/in the Crestone area.

HOURS Mon: 4PM-Close, Tues-Sun: 12PM-Close Kitchen closes at 9PM daily.  
CRESTONE BREWING CO., 187 SILVER AVE, CRESTONE, CO  
719.256.6400 WWW.CRESTONEBREWINGCO.COM

**WINTERFEST**  
DECEMBER 1 & 2 HOLIDAY BAZAAR

with Special Music Guest  
**Blue Rooster**  
Saturday 3-6pm

Hot Italian Buffet Dinner  
Saturday 3-6pm  
provided by **Gracie's Farmstead**

Santa!  
Saturday 2pm

Storytelling by Kelly  
Saturday 12pm

SAT. 10AM - 6PM SUN. 10AM - 5PM

## Moffat's Area 420

*continued from page 1*

taxes. In the November 2018 General Election, residents of Moffat passed a 5% excise tax.

The Town, in September, approved 14 business licenses including retail marijuana cultivations and marijuana-infused products. Two of those licenses have also been approved by the Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division, and are held by Whitney Justice. The remainder are in the process of applying to the state agency for approval and background checks.

### Proposed development not without controversy

Some residents and surrounding landowners do not feel that

the process has been transparent. Mid-September, the Town expanded the hours it was open and approved compensation for a full-time town clerk. This has improved access to paperwork and expanded opportunities to ask questions outside of Town board meetings. Current hours of operation are Monday-Thursday, 8am to 4pm.

Residents in the area continue to be concerned about potential negative impacts, similar to those experienced in other parts of Saguache County—blight, adverse environmental impacts, noise and light nuisances, and lack of adequate code enforcement to address those concerns.

Moffat is too small to require a planning commission, and does not currently have a Master Plan, according to Town Mayor Patricia Riegel. Long-term residents express concerns that regulations for this type of development are inadequate and question whether or not Moffat has the resources to address them.

Justice, on behalf of Colorado Area420: "We do not permit black or gray market operations, which are not governed by the Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division. The MED imposes its own set of building standards and requirements which far exceed the UBC or anything any local authority has ever implemented. Area420 is only for legal operations. In fact, one must obtain both local and state licensing to qualify to purchase land from Area420. We will abide by the dark skies ordinance and all town, county, and state laws as well as the MED rules and regs. Although Moffat has no

building codes of its own, Area420 businesses will be held to the highest building standards in the county because the construction is dictated and governed by the MED."

Currently there is no signed Subdivision Agreement available for review at the Town Hall. Mayor Reigel indicates there is one in the works.

There is also a public hearing scheduled on December 12 at 6pm to take comments from the public on proposed re-subdivision of certain lots in the Colorado Area420 Development. That hearing will be at the Town Hall located at 401 Lincoln in Moffat. For more information or to arrange to review the proposed sub-

division changes call 719-256-4538.

Mayor Riegel is enthusiastic about the development and the changes coming to Moffat including a Dollar General Store in 2019. With the adoption of an excise tax that will redirect funds directly to the Town coffers from the County, she feels the Town will have resources to continue to improve services for the benefit of the community.

Potch, LLC, has already donated a 40-yard dumpster for town cleanup for Earth Day 2018, established a scholarship fund for graduating seniors at the Moffat Consolidated School and has plans to build a public bathroom/shower/laundry facility for Moffat residents.



Radiant Flow  
Yoga & Massage

Cynthia Nielsen LMT, RYT

**10 AM MONDAY YOGA**  
LITTLE SHEPHERD HALL  
CRESTONE

[www.RadiantFlow.co](http://www.RadiantFlow.co)




**A Hot Rate**  
**2.53% APY\***

**12-Month CD**  
**No Minimum Deposit**

*Visit [aventa.com](http://aventa.com) for details.*

Membership open to anyone who lives, works or goes to school in Alamosa, Chaffee, Custer, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Pueblo, Saguache and Teller Counties.

*Aventa.*  
CREDIT UNION  
[aventa.com](http://aventa.com)

\*APY=Annual Percentage Yield. APY is accurate as of 09.20.18. Please call 800.555.6665 for current rates. Rate subject to change without notice. No minimum deposit required. Penalty for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. Offer does not apply to IRAs and business accounts. Promotional rate effective 09.20.2018. Offer is for a limited time only and may end at any time. Federally insured by NCUA.

# Saguache County News

by Sandia Belgrade

## The County is on the move

In terms of moving offices, the County is not standing still. The Administration, Land Use and the newly-formed Finance Department have relocated from the court house in Saguache to the building formerly occupied by the Public Health Department at 503 3rd St., which is just one block away. The move gives everyone more space, so they are no longer on top of each other. Knowing where the Land Use Office is located is necessary, as residents must get a building permit or conditional use permit for all structures built or moved onto a property or for marijuana cultivation or dispensary. The Land Use Code also covers zoning regulations, subdivision regulations, or annexations. The Land Use Office is now requiring an appointment for any Conditional Use Permit.

## Social Services in Center

Linda Warsh, Director of Social Services, made a point to explain that not all of Social Services are located in Saguache. The town of Center has a space adequate for a food bank, conference room, a meeting place for family groups, collaborations and life skills as well as room for filing and storage. Hopefully next year they'll have space for dental services.

## Finance/Grant Support Officer

As part of the reorganization by the new administrator David Butler, Rhiannon Curry, formerly Office Manager of Road and Bridge, will be in the position of Administration Finance/Grant Support Officer within the Administration Department. Prior to moving to Saguache, Curry was in the lending industry for 20 years, which gave her financial and management experience. A resident in the county since October of 2015, she first started working for the County in Treasurer Connie Trujillo's department. She then became Office Manager for the Road and Bridge Department, working with bookkeeping, payroll, and accounting for a budget of approximately \$3 million. She will float between Administration and Road and Bridge until her replacement is trained.

## Want to know how the County spends money?

The proposed budget for 2019 has been submitted to the Saguache County Board of Commissioners. A copy of this proposed budget has been filed in the office of the Saguache County Clerk and Recorder, where it is open for public inspection. Any interested elector of Saguache County may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections to it at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget. The Board of County Commissioners will hold a public budget meeting in the County Commissioners' Room

at the Saguache County Courthouse on December 3 at 10am. The final 2019 budget adoption will be considered at the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners to be held in the Commissioners' meeting room at the Saguache County Courthouse on December 4 at 2pm.

## The landfill situation drags on

For months the County Commissioners have been trying to decide whether to maintain the present landfill or begin a transition to transfer stations. Landfills are a very common problem in rural counties across the country. Seventy-four percent have negatively affected groundwater and put out high levels of pollution. At present our landfill has plastic, waste and recycling sitting outside the landfill. It is also out of compliance with the State. The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment has asked them to correct the situation and they can do that—at a cost of over \$300,000 including replacing the liner. How will the county pay for that? Even if they justify it as a service to the community, the budgets of other departments may have to be reduced to cover that expense. Six landfills in southern Colorado have already decided to close because of the expense and control by the State. Chris Canaly, Director of the SLV Ecosystem Council, has been persistent in trying to convince the BOCC of the value of setting up a transfer station. Ken Anderson says they need to see more figures before a decision can be made. They'll need to come up with a plan and a timeline. Waste is a never-ending problem that is growing, becoming more costly, and more challenging to manage. The reality is that waste disposal is here today, and here tomorrow.

## Emergency preparedness in the County

In light of the tragic fires in California, many in Colorado are aware of the need for emergency preparedness. David Daboll, Director of Public Health, attended an emergency preparedness meeting in Denver. Closer to home, Bobby Woeltz, Director of the Office of Emergency Management, led a tabletop exercise in November. A tabletop exercise is a meeting to discuss a simulated emergency situation. Tabletop exercises assure adequate preparation and readiness for any disaster. This exercise allowed the County to review and discuss the actions they would take in a particular emergency, and test their emergency plans in an informal, low-stress environment. One scenario supposed there was a red flag warning with a report of smoke in the Crestone/Baca area. How would the County address the crisis? In the Baca area, a resiliency group discusses not only the best uses of energy, but how people in rural areas can be resilient which will be useful in the event of an emergency.

## Two Colorado innovations

Trish Gilbert, newly elected Saguache County Clerk & Recorder, announced two new State developments for Coloradans. The State will offer a non-binary sex identifier on driver licenses and IDs as of No-

vember 30, 2018. According to the new rules, individuals will be able to designate M (male), F (female) or X (non-binary), as determined by them and their licensed treating medical or behavioral healthcare provider, and the corresponding designation will appear as the sex identifier starting November 30, according to new rules approved by Colorado Department of Revenue (CDOR)

Gilbert also announced myColorado, the official mobile app for the state of Colorado. It provides a secure and simple way for Coloradans to access state services. It is currently still in development but the first State services to be available will be

- Renew a Colorado driver license
- Renew a Colorado vehicle registration

Each new service in myColorado reduces the need for a Coloradan to wait in line or repeatedly fill out paper forms. It will be accessible for blind and visually-impaired users. It provides State services with a 24/7 model of getting business done at any time from anywhere securely.

## Good news from the Treasurer

County Treasurer Connie Trujillo reported that 90% of properties in the online tax lien sale were sold. The online process is value-driven—they sell more and the office is able to remain open. Also, she said people have been paying off loans. Thus, between loan pay-offs and tax lien sales more income is coming in to the County. It also helps that the tax increase of 1.5% was approved by the voters.

## Request for road abandonment

Dee Greeman of S&T Farms put in a request for road abandonment. He is working with the Nature Conservancy. They want a site of nine-ten acres south of the intersection of H and 42 over by La Garita. The County doesn't have use for that land. If the County agrees, there's a possibility for a monetary exchange. The Conservancy and whoever farms the land don't want to see traffic going through it. The possible outcomes include realignment or right of way, equitable exchange for abandoning the right of way, and an isolated spot that would enhance agriculture and water rights. A public hearing will be needed for that road abandonment.

## Water Conservation Board presentation

The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) gave a presentation on their stream flow program. The CWCB governing board works with irrigation projects, interstate compacts, watershed protection, and stream protection. Their appropriations are used to preserve the natural environment, monitor wildlife resources, and for acquisitions for water rights. They work to find a balance for the benefit of all users while seeking the mechanisms to preserve wildlife, vegetation, fisheries, and the natural environment.

## Meeting on safety

Commissioner Jason Anderson attended a security meeting earlier this month in Crestone. Also in attendance were Sheriff Dan Warwick, County Emergency Preparedness Manager Bobby Woeltz,



Rhiannon Curry, Finance Grant Support officer.

community residents and the state patrol. The meeting was in response to many residents not feeling safe. There are ongoing reasons regarding lack of safety. There are, first of all, many more people coming into the area. There are reports of gunshots, and some say there are people wandering the roads at night. While there are few actual incidents, the isolation of the area and the fact that law enforcement is far away gives rise to concerns.

## Barriers to solar

John Herford of Oak Leaf Energy Partners made another appearance. The County cannot have a solar garden because of two factors: we don't have enough subscribers, and the bigger issue is we need to have another power line coming into the valley. The difficulty is that Xcel is the gatekeeper and doesn't want to upgrade to a second line, which would be necessary. However, the County may be able to purchase power from Chaffee County, which is a subscriber, and possibly use it for public housing.

## More housing a possibility

Evan Samora, Housing Director, has been entertaining the possibility of developing another low-income housing unit. Currently there are two complexes: Blue Water Haciendas and Puerto del Norte. He may be applying for a sales tax grant to undertake a survey to determine the actual housing needs.

## Interesting factoids

Only 2% of the national budget is going to agriculture. This is not good news for our rural county.

Trish Gilbert, County Clerk and Recorder, reported that over 60% of the eligible voters in the county voted. What exemplary participation.

**इहार्ति इहारानाल**  
**पुठ्ठा इहार्ति**

Now offering:

- ♥ Ayurvedic oil treatments
- ♥ Community classes by donation
- ♥ Private instruction and consultation
- ♥ Yogic cooking
- ♥ Therapeutic and custom courses of study

ॐ २५६-५६६८

**इहार्तिइहारानाल:टोल**

## The State of the County —a Commissioner's report

by Jason Anderson

*Note: This Commissioner's report is the experiences and opinions of a single Commissioner and not to be confused with the decisions of the Saguache Board of County Commissioners.*

Twenty-eighteen has seen a great deal of change in Saguache County, as well as the entire state. Growth has continued to drive much of that change. As the board, we have seen a variety of successes, and a good share of challenges. It is my hope to expound on some of these on a regular basis.

With the end of the mid-terms, our elected officials remain intact with everyone being re-elected. This is not to say the structure of the County has not changed and will not continue to do so. Most notable has been the hiring of a County Administrator. Some years back in a cost-cutting measure the Commissioners chose to split the Administrator position between two department heads. This system was not particularly effective as it lacked a single point of reference that comes with having an overall manager. The retirement of one of the Co-Administrators gave the Commissioners the opportunity to re-establish the position for a more stable administrative structure. In September, the Commissioners hired David Bitler as the Saguache County Administrator. Mr. Bitler comes with a vast body of experience in administration having worked in the court system as well as running a variety of non-profits.

Another position that has been established was that of a Code Enforcement Officer. This began last year when funding from the County excise tax on commercial marijuana gave us the ability to address the much-needed service. Originally, our code enforcement was filled by an actual police officer. The Sheriff's Department performed the bulk of the work, addressing illegal marijuana operations in the county and to the credit of Officers Wayne Clark and James Knight, was very successful. The County is now in a position to begin the task of addressing issues such as un-permitted structures, sanitation violations, and blight. We have agreed with our Sheriff that officers in his department are no longer needed for

the position and better utilized elsewhere, and the position will be filled with a full-time individual working under the Land Use Department, and the Sheriff's Department will serve as back-up support.

The County continues to face a variety of challenges. With growth, we have seen a changing demographic of our residents and with it come different needs and desires for how the county should look. Drought and the extreme fire danger that comes with it demands vigilance both in keeping our water here, and protecting our natural resources. At the Capitol, the County has been successful over the past years with supporting legislation that benefits our area, but must continue to work to avoid and correct mandates generated on the Front Range that may affect our rural areas in unforeseen ways.

Closer to home, we continue to try to figure out a workable recycling program and trash management system, support a more robust Sheriff's Department, maintain a more impacted roads system and find consistent space to hold monthly office hours to allow you better contact with your Commissioners. These are but a few of the questions we will continue to address as we move into 2019.

On a positive note as the County begins to finalize the budget for 2019, it is clear that the efforts to maintain a balanced budget by the Commissioners and department heads has improved the County's financial picture. Many factors play into this, including growth as properties held by the County are being purchased and returned to the tax rolls at a growing rate and new construction also continues. Recommended reserves are in place and there seems to be room for a discussion on infrastructure projects that are needed but have been postponed for lack of funds. For myself, this causes me to pause and consider what is wealth. For years Saguache County has lived with the label of "poor" but as the state grows, and our empty spaces become less empty, it may be a good time to remember the things that make life in this county so very rich. Enjoy your winter holidays.

## Clips from the Clerk

### Colorado to offer non-binary sex identifier on driver licenses and IDs

by Trish Gilbert,  
Saguache Co. Clerk & Recorder

#### New policy will allow third option on driver licenses and identification cards starting November 30

Colorado residents will be able to have a non-binary sex identifier on their driver licenses or identification cards starting November 30, according to new rules approved today by Colorado Department of Revenue (CDOR) Executive Director, Michael S. Hartman.

According to the new rules, individuals will be able to designate M (male), F (female) or X (non-binary), as determined by them and their licensed treating medical or behavioral healthcare provider, and the corresponding designation will appear as the sex identifier on their Colorado driver license or identification card.

For more than a year, the CDOR has been working with Governor Hickenlooper's Joint ID Task Force on the possibility of adding a non-binary sex identifier on Colorado driver licenses and identification cards. Actions in recent court cases necessitated approval of the emergency rules for the preservation of public health, safety and welfare, and to make the policies of the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) consistent with those court cases.

"It is important Coloradans have a correct sex identifier on their driver licenses and identification cards that reflects their true lived experience. This policy is better for all of Colorado," said Hartman. "Further, these rules are necessary to limit the CDOR's legal exposure and to align our policies to be consistent with actions in recent court cases."

The two Colorado court cases referenced in the adoption of the rules focused on sex designation on federal and state legal documents. On September 19, 2018, the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado ordered the U.S. Department of State to issue a passport with an alternate sex designation to a Colorado resident in Zzyym V. Pompeo.

Additionally, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) settled a court case where the plaintiff, a minor through his parent, sought to have the state's birth certificate policy declared unconstitutional because it does not allow a person to update the gender marker on their birth certificate unless their sex has been surgically changed. As part of the settlement in B.D. vs CDPHE, CDPHE is making substantive changes to the existing Vital Statistics regulation to allow female, male and a third sex designation on a birth certificate.

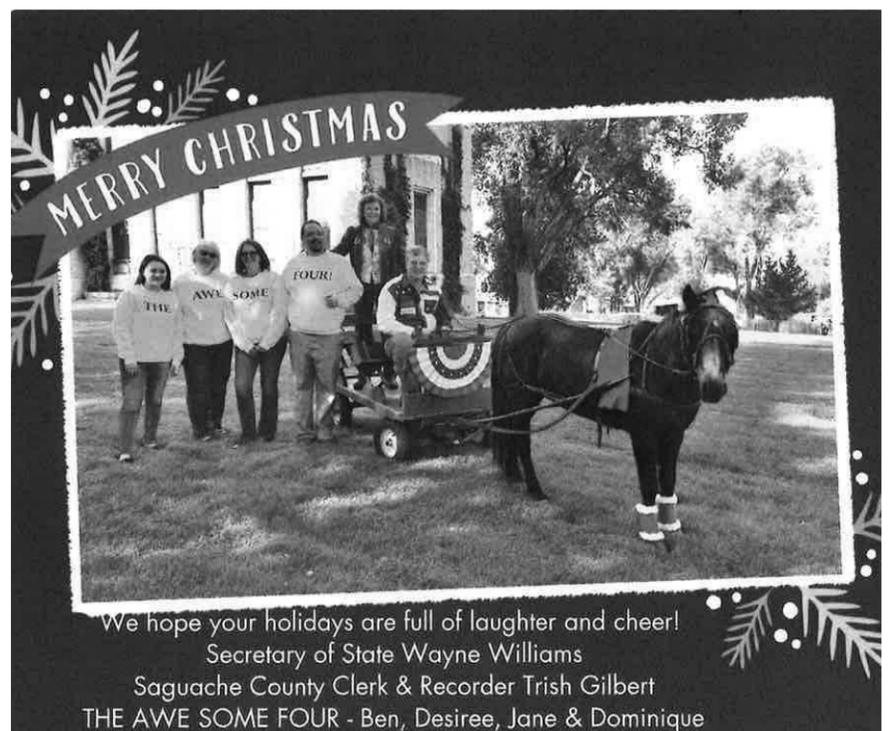
The new rules for sex identifiers on driver licenses and identification cards require individuals to present a DR2083 Change of Sex Designation form with a signature from their licensed treating medical or behavioral healthcare provider confirming the individual received appropriate clinical treatment for their correct sex in person at a driver license office.

This requirement does not require an individual to undergo any specific surgery, treatment, clinical care or behavioral healthcare. Also, the clinical care or behavioral healthcare provider may be licensed in another state.

There is no additional fee to change the sex identifier; however, individuals will need to pay the standard fee to obtain a new card.

The emergency rule will go into effect on November 30, with a permanent rulemaking hearing slated for the end of December.

For additional information, visit [www.colorado.gov/revenue](http://www.colorado.gov/revenue).



We hope your holidays are full of laughter and cheer!

Secretary of State Wayne Williams

Saguache County Clerk & Recorder Trish Gilbert

THE AWE SOME FOUR - Ben, Desiree, Jane & Dominique



**communities  
that care**

Prevention Science + Digital Tools + Support = Successful Kids

*Get Involved in the Future of Your Community*

**FOR QUESTIONS OR TO GET INVOLVED CALL 719-655-2533**

**Visit us on Facebook! <https://tinyurl.com/yaykpd1>**



by **Allyson Ransom,**  
**Town of Crestone Clerk**  
**November 12, 2018 Board**  
**of Trustees meeting**

The meeting began at 9:30am and was held in the Alder Meeting Room located at 111 S. Alder Ave.

The board of trustees passed the following motions:

- To approve the agenda as amended by including Trustee Kinney's board position under "New Business"

- To approve the minutes of the regular board meeting from October 8, 2018

- To approve paying the bills and approve the Financial Report as presented by the treasurer.

- To deny a 6.5 hours pay request from a contract employee for work done on private property

- To accept Trustee Kinney's resignation as mayor pro tempore and to appoint Trustee Bairstow to the position

- To authorize Treasurer Busby to apply for non-matching grants for new playground equipment to be installed in the Town Hall Park.

- To approve Water Manager Ann Bunting's recommendation to offer a time extension for the approved reduced tap fees for new water line customers along S. Cottonwood St. and E. Copper Ave., thus, allowing the adjacent property owners to apply and pay in the spring of 2019 with the exact date to be determined by Ann Bunting

- To authorize Treasurer Busby to apply for a Council of Governments grant for playground equipment, which if received will be matched by a Saguache County grant.

- To direct Clerk Ransom to mail out letters to property owners regarding personal property being stored on public property (alleys, streets, and parks).

- To direct staff to use HUTF funds for Lime Ave. improvements from Cedar Street to the Charter School sidewalk, using local excavators as necessary and widening the roadway contingent on verifying culvert locations, and to install signage for pedestrian crossing.

- To authorize writing a letter of support on behalf of Mayor Danforth to apply for a CML scholarship for the 2019 CML conference.

- To approve Scott and Lynette Tieder's beer and wine liquor license application for Our Food is Art restaurant at 121 E. Galena Ave., pending approval by the Colorado Liquor Licensing and Enforcement Division.

- To approve Resolution #011-2018 that adopts a budget and makes appropriations for 2019

- To allow Town staff and contract labor to use motorized vehicles such as mowers, tractors and Segways on any Town property and Town right-of-ways but only while performing necessary

work duties.

- To approve Mary Lowers' request on behalf of the Care and Share food organization to use the Alder Meeting Room during winter months for distributing free food on the first Tuesday of the month from 8am-1pm and with the condition that the Care and Share staff is responsible for cleaning, damage repair and supplying toilet paper for the meeting room restroom.

- To approve hourly raises in 2019 for Town staff as submitted and without increasing the 2019 budget

- To invite Kyle DeNardo from Viaero Communications to present a proposal to install a cell tower during the January 14, 2019 board meeting

- To adjourn the meeting at 4:42 pm

#### Reports

Treasurer Gwynn Busby presented a detailed financial report and the month's bills for approval. The following items were discussed with the Trustees:

- Sales tax revenue for the month of October totaled \$21,916.52

- Budget work sessions and the 2019 Budget's ending balance will be \$34,953.31

- Grant research for playground equipment and sending playground design options to the Charter School for feedback from the kids

- The Council of Governments (COG) grant for playground equipment can be matched by the Saguache County Sales Tax Grant

- Water and sewer supplement budgets approved by the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and updated in the 2018 and 2019 budgets

- Due to the steady increase in sewage processing bills from the Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District (BGWSD), the Town's sewer enterprise will be short in covering expenses by \$5,259.40 even if everyone pays their bills to the Town

- Unpaid and overdue accounts have been certified with the County as per State statute, and verification that all delinquent customers were sent three notifications by mail prior to being certified

- Rolling over CDBG downtown development Phase II grant funds into 2019 and need to complete a budget revision for DOLA

- Code enforcer's request to be paid for 6.5 hours of work he did on private property for a community meal event

Mayor Kairina Danforth discussed her participation in the following during her report:

- Crestone's "Trails for Community and Economic Wellbeing while Preserving Heritage and Environment" was selected for the RMLUI 2019 Annual Use Western Places/Western Spaces conference

- Update on mini-grants al-

located by COG for 2019

- Update from the recent Governor's 2019 Annual Tourism Conference

- Crestone/Baca Safe Routes to School Project—Phase I has been submitted

Clerk Allyson Ransom discussed the following in her report:

- Request letter of support from the Board of Trustees for Mayor Danforth to apply for a conference scholarship

- Progress on redesigning the town's website using SIPA software at no charge

- Old Town Hall remodel for a public works building will have new roofing installed soon

- Progress on fencing the expanded cemetery section

- Cielo Pet Cemetery entry arch completion

- Complaints about personal property still being stored and left on Town property on undeveloped streets, alleys and in parks

- Conversation on liability issues, CIRSA training and advisement to trustees to adopt a Code of Conduct Resolution in December

Water System Manager Ann Bunting discussed the following in her report:

- Progress on the new 1½" water tap and line for a property owner just south of town, outside of the Town limits

- A summary of discussion with Attorney Farish regarding corrections to the water ordinance

- New water customers and winter weather making it too late for new customers

#### Public hearing

Eugene Farish opened the public hearing for Our Food is Art restaurant at 1:30pm. Farish confirmed that the notice of the public hearing was posted as per the Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division, fees had been paid and other requirements met. After reviewing Scott and Lynette Tieder's background checks and other information, the applicants were sworn in and spoke to the hearing board, giving information on their business, backgrounds and their prior experience managing restaurants with liquor licenses. They assured the board that they were of good moral character and proved they met the "needs and desires of the neighborhood" with letters of support. Attorney Farish asked those in attendance if there was any opposition to allowing the applicants to obtain a beer/wine liquor license in the town of Crestone. As no one expressed opposition, Farish declared the public hearing closed at 1:50pm and remanded the matter to the board for action.

#### Attorney's report

Discussion included:

- Codification process and the discrepancy in the language between Ordinance #2003-006 and Ordinance #2018-003

- Review of the road agreement from 2010 with Saguache County and paving Lime Avenue in the future.

- Attorney Farish advised keeping the current agreement in place for the franchise fee and adopt a simple resolution to designate where money collected will be spent. The trustees weighed the possibility of directing Attorney

Farish to prepare a new ordinance and agreement with SLVREC

- The board affirmed that the delay with the Phase II sidewalk project at the corner of W. Silver Ave. and S. Alder St. was resolved, and the corner would have no retaining wall, and that the design would revert back to the design in the original agreement with the owners of the property on block 43, lots 1-2.

#### Presentations

Marie-Louise Baker, the Director of the Crestone Charter School, offered suggestions for widening the Lime Avenue and creating a safe pedestrian path. She also displayed a 3-D poster created by Charter School students. She verified that the Saguache County Road and Bridge Department's agreement with the Town did not include Lime Avenue. The trustees agreed it was the Town's responsibility to maintain the secondary roads and that installing a safe pedestrian zone was a top priority.

Stephanie Gaines of the Crestone End of Life project presented ideas for improvements to the town cemetery, and for apparatuses to be used to lower bodies into excavated graves. She recommended and encouraged the Town to charge less for natural burial plots which, according to her, would demonstrate a commitment to sustainability on the part of the Town.

CEOLP offered to be home funeral directors to help families in the area.

As there were no attendees at the most recent "Here to Listen" session, Trustee Kinney had nothing to report. The next session will be December 3, 2018 at the Cloud Station from 10am-noon.

Trustee Kinney expressed his wish to remain on the Board of Trustees, but resigned as mayor pro tempore.

#### Correspondence

Various correspondence included resignation letters from a planning commissioner and contract code enforcement employees

- Request letter to remove fire ban stage II signs since the stage II ban was rescinded in September and the standard default fire ban was in effect, not permitting fires on the ground

#### Announcements

During the month of December, various road improvements will be taking place on unpaved Town streets and an improved pedestrian pathway will be installed beside upper Lime Avenue.

The Cielo Azul Pet Cemetery located due west of the main cemetery gates has 96 plots available for purchase at Town Hall. Plots range in price from \$25-\$75 and are for the purpose of burying beloved cats and dogs or their cremains.

Free brush pick-up for Town residents takes place at the beginning of each month. Contact Town Hall to schedule a pick up. Only trimmings, weeds and brush piles may be accepted. Please keep to one pile at the edge of the road. For disposal of trash, old appliances, batteries, lumber scraps, etc., contact the Saguache County Landfill at 719-221-1956.



**POA NEWS**  
**Baca Grande POA**  
**brings a new (old)**  
**winter tradition**

**by Fredrica Solana-Clark**

Winter in Colorado is a beautiful time and the Baca Grande Property Owners Association has planned a special celebration for the holiday season.

The Pathway of Lights will take place on the evening of December 21 from 4pm-8pm at the Baca Grande Golf Course. The Pathway of Lights is a dazzling display of lights that will include over 4,000 luminarias lighting the path of the Baca Grande Golf Course. Enjoy sumptuous treats, hot cider and cocoa while you stroll amongst the warm glow of traditional luminarias.

Santa will make a stop in for pictures and handing out treats to the kids and the Baca Grande Emergency Services will be projecting *It's a Wonderful Life* on the side of an ambulance. This event is free for all. Bring your family and friends and experience a pageant of beauty, heritage and awe-inspiring imagery.

**In the beginning, bonfires led the way**

Luminarias have deep roots in the American Southwest. Spanish explorers brought many customs to the New World. As Spain colonized Central America and Mexico during the 1500s, references to luminarias appear in the writings of Franciscan monk Toribio de Benavente Montolinia, who was one of the original "12 Apostles of Mexico." Motolinia writes in the *History of the Indians in New Spain*: "The Indians place many luminarias in the patios of the churches and on the terraces of their houses. Since there are many flat-roofed houses and these extend a league or two, the scene resembles the starry skies."

Back then, the luminarias resembled small bonfires fueled with pine tar and sticks rather than the tidy candle flames we use today.

Luminarias, as we know them now, are simple brown paper bags that are weighted with sand and hold a lit candle which provides a warm glow at night. Meaning "little lanterns" in Spanish, the custom was embraced warmly first in Mexico and then after World War II in the United States. Some believe the paper bags were introduced as a nod to the Chinese custom of using paper lanterns for festive occasions. Others simply say luminarias were a way to bring light and warmth before electricity, or as a way to direct traffic to church on Christmas Eve, like very early street lights.

Whatever its origins, there are few things that conjure the holiday spirit like luminarias. The

warm glow of candlelight beneath a clear Colorado night sky makes us feel warm and fuzzy

In many towns across the southwest luminarias grace the city's streets, churches, neighborhoods and public squares. These typically are arranged in rows to create large and elaborate displays.

The Pathway of Lights, hosted by the Baca Grande POA, invites its members, residents and guests from far and wide to celebrate centuries of traditions from Native culture, Spanish colonial heritage and the Old West pioneer spirit.

See a grand display at the Pathway of Lights at the Baca Grande golf course, 67581 County Road T, Crestone on Friday, December 21 from 4pm-8pm. Contact Fredrica Solano-Clark, BGPOA Director of Communications at 719-256-4171 or by email at [communications@bacapoa.org](mailto:communications@bacapoa.org).



**What are luminarias?**

Luminarias are brown paper bags containing votive candles for light and sand for weight. This winter, thousands of them line will pathways of the Baca Grande Golf Course with their low, ethereal light.

Luminarias have been an American Southwest tradition for generations.

**Making Luminarias**

Supplies:

- Paper lunch bags
- Votive candles
- Sand
- Utility lighter or fireplace match

To make luminarias:

1. Fold down the top inch of the paper lunch bag to create a lip
2. Add enough sand to hold the bag down
3. Add a votive candle, standing it on the center of the sand
4. Use a fireplace match or utility lighter to light it



A photo of "Buffy" near the entrance to the Baca, taken on Halloween morning after receiving some snow the night before. photo by Lori Nagel

## POA News: New board is seated

**by John Rowe**

The regularly scheduled Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) Board meeting was held on Thursday, November 15 at 10am at the POA Hall. All five directors were present, including newly-elected board member, David Peak. About ten audience members were also present.

The Crestone/Baca Resiliency Group was present to urge the board to buy two lots adjacent to the Baca Park behind the fire station for the purposes of building a new POA Community Center/POA Hall in a more accessible location to be able to hold a wider variety of community events. The board is open to the idea and will begin investigations as to the viability of this idea. They point out that this will cost a good deal of money, money that is not in the budget, and fallout from the would-be neighbors is already beginning. So they will proceed slowly and feel that they have more pressing issues to deal with in the near term.

A human resources company will be hired soon to handle a wide range of personnel issues that the board really needs help with. They will manage hiring, write job descriptions, help with training and development, payroll, and better-priced employee health insurance, among other things. A decision on what company to go with will take place soon and the board is confi-

dent that this move will enable them to do a better job with personnel at a price that will fit into the current budget.

An accounting firm has been hired and will learn the newly acquired accounting software and train all appropriate POA employees on it as well. The Board is confident that the new software and accounting firm, too, will make the POA's money matters go more smoothly without breaking the budget.

The new board elected officers to the following positions. The President will again be Steve Dossenback, the Vice President will be Mark Repp, the Treasurer will again be Joanna Theriault, and the Secretary will again be Sugandha Brooks.

December's board meeting is scheduled a little early for December 13 to accommodate holiday schedules. Be sure to check with the POA office for updates.



**Marta C. Shoman, M.A.**  
 Colorado Registered Psychotherapist

- ◆ Counseling and Trauma Support
- ◆ Group Facilitation
- ◆ Home Care Team Coordination

Affordable rates for individuals & families  
**Mobile: 719-937-1292 Email: [martashoman@gmail.com](mailto:martashoman@gmail.com)**



# 2.6 million Coloradans cast ballots in the midterm election

by Lisa Cyriacks

Unaffiliated voters turned out more than voters from either major political party.

Unaffiliated	880,025	34.0%
Democrats	851,006	32.9%
Republicans	814,779	31.5%
Other	40,134	1.5%

According to the Secretary of State's office, Colorado came in second only to Minnesota among the states reporting top turnouts. Turnout is reported as 65.2%: 2,574,748 out of 3,946,475 possible registered voters. Other stats from the election: 95% of Coloradans voted by mail, and 5% voted in person.

Saguache County results report 61.7% turnout or 2,701 out of 4,377 possible.

Statewide, the Democratic Party had a decisive sweep and women, primarily Democratic women, had big wins on Election Day. Democratic women outvoted Democratic men by 165,000 ballots and Republican women by 108,000 ballots.

Eighty-seven women (including 57 Democrats) competed for congressional and statewide offices this year in Colorado. There was a woman running in six out of the seven congressional races.

The 2019 Colorado election resulted in a number of firsts:

- Newly elected Secretary of State, Jena Griswold, is the first Democratic woman to be elected to that office.
- Women in the majority for both Democratic caucuses and at the same time for the party that controls both chambers of the General Assembly.
- Democrats sweep all statewide offices for the first time since 1936
- Governor-Elect Jared Polis: Voters elect Democrat Jared Polis to be the first openly gay governor in the U.S.
- Congressman-Elect Joe Neguse: Voters in the 2nd Congressional District send first African-American to Congress from Colorado
- Congressman-Elect Jason Crow: Voters in the 6th Congressional District elect first Democrat to Congress in the district's history
- An unprecedented number of women elected to the State Senate
- An unprecedented number of women and people of color elected to the Colorado House of Representatives (and counting)
- Constitutional amendments to do away with partisan gerrymandering in Colorado
- Representative-Elect Brianna Titone: the first transgender representative to the Colorado House of Representatives, and one

of the only trans state legislators in U.S. history

Despite voters leaning left this year, Colorado voters had a word for a host of major measures on their general election ballot: "No".

Proposals to restrict oil and gas development, tax the rich to fund schools, pay back property owners for the cost of regulation and lower the minimum age for state lawmakers went down in defeat, as did two competing plans to finance transportation improvements.

But voters said, "Yes" to reforms intended to end gerrymandering of electoral districts.

### Saguache County

On the local level, Saguache County voters retained incumbents: Tim Lovato (D - County Commissioner), Trish Gilbert (R - County Clerk and Recorder), Connie Trujillo (R - County Treasurer), Peter Peterson (D - County Assessor), Dan Warwick (R - County Sheriff) and Tom Perrin (D - County Coroner).

Voters in the Town of Saguache voted down proposals to allow and tax retail marijuana stores or to allow medical marijuana stores. The Town of Moffat successfully established a specific 5% excise tax on marijuana cultivations located within its boundaries.

Countywide, voters approved the creation of a 1.5% sales tax—53% voting for and 47% voting against. The ballot issue increases sales tax revenue by potentially \$450,000 to be used for public safety needs "regarding law enforcement operations and meeting statutory obligations of Saguache County to provide adequate [jail] facilities".

The ballot question continues: "Any funds generated by this tax would be in addition to funds budgeted by the county for operation of the Sheriff's office/detention center."

Sheriff Dan Warwick indicated in a recent interview that he has several immediate goals when using these funds: a recreation yard for inmates, additional staffing for patrols and the jail, repairs to the jail necessary to reduce the county's liability related to housing inmates, upgrades to provide proper equipment for law enforcement officers.

Warwick: "This money can better all our communities in Saguache County by providing additional resources."

Once revenues begin to accumulate in 2019, Warwick and the commissioners will be making decisions about the best uses for these additional funds in open session.



Vivia Lawson happily shops at Leslie Kane's booth at the Holiday Bazaar, which was held in the Sangre de Cristo Inn building on November 24. photo by Lori Nagel



Mary Lowers, Sweet Thunder, Zenna Hess, and Phoebe Tieder enjoying the Holiday Bazaar. photo by Lori Nagel

**Cat & Exotic Animal Care**  
Shoshannah 719.480.3257

**Dog Care**  
Kelly 719.580.0003

### A fundraiser for Crestone Baca Resiliency:



The high-fashion, easy-adjusting, hardworking, much-loved **CBR Ball Cap \$20**

Contact Janet Woodman at woodmandesign@fairpoint.net (makes a great gift)

crestonebacaresiliency.net

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  
Alamosa: 589-9002 Monte Vista 852-2002  
Twitter @GreatEats\_SLV

Menu: [www.ehunans.com](http://www.ehunans.com) • [www.east-westgrill.com](http://www.east-westgrill.com)

## Introducing the Mystic Rose Cafe & Meeting Center for Crestone

The Mystic Rose Cafe and Meeting Center will open on Friday, December 21 at 8am, honoring the Winter Solstice and providing a new dining experience for Crestone and the San Luis Valley. The cafe will offer healthy, delicious and affordable breakfast and lunch menus in a comfortable and relaxing environment.

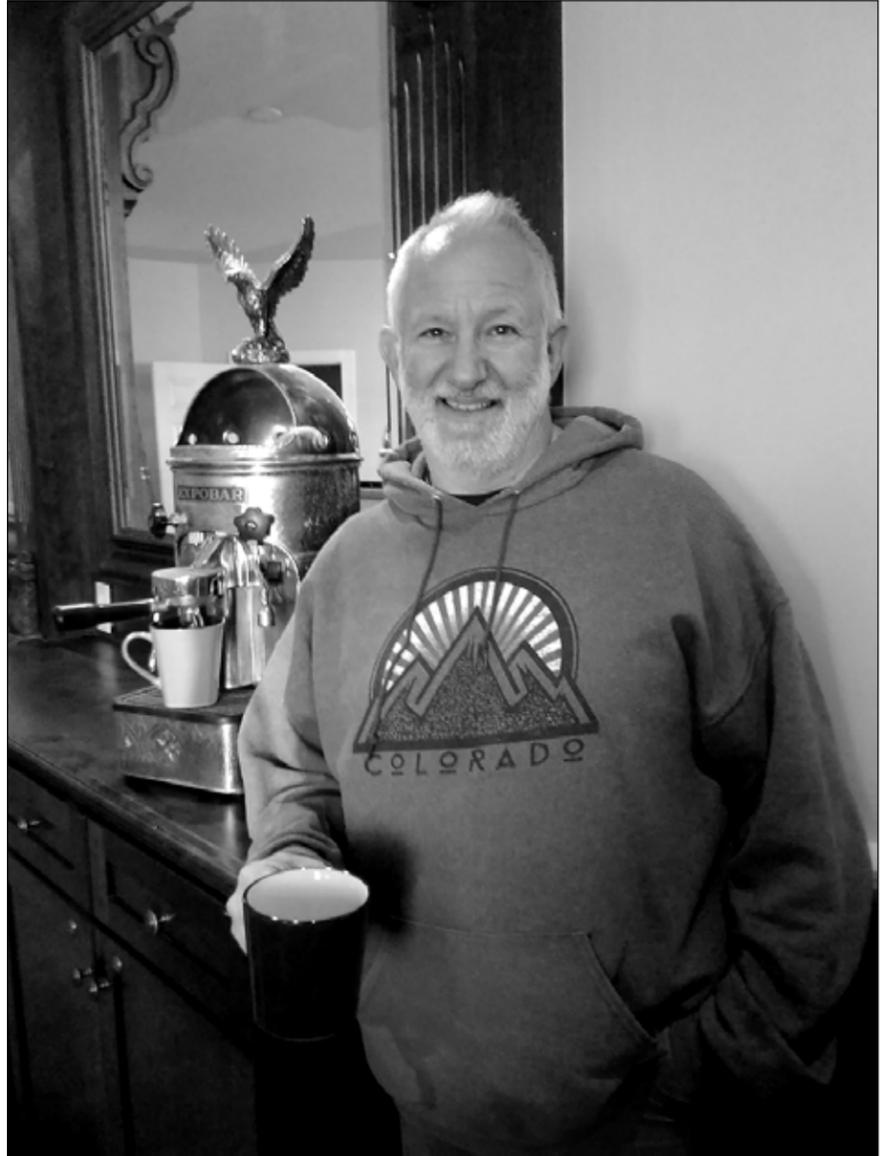
Not just a place to nourish the body, The Mystic Rose Cafe is a place to feed the spirit and forge an enhanced connection with community. The cafe offers meeting rooms where groups can gather for classes, seminars or catered meetings. Owners Andrew Campagnola and Sally Thresher envision the center at 120 W. Silver Ave. as a place for Crestonians to meet, connect and share good food together. They plan on offering musical events in the cafe and, with warmer weather, in the lovely courtyard.

The cafe will offer menu selections for many diets including Ve-

gan, Keto and Paleo. Andrew and Sally are dedicated to offering the highest quality organic and locally sourced foods whenever possible. They also welcome and highly value your feedback and suggestions.

Andrew and Sally are pleased to announce that the newest members of the Mystic Rose Cafe family are local chefs Donni and Chael Butler. Andrew and Sally have been collaborating with Donni and Chael to create a menu which appeals to many tastes and dietary preferences. The Mystic Rose Cafe menu gives Donni and Chael endless opportunities to create many new and delicious, healthy selections and also includes many of the favorite recipes that this creative couple have become so well known for in Crestone over the past year.

Please come and join the staff of the Mystic Rose Cafe for their Solstice grand opening on Friday Dec 21. Hours of operation will be Wed-Sun 8am to 3pm.



Co-owner Andrew Campagnola (along with Sally Thresher) welcomes you to The Mystic Rose Cafe that is opening in downtown Crestone on the corner of Silver Avenue and Alder Street.

**MAITRI MASSAGE**  
Awareness Based Massage Therapy  
**ANNE ROSS, LMT**

INCORPORATING DEEP TISSUE, THERAPEUTIC & ACUPRESSURE TECHNIQUES

719-588-8727      anneross1@icloud.com

**“What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness.” — John Steinbeck**

# GRAND OPENING & WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION



**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21 4-6 PM**

COME ENJOY SOLSTICE CAKE, TEA AND CELEBRATION MUSIC AND POETRY  
BRING YOUR OWN SOLSTIC MUSIC AND POETRY CELEBRATING THE SUN AND LIGHT

JOIN US AT 120 WEST SILVER AVENUE, CRESTONE

# HAPS



## 'Numinous Brood at the Threshold' through Dec 28 at Shumei

This is an immersive installation with Artist Allison Wonderland. There will be a symposium on Sunday, December 2, 3pm to 5pm. Slipstream Dreamscape, a sacred movement troupe, will perform 3pm to 4pm. The artist will talk from 4 to 5pm. This work focuses on themes of midwifing and being midwived; caring and being cared for through the continual changes of life. This event is free to the public. For more info please call 256-5284 to confirm the office is open.

## Christmas tree permits for sale

Rio Grande National Forest Christmas tree permits are for sale at La Jara, Monte Vista, Del Norte and Saguache offices Monday-Friday, between 8am and 4:30pm. Permits will be available at our Creede office on Wednesdays between 10am and 2pm.

RGNF permits are also available for purchase at Kristi Mountain Sports in Alamosa and Del Norte; Hometown Food Market in Antonito; and Rainbow Grocery in South Fork. Cost is \$8 per permit with a limit of five per family.

## Don Richmond leads Christmas carol sing-a-long December 20

Don Richmond is coming back to Crestone for a fun-filled evening of Christmas caroling. He'll be at the Crestone Charter School Thursday, December 20 at 6:15pm. Carol books will be provided. This is a school night and we will end between 7:30 and 8pm.

Meat and vegetarian chili will be available along with an assortment of drinks. Students are free, with a suggested donation of \$5 for adults.

## Holiday concert in Alamosa December 7 & 9

The Valley Community Chorus and the SLV Community Band will perform their holiday concert, "Hopes and Dreams: Music of the Season" at 7pm, Friday, Dec. 7, in Moffat High School; and again at 2pm Sunday, Dec. 9 in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Alamosa.

Tickets are \$5 and can be bought at the door at the concert. Members of Adams State Associated Students and Faculty (AS&F) attend for free.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
*You're invited to*  
**The Crestone Eagle's**  
**3.0th Anniversary**  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
*Saturday,*  
**January 12**  
**NOON-4PM**

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) Community Thanksgiving Potluck



This year's Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) Community Thanksgiving Potluck was held Sunday, November 18 at the Crestone Charter School. Pictured here, L to R: Edie Lee, Sandia Belgrade, Sasha Lovelace, Dorje Root, Don Root. photo by Lori Nagel



Mary Lowers, helpfully sitting here at the "Phone Book Sales" table, was part of the huge group of volunteers at this year's NHN potluck. photo by Lori Nagel



Ziggy Eilets poses with one of his favorite teachers from Moffat School, Dale Smith, at the annual NHN potluck. photo by Lori Nagel

## Crestone Peak Community Housing now offering movies!

by *Barbar Hoepfner*

Happy New Year!

There's something *new* coming up for the Elders in our community. Mark your calendar for Sunday, January 9.

Last summer, Crestone Peak Community Housing, a 501(c)3, and the Crestone Baca Village formed a partnership to help each other meet their goals. CB Village has been wanting to have more social activities and Living Wisdom Village, Elders Creating Community (a project of CPCH) wants, not only to assist CB Village, but to raise money to develop affordable housing for our elders.

Starting Sunday, January 9 we will begin showing movies that have made a difference in our lives and society . . . movies like *The Graduate*, *Star Wars*, *Tootsie* and the list goes on . . . Each time we do this, our host, who is a member of our community (you could volunteer to be a presenter!) will present a short history of the movie and its main characters followed by the movie. After the movie, we'll have a group discussion pertaining to it.

This fun, interesting, and possibly introspective evening will start with a finger-food potluck (brought by each attendee) from 4-5pm with the movie starting at 5pm. Thanks to the beneficence and generosity of Chi Chi and Gordon Chu, who have big hearts, a big movie screen and big house, our gathering will be held there . . . 472 Edelwiese Trail. Edelwiese Trail is 3.6 miles from the top of Camino Real, first driveway on the left past Camino del Rey. Please bring a monetary donation for Crestone Peak Community Housing.

RSVP, as sitting is limited, or questions? Phone Marge Hoglin at 719-745-7826, or Barbara Hoepfner at 256-4320 (after 10am). If driving in the dark is a problem, call a friend.

Send an Eagle home for Christmas!

www.crestoneeagle.com



A subscription to The Crestone Eagle makes a wonderful gift!



This gift lasts the whole year.

719.286.4956  
 email info@crestoneeagle.com

# Community Calendar—December 2018

Get the details at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://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](http://www.crestoneeagle.com/calendar).

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

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](http://www.crestoneeagle.com/myevent).

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](http://www.crestoneeagle.com/myevent) (preferred) ~or~ e-mail to: [events@crestoneeagle.com](mailto:events@crestoneeagle.com) ~or~ submit in writing to PO Box 101, Crestone CO 81131.

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

## Monthly Events

### Saturday, December 1

- Winterfest – Moffat School 10:00 am-6:00 pm
- Mandala painting class with Pam Uhlenkamp – Shumei Shop/ MoSpace Gallery 1-3pm

### Sunday, December 2

- Winterfest – Moffat School 9:00 am-5:00 pm
- Dakini Tsok (Feast Offering Potluck), Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 6-8pm

### Monday, December 3

- "Here to Listen" Session – Cloud Station 10:00 am-12:00 pm 719-256-4313
- Public Sag. Co. Budget meeting – Saguache County Court House 10:00 am 719-655-2231
- Town of Crestone Planning Commission Regular Meeting – Alder Meeting Room 5-7pm 256-4313

### Tuesday, December 4

- Care & Share Food Distribution – Alder Meeting Room 8:00 am-1:00 pm 719-256-4313
- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668

### Wednesday, December 5

- EAC Covenant Violations Hearings – BGPOA Meeting Room 10am bacapoa.org 719-256-4171

### Thursday, December 6

- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome! – 4:00 pm-6:00 pm nurashkijerrahi.org 719-588-8602
- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668

### Friday, December 7

- New Moon Riwo Sangchö (Outdoor Smoke Offering) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 10:00 am-11:00 am
- New-moon Fire Ceremony followed by a Meal – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:00 am-12:00 pm babajashram.org 719-256-4108
- SLV Community Chorus & Band concert – Moffat School 7:00 pm

### Saturday, December 8

- Altar of the Living, Joyful Journey Hot Springs 10:00 am-6:00 pm esteladecolores.com
- Drawing class – Present & Creative 1:00 pm-4:00 pm
- Ladies' Christmas Tea – Crestone Baptist Church 1:00 pm-3:00 pm 719-256-4845
- Ellzey's 19th Photo Show – Ellzey home & studio 2:00 pm-6:00 pm

### Sunday, December 9

- Altar of the Living, Joyful Journey Hot Springs 10:00 am-6:00 pm esteladecolores.com
- Monthly Sampai – Shumei Sanctuary 10:30am-noon [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 719-256-5284
- Ellzey's 19th Photo Show – Ellzey home & studio 2:00 pm-6:00 pm
- Mystical Qur'an Class + Potluck. All welcome 4-6:00 pm nurashkijerrahi.org 719-588-8602

### Monday, December 10

- Crestone Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – Alder Meeting Room 9:30am-5pm 719-256-4313

### Tuesday, December 11

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668

### Wednesday, December 12

- Public Hearing on re-subdivision of Area420 – Moffat Town Hall 6:00 pm 719-256-4538
- Crestone End of Life Project & Informed Final Choices open meeting – Little Shepherd Church 7-9pm informedfinalchoices.org 719-588-8602

### Thursday, December 13

- BGPOA Board of Directors meeting – BGPOA Meeting Room 10am bacapoa.org 719-256-4171
- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- Show & Tell – Crestone Charter School 5:30 pm

### Friday, December 14

- Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District Board Meeting – District Office 9:00 am [www.bacawater.com](http://www.bacawater.com) 719-256-4310

### Saturday, December 15

- Saturday Prayer Breakfast – Crestone Baptist Church 8:00 am-10:00 am
- Garage Sale at the Gallery – Crestone Artisans Gallery 11:00 am-4:00 pm

### Monday, December 17

- Rumi's Urs Sufi Dhikr. All welcome! – 4:00 pm-6:00 pm nurashkijerrahi.org 719-588-8602
- Guru Rinpoche Tsok (Feast Offering Potluck) 6-8 PM – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

### Tuesday, December 18

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668

### Wednesday, December 19

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

### Thursday, December 20

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- Christmas Carol Sing-Along w/Don Richmond – Crestone Charter School 6:15 pm 719-256-4533

### Friday, December 21

- Mystic Rose Cafe grand opening 8am-3pm
- Municipal Court – Crestone Town Hall Meeting Room 10:00 am
- Concert of Carols – Colorado College, 1:00 pm \$15; students \$10 719-256-4808
- Pathway of Lights – Golf Course 4:00 pm-8:00 pm bacapoa.org 719-256-4171
- Winter Solstice – 4:30 pm

### Saturday, December 22

- Full Moon Fire Ceremony followed by a meal, Haidakhandi Ashram babajashram.org 256-4108
- Full Moon Riwo Sangchö (Outdoor Smoke Offering) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 10:00 am-11:00 am

### Monday, December 24

- Christmas Eve Service – Crestone Baptist Church 5:00 pm-6:00 pm

### Tuesday, December 25

- Christmas – All Day

### Friday, December 28

- Numinous Brood symposium at Shumei – 3-5pm free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 719-256-5284

### Sunday, December 30

- Pema Cho Ling Community Practice & Potluck 10:30 am-12:30 pm pemacholingcommunity.org 719-496-0946

### Monday, December 31

- New Year's Eve – All Day
- Care & Share Food Distribution – Alder Meeting Room 8:00 am-1:00 pm 719-256-4313
- Dakini Tsok (Feast Offering Potluck) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

### Tuesday, January 1

- New Year's Day – All Day

### Monday, January 7

- "Here to Listen" Session – Cloud Station 10:00 am-noon 719-256-4313

## 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](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)
- Jyorei, Shumei Sanctuary, please be seated by 7:50am and 5:50pm, 256-5284
- Tours, gallery and 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 vajravidya.com
- Tours, Temple, & Gift Shop ~ Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 256-4108, [info@babajashram.org](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)
- Evening Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 6-7pm. Chanting in Sanskrit and Hindi. All are welcome. 256-4108, [info@babajashram.org](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)

### Sunday

- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm [www.slvaa.org](http://www.slvaa.org)
- Drop-in meditation (sitting & walking) Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 10am-1pm
- Sunday Service & Bible Study Crestone Baptist Church 10:00 am-12:00 pm

### Monday

- Al-Anon weekly meeting Little Shepherd Church 1-2pm Donation 719-298-9133
- CB Village Breakfast at Bob's, Bob's Diner, 9am

### Tuesday

- Tai Chi Little Shepherd in the Hills Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm-7:00 pm By donation 719-256-4531
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, Little Shepherd Fellowship Hall, 7:30 pm-8:30 pm 970-309-0710, [slvaa.org](http://slvaa.org)

### Wednesday

- Yoga Fundamentals & Refinements Shakti Sharanam 8:30 am-10:00 am By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- AA Meeting Lazy KV The Clubhouse at Lazy KV 7:00 pm-8:00 pm
- Wednesday night Bible study Crestone Baptist Church 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

### Thursday

- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Baptist Church noon-1:00 pm [www.slvaa.org](http://www.slvaa.org)
- Tai Chi Little Shepherd in the Hills Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm-7:00 pm 719-256-4531

### Friday

- Energy Workshop w/Fay Ferris Little Shepherd Church 12:45-2:45pm donation 719-937-7684

### Saturday

- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, Little Shepherd Fellowship Hall, 9-10am, [slvaa.org](http://slvaa.org)



*It was another fantastic turn-out downtown on Halloween night this year, with a special thanks to Deana Wilfong for arranging another trunk-or-treat. Thanks to all those who participated and made it an evening to remember. photos and collage design by Lori Nagel*

# Out & About with Lori Sunflower

What are your significant memories from 2018?




**David Sheffield**

We got to move out of our RV, and it had been all five of us in an RV at Camper Village. We moved into our house in February, which was the first major significant event in 2018. It was very bare bones—there was no outside to the house really. It was wrapped and closed in and we had a temporary front door. We've made a lot of progress on the house and that's one of my proudest memories of the year. Got all the kids consolidated into one school this year. That made life a lot easier for sure. And we added two new members to the family. We have two dogs now, so we've got seven of us in the house and the dogs are just awesome. I actually got over my childhood fear of dogs, so that's been significant. The other not-so-fond 2018 memory, of course, is the loss of dear friend and co-worker Jack Ward, and I know that I'll miss him and we all will forever. He was quite a guy. So we're working really hard to keep him happy, wherever he is.

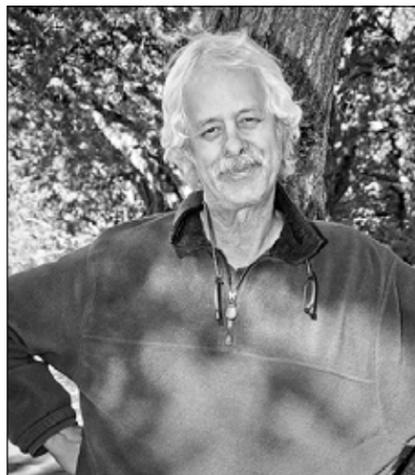


**Lisa Rosen**

Well, for me, obviously the campaign was a pretty significant memory. I'd run for school board before but that doesn't require the same sort of door knocking, outreach, and just straight-up work that running for commissioner did. One thing I learned is that in a small county with so many different communities, folks aren't so much electing somebody to an office; they're sort of putting someone they trust in charge of things. And I don't think that I really truly understood the ramifications of that and how important it was to get

people to really know and trust me. I went into it thinking, "I'm really smart, I've got great critical thinking skills, I'm going to put some plans together, put them out there and I'll win folks over by virtue of my intellect, my forward thinking." And that's not really how it works in a community like this. I think that there is more fear about somebody who's new, different or challenging the status quo because this has happened before. People come into small communities, say they're going to change things and then they disappear when they don't get their way, so I think that was a really big learning for me.

Also, I attended the Rugby World Cup in San Francisco this year. It's the first time the U.S. has hosted it and being part of the rugby community for so many years, in particular Olympic rugby, it was really exciting to be there. Of course, that happened a week after we trapped a rabid bat in the bedroom, so before heading out there, my wife and I had to do our prophylactic rabies shots, getting our last one in San Francisco on the way to the games.



**Jeff Beard**

2018 has been the further development of the building that we've been creating for the last 10 years. And now, thanks to Chris Stein of Craig Electric, we have completed electrical and we're well on our way to getting the plumbing done, so it's going to be habitable. Prior to these new developments, I've been preoccupied with it, to the sacrifice of art. Now that this has gotten over the hump, I can give my attention to my art again, which I'm very excited about.

So that's what 2018 is basically about, other than the fact that I have a granddaughter. She was born last year, but she's at the point now where you can actually relate to her. She's not just this almost-inanimate thing, but actually interacts with you, and it's pretty fun. And I'm getting so much closer to no longer having a house payment, and that's exciting. That's it, I mean just getting back to the art I think is just wonderful, and I have all of these ideas and I can make them manifest. This has just been the jumping off the diving board into 2019!



**Mary Benavidez**

The most significant is our son, Ollie's, graduation from Crestone Charter School (CCS). CCS really enabled him to come into his own, the young man that he is and we're really grateful for that. He's an Ascent Scholar at Adams State University which means the DOE is paying for his first year. I'm very proud of that and how he struggled through attending college while in high school. He's graduating from college next year with his Associates Degree, which is really cool.

Also this year, we struggled finding permanent, affordable housing in Crestone after our rental house sold, but were able to find something in Moffat, which is wonderful. It's permanent and stable, which enables us to continue working at CCS and with Moffat School, and just being around the kids and loving that, so it's really great. And we have a choir now at CCS. It's a mixed choir of 12 middle and high school kids, and there's a magical dinner and concert coming up on December 8 and 9 at the school. I teach 4 mentorships: Sign Language, Latin I & II, Choir, and a Food and Nutrition class, which is geared to three young men who wanted to learn survivalist skills, quick things in the kitchen, etc., so that's a lot of fun.



**Susan Reycroft**

2018 has been a tumultuous year. All kinds of disasters and terrible things have occurred. But I also realize that a ton of amazing people have stepped up and come out of the shadows and pitched in and made a huge difference in how these disasters and traumas have been handled. So, my takeaway from this year is that there are tons of people in the world and most of them are amazingly good. I also got to do some extensive travel, which I hadn't expected, and got to spend a month in Australia with my daughter. I feel like even though it's been sort of a hard year, it's actually really been filled with amazing gifts and treasures so I'm feeling good about it!

And I had some goals to learn some things this year and to get

some things started in my life. One was photography, which Lori has graciously helped me with a tremendous amount. Another was to get my Clay Studio up and running and I now have two students and a third who's thinking about it. So I actually have this whole studio thing happening, and I don't know where it's going but it's doing something! (laughing) And I've started painting again, which I haven't done in a long time, so I've reached out to my old art self and I'm liking it!



**Dean Lloyd**

As a multidisciplinary holistic practitioner, I come from the perspective of health. I've recognized patterns going in unhealthy directions. We'd like to say this trend has changed, but it's gotten increasingly worse on multiple levels. There have been more issues with the opiate epidemic and introductions of diseases we haven't seen in years. For example, some of the immigrants are bringing in conditions like Chagas, which is a parasite this country's never really seen—it's the "kissing bug" disease. We're also seeing an influx of typhus and even tuberculosis. Americans are not accustomed to hearing about these conditions. We've had multiple issues with our culture being exposed to radiation, unclean food, etc. This is the year of the introduction of those types of diseases we haven't seen and we're not equipped for. My job is to make sense and boost immune systems and prepare us for these things that are coming in a huge wave. We have to increase awareness before anything changes. You don't know how to get out of a trap 'til you know you're in one! (laughing) I would like to continue educating, as I've been doing via my radio shows (evolvingthespecies.com), which is the work Dr. Rosen and I have been doing. We cover how to know your body and bring your immune system online and know what your weak links are. That's been the work I've been doing most recently, and also educating patients in my clinics here and in the Springs. Looking forward, there've been some remarkable developments in the field of endocrinology and hormone treatment. Now, anti-aging has made major leaps in that area. I've got the latest and greatest in terms of cellular regeneration in human growth hormone information and your body's ability to repair.

*If you have feedback or suggestions for future topics, please email [peacelori@peacelori.com](mailto:peacelori@peacelori.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](http://www.sunflowerstudios.us.com)*

## News from the Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

by Ramloti

The big event we had in November was Diwali, the Festival of Lights and even though it was in the middle of the week, we had nearly 150 people here to celebrate. As has happened in the last several years, our Indian families from the valley, as well as from Denver and Trinidad, brought all the food for the evening feast. We are so grateful for their generosity and kindness. We are also very appreciative of all the help and participation of the people who attended. The love, service, and devotion were palpable.

The new-moon fire ceremony this month is on Friday, December 7 and the full-moon fire ceremony is on Saturday, December 22. The fire ceremonies 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. At this time of year the small ones at 8am are indoors but the 10am large ones remain outside unless there is a storm. Call us at 719-256-4108 for proper protocol for attending fire ceremonies, and any other questions.

The Maha Lakshmi Shop has lots of hand-painted Christmas ornaments and many wonderful gift items from India. Our lovely Ashram 2019 calendar has been reduced to half price for December; it



The Light of Goodness shone spectacularly through the Divine Mother and all present at this year's Diwali, Festival of Lights Celebration, at the Ashram! We are so grateful.

will now sell for only \$7.50. These have stunning photos of the Divine Mother and Babaji and quotes, as well as dates of all the fire ceremonies and festivals. We have many new statues, singing bowls, malas, jewelry, wooden boxes, bed spreads, table clothes, incense burners, yoga pants, men's shirts, bags, and other cloth items. We still have lots and lots of yards of beautiful silks and other yummy fabrics, which we are selling for only \$2 a yard. We also have an overflowing amount of gently used clothes, which are 50% off this month. This month the shop is open every day from 10am until 4pm. 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://mahalaksh Mishop.wazala.com>.

For more information about the Ashram, please visit our website at [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.org). All are invited to our Ashram Board of Directors' meeting, which will be on Sunday, November 25. Please call the Ashram for an agenda and location. 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.



## Sri Aurobindo Learning Center

by Dr. Eric Weiss

In this column, I have for many months, been talking about God. Sometimes we might wonder, what's the use of this activity? But thinking about and talking about God is my spiritual practice.

I had a recent experience in which I got to test my spiritual practice. I went to the hospital for a routine test and they found my heart was not beating properly. I was sent to the ER, and in the course of the afternoon, they diagnostically stopped my heart for a minute. Later I was given ketamine, a potent psychedelic, as an anesthetic, so they could shock my heart with a paddle. You can all imagine the details.

I found, almost to my surprise, that I stayed quite calm throughout the long afternoon. Even when I found myself tripping my brains out, I remembered to look for God and found the Presence.

In my life of practice, I've thought through all reality, the great reaches of the past, the dark regions of the sub-atomic, the great galaxies and systems of galaxies, and I've seen very clearly how all of that can only be God.

In spite of that, there are many times that I haven't felt God's closeness in my life. I have felt myself separate and apart—just one of us egos.

But in the hospital under really intense stress, I found that my understanding remained firm. And I knew with deep certainty that I needn't fear death. In the altered state, and even as I write these words, I feel God's presence and a sense of God's sweetness and tenderness.

So I got a chance to test my spiritual practice, and it held. I am profoundly grateful.

### Addante Chiropractic, PC

#### Addante Chiropractic / Crestone

Please call 719-539-9493 to schedule your Tuesday appointment



### SRI AUROBINDO LEARNING CENTER

A Non-Profit Educational Foundation

P.O. Box 88

83 North Baca Grant Way

Crestone, CO 81131

719-256-4917

[sriaurobindolc@gmail.com](mailto:sriaurobindolc@gmail.com)

[sriaurobindolc.org](http://sriaurobindolc.org)

### THE MATRIX INTERDIMENSIONAL LIGHT CHAMBER



- ◆ Mind Stabilization
- ◆ Living Color Immersion
- ◆ Essential Aroma
- ◆ Sacred Sound
- ◆ Tactile Vibration
- ◆ Deep Silence

(719) 937-7755

[www.thelightchamber.com](http://www.thelightchamber.com)

## "The Art of Dentistry"

Family and Cosmetic Dentistry

### ❖ Emergencies Welcome

- Root Canal Therapy • Mercury Free Fillings • Preventive Care
- Conservative & Surgical Treatment of Gum Disease
- Cosmetic Veneers / Whitening • Crowns & Bridges
- Dentures Partial & Complete • Wisdom Teeth Extractions
- Nitrous Oxide Sedation • Adult Invisalign

### Permanent Crowns

prepared and delivered in one appointment

All General and Specialty Services performed by Dr. Filter

Jenny D. Filter, D.D.S., P.C.

427 East First St., Salida • 539-6142

**invisalign**

Modern Technology  
Digital X-Rays

Live Simply  
Eat Well

# Simple Foods

MARKET

Salida's locally owned fresh foods grocery with a wide selection of your favorite organic, natural and gourmet foods.

719-539-7144

1548 G Street  
Salida, Colorado

10% off  
Second  
Sundays

[www.simplefoodsmarket.com](http://www.simplefoodsmarket.com)

## Crestone Performances has busy fall producing events at 12 SLV schools & assisting with many community happenings

Crestone Performances Inc. has had a busy fall producing twelve events in Saguache County schools and assisting six San Luis Valley community events. We produced four carnivals, three Creede Repertory Theatre presentations, three Leon Joseph Littlebird shows, the 12-piece marimba ensemble Wooden Rain and a stellar modern ballet performance from the Zikr Dance Ensemble. We also helped out the Crestone Energy Fair, Oktoberfest, the Saguache Pow Wow celebration, the Crestone Charter School Halloween haunted house, the San Luis Valley non-profit collaboration summit and the “Share The Mag-

ic” benefit performance at Adams State University for La Puente. To date we have produced 222 shows in the San Luis Valley using 46 different presenters.

This was all made possible through individual donations, grants from Saguache County, Anchutz Family Foundation and Colorado Creative Industries and our sponsors. Our sponsors are *The Crestone Eagle*, Orient Land Trust, Joyful Journey Hot Springs, Sangre de Cristo Real Estate, First Street Flooring, Manitou Institute & Conservancy, and Amicas Restaurant.

Amicas, Joyful Journey Hot Springs and Orient Land Trust have signed up as 2019 sponsors already with a new twist. They pay us monthly, which helps stabilize our organization in the long run. I would also like to personally thank Judy Gilbert and Bill Sutherland for their very generous recent donation.

If you would like more information or would like to contribute to our efforts through sponsorship or donation, please go our website, [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org) and/or give us a call at 719-256-4533. Our address is PO Box 6, Crestone CO 81131. Thanks for your time and stay tuned! Crestone Performances Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit community service organization now in its 17th year! All donations are tax deductible.



Crestone Performances produced the Zikr performance at the Crestone Charter School this September.

## Join CPI’s Board of Directors!

Crestone Performances Inc. is extending an invitation to those in the community who might be interested in joining our board of directors. They meet once a month and also participate in fundraising events. The focus of CPI is evolving and we need new board members to help steer us into the future. Current board members are: Don Richmond, Eli Dokson, Cheryl Rowe, Sarah Koehn Frye and Peter Taylor. The meetings are fun and our mission is certainly rewarding. Our mission is to create a positive cultural, educational, and economic impact in Saguache County and the San Luis Valley by providing affordable access to presentations representing diverse traditions and cultures. CPI is a 501(c)3 community service organization now in its 17th year. For more information please peruse our web site, email us at [tomdessain@yahoo.com](mailto:tomdessain@yahoo.com) or call us at 719-256-4533. Thank you!

## Living Wisdom Village is becoming a living reality

by Trish Toney

Crestone Peak Community Housing (CPCH) is the 501(c)3 nonprofit with the mission to build “Living Wisdom Village”, affordable housing for ages 55 and older. CPCH is currently in negotiations to purchase a plot of land within easy walking distance to the Crestone commercial district. The plot will allow for enough apartment units to accommodate 20-25 residents, with parking and a shared community space. CPCH is committed to quality construction with Crestone Style – passive solar energy; low-maintenance exteriors; mountain views; artistic finishes.

To accomplish this, we need your help! CPCH needs to raise at least \$75,000 within the next twelve months. These funds will go towards purchasing the land and hiring an architect to render the structural and mechanical components in Living Wisdom Village. Some of the money for this project will come from grants; grantors, however, require “matching funds.” The good news is that when, for example, CPCH raises \$25,000 in private donations, we can use these matching funds to apply for multiple grants.

### Tax deduction donations for Enterprise Zone will help!

The challenge at this moment is to maintain Enterprise Zone (EZ) status; CPCH needs to raise \$5,000 in EZ donations before the end of this year to retain this valuable incentive for donors. What it means to donors is that your tax-deductible donation of \$100 or more to Crestone Peak Community Housing gives you a reduction on federal taxes and a 25% credit on your state tax return. A large donation means a large tax break. But, moreover, your contribution will create a housing opportunity for people who might not otherwise be able to remain in the community with us.

A completed tax credit form is needed to process Enterprise Zone tax credits. For more information, and to process your contribution towards bringing “Living Wisdom Village” to life, please contact Project Manager Akia Tanara at: [akia@fairpoint.net](mailto:akia@fairpoint.net) or: 719-256-4037

All donations should be written to Crestone Peak Community Housing and mailed to PO Box 911, Crestone, CO 81131.

Thank you in advance.

Blessings,

The Crestone Peak Community Housing Board of Directors  
[www.crestonepeakcommunityhousing.org](http://www.crestonepeakcommunityhousing.org)

Where Healing Waters Flow

# Joyful Journey

## Hot Springs Spa

### December Events

- Qi Gong. Join Tad Howard, RMT, every Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday at 7:30am for meditative and energizing Qi Gong Classes are Free (Donations Accepted).
- Yoga, Music & Astrology Workshop on Dec. 8th from 2 to 5pm Free Event (Donations Accepted).
- Astrology Circle (donations) & Private Readings. Dec. 21 & 22.
  - \$10 Tuesdays. Soak Every Tuesday for only \$10.
  - The pools will be open until 12:30am on New Year's Eve!
  - Holiday Punch Pass Sale. Buy a 10-punch pass for only \$99!

Please note the pools will close at 5pm on December 12th for an employee event.

**Open Daily 9AM-10PM**  
(719) 256.4328 / [JoyfulJourneyHotSprings.com](http://JoyfulJourneyHotSprings.com)

**Present This Coupon for \$5 Off One Facial**

YOUTH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

# YEP

P.O. Box 6 • Crestone, CO 81131 719-256-4533  
[www.crestfest.org](http://www.crestfest.org) [crestfest@crestfest.org](mailto:crestfest@crestfest.org)

### Fall 2018 Events

Zikr Dance Ensemble - Crestone Sep. 28  
Creede Repertory Theater - Crestone / Saguache / Moffat  
Leon Joseph Littlebird - Moffat / Crestone / Saguache  
Carnivals - Moffat Oct. 4/Saguache Oct. 18/  
Happy Holidays! Center Oct. 19/Crestone Dec. 7

**Thank you to our AMAZING Sponsors!**

# Messages from the heart of God

Free Spirit Christian Church



## Merry "Christ Mas" more of Jesus Christ

received by **Angie LeRoy**

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness: and let them have dominion over . . . the earth." Gen 1:1&26 "And the LORD GOD commanded the man saying, "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shall not eat; for in the day that thou eatest thou shalt surely die." Gen 2:16-17 "And the serpent said unto the woman, "Ye shall not surely die. For God knows that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened. Ye shall be as gods knowing good and evil." When the woman saw the tree was good for food, pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to desire to make one wise, she took and ate and gave to her husband. The eyes of both were opened, they knew they were naked . . . so Adam and Eve hid from God." Gen 3:4-8 "And the devil said unto Jesus, All this power will I give thee, for that was given to me so I can give to whomsoever I will." Luke 4:6 Their spirits had died, they had passed on their dominion of the earth to the serpent, the radiance of God left them, and now they were living by the flesh. Now man needed a Savior, a perfect sacrifice for sin so humanity could once again be alive in the spirit and have communion with God.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God . . . All things were made by Him; and without him was not anything made. In Him was Life; and the Life was the Light of men . . . And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us full of grace and truth." John 1:1-14. "For unto us a child is born, a Son is given; . . . His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace!" Isa 9:6 "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus; Who, being God, . . . Made Himself of no reputation, took the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men . . . He humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death of the cross." Php 2:5-8

"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a Son. They shall call His Name Emmanuel, interpreted is "God with us." Mat 1:23 "Joseph thought these things, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him saying, "Joseph, thou son of David, take unto thee Mary thy wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His Name Jesus (Savior); for He shall save His people from their sins."

I am knocking at the door of your heart. Will you let Me in?  
Love, Jesus

## 6 Tips To Help Those In Recovery Avoid Alcohol During The Holidays

The holidays are a time for family and friends to gather and share laughs, memories—and perhaps a drink or two. But for people recovering from an addiction, all that alcohol often present at special events can be worrisome.

"Holiday parties are when many alcoholics fall off the wagon," says John Collopy, author of the book *The Reward of Knowing* (www.johncollopy.com), which relates his own struggles with addiction. "There just seems to be alcohol everywhere, sometimes even at the office. It can be very difficult, especially for people who have only recently stopped drinking."

Although Collopy has been sober for many years, he knows that the holidays are a gateway to his past life. He used alcohol to help him deal with memories of a troubled childhood with a dysfunctional family and abusive father. When he became an adult, he quickly became dependent on alcohol to get through the day, plus he had anger management issues.

"Every day for an alcoholic is a challenge, but over the holidays it can be overwhelming," says Collopy, who today is a successful real estate broker. "People don't realize when they offer drinks to people over the holidays how difficult it is for some people to say no. Real alcoholics know they can never have just one."

For those who want to stay sober during the holidays, here are a few tips from Alcoholics Anonymous and the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation:

- **Skip any drinking occasions you are nervous about.** If you are really concerned about an event, just ask yourself if you really need to go. But you don't have to just sit home. Take your family out and look at the holiday lights or find another activity that gets you in the holiday mood without alcohol.
- **Leave early.** If you know you will be tempted to drink at a party, plan in advance to tell people when you arrive that you only stopped by briefly and have somewhere else you need to be.
- **Go with a sober friend.** There is safety in numbers, and you can help each other should you be tempted to drink.
- **Carry around a soft drink.** If you already have a drink in your hand, people are less likely to ask you if you want a drink.
- **Avoid known risks.** If you know your brother is a heavy drinker, for example, stay away from him. If you know the same party last year was full of excessive drinking, just stay home.
- **Create new traditions.** It can be a downer if you have to skip all the holiday fun. So come up with some of your own. Buy a new board game, go look at the holiday decorations or host your own small non-alcoholic party with sober friends.

It has been many years since Collopy was an alcoholic, but he says the rewards of his life now are much better than any drink he ever took.

"Once you're sober, you can allow yourself to begin to dream about life again, the way you did when you were a kid," he says. "That doesn't mean those dreams are going to be easy to achieve, but at least you can look at them and say, 'I've got a shot.'"

John Collopy, author of the book *The Reward of Knowing*, is the owner and broker of RE/MAX Results and its subsequent 38 offices across Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Rehabilitation  
Sports Injury  
Stroke  
Neurological  
TMJ Dysfunction  
Manual Therapy  
Ergonomics

(719) 539-6144  
(719) 539-1411 Fax

Formerly  
SALIDA PHYSICAL THERAPY

Crestone  
53 S Baca Grant Rd

Saguache  
405 Denver Avenue

Salida  
233 F Street

www.salidareboundpt.com

**"Messages from the heart of God" is sponsored by the Free Spirit Christian Church**  
Corner of Hwy 17 and Moffat Way

Sunday Services	3:00 pm
Bible Study Thursdays	6:00 pm
Prayer Services Mon & Fri	10:00 am
Food Bank Tuesdays	2-4 pm
<i>Events at Sangre de Cristo Trading Post in Moffat:</i>	
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.

# Katie Getchell

**Rolf Method of Structural Integration**

**Restorative & Corrective Exercises**  
for recovery, strength and balance

**Natural Human Movement Classes**

**katiegetchell.com**

**(719) 588 9255 katie.getchell@gmail.com**

# sand dunes swimming pool

Lap Swim daily - 10am

**FULL FOOD MENU & WEEKLY SPECIALS**

Noon-1pm Lap Swim    1pm-8pm Open Swim.  
Phone: 719-378-2807  
Address: 1991 Co. Rd. 63, Hooper, CO 81136

**REGULAR ADMISSION RATES:**

Adults - \$12.00  
Children (Ages 3-12) - \$8.00  
Seniors, College, Military (Ages 65+) - \$10.00  
Children 2 & Under - FREE

[www.sanddunespool.com](http://www.sanddunespool.com)

## Rest in peace before you die: End-of-Life Preparation Workshop starts in January

Who wants to think about their end of life, much less plan for it?

If you've been putting off your end-of-life preparation tasks, join us for an 8-week workshop called "Leave Light: Rest in Peace Before You Die," offered in Crestone each Saturday from Jan. 26 to March 16, 10am to noon.

Led by Crestone resident Marcella Friel, LeaveLight provides group support, homework, and personal accountability to help you complete the practical, interpersonal, and spiritual tasks connected to your end-of-life plan-

ning. You'll be as prepared as possible to leave this life with peace of mind, with minimal burden to your loved ones.

An introductory event is set for January 12 from 10am to noon at the Crestone Baptist Church fellowship hall. Check the January *Eagle* for more details. LeaveLight is sponsored by the Crestone End of Life Project's educational outreach arm, Informed Final Choices.

Tuition is \$40 for the full program. For more information, contact Marcella at marcellafriel@yahoo.com.



The plaza in Little Pearl Park in Crestone was designed with space for a number of plaques or other commemorative markers surrounding the central fountain. John Nelson installs a plaque which features the CEOLP/IFC logo designed by Mark Talbot.





**KATHLEEN WILLOW**  
LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST

**Nurturing Your Body  
Soothing Your Mind  
Nourishing Your Soul**

Specializing in LaStone Therapy & therapeutic massage with exquisite Floracopeia & Dr. Hauschka aromatic oils

**719. 256. 5469**



Some of the contents of a sealed, waterproof "time capsule" underneath the bronze plaque for the Crestone End of Life Project/Informed Final Choices (CEOLP/IFC) commemorative plaque, in the downtown Crestone circular plaza. Small pieces of wood and bits of juniper, integral to open-air cremations facilitated by CEOLP, were among the items encased in the container.

**FRIENDS OF THE BACA GRANDE LIBRARY**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Join or renew your membership in this important organization that:**

*Supports the present library, by improving its comfort & services  
Works steadily for the completion of a new library in Crestone*

Bring a check for \$ 12 (or cash) and fill out the membership card at the front desk of the Baca Grande Library

(Paid for by David & Carol Lee)





**Crestone End of Life Project**

Promoting informed end-of-life choices and supporting their fulfillment

**PO Box 1238, Crestone, CO 81131**

www.informedfinalchoices.org • 719.588.7415 or 719.256.4644 • ceolp.info@gmail.com

**"If you live each day as it was your last, someday you'll most certainly be right" - Steve Jobs**

Monthly open meeting **Wednesday, December 12**, at 7pm, at the Fellowship Hall of the Little Shepherd Church, Crestone. Call 719.588.7415 for information/directions.



ALL OF US JOIN IN WISHING YOU  
A HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

the Baca Grande Water and Sanitation  
District Board of Directors and Staff



**Dr Kim Engard ND, LAC**

Now in Crestone Area Full-Time  
Accepting New Patients-Discounts for Valley Residents

Holistic Medicine for Mind, Body & Spirit

Homeopathy/Chinese Medicine/Physical Medicine  
Detox Plans/Specialty Formulations

(719) 428-3178

Corner of T Road and HWY 17 (Moffat)  
www.WildwoodsHealingArts.com



# San Luis Valley Federal Bank

Trust and Strength Since 1899

Sponsor of Moffat School News

slvfed.com

Find us on Facebook



FDIC

719-589-6653

## World-famous Harlem Wizards visit Moffat School; over 250 in attendance

by Christina Larson

On Sunday, November 18, Moffat Consolidated School District #2 celebrated their accomplishments by having the world-famous Harlem Wizards visit the school for a wild and entertaining basketball game, free for the community to attend. Superintendent Christina Larson called the Wizards in September when she received the district's preliminary school and district performance frameworks from the state's department of education. This year's reports show that reaching District of Distinction status is now only 11% away, with both Crestone Charter School and Moffat Pk-12 school showing overall gains from 9-12% in just one year.

Mrs. Larson felt like the timing was ideal for a celebration that would bring both schools together in a novel and exciting way. She called the Wizards and the team agreed that they couldn't wait to come to Moffat. The team drove in packed rental cars, from Denver to Moffat and back in one day, to make sure they fit us into their busy travel schedule.

Over 250 people attended the event, packing the Moffat School gym with music, laughter, dancing and thunderous cheering for the home team. The Wizards players all have stories of resiliency and they shared their spectacular skills to get our students and families



Broadway and A Train of the Harlem Wizards. photo by Lori Nagel

even more excited about learning and collaborating. This went way beyond being just a basketball game! The players are an incredible inspiration for our families, and their positivity, high-jinx comedy, and extraordinary entertainment will serve as a memorable event for many years to come. The event was a great reminder that there is so much more that unites us than divides us, and this is a message the Moffat School District is committed to representing.



The Harlem Wizards came to Moffat School, played a game against our locals, created a lot of laughter, and inspired LOTS of people! Here, the Wizard known as "Loonatik" signs an autograph for an excited young fan.

photo by Lori Nagel



After the game, the Harlem Wizards invited all the children out onto the court, where "Space Jam" led all the kids in some fun "do as I do" activities. photo by Lori Nagel

## Moffat Knowledge Bowl team places third

by Lyndal Smith, Moffat School Teacher & High School Knowledge Bowl Coach

At the beginning of November, the Moffat High School Knowledge Bowl team participated in their third competition of this school year. Meets are usually held the first Thursday of each month at the Adams State University Student Center. During this most recent meet the varsity team brought in third place honors for the 1A divi-

sion. This was their first time placing in the top three this year and they look forward to more in the future as we build the team up. They are vying for a chance to participate in the state competition. This event invites top teams from all around the state to compete in March on the Colorado State University campus. Moffat has several new members joining this year and their participation has helped build up both the varsity and JV teams.

## Career & college readiness—Moffat students explore opportunities

by Kelly Hamilton, Moffat School Counselor

Moffat Seniors have had the opportunity to participate in several career & college readiness opportunities this fall. Transitioning from High School into the "real world" can bring a range of emotions, as many of us may recall from our own experience. Excitement about a new sense of freedom and enthusiasm about the next chapter of life can be coupled with a sense of being overwhelmed and anxious about what will come next. At Moffat School we work to join with students and their parents in support

along this journey. This fall we've been able to offer a College Tour Day in Alamosa, two recruiter days on-site, a "FAFSA 101" workshop, and collectively our seniors have already submitted applications to 9 different college/universities/tech schools. Some of our seniors are also considering pathways that include service through Americorps, and developing job readiness skills such as welding and plumbing. It is truly an honor and joy to see our young people find their way—I know they will surely to great things in life. In the words of Dr. Suess, "Oh the places you will go!"



Alexandria Harrison pours epoxy resin into her project during industrial arts class.



Tristian Martinez shows off his exceptional balancing skills during physical education class at the Moffat School. The Salida Circus visits Moffat Pk-12th grade students every Thursday during physical education classes.

## Crestone Charter School news Thanksgiving celebration potluck

by *Rachelle Wilson*

The holidays are a magical time at Crestone Charter School! One of the great things about Charter is that we have the opportunity to celebrate as a big family. The last day before Thanksgiving Break, we hosted a huge potluck meal for all students, teachers, and community mentors. All of the classes in the building contributed. Our youngest students created artistic table decorations. The primary students baked delicious pumpkin pies, the intermediate students were in charge of the stuffing and cranberry sauce, while the middle school made mashed potatoes, and the teachers baked tasty turkeys. The high school students were in charge of setting up in Rainbow Hall and serving all the tables.

Giving our students an opportunity to reflect on gratefulness is an important value at the Crestone Charter School. Therefore, Michael Pacheco gave a riveting, short speech about how grateful we are for our students and our exceptional program which values community at its core.

Our school would not be what it is without the community mentors, who generously share their expertise and passion with our students. That is why we would like to take a moment to thank Kristen Gushurst, Benjamin Antonieowicz, Bon Dellagar, Zach Cuprey, Susan Reycroft, Tom Dessain, Christine Gingrich, Mary Benavidez, Meredith Rose, Jack Barton, Adam Kinney, Sue Beck, Hiroichi Kaneshima, Vesper Gers, Annie Pace, Sue Vaughn, and Kaelee Thompson.

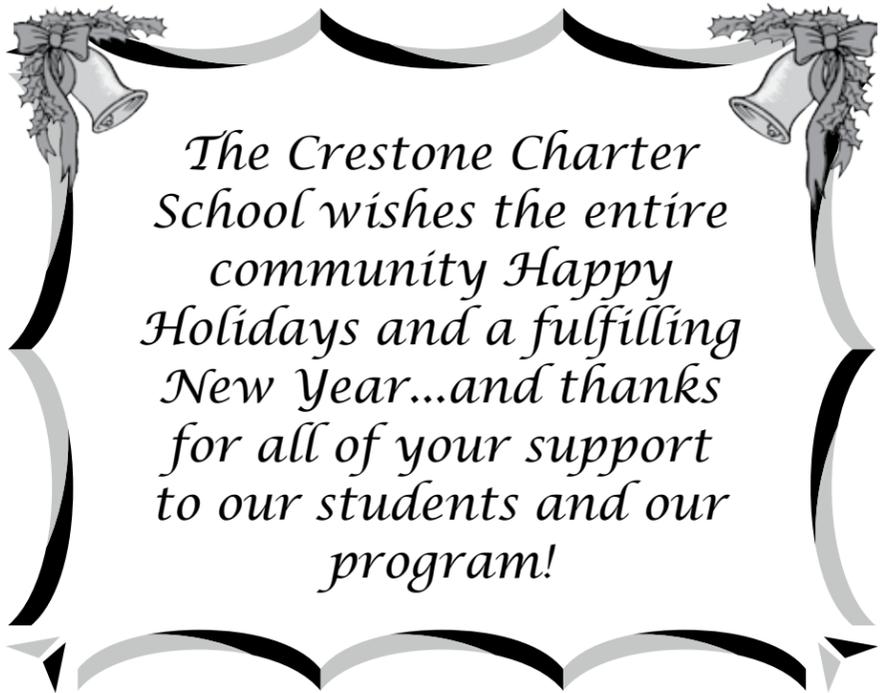
### Other celebratory events this month

On Thursday, December 13 at 5:30pm, we will celebrate our traditional Show and Tell, where students display the various skills they have been working on throughout this past semester. The community is always welcome to attend, and we hope to see you there!

On November 30 at 6pm, the high school students are hosting a movie night fundraiser for their spring trip to Brazil with dinner and a silent auction. Please join us for this fun evening!



Crestone Charter School celebrating the Thanksgiving meal.



Michael Pacheco speaking about what we can be grateful for.

Providing Heart Centered Care  
in Crestone since 2004  
Specialty in the Abdomen, LMT, LCT

**Anna Louise B. Stewart**

- Core Chi Transformation  
Energetic Clearing & Abdominal Unwinding
- Therapeutic Bodywork  
Search & Rescue of Tension in the Body

970.290.7710 AnnaLouise55@gmail.com  
CoreChiTransformation.com

Happy Holidays & Thank You for your Patronage!

*New York Pizza,  
Calzones & More*  
Now Delivering  
Thurs - Sun 5:30 til close

**719/256-5656**  
150 W. Silver Ave.  
in Crestone, CO

Visit: [www.mandala-pizza.com](http://www.mandala-pizza.com)

**WINTER HOURS**  
Sun, Mon, Tues  
and Thurs  
**3:30 - 8:00**  
Fri & Sat  
**12:00 - 8:00**  
Closed Wed.

Enjoy the Season,  
Crestone!

Hope to see you at **Winterfest** this year! Stop by for your personalized **Holiday Photo Cards**, printed for you right there on the spot, to give to Loved Ones this Season!

Lori Nagel

**Sunflower Studios**

Photography  
Graphic Design  
Web Design

(719) 937-1202 ~ [sunflowerstudios.us.com](http://sunflowerstudios.us.com)

## The Washington Beat Quarterly Report

2020: Dumping Trump, the mid-term blue wave & other stuff



by David Nicholas

Good news on the midterms. Most of you know how it turned out, but I have summarized it below. At time of writing and after two weeks there are still four seats that are ongoing and possibly one declared seat could be overturned, so a final number is still illusive.

But now it is onward to 2020. January 1 signals the beginning of the 2020 presidential season. In truth it began on November 7. December started seeing hopeful presidential candidates heading toward Iowa and New Hampshire, hoping to win the early primaries and establish a front-runner. That's going to be fun to watch, right? Really!

### Looking to 2020

I will get it off early. My preference Dem candidates are below 60 years of age. I like the Castro brothers of Texas, either Joaquin or Julian, whom I consider young and brilliant enough to handle the Trump attacks. Julian, former Mayor of San Antonio and former Secretary of Health and Human Services in the Obama Administration, and current US Representative Joaquin (D-TX). To attack either is a killer for Republicans who hope to attract the Hispanic vote.

Meanwhile both Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Kamala Harris (D-CA), are expected to head to Iowa immediately. Also I am happy if either of them get up.

But anyone of 60 years or older should ease off. Hey, I am 70, but if America isn't sick of a 72-year-old loudmouth narcissist for another two years, let alone for another four years, I would be surprised for about ten minutes. I think Senator Elizabeth Warren to be the best of the old bunch; she was my preference in 2014 over Hilary Clinton, but not this time. I believe she is an elder of the Senate, who should by rights be Senate Minority leader and they should dump Chuck Schumer whose lackluster performance lost serious chances for Dems to prevail over the White House. Also Senator Bernie Sanders and former Vice President Joe Biden are fonts of wisdom who can tell it like it is. But not on the campaign trail as a presidential candidate in 2020. I could be wrong but that's my 2¢.

### The last 90 days

So over the last 90 days I largely avoided the punishing cacophony of blather by missing the live Trump bellowing. Yes, he bellows like a bull that is about to be castrated. In those "off-the-cuff" comments Mr. Trump tries to frame (yes, framing is now part of the political lexicon) the daily narrative as the Marine One helicopter noisily warms up. White House press briefings are now becoming few and far between. I catch the tweets but there is no rush for me on those. And I avoid watching the campaign rallies where there is more bellowing but very little new information revealed. I know his lying "truths"

by heart.

He rarely says anything of current relevance (i.e. policy substance) in these moments.

If you are in need of analytical sanity, the best of the commentariat are always at the beginning—the first ten-fifteen minutes—of the program. Spare yourself the other nonsense that gets the remainder of the programs. The only show I would watch is Rachel Maddow on MSNBC. TRMS, as the show is referred to, commands the largest cable audience at that time on any network, because she is brilliant and rarely wrong. That said, we go on.

### The Blue Wave? More like a Blue Tornado

It's the imagery you think about when you hear the pundits talk about the "blue wave" in the Midterm election. You incline to think giant tsunami. Why tornado is the better image is that the immense swing giving Democrats control of the US House of Representatives was not clear immediately on the night of November 6. The effectiveness and devastation of the Democratic win appeared in following days. Like tornadoes, the rout of worthless Republicans began to build up in intensity and became apparent. At time of writing, the Dems had won 233 seats, with the GOP having narrow leads in three of the four still in contention. It is likely the GOP will have 202-203 in the 116th Congress.

On November 6, 2018, after the polls had closed and the counting began, the expected Democratic "blue wave" narrative didn't appear in the early numbers. The punditry, impatient to be first with a headline, were saying that the blue wave hadn't materialized. They spoke too soon. All of us had to wait well into the night before it was clear Dems had won control of the US House of Representatives. So far 37 House seats have flipped on a 9% swing to Democrats. It looks like Dems will have 233 seats. This vote was the highest turnout for a midterm election. One hundred and thirteen million voters cast their verdict on the current president and his dangerous stupidity.

Confession: I said in September that if 10%-11% swing to Dems, they could win between 40-50 seats. Currently, the forty seats Dems won was the low end of my estimate on a 9% national swing. I will have to live with myself for being overly optimistic that Dems might have picked up fifty. In the end 37 and possibly 38 seats will have changed hands. The broad smile on my face vied with that of a Cheshire cat in *Alice in Wonderland* going into the New Year.

Also I said that winning the Senate was a long shot but doable. How wrong was I? The new Senate will be Republicans 53-47 Democrats. On the other hand, Dems lost Senators Clare McCaskill of

Missouri and Heidi Heidkamp of South Dakota and Joe Donnelly in Indiana (Joe Manchin held in West Virginia). However, Dems picked up two new Senators-elect, Kyrsten Sinema in Arizona and Jacky Rosen in Nevada. Moral of the story: If you do your groundwork campaigning door-to-door and phone banking, you either won or lost by a hare's whisker.

What looked to be a GOP rout was limited to a two, maybe three-seat pickup when the dust settles. At time of writing, the Mississippi Senate race still had to be finalized with a runoff November 27. The Republican is expected to win it.

Both Florida and Georgia Senate races went to Republicans in the end, though not without a familiar drama playing out where Florida Governor Rick Scott and incumbent Democrat Senator Bill Nelson went to machine- and then hand-recount in contested counties, in particular Broward and West Palm Beach. Images of counting ballots by hand in the 2000 presidential election and hanging-chad ballot cards come to mind, but Senator Nelson conceded before that became a serious controversy.

It wasn't as bad as first thought and it keeps Dems in the hunt over issues in the Senate. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell still has to work/cajole Senators Susan Collins (R) of Maine and Lisa Murkowski (R) in Alaska and other moderate GOP senators on contentious issues. We shall be watching with interest.

### Midterms: What won

For Dems and Independents it was healthcare, the ACA/Obamacare. Obamacare is here to stay despite two years of Trump and the GOP trying to kill it off or water it down. People want affordable health and the Republicans never really grasped how important it was to voters.

The smart move as I pointed out in September was that all national issues were local and it succeeded in keeping pictures of former House speaker Nancy Pelosi off the TV screens. Candidates fought locally about healthcare and won hearts and minds.

For Republicans it was immigration. The so-called "migrant caravan," the "screaming hoard" of immigrants in southern Mexico marching forward, seeking political asylum in these United States, fell on deaf ears, other than the Trump base. The sudden need to protect the southern border, sending 5200 troops to the border, causing them to miss their Thanksgiving with their families, was old and desperate. Framing the optic, it appears, didn't fool all of the people all of the time.

To be true, the economy did figure in the election but was ditched several weeks before polling day. This was because the national campaign was reminding voters that the so-called "tax reform" laws designed to give tax relief to middle-class Americans hasn't happened and now is probably not likely to, as the law stands. Americans who said in polls they had benefited were in income brackets the middle-class only dreams about. Essentially this is a failed policy, one which is unlikely to be resurrected in the next two years.

### Midterms: The vote

Voter turnout was 113 million. Forty-eight percent of eligible voters exercised their right in these midterms, compared to 39% in the 2014 midterm and with 56% who voted in 2016 (128 million). ABC News said Democrats account for 38% of voters in exit poll results so far, Republicans for 32% and independents for 30%. That compares with a 36-37-27 percentile in 2014, and 37-33-29 in 2016.

### Midterms: Women who voted

Approximately 60% of eligible women voters cast a ballot in 2018 compared to approximately 49% of men. College-educated women were the largest voting group (approximately 76%) compared to about 48% of college men. About 45% of non-college women voted while only 37% of non-college men did so.

### Midterms: The youth vote

Voter turnout among 18-to-29-year-olds in the 2018 midterm elections was 31%, according to a preliminary estimate by The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement at Tufts University.

That's the highest youth turnout since they started collecting data in 1994. It's also a major increase from turnout in the 2014 midterms, which was 21%. In my view the Parkland massacre was an influencing factor along with the subsequent school massacres that occurred after that. That youth could be a target in such sanctuaries had student activism reaching a new high. Clearly the youth vote made the Florida gubernatorial race, as well as the US Senate race, to become long-drawn affairs weeks after the election. Parkland activist David Hogg and his organization made a difference.

The effect was telling. As of November 18, both Democratic candidates Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillam in the gubernatorial race and incumbent Democratic Senator Bill Nelson kept the fight going for two weeks after the election, just conceding defeat to their opponents, GOP candidates Ron DeSantis for the governorship and Florida Governor Rick Scott for Florida's new senator. This was a close race. The difference in voting numbers were 0.47% in the gubernatorial and 0.18% in the Senate race.

This vote seemed to indicate that it is youth's interest to vote at every opportunity in the future. It can be expected that after women, the youth vote will be the major deciding factor in the presidential race in 2020.

### The Kavanaugh debacle

I reread my September article on the Kavanaugh Supreme Court nomination and I was right for the wrong reasons. When you suspect a public figure of being a sexual predator, without proof one needs to intimate rather than openly accuse, lawsuits being what they are these days. But given the evidence that was made available in September, Justice Brett Kavanaugh was a sexual predator in his college days. At current count there are two identified sexual predators on the Supreme Court, Justice Clarence Thomas being the other.

To be clear the reason why Justice Kavanaugh sits on the

bench is a screwed-up strategy by Senate Minority leader Chuck Schumer (R-NY) and the senior Senator from California, Diane Feinstein. I can understand why Ms. Feinstein sat on the claim by Professor Christine Blasey Ford that Justice Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her in high school. Professor Ford requested her allegation be kept confidential when she informed Senator Feinstein in July. The stakes were just too high to let it ride and when she finally agreed to release her name, the fight was over. Ms. Feinstein needed to explain to Professor Ford why she needed to drop her anonymity earlier than September, when the academic finally surfaced through an article published in the *Washington Post*. Putting a face on the allegation mattered because two more women claimed Kavanaugh had assaulted them in his college years came forward.

When you are up against angry white males on the Judicial Committee, namely Senators Chuck Grassley (IA), Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Lindsay Graham (R-SC), and their manipulation of the hearing process to favor Kavanaugh, you need to be on your toes. Democrats were not and in the end were found wanting. Given time, Kavanaugh could have been consigned to the dustbin of history. Now he inhabits SCOTUS for decades to come.

Chuck Schumer was voted in as Senate Minority Leader again in November. Hearing him talk about the midterm election on NBC's Meet the Press on November 11, referring to how "We, Democrats," would handle the coming Senate makeup in 2019, just beggared belief. He sounded old and tired without the stomach to fight the GOP for every inch of ground. Yours truly prefers Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) to be Senate Minority Leader. This can still happen but maybe too much to hope for this year.

The Kavanaugh allegations had merit in my view. I am familiar with the prevailing student mentality of the 1980s because of my work with Greenpeace USA. I was in GP's Minneapolis canvass office in 1988 and in a conversation on sexual harassment saw a high hatred of women. The prevailing fraternity mentality then was that "women were always asking for it" and "women wanted it" and date rape was considered a "right of passage" for college women. I didn't hesitate to lay down a policy that a) "no mean no" and b) "maybe also means no" and c) a woman's consent was required before going further in intimate relations, and if they changed their mind in mid-course then that was the end of it. My personal experience in dealing with sexual harassment was in Los Angeles where I had to fire several squad leaders who were offering advancement in return for sexual favors.

That Justice Kavanaugh was a product of this culture comes as no surprise to me, but that he certainly celebrated his conduct during the time as he did in his spirited defense of his behavior before the Senate's Judicial Committee was disgusting. The women's claims had substance and given time could have been established and his nomination withdrawn.

Woulda, shoulda, coulda is always perfect in hindsight but the Senate Democratic leadership, being the age it is, is really out of step with the #Me-Too movement and the changes in American society over the last two years.

So Justice Kavanaugh sits on the court for 30 years, probably, and given that Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's recent fall broke three ribs, asking her to hang on for another two years on the court maybe asking a bit much. A possible third Supreme Court pick by this president should give us pause. Just shaking my head in disappointment. We will see how all this plays out.

#### The turning point for Donald Trump: the VFW

Veterans of Foreign Wars—the VFW—was formed in 1899 right after the Spanish American War, which went on for six months in mid-1898. In that time Americans fought in Cuba and the Philippines. The latter became a Pacific possession of the United States and remained so until Philippine independence in 1946.

It could be said that since 1899 America has never fought anything but foreign wars to ensure all sorts of "spheres of interest" and strategies. Thus it isn't rocket science that when the annual convention of the VFW is held, all American presidents make the pilgrimage and give a speech praising and thanking veterans for their service. Every president makes a point of doing it and the conventional wisdom decrees that it is Republican presidents' words get the better reception.

On Veteran's Day—which fell on November 12 this year—without fail presidents make the trip to Arlington to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns or they go to battlefields in France to honor the fallen laid to rest on foreign soil.

It was well known that Mr. Trump was headed to France to march with allies at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the armistice, which ended fighting on the Western Front, bringing peace to World War I. The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month always had people around the world stop and honor a minute's silence to the fallen.

As far as ceremonies go you can't screw it up. As president you show up, read a prepared speech, hold your head in silence for a minute, shake hands with dignitaries and that's it.

In this case, Mr. Trump was set to visit the Aisne-Marne American cemetery in the French village of Belleau, the site of a 1918 battle in which the Americans and French repelled German forces. More than 1,800 Americans died there. The battle looms large in the history of the US Marine Corps.

The site is 50 miles from Paris and, as the weather was "inclement" to say the least (rain and fog, the two elements that make French countryside such a hazard in the fall, possibly bogging the one-ton limousine "The Beast" in country potholes or preventing Marine One from lifting off), Mr. Trump opted the comfort of his Paris hotel rather than get his shoes muddy. So it goes.

True, White House Chief of Staff James Kelly and SecDef James

Mattis drove the fifty miles and laid wreaths and did the honors. Presidents not doing their duty because they would get wet was a decision of sheer political stupidity.

Only after Mr. Trump returned did he realize what a political gaffe and insult he had cast on the VFW. Worse, he did have the chance to correct this debacle by going out to Arlington and laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns but he didn't bother to do that.

What to make of it? I tend to take Veterans' Day very seriously because I lost relatives in that war on the Western Front. I do a minute of silence at 11am on Veterans' Day. It's the least we can do. It was called "The War to End All Wars" until World War II overshadowed the horror of death in gas and mud. Lest we forget.

The VFW won't forget Trump's monumental gaffe anytime soon. Particularly, they will remember it on November 9, 2020. Guess what happens that day.

#### China-US Relations have hit the wall

On Sunday, November 18, *The New York Times* has a major spread on the People's Republic of China titled "China Rules: The Land that Failed to Fail." The feature comes with five accompanying articles on a country the feature describes as an "Autocracy with Democratic Characteristics". It explains why the traditional view of China as a communist state in a state of collapse has defied our conventional wisdom. The current tariff war has in a matter of days turned totally hostile.

At the Asia Pacific Economic Forum (APEC) in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, held in November, Vice President Mike Pence actively attacked the PRC on its so-called expansionist policy in the Pacific. He did this while Chinese President Xi Jinping was in the audience. Mr. Pence's remarks were that of a hostile rabid dog, insulting and stupid. His sharp anti-Chinese comments created a breach that affected the outcome of the planned meeting that Mr. Trump had on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in late November with President Xi. The righteous arrogance of this bigoted evangelical Christian has made a formal cold war all but certain.

Mr. Pence is not very bright but like all of his kind he believes the PRC is a godless barbarian and so needs to be brought down if China will not bow down to US world dominance and the exploitative capitalism which favors us. Veep Pence is part of the anti-Chinese coterie entrenched in the White House along with US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and China-hater Peter Navarro, Mr. Trump's Director of Trade and Industrial Policy and Director of the White House National Trade Council.

It means China was humiliated and lost face before its Asian neighbors and means China will turn its back on us with a simmering hostility that may last for years. We don't want that, but it has ensured that when it comes to Chinese investment in the US and \$355 billion in Chinese tourism, what we need is seriously threatened.

Besides the loss of trade revenues in the current trade war, a ban on Chinese investment means they will curtail further purchase of US debt and put pressure on our dollar already under threat. When China uses its considerable power to discourage its citizens from traveling here, by saying we are anti-Chinese, it means tourists will stay away in droves. As well, wealthy Chinese parents who sent their brightest sons and daughters to our ivy league universities and colleges and pay full tuition fees will no longer look to us for post-doctoral education. This means tuition fees will skyrocket and prevent our not-so-wealthy brightest from getting the education we need them to have.

If China had decided not to buy our debt paper, the global financial crisis of 2008 would have been much worse. Well, forget that. China is out for revenge now. The way it does this is by turning its back if it decides good relations with America are no longer worthwhile. China will go elsewhere.

It is worth noting here that out of the top ten banking institutions in the world, the first four are Chinese. They have more of our money than we do. Only two of ours made it at the tail end.

Despite the anti-Chinese campaign currently in full swing across all US media outlets, it was not widely publicized that the White House asked for the G20 meeting with President Xi, not the other way around. The White House worried that China had not sought the trade meetings they were expecting and that the prolonged tariff war that was instigated by the White House was now beginning to take effect on Mr. Trump's political base of farmers and industrial workers. Tighten belts, people, this gets worse quickly.

That said, the beat goes on.



**STILL MOUNTAIN**  
Classical Five-Element  
**ACUPUNCTURE**  
Jan Foster Miller, M.Ac., L.Ac.  
Treating the whole person-body, mind & spirit  
719 - 256 - 4775



**CRESTONE MOBILE VETERINARY SERVICE**  
CALL OR TEXT 719-588-4024  
CRESTONEMOBILEVET@GMAIL.COM, CRESTONEMOBILEVET.COM.

## Saguache County Landfill recycling needs your help & attention

by **Christine Canaly,**  
**Director, SLV Ecosystem**  
**Council**

We all need to pay attention to the Saguache County Landfill. Some big decisions have to be made over the next few months. But first, very quickly, let's wind it back a few decades, to see how we got here.

The federal Resource, Conservation and Recovery Act (known as RCRA), was first passed in 1976 to deal with the onsite pollution created by the disposal and management of solid waste/landfills, and the law has since been amended several times.

In the late eighties, Saguache had one of the first ever Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved landfills in the country. Some major federal grant money flowed in for a limited time, and provided a chance for a "state of the art landfill" to be created, with plenty of opportunity for recycling.

Large bins were set up and divided into specific categories: plastics, glass, paper, motor oil, concrete, household items, building material . . . it was so clean and well-managed that people who were building their own homes at the time used to go there and shop for construction materials, which was free to Saguache County residents.

By the 1990s, due to changes in RCRA laws, many rural landfills were struggling to survive because they lacked the financial resources to maintain the standards set by the regulations. Specific baseline maintenance and reporting requirements were necessary for continued state permit approvals for things like functioning liners, water quality monitoring wells, engineering requirements, etc., so the solution in many parts of the country was to close rural landfills and adopt a regional model.

The San Luis Valley developed a regional landfill in 1993, between Monte Vista and Del Norte, south of Highway 160, that is capable of servicing the entire San Luis Valley and its six counties. Saguache and Mineral counties are the two remaining counties that continue to operate their own landfills. Alamosa, Rio Grande, Conejos and Costilla counties have closed their local landfills and use drop sites and hauler pickups to take their solid waste to the SLV regional landfill.

Saguache County is about three months away from filling up its current "cell", a name used to describe the large hole in the ground that is functioning as a disposal for the continual burying of mostly residential waste. Two years ago, the County, using a consultant, contracted out the possibility of keeping recyclables out of the "cell" (to maintain its longevity), with the intention of redistributing the recyclables to a "MRF", a Materials Recovery Facility, where it would be properly reprocessed.

A lot has changed nationwide regarding the possibility of repurposing "recycling material" since January 2017. First, a new president took office. China, who was on the forefront of procuring the majority of recycled material from the United States, stopped taking it. This has put industries around the country in turmoil, and there currently are baled recyclables sitting in stock piles in several locations nationwide. Most municipalities now have to pay to have recycling removed. It is no longer a break-even proposition. See <https://bit.ly/2P1CFeN>.

This brings us to the current situation with Saguache County Landfill. There are approximately 120 tons of recycled material sitting outside of the Saguache County landfill "cell". The San Luis Val-



*This potential recycling material has been accumulating at the Saguache County landfill over the last year and a half. The flow of materials to be recycled has been undermined since China has stopped accepting recycled material from the USA.*

ley Ecosystem Council (SLVEC), along with Zero Waste Services and Conejos Clean Water, have written a State of Colorado "Recycling, Resources Economic Opportunity" (RREO) education grant to document the redirection of the 120 tons of recyclables to a MRF in Denver.

### Volunteers needed!

This is where you can participate. We need your ample, substantive support! Over the next five months, finishing on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22, we would like to get as much of this 120 tons of recycled material moved away from the landfill and sent to the Front Range as possible. We estimate it will take approximately 4,000 volunteer hours (our goal is to get 100 volunteers) to redirect this current landfill site back to some semblance of normalcy.

The schedule for 30 tons recycle removal each time at Saguache County Landfill is as follows:

Event 1: Sat., Feb. 16

Event 2: Sat., March 9

Event 3: Sat., March 23

Event 3: Sat., April 20

We are not alone! There will

be support from Saguache County, waste haulers, equipment contractors, recycling contractors and a host of other interested businesses.

We can complete this task and have real impact on the longevity/reuse of our resources. This is what environmentalism looks like in the 21st century: reduce, reuse, recycle. We can use this precarious situation as an important opportunity to redirect the future risks of our landfill and learn about next steps to connect our county's waste/recycle material to a hub-and-spoke model of regional waste reduction and recycling. Good decisions will benefit all of us as current residents of Saguache County, and future generations can inherit a valuable infrastructure.

For more information about the 2017 SLV Waste Diversion and Recycling Study, to further regional cooperation (hub-and-spoke model), organized by the SLV Ecosystem Council, please go to [www.slvec.org/solid-waste-management](http://www.slvec.org/solid-waste-management).

Please e-mail [info@slvec.org](mailto:info@slvec.org) to sign up for a cleanup day, or call: 719-589-1518. Please stay tuned!

## Landfill

*continued from page 1*

water Monitoring Report issued by CDPHE stated that the County failed to put in all the liners required for operation of the newest constructed cell. In the report CDPHE informed the County that the problems with the landfill had to be corrected in order to be in compliance. The chemicals leaking in the groundwater were likely the result of a "missing" liner.

### Recycling

After an inspection on October 16, 2018, CDPHE issued a second Compliance Report on the state of the recycling area. The number one concern is to minimize windblown trash that comes from the "open face" operation of the landfill.

Minutes from Board of County Commissioners' meetings since May 2018 show that the Landfill has been a frequent topic of discussion. The question: expansion or closing of the landfill.

A third option, using multiple transfer stations to collect waste around the county, was presented to the commissioners on June 12, 2018,

by Chris Canaly (SLV Ecosystem Council).

The landfill in recent years has had declining revenues that have not kept up with the costs of running and maintaining the landfill. Although Saguache County operates a small landfill it is still subject to the same state regulations as landfills that serve larger communities.

On August 7, 2018 the County Commissioners, with a split vote, decided to pursue expanding the cell at the landfill, keeping it open with the possibility of providing a transfer station to one part of the county with the idea of getting a better estimate at costs for operating transfer stations. At that meeting, Commissioner Jason Anderson commented, "he feels that the County should not be in the trash business".

On November 13, 2018, during the Administrative Hearing, the County Commissioners voted unanimously to accept a Compliance Order on Consent. This allows for Saguache County Attorney Ben Gibbons to review the document.

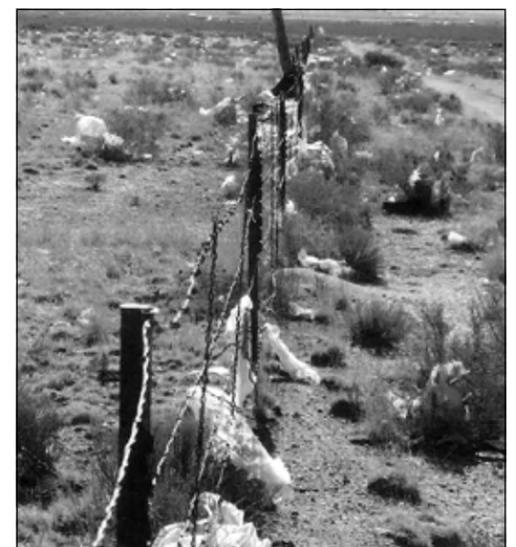
CDPHE's priority is to bring the landfill into compliance, therefore no administrative penalties will be levied. All present agreed

that funds would be best spent on compliance rather than on fines. Upon receipt and review of the Compliance Order on Consent, a settlement conference will be scheduled to lay plans for correction.

Setting aside his official role, Kreutzer, based on his years of service, stated that waste management is not going to be self-supporting through fees. Like other county services such as roads and bridges, if it is not subsidized through property taxes, it will not happen.

Gary Fuselier of GLF Enviro Consultant LLC was present at the meeting to provide specifics on costs and presented several suggestions on how to deal with excess material resulting from recycling collection, and new ideas of how to deal with covering the "open face" of the current cell in the landfill.

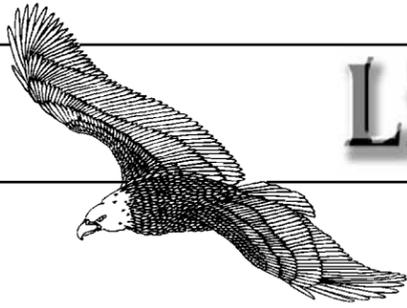
Based on his estimate of 3,000 tons of annual waste received, a new cell would need to cover approximately 2 acres and would last 7 to 11 years depending on the type of compaction and whether the face



*Scattered litter located outside of the landfill boundary looking east from outside the southeast corner of the landfill.*

of the landfill is covered nightly by tarps or soil. The County currently estimates that the current cell in use is about half full.

At the 2019 Budget work session following the Administrative Hearing, the County Commissioners included \$351,000+ in the landfill budget for professional service fees to address the problems raised by CDPHE.



# Living on the Earth

## Bringing back the light

by Mary Lowers

Yet another turn of the wheel of the year is upon us. It's nearly the Winter Solstice, a time when the ancients said "the sun stands still." This year in the northern hemisphere the actual Solstice will be on December 21 at 3:23pm Mountain Time. As creatures plodding through the short cold dark days of mid-winter, we naturally want to do anything we need to do to assure the return of the sun's warmth and light. This year in particular with global warming, out-of-control fires, drought, other natural disasters and politics, any assurance that we will make through these times of global darkness and uncertainty is most welcome. I like, with intention, to use the ceremonies and tools humans have given energetic meaning during my winter holidays.

tures a unique candle holder called a Kinara. The seven candles the Kinara holds represent the seven principles of Kwanzaa: unity is represented by a black candle and the principles of self determination, cooperation, and creativity are represented by red candles.

In old pre-Christian Europe, candles were used in rituals to remind people that the light and warmth of spring would indeed arrive. Winter Solstice bonfires are still lit in many parts of the world. When Christianity came on the scene Jesus' birthday was said to be around the winter solstice. He is often referred to as the "light of the world" saving people from the darkness of paganism and evil.

The Christian custom of Advent wreaths with four red candles representing the four Sundays of Advent prior to Christmas is a way



Farolitos light a path.

on the sill at Christmas. It was believed that by lighting these candles, along with leaving doors and windows unlocked for the baby Jesus and his holy family, your own family would share the blessings of holy light.

In parts of Germany, Lithuania, and Estonia people place lit candles on the gravestones of family during the mid-winter solstice season. In Sweden, as a part of the St. Lucia/St. Lucy celebrations in December, young girls wear halo crowns of candles. St. Lucia, or Lucy, whose name means light, was martyred for her faith in 304. Christians in southern India would place small clay oil lamps on their flat-roofed homes to celebrate Christmas.

In parts of China trees are traditionally hung with candlelit paper lanterns in December. The Dongzhi Festival is celebrated in China and East Asia around the time of the winter solstice. Dongzhi means the extreme of winter with cold and short days. The celebration is held to increase daylight and positive energy. It holds the energy of light and rebirth.

Some places in northern Europe burn a Yule candle rather than a Yule log. Many practicing this tradition believe the Yule candle bestows blessing for the coming year upon all its light touches. Families would put good things to drink, eat, wear . . . in fact any desirable goods . . . within the ring of the Yule Candle's light in the hope its magic would help them be gifted with good things in the coming year.

The tradition of calling in the light at solstice includes the burning of the Yule log as one of its oldest customs. In fact the celebration of Winter Solstice is called Yule in many northern European countries. Each year the new mammoth



Advent wreath.

Yule Log was ceremonially lit with a piece of Yule Log saved from the prior year. In different parts of Europe different woods are used for Yule Logs and many different powers are associated with the log. A *Buche de Noel* or chocolate Yule Log is a famous and delicious holiday dessert.

Candles play an important role in celebrations in our region of southern Colorado and northern New Mexico with the *luminarias*' brown lunch sacks with sand and a small votive candle in the bottom lining walkways and the tops of adobe walls to light the seasonal darkness. Stacked bonfires of fragrant pinon logs know as *farolitos* are often lit in the holiday season to warm and illuminate the homes for roving groups of carolers or people reenacting the trip of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem in a religious play called *Los Pastores*.

So let's light candles, menorahs, and kinaras, line our walkways with *farolitos*, find and burn Yule logs, *luminarias* and bonfires this season. Holding the intentions that peace, light and plenty bless our little community and the larger world with light and plenty in the year to come.



Winter Solstice bonfire.

Candles are an easy way to move energy for the return of the light. Candles have been used in Winter Solstice rituals and celebrations for millennia, celebrating the return of the light and rebirth of the sun. Candles play a major role in Hanukkah the Jewish festival of lights which falls in the winter solstice season. This holiday commemorates the siege of the hill fortress of Masada when the lamp oil, which should have run out, kept the light for the Jews holding out against the Romans. It was a miracle of light attributed to the Jewish god. Throughout the eight nights of Hanukkah a single candle is lit in special candelabra called a menorah, and families pray together for the continuation of light in the world. The African American winter celebration of Kwanzaa fea-

to visualize the light increasing in the world. As the season progresses an additional red candle is lit each week with a white candle in the center of the wreath being lit on Christmas Day. When I was a child the Advent wreath was the first decoration of the season taken out of storage, a sign that the holidays were upon us. Each night we would light the correct number of candles for the specific week of Advent and pray together before dinner.

Candlelight is a symbol of holy illumination and the spirit of truth being clearly seen in the light. In the Middle Ages a huge candle was used to represent the Star of Bethlehem which gave light to the wise men coming to Bethlehem in search of the newborn king. From the Irish we get the custom of lighting windows with a candle



Winter Solstice bonfire.



by Kim Malville

**December 8-10:** Watch the slender crescent moon glide past Saturn in the southwest about 30 minutes after sunset

**December 13-14:** For you early risers with a good view of the eastern horizon, brilliant Venus will reach its greatest height above the horizon. All night there will be the meteors coming out of the constellation Gemini, reaching a maximum on the morning of the 14th when Gemini is high in the sky. The prediction is for 120 meteors per hour in very dark skies. This meteor shower often produces more meteors than the more famous Perseids visible in warmer August nights. Bundle up in a comfortable chair for a great event.

**December 14:** An hour after sunset the first quarter moon will be 4° below Mars.

**December 21:** Time for a winter solstice celebration, which will occur at 4:23 MST.

**December 25:** Look for the moon above Regulus in Leo.

**January 1:** The New Horizons Spacecraft will fly past the tiny Kuiper Belt object named Ultima Thule at 10:33 MST. Occurring at a distance of 9 billion miles, this will be the most distant exploration of a planetary body in human history. It will take 6 hours for the radio signals to reach Earth.

**Giant meteorite crater discovered in Greenland**

Some two years ago, Kurt Kjær, a geologist at the Natural History Museum in Copenhagen, was flying in a helicopter over northwest Greenland and suspected the glacier beneath him may cover a meteorite crater. It appears the crater, now known as Hiawatha, was produced by an iron asteroid 1.5 kilometers across that hit the Earth sometime between 3 million to 12,000 years ago. The latest measurements lean toward the most recent date, and therein lies a fascinating story.

It seems remarkably appropriate for Kjær to have discovered this massive meteorite crater. When coming to work in Copenhagen

he parks his bicycle next to a 20-ton iron meteorite in the courtyard of his museum. That meteorite is associated with an even larger meteorite in the American Museum of Natural History in New York, which was located in 1894 by Robert E. Peary with the help of an Inuit guide. Peary enlisted the help of a local Inuit guide. The Inuits used cold forging of fragments of the meteorite to fashion harpoons and oth-

er weapons. Peary sold the meteorite for \$40,000 to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. It is unlikely that the Inuits were compensated for the theft of their resource. The Copenhagen meteorite was discovered in 1963 by Vagn Buchwald from the Copenhagen Museum. There are 8 meteorite fragments that were associated with this meteorite fall, with a total weight of 58 tons. Buchwald estimated that the original meteorite that broke up in the atmosphere weighed 200 tons, which now appears to vastly underestimate the original mass. The explosion that created the Hiawatha crater was huge, equal to 700 1-megaton nuclear bombs. It was produced by an asteroid weighing some 25 billion tons. People within 500 km of the event would have seen a fireball that was 4 times larger than the sun and 3 times brighter. If the object struck an ice sheet, it would have tunneled through to the bedrock, vaporizing water and stone in a flash. Fragments of the meteorite swarm landed throughout northwestern Greenland to produce the so-called Cape York meteorites. Rock debris may have rained down on North America and Europe. Such an impact on the ice sheet would have sent meltwater pouring into the Atlantic Ocean, disrupting the conveyor belt of ocean currents and



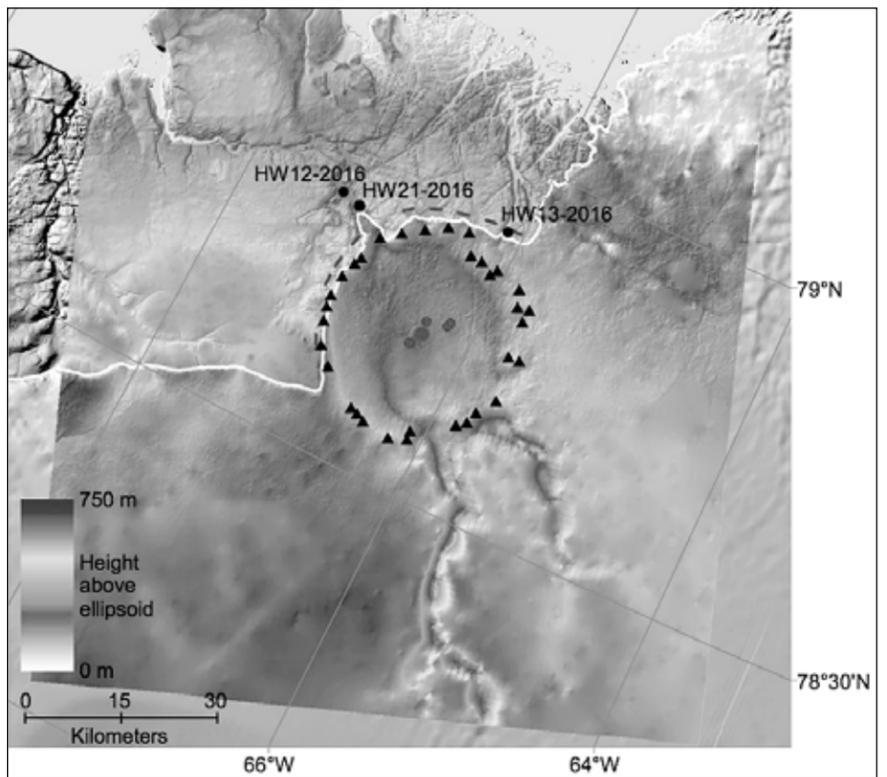
Greenland and the Hiawatha Crater. photo courtesy of astronomy.com

causing temperatures to plunge in the Northern Hemisphere.

This meteorite arrived as the earth was warming, having emerged from the last glacial period. It may have been responsible for the dramatic drop in temperature that started 12,800 years ago, known as the Younger Dryas. Temperatures of parts of the Northern Hemisphere plunged by as much as 8°C, remaining that cold for more



The Hiawatha Glacier overlying the Meteorite Crater. photo courtesy of earthsky.org



Airborne radar scans of the Hiawatha Crater. Triangles mark the rim. Circles mark the central rebound peaks. photo courtesy of University of Kansas

than 1000 years, turning slowly advancing forests back into tundra, and may have led to the extinction of large mammals. The Younger Dryas, named after a small white and yellow arctic flower that flourished during this period, has long fascinated and even frustrated scientists. Until the discovery of Hiawatha, no impact crater with the proper date had been found. Until human-induced global warming arrived, no recent temperature change had been as rapid as that connected with the Younger Dryas.

Radar images show the rim of a crater with a diameter of 19 miles, which is as large as Paris. Rising above the floor is a central peak some 50 meters high. Such a central peak is common in impact craters when there is a rebound of the molten floor of the crater. The floor of the crater is jagged suggesting that it is relatively young. If the asteroid had struck earlier than 100,000 years ago, when the area

was ice free, erosion from melting ice would have scoured the crater floor. Radar signals also reveal that the deepest layers of ice are broken up like jagged ice cubes, which again is another sign of a recent impact.

In the outwash from the crater Kjær's team found glass grains, which were melted by temperatures higher than a volcanic eruption can generate as well as shocked crystals of quartz. The crystals contained distinctive banded patterns that can be formed only in the intense pressures of extraterrestrial impacts or nuclear weapons. Similar shocked quartz crystals are found in ocean sediments near the impact that killed the dinosaurs.

There is no doubt that this was a major catastrophic event for planet Earth. The impact would have melted 1500 gigatons of ice, about as much ice as Antarctica has lost due to global warming in the past decade.

This column sponsored by  
**Kim & Nancy Malville**  
 kimmalville@hotmail.com

# Starr Sightings Astrology

by Starr Sites

## Mercury Grand Trine

December starts out with Mercury Retrograde, which switches to its more favorable direct motion on Dec. 5. During the first 12 days of December, Mercury, the planet of mind and communications, descends into dark and oft-conspiring Scorpio, casting a bit of a shadow over our thoughts. Perhaps some revisions could improve our plans. Mercury will begin to brighten our thoughts when it re-enters high-minded Sagittarius on the 15th. Its condition is strong as it slows, stands still, and then moves forward into a harmonious Grand Trine with Chiron in intuitive Pisces and North Node in compassionate Cancer for ~2 weeks, helping us find solutions to emotional issues that impact our health. Luckily, Mercury brings "Joy to the World" when it conjoins with Jupiter for most of the Christmas season, lightening our moods.

## New Moon Dec. 7

New Moons are times to set intentions for the lunar month ahead. The planetary dance is tense, yet there is cathartic healing as well. The Mercury-Chiron-North Node water Grand Trine sensitizes us. We want harmony, but there is so much strife! The North Node (our destiny) is the fulcrum point in the charts this month as it triggers the good, the bad and the ugly. However, since *we* determine our personal destinies, focus on positive attitudes in order to receive better outcomes. Insisting on conflict and aggressive actions yields strife and discord. It's all available. Our "destiny" is up to us! So set your intention this day to live by your principles, no matter what.

## Venus opposed Uranus

Venus (female energy) activates Uranus (revolutionary change) in late November into

mid-December as retrograde Uranus moves backwards through Aries until March. Expect the unexpected during these months, including more protests, sex scandals, and court filings, predominantly driven by women who are beginning to feel their nascent power after the midterms, but the path ahead looks bumpy. With both Venus and Uranus forming a Grand Square to the Moon's Nodes, feminist satisfaction is likely to be blocked, suppressed, denounced or delayed. But it's OK, ladies, because our time is coming!

This Venus/Uranus opposition cuts the zodiac in half, with Venus in Scorpio, Mercury-Jupiter in Sagittarius, Saturn-Pluto in Capricorn, Neptune-Mars-Chiron in Pisces, and Uranus in Aries. The Sun moves from light-hearted Sagittarius to serious Capricorn on December 21 and the Moon visits all signs each month. Aquarius, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo and Libra lack planets throughout December. This lopsided chart highlights existing imbalances and lack of understanding between peoples and nations. It also tends to increase extremes of behavior from reclusiveness or hyper-social activity, or workaholic or agoraphobic compulsions, depending on how the active half of the transit chart impacts one's natal chart. With such concentration of planets, people may be focused on self or others, work or home, private or public life, etc. Normally, the planets and our focuses are more diversely distributed.

## Winter Solstice/Full Moon

The Winter Solstice Sun on Dec. 21 squares Mars/Chiron on the Midheaven, warning of government-inflicted public wounding, while trining Uranus means something unexpected. Saturn and Pluto sit on either side of the Descendant on the Solstice, suggest-

ing harsh and dangerous relations with allies or enemies, which could mean more acts of terrorism or reprisals. The Full Moon, mere hours later, shows these same malefic planets straddling the Midheaven, which doubles the warning. And yet romance or bromance are in the air too, despite the tensions, as Venus trines Neptune.

## Christmas

Although everyone wants to get along, sharply divergent opinions make for tense dinner conversations. Dreams may be challenged, but with Mercury conjunct Jupiter in Sagittarius, aim for a light-spirited Christmas this year, although it may not be easy.

## New Year's Eve

Some of you may find yourselves staying home this New Year's Eve because the Midnight chart has all the planets in the bottom half, the private "homebody" part of the chart. Ask a few friends over or just keep it intimate because crowds will be unappealing

this year and excessive public behaviors are likely.

## Summary

The heavens are in conflict as Grand Squares, full of tension, combine with Grand Trines, full of promise. The world is in turmoil. Arguments, partisan politics, uncertain economics, conflicts, and lack of clear direction are the order of the month as we wrap up an intense year. Yet despite the confusion and general distress, there is a gradual healing happening, and although the process is messy and blind, a flicker of hope arises. We don't have clear answers, and solutions seem out-of-reach, but don't despair! We must continue to slog through the darkness in order to "make it" safely to the new dawn . . . even if we can't see the way forward clearly. The "Shift" *is* happening, unsettling our lives, perhaps until 2026 or beyond, and yet it is exactly what we need in order to reach a breakthrough. Rejoice because next year looks a whole lot more peaceful!

# Carrie Caverly Design Studio

## Architectural & Interior Design

Sustainable | Healthy | Energy Efficient  
New Construction | Renovations  
Residential | Commercial

web | [carriecaverly.wordpress.com](http://carriecaverly.wordpress.com)  
303.885.8665 | [carriecaverly@gmail.com](mailto:carriecaverly@gmail.com)

# CRESTONE MOUNTAIN BUILDERS LLC

20 Years Experience Building in the San Luis Valley

Design-Build Construction & Renovation

Shane Caverly  
(719) 239-4111  
[ShaneCaverly@gmail.com](mailto:ShaneCaverly@gmail.com)

**EXPERIENCED | LOCAL | TRUSTED | INSURED**

**REC**  
SAN LUIS VALLEY  
POWERING A VITAL VALLEY  
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

719-852-3538 [WWW.SLVREC.COM](http://WWW.SLVREC.COM)

All of us at the San Luis Valley Electric Company  
Wish you a very Bright and Happy Holiday Season



Your Friends in the Car Business

The finest selection of pre-owned cars, trucks, SUV's, and mini-vans in the region.

And don't forget our excellent service department!

Contact Sam Johnson (719) 221-2453  
or John Dodgen (719) 221-0326

7420 W. U.S. Hwy 50 Salida CO 81201

# Who We Are

## Matt & Meghan Stalzer:

*Raising camels in the high desert*

by Gussie Fauntleroy

At age 17, with \$7,000 saved up from ranch-hand jobs, Chicago-born and suburban-raised Matt Stalzer was ready to buy a chunk of land of his own. He traveled from eastern Iowa to Wyoming to Utah, looking. But he wanted acreage, and loans on raw land were hard to get in the late 1990s, especially with so little to put down. "I was laughed out of realtors' offices," he says. "But I didn't give up."

Speaking softly in his quietly passionate manner, Matt sits at a wooden table in what started as a rough cabin he built and later expanded into a comfortable home on 35 acres northwest of Moffat in the middle of the San Luis Valley. He finally found the land in 2000 through a valley native he met at diesel school near Denver. But it would be 14 more years before he escaped the city for good. When he did, it was with his wife Meghan, who was equally hungry for homesteading life. What they couldn't have guessed at the time was that they would share that life with camels.

### Camel happiness

As the couple reflects on their journey thus far, Meghan nurses their one-year-old son Liam and sets him down to sleep. Just outside, gently reaching her long camel neck into the living room when the front door is opened, is Big Mama. Sweet-tempered, intelligent, and 7 feet tall at the top of her hump, Big Mama and her baby Niam were the first dromedaries Matt and Meghan purchased and brought to the valley to start Mudita Camel Dairy in 2014. The dairy's name reflects the couple's spiritual perspective and generous approach to life: Mudita is Sanskrit for "the joy that comes from seeing the happiness of others."

Today Matt and Meghan have six single-hump camels and are hoping for as many as three babies in the spring. Camel mothers produce milk for up to a year after their offspring are born, providing nutritious milk, which the dairy sells on a membership basis. Meghan's mother in Broomfield,



Big Mama would come on into the house if she was allowed.

photo by Meghan Stalzer

Colorado, makes lovely-scented camel milk soap, and at times Mudita sells chocolate. Meghan also spins soft camel hair fiber to create baby booties and hats.

### The pull of the land

Matt, now 38, clearly remembers his first close-up experience with animals. He was two, and his mother took him to visit an Illinois farm where he was "blown away" by the creatures he met. By 15 he was spending summers working on a South Dakota ranch. Meghan, 34, who grew up east of Boulder in Lafayette, Colorado, and on Cape Cod in Massachusetts, has also been in love with animals as long as she can remember. But her dream of having them as a central part of her life didn't coalesce until after she met Matt in 2008.

By then Meghan had earned a degree in film and media from Middlebury College in Vermont and spent six months studying photography in Switzerland and waitressing in Ireland. She'd just begun



Matt and Liam taking a break from building a barn on their new land.

photo by Adam McGillen



Meghan and Liam by the creek on their new property.

photo by Matt Stalzer



Dora kissing Meghan and Liam.

working at a Longmont granola company when she and Matt were introduced at Electric Cowboy Bar and hit it off. They married in 2010. Matt had been working for a number of years as a mechanic for the City of Aurora, but before long he and Meghan both found themselves restless for a quieter and more self-sufficient life.

Matt calls that period a dark night of his soul. He'd reached the point in his career where the next step up with the city was a desk job, which he did not want. He'd gone from being a "gun toting cowboy with no spiritual interest," as he puts it, to seeking answers through various wisdom traditions. Meghan by then was the granola company's office manager, wearing too many hats and unhappy with her job. One night Matt asked her what she really wanted to do. Her immediate response: Live in the cabin on the land.

### Life changes

In 2012 they both quit their jobs and moved to the valley. Matt worked as a mechanic in Monte Vista while the couple pondered their homesteading future. Raising cattle wasn't an option and they weren't drawn to goats. Then Meghan happened upon an article in the homestead/farming magazine *Grit*. She called out, "Matt! Come look! This is what we need to do!" Within a few months they attended their first camel seminar in California and early the following

spring left for Michigan to intern on a camel dairy for a year. At the end of that intensive training Matt cashed out his retirement account and the couple came home with Big Mama and Niam.

For two years Matt brought the dairy's presence to Crestone every Saturday, setting up a table at Elephant Cloud to sell camel milk shares and soap. Occasionally he brought Big Mama or one of the other camels for people to meet. Then a series of unfortunate circumstances severely limited the dairy's milk supply. Two breedings produced just two babies, one of which died, while the other was rejected by its mother.

To make ends meet before another breeding could take place, the couple shifted to offering farm tours and an Airbnb at the yurt on their property. They also began feeling an even stronger pull toward self-sufficiency, a difficult goal on their open, wind-blown land with insufficient water. At the time of this writing their property was under contract with a buyer and they are purchasing 35 acres of more fertile, protected land with a creek running through it, just west of La Jara.

There they plan to continue Mudita Camel Dairy, grow their own food, and live off-grid, perhaps establishing a small eco-village and offering farm-to-table dinners. And with the promise of camel babies in the spring, they hope to resume offering milk shares and bringing soap and other camel milk and fiber products to Crestone on a periodic basis. They will still be in the valley and still be "very much a part of the community," Meghan says. Adds Matt, "We give big thanks to Crestone and the community for making possible everything we've done in the past five years."

Keep up with Mudita Camel Dairy at [muditacamel.com](http://muditacamel.com).

Gussie welcomes ideas for this ongoing series on Crestone area residents: [gussie7@fairpoint.net](mailto:gussie7@fairpoint.net), [gussiefauntleroy.com](http://gussiefauntleroy.com)



When the camel milk supply was limited, Matt's friend Zach (right) helped the couple put up a yurt, which became an Airbnb. Baby camel Anita Bonita checks it out.

photo by Meghan Stalzer

# Energy Efficient Checklist update

## Today's choices create tomorrow's reality

by **Donovan Spitzman**

It never ceases to amaze me, the incredible ideas that spawn from unbridled sharing. The second Gallery Stroll, supporting the Energy Efficient Checklist, was held on November 14 at the Desert Sage Restaurant. A big thank you goes out to Tshering and Donna for hosting this Energy Fair Event.

The event focused on updating the individual components of the Energy Efficient Checklist. The Checklist is a voluntary program focused on encouraging sustainable and regenerative building practices in the Baca. We saw attendees ranging in age from 8-80 or so, including professional builders, owner builders, residents, activists and newcomers. It was an amazing cross-section of our community. An additional thank you to all of you who came out to participate in this round of sharing.

We were encouraged by several compliments from participants on the format of the event. How it lent itself to open sharing without conflict or fear. Generating dialogues that solidified a sense of unity and common purpose amongst participants. One benefit of this format is how it allows the common ground and general consensus priorities within the group to become quickly apparent.

The Stroll consisted of the cur-

rent draft of the checklist, which is broken down into eight basic categories: Site & Planning, Resource Efficiency, Building Envelope, Indoor Air Quality, Energy Systems, Water Efficiency, Education/Operation and Innovation. We also entertained the question of "What is regenerative sustainability to you in regard to . . . food, water, shelter, economy, family and community". The comments were insightful, thought-provoking and inspiring. Here are a few of my personal favorites—have kinetic energy creation stations, have zones within the "commons" specific to food production, and, create annual "Community Awards" for gardening, permaculture, innovative designs and general good stewardship of the land.

Keep an eye out for the next Gallery Stroll Event planned for January. The current draft of the Checklist can be found on the Crestone Energy Fair FB page. You can also find photos of the Gallery Stroll Boards from both past events there.



Snowy roads require different driving techniques to arrive safely.

## Trooper tips from the Colorado State Patrol

### Bad weather driving . . . some call it ski season

by **Trooper Gary Cutler**

It's that time of year again, which means snow storms are on the horizon. Bad weather isn't all that bad, because with it come all of the fun activities we like to do in Colorado such as skiing, sledding, skiing, hiking, and skiing/snowboarding.

I joke about the ski season, but when we see a good snow storm, that's when skiers and snowboarders head to the slopes in larger groups than normal. Let's talk about the situations where we just have to get around in snow storms.

Reduced speed is always a key factor to staying safe when driving on snow- or ice-packed roadways. It's winter, so make sure you take that extra step to have the time to drive to your destination safely, which means slower-than-normal speeds. Bad weather doesn't necessarily mean we have to have bad driving.

One situation that worries me is black ice. Ice is the unseen

danger that is often a factor in wintertime driving. I've seen people going slower when they are on snow-packed roads only to speed up to, or beyond, the speed limit once the road clears. The road may still be wet, and with cold temperatures that means it can and often does freeze to the road surface. Just because you don't see it, doesn't mean it's not still there.

Slick roads also mean it's harder to stop when less-than-favorable road conditions exist. Give that extra distance needed to stop when snow or ice is present. It's hard to give just one correct distance for bad road conditions. Use good common sense and the rule of thumb that it could take double the distance on wet roads and up to as much as 10 times the distance on snow- and ice-packed roadways to safely stop.

Also be prepared to travel in bad weather. This means having enough "survival gear" to make it through a dangerous situation if you get stuck on the roadway. This doesn't always mean you're stuck because you have crashed or slid off the roadway. It could be just that the weather is so bad the roadways have been shut down and you are stuck with everyone else traveling with no way to get off the road for a while.

Even when you are just going on a short trip, there can be situations where you need emergency equipment with you. The items that can save a life are: blankets, flares/emergency triangles, water, shovel, food/snacks, and cell phone. I probably don't have to remind anyone to make sure they bring their phone, though.

Here are my final tips for winter driving: when roads are dry, drive as if it's raining; when roads are wet, drive as if it's snowing; when roads have snow on them, drive as if it's ice; when roads have ice on them, think about staying home that day.

So there you have it, a few simple tips to help keep you safe when driving in bad weather this year.

As always, safe travels!



Solution to puzzle on page B-17.

**RAD CONSTRUCTION**  
**RON DUNBAR**  
 CUSTOM FINE HOME BUILDING  
 REMODELS ADDITIONS TINY HOUSES  
 RNDUNBAR@GMAIL.COM  
 (719) 256-5342 (415) 446-8980  
 LICENSED SINCE 1990 #584333

**RECREATIONAL SMALL BATCH CRAFT CANNABIS**

**ONE:ELEVEN**  
*one love, one planet, one unity*

17034 Highway 17  
 Moffat, CO 81143  
 719-937-7716

**STORE HOURS**  
 MON.-SUN. 10-8pm

1-eleven.com  
 max@1-eleven.com  
 @oneelevenfarms

DECEMBER 2018 Listings



**Darlene Yarbrough**  
Owner/Broker

# DARLENE YARBROUGH REAL ESTATE



Helping people move forward in their lives



719.256.4198 www.YarbroughRealEstate.com



**Rick Hart**  
Associate Broker

<b>SOLD!</b>  Private w/Views	<b>Reduced! Was \$280,000</b> <b>SOLD!</b>  Off-Grid Acreage	<b>UNDER CONTRACT</b>  Private Oasis	<b>UNDER CONTRACT</b>  Energy Efficient	<b>UNDER CONTRACT</b>  Amazing Views!	<b>UNDER CONTRACT</b>  Million Dollar Views
-------------------------------------	---	--	---	---	---

<b>780CR Palomino OL - \$585,000</b> 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 & Hearthstone woodstove w/ stone surround. Expansive Master balcony.	<b>1381 Saddle Rock Trail - \$269,000</b> 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.	<b>4511 Ridgecrest Way - \$339,000</b> Stylish SW 2-story straw bale home built by Paul Koppana on 2.51ac adj to greenbelt & Sand Dunes National Park. A very flexible 2380sf floor plan w/views throughout incl 3BD/1.75BA, office/den, & 2nd-story screened balcony. Incl 5 lots total.	<b>526 Camino Del Rey - \$265,000</b> Beautiful, energy efficient, 100% off grid 2BD/2BA 1-story home on 5.5ac & Cottonwood Creek in the Grants. Attractive finishes throughout & lg cook's kitchen w/ granite countertops, bar w/seating, pantry, & laun/util rm. Sunroom off BR w/views in 3 directions.	<b>751 Rendezvous Way - \$225,000</b> Opportunity to purchase early and personalize your finishes! New construction, 3BD/2BA 1-story, open floor plan by Terrapin & Co. Great mtn views. Floor plan, elevations and Description of Materials online. Private lot, w/easy access to town.	<b>11 Baca Meadows - \$149,000</b> 2BR/2BA townhouse close to town, originally built in 1981 w/quality interior fixtures & finishes: decorative exposed wood beams & built-in sofa in LR, 2 full BA's offer privacy to ea. BR, quality windows & sliding glass doors open to 2 balconies w/mtn views & a patio.
---	--	--	---	---	--

<b>New Listings</b>  Beautiful Architecture	 Affordable & Private	<b>Retreat Center</b>  Nada Retreat Center	 Private Oasis	 Detached Studio & Creek	 Million Dollar Views
---	--------------------------	--	-------------------	-----------------------------	--------------------------

<b>746 Camino Del Rey - \$377,000</b> Custom contemporary off-grid 2BR/1.75BA 1961sf hm w/550sf cottage/studio on 7.5ac near SW edge of Baca. Open & spacious w/exquisite views. Custom features including curved quartzite counters, wood dining ceiling, a work of art!	<b>3520 Forest Trail - \$165,000</b> 3BR/1BA 1344sf ranch-style home on pvt wooded lot. Updated kitchen cabinets & brand-new appliances! Lg woodstove in LR, forced air throughout. Many windows. Double vanity in full bath. Laminate flooring. Fresh paint, new tile & fun rustic wood trim.	<b>1 Carmelite Way - \$1,800,000</b> Nada Carmelite Hermitage is a retreat center situated on ~100 acres at the base of the Sangre de Cristo mtns. Incl. Chapel; Community Bldg; 14 move-in ready Hermitages; 3 bay grg w/ greenhouse; Maint. Center, studio & apartment.	<b>535 Thornwood Trail - \$279,000</b> Lovely 2.72ac compound in Grants w/ Cottonwood Creek running through it. 3BD/2BA 1668sf SW style stucco home w/ spacious living/dining. Expansive views of Sand Dunes & Mt. Blanca. French doors throughout. Detached, large studio.	<b>537 Thornwood Trail - \$248,000</b> Efficient, sustainable, 2BD/1BA 990sf strawbale home. Plaster walls, adobe flrs, wdstove, infloor radiant heat, PV & passive solar, propane htr. Generator. 33' growdome & 8x12 gmhs, 440sf separate bldg w/guest rm, studio, wkshp. Private, 8.78ac on creek.	<b>1974CR Highland OL - \$648,000</b> Beautifully designed by Bodhgaiya Architecture and built by Teahen Construction, this one of kind 2005sf 2bd/2ba w/study maximizes the 2.651 acre site w/exquisite views and contemporary architecture. Priced under cost to build.
--	---	--	--	--	--

<b>Chalets</b>  Panoramic Views	 Private Paradise	 Indoor Exercise Pool	 Private on the Creek	 Newer Construction	 Large Space & Greenbelt
---------------------------------------	----------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------------

<b>3681CR Enchanted Way - \$497,000</b> One of a kind custom built 2700sf cordwood 2-story 4bd/office/2bath/2 living areas w/greenhouse and storage on 1.354 acres. Master and great room upstairs w/ amazing views. Solar/electric hot water heating, passive solar, trombe wall.	<b>437C N. Chaparral Way - \$479,000</b> Built by Paul Koppana 2020sf 4 bd/2 ba strawbale home + detached oversized 2-car garage w/potential apt is designed non toxic materials and energy efficiency. On 2.09 Acres bordering greenbelt of Crestone Creek w/ Sauna & outdoor oven.	<b>1967C Rockyview Way - \$432,000</b> 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.	<b>3959C Cheerful Court - \$424,000</b> Custom Cathedral Style Mt Home. Approx 2700 sq/ft, located on 2.16 acres by Cottonwood Creek. Many architectural features incls Brazilian cherry hrdwd flrs, diamond plaster walls. Features 30x16' Art Studio.	<b>3461 Splendid Way - \$259,000</b> This newer 1,356sf two story 2 bd/1.5ba home with attached 660sf garage is truly well built and beautiful. The living and bedroom space is upstairs w/ screened porch, great windows, modern kitchen and bath. Energy efficient w/ in-floor heat.	<b>2210 Lone Pine - \$234,000</b> Well built, cheery 4BD/1.5BA 2-story adj to Spanish Creek greenbelt. 2 living areas, lg storage rm & xtra bonus rm. 2 wdstoves w/ elec basebd bkup. Extra lot avail. @ 2208. Fresh paint & stain. Private setting at end of cul-de-sac. Deer fence, chicken coop.
---	---	---	--	---	--

<b>Chalets</b>  High-up in Chalet 2!	 Private	 Spacious 2,616sf	 Close to town!	 Detached Studio	<b>Jump in on an Active Market!</b>
--	-------------	----------------------	--------------------	---------------------	-------------------------------------

<b>2819 Big Piney Overlook - \$209,000</b> Lovely 2BD/1BA 975sf home on 2.137 forested acres w/gorgeous mtn & valley views. T&G ceiling, wood beams, wood stove, electric baseboard heat. Spacious bath, 2 sets of French doors to outside. Quiet location.	<b>1880 Sentinel Point - \$205,000</b> Pueblo style 2BR/1BA w/fabulous views located on 1.02 acres at end of cul de sac. In-floor hot water radiant heat & wood fireplace. Lg deck overlooking the valley w/ lots of privacy. 1-car garage.	<b>111 Skyview - \$199,000</b> Great potential in this spacious 2,616sf 5 bedrm/2ba two story home off paved road with easy access to town. Separate entrances and two staircases allows great separation of space. Has rental history.	<b>11 Baca Grant Way - \$179,000</b> Delightful 3BD/1.75BA 1452 sf hexagon home w/large wrap-around deck built in 1973. Close to town on paved road, backs to Greenbelt. Open floor plan w/wood laminate flooring, wood ceilings, and a large fireplace in LR along /propane stove.	<b>3733 Cordial Way - \$175,000</b> Unique hexagonal 2BR/1.75BA home w/ finished baesment sits on a fabulous 1.36ac treed lot. Lg windows w/views. Woodstove & propane heat. Lg, fenced outdoor spaces & gardens. 384sf detached heated office/studio & storage.
--	--	--	--	---

2018 HOME SALES (* denotes listed & sold)		
780CR Palomino Way	\$585,000	SOLD*
120 W. Silver Ave.	\$399,000	SOLD*
4519C Grayline Ct.	\$389,000	SOLD*
3665 Enchanted Terrace	\$375,000	SOLD*
499C Willow Trail	\$350,000	SOLD*
274 N. Willow St.	\$299,000	SOLD
56 Wagon Wheel	\$299,000	SOLD*
999C Badger Road	\$289,000	SOLD*
22 Alpine OL	\$279,000	SOLD
147 Moonlight Way	\$279,000	SOLD*
542 Cottonwood	\$275,000	SOLD
1381 Saddle Rock Trail	\$269,000	SOLD*
359 Chaparral Way	\$269,000	SOLD
776 Table Rock Trl	\$265,000	SOLD
1596 Willow Creek Way	\$262,000	SOLD*
1201CR Wagon Wheel Road	\$259,000	SOLD*
1738C Willow Creek Way	\$259,000	SOLD
207C Foothill OL	\$255,000	SOLD*
21820 County Rd. 48X	\$249,000	SOLD
3760 Jubilant Way	\$239,000	SOLD*
323 Holiday Way	\$235,000	SOLD
297C Palomino Way	\$215,000	SOLD*
287 Palomino Way	\$209,000	SOLD*
3762 Carefree Way	\$198,000	SOLD*
1659 Willow Creek Way	\$195,000	SOLD
1194 Hilltop	\$179,000	SOLD*
257 Baca Grant Way	\$179,000	SOLD
415C Moonlight Way	\$159,000	SOLD
157 Moonlight Way	\$69,000	SOLD
4511C Ridgecrest Way	\$339,000	UNDER CONTRACT*
526 Camino Del Rey	\$265,000	UNDER CONTRACT
751 Rendezvous Way	\$225,000	UNDER CONTRACT*
11 Baca Meadows	\$149,000	UNDER CONTRACT

## Nada Hermitage Retreat

### For Sale in Beautiful Crestone, Colorado

- Chapel
- Community Building
- Maintenance Shop & 3 Car Garage
- Fourteen Hermitages
- Stunning Scenery
- Approximately 100 Acres

**\$1,800,000. More Information at [yarbroughrealestate.com](http://yarbroughrealestate.com)**

**DARLENE YARBROUGH REAL ESTATE**  
INTEGRITY ⊕ EXPERIENCE ⊕ SUCCESS

# Half of Coloradans now live in areas at risk of wildfires

—Colorado State Forest Service

The number of people living in areas at risk of the effects of wildland fire increased by nearly 50% from 2012 to 2017, based on new Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment data released this week by the Colorado State Forest Service.

As of 2017, approximately 2.9 million people live in Colorado's wildland-urban interface (WUI)—the area where human improvements are built close to, or within, natural terrain and flammable vegetation—compared with 2 million people just five years earlier.



Baca Fire Chief Tad Crawford talks about fire preparedness at a Crestone/Baca community meeting last spring.

The new figure represents approximately half of the state's total population.

The source data are included in updates to the Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal, or CO-WRAP, which is an online mapping tool that helps Colorado community leaders, professional planners and interested citizens determine wildfire risk and where forest management actions can achieve the greatest impact to reduce risk. The CSFS just completed a thorough update to the Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment—and the data utilized for CO-WRAP—based on

new housing, population, vegetative fuels, weather and other ancillary data. This is the first major update to the overarching site data since 2013.

“With the continued increase in Colorado's wildland-urban interface population, it's critical for landowners and communities to take actions to reduce their risk and address forest health concerns,” said Mike Lester, state forester and CSFS director. “The Colorado State Forest Service provides necessary resources to assist forest landowners and WUI communities to make their forests healthier and safer.”

CO-WRAP first launched in 2013 and provides access to statewide wildfire risk assessment information. Through the web-based mapping tool fire mitigation professionals, prevention planners, natural resource professionals and others can generate maps and download data and reports that describe defined project areas, such as communities or watersheds. The information in the portal is based on geographic information system (GIS) data layers that allow users to view such themes as potential fire intensity, historic fire occurrence and values at risk from wildfire.

Amanda West, CSFS science information manager, says that the increased population in the wildland-urban interface is due not only to more people moving into these areas, but also to better, more refined data and ongoing changes in land use and vegetation patterns. She points out that the largest increases in population growth within the interface are in areas where agricultural lands are being converted to grasslands and subdivisions. Although these areas are considered in a low-risk category by the assessment, they are still



A type-6 engine fights the Peekaboo Ridge Fire near Craig, CO, 2017.

photo courtesy of Daniel S. Johnson



A fire in the Baca Grants on a windy March day a few years ago. It is important to continue to mitigate your property. Without heavy snow on the ground, fires can spread.

at a higher risk for wildfire than more urban areas.

West says that with the update CO-WRAP still offers the same overall look and functions as before, and still features two levels of access—one for community leaders, planning professionals and forestry professionals, and one for interested citizens. The professional viewer provides access to data and tools for use in creating fire protection or forest stewardship plans, supporting Community Wildfire Protection Plans or identifying priority fuels treatment areas. It also allows users to generate detailed risk summary reports for customized land areas, such as neighborhoods, fire protection districts or counties.

“CO-WRAP offers a consistent dataset across Colorado to use for hazard mitigation planning,” said Kristin Garrison, CSFS fire, fuels and watersheds manager. “Whether you are focusing on the community level or watershed level, it provides baseline data for planning efforts.”

She says that new for 2018 is a statewide “burn probability” layer produced using an advanced GIS tool for modeling wildfire behavior and spread, based on millions of wildfire simulations. She also notes that the revised web portal focuses not only on the probability and potential intensity of wildfire, but also the values at risk from the negative effects of wildfire, such as homes, drinking water supplies and forest assets.

West cautions that CO-WRAP should not be used to determine parcel-level risk to individual homes, as it is instead scaled to address risk at the community or watershed level, and also should not be used to predict current fire danger.

“This is not a source for real-time fire risks or restrictions,” she said.

To access the updated CO-WRAP, go to [www.coloradowildfirerisk.com](http://www.coloradowildfirerisk.com). For more information about protecting homes and communities from wildfire, visit [csfs.colostate.edu/wildfire-mitigation](http://csfs.colostate.edu/wildfire-mitigation).



Call Nathan  
719-588-1067

visit our showroom!  
Will beat all advertised prices

[shangrilahcolorado.com](http://shangrilahcolorado.com)  
[shangrilahstove@gmail.com](mailto:shangrilahstove@gmail.com)



CRAIG ELECTRIC

STEVE DOSSENBACK  
ME29753

P.O. BOX 1178  
CRESTONE, CO 81131

Home 719-256-5951  
Cell 719-588-9626  
[sdossenback@gmail.com](mailto:sdossenback@gmail.com)

# Garden Guru

Encouraging bird life in the garden



**by Matie Belle Lakish**

It is winter. Our gardens are hibernating. But it isn't too early to plan for next year's garden, and the seed catalogs are beginning to arrive. Last year I enjoyed the birds who came to my garden, and I want to do more for birds this coming year.

I love Robins. I truly do. They are among the first to come in the spring, and they sit on my fence, cock their heads to the side so as to see me better with their side-wise eyes, scope out the local cats, and then descend to the garden below to find dinner. The favorite course seems to be earthworms. I watch them turn their heads toward the ground, listening. Their ears must be keen, for moments later they jump into action, burying their beaks in the soil with such force that they sometimes look like they are diving in, only to come up moments later with an earthworm. This goes on for so long sometimes, that I worry about whether there will be any earthworms left at the end of the day. However, I have also seen them picking through the broccoli leaves and foraging for cabbage worms. Occasionally, I see a robin catch and devour a grasshopper. I know they are busy on other insects when I am not watching.

They also like the veggie course, especially if it is berries. I have several berries planted: raspberries, gooseberries, currants, aronia berries, serviceberries and strawberries. Robins like all of these, but a very favorite seems to be Western Serviceberry. Bush cherries are another prime choice.

Considering that these are some of my favorite fruits as well, I tried to protect them with Bird-X netting. I purchased this through a seed catalogue a couple of years ago and have used it twice. It is a fine polypropylene net with holes about 3/4 of an inch wide. While it can keep birds off of a bush or small tree if properly placed, it is difficult to position it so that it doesn't trap birds. This year, a robin flew under it to find a berry, its foot became entangled in the net and its leg broke. I didn't find the bird right away and it seemed traumatized when I released it. For that

reason, I cannot recommend that type of netting. Later, I purchased a large net made of a softer, drapier polypropylene with only 1/4" holes. This one worked well around my cherry bush. It is called Premium Bird Netting and is available from Gurney's and Gardens Alive, among other sources.

Another of my favorite birds are Spotted Towhees. This bird may be mistaken for a robin at first glance, as it is about the same size and has a dark back with reddish sides. However, it has a white breast and some white spots on its wing feathers. It likes to feed on the ground, scratching around for seeds and bugs. According to Audubon's Guide to North American Birds, Towhees eat "mostly insects, seeds, berries. Diet varies with season. Eats many insects, especially in summer, including beetles, caterpillars, moths, true bugs, and many others, also spiders, snails, and millipedes. Also eats many seeds, plus acorns, berries, and small fruits." They are talkative birds, and are fun to watch as they scratch around. They remind me of small chickens, the way they feed. However, I worry that they are more vulnerable to cat predation, as they usually nest within 5 feet of the ground.

Late in the summer, the various types of sunflowers and asters began to release seeds, and a plethora of small seed-eating birds appear. Goldfinches are some of the more colorful, but there is an amazing variety of small birds that come to my garden. They are probably either warblers or vireos, but I have yet to positively identify any of them. Rocky Mountain Bee Plants release their seeds late in the fall, usually as the sunflowers are finishing up, and the small seeds provide fuel for that late migration.

Western Tanagers are also easy to spot when they are in the neighborhood, because of the male's beautiful yellow feathers and red head. Tanagers, along with Mountain Chickadees, Pygmy Nuthatches and Juniper Titmice, like to forage higher in the trees, and are great at discovering the insects hiding under bark and needles of the piñon and leaves of aspen and cottonwood.



Spotted Towhee.

photo courtesy of National Audobon Society

At lower levels, juncos abound. They scour the ground for any seeds that may have fallen, and are probably the most common ground birds found under bird feeders.

Almost all birds catch and eat bugs. Lots of bugs. This alone would be reason to encourage them in our gardens, but their diversity and beauty create a wondrous experience for gardeners. We can encourage them by planting a variety of seed-bearing flowers, fruits and vegetables.

All of the various types of sunflowers, asters, echinacea and gaillardia offer fall seeds. I enjoyed watching a chickadee meticulously dissect a nearly-mature sunflower head not three feet from my chair. Each seed he extracted required weighing to ensure it was worth carrying to a branch on a piñon where he cracked the pod and harvested the seed. Small grains are great fall calories. Millet, sorghum, and amaranth are good choices. Native grasses are important. I encourage Indian Rice Grass, while discouraging the needle-like ones.

Berries of all types are an early-season favorite. Honeyberries are the first, ripening here in June. Birds love my bush cherries, as do children. I let them grow tall, up to eight feet. The kids pick the lower cherries, while the birds get the top ones. Currants and gooseberries grow wild along the creeks, and do well in a garden. Chokecherries and serviceberries, both native and cultivated, draw the biggest crowds. I had four Cedar Waxwings, as well as robins, vying to get under my

netting. Larger birds like rose hips, as well cherries, plums and apricots. Most fruits require two plants for pollination.

A healthy soil encourages earthworms. They enrich our soil and support birds and other creatures. Many of the insects we consider pests are great food for birds. Another reason to be an organic gardener.

There are thousands of bird, insect, and plant interactions that help keep our natural world in order. Audobon.org is one resource for more information on bird identification and plant communities. Check out the link to native plants that support birds in our region.



*Matie Belle's*  
*Garden*  
**Garden Guru**

Put A Half-Century of Gardening Experience to Work for You

Garden Planning, Soil Improvement  
Variety Selection  
Fruit Tree Planting & Pruning

**Matie Belle Lakish**  
937-7807 or matieb42@gmail.com

**ARCHITECTURAL HARMONICS**



**MICHAEL BERTIN, ARCHITECT**  
25 years, designing in Crestone  
in Crestone: (719) 256-4854

email: michael@architecturalharmonics.com

website: [www.architecturalharmonics.com](http://www.architecturalharmonics.com)

Sacred Earth  
Building & Landscape Design

Get rid of those old junkers for **FREE!**



...and turn them into donations for KRZA. Functional or not, your old cars, trucks, motorcycles, RVs and boats will also earn you a tax deduction. Just call KRZA at 718-589-8844 for more details.

KRZA • 88.7FM • 98.7FM • [krza.org](http://krza.org)

# Baca Grande Library News



by **Suzanne McGregor**

Please join us on Friday, December 14 from 1 to 4pm for our annual Holiday Open House hosted by our Friends of the Library (FOL). We will have snacks and punch and will gladly show you

around the library if you are new to the area or have not been to the library in a while. This is a good time for us to show off our new renovations! Our Friends of the Library would love to share information about their function and activities if you are unfamiliar with the group. If you would like to contribute goodies to the party, please let us know—we will have a sign-up sheet at the front desk. Your contributions would be much appreciated.

Since the youngsters have some time off during their winter break, it is a good time to visit the library. We have books on holiday

traditions in other countries and of various religions, including information on the celebrations of Kwanzaa and Hanukkah and activities for the Winter Solstice. There are holiday cookbooks and how-to guides for crafts and handmade gifts. We have books on art activities like rock painting, scissor art, origami and making paper airplanes. Come check these out!

In DVDs, who can resist the oldies like *It's A Wonderful Life*, *White Christmas*, *Miracle on 34th Street* and *A Christmas Carol*? Family favorites include *The Nutcracker*, *The Christmas Story*,

*How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *The Polar Express*, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, *The Messiah*, *Elf*, *The Twelve Dogs of Christmas*, and holiday versions of *Ice Age*, *Shrek*, and *How to Train Your Dragon*.

Notice: The library will be closed for the holidays on Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25. We will also be closed on Monday, December 31 and January 1. May you all have many blessings this holiday season.

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



*There is a beautiful Icelandic tradition of giving books on Christmas Eve and then spending the night reading.*





## CRESTONE REALTY LTD

### 719.256.4444

121 E. Galena Ave. Crestone CO. [www.crestonerealty.com](http://www.crestonerealty.com)

PROUD SUPPORTER OF OUR MILITARY



ACCREDITED MEMBER 2018

**Shirley Motz**  
719.937.1691  
Top 1000 2013 Trends Journal Realtors

### COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES



560 Grand Ave, Del Norte \$485,000. Rare opportunity! Live in a beautiful Penthouse & run successful B&B units & rentals. Downstairs Antique Store could be multi use. Amazing architecture in this 1913 historic building. The penthouse has rooftop views of the town & starry nights. This building is across the street from the newly renovated & successful Windsor hotel.



187 W. Silver. \$475,000 Prime location in the center of Little Pearl Park. Currently Restaurant, Brewery 2 hotel rooms & Penthouse. Long term lease in place. 1 of only 2 established restaurants in the community of Crestone. This community is in a growth spurt right now. Call for more details. The hotel rooms start at \$79-\$135 nightly.



### RESIDENTIAL



269 Springdale Tr \$750,000 4BD 3.5BA. Spacious open floor plan, greenhouse, 2 car garage, horse stall, cottage w/ European wood stove, sauna & soaking tub. Completely off-grid.



3458C Enchanted Way \$475,000. Owner financing available on this spectacular, income producing, 3BD 2BA property with separate sacred geometry building & attached studio cottage. Ideal for retreats.



668 Crocus Rd. \$375,000 SELLER CARRY. 41 pristine acres with Creek running through it. Home & studio building total 3550 sq ft. Property is entirely off grid.



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



1401 Badger Rd. \$330,000 Fantastic site, screened porch, contemporary 2BD 2BA home with sunroom. Detached garage/workshop. Home & garage on 3 consolidated lots.



609 Panorama Way \$330,000 3BD 2BA. Enter this home & feel the quality of craftsmanship. Living room has views that that will keep you sitting on the couch with your book & cup of tea.



894 Camino Real \$280,000 2BD 2BA Great horse property. 35 acres of nicely grassed rolling land & tremendous views. Library, Sunroom & Guest house.



1469 Horseshoe Tr. \$267,500 Fantastic views of Sangre de Cristos, & valley views. One level 3BD 2BA lots of natural light. Kitchen features lovely granite counters.



1315 Moonlight Way. \$265,000 Large 6BD 3BA home on greenbelt & Willow Creek. Remodel in 2014. New ETS heaters. Lovely Japanese soaking tub.



22606 Co Rd 55, Moffat \$250,000 3 BD, 2BA horse property with 40 fenced acres & a large, partially built cinderblock garage. Ideal location near Crestone & Saguache.



610 Panorama Way \$249,000 This contemporary home will impress you for the price range. Many upgrades available from this flexible builder to make this your dream home.



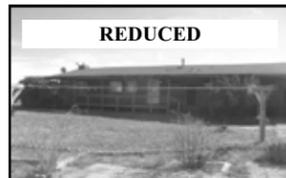
463 Lime Ave. \$199,900 4BD 2BA 2,200 sq ft home on edge of downtown Crestone. Excellent mountain views, 2 Blocks from school & stores. Lots of space & storage.



3528 Enchanted Way \$199,000 2BD 1BA. Call for seller carry terms on this charming one level starter, retirement or B&B property with stunning mountain views. Large storage shed & close to paved road.



33 Sunset OL \$199,000 Charming 5BD 3.75 BA home with additional room off Master suite. Attached 2 car garage w/storage & extra bathroom. Screened porch.



351 Huerta Ct \$69,500 2BD 2BA log sided home in Casita Park. Open floor plan with covered deck, porch & chain link dog run. Wood stove & large windows facing the mountains.



309 Pecos Ct. \$35,000. Great investment opportunity. Close to town, this secluded property comes with 4 lots. Sold as is. Ideal handyman project.



**MAY YOUR HOME BE  
FILLED WITH JOY & LOVE  
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!**

## There's No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root

### Holiday Cheer



by Dorje Root, RH (AHG)

We all know the holidays are supposed to be filled with joy and good cheer, returning of the light and all that. However the reality is that many people struggle with overwhelm, loneliness, and depression at this time of year. Between having too much to do, too many spending opportunities, and too much sugar, it's easy to lose ground. At times like these our plant allies can come to the rescue! Between the herbal nervines, flower essences, and essential oils as aromatherapy, there are many ways to stay grounded and to not only survive the holidays but to actually enjoy them.

A late friend of mine created this herbal tincture formula years ago and I have found it to be so helpful for stress and anxiety. It consists of passion flower, valerian, chamomile, oatseed, licorice, ash-

waganda, prickly ash, blackberry flower, and stevia. The addition of the last two ingredients makes it not only effective but good tasting too. Passion flower is used for insomnia and for its soothing properties. Valerian is another calming herb, used for anxiety and muscle tension (caution—it has the opposite effect for about 10% of people). Chamomile is well known as a gentle relaxing herb with digestive benefits. It's usually used as a tea. Oatseed "feeds" the nervous system, especially when there is stress and exhaustion. Licorice is anti-inflammatory, soothing to many tissues, and beneficial to the liver. Ashwaganda, among other qualities, can reduce stress and anxiety. Prickly ash benefits circulation and lymphatic flow. Of these herbs, chamomile, passionflower, and licorice are commonly used in teas.



Passion flower.

Motherwort is also an amazingly calming and grounding herb, as I have mentioned before. Tincture is best as it's very bitter. I one time slipped a fresh leaf into a friend's wine when she arrived for dinner in an extremely grumpy mood.

Although there are many flower essences available, I have used Edward Bach's for years. There are only 38 of them, which makes them easy to remember, and I've always found at least one that remedied any situation. And then there's always Rescue Remedy, a combination of five essences that are effective in almost any situa-

tion that causes stress or anxiety.

Lavender essential oil is a classic for relaxing and calm. Use it in a diffuser, a few drops in a bath, or in a small pot of water on the wood stove. In fact a hot bath with Epsom salts and lavender oil is one of the best way to relax and unwind!

May your holidays be joyous and relaxing!

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](http://www.rootsofhealing.com).

## Please, keep bird feeders clean to keep birds healthy

Backyard birders love their feeders, but when birds get bunched up they can pass around diseases. You can help prevent diseases through proper use and regular cleaning of bird feeders and bird baths.

A recent observation in the Montrose area of house finches with swollen, crusty eyes sent up warning flags for Colorado Parks and Wildlife biologists for house-finch eye disease. The disease, also called mycoplasmal conjunctivitis, is slowly spreading across the United States, and Colorado birds are at risk. Although house-finch eye disease has not yet been confirmed in Colorado, it is important to remember that this disease and several others are commonly spread at bird feeders and bird baths. Other diseases include salmonellosis, trichomoniasis, avian pox, pigeon paramyxovirus and aspergillosis.

"Watching birds at feeders, especially during the winter, is a great way to enjoy and learn about the beauty of nature," said Karen Fox, wildlife pathologist for Colorado Parks and Wildlife. "Unfortunately, bird feeders and bird baths can quickly become contaminated with bacteria, viruses, parasites, and fungi if visited by sick birds. These germs are then spread to other healthy birds visiting the same feeders. Crowding of birds makes it even easier for germs to spread and large numbers of birds can become sick and even die."

Most bird feeders should be cleaned at least once a month and bird baths at least once a week. Platform-style bird feeders that allow birds to walk on top of, and defecate on, feed require more frequent cleaning in order to prevent the spread of bacteria like Salmo-

nella. Hanging-style feeders with perches are easier to keep clean; but be sure to clean under the feeders where bird feces and feed accumulate. Birds feeding off the ground can easily pick up bacteria from feces.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife offers these tips for those with feeders:

Clean feeders at least once a month. Feeders can be washed in the dishwasher or with soapy water; rinse with diluted bleach solution, nine parts water to one part bleach.

Clean bird baths and provide clean, fresh water at least once a week.

Be sure to dry feeders thoroughly before refilling; always dispose of any feed that gets wet.

Use multiple feeders and space them widely to prevent birds from crowding.

Sweep or rake-up debris and droppings below feeders so that birds don't come in contact with waste material. Do not spread seed on the ground.

If you see diseased birds, take down your feeders for at least two weeks; then clean feeders thoroughly prior to replacing seed.

Wear gloves when handling feeders and wash hands afterward. Some diseases, such as salmonellosis, can cause illness in humans and domestic animals.

Pets should never be allowed to play with or consume sick or dead birds.

Please contact the nearest Colorado Parks and Wildlife office if you observe sick or dead birds at your feeders.

To learn more about birds and diseases, visit [www.birds.cornell.edu](http://www.birds.cornell.edu).

## PATIENT STORY

"I think it is impossible to have a less than stellar experience at Harding dental. Everything just goes perfectly all the time, every time." -D.D.



DR. JAMES 'JIM' HARDING, DDS  
DENTIST TO THE U.S. SKI TEAM

South Fork  
138 Ponderosa Drive  
South Fork, CO  
719.873.6021

Alamosa  
688 Del Sol Drive  
Alamosa, CO  
719.298.3373

**Harding Dental Group**  
COLORADO'S DENTIST • DR. JAMES 'JIM' HARDING, DDS  
[hardingdentalgroup.com](http://hardingdentalgroup.com)



PAST PRESIDENT INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF COMPREHENSIVE AESTHETICS  
MEMBER INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF CRANIO-MANDIBULAR ORTHOPEDICS  
MEMBER ACADEMY FOR SPORTS DENTISTRY

COMPREHENSIVE • COSMETIC • DENTURES • GENERAL  
IMPLANTS • SLEEP • TMJ/TMD • ORTHODONTICS

[f](https://www.facebook.com/HardingDentalGroup) @HardingDentalGroup

[t](https://www.twitter.com/HardingDental) @HardingDental

## Valley-Wide welcomes new physician Dr. Lauren Sonderegger

Lauren Sonderegger, MD, has recently joined the medical staff at Valley-Wide Health Systems. She will see patients of all ages at the Sierra Blanca Medical Center in Alamosa.

Originally from Berkeley, California, Dr. Sonderegger earned her medical degree at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine, after a few years of traveling and working in Latin America. She earned two undergraduate degrees at Yale University, in History and Biology. Dr. Sonderegger completed a family medicine residency in Seattle.

Her special interests include women's health, reproductive justice, care of underserved populations, addiction medicine, sports medicine and the challenges in delivery of rural healthcare.

Dr. Sonderegger is delighted to land in sunny Alamosa, where she seeks to both learn from and care for our vibrant and historic community. In her free time, she



Dr. Lauren Sonderegger joins the Valley-Wide team.

enjoys trail running, cycling, skiing, open water swimming, growing plants and learning about favorite local foods.

Dr. Sonderegger is accepting new patients. For more information, please go to [vwhs.org](http://vwhs.org), visit the Sierra Blanca Medical Center, or call 719-589-3658.

## Neurologist Dr. Suzanne Lesage returns to Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center

Suzanne Lesage, M.D., M.H.S, a board-certified neurologist with a subspecialty in sleep medicine, is rejoining the medical staff at Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center effective Dec. 1.

Dr. Lesage will work part time in conjunction with HRRMC's other neurologists, Yvonne Rollins, M.D., Ph.D., and Christopher Williams, D.O., M.P.H., at the HRRMC Medical Clinics, 550 W. Hwy. 50, Salida.

She will provide a variety of neurology services, including treatment for headaches, epilepsy and sleep disorders at the Salida hospital.

"HRRMC is pleased to once again have Dr. Lesage as a part of its medical team," said HRRMC Vice President of Business Development Peter Edis. "The hospital is fortunate to have three neurologists on staff, especially given this branch of medicine is rarely offered in rural areas."

Dr. Lesage previously worked at the Sleep Disorder Center at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, and as an assistant professor for the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, both located in Bethesda, Maryland.

She directed a sleep program for the Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care Systems and served as an assistant professor in the Department of Neurology at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

Dr. Lesage earned her medical degree from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and completed her internship in internal medicine and the first year of her residency in neurology at the University of Colorado. She completed her residency in neurology

at Northwestern University in Chicago, where she was recognized as chief resident.



Suzanne Lesage, M.D., M.H.S, a board-certified neurologist with a subspecialty in sleep medicine, is rejoining the medical staff at Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center effective Dec. 1.

She followed her residency with a fellowship in sleep medicine at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and then obtained a Master of Health Science in Epidemiology from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Dr. Lesage is a member of the American Academy of Neurology and the American Academy of Sleep Medicine.

For more information or to make an appointment with Dr. Lesage, call 719-530-2000.

**Moffat Family Health Center**

545 Moffat Way  
Moffat CO, 81143

**Schedule an Appointment TODAY!**

**(719)256-4025**

Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc.

f g+ t in

VVHS.ORG

**Alpine Chimney Sweep**

Local, professional, with an attention to detail and customer service. Call Alexander: 970-306-5100

*Sponsored by Shangrilah Stove & Spa*

**KHEN 106.9fm**

**Salida, Colorado**

Streaming and Podcasts on **KHEN.org**

*Community Radio... You Belong.*

# HRRMC Allergy Services

Board-certified allergist Diane C. Napoli, MD, is now accepting new patients.

RASH	PEANUTS	ASTHMA	ANIMALS	FOOD	POLLEN	MOLD	INSECTS	LATEX
------	---------	--------	---------	------	--------	------	---------	-------

The HRRMC Allergy Clinic specializes in evaluating and treating allergies, asthma and immune disorders.

*"My philosophy for patient care is to view and treat my patients like my family. I believe in treating the 'whole' person and feel that communication and compassion are key."*

Diane C. Napoli, MD, FAAAAI, FAAP

**HEART OF THE ROCKIES REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

HRRMC Medical Clinics • 550 W. Hwy 50, Salida, CO  
[hrrmc.com](http://hrrmc.com) • 719-530-2000

# In Search of Economic Reality

## Domestic terrorism

by Ed Lyell

Is it time to put a label of domestic terrorism on the many actions by America's richest 1% to enhance their profit while devastating and even killing Americans? The FBI defines terrorism as "the unlawful use of force and violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives" (28 C.F.R. The U.S. Code of Federal Regulations).

America has always quickly come together when faced with a foreign threat. Yet, we are more divided now than ever. Remember the old story that if you put a frog in boiling water it jumps out unharmed. Yet if you put the frog in warm water and then heat it up slowly you get dead boiled frog!

Let's take that mindset to America today. When the twin towers burned down, America mobilized and went to war spending \$4.7 trillion (\$37,150 per household) on Middle East wars since 2001. Yet, we have allowed our roads, schools, universities, and health care system to deteriorate. The money needed to maintain and improve all those domestic areas has been spent fighting overseas, and greatly expanding homeland

security, militarizing our local police and putting millions in prison. Recently the wealthy got the president and Congress to cut their taxes by over a trillion dollars.

America is under attack from climate change. Rising oceans, increased drought, massive fires and hurricanes are destroying whole cities and costing billions of dollars and thousands of lives. The wealthy behave like domestic terrorists, destroying America in slow yet continuous motion. Only those of us over 70 even remember how much better life was for the working class mid-last-century. We had homes, cars, kids in college, world class public schools, mostly on the income from just one working parent, working just 40 hours a week with health benefits.

We also had a moral philosophy that those on top, in charge, should not hurt others just to make more money for themselves. Political and corporate leaders knew that it was shameful to exploit your position for private gain. Now they see their selfish greed as moral imperative. President Trump leads his billionaire cabinet to get more personal billions even if it kills, yes kills, millions of other Americans. That is domestic terrorism and is a scourge on America. Today's business and

political leadership has organized to give themselves compensation at over 1,000 times their average worker and purchased government officials to help them expand their terrorism.

In 1960 outgoing President Eisenhower warned us that the WWII-expanded war industry was destroying our budget and had to be controlled. Over the following decades the war industry culture of controlling government for their own gain has spread like a virus to most industries, leading to monopolies, and near-monopolies in most areas of our daily life. This permits those investors and executives to charge higher prices, deliver less service or products and destroy working people's daily lives. Real capitalism has been destroyed by these large corporations.

In 1994 America had only one short time period when the federal government took in more revenue than it spent, creating a budget surplus. That surplus started paying down the national debt and if we had stayed with the Clinton spending/taxing policy we would have no national debt today. Presidents since Clinton have reduced taxes on corporations and the wealthy, mostly during Republican control. The current president and Congress have cut more

taxes on the wealthy than any other and we are now spending over a trillion dollars a year more than we take in from tax revenue. This means that the national debt keeps going up. America is heading toward bankruptcy. Remember, the national debt makes the wealthy large monetary gains, as the wealthy loan money to the country at high, safe, rates. The Federal Reserve was created to legitimize that process of takeover by the wealthy, in perpetuity.

America was a country of hope and opportunity in 1950. Now it is a country of fear and stagnation. We were the world's most respected leader, and now other people in the developed world enjoy a better life than Americans and look elsewhere for world leadership.

We can overcome these domestic terrorists. Over 50 years of teaching young people in multiple universities I would watch their eyes light up when they learned how much better it used to be for us and what we can do to get positive change. However, it takes a whole community to bring back a moral compass, and make elected officials do what is right for the majority, not just the wealthy. I believe that it is up to the grandparents to wake up the youth, and show them how we can bring America back to a better life for the majority.

Ed Lyell PhD is professor emeritus, Business and Economics, Adams State University; contact him at ehlyell@adams.edu, facebook dredlyell.

**NEW LISTING!**



**Desert Sage Restaurant**  
A Crestone Tradition is on the market for sale! Great history with established clientele and many possibilities! Call for details. \$495,000



Sangre de Cristo Real Estate  
SangreD.com



**Vivia Lawson**  
Broker Owner

*collaborating to build a vibrant community*

**UNDER CONTRACT!**



Baca Meadows Townhouse #11  
2 bedroom, 2 bath, convenient living!  
Next to restaurant! \$149,000

**NEW LISTING!**



75 Dragoon. Urban farm!  
Many sustainable/prepper features.  
Wonderful Chalet 1 spot. 300 SF office,  
greenhouses, gardens! \$350,000



512 E Mica. Comfortable 1 bedroom  
cabin in private town location. Full  
solar, well. \$144,000



526 Camino del Rey. Beautiful energy  
efficient off grid two bedroom two bath  
with sunroom, studio, and two green houses.  
Located on Cottonwood Creek. \$265,000



96 Bueno Court. 2 bedroom, 1 bath,  
quality new home built by Wade Propst.  
Must See! \$152,000

**New Lot Listings**

4478C \$ 4476 \$ 4477  
Ridgecrest Way \$28,000  
4508 Ridgecrest Way \$9,000

**Vacant Land**

Crestone Lots 14-18,  
Block 29 \$61,250

4106C \$ 4084 Prosperity  
Way, 1.5 acres for \$29,500

4481, 4482 \$ 4503  
Ridgecrest Way,  
\$21,000 for 1.5 acres





Scan the QR code for more information on this listing!

**20 N Baca Grant Way**  
Updated throughout and full of charm!  
2 bedroom, 1 bath with studio, insulated  
garage, professional landscaping, screen  
porch. Great property! \$228,000

## Writer's Forum . . .

### Killing Grace

by Christina Neilson

It's hunting season in Arivaca, a yearly ritual of anticipation, tags, fees and designated locales that bring hundreds of men and a few women into our village. The autumn wave of camouflage is a welcome economic boon to our few stores and campgrounds. Pick-up trucks multiply; rare lines form at the only two gas pumps.

Night comes. Men in camo head for La Gitana, the local cantina, entrance granted only to the gunless in a town that contends with borderland militias. They take a place at the old wooden bar and order up. Hunter humor beams from tired eyes and unshaven faces. They mix it up with the locals and are glad to be here. Depending on the hunting season, they travel to our spacious outback to shoot a grazing mule deer; a wary whitetail.

Deer drape our high-desert grasslands. So do a few Pronghorn. A special species that belongs only to North America, they are not as plentiful as deer. Their prairie grassland evolution did not equip them to jump fences. Manifest destiny and the introduction of barbed wire delivered them to near-extinction as their numbers plummeted from over 15 million across the west to 13 thousand a century ago. There are now 10 thousand in Arizona, and a short hunting season by lottery. Deer, on the other hand, are ubiquitous, bedding down in tall grasses, wearing down game trails to waterholes. They browse woody plants. Think mesquite leaves and beans—profuse around here.

I have witnessed deer, pronghorn and the mountain lion that preys upon them. Get too close to a deer and you will hear it stomp and snort. They will attack as well. Most anything can happen during rut. As for the elegant

pronghorn, I once watched a one give birth outside my cabin. That wobbly baby was up and trotting with mom in minutes, followed within seconds by a coyote to chow down on the afterbirth. Close in on a pronghorn and you will be awed by its take-off and speeds nearing 70 mph, as fast as a cheetah. As for lion, I have watched a mother and her three yearlings eschew my sudden presence and leap across a creek on the strength of their thick tails. Yearlings first, then mom, who cast me an incisor snarl. Whether deer, pronghorn or lion, their presence catapults one to another reality; grants an opportunity to witness grace and power; evolution's perfection.

The hunters exit the cantina and return to RVs that dot the surrounding public lands. They rise in the early morn, eat a hearty breakfast and go in search of a doe or buck. They do not hunt out of hunger. At least not physical hunger. The hunters scout ravines with scopes and high-powered rifles along our winding roads. They drive to get closer; crouch and wait. With rare exceptions, they shoot from an assassin's distance, sometimes 300 yards. That's three football fields. Their prey browses one moment, falls the next. One can only imagine the four-legged's split-second explosion of confusion at what fluke of nature overtook their evolution; what sensory failure allowed for their demise.

Modern hunting ritual begs the question: How has it evolved not so much to kill a deer, but to kill grace—eons of evolution—through acts that holds no risk? There is nothing brave in taking down an animal that cannot catch your scent. No challenge in filling the ATV gas tank at the station. Hunting has transformed from an intimate knowledge of landscape and a skilled act of survival to feed



A buck in velvet.

photo by John Loll

family and community into a video game played outdoors. Like the teen who sits for hours at the computer screen and fights off dragons and demons, there is no real risk. Without risk one does not learn how to live. One takes without sacrifice, avoiding a central tenet of a healthy society.

The ritual of the hunt begins with reverence for the hunted and their landscape. Deference to the those who track, stalk and shoot from short distances, gun or bow. Who crawl on their bellies and risk exposure to prey and the elements in a complicated rite of equals. Ever

aware of their place in the food chain, they wander rugged terrain in search of a sustenance, exchanging sacrifice for sacrifice. They sit down to their savory venison meal knowing ritual without risk has no validity.

That killing grace deserves better.

Christina Neilson is author of five books and photographer of four. Colorado Book Award Finalist and Focus on Women Author of the Year, her latest book is Wild Road Home: Memoir of an Adventuress. [www.christinaneilson.com](http://www.christinaneilson.com).



**Need Help Paying your Winter Heating Bills?**

Do you need assistance with your heating bill; starting Nov 1, 2018 the LEAP program can assist you with that portion of the cost. LEAP is designed to assist low-income households with paying their winter home heating cost but is not intended to pay the entire cost of home heating or utility usage. LEAP benefits are available to all eligible persons/households without regard to race, color, and sex, age, handicap, and national origin, political or religious beliefs.

You can pick up an application at the Social Services office serving two locations, Center branch located at 220 Worth St. in Center and 605 Christy Ave in Saguache, if you are unable to pick up an application at either office you can call any of the locations, you can call the Center office at 719-754-2308, and ask for Gloria Quintana and she can assist you with any questions you might have, and mail you an application if needed, you can call the Saguache office at 719-655-2537 and ask for Ilene DuPont, and she can also assist you with any questions you might have about LEAP.

**Building our community one project at a time since 1993**



**Potter Excavation, Inc. PO Box 523 719-256-4063**

# CHAFFEE TIRE

Your Tire Specialist



**BFGoodrich**  
Tires

**MICHELIN**

**UNIROYAL**

**Open Mon-Fri 8-5**

200 East 1st Street, Salida CO 81201 **719-539-5384**

*Michelin Defender LTX*



# Mountain Mamas Tell Tall Tales

Floundering in the sea of  
emptiness

by Kizzen Laki

Many of the spiritual paths talk about “emptiness”. Letting go of all you know—including yourself, your beliefs, your dreams, your assumptions. Maybe there’s an easy way and a hard way.

I was walking the hard way. Raging and spitting and rebelling.

I was always the good girl. The one who in the wild 60s kept it together while my friends were tripping. I was tired of being “good,” tired of being someone else’s rock. I just couldn’t do it anymore. Time to bust out of here.

It was the winter of 1979, I was living in an old log cabin in a cluster of old log cabins up the beautiful Chalk Creek Canyon. We lived 8 miles from Buena Vista when the roads were good, 12 miles when we had to go the long way following the snow plow.

My marriage was falling apart and so was I. I had dropped into the edge of Deswin Dar, the great lake of emptiness. The dark night of the soul had swallowed me whole. I was 27 going on a thousand.

That was the winter that I discovered I couldn’t really drink. But I gave it a good try. Usually I was the one who only had one or two drinks—a sipper. That winter I hit my Saturn return like running into a wall. My husband was bad, going crazy, I didn’t realize how bad until later. My spiritual path offered up platitudes. I was tired of being the one who gave and gave. I was furious, I was grieving. I kicked my husband out. He could go live in one of the shabby cabins he had been halfway living in anyways with his piles of hoarder junk. And I took the old Rambler. He could walk.

But where was I going to go?

The Lariat Bar, “the Rope,” in Buena Vista was the hangout for our generation. It had a pool table, shuffle board and juke box. On an afternoon while the laundry was spinning at the laundromat I could go in with my kids, order 7-Up all around, visit with friends and turn the kids loose on the shuffleboard table. On a weekend evening we could go in and shoot some pool. Maybe score a little pot in the back alley.

With my two young kids having a sleepover at a friend’s, I started stopping in on the weekends on my own. Yukon Jack on the rocks. Quarters on the pool table. I’d been playing pool for a few years by then. Had a small-time small town talent for it. Good enough to hold my own against the guys. They didn’t like having a woman on the table at night. Their turf. But I’d start making some good shots—2 ball bank in the side pocket, combo on the 5, run the 3 nice and smooth down the side. It would rattle them. They really didn’t want to lose to a woman. They hit the ball too hard. They lost. If I was on a roll, so did the next one. 8 ball corner pocket on a long shot all the way down. Loser buys the winner a drink and that was my downfall. Two and I’m buzzing and kinda fun. Three and I’m ill. Four—just don’t ever go to four. Four on the floor.

But of course I did that more than a few times—seeking oblivion—embarassing myself deeply.

And then there was Randy. My dear friend and protector. Mountain man, aquamarine hunter who lived even further up the canyon. He had a secret crush on me. I thought of him as a brother. We were close friends.

One night he came to the bar



Heavy snow closes the road running through the clusters of cabins. There is beauty in being stranded for a while, waiting it out, walking in the woods and seeing the world transformed.

looking for me, worried. He encouraged me to go home. I wouldn’t. I was in full rebellion and desperation and thinking about bedding that cowboy biker in leathers. I didn’t—he was too hairy—and that wasn’t really what I was looking for. Whatever that was. I stayed until closing time. I staggered out in no shape to drive but was going to anyways. Who gives a shit? Randy did—waiting with his truck, not saying anything, tossing me a blanket on that cold winter’s night and driving me safely home.

Wherever Randy is these days, I still love him. He tossed me a rope at the Rope. This wasn’t the way for me. *That’s* not who I am. Walk away. Run.

How do we get through these dark times?

Sometimes you keep going by just going. Going through the motions—bringing in the firewood, hauling the water from a well that oftentimes was frozen up. Making supper, going to work, bathing the children, washing the dishes. Sometimes there is no figuring, no answers.

We get though because of friends, family, nature. A winter’s

morning with fresh snow filling the landscape with beauty. Piercing the emptiness. Telling me there is still *something*. Telling me to *hold*.

By the light of my beautiful children. They knew something was wrong with mama, they showered me with love and I hung on to them fiercely. It was now all about them.

By my sister friends who made coffee, watched kids and told me yeah, my husband was a jerk and it was good riddance. Who made me laugh. Who let me cry. Who braided my hair and told me their own stories. Who were probably secretly pleased that I was no longer a “know it all” and let me know that that was ok.

By my dear sister sisters who sent boxes of wrapped Christmas presents to me and my kids. Filling our house with gifts of love.

It was the dark of winter, I curled into hibernation. Rest. My soul floated on that great lake. The Winter Solstice brings the return of the light, but it takes a while to really feel it and see it.

January is coming. Make it through, make it through, make it through.

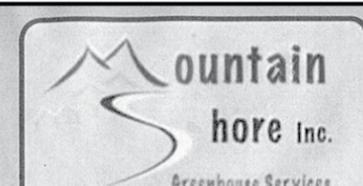
in the emptiness  
shadow of a crow dances  
mute swan in winter  
—M. Asim Nehal

In the 1970s Kizzen lived with her family in a cluster of old cabins up Chalk Creek Canyon. They chopped wood and hauled water. This is a story from those days.

.shop locally.



money spent in Saguache County stays in Saguache County.



Quality service, reasonable pricing, we’ve got you covered, mountain to shore

**Mark McGinn**  
Installation of greenhouses, covers & retractables

markmountainshore@yahoo.com  
(Cell) 303.619.4650

**TERRAPIN & COMPANY**  
Builder Since 1976



Richard & Elinor Laurie  
**719.256.4032**  
• New homes • Additions  
• Remodels • Decks  
elinor1320@fairpoint.net  
Licensed and Insured

**YOUR HOMETOWN PRINT SHOP!**

**O&V Printing**  
*Rollin’ Ink on Paper since 1975!*

Stop by for your complimentary 2019 calendar featuring Susan McCullough!

**CHRISTMAS WEEK:** Closed Monday, Dec. 24 - Tuesday, Jan. 1  
Normal business hours resume Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019.

342 Santa Fe Ave. • Alamosa, CO 81101 • 719.589.9228  
info@oandvprinting.com • www.oandvprinting.com



**SKOGLUND**



**EXCAVATING SKOGLUND PIT**

WATER/SEWER/ELEC	PIT RUN
SEPTIC & LEACH FIELDS	COBBLE
ROADWORK	DRAIN ROCK
DRIVEWAYS	ROAD BASE
	FINES & MORE

**KEN SKOGLUND**  
OWNER/OPERATOR  
MAIN 719.256.4447  
CELL 719.588.2367

WWW.KENSKOGLUND.COM

# ONE HAND CLAPPING

**Love v. fear**  
by Tom deMers

I don't read a lot of spiritual books, but I thought the writer of *Conversations with God* got it right suggesting that we have two basic emotions, love and fear. I don't want to nit pick this point, but as I watch my own behavior, it often seems to apply. Of course, there are shades of each, gratitude a shade of love, anger many times a variant of fear. Right now we are living with fear as the mood of our national politics, the "invading army" of migrants at our southern border one of many examples. This takes me to an essay I published when Bush the Younger was president. Here is the way it ends.

"In a country where the many embrace Christ as Lord and even demand that a Christian God be the centerpiece of our national identity, it is a contradiction that the Anti-Christ of fear should sit on the national throne, one arm draped around the shoulders of an uncomfortable Abe Lincoln. If God is love, if our righteousness protects us, if God watches over the lilies of the field and so much more, why all the body armor and M-16s? How have

we elected the Pope of Peril and the Archbishop of Dread [Dick Cheney] to lead America for eight years? The only answer: a large part of the electorate has placed its faith in fear.

"My attempt in this writing has been to recognize fear as an unhealthy component of our national identity. My own paradox is that in naming fear, I spread it. I can feel how juicy the words are as I move in that direction. There is something emotionally luscious in the tar baby stickiness of it, the elixir of preachers. The antidote to fear is not rational discourse or science or even accurate information, all of them good in themselves. The antidote to fear is joy. Be the change you seek, said Gandhi. Love those who persecute you with their fear, said Jesus (slightly paraphrased). Stand against fear in celebration of human possibility. Dance. Embody the Creator's light in your smile, in a loving attitude, especially toward those for whom fear is a reality. Love is the virus to spread. We do it by joining hands with others, the only real security we will ever have. Community. "Yes, we can."



## DISPATCH from the edge

by Peter Anderson

*Matsuo Basho (1644-1694), perhaps the most famous poet ever to come out of Japan, was a master of the haiku, a short poetic form, usually three lines and often, but not always, arranged in a sequence of five-seven-five syllables.*

Dear Basho,

You were born three and half centuries ago on the other side of the earth, but the word pictures you left us are as clear as the water in a shallow mountain stream. Sometimes we learn your poems in school. Maybe the teacher begins with your most famous poem, the one about the frog and the old pond and the frog jumping into the sound of water. We can see, even hear, the moment just like your students did. It is your most famous poem, but it is not my favorite. Then again, favorites come and go depending on the season. Right now, this one speaks to me:

This road—  
No one goes down it  
Autumn's end.

I marvel at the economy of your language—never a word wasted. Every syllable matters. And even though you don't tell us how you're feeling, we get it. A little bit of that high lonesome melancholy, maybe. That wasn't unusual for a mountain wanderer like you.

Sometimes the moment was your refuge from suffering—a strategy that makes more sense perhaps for those of us who are a little older, who are well into our own autumn seasons, who are expecting storms, who know that the darkest day of the year isn't too far off in the future. You told us about your weather beaten skeleton. Some of us know what you meant by that. We look for a way into as many moments as we can, so that we might slow down the clock. That's why your words are so precious. They show us how to do that.

Unless things are seen with fresh eyes, you said, nothing is worth writing down. So I've been walking with you in mind. On trails less traveled. Practicing the craft that you perfected, not with the expectation of making a great haiku or even a good one, but with the hope that a few words strung together will help me to slow down and see with more clarity. That begins with taking the time to notice something. Maybe it is a flock of jays against the sky. Maybe fresh snow on the peaks. Maybe the experience of a shorter day after daylight savings. Then maybe it's just a matter of walking with a few phrases until they fall into place.

A flock of jays,  
new snow on the peak, sunset  
comes an hour too soon

On a different day, maybe a memory surfaces. Not long ago, a moment of deep silence from a long-ago solo trip in Utah came to mind:

Dark Canyon walking,  
what happened to the voice that  
lives inside my head?

And then yesterday, I heard, and really listened this time to the wind blowing across the needles of a ponderosa pine:

Hey Ponderosa,  
are you playing the wind or  
does the wind play you?

Thanks, Basho. It has been good to walk with you.

## Center Redi Mix

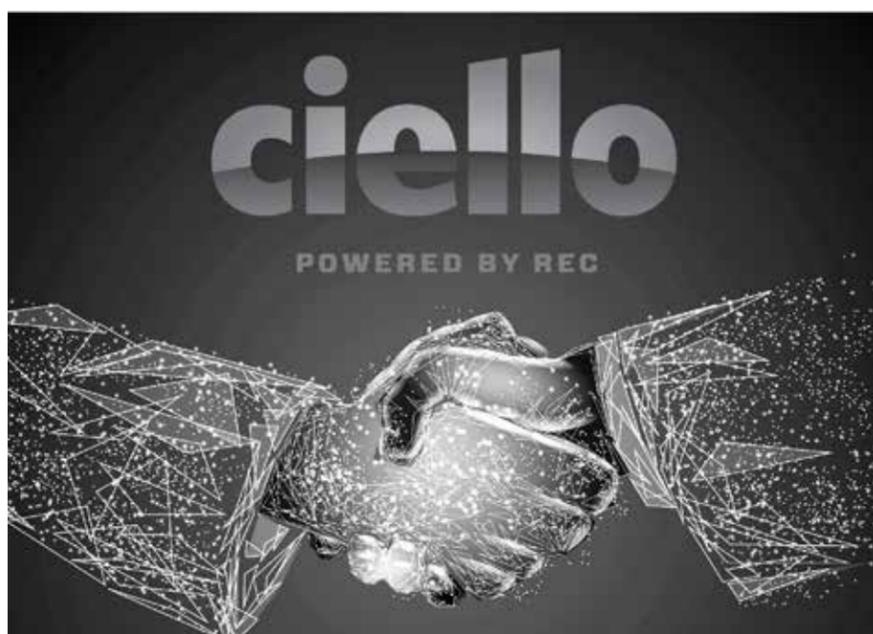
SERVING THE ENTIRE SAN LUIS VALLEY

CONCRETE ° WASHED SAND & GRAVEL  
WELL ROCK ° ROAD BASE  
MASONRY SAND AVAILABLE

KENNY D. SMITH, OWNER  
1504 W. HWY. 112

CENTER, COLORADO 81125

719-754-2744 OR 754-2554



**ciello**  
POWERED BY REC

**COLORADO CENTRAL TELECOM**

**Making Broadband Better, Together**  
High-speed broadband internet and phone service.  
719-852-3538  
www.ciello.com

'Dispatch from the Edge'  
is sponsored by  
*Carol & David Lee*

# PONCHA LUMBER

**Your area building center**

ph: 719-539-4754 fax: 719-539-9101  
www.ponchalumber.com  
10021 West Highway 50 • Poncha Springs, CO 81242

# KIDZ KORNER



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.  
 Kidz Korner by M. Diane Bairstow  
 www.gypsypoetproductions.com

## The Jokester

Where did the mistletoe go to become famous?  
*Holly-wood*  
 What did the Christmas tree say to the ornament?  
*Don't you ever get tired of hanging around!*  
 Why did Santa cross the road?  
*To deliver presents!*  
 What's invisible and smells like milk and cookies?  
*Santa's burps!*  
 What's Santa's dog's name?  
*Santa Paws!*  
 What do you call an elf who steals gift wrap from the rich and gives it to the poor?  
*Ribbon Hood!*

How does a Chihuahua say Merry Christmas?



Fleas Navidog!

What comes at the end of Christmas Day?  
*The letter "Y"!*  
 What's the best thing to give your parents for Christmas?  
*A list of everything you want!*  
 What do you get when you cross an Irish Setter with an English Pointer?  
*A "pointsetter"!*  
 What do sheep say to each other at Christmastime?  
*Merry Christmas to ewe!*  
 What's the best thing to put into Christmas dinner?  
*Your teeth!*  
 Why are Christmas trees such bad knitters?  
*They are always dropping their needles.*  
 What do reindeer have that no other animals have?  
*Baby reindeer!*  
 What do zombies put on Christmas turkey?  
*Grave-y*  
 What is Santa's favorite potato chip?  
*Crisp Pringles*  
 What happened to the thief who stole a

### Can you find the thollies on this page?



- Riddle Answers**
1. Polar Bear
  2. Mitten
  3. Reindeer
  4. Snowman
  5. Walrus



Can you make it through the maze?  
 Hint: you must go through every letter to get out!



Can you find all of the words in the tree?



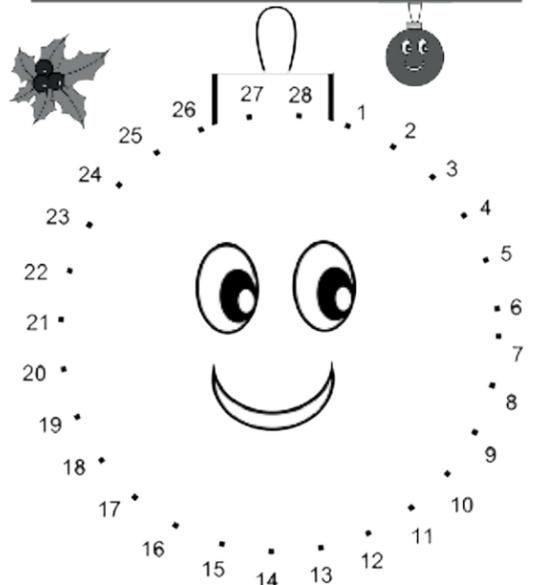
Christmas calendar?  
*He got 12 months*  
 Who says oh, oh, oh?  
*Santa Claus walking backwards*  
 What's black, white and red all over?  
*Santa Claus after he comes down the chimney!*  
 What did Mrs. Claus say to Santa Claus when she looked up in the sky?

*Looks like rain, dear!*  
 What do sheep say to shepherds at Christmastime?  
*Season's Bleatings!*  
 Which reindeer have the shortest legs?  
*The smallest ones!*  
 Where do you find reindeer?  
*It depends on where you leave them!*

### Winter Riddles Who/What am I???

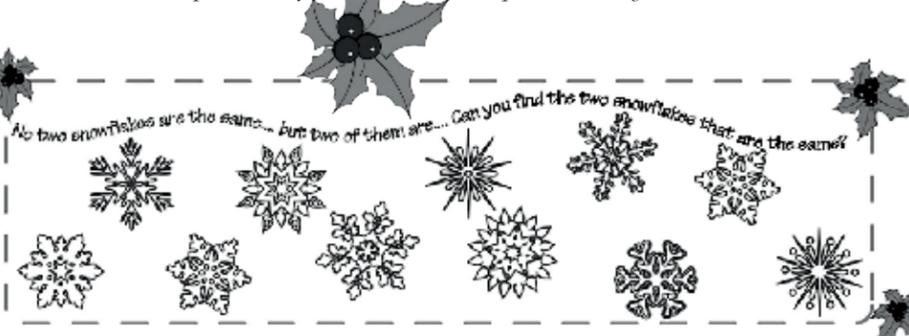
1. I can swim or walk for miles. I'm big with thick, white hair. I live up in the Arctic. I am a \_\_\_\_\_
  2. I'm usually made of colored yarn, By someone who is knittin'. Unless one's lost I come in pairs. Of course I am a \_\_\_\_\_
  3. My antlers tower above my head. Where I live— it's cold all year. I can pull a sled or pack a load. You call me a \_\_\_\_\_
  4. I'm big and white and made of snow, So I'll never have a tan. When the sun comes out, I melt away. Each year, I'm a new \_\_\_\_\_
  5. I've got a big mustache. I dig shellfish with my tusks. I swim in icy waters. I'm a \_\_\_\_\_
- (Find answers below)

### Connect the dots



### SANTA'S MAGIC

Obviously we all know that Santa has magical powers, but researchers have calculated just how magical Father Christmas really is. The researchers found that in order to deliver all of his presents on Christmas Eve Santa would need to travel at 650 miles per second and visit 822 homes a second – no wonder he needs to eat so many mince pies.



# THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

## —MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



**THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY**  
by Ish

**1/ Bodyguard:** (2018) ★★★★★  
Series/6 episodes. A Netflix original (which tend to be very good) is a story of a heroic war veteran being asked to protect London's Home Secretary, a controversial political figure with whom his ideologies do not agree. This is a dramatic thriller. Stars Richard Madden.

**2/ Rise of the Phoenixes:** (2018) ★★★★★+  
Series with 51 episodes. This is a Chinese series with subtitles. However if you are into drama, history, romance and the inner machinations of ancient Chinese court, this series is wrought with subtleties and plots to please the King and to rise to power. It is a rich and convoluted plot with hidden motives and great characters and acting.

**3/ The Statement:** (2003) ★★★★★  
This is a tale of a former Nazi executioner who for over 40 years alluded and escaped capture. Now hunted down and a target of hit men and police investigators, one sees how involved the church was in hiding him. Stars Michael Caine, Tilda Swinton, Alan Bates.

**4/ Fantastic:** (2016) ★★★★★  
This is a series with 16 episodes. South Korean with sub-titles. I found this series well written and surprisingly deep, touching, romantic and well developed. This is a story of a screen writer and a very narcissistic famous actor, a gentle, wise doctor and a horrible family. A friend is treated like Cinderella by the mother-in-law and sister-in-law. It develops into a complex heart-felt drama dealing with cancer, death, attachment and love.

**5/ Outlaw King:** (2018) ★★★★★  
A Netflix original. Based on the true historical events surrounding the 14th Century 'Outlaw King' of Scotland, Robert the Bruce, and how he used cunning and bravery to defeat the much larger and better-equipped occupying English army. A true David and Goliath story. Starring Chris Pine, Stephen Dillane, Rebecca Robin. Directed by David Mackenzie. There is a lot of violence and visceral scenes.

CROSSWORD												
1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
	18			19					20			
			21					22				
23	24	25					26			27	28	29
30				31		32	33			34		
35			36			37			38			
39				40				41		42		
43				44				45		46		
			47			48	49					
	50	51				52				53	54	
55						56				57		58
59						60				61		
62						63				64		

**Save up to \$111/month\* on your Medicare supplement insurance plan.**

Call for a **fast and free** rate quote today. **No cost. No obligation.**  
**Call 1-844-747-4868**

**Call Now!**  
Annual Election Period  
October 15 to December 7

\*Source: Savings on the monthly premium difference between the plan with the highest premium and the plan with the lowest Plan F premium for women age 65 in certain ZIP codes on the eHealth platform, according to an October 2017 eHealth analysis. eHealth Medicare is operated by eHealthInsurance Services, Inc., a licensed health insurance agency that sells Medicare products. In HI and OH, we do business as eHealthInsurance Agency. This is a solicitation of insurance, not connected with or endorsed by the U.S. government or federal Medicare program. Savings are not guaranteed.

© StatePoint Media

### THEME: HOLIDAY SONGS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>ACROSS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rare bills</li> <li>Clairvoyant's gift</li> <li>Snoopy</li> <li>Time distortion</li> <li>Show worry</li> <li>Wyoming's official sport</li> <li>*John Lennon's "Happy Xmas (War is ___)"</li> <li>And elsewhere</li> <li>Opposite of bonjour</li> <li>**"Have ___ a Merry Little Christmas"</li> <li>MTV's "___'d"</li> <li>Incessantly</li> <li>A cool ___, as in money</li> <li>**"Should auld acquaintance be ___"</li> <li>**"Run ___ Run" sung by Chuck Berry</li> <li>*Co-writer of #15 Across</li> <li>Used tabulator key</li> <li>Your majesty</li> <li>1965 Watts events</li> <li>**"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree," sung by Brenda ___</li> <li>Mozart and Einstein, e.g.</li> <li>Golly!</li> <li>Dry ravine, in Asia</li> <li>Not don'ts</li> <li>Diplomatic alliance</li> <li>Like empty hotel room</li> <li>"Fat chance!"</li> <li>Shenzi of "The Lion King"</li> <li>Eastern European</li> <li>*Vince ___ Trio of "Linus and Lucy" fame</li> <li>Between violin and cello</li> <li>Rainbows and such</li> <li>Rumpelstiltskin's weaver</li> <li>Coral reef island</li> <li>Facebook's "psst"</li> <li>___ Mann of "The Simpsons"</li> <li>Decades</li> <li>Lt.'s inferior, in the Navy</li> <li>**"Last Christmas" duo</li> </ol> | <p><b>DOWN</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* ___ Turtle Doves</li> <li>Not straight</li> <li>Post-meal sandwich</li> <li>Spring action, past tense</li> <li>Like yesterday's meal</li> <li>Coffee burn, e.g.</li> <li>Bread or cabbage</li> <li>Having small nodules</li> <li>Scandinavian war god</li> <li>Radio button</li> <li>**"All I want for Christmas is ___"</li> <li>Bygone Spanish money</li> <li>R in R.E.M.</li> <li>Alex Haley saga</li> <li>___ pie in a sand box</li> <li>Blacksmith's hearth</li> <li>Gibson garnish</li> <li>Fowl perch</li> <li>Film roll</li> <li>Ronstadt, e.g.</li> <li>Infectious protein particle</li> <li>Bank job</li> <li>*Like Elvis' Christmas?</li> <li>10 decibels</li> <li>*Deck'em</li> <li>Ivory Coast neighbor</li> <li>Utmost degree</li> <li>Not sympathetic</li> <li>Maryland Academy</li> <li>Young and inexperienced</li> <li>Second-largest Great Lake</li> <li>Talks and talks and talks</li> <li>It houses web content</li> <li>"On Golden Pond" bird</li> <li>Open-mouthed astonishment</li> <li>Shakespearean "does"</li> <li>Tiny bit</li> <li>Port vessel</li> <li>Mrs. Goldberg, e.g.</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

Find the solution to the crossword puzzle on page B-5.

### SUDOKU

*The support you need to find quality*  
**SENIOR LIVING SOLUTIONS**

A Place for Mom has helped over one million families find senior living solutions that meet their unique needs.

*There's no cost to you!*  
**CALL (855) 439-6734**

! We're paid by our partner communities



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

© StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

# Classifieds

*Buy - Sell - Rent  
Trade - Wanted  
Personal - & More!*

\$12 for the first 175 characters + \$1 for 25 additional characters + \$2 for live link online from our website to your website or email. This fee includes 30 days online (from date of approval), and 1 month in the Eagle print version. Payment must accompany ad. Pay online or send to: The Crestone Eagle, Box 101, Crestone, CO, 81131 Deadline: Ads & payments must be received by the 22nd of the month to be included in the print version.

## Classifieds Online crestoneeagle.com!

Get us your classified + payment and it will be listed online within 2 business days.

**New Classifieds online daily. Check [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)!**

### 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](mailto:jsheeran@saguachecounty-co.gov) for more information.

### Houses & Property for Sale

#### Building Lot for Sale on Virtue Way

Tap Paid. Great views. Close to Creek. Ideal time to secure your Sacred Land in Crestone Co [annekellycrestone@yahoo.com](mailto:annekellycrestone@yahoo.com) 719-256-5768 [enchantedforestcrestone.net](http://enchantedforestcrestone.net)

#### FAIRYHOUSE FOR SALE OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE

2BED/IBATH. Really special property. Fairyring/Grandfather & Grandmother Tree. Great Views. Secluded. Just off paved road Camino Del Rey & Enchanted Way. [annekellycrestone@yahoo.com](mailto:annekellycrestone@yahoo.com) 719-256-5768 <https://www.facebook.com/EnchantedForestCrestone/videos/205724510319847/>

#### ENCHANTED FOREST FOR SALE - OWNER FINANCING - HUGE PRICE REDUCTION

This amazing property has great views/ Studio Cottage/ 3bed/2bath/SACRED SPACE for teaching, classes, workspace. Very high transformational energies. B&B business for 14 years/income options/ renting/work from home. [annekellycrestone@yahoo.com](mailto:annekellycrestone@yahoo.com) 719-256-5768 [enchantedforestcrestone.net](http://enchantedforestcrestone.net)

#### Lot For Sale

Really nice Grants lot. 1.96 Acres. 1525 Whispering Hills Trail. Go have a look! \$3500. 970-275-3941. [alainboscaro@hotmail.com](mailto:alainboscaro@hotmail.com)

#### Acreage and Trailer

4.98 acres on County Rd T. towards Crestone. Includes trailer, garage, Well, Fencing and mature trees. Needs lots of work electrical and pump. 75K No owner finance. Must prequalify before escrow. 719-480-0010

#### House for Sale by Owner

New Construction, \$167,500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 3737 Jubilant Way, Crestone, Co. 81131. Call 561-452-2792 or email [affordablezbox@yahoo.com](mailto:affordablezbox@yahoo.com). Photos at <https://tinyurl.com/yby76kc2>

#### PREMIUM BUILDING LOTS FOR SALE:

CH I: 1480-81, 1537, 1554, & 1848-49. CH II: 4083, & 4200. Grants 1210 720-480-2066

#### LOT FOR SALE

528 Panorama Way, trees, great views, paved road, W&S, \$6500 OBO. 719-588-8727

#### Houses for Rent

**FAIRYHOUSE FOR RENT CHALET 2**  
2bed/1bath. Comfy. Cozy. Wood stove. Utilities really reasonable. Easy to heat. \$1,400 monthly. Sacred Space a block away available for classes etc. [annekellycrestone@yahoo.com](mailto:annekellycrestone@yahoo.com) 719-256-5768 <https://www.facebook.com/EnchantedForestCrestone/videos/205724510319847/>

#### Stunning Views, Stunningly Furn. Home

2/BR 2BA, expansive views/valley/mtns. wifi, pet friendly pics: [madamebwolfe.wixsite.com/rentals](http://madamebwolfe.wixsite.com/rentals) \$1800/mo, \$900/wk, \$175/nt, +pet/cleaning fees 505-728-0244

#### Furn. Log Cabin Studio

Pet Friendly, Mtn. views, Wifi, Steam Shower! Full Stove & Fridge 505-728-0244 \$1300/month, \$850/wk, \$125/night + pet/cleaning fees pics: [madamebwolfe.wixsite.com/rentals](http://madamebwolfe.wixsite.com/rentals)

#### House for Rent

Beautifully furnished cozy, 3 BR 2 BA, 2200 sf home. Many exquisite features including Travertine floors with three zone radiant heat. Modern kitchen with all appliances and granite counter tops. Solid marble stand-alone bath tub in MB. Washer/dryer. Kiva fireplace. Lovely enclosed courtyard. Close to greenbelt and hiking trails. \$2,100/mo, tenant pays utilities. 1st, last and security deposit. Please inquire at [crestonebacath@gmail.com](mailto:crestonebacath@gmail.com) or 719-256-4243.

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO FIX OR INCREASE FEES, RATES, TOLLS, PENALTIES OR CHARGES FOR WATER AND/OR SANITARY SEWER SERVICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to § 32-1-1001(2)(a), C.R.S., the Board of Directors for the Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District (the "District") will consider whether to fix and/or increase the fees, rates, tolls, penalties or charges for water and/or sanitary service at a public meeting to be held on December 14, 2018, at 9:00 A.M., at the Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District Office, 57 Baca Grant Way, Crestone, Colorado. Any interested member of the public may attend the public meeting.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

BACA GRANDE WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

# EARS 2 U

## Hearing Aid Services

[www.coloradohearingaid.com](http://www.coloradohearingaid.com)

### Our Specials

#### Entry Level Hearing device Special

- \$895 per hearing aid
- This device will fit your budget to get you back in the conversation!

#### SoundLens In the Canal Hearing Aids

- 100% custom made to fit your ear
- Self Learning, SoundLens gradually and automatically learns patient volume control preferences
- \$500 Off advanced digital hearing aids

### Our Locations

#### Alamosa Office

2101 Main Street, Alamosa  
719-587-9820

#### Pagosa Springs Office

190 Talisman Drive, Ste C-3  
Pagosa Springs  
970-731-4554



- Free Hearing Tests available by appointment

- Walk-ins welcome

**Goodyear savings to an ending of a  
Good Year save up to \$250.00  
12/10/18-12/31/18**



**Call the store  
for more details**

WINTER TIRES • WINTER SERVICE • BRAKES SERVICE • SHOCKS & STRUTS  
TRANSMISSION SERVICE • BATTERIES • TUNE-UPS • OIL CHANGES

# BIG TIRES

**The One Stop Shop, The Team You Trust**

**719-539-3585 5570 E US Hwy 50, Salida**

OPEN: Mon-Fri 8am to 5:30pm, SAT TILL 5PM, CLOSED SUNDAYS

# BRADY'S Garden Centers

[bradybrothersinc.com](http://bradybrothersinc.com)

## Quality, Selection, Service We have it – We grew it

Annuals • Perennials • Trees • Shrubs  
Hot Tubs • Patio Furniture • Gift Cards

3 Locations: Canon City – 1121 S. 9th St. – 719-275-1286

Salida – 7121 CR 107 – 719-539-6400

Pueblo West – 59 S. Masters Dr. – 719-547-4866



**New Classifieds online daily. Check [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)!**

**Apartments/Rooms/Misc. for Rent**

**Room for Rent in the Baca**

Room rentals near town. \$400 & \$500 plus utilities. Looking for considerate and responsible people to share a quiet home. Call or text 970-376-4810

**ROOM FOR RENT CHALET 2/ SACRED SPACE FOR CLASSES**

Nightly, Weekly, Long term. Enchanted Forest/ Sacred Space ideal opportunity for Teaching classes/practice/groups/mediation etc. Excellent WI FI & utilities included [annekellycrestone@yahoo.com](mailto:annekellycrestone@yahoo.com) 719-256-5768 [enchantedforestcrestone.net](http://enchantedforestcrestone.net)

**Rooms for Rent in the Baca**

Shared rooms \$250/month Single Room with private 1/2 bath: \$550 Smoker friendly. Contact Doug at 719-256-5142

**OFFICE SPACE**

**AVAILABLE JANUARY 1ST**

Large office space with private bathroom. \$400 per month beginning 1/1/19. (808) 255-4046

**Services**

**Detailed House Cleaning & Organization**

Available for work. I hold a strong work ethic, have common sense, do my best, am punctual, honest, trustworthy, competent, intelligent, diligent, detail-oriented. [kristikohaver@gmail.com](mailto:kristikohaver@gmail.com) 719-429-2774

**General Services**

House sitting / Care taking / Small Jobs/ Rock Work/Winterizing/Painting/Wood & kindling splitting/ Pet care and General Services on a case by case basis with reasonable rates.

Many Local Work and Personal References Available. Call Phil at 424-229-0341 or email [phurle1@gmail.com](mailto:phurle1@gmail.com)

**BOOKKEEPER**

Small business bookkeeper specializing in construction, rental properties, and related industries. Business organization help, record-keeping, payroll, workers comp, unemployment, tax prep. Call or email for a quote. [emilydonaldson40@gmail.com](mailto:emilydonaldson40@gmail.com) (202)577-8462

**ALPINE CHIMNEY SWEEP**

Sponsored by Shangrilah Stove. Local professional Chimney Sweep, with an attention to detail and customer service. Call Alexander: 970-306-5100

**Craig Electric Services**

Craig Electric for all your electrical needs. Prompt, reliable, generous rates. Contact Steve at 256-5951, [sdossenback@gmail.com](mailto:sdossenback@gmail.com)

**Computer Service/Repairs**

Computer Service/Repairs—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

**Building or Designing a Home?**

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

**RELIABLE CARPENTRY & HANDYMAN SERVICES**

38 years experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/ Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-496-7630

**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.

**Help Wanted**

**Assistant Cook/Prep cook**

Dharma Ocean is looking for Assistant/ Prep Cook for upcoming retreats starting in December. Must be neat, clean, as well as able to take directions. Work in a quiet, contemplative and smoothly run kitchen. Applicants must have proof of work eligibility. This is a part-time opportunity. Salary: \$12.50 - \$13.50/hr depending on experience. Please call Dharma Ocean at 719-256-5938 or email [anoushka@dharmaocean.org](mailto:anoushka@dharmaocean.org)

**Head Cook**

Dharma Ocean is looking for an experienced head cook to help prepare our meals for upcoming retreats starting mid December. Experience with meat, vegetarian/vegan dishes as well as gluten free baking is a

plus. Work in a quiet, contemplative and smoothly-run kitchen. All applicants must have proof of work eligibility. This is a part-time opportunity. Salary: \$13.50 - \$15.00/hr after trial period. Please call Dharma Ocean at 719-256-5938 or email [anoushka@dharmaocean.org](mailto:anoushka@dharmaocean.org)

**Misc. for Sale**

**Local Lamb**

Jones Farms Organics. Organic grass fed lamb. Pasture raised with love. Email for questions & pricing. Sarah & Michael Jones: [jonesfarms1925@gmail.com](mailto:jonesfarms1925@gmail.com)

**Seasoned Pine Firewood For Sale**

We are now taking orders for cords of firewood. Split and delivered \$200.00. Blocked and delivered \$180.00. Northern San Luis Valley. 719-256-4142

**Free**

**Free Manure**

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

**BUILDING OR DESIGNING A HOME?**

[SunPeakBuilders.com](http://SunPeakBuilders.com)

Hi! I'm Adam Fries.  
Let me build or design for you! Also, listen to my podcast on [How2BuildGreen.com](http://How2BuildGreen.com)

970-426-9446



**Dennis Neuhaus 256-4110**  
Computer Consultant / Technician since '85

- Custom PC's • Repairs • Upgrades
- Troubleshooting
- Networking • Data Recovery
- Cables • Accessories

**Virus CleanUp & Protection**

Reasonable Rates, Emergency Services  
Hardware Shop in the Baca




**LOCAL LODGING**  
you can link to these lodging websites online at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)

**I AM HARMONY**  
BE IN THE I AM PRESENCE...  
**256-4810**  
I AM ACTIVATOR SHRINE!  
FAERIE AND ELEMENTAL REALM!  
SAY YES. TO LIFE!  
LIFE SAYS YES TO YOU!!!  
COME STAY WITH US  
HARMONY ROOM — HARMONY COTTAGE  
[WWW.KIARAPERKINS.COM](http://WWW.KIARAPERKINS.COM)

*A Community of Spirit*  
**Crestone Baca Grande Accommodations**

- \*Exclusive 1, 2 & 3 bedroom suites with individual bathrooms
- \* Fully furnished kitchens
- \* Spacious and Private
- \* Beautiful views

**Long-term Rentals Available!**  
[crestonebacath@gmail.com](mailto:crestonebacath@gmail.com)  
719.256.4243  
[www.crestonerentals.net](http://www.crestonerentals.net)

**Willow Creek Retreat House**  
Crestone, Colorado

call for reservations  
**928.536.7626**  
[www.willowcreekretreathouse.com](http://www.willowcreekretreathouse.com)  
credit cards accepted



**Invite them home for the Holidays...**

**Rainbow Bed & Breakfast**  
A Centrally Located Baca Mountain Retreat, offering

- Spectacular Views
- Continental Breakfast
- Private Entrance
- Full Guest Kitchen
- Guest Lounge
- Workshop Facility
- Sun Deck
- Bodywork Referral
- Meditation Dome
- Group Accommodations

223 Rainbow Overlook • Box 293 • Crestone, CO 81131  
(719) 256-4110 (800) 530-1992  
[rainbowbb.com](http://rainbowbb.com)



# EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers  
About Our Environment

**Dear EarthTalk: I know that ranchers and environmentalists have traditionally been at odds, but what are some ways they are working together these days?**

—Jim H., Boone, IA

Ranchers and environmental advocates haven't always seen eye-to-eye, but the differences between the two aren't as extreme anymore, as more and more ranchers have come around to the understanding that taking good care of the land supports both economic stability and environmental health.

"For some, ranching was pursued in the past with an emphasis on raising beef at the expense of everything else," says Bill Bryan of the Montana-based Rural Landscape Institute in a recent *Christian Science Monitor*. "As a matter of necessity, the old way of ranching is giving way to a new paradigm. Raising animals for the dinner table isn't an activity that has to be at odds with the environment."

According to the non-profit WWF, grazing—when done right—is key to maintaining biological diversity and ecosystem health across the Northern Great Plains, a 183-million-acre expanse of rangelands spanning five U.S. states and two Canadian provinces. "This vast landscape evolved in harmony with large herbivores such as bison and elk, and must be grazed in order to remain healthy," reports WWF, which works with hundreds of ranchers across the region as part of its Sustainable Ranching Initiative. "Without grazing, woody vegetation such as juniper and cedar creep in and choke out plants that threatened species such as grass-land birds need to survive."

Not surprisingly, many of the ranchers following in their forebears' footsteps have been utilizing what we now call "sustainable

ranching" practices for decades already. One example is rotational grazing, that is, moving cattle herds more frequently to different pastures so they don't overgraze any one particular patch of land. Another is utilizing buffer strips and grassed waterways away from hungry livestock to support soil and water quality.

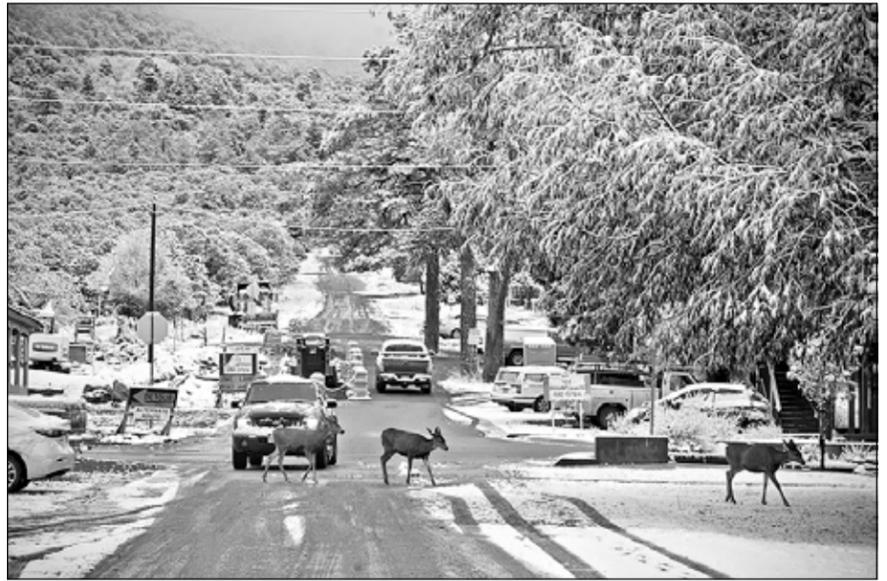
A newer "best practice" entails depositing a quarter to half inch of compost on grazed land to kickstart the soil chemistry below while also absorbing significant amounts of methane—the most potent greenhouse gas—before it can head for the atmosphere and exacerbate global warming. This technique, dubbed "range composting," is now becoming more commonplace as today's ranchers care about reducing their carbon footprints like no generation before them.

Some ranchers are going a step further by adopting so-called "Holistic Resource Management" techniques based on traditional practices whereby they treat cattle and livestock more like a wild herd. "Altering cattle grazing patterns and herd clustering to emulate those of their buffalo predecessors has a significant positive impact on the environment, including the health and diversity of the native grasses," reports the non-profit Organic Consumers Association.

"If this were really widely applied . . . you could zero out the greenhouse gas contribution from areas that are grazed," says John Hart, an environmental journalist and the author of *An Island in Time*, a retrospective on 50 years of tensions between ranchers and environmentalists in northern California. "I think this is an example of the need simply to be smarter in everything we do with the land and look for things other than what seem like black-and-white choices."

**CONTACTS:** WWF, world-wildlife.org/projects/sustainable-ranching-initiative; Organic Consumers Association, organicconsumers.org/usa; John Hart's *An Island in Time*, amzn.to/2Pz50KR.

*EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. To donate, visit www.earthtalk.org. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.*



A good old-fashioned Crestone traffic jam on Halloween morning after fresh snow the night before. photo by Lori Nagel

## Crestone-Baca Weather Report

by Keno

October 21 to November 20

**Total precipitation for period:**

Liquid precip (includes melted snow): 1.05"

Snow: 4.6"

Measurable precipitation fell on 7 days.

Measurable snow fell on 5 days.

Measurable rain fell on 2 days.

A trace of snow fell on 2 days.

A trace of rain fell on 2 days.

No thunderstorms or hail occurred.

**Total precipitation year to date:**

Since Jan 1: 6.87"

**Total snow to date:**

Since Jan 1: 15.6"

Snow Season\*: 4.7"

\*Snow season runs from July 1 to June 30

**Temperatures for the period:**

High temp: 65.5°F on October 29

Low temp: 3.8°F on November 13

Avg. high: 47.1°F

Avg. low: 21.8°F

Number of days with the high temperature above 60°: 5 (all in October)

Number of days with the low temperature below 32°: 28

Number of days with the low temperature below 10°: 2

**Winds for the period:**

Avg. speed: 1.5 mph

Highest gust: 34 mph on November 3. Main direction: Out of the east at night, out of the southwest during the day.

### Weather summary:

Temperatures between October 21 and 30 were very much above normal, while from October 31 until November 20 they were below normal. Precipitation wise, we experienced above average precipitation for the last eleven days in October, including a record high amount for the date on October 24 when .47 of an inch of rain fell. However, after that, precipitation was well below normal. Snowfall for the entire timeframe was also below normal.

### Outlook for December:

December is our third driest month of the year, with only .59" of precip usually falling — with normally all of that falling as snow; with 9.3" of snow being the norm for the month, making December the 4th snowiest month of the year. The snowiest December on record took place in 2014, when 25" fell. Finally one last note about December snow, it is normal for us to have at least some old snow on the ground for most Christmas mornings, however, it is rare for us to actually have snow falling on Christmas day. That has only happened here on 11 days since 1982, but that does include the last 4 Christmases too, although last year only a trace fell. But looking back, there has been only 8 Xmas days where there was no snow on the ground in the last 36 years.

Temperature wise the normal start of the coldest time of the year/season usually starts around December 20, so do bundle up. Before that time, the average high and low for the first week of December is 37° and 11°, while by the last week of the month readings fall off to where the average high is 32° and an average low is around 7°. The all-time high for the month is 58°, reached 4 times, on December 1, 2 and 4, 1995, and one more time on December 3, 1998. The coldest temp ever recorded was -18°, set twice, first on December 23, 1990 and then again on December 8, 2005.

The 30 day outlook for December is calling for above average temperatures along with average snowfall.

Note: For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno's web site: [www.keno.org/vws](http://www.keno.org/vws).

## Subscribe to The Eagle

To start or renew your subscription, go to

[www.crestoneeagle.com/pay](http://www.crestoneeagle.com/pay) or send payment to:

The Crestone Eagle • P.O. Box 101 • Crestone, Colorado 81131 • [payments@crestoneeagle.com](mailto:payments@crestoneeagle.com)

	Bulk (takes 2-3 weeks out of state) 1 issue/month Bulk mail		First Class 1 issue/month First Class mail		Digital Only Go digital with The Crestone Eagle!
	Paper Only	Paper + Digital	Paper Only	Paper + Digital	12 issues .pdf file
1yr	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20
2yrs	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55	<input type="checkbox"/> \$65	<input type="checkbox"/> \$82	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40
3yrs	<input type="checkbox"/> \$80	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120	<input type="checkbox"/> \$135	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60

\* Please complete ALL fields below or we may not be able to process your subscription \*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a new subscriber  Just a renewal

Subscribe to The Eagle

# Holiday Shopping & Events Guide

## Annual Ellzey Art Show December 8 & 9

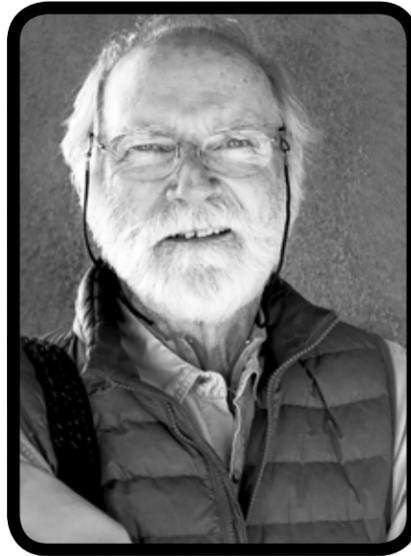
### The skinny

Bill Ellzey hosts his 19th annual December Art Show of photographs at Bill and Jillian's house on December 8 and 9 from 2 to 6pm. Location is in the Baca Grants, 891 Camino Real (locally

known as Two Trees Road). It's 2.2 miles from the entrance of the Baca Grande to intersection of Camino Real. Take a right and it's another 2.2 miles from the top of Camino Real. Please park on the road.

The two-day show has become a much anticipated pre-Christmas season open house. It features Bill's photographs from the Crestone area and San Luis Valley as well as his distant travels leading photography workshops stateside and internationally.

As always there's food—excellent snacky things—punch and mulled wine prepared by skilled foodies Judy Gilbert and Bill Sutherland—beloved



Photographer Bill Ellzey.

been published here and abroad. His images can be found in magazines, books, calendars, newspapers, catalogs, annual reports, galleries and private collections. He directed Western Photo Workshops in Telluride, Colorado for eleven years and continues to teach privately and for distinguished photo programs in North America and overseas. Bill invites you to visit [www.billelzey.com](http://www.billelzey.com) to see the wide range of photographs, courses and trips currently scheduled. The website was recently moved to a new platform and isn't totally fleshed out yet, but you'll get more than the gist. His stock photography is represented by Nat Geo Creative. Bill lives and works from his self-built, strawbale home and studio in Crestone.

### Show details

It's an open house with great refreshments and sample photographs from across Bill's photographic lifetime displayed by the dozens on big table tops in the living room. Prints of any size and the ever-popular greeting cards printed in-house can be ordered from the sample images. Larger photographs are on display in the studio.

The snacking, sipping, browsing and schmoozing takes place

*continued on page C-5*



## Don Richmond leads

## Christmas Carol sing-a-long

Don Richmond is coming back to Crestone for a fun-filled evening of Christmas caroling. He'll be at the Crestone Charter School Thursday, December 20 at 6:15pm. Carol books will be provided. Don has hosted an immensely popular sing-a-long for years at Milagros coffee shop in Alamosa. He came to Crestone for the first time last December and everyone loved it. This is a school night and we will end between 7:30 and 8pm.

Meat and vegetarian chili will be available along with an assortment of drinks. Students are free, with a suggested donation of \$5 for adults.

This show is sponsored and produced by Crestone Performances Inc. and all proceeds will go towards our School Performances program. For more information please call 719-256-4533 or go to [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org). CPI is a non-profit community service organization that brings cultural and educational events to San Luis Valley schools and communities. Come on out and celebrate the holidays with friends and one of the valley's favorite musicians. Hallelujah!

**HOLIDAY SING-ALONG**  
with Don Richmond

Sunday, December 23, 6pm  
Milagros Coffee House, Alamosa  
Admission: a donation of a non-perishable food item for the Food Bank








sponsors provided by  
**HobbyTown** of Alamosa

## 19th Annual Art Show

### BILL ELLZEY ~ PHOTOGRAPHER

An exhibition and sale of fine photographs

~ refreshments ~

December 8 & 9  
2 p.m. until 6 p.m.

at  
Casa LZ  
(Ellzey's house)  
891 Camino Real  
2.2 miles out Two Trees Road (Camino Real)



Frozen Puddle #14

© Bill Ellzey, 2012

# The Crestone Mercantile is ready for the Holidays!

Our grocery store is small but we have everything you need for your holidays meals. From prime rib and turkeys to amazing produce—you can find it here! We have local bakery items with wonderful breads and desserts.

The Crestone Mercantile Hardware is fully stocked. From power tools and household items to fantastic toys, we have it all. Gift wrap, ribbon, and decorations are in good supply.

There is no need to spend hours driving to crowded malls where you are one in a million. Stay home and enjoy the benefits of living in our small community. Shop locally and you will be astonished by the choices you have and the competitive pricing. Find your gifts or, if you can't decide, gift certificates are a great option.

Save time, save money, and contribute to our local economy by shopping local.

Don't forget the Giving Tree—our annual project to make the holidays full of fun and magic for the children of our Community.

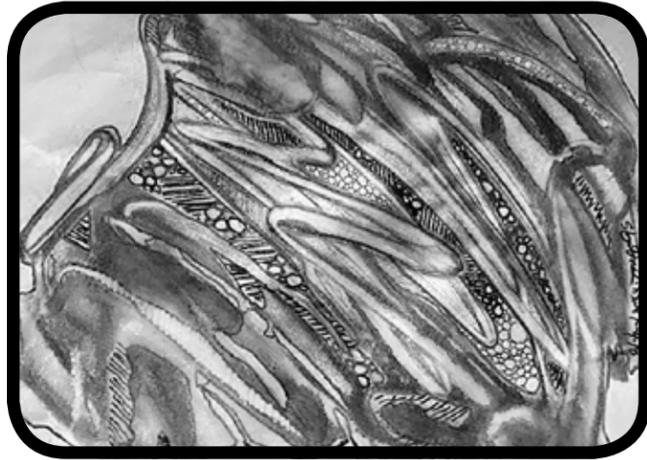
Happy holidays from our family to yours!



The Crestone Mercantile put lights on the tree next to the hardware store every year. photo by Lori Nagel



# Firstthought Studios



The joyous Holiday Season is upon us and a wonderful way to show you care and to share is with a gift to a Firstthought Studios Workshop in either Encaustics or Calligraphic Brushstroke.

I went to four different art schools and

have been doing encaustics since I was 18, a long long time ago (in a galaxy far far away). I happened upon it while living in Israel on an art colony.

I will also be doing encaustic monotype prints or can have prints available with early ordering and as always, fine art gift cards are available.

Here's to a vibrant, ebullient Holiday Season to all. Hope to connect with you, Ish



## HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Crestone community and visitors from far and near, please feel welcome to visit my studio and peruse my original art or my greeting cards and t-shirts.

We will also be offering workshops, classes and mentorships so treat yourself or another this holiday season to Art a la Carte. Call for an appointment and I will try to accommodate your needs.

Call Ish 256.4848 117 Skyview Way

# CRESTONE MERCANTILE

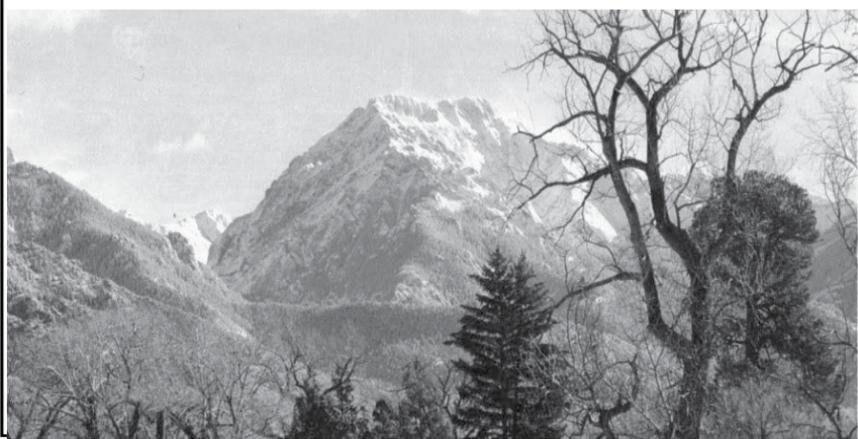
Grocery Store: 191 E Galena Ave  
Open 7 Days a Week 8a.m. to 8 p.m.  
(719) 256-5887

Hardware Store: 182 E Galena Ave  
Open Mon.-Sat. 8a.m to 5p.m.  
(719) 256-5885

Bob's Place: 182 E Galena Ave  
Open 7 Days a Week 8a.m. to 3p.m.  
(719) 256-2627

Laundromat: 191 E Galena Ave  
Open 7 Days a Week  
8a.m to 5p.m.

## Happy Holidays!!



### GIVING TREE

PROVIDING CLOTHING & TOYS TO  
THE YOUNGEST MEMBERS OF OUR  
COMMUNITY--YOUR  
DONATION WILL MAKE THIS A  
MAGICAL TIME FOR A CHILD!

DONATIONS ARE GREATFULLY ACCEPTED AT THE GROCERY STORE!

## New at the Grocery Store:

- ◆ Smoked meats including fish & vegan sausages
  - ◆ Locally baked pies, cookies and breads
  - ◆ Beautiful gifts & special holiday foods
  - ◆ Seasonal items like peppermint creamers, winter roast coffees and cured meats
- Shop Locally and Support our Community!!

## Crestone Mercantile Hardware

The BEST STOCKED Hardware store in the San Luis Valley!

Meet all of your automotive, household, plumbing, paint, electrical, lumber, gardening, office & electrical needs right here in CRESTONE! Come check out our Holiday decorations and wonderful gift items!

# Crestone Artisans Gallery holding 'Garage Sale' art sale December 15



Our Holiday Gala was a huge success. I hope that you stopped by. Music was by Alycia Chambers, who is a master of stringed instruments. It was beautiful, relaxing and the perfect complement to the beginning of the winter celebrations. Emmy Savage as the artist of the month has her work on display on the BGW (big grey wall). Her pastels are tender reminders of the beauty around us. Her work reminds me of a quote by Georgia O'Keefe "To have a friend takes time, just as to see takes time." Emmy's work demonstrates that time she took to see.

Which brings me to the next topic; Winterfest this year is at the Moffat School. It is Dec. 1 and 2. There is music, food dance, crafts and art. Plenty of presents-to-be. And pleasure for everyone. I love the idea of combining our communities. You know what they say about strength in numbers.

Now the biggie: The Garage Sale at the Gallery. Artists at the gallery have agreed to have a sale, Dec. 15 from 11 to 4. This will be a chance for picking up masterpieces of fine arts and crafts for a song. That is for 10% to 50% off. Now the reason I nicknamed it the garage sale is that

1. Only artists who are present to handle their own sales will be selling.
2. The artists themselves will decide the discount
3. There will be no commission on work sold
4. Cash or check sales only (unless the artist her/himself has a credit system set up.)

Come and find the treasures waiting for you.



## Present & Creative

Present and Creative had a wonderful summer of classes for kids. And now that it is fall, we are offering classes for adults. We thought that some moms and dads might like to reward themselves with some personal enrichment time and so we are offering the following for adults, 16 and up. These classes make great gifts to yourself or others!

Dec. 1, Creating a Mandala. Dec. 8, Drawing; 1 to 4pm

For more information, visit Present & Creative Wed. and Thurs. 1-4pm and Fri. and Sat. 11am-4pm.

CRESTONE ARTISANS GALLERY

FINE ART & GIFTS

Corner of Cottonwood & Galena  
in Downtown Crestone  
719-298-3003

**December Hours**  
Wednesday-Sunday 11-4

We represent 24 local artists  
& craftspersons  
Thank You for shopping locally!

**CRESTONEARTISANS GALLERY**  
CRESTONEARTISANS GALLERY.ORG

# Maha Lakshmi Gift Shop

The Maha Lakshmi Shop at the Haidakhandi Universal Ashram is located at 2349 Camino Baca Grande and open from 9am until 4pm every day in December. We have lovely hand-painted Christmas ornaments (between \$1 and \$5) and many wonderful gift items from India. The Ashram 2019 calendars are half price at \$7.50 with lovely photos of the Divine Mother and Babaji, quotes, and dates of all the fire ceremonies. We have new statues, singing bowls, jewelry, wooden boxes, bed spreads, incense burners, yoga pants, men's shirts, bags, and other cloth items. We have beautiful silk fabric for only \$2 a yard, and lots of gently used clothes at 50% off.



## Eureka Thrift Store

Hello from everyone at Eureka Thrift Store! We have been open almost three months now, and we are getting better and better every day. The consignment has been going very well and we have been able to put checks in the hands of the community, bringing lots of smiles and cheer.

Eureka Thrift is all about giving back to the community. We are creating consignment accounts for Neighbors Helping Neighbors and Crestone Charter School, so when

you drop your items off you can decide which account it goes under.

For the holidays, we are offering free gift wrap on any purchase, big and small, which includes fancy wrapping paper and tissue. Come and find unique gifts for everyone on your list!





**Present & Creative**  
Art Supply

Wed/Thurs 1:00-4:30 and Fri/Sat 10:00-4:00

Located inside hallway Sangre de Cristo Inn, Suite D

**Need a Smashin' New Outfit or A Unique Gift for Someone Special? Check out both of our new stores at The Crestone Inn!**

**EUREKA THRIFT**

To open a consignment account at Eureka Thrift, call to set up an appointment **719.298.8982**

**GIFT HORSE**




<p><b>December Special</b></p> <p>Hand-painted Christmas Ornaments on Sale from \$1-\$5. Ashram Calendar reduced to 1/2 price, only \$7.50. We also extend 10% on non-sale items to all our Eagle readers if you mention this ad.</p> <p>Dec. hours: 9 AM - 4 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Maha Lakshmi Shop</b></p> <p>Incense, scarves, shawls, saris, candles, jewelry, oils, diffusers, prayer flags, singing bowls, CDs, crystals, books, purses, statues, clothes, Weleda products, &amp; more.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">                   Call: (719) 256-4108                  email: at shop@Babjiashram.org  <a href="http://www.BabjiAshram.org">www.BabjiAshram.org</a> </p>
--	---



Socks, underwear, shirts, pants, shoes, kids clothing, toys, boots, gloves, scarves, art, gifts, jewelry, toiletries, and so much more.....!

Like us on **facebook** !

<https://www.facebook.com/clothingandgiftsinCrestone/>  
 171 South Alder St. Crestone, CO 81131 (719) 256-5788  
[www.crestone-inn.com](http://www.crestone-inn.com)



## Altar of the Living

**Fundraising Senteotl, Medicine Creation Sanctuary**

I grew up dancing, breaking stereotypes and living with poverty in Mexico. When I was a child I wanted to talk to God but he never answered me.

Two accidents changed my life and more than 20 years of chronic physical pain made me an expert on

how to keep going through discomfort and adversity. Not to be “successful” but to survive from the inside, being myself, doing the best I can with whatever I have.

After a whole life trying to understand what is God I stopped looking for it and started recognizing the divinity all around me, in everything and everyone. Being my own kind of monk, living in semi-retreat while healing, regenerating, studying and creating. Most of my art is still with me and I want to put it out with a good purpose: To share my experience and open a space where sacrality joins daily activity and creativity becomes a source of healing and a link to universal energy.

Please join my fundraising campaign and help me to build SENTEOTL, Medicine Creation Sanctuary . . . for the arts . . . for the people . . . for life.

Estela de Colores.  
Thank you.



## Anupa Wellness

Anupa Wellness was started by Dr. Laura Deloatch as an alternative healing clinic in Salida offering health services for people and pets. Laura Deloatch is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Licensed Acupuncturist and Diplomate of Oriental Medicine. At Anupa Wellness, Deloatch offers veterinary acupuncture, fire cupping, acupuncture, Chinese herbs, laser therapy for inflammation and pain, and community acupuncture which is individual

treatments in a group setting for only \$35. Anupa Wellness also offers Reflexology and Floatation Therapy in their Dream-Pod sensory deprivation tank. Veterans and Military receive free acupuncture from 5 to 6:30pm the first Tuesday of each month. Appointments and gift certificates are available at [anupawellness.com](http://anupawellness.com).



HOLY DAYS  
ALTAR OF THE LIVING

A tribute to ancient cultures

Fundraising  
**SENTEOTL**  
Medicine Creation Sanctuary

Art and Gifts Sale

November 21 - December 22  
Wednesday to Saturday 11 - 4

235 S Hemlock st.  
Crestone, Co.

ANUPA  
MESSAGE

[esteladecolores.com](http://esteladecolores.com)



## New Girl on the Block

New Girl on the Block was established here in the Crestone area in September of 2004. Prior to that it was called Kiowa Creek Salon which was located in Kiowa, Colorado. I have owned and operated my own salon for over 20 years and have been in the industry for 34 years. My services

include haircuts, perms, color, facials, manicures, pedicures and a friendly environment. Open by appointment only. Please call or text 719-580-9146.



**COMMUNITY ACUPUNCTURE  
ACUPUNCTURE ~ REFLEXOLOGY  
FLOATATION THERAPY  
(SENSORY DEPRIVATION TANK)**

**ANUPA  
WELLNESS**

**ANUPAWELLNESS.COM**  
**130 W Sackett Ave, Suite C, Salida**

PUT YOUR \$  
WHERE  
YOUR ♥ IS  
BUY LOCAL

**NEW GIRL ON THE BLOCK**  
FULL SERVICE STYLING SALON

Lynn Ertle  
Owner Operator

Get your holiday haircut while supplies last!

18850 County Rd 65  
Moffat Colorado

719.256.4845  
Text for Appointment 719.580.9146

# Illuminated Therapies



# Ellzey Art Show

*continued from page C-1*

This holiday season, give the gift of relaxation to yourself or your loved ones! Amulya Dawn Beechwood is happy to be offering gift certificates for biodynamic craniosacral therapy. Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy is a healing practice that primarily addresses conditions of the Central Nervous System (the brain and spinal cord), and those parts of the body that form its protective environment (cranium, spine, sacrum and other tissues). Benefits of Craniosacral Therapy could include a deep sense of relaxation, increased immune system function, and an overall feeling of health and vitality as well as relief from headache, TMJ syndrome, dental procedures, and past accidents, injury or trauma. Amulya also offers pregnancy massage, and she can teach families to massage their infants, so if anyone on your list is expecting a special bundle of joy, the gift of wellness could be a great one for the whole family. See [illuminatedtherapies.com](http://illuminatedtherapies.com) or call 719-256-4743 for more information.



## Shumei Shop MoSPACE Gallery

There are many unique gift options at the Shumei Shop/MoSPACE gallery in Crestone. Located at 116 S. Alder St., the shop has Natural Agriculture and Organic products with beautiful labels making an exceptional gift. Olive oil, balsamic vinegar, local juniper keychains, skincare products, art and more! Take a few moments for yourself and receive Jyorei while you're there. Jyorei is a hands-off healing practice that focuses spiritual light to dissolve impurities that cause physical, emotional, and personal dilemmas. "Jyorei" means "purification of the spirit" and is offered by donation. The shop is open Wednesday-Saturday noon to 5pm, and Jyorei available 1 to 3pm on those days.

around the munchies counter. Gilbert and Sutherland, erudite conversationalists as well as caterers, attend the kitchen counter laden with food and drinks. Judy cooks and bakes ahead for days and keeps the serving plates supplied during the show. Bill dispenses his dangerous hot mulled wine from a big pot on the stove. The yummy, cold fruit punch is for folks interested in maintaining a sense of decorum. Sutherland is also the popcorn-ista. He flavors the popcorn with a dusting of secret, subtly spiced ingredients.

### Show background

One evening nineteen years ago a small group of friends sat around Harriet Johns's pine table in her railroad car cum house in the Baca Grants. Harriet was an enamel artist of great repute in her heyday who had left behind in California the huge, walk-in-size kilns that fused her rich colored, powdered glass, bold "sand paintings" onto 4-foot-square sheets of steel that would adorn corporate offices the likes of IBM and many private estates. Scaled down now in Crestone she was making very dear 4x6 inch enamel works in a table-top kiln.

Also at that table was Bill Ellzey, accomplished outdoor and travel photographer who had moved to Crestone four years prior and built a strawbale house. In his rustic, southwest style home, pretty much completed by then, he had started printing photographs which entailed making test prints on half-letter-size paper. To arrive at just the right colors and contrasts before making larger prints several tests were made until the image was just right. The final keepers, when spread out together, became samples to show large quantities of images to a lot of people at the same time.

"It was the 4x6 size we were both doing that gave me the idea of having a joint art show and call it Miniatures," Ellzey said. It was Thanksgiving time. Wine had become an increasing part of the scene at the table so the idea of a show easily grew legs and started running. Enthusiasm ran wild among the guests. Ideas of what it could be and how it could go went zinging around the table. The show was decided to be in early December and kick off the Christmas season.

Jillian Klarl, who was at the table, got up, walked to the telephone and dialed Kizzen, editor of *The Crestone Eagle*. "Would we still have time

to get an ad into the paper?" Jillian asked. Kiz said deadline was past, but she liked the idea and would hold some space.

"That made the show just 2 weeks away and neither Harriet nor I really had very much work ready for such immediate and public exposure," Ellzey said. "We gulped, rolled up our sleeves and got down to it."

Thus, the Ellzey-Johns Annual December Art Show was spawned.

Harriet has since passed on to the Happy Hunting Grounds. Her presence is felt continually through many of her enamels around the house.

### Ellzey's thoughts

"It's my love of the natural world and its breathtaking beauty that keeps me going back out with my camera. At 73 now, I begin to comprehend what a flicker in time a human life span is. Many millions have died since I was born, but still five billion more humans inhabit the earth now than then.

"Forests, fish, wildlife, clean air and fresh water are more and more precious. What are we doing? What can we do? Nothing, mostly, and not much are the answers, it appears. It seems unlikely that so many people will realize that we're using up the planet before it's too late.

"Sooner than later, I fear, landscape/nature photographs will be used to show how it used to be. They already do show the disappearance of glaciers, polar ice and forests. It's too late to preserve what I knew and saw when I was young. The photos are historical in a single person's life time.

"Nevertheless, beginning with the 2017 art show I started donating 10% of my photography earnings to natural resources preservation and population awareness organizations. I intend to do that for the rest of my life."

Wishing our global family a safe and happy Holiday  
**Shumei International Institute**  
 Sharing Healing Jyorei, Natural Agriculture,  
 art and beauty with the world.....



8:00AM and 6:00PM Sampai (prayer services) are always open to the public

Art Symposia, exhibitions, concerts and special events. See the community calendar or visit [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) for an up to date schedule

Please visit the Shumei Shop and moSPACE downtown in the afternoons (Wed.-Sat.) in the Sangre de Cristo Inn

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

ILLUMINATED THERAPIES  
 AMULYA BEECHWOOD, RCST®, LMT, CEIM  
**BIODYNAMIC CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY**  
 719-256-4743  
 ILLUMINATEDTHERAPIES.COM  
 RELAX@ILLUMINATEDTHERAPIES.COM

# Primo Cannabis Company

Cho ku rei Ranch started Sacred Valley Medicine in 2014. We use the same principles that we used when growing our veggies. Sun Grown, natural/organic and grown with love. In August 2018, Sacred Valley Medicine opened a retail location, Primo Cannabis Company in Villa Grove. We look forward to assisting you with your recreational cannabis wants by providing natural locally grown cannabis. We feel that cannabis is a very important medicine that helps so many people. Please come visit our knowledgeable staff and we will help you find the right medicine for you. Our family thanks you for your patronage.

# The Maverick Potter

The Maverick Potter in downtown Salida is a dream come true for studio potter Mark Rittmann. Ever since he moved to Colorado, he aspired to open a pottery shop in a mountain town. Mark's interest in ceramics began with fascination in the process of bringing a formless lump through to becoming a long-lived functional piece of art. After ten years in business, Mark delights in knowing that his work has brought connection and joy to thousands of people around the world. Located at 119 F Street, the gallery offers an inspiring collection of functional and decorative art and represents over 36 local and regional artists.



# Free the Monkey

Shopping at Free the Monkey Consignment is one way to get high quality and unique clothing, housewares, home decor and furniture at reasonable prices. With over 6000 consignors we offer a variety that changes daily. Allow plenty of time to push the racks and explore the drawers. And BYOB . . . Bring your own bag and help us promote environmentally friendly practices. Remember Re-Use . . . Re-Cycle . . . Re-Sale! Voted Best Consignment Store six years in a row. We at Free the Monkey appreciate you shopping locally, and so do our 6000 consignors.



**SUBCULTURE RECYCLERY.COM**

TOWNSIES FROM A CYCLE / MOUNTAIN BIKES

**PARTS  
RENTALS  
SERVICE  
SALES  
SHOWERS**

**SUB CULTURE CYCLERY**

BIKE SHOP

719-539-5329

129 NORTH G STREET

Salida



**Primo Cannabis**



Primo Cannabis is making weed gift baskets for the holidays. Give a weed gift basket for your 21 and older loved ones in your life. When you buy a basket, you save money and get the gift that keeps on giving.



Sample Basket Inclusions:  
Wanderlust infused THC snacks  
Cheeba Chews THC edible  
Teavana THC infused hot drinks

**WINTER HOURS: Monday-SUNDAY 9am-6pm**  
**34132 US Hwy 285 Villa Grove, CO 719-937-7813**

Something Fun for EVERYONE

**Kaleidoscope TOYS**

Unique educational toys & games - Childrens books - Travel toys - Baby gifts  
Arts & crafts - Lego - Playmobil - Puppets - Fun jewelry - Novelties

Customer Appreciation Party - Dec 5th - OPEN til 8pm  
Receive a \$10 coupon for every \$50 you spend that day!

116 F. Street, Downtown Salida www.kaltovs.com  
719-530-0533 • OPEN Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-5pm

**FREE THE MONKEY CONSIGNMENT**  
Accepting consignments daily

**Men's and Women's Clothing & Accessories**  
134 F Street, Salida (719) 539-5490      312 E. Main Buena Vista (719) 966-5159

**Furniture, Housewares, & Home Decor**  
222 F Street, Salida (719) 539-4580

*Winter Hours:*  
Mon - Sat 10am-6pm • \* • Sunday 10am-5pm

*Come see what's inside*



**The Maverick Potter**  
119 F St, Salida CO 719-539-5112  
www.maverickpotter.com  
Representing 36+ local and regional artists



## The Mixing Bowl



Thank you faithful customers! This is the Mixing Bowl's 12th holiday season, and we have some new and wonderful additions here at our store in downtown Salida. We are featuring more unique and wonderful products for your home and kitchen. There is a gift for everyone on your list. Just let us help you find it. Then we'll wrap it with all the trimmings because you are a part of the Mixing Bowl family. Please come by and taste some

of our specialty foods and chocolates and give us a chance to serve you. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the Mixing Bowl staff.

## Chili Heads Glass & Vape

Chili Heads Glass & Vape, located on Highway 50 in Salida, has been your kind, heady, low-cost, full service destination for 5 years. Always locally owned and operated, Chili Heads is a favorite stop for friends in Crestone and the San Luis Valley area. Chili Heads is conveniently located and reliably open Mondays through Saturdays with the very lowest prices and largest selection in glass, smoking supplies and vaping supplies anywhere! Chili Heads also offers the lowest prices on locally sourced pipes, CBDs and lab-tested Kratom. If you're looking for gift ideas or just want to stop by to say hello, Chili Heads is there for you.

## Salida Cutlery & Smoke Shop

Salida Cutlery and Smoke Shop is a superb store to find unique gift items for your loved ones. You'll find quality kitchen cutlery from Wusthof, manicure sets, fine pocket knives, survival knives, Swedish axes, and more. Take a look to find wallets, money clips, & Zippo lighters. We carry a large selection of Vape mods and E juices, fine cigars, pipe tobacco, and accessories like humidors and cutters.

Stop by today at 132 W. Hwy 50 or visit [salidacutlery.com](http://salidacutlery.com) to find direct links to our online store, Ebay, and Amazon. We ship.

Salida Cutlery and Smoke Shop wishes you a season filled with joy!  
Thank you, Twyla Rains



## Kaleidoscope Toys

Kaleidoscope Toys is a locally owned specialty toy store in the heart of downtown Salida. We specialize in unique educational toys, games and novelties for children and adults of all ages.

Let our knowledgeable staff help you select the perfect age-appropriate gifts and we'll wrap them free of charge. Like us on Facebook or join our email list to learn about discounts and events happening throughout the holiday season.

See [kaltos.com](http://kaltos.com) or call 719-530-0533 for details.



**Chili Heads Glass & Vape**  
Full service Head, Smoke & Vape Shop



[www.instagram.com/chili\\_heads/](https://www.instagram.com/chili_heads/)  
[www.chiliheads.biz](http://www.chiliheads.biz)  
112 W. Rainbow Blvd, Unit A Salida CO 719.207.9700

Top Brands  
Local Glass  
Smoking Supplies  
Pipes  
E-liquids  
Kratom



**GOURMET KITCHENWARE**  
**THE MIXING BOWL**

## Where Home Happens




Locally made food & specialty chocolate

Corner of 2nd & F Streets  
Historic Downtown Salida

**719-539-2655**  
[salidamixingbowl.com](http://salidamixingbowl.com)

**Open Daily!**

### Quality Gifts



carving knives



kitchen block set



fine cigars



vape kits

### Huge WÜSTHOF Kitchen Knife Sale

[www.salidacutlery.com](http://www.salidacutlery.com)



**SALIDA CUTLERY & SMOKE SHOP**  
132 W. Hwy 50 - Salida, CO 81201 - 719.539.2884

# Holiday Shopping & Events Guide

## The Gift Shoppe at the Rio Grande County Museum



## Holiday concert in Alamosa December 7 & 9

The Gift Shoppe at the Museum helps to support the work being done at the Rio Grande County Museum. Also, a membership to the Rio Grande County Museum Inc., which functions as a Friends of the Museum, would be an excellent gift that gives all year.



Gift items include history books of the area as well as coloring books and children's books. The Museum also helps to support local artists who in turn support the museum with their work. Local area artists who work with natural materials include Byron Williams from Saguache with his gourd bowls and Alex Colville with wooden vases made with local woods. The Museum is proud to feature 16-year-old Sam Smith who is starting his own business with crocheted hair scrunchies. Other fiber artists include Judy Nicolais with beautifully crocheted doilies and pot holders, scarves and bottle cozies by Jean Hanna. Fine jewelry is displayed for Patti Haught. Sharon Edwards has framed prints of her artwork featuring local scenery and more. Cards that could be framed are available from artists Yvonne Halburian, Sharon Edwards and Wilma Shaffer.

New snow mates are being done by Rosie B. and the line has been enlarged. Holiday snow mates for Halloween and Christmas are on display. Each one is individually created by hand and no two are alike. These unique little sock snow people are the perfect small thinking-of-you gift any time of the year.

Rio Grande County Museum is located at 580 Oak Street, in Del Norte, just south of the stoplight. Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10am to 4pm and Saturday 10am to 3pm. For more information, please call 719-657-2847 or check our Facebook page for Rio Grande County Museum.

The Valley Community Chorus and the SLV Community Band will perform their holiday concert, "Hopes and Dreams: Music of the Season" at 7pm, Friday, Dec. 7, in Moffat High School; and again at 2pm Sunday, Dec. 9 in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Alamosa.

The concert will include pieces by Samuel Barber, Karl Jenkins, and Leroy Anderson, among others. Tickets are \$5 and can be bought at the door at the concert. Members of Adams State Associated Students and Faculty (AS&F) attend for free. "We look forward to celebrating this season of hope and dreams with you," said David Schneider, VCC director.



The Valley Community Chorus and the SLV Community Band will perform their holiday concert, "Hopes and Dreams: Music of the Season." photo by Daniel Parsons

## What happens when you shop local



Here's what happens when you "shop local."

**1. More of your money will be kept in your local economy.** For every \$100 you spend at locally owned businesses, \$68 will stay in the community. What happens when you spend that same \$100 at a national chain? Only \$43 stays in the community.\*

**2. You embrace what makes your community unique.** You wouldn't want your house to look like everyone else's in the U.S. So why would you want your community to look that way?

**3. You create local jobs.** Local businesses are better at creating higher-paying jobs for your neighbors. When you shop locally, you help create jobs for teachers, firemen, police officers, and many other essential professions.

**4. You help the environment.** Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.

**5. You nurture community.** Local business owners know you,

and you know them. Studies have shown that local businesses donate to community causes at more than twice the rate of chains.

**6. You conserve your tax dollars.** Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance, and more money available to beautify your community. Also, spending locally instead of online ensures that your sales taxes are reinvested where they belong—in your community!

**7. You create more choice.** Locally owned businesses pick the items and products they sell based on what they know you like and want. Local businesses carry a wider array of unique products because they buy for their own individual markets.

**8. You take advantage of their expertise.** You are their friends and neighbors, and locally owned businesses have a vested interest in knowing how to serve you. They're passionate about what they do. Why not take advantage of it?

**9. You invest in entrepreneurship.** Creativity and entre-



Find unique gifts hand crafted by local artists and support the Rio Grande County Museum!



Fine Jewelry, art, photos, scarves, carved art, and much more!  
Rio Grande County Museum, 580 Oak Street, Del Norte  
Tuesday - Friday 10 AM - 4 PM, Saturday 10 AM - 3 PM

preneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

**10. You make your community a destination.** The more interesting and unique your community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This benefits everyone!

\*Source: Civic Economics – Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.

